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HISTORY

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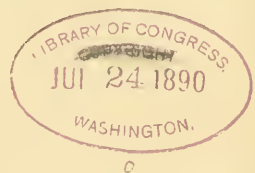
COLUMBIA AND MONTGOMERY

COUNTIES,

PENNSYLVANIA,

CONTAINING A HISTORY OF EACH COUNTY; THEIR TOWNSHIPS, TOWNS,  
VILLAGES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, INDUSTRIES, ETC.; PORTRAITS  
OF REPRESENTATIVE MEN; BIOGRAPHIES; HISTORY  
OF PENNSYLVANIA, STATISTICAL AND MIS-  
CELLANEOUS MATTER, ETC.

EDITED BY J. H. BATTLE.



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## PREFACE.

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WITH this page ends the task which has been pursued through many months with growing interest. The location of the early founders of these counties, surrounded by the more vigorous settlements in the Wyoming Valley at Sunbury, and the more exposed settlements on the "West Branch," has robbed these pages of much of the thrilling exploits and daring adventure which are naturally associated with early border experiences; but while the editor of this work has found only the annals of a quiet neighborhood to chronicle, there has not been wanting abundant evidence that its founders exercised that patient endurance and persevering, intelligent labor which is required to make the wilderness blossom like the rose.

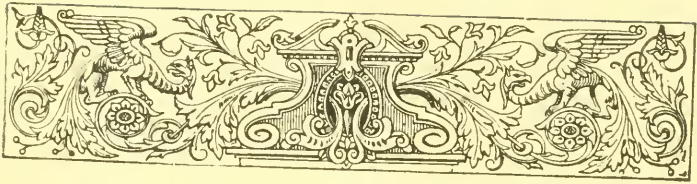
To note the subsequent development and its present results has been an inspiration to the faithful discharge of the self-imposed duties of a historian. No pains have been spared to present the facts involved in the growth of these counties, and to state their proper relation to each other. Individual opinion has not been allowed to distort, nor carelessness to omit anything which is essential to forming an intelligent judgment of the various topics presented. Some details pertaining to the so-called "Fishingcreek confederacy" the publishers have deemed best to exclude, but the main facts have been preserved.

Errors will doubtless be discovered—errors which may be attributed to the writer's lack of proper equipment for the duties undertaken—but none, it is hoped, that will betray a disposition to suppress or pervert the truth. In the chapters upon the townships of Columbia County the editor has been greatly assisted by Mr. Herbert C. Bell, to whom their merit is principally due. The history of Montour County was written by Mr. H. C. Bradsby, to whom its preparation was assigned by the publishers. It appears in this volume as it fell from his pen, and reflects the accomplishments gained in a wide literary experience.

In taking leave of the subject, the writer wishes to express his sense of indebtedness to the gentlemen of the press, and to a host of others of whom space fails to allow proper mention, for the uniform courtesy and assistance they have shown those engaged in this enterprise, and to express the hope that the completeness of this volume may in some measure repay their kindness.

THE EDITOR.

PHILADELPHIA, PENN., APRIL, 1887.



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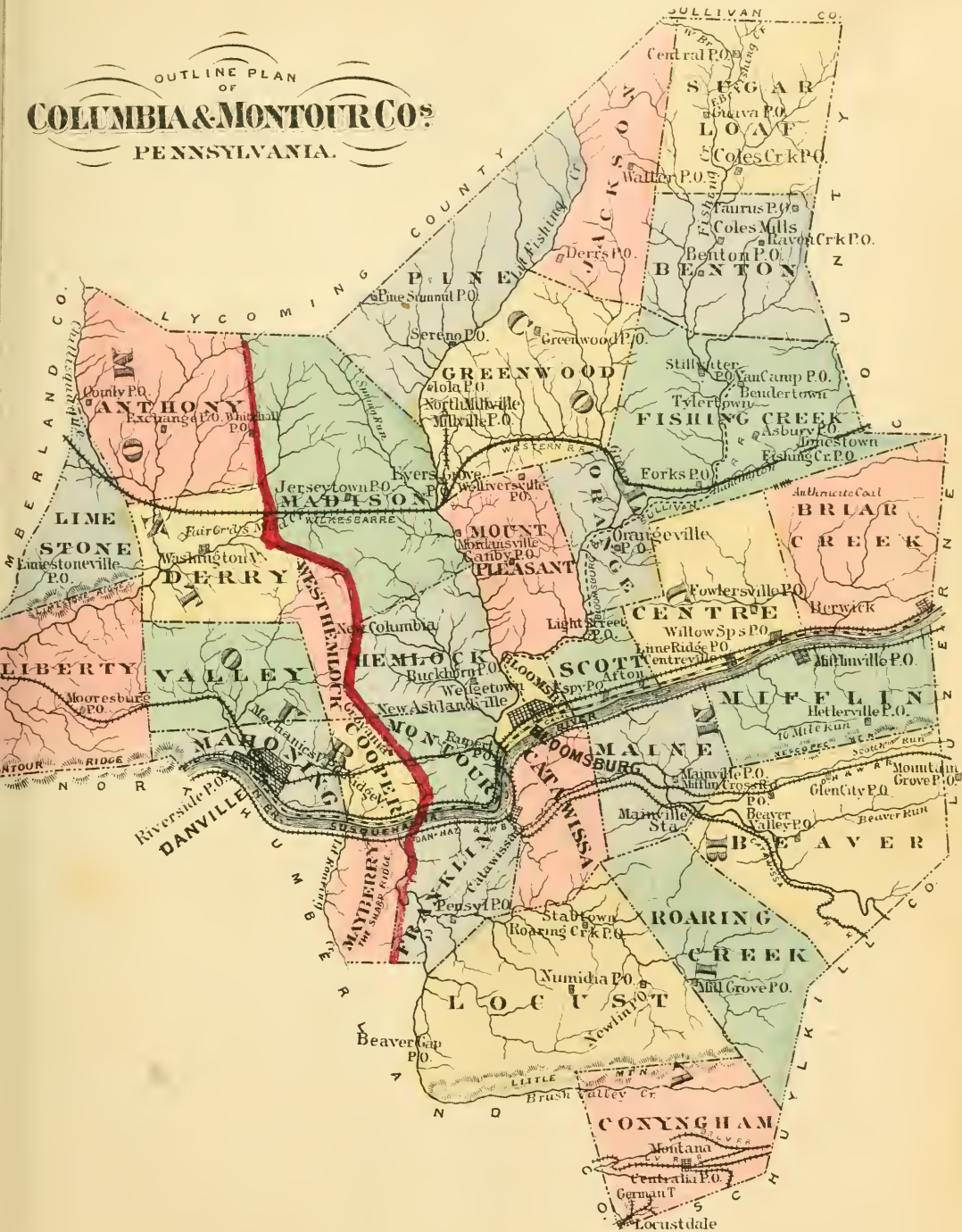
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OUTLINE PLAN  
OF  
**COLUMBIA & MONTGOMERY CO'S.**  
PENNSYLVANIA.







# PART I.

---

# HISTORY<sup>OF</sup> PENNSYLVANIA.

---

BY SAMUEL P. BATES.

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“God, that has given it me through many difficulties, will, I believe, bless and make it the seed of a nation. I shall have a tender care to the government that it be well laid at first. - - - - I do, therefore, desire the Lord’s wisdom to guide me, and those that may be concerned with me, that we may do the thing that is truly wise and just.”

WILLIAM PENN.



# HISTORY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

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## CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY — CORNELIS JACOBSON MEY, 1624-25—WILLIAM VAN HULST, 1625-26—PETER MINUIT, 1626-33—DAVID PETERSEN DE VRIES, 1632-33—WOUTER VAN TWILLER, 1633-38.

IN the early colonization upon the American continent, two motives were principally operative. One was the desire of amassing sudden wealth without great labor, which tempted adventurous spirits to go in search of gold, to trade valueless trinkets to the simple natives for rich furs and skins, and even to seek, amidst the wilds of a tropical forest, for the fountain whose healing waters could restore to man perpetual youth. The other was the cherished purpose of escaping the unjust restrictions of Government, and the hated ban of society against the worship of the Supreme Being according to the honest dictates of conscience, which incited the humble devotees of Christianity to forego the comforts of home, in the midst of the best civilization of the age, and make for themselves a habitation on the shores of a new world, where they might erect altars and do homage to their God in such habiliments as they preferred, and utter praises in such note as seemed to them good. This purpose was also incited by a certain romantic temper, common to the race, especially noticeable in youth, that invites to some uninhabited spot, and Rascelas and Robinson Crusoe-like to begin life anew.

William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, had felt the heavy hand of persecution for religious opinion's sake. As a gentleman commoner at Oxford, he had been fined, and finally expelled from that venerable seat of learning for non-conformity to the established worship. At home, he was whipped and turned out of doors by a father who thought to reclaim the son to the more certain path of advancement at a licentious court. He was sent to prison by the Mayor of Cork. For seven months he languished in the tower of London, and, finally, to complete his disgrace, he was cast into Newgate with common felons. Upon the accession of James II, to the throne of England, over fourteen hundred persons of the Quaker faith were immured in prisons for a conscientious adherence to their religious convictions. To escape this harassing persecution, and find peace and quietude from this sore proscription, was the moving cause which led Penn and his followers to emigrate to America.

Of all those who have been founders of States in near or distant ages, none have manifested so sincere and disinterested a spirit, nor have been so fair exemplars of the golden rule, and of the Redeemer's sermon on the mount, as William Penn. In his preface to the frame of government of his colony, he says: "The end of government is first to terrify evil-doers; secondly, to cherish those who do well, which gives government a life beyond corruption, and

makes it as durable in the world, as good men shall be. So that government seems to be a part of religion itself, a thing sacred in its institution and end. For, if it does not directly remove the cause, it crushes the effects of evil, and is an emanation of the same Divine power, that is both author and object of pure religion, the difference lying here, that the one is more free and mental, the other more corporal and compulsive in its operations; but that is only to evil-doers, government itself being otherwise as capable of kindness, goodness and charity, as a more private society. They weakly err, who think there is no other use of government than correction, which is the coarsest part of it. Daily experience tells us, that the care and regulation of many other affairs more soft, and daily necessary, make up much the greatest part of government. Governments, like clocks, go from the motion men give them, and as governments are made and moved by men, so by them are they ruined, too. Wherefore, governments rather depend upon men, than men upon governments. Let men be good, and the government cannot be bad. If it be ill, they will cure it. But if men be bad, let the government be never so good, they will endeavor to warp and spoil to their turn. \* \* \* That, therefore, which makes a good constitution, must keep it, men of wisdom and virtue. qualities, that because they descend not with worldly inheritances, must be carefully propagated by a virtuous education of youth, for which, after ages will owe more to the care and prudence of founders and the successive magistracy, than to their parents for their private patronies. \* \* \* We have, therefore, with reverence to God, and good conscience to men, to the best of our skill, contrived and composed the Frame and Laws of this government, viz.: To support power in reverence with the people, and to secure the people from the abuse of power, that they may be free by their just obedience, and the magistrates honorable for their just administration. For liberty without obedience is confusion, and obedience without liberty is slavery."

Though born amidst the seductive arts of the great city, Penn's tastes were rural. He hated the manners of the corrupt court, and delighted in the homely labors and innocent employments of the farm. "The country," he said, "is the philosopher's garden and library, in which he reads and contemplates the power, wisdom and goodness of God. It is his food as well as study, and gives him life as well as learning." And to his wife he said upon taking leave of her in their parting interview: "Let my children be husbandmen, and housewives. It is industrious, healthy, honest, and of good report. This leads to consider the works of God, and diverts the mind from being taken up with vain arts and inventions of a luxurious world. Of cities and towns of concourse, beware. The world is apt to stick close to those who have lived and got wealth there. A country life and estate I love best for my children."

Having thus given some account at the outset of the spirit and purposes of the founder, and the motive which drew him to these shores, it will be in place, before proceeding with the details of the acquisition of territory, and the coming of emigrants for the actual settlement under the name of Pennsylvania, to say something of the aborigines who were found in possession of the soil when first visited by Europeans, of the condition of the surface of the country, and of the previous attempts at settlements before the coming of Penn.

The surface of what is now known as Pennsylvania was, at the time of the coming of the white men, one vast forest of hemlock, and pine, and beech, and oak, unbroken, except by an occasional rocky barren upon the precipitous mountain side, or by a few patches of prairie, which had been reclaimed by annual burnings, and was used by the indolent and simple-minded natives for the culture of a little maize and a few vegetables. The soil, by the annual



accumulations of leaves and abundant growths of forest vegetation, was luxurious, and the trees stood close, and of gigantic size. The streams swarmed with fish, and the forest abounded with game. Where now are cities and hamlets filled with busy populations intent upon the accumulation of wealth, the mastery of knowledge, the pursuits of pleasure, the deer browsed and sipped at the water's edge, and the pheasant drummed his monotonous note. Where now is the glowing furnace from which day and night tongues of flame are bursting, and the busy water wheel sends the shuttle flashing through the loom, half-naked, dusky warriors fashioned their spears with rude implements of stone, and made themselves hooks out of the bones of animals for alluring the finny tribe. Where now are fertile fields, upon which the thrifty farmer turns his furrow, which his neighbor takes up and runs on until it reaches from one end of the broad State to the other, and where are flocks and herds, rejoicing in rich meadows, gladdened by abundant fountains, or reposing at the heated noontide beneath ample shade, not a blow had been struck against the giants of the forest, the soil rested in virgin purity, the streams glided on in majesty, unvexed by wheel and unchoked by device of man.

Where now the long train rushes on with the speed of the wind over plain and mead, across streams and under mountains, awakening the echoes of the hills the long day through, and at the midnight hour screaming out its shrill whistle in fiery defiance, the wild native, with a fox skin wrapped about his loins and a few feathers stuck in his hair, issuing from his rude hut, trotted on in his forest path, followed by his squaw with her infant peering forth from the rough sling at her back, pointed his canoe, fashioned from the barks of the trees, across the deep river, knowing the progress of time only by the rising and setting sun, troubled by no meridians for its index, starting on his way when his nap was ended, and stopping for rest when a spot was reached that pleased his fancy. Where now a swarthy population toils ceaselessly deep down in the bowels of the earth, shut out from the light of day in cutting out the material that feeds the fires upon the forge, and gives genial warmth to the lovers as they chat merrily in the luxurious drawing room, not a mine had been opened, and the vast beds of the black diamond rested unshaded beneath the superincumbent mountains, where they had been fashioned by the Creator's hand. Rivers of oil seethed through the impatient and uneasy gases and vast pools and lakes of this pungent, parti-colored fluid, hidden away from the coveting eye of man, guarded well their own secrets. Not a derrick protruded its well-balanced form in the air. Not a drill, with its eager eating tooth descended into the flinty rock. No pipe line diverted the oily tide in a silent, ceaseless current to the ocean's brink. The cities of iron tanks, filled to bursting, had no place amidst the forest solitudes. Oil exchanges, with their vexing puts and calls, shorts and longs, bulls and bears, had not yet come to disturb the equanimity of the red man, as he smoked the pipe of peace at the council fire. Had he once seen the smoke and soot of the new Birmingham of the West, or snuffed the odors of an oil refinery, he would willingly have forfeited his goodly heritage by the forest stream or the deep flowing river, and sought for himself new hunting grounds in less favored regions.

It was an unfortunate circumstance that at the coming of Europeans the territory now known as Pennsylvania was occupied by some of the most bloody and revengeful of the savage tribes. They were known as the Lenni Lenapes, and held sway from the Hudson to the Potomac. A tradition was preserved among them, that in a remote age their ancestors had emigrated eastward from beyond the Mississippi, exterminating as they came the more civilized and peaceful peoples, the Mound-Builders of Ohio and adjacent States, and who

were held among the tribes by whom they were surrounded as the progenitors, the grandfathers or oldest people. They came to be known by Europeans as the Delawares, after the name of the river and its numerous branches along which they principally dwelt. The Monseys or Wolves, another tribe of the Lenapes, dwelt upon the Susquehanna and its tributaries, and, by their warlike disposition, won the credit of being the fiercest of their nation, and the guardians of the door to their council house from the North.

Occupying the greater part of the territory now known as New York, were the five nations—the Senacas, the Mohawks, the Oneidas, the Cayugas, and the Onondagas, which, from their hearty union, acquired great strength and came to exercise a commanding influence. Obtaining firearms of the Dutch at Albany, they repelled the advances of the French from Canada, and by their superiority in numbers and organization, had overcome the Lenapes, and held them for awhile in vassalage. The Tuscaroras, a tribe which had been expelled from their home in North Carolina, were adopted by the Five Nations in 1712, and from this time forward these tribes were known to the English as the Six Nations, called by the Lenapes, Mingoos, and by the French, Iroquois. There was, therefore, properly a United States before the thirteen colonies achieved their independence. The person and character of these tribes were marked. They were above the ordinary stature, erect, bold, and commanding, of great decorum in council, and when aroused showing native eloquence. In warfare, they exhibited all the bloodthirsty, revengeful, cruel instincts of the savage, and for the attainment of their purposes were treacherous and crafty.

The Indian character, as developed by intercourse with Europeans, exhibits some traits that are peculiar. While coveting what they saw that pleased them, and thievish to the last degree, they were nevertheless generous. This may be accounted for by their habits. "They held that the game of the forest, the fish of the rivers, and the grass of the field were a common heritage, and free to all who would take the trouble to gather them, and ridiculed the idea of fencing in a meadow." Bancroft says: "The hospitality of the Indian has rarely been questioned. The stranger enters his cabin, by day or by night, without asking leave, and is entertained as freely as a thrush or a blackbird, that regales himself on the luxuries of the fruitful grove. He will take his own rest abroad, that he may give up his own skin or mat of sedge to his guest. Nor is the traveler questioned as to the purpose of his visit. He chooses his own time freely to deliver his message." Penn, who, from frequent intercourse came to know them well, in his letter to the society of Free Traders, says of them: "In liberality they excel; nothing is too good for their friend. Give them a fine gun, coat or other thing, it may pass twenty hands before it sticks; light of heart, strong affections, but soon spent. The most merry creatures that live; feast and dance perpetually. They never have much nor want much. Wealth circulateth like the blood. All parts partake; and though none shall want what another hath, yet exact observers of property. Some Kings have sold, others presented me with several parcels of land. The pay or presents I made them, were not hoarded by the particular owners, but the neighboring Kings and clans being present when the goods were brought out, the parties chiefly concerned consulted what and to whom they should give them. To every King, then, by the hands of a person for that work appointed is a proportion sent, so sorted and folded, and with that gravity that is admirable. Then that King subdivideth it in like manner among his dependents, they hardly leaving themselves an equal share with one of their subjects, and be it on such occasions as festivals, or at their common meals, the Kings distribute, and to themselves last. They care for

little because they want but little, and the reason is a little contents them. In this they are sufficiently revenged on us. They are also free from our pains. They are not disquieted with bills of lading and exchange, nor perplexed with chancery suits and exchequer reckonings. We sweat and toil to live; their pleasure feeds them; I mean their hunting, fishing and fowling, and this table is spread everywhere. They eat twice a day, morning and evening. Their seats and table are the ground. Since the Europeans came into these parts they are grown great lovers of strong liquors, rum especially, and for it exchange the richest of their skins and furs. If they are heated with liquors, they are restless till they have enough to sleep. That is their cry, 'Some more and I will go to sleep;' but when drunk one of the most wretched spectacles in the world."

On the 28th of August, 1609, a little more than a century from the time of the first discovery of the New World by Columbus, Hendrick Hudson, an English navigator, then in the employ of the Dutch East India Company, having been sent out in search of a northwestern passage to the Indies, discovered the mouth of a great bay, since known as Delaware Bay, which he entered and partially explored. But finding the waters shallow, and being satisfied that this was only an arm of the sea which received the waters of a great river, and not a passage to the western ocean, he retired, and, turning the prow of his little craft northward, on the 2d of September, he discovered the river which bears his name, the Hudson, and gave several days to its examination. Not finding a passage to the West, which was the object of his search, he returned to Holland, bearing the evidences of his adventures, and made a full report of his discoveries in which he says, "Of all lands on which I ever set my foot, this is the best for tillage."

A proposition had been made in the States General of Holland to form a West India Company with purposes similar to those of the East India Company; but the conservative element in the Dutch Congress prevailed, and while the Government was unwilling to undertake the risks of an enterprise for which it would be responsible, it was not unwilling to foster private enterprise, and on the 27th of March, 1614, an edict was passed, granting the privileges of trade, in any of its possessions in the New World, during four voyages, founding its right to the territory drained by the Delaware and Hudson upon the discoveries by Hudson. Five vessels were accordingly fitted by a company composed of enterprising merchants of the cities of Amsterdam and Hoorn, which made speedy and prosperous voyages under command of Cornelis Jacobson Mey, bringing back with them fine furs and rich woods, which so excited cupidity that the States General was induced on the 14th of October, 1614, to authorize exclusive trade, for four voyages, extending through three years, in the newly acquired possessions, the edict designating them as New Netherlands.

One of the party of this first enterprise, Cornelis Hendrickson, was left behind with a vessel called the Unrest, which had been built to supply the place of one accidentally burned, in which he proceeded to explore more fully the bay and river Delaware, of which he made report that was read before the States General on the 19th of August, 1616. This report is curious as disclosing the opinions of the first actual explorer in an official capacity: "He hath discovered for his aforesaid masters and directors certain lands, a bay, and three rivers, situate between thirty-eight and forty degrees, and did their trade with the inhabitants, said trade consisting of sables, furs, robes and other skins. He hath found the said country full of trees, to wit, oaks, hickory and pines, which trees were, in some places, covered with vines. He hath



seen in said country bucks and does, turkeys and partridges. He hath found the climate of said country very temperate, judging it to be as temperate as this country, Holland. He also traded for and bought from the inhabitants, the Minquas, three persons, being people belonging to this company, which three persons were employed in the service of the Mohawks and Machicans, giving for them kettles, beads, and merchandise."

This second charter of privileges expired in January, 1618, and during its continuance the knowledge acquired of the country and its resources promised so much of success that the States General was ready to grant broader privileges, and on the 3d of June, 1621, the Dutch West India Company was incorporated, to extend for a period of twenty-four years, with the right of renewal, the capital stock to be open to subscription by all nations, and "privileged to trade and plant colonies in Africa, from the tropic of Cancer to the Cape of Good Hope, and in America from the Straits of Magellan to the remotest north." The past glories of Holland, though occupying but an insignificant patch of Europe, emboldened its Government to pass edicts for the colonizing and carrying on an exclusive trade with a full half of the entire world, an example of the biting off of more than could be well chewed. But the light of this enterprising people was beginning to pale before the rising glories of the stern race in their sea girt isle across the channel. Dissensions were arising among the able statesmen who had heretofore guided its affairs, and before the periods promised in the original charter of this colonizing company had expired, its supremacy of the sea was successfully resisted, and its exclusive rights and privileges in the New World had to be relinquished.

The principal object in establishing this West India Company was to secure a good dividend upon the capital stock, which was subscribed to by the rich old burgomasters. The fine furs and products of the forests, which had been taken back to Holland, had proved profitable. But it was seen that if this trade was to be permanently secured, in face of the active competition of other nations, and these commodities steadily depended upon, permanent settlements must be provided for. Accordingly, in 1623, a colony of about forty families, embracing a party of Walloons, protestant fugitives from Belgium, sailed for the new province, under the leadership of Cornelis Jacobson Mey and Joriz Tienpont. Soon after their arrival, Mey, who had been invested with the power of Director General of all the territory claimed by the Dutch, seeing, no doubt, the evidences of some permanence on the Hudson, determined to take these honest minded and devoted Walloons to the South River, or Delaware, that he might also gain for his country a foothold there. The testimony of one of the women, Catalina Tricho, who was of the party, is curious, and sheds some light upon this point. "That she came to this province either in the year 1623 or 1624, and that four women came along with her in the same ship, in which Gov. Arien Jorissen came also over, which four women were married at sea, and that they and their husbands stayed about three weeks at this place (Manhattan) and then they with eight seamen more, went in a vessel by orders of the Dutch Governor to Delaware River, and there settled." Ascending the Delaware some fifty miles, Mey landed on the eastern shore near where now is the town of Gloucester, and built a fort which he called Nassau. Having duly installed his little colony, he returned to Manhattan; but beyond the building of the fort, which served as a trading post, this attempt to plant a colony was futile; for these religious zealots, tiring of the solitude in which they were left, after a few months abandoned it, and returned to their associates whom they had left upon the Hudson. Though not successful in establishing a permanent colony upon the

Delaware, ships plied regularly between the fort and Manhattan, and this became the rallying point for the Indians, who brought thither their commodities for trade. At about this time, 1626, the island of Manhattan estimated to contain 22,000 acres, on which now stands the city of New York with its busy population, surrounded by its forests of masts, was bought for the insignificant sum of sixty guilders, about \$24, what would now pay for scarcely a square inch of some of that very soil. As an evidence of the thrift which had begun to mark the progress of the colony, it may be stated that the good ship "The Arms of Amsterdam," which bore the intelligence of this fortunate purchase to the assembly of the XIX in Holland, bore also in the language of O'Calaghan, the historian of New Netherland, the "information that the colony was in a most prosperous state, and that the women and the soil were both fruitful. To prove the latter fact, samples of the recent harvest, consisting of wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, canary seed, were sent forward, together with 8,130 beaver skins, valued at over 45,000 guilders, or nearly \$19,000." It is accorded by another historian that this same ship bore also "853½ otter skins, eighty-one mink skins, thirty-six wild cat skins and thirty-four rat skins, with a quantity of oak and hickory timber." From this it may be seen what the commodities were which formed the subjects of trade. Doubtless of wharf rats Holland had enough at home, but the oak and hickory timber came at a time when there was sore need of it.

Finding that the charter of privileges, enacted in 1621, did not give sufficient encouragement and promise of security to actual settlers, further concessions were made in 1629, whereby "all such persons as shall appear and desire the same from the company, shall be acknowledged as Patroons [a sort of feudal lord] of New Netherland, who shall, within the space of four years next after they have given notice to any of the chambers of the company here, or to the Commander or Council there, undertake to plant a colony there of fifty souls, upward of fifteen years old; one-fourth part within one year, and within three years after sending the first, making together four years, the remainder, to the full number of fifty persons, to be shipped from hence, on pain, in case of willful neglect, of being deprived of the privileges obtained." \* \* "The Patroons, by virtue of their power, shall be permitted, at such places as they shall settle their colonies, to extend their limits four miles along the shore, or two miles on each side of a river, and so far into the country as the situation of the occupiers will permit."

Stimulated by these flattering promises, Goodyn and Bloemmaert, two wealthy and influential citizens, through their agents—Heyser and Coster—secured by purchase from the Indians a tract of land on the western shore, at the mouth of the Delaware, sixteen miles in length along the bay front, and extending sixteen miles back into the country, giving a square of 256 miles. Goodyn immediately gave notice to the company of their intention to plant a colony on their newly acquired territory as patroons. They were joined by an experienced navigator, De Vries, and on the 12th of December, 1630, a vessel, the Walrus, under command of De Vries, was dispatched with a company of settlers and a stock of cattle and farm implements, which arrived safely in the Delaware. De Vries landed about three leagues within the capes, "near the entrance of a fine navigable stream, called the Hoarkill," where he proceeded to build a house, well surrounded with cedar palisades, which served the purpose of fort, lodging house, and trading post. The little settlement, which consisted of about thirty persons, was christened by the high sounding title of Zwanendal—Valley of Swans. In the spring they prepared their fields and planted them, and De Vries returned to Holland, to make report of his proceedings.

But a sad fate awaited the little colony at Zwanendal. In accordance with the custom of European nations, the commandant, on taking possession of the new purchase, erected a post, and affixed thereto a piece of tin on which was traced the arms of Holland and a legend of occupancy. An Indian chieftain, passing that way, attracted by the shining metal, and not understanding the object of the inscription, and not having the fear of their high mightinesses, the States General of Holland before his eyes, tore it down and proceeded to make for himself a tobacco pipe, considering it valuable both by way of ornament and use. When this act of trespass was discovered, it was regarded by the doughty Dutchman as a direct insult to the great State of Holland, and so great an ado was raised over it that the simple minded natives became frightened, believing that their chief had committed a mortal offense, and in the strength and sincerity of their friendship immediately proceeded to dispatch the offending chieftain, and brought the bloody emblems of their deed to the head of the colony. This act excited the anger of the relatives of the murdered man, and in accordance with Indian law, they awaited the chance to take revenge. O'Calaghan gives the following account of this bloody massacre which ensued: "The colony at Zwanendal consisted at this time of thirty-four persons. Of these, thirty-two were one day at work in the fields, while Commissary Hosset remained in charge of the house, where another of the settlers lay sick abed. A large bull dog was chained out of doors. On pretence of selling some furs, three savages entered the house and murdered Hosset and the sick man. They found it not so easy to dispatch the mastiff. It was not until they had pierced him with at least twenty-five arrows that he was destroyed. The men in the fields were then set on, in an equally treacherous manner, under the guise of friendship, and every man of them slain." Thus was a worthless bit of tin the cause of the cutting off and utter extermination of the infant colony.

De Vries was upon the point of returning to Zwanendal when he received intimation of disaster to the settlers. With a large vessel and a yacht, he set sail on the 24th of May, 1632, to carry succor, provided with the means of prosecuting the whale fishery which he had been led to believe might be made very profitable, and of pushing the production of grain and tobacco. On arriving in the Delaware, he fired a signal gun to give notice of his approach. The report echoed through the forest, but, alas! the ears which would have been gladdened with the sound were heavy, and no answering salute came from the shore. On landing, he found his house destroyed, the palisades burned, and the skulls and bones of his murdered countrymen bestrewing the earth, sad relics of the little settlement, which had promised so fairly, and warning tokens of the barbarism of the natives.

De Vries knew that he was in no position to attempt to punish the guilty parties, and hence determined to pursue an entirely pacific policy. At his invitation, the Indians gathered in with their chief for a conference. Sitting down in a circle beneath the shadows of the somber forest, their Sachem in the centre, De Vries, without alluding to their previous acts of savagery, concluded with them a treaty of peace and friendship, and presented them in token of ratification, "some duffels, bullets, axes and Nuremburg trinkets."

In place of finding his colony with plenty of provisions for the immediate needs of his party, he could get nothing, and began to be in want. He accordingly sailed up the river in quest of food. The natives were ready with their furs for barter, but they had no supplies of food with which they wished to part. Game, however, was plenty, and wild turkeys were brought in weighing over thirty pounds. One morning after a frosty night, while the little



craft was up the stream, the party was astonished to find the waters frozen over, and their ship fast in the ice. Judging by the mild climate of their own country, Holland, they did not suppose this possible. For several weeks they were held fast without the power to move their floating home. Being in need of a better variety of food than he found it possible to obtain, De Vries sailed away with a part of his followers to Virginia, where he was hospitably entertained by the Governor, who sent a present of goats as a token of friendship to the Dutch Governor at Manhattan. Upon his return to the Delaware, De Vries found that the party he had left behind to prosecute the whale fishery had only taken a few small ones, and these so poor that the amount of oil obtained was insignificant. He had been induced to embark in the enterprise of a settlement here by the glittering prospect of prosecuting the whale fishery along the shore at a great profit. Judging by this experience that the hope of great gains from this source was groundless, and doubtless haunted by a superstitious dread of making their homes amid the relics of the settlers of the previous year, and of plowing fields enriched by their blood who had been so utterly cut off, and a horror of dwelling amongst a people so revengeful and savage, De Vries gathered all together, and taking his entire party with him sailed away to Manhattan and thence home to Holland, abandoning utterly the settlement.

The Dutch still however sought to maintain a foothold upon the Delaware, and a fierce contention having sprung up between the powerful patroons and the Director General, and they having agreed to settle differences by the company authorizing the purchase of the claims of the patroons, those upon the Delaware were sold for 15,600 guilders. Fort Nassau was accordingly re-occupied and manned with a small military force, and when a party from Connecticut Colony came, under one Holmes to make a settlement upon the Delaware, the Dutch at Nassau were found too strong to be subdued, and Holmes and his party were compelled to surrender, and were sent as prisoners of war to Manhattan.

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## CHAPTER II.

SIR WILLIAM KEIFT, 1638-47—PETER MINUIT, 1638-41—PETER HOLLANDAER, 1641-43—  
JOHN PRINTZ, 1648-53—PETER STUYVESANT, 1647-64—JOHN PAPPAGOYA, 1653-54—  
JOHN CLAUDE RYSINGH, 1654-55.

AT this period, the throne of Sweden was occupied by Gustavus Adolphus, a monarch of the most enlightened views and heroic valor. Seeing the activity of surrounding nations in sending out colonies, he proposed to his people to found a commonwealth in the New World, not for the mere purpose of gain by trade, but to set up a refuge for the oppressed, a place of religious liberty and happy homes that should prove of advantage to "all oppressed Christendom." Accordingly, a company with ample privileges was incorporated by the Swedish Government, to which the King himself pledged \$400,000 of the royal treasure, and men of every rank and nationality were invited to join in the enterprise. Gustavus desired not that his colony should depend upon serfs or slaves to do the rough work. "Slaves cost a great deal, labor with reluctance, and soon perish from hard usage. The Swedish nation is laborious and intelligent, and surely we shall gain more by a free people with wives and children."

In the meantime, the fruits of the reformation in Germany were menaced, and the Swedish monarch determined to unsheath his sword and lead his people to the aid of Protestant faith in the land where its standard had been successfully raised. At the battle of Lützen, where for the cause which he had espoused, a signal victory was gained, the illustrious monarch, in the flower of life, received a mortal wound. Previous to the battle, and while engaged in active preparations for the great struggle, he remembered the interests of his contemplated colony in America, and in a most earnest manner commended the enterprise to the people of Germany.

Oxenstiern, the minister of Gustavus, upon whom the weight of government devolved during the minority of the young daughter, Christina, declared that he was but the executor of the will of the fallen King, and exerted himself to further the interests of a colony which he believed would be favorable to "all Christendom, to Europe, to the whole world." Four years however elapsed before the project was brought to a successful issue. Peter Minuit, who had for a time been Governor of New Netherlands, having been displaced, sought employment in the Swedish company, and was given the command of the first colony. Two vessels, the Key of Calmar and the Griffin, early in the year 1638, with a company of Swedes and Fins, made their way across the stormy Atlantic and arrived safely in the Delaware. They purchased of the Indians the lands from the ocean to the falls of Trenton, and at the mouth of Christina Creek erected a fort which they called Christina, after the name of the youthful Queen of Sweden. The soil was fruitful, the climate mild, and the scenery picturesque. Compared with many parts of Finland and Sweden, it was a Paradise, a name which had been given the point at the entrance of the bay. As tidings of the satisfaction of the first emigrants were borne back to the fatherland, the desire to seek a home in the new country spread rapidly, and the ships sailing were unable to take the many families seeking passage.

The Dutch were in actual possession of Fort Nassau when the Swedes first arrived, and though they continued to hold it and to seek the trade of the Indians, yet the artful Minuit was more than a match for them in Indian barter. William Keift, the Governor of New Netherland, entered a vigorous protest against the encroachments of the Swedes upon Dutch territory, in which he said "this has been our property for many years, occupied with forts and sealed by our blood, which also was done when thou wast in the service of New Netherland, and is therefore well known to thee." But Minuit pushed forward the work upon his fort, regardless of protest, trusting to the respect which the flag of Sweden had inspired in the hands of Banner and Torstensen. For more than a year no tidings were had from Sweden, and no supplies from any source were obtained; and while the fruits of their labors were abundant there were many articles of diet, medicines and apparel, the lack of which they began to sorely feel. So pressing had the want become, that application had been made to the authorities at Manhattan for permission to remove thither with all their effects. But on the very day before that on which they were to embark, a ship from Sweden richly laden with provisions, cattle, seeds and merchandise for barter with the natives came joyfully to their relief, and this, the first permanent settlement on soil where now are the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania, was spared. The success and prosperity of the colony during the first few years of its existence was largely due to the skill and policy of Minuit, who preserved the friendship of the natives, avoided an open conflict with the Dutch, and so prosecuted trade that the Dutch Governor reported to his government that trade had fallen off 30,000 beavers. Minuit



was at the head of the colony for about three years, and died in the midst of the people whom he had led.

Minuit was succeeded in the government by Peter Hollandaer, who had previously gone in charge of a company of emigrants, and who was now, in 1641, commissioned. The goodly lands upon the Delaware were a constant attraction to the eye of the adventurer; a party from Connecticut, under the leadership of Robert Cogswell, came, and squatted without authority upon the site of the present town of Salem. N. J. Another company had proceeded up the river, and, entering the Schuylkill, had planted themselves upon its banks. The settlement of the Swedes, backed as it was by one of the most powerful nations of Europe, the Governor of New Netherland was not disposed to molest; but when these irresponsible wandering adventurers came sailing past their forts and boldly planted themselves upon the most eligible sites and fertile lands in their territory, the Dutch determined to assume a hostile front, and to drive them away. Accordingly, Gen. Jan Jansen Van Ilpendam—his very name was enough to frighten away the emigrants—was sent with two vessels and a military force, who routed the party upon the Schuylkill, destroying their fort and giving them a taste of the punishment that was likely to be meted out to them, if this experiment of trespass was repeated. The Swedes joined the Dutch in breaking up the settlement at Salem and driving away the New England intruders.

In 1642, Hollandaer was succeeded in the government of the Swedish Colony by John Printz, whose instructions for the management of affairs were drawn with much care by the officers of the company in Stockholm. "He was, first of all, to maintain friendly relations with the Indians, and by the advantage of low prices hold their trade. His next care was to cultivate enough grain for the wants of the colonists, and when this was insured, turn his attention to the culture of tobacco, the raising of cattle and sheep of a good species, the culture of the grape, and the raising of silk worms. The manufacture of salt by evaporation, and the search for metals and minerals were to be prosecuted, and inquiry into the establishment of fisheries, with a view to profit, especially the whale fishery, was to be made." It will be seen from these instructions that the far-sighted Swedish statesmen had formed an exalted conception of the resources of the new country, and had figured to themselves great possibilities from its future development. Visions of rich silk products, of the precious metals and gems from its mines, flocks upon a thousand hills that should rival in the softness of their downy fleeces the best products of the Indian looms, and the luscious clusters of the vine that could make glad the palate of the epicure filled their imaginations.

With two vessels, the *Stork* and *Renown*, Printz set sail, and arrived at Fort Christina on the 15th of February, 1643. He was bred to the profession of arms, and was doubtless selected with an eye to his ability to holding possession of the land against the conflict that was likely to arise. He had been a Lieutenant of cavalry, and was withal a man of prodigious proportions, "who weighed," according to De Vries, "upward of 400 pounds, and drank three drinks at every meal." He entertained exalted notions of his dignity as Governor of the colony, and prepared to establish himself in his new dominions with some degree of magnificence. He brought with him from Sweden the bricks to be used for the construction of his royal dwelling. Upon an inspection of the settlement, he detected the inherent weakness of the location of Fort Christina for commanding the navigation of the river, and selected the island of Tinacum for the site of a new fort, called New Gottenburg, which was speedily erected and made strong with huge hemlock logs. In the midst of

the island, he built his royal residence, which was surrounded with trees and shrubbery. He erected another fort near the mouth of Salem Creek, called Elsinborg, which he mounted with eight brass twelve-pounders, and garrisoned. Here all ships ascending the river were brought to, and required to await a permit from the Governor before proceeding to their destination. Gen. Van Ilpendam, who had been sent to drive away the intruders from New England, had remained after executing his commission as commandant at Fort Nassau; but having incurred the displeasure of Director Keift, he had been displaced, and was succeeded by Andreas Hudde, a crafty and politic agent of the Dutch Governor, who had no sooner arrived and become settled in his place than a conflict of authority sprang up between himself and the Swedish Governor. Dutch settlers secured a grant of land on the west bank of Delaware, and obtained possession by purchase from the Indians. This procedure kindled the wrath of Printz, who tore down the ensign of the company which had been erected in token of the power of Holland, and declared that he would have pulled down the colors of their High Mightinesses had they been erected on this the Swedish soil. That there might be no mistake about his claim to authority, the testy Governor issued a manifesto to his rival on the opposite bank, in which were these explicit declarations:

“Andreas Hudde! I remind you again, by this written warning, to discontinue the injuries of which you have been guilty against the Royal Majesty of Sweden, my most gracious Queen; against Her Royal Majesty's rights, pretensions, soil and land, without showing the least respect to the Royal Majesty's magnificence, reputation and dignity: and to do so no more, considering how little it would be becoming Her Royal Majesty to bear such gross violence, and what great disasters might originate from it, yea, might be expected. \* \* \* All this I can freely bring forward in my own defense, to exculpate me from all future calamities, of which we give you a warning, and place it at your account. Dated New Gothenburg, 3d September, stil, veteri 1646.”

It will be noted from the repetition of the high sounding epithets applied to the Queen, that Printz had a very exalted idea of his own position as the Vicegerent of the Swedish monarch. Hudde responded, saying in reply: “The place we possess we hold in just deed, perhaps before the name of South River was heard of in Sweden.” This paper, upon its presentation, Printz flung to the ground in contempt, and when the messenger, who bore it, demanded an answer, Printz unceremoniously threw him out doors, and seizing a gun would have dispatched the Dutchman had he not been arrested; and whenever any of Hudde's men visited Tinicum they were sure to be abused, and frequently came back “bloody and bruised.” Hudde urged rights acquired by prior possession, but Printz answered: “The devil was the oldest possessor in hell, yet he, notwithstanding, would sometimes admit a younger one.” A vessel which had come to the Delaware from Manhattan with goods to barter to the Indians, was brought to, and ordered away. In vain did Hudde plead the rights acquired by previous possession, and finally treaty obligations existing between the two nations. Printz was inexorable, and peremptorily ordered the skipper away, and as his ship was not provided with the means of fighting its way up past the frowning battlements of Fort Elsinborg, his only alternative was to return to Manhattan and report the result to his employers.

Peter Stuyvesant, a man of a good share of native talent and force of character, succeeded to the chief authority over New Netherland in May, 1647. The affairs of his colony were not in an encouraging condition. The New England colonies were crowding upon him from the north and east, and the

Swedes upon the South River were occupying the territory which the Dutch for many years previous to the coming of Christina's colony had claimed. Amid the thickening complications, Stuyvesant had need of all his power of argument and executive skill. He entered into negotiations with the New England colonies for a peaceful settlement of their difficulties, getting the very best terms he could, without resorting to force; for, said his superiors, the officers of the company in Holland, who had an eye to dividends, "War cannot be for our advantage; the New England people are too powerful for us." A pacific policy was also preserved toward the Swedes. Hudde was retained at the head of Dutch affairs upon the Delaware, and he was required to make full reports of everything that was transpiring there in order that a clear insight might be gained of the policy likely to be pursued. Stuyvesant was entirely too shrewd a politician for the choleric Printz. He recommended to the company to plant a Dutch colony on the site of Zwanendal at the mouth of the river, another on the opposite bank, which, if effectually done, would command its navigation; and a third on the upper waters at Beversreede, which would intercept the intercourse of the native population. By this course of active colonizing, Stuyvesant rightly calculated that the Swedish power would be circumscribed, and finally, upon a favorable occasion, be crushed out.

Stuyvesant, that he might ascertain the nature and extent of the Swedish claims to the country, and examine into the complaints that were pouring in upon him of wrongs and indignities suffered by the Dutch at the hands of the Swedish power, in 1651 determined to visit the Delaware in his official capacity. He evidently went in some state, and Printz, who was doubtless impressed with the condescension of the Governor of all New Netherland in thus coming, was put upon his good behavior. Stuyvesant, by his address, got completely on the blind side of the Swedish chief, maintaining the garb of friendship and brotherly good-will, and insisting that the discussion of rights should be carried on in a peaceful and friendly manner, for we are informed that they mutually promised "not to commit any hostile or vexatious acts against one another, but to maintain together all neighborly friendship and correspondence, as good friends and allies are bound to do." Printz was thus, by this agreement, entirely disarmed and placed at a disadvantage; for the Dutch Governor took advantage of the armistice to acquire lands below Fort Christina, where he proceeded to erect a fort only five miles away, which he named Fort Casimir. This gave the Dutch a foothold upon the south bank, and in nearer proximity to the ocean than Fort Christina. Fort Nassau was dismantled and destroyed, as being no longer of use. In a conference with the Swedish Governor, Stuyvesant demanded to see documental proof of his right to exercise authority upon the Delaware, and the compass of the lands to which the Swedish Government laid claim. Printz prepared a statement in which he set out the "Swedish limits wide enough." But Stuyvesant demanded the documents, under the seal of the company, and characterized this writing as a "subterfuge," maintaining by documentary evidence, on his part, the Dutch West India Company's right to the soil.

Printz was great as a blusterer, and preserver of authority when personal abuse and kicks and cuffs could be resorted to without the fear of retaliation; but no match in statecraft for the wily Stuyvesant. To the plea of pre-occupancy he had nothing to answer more than he had already done to Hudde's messenger respecting the government of Hades, and herein was the cause of the Swedes inherently weak. In numbers, too, the Swedes were feeble compared with the Dutch, who had ten times the population. But in diplomacy he had been entirely overreached. Fort Casimir, by its location, rendered



the rival Fort Elsinborg powerless, and under plea that the mosquitoes had become troublesome there, it was abandoned. Discovering, doubtless, that a cloud of complications was thickening over him, which he would be unable with the forces at his command to successfully withstand, he asked to be relieved, and, without awaiting an answer to his application, departed for Sweden, leaving his son-in-law, John Pappogoya, who had previously received marks of the royal favor, and been invested with the dignity of Lieutenant Governor, in supreme authority.

The Swedish company had by this time, no doubt, discovered that forcible opposition to Swedish occupancy of the soil upon Delaware was destined soon to come, and accordingly, as a precautionary measure, in November, 1653, the College of Commerce sent John Amundson Besch, with the commission of Captain in the Navy, to superintend the construction of vessels. Upon his arrival, he acquired lands suitable for the purpose of ship-building, and set about laying his keels. He was to have supreme authority over the naval force, and was to act in conjunction with the Governor in protecting the interests of the colony, but in such a manner that neither should decide anything without consulting the other.

On receiving the application of Printz to be relieved, the company appointed John Claude Rysingh, then Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, as Vice Director of New Sweden. He was instructed to fortify and extend the Swedish possessions, but without interrupting the friendship existing with the English or Dutch. He was to use his power of persuasion in inducing the latter to give up Fort Casimir, which was regarded as an intrusion upon Swedish possessions, but without resorting to hostilities, as it was better to allow the Dutch to occupy it than to have it fall into the hands of the English, "who are the more powerful, and, of course, the most dangerous in that country." Thus early was the prowess of England foreshadowed. Gov. Rysingh arrived in the Delaware, on the last day of May, 1654, and immediately demanded the surrender of Fort Casimir. Adriaen Van Tienhoven, an aide-camp on the staff of the Dutch commandant of the fort, was sent on board the vessel to demand of Gov. Rysingh by what right he claimed to dispossess the rightful occupants; but the Governor was not disposed to discuss the matter, and immediately landed a party and took possession without more opposition than wordy protests, the Dutch Governor saying, when called on to make defense, "What can I do? there is no powder." Rysingh, however, in justification of his course, stated to Teinhoven, after he had gained possession of the fort, that he was acting under orders from the crown of Sweden, whose ambassador at the Dutch Court, when remonstrating against the action of Gov. Stuyvesant in erecting and manning Fort Casimir had been assured, by the State's General and the offices of the West India Company, that they had not authorized the erection of this fort on Swedish soil, saying, "if our people are in your Excellency's way, drive them off." "Thereupon the Swedish Governor slapped Van Teinhoven on the breast, and said, 'Go! tell your Governor that.'" As the capture was made on Trinity Sunday, the name was changed from Fort Casimir to Fort Trinity.

Thus were the instructions of the new Governor, not to resort to force, but to secure possession of the fort by negotiation, complied with, but by a forced interpretation. For, although he had not actually come to battle, for the very good reason that the Dutch had no powder, and were not disposed to use their fists against fire arms, which the Swedes brandished freely, yet, in making his demand for the fort, he had put on the stern aspect of war.

Stuyvesant, on learning of the loss of Fort Casimir, sent a messenger to the

Delaware to invite Gov. Rysingh to come to Manhattan to hold friendly conference upon the subject of their difficulties. This Rysingh refused to do, and the Dutch Governor, probably desiring instructions from the home Government before proceeding to extremities, made a voyage to the West Indies for the purpose of arranging favorable regulations of trade with the colonies, though without the instructions, or even the knowledge of the States-General. Cromwell, who was now at the head of the English nation, by the policy of his agents, rendered this embassy of Stuyvesant abortive.

As soon as information of the conduct of Rysingh at Zwanendal was known in Holland, the company lost no time in disclaiming the representations which he had made of its willingness to have the fort turned over to the Swedes, and immediately took measures for restoring it and wholly dispossessing the Swedes of lands upon the Delaware. On the 16th of November, 1655, the company ordered Stuyvesant "to exert every nerve to avenge the insult, by not only replacing matters on the Delaware in their former position, but by driving the Swedes from every side of the river," though they subsequently modified this order in such manner as to allow the Swedes, after Fort Casimir had been taken, "to hold the land on which Fort Christina is built," with a garden to cultivate tobacco, because it appears that they had made the purchase with the previous knowledge of the company, thus manifesting a disinclination to involve Holland in a war with Sweden. "Two armed ships were forthwith commissioned; 'the drum was beaten daily for volunteers' in the streets of Amsterdam; authority was sent out to arm and equip, and if necessary to press into the company's service a sufficient number of ships for the expedition." In the meantime, Gov. Rysingh, who had inaugurated his reign by so bold a stroke of policy, determined to ingratiate himself into the favor of the Indians, who had been soured in disposition by the arbitrary conduct of the passionate Printz. He accordingly sent out on all sides an invitation to the native tribes to assemble on a certain day, by their chiefs and principal men, at the seat of government on Tinicum Island, to brighten the chain of friendship and renew their pledges of faith and good neighborhood.

On the morning of the appointed day, ten grand sachems with their attendants came, and with the formality characteristic of these native tribes, the council opened. Many and bitter were the complaints made against the Swedes for wrongs suffered at their hands, "chief among which was that many of their number had died, plainly pointing, though not explicitly saying it, to the giving of spirituous liquors as the cause." The new Governor had no answer to make to these complaints, being convinced, probably, that they were but too true. Without attempting to excuse or extenuate the past, Rysingh brought forward the numerous presents which he had taken with him from Sweden for the purpose. The sight of the piled up goods produced a profound impression upon the minds of the native chieftains. They sat apart for conference before making any expression of their feelings. Naaman, the fast friend of the white man, and the most consequential of the warriors, according to Campanius, spoke: "Look," said he, "and see what they have brought to us." So saying, he stroked himself three times down the arm, which, among the Indians, was a token of friendship; afterward he thanked the Swedes on behalf of his people for the presents they had received, and said that friendship should be observed more strictly between them than ever before; that the Swedes and the Indians in Gov. Printz's time were as one body and one heart, striking his breast as he spoke, and that thenceforward they should be as one head; in token of which he took hold of his head with both hands, and made a motion

as if he were tying a knot, and then he made this comparison: "That, as the calabash was round, without any crack, so they should be a compact body without any fissure; and that if any should attempt to do any harm to the Indians, the Swedes should immediately inform them of it; and, on the other hand, the Indians would give immediate notice to the Christians, even if it were in the middle of the night." On this they were answered that that would be indeed a true and lasting friendship, if every one would agree to it; on which they gave a general shout in token of consent. Immediately on this the great guns were fired, which pleased them extremely, and they said, "*Poo, hoo, hoo; mokerick picon,*" that is to say "Hear and believe; the great guns are fired." Rysingh then produced all the treaties which had ever been concluded between them and the Swedes, which were again solemnly confirmed. "When those who had signed the deeds heard their names, they appeared to rejoice, but, when the names were read of those who were dead, they hung their heads in sorrow."

After the first ebullition of feeling had subsided on the part of the Dutch Company at Amsterdam, the winter passed without anything further being done than issuing the order to Stuyvesant to proceed against the Swedes. In the spring, however, a thirty-six-gun brig was obtained from the burgomasters of Amsterdam, which, with four other crafts of varying sizes, was prepared for duty, and the little fleet set sail for New Netherland. Orders were given for immediate action, though Director General Stuyvesant had not returned from the West Indies. Upon the arrival of the vessels at Manhattan, it was announced that "if any lovers of the prosperity and security of the province of New Netherland were inclined to volunteer, or to serve for reasonable wages, they should come forward," and whoever should lose a limb, or be maimed, was assured of a decent compensation. The merchantmen were ordered to furnish two of their crews, and the river boatmen were to be impressed. At this juncture a grave question arose: "Shall the Jews be enlisted?" It was decided in the negative; but in lieu of service, adult male Jews were taxed sixty five stivers a head per month, to be levied by execution in case of refusal.

Stuyvesant had now arrived from his commercial trip, and made ready for opening the campaign in earnest. A day of prayer and thanksgiving was held to beseech the favor of Heaven upon the enterprise, and on the 5th of September, 1655, with a fleet of seven vessels and some 600 men, Stuyvesant hoisted sail and steered for the Delaware. Arrived before Fort Trinity (Casimir), the Director sent Capt. Smith and a drummer to summon the fort, and ordered a flank movement by a party of fifty picked men to cut off communication with Fort Christina and the headquarters of Gov. Rysingh. Swen Schute, the commandant of the garrison, asked permission to communicate with Rysingh, which was denied, and he was called on to prevent bloodshed. An interview in the valley midway between the fort and the Dutch batteries was held, when Schute asked to send an open letter to Rysingh. This was denied, and for a third time the fort was summoned. Impatient of delay, and in no temper for parley, the great guns were landed and the Dutch force ordered to advance. Schute again asked for a delay until morning, which was granted, as the day was now well spent and the Dutch would be unable to make the necessary preparations to open before morning. Early on the following day, Schute went on board the Dutch flag-ship, the *Balance*, and agreed to terms of surrender very honorable to his flag. He was permitted to send to Sweden, by the first opportunity, the cannon, nine in number, belonging to the crown of Sweden, to march out of the fort with twelve men, as his body guard, fully accoutered, and colors flying; the common soldiers to wear their side arms. The com-



mandant and other officers were to retain their private property, the muskets belonging to the crown were to be held until sent for, and finally the fort was to be surrendered, with all the cannon, ammunition, materials and other goods belonging to the West India Company. The Dutch entered the fort at noon with all the formality and glorious circumstance of war, and Dominie Megapolensis, Chaplain of the expedition, preached a sermon of thanksgiving on the following Sunday in honor of the great triumph.

While these signal events were transpiring at Casimir, Gov. Rysing, at his royal residence on Tinicum, was in utter ignorance that he was being despoiled of his power. A detachment of nine men had been sent by the Governor to Casimir to re-enforce the garrison, which came unawares upon the Dutch lines, and after a brief skirmish all but two were captured. Upon learning that the fort was invested, Factor Ellsweck was sent with a flag to inquire of the invaders the purpose of their coming. The answer was returned "To recover and retain our property." Rysing then communicated the hope that they would therewith rest content, and not encroach further upon Swedish territory, having, doubtless, ascertained by this time that the Dutch were too strong for him to make any effectual resistance. Stuyvesant returned an evasive answer, but made ready to march upon Fort Christina. It will be remembered that by the terms of the modified orders given for the reduction of the Swedes, Fort Christina was not to be disturbed. But the Dutch Governor's blood was now up, and he determined to make clean work while the means were in his hands. Discovering that the Dutch were advancing, Rysing spent the whole night in strengthening the defenses and putting the garrison in position to make a stout resistance. Early on the following day the invaders made their appearance on the opposite bank of Christina Creek, where they threw up defenses and planted their cannon. Forces were landed above the fort, and the place was soon invested on all sides, the vessels, in the meantime, having been brought into the mouth of the creek, their cannon planted west of the fort and on Timber Island. Having thus securely shut up the Governor and his garrison, Stuyvesant summoned him to surrender. Rysing could not in honor tamely submit, and at a council of war it was resolved to make a defense and "leave the consequence to be redressed by our gracious superiors." But their supply of powder barely sufficed for one round, and his force consisted of only thirty men. In the meantime, the Dutch soldiery made free with the property of the Swedes without the fort, killing their cattle and invading their homes. "At length the Swedish garrison itself showed symptoms of mutiny. The men were harassed with constant watching, provisions began to fail, many were sick, several had deserted, and Stuyvesant threatened, that, if they held out much longer, to give no quarter." A conference was held which ended by the return of Rysing to the fort more resolute than ever for defense. Finally Stuyvesant sent in his *ultimatum* and gave twenty-four hours for a final answer, the generous extent of time for consideration evincing the humane disposition of the commander of the invading army, or what is perhaps more probable his own lack of stomach for carnage. Before the expiration of the time allowed, the garrison capitulated, "after a siege of fourteen days, during which, very fortunately, there was a great deal more talking than cannonading, and no blood shed, except those of the goats, poultry and swine, which the Dutch troops laid their hands on. The twenty or thirty Swedes then marched out with their arms: colors flying, matches lighted, drums beating, and fifes playing, and the Dutch took possession of the fort, hauled down the Swedish flag and hoisted their own."

By the terms of capitulation, the Swedes, who wished to remain in the

country, were permitted to do so, on taking the oath of allegiance, and rights of property were to be respected under the sway of Dutch law. Gov. Rysingh, and all others who desired to return to Europe, were furnished passage, and by a secret provision, a loan of £300 Flemish was made to Rysingh, to be refunded on his arrival in Sweden, the cannon and other property belonging to the crown remaining in the hands of the Dutch until the loan was paid. Before withdrawing Stuyvesant offered to deliver over Fort Christina and the lands immediately about it to Rysingh, but this offer was declined with dignity, as the matter had now passed for arbitrament to the courts of the two nations.

The terms of the capitulation were honorable and liberal enough, but the Dutch authorities seem to have exercised little care in carrying out its provisions, or else the discipline in the service must have been very lax. For Rysingh had no sooner arrived at Manhattan, than he entered most vigorous protests against the violations of the provisions of the capitulation to Gov. Stuyvesant. He asserted that the property belonging to the Swedish crown had been left without guard or protection from pillage, and that he himself had not been assigned quarters suited to his dignity. He accused the Dutch with having broken open the church, and taken away all the cordage and sails of a new vessel, with having plundered the villages, Tinnakong, Uplandt, Finland, Printzdrorp and other places. "In Christina, the women were violently torn from their houses; whole buildings were destroyed; yea, oxen, cows, hogs and other creatures were butchered day after day; even the horses were not spared, but wantonly shot; the plantations destroyed, and the whole country so desolated that scarce any means were left for the subsistence of the inhabitants." "Your men carried off even my own property," said Rysingh, "with that of my family, and we were left like sheep doomed to the knife, without means of defense against the wild barbarians."

Thus the colony of Swedes and Fins on the South River, which had been planned by and had been the object of solicitude to the great monarch himself, and had received the fostering care of the Swedish Government, came to an end after an existence of a little more than seventeen years—1638–1655. But though it no longer existed as a colony under the government of the crown of Sweden, many of the colonists remained and became the most intelligent and law-abiding citizens, and constituted a vigorous element in the future growth of the State. Some of the best blood of Europe at this period flowed in the veins of the Swedes. "A love for Sweden," says Bancroft, "their dear mother country, the abiding sentiment of loyalty toward its sovereign, continued to distinguish the little band. At Stockholm, they remained for a century the objects of disinterested and generous regard; affection united them in the New World; and a part of their descendants still preserve their altar and their dwellings around the graves of their fathers."

This campaign of Stuyvesant, for the dispossessing of the Swedes of territory upon the Delaware, furnishes Washington Irving subject for some of the most inimitable chapters of broad humor, in his Knickerbocker's New York, to be found in the English language. And yet, in the midst of his side-splitting paragraphs, he indulges in a reflection which is worthy of remembrance. "He who reads attentively will discover the threads of gold which run throughout the web of history, and are invisible to the dull eye of ignorance. \* \* \* By the treacherous surprisal of Fort Casimir, then, did the crafty Swedes enjoy a transient triumph, but drew upon their heads the vengeance of Peier Stuyvesant, who wrested all New Sweden from their hands. By the conquest of New Sweden, Peter Stuyvesant aroused the claims of Lord Balti-

more, who appealed to the cabinet of Great Britain, who subdued the whole province of New Netherlands. By this great achievement, the whole extent of North America, from Nova Scotia to the Floridas, was rendered one entire dependency upon the British crown. But mark the consequence: The hitherto scattered colonies being thus consolidated and having no rival colonies to check or keep them in awe, waxed great and powerful, and finally becoming too strong for the mother country, were enabled to shake off its bonds. But the chain of effects stopped not here; the successful revolution in America produced the sanguinary revolution in France, which produced the puissant Bonaparte, who produced the French despotism."

In March, 1656, the ship "Mercury," with 130 emigrants, arrived, the government at Stockholm having had no intimation of the Dutch conquest. An attempt was made to prevent a landing, and the vessel was ordered to report to Stuyvesant at Manhattan, but the order was disregarded and the colonists debarked and acquired lands. The Swedish Government was not disposed to submit to these high-handed proceedings of the Dutch, and the ministers of the two courts maintained a heated discussion of their differences. Finding the Dutch disposed to hold by force their conquests, the government of Sweden allowed the claim to rest until 1664. In that year, vigorous measures were planned to regain its claims upon the Delaware, and a fleet bearing a military force was dispatched for the purpose. But, having been obliged to put back on account of stress of weather, the enterprise was abandoned.

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### CHAPTER III.

JOHN PAUL JACQUET, 1655-57—JACOB ALRICHS, 1657-59—GOERAN VAN DYCK, 1657-58—WILLIAM BEEKMAN, 1658-63—ALEXANDER D'HINOYOSSA, 1659-64.

THE colonies upon the Delaware being now under exclusive control of the Dutch, John Paul Jaquet was appointed in November, 1655, as Vice Director, Derck Smidt having exercised authority after the departure of Stuyvesant. The expense of fitting out the expedition for the reduction of the Swedes was sorely felt by the West India Company, which had been obliged to borrow money for the purpose of the city of Amsterdam. In payment of this loan, the company sold to the city all the lands upon the south bank of the Delaware, from the ocean to Christina Creek, reaching back to the lands of the Minquas, which was designated Nieur Amstel. Again was there divided authority upon the Delaware. The government of the new possession was vested in a commission of forty residents of Amsterdam, who appointed Jacob Alrichs as Director, and sent him with a force of forty soldiers and 150 colonists, in three vessels, to assume the government, whereupon Jaquet relinquished authority over this portion of his territory. The company in communicating with Stuyvesant upon the subject of his course in dispossessing the Swedes, after duly considering all the complaints and remonstrances of the Swedish government, approved his conduct, "though they would not have been displeased had such a *formal* capitulation not taken place," adding as a parenthetical explanation of the word formal "what is written is too long preserved, and may be produced when not desired, whereas words not recorded are, in the lapse of time, forgotten, or may be explained away."



Stuyvesant still remained in supreme control over both the colony of the city and the colony of the company, to the immediate governorship of the latter of which, Goeran Van Dyck was appointed. But though settlements in the management of affairs were frequently made, they would not remain settled. There was conflict of authority between Alrichs and Van Dyck. The companies soon found that a grievous system of smuggling had sprung up. After a searching examination into the irregularities by Stuyvesant, who visited the Delaware for the purpose, he recommended the appointment of one general agent who should have charge of all the revenues of both colonies, and William Beekman was accordingly appointed. The company of the city seems not to have been satisfied with the profits of their investment, and accordingly made new regulations to govern settlement, by which larger returns would accrue. This action created discontent among the settlers, and many who were meditating the purchase of lands and the acquisition of homes, determined to go over into Maryland where Lord Baltimore was offering far more liberal terms of settlement. To add to the discomforts of the settlers, "the miasms which the low alluvial soil and the rank and decomposed vegetation of a new country engenders," produced wasting sicknesses. When the planting was completed, and the new soil, for ages undisturbed, had been thoroughly stirred, the rains set in which descended almost continuously, producing fever and ague and dysentery. Scarcely a family escaped the epidemic. Six in the family of Director Alrichs were attacked, and his wife died. New colonists came without provisions, which only added to the distress. "Scarcity of provisions," says O'Calaghan, "naturally followed the failure of the crops; 900 schepels of grain had been sown in the spring. They produced scarcely 600 at harvest. Rye rose to three guilders the bushel; peas to eight guilders the sack; salt was twelve guilders the bushel at New Amsterdam; cheese and butter were not to be had, and when a man journeys he can get nothing but dry bread, or he must take a pot or kettle along with him to cook his victuals." "The place had now got so bad a name that the whole river could not wash it clean." The exactions of the city company upon its colony, not only did not bring increased revenue, but by dispersing the honest colonists, served to notify Lord Baltimore—who had laid claim to the lands upon Delaware, on account of original discovery by Lord De la War, from whom the river takes its name, and from subsequent charter of the British crown, covering territory from the 38th to the 40th degree of latitude—of the weakness of the colonies, and persuade him that now was a favorable opportunity to enforce his claims. Accordingly, Col. Utie, with a number of delegates, was dispatched to demand that the Dutch should quit the place, or declare themselves subjects of Lord Baltimore, adding, "that if they hesitated, they should be responsible for whatever innocent blood might be shed."

Excited discussions ensued between the Dutch authorities and the agents of the Maryland government, and it was finally agreed to refer the matter to Gov. Stuyvesant, who immediately sent Commissioners to the Chesapeake to settle differences, and enter into treaty regulations for the mutual return of fugitives, and dispatched sixty soldiers to the Delaware to assist in preserving order, and resisting the English, should an attempt be made to dispossess the Dutch.

Upon the death of Alrichs, which occurred in 1659, Alexander D'Hinoyossa was appointed Governor of the city colony. The new Governor was a man of good business capacity, and sought to administer the affairs of his colony for the best interests of the settlers, and for increasing the revenues of the company. To further the general prosperity, the company negotiated a new loan

with which to strengthen and improve its resources. This liberal policy had the desired effect. The Swedes, who had settled above on the river, moved down, and acquired homes on the lands of the city colony. The Fins and discontented Dutch, who had gone to Maryland, returned and brought with them some of the English settlers.

Discouraged by the harassing conflicts of authority which seemed interminable, the West India Company transferred all its interests on the east side of the river to the colony of the city, and upon the visit of D'Hinoyossa to Holland in 1663, he secured for himself the entire and exclusive government of the colonies upon the Delaware, being no longer subject to the authority of Stuyvesant.

Encouraged by liberal terms of settlement, and there being now a prospect of stable government, emigrants were attracted thither. A Mennonite community came in a body. "Clergymen were not allowed to join them, nor any 'intractable people such as those in communion with the Roman See, usurious Jews, English stiff-necked Quakers, Puritans, foolhardy believers in the millennium, and obstinate modern pretenders to revelation.'" They were obliged to take an oath never to seek for an office; Magistrates were to receive no compensation, "not even a stiver." The soil and climate were regarded as excellent, and when sufficiently peopled, the country would be the "finest on the face of the globe."

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## CHAPTER IV.

RICHARD NICHOLS, 1664-67—ROBERT NEEDHAM, 1664-68—FRANCIS LOVELACE, 1667-73—JOHN CARR, 1668-73—ANTHONY COLVE, 1673-74—PETER ALRICH, 1673-74.

AFFAIRS were scarcely arranged upon the Delaware, and the dawning of a better day for the colonists ushered in, before new complications began to threaten the subversion of the whole Dutch power in America. The English had always claimed the entire Atlantic seaboard. Under Cromwell, the Navigation act was aimed at Dutch interests in the New World. Captain John Scott, who had been an officer in the army of Charles I, having obtained some show of authority from the Governor of Connecticut, had visited the towns upon the west end of Long Island, where was a mixed population of Dutch and English, and where he claimed to have purchased large tracts of land, and had persuaded them to unite under his authority in setting up a government of their own. He visited England and "petitioned the King to be invested with the government of Long Island, or that the people thereof be allowed to choose yearly a Governor and Assistants." By his representation, an inquiry was instituted by the King's council, "as to his majesty's title to the premises; the intrusions of the Dutch; their deportment; management of the country; strength, trade and government; and lastly, of the means necessary to induce or force them to acknowledge the King, or if necessary, to expel them together from the country." The visit of Scott, and his prayer to the King for a grant of Long Island, was the occasion of inaugurating a policy, which resulted in the overthrow of Dutch rule in America. But the attention of English statesmen had for some time been turned to the importance of the territory which the Dutch colonies had occupied, and a belief that Dutch trade in the New World was yielding great returns, stimulated inquiry. James,

Duke of York, brother of the King, who afterward himself became King, was probably at this time the power behind the throne that was urging on action looking to the dispossession of the Dutch. The motive which seemed to actuate him was the acquisition of personal wealth and power. He saw, as he thought, a company of merchants in Amsterdam accumulating great wealth out of these colonies, and he meditated the transfer of this wealth to himself. He was seconded in this project by the powerful influence of Sir George Downing, who had been Envoy at The Hague, under Cromwell, and was now under Charles II. "Keen, bold, subtle, active, and observant, but imperious and unscrupulous, disliking and distrusting the Dutch," he had watched every movement of the company's granted privileges by the States General, and had reported everything to his superiors at home. "The whole bent," says O'Calaghan, "of this man's mind was constantly to hold up before the eyes of his countrymen the growing power of Holland and her commercial companies, their immense wealth and ambition, and the danger to England of permitting these to progress onward unchecked."

After giving his testimony before the council, Scott returned to America with a letter from the King recommending his interests to the co-operation and protection of the New England colonies. On arriving in Connecticut, he was commissioned by the Governor of that colony to incorporate Long Island under Connecticut jurisdiction. But the Baptists, Quakers and Mennonites, who formed a considerable part of the population, "dreaded falling into the hands of the Puritans." In a quaint document commencing, "In the behalfe of sum hundreds of English here planted on the west end of Long Island wee address," etc., they besought Scott to come and settle their difficulties. On his arrival he acquainted them with the fact, till then unknown, that King Charles had granted the island to the Duke of York, who would soon assert his rights. Whereupon the towns of Hemstede, Newwarke, Crafford, Hastings, Folestone and Gravesend, entered into a "combination" as they termed it, resolved to elect deputies to draw up laws, choose magistrates, and empowered Scott to act as their President; in short set up the first independent State in America. Scott immediately set out at the head of 150 men, horse and foot, to subdue the island.

On the 22d of March, 1664, Charles II made a grant of the whole of Long Island, and all the adjoining country at the time in possession of the Dutch, to the Duke of York. Borrowing four men-of-war of the king, James sent them in command of Col. Richard Nicholls, an old officer, with whom was associated Sir Robert Carr, Sir George Cartwright, and Samuel Maverick, Esq., and a force of 450 men, to dispossess the Dutch. To insure the success of the expedition, letters were addressed to each of the Governors of the New England colonies, enjoining upon them to unite in giving aid by men and material to Nicholls. The fleet sailed directly for Boston, where it was expected, and whence, through one Lord, the Dutch were notified of its coming. The greatest consternation was aroused upon the receipt of this intelligence, and the most active preparations were making for defense. But in the midst of these preparations, notice was received from the Chambers at Amsterdam, doubtless inspired by the English, that "no apprehension of any public enemy or danger from England need be entertained. That the King was only desirous to reduce the colonies to uniformity in church and state, and with this view was dispatching some Commissioners with two or three frigates to New England to introduce Episcopacy in that quarter." Thrown completely off his guard by this announcement, the Director General, Stuyvesant abandoned all preparations for resistance, and indulged in no anticipations of a hostile visitation. Thus



were three full weeks lost in which the colonies might have been put in a very good state of defense.

Nicholls on arriving in American waters, touched at Boston and Connecticut, where some aid was received, and then hastened forward to Manhattan. Stuyvesant had but a day or two before learned of the arrival, and of the hostile intent. Scarcely had he issued orders for bringing out his forces and for fortifying before Nicholls scattered proclamations through the colony promising to protect all who submitted to his Brittanian majesty in the undisturbed possession of their property, and made a formal summons upon Stuyvesant to surrender the country to the King of Great Britain. The Director found that he had an entirely different enemy to treat with from Rysingh, and a few half-armed Swedes and Fins upon the Delaware. Wordy war ensued between the Commissioners and the Director, and the English Governor finding that Stuyvesant not in the temper to yield, landed a body of his soldiers upon the lower end of the island, and ordered Hyde, the commander of the fleet, to lay the frigates broadside before the city. It was a critical moment. Stuyvesant was standing on one of the points of the fort when he saw the frigates approaching. The gunner stood by with burning match, prepared to fire on the fleet, and Stuyvesant seemed on the point of giving the order. But he was restrained, and a further communication was sent to Nicholls, who would listen to nothing short of the full execution of his mission. Still Stuyvesant held out. The inhabitants implored, but rather than surrender "he would be carried a corpse to his grave." The town was, however, in no condition to stand a siege. The powder at the fort would only suffice for one day of active operations. Provisions were scarce. The inhabitants were not disposed to be sacrificed, and the disaffection among them spread to the soldiers. They were overheard muttering, "Now we hope to pepper those devilish traders who have so long salted us; we know where booty is to be found, and where the young women live who wear gold chains."

The Rev. Jannes Myapoleuses seems to have been active in negotiations and opposed to the shedding of blood. A remonstrance drawn by him was finally adopted and signed by the principal men, and presented to the Director General, in which the utter hopelessness of resistance was set forth, and Stuyvesant finally consented to capitulate. Favorable terms were arranged, and Nicholls promised that if it should be finally agreed between the English and Dutch governments that the province should be given over to Dutch rule, he would peacefully yield his authority. Thus without a gun being fired, the English made conquest of the Manhattoes.

Sir Robert Carr, with two frigates and an ample force, was dispatched to the Delaware to reduce the settlements there to English rule. The planters, whether Dutch or Swedes, were to be insured in the peaceable possession of their property, and the magistrates were to be continued in office.

Sailing past the fort, he disseminated among the settlers the news of the surrender of Stuyvesant, and the promises of protection which Nicholls had made use of. But Gov. D'Hinoyossa was not disposed to heed the demand for surrender without a struggle. Whereupon Carr landed his forces and stormed the place. After a fruitless but heroic resistance, in which ten were wounded and three were killed, the Governor was forced to surrender. Thus was the complete subversion of the State's General in America consummated, and the name of New Amsterdam gave place to that of New York, from the name of the English proprietor, James, Duke of York.

The resistance offered by D'Hinoyossa formed a pretext for shameless plunder. Carr, in his report which shows him to have been a lawless fel-

low, says, "Ye soldiers never stoping untill they stormed ye fort, and sae consequently to plundering; the seamen, noe less given to that sport, were quickly within, and have gotten good store of booty." Carr seized the farm of D'Hinoyossa, his brother, John Carr, that of Sheriff Sweringen, and Ensign Stock that of Peter Alrichs. The produce of the land for that year was seized, together with a cargo of goods that was unsold. "Even the inoffensive Menonists, though non-combatant from principle, did not escape the sack and plunder to which the whole river was subjected by Carr and his marauders. A boat was dispatched to their settlement, which was stripped of everything, to a very naile."

Nicholls, on hearing of the rapacious conduct of his subordinate, visited the Delaware, removed Carr, and placed Robert Needham in command. Previous to dispatching his fleet to America, in June, 1664, the Duke of York had granted to John, Lord Berkeley, Baron of Stratton, and Sir George Carteret, of Saltrun in Devon, the territory of New Jersey, bounded substantially as the present State, and this, though but little settled by the Dutch, had been included in the terms of surrender secured by Nicholls. In many ways, he showed himself a man of ability and discretion. He drew up with signal success a body of laws, embracing most of the provisions which had been in force in the English colonies, which were designated the Duke's Laws.

In May, 1667, Col. Francis Lovelace was appointed Governor in place of Nicholls, and soon after taking charge of affairs, drew up regulations for the government of the territory upon the Delaware, and dispatched Capt. John Carr to act there as his Deputy Governor. It was provided that whenever complaint duly sworn to was made, the Governor was to summon "the schout, Hans Block, Israel Helm, Peter Rambo, Peter Cock and Peter Alrichs, or any two of them, as counsellors, to advise him, and determine by the major vote what is just, equitable and necessary in the case in question." It was further provided that all men should be punished in an exemplary manner, though with moderation; that the laws should be frequently communicated to the counsellors, and that in cases of difficulty recourse should be had to the Governor and Council at New York.

In 1668, two murders were perpetrated by Indians, which caused considerable disturbance and alarm throughout the settlements. These capital crimes appear to have been committed while the guilty parties were maddened by liquor. So impressed were the sachems and leading warriors of the baneful effects of strong drink, that they appeared before the Council and besought its authority to utterly prohibit the sale of it to any of their tribes. These requests were repeated, and finally, upon the advice of Peter Alrichs, "the Governor (Lovelace) prohibited, *on pain of death*, the selling of powder, shot and strong liquors to the Indians, and writ to Carr on the occasion to use the utmost vigilance and caution."

The native murderers were not apprehended, as it was difficult to trace them; but the Indians themselves were determined to ferret them out. One was taken and shot to death, who was the chief offender, but the other escaped and was never after heard of. The chiefs summoned their young men, and in presence of the English warned them that such would be the fate of all offenders. Proud justly remarks: "This, at a time when the Indians were numerous and strong and the Europeans few and weak, was a memorable act of justice, and a proof of true friendship to the English, greatly alleviating the fear, for which they had so much reason among savages, in this then wilderness country."

In 1669, a reputed son of the distinguished Swedish General, Connings-

marke, commonly called the Long Fin, with another of his nationality, Henry Coleman, a man of property, and familiar with the language and habits of the Indians, endeavored to incite an insurrection to throw off the English rule and establish the Swedish supremacy. The Long Fin was apprehended, and was condemned to die; but upon reconsideration his sentence was commuted to whipping and to branding with the letter R. He was brought in chains to New York, where he was incarcerated in the Stadt-house for a year, and was then transported to Barbadoes to be sold. Improvements in the modes of administering justice were from time to time introduced. New Castle was made a corporation, to be governed by a Bailiff and six associates. Duties on importations were laid, and Capt. Martin Pringer was appointed to collect and make due returns of them to Gov. Lovelace.

In 1673, the French monarch, Louis XIV, declared war against the Netherlands, and with an army of over 200,000 men moved down upon that devoted country. In conjunction with the land force, the English, with a powerful armament, descended upon the Dutch waters. The aged Du Ruyter and the youthful Van Tromp put boldly to sea to meet the invaders. Three great naval battles were fought upon the Dutch coast on the 7th and 14th of June, and the 6th of August, in which the English forces were finally repulsed and driven from the coast. In the meantime, the inhabitants, abandoning their homes, cut the dikes which held back the sea, and invited inundation. Deeming this a favorable opportunity to regain their possessions wrenched from them in the New World, the Dutch sent a small fleet under Commodores Cornelius Evertse and Jacobus Benkes, to New York, to demand the surrender of all their previous possessions. Gov. Lovelace happened to be absent, and his representative, Capt. John Manning, surrendered with but brief resistance. and the magistrates from Albany, Esopus, East Jersey and Long Island, on being summoned to New York, swore fealty to the returning Dutch power. Anthony Colve, as Governor, was sent to Delaware, where the magistrates hastened to meet him and submit themselves to his authority. Property in the English Government was confiscated; Gov. Lovelace returned to England, and many of the soldiers were carried prisoners to Holland. Before their departure, Commodores Evertse and Benkes, who styled themselves "The honorable and awful council of war, for their high mightinesses, the State's General of the United Netherlands, and his Serene Highness, the Prince of Orange," commissioned Anthony Colve, a Captain of foot, on the 12th of August, 1673, to be Governor General of "New Netherlands, with all its appendences," and on the 19th of September following, Peter Alrichs, who had manifested his subserviency and his pleasure at the return of Dutch ascendancy, was appointed by Colve Deputy Governor upon the Delaware. A body of laws was drawn up for his instruction, and three courts of justice were established, at New Castle, Chester and Lewistown. Capt. Manning on his return to England was charged with treachery for delivering up the fort at New York without resistance, and was sentenced by a court martial "to have his sword broken over his head in public, before the city hall, and himself rendered incapable of wearing a sword and of serving his Majesty for the future in any public trust in the Government."

But the revolution which had been affected so easily was of short duration. On the 9th of February, 1674, peace was concluded between England and Holland, and in the articles of pacification it was provided "that whatsoever countries, islands, towns, ports, castles or forts, have or shall be taken, on both sides, since the time that the late unhappy war broke out, either in Europe, or elsewhere, shall be restored to the former lord and proprietor, in the same con-



dition they shall be in when the peace itself shall be proclaimed, after which time there shall be no spoil nor plunder of the inhabitants, no demolition of fortifications, nor carrying away of guns, powder, or other military stores which belonged to any castle or port at the time when it was taken." This left no room for controversy about possession. But that there might be no legal bar nor loophole for question of absolute right to his possessions, the Duke of York secured from the King on the 29th of June following, a new patent covering the former grant, and two days thereafter sent Sir Edmund Andros, to possess and govern the country. He arrived at New York and took peaceable possession on the 31st of October, and two days thereafter it was resolved in council to reinstate all the officers upon Delaware as they were at the surrender to the Dutch, except Peter Alrichs, who for his forwardness in yielding his power was relieved. Capt. Edmund Cantwell and William Tom were sent to occupy the fort at New Castle, in the capacities of Deputy Governor and Secretary. In May, 1675, Gov. Andros visited the Delaware, and held court at New Castle "in which orders were made relative to the opening of roads, the regulation of church property and the support of preaching, the prohibition of the sale of liquors to the Indians, and the distillation thereof by the inhabitants." On the 23d of September, 1676, Cantwell was superseded by John Collier, as Vice Governor, when Ephraim Hermans became Secretary.

As was previously observed, Gov. Nicholls, in 1664, made a complete digest of all the laws and usages in force in the English-speaking colonies in America, which were known as the Duke's Laws. That these might now be made the basis of judicature throughout the Duke's possessions, they were, on the 25th of September, 1676, formally proclaimed and published by Gov. Lovelace, with a suitable ordinance introducing them. It may here be observed, that, in the administration of Gov. Hartranft, by act of the Legislature of June 12, 1878, the Duke's Laws were published in a handsome volume, together with the Charter and Laws instituted by Penn, and historical notes covering the early history of the State, under the direction of John B. Linn, Secretary of the commonwealth, edited by Staughton George, Benjamin M. Nead, and Thomas McCannant, from an old copy preserved among the town records of Hempstead, Long Island, the seat of the independent State which had been set up there by John Scott before the coming of Nicholls. The number of taxable male inhabitants between the ages of sixteen and sixty years, in 1677, for Uplandt and New Castle, was 443, which by the usual estimate of seven to one would give the population 3,101 for this district. Gov. Collier having exceeded his authority by exercising judicial functions, was deposed by Andros, and Capt. Christopher Billop was appointed to succeed him. But the change resulted in little benefit to the colony; for Billop was charged with many irregularities, "taking possession of the fort and turning it into a stable, and the court room above into a hay and fodder loft; debarring the court from sitting in its usual place in the fort, and making use of soldiers for his own private purposes."

The hand of the English Government bore heavily upon the denomination of Christians called Friends or Quakers, and the earnest-minded, conscientious worshipers, uncompromising in their faith, were eager for homes in a land where they should be absolutely free to worship the Supreme Being. Berkeley and Carteret, who had bought New Jersey, were Friends, and the settlements made in their territory were largely of that faith. In 1675, Lord Berkeley sold his undivided half of the province to John Fenwicke, in trust for Edward Byllinge, also Quakers, and Fenwicke sailed in the Griffith, with a company of Friends who settled at Salem, in West Jersey. Byllinge, having

become involved in debt, made an assignment of his interest for the benefit of his creditors, and William Penn was induced to become trustee jointly with Gowen Lawrie and Nicholas Lucas. Penn was a devoted Quaker, and he was of that earnest nature that the interests of his friends and Christian devotees were like his own personal interests. Hence he became zealous in promoting the welfare of the colony. For its orderly government, and that settlers might have assurance of stability in the management of affairs, Penn drew up "Concessions and agreements of the proprietors, freeholders and inhabitants of West New Jersey in America" in forty-four chapters. Foreseeing difficulty from divided authority, Penn secured a division of the province by "a line of partition from the east side of Little Egg Harbor, straight north, through the country to the utmost branch of the Delaware River." Penn's half was called New West Jersey, along the Delaware side, Carteret's New East Jersey along the ocean shore. Penn's purposes and disposition toward the settlers, as the founder of a State, are disclosed by a letter which he wrote at this time to a Friend, Richard Hartshorn, then in America: "We lay a foundation for after ages to understand their liberty, as men and Christians; that they may not be brought into bondage, but by their own consent; for we put the power in the people. \* \* So every man is capable to choose or to be chosen; no man to be arrested, condemned, or molested, in his estate, or liberty, but by twelve men of the neighborhood; no man to lie in prison for debt, but that his estate satisfy, as far as it will go, and he be set at liberty to work; no man to be called in question, or molested for his conscience." Lest any should be induced to leave home and embark in the enterprise of settlement unadvisedly, Penn wrote and published a letter of caution, "That in whomsoever a desire to be concerned in this intended plantation, such would weigh the thing before the Lord, and not headily, or rashly, conclude on any such remove, and that they do not offer violence to the tender love of their near kindred and relations, but soberly, and conscientiously endeavor to obtain their good wills; that whether they go or stay, it may be of good savor before the Lord and good people."

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## CHAPTER V.

SIR EDMUND ANDROS, 1674-81—EDMUND CANTWELL, 1674-76—JOHN COLLIER, 1676-77—CHRISTOPHER BILLOP, 1677-81.

WILLIAM PENN, as Trustee, and finally as part owner of New Jersey, became much interested in the subject of colonization in America. Many of his people had gone thither, and he had given much prayerful study and meditation to the amelioration of their condition by securing just laws for their government. His imagination pictured the fortunate condition of a State where the law-giver should alone study the happiness of his subjects, and his subjects should be chiefly intent on rendering implicit obedience to just laws. From his experience in the management of the Jerseys, he had doubtless discovered that if he would carry out his ideas of government successfully, he must have a province where his voice would be potential and his will supreme. He accordingly cast about for the acquirement of such a land in the New World.

Penn had doubtless been stimulated in his desires by the very roseate accounts of the beauty and excellence of the country, its salubrity of climate, its

balmy airs, the fertility of its soil, and the abundance of the native fish, flesh and fowl. In 1680, one Malhon Stacy wrote a letter which was largely circulated in England, in which he says: "It is a country that produceth all things for the support and furtherance of man, in a plentiful manner. \* \* \* I have seen orchards laden with fruit to admiration; their very limbs torn to pieces with weight; most delicious to the taste, and lovely to behold. I have seen an apple tree, from a pippin-kernel, yield a barrel of curious cider; and peaches in such plenty that some people took their carts a peach gathering; I could not but smile at the conceit of it; they are very delicious fruit, and hang almost like our onions, that are tied on ropes. I have seen and know, this summer, forty bushels of bold wheat of one bushel sown. From May till Michaelmas, great store of very good wild fruits as strawberries, cranberries and hurtleberries, which are like our billberries in England, only far sweeter; the cranberries, much like cherries for color and bigness, which may be kept till fruit comes again; an excellent sauce is made of them for venison, turkeys, and other great fowl, and they are better to make tarts of than either gooseberries or cherries; we have them brought to our houses by the Indians in great plenty. My brother Robert had as many cherries this year as would have loaded several carts. As for venison and fowls, we have great plenty; we have brought home to our countries by the Indians, seven or eight fat bucks in a day. We went into the river to catch herrings after the Indian fashion. \* \* \* We could have filled a three-bushel sack of as good large herrings as ever I saw. And as to beef and pork, here is great plenty of it, and good sheep. The common grass of this country feeds beef very fat. Indeed, the country, take it as a wilderness, is a brave country."

The father of William Penn had arisen to distinction in the British Navy. He was sent in Cromwell's time, with a considerable sea and land force, to the West Indies, where he reduced the Island of Jamaica under English rule. At the restoration, he gave in his adhesion to the royal cause. Under James, Duke of York, Admiral Penn commanded the English fleet which descended upon the Dutch coast, and gained a great victory over the combined naval forces led by Van Opdam. For this great service to his country, Penn was knighted, and became a favorite at court, the King and his brother, the Duke, holding him in cherished remembrance. At his death, there was due him from the crown the sum of £16,000, a portion of which he himself had advanced for the sea service. Filled with the romantic idea of colonization, and enamored with the sacred cause of his people, the son, who had come to be regarded with favor for his great father's sake, petitioned King Charles II to grant him, in liquidation of this debt, "a tract of land in America, lying north of Maryland, bounded east by the Delaware River, on the west limited as Maryland, and northward to extend as far as plantable." There were conflicting interests at this time which were being warily watched at court. The petition was submitted to the Privy Council, and afterward to the Lords of the committee of plantations. The Duke of York already held the counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex. Lord Baltimore held a grant upon the south, with an indefinite northern limit, and the agents of both these territories viewed with a jealous eye any new grant that should in any way trench upon their rights. These claims were fully debated and heard by the Lords, and, being a matter in which the King manifested special interest, the Lord Chief Justice, North, and the Attorney General, Sir William Jones, were consulted both as to the grant itself, and the form or manner of making it. Finally, after a careful study of the whole subject, it was determined by the highest authority in the Government to grant to Penn a larger tract than he had asked



for, and the charter was drawn with unexampled liberality, in unequivocal terms of gift and perpetuity of holding, and with remarkable minuteness of detail, and that Penn should have the advantage of any double meaning conveyed in the instrument, the twenty-third and last section provides: "And, if perchance hereafter any doubt or question should arise concerning the true sense and meaning of any word, clause or sentence contained in this our present charter, we will ordain and command that at all times and in all things such interpretation be made thereof, and allowed in any of our courts whatsoever as shall be adjudged most advantageous and favorable unto the said William Penn, his heirs and assigns."

It was a joyful day for Penn when he finally reached the consummation of his wishes, and saw himself invested with almost dictatorial power over a country as large as England itself, destined to become a populous empire. But his exultation was tempered with the most devout Christian spirit, fearful lest in the exercise of his great power he might be led to do something that should be displeasing to God. To his dear friend, Robert Turner, he writes in a modest way: "My true love in the Lord salutes thee and dear friends that love the Lord's precious truth in those parts. Thine I have, and for my business here know that after many waitings, watchings, solicitings and disputes in council, this day my country was confirmed to me under the great seal of England, with large powers and privileges, by the name of Penusylvania, a name the King would give it in honor of my father. I chose New Wales, being, as this, a pretty hilly country; but Penn being Welsh for a head, as Penmanmoire in Wales, and Penrith in Cumberland, and Penn in Buckinghamshire, the highest land in England, called this Pennsylvania, which is the high or head woodlands; for I proposed, when the Secretary, a Welshman, refused to have it called New Wales, Sylvania, and they added Penn to it; and though I much opposed it, and went to the King to have it struck out and altered, he said it was past, and would take it upon him; nor could twenty guineas move the Under Secretary to vary the name; for I feared lest it should be looked on as a vanity in me, and not as a respect in the King, as it truly was to my father, whom he often mentions with praise. Thou mayest communicate my grant to Friends, and expect shortly my proposals. It is a clear and just thing, and my God, that has given it me through many difficulties, will, I believe, bless and make it the seed of a nation. I shall have a tender care to the government, that it be well laid at first."

Penn had asked that the western boundary should be the same as that of Maryland; but the King made the width from east to west five full degrees. The charter limits were "all that tract, or part, of land, in America, with the islands therein contained as the same is bounded, on the east by Delaware River, from twelve miles distance northwards of New Castle town, unto the three and fortieth degree of northern latitude.

\* \* \*

The said land to extend westward five degrees in longitude, to be computed from the said eastern bounds; and the said lands to be bounded on the north by the beginning of the three and fortieth degree of northern latitude, and, on the south, by a circle drawn at twelve miles distance from New Castle northward and westward unto the beginning of the fortieth degree of northern latitude; and then by a straight line westward to the limits of longitude above mentioned."

It is evident that the royal secretaries did not well understand the geography of this section, for by reference to a map it will be seen that the beginning of the fortieth degree, that is, the end of the thirty-ninth, cuts the District of Columbia, and hence Baltimore, and the greater part of Maryland

and a good slice of Virginia would have been included in the clear terms of the chartered limits of Pennsylvania. But the charters of Maryland and Virginia antedated this of Pennsylvania. Still, the terms of the Penn charter were distinct, the beginning of the fortieth degree, whereas those of Maryland were ambiguous, the northern limit being fixed at the fortieth degree; but whether at the beginning or at the ending of the fortieth was not stated. Penn claimed three full degrees of latitude, and when it was found that a controversy was likely to ensue, the King, by the hand of his royal minister, Conway, issued a further declaration, dated at Whitehall, April 2, 1681, in which the wording of the original chartered limits fixed for Pennsylvania were quoted verbatim, and his royal pleasure declared that these limits should be respected "as they tender his majesty's displeasure." This was supposed to settle the matter. But Lord Baltimore still pressed his claim, and the question of southern boundary remained an open one, causing much disquietude to Penn, requiring watchful care at court for more than half a century, and until after the proprietor's death.

We gather from the terms of the charter itself that the King, in making the grant, was influenced "by the commendable desire of Penn to enlarge our British Empire, and promote such useful commodities as may be of benefit to us and our dominions, as also to reduce savage nations by just and gentle manners, to the love of civil society and Christian religion," and out of "regard to the memory and merits of his late father, in divers services, and particularly to his conduct, courage and discretion, under our dearest brother, James, Duke of York, in the signal battle and victory, fought and obtained, against the Dutch fleet, commanded by the Herr Van Opdam in 1665."

The motive for obtaining it on the part of Penn may be gathered from the following extract of a letter to a friend: "For my country I eyed the Lord in obtaining it; and more was I drawn inward to look to Him, and to owe it to His hand and power than to any other way. I have so obtained and desire to keep it, that I may be unworthy of His love, but do that which may answer His kind providence and people."

The charter of King Charles II was dated April 2, 1681. Lest any trouble might arise in the future from claims founded on the grant previously made to the Duke of York, of "Long Island and adjacent territories occupied by the Dutch," the prudent forethought of Penn induced him to obtain a deed, dated August 31, 1682, of the Duke, for Pennsylvania, substantially in the terms of the royal charter. But Penn was still not satisfied. He was cut off from the ocean except by the uncertain navigation of one narrow stream. He therefore obtained from the Duke a grant of New Castle and a district of twelve miles around it, dated on the 24th of August, 1682, and on the same day a further grant from the Duke of a tract extending to Cape Henlopen, embracing the two counties of Kent and Sussex, the two grants comprising what were known as the territories, or the three lower counties, which were for many years a part of Pennsylvania, but subsequently constituted the State of Delaware.

Being now satisfied with his province, and that his titles were secure, Penn drew up such a description of the country as from his knowledge he was able to give, which, together with the royal charter and proclamation, terms of settlement, and other papers pertaining thereto, he published and spread broadcast through the kingdom, taking special pains doubtless to have the documents reach the Friends. The terms of sale of lands were 40 shillings for 100 acres, and 1 shilling per acre rental. The question has been raised, why exact the annual payment of one shilling per acre. The terms of the grant by



*C. R. Buckalew*





the royal charter to Penn were made absolute on the "payment therefor to us, our heirs and successors, two beaver skins, to be delivered at our castle in Windsor, on the 1st day of January in every year," and contingent payment of one-fifth part of all gold and silver which shall from time to time happen to be found clear of all charges." Penn, therefore, held his title only upon the payment of quit-rents. He could consequently give a valid title only by the exacting of quit-rents.

Having now a great province of his own to manage, Penn was obliged to relinquish his share in West New Jersey. He had given largely of his time and energies to its settlement; he had sent 1,400 emigrants, many of them people of high character; had seen farms reclaimed from the forest, the towns of Burlington built, meeting houses erected in place of tents for worship, good Government established, and the savage Indians turned to peaceful ways. With satisfaction, therefore, he could now give himself to reclaiming and settling his own province. He had of course in his published account of the country made it appear a desirable place for habitation. But lest any should regret having gone thither when it was too late, he added to his description a caution, "to consider seriously the premises, as well the inconveniency as future ease and plenty; that so none may move rashly or from a fickle, but from a solid mind, having above all things an eye to the providence of God in the disposing of themselves." Nothing more surely points to the goodness of heart of William Penn, the great founder of our State, than this extreme solicitude, lest he might induce any to go to the new country who should afterward regret having gone.

The publication of the royal charter and his description of the country attracted attention, and many purchases of land were made of Penn before leaving England. That these purchasers might have something binding to rely upon, Penn drew up what he termed "conditions or concessions" between himself as proprietor and purchasers in the province. These related to the settling the country, laying out towns, and especially to the treatment of the Indians, who were to have the same rights and privileges, and careful regard as the Europeans. And what is perhaps a remarkable instance of provident forethought, the eighteenth article provides "That, in clearing the ground, care be taken to leave one acre of trees for every five acres cleared, especially to preserve oak and mulberries, for silk and shipping." It could be desired that such a provision might have remained operative in the State for all time.

Encouraged by the manner in which his proposals for settlement were received, Penn now drew up a frame of government, consisting of twenty-four articles and forty laws. These were drawn in a spirit of unexampled fairness and liberality, introduced by an elaborate essay on the just rights of government and governed, and with such conditions and concessions that it should never be in the power of an unjust Governor to take advantage of the people and practice injustice. "For the matter of liberty and privilege, I purpose that which is extraordinary, and leave myself and successors no power of doing mischief, that the will of one man may not hinder that of a whole country. This frame gave impress to the character of the early government. It implanted in the breasts of the people a deep sense of duty, of right, and of obligation in all public affairs, and the relations of man with man, and formed a framework for the future constitution. Penn himself had felt the heavy hand of government for religious opinions and practice' sake. He determined, for the matter of religion, to leave all free to hold such opinions as they might elect, and hence enacted for his State that all who "hold themselves obliged

in conscience, to live peaceably and justly in civil society, shall, in no ways, be molested, nor prejudiced, for their religious persuasion, or practice, in matters of faith and worship, nor shall they be compelled, at any time, to frequent, or maintain, any religious worship, place, or ministry whatever." At this period, such governmental liberality in matters of religion was almost unknown, though Roger Williams in the colony of Rhode Island had previously, under similar circumstances, and having just escaped a like persecution, proclaimed it, as had likewise Lord Baltimore in the Catholic colony of Maryland.

The mind of Penn was constantly exercised upon the affairs of his settlement. Indeed, to plant a colony in a new country had been a thought of his boyhood, for he says in one of his letters: "I had an opening of joy as to these parts in the year 1651, at Oxford, twenty years since." Not being in readiness to go to his province during the first year, he dispatched three ship loads of settlers, and with them sent his cousin, William Markham, to take formal possession of the country and act as Deputy Governor. Markham sailed for New York, and upon his arrival there exhibited his commission, bearing date March 6, 1681, and the King's charter and proclamation. In the absence of Gov. Andros, who, on having been called to account for some complaint made against him, had gone to England, Capt. Anthony Brockholls, Acting Governor, received Markham's papers, and gave him a letter addressed to the civil officers on the Delaware, informing them that Markham's authority as Governor had been examined, and an official record made of it at New York, thanking them for their fidelity, and requesting them to submit themselves to the new authority. Armed with this letter, which was dated June 21, 1681, Markham proceeded to the Delaware, where, on exhibiting his papers, he was kindly received, and allegiance was cheerfully transferred to the new government. Indeed so frequently had the power changed hands that it had become quite a matter of habit to transfer obedience from one authority to another, and they had scarcely laid their heads to rest at night but with the consciousness that the morning light might bring new codes and new officers.

Markham was empowered to call a council of nine citizens to assist him in the government, and over whom he was to preside. He brought a letter addressed to Lord Baltimore, touching the boundary between the two grants, and exhibiting the terms of the charter for Pennsylvania. On receipt of this letter, Lord Baltimore came to Upland to confer with Markham. An observation fixing the exact latitude of Upland showed that it was twelve miles south of the forty-first degree, to which Baltimore claimed, and that the beginning of the fortieth degree, which the royal charter explicitly fixed for the southern boundary of Pennsylvania, would include nearly the entire State of Maryland, and cut the limits of the present site of the city of Washington. "If this be allowed," was significantly asked by Baltimore, "where is my province?" He returned to his colony, and from this time forward an active contention was begun before the authorities in England for possession of the disputed territory, which required all the arts and diplomatic skill of Penn.

Markham was accompanied to the province by four Commissioners sent out by Penn—William Crispin, John Bezer, William Haige and Nathaniel Allen. The first named had been designated as Surveyor General, but he having died on the passage, Thomas Holme was appointed to succeed him. These Commissioners, in conjunction with the Governor, had two chief duties assigned them. The first was to meet and preserve friendly relations with the Indians and acquire lands by actual purchase, and the second was to select the site of a great city and make the necessary surveys. That they might have a

suitable introduction to the natives from him, Penn addressed to them a declaration of his purposes, conceived in a spirit of brotherly love, and expressed in such simple terms that these children of the forest, unschooled in book learning, would have no difficulty in apprehending his meaning. The referring the source of all power to the Creator was fitted to produce a strong impression upon their naturally superstitious habits of thought. "There is a great God and power, that hath made the world, and all things therein, to whom you and I, and all people owe their being, and well being; and to whom you and I must one day give an account for all that we do in the world. This great God hath written His law in our hearts, by which we are taught and commanded to love, and help, and do good to one another. Now this great God hath been pleased to make me concerned in your part of the world, and the King of the country where I live hath given me a great province therein; but I desire to enjoy it with your love and consent, that we may always live together, as neighbors and friends; else what would the great God do to us, who hath made us, not to devour and destroy one another, but to live soberly and kindly together in the world? Now I would have you well observe that I am very sensible of the unkindness and injustice that have been too much exercised toward you by the people of these parts of the world, who have sought themselves, and to make great advantages by you, rather than to be examples of goodness and patience unto you, which I hear hath been a matter of trouble to you, and caused great grudging and animosities, sometimes to the shedding of blood, which hath made the great God angry. But I am not such a man, as is well known in my own country. I have great love and regard toward you, and desire to gain your love and friendship by a kind, just and peaceable life, and the people I send are of the same mind, and shall in all things behave themselves accordingly; and if in anything any shall offend you or your people, you shall have a full and speedy satisfaction for the same by an equal number of just men on both sides that by no means you may have just occasion of being offended against them. I shall shortly come to you myself, at which time we may more largely and freely confer and discourse of these matters. In the meantime, I have sent my Commissioners to treat with you about land, and form a league of peace. Let me desire you to be kind to them and their people, and receive these presents and tokens which I have sent you as a testimony of my good will to you, and my resolution to live justly, peaceably and friendly with you."

In this plain but sublime statement is embraced the whole theory of William Penn's treatment of the Indians. It was the doctrine which the Savior of mankind came upon earth to promulgate—the estimable worth of every human soul. And when Penn came to propose his laws, one was adopted which forbade private trade with the natives in which they might be overreached; but it was required that the valuable skins and furs they had to sell should be hung up in the market place where all could see them and enter into competition for their purchase. Penn was offered £6,000 for a monopoly of trade. But he well knew the injustice to which this would subject the simple-minded natives, and he refused it saying: "As the Lord gave it me over all and great opposition, I would not abuse His love, nor act unworthy of His providence, and so defile what came to me clean"—a sentiment worthy to be treasured with the best thoughts of the sages of old. And to his Commissioners he gave a letter of instructions, in which he says: "Be impartially just to all; that is both pleasing to the Lord, and wise in itself. Be tender of offending the Indians, and let them know that you come to sit down lovingly among them. Let my letter and conditions be read in their tongue, that they may see



we have their good in our eye. Be grave, they love not to be smiled on." Acting upon these wise and just considerations, the Commissioners had no difficulty in making large purchases of the Indians of lands on the right bank of the Delaware and above the mouth of the Schuylkill.

But they found greater difficulty in settling the place for the new city. Penn had given very minute instructions about this, and it was not easy to find a tract which answered all the conditions. For seven weeks they kept up their search. Penn had written, "be sure to make your choice where it is most navigable, high, dry and healthy; that is, where most ships may best ride, of deepest draught of water, if possible to load and unload at the bank or key's side without boating and lightening of it. It would do well if the river coming into that creek be navigable, at least for boats up into the country, and that the situation be high, at least dry and sound and not swampy, which is best known by digging up two or three earths and seeing the bottom." By his instructions, the site of the city was to be between two navigable streams, and embrace 10,000 acres in one block. "Be sure to settle the figure of the town so that the streets hereafter may be uniform down to the water from the country bounds. Let every house be placed, if the person pleases, in the middle of its plat, as to the breadth way of it, that so there may be ground on each side for gardens or orchards or fields, that it may be a green country town, which will never be burnt and always wholesome." The soil was examined, the streams were sounded, deep pits were dug that a location might be found which should gratify the desires of Penn. All the eligible sites were inspected from the ocean far up into the country. Penn himself had anticipated that Chester or Upland would be adopted from all that he could learn of it; but this was rejected, as was also the ground upon Poquessing Creek and that at Pennsbury Manor above Bristol which had been carefully considered, and the present site of Philadelphia was finally adopted as coming nearest to the requirements of the proprietor. It had not 10,000 acres in a solid square, but it was between two navigable streams, and the soil was high and dry, being for the most part a vast bed of gravel, excellent for drainage and likely to prove healthful. The streets were laid out regularly and crossed each other at right angles. As the ground was only gently rolling, the grading was easily accomplished. One broad street, Market, extends from river to river through the midst of it, which is crossed at right angles at its middle point by Broad street of equal width. It is 120 miles from the ocean by the course of the river, and only sixty in a direct line, eighty-seven miles from New York, ninety-five from Baltimore, 136 from Washington, 100 from Harrisburg and 300 from Pittsburgh, and lies in north latitude  $39^{\circ} 56' 54''$ , and longitude  $75^{\circ} 8' 45''$  west from Greenwich. The name Philadelphia (brotherly love), was one that Penn had before selected, as this founding a city was a project which he had long dreamed of and contemplated with never-ceasing interest.





## CHAPTER VI.

WILLIAM MARKHAM, 1681-82—WILLIAM PENN, 1682-84.

HAVING now made necessary preparations and settled his affairs in England, Penn embarked on board the ship *Welcome*, in August, 1682, in company with about a hundred planters, mostly from his native town of Sussex, and set his prow for the New World. Before leaving the Downs, he addressed a farewell letter to his friends whom he left behind, and another to his wife and children, giving them much excellent advice, and sketching the way of life he wished them to lead. With remarkable care and minuteness, he points out the way in which he would have his children bred, and educated, married, and live. A single passage from this remarkable document will indicate its general tenor. "Be sure to observe," in educating his children, "their genius, and do not cross it as to learning; let them not dwell too long on one thing; but let their change be agreeable, and let all their diversions have some little bodily labor in them. When grown big, have most care for them; for then there are more snares both within and without. When marriageable, see that they have worthy persons in their eye; of good life and good fame for piety and understanding. I need no wealth but sufficiency; and be sure their love be dear, fervent and mutual, that it may be happy for them." And to his children he said, "Betake yourselves to some honest, industrious course of life, and that not of sordid covetousness, but for example and to avoid idleness. \* \* \* \* \* Love not money nor the world; use them only, and they will serve you; but if you love them you serve them, which will debase your spirits as well as offend the Lord. \* \* \* \* \* Watch against anger, neither speak nor act in it; for, like drunkenness, it makes a man a beast, and throws people into desperate inconveniences." The entire letters are so full of excellent counsel that they might with great profit be committed to memory, and treasured in the heart.

The voyage of nearly six weeks was prosperous; but they had not been long on the ocean before that loathed disease—the virulent small-pox—broke out, of which thirty died, nearly a third of the whole company. This, added to the usual discomforts and terrors of the ocean, to most of whom this was probably their first experience, made the voyage a dismal one. And here was seen the nobility of Penn. "For his good conversation" says one of them, "was very advantageous to all the company. His singular care was manifested in contributing to the necessities of many who were sick with the small-pox then on board."

His arrival upon the coast and passage up the river was hailed with demonstrations of joy by all classes, English, Dutch, Swedes, and especially by his own devoted followers. He landed at New Castle on the 24th of October, 1682, and on the following day summoned the people to the court house, where possession of the country was formally made over to him, and he renewed the commissions of the magistrates, to whom and to the assembled people he announced the design of his coming, explained the nature and end of truly good government, assuring them that their religious and civil rights should be respected, and recommended them to live in sobriety and peace. He then pro-

ceeded to Upland, henceforward known as Chester, where, on the 4th of November, he called an assembly of the people, in which an equal number of votes was allowed to the province and the territories. Nicholas Moore, President of the Free Society of Traders, was chosen speaker. As at New Castle, Penn addressed the assembly, giving them assurances of his beneficent intentions, for which they returned their grateful acknowledgments, the Swedes being especially demonstrative, deputing one of their number, Lacy Cock, to say "That they would love, serve and obey him with all they had, and that this was the best day they ever saw." We can well understand with what satisfaction the settlers upon the Delaware hailed the prospect of a stable government established in their own midst, after having been so long at the mercy of the government in New York, with allegiance trembling between the courts of Sweden, Holland and Britain.

The proceedings of this first assembly were conducted with great decorum, and after the usages of the English Parliament. On the 7th of December, 1682, the three lower counties, what is now Delaware, which had previously been under the government of the Duke of York, were formerly annexed to the province, and became an integral part of Pennsylvania. The frame of government, which had been drawn with much deliberation, was submitted to the assembly, and, after some alterations and amendments, was adopted, and became the fundamental law of the State. The assembly was in session only three days, but the work they accomplished, how vast and far-reaching in its influence!

The Dutch, Swedes and other foreigners were then naturalized, and the government was launched in fair running order: That some idea may be had of its character, the subjects treated are here given: 1, Liberty of conscience; 2, Qualification of officers; 3, Swearing by God, Christ or Jesus; 4, Swearing by any other thing or name; 5, Profanity; 6, Cursing; 7, Fornication; 8, Incest; 9, Sodomy; 10, Rape; 11, Bigamy; 12, Drunkenness; 13, Suffering drunkenness; 14, Healths drinking; 15, Selling liquor to Indians; 16, Arson; 17, Burglary; 18, Stolen goods; 19, Forcible entry; 20, Riots; 21, Assaulting parents; 22, Assaulting Magistrates; 23, Assaulting masters; 24, Assault and battery; 25, Duels; 26, Riotous sports, as plays; 27, Gambling and lotteries; 28, Sedition; 29, Contempt; 30, Libel; 31, Common scolds; 32, Charities; 33, Prices of beer and ale; 34, Weights and measures; 35, Names of days and months; 36, Perjury; 37, Court proceedings in English; 38, Civil and criminal trials; 39, Fees, salaries, bribery and extortion; 40, Moderation of fines; 41, Suits avoidable; 42, Foreign arrest; 43, Contracts; 44, Charters, gifts, grants, conveyances, bills, bonds and deeds, when recorded; 45, Wills; 46, Wills of *non compos mentis*; 47, Registry of Wills; 48, Registry for servants; 49, Factors; 50, Defacers, corruptors and embezzlers of charters, conveyances and records; 51, Lands and goods to pay debts; 52,ailable offenses; 53, Jails and jailers; 54, Prisons to be workhouses; 55, False imprisonment; 56, Magistrates may elect between fine or imprisonment; 57, Freeman; 58, Elections; 59, No money levied but in pursuance of law; 60, Laws shall be printed and taught in schools; 61, All other things, not provided for herein, are referred to the Governor and freemen from time to time.

Very soon after his arrival in the colony, after the precept had been issued, but before the convening of the Assembly, Penn, that he might not be wanting in respect to the Duke of York, made a visit to New York, where he was kindly received, and also after the adjournment of the Assembly, journeyed to Maryland, where he was entertained by Lord Baltimore with great ceremony. The settlement of the disputed boundaries was made the subject of formal confer-

ence. But after two days spent in fruitless discussion, the weather becoming severely cold, and thus precluding the possibility of taking observations or making the necessary surveys, it was agreed to adjourn further consideration of the subject until the milder weather of the spring. We may imagine that the two Governors were taking the measure of each other, and of gaining all possible knowledge of each other's claims and rights, preparatory to that struggle for possession of this disputed fortieth degree of latitude, which was destined to come before the home government.

With all his cares in founding a State and providing a government over a new people, Penn did not forget to preach the "blessed Gospel," and wherever he went he was intent upon his "Master's business." On his return from Maryland, Lord Baltimore accompanied him several miles to the house of William Richardson, and thence to Thomas Hooker's, where was a religious meeting, as was also one held at Choptauk. Penn himself says: "I have been also at New York, Long Island, East Jersey and Maryland, in which I have had good and eminent service for the Lord." And again he says: "As to outward things, we are satisfied—the land good, the air clear and sweet, the springs plentiful, and provisions good and easy to come at, an innumerable quantity of wild fowl and fish; in fine, here is what an Abraham, Isaac and Jacob would be well contented with, and service enough for God; for the fields are here white for the harvest. O, how sweet is the quiet of these parts, freed from the anxious and troublesome solicitations, hurries and perplexities of woeful Europe! \* \* \* Blessed be the Lord, that of twenty-three ships, none miscarried; only two or three had the small-pox; else healthy and swift passages, generally such as have not been known; some but twenty-eight days, and few longer than six weeks. Blessed be God for it; my soul fervently breathes that in His heavenly guiding wisdom, we may be kept, that we may serve Him in our day, and lay down our heads in peace." And then, as if reproached for not having mentioned another subject of thankfulness, he adds in a postscript, "Many women, in divers of the ships, brought to bed; they and their children do well."

Penn made it his first care to take formal possession of his province, and adopt a frame of government. When this was done, his chief concern was to look to the establishment of his proposed new city, the site of which had already been determined on by his Commissioners. Accordingly, early in November, at a season when, in this section, the days are golden, Penn embarked in an open barge with a number of his friends, and was wafted leisurely up the Delaware to the present site of the city of Philadelphia, which the natives called Coaquannock. Along the river was a bold shore, fringed with lofty pines, which grew close down to the water's edge, so much so that when the first ship passing up with settlers for West Jersey had brushed against the branches, the passengers remarked that this would be a good place for a city. It was then in a wild state, the deer browsing along the shore and sipping the stream, and the coneys burrowing in the banks. The scattered settlers had gathered in to see and welcome the new Governor, and when he stepped upon the shore, they extended a helping hand in assisting him up the rugged bluff. Three Swedes had already taken up tracts within the limits of the block of land chosen for the city. But they were given lands in exchange, and readily relinquished their claims. The location was pleasing to Penn, and was adopted without further search, though little could be seen of this then forest-encumbered country, where now is the home of countless industries, the busy mart, the river bearing upon its bosom the commerce of many climes, and the abiding place of nearly a million of people. But Penn did not con-



sider that he had as yet any just title to the soil, holding that the Indians were its only rightful possessors, and until it was fairly acquired by purchase from them, his own title was entirely void.

Hence, he sought an early opportunity to meet the chiefs of the tribes and cultivate friendly relations with them. Tradition fixes the first great treaty or conference at about this time, probably in November, and the place under the elm tree, known as the "Treaty Tree," at Kensington. It was at a season when the leaves would still be upon the trees, and the assembly was called beneath the ample shade of the wide-sweeping branches, which was pleasing to the Indians, as it was their custom to hold all their great deliberations and smoke the pipe of peace in the open air. The letter which Penn had sent had prepared the minds of these simple-hearted inhabitants of the forest to regard him with awe and reverence, little less than that inspired by a descended god. His coming had for a long time been awaited, and it is probable that it had been heralded and talked over by the wigwam fire throughout the remotest bounds of the tribes. And when at length the day came, the whole population far around had assembled.

It is known that three tribes at least were represented—the Lenni Lenape, living along the Delaware; the Shawnees, a tribe that had come up from the South, and were seated along the Lower Susquehanna; and the Mingoes, sprung from the Six Nations, and inhabiting along the Conestoga. Penn was probably accompanied by the several officers of his Government and his most trusted friends. There were no implements of warfare, for peace was a cardinal feature of the Quaker creed.

No veritable account of this, the great treaty, is known to have been made; but from the fact that Penn not long after, in an elaborate treatise upon the country, the inhabitants and the natives, has given the account of the manner in which the Indians demean themselves in conference, we may infer that he had this one in mind, and hence we may adopt it as his own description of the scene.

"Their order is thus: The King sits in the middle of a half moon, and hath his council, the old and wise, on each hand; behind them, or at a little distance, sit the younger fry in the same figure. Having consulted and resolved their business, the King ordered one of them to speak to me. He stood up, came to me, and, in the name of the King, saluted me; then took me by the hand and told me he was ordered by the King to speak to me; and now it was not he, but the King that spoke, because what he would say was the King's mind. \* \* \* \* During the time that this person spoke, not a man of them was observed to whisper or smile; the old grave, the young reverent, in their deportment. They speak little, but fervently, and with elegance."

In response to the salutation from the Indians, Penn makes a reply in suitable terms: "The Great Spirit, who made me and you, who rules the heavens and the earth, and who knows the innermost thoughts of men, knows that I and my friends have a hearty desire to live in peace and friendship with you, and to serve you to the uttermost of our power. It is not our custom to use hostile weapons against our fellow-creatures, for which reason we have come unarmed. Our object is not to do injury, and thus provoke the Great Spirit, but to do good. We are met on the broad pathway of good faith and good will, so that no advantage is to be taken on either side; but all to be openness, brotherhood and love." Having unrolled his parchment, he explains to them through an interpreter, article by article, the nature of the business, and laying it upon the ground, observes that the ground shall be for the use of



both people. "I will not do as the Marylanders did, call you children, or brothers only; for parents are apt to whip their children too severely, and brothers sometimes will differ; neither will I compare the friendship between us to a chain, for the rain may rust it, or a tree may fall and break it; but I will consider you as the same flesh and blood with the Christians, and the same as if one man's body were to be divided into two parts." Having ended his business, the speaker for the King comes forward and makes great promises "of kindness and good neighborhood, and that the Indians and English must live in love as long as the sun gave light." This ended, another Indian makes a speech to his own people, first to explain to them what had been agreed on, and then to exhort them "to love the Christians, and particularly live in peace with me and the people under my government, that many Governors had been in the river, but that no Governor had come himself to live and stay here before, and having now such an one, that had treated them well, they should never do him nor his any wrong." At every sentence they shouted, as much as to say, amen.

The Indians had no system of writing by which they could record their dealings, but their memory of events and agreements was almost miraculous. Heckewelder records that in after years, they were accustomed, by means of strings, or belts of wampum, to preserve the recollection of their pleasant interviews with Penn, after he had departed for England. He says, "They frequently assembled together in the woods, in some shady spot, as nearly as possible similar to those where they used to meet their brother Miquon (Penn), and there lay all his words and speeches, with those of his descendants, on a blanket, or clean piece of bark, and with great satisfaction go successively over the whole. This practice, which I have repeatedly witnessed, continued until the year 1780, when disturbances which took place put an end to it, probably forever."

The memory of this, the "Great Treaty," was long preserved by the natives, and the novel spectacle was reproduced upon canvas by the genius of Benjamin West. In this picture, Penn is represented as a corpulent old man, whereas he was at this time but thirty-eight years of age, and in the very height of manly activity. The Treaty Tree was preserved and guarded from injury with an almost superstitious care. During the Revolution, when Philadelphia was occupied by the British, and their parties were scouring the country for firewood, Gen. Simcoe had a sentinel placed at this tree to protect it from mutilation. It stood until 1810, when it was blown down, and it was ascertained by its annual concentric accretions to be 283 years old, and was, consequently, 155 at the time of making the treaty. The Penn Society erected a substantial monument on the spot where it stood.

Penn drew up his deeds for lands in legal form, and had them duly executed and made of record, that, in the dispute possible to arise in after times, there might be proof definite and positive of the purchase. Of these purchases there are two deeds on record executed in 1683. One is for land near Neshaminy Creek, and thence to Penypack, and the other for lands lying between Schuylkill and Chester Rivers, the first bearing the signature of the great chieftain, Taminend. In one of these purchases it is provided that the tract "shall extend back as far as a man could walk in three days." Tradition runs that Penn himself, with a number of his friends, walked out the half this purchase with the Indians, that no advantage should be taken of them by making a great walk, and to show his consideration for them, and that he was not above the toils and fatigues of such a duty." They began to walk out this land at the mouth of the Neshaminy, and walked up the Delaware; in one day

and a half they got to a spruce tree near the mouth of Baker's Creek, when Penn, concluding that this would include as much land as he would want at present, a line was run and marked from the spruce tree to Neshaminy, and the remainder left to be walked when it should be wanted. They proceeded after the Indian manner, walking leisurely, sitting down sometimes to smoke their pipes, eat biscuit and cheese, and drink a bottle of wine. In the day and a half they walked a little less than thirty miles. The balance of the purchase was not walked until September 20, 1733, when the then Governor of Pennsylvania offered a prize of 500 acres of land and £5 for the man who would walk the farthest. A distance of eighty-six miles was covered, in marked contrast with the kind consideration of Penn.

During the first year, the country upon the Delaware, from the falls of Trenton as far as Chester, a distance of nearly sixty miles, was rapidly taken up and peopled. The large proportion of these were Quakers, and devotedly attached to their religion and its proper observances. They were, hence, morally, of the best classes, and though they were not generally of the aristocracy, yet many of them were in comfortable circumstances, had valuable properties, were of respectable families, educated, and had the resources within themselves to live contented and happy. They were provident, industrious, and had come hither with no fickle purpose. Many brought servants with them, and well supplied wardrobes, and all necessary articles which they wisely judged would be got in a new country with difficulty.

Their religious principles were so peaceful and generous, and the government rested so lightly, that the fame of the colony and the desirableness of settlement therein spread rapidly, and the numbers coming hither were unparalleled in the history of colonization, especially when we consider that a broad ocean was to be crossed and a voyage of several weeks was to be endured. In a brief period, ships with passengers came from London, Bristol, Ireland, Wales, Cheshire, Lancashire, Holland, Germany. to the number of about fifty. Among others came a company of German Quakers, from Krisheim, near Worms, in the Palatinate. These people regarded their lot as particularly fortunate, in which they recognized the direct interposition and hand of Providence. For, not long afterward, the Palatinate was laid waste by the French army, and many of their kindred whom they had left behind were despoiled of their possessions and reduced to penury. There came also from Wales a company of the stock of ancient Britons.

So large an influx of population, coming in many cases without due provision for variety of diet, caused a scarcity in many kinds of food, especially of meats. Time was required to bring forward flocks and herds, more than for producing grains. But Providence seemed to have graciously considered their necessities, and have miraculously provided for them, as of old was provision made for the chosen people. For it is recorded that the "wild pigeons came in such great numbers that the sky was sometimes darkened by their flight, and, flying low, they were frequently knocked down as they flew, in great quantities, by those who had no other means to take them, whereby they supplied themselves, and, having salted those which they could not immediately use, they preserved them, both for bread and meat." The Indians were kind, and often furnished them with game, for which they would receive no compensation.

Their first care on landing was to bring their household goods to a place of safety, often to the simple protection of a tree. For some, this was their only shelter, lumber being scarce, and in many places impossible to obtain.

Some made for themselves caves in the earth until better habitations could be secured.

John Key, who was said to have been the first child born of English parents in Philadelphia, and that in recognition of which William Penn gave him a lot of ground, died at Kennet, in Chester County, on July 5, 1768, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. He was born in one of these caves upon the river bank, long afterward known by the name of Penny-pot, near Sassafras street. About six years before his death, he walked from Kennet to the city, about thirty miles, in one day. In the latter part of his life he went under the name of First Born.

The contrasts between the comforts and conveniences of an old settled country and this, where the heavy forests must be cleared away and severe labors must be endured before the sun could be let in sufficiently to produce anything, must have been very marked, and caused repining. But they had generally come with meek and humble hearts, and they willingly endured hardship and privation, and labored on earnestly for the spiritual comfort which they enjoyed. Thomas Makin, in some Latin verses upon the early settlement, says (we quote the metrical translation):

“Its fame to distant countries far has spread,  
And some for peace, and some for profit led;  
Born in remotest climes, to settle here  
They leave their native soil and all that's dear,  
And still will flock from far, here to be free,  
Such powerful charms has lovely liberty.”

But for their many privations and sufferings there were some compensating conditions. The soil was fertile, the air mostly clear and healthy, the streams of water were good and plentiful, wood for fire and building unlimited, and at certain seasons of the year game in the forest was abundant. Richard Townsend, a settler at Germantown, who came over in the ship with Penn, in writing to his friends in England of his first year in America, says: “I, with Joshua Tittery, made a net, and caught great quantities of fish, so that, notwithstanding it was thought near three thousand persons came in the first year, we were so providentially provided for that we could buy a deer for about two shillings, and a large turkey for about one shilling, and Indian corn for about two shillings sixpence a bushel.”

In the same letter, the writer mentions that a young deer came out of the forest into the meadow where he was mowing, and looked at him, and when he went toward it would retreat; and, as he resumed his mowing, would come back to gaze upon him, and finally ran forcibly against a tree, which so stunned it that he was able to overmaster it and bear it away to his home, and as this was at a time when he was suffering for the lack of meat, he believed it a direct interposition of Providence.

In the spring of 1683, there was great activity throughout the colony, and especially in the new city, in selecting lands and erecting dwellings, the Surveyor General, Thomas Holme, laying out and marking the streets. In the center of the city was a public square of ten acres, and in each of the four quarters one of eight acres. A large mansion, which had been undertaken before his arrival, was built for Penn, at a point twenty-six miles up the river, called Pennsbury Manor, where he sometimes resided, and where he often met the Indian sachems. At this time, Penn divided the colony into counties, three for the province (Bucks, Philadelphia and Chester) and three for the Territories (New Castle, Kent and Sussex). Having appointed Sheriffs and other proper officers, he issued writs for the election of members of a General



Assembly, three from each county for the Council or Upper House, and nine from each county for the Assembly or Lower House.\*

This Assembly convened and organized for business on the 10th of January, 1683, at Philadelphia. One of the first subjects considered was the revising some provisions of the frame of government which was effected, reducing the number of members of both Houses, the Council to 18 the Assembly to 36, and otherwise amending in unimportant particulars. In an assembly thus convened, and where few, if any, had had any experience in serving in a deliberative body, we may reasonably suppose that many crude and impracticable propositions would be presented. As an example of these the following may be cited as specimens: That young men should be obliged to marry at, or before, a certain age; that two sorts of clothes only shall be worn, one for winter and the other for summer. The session lasted twenty two days.

The first grand jury in Pennsylvania was summoned for the 2d of February, 1683, to inquire into the cases of some persons accused of issuing counterfeit money. The Governor and Council sat as a court. One Pickering was convicted, and the sentence was significant of the kind and patriarchal nature of the government, "that he should make full satisfaction, in good and current pay, to every person who should, within the space of one month, bring in any of this false, base and counterfeit coin, and that the money brought in should be melted down before it was returned to him, and that he should pay a fine of forty pounds toward the building a court house, stand committed till the same was paid, and afterward find security for his good behavior."

The Assembly and courts having now adjourned, Penn gave his attention to the grading and improving the streets of the new city, and the managing the affairs of his land office, suddenly grown to great importance. For every section of land taken up in the wilderness, the purchaser was entitled to a certain plot in the new city. The River Delaware at this time was nearly a mile broad opposite the city, and navigable for ships of the largest tonnage. The tide rises about six feet at this point, and flows back to the falls of Trenton, a distance of thirty miles. The tide in the Schuylkill flows only about five miles above its confluence with the Delaware. The river bank along the Delaware was intended by Penn as a common or public resort. But in his time the owners of lots above Front street pressed him to allow them to construct warehouses upon it, opposite their properties, which impertunity induced him to make the following declaration concerning it: "The bank is a top common, from end to end; the rest next the water belongs to front-lot men no more than back-lot men. The way bounds them; they may build stairs, and the top of the bank a common exchange, or wall, and against the street, common wharfs may be built freely: but into the water, and the shore is no purchaser's." But in future time, this liberal desire of the founder was disregarded, and the bank has been covered with immense warehouses.

\* It may be a matter of curiosity to know the names of the members of this first regularly elected Legislature in Pennsylvania, and they are accordingly appended as given in official records:

*Council:* William Markham, Christopher Taylor, Thomas Holme, Lacy Cock, William Haige, John Moll, Raiph Withers, John Simcock, Edward Cantwell, William Clayton, William Biles, James Harrison, William Clark, Francis Whitewell, John Richardson, John Hillyard.

*Assembly:* From Bucks, William Yardly, Samuel Darke, Robert Lucas, Nicholas Walne, John Wood, John Clowes, Thomas Fitzwater, Robert Hall, James Boyden; from Philadelphia, John Longhurst, John Hart, Walter King, Andros Binkson, John Moon, Thomas Wynne (Speaker), Griffith Jones, William Warner, Swan Swanson, from Chester, John Hoskins, Robert Wade, George Wood, John Blunston, Dennis Rochford, Thomas Bracy, John Bezer, John Harding, Joseph Phipps; from New Castle, John Cann, John Darby, Valentine Hollingsworth, Gasparus Herman, John Dehoef, James Williams, William Guest, Peter Alrich, Henrick Williams; from Kent, John Biggs, Simon Irons, Thomas Haffold, John Curtis, Robert Bedwell, William Windsmore, John Brinkloe, Daniel Brown, Benony Bishop; from Sussex, Luke Watson, Alexander Draper, William Futcher, Henry Bowman, Alexander Moleston, John Hill, Robert Bracy, John Kipshaven, Cornelius Verhoof.



Seeing now his plans of government and settlement fairly in operation, as autumn approached, Penn wrote a letter to the Free Society of Traders in London, which had been formed to promote settlement in his colony, in which he touched upon a great variety of topics regarding his enterprise, extending to quite a complete treatise. The great interest attaching to the subjects discussed, and the ability with which it was drawn, makes it desirable to insert the document entire; but its great length makes its use incompatible with the plan of this work. A few extracts and a general plan of the letter is all that can be given. He first notices the injurious reports put in circulation in England during his absence: "Some persons have had so little wit and so much malice as to report my death, and, to mend the matter, dead a Jesuit, too. One might have reasonably hoped that this distance, like death, would have been a protection against spite and envy. \* \* \* However, to the great sorrow and shame of the inventors, I am still alive and no Jesuit, and, I thank God, very well." Of the air and waters he says: "The air is sweet and clear, the heavens serene, like the south parts of France, rarely overcast. The waters are generally good, for the rivers and brooks have mostly gravel and stony bottoms, and in number hardly credible. We also have mineral waters that operate in the same manner with Barnet and North Hall, not two miles from Philadelphia." He then treats at length of the four seasons, of trees, fruits, grapes, peaches, grains, garden produce; of animals, beasts, birds, fish, whale fishery, horses and cattle, medicinal plants, flowers of the woods; of the Indians and their persons. Of their language he says: "It is lofty, yet narrow; but, like the Hebrew, in signification, full, imperfect in their tenses, wanting in their moods, participles, adverbs, conjunctions, interjections. I have made it my business to understand it, and I must say that I know not a language spoken in Europe that hath words of more sweetness or greatness in accent and emphasis than theirs." Of their customs and their children: "The children will go very young, at nine months, commonly; if boys, they go a fishing, till ripe for the woods, which is about fifteen; then they hunt, and, after having given some proofs of their manhood by a good return of skins, they may marry, else it is a shame to think of a wife. The girls stay with their mother and help to hoe the ground, plant corn and carry burdens. When the young women are fit for marriage, they wear something upon their heads as an advertisement; but so, as their faces hardly to be seen, but when they please. The age they marry at, if women, is about thirteen and fourteen; if men, seventeen and eighteen; they are rarely elder." In a romantic vein he speaks of their houses, diet, hospitality, revengefulness and concealment of resentment, great liberality, free manner of life and customs, late love of strong liquor, behavior in sickness and death, their religion, their feastings, their government, their mode of doing business, their manner of administering justice, of agreement for settling difficulties entered into with the pen, their susceptibility to improvement, of the origin of the Indian race their resemblance to the Jews. Of the Dutch and Swedes whom he found settled here when he came, he says: "The Dutch applied themselves to traffick, the Swedes and Finns to husbandry. The Dutch mostly inhabit those parts that lie upon the bay, and the Swedes the freshes of the Delaware. They are a plain, strong, industrious people; yet have made no great progress in culture or propagation of fruit trees. They are a people proper, and strong of body, so they have fine children, and almost every house full; rare to find one of them without three or four boys and as many girls—some, six, seven and eight sons. and I must do them that right, I see few young men more sober and laborious." After speaking at length of the organization of the colony and its manner of government, he concludes with his own opinion of the country: "I say little

of the town itself; but this I will say, for the good providence of God, that of all the many places I have seen in the world, I remember not one better seated, so that it seems to me to have been appointed for a town, whether we regard the rivers or the conveniency of the coves, docks, springs, the loftiness and soundness of the land and the air, held by the people of these parts to be very good. It is advanced within less than a year to about fourscore houses and cottages, where merchants and handicrafts are following their vocations as fast as they can, while the countrymen are close at their farms. \* \* \* I bless God I am fully satisfied with the country and entertainment I got in it; for I find that particular content, which hath always attended me, where God in His providence hath made it my place and service to reside."

As we have seen, the visit of Penn to Lord Baltimore soon after his arrival in America, for the purpose of settling the boundaries of the two provinces, after a two days' conference, proved fruitless, and an adjournment was had for the winter, when the efforts for settlement were to be resumed. Early in the spring, an attempt was made on the part of Penn, but was prevented till May, when a meeting was held at New Castle. Penn proposed to confer by the aid of counselors and in writing. But to this Baltimore objected, and, complaining of the sultriness of the weather, the conference was broken up. In the meantime, it had come to the knowledge of Penn that Lord Baltimore had issued a proclamation offering settlers more land, and at cheaper rates than Penn had done, in portions of the lower counties which Penn had secured from the Duke of York, but which Baltimore now claimed. Besides, it was ascertained that an agent of his had taken an observation, and determined the latitude without the knowledge of Penn, and had secretly made an *ex parte* statement of the case before the Lords of the Committee of Plantations in England, and was pressing for arbitrament. This state of the case created much uneasiness in the mind of Penn, especially as the proclamation of Lord Baltimore was likely to bring the two governments into conflict on territory mutually claimed. But Lord Baltimore was not disposed to be content with diplomacy. He determined to pursue an aggressive policy. He accordingly commissioned his agent, Col. George Talbot, under date of September 17, 1683, to go to Schuylkill, at Delaware, and demand of William Penn "all that part of the land on the west side of the said river that lyeth to the southward of the fortieth degree." This bold demand would have embraced the entire colony, both the lower counties, and the three counties in the province, as the fortieth degree reaches a considerable distance above Philadelphia. Penn was absent at the time in New York, and Talbot made his demand upon Nicholas Moore, the deputy of Penn. Upon his return, the proprietor made a dignified but earnest rejoinder. While he felt that the demand could not be justly sustained, yet the fact that a controversy for the settlement of the boundary was likely to arise, gave him disquietude, and though he was gratified with the success of his plans for acquiring lands of the Indians and establishing friendly relations with them, the laying-out of his new city and settling it, the adoption of a stable government and putting it in successful operation, and, more than all, the drawing thither the large number of settlers, chiefly of his own religious faith, and seeing them contented and happy in the new State, he plainly foresaw that his skill and tact would be taxed to the utmost to defend and hold his claim before the English court. If the demand of Lord Baltimore were to prevail, all that he had done would be lost, as his entire colony would be swallowed up by Maryland.

The anxiety of Penn to hold from the beginning of the 40° of latitude was not to increase thereby his territory by so much, for two degrees which he

securely had, so far as amount of land was concerned, would have entirely satisfied him; but he wanted this degree chiefly that he might have the free navigation of Delaware Bay and River, and thus open communication with the ocean. He desired also to hold the lower counties, which were now well settled, as well as his own counties rapidly being peopled, and his new city of Philadelphia, which he regarded as the apple of his eye. So anxious was he to hold the land on the right bank of the Delaware to the open ocean, that at his second meeting, he asked Lord Baltimore to set a price per square mile on this disputed ground, and though he had purchased it once of the crown and held the King's charter for it, and the Duke of York's deed, yet rather than have any further wrangle over it, he was willing to pay for it again. But this Lord Baltimore refused to do.

Bent upon bringing matters to a crisis, and to force possession of his claim, early in the year 1684 a party from Maryland made forcible entry upon the plantations in the lower counties and drove off the owners. The Governor and Council at Philadelphia sent thither a copy of the answer of Penn to Baltimore's demand for the land south of the Delaware, with orders to William Welch, Sheriff at New Castle, to use his influence to reinstate the lawful owners, and issued a declaration succinctly stating the claim of Penn, for the purpose of preventing such unlawful incursions in future.

The season opened favorably for the continued prosperity of the young colony. Agriculture was being prosecuted as never before. Goodly flocks and herds gladdened the eyes of the settlers. An intelligent, moral and industrious yeomanry was springing into existence. Emigrants were pouring into the Delaware from many lands. The Government was becoming settled in its operations and popular with the people. The proprietor had leisure to attend to the interests of his religious society, not only in his own dominions, but in the Jerseys and in New York.

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## CHAPTER VII.

THOMAS LLOYD, 1684-86—FIVE COMMISSIONERS, 1686-88—JOHN BLACKWELL, 1688-90—THOMAS LLOYD, 1690-91—WILLIAM MARKHAM, 1691-93—BENJAMIN FLETCHER, 1693-95—WILLIAM MARKHAM, 1693-99.

**B**UT the indications, constantly thickening, that a struggle was likely soon to be precipitated before the crown for possession of the disputed territory, decided Penn early in the summer to quit the colony and return to England to defend his imperiled interests. There is no doubt that he took this step with unfeigned regret, as he was contented and happy in his new country, and was most usefully employed. There were, however, other inducements which were leading him back to England. The hand of persecution was at this time laid heavily upon the Quakers. Over 1,400 of these pious and inoffensive people were now, and some of them had been for years, languishing in the prisons of England, for no other offense than their manner of worship. By his friendship with James, and his acquaintance with the King, he might do something to soften the lot of these unfortunate victims of bigotry.

He accordingly empowered the Provincial Council, of which Thomas Lloyd was President, to act in his stead, commissioned Nicholas Moore, William Welch, William Wood, Robert Turner and John Eckley, Provincial



Judges for two years; appointed Thomas Lloyd, James Claypole and Robert Turner to sign land patents and warrants, and William Clark as Justice of the Peace for all the counties; and on the 6th of June, 1684, sailed for Europe. His feelings on leaving his colony are exhibited by a farewell address which he issued from on board the vessel to his people, of which the following are brief extracts: "My love and my life is to you, and with you, and no water can quench it, nor distance wear it out, nor bring it to an end. I have been with you, cared over you and served over you with unfeigned love, and you are beloved of me, and near to me, beyond utterance. I bless you in the name and power of the Lord, and may God bless you with His righteousness, peace and plenty all the land over. \* \* \* Oh! now are you come to a quiet land; provoke not the Lord to trouble it. And now liberty and authority are with you, and in your hands. Let the government be upon His shoulders, in all your spirits, that you may rule for Him, under whom the princes of this world will, one day, esteem their honor to govern and serve in their places \* \* \* And thou, Philadelphia, the virgin settlement of this province, named before thou wert born, what love, what care, what service and what travail has there been, to bring thee forth, and preserve thee from such as would abuse and defile thee! \* \* \* So, dear friends, my love again salutes you all, wishing that grace, mercy and peace, with all temporal blessings, may abound richly among you—so says, so prays, your friend and lover in the truth.

WILLIAM PENN."

On the 6th of December of this same year, 1684, Charles II died, and was succeeded by his brother James, Duke of York, under the title of James II. James was a professed Catholic, and the people were greatly excited all over the kingdom lest the reign of Bloody Mary should be repeated, and that the Catholic should become the established religion. He had less ability than his brother, the deceased King, but great discipline and industry. Penn enjoyed the friendship and intimacy of the new King, and he determined to use his advantage for the relief of his suffering countrymen, not only of his sect, the Quakers, but of all, and especially for the furtherance of universal liberty. But there is no doubt that he at this time meditated a speedy return to his province, for he writes: "Keep up the peoples' hearts and loves; I hope to be with them next fall, if the Lord prevent not. I long to be with you. No temptations prevail to fix me here. The Lord send us a good meeting." By authority of Penn, dated 18th of January, 1685, William Markham, Penn's cousin, was commissioned Secretary of the province, and the proprietor's Secretary.

That he might be fixed near to court for the furtherance of his private as well as public business, he secured lodgings for himself and family, in 1685, at Kensington, near London, and cultivated a daily intimacy with the King, who, no doubt, found in the strong native sense of his Quaker friend, a valued adviser upon many questions of difficulty. His first and chief care was the settlement of his disagreement with Lord Baltimore touching the boundaries of their provinces. This was settled in November, 1685, by a compromise, by which the land lying between the Delaware and Chesapeake Bays was divided into two equal parts—that upon the Delaware was adjudged to Penn, and that upon the Chesapeake to Lord Baltimore. This settled the matter in theory; but when the attempt was made to run the lines according to the language of the Royal Act, it was found that the royal secretaries did not understand the geography of the country, and that the line which their language described was an impossible one. Consequently the boundary remained undetermined till 1732. The account of its location will be given in its proper place.



Having secured this important decision to his satisfaction, Penn applied himself with renewed zeal, not only to secure the release of his people, who were languishing in prisons, but to procure for all Englishmen, everywhere, enlarged liberty and freedom of conscience. His relations with the King favored his designs. The King had said to Penn before he ascended the throne that he was opposed to persecution for religion. On the first day of his reign, he made an address, in which he proclaimed himself opposed to all arbitrary principles in government, and promised protection to the Church of England. Early in the year 1686, in consequence of the King's proclamation for a general pardon, over thirteen hundred Quakers were set at liberty, and in April, 1687, the King issued a declaration for entire liberty of conscience, and suspending the penal laws in matters ecclesiastical. This was a great step in advance, and one that must ever throw a luster over the brief reign of this unfortunate monarch. Penn, though holding no official position, doubtless did as much toward securing the issue of this liberal measure as any Englishman.

Upon the issue of these edicts, the Quakers, at their next annual meeting, presented an address of acknowledgment to the King, which opened in these words: "We cannot but bless and praise the name of Almighty God, who hath the hearts of princes in His hands, that He hath inclined the King to hear the cries of his suffering subjects for conscience' sake, and we rejoice that he hath given us so eminent an occasion to present him our thanks." This address was presented by Penn in a few well-chosen words, and the King replied in the following, though brief, yet most expressive, language: "Gentlemen—I thank you heartily for your address. Some of you know (I am sure you do Mr. Penn), that it was always my principle, that conscience ought not to be forced, and that all men ought to have the liberty of their consciences. And what I have promised in my declaration, I will continue to perform so long as I live. And I hope, before I die, to settle it so that after ages shall have no reason to alter it."

It would have been supposed that such noble sentiments as these from a sovereign would have been hailed with delight by the English people. But they were not. The aristocracy of Britain at this time did not want liberty of conscience. They wanted conformity to the established church, and bitter persecution against all others, as in the reign of Charles, which filled the prisons with Quakers. The warm congratulations to James, and fervent prayers for his welfare, were regarded by them with an evil eye. Bitter reproaches were heaped upon Penn, who was looked upon as the power behind the throne that was moving the King to the enforcing of these principles. He was accused of having been educated at St. Omer's, a Catholic college, a place which he never saw in his life, of having taken orders as a priest in the Catholic Church, of having obtained dispensation to marry, and of being not only a Catholic, but a Jesuit in disguise, all of which were pure fabrications. But in the excited state of the public mind they were believed, and caused him to be regarded with bitter hatred. The King, too, fell rapidly into disfavor, and so completely had the minds of his people become alienated from him, that upon the coming of the Prince of Orange and his wife Mary, in 1688, James was obliged to flee to France for safety, and they were received as the rulers of Britain.

But while the interests of the colony were thus prospering at court, they were not so cloudless in the new country. There was needed the strong hand of Penn to check abuses and guide the course of legislation in proper channels. He had labored to place the government entirely in the hands of the people—an idea, in the abstract, most attractive, and one which, were the entire

population wise and just, would result fortunately; yet, in practice, he found to his sorrow the results most vexatious. The proprietor had not long been gone before troubles arose between the two Houses of the Legislature relative to promulgating the laws as not being in accordance with the requirements of the charter. Nicholas Moore, the Chief Justice, was impeached for irregularities in imposing fines and in other ways abusing his high trust. But though formally arraigned and directed to desist from exercising his functions, he successfully resisted the proceedings, and a final judgment was never obtained. Patrick Robinson, Clerk of the court, for refusing to produce the records in the trial of Moore, was voted a public enemy. These troubles in the government were the occasion of much grief to Penn, who wrote, naming a number of the most influential men in the colony, and beseeching them to unite in an endeavor to check further irregularities, declaring that they disgraced the province, "that their conduct had struck back hundreds, and was £10,000 out of his way, and £100,000 out of the country."

In the latter part of the year 1686, seeing that the whole Council was too unwieldy a body to exercise executive power, Penn determined to contract the number, and accordingly appointed Thomas Lloyd, Nicholas Moore, James Claypole, Robert Turner and John Eckley, any three of whom should constitute a quorum, to be Commissioners of State to act for the proprietor. In place of Moore and Claypole, Arthur Cook and John Simcock were appointed. They were to compel the attendance of the Council; see that the two Houses admit of no parley; to abrogate all laws except the fundamentals; to dismiss the Assembly and call a new one, and finally he solemnly admonishes them, "Be most just, as in the sight of the all-seeing, all-searching God." In a letter to these Commissioners, he says: "Three things occur to me eminently: First, that you be watchful that none abuse the King, etc.; secondly, that you get the custom act revived as being the equalest and least offensive way to support the government; thirdly, that you retrieve the dignity of courts and sessions."

In a letter to James Harrison, his confidential agent at Pennsbury Manor, he unbosoms himself more freely respecting his employment in London than in any of his State papers or more public communications, and from it can be seen how important were his labors with the head of the English nation. "I am engaged in the public business of the nation and Friends, and those in authority would have me see the establishment of the liberty, that I was a small instrument to begin in the land. The Lord has given me great entrance and interest with the King, though not so much as is said; and I confess I should rejoice to see poor old England fixed, the penal laws repealed, that are now suspended, and if it goes well with England, it cannot go ill with Pennsylvania, as unkindly used as I am; and no poor slave in Turkey desires more earnestly, I believe, for deliverance, than I do to be with you." In the summer of 1687, Penn was in company with the King in a progress through the counties of Berkshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Shropshire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Oxfordshire and Hampshire, during which he held several religious meetings with his people, in some of which the King appears to have been present, particularly in Chester.

Since the departure of Penn, Thomas Lloyd had acted as President of the Council, and later of the Commissioners of State. He had been in effect Governor, and held responsible for the success of the government, while possessing only one voice in the disposing of affairs. Tiring of this anomalous position, Lloyd applied to be relieved. It was difficult to find a person of sufficient ability to fill the place; but Penn decided to relieve him, though

showing his entire confidence by notifying him that he intended soon to appoint him absolute Governor. In his place, he indicated Sannuel Carpenter, or if he was unwilling to serve, then Thomas Ellis, but not to be President, his will being that each should preside a month in turn, or that the oldest member should be chosen.

Penn foresaw that the executive power, to be efficient, must be lodged in the hands of one man of ability, such as to command the respect of his people. Those whom he most trusted in the colony had been so mixed up in the wrangles of the executive and legislative departments of the government that he deemed it advisable to appoint a person who had not before been in the colony and not a Quaker. He accordingly commissioned John Blackwell, July 27, 1688, to be Lieutenant Governor, who was at this time in New England, and who had the esteem and confidence of Penn. With the commission, the proprietor sent full instructions, chiefly by way of caution, the last one being: "Rule the meek meekly; and those that will not be ruled, rule with authority." Though Lloyd had been relieved of power, he still remained in the Council, probably because neither of the persons designated were willing to serve. Having seen the evils of a many-headed executive, he had recommended the appointment of one person to exercise executive authority. It was in conformity with this advice that Blackwell was appointed. He met the Assembly in March, 1689; but either his conceptions of business were arbitrary and imperious, or the Assembly had become accustomed to great latitude and lax discipline; for the business had not proceeded far before the several branches of the government were at variance. Lloyd refused to give up the great seal, alleging that it had been given him for life. The Governor, arbitrarily and without warrant of law, imprisoned officers of high rank, denied the validity of all laws passed by the Assembly previous to his administration, and set on foot a project for organizing and equipping the militia, under the plea of threatened hostility of France. The Assembly attempted to arrest his proceedings, but he shrewdly evaded their intents by organizing a party among the members, who persistently absented themselves. His reign was short, for in January, 1690, he left the colony and sailed away for England, whereupon the government again devolved upon the Council, Thomas Lloyd, President. Penn had a high estimation of the talents and integrity of Blackwell, and adds, "He is in England and Ireland of great repute for ability, integrity and virtue."

Three forms of administering the executive department of the government had now been tried, by a Council consisting of eighteen members, a commission of five members, and a Lieutenant Governor. Desirous of leaving the government as far as possible in the hands of the people who were the sources of all power, Penn left it to the Council to decide which form should be adopted. The majority decided for a Deputy Governor. This was opposed by the members from the provinces, who preferred a Council, and who, finding themselves outvoted, decided to withdraw, and determined for themselves to govern the lower counties until Penn should come. This obstinacy and falling out between the councilors from the lower counties and those from the province was the beginning of a controversy which eventuated in a separation, and finally in the formation of Delaware as a separate commonwealth. A deputation from the Council was sent to New Castle to induce the seceding members to return, but without success. They had never regarded with favor the removal of the sittings of the Council from New Castle, the first seat of government, to Philadelphia, and they were now determined to set up a government for themselves.



In 1689, the Friends Public School in Philadelphia was first incorporated, confirmed by a patent from Penn in 1701, and another in 1708, and finally, with greatly enlarged powers, from Penn personally, November 29, 1711. The preamble to the charter recites that as "the prosperity and welfare of any people depend, in great measure, upon the good education of youth, and their early introduction in the principles of true religion and virtue, and qualifying them to serve their country and themselves, by breeding them in reading, writing, and learning of languages and useful arts and sciences suitable to their sex, age and degree, which cannot be effected in any manner so well as by erecting public schools," etc. George Keith was employed as the first master of this school. He was a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, a man of learning, and had emigrated to East Jersey some years previous, where he was Surveyor General, and had surveyed and marked the line between East and West New Jersey. He only remained at the head of the school one year, when he was succeeded by his usher, Thomas Makin. This was a school of considerable merit and pretension, where the higher mathematics and the ancient languages were taught, and was the first of this high grade. A school of a primary grade had been established as early as 1683, in Philadelphia, when Enoch Flower taught on the following terms: "To learn to read English, four shillings by the quarter; to write, six shillings by ditto; to read, write and cast accounts, eight shillings by the quarter; boarding a scholar, that is to say, diet, lodging, washing and schooling, £10 for one whole year," from which it will be seen that although learning might be highly prized, its cost in hard cash was not exorbitant.

Penn's favor at court during the reign of James II caused him to be suspected of disloyalty to the government when William and Mary had come to the throne. Accordingly on the 10th of December, 1688, while walking in White Hall, he was summoned before the Lords of the Council, and though nothing was found against him, was compelled to give security for his appearance at the next term, to answer any charge that might be made. At the second sitting of the Council nothing having been found against him, he was cleared in open court. In 1690, he was again brought before the Lords on the charge of having been in correspondence with the late King. He appealed to King William, who, after a hearing of two hours, was disposed to release him, but the Lords decided to hold him until the Trinity term, when he was again discharged. A third time he was arraigned, and this time with eighteen others, charged with adhering to the kingdom's enemies, but was cleared by order of the King's Bench. Being now at liberty, and these vexatious suits apparently at an end, he set about leading a large party of settlers to his cherished Pennsylvania. Proposals were published, and the Government, regarding the enterprise of so much importance, had ordered an armed convoy, when he was again met by another accusation, and now, backed by the false oath of one William Fuller, whom the Parliament subsequently declared a "cheat and an imposter." Seeing that he must prepare again for his defense, he abandoned his voyage to America, after having made expensive preparations, and convinced that his enemies were determined to prevent his attention to public or private affairs, whether in England or America, he withdrew himself during the ensuing two or three years from the public eye.

But though not participating in business, which was calling loudly for his attention, his mind was busy, and several important treatises upon religious and civil matters were produced that had great influence upon the turn of public affairs, which would never have been written but for this forced retirement. In his address to the yearly meeting of Friends in London, he says:



“My enemies are yours. My privacy is not because men have sworn truly, but falsely against me.”

His personal grievances in England were the least which he suffered. For lack of guiding influence, bitter dissensions had sprung up in his colony, which threatened the loss of all. Desiring to secure peace, he had commissioned Thomas Lloyd Deputy Governor of the province, and William Markham Deputy Governor of the lower counties. Penn's grief on account of this division is disclosed in a letter to a friend in the province: “I left it to them, to choose either the government of the Council, five Commissioners or a deputy. What could be tenderer? Now I perceive Thomas Lloyd is chosen by the three upper, but not the three lower counties, and sits down with this broken choice. This has grieved and wounded me and mine, I fear to the hazard of all! \* \* \* for else the Governor of New York is like to have all, if he has it not already.”

But the troubles of Penn in America were not confined to civil affairs. His religious society was torn with dissension. George Keith, a man of considerable power in argumentation, but of overweening self-conceit, attacked the Friends for the laxity of their discipline, and drew off some followers. So venomous did he become that on the 20th of April, 1692, a testimony of denial was drawn up against him at a meeting of ministers, wherein he and his conduct were publicly disowned. This was confirmed at the next yearly meeting. He drew off large numbers and set up an independent society, who termed themselves Christian Quakers. Keith appealed from this action of the American Church to the yearly meeting in London, but was so intemperate in speech that the action of the American Church was confirmed. Whereupon he became the bitter enemy of the Quakers, and, uniting with the Church of England, was ordained a Vicar by the Bishop of London. He afterward returned to America where he wrote against his former associates, but was finally fixed in a benefice in Sussex, England. On his death bed, he said, “I wish I had died when I was a Quaker, for then I am sure it would have been well with my soul.”

But Keith had not been satisfied with attacking the principles and practices of his church. He mercilessly lampooned the Lieutenant Governor, saying that “He was not fit to be a Governor, and his name would stink,” and of the Council, that “He hoped to God he should shortly see their power taken from them.” On another occasion, he said of Thomas Lloyd, who was reputed a mild-tempered man, and had befriended Keith, that he was “an impudent man and a pitiful Governor,” and asked him “why he did not send him to jail,” saying that “his back (Keith's) had long itched for a whipping, and that he would print and expose them all over America, if not over Europe.” So abusive had he finally become that the Council was obliged to take notice of his conduct and to warn him to desist.

Penn, as has been shown, was silenced and thrown into retirement in England. It can be readily seen what an excellent opportunity these troubles in America, the separation in the government, and the schism in the church, gave his enemies to attack him. They represented that he had neglected his colony by remaining in England and meddling with matters in which he had no business; that the colony in consequence had fallen into great disorder, and that he should be deprived of his proprietary rights. These complaints had so much weight with William and Mary, that, on the 21st of October, 1692, they commissioned Benjamin Fletcher, Governor of New York, to take the province and territories under his government. There was another motive operating at this time, more potent than those mentioned above, to induce the

King and Queen to put the government of Pennsylvania under the Governor of New York. The French and Indians from the north were threatening the English. Already the expense for defense had become burdensome to New York. It was believed that to ask aid for the common defense from Penn, with his peace principles, would be fruitless, but that through the influence of Gov. Fletcher, as executive, an appropriation might be secured.

Upon receiving his commission, Gov. Fletcher sent a note, dated April 19, 1693, to Deputy Gov. Lloyd, informing him of the grant of the royal commission and of his intention to visit the colony and assume authority on the 29th inst. He accordingly came with great pomp and splendor, attended by a numerous retinue, and soon after his arrival, submission to him having been accorded without question, summoned the Assembly. Some differences having arisen between the Governor and the Assembly about the manner of calling and electing the Representatives, certain members united in an address to the Governor, claiming that the constitution and laws were still in full force and must be administered until altered or repealed; that Pennsylvania had just as good a right to be governed according to the usages of Pennsylvania as New York had to be governed according to the usages of that province. The Legislature being finally organized, Gov. Fletcher presented a letter from the Queen, setting forth that the expense for the preservation and defense of Albany against the French was intolerable to the inhabitants there, and that as this was a frontier to other colonies, it was thought but just that they should help bear the burden. The Legislature, in firm but respectful terms, maintained that the constitution and laws enacted under them were in full force, and when he, having flatly denied this, attempted to intimidate them by the threat of annexing Pennsylvania to New York, they mildly but firmly requested that if the Governor had objections to the bill which they had passed and would communicate them, they would try to remove them. The business was now amicably adjusted, and he in compliance with their wish dissolved the Assembly, and after appointing William Markham Lieutenant Governor, departed to his government in New York, doubtless well satisfied that a Quaker, though usually mild mannered, is not easily frightened or coerced.

Gov. Fletcher met the Assembly again in March, 1694, and during this session, having apparently failed in his previous endeavors to induce the Assembly to vote money for the common defense, sent a communication setting forth the dangers to be apprehended from the French and Indians, and concluding in these words: "That he considered their principles; that they could not carry arms nor levy money to make war, though for their own defense, yet he hoped that they would not refuse to feed the hungry and clothe the naked; that was to supply the Indian nations with such necessaries as may influence their continued friendship to their provinces." But notwithstanding the adroit sugar-coating of the pill, it was not acceptable and no money was voted. This and a brief session in September closed the Governorship of Pennsylvania by Fletcher. It would appear from a letter written by Penn, after hearing of the neglect of the Legislature to vote money for the purpose indicated, that he took an entirely different view of the subject from that which was anticipated; for he blamed the colony for refusing to send money to New York for what he calls the common defense.

Through the kind offices of Lords Rochester, Ranelagh, Sidney and Somers, the Duke of Buckingham and Sir John Trenchard, the king was asked to hear the case of William Penn, against whom no charge was proven, and who would two years before have gone to his colony had he not supposed that he would have been thought to go in defiance of the government. King William

answered that William Penn was his old acquaintance as well as theirs, that he might follow his business as freely as ever, and that he had nothing to say to him. Penn was accordingly reinstated in his government by letters patent dated on the 20th of August, 1694, whereupon he commissioned William Markham Lieutenant Governor.

When Markham called the Assembly, he disregarded the provisions of the charter, assuming that the removal of Penn had annulled the grant. The Assembly made no objection to this action, as there were provisions in the old charter that they desired to have changed. Accordingly, when the appropriation bill was considered, a new constitution was attached to it and passed. This was approved by Markham and became the organic law, the third constitution adopted under the charter of King Charles. By the provisions of this instrument, the Council was composed of twelve members, and the Assembly of twenty-four. During the war between France and England, the ocean swarmed with the privateers of the former. When peace was declared, many of these crafts, which had richly profited by privateering, were disposed to continue their irregular practices, which was now piracy. Judging that the peace principles of the Quakers would shield them from forcible seizure, they were accustomed to run into the Delaware for safe harbor. Complaints coming of the depredations of these parties, a proclamation was issued calling on magistrates and citizens to unite in breaking up practices so damaging to the good name of the colony. It was charged in England that evil-disposed persons in the province were privy to these practices, if not parties to it, and that the failure of the Government to break it up was a proof of its inefficiency, and of a radical defect of the principles on which it was based. Penn was much exercised by these charges, and in his letters to the Lieutenant Governor and to his friends in the Assembly, urged ceaseless vigilance to effect reform.

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## CHAPTER VIII.

WILLIAM PENN, 1699-1701—ANDREW HAMILTON, 1701-3—EDWARD SHIPPEN  
1703-4—JOHN EVANS, 1704-9—CHARLES GOOKIN, 1709-17.

BEING free from harassing persecutions, and in favor at court, Penn determined to remove with his family to Pennsylvania, and now with the expectation of living and dying here. Accordingly, in July, 1699, he set sail, and, on account of adverse winds, was three months tossed about upon the ocean. Just before his arrival in his colony, the yellow fever raged there with great virulence, having been brought thither from the West Indies, but had been checked by the biting frosts of autumn, and had now disappeared. An observant traveler, who witnessed the effects of this scourge, writes thus of it in his journal: "Great was the majesty and hand of the Lord. Great was the fear that fell upon all flesh. I saw no lofty nor airy countenance, nor heard any vain jesting to move men to laughter, nor witty repartee to raise mirth, nor extravagant feasting to excite the lusts and desires of the flesh above measure; but every face gathered paleness, and many hearts were humbled, and countenances fallen and sunk, as such that waited every moment to be summoned to the bar and numbered to the grave."

Great joy was everywhere manifested throughout the province at the arriv-



al of the proprietor and his family, fondly believing that he had now come to stay. He met the Assembly soon after landing, but, it being an inclement season, he only detained them long enough to pass two measures aimed against piracy and illicit trade, exaggerated reports of which, having been spread broadcast through the kingdom, had caused him great uneasiness and vexation. At the first monthly meeting of Friends in 1700, he laid before them his concern, which was for the welfare of Indians and Negroes, and steps were taken to instruct them and provide stated meetings for them where they could hear the Word. It is more than probable that he had fears from the first that his enemies in England would interfere in his affairs to such a degree as to require his early return, though he had declared to his friends there that he never expected to meet them again. His greatest solicitude, consequently, was to give a charter to his colony, and also one to his city, the very best that human ingenuity could devise. An experience of now nearly twenty years would be likely to develop the weaknesses and impracticable provisions of the first constitutions, so that a frame now drawn with all the light of the past, and by the aid and suggestion of the men who had been employed in administering it, would be likely to be enduring, and though he might be called hence, or be removed by death, their work would live on from generation to generation and age to age, and exert a benign and preserving influence while the State should exist.

In February, 1701, Penn met the most renowned and powerful of the Indian chieftains, reaching out to the Potomac, the Susquehanna and to the Onondagoes of the Five Nations, some forty in number, at Philadelphia, where he renewed with them pledges of peace and entered into a formal treaty of active friendship, binding them to disclose any hostile intent, confirm sale of lands, be governed by colonial law, all of which was confirmed on the part of the Indians "by five parcels of skins;" and on the part of Penn by "several English goods and merchandises."

Several sessions of the Legislature were held in which great harmony prevailed, and much attention was giving to revising and recomposing the constitution. But in the midst of their labors for the improvement of the organic law, intelligence was brought to Penn that a bill had been introduced in the House of Lords for reducing all the proprietary governments in America to regal ones, under pretence of advancing the prerogative of the crown, and the national advantage. Such of the owners of land in Pennsylvania as happened to be in England, remonstrated against action upon the bill until Penn could return and be heard, and wrote to him urging his immediate coming hither. Though much to his disappointment and sorrow, he determined to go immediately thither. He promptly called a session of the Assembly, and in his message to the two Houses said, "I cannot think of such a voyage without great reluctancy of mind, having promised myself the quietness of a wilderness. For my heart is among you, and no disappointment shall ever be able to alter my love to the country, and resolution to return, and settle my family and posterity in it. \* \* Think therefore (since all men are mortal), of some suitable expedient and provision for your safety as well in your privileges as property. Review again your laws, propose new ones, and you will find me ready to comply with whatsoever may render us happy, by a nearer union of our interests." The Assembly returned a suitable response, and then proceeded to draw up twenty-one articles. The first related to the appointment of a Lieutenant Governor. Penn proposed that the Assembly should choose one. But this they declined, preferring that he should appoint one. Little trouble was experienced in settling everything broached, except the



union of the province and lower counties. Penn used his best endeavors to reconcile them to the union, but without avail. The new constitution was adopted on the 28th of October, 1701. The instrument provided for the union, but in a supplementary article, evidently granted with great reluctance, it was provided that the province and the territories might be separated at any time within three years. As his last act before leaving, he presented the city of Philadelphia, now grown to be a considerable place, and always an object of his affectionate regard, with a charter of privileges. As his Deputy, he appointed Andrew Hamilton, one of the proprietors of East New Jersey, and sometime Governor of both East and West Jersey, and for Secretary of the province and Clerk of the Council, he selected James Logan, a man of singular urbanity and strength of mind, and withal a scholar.

Penn set sail for Europe on the 1st of November, 1701. Soon after his arrival, on the 18th of January, 1702, King William died, and Anne of Denmark succeeded him. He now found himself in favor at court, and that he might be convenient to the royal residence, he again took lodgings at Kensington. The bill which had been pending before Parliament, that had given him so much uneasiness, was at the succeeding session dropped entirely, and was never again called up. During his leisure hours, he now busied himself in writing "several useful and excellent treatises on divers subjects."

Gov. Hamilton's administration continued only till December, 1702, when he died. He was earnest in his endeavors to induce the territories to unite with the province, they having as yet not accepted the new charter, alleging that they had three years in which to make their decision, but without success. He also organized a military force, of which George Lowther was commander, for the safety of the colony.

The executive authority now devolved upon the Council, of which Edward Shippen was President. Conflict of authority, and contention over the due interpretation of some provisions of the new charter, prevented the accomplishment of much, by way of legislation, in the Assembly which convened in 1703: though in this body it was finally determined that the lower counties should thereafter act separately in a legislative capacity. This separation proved final, the two bodies never again meeting in common.

Though the bill to govern the American Colonies by regal authority failed, yet the clamor of those opposed to the proprietary Governors was so strong that an act was finally passed requiring the selection of deputies to have the royal assent. Hence, in choosing a successor to Hamilton, he was obliged to consider the Queen's wishes. John Evans, a man of parts, of Welsh extraction, only twenty-six years old, a member of the Queen's household, and not a Quaker, nor even of exemplary morals, was appointed, who arrived in the colony in December, 1703. He was accompanied by William Penn, Jr., who was elected a member of the Council, the number having been increased by authority of the Governor, probably with a view to his election.

The first care of Evans was to unite the province and lower counties, though the final separation had been agreed to. He presented the matter so well that the lower counties, from which the difficulty had always come, were willing to return to a firm union. But now the provincial Assembly, having become impatient of the obstacles thrown in the way of legislation by the delegates from these counties, was unwilling to receive them. They henceforward remained separate in a legislative capacity, though still a part of Pennsylvania, under the claim of Penn, and ruled by the same Governor, and thus they continued until the 20th of September, 1776, when a constitution was adopted, and they were proclaimed a separate State under the name of Delaware.

During two years of the government of Evans, there was ceaseless discord between the Council, headed by the Governor and Secretary Logan, on the one side, and the Assembly led by David Lloyd, its Speaker, on the other, and little legislation was effected.

Realizing the defenseless condition of the colony, Evans determined to organize the militia, and accordingly issued his proclamation. "In obedience to her Majesty's royal command, and to the end that the inhabitants of this government may be in a posture of defense and readiness to withstand and repel all acts of hostility, I do hereby strictly command and require all persons residing in this government, whose persuasions will, on any account, permit them to take up arms in their own defense, that forthwith they do provide themselves with a good firelock and ammunition, in order to enlist themselves in the militia, which I am now settling in this government." The Governor evidently issued this proclamation in good faith, and with a pure purpose. The French and Indians had assumed a threatening aspect upon the north, and while the other colonies had assisted New York liberally, Pennsylvania had done little or nothing for the common defense. But his call fell stillborn. The "fire-locks" were not brought out, and none enlisted.

Disappointed at this lack of spirit, and embittered by the factious temper of the Assembly, Evans, who seems not to have had faith in the religious principles of the Quakers, and to have entirely mistook the nature of their Christian zeal, formed a wild scheme to test their steadfastness under the pressure of threatened danger. In conjunction with his gay associates in revel, he agreed to have a false alarm spread of the approach of a hostile force in the river, whereupon he was to raise the alarm in the city. Accordingly, on the day of the fair in Philadelphia, 16th of March, 1706, a messenger came, post haste from New Castle, bringing the startling intelligence that an armed fleet of the enemy was already in the river, and making their way rapidly toward the city. Whereupon Evans acted his part to a nicety. He sent emissaries through the town proclaiming the dread tale, while he mounted his horse, and in an excited manner, and with a drawn sword, rode through the streets, calling upon all good men and true to rush to arms for the defense of their homes, their wives and children, and all they held dear. The ruse was so well played that it had an immense effect. "The suddenness of the surprise," says Proud, "with the noise of precipitation consequent thereon, threw many of the people into very great fright and consternation, insomuch that it is said some threw their plate and most valuable effects down their wells and little houses; that others hid themselves, in the best manner they could, while many retired further up the river, with what they could most readily carry off; so that some of the creeks seemed full of boats and small craft; those of a larger size running as far as Burlington, and some higher up the river; several women are said to have miscarried by the fright and terror into which they were thrown, and much mischief ensued."

The more thoughtful of the people are said to have understood the deceit from the first, and labored to allay the excitement; but the seeming earnestness of the Governor and the zeal of his emissaries so worked upon the more inconsiderate of the population that the consternation and commotion was almost past belief. In an almanac published at Philadelphia for the next year opposite this date was this distich:

"Wise men wonder, good men grieve,  
Knaves invent and fools believe."

Though this ruse was played upon all classes alike, yet it was generally believed to have been aimed chiefly at the Quakers, to try the force of their

principles, and see if they would not rush to arms when danger should really appear. But in this the Governor was disappointed. For it is said that only four out of the entire population of this religious creed showed any disposition to falsify their faith. It was the day of their weekly meeting, and regardless of the dismay and consternation which were everywhere manifest about them, they assembled in their accustomed places of worship, and engaged in their devotions as though nothing unusual was transpiring without, manifesting such unshaken faith, as Whittier has exemplified in verse by his *Abraham Davenport*, on the occasion of the *Dark Day*:

' Meanwhile in the old State House, dim as ghosts,  
Sat the law-givers of Connecticut,  
Trembling beneath their legislative robes,  
' It is the Lord's great day! Let us adjourn,'  
Some said; and then, as with one accord,  
All eyes were turned on Abraham Davenport.  
He rose, slow, cleaving with his steady voice  
The intolerable hush. ' This well may be  
The Day of Judgment which the world awaits;  
But be it so or not, I only know  
My present duty, and my Lord's command  
To occupy till He come. So at the post  
Where He hath set me in His Providence,  
I choose, for one, to meet Him face to face,  
No faithless servant frightened from my task,  
But ready when the Lord of the harvest calls;  
And therefore, with all reverence, I would say,  
Let God do His work, we will see to ours.  
Bring in the candles.' And they brought them in."

In conjunction with the Legislature of the lower counties, Evans was instrumental in having a law passed for the imposition of a tax on the tonnage of the river, and the erection of a fort near the town of New Castle for compelling obedience. This was in direct violation of the fundamental compact, and vexatious to commerce. It was at length forcibly resisted, and its imposition abandoned. His administration was anything but efficient or peaceful, a series of contentions, of charges and counter-charges having been kept up between the leaders of the two factions, Lloyd and Logan, which he was powerless to properly direct or control. " He was relieved in 1709. Possessed of a good degree of learning and refinement, and accustomed to the gay society of the British metropolis, he found in the grave and serious habits of the Friends a type of life and character which he failed to comprehend, and with which he could, consequently, have little sympathy. How widely he mistook the Quaker character is seen in the result of his wild and hair-brained experiment to test their faith. His general tenor of life seems to have been of a piece with this. Watson says: ' The Indians of Connestoga complained of him when there as misbehaving to their women, and that, in 1709, Solomon Cresson, going his rounds at night, entered a tavern to suppress a riotous assembly, and found there John Evans, Esq., the Governor, who fell to beating Cresson.' "

The youth and levity of Gov. Evans induced the proprietor to seek for a successor of a more sober and sedate character. He had thought of proposing his son, but finally settled upon Col. Charles Gookin, who was reputed to be a man of wisdom and prudence, though as was afterward learned, to the sorrow of the colony, he was subject to fits of derangement, which toward the close of his term were exhibited in the most extravagant acts. He had scarcely arrived in the colony before charges were preferred against the late Governor, and he was asked to institute criminal proceedings, which he declined. This



was the occasion of a renewal of contentions between the Governor and his Council and the Assembly, which continued during the greater part of his administration. In the midst of them, Logan, who was at the head of the Council, having demanded a trial of the charges against him, and failed to secure one, sailed for Europe, where he presented the difficulties experienced in administering the government so strongly, that Penn was seriously inclined to sell his interest in the colony. He had already greatly crippled his estate by expenses he had incurred in making costly presents to the natives, and in settling his colony, for which he had received small return. In the year 1707, he had become involved in a suit in chancery with the executors of his former steward, in the course of which he was confined in the Old Baily during this and a part of the following year, when he was obliged to mortgage his colony in the sum of £6,600 to relieve himself. Foreseeing the great consequence it would be to the crown to buy the rights of the proprietors of the several English colonies in America before they would grow too powerful, negotiations had been entered into early in the reign of William and Mary for their purchase, especially the "fine province of Mr. Penn." Borne down by these troubles, and by debts and litigations at home, Penn seriously entertained the proposition to sell in 1712, and offered it for £20,000. The sum of £12,000 was offered on the part of the crown, which was agreed upon, but before the necessary papers were executed, he was stricken down with apoplexy, by which he was incapacitated for transacting any business, and a stay was put to further proceedings until the Queen should order an act of Parliament for consummating the purchase.

It is a mournful spectacle to behold the great mind and the great heart of Penn reduced now in his declining years, by the troubles of government and by debts incurred in the bettering of his colony, to this enfeebled condition. He was at the moment writing to Logan on public affairs, when his hand was suddenly seized by lethargy in the beginning of a sentence, which he never finished. His mind was touched by the disease, which he never recovered, and after lingering for six years, he died on the 30th of May, 1718, in the seventy-fourth year of his age. With great power of intellect, and a religious devotion scarcely matched in all Christendom, he gave himself to the welfare of mankind, by securing civil and religious liberty through the operations of organic law. Though not a lawyer by profession, he drew frames of government and bodies of laws which have been the admiration of succeeding generations, and are destined to exert a benign influence in all future time, and by his discussions with Lord Baltimore and before the Lords in Council, he showed himself familiar with the abstruse principles of law. Though but a private person and of a despised sect, he was received as the friend and confidential advisee of the ruling sovereigns of England, and some of the principles which give luster to British law were engrafted there through the influence of the powerful intellect and benignant heart of Penn. He sought to know no philosophy but that promulgated by Christ and His disciples, and this he had sounded to its depths, and in it were anchored his ideas of public law and private and social living. The untamed savage of the forest bowed in meek and loving simplicity to his mild and resistless sway, and the members of the Society of Friends all over Europe flocked to his City of Brotherly Love. His prayers for the welfare of his people are the beginning and ending of all his public and private correspondence, and who will say that they have not been answered in the blessings which have attended the commonwealth of his founding? And will not the day of its greatness be when the inhabitants, throughout all its borders shall return to the peaceful and loving spirit of



Penn? In the midst of a licentious court, and with every prospect of advancement in its sunshine and favor, inheriting a great name and an independent patrimony, he turned aside from this brilliant track to make common lot with a poor sect under the ban of Government; endured stripes and imprisonment and loss of property; banished himself to the wilds of the American continent that he might secure to his people those devotions which seemed to them required by their Maker, and has won for himself a name by the simple deeds of love and humble obedience to Christian mandates which shall never perish. Many have won renown by deeds of blood, but fadeless glory has come to William Penn by charity.

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## CHAPTER IX.

SIR WILLIAM KEITH, 1717-24—PATRICK GORDON, 1726-36—JAMES LOGAN, 1736-38  
—GEORGE THOMAS, 1738-47—ANTHONY PALMER, 1747-48—JAMES HAMILTON,  
1748-54.

IN 1712, Penn had made a will, by which he devised to his only surviving son, William, by his first marriage, all his estates in England, amounting to some twenty thousand pounds. By his first wife, Gulielma Maria Springett, he had issue of three sons—William, Springett and William, and four daughters—Gulielma, Margaret, Gulielma and Letitia; and by his second wife, Hannah Callowhill, of four sons—John, Thomas, Richard and Dennis. To his wife Hannah, who survived him, and whom he made the sole executrix of his will, he gave, for the equal benefit of herself and her children, all his personal estate in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, after paying all debts, and allotting ten thousand acres of land in the Province to his daughter Letitia, by his first marriage, and each of the three children of his son William.

Doubts having arisen as to the force of the provisions of this will, it was finally determined to institute a suit in chancery for its determination. Before a decision was reached, in March, 1720, William Penn, Jr., died, and while still pending, his son Springett died also. During the long pendency of this litigation for nine years, Hannah Penn, as executrix of the will, assumed the proprietary powers, issued instructions to her Lieutenant Governors, heard complaints and settled difficulties with the skill and the assurance of a veteran diplomatist. In 1727, a decision was reached that, upon the death of William Penn, Jr., and his son Springett, the proprietary rights in Pennsylvania descended to the three surviving sons—John, Thomas and Richard—issue by the second marriage; and that the proprietors bargain to sell his province to the crown for twelve thousand pounds, made in 1712, and on which one thousand pounds had been paid at the confirmation of the sale, was void. Whereupon the three sons became the joint proprietors.

A year before the death of Penn, the lunacy of Gov. Gookin having become troublesome, he was succeeded in the Government by Sir William Keith, a Scotchman who had served as Surveyor of Customs to the English Government, in which capacity he had visited Pennsylvania previously, and knew something of its condition. He was a man of dignified and commanding bearing, endowed with cunning, of an accommodating policy, full of faithful promises, and usually found upon the stronger side. Hence, upon his arrival in the colony, he did not summon the Assembly immediately,

assigning as a reason in his first message that he did not wish to inconvenience the country members by calling them in harvest time. The disposition thus manifested to favor the people, and his advocacy of popular rights on several occasions in opposition to the claims of the proprietor, gave great satisfaction to the popular branch of the Legislature which manifested its appreciation of his conduct by voting him liberal salaries, which had often been withheld from his less accommodating predecessors. By his artful and insinuating policy, he induced the Assembly to pass two acts which had previously met with uncompromising opposition—one to establish a Court of Equity, with himself as Chancellor, the want of which had been seriously felt; and another, for organizing the militia. Though the soil was fruitful and produce was plentiful, yet, for lack of good markets, and on account of the meagerness of the circulating medium, prices were very low, the toil and sweat of the husbandman being little rewarded, and the taxes and payments on land were met with great difficulty. Accordingly, arrangements were made for the appointment of inspectors of provisions, who, from a conscientious discharge of duty, soon caused the Pennsylvania brands of best products to be much sought for, and to command ready sale at highest prices in the West Indies, whither most of the surplus produce was exported. A provision was also made for the issue of a limited amount of paper money, on the establishment of ample securities, which tended to raise the value of the products of the soil and of manufactures, and encourage industry.

By the repeated notices of the Governors in their messages to the Legislature previous to this time, it is evident that Indian hostilities had for some time been threatened. The Potomac was the dividing line between the Northern and Southern Indians. But the young men on either side, when out in pursuit of game, often crossed the line of the river into the territory of the other, when fierce altercations ensued. This trouble had become so violent in 1719 as to threaten a great Indian war, in which the powerful confederation, known as the Five Nations, would take a hand. To avert this danger, which it was foreseen would inevitably involve the defenseless families upon the frontier, and perhaps the entire colony, Gov. Keith determined to use his best exertions. He accordingly made a toilsome journey in the spring of 1721 to confer with the Governor of Virginia and endeavor to employ by concert of action such means as would allay further cause of contention. His policy was well devised, and enlisted the favor of the Governor. Soon after his return, he summoned a council of Indian Chieftains to meet him at Conestoga, a point about seventy miles west of Philadelphia. He went in considerable pomp, attended by some seventy or eighty horsemen, gaily caparisoned, and many of them armed, arriving about noon, on the 4th of July, not then a day of more note than other days. He went immediately to Capt. Civility's cabin, where were assembled four deputies of the Five Nations and representatives of other tribes. The Governor said that he had come a long distance from home to see and speak to representatives of the Five Nations, who had never met the Governor of Pennsylvania. They said in reply that they had heard much of the Governor, and would have come sooner to pay him their respects, but that the wild conduct of some of their young men had made them ashamed to show their faces. In the formal meeting in the morning, Ghesaont, chief of the Senecas, spoke for all the Five Nations. He said that they now felt that they were speaking to the same effect that they would were William Penn before them, that they had not forgotten Penn, nor the treaties made with him, and the good advice he gave them; that though they could not write as do the English, yet they could keep

all these transactions fresh in their memories. After laying down a belt of wampum upon the table as if by way of emphasis, he began again, declaring that "all their disorders arose from the use of rum and strong spirits, which took away their sense and memory, that they had no such liquors," and desired that no more be sent among them. Here he produced a bundle of dressed skins, by which he would say, "you see how much in earnest we are upon this matter of furnishing fiery liquors to us." Then he proceeds, declaring that the Five Nations remember all their ancient treaties, and they now desire that the chain of friendship may be made so strong that none of the links may ever be broken. This may have been a hint that they wanted high-piled and valuable presents; for the Quakers had made a reputation of brightening and strengthening the chain of friendship by valuable presents which had reached so far away as the Five Nations. He then produces a bundle of raw skins, and observes "that a chain may contract rust with laying and become weaker; wherefore, he desires it may now be so well cleaned as to remain brighter and stronger than ever it was before." Here he presents another parcel of skins, and continues, "that as in the firmament, all clouds and darkness are removed from the face of the sun, so they desire that all misunderstandings may be fully done away, so that when they, who are now here, shall be dead and gone, their whole people, with their children and posterity, may enjoy the clear sunshine with us forever." Presenting another bundle of skins, he says, "that, looking upon the Governor as if William Penn were present, they desire, that, in case any disorders should hereafter happen between their young people and ours, we would not be too hasty in resenting any such accident, until their Council and ours can have some opportunity to treat amicably upon it, and so to adjust all matters, as that the friendship between us may still be inviolably preserved." Here he produces a small parcel of dressed skins, and concludes by saying "that we may now be together as one people, treating one another's children kindly and affectionately, that they are fully empowered to speak for the Five Nations, and they look upon the Governor as the representative of the Great King of England, and therefore they expect that everything now stipulated will be made absolutely firm and good on both sides." And now he presents a different style of present and pulls out a bundle of bear skins, and proceeds to put in an item of complaint, that "they get too little for their skins and furs, so that they cannot live by hunting; they desire us, therefore, to take compassion on them, and contrive some way to help them in that particular. Then producing a few furs, he speaks only for himself, "to acquaint the Governor, that the Five Nations having heard that the Governor of Virginia wanted to speak with them, he himself, with some of his company intended to proceed to Virginia, but do not know the way how to get safe thither."

To this formal and adroitly conceived speech of the Seneca chief, Gov. Keith, after having brought in the present of stroud match coats, gunpowder, lead, biscuit, pipes and tobacco, adjourned the council till the following day, when, being assembled at Conestoga, he answered at length the items of the chieftain's speech. His most earnest appeal, however, was made in favor of peace. "I have persuaded all my [Indian] brethren, in these parts, to consider what is for their good, and not to go out any more to war; but your young men [Five Nations] as they come this way, endeavor to force them; and, because they incline to the counsels of peace, and the good advice of their true friends, your people use them ill, and often prevail with them to go out to their own destruction. Thus it was that their town of Conestoga lost their good king not long ago. Their young children are left without parents;



their wives without husbands; the old men, contrary to the course of nature, mourn the death of their young; the people decay and grow weak; we lose our dear friends and are afflicted. Surely you cannot propose to get either riches, or possessions, by going thus out to war; for when you kill a deer, you have the flesh to eat, and the skin to sell; but when you return from war, you bring nothing home, but the scalp of a dead man, who perhaps was husband to a kind wife, and father to tender children, who never wronged you, though, by losing him, you have robbed them of their help and protection, and at the same time got nothing by it. If I were not your friend, I would not take the trouble to say all these things to you." When the Governor had concluded his address, he called the Seneca chieftain (Ghesaont) to him, and presented a gold coronation medal of King George I, which he requested should be taken to the monarch of the Five Nations, "Kannygoosh," to be laid up and kept as a token to our children's children, that an entire and lasting friendship is now established forever between the English in this country and the great Five Nations." Upon the return of the Governor, he was met at the upper ferry of the Schuylkill, by the Mayor and Aldermen of the city, with about two hundred horse, and conducted through the streets after the manner of a conqueror of old returning from the scenes of his triumphs.

Gov. Keith gave diligent study to the subject of finance, regulating the currency in such a way that the planter should have it in his power to discharge promptly his indebtedness to the merchant, that their mutual interests might thus be subserved. He even proposed to establish a considerable settlement on his own account in the colony, in order to carry on manufactures, and thus consume the grain, of which there was at this time abundance, and no profitable market abroad.

In the spring of 1722, an Indian was barbarously murdered within the limits of the colony, which gave the Governor great concern. After having cautioned red men so strongly about keeping the peace, he felt that the honor of himself and all his people was compromised by this vile act. He immediately commissioned James Logan and John French to go to the scene of the murder above Conestoga, and inquire into the facts of the case, quickly apprehended the supposed murderers, sent a fast Indian runner (Satcheecho), to acquaint the Five Nations with his sorrow for the act, and of his determination to bring the guilty parties to justice, and himself set out with three of his Council (Hill, Norris and Hamilton), for Albany, where he had been invited by the Indians for a conference with the Governors of all the colonies, and where he met the chiefs of the Five Nations, and treated with them upon the subject of the murder, besides making presents to the Indians. It was on this occasion that the grand sachem of this great confederacy made that noble, and generous, and touching response, so different from the spirit of revenge generally attributed to the Indian character. It is a notable example of love that begets love, and of the mild answer that turneth away wrath. He said: "The great king of the Five Nations is sorry for the death of the Indian that was killed, for he was of his own flesh and blood. He believes that the Governor is also sorry; but, now that it is done, there is no help for it, and he desires that Cartledge [the murderer] may not be put to death, nor that he should be spared for a time, and afterward executed; one life is enough to be lost; there should not two die. The King's heart is good to the Governor and all the English."

Though Gov. Keith, during the early part of his term, pursued a pacific policy, yet the interminable quarrels which had been kept up between the Assembly and Council during previous administrations, at length broke out with





*Daniel Snyder*



more virulence than ever, and he who in the first flush of power had declared "That he should pass no laws, nor transact anything of moment relating to the public affairs without the advice and approbation of the Council," took it upon himself finally to act independently of the Council, and even went so far as to dismiss the able and trusted representative of the proprietary interests, James Logan, President of the Council and Secretary of the Province, from the duties of his high office, and even refused the request of Hannah Penn, the real Governor of the province, to re-instate him. This unwarrantable conduct cost him his dismissal from office in July, 1726. Why he should have assumed so headstrong and unwarrantable a course, who had promised at the first so mild and considerate a policy, it is difficult to understand, unless it be the fact that he found that the Council was blocking, by its obstinacy, wholesome legislation, which he considered of vital importance to the prosperity of the colony, and if, as he alleges, he found that the new constitution only gave the Council advisory and not a voice in executive power.

The administration of Gov. Keith was eminently successful, as he did not hesitate to grapple with important questions of judicature, finance, trade, commerce, and the many vexing relations with the native tribes, and right manfully, and judiciously did he effect their solution. It was at a time when the colony was filling up rapidly, and the laws and regulations which had been found ample for the management of a few hundred families struggling for a foothold in the forest, and when the only traffic was a few skins, were entirely inadequate for securing protection and prosperity to a seething and jostling population intent on trade and commerce, and the conflicting interests which required wise legislation and prudent management. No colony on the American coast made such progress in numbers and improvement as did Pennsylvania during the nine years in which William Keith exercised the Gubernatorial office. Though not himself a Quaker, he had secured the passage of an act of Assembly, and its royal affirmation for allowing the members of the Quaker sect to wear their hats in court, and give testimony under affirmation instead of oath, which in the beginning of the reign of Queen Anne had been withheld from them. After the expiration of his term of office, he was immediately elected a member of the Assembly, and was intent on being elected Speaker, "and had his support out-doors in a cavalcade of eighty mounted horsemen and the resounding of many guns fired;" yet David Lloyd was elected with only three dissenting voices. the out-door business having perhaps been overdone.

Upon the recommendation of Springett Penn, who was now the prospective heir to Pennsylvania, Patrick Gordon was appointed and confirmed Lieutenant Governor in place of Keith, and arrived in the colony and assumed authority in July, 1726. He had served in the army, and in his first address to the Assembly, which he met in August, he said that as he had been a soldier, he knew nothing of the crooked ways of professed politicians, and must rely on a straightforward manner of transacting the duties devolving upon him. George I died in June, 1727, and the Assembly at its meeting in October prepared and forwarded a congratulatory address to his successor, George II. By the decision of the Court of Chancery in 1727, Hannah Penn's authority over the colony was at an end, the proprietary interests having descended to John, Richard and Thomas Penn, the only surviving sons of William Penn, Sr. This period, from the death of Penn in 1718 to 1727, one of the most prosperous in the history of the colony, was familiarly known as the "Reign of Hannah and the Boys."

Gov. Gordon found the Indian troubles claiming a considerable part of his

attention. In 1728, worthless bands, who had strayed away from their proper tribes, incited by strong drink, had become implicated in disgraceful broils, in which several were killed and wounded. The guilty parties were apprehended, but it was found difficult to punish Indian offenders without incurring the wrath of their relatives. Treaties were frequently renewed, on which occasions the chiefs expected that the chain of friendship would be polished "with English blankets, broadcloths and metals." The Indians found that this "brightening the chain" was a profitable business, which some have been uncharitable enough to believe was the moving cause of many of the Indian difficulties.

As early as 1732, the French, who were claiming all the territory drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries, on the ground of priority of discovery of its mouth and exploration of its channel, commenced erecting trading posts in Pennsylvania, along the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers, and invited the Indians living on these streams to a council for concluding treaties with them at Montreal, Canada. To neutralize the influence of the French, these Indians were summoned to meet in council at Philadelphia, to renew treaties of friendship, and they were invited to remove farther east. But this they were unwilling to do. A treaty was also concluded with the Six Nations, in which they pledged lasting friendship for the English.

Hannah Penn died in 1733, when the Assembly, supposing that the proprietary power was still in her hands, refused to recognize the power of Gov. Gordon. But the three sons, to whom the proprietary possessions had descended, in 1727, upon the decision of the Chancery case, joined in issuing a new commission to Gordon. In approving this commission the King directed a clause to be inserted, expressly reserving to himself the government of the lower counties. This act of the King was the beginning of those series of encroachments which finally culminated in the independence of the States of America. The Judiciary act of 1727 was annulled, and this was followed by an attempt to pass an act requiring the laws of all the colonies to be submitted to the Crown for approval before they should become valid, and that a copy of all laws previously enacted should be submitted for approval or veto. The agent of the Assembly, Mr. Paris, with the agents of other colonies, made so vigorous a defense, that action was for the time stayed.

In 1732, Thomas Penn, the youngest son, and two years later, John Penn, the eldest, and the only American born, arrived in the Province, and were received with every mark of respect and satisfaction. Soon after the arrival of the latter, news was brought that Lord Baltimore had made application to have the Provinces transferred to his colony. A vigorous protest was made against this by Quakers in England, headed by Richard Penn; but lest this protest might prove ineffectual, John Penn very soon went to England to defend the proprietary rights at court, and never again returned, he having died a bachelor in 1746. In August, 1736, Gov. Gordon died, deeply lamented, as an honest, upright and straightforward executive, a character which he expressed the hope he would be able to maintain when he assumed authority. His term had been one of prosperity, and the colony had grown rapidly in numbers, trade, commerce and manufactures, ship-building especially having assumed extensive proportions.

James Logan was President of the Council and in effect Governor, during the two years which elapsed between the death of Gordon and the arrival of his successor. The Legislature met regularly, but no laws were passed for lack of an executive. It was during this period that serious trouble broke out near the Maryland border, west of the Susquehanna, then Lancaster, now



York County. A number of settlers, in order to evade the payment of taxes, had secured titles to their lands from Maryland, and afterward sought to be reinstated in their rights under Pennsylvania authority, and plead protection from the latter. The Sheriff of the adjoining Maryland County, with 300 followers, advanced to drive these settlers from their homes. On hearing of this movement, Samuel Smith, Sheriff of Lancaster County, with a hastily summoned posse, advanced to protect the citizens in their rights. Without a conflict, an agreement was entered into by both parties to retire. Soon afterward, however, a band of fifty Marylanders again entered the State with the design of driving out the settlers and each securing for himself 200 acres of land. They were led by one Cressap. The settlers made resistance, and in an encounter, one of them by the name of Knowles was killed. The Sheriff of Lancaster again advanced with a posse, and in a skirmish which ensued one of the invaders was killed, and the leader Cressap was wounded and taken prisoner. The Governor of Maryland sent a commission to Philadelphia to demand the release of the prisoner. Not succeeding in this, he seized four of the settlers and incarcerated them in the jail at Baltimore. Still determined to effect their purpose, a party of Marylanders, under the leadership of one Higginbotham, advanced into Pennsylvania and began a warfare upon the settlers. Again the Sheriff of Lancaster appeared upon the scene, and drove out the invaders. So stubbornly were these invasions pushed and resented that the season passed without planting or securing the usual crops. Finally a party of sixteen Marylanders, led by Richard Lowden, broke into the Lancaster jail and liberated the Maryland prisoners. Learning of these disturbances, the King in Council issued an order restraining both parties from further acts of violence, and afterward adopted a plan of settlement of the vexed boundary question.

Though not legally Governor, Logan managed the affairs of the colony with great prudence and judgment, as he had done and continued to do for a period of nearly a half century. He was a scholar well versed in the ancient languages and the sciences, and published several learned works in the Latin tongue. His *Experimenta Meltemata de plantarum generatione*, written in Latin, was published at Leyden in 1739, and afterward, in 1747, republished in London, with an English version on the opposite page by Dr. J. Fothergill. Another work of his in Latin was also published at Leyden, entitled, *Canonum pro inveniendis refractionum, tum simplicium tum in lentibus duplicum focus, demonstrationis geometricae*. After retiring from public business, he lived at his country seat at Stenton, near Germantown, where he spent his time among his books and in correspondence with the literati of Europe. In his old age he made an English translation of Cicero's *De Senectute*, which was printed at Philadelphia in 1744 with a preface by Benjamin Franklin, then rising into notice. Logan was a Quaker, of Scotch descent, though born in Ireland, and came to America in the ship with William Penn, in his second visit in 1699, when about twenty-five years old, and died at seventy-seven. He had held the offices of Chief Commissioner of property, Agent for the purchase and sale of lands, Receiver General, Member of Council, President of Council and Chief Justice. He was the Confidential Agent of Penn, having charge of all his vast estates, making sales of lands, executing conveyances, and making collections. Amidst all the great cares of business so pressing as to make him exclaim, "I know not what any of the comforts of life are," he found time to devote to the delights of learning, and collected a large library of standard works, which he bequeathed, at his death, to the people of Pennsylvania, and is known as the Loganian Library.

George Thomas, a planter from the West Indies, was appointed Governor in 1737, but did not arrive in the colony till the following year. His first care was to settle the disorders in the Cumberland Valley, and it was finally agreed that settlers from either colony should owe allegiance to the Governor of that colony wherever settled, until the division line which had been provided for was surveyed and marked. War was declared on the 23d of October, 1739, between Great Britain and Spain. Seeing that his colony was liable to be encroached upon by the enemies of his government, he endeavored to organize the militia, but the majority of the Assembly was of the peace element, and it could not be induced to vote money. Finally he was ordered by the home government to call for volunteers, and eight companies were quickly formed, and sent down for the coast defense. Many of these proved to be servants for whom pay was demanded and finally obtained. In 1740, the great evangelist, Whitefield, visited the colony, and created a deep religious interest among all denominations. In his first intercourse with the Assembly, Gov. Thomas endeavored to coerce it to his views. But a more stubborn set of men never met in a deliberative body than were gathered in this Assembly at this time. Finding that he could not compel action to his mind, he yielded and consulted their views and decisions. The Assembly, not to be outdone in magnanimity, voted him £1,500 arrearages of salary, which had been withheld because he would not approve their legislation, asserting that public acts should take precedence of appropriations for their own pay. In March, 1744, war was declared between Great Britain and France. Volunteers were called for, and 10,000 men were rapidly enlisted and armed at their own expense. Franklin, recognizing the defenseless condition of the colony, issued a pamphlet entitled *Plain Truth*, in which he cogently urged the necessity of organized preparation for defense. Franklin was elected Colonel of one of the regiments, but resigned in favor of Alderman Lawrence. On the 5th of May, 1747, the Governor communicated intelligence of the death of John Penn, the eldest of the proprietors, to the Assembly, and his own intention to retire from the duties of his office on account of declining health.

Anthony Palmer was President of the Council at the time of the withdrawal of Gordon, and became the Acting Governor. The peace party in the Assembly held that it was the duty of the crown of England to protect the colony, and that for the colony to call out volunteers and become responsible for their payment was burdening the people with an expense which did not belong to them, and which the crown was willing to assume. The French were now deeply intent on securing firm possession of the Mississippi Valley and the entire basin, even to the summits of the Alleghanies in Pennsylvania, and were busy establishing trading posts along the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers. They employed the most artful means to win the simple natives to their interests, giving showy presents and laboring to convince them of their great value. Pennsylvania had won a reputation among the Indians of making presents of substantial worth. Not knowing the difference between steel and iron, the French distributed immense numbers of worthless iron hatchets, which the natives supposed were the equal of the best English steel axes. The Indians, however, soon came to distinguish between the good and the valueless. Understanding the Pennsylvania methods of securing peace and friendship, the natives became very artful in drawing out "well piled up" presents. The government at this time was alive to the dangers which threatened from the insinuating methods of the French. A trusty messenger, Conrad Weiser, was sent among the Indians in the western part of the province to observe the plans of the French, ascertain the temper of the natives, and especially to

magnify the power of the English, and the disposition of Pennsylvania to give great presents. This latter policy had the desired effect, and worthless and wandering bands, which had no right to speak for the tribe, came teeming in, desirous of scouring the chain of friendship, intimating that the French were making great offers, in order to induce the government to large liberality, until this "brightening the chain," became an intolerable nuisance. At a single council held at Albany, in 1747, Pennsylvania distributed goods to the value of £1,000, and of such a character as should be most serviceable to the recipients, not worthless gew-gaws, but such as would contribute to their lasting comfort and well being, a protection to the person against the bitter frosts of winter, and sustenance that should minister to the steady wants of the body and alleviation of pain in time of sickness. The treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, which was concluded on the 1st of October, 1748, secured peace between Great Britain and France, and should have put an end to all hostile encounters between their representatives on the American continent. Palmer remained at the head of the government for a little more than two years. He was a retired merchant from the West Indies, a man of wealth, and had come into the colony in 1708. He lived in a style suited to a gentleman, kept a coach and a pleasure barge.

On the 23d of November, 1748, James Hamilton arrived in the colony from England, bearing the commission of Lieutenant Governor. He was born in America, son of Andrew Hamilton, who had for many years been Speaker of the Assembly. The Indians west of the Susquehanna had complained that settlers had come upon their best lands, and were acquiring titles to them, whereas the proprietors had never purchased these lands of them, and had no claim to them. The first care of Hamilton was to settle these disputes, and allay the rising excitement of the natives. Richard Peters, Secretary of the colony, a man of great prudence and ability, was sent in company with the Indian interpreter, Conrad Weiser, to remove the intruders. It was firmly and fearlessly done, the settlers giving up their tracts and the cabins which they had built, and accepting lands on the east side of the river. The hardship was in many cases great, but when they were in actual need, the Secretary gave money and placed them upon lands of his own, having secured a tract of 2,000,000 of acres.

But these troubles were of small consequence compared with those that were threatening from the West. Though the treaty of Aix was supposed to have settled all difficulties between the two courts, the French were determined to occupy the whole territory drained by the Mississippi, which they claimed by priority of discovery by La Salle. The British Ambassador at Paris entered complaints before the French Court that encroachments were being made by the French upon English soil in America, which were politely heard, and promises made of restraining the French in Canada from encroaching upon English territory. Formal orders were sent out from the home government to this effect; but at the same time secret intimations were conveyed to them that their conduct in endeavoring to secure and hold the territory in dispute was not displeasing to the government, and that disobedience of these orders would not incur its displeasure. The French deemed it necessary, in order to establish a legal claim to the country, to take formal possession of it. Accordingly, the Marquis de la Galissoniere, who was at this time Governor General of Canada, dispatched Capt. Bienville de Celeron with a party of 215 French and fifty-five Indians, to publicly proclaim possession, and bury at prominent points plates of lead bearing inscriptions declaring occupation in the name of the French King. Celeron started on the 15th of June, 1749, from La Chine,



following the southern shores of Lakes Ontario and Erie, until he reached a point opposite Lake Chautauqua, where the boats were drawn up and were taken bodily over the dividing ridge, a distance of ten miles, with all the *impedimenta* of the expedition, the pioneers having first opened a road. Following on down the lake and the Conewango Creek, they arrived at Warren near the confluence of the creek with the Allegheny River. Here the first plate was buried. These plates were eleven inches long, seven and a half wide, and one-eighth of an inch thick. The inscription was in French, and in the following terms, as fairly translated into English: "In the year 1749, of the reign of Louis XIV, King of France, We Céleron, commander of a detachment sent by Monsieur the Marquis de la Galissonnière, Governor General of New France, to re-establish tranquillity in some Indian villages of these cantons, have buried this plate of lead at the confluence of the Ohio with the Chautauqua, this 29th day of July, near the River Ohio, otherwise Belle Rivière, as a monument of the renewal of the possession we have taken of the said River Ohio, and of all those which empty into it, and of all the lands on both sides as far as the sources of the said river, as enjoyed or ought to have been enjoyed by the King of France preceding, and as they have there maintained themselves by arms and by treaties, especially those of Ryswick, Utrecht and Aix-la-Chapelle." The burying of this plate was attended with much form and ceremony. All the men and officers of the expedition were drawn up in battle array, when the Commander, Céleron, proclaimed in a loud voice, "Vive le Roi," and declared that possession of the country was now taken in the name of the King. A plate on which was inscribed the arms of France was affixed to the nearest tree.

The same formality was observed in planting each of the other plates, the second at the rock known as the "Indian God," on which are ancient and unknown inscriptions, a few miles below Franklin, a third at the mouth of Wheeling Creek; a fourth at the mouth of the Muskingum; a fifth at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, and the sixth and last at the mouth of the Great Miami. Toilsomely ascending the Miami to its head-waters, the party burned their canoes, and obtained ponies for the march across the portage to the head-waters of the Maumee, down which and by Lakes Erie and Ontario they returned to Fort Frontenac, arriving on the 6th of November. It appears that the Indians through whose territory they passed viewed this planting of plates with great suspicion. By some means they got possession of one of them, generally supposed to have been stolen from the party at the very commencement of their journey from the mouth of the Chautauqua Creek.

Mr. O. H. Marshall, in an excellent monograph upon this expedition, made up from the original manuscript journal of Céleron and the diary of Father Bonsecamps, found in the *Département de la Marine*, in Paris, gives the following account of this stolen plate:

"The first of the leaden plates was brought to the attention of the public by Gov. George Clinton to the Lords of Trade in London, dated New York, December 19, 1750, in which he states that he would send to their Lordships in two or three weeks a plate of lead full of writing, which some of the upper nations of Indians stole from Jean Coeur, the French interpreter at Niagara, on his way to the River Ohio, which river, and all the lands thereabouts, the French claim, as will appear by said writing. He further states 'that the lead plate gave the Indians so much uneasiness that they immediately dispatched some of the Cayuga chiefs to him with it, saying that their only reliance was on him, and earnestly begged he would communicate the contents to them which he had done, much to their satisfaction and the interests of the English.'



The Governor concludes by saying that 'the contents of the plate may be of great importance in clearing up the encroachments which the French have made on the British Empire in America.' The plate was delivered to Colonel, afterward Sir William Johnson, on the 4th of December, 1750, at his residence on the Mohawk, by a Cayuga sachem, who accompanied it by the following speech:

"Brother Corlear and War-ragh-i-ya-ghey! I am sent here by the Five Nations with a piece of writing which the Senecas, our brethren, got by some artifice from Jean Coeur, earnestly beseeching you will let us know what it means, and as we put all our confidence in you, we hope you will explain it ingeniously to us."

"Col. Johnson replied to the sachem, and through him to the Five Nations, returning a belt of wampum, and explaining the inscription on the plate. He told them that 'it was a matter of the greatest consequence, involving the possession of their lands and hunting grounds, and that Jean Coeur and the French ought immediately to be expelled from the Ohio and Niagara.' In reply, the sachem said that 'he had heard with great attention and surprise the substance of the "devilish writing" he had brought, and that Col. Johnson's remarks were fully approved.' He promised that belts from each of the Five Nations should be sent from the Seneca's castle to the Indians at the Ohio, to warn and strengthen them against the French encroachments in that direction." On the 29th of January, 1751, Clinton sent a copy of this inscription to Gov. Hamilton, of Pennsylvania.

The French followed up this formal act of possession by laying out a line of military posts, on substantially the same line as that pursued by the Céleron expedition; but instead of crossing over to Lake Chautauqua, they kept on down to Presque Isle (now Erie), where was a good harbor, where a fort was established, and thence up to Le Boeuf (now Waterford), where another post was placed; thence down the Venango River (French Creek) to its mouth at Franklin, establishing Fort Venango there; thence by the Allegheny to Pittsburgh, where Fort Du Quesne was seated, and so on down the Ohio.

To counteract this activity of the French, the Ohio Company was chartered, and a half million of acres was granted by the crown, to be selected mainly on the south side of the Ohio, between the Monongalia and Kanawha Rivers, and the condition made that settlements (100 families within seven years), protected by a fort, should be made. The company consisted of a number of Virginia and Maryland gentlemen, of whom Lawrence Washington was one, and Thomas Hanbury, of London.

In 1752, a treaty was entered into with the Indians, securing the right of occupancy, and twelve families, headed by Capt. Gist, established themselves upon the Monongalia, and subsequently commenced the erection of a fort, where the city of Pittsburgh now is. Apprised of this intrusion into the very heart of the territory which they were claiming, the French built a fort at Le Boeuf, and strengthened the post at Franklin.

These proceedings having been promptly reported to Lieut. Gov. Dinwiddie, of Virginia, where the greater number of the stockholders of the Ohio Company resided, he determined to send an official communication—protesting against the forcible interference with their chartered rights, granted by the crown of Britain, and pointing to the late treaties of peace entered into between the English and French, whereby it was agreed that each should respect the colonial possessions of the other—to the Commandant of the French, who had his headquarters at Fort Le Boeuf, fifteen miles inland from the present site of the city of Erie.

But who should be the messenger to execute this delicate and responsible duty? It was winter, and the distance to be traversed was some 500 miles, through an unbroken wilderness, cut by rugged mountain chains and deep and rapid streams. It was proposed to several, who declined, and was finally accepted by George Washington, a youth barely twenty-one years old. On the last day of November, 1753, he bade adieu to civilization, and pushing on through the forest to the settlements on the Monongalia, where he was joined by Capt. Gist, followed up the Allegheny to Fort Venango (now Franklin); thence up the Venango to its head-waters at Fort Le Boeuf, where he held formal conference with the French Commandant, St. Pierre. The French officer had been ordered to hold this territory on the score of the discovery of the Mississippi by La Salle, and he had no discretion but to execute his orders, and referred Washington to his superior, the Governor General of Canada. Making careful notes of the location and strength of the post and those encountered on the way, the young ambassador returned, being twice fired at on his journey by hostile Indians, and near losing his life by being thrown into the freezing waters of the Allegheny. Upon his arrival, he made a full report of the embassy, which was widely published in this country and in England, and was doubtless the basis upon which action was predicted that eventuated in a long and sanguinary war, which finally resulted in the expulsion of the power of France from this continent.

Satisfied that the French were determined to hold the territory upon the Ohio by force of arms, a body of 150 men, of which Washington was second in command, was sent to the support of the settlers. But the French, having the Allegheny River at flood-tide on which to move, and Washington, without means of transportation, having a rugged and mountainous country to overcome, the former first reached the point of destination. Contracoëur, the French commander, with 1,000 men and field pieces on a fleet of sixty boats and 300 canoes, dropped down the Allegheny and easily seized the fort then being constructed by the Ohio Company at its mouth, and proceeded to erect there an elaborate work which he called Fort Du Quesne, after the Governor General. Informed of this proceeding, Washington pushed forward, and finding that a detachment of the French was in his immediate neighborhood, he made a forced march by night, and coming upon them unawares killed and captured the entire party save one. Ten of the French, including their commander, Jumonville, were killed, and twenty-one made prisoners. Col. Fry, the commander of the Americans, died at Will's Creek, where the command devolved on Washington. Though re-enforcements had been dispatched from the several colonies in response to the urgent appeals of Washington, none reached him but one company of 100 men under Capt. Maskay from South Carolina. Knowing that he was confronting a vastly superior force of the French, well supplied with artillery, he threw up works at a point called the Great Meadows, which he characterizes as a "charming field for an encounter," naming his hastily built fortification Fort Necessity. Stung by the loss of their leader, the French came out in strong force and soon invested the place. Unfortunately one part of Washington's position was easily commanded by the artillery of the French, which they were not slow in taking advantage of. The action opened on the 3d of July, and was continued till late at night. A capitulation was proposed by the French commander, which Washington reluctantly accepted, seeing all hope of re-enforcements reaching him, cut off, and on the 4th of July marched out with honors of war and fell back to Fort Cumberland.

Gov. Hamilton had strongly recommended, before hostilities opened, that the Assembly should provide for defense and establish a line of block-houses along

the frontier. But the Assembly, while willing to vote money for buying peace from the Indians, and contributions to the British crown, from which protection was claimed, was unwilling to contribute directly for even defensive warfare. In a single year, £8,000 were voted for Indian gratuities. The proprietors were appealed to to aid in bearing this burden. But while they were willing to contribute liberally for defense, they would give nothing for Indian gratuities. They sent to the colony cannon to the value of £400.

In February, 1753, John Penn, grandson of the founder, son of Richard, arrived in the colony, and as a mark of respect was immediately chosen a member of the Council and made its President. In consequence of the defeat of Washington at Fort Necessity, Gov. Hamilton convened the Assembly in extra session on the 6th of August, at which money was freely voted; but owing to the instructions given by the proprietors to their Deputy Governor not to sign any money bill that did not place the whole of the interest at their disposal, this action of the Assembly was abortive.

The English and French nations made strenuous exertions to strengthen their forces in America for the campaigns sure to be undertaken in 1754. The French, by being under the supreme authority of one governing power, the Governor General of Canada, were able to concentrate and bring all their power of men and resources to bear at the threatened point with more celerity and certainty than the English, who were dependent upon colonies scattered along all the sea board, and upon Legislatures penny-wise in voting money. To remedy these inconveniences, the English Government recommended a congress of all the colonies, together with the Six Nations, for the purpose of concerting plans for efficient defense. This Congress met on the 19th of June, 1754, the first ever convened in America. The Representatives from Pennsylvania were John Penn and Richard Peters for the Council, and Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin for the Assembly. The influence of the powerful mind of Franklin was already beginning to be felt, he having been Clerk of the Pennsylvania Assembly since 1736, and since 1750 had been a member. Heartily sympathizing with the movers in the purposes of this Congress, he came to Albany with a scheme of union prepared, which, having been presented and debated, was, on the 10th of July, adopted substantially as it came from his hands. It provided for the appointment of a President General by the Crown, and an Assembly of forty-eight members to be chosen by the several Colonial Assemblies. The plan was rejected by both parties in interest, the King considering the power vested in the representatives of the people too great, and every colony rejecting it because the President General was given "an influence greater than appeared to them proper in a plan of government intended for freemen."

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## CHAPTER X.

ROBERT H. MORRIS, 1754-56—WILLIAM DENNY, 1756-59—JAMES HAMILTON, 1759-63.

FINDING himself in a false position by the repugnant instructions of the proprietors, Gov. Hamilton had given notice in 1753, that, at the end of twelve months from its reception, he would resign. Accordingly in October, 1754, he was succeeded by Robert Hunter Morris, son of Lewis Morris, Chief Justice of New York and New Jersey, and Governor of New Jersey. The son



was bred a lawyer, and was for twenty-six years Councilor, and twenty Chief Justice of New Jersey. The Assembly, at its first session, voted a money bill, for £40,000, but not having the proviso required by the proprietors, it was vetoed. Determined to push military operations, the British Government had called early in the year for 3,000 volunteers from Pennsylvania, with subsistence, camp equipage and transportation, and had sent two regiments of the line, under Gen. Braddock, from Cork, Ireland. Landing at Alexandria, Va., he marched to Frederick, Md., where, finding no supplies of transportation, he halted. The Assembly of Pennsylvania had voted to borrow £5,000, on its own account, for the use of the crown in prosecuting the campaign, and had sent Franklin, who was then Postmaster General for the colonies, to Braddock to aid in prosecuting the expedition. Finding that the army was stopped for lack of transportation, Franklin returned into Pennsylvania, and by his commanding influence soon secured the necessary wagons and beasts of burden.

Braddock had formed extravagant plans for his campaign. He would march forward and reduce Fort Du Quesne, thence proceed against Fort Niagara, which having conquered he would close a season of triumphs by the capture of Fort Frontignace. But this is not the first time in warfare that the result of a campaign has failed to realize the promises of the manifesto. The orders brought by Braddock giving precedence of officers of the line over provincials gave offense, and Washington among others threw up his commission; but enamored of the profession of arms, he accepted a position offered him by Braddock as Aide-de-camp. Accustomed to the discipline of military establishments in old, long-settled countries, Braddock had little conception of making war in a wilderness with only Indian trails to move upon, and against wily savages. Washington had advised to push forward with pack horses, and, by rapidity of movement, forestall ample preparation. But Braddock had but one way of soldiering, and where roads did not exist for wagons he stopped to fell the forest and construct bridges over streams. The French, who were kept advised of every movement, made ample preparations to receive him. In the meantime, Washington fell sick; but intent on being up for the battle, he hastened forward as soon as sufficiently recovered, and only joined the army on the day before the fatal engagement. He had never seen much of the pride and circumstance of war, and when, on the morning of the 9th of July, the army of Braddock marched on across the Monongahela, with gay colors flying and martial music awakening the echoes of the forest, he was accustomed in after years to speak of it as the "most magnificent spectacle" that he had ever beheld. But the gay pageant was destined to be of short duration; for the army had only marched a little distance before it fell into an ambuscade skillfully laid by the French and Indians, and the forest resounded with the unearthly whoop of the Indians, and the continuous roar of musketry. The advance was checked and thrown into confusion by the French from their well-chosen position, and every tree upon the flanks of the long drawn out line concealed a murderous foe, who with unerring aim picked off the officers. A resolute defense was made, and the battle raged with great fury for three hours; but the fire of the English was ineffectual because directed against an invisible foe. Finally, the mounted officers having all fallen, killed or wounded, except Washington, being left without leaders, panic seized the survivors and "they ran," says Washington, "before the French and English like sheep before dogs." Of 1,460, in Braddock's army, 456 were killed, and 421 wounded, a greater mortality, in proportion to the number engaged, than has ever occurred in the annals of modern warfare. Sir Peter Halkett was killed, and



Braddock mortally wounded and brought off the field only with the greatest difficulty. When Orme and Morris, the other aids, fell, Washington acted alone with the greatest gallantry. In writing to his brother, he said: "I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectation; for I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me; yet I escaped unhurt, though death was leveling my companions on every side." In after years, when Washington visited the Great Kanawha country, he was approached by an Indian chieftain who said that in this battle he had fired his rifle many times at Washington and had told his young men to do the same; but when he saw that his bullets had no apparent effect, he had bidden them to desist, believing that the Great Spirit was protecting him.

The panic among the survivors of the English carried them back upon the reserve, commanded by Gen. Dunbar, who seems himself to have been seized with it, and without attempting to renew the campaign and return to the encounter, he joined in the flight which was not stayed until Fort Cumberland was reached. The French were anticipating a renewal of the struggle; but when they found that the English had fled leaving the frontier all unprotected, they left no stone unturned in whetting the minds of the savages for the work of plunder and blood, and in organizing relentless bands to range at will along all the wide frontier. The Indians could not be induced to pursue the retreating English, but fell to plundering the field. Nearly everything was lost, even to the camp chest of Braddock. The wounded General was taken back to the summit of Laurel Hill, where, four days after, he breathed his last. He was buried in the middle of the road, and the army marched over his grave that it might not be discovered or molested by the natives. The easy victory, won chiefly by the savages, served to encourage them in their fell work, in which, when their passions were aroused, no known people on earth were less touched by pity. The unprotected settler in his wilderness home was the easy prey of the torch and the scalping knife, and the burning cabin lit up the somber forests by their continuous blaze, and the shrieks of women and children resounded from the Hudson to the far Potomac. Before the defeat of Braddock, there were 3,000 men capable of bearing arms west of the Susquehanna. In six months after, there were scarcely 100.

Gov. Morris made an earnest appeal to the Assembly for money to ward off the impending enemy and protect the settlers, in response to which the Assembly voted £50,000; but having no exemption of the proprietor's estates, it was rejected by the Governor, in accordance with his original instructions. Expeditions undertaken against Nova Scotia and at Crown Point were more fortunate than that before Du Quesne, and the Assembly voted £15,000 in bills of credit to aid in defraying the expense. The proprietors sent £5,000 as a gratuity, not as any part of expense that could of right be claimed of them.

In this hour of extremity, the Indians for the most part showed themselves a treacherous race, ever ready to take up on the stronger side. Even the Shawanese and Delawares, who had been loudest in their protestations of friendship for the English and readiness to fight for them, no sooner saw the French victorious than they gave ready ear to their advice to strike for the recovery of the lands which they had sold to the English.

In this pressing emergency, while the Governor and Assembly were waging a fruitless war of words over money bills, the pen of Franklin was busy in infusing a wholesome sentiment in the minds of the people. In a pamphlet that he issued, which he put in the familiar form of a dialogue, he answered the objections which had been urged to a legalized militia, and willing to show his devotion by deeds as well as words, he accepted the command upon the

frontier. By his exertions, a respectable force was raised, and though in the dead of winter, he commenced the erection of a line of forts and block-houses along the whole range of the Kittatinny Hills, from the Delaware to the Potomac, and had them completed and garrisoned with a body sufficient to withstand any force not provided with artillery. In the spring, he turned over the command to Col. Clapham, and returning to Philadelphia took his seat in the Assembly. The Governor now declared war against the Indians, who had established their headquarters thirty miles above Harris' Ferry, on the Susquehanna, and were busy in their work of robbery and devastation, having secured the greater portion of the crops of the previous season of the settlers whom they had killed or driven out. The peace party strongly objected to the course of the Governor, and voluntarily going among the Indians induced them to bury the hatchet. The Assembly which met in May, 1756, prepared a bill with the old clause for taxing the proprietors, as any other citizens, which the Governor was forbidden to approve by his instructions, "and the two parties were sharpening their wits for another wrangle over it," when Gov. Morris was superseded by William Denny, who arrived in the colony and assumed authority on the 20th of August, 1756. He was joyfully and cordially received, escorted through the streets by the regiments of Franklin and Duché, and royally feasted at the State House.

But the promise of efficient legislation was broken by an exhibition of the new Governor's instructions, which provided that every bill for the emission of money must place the proceeds at the joint disposal of the Governor and Assembly; paper currency could not be issued in excess of £40,000, nor could existing issues be confirmed unless proprietary rents were paid in sterling money; proprietary lands were permitted to be taxed which had been actually leased, provided that the taxes were paid out of the rents, but the tax could not become a lien upon the land. In the first Assembly, the contention became as acrimonious as ever.

Previous to the departure of Gov. Morris, as a retaliatory act he had issued a proclamation against the hostile Indians, providing for the payment of bounties: For every male Indian enemy above twelve years old, who shall be taken prisoner and delivered at any forts, garrisoned by troops in pay of this province, or to any of the county towns to the keepers of the common jails there, the sum of one hundred and fifty Spanish dollars or pieces of eight; for the scalp of every male Indian above the age of twelve years, produced as evidence of their being killed, the sum of one hundred and thirty pieces of eight; for every female Indian taken prisoner and brought in as aforesaid, and for every male Indian under the age of twelve years, taken and brought in, one hundred and thirty pieces of eight; for the scalp of every Indian woman produced as evidence of their being killed, the sum of fifty pieces of eight." Liberal bounties were also offered for the delivering up of settlers who had been carried away captive.

But the operation which had the most wholesome and pacifying effect upon the savages, and caused them to stop in their mad career and consider the chances of war and the punishment they were calling down upon their own heads, though executed under the rule of Gov. Denny, was planned and provided for, and was really a part of the aggressive and vigorous policy of Gov. Morris. In response to the act of Assembly, providing for the calling out and organizing the militia, twenty-five companies were recruited, and had been stationed along the line of posts that had been established for the defense of the frontiers. At Kittanning, on the Allegheny River, the Indians had one of the largest of their towns in the State, and was a recruiting station and

rallying point for sending out their murderous bands. The plan proposed and adopted by Gov. Morris, and approved and accepted by Gov. Denny, was to send out a strong detachment from the militia for the reduction of this stronghold. Accordingly, in August, 1756, Col. Armstrong, with a force of three hundred men, made a forced march, and, arriving unperceived in the neighborhood of the town, sent the main body by a wide detour from above, to come in upon the river a few hundred yards below. At 3 o'clock on the morning of the 7th of September, the troops had gained their position undiscovered, and at dawn the attack was made. Shielded from view by the tall corn which covered all the flats, the troops were able to reach in close proximity to the cabins unobserved. Jacobs, the chief, sounded the war-whoop, and made a stout resistance, keeping up a rapid fire from the loop holes in his cabin. Not desiring to push his advantage to the issue of no quarter, Armstrong called on the savages to surrender; but this they refused to do, declaring that they were men and would never be prisoners. Finding that they would not yield, and that they were determined to sell their lives at the dearest rate, he gave orders to fire the huts, and the whole town was soon wrapt in flames. As the heat began to reach the warriors, some sung, while wrung with the death agonies; others broke for the river and were shot down as they fled. Jacobs, in attempting to climb through a window, was killed. All calls for surrender were received with derision, one declaring that he did not care for death, and that he could kill four or five before he died. Gunpowder, small arms and valuable goods which had been distributed to them only the day before by the French, fell into the hands of the victors. The triumph was complete, few if any escaping to tell the sad tale. Col. Armstrong's celerity of movement and well conceived and executed plan of action were publicly acknowledged, and he was voted a medal and plate by the city of Philadelphia.

The finances of the colony, on account of the repeated failures of the money bills, were in a deplorable condition. Military operations could not be carried on and vigorous campaigns prosecuted without ready money. Accordingly, in the first meeting of the Assembly after the arrival of the new Governor, a bill was passed levying £100,000 on all property alike, real and personal, private and proprietary. This Gov. Denny vetoed. Seeing that money must be had, the Assembly finally passed a bill exempting the proprietary estates, but determined to lay their grievances before the Crown. To this end, two Commissioners were appointed, Isaac Norris and Benjamin Franklin, to proceed to England and beg the interference of the royal Government in their behalf. Failing health and business engagements of Norris prevented his acceptance, and Franklin proceeded alone. He had so often defended the Assembly in public and in drawing remonstrances that the whole subject was at his fingers' ends.

Military operations throughout the colonies, during the year 1757, conducted under the command of the Earl of Loudoun were sluggish, and resulted only in disaster and disgrace. The Indians were active in Pennsylvania, and kept the settlers throughout nearly all the colonies in a continual ferment, hostile bands stealing in upon the defenseless inhabitants as they went to their plantings and sowings, and greatly interfering with or preventing altogether the raising of the ordinary crops. In 1758, Loudoun was recalled, and Gen. Abercrombie was given chief command, with Wolfe, Amherst and Forbes as his subordinates. It was determined to direct operations simultaneously upon three points—Fort Du Quesne, Louisburg and the forts upon the great lakes. Gen. Forbes commanded the forces sent against Fort Du Quesne. With a detachment of royal troops, and militia from Pennsylvania



and Virginia, under command of Cols. Bouquet and Washington, his column moved in July, 1758. The French were well ordered for receiving the attack, and the battle in front of the fort raged with great fury; but they were finally driven, and the fort, with its munitions, fell into the hands of the victors, and was garrisoned by 400 Pennsylvanians. Returning, Forbes placed his remaining forces in barracks at Lancaster.

Franklin, upon his arrival in England, presented the grievances before the proprietors, and, that he might get his case before the royal advisers and the British public, wrote frequent articles for the press, and issued a pamphlet entitled "Historical Review of the Constitution and Government of Pennsylvania." The dispute was adroitly managed by Franklin before the Privy Council, and was finally decided substantially in the interest of the Assembly. It was provided that the proprietors' estates should be taxed, but that their located uncultivated lands should be assessed as low as the lowest uncultivated lands of the settlers, that bills issued by the Assembly should be receivable in payment of quit rents, and that the Deputy Governor should have a voice in disposing of the revenues. Thus was a vexed question of long standing finally put to rest. So successfully had Franklin managed this controversy that the colonies of Massachusetts, Maryland and Georgia appointed him their agent in England.

In October, 1759, James Hamilton was again appointed Governor, in place of Gov. Denny, who had by stress of circumstances transcended his instructions. The British Government, considering that the colonies had borne more than their proportionate expense in carrying on the war against the French and Indians, voted £200,000 for five years, to be divided among the colonies, the share falling to Pennsylvania being £26,000. On the 25th of October, 1760, George II died, and was succeeded by his grandson, George III. Early in 1762, war was declared between Great Britain and Spain, but was of short continuance, peace having been declared in November following, by which Spain and France relinquished to the English substantially the territory east of the Mississippi. The wise men of the various Indian nations inhabiting this wide territory viewed with concern this sudden expansion of English power, fearing that they would eventually be pushed from their hunting grounds and pleasant haunts by the rapidly multiplying pale faces. The Indians have ever been noted for proceeding against an enemy secretly and treacherously. Believing that by concerted action the English might be cut off and utterly exterminated, a secret league was entered into by the Shawanese and the tribes dwelling along the Ohio River, under the leadership of a powerful chieftain, Pontiac, by which swift destruction was everywhere to be meted out to the white man upon an hour of an appointed day. The plan was thoroughly understood by the red men, and heartily entered into. The day dawned and the blow fell in May, 1763. The forts at Presque Isle, Le Boeuf, Venango, La Ray, St. Joseph's, Miamis, Onaethanon, Sandusky and Michilimackinack, all fell before the unanticipated attacks of the savages who were making protestations of friendship, and the garrisons were put to the slaughter. Fort Pitt (Du Quesne), Niagara and Detroit alone, of all this line of forts, held out. Pontiac in person conducted the siege of Detroit, which he vigorously pushed from May until October, paying his warriors with promises written on bits of birch bark, which he subsequently religiously redeemed. It is an evidence of his great power that he could unite his people in so general and secretly kept a compact, and that in this siege of Detroit he was able to hold his warriors up to the work so long and so vigorously even after all hope of success must have reasonably been abandoned. The attack fell with great



severity upon the Pennsylvania settlers, and they continued to be driven in until Shippensburg, in Cumberland County, became the extreme outpost of civilization. The savages stole unawares upon the laborers in the fields, or came stealthily in at the midnight hour and spared neither trembling age nor helpless infancy, firing houses, barns, crops and everything combustible. The suffering of the frontiersmen in this fatal year can scarcely be conceived.

Col. Armstrong with a hastily collected force advanced upon their towns and forts at Muncy and Great Island, which he destroyed; but the Indians escaped and withdrew before him. He sent a detachment under Col. Bouquet to the relief of Fort Pitt, which still held out, though closely invested by the dusky warriors. At Fort Ligonier, Bouquet halted and sent forward thirty men, who stealthily pushed past the Indians under cover of night, and reached the fort, carrying intelligence that succor was at hand. Discovering that a force was advancing upon them, the Indians turned upon the troops of Bouquet, and before he was aware that an enemy was near, he found himself surrounded and all means of escape apparently cut off. By a skillfully laid ambuscade, Bouquet, sending a small detachment to steal away as if in retreat, induced the Indians to follow, and when stretched out in pursuit, the main body in concealment fell upon the unsuspecting savages, and routed them with immense slaughter, when he advanced to the relief of the fort unchecked.

As we have already seen, the boundary line between Maryland and Pennsylvania had long been in dispute, and had occasioned serious disturbances among the settlers in the lifetime of Penn, and repeatedly since. It was not definitely settled till 1760, when a beginning was made of a final adjustment, though so intricate were the conditions that the work was prosecuted for seven years by a large force of surveyors, axmen and pioneers. The charter of Lord Baltimore made the northern boundary of Maryland the 40th degree of latitude; but whether the beginning or end of the 40th was not specified. The charter of Penn, which was subsequent, made his southern boundary the *beginning* of the 40th parallel. If, as Lord Baltimore claimed, his northern boundary was the end of the 40th, then the city of Philadelphia and all the settled parts of Pennsylvania would have been included in Maryland. If, as Penn claimed by express terms of his charter, his southern line was the beginning of the 40th, then the city of Baltimore, and even a part of the District of Columbia, including nearly the whole of Maryland would have been swallowed up by Pennsylvania. It was evident to the royal Council that neither claim could be rightfully allowed, and hence resort was had to compromise. Penn insisted upon retaining free communication with the open ocean by the Delaware Bay. Accordingly, it was decided that beginning at Cape Henlopen, which by mistake in marking the maps was fifteen miles below the present location, opposite Cape May, a line should be run due west to a point half way between this cape and the shore of Chesapeake Bay; from this point "a line was to be run northerly in such direction that it should be tangent on the west side to a circle with a radius of twelve miles, whose center was the center of the court house at New Castle. From the exact tangent point, a line was to be run due north until it should reach a point fifteen miles south on the parallel of latitude of the most southern point in the boundary of the city of Philadelphia, and this point when accurately found by horizontal measurement, was to be the corner bound between Maryland and Pennsylvania, and subsequently, when Delaware was set off from Pennsylvania, was the boundary of the three States. From this bound a line was to be run due west five degrees of longitude from the Delaware, which was to be the western limit of Pennsylvania, and the line thus ascertained was to mark the division between Maryland and

Pennsylvania, and forever settle the vexed question. If the due north line should cut any part of the circle about New Castle, the slice so cut should belong to New Castle. Such a segment was cut. This plan of settlement was entered into on the 10th of May, 1732, between Thomas and Richard, sons of William Penn, on the one part, and Charles, Lord Baltimore, great-grandson of the patentee. But the actual marking of the boundaries was still deferred, and as the settlers were taking out patents for their lands, it was necessary that it should be definitely known in which State the lands lay. Accordingly, in 1739, in obedience to a decree in Council, a temporary line was run upon a new basis, which now often appears in litigations to plague the brain of the attorney.

Commissioners were again appointed in 1751, who made a few of the measurements, but owing to objections raised on the part of Maryland, the work was abandoned. Finally, the proprietors, Thomas and Richard Penn, and Frederic, Lord Baltimore, entered into an agreement for the executing of the survey, and John Lukens and Archibald McLean on the part of the Penns, and Thomas Garnett and Jonathan Hall on the part of Lord Baltimore, were appointed with a suitable corps of assistants to lay off the lines. After these surveyors had been three years at work, the proprietors in England, thinking that there was not enough energy and practical and scientific knowledge manifested by these surveyors, appointed Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, two mathematicians and surveyors, to proceed to America and take charge of the work. They brought with them the most perfect and best constructed instruments known to science, arriving in Philadelphia on the 15th of November, 1763, and, assisted by some of the old surveyors, entered upon their work. By the 4th of June, 1766, they had reached the summit of the Little Allegheny, when the Indians began to be troublesome. They looked with an evil eye on the mathematical and astronomical instruments, and felt a secret dread and fear of the consequences of the frequent and long continued peering into the heavens. The Six Nations were understood to be inimical to the further progress of the survey. But through the influence of Sir William Johnson a treaty was concluded, providing for the prosecution of the work unmolested, and a number of chieftains were sent to accompany the surveying party. Mason and Dixon now had with them thirty surveyors, fifteen axmen, and fifteen Indians of consequence. Again the attitude of the Indians gave cause of fear, and on the 29th of September, twenty-six of the surveyors abandoned the expedition and returned to Philadelphia. Having reached a point 244 miles from the Delaware, and within thirty-six miles of the western limit of the State, in the bottom of a deep, dark valley, they came upon a well-worn Indian path, and here the Indians gave notice that it was the will of the Six Nations that this survey proceed no further. There was no questioning this authority, and no means at command for resisting, and accordingly the party broke up and returned to Philadelphia. And this was the end of the labors of Mason and Dixon upon this boundary. From the fact that this was subsequently the mark of division between the Free and Slave States, Mason and Dixon's line became familiar in American politics. The line was marked by stones which were quarried and engraved in England, on one side having the arms of Penn, and on the opposite those of Lord Baltimore. These stones were firmly set every five miles. At the end of each intermediate mile a smaller stone was placed, having on one side engraved the letter P., and on the opposite side the letter M. The remainder of the line was finished and marked in 1782-84 by other surveyors. A vista was cut through the forest eight yards in width the whole distance, which seemed in looking back through it to come to a

point at the distance of two miles. In 1849, the stone at the northeast corner of Maryland having been removed, a resurvey of the line was ordered, and surveyors were appointed by the three States of Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, who called to their aid Col. James D. Graham. Some few errors were discovered in the old survey, but in the main it was found to be accurate.

John Penn, grandson of the founder, and son of Richard, had come to the colony in 1753, and, having acted as President of the Council, was, in 1763, commissioned Governor in place of Hamilton. The conspiracy of Pontiac, though abortive in the results contemplated, left the minds of the Indians in a most dangerous state. The more resolute, who had entered heartily into the views of their leader, still felt that his purposes were patriotic, and hence sought, by every means possible, to ravage and destroy the English settlements. The Moravian Indians at Nain and Wichetunk, though regarded as friendly, were suspected of indirectly aiding in the savage warfare by trading firearms and ammunition. They were accordingly removed to Philadelphia that they might be out of the way of temptation. At the old Indian town of Conestoga there lived some score of natives. Many heartless murders had been committed along the frontier, and the perpetrators had been traced to this Conestoga town; and while the Conestoga band were not known to be implicated in these outrages, their town was regarded as the lurking place of roving savages who were. For protection, the settlers in the neighboring districts of Paxton and Donegal, had organized a band known as the Paxton boys. Earnest requests were made by Rev. John Elder and John Harris to the Government to remove this band at Conestoga; but as nothing was done, and fearful depredations and slaughter continued, a party of these Paxton rangers attacked the town and put the savages to the sword. Some few escaped, among them a known bloodthirsty savage, who were taken into the jail at Lancaster for protection; but the rangers, following them, overpowered the jailer, and breaking into the jail murdered the fugitives. Intense excitement was occasioned by this outbreak, and Gov. Penn issued his proclamation offering rewards for the apprehension of the perpetrators. Some few were taken; but so excellent was their character and standing, and such were the provocations, that no convictions followed. Apprehensions for the safety of the Moravian Indians induced the Government to remove them to Province Island, and, feeling insecure there, they asked to be sent to England. For safety, they were sent to New York, but the Governor of that province refused them permission to land, as did also the Governor of New Jersey, and they were brought back to Philadelphia and put in barracks under strong guard. The Paxton boys, in a considerable body, were at that time at Germantown interceding for their brethren, who were then in durance and threatened with trial. Franklin was sent out to confer with them on the part of the Government. In defending their course, they said: "Whilst more than a thousand families, reduced to extreme distress, during the last and present war, by the attacks of skulking parties of Indians upon the frontier, were destitute, and were suffered by the public to depend on private charity, a hundred and twenty of the perpetrators of the most horrid barbarities were supported by the province, and protected from the fury of the brave relatives of the murdered." Influenced by the persuasions of Franklin, they consented to return to their homes, leaving only Matthew Smith and James Gibson to represent them before the courts.



## CHAPTER XI.

JOHN PENN, 1763-71—JAMES HAMILTON, 1771—RICHARD PENN, 1771-73—JOHN PENN, 1773-76.

A DIFFERENCE having arisen between the Governor and Assembly on the vexed question of levying money, the Assembly passed a series of resolutions advocating that the "powers of government ought to be separated from the power attending the immense proprietary property, and lodged in the hands of the King." After an interval of fifty days—that time for reflection and discussion might be given—the Assembly again convened, and adopted a petition praying the King to assume the direct government of the province, though this policy was strongly opposed by some of the ablest members, as Isaac Norris and John Dickinson. The Quaker element was generally in favor of the change.

Indian barbarities still continuing along the frontier, Gov. Penn declared war against the Shawanese and Delawares in July, 1765, and sent Col. Bouquet with a body of Pennsylvania troops against them. By the 3d of October, he had come up to the Muskingum, in the heart of the most thickly peopled Indian territory. So rapid had been the movement of Bouquet that the savages had no intelligence of his advance until he was upon them with no preparations for defense. They sued for peace, and a treaty was entered into by which the savages agreed to abstain from further hostilities until a general treaty could be concluded with Sir William Johnson, the general agent for Indian affairs for all the colonies, and to deliver up all English captives who had been carried away during the years of trouble. Two hundred and eight were quickly gathered up and brought in, and many others were to follow, who were now widely scattered. The relatives of many of these captives had proceeded with the train of Bouquet, intent on reclaiming those who had been dear to them. Some were joyfully received, while others who had been borne off in youth had become attached to their captors, and force was necessary to bring them away. "On the return of the army, some of the Indians obtained leave to accompany their former captives to Fort Pitt, and employed themselves in hunting and carrying provisions for them on the road."

The great struggle for the independence of the colonies of the British crown was now close at hand, and the first sounds of the controversy were beginning to be heard. Sir William Keith, that enterprising Governor whose head seemed to have been full of new projects, as early as 1739 had proposed to lay a uniform tax on stamped paper in all the colonies, to realize funds for the common defense. Acting upon this hint, Grenville, the British Minister, notified the colonists in 1763 of his purpose to impose such a tax. Against this they remonstrated. Instead of this, a tax on imports, to be paid in coin, was adopted. This was even more distasteful. The Assembly of Rhode Island, in October, 1765, submitted a paper to all the colonial assemblies, with a view to uniting in a common petition to the King against parliamentary taxation. This was favorably acted on by the Assembly of Pennsylvania, and Franklin was appointed agent to represent their cause before the British Parliament. The Stamp Act had been passed on the 22d of March, 1765. Its passage excited bitter opposition, and a resolution, asserting that the Colonial



Assemblies had the exclusive right to levy taxes, was passed by the Virginia Assembly, and concurred in by all the others. The Massachusetts Assembly proposed a meeting of delegates in New York on the second Tuesday of October, 1765, to confer upon the subject. The Pennsylvania Assembly adopted the suggestion, and appointed Messrs. Fox, Morton, Bryan and Dickenson as delegates. This Congress met according to the call and adopted a respectful petition to the King, and a memorial to Parliament, which were signed by all the members and forwarded for presentation by the Colonial Agents in England. The Stamp Act was to go into effect on the 1st of November. On the last day of October, the newspapers were dressed in mourning, and suspended publication. The publishers agreed not to use the stamped paper. The people, as with one mind, determined to dress in homespun, resolved not to use imported goods, and, to stimulate the production of wool the colonists covenanted not to eat lamb for the space of one year. The result of this policy was soon felt by British manufacturers who became clamorous for repeal of the obnoxious measures, and it was accordingly repealed on the 18th of March, 1766.

Determined in some form to draw a revenue from the colonies, an act was passed in 1767, to lay a duty on tea, paper, printers' colors, and glass. The Assembly of Pennsylvania passed a resolution on the 20th of February, 1768, instructing its agent in London to urge its repeal, and at the session in May received and entered upon its minutes a circular letter from the Massachusetts Assembly, setting forth the grounds on which objection to the act should be urged. This circular occasioned hostile feeling among the ministry, and the Secretary for foreign affairs wrote to Gov. Penn to urge the Assembly to take no notice of it; but if they approved its sentiments, to prorogue their sittings. This letter was transmitted to the Assembly, and soon after one from the Virginia Assembly was presented, urging union of all the colonies in opposing the several schemes of taxation. This recommendation was adopted, and committees appointed to draw a petition to the King and to each of the Houses of Parliament. To lead public sentiment, and have it well grounded in the arguments used against taxation, John Dickinson, one of the ablest of the Pennsylvania legislators at this time, published a number of articles purporting to come from a plain farmer, under the title of the *Farmer's Letters*, which became popular, the idea that they were the work of one in humble life, helping to swell the tide of popularity. They were republished in all the colonies, and exerted a commanding influence. Alarmed at the unanimity of feeling against the proposed schemes, and supposing that it was the amount of the tax that gave offense, Parliament reduced the rate in 1769 to one sixth of the original sum, and in 1770 abolished it altogether, except three pence a pound on tea. But it was the principle, and not the amount that was objected to, and at the next session of the Assembly in Pennsylvania, their agent in London was directed to urge its repeal altogether.

It would seem incredible that the colony of Connecticut should lay claim to any part of the territory of Pennsylvania, but so it was. The New England charters gave limitless extent westward even to the shores of the Pacific Ocean, and south to the northern limits of the tract ceded to Lord Baltimore—the territory between the 40th and 46th degrees of north latitude, and from ocean to ocean. To encroach upon New York with its teeming population was not calculated to tempt the enterprise of the settler; but the rich virgin soil, and agreeable climate of the wide Wyoming Valley, as yet unappropriated, was likely to attract the eye of the explorer. Accordingly, at the general conference with the Indians held at Albany

in 1754, the Connecticut delegates made a purchase of a large tract in this valley; a company, known as the Susquehanna Company, was formed in Connecticut to promote the settlement of these lands, and a considerable immigration commenced. The proprietors of Pennsylvania had also made purchase of the Indians of these identical lands, and the royal charters of Charles and James covered this ground. But the Plymouth Charter antedated Penn's. Remonstrances were made to the Governor of Connecticut against encroachments upon the territory of Pennsylvania. The answer returned was understood to disclaim any control over the company by the Connecticut authorities; but it subsequently appeared that the Government was determined to defend the settlers in the possession of their lands. In 1768, the proprietors of Pennsylvania entered into treaty stipulations with the Indians for all this tract covered by the claim of the Susquehanna Company. Pennsylvania settlers, attracted by the beauty of the place, gradually acquired lands under Pennsylvania patents, and the two parties began to infringe on each other's claims. Forts and block-houses were erected for the protection of either party, and a petty warfare was kept up, which resulted in some loss of life. Butler, the leader of the Connecticut party, proposed to settle their differences by personal combat of thirty picked men on each side. In order to assert more direct legal control over the settlers, a new county was formed which was called Northumberland, that embraced all the disputed lands. But the Sheriff, even with the aid of the militia, which he called to his assistance, was unable to execute his processes, and exercise legal control, the New Englanders, proving a resolute set, determined to hold the splendid farms which they had marked out for themselves, and were bringing rapidly under cultivation. To the remonstrances of Gov. Penn, Gov. Trumbull responded that the Susquehanna Company was proceeding in good faith under provisions secured by the charter of the Plymouth Colony, and proposed that the question be submitted to a competent tribunal for arbitrament. An *ex parte* statement was submitted to Council in London by the Connecticut party, and an opinion was rendered favorable to its claims. In September, 1775, the matter was submitted to the Continental Congress, and a committee of that body, to whom it was referred, reported in favor of the Connecticut claim, apportioning a tract out of the very bowels of Pennsylvania nearly as large as the whole State of Connecticut. This action was promptly rejected by the Assembly of Pennsylvania, and a final decision was not reached until 1802, when Congress decided in favor of the integrity of the chartered rights of Penn.

Richard Penn, son of the founder, died in 1771, whereupon Gov. John Penn returned to England, leaving the President of the Council, James Hamilton, at the head of the Government. John Penn, eldest son of Richard, succeeded to the proprietary interests of his father, which he held in conjunction with his uncle, Thomas, and in October of the same year, Richard, the second son, was commissioned Governor. He held the office but about two years, and in that time won the confidence and esteem of the people, and so much attached was he to the popular cause, that upon his return to England, in 1775, he was intrusted by Congress with the last petition of the colonies ever presented to the King. In August, 1773, John Penn returned with the commission of Governor, superseding his brother Richard. Soon after his arrival, the Governor of Virginia, Lord Dunmore, issued his proclamation, laying claim to a vast territory in the Monongalia Valley, including the site of the present city of Pittsburgh, and upon the withdrawal of the British garrison, one Connolly had taken possession of it in the name of Virginia. Gov. Penn issued a counter-proclamation, calling on all good citizens within the borders of Penn-

sylvania, to preserve their allegiance to his Government, seized and imprisoned Connolly, and sent Commissioners to Virginia to effect an amicable settlement. These, Dunmore refused to hear, and was preparing to assert his authority by force; but his Council refused to vote him money for this purpose.

To encourage the sale of tea in the colonies, and establish the principle of taxation, the export duty was removed. The colonies took the alarm. At a public meeting called in Philadelphia to consider the subject, on the 18th of October, 1773, resolutions were adopted in which it was declared: "That the disposal of their own property is the inherent right of freemen; that there can be no property in that which another can, of right, take from us without our consent; that the claim of Parliament to tax America, is, in other words, a claim of right to levy contributions on us at pleasure." The East India Company now made preparations for sending large importations of tea into the colonies. The ships destined for Philadelphia and New York, on approaching port, and being advised of the exasperated state of public feeling, returned to England with their cargoes. Those sent to Boston came into the harbor; but at night a party disguised as Mohawk Indians boarded the vessels, and breaking open the packages, emptied 300 chests into the sea. The ministry, on being apprised of this act, closed the port of Boston, and subverted the colonial charter. Early in the year, committees of correspondence had been established in all the colonies, by means of which the temper and feeling in each was well understood by the others, and concert of action was secured. The hard conditions imposed on the town of Boston and the colony of Massachusetts Bay, aroused the sympathy of all; for, they argued, we know not how soon the heavy hand of oppression may be felt by any of us. Philadelphia declared at a public meeting that the people of Pennsylvania would continue firmly to adhere to the cause of American liberty, and urged the calling of a Congress of delegates to consider the general interests.

At a meeting held in Philadelphia on the 18th of June, 1774, at which nearly 8,000 people were convened, it was decided that a Continental Congress ought to be held, and appointed a committee of correspondence to communicate with similar committees in the several counties of Pennsylvania and in the several colonies. On the 15th of July, 1774, delegates from all the counties, summoned by this committee, assembled in Philadelphia, and declared that there existed an absolute necessity for a Colonial Congress. They accordingly recommended that the Assembly appoint delegates to such a Congress to represent Pennsylvania, and Joseph Galloway, Samuel Rhoads, George Ross, Edward Biddle, John Dickinson, Charles Humphries and Thomas Mifflin were appointed.

On the 4th of September, 1774, the first Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia. Peyton Randolph, of Virginia, was called to preside, and Charles Thomson, of Pennsylvania, was appointed Secretary. It was resolved that no more goods be imported from England, and that unless a pacification was effected previously, no more Colonial produce of the soil be exported thither after September 10, 1775. A declaration of rights was adopted, and addresses to the King, the people of Great Britain, and of British America were agreed to, after which the Congress adjourned to meet again on the 10th of May, 1775.

In January, 1775, another meeting of the county delegates was held in Philadelphia, at which the action of the Colonial Congress was approved, and while a restoration of harmony with the mother country was desired, yet if the arbitrary acts of Parliament were persisted in, they would at every hazard defend the "rights and liberties of America." The delegates appointed to



represent the colony in the Second Congress were Mifflin, Humphries, Biddle, Dickinson, Morton, Franklin, Wilson and Willing.

The government of Great Britain had determined with a strong hand to compel obedience to its behests. On the 19th of April, 1775, was fought the battle of Lexington, and the crimson fountain was opened. That blow was felt alike through all the colonies. The cause of one was the cause of all. A public meeting was held in Philadelphia, at which it was resolved to organize military companies in all the counties. The Assembly heartily seconded these views, and engaged to provide for the pay of the militia while in service. The Second Congress, which met in May, provided for organizing a continental army, fixing the quota for Pennsylvania at 4,300 men. The Assembly adopted the recommendation of Congress, provided for arming, disciplining and paying the militia, recommended the organizing minutemen for service in an emergency, made appropriations for the defense of the city, and offered a premium on the production of salt peter. Complications hourly thickened. Ticonderoga was captured on the 10th of May, and the battle of Bunker Hill was fought on the 17th of June. On the 15th of June, George Washington was appointed Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, supported by four Major Generals and eight Brigadiers.

The royal Governors were now an incumbrance greatly in the way of the popular movement, as were also the Assemblies where they refused to represent the popular will. Accordingly, Congress recommended that the several colonies should adopt such government as should "best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular and America in general." This meant that each colony should set up a government for itself independent of the Crown. Accordingly, a public meeting was held in Philadelphia, at which it was resolved that the present Assembly is "not competent to the present exigencies of affairs," and that a new form of government ought to be adopted as recommended by Congress. The city committee of correspondence called on the county committees to secure the election of delegates to a colonial meeting for the purpose of considering this subject. On the 18th of June, the meeting was held in Philadelphia, and was organized by electing Thomas McKean President. It resolved to call a convention to frame a new constitution, provided the legal forms to be observed, and issued an address to the people.

Having thus by frequent argumentation grown familiar with the declaration of the inherent rights of every citizen, and with flatly declaring to the government of Great Britain that it had no right to pursue this policy or that, and the several States having been recommended to absolve themselves from allegiance to the royal governments, and set up independent colonial governments of their own, it was a natural inference, and but a step further, to declare the colonies entirely independent of the British Government, and to organize for themselves a general continental government to hold the place of King and Parliament. The idea of independence had been seriously proposed, and several Colonial Assemblies had passed resolutions strongly recommending it. And yet there were those of age and experience who had supported independent principles in the stages of argumentation, before action was demanded, when they approached the brink of the fatal chasm, and had to decide whether to take the leap, hesitated. There were those in the Assembly of Pennsylvania who were reluctant to advise independence; but the majority voted to recommend its delegates to unite with the other colonies for the common good. The convention which had provided for holding a meeting of delegates to frame a new constitution, voted in favor of independence, and authorized the raising of 6,000 militia.



On the 7th of June, 1776, Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, introduced in Congress the proposition that, "the United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved." It was impossible to mistake or misinterpret the meaning of this language. The issue was fairly made up. It was warmly discussed. John Dickinson, one of the Pennsylvania delegates, and one who had been foremost in speaking and writing on the popular side, was not ready to cut off all hope of reconciliation, and depicted the disorganized condition in which the colonies would be left if the power and protection of Britain were thus suddenly removed. The vote upon the resolution was taken on the 2d of July, and resulted in the affirmative vote of all the States except Pennsylvania and Delaware, the delegates from these States being divided. A committee consisting of Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, Livingston and Sherman had been, some time previous, appointed to draw a formal statement of the Declaration, and the reasons "out of a decent respect to the opinions of mankind," which led to so important an act. The work was intrusted to a sub-committee consisting of Adams and Jefferson, and its composition was the work of Mr. Jefferson, though many of the ideas, and even the forms of expression, had been used again and again in the previous resolutions and pronouncements of the Colonial Assemblies and public meetings. It had been reported on the 28th of June, and was sharply considered in all its parts, many verbal alterations having been made in the committee of five; but after the passage of the preliminary resolution, the result was a foregone conclusion, and on the 4th of July it was finally adopted and proclaimed to the world. Of the Pennsylvania delegation, Franklin, Wilson and Morton voted for it, and Willing and Humphrey against, Dickinson being absent. The colonial convention of Pennsylvania, being in session at the time, on receiving intelligence that a majority of its delegates in Congress had voted against the preliminary resolution, named a new delegation, omitting the names of Dickinson, Willing and Humphrey, and adding others which made it thus constituted—Franklin, Wilson, Morton, Morris, Clymer, Smith, Taylor and Ross. An engrossed copy of the Declaration was made, which was signed by all the members on the 2d of August following, on which are found the names from Pennsylvania above recited.

The convention for framing a new constitution for the colony met on the 15th of July, and was organized by electing Franklin President, and on the 28th of September completed its labors, having framed a new organic law and made all necessary provisions for putting it into operation. In the meantime the old proprietary Assembly adjourned on the 14th of June to the 26th of August. But a quorum failed to appear, and an adjournment was had to the 23d of September, when some routine business was attended to, chiefly providing for the payment of salaries and necessary bills, and on the 28th of September, after a stormy existence of nearly a century, this Assembly, the creature of Penn, adjourned never to meet again. With the ending of the Assembly ended the power of Gov. Penn. It is a singular circumstance, much noted by the believers in signs, that on the day of his arrival in America, which was Sunday, the earth in that locality was rocked by an earthquake, which was interpreted as an evil omen to his administration. He married the daughter of William Allen, Chief Justice of the colony, and, though at times falling under suspicion of favoring the royal cause, yet, as was believed, not without reason, he remained a quiet spectator of the great struggle, living at his country seat in Bucks County, where he died in February, 1795.

The titles of the proprietors to landed estates were suspended by the action

of the convention, and on the 27th of November, 1779, the Legislature passed an act vesting these estates in the commonwealth, but paying the proprietors a gratuity of £130,000, "in remembrance of the enterprising spirit of the Founder." This act did not touch the private estates of the proprietors, nor the tenths of manors. The British Government, in 1790, in consideration of the fact that it had been unable to vindicate its authority over the colony, and afford protection to the proprietors in the enjoyment of their chartered rights, voted an annuity of £4,000 to the heirs and descendants of Penn. This annuity has been regularly paid to the present time, 1884.

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## CHAPTER XII.

THOMAS WHARTON, JR., 1777-78—GEORGE BRYAN, 1778—JOSEPH REED, 1778-81—  
WILLIAM MOORE, 1781-82—JOHN DICKINSON, 1782-85—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,  
1785-88.

THE convention which framed the constitution appointed a Committee of Safety, consisting of twenty-five members, to whom was intrusted the government of the colony until the proposed constitution should be framed and put in operation. Thomas Rittenhouse was chosen President of this body, who was consequently in effect Governor. The new constitution, which was unanimously adopted on the 28th of September, was to take effect from its passage. It provided for an Assembly to be elected annually; a Supreme Executive Council of twelve members to be elected for a term of three years; Assemblymen to be eligible but four years out of seven, and Councilmen but one term in seven years. Members of Congress were chosen by the Assembly. The constitution could not be changed for seven years. It provided for the election of censors every seven years, who were to decide whether there was a demand for its revision. If so, they were to call a convention for the purpose. On the 6th of August, 1776, Thomas Wharton, Jr., was chosen President of the Council of Safety.

The struggle with the parent country was now fully inaugurated. The British Parliament had declared the colonists rebels, had voted a force of 55,000 men, and in addition had hired 17,000 Hessian soldiers, to subdue them. The Congress on its part had declared the objects for which arms had been taken up, and had issued bills of credit to the amount of \$6,000,000. Parliament had resolved upon a vigorous campaign, to strike heavy and rapid blows, and quickly end the war. The first campaign had been conducted in Massachusetts, and by the efficient conduct of Washington. Gen. Howe, the leader of the British, was compelled to capitulate and withdraw to Halifax in March, 1776. On the 28th of June, Sir Henry Clinton, with a strong detachment, in conjunction with Sir Peter Parker of the navy, made a combined land and naval attack upon the defenses of Charleston Harbor, where he was met by Gen. William Moultrie, with the Carolina Militia, and after a severe battle, in which the British fleet was roughly handled, Clinton withdrew and returned to New York, whither the main body of the British Army, under Gen. Howe, had come, and where Admiral Lord Howe, with a large fleet directly from England, joined them. To this formidable power led by the best talent in the British Army, Washington could muster no adequate force to oppose, and he was obliged to withdraw from Long Island, from New York, from

Harlem, from White Plains, to cross into New Jersey, and abandon position after position, until he had reached the right bank of the Delaware on Pennsylvania soil. A heavy detachment under Cornwallis followed, and would have crossed the Delaware in pursuit, but advised to a cautious policy by Howe, he waited for ice to form on the waters of the Delaware before passing over. The fall of Philadelphia now seemed imminent. Washington had not sufficient force to face the whole power of the British Army. On the 2d of December, the Supreme Council ordered all places of business in the city to be closed, the schools to be dismissed, and advised preparation for removing the women and children and valuables. On the 12th, the Congress which was in session here adjourned to meet in Baltimore, taking with them all papers and public records, and leaving a committee, of which Robert Morris was Chairman, to act in conjunction with Washington for the safety of the place. Gen. Putnam was dispatched on the same day with a detachment of soldiers to take command in the city.

In this emergency the Council issued a stirring address: "If you wish to live in freedom, and are determined to maintain that best boon of heaven, you have no time to deliberate. A manly resistance will secure every blessing, inactivity and sloth will bring horror and destruction. \* \* \* May heaven, which has bestowed the blessings of liberty upon you, awaken you to a proper sense of your danger and arouse that manly spirit of virtuous resolution which has ever bidden defiance to the efforts of tyranny. May you ever have the glorious prize of liberty in view, and bear with a becoming fortitude the fatigues and severities of a winter campaign. That, and that only, will entitle you to the superlative distinction of being deemed, under God, the deliverers of your country." Such were the arguments which our fathers made use of in conducting the struggle against the British Empire.

Washington, who had, from the opening of the campaign before New York, been obliged for the most part to act upon the defensive, formed the plan to suddenly turn upon his pursuers and offer battle. Accordingly, on the night of the 25th of December, taking a picked body of men, he moved up several miles to Taylorsville, where he crossed the river, though at flood tide and filled with floating ice, and moving down to Trenton, where a detachment of the British Army was posted, made a bold and vigorous attack. Taken by surprise, though now after sunrise, the battle was soon decided in favor of the Americans. Some fifty of the enemy were slain and over a thousand taken prisoners, with quantities of arms, ammunition and stores captured. A triumphal entry was made at Philadelphia, when the prisoners and the spoils of war moved through the streets under guard of the victorious troops, and were marched away to the prison camp at Lancaster. Washington, who was smarting under a forced inactivity, by reason of paucity of numbers and lack of arms and material, and who had been forced constantly to retire before a defiant foe, now took courage. His name was upon every tongue, and foreign Governments were disposed to give the States a fair chance in their struggle for nationality. The lukewarm were encouraged to enlist under the banner of freedom. It had great strategic value. The British had intended to push forward and occupy Philadelphia at once, which, being now virtually the capital of the new nation, had it been captured at this juncture, would have given them the occasion for claiming a triumphal ending of the war. But this advantage, though gained by a detachment small in numbers yet great in courage, caused the commander of a powerful and well appointed army to give up all intention of attempting to capture the Pennsylvania metropolis in this campaign, and retiring into winter cantonments upon the Raritan to await



the settled weather of the spring for an entirely new cast of operations. Washington, emboldened by his success, led all his forces into New Jersey, and pushing past Trenton, where Cornwallis, the royal leader, had brought his main body by a forced march, under cover of darkness, attacked the British reserves at Princeton. But now the enemy had become wary and vigilant, and, summoned by the booming of cannon, Cornwallis hastened back to the relief of his hard pressed columns. Washington, finding that the enemy's whole army was within easy call and knowing that he had no hope of success with his weak army, withdrew. Washington now went into winter quarters at Morristown, and by constant vigilance was able to gather marauding parties of the British who ventured far away from their works.

Putnam commenced fortifications at a point below Philadelphia upon the Delaware, and at commanding positions upon the outskirts, and on being summoned to the army was succeeded by Gen. Irvine, and he by Gen. Gates. On the 4th of March, 1777, the two Houses of the Legislature, elected under the new constitution, assembled, and in joint convention chose Thomas Wharton, Jr., President, and George Bryan Vice President. Penn had expressed the idea that power was preserved the better by due formality and ceremony, and, accordingly, this event was celebrated with much pomp, the result being declared in a loud voice from the court house, amid the shouts of the gathered throngs and the booming of the captured cannon brought from the field of Trenton. The title bestowed upon the new chief officer of the State was fitted by its length and high-sounding epithets to inspire the multitude with awe and reverence: "His Excellency, Thomas Wharton, Junior, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, Captain General, and Commander-in-chief in and over the same."

While the enemy was disposed to be cautious after the New Jersey campaign so humiliating to the native pride of the Britain, yet he was determined to bring all available forces into the field for the campaign of 1777, and to strike a decisive blow. Early in April, great activity was observed among the shipping in New York Harbor, and Washington communicated to Congress his opinion that Philadelphia was the object against which the blow would be aimed. This announcement of probable peril induced the Council to issue a proclamation urging enlistments, and Congress ordered the opening of a camp for drilling recruits in Pennsylvania, and Benedict Arnold, who was at this time a trusted General, was ordered to the command of it. So many new vessels and transports of all classes had been discovered to have come into New York Harbor, probably forwarded from England, that Washington sent Gen. Mifflin, on the 10th of June, to Congress, bearing a letter in which he expressed the settled conviction that the enemy meditated an immediate descent upon some part of Pennsylvania. Gen. Mifflin proceeded to examine the defensive works of the city which had been begun on the previous advance of the British, and recommended such changes and new works as seemed best adapted for its protection. The preparations for defense were vigorously prosecuted. The militia were called out and placed in two camps, one at Chester and the other at Downingtown. Fire ships were held in readiness to be used against vessels attempting the ascent of the river.

Lord Howe, being determined not to move until ample preparations were completed, allowed the greater part of the summer to wear away before he advanced. Finally, having embarked a force of 19,500 men on a fleet of 300 transports, he sailed southward. Washington promptly made a corresponding march overland, passing through Philadelphia on the 24th of August. Howe, suspecting that preparations would be made for impeding the passage of the



Delaware, sailed past its mouth, and moving up the Chesapeake instead, debarked fifty-four miles from Philadelphia and commenced the march northward. Great activity was now manifested in the city. The water-spouts were melted to furnish bullets, fair hands were busied in rolling cartridges, powerful chevaux-de-frise were planted to impede the navigation of the river, and the last division of the militia of the city, which had been divided into three classes, was called out. Washington, who had crossed the Brandywine, soon confronted the advance of Howe, and brisk skirmishing at once opened. Seeing that he was likely to have the right of his position at Red Clay Creek, where he had intended to give battle, turned by the largely superior force of the enemy, under cover of darkness on the night of the 8th of September, he withdrew across the Brandywine at Chad's Ford, and posting Armstrong with the militia upon the left, at Pyle's Ford, where the banks were rugged and precipitous, and Sullivan, who was second in command, upon the right at Brinton's Ford under cover of forest, he himself took post with three divisions, Sterling's, Stephens', and his own, in front of the main avenue of approach at Chad's. Howe, discovering that Washington was well posted, determined to flank him. Accordingly, on the 11th, sending Knyphausen with a division of Hessians to make vigorous demonstrations upon Washington's front at Chad's, he, with the corps of Cornwallis, in light marching order, moved up the Brandywine, far past the right flank of Washington, crossed the Brandywine at the fords of Trumbull and Jeffrey unopposed, and, moving down came upon Washington's right, held by Sullivan, all unsuspecting and unprepared to receive him. Though Howe was favored by a dense fog which on that morning hung on all the valley, yet it had hardly been commenced before Washington discovered the move and divined its purpose. His resolution was instantly taken. He ordered Sullivan to cross the stream at Brinton's, and resolutely turn the left flank of Knyphausen, when he himself with the main body would move over and crush the British Army in detail. It was a brilliant conception, was feasible, and promised the most complete success. But what chagrin and mortification, to receive, at the moment when he expected to hear the music of Sullivan's guns doubling up the left of the enemy, and giving notice to him to commence the passage, a message from that officer advising him that he had disobeyed his orders to cross, having received intelligence that the enemy were not moving northward, and that he was still in position at the ford. Thus balked, Washington had no alternative but to remain in position, and it was not long before the guns of Howe were heard moving in upon his all unguarded right flank. The best dispositions were made which time would permit. His main body with the force of Sullivan took position along the brow of the hill on which stands the Birmingham meeting house, and the battle opened and was pushed with vigor the whole day. Overborne by numbers, and weakened by losses, Washington was obliged to retire, leaving the enemy in possession of the field. The young French nobleman, Lafayette, was wounded while gallantly serving in this fight. The wounded were carried into the Birmingham meeting house, where the blood stains are visible to this day, enterprising relic hunters for many generations having been busy in loosening small slivers with the points of their knives.

The British now moved cautiously toward Philadelphia. On the 16th of September, at a point some twenty miles west of Philadelphia, Washington again made a stand, and a battle opened with brisk skirmishing, but a heavy rain storm coming on the powder of the patriot soldiers was completely rained on account of their defective cartridge boxes. On the night of the 20th, Gen. Anthony Wayne, who had been hanging on the rear of the enemy with his

detachment, was surprised by Gen. Gray with a heavy column, who fell suddenly upon the Americans in bivouac and put them to the sword, giving no quarter. This disgraceful slaughter which brought a stigma and an indelible stain upon the British arms is known as the Paoli Massacre. Fifty-three of the victims of the black flag were buried in one grave. A neat monument of white marble was erected forty years afterward over their moldering remains by the Republican Artillerists of Chester County, which vandal hands have not spared in their mania for relics.

Congress remained in Philadelphia while these military operations were going on at its very doors; but on the 18th of September adjourned to meet at Lancaster, though subsequently, on the 30th, removed across the Susquehanna to York, where it remained in session till after the evacuation in the following summer. The Council remained until two days before the fall of the city, when having dispatched the records of the loan office and the more valuable papers to Easton, it adjourned to Lancaster. On the 26th, the British Army entered the city. Deborah Logan in her memoir says: "The army marched in and took possession in the city in the morning. We were up-stairs and saw them pass the State House. They looked well, clean and well clad, and the contrast between them and our own poor, bare-footed, ragged troops was very great and caused a feeling of despair. \* \* \* \* \* Early in the afternoon, Lord Cornwallis' suite arrived and took possession of my mother's house." But though now holding undisputed possession of the American capital, Howe found his position an uncomfortable one, for his fleet was in the Chesapeake, and the Delaware and all its defenses were in possession of the Americans, and Washington had manned the forts with some of his most resolute troops. Varnum's brigade, led by Cols. Angell and Greene, Rhode Island troops, were at Fort Mercer, at Red Bank, and this the enemy determined to attack. On the 21st of October, with a force of 2,500 men, led by Count Donop, the attack was made. In two columns they moved as to an easy victory. But the steady fire of the defenders when come in easy range, swept them down with deadly effect, and, retiring with a loss of over 400 and their leader mortally wounded, they did not renew the fight. Its reduction was of prime importance, and powerful works were built and equipped to bear upon the devoted fort on all sides, and the heavy guns of the fleet were brought up to aid in overpowering it. For six long days the greatest weight of metal was poured upon it from the land and the naval force, but without effect, the sides of the fort successfully withstanding the plunging of their powerful missiles. As a last resort, the great vessels were run suddenly in close under the walls, and manning the yard-arms with sharpshooters, so effectually silenced and drove away the gunners that the fort fell easily into the British hands and the river was opened to navigation. The army of Washington, after being recruited and put in light marching order, was led to Germantown where, on the morning of the 3d of October the enemy was met. A heavy fog that morning had obscured friend and foe alike, occasioning confusion in the ranks, and though the opening promised well, and some progress was made, yet the enemy was too strong to be moved, and the American leader was forced to retire to his camp at White Marsh. Though the river had now been opened and the city was thoroughly fortified for resisting attack, yet Howe felt not quite easy in having the American Army quartered in so close striking distance, and accordingly, on the 4th of December, with nearly his entire army, moved out, intending to take Washington at White Marsh, sixteen miles away, by surprise, and by rapidity of action gain an easy victory. But by the heroism and fidelity of Lydia Darrah, who, as she had often done before

passed the guards to go to the mill for flour, the news of the coming of Howe was communicated to Washington, who was prepared to receive him. Finding that he could effect nothing, Howe returned to the city, having had the wearisome march at this wintry season without effect.

Washington now crossed the Schuylkill and went into winter quarters at Valley Forge. The cold of that winter was intense; the troops, half clad and indifferently fed, suffered severely, the prints of their naked feet in frost and snow being often tinted with patriot blood. Grown impatient of the small results from the immensely expensive campaigns carried on across the ocean, the Ministry relieved Lord Howe, and appointed Sir Henry Clinton to the chief command.

The Commissioners whom Congress had sent to France early in the fall of 1776—Franklin, Dean and Lee had been busy in making interest for the united colonies at the French Court, and so successful were they, that arms and ammunition and loans of money were procured from time to time. Indeed, so persuasive had they become that it was a saying current at court that, "It was fortunate for the King that Franklin did not take it into his head to ask to have the palace at Versailles stripped of its furniture to send to his dear Americans, for his majesty would have been unable to deny him." Finally, a convention was concluded, by which France agreed to use the royal army and navy as faithful allies of the Americans against the English. Accordingly, a fleet of four powerful frigates, and twelve ships were dispatched under command of the Count D'Estaing to shut up the British fleet in the Delaware. The plan was ingenious, particularly worthy of the long head of Franklin. But by some means, intelligence of the sailing of the French fleet reached the English cabinet, who immediately ordered the evacuation of the Delaware, whereupon the Admiral weighed anchor and sailed away with his entire fleet to New York, and D'Estaing, upon his arrival at the mouth of the Delaware, found that the bird had flown.

Clinton evacuated Philadelphia and moved across New Jersey in the direction of New York. Washington closely followed and came up with the enemy on the plains of Monmouth, on the 28th of June, 1778, where a sanguinary battle was fought which lasted the whole day, resulting in the triumph of the American arms, and Pennsylvania was rid of British troops.

The enemy was no sooner well away from the city than Congress returned from York and resumed its sittings in its former quarters, June 24, 1778, and on the following day, the Colonial Legislature returned from Lancaster. Gen. Arnold, who was disabled by a wound received at Saratoga, from field duty, was given command in the city and marched in with a regiment on the day following the evacuation. On the 23d of May, 1778, President Wharton died suddenly of quinsy, while in attendance upon the Council at Lancaster, when George Bryan, the Vice President, became the Acting President. Bryan was a philanthropist in deed as well as word. Up to this time, African slavery had been tolerated in the colony. In his message of the 9th of November, he said: "This or some better scheme, would tend to abrogate slavery—the approbrium of America—from among us. \* \* \* In divesting the State of slaves, you will equally serve the cause of humanity and policy, and offer to God one of the most proper and best returns of gratitude for His great deliverance of us and our posterity from thralldom; you will also set your character for justice and benevolence in the true point of view to Europe, who are astonished to see a people eager for liberty holding negroes in bondage." He perfected a bill for the extinguishment of claims to slaves which was passed by the Assembly, March 1, 1780, by a vote of thirty-four to eighteen, providing that no child



of slave parents born after that date should be a slave, but a servant till the age of twenty-eight years, when all claim for service should end. Thus by a simple enactment resolutely pressed by Bryan, was slavery forever rooted out of Pennsylvania.

In the summer of 1778, a force of savages and sour-faced Tories to the number of some 1,200, under the leadership of one Col. John Butler, a cruel and inhuman wretch, descending from the north, broke into the Wyoming Valley on the 2d of July. The strong men were in the army of Washington, and the only defenders were old men, beardless boys and resolute women. These, to the number of about 400, under Zebulon Butler, a brave soldier who had won distinction in the old French war, and who happened to be present, moved resolutely out to meet the invaders. Overborne by numbers, the inhabitants were beaten and put to the sword, the few who escaped retreating to Forty Fort, whither the helpless, up and down the valley, had sought safety. Here humane terms of surrender were agreed to, and the families returned to their homes, supposing all danger to be past. But the savages had tasted blood, and perhaps confiscated liquor, and were little mindful of capitulations. The night of the 5th was given to indiscriminate massacre. The cries of the helpless rang out upon the night air, and the heavens along all the valley were lighted up with the flames of burning cottages; "and when the moon arose, the terrified inhabitants were fleeing to the Wilkesbarre Mountains, and the dark morasses of the Pocono Mountain beyond." Most of these were emigrants from Connecticut, and they made their way homeward as fast as their feet would carry them, many of them crossing the Hudson at Poughkeepsie, where they told their tales of woe.

In February, 1778, Parliament, grown tired of this long and wasting war, abolished taxes of which the Americans had complained, and a committee, composed of Earl Carlisle, George Johnstone and William Eden, were sent empowered to forgive past offenses, and to conclude peace with the colonies, upon submission to the British crown. Congress would not listen to their proposals, maintaining that the people of America had done nothing that needed forgiveness, and that no conference could be accorded so long as the English Armies remained on American soil. Finding that negotiations could not be entered upon with the government, they sought to worm their way by base bribes. Johnstone proposed to Gen. Reed that if he would lend his aid to bring about terms of pacification, 10,000 guineas and the best office in the country should be his. The answer of the stern General was a type of the feeling which swayed every patriot: "My influence is but small, but were it as great as Gov. Johnstone would insinuate, the King of Great Britain has nothing in his gift that would tempt me."

At the election held for President, the choice fell upon Joseph Reed, with George Bryan Vice President, subsequently Matthew Smith, and finally William Moore. Reed was an erudite lawyer, and had held the positions of Private Secretary to Washington, and subsequently Adjutant General of the army. He was inaugurated on the 1st of December, 1778. Upon the return of the patriots to Philadelphia, after the departure of the British, a bitter feeling existed between them and the Tories who had remained at their homes, and had largely profited by the British occupancy. The soldiers became demonstrative, especially against those lawyers who had defended the Tories in court. Some of those most obnoxious took refuge in the house of James Wilson, a signer of the Declaration. Private soldiers, in passing, fired upon it, and shots were returned whereby one was killed and several wounded. The President on being informed of these proceedings, rode at the head of the



city troop, and dispersed the assailants, capturing the leaders. The Academy and College of Philadelphia required by its charter an oath of allegiance to the King of Great Britain. An act was passed November 27, 1779, abrogating the former charter, and vesting its property in a new board. An endowment from confiscated estates was settled upon it of £15,000 annually. The name of the institution was changed to the "University of the State of Pennsylvania."

France was now aiding the American cause with money and large land and naval forces. While some of the patriots remained steadfast and were disposed to sacrifice and endure all for the success of the struggle, many, who should have been in the ranks rallying around Washington, had grown lukewarm. The General was mortified that the French should come across the ocean and make great sacrifices to help us, and should find so much indifference prevailing among the citizens of many of the States, and so few coming forward to fill up the decimated ranks. At the request of Washington, President Reed was invested with extraordinary powers, in 1780, which were used prudently but effectively. During the winter of this year, some of the veteran soldiers of the Pennsylvania line mutinied and commenced the march on Philadelphia with arms in their hands. Some of them had just cause. They had enlisted for "three years or the war," meaning for three years unless the war closed sooner. But the authorities had interpreted it to mean, three years, or as much longer as the war should last. President Reed immediately rode out to meet the mutineers, heard their cause, and pledged if all would return to camp, to have those who had honorably served out the full term of three years discharged, which was agreed to. Before the arrival of the President, two emissaries from the enemy who had heard of the disaffection, came into camp, offering strong inducements for them to continue the revolt. But the mutineers spurned the offer, and delivered them over to the officers, by whom they were tried and executed as spies. The soldiers who had so patriotically arrested and handed over these messengers were offered a reward of fifty guineas; but they refused it on the plea that they were acting under authority of the Board of Sergeants, under whose order the mutiny was being conducted. Accordingly, a hundred guineas were offered to this board for their fidelity. Their answer showed how conscientious even mutineers can be: "It was not for the sake, or through any expectation of reward; but for the love of our country, that we sent the spies immediately to Gen. Wayne; we therefore do not consider ourselves entitled to any other reward but the love of our country, and do jointly agree to accept of no other."

William Moore was elected President to succeed Joseph Reed, from November 14, 1781, but held the office less than one year, the term of three years for which he had been a Councilman having expired, which was the limit of service. James Potter was chosen Vice President. On account of the hostile attitude of the Ohio Indians, it was decided to call out a body of volunteers, numbering some 400 from the counties of Washington and Westmoreland, where the outrages upon the settlers had been most sorely felt, who chose for their commander Col. William Crawford, of Westmoreland. The expedition met a most unfortunate fate. It was defeated and cut to pieces, and the leader taken captive and burned at the stake. Crawford County, which was settled very soon afterward, was named in honor of this unfortunate soldier. In the month of November, intelligence was communicated to the Legislature that Pennsylvania soldiers, confined as prisoners of war on board of the Jersey, an old hulk lying in the New York Harbor, were in a starving condition, receiving at the hands of the enemy the most barbarous and inhuman treat-

ment. Fifty barrels of flour and 300 bushels of potatoes were immediately sent to them.

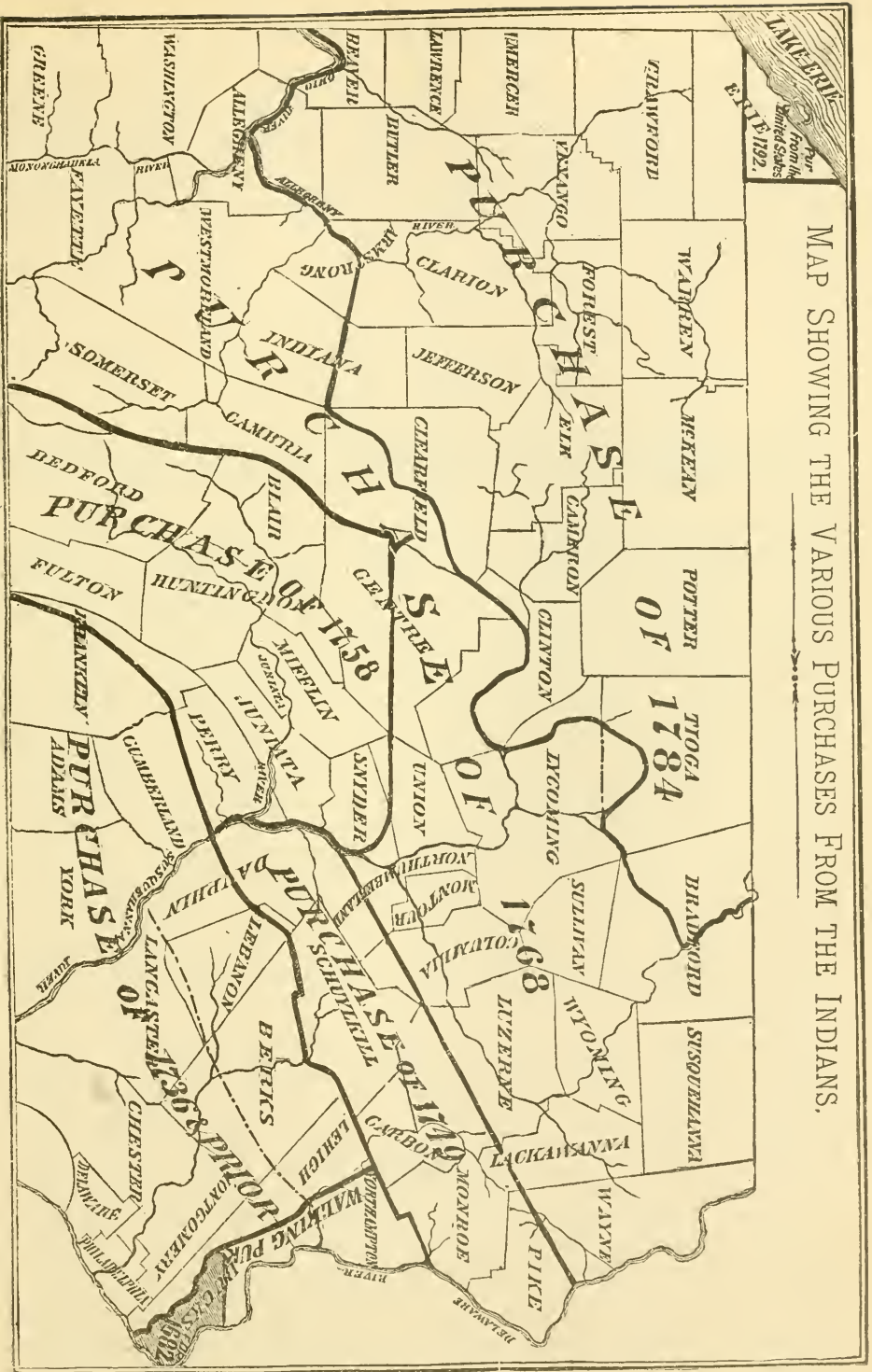
In the State election of 1782, contested with great violence, John Dickinson was chosen President, and James Ewing Vice President. On the 12th of March, 1783, intelligence was first received of the signing of the preliminary treaty in which independence was acknowledged, and on the 11th of April Congress sent forth the joyful proclamation ordering a cessation of hostilities. The soldiers of Burgoyne, who had been confined in the prison camp at Lancaster, were put upon the march for New York, passing through Philadelphia on the way. Everywhere was joy unspeakable. The obstructions were removed from the Delaware, and the white wings of commerce again came fluttering on every breeze. In June, Pennsylvania soldiers, exasperated by delay in receiving their pay and their discharge, and impatient to return to their homes, to a considerable number marched from their camp at Lancaster, and arriving at Philadelphia sent a committee with arms in their hands to the State House door with a remonstrance asking permission to elect officers to command them for the redress of their grievances, their own having left them, and employing threats in case of refusal. These demands the Council rejected. The President of Congress, hearing of these proceedings, called a special session, which resolved to demand that the militia of the State should be called out to quell the insurgents. The Council refused to resort to this extreme measure, when Congress, watchful of its dignity and of its supposed supreme authority, left Philadelphia and established itself in Princeton, N. J., and though invited to return at its next session, it refused, and met at Annapolis.

In October, 1784, the last treaty was concluded with the Indians at Fort Stanwix. The Commissioners at this conference purchased from the natives all the land to the north of the Ohio River, and the line of Pine Creek, which completed the entire limits of the State with the exception of the triangle at Erie, which was acquired from the United States in 1792. This purchase was confirmed by the Wyandots and Delawares at Fort McIntosh January 21, 1785, and the grant was made secure.

In September, 1785, after a long absence in the service of his country abroad, perfecting treaties, and otherwise establishing just relations with other nations, the venerable Benjamin Franklin, then nearly eighty years old, feeling the infirmities of age coming upon him, asked to be relieved of the duties of Minister at the Court of France, and returned to Philadelphia. Soon after his arrival, he was elected President of the Council. Charles Biddle was elected Vice President. It was at this period that a citizen of Pennsylvania, John Fitch, secured a patent on his invention for propelling boats by steam. In May, 1787, the convention to frame a constitution for the United States met in Philadelphia. The delegation from Pennsylvania was Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, Thomas Mifflin, George Clymer, Thomas Fitzsimons, Jared Ingersoll, James Wilson and Gouverneur Morris. Upon the completion of their work, the instrument was submitted to the several States for adoption. A convention was called in Pennsylvania, which met on the 21st of November, and though encountering resolute opposition, it was finally adopted on the 12th of December. On the following day, the convention, the Supreme Council and officers of the State and city government, moved in procession to the old court house, where the adoption of the constitution was formally proclaimed amidst the booming of cannon and the ringing of bells.

On the 5th of November, 1788, Thomas Mifflin was elected President, and George Ross Vice President. The constitution of the State, framed in and adapted to the exigencies of an emergency, was ill suited to the needs of State

MAP SHOWING THE VARIOUS PURCHASES FROM THE INDIANS.





in its relations to the new nation. Accordingly, a convention assembled for the purpose of preparing a new constitution in November, 1789, which was finally adopted on September 2, 1790. By the provisions of this instrument, the Executive Council was abolished, and the executive duties were vested in the hands of a Governor. Legislation was intrusted to an Assembly and a Senate. The judicial system was continued, the terms of the Judges extending through good behavior.

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## CHAPTER XIII.

THOMAS MIFFLIN, 1788-99—THOMAS MCKEAN, 1799-1808—SIMON SNYDER, 1808-17—  
WILLIAM FINDLAY, 1817-20—JOSEPH HEISTER, 1820-23—JOHN A. SHULZE, 1823  
-29—GEORGE WOLFE, 1829-35—JOSEPH RITNER, 1835-39.

THE first election under the new Constitution resulted in the choice of Thomas Mifflin, who was re-elected for three successive terms, giving him the distinction of having been longer in the executive chair than any other person, a period of eleven years. A system of internal improvements was now commenced, by which vast water communications were undertaken, and a mountain of debt was accumulated, a portion of which hangs over the State to this day. In 1793, the Bank of Pennsylvania was chartered, one-third of the capital stock of which was subscribed for by the State. Branches were established at Lancaster, Harrisburg, Reading, Easton and Pittsburgh. The branches were discontinued in 1810; in 1843, the stock held by the State was sold, and in 1857, it ceased to exist. In 1793, the yellow fever visited Philadelphia. It was deadly in its effects and produced a panic unparalleled. Gov. Mifflin, and Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the United States Treasury, were attacked. "Men of affluent fortunes, who gave daily employment and subsistence to hundreds, were abandoned to the care of a negro after their wives, children, friends, clerks and servants had fled away and left them to their fate. In some cases, at the commencement of the disorder, no money could procure proper attendance. Many of the poor perished without a human being to hand them a drink of water, to administer medicines, or to perform any charitable office for them. Nearly 5,000 perished by this wasting pestilence."

The whisky insurrection in some of the western counties of the State, which occurred in 1794, excited, by its lawlessness and wide extent, general interest. An act of Congress, of March 3, 1791, laid a tax on distilled spirits of four pence per gallon. The then counties of Washington, Westmoreland, Allegheny and Fayette, comprising the southwestern quarter of the State, were almost exclusively engaged in the production of grain. Being far removed from any market, the product of their farms brought them scarcely any returns. The consequence was that a large proportion of the surplus grain was turned into distilled spirits, and nearly every other farmer was a distiller. This tax was seen to bear heavily upon them, from which a non-producer of spirits was relieved. A rash determination was formed to resist its collection, and a belief entertained, if all were united in resisting, it would be taken off. Frequent altercations occurred between the persons appointed United States Collectors and these resisting citizens. As an example, on the 5th of Septem-



ber, 1791, a party in disguise set upon Robert Johnson, a Collector for Allegheny and Washington, tarred and feathered him, cut off his hair, took away his horse, and left him in this plight to proceed. Writs for the arrest of the perpetrators were issued, but none dared to venture into the territory to serve them. On May 8, 1792, the law was modified, and the tax reduced. In September, 1792, President Washington issued his proclamation commanding all persons to submit to the law, and to forbear from further opposition. But these measures had no effect, and the insurgents began to organize for forcible resistance. One Maj. Macfarlane, who in command of a party of insurrectionists, was killed in an encounter with United States soldiers at the house of Gen. Neville. The feeling now ran very high, and it was hardly safe for any person to breathe a whisper against the insurgents throughout all this district. "A breath," says Brackenridge, "in favor of the law, was sufficient to ruin any man. A clergyman was not thought orthodox in the pulpit unless against the law. A physician was not capable of administering medicine, unless his principles were right in this respect. A lawyer could get no practice, nor a merchant at a country store get custom if for the law. On the contrary, to talk against the law was the way to office and emolument. To go to the Legislature or to Congress you must make a noise against it. It was the Shibboleth of safety and the ladder of ambition." One Bradford had, of his own notion, issued a circular letter to the Colonels of regiments to assemble with their commands at Braddock's field on the 1st of August, where they appointed officers and moved on to Pittsburgh. After having burned a barn, and made some noisy demonstrations, they were induced by some cool heads to return. These turbulent proceedings coming to the ears of the State and National authorities at Philadelphia, measures were concerted to promptly and effectually check them. Gov. Mifflin appointed Chief Justice McKean, and Gen. William Irvine to proceed to the disaffected district, ascertain the facts, and try to bring the leaders to justice. President Washington issued a proclamation commanding all persons in arms to disperse to their homes on or before the 1st of September, *proximo*, and called out the militia of four States—Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia—to the number of 13,000 men, to enforce his commands. The quota of Pennsylvania was 4,500 infantry, 500 cavalry, 200 artillery, and Gov. Mifflin took command in person. Gov. Richard Howell, of New Jersey, Gov. Thomas S. Lee, of Maryland, and Gen. Daniel Morgan, of Virginia, commanded the forces from their States, and Gov. Henry Lee, of Virginia, was placed in chief command. President Washington, accompanied by Gen. Knox, Secretary of War, Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, and Richard Peters, of the United States District Court, set out on the 1st of October, for the seat of the disturbance. On Friday, the President reached Harrisburg, and on Saturday Carlisle, whither the army had preceded him. In the meantime a committee, consisting of James Ross, Jasper Yeates and William Bradford, was appointed by President Washington to proceed to the disaffected district, and endeavor to persuade misguided citizens to return to their allegiance.

A meeting of 260 delegates from the four counties was held at Parkinson's Ferry on the 14th of August, at which the state of their cause was considered, resolutions adopted, and a committee of sixty, one from each county, was appointed, and a sub-committee of twelve was named to confer with the United States Commissioners, McKean and Irvine. These conferences with the State and National Committees were successful in arranging preliminary conditions of settlement. On the 2d of October, the Committee of Safety of the insurgents met at Parkinson's Ferry, and having now learned that a well-organized

army, with Washington at its head, was marching westward for enforcing obedience to the laws, appointed a committee of two, William Findley and David Reddick, to meet the President, and assure him that the disaffected were disposed to return to their duty. They met Washington at Carlisle, and several conferences were held, and assurances given of implicit obedience; but the President said that as the troops had been called out, the orders for the march would not be countermanded. The President proceeded forward on the 11th of October to Chambersburg, reached Williamsport on the 13th and Fort Cumberland on the 14th, where he reviewed the Virginia and Maryland forces, and arrived at Bedford on the 19th. Remaining a few days, and being satisfied that the sentiment of the people had changed, he returned to Philadelphia, arriving on the 28th, leaving Gen. Lee to meet the Commissioners and make such conditions of pacification as should seem just. Another meeting of the Committee of Safety was held at Parkinson's Ferry on the 24th, at which assurances of abandonment of opposition to the laws were received, and the same committee, with the addition of Thomas Morton and Ephriam Douglass, was directed to return to headquarters and give assurance of this disposition. They did not reach Bedford until after the departure of Washington. But at Uniontown they met Gen. Lee, with whom it was agreed that the citizens of these four counties should subscribe to an oath to support the Constitution and obey the laws. Justices of the Peace issued notices that books were opened for subscribing to the oath, and Gen. Lee issued a judicious address urging ready obedience. Seeing that all requirements were being faithfully carried out, an order was issued on the 17th of November for the return of the army and its disbandment. A number of arrests were made and trials and convictions were had, but all were ultimately pardoned.

With the exception of a slight ebullition at the prospect of a war with France in 1797, and a resistance to the operation of the "Homestead Tax" in Lehigh, Berks and Northampton Counties, when the militia was called out, the remainder of the term of Gov. Mifflin passed in comparative quiet. By an act of the Legislature of the 3d of April, 1799, the capital of the State was removed to Lancaster, and soon after the capital of the United States to Washington, the house on Ninth street, which had been built for the residence of the President of the United States, passing to the use of the University of Pennsylvania.

During the administrations of Thomas McKean, who was elected Governor in 1799, and Simon Snyder in 1803, little beyond heated political contests marked the even tenor of the government, until the breaking-out of the troubles which eventuated in the war of 1812. The blockade of the coast of France in 1806, and the retaliatory measures of Napoleon in his Berlin decree, swept American commerce, which had hitherto preserved a neutral attitude and profited by European wars, from the seas. The haughty conduct of Great Britain in boarding American vessels for suspected deserters from the British Navy, under cover of which the grossest outrages were committed, American seaman being dragged from the decks of their vessels and impressed into the English service, induced President Jefferson, in July, 1807, to issue his proclamation ordering all British armed vessels to leave the waters of the United States, and forbidding any to enter, until satisfaction for the past and security for the future should be provided for. Upon the meeting of Congress in December, an embargo was laid, detaining all vessels, American and foreign, then in American waters, and ordering home all vessels abroad. Negotiations were conducted between the two countries, but no definite results were reached, and in the meantime causes of irritation multiplied until 1812, when President

Madison declared war against Great Britain, known as the war of 1812. Pennsylvania promptly seconded the National Government, the message of Gov. Snyder on the occasion ringing like a silver clarion. The national call for 100,000 men required 14,000 from this State, but so great was the enthusiasm, that several times this number tendered their services. The State force was organized in two divisions, to the command of the first of which Maj. Gen. Isaac Morrell was appointed, and to the second Maj. Gen. Adamson Tannehill. Gunboats and privateers were built in the harbor of Erie and on the Delaware, and the defenses upon the latter were put in order and suitable armaments provided. At Tippecanoe, at Detroit, at Queenstown Heights, at the River Raisin, at Fort Stephenson, and at the River Thames, the war was waged with varying success. Upon the water, Commodores Decatur, Hull, Jones, Perry, Lawrence, Porter and McDonough made a bright chapter in American history, as was to be wished, inasmuch as the war had been undertaken to vindicate the honor and integrity of that branch of the service. Napoleon, having met with disaster, and his power having been broken, 14,000 of Wellington's veterans were sent to Canada, and the campaign of the next year was opened with vigor. But at the battles of Oswego, Chippewa, Lundy's Lane, Fort Erie and Plattsburg, the tide was turned against the enemy, and the country saved from invasion. The act which created most alarm to Pennsylvania was one of vandalism scarcely matched in the annals of warfare. In August, 1814, Gen. Ross, with 6,000 men in a flotilla of sixty sails, moved up Chesapeake Bay, fired the capitol, President's house and the various offices of cabinet ministers, and these costly and substantial buildings, the national library and all the records of the Government from its foundation were utterly destroyed. Shortly afterward, Ross appeared before Baltimore with the design of multiplying his barbarisms, but he was met by a force hastily collected under Gen. Samuel Smith, a Pennsylvania veteran of the Revolution, and in the brief engagement which ensued Ross was killed. In the severe battle with the corps of Gen. Stricker, the British lost some 300 men. The fleet in the meantime opened a fierce bombardment of Fort McHenry, and during the day and ensuing night 1,500 bombshells were thrown, but all to no purpose, the gallant defense of Maj. Armistead proving successful. It was during this awful night that Maj. Key, who was a prisoner on board the fleet, wrote the song of the Star Spangled Banner, which became the national lyric. It was in the administration of Gov. Snyder in February, 1810, that an act was passed making Harrisburg the seat of government, and a commission raised for erecting public buildings, the sessions of the Legislature being held in the court house at Harrisburg from 1812 to 1821.

The administrations of William Findley, elected in 1817, Joseph Heister, in 1820, and John Andrew Schulz in 1823, followed without marked events. Parties became very warm in their discussions and in their management of political campaigns. The charters for the forty banks which had been passed in a fit of frenzy over the veto of Gov. Snyder set a flood of paper money afloat. The public improvements, principally in opening lines of canal, were prosecuted, and vast debts incurred. These lines of conveyances were vitally needful to move the immense products and vast resources of the State.

Previous to the year 1820, little use was made of stone coal. Judge Obediah Gore, a blacksmith, used it upon his forge as early as 1769, and found the heat stronger and more enduring than that produced by charcoal. In 1791, Phillip Ginter, of Carbon County, a hunter by profession, having on one occasion been out all day without discovering any game, was returning at night discouraged and worn out, across the Mauch Chunk Mountain, when, in



DIAGRAM SHOWING PROPORTIONATE ANNUAL  
 PRODUCTION OF ANTHRACITE COAL IN  
 PENNSYLVANIA SINCE 1820.

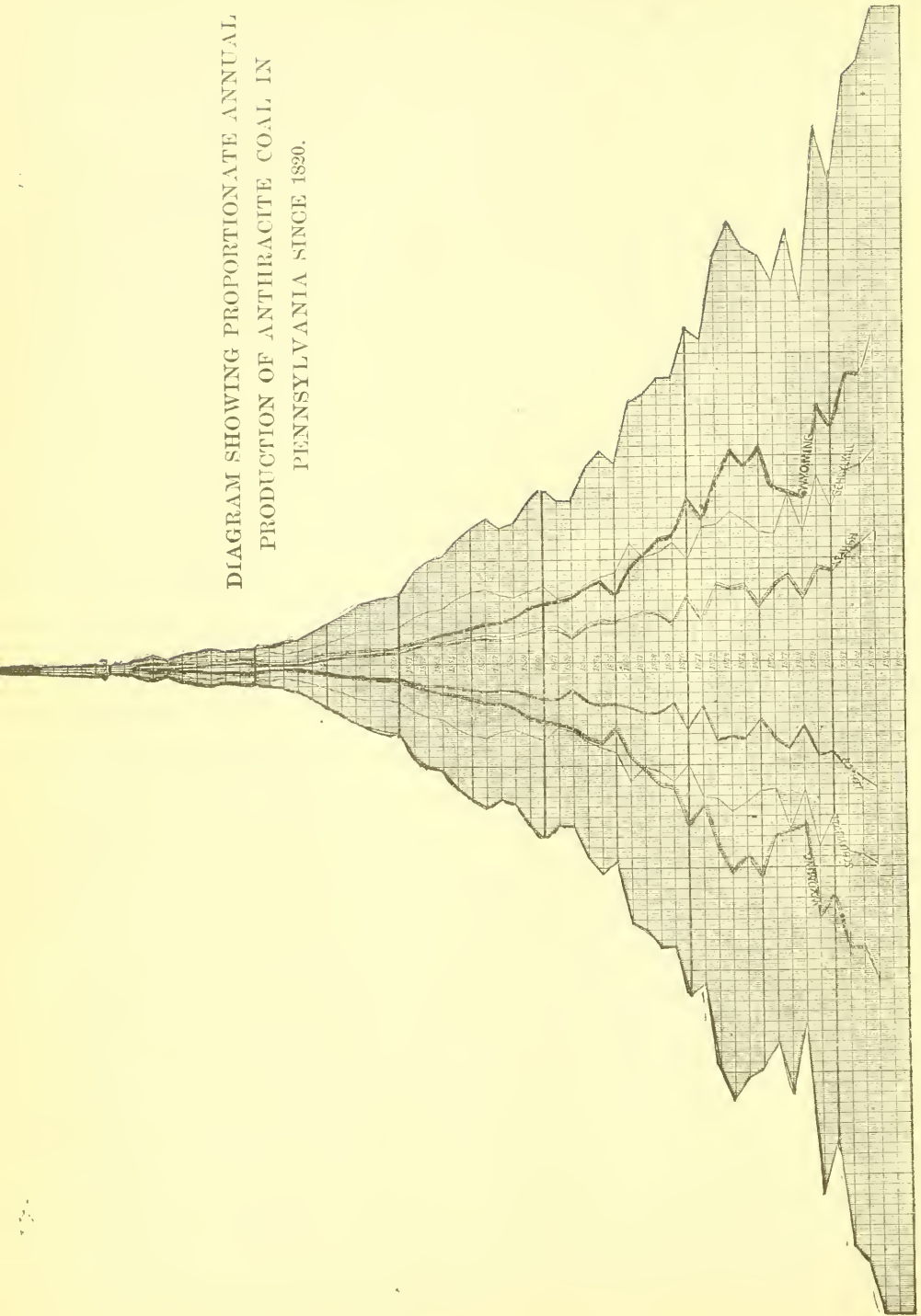




TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT OF ANTHRACITE COAL PRODUCED IN EACH REGION SINCE 1820.

YEAR.	Lehigh, Tons.	Schuylkill, Tons.	Wyoming, Tons.	Lyken's Valley, Shamokin, etc., Tons.	Total Tons.
1820.....	365				365
1821.....	1,073				1,073
1822.....	2,240	1,480			3,720
1823.....	5,823	1,123			6,951
1824.....	9,541	1,567			11,108
1825.....	28,393	6,500			34,893
1826.....	31,280	16,767			48,047
1827.....	32,074	31,360			63,434
1828.....	30,232	47,284			77,516
1829.....	25,110	79,973	7,000		112,083
1830.....	41,750	89,934	43,000		174,734
1831.....	40,966	81,854	54,000		176,820
1832.....	70,000	209,271	84,000		363,871
1833.....	123,001	252,971	111,777		487,748
1834.....	106,244	226,692	43,700		376,636
1835.....	131,250	339,508	90,000		560,758
1836.....	148,211	432,045	103,861		684,117
1837.....	223,902	530,152	115,387		879,441
1838.....	213,615	446,875	78,207		738,697
1839.....	221,025	463,147	122,300	11,930	818,402
1840.....	225,313	475,091	148,470	15,505	864,384
1841.....	143,037	603,003	192,270	21,463	959,973
1842.....	272,540	573,273	252,599	10,000	1,108,418
1843.....	267,793	700,200	285,605	10,000	1,263,598
1844.....	377,002	874,850	365,911	13,087	1,630,850
1845.....	429,453	1,121,724	451,836	10,000	2,013,013
1846.....	517,116	1,295,928	518,389	12,572	2,344,005
1847.....	633,507	1,650,831	583,067	14,904	2,882,309
1848.....	670,321	1,714,365	685,196	19,356	3,089,238
1849.....	781,656	1,683,425	732,910	45,075	3,242,966
1850.....	690,456	1,782,936	827,823	57,684	3,358,899
1851.....	964,224	2,229,426	1,156,167	99,099	4,448,916
1852.....	1,072,136	2,517,493	1,284,500	119,342	4,993,471
1853.....	1,054,309	2,551,603	1,475,732	113,507	5,193,151
1854.....	1,207,186	2,957,670	1,603,473	234,090	6,002,334
1855.....	1,284,113	3,318,555	1,771,511	234,388	6,608,517
1856.....	1,351,970	3,289,585	1,972,581	313,444	6,927,580
1857.....	1,318,541	2,985,541	1,952,603	388,256	6,664,941
1858.....	1,380,030	2,902,821	2,186,094	370,424	6,759,369
1859.....	1,628,311	3,004,953	2,731,236	443,755	7,808,255
1860.....	1,821,674	3,270,516	2,941,817	479,116	8,513,123
1861.....	1,738,377	2,697,439	3,055,140	463,308	7,954,314
1862.....	1,351,054	2,890,593	3,145,770	481,990	7,875,416
1863.....	1,894,713	3,433,265	3,759,610	478,418	9,566,002
1864.....	2,054,669	3,642,218	3,960,836	519,752	10,177,475
1865.....	2,040,913	3,755,802	3,254,519	621,157	9,652,391
1866.....	2,179,364	4,957,180	4,736,616	830,722	12,703,882
1867.....	2,502,054	4,334,820	5,325,000	826,851	12,991,725
1868.....	2,507,582	4,414,356	5,990,813	921,381	13,834,132
1869.....	1,929,523	4,821,253	6,068,369	903,885	13,723,030
1870.....	3,172,916	3,853,016	7,825,128	998,839	15,849,899
1871.....	2,235,707	6,552,772	6,911,242		15,699,721
1872.....	3,873,339	6,694,890	9,101,549		19,669,778
1873.....	3,705,596	7,212,601	10,309,755		21,227,952
1874.....	3,773,836	6,860,877	9,504,408		20,145,121
1875.....	2,834,605	6,281,712	10,596,155		19,712,472
1876.....	3,854,919	6,221,934	8,424,158		18,501,011
1877.....	4,332,760	8,195,042	8,300,377		20,828,179
1878.....	3,237,449	6,282,226	8,085,587		17,605,262
1879.....	4,595,567	8,960,329	12,586,298		26,142,689
1880.....	4,463,221	7,554,742	11,419,279		23,437,242
1881.....	5,294,676	9,253,958	13,951,383		28,500,016
1882.....	5,689,437	9,459,288	13,971,371		29,120,096
1883.....	6,113,809	10,074,726	15,604,492		31,793,029

the gathering shades he stumbled upon something which seemed to have a glistening appearance, that he was induced to pick up and carry home. This specimen was taken to Philadelphia, where an analysis showed it to be a good quality of anthracite coal. But, though coal was known to exist, no one knew how to use it. In 1812, Col. George Shoemaker, of Schuylkill County, took nine wagon loads to Philadelphia. But he was looked upon as an impostor for attempting to sell worthless stone for coal. He finally sold two loads for the cost of transportation, the remaining seven proving a complete loss. In 1812, White & Hazard, manufacturers of wire at the Falls of Schuylkill, induced an application to be made to the Legislature to incorporate a company for the improvement of the Schuylkill, urging as an inducement the importance it would have for transporting coal; whereupon, the Senator from that district, in his place, with an air of knowledge, asserted "that there was no coal there, that there was a kind of *black stone* which was called coal, but that it would not burn."

White & Hazard procured a cart load of Lehigh coal that cost them \$1 a bushel, which was all wasted in a vain attempt to make it ignite. Another cart load was obtained, and a whole night spent in endeavoring to make a fire in the furnace, when the hands shut the furnace door and left the mill in despair. "Fortunately one of them left his jacket in the mill, and returning for it in about half an hour, noticed that the door was red hot, and upon opening it, was surprised at finding the whole furnace at a glowing white heat. The other hands were summoned, and four separate parcels of iron were heated and rolled by the same fire before it required renewing. The furnace was replenished, and as letting it alone had succeeded so well, it was concluded to try it again, and the experiment was repeated with the same result. The Lehigh Navigation Company and the Lehigh Coal Company were incorporated in 1818, which companies became the basis of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, incorporated in 1822. In 1820, coal was sent to Philadelphia by artificial navigation, but 365 tons glutted the market." In 1825, there were brought by the Schuylkill 5,378 tons. In 1826, by the Schuylkill, 16,265 tons, and by the Lehigh 31,280 tons. The stage of water being insufficient, dams and sluices were constructed near Mauch Chunk, in 1819, by which the navigation was improved. The coal boats used were great square arks, 16 to 18 feet wide, and 20 to 25 feet long. At first, two of these were joined together by hinges, to allow them to yield up and down in passing over the dams. Finally, as the boatmen became skilled in the navigation, several were joined, attaining a length of 180 feet. Machinery was used for jointing the planks, and so expert had the men become that five would build an ark and launch it in forty-five minutes. After reaching Philadelphia, these boats were taken to pieces, the plank sold, and the hinges sent back for constructing others. Such were the crude methods adopted in the early days for bringing coal to a market. In 1827, a railroad was commenced, which was completed in three months, nine miles in length. This, with the exception of one at Quincy, Mass., of four miles, built in 1826, was the first constructed in the United States. The descent was 100 feet per mile, and the coal descended by gravity in a half hour, and the cars were drawn back by mules, which rode down with the coal. "The mules cut a most grotesque figure, standing three or four together, in their cars, with their feeding troughs before them, apparently surveying with delight the scenery of the mountain; and though they preserve the most profound gravity, it is utterly impossible for the spectator to maintain his. It is said that the mules, having once experienced the comfort of riding down, regard it as a right, and neither mild nor severe measures

will induce them to descend in any other way." Bituminous coal was discovered and its qualities utilized not much earlier than the anthracite. A tract of coal land was taken up in Clearfield County in 1785, by Mr. S. Boyd, and in 1804 he sent an ark down the Susquehanna to Columbia, which caused much surprise to the inhabitants that "an article with which they were wholly unacquainted should be brought to their own doors."

During the administrations of George Wolf, elected in 1829, and Joseph Ritner, elected in 1835, a measure of great beneficence to the State was passed and brought into a good degree of successful operation—nothing less than a broad system of public education. Schools had been early established in Philadelphia, and parochial schools in the more populous portions of the State from the time of early settlement. In 1749, through the influence of Dr. Franklin, a charter was obtained for a "college, academy, and charity school of Pennsylvania," and from this time to the beginning of the present century, the friends of education were earnest in establishing colleges, the Colonial Government, and afterward the Legislature, making liberal grants from the revenues accruing from the sale of lands for their support, the university of Pennsylvania being chartered in 1752, Dickinson College in 1783, Franklin and Marshall College in 1787, and Jefferson College in 1802. Commencing near the beginning of this century, and continuing for over a period of thirty years, vigorous exertions were put forth to establish county academies. Charters were granted for these institutions at the county seats of forty-one counties, and appropriations were made of money, varying from \$2,000 to \$6,000, and in several instances of quite extensive land grants. In 1809, an act was passed for the education of the "poor, gratis." The Assessors in their annual rounds were to make a record of all such as were indigent, and pay for their education in the most convenient schools. But few were found among the spirited inhabitants of the commonwealth willing to admit that they were so poor as to be objects of charity.

By the act of April 1, 1834, a general system of education by common schools was established. Unfortunately it was complex and unwieldy. At the next session an attempt was made to repeal it, and substitute the old law of 1809 for educating the "poor, gratis," the repeal having been carried in the Senate. But through the appeals of Thaddeus Stevens, a man always in the van in every movement for the elevation of mankind, this was defeated. At the next session, 1836, an entirely new bill, discarding the objectionable features of the old one, was prepared by Dr. George Smith, of Delaware County, and adopted, and from this time forward has been in efficient operation. It may seem strange that so long a time should have elapsed before a general system of education should have been secured. But the diversity of origin and language, the antagonism of religious seats, the very great sparseness of population in many parts, made it impossible at an earlier day to establish schools. In 1854, the system was improved by engrafting upon it the feature of the County Superintendency, and in 1859 by providing for the establishment of twelve Normal Schools, in as many districts into which the State was divided, for the professional training of teachers.



## CHAPTER XIV.

DAVID R. PORTER, 1839-45—FRANCIS R. SHUNK, 1845-48—WILLIAM F. JOHNSTONE 1848-52—WILLIAM BIGLER, 1852-55—JAMES POLLOCK, 1855-58—WILLIAM F. PACKER, 1858-61—ANDREW G. CURTIN, 1861-67—JOHN W. GEARY, 1867-73—JOHN F. HARTRANFT, 1873-78—HENRY F. HOYT, 1878-82—ROBERT E. PAT- TISON, 1882.

IN 1837, a convention assembled in Harrisburg, and subsequently in Philadel- phia, for revising the constitution, which revision was adopted by a vote of the people. One of the chief objects of the change was the breaking up of what was known as "omnibus legislation," each bill being required to have but one distinct subject, to be definitely stated in the title. Much of the patronage of the Governor was taken from him, and he was allowed but two terms of three years in any nine years. The Senator's term was fixed at three years. The terms of Supreme Court Judges were limited to fifteen years, Common Pleas Judges to ten, and Associate Judges to five. A step backward was taken in limiting suffrage to *white* male citizens twenty-one years old, it having previously been extended to citizens irrespective of color. Amendments could be proposed once in five years, and if adopted by two successive Legislatures, and approved by a vote of the people, they became a part of the organic law.

At the opening of the gubernatorial term of David R. Porter, who was chosen in October, 1838, a civil commotion occurred known as the Buckshot War, which at one time threatened a sanguinary result. By the returns, Porter had some 5,000 majority over Ritner, but the latter, who was the incumbent, alleged frauds, and proposed an investigation and revision of the returns. Thomas H. Burrows was Secretary of State, and Chairman of the State Committee of the Anti-Masonic party, and in an elaborate address to the people setting forth the grievance, he closed with the expression "let us treat the election as if we had not been defeated." This expression gave great offense to the opposing party, the Democratic, and public feeling ran high before the meeting of the Legislature. Whether an investigation could be had would depend upon the political complexion of that body. The Senate was clearly Anti-Masonic, and the House would depend upon the Representatives of a certain district in Philadelphia, which embraced the Northern Liberties. The returning board of this district had a majority of Democrats, who proceeded to throw out the entire vote of Northern Liberties, for some alleged irregularities, and gave the certificate to Democrats. Whereupon, the minority of the board assembled, and counted the votes of the Northern Liberties, which gave the election to the Anti-Masonic candidates, and sent certificates accordingly. By right and justice, there is no doubt that the Anti-Masons were fairly elected. But the majority of a returning board alone have authority to make returns, and the Democrats had the certificates which bore *prima facie* evidence of being correct, and should have been received and transmitted to the House, where alone rested the authority to go behind the returns and investigate their correctness. But upon the meeting of the House the Secretary of the Commonwealth sent in the certificates of the minority of the returning board of the Northern Liberties district, which gave the majority to the Anti-Masons. But the Democrats were not disposed to submit, and



the consequence was that two delegations from the disputed district appeared, demanding seats, and upon the organization, two Speakers were elected and took the platform—Thomas S. Cunningham for the Anti-Masons, and William Hopkins for the Democrats. At this stage of the game, an infuriated lobby, collected from Philadelphia and surrounding cities, broke into the two Houses, and, interrupting all business, threatened the lives of members, and compelled them to seek safety in flight, when they took uncontrolled possession of the chambers and indulged in noisy and impassioned harangues. From the capitol, the mob proceeded to the court house, where a "committee of safety" was appointed. For several days the members dared not enter either House, and when one of the parties of the House attempted to assemble, the person who had been appointed to act as Speaker was forcibly ejected. All business was at an end, and the Executive and State Departments were closed. At this juncture, Gov. Ritner ordered out the militia, and at the same time called on the United States authorities for help. The militia, under Gens. Pattison and Alexander, came promptly to the rescue, but the President refused to furnish the National troops, though the United States storekeeper at the Frankford Arsenal turned over a liberal supply of ball and *buckshot* cartridges. The arrival of the militia only served to fire the spirit of the lobby, and they immediately commenced drilling and organizing, supplying themselves with arms and fixed ammunition. The militia authorities were, however, able to clear the capitol, when the two Houses assembled, and the Senate signified the willingness to recognize that branch of the House presided over by Mr. Hopkins. This ended the difficulty, and Gov. Porter was duly inaugurated.

Francis R. Shunk was chosen Governor in 1845, and during his term of office the war with Mexico occurred. Two volunteer regiments, one under command of Col. Wynkoop, and the other under Col. Roberts, subsequently Col. John W. Geary, were sent to the field, while the services of a much larger number were offered, but could not be received. Toward the close of his first term, having been reduced by sickness, and feeling his end approaching, Gov. Shunk resigned, and was succeeded by the Speaker of the Senate, William F. Johnston, who was duly chosen at the next annual election. During the administrations of William Bigler, elected in 1851, James Pollock in 1854, and William F. Packer in 1857, little beyond the ordinary course of events marked the history of the State. The lines of public works undertaken at the expense of the State were completed. Their cost had been enormous, and a debt was piled up against it of over \$40,000,000. These works, vastly expensive, were still to operate and keep in repair, and the revenues therefrom failing to meet expectations, it was determined in the administration of Gov. Pollock to sell them to the highest bidder, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company purchasing them for the sum of \$7,500,000.

In the administration of Gov. Packer, petroleum was first discovered in quantities in this country by boring into the bowels of the earth. From the earliest settlement of the country it was known to exist. As early as July 18, 1627, a French missionary, Joseph Delaroche Dailon, of the order of Recollets, described it in a letter published in 1632, in Segard's *L'Histoire du Canada*, and this description is confirmed by the journal of Charlevoix, 1721. Fathers Dollier and Galinee, missionaries of the order of St. Sulpice, made a map of this section of country, which they sent to Jean Talon, Intendant of Canada, on the 10th of November, 1670, on which was marked at about the point where is now the town of Cuba, N. Y., "Fontaine de Bitume." The Earl of Belmont, Governor of New York, instructed his chief engineer, Wolfgang W. Romer, on September 3, 1700, in his visit to the Six Nations,

“To go and view a well or spring which is eight miles beyond the Seneks’ farthest castle, which they have told me blazes up in a flame, when a lighted coale or firebrand is put into it; you will do well to taste the said water, and give me your opinion thereof, and bring with you some of it.” Thomas Charbert de Joncaire, who died in September, 1740, is mentioned in the journal of Charlevoix of 1721 as authority for the existence of oil at the place mentioned above, and at points further south, probably on Oil Creek. The following account of an event occurring during the occupancy of this part of the State by the French is given as an example of the religious uses made of oil by the Indians, as these fire dances are understood to have been annually celebrated: “While descending the Allegheny, fifteen leagues below the mouth of the Connewango (Warren) and three above Fort Venango (Oil City), we were invited by the chief of the Senecas to attend a religious ceremony of his tribe. We landed and drew up our canoes on a point where a small stream entered the river. The tribe appeared unusually solemn. We marched up the stream about a half a league, where the company, a large band it appeared, had arrived some days before us. Gigantic hills begirt us on every side. The scene was really sublime. The great chief then recited the conquests and heroisms of their ancestors. The surface of the stream was covered with a thick scum, which burst into a complete conflagration. The oil had been gathered and lighted with a torch. At sight of the flames, the Indians gave forth a triumphant shout, and made the hills and valley re-echo again.”

In nearly all geographies and notes of travel published during the early period of settlement, this oil is referred to, and on several maps the word petroleum appears opposite the mouth of Oil Creek. Gen. Washington, in his will, in speaking of his lands on the Great Kanawha, says: “The tract of which the 125 acres is a moiety, was taken up by Gen. Andrew Lewis and myself, for and on account of a bituminous spring which it contains of so inflammable a nature as to burn as freely as spirits, and is as nearly difficult to extinguish.” Mr. Jefferson, in his Notes on Virginia, also gives an account of a burning spring on the lower grounds of the Great Kanawha. This oil not only seems to have been known, but to have been systematically gathered in very early times. Upon the flats a mile or so below the city of Titusville are many acres of cradle holes dug out and lined with split logs, evidently constructed for the purpose of gathering it. The fact that the earliest inhabitants could never discover any stumps from which these logs were cut, and the further fact that trees are growing of giant size in the midst of these cradles, are evidences that they must have been operated long ago. It could not have been the work of any of the nomadic Indian tribes found here at the coming of the white man, for they were never known to undertake any enterprise involving so much labor, and what could they do with the oil when obtained.

The French could hardly have done the work, for we have no account of the oil having been obtained in quantities, or of its being transported to France. May this not have been the work of the Mound-Builders, or of colonies from Central America? When the writer first visited these pits, in 1855, he found a spring some distance below Titusville, on Oil Creek, where the water was conducted into a trough, from which, daily, the oil, floating on its surface, was taken off by throwing a woolen blanket upon it, and then wringing it into a tub, the clean wool absorbing the oil and rejecting the water, and in this way a considerable quantity was obtained.

In 1859, Mr. E. L. Drake, at first representing a company in New York, commenced drilling near the spot where this tub was located, and when the company would give him no more money, straining his own resources, and his

credit with his friends almost to the breaking point, and when about to give up in despair, finally struck a powerful current of pure oil. From this time forward, the territory down the valley of Oil Creek and up all its tributaries was rapidly acquired and developed for oil land. In some places, the oil was sent up with immense force, at the rate of thousands of barrels each day, and great trouble was experienced in bringing it under control and storing it. In some cases, the force of the gas was so powerful on being accidentally fired, as to defy all approach for many days, and lighted up the forests at night with billows of light.

The oil has been found in paying quantities in McKean, Warren, Forest, Crawford, Venango, Clarion, Butler and Armstrong Counties, chiefly along the upper waters of the Allegheny River and its tributary, the Oil Creek. It was first transported in barrels, and teams were kept busy from the first dawn until far into the night. As soon as practicable, lines of railway were constructed from nearly all the trunk lines. Finally barrels gave place to immense iron tanks riveted upon cars, provided for the escape of the gases, and later great pipe lines were extended from the wells to the seaboard, and to the Great Lakes, through which the fluid is forced by steam to its distant destinations. Its principal uses are for illumination and lubricating, though many of its products are employed in the mechanic arts, notably for dyeing, mixing of paints, and in the practice of medicine. Its production has grown to be enormous, and seems as yet to show no sign of diminution. We give an exhibit of the annual production since its discovery, compiled for this work by William H. Siviter, editor of the Oil City *Derrick*, which is the acknowledged authority on oil matters:

• Production of the Pennsylvania Oil Fields, compiled from the *Derrick's Hand-book*, December, 1883:

	Barrels.		Barrels.
1859 .....	82,000	1873 .....	9,849,508
1860 .....	500,000	1874 .....	11,102,114
1861 .....	2,113,000	1875 .....	8,948,749
1862 .....	3,056,606	1876 .....	9,142,940
1863 .....	2,611,399	1877 .....	13,052,713
1864 .....	2,116,182	1878 .....	15,011,425
1865 .....	3,497,712	1879 .....	20,085,716
1866 .....	3,597,512	1880 .....	24,788,950
1867 .....	3,347,306	1881 .....	29,674,458
1868 .....	3,715,741	1882 .....	31,789,190
1869 .....	4,186,475	1883 .....	24,385,966
1870 .....	5,308,046		
1871 .....	5,278,076	A grand total of.....	243,749,558
1872 .....	6,505,774		

In the fall of 1860, Andrew G. Curtin was elected Governor of Pennsylvania, and Abraham Lincoln President of the United States. An organized rebellion, under the specious name of secession, was thereupon undertaken, embracing parts of fifteen States, commonly designated the Slave States, and a government established under the name of the Confederate States of America, with an Executive and Congress, which commenced the raising of troops for defense.

On the 12th of April, an attack was made upon a small garrison of United States troops shut up in Fort Sumter. This was rightly interpreted as the first act in a great drama. On the 15th, the President summoned 75,000 volunteers to vindicate the national authority, calling for sixteen regiments from Pennsylvania, and urging that two be sent forward immediately, as the capital was without defenders.

The people of the State, having no idea that war could be possible, had no



preparation for the event, There chanced at the time to be five companies in a tolerable state of organization. These were the Ringold Light Artillery, Capt. McKnight, of Reading; the Logan Guards, Capt. Selheimer, of Lewistown; the Washington Artillery, Capt. Wren, and the National Light Infantry, Capt. McDonald, of Pottsville; and the Allen Rifles, Capt. Yeager, of Allentown.

On the 18th, in conjunction with a company of fifty regulars, on their way from the West to Fort McHenry, under command of Capt. Pemberton, afterward Lieut. Gen. Pemberton, of the rebel army, these troops moved by rail for Washington. At Baltimore, they were obliged to march two miles through a jeering and insulting crowd. At the center of the city, the regulars filed off toward Fort McHenry, leaving the volunteers to pursue their way alone, when the crowd of maddened people were excited to redoubled insults. In the whole battalion there was not a charge of powder; but a member of the Logan Guards, who chanced to have a box of percussion caps in his pocket, had distributed them to his comrades, who carried their pieces capped and half cocked, creating the impression that they were loaded and ready for service. This ruse undoubtedly saved the battalion from the murderous assault made upon the Massachusetts Sixth on the following day. Before leaving, they were pelted with stones and billets of wood while boarding the cars; but, fortunately, none were seriously injured, and the train finally moved away and reached Washington in safety, the first troops to come to the unguarded and imperiled capital.

Instead of sixteen, twenty-five regiments were organized for the three months' service from Pennsylvania. Judging from the threatening attitude assumed by the rebels across the Potomac that the southern frontier would be constantly menaced, Gov. Curtin sought permission to organize a select corps, to consist of thirteen regiments of infantry, one of cavalry, and one of artillery, and to be known as the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, which the Legislature, in special session, granted. This corps of 15,000 men was speedily raised, and the intention of the State authorities was to keep this body permanently within the limits of the Commonwealth for defense. But at the time of the First Bull Run disaster in July, 1861, the National Government found itself without troops to even defend the capital, the time of the three months' men being now about to expire, and at its urgent call this fine body was sent forward and never again returned for the execution of the duty for which it was formed, having borne the brunt of the fighting on many a hard-fought field during the three years of its service.

In addition to the volunteer troops furnished in response to the several calls of the President, upon the occasion of the rebel invasion of Maryland in September, 1862, Gov. Curtin called 50,000 men for the emergency, and though the time was very brief, 25,000 came, were organized under command of Gen. John F. Reynolds, and were marched to the border. But the battle of Antietam, fought on the 17th of September, caused the enemy to beat a hasty retreat, and the border was relieved when the emergency troops were disbanded and returned to their homes. On the 19th of October, Gen. J. E. B. Stewart, of the rebel army, with 1,800 horsemen under command of Hampton, Lee and Jones, crossed the Potomac and made directly for Chambersburg, arriving after dark. Not waiting for morning to attack, he sent in a flag of truce demanding the surrender of the town. There were 275 Union soldiers in hospital, whom he paroled. During the night, the troopers were busy picking up horses—swapping horses perhaps it should be called—and the morning saw them early on the move. The rear guard gave notice before leaving to re-



move all families from the neighborhood of the public buildings, as they intended to fire them. There was a large amount of fixed ammunition in them, which had been captured from Longstreet's train, besides Government stores of shoes, clothing and muskets. At 11 o'clock the station house, round house, railroad machine shops and warehouses were fired and consigned to destruction. The fire department was promptly out; but it was dangerous to approach the burning buildings on account of the ammunition, and all perished.

The year 1862 was one of intense excitement and activity. From about the 1st of May, 1861, to the end of 1862, there were recruited in the State of Pennsylvania, one hundred and eleven regiments, including eleven of cavalry and three of artillery, for three years' service; twenty-five regiments for three months; seventeen for nine months; fifteen of drafted militia; and twenty-five called out for the emergency, an aggregate of one hundred and ninety-three regiments—a grand total of over 200,000 men—a great army in itself.

In June, 1863, Gen. Robert E. Lee, with his entire army of Northern Virginia, invaded Pennsylvania. The Army of the Potomac, under Gen. Joseph Hooker, followed. The latter was superseded on the 28th of June by Gen. George G. Meade. The vanguards of the army met a mile or so out of Gettysburg on the Chambersburg pike on the morning of the 1st of July. Hill's corps of the rebel army was held in check by the sturdy fighting of a small division of cavalry under Gen. Buford until 10 o'clock, when Gen. Reynolds came to his relief with the First Corps. While bringing his forces into action, Reynolds was killed, and the command devolved on Gen. Abner Doubleday, and the fighting became terrible, the Union forces being greatly outnumbered. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the Eleventh Corps, Gen. O. O. Howard, came to the support of the First. But now the corps of Ewell had joined hands with Hill, and a full two-thirds of the entire rebel army was on the field, opposed by only the two weak Union corps, in an inferior position. A sturdy fight was however maintained until 5 o'clock, when the Union forces withdrew through the town, and took position upon rising ground covering the Baltimore pike. During the night the entire Union army came up, with the exception of the Sixth Corps, and took position, and at 2 o'clock in the morning Gen. Meade and staff came on the field. During the morning hours, and until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the two armies were getting into position for the desperate struggle. The Third Corps, Gen. Sickles, occupied the extreme left, his corps abutting on the Little Round Top at the Devil's Den, and reaching, *en echelon*, through the rugged ground to the Peach Orchard, and thence along the Emmetsburg pike, where it joined the Second Corps, Gen. Hancock, reaching over Cemetery Hill, the Eleventh Corps, Gen. Howard, the First, Gen. Doubleday, and the Twelfth, Gen. Slocum, reaching across Culp's Hill—the whole crescent shape. To this formation the rebel army conformed, Longstreet opposite the Union left, Hill opposite the center, and Ewell opposite the Union right. At 4 P. M. the battle was opened by Longstreet, on the extreme left of Sickles, and the fighting became terrific, the rebels making strenuous efforts to gain Little Round Top. But at the opportune moment a part of the Fifth Corps, Gen. Sykes, was brought upon that key position, and it was saved to the Union side. The slaughter in front of Round Top at the wheat-field and the Peach Orchard was fearful. The Third Corps was driven back from its advanced position, and its commander, Gen. Sickles, was wounded, losing a leg. In a more contracted position, the Union line was made secure, where it rested for the night. Just at dusk, the Louisiana Tigers, some 1,800 men, made a desperate charge on Cemetery Hill, emerging suddenly from a hillock

just back of the town. The struggle was desperate, but the Tigers being weakened by the fire of the artillery, and by the infantry crouching behind the stone wall, the onset was checked, and Carroll's brigade, of the Second Corps, coming to the rescue, they were finally beaten back, terribly decimated. At about the same time, a portion of Ewell's corps made an advance on the extreme Union right, at a point where the troops had been withdrawn to send to the support of Sickles, and unopposed, gained the extremity of Culp's Hill, pushing through nearly to the Baltimore pike, in dangerous proximity to the reserve artillery and trains, and even the headquarters of the Union commander. But in their attempt to roll up the Union right they were met by Green's brigade of the Twelfth Corps, and by desperate fighting their further progress was stayed. Thus ended the battle of the second day. The Union left and right had been sorely jammed and pushed back.

At 4 o'clock on the morning of the 3d of July, Gen. Geary, who had been ordered away to the support of Sickles, having returned during the night and taken position on the right of Green, opened the battle for the recovery of his lost breastworks on the right of Culp's Hill. Until 10 o'clock, the battle raged with unabated fury. The heat was intolerable, and the sulphurous vapor hung like a pall over the combatants, shutting out the light of day. The fighting was in the midst of the forest, and the echoes resounded with fearful distinctness. The Twelfth Corps was supported by portions of the Sixth, which had now come up. At length the enemy, weakened and finding themselves overborne on all sides, gave way, and the Union breastworks were re-occupied and the Union right made entirely secure. Comparative quiet now reigned on either side until 2 o'clock in the afternoon, in the meantime both sides bringing up fresh troops and repairing damages. The rebel leader having brought his best available artillery in upon his right center, suddenly opened with 150 pieces a concentric fire upon the devoted Union left center, where stood the troops of Hancock and Doubleday and Sickles. The shock was terrible. Rarely has such a cannonade been known on any field. For nearly two hours it was continued. Thinking that the Union line had been broken and demoralized by this fire, Longstreet brought out a fresh corps of some 18,000 men, under Pickett, and charged full upon the point which had been the mark for the cannonade. As soon as this charging column came into view, the Union artillery opened upon it from right and left and center, and rent it with fearful effect. When come within musket range, the Union troops, who had been crouching behind slight pits and a low stone wall, poured in a most murderous fire. Still the rebels pushed forward with a bold face, and actually crossed the Union lines and had their hands on the Union guns. But the slaughter was too terrible to withstand. The killed and wounded lay scattered over all the plain. Many were gathered in as prisoners. Finally, the remnant staggered back, and the battle of Gettysburg was at an end.

Gathering all in upon his fortified line, the rebel chieftain fell to strengthening it, which he held with a firm hand. At night-fall, he put his trains with the wounded upon the retreat. During the 4th, great activity in building works was manifest, and a heavy skirmish line was kept well out, which resolutely met any advance of Union forces. The entire fighting force of the rebel army remained in position behind their breastworks on Oak Ridge, until nightfall of the 4th, when, under cover of darkness, it was withdrawn, and before morning was well on its way to Williamsport. The losses on the Union side were 2,834 killed, 13,709 wounded, and 6,643 missing, an aggregate of 23,186. Of the losses of the enemy, no adequate returns were made. Meade

reports 13,621 prisoners taken, and the losses by killed and wounded must have been greater than on the Union side. On the rebel side, Maj. Gens. Hood, Pender, Trimble and Heth were wounded, Pender mortally. Brig. Gens. Barksdale and Garnett were killed, and Semms mortally wounded. Brig. Gens. Kemper, Armistead, Scales, G. T. Anderson, Hampton, J. M. Jones and Jenkins were wounded; Archer was taken prisoner and Pettigrew was wounded and subsequently killed at Falling Waters. In the Union army Maj. Gen. Reynolds and Brig. Gens. Vincent, Weed, Willard and Zook were killed. Maj. Gens. Sickles, Hancock, Doubleday, Gibbon, Barlow, Warren and Butterfield, and Brig. Gens. Graham, Paul, Stone, Barnes and Brooke were wounded. A National Cemetery was secured on the center of the field, where, as soon as the weather would permit, the dead were gathered and carefully interred. Of the entire number interred, 3,512, Maine had 104; New Hampshire, 49; Vermont, 61; Massachusetts, 159; Rhode Island, 12; Connecticut, 22; New York, 867; New Jersey, 78; Pennsylvania, 534; Delaware, 15; Maryland, 22; West Virginia, 11; Ohio, 131; Indiana, 80; Illinois, 6; Michigan, 171; Wisconsin, 73; Minnesota, 52; United States Regulars, 138; unknown, 979. In the center of the field, a noble monument has been erected, and on the 19th of November, 1864, the ground was formally dedicated, when the eminent orator, Edward Everett, delivered an oration, and President Lincoln delivered the following dedicatory address:

“Fourscore and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle field of that war. We are met to dedicate a portion of it as the final resting place of those who here gave their lives that this nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work that they have thus far so nobly carried on. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to the cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain; that the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom, and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth.”

So soon as indications pointed to a possible invasion of the North by the rebel army under Gen. Lee, the State of Pennsylvania was organized in two military departments, that of the Susquehanna, to the command of which Darius N. Couch was assigned, with headquarters at Harrisburg, and that of the Monongahela, under W. T. H. Brooks, with headquarters at Pittsburgh. Urgent calls for the militia were made, and large numbers in regiments, in companies, in squadrons came promptly at the call to the number of over 36,000 men, who were organized for a period of ninety days. Fortifications were thrown up to cover Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, and the troops were moved to threatened points. But before they could be brought into action, the great decisive conflict had been fought, and the enemy driven from northern soil. Four regiments under Gen. Brooks were moved into Ohio to aid in arresting a raid undertaken by John Morgan, who, with 2,000 horse and four guns, had crossed the Ohio River for a diversion in favor of Lee.



In the beginning of July, 1864, Gen. Early invaded Maryland, and made his way to the threshold of Washington. Fearing another invasion of the State, Gov. Curtin called for volunteers to serve for 100 days. Gen. Couch was still at the head of the department of the Susquehanna, and six regiments and six companies were organized, but as fast as organized they were called to the front, the last regiment leaving the State on the 29th of July. On the evening of this day, Gens. McCausland, Bradley Johnson and Harry Gilmore, with 3,000 mounted men and six guns, crossed the Potomac, and made their way to Chambersburg. Another column of 3,000, under Vaughn and Jackson advanced to Hagerstown, and a third to Leitersburg. Averell, with a small force, was at Hagerstown, but finding himself over-matched withdrew through Greencastle to Mount Hope. Lieut. McLean, with fifty men in front of McCausland, gallantly kept his face to the foe, and checked the advance at every favorable point. On being apprised of their coming, the public stores at Chambersburg were moved northward. At six A. M., McCausland opened his batteries upon the town, but, finding it unprotected, took possession. Ringing the court house bell to call the people together, Capt. Fitzhugh read an order to the assembly, signed by Gen. Jubal Early, directing the command to proceed to Chambersburg and demand \$100,000 in gold, or \$500,000 in greenbacks, and, if not paid, to burn the town. While this parley was in progress, hats, caps, boots, watches, clothing and valuables were unceremoniously appropriated, and purses demanded at the point of the bayonet. As money was not in hand to meet so unexpected a draft, the torch was lighted. In less than a quarter of an hour from the time the first match was applied, the whole business part of the town was in flames. No notice was given for removing the women and children and sick. Burning parties were sent into each quarter of the town, which made thorough work. With the exception of a few houses upon the outskirts, the whole was laid in ruins. Retiring rapidly, the entire rebel command recrossed the Potomac before any adequate force could be gathered to check its progress.

The whole number of soldiers recruited under the various calls for troops from the State of Pennsylvania was 366,000. By authority of the commonwealth, in 1866, the commencement was made of the publication of a history of these volunteer organizations, embracing a brief historical account of the part taken by each regiment and independent body in every battle in which it was engaged, with the name, rank, date of muster, period for which he enlisted, casualties, and fate of every officer and private. This work was completed in 1872, in five imperial octavo volumes of over 1,400 pages each.

In May, 1861, the Society of the Cincinnati of Pennsylvania, an organization of the officers of the Revolutionary war and their descendants, donated \$500 toward arming and equipping troops. By order of the Legislature, this sum was devoted to procuring flags for the regiments, and each organization that went forth, was provided with one emblazoned with the arms of the commonwealth. These flags, seamed and battle stained, were returned at the close of the war, and are now preserved in a room devoted to the purpose in the State capitol—precious emblems of the daring and suffering of that great army that went forth to uphold and maintain the integrity of the nation.

When the war was over, the State undertook the charge of providing for all soldiers' orphans in schools located in different parts of its territory, furnishing food, clothing, instruction and care, until they should be grown to manhood and womanhood. The number thus gathered and cared for has been some 7,500 annually, for a period of nineteen years, at an average annual expense of some \$600,000.



At the election in 1866, John W. Geary, a veteran General of the late war, was chosen Governor. During his administration, settlements were made with the General Government, extraordinary debts incurred during the war were paid, and a large reduction of the old debt of \$40,000,000 inherited from the construction of the canals, was made. A convention for a revision of the constitution was ordered by act of April 11, 1872. This convention assembled in Harrisburg November 13, and adjourned to meet in Philadelphia, where it convened on the 7th of January, 1873, and the instrument framed was adopted on the 18th of December, 1873. By its provisions, the number of Senators was increased from thirty-three to fifty, and Representatives from 100 to 201, subject to further increase in proportion to increase of population; biennial, in place of annual sessions; making the term of Supreme Court Judges twenty-one in place of fifteen years; remanding a large class of legislation to the action of the courts; making the term of Governor four years in place of three, and prohibiting special legislation, were some of the changes provided for.

In January, 1873, John F. Hartranft became Governor, and at the election in 1878, Henry F. Hoyt was chosen Governor, both soldiers of the late war. In the summer of 1877, by concert of action of the employes on the several lines of railway in the State, trains were stopped and travel and traffic were interrupted for several days together. At Pittsburgh, conflicts occurred between the railroad men and the militia, and a vast amount of property was destroyed. The opposition to the local military was too powerful to be controlled, and the National Government was appealed to for aid. A force of regulars was promptly ordered out, and the rioters finally quelled. Unfortunately, Gov. Hartranft was absent from the State at the time of the troubles.

At the election in 1882 Robert E. Pattison was chosen governor. The Legislature, which met at the opening of 1883, having adjourned after a session of 156 days, without passing a Congressional apportionment bill, as was required, was immediately reconvened in extra session by the governor, and remained in session until near the close of the year, from June 1 to December 5, without coming to an agreement upon a bill, and finally adjourned without having passed one. This protracted sitting is in marked contrast to the session of that early Assembly in which an entire constitution and laws of the province were framed and adopted in the space of three days.

November 2, 1886, James A. Beaver was elected governor.

TABLE SHOWING THE VOTE FOR GOVERNORS OF PENNSYLVANIA SINCE THE ORGANIZATION OF THE STATE.

Year	Name	Count	Year	Name	Count	Year	Name	Count
1790.	Thomas Mifflin.....	27,725	1829.	George Wolf.....	78,219	1866.	John W. Geary.....	307,274
	Arthur St. Clair.....	2,802		Joseph Ritner.....	51,776		Hiester Clymer.....	290,097
				George E. Baum.....	6		Giles Lewis.....	7
1793.	Thomas Mifflin.....	18,590		Frank R. Williams.....	3	1869.	John W. Geary.....	290,552
	F. A. Muhlenberg.....	10,706	1832.	George Wolf.....	91,335		Asa Packer.....	285,956
1796.	Thomas Mifflin.....	30,020		Joseph Ritner.....	88,165		W. D. Kelly.....	1
	F. A. Muhlenberg.....	1,011	1835.	Joseph Ritner.....	94,023		W. J. Robinson.....	1
1799.	Thomas McKean.....	38,036		George Wolf.....	65,804	1872.	John F. Hartranft.....	353,387
	James Ross.....	32,641		Henry A. Muhlenberg.....	40,586		Charles R. Buckalen.....	317,760
1802.	Thomas McKean.....	47,879	1838.	David R. Porter.....	127,827		S. B. Chase.....	1,197
	James Ross, of Pittsburgh.....	9,499		Joseph Ritner.....	122,321		William P. Schell.....	12
	James Ross.....	7,538	1841.	David R. Porter.....	136,504	1875.	John F. Hartranft.....	304,175
1808.	Simon Snyder.....	67,975		John Banks.....	113,473		Cyrus L. Pershing.....	292,145
	James Ross.....	39,575		T. J. Lemoine.....	763		R. Audley Brown.....	13,244
	John Sayd.....	4,006		George F. Horton.....	18		James S. Negley.....	1
	W. Shields.....	2		Samuel L. Carpenter.....	4		Phillip Wendle.....	1
	Charles Nice.....	1		Ellis Lewis.....	1		J. W. Brown.....	1
	Jack Ross.....	2	1844.	Francis R. Shunk.....	160,322		G. F. Reinhard.....	1
	W. Tilghman.....	1		Joseph Markle.....	156,940		G. D. Coleman.....	1
1811.	Simon Snyder.....	52,319		Julius J. Lemoine.....	10		James Staples.....	1
	William Tilghman.....	3,609		John Haney.....	2		Richard Vaux.....	1
	Scattering, no record for whom.....	1,675		James Page.....	1		Craig Biddle.....	1
1814.	Simon Snyder.....	51,099	1847.	Francis R. Shunk.....	146,081	1878.	H. M. Hoyt.....	319,490
	Isaac Wayne.....	29,566		James Irvin.....	128,148		Andrew H. Dill.....	297,137
	G. Lattimer.....	910		Emanuel C. Reigart.....	11,247		Samuel R. Mason.....	81,758
	J. E. Rust.....	4		F. J. Lemoine.....	1,861		Franklin H. Lane.....	3,753
1817.	William Findlay.....	66,331		George M. Keim.....	1		S. Matson.....	2
	Joseph Hiester.....	59,272		Abijah Morrison.....	3		John McKee.....	1
	Moses Palmer.....	1	1848.	William F. Johnston.....	168,522		D. Kirk.....	1
	Aaron Hanson.....	1		Morris Longstreth.....	168,225		R. L. Miller.....	1
	John Saffer.....	1		E. B. Gazzam.....	48		J. H. Hopkins.....	1
	Seth Thomas.....	1		Scattering (no record).....	24		A. G. Williams.....	1
	Nicholas Wiseman.....	3		William Bigler.....	186,489		Samuel H. Lane.....	1
	Benjamin R. Morgan.....	2	1851.	William F. Johnston.....	178,034		John Fertig.....	1
	William Tilghman.....	1		Kimber Cleaver.....	1,850		James Musgrove.....	1
	Andrew Gregg.....	1		James Pollock.....	203,822		Silas M. Baily.....	1
1820.	Joseph Hiester.....	67,905		William Bigler.....	166,991		A. S. Post.....	9
	William Findlay.....	66,300		B. Rush Bradford.....	2,194		C. A. Cornen.....	3
	Scattering (no record).....	21	1857.	William F. Packer.....	188,846		Seth Yocum.....	1
1823.	J. Andrew Shulze.....	81,751		David Wilmot.....	149,139		Edward E. Orris.....	1
	Andrew Gregg.....	64,151		Isaac Hazlehurst.....	28,168	1882.	Robert E. Pattison.....	355,791
	Andrew Shulze.....	112		James Pollock.....	1		James A. Beaver.....	315,589
	John Andrew Shulze.....	7,311		George R. Barret.....	1		John Stewart.....	43,743
	Andrew Gragg.....	53		William Steel.....	1		Thomas A. Armstrong.....	23,996
	Andrew Greg.....	1		F. P. Swartz.....	1		Alfred C. Pettit.....	5,196
	John A. Shulze.....	754		Samuel McFarland.....	1	1886.	Scattering.....	35
	Nathaniel B. Boileau.....	3		George F. Horton.....	7		James A. Beaver.....	412,285
	Capt. Glosseader.....	3	1860.	Andrew G. Curtin.....	262,346		Chauncey F. Black.....	3 9 634
	John Gassender.....	1		Henry D. Foster.....	230,239		Charles S. Wolfe.....	32,458
	Isaac Wayne.....	1	1863.	A. G. Curtin.....	269,506		Robert J. Houston.....	4,835
	George Bryan.....	1		George W. Woodward.....	254,171		Scattering.....	55
1826.	J. Andrew Shulze.....	72,710		John Hickman.....	1			
	John Sergeant.....	1,175		Thomas M. Howe.....	1			
	Scattering (no record).....	1,174						

PART II.

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HISTORY OF COLUMBIA COUNTY.









William J. Lyles,

# HISTORY OF COLUMBIA COUNTY.

## CHAPTER I.

### GENERAL TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY.

**T**OPOGRAPHICALLY, the state of Pennsylvania may be generally divided into three great divisions—the southeastern section, a region of broad, fertile valleys and scattered hills; the middle belt, some fifty miles wide and two hundred and thirty miles long, consisting of peculiarly symmetrical mountain ranges and narrow valleys; and a high western plateau deeply seamed by various water-courses.

It is with the middle belt that these pages are especially concerned. This region is separated from the earlier settled portion of the state by the Kittatinny range, through which the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers force their way along fertile valleys and rugged peaks to find their outlet to the sea. On the north and west the limit of this middle belt is defined by the Allegheny range, extending in a broad westward curve from the point where the lines of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania converge to the Maryland line in Somerset county, where it passes out of the state.

The region thus defined may be readily divided into four distinct districts: the Pocono wilderness, properly a part of the Catskill range, in the east; the anthracite coal region; the open country of the middle course of the Susquehanna; and the Juniata country. The mountain plateau on the western side of the Delaware is clearly identified with the Catskill range, and while it loses something of the high altitude of that range at the Hudson, it still retains its rugged characteristics. It is still a mountain wilderness, where deep recesses afford a safe retreat for wild animals, and laurel-fringed lakes supply the head-springs of the Lehigh. Between the Delaware and Lehigh rivers this range passes under the varying names of Poco, Pocono or Pohopoco, ending at the last named river in the Nesquehoning mountain.

The anthracite region is a labyrinth of mountains, rising to elevations ranging from eight hundred to one thousand feet from their bases, and dividing this section into four generally recognized subdivisions. These are known as the Pottsville and Mine-Hill basins; the Shamokin and Mahanoy basins; the Beaver-Meadow mountain basins, and the Wilkesbarre and Scranton basins, or Wyoming valley. In this region the coal measures are generally found in sharp, rocky-sided ridges, which rise from the valleys to an elevation of some four hundred or five hundred feet, though three well marked exceptions are found in the small plateaus of Broad mountain, five miles wide and fifteen miles long, which separates the Pottsville and Mahanoy basins: the Beaver-Meadow moun

tain, eight miles wide and fifteen to twenty miles long, on top of which lie the numerous little Lehigh coal basins, side by side; and the Nescopee mountain, where it is crossed by the Lehigh valley railroads, and merges itself toward the east in the Pocono plateau. Each coal basin is found encircled by a great wall of conglomerate, outside of which is found a trough or vale of red shale, outside of which again runs a second and still higher mass of white sandstone, the outside flank of which is always furnished with a terrace of red sandstone.

The mountains of this region are still covered with the original forests, which promise an abundant supply of timber for mining purposes so long as there shall be any need of it. The red shale valleys are slowly coming under cultivation, though, secluded as they are by their peculiar situation, their development must necessarily be slow. Here and there, however, they expand broadly and are more generally cultivated, as Lyken's, Deep and Mahanoy valleys, which together encircle the coal basins on the Susquehanna side—Laurel valley, drained by the Little Schuylkill; Catawissa valley, between the Mahanoy and Beaver-Meadow coal regions; and Conyngham valley, watered by the Nescopee creek. "No scenery can excel these earthly paradises, when, from the summits of the coal-bearing rocks, the spectator looks down upon the broad expanse of field, meadow and woodland, dotted with farm houses and barns; the deep red of the newly turned soil in strong contrast with the verdure of growing crops and groves, and the whole landscape bounded by the outside mountain wall, rosy in June with the rhododendron in full bloom, far as the eye can reach."

Columbia county is thus found to lie wholly within the anthracite region of the middle belt, though workable coal deposits have been developed within its limits only in the Conyngham valley. Above the "North Branch" the territory of this county falls within the limits of what was originally called the Wyoming valley. In its present restricted signification the name is usually applied to a valley on the "North Branch," some twenty miles in length and from three to four miles in width. In its broader application, it is used to designate that part of the middle belt embraced within the forty-second degree of north latitude, originally claimed and partly settled by Connecticut. The name is a corruption of *Maughcawwama*, an Indian term of the Delaware dialect signifying "large plains," and is a fair characterization of the locality to which it was applied. For, though the valley is greatly diversified by hill and dale, by upland and intervalle, the broad river bottoms, extending in places to a distance of two or three miles from the river, justify the Indian title. Beginning where the Susquehanna emerges from a deep cañon in the Allegheny range, the inclosing mountains recede, leaving broad spaces of fertile bottom lands on either side extending toward the southeast, until the river and valley of the Lackawanna is reached, when, turning somewhat abruptly to the southwest, the course of the river continues uninterrupted until the hills close in upon its course some twenty miles below Pittston. Through Columbia and Northumberland counties the valley again widens, but with less regularity than in Luzerne, until the united branches reach the open country below.

Columbia county partakes of the broken character of the whole middle belt. Few of its elevations, however, reach the grade of mountain altitudes, though many of its hills afford a view of broad expanses of picturesque landscape. The Catawissa mountain, rising in places to the height of one thousand five hundred feet, extends in a northwest direction from the Luzerne county line, separating the townships of Beaver and Roaringcreek, to the village of Catawissa, where the Susquehanna forces its way through a chasm probably formed by a convulsion of nature. North of the river the range takes a more westerly course and grad-



ually loses its mountainous character in Montour county. Dividing Locust and Conyngham townships is Little mountain with a parallel ridge south of it, beyond which the Schuylkill region is reached. On the eastern side of the county the Susquehanna valley is defined on the south by the Nescopec mountain, the extension of which follows the general direction of the river through Luzerne. At Mainville, the Catawissa river finds a passage way through this range, beyond which the elevation is associated with the Catawissa mountain. South of Nescopec, Scotch run forms the dividing line between it and McCauley mountain which, in turn, is separated by Beaver run from Buck mountain in the southeast part of Beaver township. North of the river the more important elevation takes its rise in Orange township and is known as Knob or Nob mountain. Extending eastwardly the range divides, and passes out of the county under the names of Huntingdon and Lee, forming the northern limit of the river valley. In Luzerne county, Huntingdon takes the name of Shickshinny where it closely borders the Susquehanna, and is pierced by the river at Charlestown just before it turns on its southwesterly course. Lee mountain is pierced by the river in Salem township, of Luzerne county, and is known farther eastward as Wyoming mountain. Along the northern boundary of Sugarloaf is the main ridge of the Alleghenys, which here throws off a spur called Bald mountain.

Elsewhere in the county the surface is greatly broken by a succession of hills of varying height and character, while winding about at their bases are numerous runs, the fertile slopes of which are cultivated by the industrious people who have planted here their homes. Fishing creek, with its numerous tributaries, is the sole drainage way of the county north of the river. It takes its origin in two branches, one of which enters the county from Lycoming at the northern point of Jackson township, and the other through a gap in the mountains from Sullivan into Sugarloaf township, where they unite. A little south of this point it receives Coles creek, and flowing southward receives West creek in Benton. Continuing its course with little deflection it receives Huntingdon creek, which rushes along the base of the mountain bearing the same name. Turning westward from this point it passes through the central portion of Orange, receiving the waters of Green creek at this point, from whence it follows an irregular course, forming the boundary line, in part separating Mount Pleasant and Orange, Bloom and Hemlock, and Montour and Bloom, and at last finding its outlet into the Susquehanna at Rupert. Little Fishing creek enters the county from Lycoming, and, forming the separating line of Jackson and Pine, Greenwood and Pine, Madison and Greenwood and Mount Pleasant, and Hemlock and Mount Pleasant, joins the main creek at the point where the lines of Hemlock, Bloom and Mount Pleasant converge. In its course, Little Fishing receives the waters of several mountain runs, such as Black, Late, Lick, Shingle, Spruce, Bear and Spring. To complete the enumeration of the tributaries of Big Fishing, mention should be made of Painter's run in Sugarloaf, Raven's in Benton and Fishingcreek townships, Spencer in Benton, Stony brook in Orange, and Hemlock in Madison. Beside the Fishing, the county north of the river is locally drained by several minor streams, which find their outlet in the Susquehanna. Briar (called by the Indians, *Kawani-shoning*) creek, one branch rising in Center and the other in the township bearing the same name, which unite near the village of Berwick and join the river about two miles lower down; Cabin run, rising in Center and flowing a direct course to the river, and Kinney's run, which empties at the foot of Market street in Bloomsburg, which early served raftsmen as a designation for the early settlement in Bloom.

South of the Susquehanna, the region embraced within Columbia county is drained by the Catawissa, Roaring creek and the Ten Mile run. The first named takes its rise in Schuylkill county, passes through the townships of Beaver, Maine and Catawissa, reaching its outlet on the western line of the latter township. Its principal tributaries are Beaver and Scotch runs, which form the dividing lines south and north, of McCauley mountain in Beaver township. Roaring creek takes its rise in the township of the same name, meanders back and forth across the line dividing Locust and Roaringcreek townships, and taking a westerly course through Catawissa and Franklin, turns northward, forming the western limit of the county for a short distance, and falling into the river about three miles below the Catawissa. Its principal branches are the South Branch, which rises in Conyngham township, and after running through its entire length, turns northward to form the western boundary of Locust, and joins the main stream six miles from its mouth; Mugser's run, rising in Locust township and running westwardly, falls into the South Branch near the Franklin line, and Mill creek, rising in Roaring creek township and emptying into the South Branch near Cherington's.

The general topography of the county is found closely connected with its geological structure, its higher elevations being found where the *Pocono* or *Pottsville conglomerates* occur, low hills over the *Catskill* and *Chemung* area, and valleys wherever the *Hamilton*, *Lower Helderberg* or *Salina* extend, while the outcrop of the *Oriskany* and *Clinton* usually takes the form of ridges. The rock exposure in Columbia is thus found to include only No. 5, and upward, of the *Older Secondary* system. The geological structure of the state, however, is marked by great complication of form and variety of quality and age. The *Laurentian* system, the oldest known to geologists, is represented in the South mountain, the Welsh mountain, and the Durham or Eastern hills. The *Huronian* system, following next in age, has not been recognized in Pennsylvania, but the *Paleozoic* or *Older Secondary* system—beginning with No. 1, the *Potsdam sandstone*, and terminating with No. 13, the *Coal Measures*—is magnificently developed through the entire state. The *Mesozoic* or *Middle Secondary* system, which spreads itself thinly over the last, is found in a belt of country embracing parts of Berks, Bucks, Lebanon, Lancaster, York and Adams counties. The *Kainozoic*, or *Tertiary* system, lies outside of the state, east of the Delaware river, in New Jersey, and forms the Atlantic seaboard, while the *Drift* terraces of the Beaver and other rivers in the north-west quarter of the state must be assigned to the *quaternary* age, or the age in which man appeared on the earth.

At least three notable changes in the relative levels of land and sea have contributed to the characterization of the geological structure of the state. During the *Protozoic* ages—*Laurentian* and *Huronian*—there was land and sea, as the conglomerates, sandstones, mudrocks and limestones—all more or less converted by pressure, moisture, heat and chemical action into gneiss and granite, slate and marble—abundantly testify. Where the sea spread itself and received its washings from the land is apparent; but where the land stood, which bordered on, or rose from the depths of that sea, is not discoverable. It was in this period that the first of these great changes took place, preparatory to the deposit of the *Potsdam limestone*. The existing formations were upturned, eroded by the rivers, and deposited in the sea to be overlaid by the *Paleozoic* series. The subterranean floor of Pennsylvania, like that of most of the entire area of the United States, is formed of granite, gneiss, mica slate, and marble, laying at various depths beneath the surface, from one to twenty thousand feet. Beneath the Anthracite coal basins, and the Broad Top coal

basins, wells might be sunk to the depth of more than seven miles before reaching this subterranean floor. At this distance would be reached the rocks which form the Adirondack mountains of New York, the mountains of Labrador and Canada, the hill country of Lake Superior, etc. These rocks are everywhere characterized by the presence of immense beds of magnetic and specular iron ore and, no doubt, vast deposits of iron ore, exactly like those of lakes Superior and Champlain, exist beneath every county of Pennsylvania, but at depths which render them inaccessible. It is equally certain that the range of these rocks which still shows itself above the surface from Easton to Reading, and from Carlisle to Harper's Ferry, was, in that early day, a range of mountains as high as the Alps or Andes are now. The porosity of silica in these rocks, however, and abundance of feldspar made their erosion easy and rapid; their peaks were tumbled piecemeal into the ravines; the ravines were deepened and widened into valleys, until nothing now remains of what was then above the water level save what the explorer now discovers in these remains. Standing like islands in a general ocean, their fragments were rolled by rivers into the watery deep, forming the conglomerates and coarser sandstones of the *Paleozoic* system along their shores, while their finer mud was floated far out to sea. Other agencies doubtless contributed to this result, such as earthquakes of greater or less intensity, the great ocean bottom gradually subsiding as it received successive formations from the beginning to the end of the long *Paleozoic* era, which closed with the carboniferous bogs at the sea-level.

The second great change then took place. The ocean no longer deepened, but the continent gradually rose into the air. All further deposits became impossible, and the coal-beds, which were formed at the sea level, were lifted, in some parts of middle Pennsylvania, to a height equal to the thickness of the whole *Paleozoic* system—that is, 35,000 feet, higher than the highest summits of the Himalayas. In this movement the wet masses of the *Paleozoic* strata were thrown into waves; drainage in various directions was established; erosion began, hydrostatic pressure forced the sea-water to issue in innumerable springs, and with frost above, and the undermining floods below, began a rapid work of destruction, which has lasted ever since. Nearly the whole area of the state, east of the Alleghenies, lost not only all its coal measures, but a vast majority of all the mineral strata underneath them. For scores of miles the entire *Paleozoic* system was excavated and planed down to the limestone (No. 11) at the base of the series, and along the center lines of some of the valleys, the old *Laurentian* surface cannot be more than a thousand feet below the present surface. The destruction was greatest where the elevation was greatest, along the middle belt of the Appalachian range, though western Pennsylvania suffered somewhat in this general destruction.

Out of this general disintegration of *Paleozoic* formations were created New Jersey and the tide-water country of Maryland and Virginia; and on the western side, the lower half of Alabama and nearly the whole of Mississippi and Louisiana. So that it appears that the *Protozoic* mountains were wasted to form the *Paleozoic* rocks of the interior, and they, in turn, have been wasted to form the Tertiary formations of the seaboard.

Whether the elevation of the continent took place suddenly at the close of the *coal era*, or somewhat before, and somewhat after that point of time, is not known; but that the uprise was local over large areas is evident, as it left extensive regions of the western half of the American continent still under water. In southeastern Pennsylvania an arm of the sea, with one cape at New York and the other at Trenton, stretched itself up into the land across what are now Berks, Bucks, Lebanon, Lancaster, York and Adams counties, penetrated to the



heart of Virginia and North Carolina, reaching the confines of Georgia. On the southeast side of this long salt-water bay ran the still lofty hill country of the Philadelphia-Baltimore-Raleigh gold-bearing rocks; and on the other rose the loftier range of the South mountain and Blue ridge. Into this depression were drained vast quantities of river sand and mud, charged with iron, forming the well-known brown building-stone of Newark and Norristown.

The third principal change in the relative level of land and sea was occasioned by the additional rise of the eastern borders of the American continent, which drained this new red estuary, and elevated its brown beds to an unknown height in the air. At present, in spite of the destructive wear and tear which their upper beds have suffered since this movement took place, some of the rounded hill-tops stand as much as six hundred feet above the present tide-level. This waste of the *New Red* has furnished material for the deposit of *Cretaceous* and *Tertiary* formations of the seaboard, though the amount of erosion cannot be even estimated.

Beside the enormous amount of wear and tear of the elements, similar to what may be observed in progress at the present time, the physical features of the country owe their character very considerably to another powerful agency, which, some forty years ago, was scarcely credited even by the well-informed. This was the great northern glacier, extending hundreds of thousands of square miles in area, and several thousand feet in thickness. The region of Hudson's bay has been suggested as the possible point of radiation, from which the different glacial streams proceeded upon their southerly course, and, from this or some other central point, a continuous ice-sheet advanced from the north across the Laurentians, the Adirondacks, the Catskills, and the successive mountain ranges of Pennsylvania. Another lobe of the same ice-sheet crossed Lake Erie, advancing into the western parts of the state, while the main body probably covered the entire northeastern part of the continent. The principal phenomena which afford a practical demonstration of this theory are the scratched and polished rock surfaces over which the glacier passed, the shaping and scratching of the fragments which were moved, and the transportation of boulders, which finally formed the moraines, now found regularly deposited through the region of the glaciated district. These phenomena were first observed and studied among the Swiss glaciers, and the facts thus obtained were found to be in general agreement with certain indications found in the rocks of the American continent. Other theories were, for a time, entertained, but one after another was found insufficient to account for the conditions presented, so that now, save a few who still cling to the floating iceberg theory, all scientists assent to the theory of a great northern glacier.

Many topographical changes were effected by this agency; valleys were filled up, terraces were formed, rocks that were barren were covered with soil, mineral resources were buried, and the lines of drainage re-established. By such means the economic character of the country was greatly changed, the glaciated region being rendered favorable to the farmer, and unfavorable to the miner. The general topography of the two regions, however, is very much alike, and the dividing line is only to be discovered by a close observation of the surface deposit.

These deposits may be generally divided into two classes, those occurring in the glaciated area, and those lying south of that area. The deposits of the first class may be again divided into those made by ice and those made by water; and the deposits of the second class may be divided into those of a fluvial and those of oceanic origin. In both classes of deposits the relative elevation above tide is a notable feature, serving, in many cases, to mark



important distinctions, both as to age and origin. The two classes of surface deposits meet one another in such river valleys as pass from the glaciated into the non-glaciated region; and it is in such valleys that the relation of the two classes of deposits to one another may be most satisfactorily studied.

The great *Northern Drift*, as it has long been called by geologists, is a scattered deposit of stones and clay, which, unlike the stratified gravels and clays of the river valleys, is a confused mixture irregularly dumped over the ground, thick in some places and thin in others, and often unstratified and unsorted by water. It is an impure clay, filled with stones of all sizes and shapes, generally rounded more or less, yet often sharp. They lie at all angles, confusedly mixed together, and upon close examination many of them show fine striations, the majority of which are longitudinal. Large boulders are scattered through and upon this deposit, and are often many feet in diameter. Stratified gravelly deposits are also present in large quantity.

This unstratified deposit has been called by the Swiss geologists *till*, a term which is used in the Pennsylvania reports to distinguish this unstratified stony clay from various other diluvial and drift deposits, which occur in the region covered by the *Northern Drift*, and which all overlie the *till*. The term *drift* is used to designate all detrital deposits which have been moved, by whatever agent, from their original occurrence, including, among other kinds, *glacial drift*, *river drift* and *frost drift*, the latter term here designating such angular drift as creeps down any declivity through the successive freezing and thawing of the loose mass, aided by gravity. The *Northern Drift* designates those detrital deposits which, in the northeastern parts of America and northwestern parts of Europe, have generally been drifted in a southerly direction. The *modified drift* of some geologists is a general term, including such portions of the *Northern Drift* as have been assorted by water-action.

The *till* varies in depth from a mere sprinkling of boulders, by which it is sometimes represented, to a depth of a hundred feet or more. In northwestern Pennsylvania it is in many places two hundred feet deep. In more western states it is still deeper, a depth of three hundred feet having been reported in certain parts of Indiana. In eastern Pennsylvania, perhaps on account of the inequality of the surface and the numerous mountain ranges, it is seldom deep, and on many mountain sides is completely absent. It is usually abundant in this section, however, at the heads of valleys and in other slight depressions, and is more abundant in valleys on the north side of a mountain range than on the south side. Where a deep cut exposes a fine section of *till*, the lower portion is seen to be much more compact than the upper part, and of a bluish color. This is probably the original condition of the deposit before being loosened and oxidized by atmospheric agencies.

The origin of the *till* has been explained in several ways, some holding that it is a ground moraine, formed underneath the glaciers by its grinding and abrasive action; some believing that large portions of it were dropped from the end of the glacier as it melted; and others that it was formed of material beneath the glacier, but deposited mainly near its margin, where the ice was less deep. The last view is probably more correct, for the upper portions of the *till*, especially in the western states, frequently show water-action. This deposit is in great part composed of local material, varying in composition with the geological character of the region. The far transported boulders lie, very frequently, at or near the surface of the *till*, as though dropped upon it from the upper ice. From the fact that the high summits in Pennsylvania are rarely capped by *till*, but, on the other hand, often hold far-transported boulders, it is inferred that the upper portions of the glacier were clean, bear-

ing only occasional boulders derived from a distance, while the bottom of the ice-sheet was continually grinding up the underlying rock, and filling it up with the *debris*. The origin of the Philadelphia brick-clays may be found, perhaps, in the muddy water which issued from the grinding base of the glacier. When the glacier sent out lobes across a low country, or when it crossed a great river valley, the *till* gives the strongest evidence of sub-glacial water-action. The stratified drift deposits of the great Mississippi valley, and the sub-aqueous *till* of the St. Lawrence valley, indicate the presence of quantities of water circulating beneath the ice in those regions; but it cannot be too strongly insisted upon that the *till* occurring in the mountainous districts of Pennsylvania is unstratified and destitute of any trace of aqueous action.

Another and more conclusive evidence to the former presence of a continental glacier is found in the *terminal moraine*. Every modern glacier pushes up at its foot a ridge of detritus, composed of rounded, angular and striated fragments of rock, which the ice has taken up at various points along its course and carried partly on top, partly below, to the point where the glacier comes to an end. It thus forms a *terminal moraine*, which may vary in elevation with the foot of the glacier, and on high ground may show no signs of water-action. Such a line is radically different from the level shore line of a body of water whose beach, even if non-fossiliferous and covered by iceberg-borne boulders, is mainly composed of stratified water-worn pebbles, and has terrace-like features quite unlike the rounded hummocks and interlaced ridges of a true moraine.

Large *terminal moraines* may be seen in several parts of the Rocky mountains, and these, sometimes several hundred feet high, furnish undisputable proofs of ancient glaciers. Moraines, sometimes three hundred and fifty feet in height, made up of angular *debris* and extending several miles out from the base of the mountains, occur along the Sierra Nevada. The moraines in the regions of South Park, Colorado, are very striking glacial features, and are even more conclusive than strial or scratched boulders. In fact, a *terminal moraine* may be regarded as the one decisive proof of glaciation. By the discovery, therefore, in Pennsylvania and in other portions of America of an immense *terminal moraine*, which, as a nearly continuous ridge of unstratified and glaciated material, crosses alike mountains and valleys, and forms everywhere on high land the boundary between the drift-covered and the driftless regions, the theory that the *Northern Drift* was deposited by a glacier of immense extent is entirely confirmed.

In the study of the Swiss glaciers, it has been found that these great bodies of ice flow with a motion resembling that of a viscous body, the central portion flowing more rapidly than the sides, and the upper layers faster than the lower. The laws of this motion have been discovered, and theories of its cause enunciated by the great scientists, to the inestimable advantage of all students of similar phenomena. By reason of this onward and downward flow of a Swiss glacier, any rock fragments which fall on its surface, or, which are broken off by being frozen into the ice, are transported to the point in the valley where the glacier comes to an end. In this way a heap of detritus is gradually dumped down at the terminus of the glacier forming a ridge of unstratified glaciated material at right angles to the motion of the glacier. This ridge of *debris* has been called a *terminal moraine*. The mass of *debris* accumulated under the glacier is the *ground moraine*, while the lines of waste at the sides of the ice stream are its *lateral moraines*. When two glacial streams, each having *lateral moraines*, meet, as is often the case in Switzerland, a *medial moraine* is produced, and extends from the junction of the two lateral mo-

raines along the middle of the glacier in a line parallel to its motion. When a glacier retreats, these moraines, more especially the terminal moraine, may be left to mark its former extension.

In dealing with a glacier of the size indicated by the remains of the great ice-sheet of America, and where projecting or bordering cliffs were probably wholly wanting, save in its growth and decline, some representative of the ground and terminal moraines only are to be sought. Of the former, the *till* fulfills all the conditions, while of the latter, the conditions are fulfilled by the lines of drift hills, which constitute the *terminal moraine* in Pennsylvania. The peculiar topography characterizing these hills is unlike that produced either by wave-action, or by aerial erosion; while, on the other hand, it is identical with that characterizing the moraines of modern Swiss glaciers.

The great moraine shows itself at the heel of Cape Cod; makes the Elizabeth islands and Block island; runs through Long island from end to end; crosses Staten island; bends north at Amboy, and makes a wide curve through New Jersey to Belvidere. In Pennsylvania beginning a mile below Belvidere, latitude  $40^{\circ} 49'$ , it appears through the stratified drift as low gravel hills. These, winding up over the slate hills to the west, are soon developed into an accumulation of typical *till*, holding *kettle-holes* and filled with boulders. Bending in a great curve, first westward and then northward, it reaches the base of the Kittatinny mountain, three miles east of Wind-Gap. Ascending to the top of the Kittatinny mountain (1,600 feet A. T.); the moraine crosses over it, being well shown upon the very summit and, entering Monroe county, crosses the great valley between the Kittatinny and the Pocono, inclosing in its course several moraine lakes. Having crossed this valley and reached the base of the Pocono escarpment, it swings sharply back and around Pocono knob. Immediately afterward it ascends the steep face of the mountain to the wide plateau on top, two thousand one hundred feet above the sea.

Crossing the center of Kidder township, Carbon county, it reaches the gorge of the Lehigh river about ten miles north of Mauch Chunk, which it crosses at Hickory run. Without swerving from its general northwestern course, it crosses Hell-Kitchen mountain, Cunningham valley and Nescopeck mountain, in Luzerne county, and descends to the valley of the east branch of the Susquehanna river, which it crosses at Beach Haven. Here heaps of drift have been washed down the river into terraces.

In Columbia county, after following awhile the base of Lee's mountain, it ascends to the summit (1,350 feet A. T.), crosses the high red shale valley and crest of Huntingdon mountain, and then descends the north slope of that mountain to the broad, undulating valley of Fishing creek. Taking a northerly course, it follows up the east bank of Fishing creek to the North or Allegheny mountains.

From this point the moraine crosses Sullivan and Lycoming counties westward to Ralston, and Potter county to Olean. At Little valley, in the state of New York, it turns at a right angle and runs southwest to Beaver county. Across the state of Ohio it describes a great curve to the Ohio river above Cincinnati. After an excursion into Kentucky, it recrosses the Ohio river below Cincinnati, traverses Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Manitoba, and is lost in the unexplored country west of Baffin's bay.

The length of the line traced through Pennsylvania is about four hundred miles, and, where undisturbed, the moraine is a ridge of loose rocks, sand and clay, a hundred feet high and several hundred yards broad at its base, its materials being fragments of all the surface formations collected and carried southward by the great ice-sheet in its movement from Canada across the state



of New York and the northern counties of Pennsylvania, and left standing in a disorderly heap along the line at which the ice-front melted away. But little of it, however, is left undisturbed, and, where typically developed, this accumulation is characterized by peculiar contours of its own—a series of *hummocks*, or low, conical hills, alternate short straight ridges, and inclosed, shallow, basin-shaped depressions, which, like inverted *hummocks* in shape, are known as *kettle-holes*—and has an average width of about a mile. When less typically developed, the moraine is distinguished from the glacial drift back of it by the greater size and number of its boulders, the more distant source of such boulders, and the more frequent striation of their surfaces.

With the exception of a narrow district, which has been denominated *the fringe*,\* the line of drift hills which crosses Pennsylvania lies at the precise edge of the drift-covered district. Lying sometimes on an ascending slope, sometimes on a descending one, sometimes crossing a narrow mountain ridge and sometimes forming an embankment across a valley, it rests against no barrier and represents no possible shore line. The absence of stratification, the absence of drift wood or aqueous fossils, the angularity and striated surfaces of its enclosed stones, together with its topographical position and its peculiar contours, preclude any hypothesis of aqueous origin; while the fact—proved by the *strice*—that its course is at right angles to the glacial movement, taken in connection with the remarkable deflections—large and small—in its course, make it a true *terminal moraine*.

The moraine enters Columbia county at about the center of the north and south line of Briar creek township. It is tolerably well defined on the county line where it crosses a road leading northeast from Foundryville, about a mile and a half from that village. The line trends somewhat south of west, keeping along the base of Lee's mountain. It passes about a mile and a quarter north of the village, and is recognized by its boulders and striated fragments at each road it crosses. Northwest of Foundryville the line may be traced just above the Methodist grave-yard; across a small creek at the cross-roads, a mile farther west; and thence westward into Center township, just above the road which runs nearest to the mountains.

Throughout its course in Briar creek township the moraine can be recognized by the occurrence of boulders and striated pebbles, but not by any special topography of its own. No ridges of drift, no *kettle-holes* or stratified *kames* appear, and the *till* is thin, and boulders scarce. North of the moraine, moreover, and from there to the mountain back of it, the rocks are so bare, and the covering of *till* or boulders so infrequent and fragmentary, that the explorer will often find it difficult to determine whether he is in front or behind the line. Its feeble development here illustrates the general rule that in front of a mountain the moraine is small and the ground uncovered by till. On the northern side of such a mountain large accumulations of drift material, such as would have formed the moraine, are almost invariably found, but only such boulders as were carried over the mountain by the top ice were dropped where a terminal moraine would otherwise have been accumulated.

In Center township the moraine runs south of west along the base of Lee's mountain, being easily recognized on the upper road to Orangeville. There is a sudden transition from the soil made up of broken shale, upon which no boulders are seen, to that made of an impure yellow clay filled with boulders and striated fragments. Near the Orange township line, on the upper road to Orangeville, the fields are completely covered by boulders, many of which are over four feet in length. At this point the moraine comes to an end and

\* Found in Pennsylvania, only in the western counties.





Amos Kelley



appears to turn back on its course in ascending the mountain; the heavy forests, however, renders it impossible to trace it closely. All that can be confidently said of it is, that it crosses the combined Lee's and Huntingdon mountain and finds its way into the Fishing creek country beyond. From independent observations, it is rendered probable that Lee's and Huntingdon mountains, diverging from their union in Knob mountain, projected two long sharp headlands eastward into the sea of ice, while an arm of the latter, ending in a narrow point, extended between the two headlands several miles west from their extremities.

In its course across the wide valley between Huntingdon mountain and the Allegheny mountain the moraine can be traced with great precision. A quarter mile west of Asbury it turns northward toward Benton. It keeps on the east side of Fishing creek as far as Cole's mills, where, in crossing it, the moraine forms a great ridge extending obliquely across the valley of the creek. It then passes across Jackson township in a northwest direction to the corner made by Lycoming and Sullivan counties. Throughout the whole of this course the moraine is wonderfully well shown and has characteristic topography. It leaves the base of the mountain at a schoolhouse one mile S. S. E. of Asbury at the meeting of roads from Asbury and Jonestown. It here forms a distinct ridge, stretching diagonally across the valley of Huntingdon creek. Here deep masses of stratified drift rest against the western edge of the moraine and continue down the valley of the creek, becoming more shallow the farther it is from the moraine. Near the moraine this plain of stratified drift, composed of water-worn pebbles—at least thirty feet deep—has its surface molded into shallow ridges and depressions, all of which are parallel to the creek and evidently made by water action.

The moraine now trends to a point an eighth of a mile west of Asbury, where its edge is very sharply defined upon the road by the sudden change in the color of the soil. The yellow *till* gives place to a red soil, formed by the decomposition of Catskill shales. Above Asbury the moraine turns somewhat east of north, passing not quite two miles west of Bendertown, as high drift hills covered by large boulders and sharply defined on its edge. On the next road north of Asbury its limit is well marked near the forks of the road, about a half-mile east of Fishing creek. It is a curious fact, that although the moraine from Asbury to the Benton line runs so near Fishing creek, no drift whatever, stratified or unstratified, occurs in the valley of that creek. The slates and shales of No. VIII are exposed on both banks of the creek, and the sandy alluvium forming the fertile bottom land is perfectly local. The edge of the glacier must have been drained backward.

The moraine enters Benton township near the point where Raven's creek crosses the township line, and then approaches within a mile of Fishing creek. It forms drift hills, covered by boulders of sandstone and conglomerate brought from the Allegheny mountain. Approaching Fishing creek still more closely, and bending somewhat east of north, the moraine passes along the western side of a hill which slopes toward the creek, a mile below Benton, and from thence to the top of a high hill which forms the bank of the creek east of Benton. As in Fishingcreek township, the moraine has been drained backward into some of the valleys farther east; these back valleys are in fact now filled by drift accumulations. A mile below Benton the moraine ends abruptly on the edge of a hill descending toward the creek, a fact at variance with any other hypothesis than that of a glacier as the cause of the moraine. The presence of *striae* and of transported boulders upon the summit of the Allegheny mountain to the north precludes also the idea of local glaciers. It seems prob-

able, therefore, that the continental glacier stopped just where it did simply because the inertia or moving force of the glacier, from whatever cause derived, became exhausted at this point. Increased temperature was the only barrier.

In Sugarloaf township, at Cole's-creek postoffice, Cole's creek joins Fishing. The moraine here forms fine conical hills in the center of the valley. At the bridge, north of this, the glaciated region back of the moraine is reached, and a fine view can be obtained of the back of the moraine, which appears steeper, more regular and better defined than the front. The moraine, stretching conspicuously across the valley from Cole's creek to Fishing creek, and ending abruptly near the bridge, can be seen for a mile or more from up the creek. Hence to the base of the Allegheny mountain the valley is nearly flat, and contains no drift hills. Crossing Fishing creek the moraine continues in a northwest direction across the southwest corner of Sugarloaf township, passing near a school-house on a creek about two miles northeast of Polkville. In some places the boulders are so large and numerous as to render the soil unfit for cultivation.

In Jackson township, as the moraine approaches the base of Bald mountain, it is less finely developed. It crosses the upper part of the township near the base of the mountain. The *till* here is very thin and often absent east of the moraine; but the occasional striated boulders prove the region to have been glaciated. As already stated no drift occurs in front of the moraine, except in the vicinity of streams. In the valleys of Green, Little Fishing and other creeks running southward, there occur boulders and sharp fragments of Pocono sandstone and boulders of Pottsville conglomerate. Although they often lie on high ground, such ground is always near a depression down which a great flood of water might have come, and they were probably brought to their location by floating ice. Near Orangeville, where Huntingdon and Fishing creeks join, there is a plain of stratified river gravel nearly a mile in width. It forms a terrace twenty feet high at Orangeville and is composed of smoothed, often flattened pebbles, overlaid by sand. It was evidently deposited by a glacial stream, which flowed along the valley of Huntingdon creek. From this point the line of demarcation just touches the lower corner of Sullivan county and passes into Lycoming.

It appears, therefore, that what is popularly known as soil is due, in the upper portion of the state, to the grinding process of this immense glacier, supplemented by the action of frost and rain, and the vast deposits of humus. Its original distribution was manifestly variable, in some places forty or fifty feet deep, in others only a thin coating. But this condition has been greatly modified by the never-ceasing action of the elements, so that in many places extensive erosion has taken place, and the eroded mass gradually distributed beyond the glaciated area as well as within it. The valleys of the streams are now the main receptacles of the original *Drift*, since the slopes have largely shed the deposit left on them.

It is supposed that the glacier was succeeded by an epoch of flooded rivers. A general rise of temperature took place all over the world; the winter of the ice-age gave place to summer; unimaginable floods poured southward spreading their burdens of moraine stones, rounded and smoothed by attrition, and finer detritus over the lowlands; the mountains again appeared and valleys were re-excavated. When quieter times came, the Susquehanna and its tributary streams cut down through these post-glacial deposits marking their progress by the terraces which border their banks.

Great heaps of rounded and polished boulders are found over a large por-



tion of Columbia county below the region marked by the moraine as the limit of glaciation. They occur alike in valleys, and on the summits of hills, which do not exceed an altitude of nine hundred and fifty feet above tide level, and are especially abundant over the low country which stretches from Fishing creek westward to the "West Branch," along the line of the *Milton* and *Watsonstown anticlines*. The majority of these transported boulders belong to the *Pocono sandstones* (No. X.), though all the rocks of this region are represented among them, from the conglomerates of No. XII down to the sandstones of the *Clinton* (No. V).

The highest point at which these boulders have been observed is nine hundred and fifty feet above tide level, and this occurs two miles south from Catawissa, where they cover the summit of a ridge between Roaring creek and the Susquehanna river. It is supposed, therefore, that these boulders were transported by floating ice and other means in a great lake-like river, which flowed westward from the *terminal moraine* during the flooded river period, when hills, now rising eight or nine hundred feet above tide level, were submerged.

Whatever were the means by which vast quantities of *debris* have been spread so widely over the surfaces of moderate elevation in localities lying outside of the region of glaciation, there is still another class of deposits that were certainly transported by the "flooded rivers" which carried off the water from the melting and retreating glacier. These deposits are now found in great heaps of commingled sand, gravel and boulders of almost every size, from four inches up to four and five feet, at many points along the Susquehanna, but are especially prominent at the junction of this river and its principal tributaries.

Berwick is built upon a great boulder terrace, which extends a mile back from the river, at an elevation of fifty feet\* above it. It forms a level-topped bluff of that height on the river bank, and while it diminishes in height below Berwick, becomes gradually higher above the town, until it meets the moraine two miles above, in Luzerne county. Briar creek debouches at Berwick, and appears to have brought in much of this boulder trash, but it is suggested by independent observers that a much greater flood offered a more effective agency. It is believed that when the great change of temperature occurred, the tongue of the glacier, which occupied the wedge-shaped valley between Huntingdon and Lee's mountain, yielded a flood which finally broke the lower barrier on the south and cut two gaps in the latter mountain (225 and 270 feet deep) through which the pent-up floods escaped to the lowlands, depositing the plateau on which the borough now stands.

At Bloomsburg, Fishing-creek valley unites with that of the "North Branch," and a wide stretch of plain is covered by boulder trash about their junction. Three terraces may be easily observed; the first, twenty feet above the river (470' A. T.); the second, forty feet above the river (490' A. T.), and the third, thirty feet above the last (520' A. T.) On the Fishing creek side, the second terrace is wanting, and there is an abrupt descent of fifty feet from the top of the third to the top of the first. The third terrace is covered with a deposit of clean reddish grey sand, fifteen to twenty feet deep, below which come gravel and rounded boulders. The main portion of Bloomsburg is built on this third terrace, while the station of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad is on the second terrace. No terraces higher than the third, above indicated, are seen at this point, but two miles below, very thick gravel beds are seen extending to an elevation of one hundred and seventy-five feet above the

\*The state authorities seem to conflict upon this point. In Volume Z, of the geological reports, Prof. Lewis, gives the height as in the text, and the elevation above tide-level as 550 feet. In Volume G, G7, Prof. White places the height of the terrace from the bed of the river at one hundred feet, and the elevation above tide-level at 575 feet.

Susquehanna. This same gravel deposit is frequently seen in the old valley which leads from Rupert westward to Danville along the line of the Catawissa & Williamsport (Reading) railroad, and its top is generally found at about six hundred and twenty-five to six hundred and thirty feet above tide-level.

The Paleozoic system, which underlies these surface deposits, is divided by Pennsylvania geologists into thirteen formations, which are indicated by the numbers from I to XIII. The series begins with the Potsdam White Sandstone No. I and follows in regular order; the limestone of No. II, with its brown hematite iron ores, lead, zinc, and barytes; the slates of No. III, which supplies the roofing slate quarries on the Lehigh; the sandstone of No. IV, forming Kittatinny, Buffalo, Montour's Ridge among many other mountains; the red shale of No. V, with its fossil ore beds; the limestone of No. VI, with brown hematite iron ore pockets, and lead; the sandstone of No. VII, usually forming a rocky ridge, but in Juniata and Perry counties rising to the dignity of a small mountain; the olive shales and soft green sandstones of No. VIII, with hydraulic lime rocks, fictitious coal-beds, occasionally valuable deposits of brown hematite, and in the northwest part of the state, reservoirs of saltwater and petroleum; the red sandstone of No. IX, forming terraces on the white sandstone mountains of No. X, such as the Catskill, Pocono, Mahonoy, Little, Catawissa, Long, Nescopeck, Wyoming, Knob and other mountains; the red shale of No. XI, the white sandstone or conglomerate of No. XII, surrounding and supporting the coal basins, and forming Beaver-Meadow, Sugarloaf, Buck and McCauley mountains in the anthracite region, the crest of the Allegheny mountain, and other coal-bearing mountains; and finally No. XIII, constituting a subordinate system of itself, and known as the coal measures. In this series, numbers I, IV, VII, IX, X, and XII, are massive sand-rocks; III, V, VIII and XI are slate or shale formations; II and VI are chiefly limestone strata. The red members of the series are numbers V, IX and XI, and all mountains in the state, save South mountain and the mountains which hold the coal are merely outcrops of numbers IV and X.

This nomenclature is not invariable throughout the country, nor in this state alone. In the final report of the first geological survey of Pennsylvania, latin terms, signifying the course of the sun during a single day, were substituted for the numbers; in New York, the English nomenclature has been adopted; and in the West, owing to the confusion of the strata there, the whole series, from the Coal Measures down to No. VIII, is classed as the Carboniferous system. The real harmony existing between these different nomenclatures, and an approximate section, set forth by Prof. J. P. Leslie, is as follows:

Thick-ness in Penn'a Feet.	Nomenclature 1st Geological Report.	Western Nomenclature System.		New York Nomenclature	Thick-ness in N. Y. Feet.		
3,000	Coal measures.....	Carboniferous System.	XIII.	Eroded from New York.....	.....		
1,200	Seral conglomerete.....		XII.	Millstone Grit (eroded fr. N.Y.).....	.....		
3,000	Umbral red shale.....		XI.	} Old red. (Catskill group)....	2,500		
2,500	Vespertine sandstone.....		X.				
600	Ponent red sandstone.....		IX.				
3,200	Vergent olive shales.....		} Devonian.	VIII.	Chemung group.....	1,500	
1,700	Vergent gray sandstones.....				Portage group.....	1,200	
700	Cadent upper black slate....				Genesee slates.....	} 2,001	
1,100	Cadent olive shales.....				Hamilton slates.....		
800	Cadent lower black shale....				Marcellus shales.....		
300	Post-meridian limestone.....				Upper Helderberg limestone	} 400	
.....	Wanting in Pennsylvania.....		Schoharie grit.....				
.....	Wanting in Pennsylvania.....		Cauda galli grit.....	} 50			
500	Meridian sandstone.....		VII.		Oriskany sandstone.....		
600	Pre-meridian limestone.....		} VI.	} Upper Silurian.	Lower Helderberg limestone.	200	
350	Scalent limestone.....				Onondaga salt group.....	1,000	
.....	Wanting in Pennsylvania.....				Niagara limestone.....	250	
.....	Wanting in Pennsylvania.....		} V.	} Clinton group.....	} Medina sandstone.....	} 400	
2,600	Surgent red shales.....	Shawnyunk grit.....					500
.....	Levant white sandstone....	Oncida conglomerate.....					100
1,800	Levant red sandstone.....	} IV.	} Hudson slates.....	} 1,000			
.....	Levant gray sandstone....				Utica slates.....		
1,200	Matinal blue slates.....	III.	} Trenton	} Black River limestone.	} 300		
400	Matinal black slates.....	} II.				} Birdseye limestone....	
550	Matinal limestone.....						Chazy limestone.....
5,500	Auroral magnesian limestone	} I.	} Upper Silurian.	} Calciferous sand-rock.....	} 50		
250	Aurora calc. sandstone.....					Potsdam sandstone.....	
4,000	Primal sandstone.....						
.....	Primal slates.....						
32,850					10,850		

In giving the thickness of these formations, it must be understood that they vary greatly in different parts of the area occupied by the two states. But the table illustrates the great thickness of the mechanical deposits toward the southeast, in contrast with their thinness in the northwest.

The geological structure of Columbia county is found considerably more broken than that of the region farther north. In Wyoming and Sullivan counties, the rocks are practically horizontal, but as the latitude of Luzerne, Columbia and Northumberland is reached, the rocks are found thrown into arches so high as to expose the upper part of No. IV, in the latter county, and into troughs deep enough to preserve nearly the highest coal measures. The first of these flexures, noticed in passing into the county from the north, are the White Deer and Milton anticlinals. These are the declining ends of the six anticlinals of the Buffalo mountains, which split up the Kiscoquilis valley, and of the "Seven mountains," north of that valley. A great fold comes eastward across the "West Branch," in the vicinity of Watsontown, which is locally designated as the Watsontown anticlinal. It declines rapidly eastward and ends in the upper part of Northumberland county where it spreads the *Salina beds* over a considerable area.

Four miles south of Watsontown, at Milton, another of the great Buffalo mountain anticlinals crosses the river eastward, passes through Northumberland and Montour counties, and enters Columbia in Madison township, passing eastward nearly through the center of the township. Here it brings up the *Hamilton* rocks in a valley two or three miles at the west, but which contracts toward the east, until near Little Fishing creek it is not more than a mile



and a half wide. *Chemung* rocks make ridges on the north and south from three to five hundred feet high. Crossing the Little Fishing, the Milton axis crosses the southeastern corner of Pine, in the vicinity of Millville, the Big Fishing just south of Stillwater, and enters Luzerne county near the northeast corner of Fishingcreek township. The dip of the rocks on the south side of this anticlinal is everywhere steeper than on the northwest, since it seldom exceeds twenty degrees on the north, but is often forty-five or fifty degrees on the south. This great difference does not appear near the crest of the arch, however, but begins to be noticed at some distance southeast from it.

The Lackawanna synclinal, the name used to designate a great downward fold of the rocks, which, proceeding from the northeastern corner of Lackawanna county as a narrow, shallow trough, gradually deepens and broadens toward the southwest, until in the vicinity of Wilkesbarre it retains the entire *Coal Measures series*, and possibly a small cap of the *Permo-carboniferous*. From this point it begins to shallow and narrow up westward, so that at Shickshinny, fifteen miles southwest, the *Coal Measures* remain only in a narrow, triangular area west of the river. Westward from Shickshinny the axis of the trough runs along the center of the old drift-filled valley of West Shickshinny creek, with a mountain of *Pocono sandstone* both north and south. But the *Pocono* trough gradually narrows and shallows westward, until its two rims come together at Orangeville, and then the *Pocono beds* vanish in air, leaving the Catskill rocks to occupy the trough westward through the center of Mount Pleasant township, and along the northern border of Hemlock, which, in turn, tail out at the eastern edge of Montour county.

The next fold in the rocks is found about four miles south from the last, and is much the greatest in this region. The axis of this anticlinal crosses the "North Branch" in Luzerne, about half way between the Big and Little Wapwallopen creeks, and passes under the town of Berwick, from which it takes its name. The *Lower Helderberg limestone* is elevated to the surface a short distance west from Berwick, and it very probably first emerges near the eastern line of the borough, but has been eroded and its outcrop deeply buried by the terrace deposits, which cover up all the rocks to a great depth in that vicinity. The *Salina beds* are brought up, one mile west from Berwick, and then a low ridge begins along the crest of the arch, which gradually increases in elevation westward through the southern half of Center and Scott townships, becoming still higher across Bloomsburg township, where the *Clinton* rocks come to the surface.

The axis crosses Fishing creek one-half mile north from the town of Bloomsburg, and about three hundred yards north from the Bloomsburg Iron Company's furnace. Fishing and Hemlock creeks trench squarely across this axis in the vicinity of Bloomsburg, through large gaps in Montour's ridge, but westward from Hemlock creek the very hard *Clinton* iron sandstones and underlying siliceous shales arching over the crest of the fold, carry Montour's ridge up to about eleven hundred feet above tide-level. This conspicuous elevation along the crest of the Berwick axis is known as Montour's ridge, westward from Bloomsburg, and is rendered all the more prominent from the fact that it is bordered on each side by the soft beds of the *Salina* and *Hamilton*, which weathering away into broad, low valleys along both the north and south slopes of the ridge, seem to increase the height of the latter by contrast. This axis is of great economical importance to this region, since it brings to the surface two belts of *Lower Helderberg limestone* entirely across the county, and also those valuable iron-ore deposits of the *Clinton*, which have rendered Bloomsburg and Danville famous for their iron industries.



The Northumberland synclinal is a term used to designate the downward fold of rocks, which forms a great trough, about four miles and a half south of the Berwick anticlinal. This is one of the most remarkable basins which traverses Pennsylvania, extending, as it does, through Huntington, Juniata, Snyder, Northumberland, Columbia and Luzerne counties, nearly to the Lehigh river, a total length of about two hundred and fifty miles. Through most of its course in middle Pennsylvania it is regular as to width and depth, but much complicated by subordinate folds. As it approaches the Susquehanna from the west, it begins to widen and deepen gradually. Crossing the river at the forks, it not only deepens, but becomes complicated going east, and widens in Columbia county into a group of basins separated by anticlinals.

The two deepest of these basins (which taken together may be considered as representing the axis or bottom of the great trough,) hold the two projecting spurs of the Catawissa mountain. The other spurs of the mountain farther south represent other subordinate basins on the southern side of the great trough. In the Catawissa valley, the great trough is made up of numerous subordinate basins, in one of which stands McCauley's mountain, and in others lie the anthracite basins of Black Creek, Hazleton, etc.

A very strong anticlinal arch crosses the Susquehanna eastward, two miles above Selinsgrove. This fold rapidly declines east of the river, where the *Lower Helderberg* is soon covered by the *Oriskany* sandstone, and that in turn by the *Hamilton* beds. Traced eastward, the axis is found passing under the town of Elysburg, and thence in a direct line to New Media, in Locust township. At Roaring creek the *Genesee* beds are the lowest rocks appearing above water-level, and east of the creek these are covered by *Chemung*. At New Media the *Catskill* beds cover the lower formation, and this is covered in turn by the *Pocono* before the axis reaches the eastern line of Columbia county in the southern part of Roaringcreek township.

Southward from this axis the dip increases, the *Chemung*, *Catskill*, *Pocono*, *Mauch Chunk* and *Pottsville* formations coming down, one after another, dipping from forty-five to fifty degrees, to the *Coal Measures* of the great Shamokin anthracite coal basin.

The *Devonian* rocks are alone found in the upper part of Columbia, and cover more than three-fourths of its whole area. Of these are found the *Catskill*, *Chemung*, *Hamilton*, and perhaps the *Portage*, but so poorly defined that it is included under the *Chemung* in the reports. The thickness of this system gradually increases southward and probably reaches a depth of *eight* or *nine thousand* feet. Unfortunately for the economic advantage of the county, however, these rocks contain no valuable minerals of any description, in paying quantities, and all search for lead, silver or copper, of each of which there are traces, will undoubtedly prove fruitless. In their decomposition they subserve a valuable, if less attractive purpose, in furnishing the principal portion of the farming lands.

The *Catskill* rocks (No. IX) are rather sharply separated at top from the *Pocono-Catskill* beds by the occurrence of red shales of considerable thickness, and a type of greenish gray sandstone; but while the top of this formation can nearly always be definitely determined, it is not so with its base in this region, as there comes in at the bottom a series of rocks having such a mixture of characteristics belonging to both of the joining formations, that it is difficult to determine the exact line of demarcation. To bridge this difficulty, the report classifies these transition beds as an intermediate *Catskill-Chemung* group. The character of the rocks is very changeable. In one section, more than two-thirds of the whole series may be massive-looking, greenish

sandstone, with only thin beds of red shale interstratified, while only a few miles distant the green sandstones disappear and in their stead are found very thick red beds. A general section compiled from the vicinity of Catawissa exhibiting so far as exposures could be obtained, may be found on page 57, of volume G<sup>7</sup>, of the second state report. The depth here is estimated at 4,330 feet.

Save a narrow belt of *Pocono*, which caps the summit of North mountain, the red *Catskill* covers the whole area of Sugarloaf township and a mile-wide strip of the northern part of Benton. The southern line of this red border passes regularly westward through Jackson and Pine townships, though from the line of Polkville southward the rocks belong rather to the *Catskill-Chemung*. A narrowing belt of *Catskill* enters the eastern side of the county, the middle line of which is marked by the axis of the Lackawanna synclinal. The *Pocono* mountain, called Knob, covers the central portion to Orangeville, from whence it tapers to a point just west of the Mahoning creek. A band of the *Catskill* borders the northern slope of the Neseopee mountain, and, following the trend of the Catawissa range, occupies the broad angle formed by its union with Little mountain, covering the larger portion of Franklin, Catawissa, Locust and Roaringcreek townships, and the southern half of Maine and Mifflin townships. The *Catskill* beds, when shaly and weathered down into a rolling topography, make a very good soil, which produces excellent crops of oats, grass, corn and, when enriched with lime, very fair crops of wheat. When the beds become very sandy, however, and massive green sandstones predominate, the country is barren.

The rock next to the *Catskill* in extent of exposure in the county is the *Chemung* formation. The transitional beds which lie between these formations are well exposed about half way between Rupert and Catawissa, a section of which may be found on page 63 of the report already referred to. The depth at this point is estimated at 1,007 feet. In the coloring of the geological maps, however, these beds are included in the *Catskill* formation. The top of the *Chemung* has been fixed, for this county, by Prof. White, at the base of the lowest red bed, and all rocks below this to the top of the *Hamilton* are so classed. A section of this formation is exhibited on page 68 of his report, where he estimates its thickness at 2,443 feet. The *Chemung* rocks are finely exposed along the Little Fishing creek, in Hemlock township, about a mile above the junction of that stream with the Big Fishing, and there the following succession is shown:

	Feet.
1. Red shale, base of <i>Catskill-Chemung</i> group.	
UPPER:	
2. Soft olive shales.....	50
3. Conglomerate, gray sandstone, with flat quartz pebbles .....	10
4. Olive shales, rather soft.....	200
5. Hard, greenish, sandy, flaggy beds.....	150
6. Stony Brook beds, very fossiliferous olive-green sandy shales.....	75
LOWER:	
7. Very hard, gray, bluish, and dark olive sandy beds.....	1,875
8. <i>Genesee</i> shales.....	360
Total thickness of <i>Chemung</i> .....	2,360

In this section appears a type of the *Chemung* that is found at nearly every point in this region where these beds are exposed—two series of rocks quite different from each other in lithological character, taking the base of the *Stony Brook* beds as the dividing plane.

The *Upper Chemung* is from five to six hundred feet thick, and consists largely of olive-green shale, which readily breaks down when exposed to at-



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mospheric influences, crumbling into small chips and splinters, which soon decompose. The conglomerate is not a constant member of the series, but yet it occurs in a great many localities at thirty to fifty feet below the top of the *Chemung*, being usually a grayish white rock, with small, somewhat flat pebbles of quartz scattered through it. All rocks below the *Stony Brook horizon* may be classed together, so far as their lithological characters are concerned, since these are practically the same throughout the eighteen or nineteen hundred feet which complete them. They are simply a monotonous succession of dark gray, and dark olive-green and brown sandstones, and sandy beds half way between shale and sandstone, yet so hard as to make high ridges, and a succession of ragged cliffs wherever cut by the streams. In weathering they are usually broken into irregular and rather thick, splinter-like fragments, four to six inches long. The base of this series rises suddenly and sharply from the valley of *Hamilton* beds, which always border it, and usually makes a high ridge of rocky, barren land overlooking the *Hamilton* valley from a height of three to four hundred feet.

There is a total and abrupt change in lithology at the base of the *Chemung* series, the hard, sandy beds of which give place to dark blue and blackish *Hamilton* shales and slate. This series varies so much in passing across this region from north to south, as to call for three entirely separate descriptions. The northern type is found in Columbia county north of the river, and is fully exposed on Little Fishing creek, in Hemlock township, two miles north from Bloomsburg. The following section, observed at this point, may be taken as typical of the character of this formation above the Berwick axis:

	Feet.
1. <i>Genesee slate</i> , dark blue and blackish shales and slates, sometimes slightly sandy, and when weathered often bleaching gray or even whitish .....	275
2. <i>Tully limestone</i> , a series of dull gray and bluish gray impure limestones, weathering with a buffish tint, and often presenting a slaty appearance. ....	50
3. <i>Hamilton</i> brown, gray and bluish gray sand shales and slates. ....	400
4. <i>Marcellus shales</i> , black and dark blue fissile slates and shales, sometimes getting gray at base. ....	410
Total thickness of <i>Hamilton</i> .....	1,135

The *Tully limestone* of this series is never pure enough to burn, usually being quite earthy, breaking with a dull, irregular fracture, and often weathering to a light ashen, or even buffish gray color. This series, as displayed north of the Susquehanna, is eminently a valley maker, since all of its components readily break down and disintegrate into soil, the quality of which is excellent, some of the best farms in the county being situated on the *Hamilton* rocks. The river flows in a valley of these rocks from Hick's ferry nearly to Rupert, a distance of nearly twenty miles, and they may frequently be seen extending in low ledges nearly across the bed of the river, notably at Berwick and Bloomsburg. South of the Berwick axis the *Hamilton* seems to greatly increase in thickness, and, if any reliance can be placed on the constancy of dip, this series must reach a thickness of two thousand to twenty-five hundred feet at Bloomsburg. South of the river the *Hamilton* retains the above typical character, save that in gaining in thickness several new members have been intercalated.

It is not certain that there is any representative of the *Cauda galli beds* in this county or in the region, but on Big Fishing creek, about two and a half miles above Bloomsburg, there occur some beds down near the base of No.

VIII, which so exactly resemble the lithological appearance of the *Cauda galli* that their identity with that formation seems not improbable.

A band of *Chemung*, spreading from near Waterville to Asbury, enters the county from Luzerne, and, widening as it passes southwestward, covers Greenwood, Madison, and parts of Pine, Orange and Mount Pleasant. The Milton axis, which passes through the center of this bend, brings up an area of *Hamilton* rocks, which beginning in a point at Fishing creek, gradually widens toward the west, attaining a breadth of two or three miles in Greenwood and Madison townships. A narrow band of *Chemung* bordered by a similar band of *Hamilton* is found on the lower slopes of the Berwick *anticlinal*, and a wedge-shaped area of the former is found also in Locust township, along the axis of the Selinsgrove *anticlinal*, the corresponding *Hamilton* being found to the west in Northumberland.

Along the line of the Berwick axis is developed that part of the *Silurian* system consisting of the *Oriskany* sandstone (No. VII), the *Lower Helderberg* limestones (No. VI), the *Salina*, *Bloomsburg red shale* and *Clinton* shales (No. V). The rocks which constitute the *Oriskany series* were not deposited everywhere over this region, there being no representation whatever of them on Big Fishing creek. They appear to be absent also from both sides of the Berwick axis all along its course between Berwick and Bloomsburg; at least, not a single outcrop or fragment of the rock is to be seen between the two localities. The most eastern locality at which this rock has been observed is the slate quarry on Little Fishing creek. Near this a quarry in the *Lower Helderberg* limestone reveals four to six feet of cherty, brown sandy beds, overlain by the bluish black beds of the *Marcellus*, and underlaid by a few feet of *Stormville* shale, which rapidly thins out to a knife edge and lets the *Oriskany* down in contact with the massive limestones of the *Lower Helderberg*.

On the south side of the Berwick arch, the *Oriskany* blocks first make their appearance in the soil just west from Fishing creek, growing more abundant westward toward the Montour county line, where a tunnel has been driven through the *Oriskany* to reach the *Lower Helderberg* limestone. Here a large amount of *Oriskany* rock has been taken from the tunnel and now lies on the dump. It consists of cherty, rotten, dirty yellow beds containing some lime, and is quite rich in fossils.

A ribbon-like band of the *Lower Helderberg* may be traced from the river at Berwick, whence, taking a slight curve northward to the latitude of Light-street, it passes in a nearly direct line westward to the west branch of the Susquehanna. A similar band begins at the same point and follows the bank of the river to a point nearly opposite Mifflinville, where the river in bending north severs it. Beginning again at the point of the river's deflection, it follows a direct course to Bloomsburg, crossing the river at Danville. A summarized section of this series, obtained in Cooper township at the eastern line of Montour county, is as follows:

	Feet.
1. Stormville shale .....	100
2. Stormville conglomerate.....	44
3. Stormville limestone.....	111
4. Stormville cement bed, etc.....	24
5. Bossardville limestone.....	105
Total.....	384

The *Stormville shale*, as usually developed, consists of ashen gray shales, and a considerable thickness of dark brown or nearly black beds, the latter occasionally making up nearly the entire thickness. Interstratified with these

are often seen thin beds of impure, shaly limestone, and occasionally some layers of chert. As shown in the above section the average thickness of this formation generally is not far from one hundred feet thick. At one locality on Little Fishing creek, about two miles north of Bloomsburg, it is seen thinning rapidly from fifteen to only two feet. This shale seems to stand to the *Oriskany sandstone* above, and to the *Lower Helderberg* limestones below, in the relation of a transition series, connecting Nos. VI and VII, without properly belonging to either.

The *Stormville conglomerate* is a very siliceous, calcareous sand-rock, and occurs at the base of the *Stormville shale*. It is called the "sand block" by the quarry men, and is reported to be "as hard as granite." The beds immediately under the *shale* are often quite sandy, but only in the vicinity of Grove's quarry, for a mile or two on either side of the Columbia-Montour county line, do they look anything like a sandstone, though in one or two sections sometimes cherty and usually massive. On weathered surfaces, where the calcareous matter has leached out, some of this formation has the appearance of a coarse, porous sandstone; in other portions it looks more like chert or quartzite.

The *Stormville limestone* is frequently shaly in its upper half, and occasionally cherty near the top. When massive, this is often too impure to burn into lime or use successfully as a flux for iron, except when largely mixed with the purer limestone from the *Bossardville* group below. In fact there are only two or three quarries for a wide region where any beds above the *Stromatopora* horizon have ever been quarried for any purpose.

The latter bed, which generally comes near the center of the *Stormville limestone*, is designated from the number of *Stromatopora concentrica* which it contains, being in fact simply a fossil reef of these sponge-like masses. The bed in which they are so numerous is usually about ten feet thick and never more than fifteen, being nearly always quite massive, and standing out from the quarries as a cliff, in which the *Stromatopora* are brought into relief by weathering, and occur in masses of every size, from that of a saucer up to two feet in diameter. This bed is usually rather siliceous, or at least is seldom pure enough to warrant quarrying for burning into lime or for any other purpose.

The portion of the *Stormville limestone* below this fossil bed often contains some very good limestone, and is largely quarried in Columbia county.

The *Bastard limestone* is a term in use at nearly all the quarries in Columbia county to distinguish a light gray or buffish blue, very tough, impure limestone, which separates the good limestone found at the base of the *Stormville* beds from the still better limestones of the *Bossardville* horizon below. On account of its position between the two valuable portions of the *Lower Helderberg* series, its presence very often largely increases the cost of quarrying, since it must be broken up and removed as waste, or else either the upper or lower beds must be worked out in a long trench before the other can be reached by cutting through the wall of "Bastard limestone," which then remains as a great overhanging ledge directly through the center of the quarry. At the Lime ridge quarries it is broken up and removed entire, some of it being used for building the piers of bridges and other rough work.

The *Bossardville limestone* comes next below the *Bastard* horizon. The thickness of the whole mass does not usually vary much from 100 feet, and is the only stone from which the white lime for plastering purposes can be produced. But not all of this is good limestone, for there is often a band of impure layers, from twenty to thirty feet thick, or even more, near the center.



This valuable deposit is not exposed along the whole line of its upheaval, but is well worth exploration to discover it. Its outcrop is often covered over by an uncertain thickness of surface trash, and could certainly be found anywhere between Berwick and the "West Branch" by a systematic search along its line of outcrop. In many localities it is doubtless so deeply buried as to render any attempt to quarry it impracticable, but there are many others where it could be uncovered and profitably mined.

Lead and zinc have been found in considerable quantity just above the base of the *Bossardville limestone*, along the river between Sunbury and Selinsgrove Junction. The mine is reported to have been first discovered about 1843, and some of the ores shipped east in barrels on the Pennsylvania canal, but as the results were kept secret, no one pursued the matter further. This same horizon has furnished indications of the same ores about half-way between Lime ridge and Espy, where a drift was once run into the hill, near the line between Scott and Center townships. It is reported that masses of *Galena* more than a foot in diameter were taken from the rocks at this locality, but the ore was not found in quantity sufficient to warrant a continuance of the effort.

The *Salina* and *Clinton* series (No. V) make only a single belt across the county, the latter forming the uppermost part of the Montour ridge, which marks the line of the Berwick axis. The top of this series appears on the surface near the center of Scott township, while next in order down the slope, along its whole extent, comes the *Salina*. A complete exposure of this series, or nearly so, can be seen only in one locality in this county, and that is where the Fishing creek cuts squarely across this formation, along the "Shafer road" to Lightstreet.

The section here observed suggests the division of the *Salina* series into three groups—the upper, middle and lower groups. The first is used to designate the succession of buffish, pale green limestones, and tinny shales which make their appearance immediately beneath the *Bossardville* beds. The base of this group is placed at the lowest red bed, and as thus limited has a thickness of three hundred and twenty-nine feet. Gypsum has not been observed in this group, though it probably exists in small disseminated particles, as this division of the series is locally known as "sulphur stone," from the fact that in an attempt to burn the rocks into lime they gave off an intolerable odor of sulphur.

The middle group is used to designate that portion of the *Salina* which consists of alternating red and greenish shales, limestones, etc., which also comes near the middle of the formation, and in the section observed has a thickness of four hundred and seven feet. The lower group is a thick mass of red rocks, called in the state reports *Bloomsburg red shale*, and may be seen along the east bank of the Fishing creek in the cuts of the Bloomsburg Iron Company's railroad, at the north line of the town of Bloomsburg. Nearly its full thickness may be seen in this locality, but the green shales at the base of the middle group are not quite exposed in the four hundred and forty feet of beds measured here, and hence the entire thickness is possibly ten to twenty feet more.

The *Bloomsburg* red shale is usually sandy, and often stands up in steep bluffs and cliffs, especially where it is cut by streams. The color is generally a very deep or dull red, though occasionally some of the beds are rather bright. When well exposed to atmospheric action some thin layers of apple-green shale are always interlaminated with the red beds. Often for several feet no lamination whatever appears, but the whole mass weathers away by breaking across the bedding into small, irregular chips, which gives the cliffs a peculiar roughened aspect.



The *Salina* rocks, as a whole, like the *Hamilton*, make valleys along the line of their strike. This is finely shown in the continuous valley on either side of Montour ridge from the eastern line of Columbia county westward to the "West Branch." The soil made by these beds, especially the upper and middle groups, is the most fertile in the district. The topography is always gentle, and a large quantity of lime, as well as other elements of fertility, are set free when the rocks decompose.

The *Clinton* series, as has been noted, is brought to the surface in Columbia only on the arch of Montour ridge. This elevation is almost perfectly straight and of very regular form. Its highest and widest part is in the vicinity of Danville, but it maintains a nearly level summit for a great length, east and west, and declines at each end in a long gradual slope into the plain. Its greatest height is about six hundred feet, and its mean breadth perhaps three-fourths of a mile. From its east termination near Espytown to its west, at the Susquehanna, four miles above Northumberland, the whole length of the crest is very nearly twenty-seven miles. A low valley, generally less than half a mile in width, lies immediately at the foot of the mountain, bounding it on each side, as it were, by a broad fosse.

The Fishing creek has cut its way through the ridge in the vicinity of Bloomsburg, and exposes the following section of the *Clinton* series:

	Feet.
1. Olive brown shales, limy beds and flaggy sandstones—fossiliferous.....	150
2. Fossil iron ore, { Ore, big vein, 10 to 12 inches. } { Limy and sandy shale, 2 feet, } { Ore, little vein, 3 to 4 inches. }	} ..... 3
3. Concealed and olive sandy beds, together with some calcareous bands.....	150
4. Iron sandstone:	
(a.) Very hard dark-red or reddish brown sandstone contain- ing 10 to 15 per cent of iron .....	} 10
(b.) Shales, yellowish-green, with streaks of red.....	} 25
(c.) Dark brown sandstone, containing thin streaks of lean iron ore and some shales .....	} 25
5. Pale yellowish green and olive shales to crest of Berwick axis, in the gap of Fishing creek.....	} 350
Total thickness of <i>Clinton</i> (No. V.) exposed.....	718

Sections exposed at Danville give this series a thickness of 953 and 1,038 feet 8 inches, respectively.

The *Fossil iron ore* of the above section has long been mined in the vicinity of Bloomsburg, on both sides of Montour ridge, and is still largely drawn on for the supply of the furnaces located here. The iron made from this ore is in high repute and has long been greatly valued in the composition of gun-metal and for the manufacture of car-wheels. Near the surface the ore usually occurs as a loose mud-like deposit, and is then called "soft" ore. When followed farther below the surface, the "soft" ore gradually changes to a compact limy rock, filled with fossils and containing much carbonate of lime, and is then known as "hard" or "block" ore. If the beds be followed still deeper, the ore gradually grows poorer, in fact, an ordinary limestone containing ten to fifteen per cent of iron. The most of the ore from the fossiliferous horizon has been taken out in the vicinity of Bloomsburg, except what may be mined from deep workings.

The *Iron sandstone* does not seem to contain any valuable ores in the vicinity of Bloomsburg, east from Fishing creek. West from Bloomsburg, in the vicinity of Danville, however, this ore becomes quite valuable, and has long been

extensively mined. This sandstone is dark, reddish brown in color, and is a very compact, hard stone. It has been quarried on both sides of Montour ridge just above Bloomsburg, and also on the summit of the same near the western line of Scott township. It is excessively hard, and almost indestructible by atmospheric influences. This rock forms the summit of Montour ridge from the western line of Scott westward to the Montour county line, beyond which the lower olive beds cover the rest of the mountain to the "West Branch."

In describing Montour ridge as a regular anticlinal wave in the strata, it is not intended to convey the idea that it is perfectly symmetrical in its structure. It exhibits, on the contrary, important deviations from strict anticlinal symmetry. It is really constituted of two anticlinal crests, not precisely in a line with each other, one north of Bloomsburg declining toward the valley of Hemlock creek, and the other, and by far the longest, rising near this stream on the south flank of the first, and terminating near Northumberland.

The portion of the western division lying between the Mahoning and Hemlock creeks, about one-half of which comes within the limits of Columbia, is much less valuable for mining purposes than at Danville. The anticlinal rising to the east of the Danville gap has developed the lower strata upon the summit of the ridge, and the two parallel belts of *Iron sandstone* ore on its flanks are wider apart at their outcrops. It is found necessary in all this part of the outcrop, therefore, to pierce each base or slope of the mountain with tunnels, a necessity which essentially lessens the net proceeds of the mine, even if it should be found maintaining the richness and thickness which characterizes it at Danville. But it is practically determined that this important ore, which constitutes the main portion of the mineral wealth of the Danville locality, becomes much reduced in thickness, and impoverished in its amount of oxide of iron.

The eastern, or Fishing creek division, is a very regular and beautiful anticlinal, commencing a little west of Hemlock creek and terminating about three miles east of Bloomsburg. It is thus about five miles long; its breadth about three-fourths of a mile; and its height between four and five hundred feet. The only irregularity in its generally symmetrical oval form is along its north side, where a large segment has been scooped out of its base to form a part of the valley of Fishing creek. In their carving action the floods removed from this flank of the anticlinal a very considerable portion of the bed of fossiliferous iron ore, which elsewhere mantle the whole north slope of the ridge.

The vertical uplift of this division of the ridge is some four hundred and fifty feet less than the more favorable points in the western division, a fact that occasions several very important peculiarities in the condition of the ore. In the first place, the ore bed of the *Surgent* lower slate (Clinton) is altogether absent at the surface, and can only be made accessible by means of a vertical shaft sunk over the crown of the anticlinal arch in the middle of the gorge of Fishing creek. Such a shaft, starting near the water level, would descend between one hundred and one hundred and fifty feet through the slate before it would reach the layer of ore. To construct such a mine shaft would not involve a cost at all commensurate with the importance of a productive bed of iron ore of the quality which the land in question usually possesses, but in the existing uncertainty respecting the dimensions of the bed, there is but little to induce such an enterprise.

The next bed of ore in the ascending series is that of the *Iron sandstone* formation. This band of rocks spans the mountain at Fishing creek to a great elevation, and is very nearly of the type which it presents at Danville.

It agrees in all essential features, save in that which is of chief practical interest, with the bed of siliceous iron ore. The very stratum, answering to the ore bed, can be recognized as holding the exact position occupied by the layer at Danville, but it does not contain more than half its proper proportion of the oxide of iron requisite to constitute an iron ore. In other parts of the outcrop of the sandstone, a precisely similar deficiency is discernible in the layers holding the horizon of the ore, and it may therefore be regarded as a definitely settled fact, that throughout all this portion of the belt the *Iron sandstone* ore, as such, has no existence.

It would thus appear that the only available ferruginous stratum is the fossiliferous iron ore of the Clinton ore shales. Restricted, as this part of the chain would at first sight seem to be, as to its share of ore, it is, nevertheless, one of the most richly endowed of all these localities. "Although the fossiliferous ore alone occurs above the water level, it is made, by the admirably balanced influence of a particular degree of elevation of gentle curvature, and of denudation in the anticlinal wave, to hold just that position which is nearly the most favorable that can be imagined for causing it to mantle the sides and ends of the ridge in an extensive sheet for producing the maximum amount of the soft or infiltrated ore, and for rendering its outcropping portion widely and cheaply accessible under a thin covering of loose superficial slate. In consequence of the oval form of the hill, connected with the gradual rising and expansion of the whole anticlinal, from Hemlock to Fishing creek, and its declension and contraction, thence to its termination, the ore laps broadly over both of its extremities, but does not rise high upon its north and south slopes. This produces, of course, a less amount of breast on the sides than at the ends.

"But there is a further difference in the value of the ores found in these two positions, growing out of the very different extent to which the ore in its respective places has been deprived of its excess of calcareous matter, by exposure to surface percolation. Along both flanks of the ridge, the inclination of the strata, exceeding very considerably the slopes of the surface, there is a rapid increase in the thickness and compactness of the slate formation reposing upon the ore bed; and consequently the depth to which the superficial infiltrations have had access is comparatively limited.

"Thus it is that in these positions we usually find the change from the soft or dissolved part of the bed to the compact, to occur at a point from thirty to forty yards below the actual outcrop.

"On the other hand, at the two extremities of the ridge, the ore bed mantles over and around the long and gently declining terminations in a dip which is much more nearly coincident with that of the surface above it; and therefore a far wider outcrop of it is thinly overlaid by the slate, and penetrated and altered by the atmospheric waters. This circumstance, and the much longer breast of ore spread out where the inclination is thus gentle, confers a greatly superior value upon these terminal portions of the ridge. In proof of this assertion, it may be stated, that while on the sides of the mountain, the soft ore occupies but a narrow line, it covers almost the entire east point of the ridge. Actual excavations for the furnaces, and numerous exploratory shafts, render it almost certain that the soft ore spreads across the end of the ridge in a continuous sheet, underlying, perhaps, some one hundred and fifty acres or more, at a depth below the soil in few places exceeding twenty feet.

"The Bloomsburg Iron Company, owning two large furnaces in the gorge of Fishing creek, and using largely this soft variety of fossiliferous ore, possess upon this extensive ore estate rather more than two and a half miles of the outcrop of the bed along the sides of the ridge, and in addition about forty-



five acres continuously underlaid by the soft ore in the east end of the hill, between two and three miles of Bloomsburg.

“Each acre of the ore stratum contains, according to the most moderate calculation, not less than three thousand tons of ore, and the whole estate of the company has upon it between two hundred and two hundred and fifty thousand tons of the soft outcrop ore; while it is estimated that the quantity of the hard or calcareous fossiliferous ore in readily accessible positions amounts to seventy or eighty thousand tons. When the admirable quality of the iron derived from a mixture of ores possessing a large proportion of the soft fossiliferous variety is considered, and the superior ease and economy with which it may be smelted, this whole east anticlinal district of Montour ridge must be esteemed as one of the most fortunately-conditioned ore localities in the United States.\*

Beside these ore deposits, and the limestone which supplies a considerable quantity of lime and a limited quantity of rough building stone, no other mineral resources exist in Columbia county, north of the river. Farther south, as the rock exposures, already noted indicate, these resources are wanting, but their absence is amply compensated by the coal measures which have been preserved in the southeastern portion of the county's area. Here the *sub-carboniferous* rocks form the surface, and coal is found in the McCauley mountain, and underlying the whole of Conyngham township, save a narrow belt along its northern line.

This irregular area, including the McCauley, Big and Locust mountain basins is defined on the north and west by the elevations of *Pocono sandstone*, which, passing under the local names of Nescopoc, Catawissa, Little and Line mountain, form a continuous rim, and the western limit of the “Western Middle Coalfield.” This formation is pre-eminently the mountain maker of this region. It usually begins at the top with a very hard grayish, or yellowish white sandstone, in layers from one to three feet thick, which sometimes contains small pebbles. Beneath this uppermost sandstone lie gray and green sandstones, interstratified with occasional beds of shale, one of which is often red. It is terminated below by a massive gray and yellowish white very coarse conglomerate, which, being usually quite different from anything to be found further down in the series, defines sharply the lower limit of the No. X rocks. This series is about six hundred feet thick in the Nescopoc mountain, but southward from this point it increased to seven or eight hundred feet in Little mountain. This formation holds some thin streaks of coal, and thousands of dollars have been fruitlessly expended in the effort to find it here in paying quantities.

Between the *Pocono* and *Catskill* is found a group of rocks to which the name of *Pocono-Catskill* has been applied. As a whole, this group is composed largely of green and greenish-gray sandstones, interstratified with which are often found thin beds of red shales, and a considerable bed of the latter often occurs at the top of the group. It appears to be a transition formation combining some of the characters of both *Pocono* and *Catskill*, and the geologist, unacquainted with its changing type, would at one time place them unhesitatingly in the one, and at another would feel sure that it belonged to the other.

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\* The above extract is taken from Prof. H. D. Rogers' report in Vol. I of the Pennsylvania Geological Report, published in 1857. This is re-published in Vol. G7 of the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania (1883), by Prof. J. P. Leslie, with this comment: “In the early stages of the iron manufacture, the Danville-Bloomsburg outcrop of this ore was of great importance; but as time went on and larger furnaces, fed with anthracite, called for richer ores, and in quantities which the small Clinton fossil beds were incapable of producing, its relative importance so diminished, and its cost of mining so increased, that Mr. Rogers' careful description of it is all those interested in it, whether capitalists or geologists, can require. In fact, our knowledge of it was nearly as complete forty years ago as it is to-day.”





Photo by Ralph F. Snyder, Bloomsburg, Pa.

*Wm. Ellwell*



The relation of these beds to the *Pocono* is shown in the gap at Catawissa creek through Nescopee mountain, in Maine township, where the following section may be observed:

	Feet.		Feet.
1. Sandstone, coarse, gray, yellowish.....	30	} Pocono .....	580
2. Concealed .....	250		
3. Massive, grayish white conglomerates in several beds.....	300		
4. Gray sandstone, shales, and concealed with massive gray sandstone at base.....	300	} Pocono-Catskill.	375
5. Sandstone, gray above, passing down into reddish beds at base.....	75		
6. Catskill red shale.....			100

In Little mountain, at Bear-Gap, the combined thickness of the *Pocono* and *Pocono-Catskill* beds is about twelve hundred feet, of which probably five hundred feet should be considered as belonging to the latter.

The *Mauch Chunk* red shale (No. XI) beds extend westward in the narrow trough of the Wyoming basin, between Huntingdon and Lee mountains, until the latter come together near the eastern line of Columbia. This formation forms the Catawissa valley surrounding McCauley mountain, and has a thickness here of not less than two thousand feet. Between Little (No. X) and Big (No. XII) mountains, across the northern part of Conyngham township, the valley is formed by the *Mauch Chunk* red shale.

The *Pottsville conglomerate* (No. XII), which underlies the coal measures, appears on the surface only on McCauley mountain, and in the valleys of the branches which unite to form the Little Catawissa creek.

The *Coal Measures* of Pennsylvania, or carboniferous formation No. XIII of the *Paleozoic* system, are divisible into two series—a lower and upper, separated by from three to five hundred feet of *barren measures*, and covered by an unknown thickness of shales and thin limestones, forming the rolling table-land of Washington and Greene counties, in the southwest corner of the state, and the central hills of the Pottsville anthracite coal basin. The total original thickness of the whole carboniferous formation is unknown, for its uppermost deposits have been swept away. What is left may measure three thousand feet.

The coal beds of the bituminous, the semi-bituminous and anthracite regions are the same, and the difference in the character of their products, as well as in the situation in which they are found, is due to the different degree of natural disturbance which affected the strata in the various parts of the state. In the slightly disturbed country west of the Alleghenies the coal beds are spread out in their original horizon; in the anthracite country these beds are contorted, broken, jammed together, turned over on their faces, and squeezed by enormous pressure, so as to disappear at one place, to swell out to three times their proper thickness at another, rendering mining operations most difficult and costly. They plunge to depths of two thousand feet below the water level, and suddenly rise again to heights more than a thousand feet above it, in a series of long and narrow basins, lying side by side, and ending invariably in two sharp points, one east and the other west, on the tops of mountains.

It is apparent, therefore, that no general section can be constructed which will approximate the facts to be found in the several parts of the state, or even the varying conditions to be found in the different localities in the anthracite region. A section observed at Scranton will illustrate the general appearance of the series in the anthracite region.

	Feet.
Shales.....	25
Coal I.....	5
Shales.....	20
Coal II.....	7
Interval of sandstone and shales.....	90
Coal G.....	12
Interval of sandstone and shales.....	80
Coal F.....	6
Interval of sandstones chiefly.....	50
Coal E.....	15
Interval of sandstone.....	40
Coal D.....	8
Interval of sandstone and top slate.....	60
Coal C.....	6
Interval of sandstone.....	50
Coal B.....	5
Interval of sandstone and slates.....	50
Coal A.....	2
Conglomerate XII.....	—

At Pottsville the interval rocks are sometimes three hundred feet thick. The *barren measures* are very thick and well marked, and a great thickness of top-barren measures overlies the upper coals. There are about fifteen workable beds in this basin, with about ten smaller beds one or two feet thick. They are known by numerous local names, such as the Gate, the Tracy, the Diamond, the Orchard, Primrose, Holmes, Seven Foot, Mammoth, Skidmore, Buck mountain, etc. The Sharp mountain beds were first tried and abandoned more than fifty years ago, because of their crushed condition and vertical posture. The Gate, Tracy and other top-beds of the series were then mined, and almost always disastrously to the operators.

The first extensive operations were upon the Diamond, Orchard and Primrose synclinals, a mile or two north of Pottsville, and on the center line of the basin. These beds were pretty well worked out. Meanwhile, the superior value of the gray and white ash beds of the lower series, leaning up against the side of Mine hill at gentle angles, was discovered, and all the great collieries of the Pottsville district have been established on these, and especially upon the Mammoth and Skidmore; the Mammoth being, in fact, three beds, which for several miles lie close enough to each other to be mined together, furnishing from thirty to fifty feet of coal.

When the Mahanoy and Shamokin regions were opened up, the principal collieries were all located on the outcrops of these same beds. The Mammoth bed is the sole dependence of the Hazleton basin; it is also the great bed of the Wyoming valley; but in the country immediately north of Hazleton, the Buck mountain, or lowest notable bed of the series, is the great bed of the collieries, in thickness running from twenty to thirty feet, and in quality excelling all the other anthracites. Within a year or two a great bed, twelve to fourteen feet thick, has been discovered to exist near the bottom of the *conglomerate* at the west end of the Pottsville basin; its outcrop has been followed for many miles along the outside of the mountain, and large collieries are now established on it in the *red shale* valley. This bed has been traced up the Mahanoy, some miles east of Ashland, and is suspected to exist in force at the west end of the Black-creek and Wilkesbarre basins.

The reports of the survey of the anthracite coal region, now in progress, do not cover that part of the "Western Middle Coalfield" in which the mines of Columbia county are situated, and the compiler of these pages finds it impossible, with the data at hand, to present any adequate statement of the coal resources of the county. A brief general account of their development may be



found in the chapter on Conyngham township, and some idea of the relation of the coal beds in this region, with their average thickness, may be gained from the following typical section of the Shenandoah and Mahanoy basins:

	ROCK.		COAL BEDS.		TOTAL.	
	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
1. Slate.....	4	8	..	..	4	8
2. BIG TRACY COAL BED.....	..	..	4	3	8	11
3. Dark gray slate.....	32	10	..	..	41	9
4. Siliceous rock.....	18	10	..	..	60	7
5. Gray slate.....	3	8	..	..	64	3
6. DIAMOND COAL BED.....	..	..	6	9	71	..
7. Dark gray slate.....	4	8	..	..	75	8
8. Slate, with iron ore balls.....	38	9	..	..	114	5
9. Light sandstone.....	14	4	..	..	128	9
10. Dark gray slate.....	30	..	..	..	158	9
11. Conglomerate.....	19	9	..	..	178	6
12. Dark gray slate.....	10	4	..	..	188	10
13. LITTLE ORCHARD COAL BED.....	..	..	2	10	191	8
14. Dark gray slate.....	23	6	..	..	215	2
15. ORCHARD COAL BED.....	..	..	10	10	226	..
16. Dark gray slate.....	78	3	..	..	304	3
17. Dark sandstone.....	16	..	..	..	320	3
18. Slate, with iron ore balls.....	57	4	..	..	377	7
19. PRIMROSE COAL BED.....	..	..	8	4	385	11
20. Dark gray slate, with iron ore balls.....	100	1	..	..	486	..
21. HOLMES COAL BED.....	..	..	12	11	498	11
22. Slate.....	6	1	..	..	505	..
23. COAL BED.....	..	..	4	3	509	3
24. Slate.....	1	10	..	..	511	1
25. Siliceous rock.....	62	6	..	..	573	7
26. Slate.....	..	4	..	..	573	11
27. Sandstone.....	56	6	..	..	630	5
28. Slate.....	9	5	..	..	639	10
29. MAMMOTH COAL BED, TOP MEMBER.....	..	..	12	2	652	..
30. Slate.....	39	..	..	..	691	..
31. Mammoth coal bed, middle member.....	..	..	7	11	698	11
32. Slate.....	23	..	..	..	720	11
33. Mammoth coal bed, bottom member.....	..	..	15	..	735	11
34. Slate.....	6	4	..	..	742	3
35. Conglomerate.....	8	..	..	..	750	3
36. Slate.....	6	4	..	..	756	7
37. SKIDMORE COAL BED.....	..	..	3	9	760	4
38. Slate.....	10	4	..	..	770	8
39. Sandstone.....	11	..	..	..	781	8
40. Slate.....	3	..	..	..	784	8
41. SEVEN FOOT COAL BED.....	..	..	6	6	791	2
42. Slate.....	8	11	..	..	800	1
43. Sandstone.....	3	9	..	..	803	10
44. Slate.....	..	8	..	..	804	6
45. Sandstone.....	8	11	..	..	813	5
46. Conglomerate.....	42	9	..	..	856	2
47. Slate.....	6	4	..	..	862	6
48. BUCK MOUNTAIN COAL BED.....	..	..	12	3	874	9
Total rock.....	767					
“ coal.....			107 9			

“This section was compiled to accompany the map of the mines between Mahanoy City and Shenandoah, which is being published by the Geological Survey, and is supposed to be a typical section of the coal measures of that region. There are a great many changes between these two points in the thickness of the coal beds and the rocks which separate them. The section would represent more particularly the stratigraphy in the vicinity of the Ellanogwan colliery. Although the Big Tracy bed is placed at the top of the sec-

tion, there is, at least, 125 feet of strata on top of it." [2d Geol. Survey of Pa., Vol. AA, pp. 234-235.]

[NOTE.—The foregoing chapter is indebted to the various writings of J. P. Leslie, state geologist, Professors I. C. White, H. C. Lewis and C. A. Ashburner, of the geological survey, not only for the facts, but also for much of the phraseology. Liberty has been taken, in making extracts from the reports, to adapt the language and selections to the purposes of this work, and to such an extent that the usual quotation marks would have been misleading. This note, therefore, is intended to supply the place of such marks.—*Ed.*]

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## CHAPTER II.

### THE PLANTING AND EXTENSION OF THE EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

IT was some three-quarters of a century after the planting of the first permanent colony on the continent that the tide of civilization reached the densely wooded country which has since developed into the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The "first colony to Virginia" was planted at Jamestown in 1607; New Netherland was planted in 1615; the "Pilgrim Fathers" came in 1620; Connecticut was founded from 1630 to 1636; Delaware in 1638; in 1674 New Jersey settlements began to line the eastern banks of the Delaware river, and in 1682 Penn's first colony settled on the site of Philadelphia.

The settlers who thus made their way to the interior found here a vast forest of hemlock, pine, beech, oak and maple, broken only by the craggy face of some precipitous mountain or the widely scattered planting spots, which the natives kept clear of the intruding forests by autumnal fires. Within its recesses the natives reared their lodges beside its sequestered streams, and little dreamed that the vague rumors which came to them from the seaboard, portended the humbling of their power and the extinction of their race.

The earliest of the Jesuit missionaries found the possession of the region defined by the great lakes and the St. Lawrence on the north, and the Potomac and Chesapeake bay on the south, divided between the two leading families of the Indian race. The Iroquois were the first to reach this region in the course of their traditional migration from the west, and settled in the lake region. Subsequently the Lenni Lenape, the great head of the Algonkin family, found their way hither, and fixed upon the Delaware as their national center. Three branches only of this nation appear to have crossed the Alleghenys, of which the Turtles and the Turkeys continued their migration to the seaboard, where they planted their villages and remained until dispossessed by the whites. The Wolf branch, better known by their English name of "the Monseys," planted itself at the Minisink, on the Delaware, extending the line of their villages on the east to the Hudson, and to the Susquehanna on the west. From this latter branch were derived the different tribes which occupy the foreground in the early annals of the state.

For a time the two great families lived on terms of friendly intercourse, but hostilities eventually broke out between them, which, by means fair and foul, resulted in the humbling of the Delawares, as they were named by the English. Of the latter family, the most formidable tribe in Pennsylvania were the Susquehannas. The river which perpetuates their name marks the site of their villages, from which they pushed their forays, pursuing their victorious career to the seaboard, and inspiring terror in the hearts of even the

warlike Iroquois. Their successful career terminated, however, toward the close of the seventeenth century. Their numbers were greatly diminished by the terrible ravages of the small-pox, and in 1675, it is said, they were completely overthrown by an unknown power, and driven from their ancient seats. They migrated thence to the Maryland line, where they came in contact with the Virginians. Here hostilities occurred, and were waged by the Susquehannas with a persistence which resulted in their practical annihilation. Other kindred tribes occupied the places of the one driven out, though they appear to have done so only by permission or direction of the Iroquois.

Dates in connection with the history of the North American Indians are of the most uncertain character. If the Susquehannas maintained their independence so long as suggested, they must have been the last of the Lenni Lenape to do so, for it is generally accepted that long before this time the Iroquois, by force of arms or artifice, had gained complete ascendancy over the Delawares. How this was accomplished is differently related by the dominant and subject peoples. It appears, however, that the growing power of the Algonkins suggested the necessity of confederation, on the part of the Iroquois, a measure which these astute natives were wise enough to accomplish. From this period their power began to increase among the Indian nations, and at the time of the whites' arrival exercised almost unquestioned authority over the aboriginal occupants of the country east of the Mississippi river. They claimed, as conquerors of the different tribes, the absolute ownership of this vast territory, and parceled it out to Europeans and aborigines at their sovereign will and pleasure.

The statecraft of these unlettered conquerors of the American forests finds a prototype in the policy of the Romans. Warlike tribes were divided and kept employed in further conquests or in reducing refractory nations, while all were placed under a close surveillance and some form of tribute. When the whites established themselves upon the continent and demonstrated their power, many of the subject tribes were quick to perceive how they might profit by their friendship. Emboldened by such alliances, some of the Algonkin tribes resisted the boundless claims of the Iroquois, and much of the bloodshed and ravages of war inflicted upon the early settlements in all parts of the country resulted from a too general neglect of this change of attitude in the subject nations. Penn, fortunately wiser in this respect than many of his contemporaries, not only extinguished the claims of the dominant nation, but repeatedly purchased the rights of the native occupants, and thus saved his colony from much of the harrassing experiences which fell to the lot of less favored provinces.

William Penn was well fitted by his early education and experience to entertain the highest regard for the personal rights and liberties of those whom fortune might place in his power, and he accordingly announced to the colonists who had previously settled within the limits of the territory ceded to him, "that it hath pleased God in his Providence to cast you within my Lott and Care." But he assured them that though the undertaking in which he had engaged was new to him, yet God had given him an understanding of his duty and an "honest minde to doe it uprightly." He declared that they should be governed by laws of their own making, and live a free, and if so disposed, a sober and industrious people; and his determination not to "usurp the right of any, nor oppress his person." These sentiments he embodied in a letter to the colonists in his new possessions, which he transmitted by the hand of William Markham.

Contrary to the practice which was then generally observed, Penn did not



limit the operation of his principles of justice to the colonists, but "was influenced by a purer morality and a sounder policy." In the language of Smith's *Laws of Pennsylvania*, "His religious principles did not permit him to wrest the soil of Pennsylvania by force from the people to whom God and nature gave it, nor to establish his title in blood; but under the shade of the lofty trees of the forest, his right was fixed by treaties with the natives, and sanctified, as it were, by smoking from the calumet of peace."

When Markham was dispatched to America, in May, 1681, prominent among the provisions of his commission were instructions to negotiate with the natives for peaceable possession of the lands necessary for the new colony. At the same time the proprietor addressed a conciliating address to the Indians, in which he expressed the most elevated sentiments. He declared to them that although the king of the country in which he lived had granted him a great province in their land, yet he only desired to enjoy it with their love and consent, that they might live together as neighbors and friends; that he was not ignorant of the unkindness and injustice too much practiced toward them by colonists who had sought to make great advantages for themselves, rather than to be examples of goodness and patience to them, and had thereby caused great grudging and animosities, sometimes to the shedding of blood. But, he declared, I am not such a man, as is well known in my own country; and if in anything any shall offend you or your people, you shall have a full and speedy satisfaction for the same by an equal number of just men on both sides, that by no means you may have just occasion of being offended. These were not idle words, and resisting the most seductive temptations to vary from his liberal views, in the latter part of this year Penn formulated his promises to colonists and natives in a constitution, which was subsequently submitted to the settlers. It was cordially ratified, and became the fundamental law of the province.

Markham held a conference with the Indians at Shakamaxon, July 15, 1682, and, it is believed, then first obtained a grant from the natives. The land thus obtained was included between the Neshaminy creek and the Delaware, and extended in a northerly direction to a point on the latter stream a short distance above the mouth of Baker's creek. In the following November Penn had arrived with a second company of colonists, and while there is no written evidence to the fact, a long line of well confirmed tradition indicates that the proprietor held another treaty with the Indians at the same place. Here he met the representatives of the Delaware tribes of the Lenni Lenape, of the Shawanese, and of the Iroquois tribes settled on the Conestoga. No concessions of land were sought by Penn, but he established those friendly relations between the two races settled here, which, it is the proud boast of history, were never interrupted by either of the contracting parties.

Various treaties, however, were subsequently entered into with the tribes occupying the neighboring lands, and not long before his return to England, Penn secured the services of Governor Dongan, of New York, in obtaining from the Five Nations a release of their claims to "all that tract of land lying on both sides of the river Susquehanna, and the lakes adjacent in or near the province of Pennsylvania." The conveyance was finally made to Penn, on January 13, 1696, "in consideration of one hundred pounds sterling." This was but a preliminary step, however. Penn's sense of justice would not permit him to accept the Iroquois theory of ownership, and he wisely took measures to have this sale confirmed by the occupants, or heirs of the former occupants, of this region. Accordingly in September, 1700, he obtained from the "Kings or Sachems of the Susquehanna Indians, and of the river under that name and lands lying on both sides thereof," a deed of all this region, "lying and be



ing upon both sides of said river, and next adjoining the same, to the utmost confines of the lands which are, or formerly were, the right of the people or nation called the Susquehanna Indians," and a distinct confirmation of the bargain and sale effected with the Five Nations.

Here the Conestoga Indians interposed their objections, refusing to recognize the validity of the Dongan purchase. Penn at once addressed himself with unflinching patience to overcome this obstacle, and while in the province on his second visit, procured from the representatives of the Susquehannas, Potomac and Conestoga tribes a full confirmation and ratification of both the previous deeds. This was in April, 1701, but notwithstanding Penn's liberal measures to extinguish every just claim, the possession of this territory still continued in dispute. In their ignorance of the interior, Penn and his agents began their boundaries at certain well known natural objects, but indicated their extension into the unknown region by such vague terms as, "to run two days' journey with an horse up into the country as the river doth go," or "north-westerly back into the woods to make up two full days' journey," "as far as a man can go in two days from said station," etc. There is a tradition to the effect that Penn himself walked out a part of the boundary designated in Markham's first treaty. Arriving at the mouth of Baker's creek, it is said that he became satisfied that a line drawn from this point to Neshaminy creek would include land enough for his immediate purposes, and left the remainder to be finished at another time.

Whatever the truth may be in this instance, there is no evidence that any similar lines, subsequently provided for, were similarly measured. Literally defined, these lines would have extended far beyond the expectation of either of the contracting parties, and as the country became better known to the colonists, more definite terms were employed to define the limits of these grants. To this end, after examining all former deeds, a treaty was entered into between sundry chiefs of the Delawares and the agents of the proprietor granting all lands between the Delaware and the Susquehanna "from Duck creek to the mountains on this side Lechay." This was consummated in September, 1718; but the settlers, maintaining the authority of the original treaty lines, or ignoring all alike, pushed their improvements beyond the later line, much to the dissatisfaction of the natives. Their most influential chiefs remonstrated with the proprietary government, isolated cases of hostilities ensued, and the prospect of a general war appeared imminent, when wiser counsels prevailed. While the new line seemed well understood on the Delaware, on the Schuylkill "the mountains this side of Lechay" were confounded with the Kittatinny range, and settlers had planted themselves at Tulpehocken and Oley. This difficulty was finally adjusted in 1732, when Thomas Penn purchased the Tulpehocken lands, which now form the county of Berks.

At other points of the line encroachments continued to form the subject of complaint, until in 1736, when, at a general gathering of the Iroquois, it was determined to put an end to the bickerings which had so long been sustained. Their representatives accordingly repaired to Philadelphia, and renewing old treaties, by the signatures of twenty-three of their chiefs, deeded to Penn's heirs "all the said river Susquehanna, with the lands lying on both sides thereof, to extend eastward as far as the heads of the branches or springs which run into the said Susquehanna, and all lands lying on the west side of the said river, northward, up the same to the hills or mountains." The line thus established made the Kittatinny mountains the northwest boundary of the ceded lands, but on the Delaware the line established by the treaty of 1718 remained unchanged. This fact, however, did not exclude the unscrupulous land seeker.

At the time of the Tulpehocken purchase a prominent land speculator had secured a warrant for the location and survey of ten thousand acres of land in the Minisinks, forty miles above the Indian boundary line. About the same time the proprietor published proposals for the disposition of one hundred thousand acres by lottery, the prize-holders to locate upon any lands not sold or settled. No exception was made of the lands not yet purchased of the Indians, and settlers on such lands found the prizes of the lottery a valuable means of securing a valid title to their illegal improvements. All this provoked the indignation of the natives, but, as if this was not enough, an old claim was revived by which, under color of a treaty, the whole region as far as Shoholo Creek was seized.

In 1686, Thomas Holme, agent and surveyor-general to William Penn, was said to have secured from certain Delaware chiefs a deed to certain lands to extend one and a half days' walk from near Wrightstown into the interior. The original deed has never been discovered, but in 1737 a musty old copy was brought forward, and two chiefs of the band occupying the region above the site of Easton, induced to confirm it. The proprietors at once advertised for expert walkers, offering five hundred acres and five pounds sterling to the one who should make the greatest distance in the time specified. The walk took place in the latter part of September, 1737, with two Indians attending, ostensibly as witnesses for the Delawares.

Three whites entered the race, but of the whole party two of the whites only reached the north side of the Blue mountains, the rest having been worn out and left behind. The next morning one of these fainted and fell, and the survivor pushed on to the Second or Broad mountain, some sixty-five miles from the starting point, where he arrived at noon. The outrageous character of this proceeding was not lost upon the natives. When the walking party, attended by mounted relays provided with liquor and refreshments for the contestants, reached the Blue mountains, they found a great number of Indians collected, with the expectation that the walk would end there. But when they found there was still a half day's journey to complete the line, they were loud in expressions of indignation at what they considered a palpable fraud.

A line was subsequently drawn from Broad mountain to the Delaware river, just below Shoholo creek, and the territory thus included claimed under the terms of the old treaty. The Indians, however, with one accord, refused to yield the lands, and the proprietary government, to avoid a hostile collision with the determined savages, had recourse to the Iroquois. They sent messengers to the dominant nation in 1741, acquainting them with their case, and claiming that, inasmuch as the whites had removed intruding settlers on the demand of the Iroquois, they should now use their authority in removing the Delawares from the lands thus purchased. In the following year, therefore, a delegation of the Six Nations, to the number of two hundred and thirty, appeared at Philadelphia. The Delawares were also summoned and the matter brought before the conference for decision.

The finding of the Iroquois was a foregone conclusion. They had sold their pretended claim to the region, they were flattered by the invitation to act as arbitrators, and they could satisfy their vindictive hatred without personal cost. They promptly decided, therefore, in favor of the whites, and in a most insolent speech bade the betrayed natives to remove either to Wyoming or Shamokin. Beset before and behind, the remnant of Delawares and Shawanese had no other course to pursue than to obey, a part continuing their journey to Ohio.

The expanding settlements still kept in advance of the Indian boundary



Wellington H. Cook





line, and the demand for more room soon began to be urgently pressed. In 1749, therefore, a further cession of land was secured from the natives, the representatives of the Six Nations uniting with chiefs of the Shamokin, Delaware and Shawanese occupants on August 22, in a deed granting the region north of the Kittatinny range on the east side of the Susquehanna, within the following limits: Beginning on the river at the nearest mountains north of the Mahanoy creek, and from thence extending by a direct line to the main branch of the Delaware at the north side of the Laxawaxen. Much of this region had already been pre-empted by adventurous squatters, while west of the Susquehanna, the line of settlements were scarcely less advanced although the purchase line on this side was still marked by the Blue hills.

In 1753, the increased activity of the French in the valley of the Ohio began to create concern for the safety of the frontier. The enemy's agents were known to be actively engaged in seducing the natives from their allegiance to the English; the Shawanese had yielded to their blandishments, and the Delawares and Iroquois were known to be wavering. A general conference of representatives from the threatened colonies was called to meet at Albany, and to this the Iroquois were also invited. The meeting occurred in 1754, and on July 6th the representatives of Pennsylvania secured a deed from the Indians for all the land within the state southwest of a line beginning one mile above the mouth of Penn's creek, and running thence "northwest and by west as far as the province of Pennsylvania extends, to its western lines or boundaries." In determining this line, however, it was found to strike the northern boundary a short distance west of the Conewango creek. The lands of the Shawanese, Delaware and Monsey occupants were thus "sold from under their feet" contrary to the express stipulation of the Six Nations to these tribes. Nothing further was needed to completely alienate these savages, and but little more to precipitate these savages into a cruel and relentless war upon the defenseless frontiers.

The defeat of Braddock, in 1755, decided the last waverer, and the border, from the Delaware to the Allegheny, was at once ravaged with tomahawk and fire-brand. On October 18th, a party of Indians attacked the settlers on Penn's creek, and carried off twenty-five persons, after burning and otherwise destroying the improvements. Five days later, a company of forty-six men from Paxton creek, led by John Harris, went to Shamokin to inquire of the Indians there who the authors of the devastation were. On their return, while crossing Mahanoy creek, they were ambushed by hostile savages; four were killed by the enemy, four were drowned, and the rest put to flight. These incidents inspired the pioneers in this region with such terror of the savages that all the settlements between Shamokin and Hunter's mill, a space of fifty miles along the Susquehanna, were deserted. On the 13th of December, Weiser reported to the provincial government that the country about Reading was in a dismal condition. Consternation, poverty and confusion were everywhere apparent, with the prospect that the settlements would soon be abandoned. On the 16th, reports from Bethlehem and Nazareth gave account of two hundred savages invading Northampton county, murdering the inhabitants and burning their dwellings. On Christmas, reports were received from Conrad Weiser, who had been sent to Harris' ferry and who had gone thence up the west branch of the Susquehanna, that the Delawares at Nescopee had given that place to the French for a rendezvous, and frequent collisions had occurred between the hostile Indians and the white rangers.

It is unnecessary to cite further details to illustrate the reign of terror and blood which devastated the frontiers, and carried consternation even to the

citizens of Philadelphia. The most vigorous measures for defense were employed. Bounties were offered for prisoners and for scalps of men, women and children of the enemy; a chain of block-houses was stretched along the Kittatinny hills from the Delaware to the Maryland line, and each garrisoned with twenty to seventy-five men. But by far the most effective in its results was an expedition, concerted in 1756, against Kittanning—an Indian stronghold on the Alleghany river. The movement, under the direction of General Armstrong, was entirely successful, and resulted in the complete disorganization of the Indian conspiracy against the frontier. The savages were once more willing to treat, and a grand council was convened at Easton in November of this year.

The high contracting parties were Governor Denny, on the part of the province, and Teedyuscung, on the part of the natives. Each leader was accompanied by a considerable retinue, the whites making special effort to impose upon the imagination of the Indians by the bravery of their martial display. A previous council had been held in July, but the attendance was small, and neither party was fully prepared to join issue. The more important business was therefore deferred until autumn. Meanwhile Armstrong's expedition had occurred, and the second meeting found the two parties ready to discuss their grievances. When questioned as to the cause of the dissatisfaction and hostility of the Indians, the eminent chief mentioned the overtures of the French and the ill-usage of the provincial authorities. He boldly declared that the very land on which they stood had been taken from the rightful owners by fraud; and not only had the country from the Tohicon Creek to Wyoming been thus taken, but several tracts in New Jersey had been similarly stolen from his people. And, subsequently, when the Six Nations had given them and the Shawanese the country on the Juniata for a hunting-ground, with the full knowledge of the governor, the latter permitted settlers to encroach upon their lands. Again, in 1754 the governor had gone to Albany to purchase more lands of the Six Nations, describing the lands sought by points of compass, which the Indians did not understand, and, by the profusion of presents, obtained grants for lands which the Iroquois did not intend to sell, including not only the Juniata, but also the west branch of the Susquehanna. When these things were known to native occupants, they declared they would no longer be friends with the English, who were trying to get all of their country.

This council lasted nine days, and resulted in a treaty of peace between the two parties. Compensation was offered for the lands taken by the "walking purchase," but this matter was deferred until those especially interested could be present. A council for this purpose was accordingly held in July, 1757, when the whites resorted to a practice too common with them in such conferences. Rum was freely supplied, and strenuous efforts made to place Teedyuscung hopelessly under its influence. Through the aid of certain Quakers present this was prevented, and the whole settlement finally referred to the king and council in England. In the succeeding year another grand council was held at Easton for the adjustment of the whole question of Indian grievances, and representatives of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawanese, Miamis, Mohicans, Monseys, Nauticokes, Conoys, etc., were present to the number of five hundred. The Iroquois had taken great offense on account of the independent treaty made by the Delawares and Shawanese in 1756, and had committed sundry outrages upon the settlements in the hope of embroiling the adjoining tribes with the whites. In this conference, also, they took great offense because of the prominence assumed by the Delaware chieftain, and it was only through the earnest efforts of the Quakers present that rum and intrigue with the

representatives of the Six Nations did not defeat the purposes of the conference. Teedyuscung, however, bore himself with dignity and firmness, and secured from the governors of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and the principal Indian agents, who represented the whites, a release of all lands beyond the Allegheny mountains, purchased in 1754, and the lands on the "West Branch." For the remainder the Indians gave a deed confirming the former purchase, more clearly defining its boundaries, and received additional compensation for the same.

The following five years were marked by peace and prosperity on the Pennsylvania border. In 1762 the "chain of friendship" between the natives and whites was "strengthened" and "brightened" at a council held in Lancaster; the frontier settlements increased in population, and the Moravian missionaries extended their stations to Wyoming and vicinity, and re-established their mission at Gnadenhutten. And in 1762, after effecting a purchase of the Six Nations, and with the consent of the neighboring tribes, the first company of Connecticut colonists began their improvements in the Wyoming valley. But this favorable state of affairs was not destined to last. The Iroquois had joined hands with Pontiac, who found that, after the destruction of the French, the English, instead of receding to their old lines, had established themselves in the strongholds of their opponents.

Among the first indications of the unfavorable change was the murder of Teedyuscung in April, 1763. This is now believed to have been the deed of the Six Nations, but was charged upon the Connecticut settlers, with the intention of involving the Delawares in the predetermined hostilities, as well as to cover the course which their vindictive hatred had lead them to take. In the following October the same evil power destroyed the Wyoming settlements, and subsequently carried the fire-brand and tomahawk into every frontier community. The frontier was again depopulated, the dismayed pioneers fleeing with their families and movable property to the stronger stations at Shippensburg, Carlisle, Lancaster and Reading. A series of partisan forays and reprisals, characterized by the most barbarous exhibitions of revenge, on the part of both white and red men, marked the period. In 1764, however, the strength of the Indian conspiracy was broken on the Pennsylvania frontier by the well directed campaign of Colonel Bouquet. A treaty of peace, with a surrender of prisoners, was effected, and the matter of a new boundary line referred to England for instructions.

In the meantime the settlers returned to their abandoned improvements; traders once more carried their wares to the Indian wigwam, and the more adventurous squatter once more trespassed upon the unpurchased lands of the natives. The Indians began to renew their murmurs of complaint, and observant men began to fear a renewal of savage hostilities, when instructions from the crown were received and a council appointed to meet at Fort Stanwix for the adjustment of all difficulties. Few of the Indian nations, save the Iroquois confederacy, were represented, and the representatives of the latter alone signed the treaty and received the consideration given for the lands ceded, although by the terms of the deed it was made binding upon the "dependent tribes." This one-sided bargain was productive of prolonged hostilities in the west, though, fortunately, not contested in Pennsylvania. By the terms of this cession all the province east and south of the following line was granted to representatives of the whites: Beginning on the northern charter boundary, where the east branch of the Susquehanna crosses, following the east side of the stream to a point opposite the mouth of Towanda creek; thence crossing the river and following up the course of said creek to its source lying north of what



was known as the Burnett hills; thence in a direct course to Pine creek, and down its course to the west branch of the Susquehanna; thence following up the course of the said branch to a point nearest the site of the Indian town Kittanning; thence in a direct course to said town; and thence down the Allegheny and Ohio to a point where it crosses the charter limit of the province on the west.

It was this purchase that formally opened up the larger part of the territory now included within the limits of Columbia county, but the eager advance of the adventurous pioneer had anticipated this action, and a considerable population was already to be found in the upper valley of the Susquehanna.

As has been previously suggested, this valley, north of the river forks, had been assigned in the early days of the province to various dependent tribes of the Six Nations, and the whites found the Delawares, Shawanese, Conoys, Nanticokes, Monseys and Mohicans located along the course of the river in scattered villages, or visiting the valley on hunting expeditions. Any attempt to more specifically locate the aboriginal occupants, from data now accessible, must prove unsatisfactory, but tradition points out the vicinity of Berwick, Catawissa and Bloomsburg as the sites of minor villages, while temporary camps were found elsewhere in the territory included within the present county limits. The great war-path of the Iroquois, in their forays against the Catawbas of the south, traversed this region, and it was deemed especially important by the dominant nation to keep a close surveillance upon its subjects in this vicinity, that they might not prove obstacles in the way of their expeditions. Shikelamy, a prominent Cayuga chief, was therefore sent here in 1728 as a kind of colonial governor, who took up his abode in the native village of Shamokin, on the site of Sunbury.

This village commanded the entrance to the valley on the south, as the character of the county made the early transportation by wheeled vehicles, or even pack animals, impracticable, and its importance to the natives may readily be understood by the number of trails which converged here. One led up the "West Branch" from Shamokin through the gap in the Muncy hills to the principal village of the Monseys, the site of which is marked by the borough which perpetuates the tribal name. From this point the trail to Wyoming followed the course of Glade run to Fishing creek, at a point where Millville now stands, and thence along the Huntingdon creek, through the Nescopeck gap, and up the river to the Wyoming village. To the upper village of Wyalusing, a trail continued up Muncy creek to its head, then crossing to the Loyalsock, half a mile from where the Berwick turnpike crosses, it passed near the site of Dushore, and struck the Wyalusing creek near the northeast corner of Sullivan county, and then continued to its destination. The trail which led to the villages on the upper branches of the "West Branch," also passed through the Monsey village, as did the one leading to the Sheshequin village. The latter turned off from the first named trail at Bonser's run, which it followed to its source, and then extending to the Lycoming creek near the mouth of Mill creek, followed the course of the stream to certain beaver dams, where it turned eastwardly and led along the course of the Towanda creek to the site of the village, on the Susquehanna. A more direct route led up the Susquehanna to the flats near the site of Bloomsburg, and thence up the valley of Fishing creek to the vicinity of Long Pond, where it diverged to the northeast and, striking the upper waters of the Tunkhannock creek, followed it to its junction with the Susquehanna.

All these trails found their outlet toward the settlements by way of Shamokin and the river, and, when first familiar to the whites, bore ample evidence of constant use. Beside these, only one important trail led to the southeastern set-



tlements—the one from Wyoming to the “forks of the Delaware,” at Easton. The other route, however, was the one generally traveled to reach Philadelphia, the latter only coming into use after the extension of the settlements up the Delaware. To all other points, south and southwest, the Susquehanna trail was not only the great Indian thoroughfare for the occupants of the valley, but for the whole Iroquois confederacy.

The development of the settlements in Pennsylvania was first along the upward course of the streams which emptied into the Delaware, and westward, in a somewhat narrow path, toward the Susquehanna. Their progress to the year 1718, is fairly indicated by the treaty line established in that year. Three years later, the Palatine settlement on the Tulpehocken was planted, and by 1735, the line of civilization had reached a limit well up to the foot of the Kittatinny range, from the Delaware to the Susquehanna. During the thirteen years following, the advance of the settlements was less rapid, and was chiefly noticeable in the region of the Delaware. In 1739, the celebrated George Whitfield began a settlement at Nazareth, and invited the newly arrived Moravians to join him. This gave rise to complaints from the Indians, and it was subsequently abandoned for Bethlehem. In 1743, however, the pious adventurers returned to Nazareth, completed Whitfield's unfinished building, and established a flourishing colony there. Three years later Friedenshutzen was founded on Mahoning creek (Carbon county), where a large number of Mohican followers of the Moravians were established. Here a large settlement gathered, and others elsewhere in the region; speculators secured and surveyed large areas of land, until the threatening attitude of the Indians finally brought about the treaty of 1749.

Nine years elapsed before another important cession of land was effected, and in this interval the frontier settlements were gradually extended toward the mountains west of the Susquehanna, up the course of that stream as far as Penn's creek on the west side, and Mahanoy creek on the east side. Settlements were effected on the upper branches of the Tulpehocken (now Lebanon county), as early as 1732; but along the Susquehanna the Moravians pioneered the way. In 1742, Count Zinzendorf came to Shamokin, where he was hospitably received by Shikellamy, and from thence went to Otzinachson, on the “West Branch,” where he met Madame Montour and other Europeans who had adopted Indian habits. In 1745, the Reverend David Brainerd visited Shamokin and found it a village of some fifty cabins, situated partly on the east and west banks of the river, and partly on an island in the stream. Its inhabitants, numbering about three hundred, were principally Delawares, and were “accounted the most drunken, mischievous and ruffian-like fellows of any in these parts; and Satan seemed to have his seat in this town, in an eminent manner.”

Brainerd again visited the Susquehanna towns in the following year, and in his diary expressed a similar opinion of the whole Indian population. This place was prominently used as a resting place by the war parties of the Six Nations, in their forays against the Catawbas and other southern Indians, and about this time the Iroquois requested the governor of the province to allow a blacksmith to be stationed there, that they might be saved the trouble of seeking the services of those in the Tulpehocken settlements. This was granted, on condition that he was to remain only so long as they continued friendly to the English. Anthony Schmidt was accordingly sent from Bethlehem, and in the spring of 1747, the Moravians sent missionaries and built a mission house. They appear to have had a strong and healthful influence over Shikellamy, the Iroquois viceroy, and probably had much to do with his continued faithfulness to the English cause.

Notice of England's declaration of war against France reached the province on the 11th of June, 1744, but the negotiations of the French with the Indians had been viewed with uneasiness by the colonists since 1728, and no effort was spared to hold the Six Nations and their dependent tribes true to their treaties of friendship. Traders from the different colonies found their way to the remotest nations east of the Mississippi, and gave frequent cause of complaint to the savages, whose taste for rum was beyond their self-restraint, though they repeatedly affirmed that it was through its influence that the unscrupulous trader robbed them and brought on fatal encounters which were constantly endangering the friendly relations of the two races. To these were added the irritation occasioned by the steady encroachment of the settlements upon lands not purchased of the Indians. This was allayed by purchasers from time to time; but these, in the main, proved more satisfactory to the Six Nations than to the native occupants.

In 1749, Shikellamy died, the Shawanese had withdrawn to Ohio, and the Iroquois, under the seductive influences of French agents, began to waver in their allegiance to the English. The regular alternation of encroachments and purchases seemed likely to have no end, so long as the Indians possessed any lands, and the feeling began to gain ground among the savages that some other means must be sought to avoid probable extermination. Until 1755, the conflict between the French and English did not involve the Indians of the interior. The success of the French in 1754, however, encouraged the Shawanese to join them, and Braddock's defeat in the following year precipitated upon the Pennsylvania border the first Indian war of its history. Its result was to depopulate the advanced settlements, and lead to a general concentration of those hardly less exposed.

It was not until the treaty of 1763 opened the "new purchase" to settlers, that the frontier communities had regained the positions held at the beginning of the war, and were prepared to make fresh advances. On the conclusion of this purchase, the provincial authorities sent a small party of settlers to the lands from which the Connecticut immigrants had been driven in 1763, with the hope of supplanting those who claimed the land, under an independent purchase from the Indians and the charter of Connecticut. In February, 1769, a colony of some forty persons arrived from Connecticut and quietly repossessed themselves of their former claims. A bitter controversy, characterized by wanton cruelty and gross injustice, was thus begun and persistently carried on for years. In the summer following the settlement at Wyoming, the first settler appeared in the territory now within the limits of Columbia county. The new lands found ready sale among the speculators, and but little of the land in this county was settled by the first purchaser. It happened, therefore, that the attention of John Eves, a resident of New Castle county, Delaware, was directed to this region by a Philadelphian, who had made a large purchase here. In the summer of 1769, he came on a tour of inspection; in 1770, he came with his son and prepared a home for his family, and, in 1771, took up his permanent residence within the territory now included in Madison township.

For about a year, this family were probably the only white occupants of the region now marked by the county limits. The trails were the only roads, and the sole dependence for indispensable supplies was Harris' ferry, or Shamokin, where, in 1756, Fort Augusta had been erected. The Eves did not long remain in such isolation, however. The Scotch-Irish settlements of the Kittatinny valley sent forth their surplus population along the "West Branch," while here and there a family turned inland to seek a home. In 1772, some Welsh fami-

lies from Chester county settled just south of the river, within the present limits of Maine township. In 1774, improvements were made in what are now Beaver and Center townships, and in the following year in Madison township. It is impossible to determine the number of persons included in the settlements indicated, but probably it did not exceed one hundred.

In 1772 the county of Northumberland was erected, with limits embracing an area from which more than a score of counties have since been formed. Its limits included the Wyoming settlement, which at this time proved a source of great concern, to those who bore official responsibility, and disturbance to the whole community. For a time, this matter engaged the public attention and tasked its energies, but the struggle for independence beginning to cast its shadows before, public activities were turned in another direction. Well founded apprehensions began to be entertained that the savages would become involved in the approaching conflict, and the colonial authorities made early efforts to secure their neutrality, but with no strong assurance of success. Such a state of affairs boded very serious consequences to this unprotected region, which lay in the very path of the powerful Iroquois. Late in the year of 1775, and in the early part of the following year, the Wyoming settlers held unofficial "talks" with representatives of the northern Indians, who, while professing the most peaceful intentions, made their replies a tissue of complaints and protests against the erection of fortifications. On one pretext or another they sought to make occasion for the visit of the Indians, with a view, as the settlers believed, to turn their presence to a hostile account whenever it should suit their purpose to "dig up the hatchet."

The only fort at this time was at Shamokin. This was garrisoned by a detachment under the command of Capt. Hunter, and served as a rallying point rather than a protection to the frontier, which was advanced some fifty miles to the north of it. Stockades were soon built, however, which became known as forts. Of these the Wyoming settlers erected, in 1776, the fort at Pittston; and one called after the builder, "Fort Jenkins," was erected on the west side of the river in the same vicinity. Northumberland county had also its "Committee of Safety,"\* which lost no time in organizing those capable of bearing arms for the defense of the settlements.

On the 8th of February, 1776, the gentlemen previously nominated by their respective townships, met at the house of Richard Malone, at the mouth of the Chillisquaque. The committee thus constituted consisted of John Weitzel, Alexander Hunter and Thomond Ball, from Augusta township; William Cook, Benjamin Alison and Thomas Hewet, from Mahoning; Captain John Hambright, William McKnight and William Shaw, from Turbut township; Robert Roble, William Watson and John Buckalew, from Muncey township; William Dunn, Thomas Hewes and Alexander Hamilton, from Bald Eagle township; Walter Clark, William Irwin and Joseph Green, from Buffalo township; James McClure, Thomas Clayton and Peter Mellick, from Wyoming township; none indicated from Penn's township; none from Mahanoy township; John Livingston, Maurice Davis and ——— Hall, from Potter's township; and Walter Clarke, Matthew Brown and Marcus Hulings, from White Deer township. The committee organized by the election of Captain Hambright as chairman, and Thomond Ball as clerk. The first general business of the committee was to provide for the organization of a volunteer regiment. The county was divided into two parts, each of which was to raise a battalion: the contingent

\*On June 30, 1775, the provincial assembly appointed twenty-five men to act as a "Committee of Safety," who met on the 3d of July and organized, with Benjamin Franklin as president. Subsequently, subsidiary committees were constituted in each county, which corresponded and acted in conjunction with the central committee.



of the lower division to be officered by Samuel Hunter, colonel; William Cooke, lieutenant-colonel; Casper Weitzel, first major; John Lee, second major; and that of the upper division to be officered by William Plunket, colonel; James Murray, lieutenant-colonel; John Brady, first major; Cookson Long, second major. Each battalion was to consist of six companies, each of which should number at least forty privates.

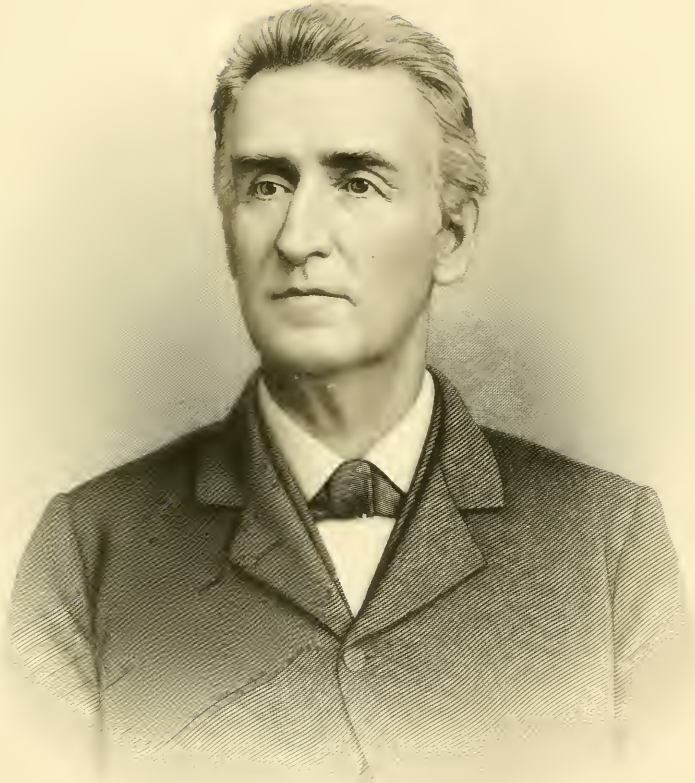
The committee was changed once in six months, and but few members seem to have retained their positions more than one term. To judge from its record of proceedings, it was not remarkably efficient. Some of its appointees proved Tories, and others do not appear to have been in accord with its administration. It had occasion to complain that recruiting officers from other counties took the bulk of their fighting population into other organizations, and subsequent events proved that what stand was made against the enemy was effected largely by local leaders in their private capacity or by the continental forces. The Wyoming settlement raised and equipped two companies, of eighty-four men each, under the direction of the congress, but these were drawn to re-enforce Washington's retreating army in the following winter. It is sufficient to say that there was no bond of union between this settlement and the lower ones in the county, nor did their common danger beget one. Fortunately it did not serve the purposes of the savages to carry their hostilities in this direction in the first two years of the war, and it was not until the latter part of 1777 that rumors of an impending blow upon this frontier began to be credited.

It is difficult to assign any particular share in the early movements to the residents of Columbia county territory. They were probably included in Wyoming township, but the undisturbed condition of affairs did not demand more active duty than occasional musters, or a short scouting expedition. The relation of Moses Van Campen, whose house was then within the present limits of Center township, gives the only detailed account of affairs here, that can now be obtained.

My first service was in the year 1777, when I served three months under Colonel John Kelly, who stationed us at Big Isle, on the west branch of the Susquehanna. Nothing particular transpired during that time, and in March, 1778, I was appointed lieutenant in a company of six-months men. Shortly afterward I was ordered by Colonel Samuel Hunter to proceed with about twenty men to Fishing creek, and to build a fort about three miles from its mouth, for the reception of the inhabitants in case of an alarm from the Indians. In May, my fort being nearly completed, our spies discovered a large body of Indians making their way toward the fort. The neighboring residents had barely time to fly to the fort for protection, leaving their goods behind. The Indians soon made their appearance, and having plundered and burnt the houses, attacked the fort, keeping a steady fire upon us during the day. At night they withdrew, burning and destroying everything in their route. What loss they sustained we could not ascertain as they carried off all the dead and wounded, though, from the marks of blood on the ground, it must have been considerable.

The incident related above was the first Indian attack on this frontier in the revolutionary war. Scouts of the enemy had previously been discovered about the Wyoming settlements, but always at considerable distance away, as if their purpose was to veil their real movements and to intercept any messengers who might be sent for succor. Authentic information having reached the board of war, however, of an attack on this region by a combined force of British and savages, some inadequate measures were suggested to meet it; but the blow fell before the authorities could bring themselves to act decisively. In May, the scouts, who had hitherto invariably retired when discovered, put on a bolder front and killed a settler near Tunkhannock. A few days later they fired on a party of six with fatal effect, but still no concerted action took place until the attack on Van Campen's fort, which is locally known as Fort Wheeler.





E. B. Brown  
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It is probable that this attack was designed to destroy any hope of re-enforcement from below, that Wyoming might have reason to entertain. The success of the expedition was not conspicuous, and in June, therefore, an advance force was sent hither to distract the attention of the lower settlements, while the main attack was delivered at Wyoming. The settlers who had fled to Fort Wheeler remained there, and inclosed a parcel of ground not far from the stockade for their cattle. One evening in June, when some of the company were engaged in milking, the sentinel on guard called attention to a suspicious movement in the bushes beyond the cattle pen. Examination developed the fact that a party of Indians were approaching the milkers with the intention of surprising them. Van Campen, who was still in command, quickly summoned a party of ten men, and succeeded in gaining a position between the savages and the milking party unobserved. Advancing to an intervening ridge, the whites came upon the Indians within pistol-range. A sudden volley killed the leader of the band, but did no execution upon the rest, who lost no time in getting beyond the reach of a second fire. In the meantime, the surprised milkers, startled by the firing, made a rapid race for the fort, while the discarded milk pails, flying in all directions, served to mark the precipitation of the stampede.

On the 3d of July occurred the terrible massacre at Wyoming, the barbarous details of which are not excelled in horror by any other incident in the whole range of savage warfare. The few survivors of this disaster fled down the river or to the settlements on the Delaware, enduring the most heart-rending sufferings in their flight, and spreading the utmost consternation by the recital of their sad story. In the meantime parties of the enemy scouted through the whole region, murdering defenseless families and burning abandoned houses. Many of the settlers fled, never to return, and others fled to the most accessible stockade.

On learning of this sad state of affairs, the authorities took prompt measures to stay the course of the victorious enemy. Colonel Hartley, of the Pennsylvania line, with a part of his regiment, was ordered to Sunbury at once. The council directed four hundred militia from Lancaster, one hundred and fifty from Berks and three hundred from Northumberland county, to concentrate at the same place; and General McIntosh, arresting the march of Colonel Broadhead toward Fort Pitt, directed him to march to Wyoming. Unfortunately, these ample re-enforcements came too late; the people of that settlement who had not perished were already flying or fled. Colonel Broadhead therefore halted at Sunbury, and took prompt measures to restrain the ravages of the enemy, and to infuse courage in the hearts of those still in the country. Scouts were employed in watching the Indian trails; reconnoitering parties were sent out daily, and detachments stationed at important points. One of these, "consisting of a major, two captains, one subaltern and eighty men, including sergeants," were posted at Briar creek, "a little below Nescopeck." Encouraged by these measures, many of the refugees returned, and, in companies, attempted to save something from the general wreck of their crops.

Hartley arrived about the 1st of August, and relieved Colonel Broadhead's forces; a few days later Colonel Z. Butler, with twenty continental troops and forty militia, reached Wyoming. Both officers actively engaged in securing the settlements from the daily attacks of the savages. Additional re-enforcements were sent to Butler from Easton, and on the 9th of August Hartley wrote the former officer: "I expect another part of my regiment to join me every day, and some more militia. I have established a post, and a work is built, at one Jenkins's, about six miles below the Nescopeck falls. There

is now a garrison there, which is to be strengthened to-morrow; when I am re-enforced, my wish is to extend our post to Wyoming. Should you not think yourself able to maintain yourself at Wyoming, you are to march your troops to Jenkins' fort, at the place I have mentioned."

Colonel Hartley had frequent occasion to march in pursuit of marauding parties of savages, but with no better success than to temporarily drive them off, and on the 1st of September this diligent commander reported that, notwithstanding these efforts, "we are not certain we killed a single Indian." In the latter part of this month, however, he led a force up the "West Branch," and then crossing over to the "North Branch," in conjunction with Colonel Butler, from Wyoming, brought the savages to a stand at Sheshequin. The enemy was easily put to flight with considerable loss, when the united forces retired to Wyoming, where, on October 22d. the bodies of those slain in July were buried. This had hitherto been found impossible, and even now was done hurriedly, amid constant alarms of an Indian attack.

Colonel Hartley soon returned to Sunbury, leaving a small garrison in the fort, but no sooner had the retiring forces reached their destination than the whole region was again infested by lurking savages, who plied their nefarious work with apparent impunity. On November 9, 1778, Hartley wrote from Sunbury to the executive council:

The enemy within these ten days has come down in force and invested Wyoming. They have burnt and destroyed all the settlements on the Northeast Branch, as far as Nescopeak. Fort Jenkins, where we have a small garrison, has supported itself for the present. About seventy Indians were seen about twenty-two miles from here yesterday evening, advancing toward the forks of Chillisquaque; they took some prisoners yesterday. With the small force we have, we are endeavoring to make a stand. \* \* \* Wyoming, I make no doubt, will make a good defense, but the garrison is rather too small. Should the enemy take that post, New York, Pennsylvania and Jersey will then think too late of its importance. I am drawing some little force together, and to-morrow will endeavor to attack those Indians on Chillisquaque; if they keep in a body and make a movement toward Fishing creek, which will probably be of use to the people of Wyoming. If Wyoming falls, the barbarians will undoubtedly approach these towns.

Neither congress nor council was careless of such appeals, but the demands from all parts of the service were so urgent that the wisest found it difficult to dispose of the meager resources at command so as best to meet the rapidly arising emergencies. Aid was forwarded to the commandant at Fort Augusta, and every effort made to encourage enlistments, but all this fell far short of the necessities of the situation. Even the severity of the winter put but a partial check upon the savages' cruel activity, and with spring their harrassing attacks were renewed with unabated vigor. On the 25th of April, a party of Indians attacked the people living in the vicinity of Fort Jenkins, and took two or three families prisoners. The garrison, learning of the matter, promptly sent out a force of thirty men and rescued their unfortunate friends, but the enemy, rallying in a body, drove the whites back to the cover of the fort with a loss of three killed and four badly wounded. After burning several houses near the fort, and killing the cattle to be found, they departed, taking a number of horses with them. The next day they attacked Fort Free-land, "near Muncy hill," and ravaged the surrounding country. On the 17th of May the savages again visited the settlements near Fort Jenkins, and killed and scalped a family of four persons across the river from the fort (Mifflin township). In fact, there was not a day when Indians were not seen prowling about some part of this frontier, who seemed to commit the most cruel depredations without fear of reprisal; and such was the growing discouragement that the county appeared "on the eve of breaking up." Nothing was seen "but desolation, fire and smoke," the houses of



the inhabitants, who fled to the forts for protection, being burned almost as soon as they were abandoned.

Early in 1779, a campaign up the Susquehanna, under command of General Sullivan, was projected against the Seneca Indians. In June the troops concentrated at Wilkesbarre, the local forces being fully employed in convoying boats bearing supplies for the proposed expedition. Even in the presence of this force of three or four thousand troops, the savages boldly committed their depredations, almost within rifle-shot of the encampment, and it was not until the latter part of August, when the army had reached the Indian country and ravaged it with fire and sword, that this region had an interval of peace.

In the latter part of October, the return of the victorious army was welcomed by the loud rejoicing of the inhabitants of the river settlements. Before the end of the month the army retired to Easton, leaving a greatly depleted German regiment to garrison the forts. The force was entirely inadequate for the purpose. There were but one hundred and twenty effective men, exclusive of officers, and only sixty of these were available for frontier service, as the commanding officer insisted on keeping one-half at the headquarters in Sunbury. Forty men were therefore stationed at Fort Montgomery (in Montour county), and twenty men at Fort Jenkins, while a company of fourteen local "rangers" were stationed at a point on the "West Branch," seventeen miles above Sunbury.

As winter set in, the people began to fear that Sullivan's campaign, severe as its results had been, had not broken the spirit of the savages. Distressing as the condition of the Indians must have been, there were no signs of their readiness to make overtures for peace, and the borderers began to fear that they were plotting a bloody reprisal, though an early and heavy fall of snow made it probable that the blow would not be delivered before the spring. The event confirmed these forebodings. On April 2, 1780, Samuel Hunter, county-lieutenant for Northumberland, wrote the president of the executive council as follows:

The savages have made their appearance on our frontiers in a hostile manner. The day before yesterday they took seven or eight prisoners\* about two miles above Fort Jenkins, and two days before that, carried off several people from about Wyoming. This has struck such terror to the poor scattered inhabitants of this county, that all the settlers above this will be in the towns of Sunbury and Northumberland before two days. Our case is really deplorable, and without some speedy assistance being ordered here, I am afraid the county will break up entirely, as the German regiment that is stationed here is no way adequate to grant us the necessary relief required. And as for calling out the militia of this county, it is impossible to expect it in the present circumstances the inhabitants are reduced to; for if they miss getting spring crops put in the ground for the support of their families, they have nothing that can induce them to stay, except the council would order some of the militia from our neighboring counties to act in conjunction with a few continental troops that are here, and without something like this is done to encourage the people, I dread the consequences that may ensue.

The case is quite altered with us from what it was this time twelve months. We had a pretty good fort garrisoned at Muncy, of continental troops, Brady's fort and Freeland's, with our own inhabitants, but now we have but about forty or fifty at Montgomery's and thirty at Fort Jenkins, the latter of which was not able to spare men enough out of the garrison to pursue the enemy that carried off the prisoners. I suppose there was not above thirty Indians and Tories in the party, and a pretty deep snow had fallen the night before, by which they could be easily tracked. I am sorry to mention this, as I have seen the time, within this three years past, that we could turn out some hundred of good woodsmen, but now the case is altered, as our county is quite drained of our best men.

To such appeals, and there were many of them, the reply of the council was sympathetic and judicious. They exhibited their situation, in which they were reduced to the painful necessity of listening to distress they could not

\*Refers to the capture of the Van Campen party, the details for which may be found on page — Chap. IX.

relieve, and to claims they could not satisfy. They declared that the poor people, like the wagoner in the fable, must put their own shoulders to the wheel as well as call on Hercules. "We will endeavor," they wrote, "to supply them with ammunition, provisions and such like assistance; we will give rewards to those who distinguish themselves—in short, we will do anything to create that spirit which is so necessary in an Indian war, a spirit of hostility and enterprise, which will carry our young men to their towns."

The lamentable deficiency among the majority of the settlers in this region was a conspicuous lack of this spirit. Bounties of one thousand dollars for scalps and fifteen hundred for prisoners were offered, and yet not a dozen claims of this kind were preferred here in the whole period of the war. Responsibility was divided, the citizens and troops were not in perfect sympathy, and too many of the settlers were totally unequipped for the duties and responsibilities which a state of hostilities devolve upon the pioneer. The enterprising settlers of Wyoming, notwithstanding their grievous losses and horrible sufferings, made few demands for assistance, and fewer complaints, and had not a base covetousness dictated the fatal policy of keeping the Wyoming companies away from the defense of their own homes and families, many lives that were lost, not only in Wyoming but elsewhere as well, might have been preserved.

The community in Northumberland county was "strangely divided" in sentiment, "Whig, Tory, Yankee, Pennamite, Dutch, Irish and English influence"—all operating to interfere with the general success. The general dislike of the Yankee settlers at Wyoming found frequent expression in the official communications of the county authorities, and the people were "hardly restrained from complaint against the keeping up of that garrison." At the same time they did not fail to urge their demands for assistance, to be drawn from the militia of the lower counties, with a wearisome persistence which repeatedly called forth good-tempered rebukes from the sorely-pressed council. It was in vain the latter urged the recruiting of the home militia, offered high bounties for scalps and prisoners, and sent comparatively liberal supplies. The regular reply was a cry of helplessness. The German troops garrisoned a chain of forts from the east to the west branch of the Susquehanna (Jenkins, Montgomery, Bossley and Boone's Mills), and seemed unwilling to leave their posts for any purpose. Scouting duty was performed by the militia and volunteers, but with little result, save the finding of burning ruins and cold trails; and parties which went out in quest of scalps came back empty-handed, with a tale of confused trails, which led, they knew not where.

Some time in the summer of 1780, the German regiment was withdrawn, and the protection of this region devolved upon the militia, under the command of General Potter. At the same time the council complained of the increasing demands of this section, declaring that the marked attention it had given this frontier had created a feeling of jealousy in other exposed communities, and wrote the county lieutenant that "it will, therefore, unavoidably happen that your exertions must be considerable in the county, and that your reliance upon distant aid must also in some degree abate."

In the meantime scarcely a day passed without its tale of murder and arson; isolated parties of savage marauders were frequently seen, and as the harvest time approached, lively fears were entertained that the region would be visited by a formidable force of the enemy. On the 6th of September, these fears were partially realized. A party of three hundred savages attacked Fort Rice, which was garrisoned by twenty militia. The whites returning a brisk fire, the enemy turned their attention to burning the abandoned houses and unprotected

stacks of grain, and the destruction or stealing of the stock. The alarm was speedily carried to Sunbury, and a considerable body of militia mustered and marched to the scene of danger; but the savages had disappeared, and, as usually happened, there was no one present capable of tracing their course. The forces accordingly divided and went in every direction but the one taken by the enemy. On the next day they were heard of at Fort Jenkins, where they burned the stockade, abandoned houses and grain stacks, and slaughtered or drove off the stock. Fortunately, on the first alarm from Fort Rice the garrison of Jenkins, consisting of twenty militia, was withdrawn, as the additions made to the stockade for the accommodation of those who had gathered to it, made it untenable against a determined attack.

The winter finally brought some relief to the harrassed community, and especial effort was made to organize a home force for the protection of the frontier. In the preceding June, the council had sent commissions and money to aid in the organization of a company of rangers. Thomas Robinson was made captain, and Moses Van Campen ensign, but the other commissions "went a begging." Under such circumstances the recruiting was not likely to be rapid, and in December Robinson could only report seven men. April 12th he had secured forty men, but many of them were so much in want of all kinds of clothing that they could not do duty. In the latter part of May, he reported forty-seven men enlisted for the war, and eighteen for seven months. Another officer had raised fifteen men for seven months' service, and a third had secured twenty recruits for the same term. In February, 1781, Van Campen was promoted to a lieutenantcy, and signaled his accession to leading responsibility by praiseworthy activity. Captain Robinson, being neither a woodsman nor marksman, left the active command of the company to his more experienced lieutenant, and the company was thenceforward employed in maintaining a line of scouting posts from the north to the west branch of the Susquehanna. In the spring of 1781, this company erected a fort near Bloomsburg, "on the Widow McClure's plantation," and there stored its surplus supplies.

Notwithstanding these precautions, the enemy began their depredations early in the spring, and continued them, with their usual success, far into the summer. Many families, which had braved all dangers hitherto, now fled, and it is probable that no families remained in the territory now embraced within the limits of Columbia county, save in the vicinity of "McClure's fort"; but even this was abandoned whenever a strong attack was threatened. The latter part of the year, however, was marked by some successful counter-strokes by the whites, but these did not secure immunity from frequent depredations on the part of the savages, until winter brought the usual suspension of active hostilities.

In the subsequent years of the war, the brunt of Indian attacks fell on the settlements on the "West Branch" and in the vicinity of Wyoming, but the end was rapidly approaching, and the year of 1782 was less marked by savage inroads on this frontier, though occasional murders were committed, even after the British general had given his assurance that the savages had been recalled. In January, 1783, the great principals in the war ceased active hostilities, and in April peace was proclaimed to the American army. The savages did not lay down their weapons so soon, and some depredations are noted in this year, within the old-time limits of Northumberland county, but the people had become reassured, and were rapidly returning to their lands. Some of the improvements had been permanently abandoned by the terrified people, but in the larger number of instances the settlers, worn out by the anxieties



of the situation, had retired to Sunbury or Northumberland to wait for the return of peace. These were the first to return. A little later some who had retreated to the older communities returned, and brought new settlers with them. The treaty of October, 1784, removed the last barrier, and the long pent-up tide of emigration flowed forth, each month marking a large increase in the settlements of the upper valley of the Susquehanna.

The character of the lands in "the new purchase" was flatteringly set forth by those whose military duties had brought them hither, and these, with many others from the older portions of the state, eagerly turned toward the country now opened for settlement. It was to this migration that Columbia county was indebted for its general settlement, the earlier settlers coming from the older counties of the state, and those of a trifle later period coming largely from west New Jersey. The people from the two localities were not essentially different in character. The Swede adventurers had been followed by the Dutch on both sides of the river, and a society, characterized to some extent by the institutions of each, had resulted. With the accession of Penn a new element was introduced, which temporarily gave ascendancy to the English Quaker influence on both sides of the Delaware, but, as the news of the proprietor's liberal principles spread abroad, the victims of oppression everywhere turned to this new asylum. "From England and Wales, from Scotland and Ireland and the Low Countries emigrants crowded to the land of promise. On the banks of the Rhine new companies were formed under better auspices than the Swedes; and, from the highlands above Worms, the humble people renounced their German homes for his protection."

Within the limits of Pennsylvania, the English Quakers came close upon the advent of the earlier nationalities. Both Swedes and Dutch had made isolated settlements here, however, when the Quakers of New Jersey, tempted by the natural attractions of the country, crossed the Delaware. Before Penn's arrival, therefore, they had established settlements at Upland, Shakomaxon, and near the falls of the Delaware, opposite Trenton. The arrival of Penn's colonies re-enforced their numbers, and by the close of 1682, some twenty-three vessels had landed upward of two thousand more of their co-religionists. Each year brought accessions to the number already here, and, until the great influx of Germans, were in numbers, as they long were in influence, the predominant element. Many of these people were persons of wealth and distinction, and were induced to come to the new land only by the vigorous persecutions which oppressed them at home. They were an industrious and prudent people, and early placed the colony upon a flourishing and prosperous foundation. Their settlements were made principally at Philadelphia and along the river, though a large proportion found homes inland in the county of Chester. These were principally from Sussex, the home of Penn, from Cheshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire, England. A considerable company of Welsh came in 1683, and, settling in Chester county, joined the society of Friends. The names given the site of their settlements still perpetuates their memory. Of these, Uwchlan, settled under the auspices of David Lloyd, of Old Chester, contributed to the early settlement of Columbia county. A company of German Quakers, from Kresheim, was also a notable addition to the early settlement of this county.

Next to the Quaker immigration, that of the Germans was most important in the early history of the commonwealth. They were a hardy, frugal and industrious people, retaining their customs and language with such tenacity as to leave their impress upon society to the present, and spreading their influence over a wide scope of country through the migrations of their descendants.



Some of these people were among the earliest arrivals, but their numbers were not marked until about 1725, when it became so great as to excite some alarm lest they should "produce a German colony here, and perhaps such an one as Britain once received from Saxony in the fifth century." They came principally from the Palatinate, whence they were driven by religious persecution. Many fled to England for protection, where Queen Anne supported them from the public treasury. Hundreds were transported by the royal command to Ireland, and others to New York, whence they finally found their way to Western New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Many of these persons, as well as of the English, Irish, Scotch and Welsh, came as redemptioners—persons unable to pay their own passage and sold to a term of service to defray this cost. The public alarm at the increasing number of Palatine and Irish immigrants, caused the imposition of a tax on all such persons, and for a time the Germans were refused naturalization. The latter continued to come, notwithstanding these discouragements and the great privations they suffered from the advantage taken of their ignorance and simplicity by unscrupulous ship-owners and agents. In 1755, their numbers were estimated at upwards of sixty thousand, of which some thirty thousand were of the German Reformed denomination. The rest were divided among the Lutheran, Mennonite, Dunkard, Moravian, Quaker, Catholic and Schwenkenfeldter persuasions, the first named being rather more numerous than any of the others. The Germans at first settled in the lower parts of Bucks, Montgomery, Lancaster and Berks counties; a little later their settlements extended up the Tulpehocken, in 1732, reaching its headwaters in Lebanon county.

The Scotch and Scotch-Irish portion of the early population of the province came subsequent to 1719, and constituted an important element of the hardy people who reclaimed the valleys of Pennsylvania. The persecutions of the Protestants in Ireland under Charles I, which resulted in the massacre of 1641, drove many who had originally emigrated from Scotland back to their native land. In 1662, the "act of uniformity" bore with equal oppression upon both Scotch and Irish, who promptly availed themselves of the asylum opened in the new world, and prepared the way for many others in the subsequent "troublesome time." The interval of toleration dating from 1691, was suspended in Queen Anne's reign by the "schism bill," and many alarmed dissenters from Ireland and Scotland followed the path of those who had come earlier to America.

Many of the Scotch and Scotch-Irish in this later migration found their way to Pennsylvania, settling at first along the Maryland line. They appear to have seized their lands by "squatter right," and as they occupied a contested region were tolerated on these terms for the protection they afforded the more remote settlements. They were subsequently viewed with some uneasiness by the agent of the proprietor, to whom it looked "as if Ireland was to send all her inhabitants hither, for last week not less than six ships arrived, and every day two or three arrive also. The common fear is, that if they continue to come, they will make themselves proprietors of the province." They were a somewhat intractable people, and having been tolerated in their first usurpations, did not hesitate to extend their operations. They advocated the principle that the heathen had few rights which Christians were bound to respect, and seized the Conestoga manor, fifteen thousand acres of the best land of the valley, insisting that it was against the laws of God and nature that so much land should lie idle while so many Christians wanted it to use. They were subsequently dispossessed by the sheriff and their cabins burned, but this temporary triumph of Indian rights returned some twenty-five years later "to plague

the inventor" in the massacre of Conestoga. In 1730, they occupied Donegal, in the northwest corner of Lancaster county. From this point they extended their settlements northward, to which they gave the characteristic names of Paxton, Derry, Londonderry, etc., and to the west and northwest. They made no very permanent impression upon society, and subsequently lost a great part of their number by emigration to the south. The remainder have become assimilated, their native language has been lost, and as communities they have been generally supplanted by the Germans.

The early settlement of Columbia followed the general order noted elsewhere, though this fact is rather a coincidence, than the expression of any natural law of development. The first settler was an English Quaker from New Castle county, Del.; others only a little later came from the Welsh settlement at Uwchlan, from the Dutch settlement at the Minisinks, from the German settlements in Berks county, from the Scotch-Irish settlements, and from New Jersey. Here the war intervened, and for several years the development of the county was arrested and even retrograded. But before the smoke of burning houses had fairly cleared away, the tide of immigration again set in.

The available lines of travel undoubtedly had much to do in determining the character of the immigration, and these, largely the outgrowth of the necessities of the frontier, led to the older settlements. The oldest of these, therefore, followed the line of the Susquehanna from Harris' ferry to Sunbury, and it was by this route that communication with the lower counties was principally maintained. Subsequently a road from Reading to Sunbury, was opened, passing through Bear-Gap, which had the effect of leading some to early settle in Locust township. About 1787, a line of travel was opened from Easton to Nescopee falls, which opened this region to the emigration from New Jersey, to which Columbia county owed much of its early population. In the following year the Reading road branched off near the site of Ashland and led to Catawissa, a road that, in 1810, was established by the state. And in 1800, a road from Catawissa to Reading was laid out on a more direct route, which led to closer relations between the two places.

A general relation may therefore be discovered between these facts and the character of the subsequent settlement of the county. The English Quakers who had been driven out returned in 1783, bringing others with them, though, in 1779, others of this class from Exeter had found their way hither by the same route. From 1779 to 1790, the emigrants from the Quaker settlements in Berks and Chester counties and from New Jersey were a marked proportion of those who came to the county, though there were other accessions in the meanwhile, and it is doubtful if they were at any time in the majority as to numbers. They were an intelligent and industrious people, and for a time wielded the predominant influence. They were notably strong at Catawissa and in Greenwood, but the character of the soil south of the river disappointed these thrifty farmers, and they began to emigrate, the larger part of them leaving, between 1796 and 1804, for Canada and Ohio. In Greenwood they were better pleased and have remained, constituting a majority of the present population of that township.

The German immigration set in about 1788 and, until 1810, continued with unabated vigor. These people came at first, principally from Berks county, though a few were fresh from their native land, and settled generally south of the river. Subsequent additions came from Lehigh and Northampton counties and settled north of the river. These settlers were generally a plain, plodding people, whose persistence has enabled them to overcome the stubborn soil and make fair farms where the natural difficulties have discouraged others.



*J. M. Reynolds*  
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They retain, in some parts of the county, many of their primitive customs and national characteristics, while in all parts they have generally retained their native language and constitute a large minority, if not a greater proportion of the inhabitants of the county.

The New Jersey immigration was generally English, of the dissenting classes, and came in from 1785 to 1802, though some preceded the opening of the road from Easton by ten years. They are found almost entirely in that part of the county which lies north of the river, and constitute, perhaps, a majority of the population. To these should be added a few who came from the Connecticut settlements farther up the "North Branch," and others who were not in any way identified with the different tides of immigration noted. The present population is generally made up of the descendants of the first settlers. The usual changes have taken place, but of the something more than thirty thousand inhabitants in the county, by the last census, less than one thousand were born out of the state. In Conyngham the character of the people is somewhat affected by the locality; farming industries giving place to mining pursuits, has invited a mixed population of recent origin and of various nationalities. In Locust township a considerable number of Welsh immigrants came about 1840; they were recently from their native land, and were well-to-do farmers; they retained their native language, and erected a church, but becoming dissatisfied with the locality, they removed in the fifteen or twenty years following.

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## CHAPTER III.

### ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY.

THE POLITICAL development of Pennsylvania followed in the wake of its expanding settlements. In 1682, the counties of Bucks, Philadelphia and Chester were formed with limits intended to include not only the populated area, but territory enough in addition to meet, for a considerable time to come, the growing necessities of the rapidly increasing immigration. It was not until 1729, therefore, that the extension of settlements and the purchase of new lands from the Indians led to the erection of Lancaster county. At that time the Susquehanna marked the western limit of the province, but the purchase of 1736 opened a triangular area west of the river, which was attached to Lancaster until the convenience of the increasing settlements in this region, in 1749, demanded the erection of York county, and a year later for the erection of Cumberland. The northern extension of these counties was limited by the Indian boundary line, marked by the Kittatinny range.

Again the extension of settlements and the treaty of 1749 demanded new county organizations, and, in 1752, Berks and Northampton were formed to include in their jurisdiction the northern portions of the older counties and the newly acquired territory between the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers. Berks embraced the larger area, and, by the treaty of 1768, extended to the present northern limits of the state. In the meantime, the territory acquired west of the Susquehanna by the treaties of 1754-8 had made the outlying county of Cumberland too large for the convenience of its inhabitants, and in 1771, Bedford was erected. A similar development was rapidly taking place east of the

Susquehanna, and, in 1772, Northumberland county was formed from the counties of Bedford, Cumberland, Lancaster, Berks and Northampton, with an area which now constitutes twenty-six counties. Its limits are thus indicated:

Beginning at the mouth of Mahontongo creek, on the west side of the river Susquehanna; thence up the south side of said creek, by the several courses thereof, to the head of Robert Meter's spring; thence west by north to the top of Tussey's mountain; thence southwesterly along the summit of the mountain to Little Juniata; thence up the northeasterly side of the main branch of little Juniata to the head thereof; thence north to the line of Berks county; thence east along said line to the extremity of the province; thence east, along the northern boundary, to that part thereof of the "great swamp;" thence south to the most northern part of the swamp aforesaid; thence with a straight line to the head of the Lehigh, or Middle creek; thence down the said creek so far that a line run west southwest will strike the forks of Mahontongo [there were two streams of that name] creek, where Pine creek falls into the same, at the place called the Spread Eagle, on the east side of the Susquehanna; thence down the southerly side of said creek to the river aforesaid; thence down and across the river to the place of beginning.

This generous area has been successively restricted by the erection, in 1786, of Luzerne county; in 1789, of Mifflin; in 1795, of Lycoming; in 1800, of Center; and in 1813, of Union and Columbia. The area included in the limits of the last named county had been variously divided, while under the jurisdiction of the original county, and to understand the lines on which it was erected it will be convenient to notice the development of the early townships. Northumberland was a county of "magnificent distances," and the same characteristic marked its subsidiary divisions. Augusta township extended from Sunbury nearly to the "plains of Wyoming;" Bald Eagle was nearly seventy miles long; and Wyoming and Turbut were equally extensive. Of the earliest divisions of Northumberland, the townships of Augusta, Turbut and Wyoming, erected in April, 1772, included more or less of the subsequent area of Columbia. Augusta embraced the territory south of the river from the forks nearly to Wilkesbarre; Wyoming extended from the line of little Fishing creek eastward along the river and included the territory in the bend of the Susquehanna; and Turbut included the area between little Fishing creek and the "West Branch," extending north indefinitely.

In 1775, the area of Turbut township was restricted by the erection of Mahoning, and further curtailed in 1786 by the erection of DERRY; in the same year, also, CHILLISQUAQUE was formed from Mahoning. In the meantime a change had taken place south of the river. At the April session of the court of quarter-sessions for 1785, certain of the inhabitants of Augusta presented a petition in which they set forth its unwieldy proportions, which they "conceived after a division would be large enough and sufficient for two townships," and suggested a line of division "to begin at the mouth of Gravel run where it empties into the northeast branch of the Susquehanna, and to extend up said run to the first large fork; thence up the east branch of said run a direct course till Shamokin creek between the plantations of William Clark and Andrew Gregg; from thence a direct line to a large deer-lick on the north side of Mahanoy hill, till it joins the line that divides the township of Augusta and Mahanoy." The court appointed commissioners in accordance with the request of the petitioners and at the August session, their report having been received and confirmed, the court ordered that "the upper end of Augusta township be called and known as Catawassa forever." Notwithstanding the far-reaching character of the court's order, the new township next appears in the records as Catawassa, and subsequently as CATAWISSA, to which the popular taste has since restricted the name; but there is nothing in the character of official

orthography to preclude the idea that it may eventually travel the whole range of vowel sounds.

The township thus formed was soon found to be too large for the convenience of its population, and in August, 1788, it was divided by a line "beginning at the mouth of little Roaring creek; thence up said creek to the head thereof; thence on the ridge to the south branch of big Roaring creek; from thence up the said creek to Yarnall's path; thence a southeast course to the county line." To the upper division the name of Ralpho was given, but a year later this was changed to Shamokin. This division still left Catawissa thirty miles long and fifteen miles wide, and in April, 1795, and again in August of the same year, petitions were presented praying for a division of this township. Although the record of the court of quarter-sessions gives no intimation of the fact, the line suggested by the later petition was evidently adopted. This began "at a gap in the mountain by the river side called Aspy's gap; thence to Hartman's gap, in the Catawissa mountain; thence along the ridge of the said mountain till it intersects the Little mountain; from thence to the bridge over the Dark run (which said bridge is the first below the Catawissa bridge between that and Berks county line); thence the same course continued until it meets the Berks county line." The report of the commissioners appointed under this petition was delayed by one cause or another until 1797, when it was confirmed and the eastern division called MIFFLIN.

In 1786, the formation of Luzerne county had divided the comprehensive township of Wyoming, and three years later it was ordered that "so much of Wyoming township as is included in the county of Northumberland, on the division line between the county of Luzerne and the county afs'd. be henceforth called and known by the name of FISHINGCREEK." As early as 1793, there was a movement for the division of this township but it was unsuccessful; but in April, 1797, the petition was renewed and the township divided by a line "beginning upon Little Fishing creek, opposite to the mouth of Black run near John Buckalew's mill; thence in a direct course to the south end of Knob mountain or Lee's mountain; thence upon the main edge of said mountain; thence to intersect with Luzerne county line." This line was confirmed in August, and the new township thus formed to the south of it was named by the court "GREEN BRIARCREEK." In the following year a petition was presented for the division of Briarcreek, the line to be run at the discretion of the commissioners appointed by the court. The record does not give the report of the commissioners but subsequent events satisfactorily fix the line at the eastern boundary of the present township of Orange, and south in a direct course to the river. The new township was called BLOOM after one of the county commissioners.

In January, 1799, a petition was presented for another division of Fishingcreek, and commissioners were appointed to run a line "commencing at the mouth of Green creek, thence to the 'Narrows,' and along the same; thence in a direct course to the big bridge [ridge?]; and thence unto the North mountain." In the August session the report of the commissioners was confirmed and the new township named Greenwood. In the following year an attempt was made to erect the township of Center, but this proved unsuccessful. In 1801, a movement was made to divide Mahoning, and Hemlock was formed, though the record does not exhibit the line of division nor any confirmation of the commissioners' report. In April, 1812, the next change occurred. Fishingcreek was still twenty miles long and eight miles wide, and a petition was presented praying that this township should be divided by a line "beginning at a chestnut oak in the road leading from Thomas Conner's to Daniel Jackson's; thence south seventy degrees east, five hundred perches to the school-house on ———s



plantation; thence east thirteen hundred and sixty perches to a white pine on the Huntington town line." This division was approved and the upper part erected into a township named "Harrison, after General Harrison." There appears to have been a difference between the court and the people in the choice of a name for the new township, and whether the name found on the record was the result of an inadvertence or a determined overruling of the popular choice does not appear from the evidence now at command. It is said that SUGARLOAF is the name which appears upon the report submitted by the commissioners, and that this was the choice of the people. Whatever the facts in this respect may be, the name of Harrison was subsequently supplanted by its popular rival, and remains to this day, although authority for this substitution was not discovered in the records of the court.

The townships of Bloom, Briarcreek, Chillisquaque, Catawissa, Derry, Fishingcreek, Greenwood, Hemlock, Mahoning, Mifflin, Sugarloaf and Turbut had thus been formed, when an act of the legislature, approved March 22, 1813, provided for the erection of Columbia county. The extensive area, comprised in Northumberland county, prior to the formation of Union and Columbia, rendered it certain that a division would, sooner or later, be made, and one or more counties be formed from it. Property interests were, therefore, not less active than the convenience of the people, in shaping the lines which ultimately constituted the limits of the last two counties. The lines of each were affected by the other, and the logical result was that the leading men of the two regions united to effect their several purposes in such a way as to serve mutual interests.

At this time the disparity in outward advantages was not such as to prevent any eligible site for a village from hopefully entering the contest for metropolitan honors. The proprietors of the Mifflinville plat had early indicated the advantages of its position for a possible county seat; Eysersburg was a flourishing village, centrally located between Sunbury and Wilkesbarre; and Danville had the advantage of an unimportant preponderance of population. While all these points may be said to have been interested in the question of the formation of a new county, including this region, there was at this time, however, no open contest. The people settled in the upper valley of Fishingcreek, were much interested in the whole question, as were the citizens of Eysersburg and Mifflinville, but these people, while persons of worth and local influence, were by no means equal to an advantageous contest with the influence of Danville, when the legislature was to be acted upon. The original limits of Columbia county were, therefore, settled practically, without consulting their preferences, and resulted in the following boundaries, which were to be in force "from and after the first Monday in September" (Sept. 6, 1813):

Beginning at the nine-mile tree, on the bank of the northeast branch of the Susquehanna, and from thence, by the line of Point township, to the line of Chillisquaque township; thence, by the line of Chillisquaque and Point townships, to the west branch of the river Susquehanna; thence up the same to the line of Lycoming county; thence, by the line of Lycoming county, to the line of Luzerne county; thence, by the same, to the line of Schuylkill county; thence, along the same, to the southwest corner of Catawissa township; thence, by the line of Catawissa and Shamokin townships, to the river Susquehanna; and thence down said river to the place of beginning.

This act left the appointment of the three commissioners to fix upon the site of the proposed public buildings to the discretion of the governor, with the provision, however, that they should be "discreet and disinterested persons, not resident in the counties of Northumberland, Union or Columbia." There is a tradition that, of the three thus appointed, one favored Bloomsburg, but circumstances were such that he failed to meet with his conferees, and they



selected Danville. As they were required to choose a site in Columbia county, "as near the center as the situation thereof will admit," and were made competent to transact the business in any event, the absence of the third member probably had no important effect upon the decision. The commissioners' action met with a spirited remonstrance at once. Some professed to know that improper means were employed to secure the selection of Danville, and many more believed it upon more or less reasonable grounds. The people in the eastern portions of that new county thought that their interests had not been fairly consulted, and that Danville was not a materially better location than Sunbury. It was pointed out that the new seat of justice was only twelve miles from the old one, and that it was not "as near the center as the situation thereof will admit." Operations were soon commenced to present the facts to the legislature, and request a relocation of the county seat, and on January 11, 1814, Leonard Rupert, then in the "house," presented nineteen petitions, signed by 1,046 citizens of the county, praying for the removal of the seat of justice to Bloomsburg.

The matter was referred to a special committee, which on February 2, 1814, reported in favor of granting the prayer of the petitioners. They agreed with the petitioners "that the town of Bloomsburg on big Fishing creek, a pure and navigable stream of water, and only one mile from the river Susquehanna, will be more convenient and much more central. The committee held, also, that an examination of the map showed that the location of the county seat at Danville did not "comport with the meaning and spirit of the law." A resolution was offered that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill agreeably to the prayer of the petitioners, but it was "laid upon the table," and died an easy death. In December, 1814, and March, 1815, similar petitions were presented, which met a similar fate, but another element was projected into the issue at this time, which materially strengthened the position of the petitioners. It appeared that the townships of Turbut and Chillisquaue had been included in the new county in opposition to the wish of nine-tenths of their inhabitants, and they came before the legislature with an earnest demand to be re-annexed to Northumberland. It is hardly probable that this was a part of any secret programme, as it would leave Danville in a far less defensible position to accede to this demand, but it was obviously better to do this than to incur their determined hostility by holding them in the new county, when their enmity could prove effective in aiding the cause of the partisans of removal, and on February 21, 1815, these townships were rejoined to Northumberland.

However illogical, this action was accepted by many as an evidence of a previous bargain, and it was loudly proclaimed that these townships had only been included in Columbia for the purpose of insuring the location of the county seat at Danville. The seat of justice was now truly "on the very verge of the county," and the opposition came to the next legislature with great confidence in their ultimate success. But the Danville leaders were not to be so easily beaten. Realizing the weakness of their position under the new dispensation, they promptly effected a diversion in their favor, and on January 22, 1816, a law was passed reannexing a part of these townships to Columbia again.

This partially restored the equilibrium of the county centering in Danville, but the county seat was still, in a marked degree, west of a central location, and those of the people in favor of a removal, apprehending the determined character of the struggle, proceeded to organize for the accomplishment of their purpose. On the 15th of February, 1816, a number of townships sent delegates to Bloomsburg, pursuant to a call "for the purpose of devising measures to obtain a removal of the seat of justice for said county, from Dan-

ville to a more central location." Bloom was represented by Levi Aikman and Samuel Webb, Jr.; Briarcreek by John Stewart and George Kelchner; Catawissa by Major Joseph Paxton and William Brewer; Derry by Jacob Swisher and Marshal Girton; Fishing creek by Daniel Bealer and William Robbins; Greenwood by Abner Mendenhall and Henry Miller; and Sugarloaf by Philip Fritz and William Wilson. The meeting organized with Hon. Leonard Rupert, as chairman, and Samuel Webb, Jr., as secretary, and resulted in the appointment of Paxton, Mendenhall and Webb as a committee to urge the enactment of a law granting the citizens the privilege of voting "for the seat of justice in said county." Each of the parties to the contest were represented in the legislative lobbies by determined partisans, but in these struggles the influence of Danville proved the stronger, and the party for removal was regularly defeated. The county seat had the weight of the legal profession of the county, which was then concentrated there; it had the only men of state reputation and influence; and it had the preponderance of wealth and business, if not of population, in its favor. The justice of the complaints seems to have been generally recognized by the committees to whom the various petitions were referred, and favorable reports were generally made, but the legislature invariably defeated favorable action. In February, 1816, it was asked that a law be passed to suspend the erection of public buildings for one year, and that the people be authorized, in the meantime, to select a location for the county seat by popular vote; but this petition, though obtaining the sanction of the committee, was refused by the "House." In 1821, another determined effort was made. The matter proceeded as far as the framing of a bill granting the petition for the submission of the question to a vote, but it got no further. In December, the matter was again brought up, referred to a special committee, who reported adversely, and there the matter rested for years. But the star of empire was gradually making its way eastward, and when most discouraged the partisans of removal were surely nearing success.

The act of 1816, restoring parts of Turbut and Chillisquaque townships to Columbia, described the new boundary line as "beginning at the corner of Point and Chillisquaque townships, in Columbia county; thence by the line of said townships along the summit of Montour's mountain, to where what is called Strawbridge's road crosses said mountain; thence by said road to where the road from Wilson's mills to Danville intersects said road; thence to the bridge over Chillisquaque creek at James Murray's; thence by what is called Harrison's road past Chillisquaque meeting-house to the corner of Turbut and Derry townships in the line of Lycoming county." The portions of Turbut and Chillisquaque townships thus restored were subsequently named LIMESTONE and LIBERTY, respectively, and from this date forward the evidences of development were largely in favor of the eastern portion of the county.

In April, 1817, the inhabitants in the eastern part of Derry, which then included the territory of the present townships of Madison and Pine, asked for the erection of a new township. This was granted, the division line following the present western line from the Lycoming county boundary to the eastern line of West Hemlock; thence along said line to the limit of Valley township; thence easterly to little Fishing creek. In the latter part of this year certain residents in Bloom, Greenwood and Fishing creek complained that the water of big Fishing creek seriously inconvenienced the people residing northwest of the creek, and often prevented their attending elections and other meetings for the transaction of township business. They petitioned, therefore, for the erection of a new township from the contiguous portions of those townships lying on the north side of the river. Commissioners were appointed to examine the

matter, and, if they found it necessary, to report the bounds for a new township. The report confirmed the statement, and returned the specifications of the proposed limits agreeable to the ones asked by the petitioners. These were generally described as beginning at the mouth of little Fishing creek, and up along said creek to the mouth of Robert Montgomery's tail-race; thence along the comb of the swamp ridge, including John Rodger's house, to the "Narrows" of Green creek; thence along said creek till it joins big Fishing creek; thence along said creek to the place of beginning. To this was also added "a small corner of Greenwood township lying on the southeast side of big Fishing creek, opposite Miller's mill," constituting a township of about twenty-four square miles. The report was confirmed on April 8, 1818, and the township named, from a prominent natural object, MOUNT PLEASANT.

This sufficed for the growing population until the January session of the court of quarter-sessions in 1832, when "divers inhabitants of the township of Catawissa" represented this township was too large "for the inspection and supervision of the usual number of officers." It was represented that the broken character of the country required a great length of road, to keep which in proper repair was more than two supervisors could conveniently do; that the distance necessarily traveled to reach the place of election and town meetings, was so great as to cause great inconvenience to the voters, especially the aged and infirm, "thus, in effect, depriving such persons of the inestimable privilege of election;" that in population and area it was equal to two other townships in the county; and that it was practically divided by a natural barrier, which made its legal division the more desirable. These reasons were accepted by the court and its appointees who investigated the situation, and in April, 1832, the court confirmed the division line "beginning at the line of Mifflin township, near the house of Jacob Fisher, and running thence a straight line to the house of Adam Gorrell; thence to the fulling-mill, late of John and Joseph Hughs; thence to Yoder's mill; and from thence to the mouth of Musser's run, which point is on the line of Northumberland." This is the northern line of the present townships of ROARINGCREEK and LOCUST, south of which was then erected a single township with the first mentioned name.

In April, 1833, an application was made for the division of Hemlock, and a favorable report was made by the viewing commissioners, but the court found reason to set it aside and deny the petition; but in August, 1837, the petition was renewed. Complaint was then made that the township was too large for the convenience of the people in attending to public business; that this inconvenience was increased "in consequence of several bridges [ridges?] running quite through the township, separating the inhabitants in a great measure, and compelling a large portion of the inhabitants to cross two of said bridges [?] to get to the election, settlement of township accounts, work the roads, etc." The "viewers" again reported favorably, and designated "the top of the ridge, which extends from or near the late John Montgomery's mill, in Mahoning township, to Isaac Barton's mill, on Hemlock creek," as the dividing line. This the court confirmed in the November term of 1837, and named the part south of the line MONTOUR.

In April of this year it was proposed to annex a part of Greenwood to Sugarloaf, but this did not meet with favor from the court, and in April of the following year it was proposed to form a new township from parts of each of the older ones. The boundary line of the proposed township began "at the west side of big Fishing creek, at the division line between Sugarloaf and Fishing creek township; thence west to Thomas' sawmill: thence to follow the line between Greenwood and Madison north to the Lycoming creek; thence to



follow the Lycoming county line east to the head-waters of West creek; thence to follow said West creek to place of beginning." This line was confirmed November, 1838, and the new township named Jackson. In the following August, however, the people of Jackson, living in that part which was originally taken off of Sugarloaf, asked to be reannexed to the latter township. They represented that they were a majority of the people in Jackson; that the division was made against their will, and constituted a valid grievance. On January 31, 1840, this petition was granted, leaving JACKSON with its present area.

In the meanwhile a voting precinct had been formed from the adjacent portions of Bloom, Mount Pleasant and Fishing creek, with the name of Orangeville precinct. In the January session of 1839, the people of this precinct asked to have it erected into an independent township. Its proposed boundaries were rather irregular, and can be described only by the technical line of the commissioners. This began "at a stone heap on the top of the Knob mountain; thence north  $55^{\circ}$  west, 1,138 perches to a post; thence along the line of Greenwood, south  $76^{\circ}$  west, 683 perches; thence south  $20^{\circ}$  east, 980 perches to a point on Fishing creek; thence south  $11^{\circ}$  east, down said creek, 577 perches to a post below what is now McDowell's mill (formerly Jews' mill); thence along what is called the Summer hills, north  $70^{\circ}$  east, 620 perches to a post; by same north  $76^{\circ}$  east, 637 perches to a post in the line of Briarcreek; thence along same, north  $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  west, 637 perches; thence easterly to place of beginning." This line was reported in April, 1839, but was met with a remonstrance, and both were ordered filed for argument. The matter was thus delayed and kept under advisement until January 31, 1840, when the report was confirmed and the new township named ORANGE. At the same session of the court a petition was presented for the erection of a new township from Mahoning and Derry, and in the next August VALLEY was formed.

In January, 1843, Catawissa was represented as still too large for the convenience of the expanding population, and the court was petitioned to form a new township of its western portion. The line, as confirmed by the court at a subsequent session in this year, began "at a chestnut oak nine perches below the mouth of Clayton's run;" thence to the run, and up its course to the forks; thence up the east branch "forty perches to a stone-heap," in the line between John Forten and Conrad Fenstimaker, and thence southerly to the line of Roaring creek (now Locust). This township was named FRANKLIN, and included the present township of that name and Mayberry. In the following April Bloom and Briarcreek found that the population of their outlying territory had outgrown the early facilities, and asked the court to confirm two lines of division, the one to begin at the Susquehanna, on the line between the lands of Philip Miller and the heirs of Henry Trimby, deceased, in Bloom township, and thence in a direct line northward to strike the Orange line; the other to begin at the river, on the line between the lands of Alten Bowman and John Freese, Jr., in Briarcreek township, and thence northwardly in a direct line to strike the Fishing creek line on the Knob mountain. The northern boundary followed the line of Fishing creek township to the Orange line, and thence along said line of Orange to intersect with the northern end of first line mentioned. This proposition was met with a remonstrance, and in April, 1844, was referred to a second commission, which reported the same lines favorably, which, on November 25th, were "confirmed absolutely" by the court. On account of its situation the new township was named CENTER.

The year 1843, was especially marked by the activity in township building, and in November a third township was projected, to be formed from the out-





Photo. by W. Kilting, Bloomsburg, Pa.

*John A. Furston*  
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lying portions of Catawissa and Mifflin. A favorable report was had by the viewers, but a spirited remonstrance caused the matter to be referred to a second commission, which returned a favorable report in August of the succeeding year. There were few natural boundaries, and the lines are therefore best indicated in the language of the report, which were to begin "at a hemlock on the bank of the Susquehanna, and near the mouth of Thresher's run; thence south  $21^{\circ}$  east 348 perches to a stone; thence south  $16^{\circ}$  east 494 perches to a stone heap on the summit of Nescopee mountain; thence continuing to the line of Schuylkill County; thence along the same to the line of Roaringcreek township; thence northwardly along same to a black oak in Jacob Fisher's field, a corner of Roaringcreek township; thence by the same, south  $65^{\circ}$  west, 760 perches to a white pine; thence north  $25^{\circ}$  west, 1,358 perches to a beech on the bank of said river; and thence up the same 1,587 perches, to place of beginning." The township thus described was a quadrilateral with a wedge-shaped appendage extending southeasterly to the Schuylkill county line. Several surveys were made, and each was strongly opposed, and it was not until November 25, 1844, that the objections to the above line were overruled and the report of the commissioners confirmed absolutely by the court. In the final report the name of the township is written MAINE, though the records quite as often omit the final vowel. There is no evidence to show whether the one or the other spelling indicates the idea of the sponsors of the new township.

In 1845, there was a movement to divide Roaringcreek, but a commission reported adversely to the petition, and the matter was dropped. At the same term of court, however, there was presented a petition to divide Mifflin, which eventually proved successful. The Nescopee mountain had proved a barrier to the free communication of the people as the settlements increased south of it, and "created dissatisfaction in the collection and appropriation of taxes." The Paxton election precinct had been formed in the territory south of the mountain, which is occasionally referred to in the records as a "proposed township," but it was not officially "proposed" until this date. In the report confirmed by the court November 22, 1845, the mountain was made the northern boundary from the Luzerne county line to the line of Maine township: "thence down the summit of the mountain, south  $75\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  west, 138 perches to a chestnut oak corner; thence striking down the south side of said mountain, south  $26\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  west, 610 perches to a black oak in Jacob Fisher's field, a corner of Roaringcreek and Maine township," taking off the wedge-shaped appendage of the latter township and adding it to the proposed township. This was called BEAVER, which still retains its original shape and area.

In 1847, Derry was divided and Anthony formed. In January, 1850, Sugarloaf asked for a division. Five years before the same request had been made and refused; but the growth of population now made the demand with such persistence that, notwithstanding the adverse report of the first commission appointed, it was finally divided in the summer term by a line starting on the county boundary three and three-quarters miles above the northeast corner of Fishingcreek, and thence north  $88^{\circ}$  west four miles and 146 perches, to a post on the Jackson line three miles and 160 perches above the southwest corner of Sugarloaf. South of this line the territory of the latter township was erected into a new township called BEXON. In the January term, Madison also petitioned for a division of its area, the petition setting forth that it contained "four hundred taxables;" but the erection of Montour county solved this question in another way.

The division of Columbia county, in 1850, was the final outcome of the struggle which was inaugurated in 1813; from that date to 1821 the contest

was scarcely intermitted; but from 1821 to 1833 the matter was not carried to the legislature, though the demand for removal had not abated. In every campaign this question formulated the test by which the candidates for county or legislative honors were tried and their election contested, but the issue was, for a time, so confused by conflicting interests that no decisive results could be obtained. In 1822, Columbia was made a separate district, from which two state representatives were elected, and the opposed factions being thus equally represented the matter was tabooed. The representation of the county in the state senate also added to the difficulties of the partisans for removal. In 1814, Northumberland, Columbia, Union, Luzerne and Susquehanna were united in a district with two senatorial representatives; but with Columbia divided and the others indifferent it was impossible to elect a senator pledged to removal. But while thus hampered and delayed, the eastern faction of the county bided the time when natural decay or accident should bring up the question of extensive repairs, or the appropriation for the erection of new buildings. This came in 1833, when the grand jury, at the November session, reported to the court that the public records were in great danger of being destroyed by fire for want of suitable protection, and recommended the erection of fire-proof offices. This action aroused the opponents of the Danville location, who were determined that no public money should be appropriated for the repair of the old buildings. Petitions for the removal of the county-seat were again vigorously circulated and numerous signed, and were presented in both branches of the legislature. These were so strenuously urged that bills to carry out the prayer of the petitioners were presented in each house, the one in the senate, however, alone coming to a vote, when it was defeated by a majority of eleven to fifteen.

This issue was further complicated, in the meanwhile, by the ambition of Berwick to secure metropolitan honors. It was conceived that with the county seat so far west of a central location, that the outlying portions of Columbia and Luzerne could be brought together in a new county, with Berwick as the seat of justice. This ambition was fostered by the Danville people, as effectually operating in favor of their interests, and so it occurred that the extremes of the county united to defeat the central faction. This was especially true from 1836 to 1840. In the first named year Columbia and Schuylkill counties were made to constitute a senatorial district, with one member, and Columbia, alone, to constitute a district, from which one member of the lower house was elected. The senator, elected in 1837, was a resident of Schuylkill, and, in the divided condition of Columbia at best, could be expected to do nothing. The representative elected in 1836 was from Berwick, as was the one elected in the following year. In 1838 and the succeeding year the representative was elected from Danville, and in 1840 the senator was a citizen of Berwick and an earnest advocate of the new county scheme. The Bloomsburg faction made an earnest fight for the election of candidates favorable to its plan in these years, but had signally failed, and the sentiment was growing that it was no longer worth while to resist the inevitable.

It was about this time that the Rev. D. J. Waller, Sr., came to Bloomsburg to take charge of several Presbyterian churches in this region, of which the one at Bloomsburg was the most important. He found his congregation here greatly in need of members of commanding social influence, and therefore visited Danville with the hope of inducing some Presbyterian business men to come to Bloomsburg, for whom there was an eligible opening. He was met at the outset with the question whether he favored the removal of the county-seat, and on expressing himself in the affirmative he found his church brethren en-



tirely indisposed to assist him in his project for building up his charge. Such cavalier treatment somewhat nettled the new pastor, a man of great decision of character and untiring activity, and he gave his interrogators to understand that, if they refused him the aid of a few business men, the people of Bloomsburg would take the county-seat. This sally was met with derision. They pointed to the success which had hitherto attended the efforts of Danville, and declared that they had the wealth and influence to maintain the contest successfully, and left the new comer to effect his promised revolution in his own way.

There was little new to be devised in the way of measures for the accomplishment of the desired removal, but it was much to receive the fresh courage and determined aggressiveness of the new member of the community, and the removal faction soon began the fight, which steadily brought it nearer to the success which eventually crowned its efforts. In 1840 Daniel Snyder was elected to the lower house from Bloomsburg, and re-elected each year, until 1844, when Thomas A. Funston, pledged to the same interests, was elected. Headley, of Berwick, and an earnest advocate of the new county scheme, was in the senate until 1844, when, the district being changed so as to include Luzerne county instead of Schuylkill, William S. Ross was elected, who proved somewhat favorable to Bloomsburg interests. In the meanwhile a vigorous agitation, in which Messrs. Snyder, Funston, William McKelvy and Charles H. Doebler were prominent, was maintained in the county: petitions were numerously signed and forwarded to the legislature, and the views and arguments of the removalists, put in the most forcible shape, brought to the attention of the members.

From one of the early documents, probably of 1835, unearthed by Colonel Freeze, and printed in his history, the following succinct statement of the situation is taken:

It requires but a cursory view of the county map to discover that Danville is very far from the center of territory and that it is equally distant from the center of population is manifest from what follows:

The townships most convenient to Danville are the following, and contain the number of taxables, paying tax as follows:

	Taxables.	Tax.
Derry township contains.....	350	\$ 786 42
Mahoning (including Danville).....	351	1,213 62
Limestone.....	121	532 94
Liberty.....	268	493 78
Hemlock contains 327 taxables, one-third of whom are nearer to Danville than to Bloomsburg, but none of them more than six miles from the latter place.....	109	273 62

Accommodated at Danville.....	1,199	\$3,300 38
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The townships most convenient to Bloomsburg are:

	Taxables.	Tax.
Mount Pleasant.....	147	\$ 311 21
Bloom (including Bloomsburg).....	152	1,139 73
Briar creek.....	340	1,033 23
Catawissa.....	345	1,075 32
Greenwood.....	256	502 94
Fishing creek.....	129	218 78
Madison.....	302	514 45
Mifflin.....	370	690 58
Roaring creek.....	322	608 99
Sugarloaf.....	154	228 78
Hemlock (two-thirds).....	218	547 24

Accommodated at Bloomsburg.....	3,035	\$6,871 25
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There is another view in which the relative position of Danville and Bloomsburg may be seen, and it shows conclusively, as we think, the propriety of removing the seat of justice. Eighteen hundred and forty-eight taxables residing in Bloom, Briarcreek, Mount Pleasant, Greenwood, Fishingcreek, Sugarloaf and Mifflin townships, all pass through Bloomsburg on their way to Danville. Few of them have less than fourteen miles, and many of them from twenty to thirty-five miles' travel to Danville. A large majority of 657 taxables residing in Catawissa and Roaringcreek townships (say five-sixths) are at least four miles nearer to Bloomsburg than to Danville, and the remainder are not more than two miles further from Bloomsburg than from Danville—even one-third of the 350 taxables in Derry, which we have set down to the credit of Danville are nearer to Bloomsburg than to Danville, and the remainder are not more than two miles farther from Bloomsburg than from Danville. From Mahoning township, in which Danville is situated, containing 351 taxables the average travel to Bloomsburg will not be ten miles. Liberty and Limestone townships form the Western bounds of the county and lie north and south of each other. Limestone contains 121 taxables, Liberty contains 268 taxables—these 389 will none of them have to travel more than eight miles farther to reach Bloomsburg than to reach Danville, and many of them not so far.

We would further remark, that Danville is as far from the center of business as from the center of population in the county. It draws a large portion of its business and supplies from a neighboring county, by which it is almost surrounded, and thus acts as a continual drain on the circulating medium of the county. Scarcely a single dollar of the money expended by suitors and others attending court, can ever find its way back into the interior of the county—there is no trade between them, and no reciprocity of interest between the interior of the county and its metropolis. On the other hand, Bloomsburg is not only very near the center of territory and population, but it is also the center of business. It is the natural outlet, and commands the trade of Hemlock, Madison, a portion of Derry, Greenwood, Sugarloaf, Fishingcreek, Mount Pleasant, Bloom, and a portion of Briarcreek townships. It is also in the line of communication for a large portion of the county, with the markets of Pottsville, Mauch Chunk, and places below those points.

For nearly ten years this state of affairs existed, and notwithstanding that it was urged by petition and argument, the Danville adherents had influence sufficient to defeat every bill introduced in the legislature to allow the people of the county to adjust the matter in accordance with the will of the majority. Some progress had been made in this time, however, and the election of Ross to the state senate, in 1844, removed the great obstacle to Bloomsburg interests in that branch of the legislature. The friends of the old county-seat were not slow to read the signs of their waning power, and at once brought into prominence the cost which the erection of new public buildings would impose upon the county. This final argument of a desperate cause was promptly met by the Bloomsburg people, who agreed to donate the grounds and erect the buildings at their own cost, and on the 24th of February, 1845, an act to submit the question to a vote of the people was approved by the governor.

This act provided that tickets labeled "seat of justice," on which should be written or printed "for Bloomsburg," or "for Danville," should be deposited in a box especially provided for the purpose, at the various polling places, and that the people, at the next general election, should thus decide, for or against the removal of the county-seat. In case that the vote should show a majority for removal, it was provided that within three years after such election, the citizens of Bloomsburg should erect, "at their own proper expense," suitable buildings of brick or stone, "of the most approved plans," and that the old public grounds and buildings should be disposed of, to repay the original subscribers thereto, the surplus, if any, to revert to the county treasury. The election was accordingly held in the succeeding October, and resulted in a majority of 1,334 in favor of Bloomsburg out of a total of 4492 votes, Berwick casting 107 out of a total of 184 votes, against removal.

In November, 1847, Danville ceased to be, in fact, as it had in anticipation, the seat of justice, and the defeated faction ostensibly prepared their minds to accept provincial obscurity with such consolation as philosophy might afford. The convention held this summer, for the nomination of legislative candidates, met in

Bloomsburg, and prominent before the convention was Valentine Best, a citizen of Danville, and the editor of the organ of that faction in the county-seat contest. He was an ardent advocate for complete reconciliation; the long struggle had been stubbornly contested on both sides, the decision had been made, and the chasm must now be not merely bridged over, but closed; henceforth he had no disposition to revive the issues now settled, and pledged himself, if elected, to devote his energies for the prosperity of the whole county. Such protestations were accepted by the victorious faction in good faith, and as a ratification of peace—an exchange of conciliatory olive branches—Mr. Best was nominated, and eventually elected to the state senate. At the capital he found himself in company with sixteen whigs and sixteen fellow democrats, and evidently desirous of distinguishing himself, arrived at the conclusion that he had been providentially ordained to hold the balance of power. The duty of redistricting the state was devolved upon this legislature, and both political parties had made strenuous efforts to control the body for that purpose, but the whigs found themselves in the minority. Accordingly, when the organization of the senate came up, Mr. Best made overtures to his political opponents, agreeing to give them control of redistricting the state, provided they would unite their votes with his own in making him president of the senate. In proper time Mr. Best was made president, and the whigs received their consideration.

Whether the design of forming a new county had been conceived before the convention, or whether the success of his bargain suggested the plan to Mr. Best and his faction, are questions for which there is no sufficient answer at hand, but such a measure was soon introduced. It met with great opposition from the members of the legislature, as the county was already small enough, but Mr. Best's position was such that for several weeks he held all business at a standstill until his favored measure was passed. It was but natural that the western faction of the county should forget the pleasant words of fraternal reconciliation uttered before the convention, and should give place to animated expressions of satisfaction. The eastern faction, on the other hand, could not restrain expressions of wrath at the action of the minority, but the whig faction did not fail to recognize that the party had received an ample *quid pro quo*.

The line of division included in the new county little more than those who had opposed the removal, and embraced "all that part of Columbia county included within the limits of the townships of Franklin, Mahoning, Valley, Liberty, Limestone, Derry, Anthony, and the borough of Danville, together with all that portion of the townships of Montour, Hemlock, and Madison, lying westward of the following line:"

Beginning at Leiby's saw-mill on the bank of the river Susquehanna; thence by the road leading to the Danville and Bloomsburg road at or near to Samuel Lazarus house; thence from the Danville and Bloomsburg road to the back valley road at the end of the lane leading from said road to Obed Everett's house; thence by said lane to Obed Everett's house; thence northward to the schoolhouse near David Smith's, in Hemlock township; thence by the road leading from said schoolhouse to the state road at Robin's mill, to the end of the lane leading from said road to John Kinney's house; thence by a straight line to John Townsend's, near the German meeting-house; thence to Henry Johnston's, near Millville; thence by a straight line to a post in the Lycoming county line, near the road leading to Crawford's saw-mill, together with that part of Roaringcreek township lying south and west of a line beginning at the southeastern corner of Franklin township; thence eastward by the southern boundary line of Catawissa township to a point directly north of John Yeager's house; thence southward by a direct line, including John Yeager's house, to the Schuylkill county line, at the northeast corner of Barry township. *Provided, however,* that at no time hereafter shall any portion of the territory now embraced within the limits of the county of Northumberland be annexed or attached



to the said county of Montour, without the unanimous consent of the qualified voters of said county of Northumberland.

The act declared, among other provisions, that "the seat of justice for the same is fixed in the borough of Danville." It was approved on the 3d of May, 1850, and was to go into effect on the 1st of November. There was a good deal of ill-feeling over the division, in the eastern part of the county, which was intensified by the fact that they regarded it a practical violation of the pledges volunteered by Mr. Best, and when the extent of the territory taken off was accurately known, there was a general determination to resist. "Repeal" became the rallying cry and the dominant issue in the exciting campaign which followed. Best was a candidate for re-election, but was beaten by C. R. Buckalew by a decisive majority. The final result, however, was not repeal but a limitation of the territory set off to the new county. This was undoubtedly the wisest adjustment of the matter, for however unwise the division then appeared, and was subsequently proven, it would have been equally unwise to hold a vigorous minority in a relation which would have inevitably given rise to bickerings and strife. Accordingly, by an act approved January 15, 1853, the division line was so changed as to restore that part of Roaring-creek township taken off, and such parts of the townships of Franklin, Madison and Hemlock, which lie eastward of the following line.

Beginning at the Northumberland county line, at or near the house of Samuel Reader; thence a direct course to the center of Roaringcreek, in Franklin township, twenty rods above a point in said creek, opposite the house of John Nought; thence from the middle of the stream of said creek to the Susquehanna river; thence up the center of the same to a point opposite, where the present county line between Columbia and Montour strikes the north bank of the river; thence to said north bank; thence by the present division line between said counties to the school-house, near the residence of David Smith; thence to a point near the residence of Daniel Smith; thence to the bridge over Deer lick run, on the line between Derry and Madison townships; thence by the line between said township of Madison and the townships of Derry and Anthony to the line of Lycoming County.\*

The division line of 1850 so dismembered the townships of Madison, Hemlock and Montour that some readjustment of township lines became necessary, and, in 1852, what remained of Madison, south of Millville, was attached in part to Mount Pleasant, and part to Hemlock, the old name adhering to that portion which extended along the county line northwest of Greenwood. By the act of 1853 the latter was renamed PINE, and the restored portion, with those attached to Hemlock and Mount Pleasant, were formed into a township under the old name. The division effected in the township of Roaringcreek by the act of 1850 was subsequently made permanent, the restored portion being named Scott. This was found to conflict with a township, north of the river, which was then under the advisement of the court, and a month later the name was changed to LOCUST. In May, 1853, the citizens of Bloom presented a petition to the court of quarter-sessions praying for the division of the township, "in order that the business at the election board may be diminished." The commissioners to whom the matter was referred evidently found the reason assigned entirely sufficient for the purpose, and reported the dividing line, beginning "at a point in the middle of the north branch of the Susquehanna river, immediately opposite the corner and division line of the farms of Peter Mensch and Daniel Snyder," and thence in a direct line northward to the line

\*This constitutes the present western boundary of the county, but to complete the history of the eastern boundary it should be added, that by an act of the legislature, approved March 3, 1818, a section of the south-eastern area of Mifflin and Catawissa townships was stricken off, and with a part of the adjacent area of Luzerne, was added to Schuylkill county. The division line began "at a corner in the line dividing the county of Columbia from the county of Schuylkill; thence extending through the township of Catawissa north ten degrees east, four miles and a half to a pine tree on the little mountain; thence extending through the townships of Catawissa and Mifflin north forty-five degrees east, five miles to a stone on Buck's mountain and in a line dividing the county of Columbia from the county of Luzerne; thence through the township of Sugarloaf in the county of Luzerne," etc.



of Mount Pleasant township, near the house of John Howery. This report was confirmed September 7, 1853, and the new township named Scorr. The final township erected was formed, in 1855, from Locust. At this time the latter township was from twelve to fourteen miles long, and from eight to ten miles wide, "the southern end being a stone-coal and mining region, and the northern end being a farming district." Commissioners appointed to view the township reported favorably, indicating a line of division beginning at or near where the south branch of Roaring creek, or the Brush-Valley creek, crosses the Northumberland line, thence two hundred and twenty perches north on to the Little mountain; thence easterly along the mountain to the Schuylkill county line. This report was confirmed in November, 1855, and the township named CONYNGHAM for the president judge of that name, who then occupied the bench in Columbia county. In a subsequent petition it is stated that the township was erected in February, 1856, but there is nothing in the record of that term to warrant the statement.

In carrying out their engagements, which were made a part of the conditions upon which the removal of the county-seat was effected, the Bloomsburg people acted in no niggardly spirit. William McKelvy and Daniel Snyder were the prime movers in this matter, and as soon as the question of removal was decided at the polls, entered actively upon the work of erecting a court-house and jail. Elisha H. Biggs, who had made a liberal subscription, owned the site of the Exchange Hotel on the south side of Second street, and with a shrewd calculation of the "main chance" bought the lot opposite, of Robert Cathcart, for a thousand dollars. This lot he offered in payment of his subscription as a site for the proposed court-house. William Robinson, who owned the lot adjoining on the upper side, also donated sufficient land, so that after the alleys on each side were made, the building site contained about ninety feet front. The proffered site, in location and contour, was every way desirable, and promptly accepted. Mr. Snyder contributed two lots, fronting on Center street and extending back to the upper line of the court-house lot, for a jail site, which were accepted. At this time the Presbyterian church were planning for their present house of worship, and Rev. D. J. Waller, Sr., went to Philadelphia to secure approved drawings, by which to erect the two structures. Napoleon Le Brun drew the plans, which were scrupulously observed in the erection of both buildings.

The court house was constructed of brick in the pure Ionic order of architecture, and for years was considered the model building of its kind in the interior of the state. It was forty by sixty feet in size, with the county offices below, and a court and jury rooms above. A graceful flight of stone steps in front led to a vestibule opening into the court room, which possessed the rare excellence of being perfectly adapted to the purposes for which it was designed. The passage way to the offices was made under the front platform, in the rear of the front steps. The cupola, which surmounted the ridge at the front end of the building, was designed for a bell and clock. The first was procured by the county commissioners in 1848, at a cost of some four hundred dollars; the clock was provided somewhat later by private subscription. In the summer of 1868 the court-house was extended by an addition of twenty-five feet. The additional space in the upper story was devoted to rooms for the law-library, for the use of the judges and the jury. In the lower story the office accommodations were enlarged, and additional fire-proof protection for the records afforded. In the changes incident to this improvement the comb of the roof was raised without a corresponding elevation of the cupola, which destroyed the true architectural proportions. In 1882, a new clock supplanted the older

one, which had outlived its usefulness, and a year later, the steam heating system was applied to the building. In this condition the court-house still remains, attractive in its outlines and situation, confirming by the test of experience that the requirement of the act of 1845, to erect buildings "of the most approved plan," was fully met.

The jail was constructed of brick and stone, and combined the usual features of a jailor's residence, and prison. It was a two story structure, with no claim to architectural distinction, but was conveniently located, and generally well calculated for the purpose to which it was devoted. It served the county for thirty years, though its insecurity occasioned considerable complaint in later years. At this time there appears to have been a difference of opinion as to the necessity of a new prison between the constituted authorities and many of the people. Three successive grand juries had recommended the erection of a new one without eliciting action, but the county commissioners made it known that if another jury recommended action it would be taken, whatever the judgment of the officials might be. The fourth grand jury promptly sanctioned the action of its predecessors, and in 1877, the commissioners began measures for erecting a new jail. For various reasons it was determined to abandon the old site, and "the Pursel lot, on Market below Third (less sixteen feet in the rear)" was conditionally purchased for the purpose at a cost of four thousand dollars. The abandonment of the old site, the character of the new one, and its cost, combined to give rise to severe criticism of the commissioners' plans.

On the 21st of April, the proposals for the construction of the new prison, upon plans and specifications drawn by a Mr. Wetzell, were opened, and the contract awarded to Charles King. This action intensified the dissatisfaction of the critics, who rapidly included a large proportion of the people in their numbers. It appears that there were ten proposals offered, ranging in price from \$41,075 to \$119,025, and that the award was made to the next to the lowest bidder, at a price \$5,900 higher than the lowest mentioned. It was at once freely charged that there were grave reasons to suspect jobbery on the part of the architect; that his compensation, as provided by contract, was less than one-third the usual price granted to competent men of this class; and that his influence against the acceptance of the proposal of the lowest bidder was inspired by the wish to secure a more pliable contractor. The commissioners were therefore urged to dismiss the architect, abandon "the new, expensive and mud bottom location," and to either order a new letting, or promptly accept the lowest bid already offered. The commissioners refused to accept these suggestions, and on the 27th of April, a Bill of Complaint in Equity was presented to the court, asking an injunction to restrain the authorities from building on the Pursel lot, and from entering into a contract with King. In the hearing had upon this question, the fact was developed that the proposed lot was too narrow for the structure as planned, and that this would require such modifications in the present plans and proposals as to render any action by the commissioners upon the ones accepted, improper, and hurtful to the interests of the people, and a temporary injunction was granted.

In the meantime D. J. Waller, Sr., had offered to donate a lot on Iron street, between Seventh and Eighth streets, and in July the commissioners abandoned the first site selected, and accepted Mr. Waller's donation. This site was open to some of the same objections urged against the other site—that it was inconveniently distant from the court-house, and on low, wet ground, but the commissioners were not to be moved from their decision, and the new prison was eventually located on this site. In the matter of construc-

tion, the commissioners (as it is charged), evaded the injunction of the court, by granting the different parts of the structure to various contractors, some of whom were only a cover for King, and it was further objected that the mode finally adopted, instead of restricting the cost to the agreed price of \$56,975, gave opportunity to swell the expense to seventy thousand dollars. In all this controversy, it is due the commissioners to say, there was no distinct charge of venality against the county officers, and the gravest objection, which still remains to the prison, is the suspicion that the architect corruptly profited at the expense of the county, through the ill-advised persistence of those in authority.

The prison, as it now exists, is a somewhat picturesque stone structure, consisting of a rectangular residence, of a high basement and two stories, the plainness of which is relieved by a square tower in its middle front, from the top of which a good view of the town may be obtained. An oblong extension at the rear contains the cells, which are arranged in two tiers on either side of a corridor, lighted by skylights in the arching roof. The upper tier is reached by an iron stairway and gallery. In the basement are provided several unused apartments, designed for workshops; a place for the storage of fuel, for the steam-heating apparatus, and the dungeon. The arrangements for the proper comfort of those confined here appear complete. Baths, water-closet conveniences, ventilation, lighting, heating and range for exercise are well provided for, and may be economically applied. It is reasonably secure, each cell being metal-lined, within heavy walls of stone; the light is admitted through glass-closed slots, difficult of access, and too narrow to allow the passage of any human being. The doors to the cells are double, the inner one of strong metal grating and the outer one of wood, so combined that both are made secure by one lock, which is beyond the reach of the most ingenious criminal. This part of the structure is flanked on either side by a rectangular inclosure, the high stone walls of which form projecting wings back of the rear line of the residence part of the building. The whole structure has an appearance of massive strength, which might well cause the evil-doer to hesitate in a course likely to place him in confinement behind its walls. Several prisoners have escaped from it, however, but this was rather the result of carelessness than from any architectural default.

The only other public buildings in the county are the several district poor-houses; the county has no eleemosynary institution of its own. In the early history of the county, those dependent upon charity for support were provided for under the general law by the several townships, and were "farmed out." In later years this method was seen by many to be crude and unsatisfactory, and in 1866 an act was passed authorizing the people of Columbia to ascertain the sense of the citizens as to the expediency of erecting a poor-house for the use of the whole county. On submitting the question to vote it was found that only Bloom, Greenwood and Hemlock supported the project, and it was accordingly abandoned. In 1869, however, an act was passed authorizing the erection of a poor-house in Bloom, and provided also that, "at the request of any ten taxable inhabitants of any township in the county of Columbia," an election should be ordered to decide whether said township should join Bloom in forming a district for the purpose. Under that provision elections were held in 1870, by Scott, Greenwood and Sugarloaf, and these townships were united with Bloom in the enterprise. A farm of one hundred acres, on Fishing creek, in Mount Pleasant township, was procured, with comfortable buildings. There are two, a brick and a frame, the inmates occupying the former. Water is supplied from the creek by a windmill; two bath-rooms supply the means



for cleanliness, and a furnace heats the whole building. In 1869, under a special act of the legislature, the township of Conyngham, with the borough of Centralia, organized a district. A farm of some seventy-five acres, in Locust township, was purchased, which, with all personal property belonging to this corporation, was, by a provision of the same act, exempted from all taxation, save for state purposes. In 1872 Madison township was authorized, by a special act, to form a corporation for the care of the poor, and under its provisions a farm of about one hundred acres was purchased, where its indigent citizens are now comfortably cared for.

The removal of the seat of justice to Bloomsburg, practically marks the origin of a new county. Prior to this event, what is now Columbia county was overshadowed by the maturer settlement and greater influence which made the western section the seat of power. The promise of the future was with the eastern section. Its development was rapid, and its power steadily increasing, but it was not until it had acquired the county-seat and removed thither the public records, that the period of its tutelage ended. Had the identity of the original county remained unimpaired by division, time would doubtless have exorcised the spirit of authority which naturally lingered about its vacant throne, but the formation of Montour intervened, and the deserted tribune was again rehabilitated with the insignia of power. Columbia thus found itself in possession of the old name without the hereditary title, or rather in the condition of one of an old partnership where, after dissolution, the one partner retains the firm name and the old account book, and the other takes the "old stand," with the prestige and traditions which naturally linger about it. This fact is doubtless more apparent in retrospection than it was at the time of removal. There was nothing at that date to abate the sense of triumph, and the records were brought to Bloomsburg with great demonstrations of rejoicing. The crowning act of success accomplished, the more enthusiastic citizens gave themselves up to celebrating the event with ceremonies of a bibulous character, and, in the expressive phrase of the street, "painted" the new seat of justice a much deeper hue than a peach-blow tint.

The first court was held in Bloomsburg in January, 1848, with Joseph B. Anthony as president judge. The original county was annexed to the middle district of the supreme court, and the eighth judicial district of the court of common pleas, comprising the counties of Northumberland, Union and Luzerne. Under the amended constitution, Columbia was placed in the eleventh district with Luzerne and Wyoming, and subsequently with Sullivan and Wyoming in the twenty-sixth. Under the constitution of 1872, Columbia and Montour were formed into a district, a relation that is still sustained. Of those who preceded Judge Anthony on the Columbia county bench, Seth Chapman was the first to occupy the place. He was appointed president judge of the Northumberland district in 1811, from Bucks county, and when this county was formed, in 1813, held the first court at Danville in the following January. He resigned in 1833, and was succeeded by Judge Ellis Lewis, a native of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Beginning life as a printer, he subsequently occupied the editorial chair, and finally studied law, being admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-five. Two years later he received the appointment of deputy attorney-general for Lycoming county; in 1832 was elected to the legislature, where he served with distinction on several important committees; in 1833 he was appointed attorney-general for the commonwealth, and later in the same year was appointed successor of Judge Chapman. For ten years he discharged his duties in this court with marked ability, and was then transferred to the bench of the second district. He was subsequently elevated to the po-



sition of chief-justice of the supreme court of the state, and was afterward appointed one of a committee of three to revise the criminal code.

On the 14th of January, 1843, Charles G. Donnel, of Northumberland county, was appointed to the vacancy on the bench of the eighth district, and held his first term in Columbia county in April, 1843. He died in the following year, after giving promise of future eminence, and receiving the respect of the bar by his dignity and urbanity upon the bench. He was succeeded in March, 1844, by Judge Anthony, of Lycoming county. The latter began his legal career at Williamsport in 1818. In 1830 he was elected to the state senate, and, in 1834, to congress, to which he was reelected, two years later, by an unprecedented majority. In 1843 he was appointed judge of the court for the adjustment of the Nicholson claims, and in March, 1844, to the eighth district court. He discharged his judicial functions with great acceptability, deciding many important cases involving questions of considerable legal difficulty. He died in 1851, and was succeeded by James Pollock.

Judge Pollock was born in the borough of Milton, and began his education under the instruction of Judge Anthony. He was subsequently graduated from Princeton; studied law, and was admitted to the Northumberland bar in 1833; two years later, he was appointed district attorney, and in 1844 entered political life as a whig, being elected to congress from the thirteenth district, which was then strongly democratic. He was subsequently twice reelected, and served with credit upon the important committees of territories, ways and means, etc. In 1850, he was appointed president judge of the eighth judicial district, which then comprised the counties of Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Lycoming and Sullivan. He held this position until the amendment of the constitution, making the judges elective, came into operation, when he declined a nomination for the place. In 1854 he was elected governor, the duties of which office he discharged with such approval by the people that he was tendered a renomination; this he declined and resumed the practice of his profession. In 1860 he was appointed a delegate to the "peace congress" at Washington, and in 1861 was appointed director of the mint at Philadelphia. To him is originally due the motto, "In God we trust," which is found upon the national coins. Resigning his office under the Johnson administration, he was reappointed in 1869, by President Grant, and continued to hold this position until 1882, when he was made collector of internal revenue.

John Nesbit Conyngham succeeded Judge Pollock upon the bench of Columbia county. He was a native of Philadelphia, an alumnus of the University of Pennsylvania, and for thirty years presided on the bench "with the dignity and urbanity of a gentleman of the old school." Elected in 1851, under the amended constitution, for the eleventh district, which included Columbia, he served on the bench of this county until 1856, when it was included in the twenty-sixth district. He resigned his commission in 1870, with the profound respect of the bar which practiced before him. On the formation of the twenty-sixth judicial district, Warren J. Woodward was appointed to preside over the new district, upon the recommendation of the several bars practicing in its courts. He was regularly elected to this position in October of the same year and served until December, 1861, when he resigned to accept a similar position in the court of Berks county. At the end of his first term in Berks, he was reelected, and served until the general election of 1874, by which he was transferred to the state supreme court, where he served until his death in 1879. Judge Woodward was born in Wayne county; obtained his early education at Wilkesbarre; served as printer and was subsequently connected with the *Pennsylvanian* at Philadelphia in an editorial capacity. He then studied

law at Wilkesbarre, and for some fifteen years practiced his profession there with eminent success, possessing at the time of his elevation to the bench, the leading place at the bar. In the fall of 1861 A. K. Peckam was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Judge Woodward; he declined to be a candidate for the succeeding official term, and at the expiration of his commission resumed his practice at Tunkhannock, continuing until his death.

In 1862 William Elwell was elected president judge of the twenty-sixth judicial district composed of the counties of Columbia, Sullivan and Wyoming, no candidate being named against him; and upon the expiration of his term, in 1872, he was reelected without a dissenting vote. In May, 1874, Wyoming and Sullivan were created the forty-fourth judicial district, and Montour county was added to Columbia, the district still remaining the twenty-sixth. Upon his election, in 1862, he removed to Bloomsburg, where he has ever since resided.

In April, 1871, Judge Elwell was chosen umpire to settle the difficulties between the operators and the miners in the anthracite coal regions, and his impartial judgment was accepted by all parties as a just and equitable solution of the troubles. He has been frequently urged to become a candidate for the supreme bench, and he has been voted for in convention for that place; but he uniformly declined to authorize a canvas in his favor, for the office, not deeming it consonant with judicial propriety. And for the same reason he has refused to allow his name to be canvassed for the office of governor of the commonwealth, for which he has been frequently and warmly urged.

On the expiration of his second term as president judge of the twenty-sixth district, the bar of the district unanimately and without distinction of party requested him to accept a third term, to which he consented; and the political convention of the democratic and republican party respectively, following the lead of the bar, nominated him to the office for the election of 1882. He was then again unanimately elected.

It is believed that Judge Elwell has held more special courts than any judge now upon the bench. And in order to have the advantage of his legal learning and ability many important cases have been certified to Columbia county from other districts and tried before him.

Among the many notable cases which he has tried are the Williamsport bond case—Fisher against the City of Philadelphia—Tryon and Dall against Munson, and the celebrated Cameron will case from Union county, each involving the rights of parties to the amount of hundreds of thousands of dollars, and in all of which his opinions were affirmed by the supreme court. On the appeal in the will case, after elaborate argument by eminent counsel for the appellant, the decision was affirmed, the supreme court adopting the opinion of the court below as the opinion of that court. The Mollie Maguire case, growing out of the murder of Alexander W. Rea—which was affirmed by the supreme court, of itself forms a large volume, and establishes many important questions on the law of homicide—was tried before him.

Numerous cases in equity in this and other counties have been heard and decided by him, and, with a single exception, their divisions have been sustained on appeal. His opinions, which appear in the state report, in the *Weekly Notes of Cases* and other legal publications, are considered valuable additions to the legal literature of the time. It is worthy of mention that of all the cases in the court of oyer and terminer, quarter-sessions and orphan's court, not a single case from this district has been reversed during the more than twenty years he has been upon the bench.

In counties of less than forty thousand inhabitants two associate judges are

elected whose chief business is to pass upon matters of county administration. They have also, in the absence of the president judge, jurisdiction in cases involving the relief of suitors, such as the stay of execution in civil cases, the granting of a writ of *habeas corpus*, and may, when united, overrule the president judge in the imposition of penalty in criminal cases. In questions of law simply they have no jurisdiction, and practically their activity is confined to county administration, in which each has an equal voice with the law judge.

In the work to which the foregoing pages are indebted for the facts pertaining to the bench, Mr. Freeze thus refers to the local bar: "This is not the place, or we might add much matter to this division, of personal history and anecdote, of gentlemen who, upon the bench or at the bar, have given to our county a solid and honorable reputation at home and abroad—of Robert Cooper Grier, who began the practice of the law in Bloomsburg, and rose to be an associate justice of the United States supreme court;\* of William G. Hurley, for more than forty years identified honorably with the bar of this county; of John G. Montgomery, a man of great power and eloquence, elected to the legislature and subsequently to congress, and who perished in the National Hotel disaster; of John Cooper, himself an eccentric and brilliant man, the son of Judge Thomas Cooper, renowned in the old world as well as here; of George A. Frick, second to none as a man, and as a lawyer of extensive and solid attainments; of Robert F. Clark and Morrison E. Jackson, who, among the younger members of the bar, achieved and maintained a position at the head of the profession in the county. Nor would it be difficult to select, from among the living, names whose sound will long linger in the memories of the young men of the bar, and whose courtesy, learning and chaste professional honor it would be safe to follow and ennobling to emulate."

Of the present active members of the bar there are several whose legal acquirements and native talent make them friendly rivals for the second place, but by general agreement the Hon. C. R. Buckalew is *facile princeps*. He was born in Fishingcreek township; studied law with M. E. Jackson, and in 1843 was admitted to the bar. In 1845 he was appointed prosecuting attorney, an office he resigned two years later. In 1850 he entered political life, having been elected to the state senate for the district comprising the counties of Luzerne, Columbia and Montour. At the expiration of his first term he was reelected, and in 1854 was appointed special commissioner to exchange ratifications of a treaty with Paraguay. In 1856 he was chosen presidential elector, and in the following year was made chairman of the democratic state committee. In this year he was returned to the state senate, and in the following winter was appointed one of the committee to revise the criminal code. He resigned both positions in the summer of 1858, however, to accept the appointment as minister resident of the United States at Quito. After three years' absence he returned to his home, and, in 1863, was elected to the United States senate. On his retiring from congress, he was again returned to the state senate, and in 1872 became candidate for governor of the state. In this campaign he was defeated, but was immediately chosen to a vacancy in the constitutional convention, made by the resignation of Mr. Freeze, who retired in his favor. In the intervals of his political career, Mr. Buckalew has practiced his profession with increasing success, and has found time amid all these demands upon his time and strength, to prepare and publish, in 1872, a work on "Proportional Representation;" and, in 1883, "An Examination of the Constitution of Pennsylvania." In the fall of 1886 he was elected from the eleventh district to the lower house of congress.

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\* 1846-1869.



There have been no local cases before this court of more than temporary importance save the one arising out of the Rea murder. On Sunday, October 18, 1868, the dead body of Alexander W. Rea, a citizen of Centralia in this county, and agent for the Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company and the Coal Ridge Improvement Company, was found in the bushes near the water-barrel on the road from Centralia to Mount Carmel, riddled with bullets. He was last seen near that point on Saturday preceding. On the 17th of November, 1868, on the testimony of one Thomas Doorley, John Duffy, Michael Prior and Thomas Donohue were arrested for the murder and lodged in the Pottsville jail. After a *habeas corpus* hearing, the prisoners were sent to this county for trial. About the time of Donohue's arrest, Patrick Hester went to Illinois, where he had a brother and sister living. Suspicion had already fastened upon him. In the early part of January, 1869, Hester returned, came to Bloomsburg and delivered himself up for trial. At the December session of 1868, a bill of indictment was found against Donohue, Duffy and Prior, and at the February session of 1869, a similar bill was returned against Hester, Donohue and Duffy.

The case was called by the district attorney on February 2, 1869, the prisoners were arraigned and severally pleaded not guilty. On motion of counsel, separate trials were granted, and the commonwealth elected to proceed against Thomas Donohue. On the morning of the 3d, a jury was empaneled, and the trial proceeded with. E. R. Ikeler, district attorney, Linn Bartholomew, Robert F. Clark, Edward H. Baldy and M. M. L'Velle represented the commonwealth, while John W. Ryan, John G. Freeze, Myer Strouse, S. P. Wolverton and W. A. Marr defended the prisoner.

The theory of the prosecution was that this Saturday being a general payday in the coal regions, a party of assassins had concealed themselves at this point for the purpose of securing the money which it was supposed Mr. Rea would carry to pay the hands at the colliery. It was his custom, however, to pay the men on Friday, so that the messenger who brought the cash from Philadelphia could return on Saturday. This practice was of long standing, was well known to every one in the region, and had been followed on the day previous to the murder. It appeared pretty certain therefore, that the perpetrators of the crime were ignorant of the time of payment at the Coal Ridge Colliery, and were to be sought outside of the immediate neighborhood. The trial of Donohue terminated on the 11th of February in a verdict of not guilty, and the prisoner was discharged.

At the May term, 1869, the case of Duffy was tried and resulted in the acquittal of the defendant on the 11th of May. On the same day, the evidence against Hester at that time being insufficient to convict, a *nolle prosequi* was entered, and he was discharged. Prior was tried and acquitted. Seven years subsequently passed by, and no further clue to the murderers of Rea was discovered. At this time, there was a man named Manus Cull, *alias* Daniel Kelly, one of the most abandoned criminals, confined in the Schuylkill county jail on the charge of larceny. Learning that there were suspicions of his having some guilty knowledge of the Rea murder, this man offered to turn state's evidence to shield himself from the threatened penalty. Accordingly, on his testimony, Peter McHugh and Patrick Tully were arrested in the fall of 1876, as participants in the murder, and Patrick Hester was re-arrested as an accessory before the fact. They were first lodged in the Pottsville jail, and on January 31, 1877, brought to this county for trial. On Wednesday, February 7th, the trial began, Messrs. Hughes, Buckalew and District-Attorney Clark appearing for the commonwealth, and Messrs. Ryan, Wolverton, Freeze,



Brockway, Mahan and Elwell for the defense. The prisoners were formally arraigned, Tully and McHugh answering "not guilty." For Hester, a special plea was presented, to the effect that he had once been arrested and discharged for the same offense. This plea the court overruled, and Hester entered the plea of not guilty.

The three prisoners elected to be tried together. "Daniel Kelly," who was made a competent witness by a pardon from the governor, furnished the principal evidence against the accused, which is substantially set forth in the judge's charge to the jury, as follows:

Daniel Kelly, an accomplice in the murder of Alexander W. Rea, has testified to facts, which if believed to be true, establish the guilt of all the prisoners. He says that the robbery and murder of Mr. Rea was planned on the night of the 16th of October, 1868, at the saloon of Thomas Donohue in Ashland, at the suggestion of Patrick Hester; that there were present at the conspiracy ten persons, viz.: Patrick Hester, Peter McHugh, Patrick Tully, Ned. Skirington, Bryan Campbell, James Bradley, William Muldowney, Roger Lafferty, Jack Dalton and himself; that its object was money. Hester informed the others that Rea would go to Bell's tunnel the next day, and that there was money in it for them,—eighteen or nineteen thousand dollars; that the whole band had pistols; that it was agreed to rob, but not to kill Mr. Rea; that they all stayed in Donohue's saloon drinking all night until nearly daylight, when all except Lafferty started out to meet Mr. Rea on the Mount Carmel road between Centralia and Mount Carmel; that Muldowney left them saying he was lame; that above the toll-gate, Hester and Skirington left, Skirington saying that he would go to work in order to ward off suspicion, and Hester that he would go to Shomokin to buy hair to put in lime for plastering; that he there handed his pistol to Kelly saying, "your pistol is no good, take mine for I know it is sure;" that the money was to be divided between eight of them; that the two others for some reason were to have no part; that they were all members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Hester being bodymaster, whose orders, according to the practices among them, they were bound to obey. He says that the party of six arrived at the place known as the "Water-barrel" in the early morning, and were concealed by the side of the road; that Dalton being the only one of the party who knew Mr. Rea, went upon the road and was to give signal by raising his hat; after Mr. Rea had passed him; that they saw a wagon coming and went out by the side of the road, but as Dalton did not raise his hat, went back into the brush; that when Mr. Rea did come along they went out upon him, robbed him of his money, gold watch and pocket-book; that then he and Tully fired at him about the same time; that Rea ran and they all kept firing at him, McHugh following nearer than the rest, and nearer to the side of Mr. Rea, fired upon him; that deceased fell upon his face, and Tully put his pistol behind his ear and fired; that the party went upon the mountain and divided the sixty or seventy dollars found in the pocket-book; that he kept the watch and gave it to Michael Graham on the evening of the same day to keep for him, telling him it was Rea's watch. \* \* \* \* He further says that he saw Hester on the night of the murder at Michael Graham's at a raffle; that Hester said the money was not worth dividing. He further testified that the day after, as he thinks, Thomas Donohue was arrested for the murder; that he, Jack Smith, Lafferty, Tully and McHugh went to see Hester, and that Smith informed Hester of Donohue's arrest when Hester replied. "It is near time that I should clear out," and that he left that night, and that the next night or two the witness, Tully and McHugh left for fear of being arrested.

The trial lasted nearly three weeks, when the jury, after being out but a short time, returned a verdict of "guilty." An application for a new trial failed, and the prisoners were sentenced to be hanged, the death warrants fixing August 9, 1877, as the date of execution. The case was carried to the supreme court and a stay of execution thus effected; but in December the supreme court rendered a decision sustaining the court below, when the case was taken to the board of pardons, which on March 19, 1878, refused to interfere. In the meantime, the governor issued alias death warrants fixing Monday, the 25th of March, as the date of execution.

Up to within about two weeks of the date of execution all three of the men persisted in their protestations of innocence, but at this time Tully sent word to George E. Elwell, one of his counsel, requesting an interview. At this conference, the condemned man signified his intention of making a statement after the final action of the board of pardons was ascertained. On Tues-

day, the 19th instant, after the prisoners had been informed that the last hope for them in this world had failed, Tully was called upon, about nine o'clock at night. He then dictated a confession, which was read to him and received his signature. In it he confessed to his guilt and practically corroborated the evidence of Kelly, saying, "He swore to some lies, but most he said was true." The other men continued to assert their innocence until Sunday night, when they were informed that Tully had confessed the whole truth. McHugh received the information with apparent indifference, but Hester was completely confounded, and in a few moments both freely confessed their guilt. The gallows, borrowed from the authorities of Carbon county, was erected in the western corner of the old jail yard, and at 11:15 a. m. on the day fixed, the penalty of death was inflicted upon the condemned men.

The miserable wretch who bore such fatal evidence against his accomplices, at Bloomsburg, was subsequently made a witness in a similar trial at Wilkesbarre. In these trials he freely confessed to an appalling career of crime which justly merited the infliction of the extreme penalty of the law. His evidence was given without stipulated immunity by the authorities, and at the February term of court in 1878, full preparations were made to try him for the murder of Rea, but at the urgent request of F. P. McGowan and others engaged in prosecuting the Mollie Maguire cases elsewhere in the coal region—cases in which the chief hope for conviction rested upon the expected confession of accomplices, the prosecuting attorney allowed the second term after Kelly's indictment to draw to its close without appearing against him. Under the rule, therefore, the prisoner was entitled to his discharge, and on the 18th of May, the court granted it, concurring in the judgment of the prosecutor who said: "To permit Daniel Kelly to escape without trial, will, in my opinion, give greater terror to the remainder of these criminals who are yet fugitives from justice." The event proved the wisdom of this policy. Criminals were in constant dread lest some accomplice should save himself at the expense of the rest—a condition of things which speedily precipitated the very danger they feared. Conviction followed arraignment with a remorseless precision that struck terror into the hearts of the Mollie Maguires, and disrupted this nefarious conspiracy against human life.

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The tables which follow afford a convenient means of reference to the facts more specifically stated in the foregoing chapter. The first table indicates the order and nature of the formation of townships.



*J. M. Buckalew*





ERECTED.	TOWNSHIPS.	FORMED FROM.
1772.	Turbut	Northumberland county.
1772.	Wyoming.	Northumberland county.
1772.	Augusta	Northumberland county.
1775.	Mahoning	Turbut.
1785.	Catawissa.	Augusta.
1786.	Derry.	Turbut.
1789.	Fishingcreek	Wyoming.
1797.	Briarcreek	Fishingcreek.
1797.	Mifflin	Catawissa.
1798.	Bloom	Briarcreek.
1799.	Greenwood	Fishingcreek.
1801.	Hemlock.	Mahoning.
1813	Sugarloaf	Fishingcreek.
1817.	Madison	Derry.
1818.	Mt. Pleasant.	Greenwood, Bloom and Fishingcreek.
1832.	Roaringcreek	Catawissa.
1837.	Montour	Hemlock.
1838.	Jackson	Greenwood.
1810.	Orange	Fishingcreek, Mt. Pleasant and Bloom.
1843.	Franklin	Catawissa.
1844.	Maine	Mifflin and Catawissa.
1844.	Center	Bloom and Briarcreek.
1845.	Beaver	Mifflin and Maine.
1850.	Benton	Sugarloaf.
1853.	Pine	Madison.
1853.	Locust	Roaringcreek.
1853.	Scott	Bloom.
1855.	Conyngham.	Locust.

The courts of the county are known under the distinctive titles of quarter sessions', orphans', oyer and terminer, and common pleas, with a jurisdiction peculiar to each, but practically a single court engaged in the adjudication of different classes of legal questions. The members of this court, consisting of a president judge and two associates, were appointed by the governor until a change in the constitution placed their selection, in 1851, in the hands of the people. The Columbia county court has been constituted as follows:

PRESIDENT JUDGES.

	APPOINTED.	RESIGNED.
Seth Chapman	July 11, 1811	Oct. 10, 1833
Ellis Lewis	Oct. 14, 1833	Jan. 14, 1843
Charles G. Donnel	Jan. 14, 1843	died. . . . . March 18, 1844
Joseph B. Anthony	March 1844	died . . . . . Jan. 10, 1851
James Pollock	Jan. 15, 1851	com. expired. . . . . Nov. 5, 1851

	ELECTED.	RESIGNED.
John N. Conyngham	Nov. 15, 1851	District Changed
Warren J. Woodward	apptd. . . . . May 19, 1856	Dec. 10, 1861
Aaron K. Peckham	apptd. . . . . Dec. 10, 1861	com. expired. . . . . Nov. 3, 1862
William Elwell	Nov. 3, 1862	com. expired. . . . . Nov. 6, 1872
William Elwell	Nov. 6, 1872	com. expired. . . . . Nov. 7, 1882
William Elwell	Nov. 7, 1882	

ASSOCIATE JUDGES.

- John Murray (appointed), October 11, 1813.
- William Montgomery (appointed), August 5, 1815.
- Leonard Rupert (appointed), June 27, 1816.
- William Donaldson (appointed), March 26, 1840.

George Mack (appointed), March 27, 1840.  
 Samuel Oakes (appointed), March 6, 1845.  
 Stephen Baldy (appointed), March 11, 1845.  
 George H. Willits (appointed), March 12, 1850.  
 John Covanhovan (appointed), March 12, 1850.  
 Leonard B. Rupert (elected), November 10, 1851.  
 Geo. H. Willits (elected), November 10, 1851.  
 Peter Kline (elected), November 12, 1856.  
 Jacob Evans (elected), November 12, 1856.  
 Stephen Baldy (appointed), January 12, 1861.  
 John McReynolds (elected), November 23, 1861.  
 Stephen Baldy (elected), November 23, 1861.  
 Peter K. Herbein (elected), November 8, 1866. Died in office April 1, 1869.  
 Iram Derr (elected), November 8, 1866.  
 James Kester (appointed), April 23, 1869.  
 Charles F. Mann (elected), November 26, 1869. Died in office, January 24, 1870.  
 Isaac S. Monroe (appointed), February 1, 1870.  
 Isaac S. Monroe (elected), November 9, 1870.  
 Iram Derr (elected), November 17, 1871.  
 George Scott (elected), December 3, 1875. Died in office, April 10, 1876.  
 Mayberry G. Hughes (appointed), April 26, 1876.  
 Franklin L. Shuman (elected), December 8, 1876.  
 Isaac K. Krickbaum (elected), December 8, 1876.  
 Franklin L. Shuman (elected), December 8, 1881.  
 James Lake (elected), December 8, 1881.  
 C. G. Murphy (elected), December 8, 1886.  
 James Lake (elected), December 8, 1886.

#### THE BAR.

The names follow the order of their admission.

Robert C. Grier, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 William G. Hurley, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 James Pleasants, Catawissa, deceased.  
 Samuel F. Headley, Berwick, deceased.  
 Morrison E. Jackson, Berwick, deceased.  
 Le Grand Bancroft, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 B. K. Rhodes, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 Charles R. Buckalew, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Robert F. Clark, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 Reuben W. Weaver, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 John G. Freeze, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Elisha C. Thomson, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 Franklin Stewart, Berwick, practicing.  
 Ephraim H. Little, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Alexander J. Frick, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 Oliver C. Kahler, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Wesley Wirt, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 Agib Ricketts, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 Robert S. Howell, Espy, practicing.  
 W. A. Peck, Berwick, left the county.  
 Charles G. Barkley, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Samuel Knorr, Bloomsburg, practicing.

Hervy H. Grotz, Bloomsburg, not practicing.  
 William H. Abbott, Catawissa, left the county.  
 Charles B. Brockway, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Wellington H. Ent, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 M. M. Traugh, Berwick, left the county.  
 James K. Brugler, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 Peter S. Rishel, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 Michael Whitmoyer, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 M. M. L'Velle, Centralia, left the county.  
 Russel R. Pealer, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 Elijah R. Ikeler, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Charles W. Miller, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 George S. Coleman, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 J. B. Robison, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 J. H. James, Centralia, left the county.  
 M. E. Walker, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 O. B. Melick, Lightstreet, not practicing.  
 James Bryson, Centralia, left the county.  
 Milton Stiles, Berwick, left the county.  
 Le Roy Thompson, Berwick, left the county.  
 John M. Clark, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 B. Frank Zarr, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 A. C. Smith, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 H. E. Smith, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 John A. Opp, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 Warren J. Buckalew, Bloomsburg, deceased.  
 George E. Elwell, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Robert R. Little, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Nevin U. Funk, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 William L. Eyerly, Catawissa, practicing.  
 Charles B. Jackson, Berwick, practicing.  
 Frank P. Billmeyer, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Levi E. Waller, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 T. J. Vanderslice, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 H. C. Bittenbender, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 W. H. Rhawn, Catawissa, practicing.  
 William Bryson, Centralia, practicing.  
 Paul E. Wirt, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Robert Buckingham, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 L. S. Wintersteen, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 A. L. Fritz, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Andrew K. Oswald, Berwick, practicing.  
 Jacob H. Maize, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 C. C. Peacock, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Heister V. White, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 A. E. Chapin, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 John C. Yocum, Catawissa, practicing.  
 David Leche, Bloomsburg, left the county.  
 Guy Jacoby, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 Wm. Chrisman, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 W. H. Snyder, Orangeville, practicing.  
 Wm. E. Smith, Berwick, practicing.  
 Grant Herring, Bloomsburg, practicing.

A. N. Yost, Bloomsburg, practicing.  
 C. E. Geyer, Catawissa, practicing.  
 S. P. Hanly, Berwick, practicing.

### COUNTY OFFICIALS.

The present constitution provides that county officers shall consist of a prothonotary, clerk of the courts, sheriff, register of wills, recorder of deeds, auditor or controller, treasurer, district attorney, coroner, surveyor, commissioners, and such others as may, from time to time, be established by law. In the smaller counties the duties of more than one office was imposed upon one official, hence the double title of prothonotary and clerk of the courts; and register of wills and recorder of deeds. Under the constitution of 1790, all county officers, save the sheriff and coroner, were appointed by the governor without participation by the people; but by an amendment in 1838, it was provided that "prothonotaries and clerks of the several courts (except the supreme court), recorders of deeds and registers of wills shall, at the time and place of election of representatives, be elected by the qualified electors of each county, or the districts over which the jurisdiction of said courts extends, and shall be commissioned by the governor. They shall hold their offices for three years, if they shall so long behave themselves well, and until their successors shall be duly qualified."

#### PROTHONOTARY AND CLERK.

George A. Frick.....	appointed	1813
David Petrikin.....	appointed	Mar. 15, 1821
John Russel.....	"	Jan. 14, 1824
Jacob Eyerly.....	"	Jan. 19, 1830
James Donaldson....	"	Jan. 8, 1836
James Donaldson..	"	May 1, 1838
James Donaldson..	"	Jan. 10, 1839
Valentine Best....	"	Jan. 18, 1839
Jacob Eyerly elected, assumed office		
December 1.....		1839
Jesse Coleman.....	elected	Dec. 1, 1863
Wellington Ent.....	"	Dec. 1, 1869
Died Nov. 5, 1871.		
R. H. Ringle.....	appointed	1871
B. F. Zarr.....	elected	Dec. 1, 1872
William Krickbaum....	"	Jan. 7, 1878
William Snyder.....	"	Jan. 7, 1884

#### REGISTER AND RECORDER.

Josiah McClure.....	appointed	1814
Ellis Hughes.....	"	1821
Rudolph Sechler.....	"	1824
John Cooper.....	"	1830
Alexander Best.....	"	1836
Philip Billmeyer....	appointed	Jan. 18, 1839
Philip Billmeyer elected, assumed office		
Dec. 1.....		1839
Charles Conner.....	elected	Dec. 1, 1842
Jesse G. Clark.....	"	Dec. 1, 1848
Daniel Lee.....	"	Dec. 1, 1804
John G. Freeze.....	"	Dec. 1, 1863
William H. Jacoby....	"	Dec. 1, 1869
Geo. W. Steiner.....	"	Jan. 2, 1882
Geo. W. Steiner.....	"	Jan. 5, 1885

By the constitution of 1790, it was provided that "sheriffs and coroners shall, at the times and places of election of representatives, be chosen by the citizens of each county; two persons shall be chosen for each office, one of whom for each, respectively, shall be appointed by the governor. They shall hold their offices for three years if they shall so long behave themselves well, and until a successor be duly qualified; but no person shall be twice chosen or appointed sheriff in any term of six years. Vacancies in either of the said offices shall be filled by a new appointment to be made by the governor, to continue until the next general election and until a successor shall be chosen and qualified as aforesaid." The convention of 1838 so far amended this section as to require the people to choose one person only for each office, who was to be commissioned by the governor.

#### SHERIFF.

Henry Alward, commissioned January 13, 1814.  
 Joseph Prutzman, commissioned October 19, 1816.  
 John Underwood, commissioned October 18, 1819. Died in office.



- William Robison, to fill vacancy, September 16, 1822.  
 Andrew McReynolds, commissioned October 14, 1822.  
 John Rhoads, commissioned October 22, 1825.  
 William Kitchen, commissioned October 22, 1828.  
 Isaiah Reed, commissioned October 24, 1831.  
 Isaiah Salmon, commissioned October 25, 1834.  
 William Kitchen, commissioned October 18, 1837.  
 John Fruit, commissioned October 20, 1840.  
 Iram Derr, commissioned 1843.  
 Benjamin Hayman, commissioned November 5, 1846.  
 Peter Billmeyer, commissioned October 24, 1849.  
 John Snyder, commissioned 1852.  
 Stephen H. Miller, commissioned 1855.  
 John Snyder, commissioned 1858.  
 Josiah H. Furman, commissioned 1861.  
 Samuel Snyder, commissioned 1864.  
 Mordecai Millard, commissioned 1867.  
 Aaron Smith, commissioned 1870.  
 Michael Grover, commissioned 1873. Died in office April 3, 1876.  
 Charles G. Murphy, Coroner, was sworn in April 5, 1876, to May 5, 1876.  
 Charles S. Fornwald, appointed by governor May 5, 1876, to January, 1877.  
 John W. Hoffman assumed office January 1, 1877.  
 Uzal H. Ent assumed office January 5, 1880.  
 John Mourey assumed office January 1, 1883.  
 Samuel Smith assumed office January 4, 1886.

NOTE:—The foregoing list of officials is derived from a History of Columbia County, by J. G. Freeze.

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## CHAPTER IV.

### THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE evolution of a homogeneous and prosperous community out of the various social material first planted in the broken country of the Fishing creek valley, and in the valleys of the Catawissa and Roaring creeks, involved a slow tedious process which they only can fully appreciate, whose lives have touched both extremes. What one has written of the west may with equal truth be applied to the pioneers of the interior of Pennsylvania. "In that span of peaceful days there was no lack of noblest devotion to purpose; indeed the whole story of western settlement is one long tale of struggle and privation, of courage and death. The fallen in this quasi peaceful campaign vastly outnumber the victims of war and count among them regiments of gentle women and defenseless children. Still the drama of life was never more than narrow and local; it was a period full of the sounds of pioneering whose echoes scarcely ever carried beyond the lines of township and county."

The different factors of Columbia county's pioneer society came from widely separated localities; they were led to immigrate by a variety of motives, and varied as much in social prejudices, habits and conditions as in their nationality. The common object of all was the planting of a new home where patient, perse-

vering toil would gain a moderate competence for old age, and provide greater advantages for a growing family. There was no established rule for success in this venture, and the problem presented by the unbroken forest contained new difficulties enough to develop the full individuality of the pioneer. The selection of a home-site was determined largely by accident. The chance acquaintance with one who had bought lands in the "new purchase" for speculation, or the emigration of a neighbor or relative led to the removal of many from the older settlements. Very often the purchase was made before examination of the country; in other cases a careful tour of inspection was made before the removal was decided upon; in many others, the general fever of emigration to newly opened territory seized the head of the family, and with little more consideration, property was disposed of, and with the proceeds of the sale and a few indispensable household articles, the family started toward the land of promise without definite aims.

With the meager facilities for travel, the amount of goods brought was narrowed to the things of pressing necessity. Carts and wagons made tedious progress so far as Sunbury, but beyond that and by other routes, wheeled vehicles were brought forward only with great difficulty. Pack saddles were at first generally used, and these were placed not unfrequently on oxen and cows as well as horses. Those whose location had not been determined by previous purchase were influenced by the settlements already made, and the character of the water and timber found, and many a grievous mistake was thus made. In their old home, a good soil had been found bearing a certain kind of timber, and they naturally sought a similar forest growth as a guarantee of a similar soil, sometimes to be greatly disappointed. The location once made and the family brought forward, the rude shelter was provided. This consisted of the log house for which the timber supplied ample material, and their experience the requisite skill in constructing. It required little aid other than each family could command within itself, to rear this humble structure, but where there were other settlements within a few miles there was no lack of assistance. Neighborhoods extended for miles about, and the accession of numbers was too gladly welcomed to make the earlier inhabitants chary of lending a hand at the cost of what would now be deemed a great inconvenience.

With willing and capable hands the house was erected in a day and occupied on the next. "Setting things to rights" was not a laborious process. A few wooden pegs driven into the logs supplied the scarcely needed conveniences of a wardrobe, and two larger ones over the fire-place furnished the common support for the rifle and powder-horn. The puncheon floor was not unfrequently a luxury afterward provided, as was also the loft flooring, reached by a ladder, but the fire-place was the one feature of the pioneer home that combined the characteristics of usefulness and luxury. It commonly faced the single entrance, was of ample proportions and built of stone, which the region amply provided. Above the general reach of the flame, the throat was constructed of small poles imbedded in mud, and, gradually contracting in dimensions, was carried up to the height of the ridge-pole.

The careful housewife brought "ticks" as well as bed clothing, and these, filled with dry leaves, furnished the bed until the first crop of corn supplied husks to take their place. Besides bedding, indispensable agricultural implements and a few culinary articles, there was only room in the restricted mode of transportation for the women and smaller children. Furniture was therefore lacking until time was had for its manufacture in the woods. This was made from the growing timber with the aid of an ax alone, or at best, with the single

addition of a draw-share. Rough benches supplied the demand for seats, and a higher one sufficed for a table, while the bedstead, a curious fixture of the cabin, was constructed in the corner. It was said to go upon one leg, which to those not initiated in the mysteries of pioneer life seemed an impossible feat, though simple enough when explained. One end of the outer side-rail and the foot-rail found support in the log sides of the cabin, while the ends, which met at right angles, were supported by a post firmly planted in the ground, which constituted the only leg of the bedstead. The foundation for the bed was made of a cord, if the family was so fortunate as to have one, otherwise of deer-hide thongs, layers of bark, etc.

But little support could be expected from the new farm in the first season, and dependence was had upon purchases to be made of the neighbors, whose surplus crops had no other market. The new-comer found no time for idling in the meanwhile, however. Every hand capable of wielding an ax was busily employed, from daylight till dark, in felling the timber, trimming off the limbs, and cutting it into rolling lengths, while the women and children gathered the brush into piles for burning. It was not uncommon for the especially energetic family to carry on this work late into the night, by the light of the burning brush-heaps. The log-rolling was a neighborhood affair, and such was the general demand that for years each settler annually devoted some six weeks to the assistance of his neighbors in return for the aid similarly received.

There was no room for theoretical farming at that day. The grubbing hoe preceded the plow, a great, heavy, wooden implement, with an iron point or coulter. In a soil ramified with undecayed roots, such a tool barely scratched the surface, but such was the fertility of the land that it literally needed but the tickling of the hoe, to laugh with a harvest. For many years the principal object of the settler was to "improve" his property, farming operations being carried on simply as a means of support. In fact, this was the only road to success. There was no market for surplus crops, nor was the rank virgin soil adapted to a variety. Beside a few vegetables, corn alone was cultivated, and constituted the main food supply for both man and beast. It required less care to grow and harvest than any other cereal; it was available for use from the time the kernels were fit to grate; it was readily prepared for use by the crude means possessed by the pioneer, and every part of the crop served a useful purpose.

Ordinarily the support of a frontier family was not a serious question. Each settler brought more or less stock, which found ample support in the forest, and even in the winter scarcely needed the addition of such fodder as the corn crop supplied. Hogs fattened upon the abundant mast, and furnished a nutritious food for the farmer. With plenty of milk, pork and meal, supplemented by the game which stocked the woods, and the profusion of wild fruits, wholesome food was seldom wanting, nor even a touch of luxury. A patch of flax was early sown and formed the basis of the family clothing, and while both sexes joined in the labor of converting the raw material into the finished garment, the greater part of this work fell upon the housewife. The frontier cabin has always been the scene of busy activity. Housekeeping was crowded into the smallest possible space, to give place to the spinning wheel and loom. Every woman took pride in such useful accomplishments as were involved in the preparation of the crude material, the manufacture of the fabric, and the fashioning of the wearing apparel of the whole family. The dress of the settlers was of primitive simplicity. Buckskin entered largely into men's wear, but chief dependence was placed upon the linsey-woolsey, a combination of linen and wool, which was the product of the taste and skill of the women.



Even the footdress was home made, and years elapsed before calico and "cow-hide" ceased to be regarded as an almost unattainable luxury.

The early social duties were of the simplest kind. Feeble settlements gradually expanded in isolated situations where some favoring stream or spring attracted the adventurous pioneer. The necessities of the case brought the community together for mutual assistance, but frontier life was too intensely practical to give place to mere display or sentiment. The sense of isolation and mutual dependence encouraged cordial relations and a hospitality that was not measured by the stock in store. Amusements were allied to useful occupations. Quiltings, wool-pickings and spinning-bees were made up by the women, when the day was given to work and the night to games, the men coming in to share the entertainment and escort their wives and sweethearts home. House-raising, log-rollings and husking bees were occasions when the men, after a hard day's work, would spend the evening with the women invited in. But with all this social activity, society developed in the form of separate and independent communities. For years, the isolated settlements in the county were really farther apart than the east and the west are to-day. The larger social questions had not yet entered to overcome the difficulties of communication and the diffidence of national or educational prejudices.

Perhaps the earliest of these fusing influences was the church. Most of the earlier pioneers had strongly cherished religious affiliations, and were thus brought together in some form of public worship. This bond of sympathy compacted the community, and eventually led to a more extended organization. The standards of that time, it is scarcely necessary to say, were far less exacting than those of a later day, and differed somewhat in different nationalities and different denominations. Many of the customs prevalent, while somewhat modified by the circumstances of a new country, were still easily traceable to the habit and customs inculcated in the father-land, from which the immigrant had come or was derived. The use of liquor as a common beverage was scarcely considered a question of morals, and a minister's account which contained charges for "half a hundred lemons" and "half a gallon of rum and bottles" was not deemed peculiarly significant. To become seriously intoxicated, however, was an offense to good taste, and in the case of a minister, if an old church record may be relied upon, called for an apology.

In 1741, the presbytery of Donegal, Pennsylvania, after trying a pastor for drunkenness rendered the following decision in the case: "We cannot find cause to judge Mr. Lyon guilty of anything like excess in drinking. \* \* \* But inasmuch as his behavior had so many circumstances and symptoms of drunkenness, and inasmuch as he did not make any apology, or allege it to proceed from sickness, we judge that he is censurable: and yet, as we apprehend that the small quantity of liquor which Mr. Lyon drank might produce the above effect, after his coming out of the extreme cold into a warm house near the fire, we do not find sufficient cause to condemn him for drunkenness." Doubtless, a kindred feeling made them wondrous kind. But if in some respects the religious community of that period, the characteristics of which were not wholly lost a half-century later, were remarkably lax when viewed in the light of to-day, in other respects it was sufficiently severe to restore the moral equilibrium. Vanity, slander, and "vacuity of thought" were sharply rebuked. It is related that, in the time when the most prosperous settler aspired to possess nothing better than a hewed-log dwelling, several brothers, who were trained mechanics, conceived the idea of building a two-and-a-half story house of stone. It was a labor of love and prospered in their hands, and as it stood completed, towering above its humbler neighbors, the



simple folk looked upon its strange magnificence with awe, and called it "a palace." The story of its grandeur spread in ever widening circles, attracting people from afar to look upon the new wonder, until the guardians of the public morals became alarmed and determined to discipline the ambitious brothers. Martin was selected as the head and front of the offending, and "having repaired to the humble log cottage hard by the 'stately mansion,' and organized the meeting," the presiding bishop called the offender before the ecclesiastical court. "Martin was first questioned, upon conscience, to openly declare what his intentions were in erecting so large, so gorgeous a dwelling?" He replied that he had "consulted only his own comfort, and that he had no sinister views." He was told, however, that in their view the house was too showy for a Menonite, and the discussion of the court turned upon the question whether the penalty should be severe censure or suspension from church privileges. At length, "after some concessions and mutual forbearance" by the parties, it was resolved "that Martin be kindly reprimanded, to which he submitted. Thus the matter ended, and all parted as brethren."

In 1781 a case is recorded, in which the principals were of the fair sex. One young woman had uttered some spiteful criticism of her social rival; both were highly connected in church circles, and the session was so far embarrassed by this fact, that it felt obliged to refer the matter to the presbytery. A strongly contested trial ensued, but the church tribunal decided that the subject of criticism was of "modest and excellent behavior," that the remarks complained of were "shameful," and therefore ordered that the culprit "present herself before the pulpit and receive a solemn admonition." The penalty was duly inflicted by the moderator of the presbytery, and white-winged Peace once more brooded over the church of Great Conowago. One more of many interesting incidents may be drawn from the same record, in which the Rev. Mr. Lyon again figures before the presbytery. It was at the meeting immediately succeeding the one in which the accused was vindicated against the charge of drunkenness. This time the charge was a graver one, and one "which did not appeal to the sensibilities of his judges. He was accused of whistling on the Sabbath." The evidence does not show that his musical efforts were boisterous, nor that his selections were irreverent, but the presbytery found sufficient evidence to convince its members that the offensive "whistling" indicated a "vacuity of thought and a disposition at variance with the proper spirit of the Lord's day," and the whole matter is closed by the significant entry: "For good and sufficient reasons wholly dropped Mr. Lyon from the ministry."

In all this there is much to excite derisive humor, but let us

"Laugh where we must, be candid where we can."

With all their foibles, the religious element of the pioneer community was a sturdy, honest and steadily-progressive people. It was from such a people that the pioneers of Columbia county were drawn. The slow progress of that period had only slightly modified the idiosyncracies of the fathers in the sons, and the earliest society was thus not an unplanted field, but rather one where a struggling crop sadly in need of cultivation strongly invited the care of the earnest laborer.

In the absence of regular ministers, the Society of Friends were best equipped for establishing public worship, and the presence of a considerable number of this sect at Catawissa led to the founding of a meeting there in 1787, which for twenty years continued to be the rallying point for the denomination in this region. A monthly meeting was established here in 1796, but in

1808 this was removed to Muncy on account of an extensive emigration of the sect from Catawissa. In 1795 a meeting was established in Greenwood, and a year later in Locust. In 1814 a monthly meeting was established at the latter place and is still continued. A meeting was also established in 1800 at Berwick, which continued with gradually diminishing strength until about 1865, when it ceased to have an existence. The Society of Friends was more firmly established, however, in Greenwood, where there are now two well supported meetings. In 1834 the different meetings of the sect in the county were associated in a half-yearly meeting established at Greenwood, and in 1856 the Muncy monthly meeting was transferred thither also. Although the name is retained and occasional meetings held in Locust and Catawissa, the chief activity of the denomination in this county is confined to Greenwood.

The Scotch-Irish were an important element in the pioneer society of the state, and early gave prominence to the Presbyterian denomination, to which they generally belonged. James McClure, who came in 1772, was probably the first representative of this sect in Columbia county, but it was some years later before any organized effort was made to propagate its tenets here. In 1789 this region is mentioned under the name of Fishingcreek, in connection with neighboring localities, as in the presbytery of Carlisle. This presbytery had been formed three years before, but this region probably remained unoccupied until 1792, when the Rev. Mr. Henry was appointed to cultivate the field. Two years later the Rev. John Bryson was sent to this region and became pastor of Warrior's run and Chilliequaque, where he continued to serve for nearly a half century. "In the following year, the Rev. John Porter was commissioned to start from Fishingcreek, and missionate up the river to Wyoming and Tioga Point. The names of the Rev. Benjamin Judd, Rev. Ira Condit, and Mr. William Spear, a licentiate, appear also as appointed, about this period, to missionate along the east branch of the Susquehanna. Revs. Messrs. Andrews and Gray also performed greater or less amounts of missionary labor in this field."\* The first church of this denomination, known as "Briarercreek," was organized in Center township some time prior to 1796, when its first place of worship was erected. In 1817 a second church was organized at Bloomsburg with three members, which immediately set about erecting a commodious church building. A third organization was effected at Berwick in 1827, and others in Orange in 1842; in Greenwood in the following year; in Scott, in 1853; in Sugarloaf, in 1858, which was subsequently moved to Benton; and one, in 1867, at Centralia.

The introduction of Methodism in Columbia county was probably through the immediate instrumentality of Bishop Asbury, the founder of the Methodist Episcopal church in America. It was under his preaching in Northampton county, that the Bowmans were converted. They subsequently removed to the vicinity of Berwick, and it was probably through their representations that the bishop was led to come here. At this time he ordained these earnest men, who subsequently became such a power for good. Other itinerants who found their way here in missionary tours, were Revs. William Colbert, James Paynter, Morris Howe and Robert Burch, but they do not appear to have effected any permanent organization.

"In Briarercreek valley, about four miles distant from Berwick, resided Rev. Thomas Bowman, an ordained local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a man of fervent zeal and persuasive eloquence, who, with his brother, Rev. Christopher Bowman, sowed pure Methodistic seed in all this region of country. In order that his neighbors might have the regular ministrations of the gospel, he fitted up the third story of his dwelling—a stone house

\*Historical Discourse by Rev. David J. Waller.

—as a place of worship, and invited the Methodist itinerants to hold religious service therein. Here, in the year 1805, under the joint ministry of Rev. James Paynter and Joseph Carson, occurred a revival of great power and widespread influence. The country for thirty or forty miles around felt the impulse of this wondrous spirit-baptism. As a direct and immediate result of this religious awakening, a class was organized in Berwick.”\* This point was made a regular appointment in the Wyoming circuit, which extended from Northumberland to Tioga Point. In 1806 it was attached to the Northumberland circuit, where it remained until 1831, when the church work had so spread, that the Berwick circuit was formed, embracing twenty-eight preaching places, of which the following were in this county: Benton, Berwick, Bloomsburg, Buckhorn, Espy, Jerseytown, Lightstreet, Mifflinville and Orangeville. Since then its organizations have multiplied in the county until only two townships have none, while each of the others have from one to five.

The large German immigration which so conspicuously contributed to the settlement of the lower counties of Pennsylvania made its influence felt not only throughout the state, but also in other parts of the nation. The earliest of the Palatine settlers were generally Mennonites, but they formed a center around which German immigrants of all classes and confessions rapidly gathered, extending their settlements into the surrounding country. In 1723 a considerable Lutheran emigration from New York took place, which resulted in the settlements on the Tulpehocken. These were rapidly reinforced by the vast numbers who continued to come from the Palatinate, Wurtemberg, Darmstadt and other parts of Germany. The latter accessions were generally adherents of the Lutheran and Reformed creed, though the former denomination had been well represented before their coming, by the Swede settlers on the east bank of the Delaware, and on the site of Philadelphia.

“Although deprived of the regular ministrations of the sanctuary, large portions of them, who were under the influence of religious principles, remained true to the faith in which they had been reared. They had brought with them from their native land their hymn books, catechisms, and manuals of devotion, which they faithfully read, endeavoring to keep alive in their hearts the spirit of piety, and anticipating a more propitious season, when the means of grace would be adequately provided.” Their circumstances had greatly improved in this respect before the period of Columbia county’s settlement and the German settlers of this region were not long without the visit of earnest missionaries. Among the early Lutheran missionaries were Revs. Seeley, Sherrets, Plitt, Pauls, Kramer and Baughey, who organized churches in 1795 at Catawissa; 1805, in Briarcreek; 1808, in Locust; 1809, in Mifflin; 1810, in Hemlock; and in 1812, in Orange. It is now one of the most flourishing religious denominations in the county and numbers some eighteen organizations.

Rev. Jacob Deiffenbach was the first minister of the Reformed church who systematically and zealously labored for the upbuilding of that denomination here. There were a considerable number of this communion among the early settlers, and a number of itinerants of the church had made occasional visits to this region, but they did not in all cases “walk worthy of their vocation,” and effected little toward the organization of churches among the scattered settlements. Mr. Deiffenbach came to Bloomsburg in 1815; he was in the prime of life and preached at Bloomsburg in Mahoning, Catawissa, Briarcreek, Mifflin, and occasionally in Fishingcreek. His missionary labor extended over the whole extent of the county, and “through him the church in this county was placed on a firm basis and took organic shape, and he may justly

\*From the *Berwick Methodist*, March, 1882.



be regarded as its founder in Columbia county." In 1822 he removed to Espy, and continued to preach until 1824, when he was confined to his bed with consumption to rise no more. He preached only in the German language and is said to have been an excellent singer.

The church interests of this denomination were first associated in the Bloomsburg charge. In this Mr. Deiffenbach was succeeded, in 1829, by Rev. Daniel S. Tobias, who was assisted in 1844, by Mr. Henry Funk, who added a service in English. In 1854 the Rev. W. Goodrich succeeded and served the people faithfully for half a century. At the close of his ministry the charge consisted of six congregations, and by his advice these were divided between two, the Orangeville charge then being erected: the first consisting of the Bloomsburg, Heller's and Catawissa congregations, and the latter made up of the Orangeville, Zion and St. James congregations. Since then the number of congregations has doubled, the church being thus represented in eleven of the twenty-three townships of the county.

Among the New Jersey emigrants to Columbia county were many Episcopalians and Baptists, which led to the early organization of churches of these denominations. The Protestant Episcopal church was the earliest of the two to secure an organized representation in the county, the Rev. Caleb Hopkins being chiefly instrumental in this work. The church at Bloomsburg was founded in 1793, and about 1812 he established another in Sugarloaf. A third organization was effected at Jerseytown very early, but it has since passed away, leaving no record save that it was and is not. In 1860 Rev. E. A. Lightner began to hold services in Catawissa, which resulted in the founding of a church there, and in 1866 the Rev. M. Washburn did a similar work at Centralia. The Baptist denomination was chiefly recruited from English emigrants and organized the first church of their faith in Madison, as early as 1817, through the labors of Revs. Wolverton, Smiley and Coombs. Two years later Revs. Joel Rogers and Elias Dodson organized a second one in Jackson, and about 1841 other churches were founded in Berwick and Bloomsburg. In 1851 an organization of thirty members was made in Center, and in 1886 another, of twelve members, was effected in Centralia.

Some of the old church landmarks of these earlier organizations still remain. There are only three, however, two of which have practically been abandoned, while the third has apparently been outgrown. The most venerable of these links to the forgotten past is the old Quaker meeting-house at Catawissa. It was erected of hewed logs prior to 1787, and in a plain unostentatious way still defies decay. It is now seldom used, and it stands apart, a fit type of the plain, sturdy folk who once gathered there to worship. A similar structure in Locust township bears similar testimony to the honest workmanship and good care of the Friends, who have generally passed away. The third relic of that early day is the "stone church" in Briarcreek, erected in 1808 by the Methodists. It is no longer used for the purposes of worship, but it is still in a good state of preservation and likely to outlive the century.

The other denominations represented in the county are the Church of Christ (Disciples), which organized its first congregation in 1837; the Evangelical Association, originating here in 1848; the Protestant Methodist, in 1860; the United Brethren, in 1866; and the Roman Catholic, about the same time. The latter denomination celebrated mass here as early as 1829, but all services were discontinued here after a time until 1844, when again for a short period services were held. Occasional services were subsequently held until the purchase of the present place of worship, since which they have been regularly held. In 1869 a second organization was formed at Centralia. The present distribution of churches may be gathered from the following table:



TOWNSHIPS.	Friends.	Presbyterian.	Methodist.	Lutheran.	Reformed.	Episcopal.	Baptist.	Disciple.	Evangelical.	Metho. Pro.	U. B.	Catholic.	Total.
Beaver.....				1	1				1				3
Benton.....		1	2					1					4
Bloomsburg.....		1	2	1	1	1	1		1			1	9
Briarcreek.....		1	3	2	1		1		2				10
Catawissa.....	1		2	2	1	1							7
Center.....		1	2	2	1		1		2				9
Conyngham.....		1	1			1	1				1	1	6
Fishingcreek.....			3		2			1					6
Franklin.....			2										2
Greenwood.....	2	1	5	1				2	1				12
Hemlock.....		2	1	1									3
Jackson.....			1				1	1	2				5
Locust.....	1		3	1	1						3		9
Madison.....		1	1	1	1		1						4
Main.....			1	1	1								3
Mifflin.....			1	2	1				1				5
Montour.....			1										1
Mount Pleasant.....			2	1									3
Orange.....		1	2	1	1								5
Pine.....													
Roaringcreek.....			1								1		2
Scott.....		1	3	1					3				8
Sugarloaf.....			2			1		1		1			5
Total	4	8	42	18	12	4	6	6	13	1	5	2	121

Next to the preacher there is no more potent factor in the elevation of society than the secular teacher, and it is greatly to the credit of the early settlers of Columbia county that they were so much alive to the importance of education. Popular education was, in fact, one of the corner-stones upon which the colonial "Frame of Government" was founded. In that instrument, as well as in the "Great Law" enacted in the first year of the province, it was provided that "schools should be established for the education of the young." Under this provision a school was opened in Philadelphia in 1683, at which each pupil was charged a small sum for tuition. In 1698 the Quakers opened a public school in the same city, where children of both sexes and all conditions were received, the rich for a small fee and the poor for nothing. A few years later, a company of German philanthropists, sustained by contributions from religious societies in Europe, established free schools in Philadelphia, and in 1756 had extended their operations to the counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Northampton, and Berks. These schools were well sustained, the pupils being instructed in the German language, and all being admitted who applied. At the same time, the local religious bodies lent their aid to the cause of education and various parochial schools were established, to which, however, access was generally denied to none.

In the constitution of 1790, it was stipulated that the legislature should "provide by law for the establishment of schools throughout the state in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis," and in 1802 an act was passed, and amended in 1804, to provide for the opening of schools throughout the state, where elementary instruction might be received by all children. Those of the well-to-do were required to pay a small sum, but when the returns of the assessors showed that parents were unable to pay the expenses, the county

commissioners were authorized to do so. This law was variously amended at different times, but its operation still fell far short of the results at which the friends of public education aimed. In 1833 it was estimated that less than twenty-four thousand children in the state attended school at public expense, and most of these were taught by very incompetent teachers. "The schools were called 'pauper schools' and were despised by the rich and shunned by the poor; the children were classified as 'pay' and 'pauper' scholars; thus, the law practically separated the poor from the rich, and hence failed; for, in a republic, no system of education which makes a distinction on account of wealth or birth can have the support of the people."

The act of 1834 inaugurated in Pennsylvania what is distinctively known as the "common school system." A society was formed in Philadelphia for the promotion of education in the state, as early as 1827; a committee was set at work corresponding with the leading men in every community and collecting statistics bearing upon this subject, and in this way a union of the most progressive sentiment was effected which resulted in the act referred to. In this the old distinction between pay and pauper scholars was abrogated; all taxable property was brought to the support of the schools, and their local management placed in the hands of a board of six district directors. This advance was not made without strong opposition, and in the following year a strong effort was made to effect the repeal of the act, but under the lead of the Hon. Thaddeus Stevens this effort was defeated. Some two hundred acts of the legislature on the subject of education had preceded the one of 1834, and in 1836 its efficiency was increased by wise amendments, but it has substantially remained unimpaired to this day, the wisdom of which is amply attested by the growing success of the system in the state.

In the common school act, it was provided that each township should be at liberty to adopt its provisions or reject them. This was subsequently found to be unwise, and in 1849 this act was made applicable to every township, but until 1854 its efficacy was greatly hindered by the lack of power to enforce its mandates by the school authorities. This was then remedied, and in 1857 the general superintendency of the schools was separated from the office of the secretary of the commonwealth. In the same year, the normal school law was passed, and has since grown into an important feature of the system. The state is now divided into twelve normal districts, in each of which are institutions primarily devoted to the education of teachers for the common schools. The first to be established under this law was the school at Millersburg, in Lancaster county, for the second district, and recognized, in 1859, by the state authorities. Others thus recognized are at Edinboro, in Erie county, for the twelfth district, in 1861; at Mansfield, Tioga county, for the fifth district, in 1862; at Kutztown, Berks county, for the third district, in 1866; at Bloomsburg, Columbia county, for the sixth district, in 1869; and for the first district, in 1871, at Winchester, in Chester county.

In pioneer times, education in Columbia county was the actual companion of religion. The effort to dispense its blessings was the distinct outgrowth of the enlightened conscience, and found its most earnest and earliest support where public worship found a similar encouragement. The genius of the commonwealth found a congenial home upon the frontier as well as in the older settlements, and the sect which was found earliest established here, became the first patron of the school. The first organized educational effort was probably made at Millville, in 1785, but this progressive sentiment was restricted by no sectarian limits, and primary schools multiplied, in Fishingcreek in 1794, in Benton in 1799, and in the following year at Berwick, and elsewhere in the

county in rapid succession. The itinerant schoolmaster, the knight of the rod and bottle, had little if any place here. The early teachers were generally the younger members of families who had enjoyed more than the ordinary advantages for education, and, at the solicitation of neighbors, devoted a room in their restricted households for school purposes. When more liberal accommodations became necessary, the public school-house gradually supplanted the private school-room. These were erected by donations upon grounds given, with scarcely a single exception, for the joint use of the church and school, and these plats, when still held, are subject to this joint ownership.

The act of 1834 met with some opposition in the county, its opponents contributing in the following year five petitions, having three hundred and forty-four names, for its repeal. This opposition was based upon the mistaken idea that in the general support of schools, one individual was taxed for the especial benefit of another, and, among the Germans, that the tendency of such schools would be to displace their native language, to which they were greatly attached. No report was made by the county of the number accepting or rejecting the provisions of the act at this time, but in 1845 Mifflin and Valley alone were set down in the "non-accepting" list. Since 1854 the character of the common schools has made steady progress, and while there is still ample room for improvement they are not inferior to the average of the state. School-buildings are generally neat and comfortable one-story frame structures in the country, and two-story brick in the boroughs, with generally commodious and pleasant grounds.

Secondary instruction had also an early beginning in Columbia county, the Berwick Academy being the pioneer institution in this movement. It was incorporated June 25, 1839, and was provided with a building in the same year. It received appropriations under the act of 1838, and flourished for a number of years, but was eventually merged in the public school system, its building being torn down in 1872. The Millville High School was established in 1851; became the Greenwood Seminary in 1861, and is still doing a good work. The Orangeville Male and Female Academy was incorporated March 11, 1858; was opened in the following year; was conducted as an orphans' school during 1864-66, when it resumed its former character, and still enjoys a considerable local patronage. The Catawissa Seminary was chartered February 9, 1866. It was founded as an academy as early as 1838, and was fairly successful in its early history; but its career in its more ambitious departure disappointed its projectors, and about 1872 was suspended. The Bloomsburg Literary Institute was chartered in September, 1856. Its origin, however, dates back to 1838, when D. J. Waller, Sr., William Robison, Leonard B. Rupert and others were made a committee, by an informal meeting of the citizens, to provide for increased educational facilities for the community. The project gradually developed until through the influence of the gentlemen named, certain other citizens united in 1856 to form the "Institute." This was finally merged in the normal school, which is now justly the pride of the whole county.

The following table, taken from the state report of 1885, will give a summary of the condition of the common schools:

HISTORY OF COLUMBIA COUNTY.

DISTRICTS.	SCHS.		TEACHERS.		SCHOLARS.			TAX AND RATE PER CENT.		RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURES.			RESOURCES & LIABILITIES.		No. of district.			
	Whole number.	Average No. months taught.	Number of males.	Number of females.	Number of males.	Number of females.	Average percent. of attendance.	Cost per month.	Number of mills levied for school purposes.	Number of mills levied for building purposes.	Total amount of tax levied for school and building purposes	State appropriation.	From State and all other sources.	Total receipts.	Cost of school houses, purchasing, building, renting, etc.	Teachers' Wages.		Fuel, contingencies, fees of collectors, and all other expenses.	Total expenditures.	Resources.
1. Beaver.....	7	5	177	140	180	77	73	8	6	\$19.63	\$219.00	\$2,221.49	\$2,410.49	\$1,073.61	\$1,050.00	\$966.95	\$2,190.49	\$249.02	\$37.66	1
2. Benton.....	8	6	149	140	191	81	73	5	2	1.073	252.65	1,256.23	1,508.88	96.95	1,158.89	3,40.12	1,466.26	2,219.02	218.72	2
3. Berwick.....	10	8	295	269	421	91	81	0	2	1.701	540.80	5,562.18	6,102.98	397.60	3,254.88	2,375.95	6,027.83	2,719.62	218.72	3
4. Brantford.....	10	8	363	358	358	90	99	0	2	1.439	957.90	6,970.58	7,788.54	357.71	4,558.64	2,990.75	7,966.10	146.98	2,719.62	4
5. Brantreeck.....	9	7	275	259	326	85	90	0	2	1.433	558.10	1,710.46	2,480.21	315.22	1,359.01	1,568.01	2,533.28	146.98	2,719.62	5
6. Catawissa.....	10	8	325	281	379	84	80	0	2	1.433	490.50	3,374.53	3,773.36	381.07	2,100.00	1,291.90	3,967.67	146.98	2,719.62	6
7. Centre.....	6	10	289	281	279	74	40	3	2	1.401	340.35	2,236.26	2,497.21	659.74	1,300.00	1,291.90	2,497.21	146.98	2,719.62	7
8. Centre.....	9	5	161	141	222	87	74	3	2	1.401	482.50	8,558.25	9,010.75	1,579.11	1,300.00	1,271.17	8,575.26	2,690.27	2,690.27	8
9. Conyngham.....	11	10	377	427	456	79	74	3	2	1.643	821.94	2,217.10	2,559.04	340.00	1,404.00	1,879.62	2,633.62	84.58	2,690.27	9
10. Fishingcreek.....	9	6	313	170	249	81	77	6	2	1.256	98.96	770.41	869.37	10.69	720.00	139.58	870.37	1.00	2,690.27	10
11. Fishingcreek.....	9	6	307	221	320	81	72	6	2	1.256	355.75	3,353.68	3,111.43	465.00	1,855.45	600.46	3,001.91	214.74	2,690.27	11
12. Fishingcreek.....	12	5	107	92	120	81	72	6	2	1.256	355.75	3,353.68	3,111.43	465.00	1,855.45	600.46	3,001.91	214.74	2,690.27	12
13. Greenbnd.....	12	5	109	113	184	61	76	6	2	1.039	430.00	1,651.78	1,863.58	769.40	1,375.00	247.79	1,172.79	1,375.00	825.81	13
14. Jackson.....	4	5	89	91	98	80	53	8	2	1.039	430.00	1,651.78	1,863.58	769.40	1,375.00	247.79	1,172.79	1,375.00	825.81	14
15. Locust.....	4	5	805	352	375	80	86	6	2	2.270	421.65	2,928.49	2,720.11	103.48	1,950.00	642.95	4,696.38	68.76	2,690.27	15
16. Madison.....	9	5	119	139	227	80	86	6	2	1.447	214.63	1,559.64	1,765.21	39.18	1,125.00	212.90	1,407.08	37.61	2,690.27	16
17. Madison.....	9	5	112	85	131	79	83	6	4	1.897	229.80	2,176.78	2,322.90	340.00	1,145.00	1,291.90	2,752.93	37.61	2,690.27	17
18. Mifflin.....	1	2	146	122	171	77	95	5	4	2.160	125.26	2,716.94	2,952.01	340.00	1,145.00	1,291.90	2,752.93	37.61	2,690.27	18
19. Mifflin.....	1	2	146	109	169	81	85	5	4	2.160	125.26	2,716.94	2,952.01	340.00	1,145.00	1,291.90	2,752.93	37.61	2,690.27	19
20. Mr. Pleasant.....	1	2	111	198	167	82	62	5	1	1.018	136.06	1,258.06	1,325.65	51.97	700.00	186.01	937.98	39.07	2,690.27	20
21. Orange.....	4	3	116	130	151	73	76	12	5	1.532	180.80	1,190.00	1,370.40	363.24	875.00	233.32	1,163.29	46.00	2,690.27	21
22. Pine.....	3	5	116	130	151	73	76	12	5	1.532	180.80	1,190.00	1,370.40	363.24	875.00	233.32	1,163.29	46.00	2,690.27	22
23. Roaringcreek.....	3	5	91	69	99	79	71	7	3	2.212	98.86	5,91.41	6,60.27	17.84	525.00	126.73	6,69.07	21.20	2,690.27	23
24. Seod.....	3	5	180	268	346	84	91	4	3	2.212	332.93	2,906.52	2,629.59	477.39	1,330.00	1,377.60	2,614.90	80.49	2,690.27	24
25. Sugar Loaf.....	1	5	137	128	185	85	47	8	2	1.569	180.89	492.41	673.24	1,412.95	560.00	852.95	1,412.95	80.49	2,690.27	25
	196	6.03	97	124	\$84.05	\$27.64	4,602	4,187	5,900	81	\$7,161.00	\$60,563.95	\$67,724.92	\$9,078.40	\$89,298.92	\$8,092.15	\$60,469.47	\$2,340.33	\$26,445.06	

DISTRICTS.





*Mr. Neal*  

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*3*



From the same report it is ascertained in regard to the schools that the

Number in which the books are uniform is.....	160
“ “ “ “ bible is read is.....	127
“ “ “ drawing is taught is.....	29
“ “ “ vocal music is taught is.....	1
“ “ “ any of the higher branches are taught is.....	8
“ of males employed is.....	94
“ “ females “ “.....	106
“ who have had no experience is.....	29
“ “ “ taught less than one year is.....	4
“ “ “ more “ five years is.....	56
“ “ intend to make teaching a permanent business is.....	75
“ who have attended a state normal school is.....	77
“ “ “ been graduated by a state normal school is.....	31

The county superintendents who have served Columbia county under the law of 1854 are as follows:

- Joel E. Bradley, elected June 5, 1854.
- Reuben W. Weaver, appointed January 1, 1855.
- William Burgess, elected May 4, 1857.
- Lewis Appleman, elected May 7, 1860.
- William Burgess, appointed October 23, 1861.
- John B. Patton, appointed March 31, 1863.
- C. G. Barkley, elected May 4, 1863.
- C. G. Barkley, re-elected May 1, 1866.
- C. G. Barkley, re-elected May 4, 1869.
- William H. Snyder, elected May 7, 1872.
- William H. Snyder, re-elected May 4, 1875.
- William H. Snyder, re-elected May 7, 1878.
- J. S. Grimes, elected May 3, 1881.
- J. S. Grimes, re-elected May 6, 1884.

Parallel with this religious and intellectual growth was a material development which made the former possible, and without which society would have remained isolated fragments jealously retarding, rather than unitedly reaching higher achievements. These influences served to compact and elevate the community in which they were supported, but there was needed something more to bring the separated settlements into closer relations, to build up a broader fellowship than that presented by sectarian limits, and afford incitement to the best use of the intelligence possessed and to be acquired: The demands of pioneer life, however, had the opposite tendency. The stern necessity which made every man the architect of his own fortune, rendered self-dependence an essential qualification for success. For years frontier life was a hand-to-hand struggle for existence, which left the pioneer little time to consider any broader interest than the support of his own family. Public improvements were thus held in abeyance until the farm was so far cleared and cultivated as to demand a market for its surplus yield. With surplus crops came those pioneer industries which relieved the family of some of the heavy work which an enforced economy had imposed upon it—a service, for which the farmer was glad to exchange his otherwise unmarketable product. Thus grist-mills, saw-mills, carding machines, fulling-mills and whisky-stills, gradually found a place in almost every community.

The erection of these adjuncts of pioneer life led to the construction of roads by which they could be reached. These were at first only bridle trails, and it was not until the era of stage lines that they were improved so as to afford a passage for wheeled vehicles. As the crops became diversified, and the circumstances of the community improved, the more enterprising began to

reach out for a better market. This was to be found only at Reading, Easton and Philadelphia. The latter offered the best advantages, and as early as 1787 a road was laid out from Berwick to Easton, from whence the Delaware offered the best means of transportation. It was by this tedious route that the foreign traffic of the county was carried on for years; but as the community grew in numbers, and the number of settlements increased, the road to Reading was improved, and traffic found its way direct to Philadelphia by this route. This traffic was simply a system of barter, and was at first carried on by the individual farmer or by several neighbors who clubbed together to secure a year's supply of such things as the frontier farms did not readily supply. Out of such ventures the first stores originated almost by accident. It is related that John Funston, who was an early settler near Jerseytown, was thus in the habit of disposing of his wheat. It was his son Tommy's business to do the marketing, and on one trip it occurred to him to purchase a half-dozen wool hats to bring back. The old gentleman was somewhat surprised to see this strange invoice, but they found such ready sale among his neighbors, that on the next trip, he said: "Tommy, bring some more." The young merchant improved on his father's advice, and not only brought back some more hats, but invested the whole proceeds of his load in a varied supply of those things most in demand on the frontier. It was thus that one of the earliest stores in the county began, and others were not slow to follow his example.

The Susquehanna river very early suggested the most eligible mode of transportation, and the river traffic rapidly grew to large proportions. At Marietta, York-Haven and Columbia there were extensive saw-mills, and vast quantities of timber were rafted from this region to find a market at these places. As the product of these frontier settlements increased, the "Durham boat" was brought into requisition. These were rude flat-boats first made at Durham, below Easton on the Delaware river. Down stream they floated with the current, but the upward voyage was made by "poling" and "cordelling." These were laden for the Baltimore market, and were frequently broken up at the end of their journey, and sold for what the lumber was worth. The volume of this business suggested the establishment of better communications with this upper country, and in 1826 two steamboats were built by Baltimore capitalists to develop the trade so laboriously begun. This venture, however, terminated disastrously and the enterprise was abandoned. Other means of turning the water-way to the advantage of commerce had been agitated and discussed. It had been proposed to construct a series of dams across the river and thus make it available throughout the year, but this suggestion never got beyond the theoretical stage of development. The movement for the construction of a canal along its course supplanted it, and in 1826 its construction was begun in Columbia county. This was a branch or extension of the Pennsylvania canal which began at Harrisburg, where it connected with the Union canal, begun in 1791, but not completed until 1829. The North Branch canal was completed in 1830, and in the following year the first boat passed along its course.

The canal system was of inestimable value to the commonwealth, and infused new vigor in every community located on its route, but there were regions inaccessible to this mode of transportation, the mineral wealth of which demanded equal facilities for shipment. It was out of this demand that the first railroad grew, and Pennsylvania shares with Massachusetts the honor of inaugurating a system to which the nation so largely owes its phenomenal development. The first railroad in Pennsylvania was completed in 1827, from Mauch Chunk to Summit Hill, but Christian Brobst, of Catawissa, had five years earlier taken a broader view of the usefulness of the railroad. He was a



man of limited school training, but nature had endowed him with rare foresight and reasoning powers of a high order. It is said that the number of rafts floating down the river first attracted his attention, and anxious to build up the place of his residence, he began to reckon the advantage which would accrue if all this traffic could be made to pass through Catawissa to its final destination. He took accurate account of the river traffic and compiled statistics and arguments which commanded the attention of capitalists. His energy did not cease with this, however. Once assured of the advantage of a railroad he proceeded to demonstrate its practicability. He was not able to buy the necessary instruments for making the survey, much less to employ an engineer, but with some knowledge of the methods employed, gained by observation, by his own ingenuity he equipped himself for the work and ran out a practical line for the proposed road. Mr. Brobst possessed a "Jacob's staff." He had a tin tube of proper dimensions made, into the upper side of which he made small holes at either end. In these he inserted small glass vials "puttied" fast, which, when half filled with water, enabled him to level his instrument. With this crude instrument he located and leveled a line which was considered by engineers subsequently employed a marvel of accuracy. His engineering skill did not enable him to get a practical route over the mountain, and the apparent necessity for an expensive tunnel balked his plans for the time. The projected road extended from Catawissa to Tamaqua. In 1825 he got certain capitalists to view the proposed route, which made such a favorable impression on them that, in 1831, a company for the construction of the road was chartered. In the meantime he had enlisted the co-operation of Joseph Paxton, who was better fitted to deal with monied men, and in 1854, after overcoming great difficulties and discouragements, the first passenger train was greeted at Catawissa. It is now operated by the Philadelphia & Reading Company.

In the meanwhile a second railroad was projected. Bloomsburg's future had been assured, and the canal had come to be looked upon as too slow. In 1852, therefore, William McKelvey, Charles R. Paxton, Morrison E. Jackson, John K. Groetz, of Columbia county, with others, were authorized to receive subscriptions of stocks and organized a company to construct a railroad from Lackawanna creek to Bloomsburg. Its route was projected from "the village of Scranton in the county of Luzerne," through the village of New Troy, Kingston and Berwick to Bloomsburg, with the privilege of extending it to Danville. Its authorized capital stock was \$900,000, but Columbia was not a wealthy region, the undertaking grew on the company's hands, and in 1853 the company sought and received authority to increase the capital stock by an amount not to exceed \$500,000, to borrow a sum not to exceed \$100,000, and to extend its route to connect with the Pennsylvania & Erie railroad or Susquehanna railroad at Sunbury, or at any other point in Northumberland or Lycoming counties. On January 1, 1858, the first train rolled into Rupert. At this point connection was made with the Catawissa road, and for about two years this was the lower terminus of the road. In 1859 the company was authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding \$400,000 to construct, complete and equip the extension to Sunbury. Northumberland was made its terminus, however, and is now operated by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Company.

By an act passed April 15, 1859, Hendrick B. Wright, George M. Hollenback and others of West Pittston, and Ralph Lcoe, Simon P. Case and others of Montour county were authorized to receive subscriptions, and organized a company under the name of the "Wilkesbarre & Pittston" railroad. Its route was projected from the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg road, above Pittston, along

and near the Susquehanna river, on the east side to Danville or Sunbury. It was required that the line between Pittston and Shickshinny should be first constructed, but in 1867 it was provided by a supplementary act that construction might be commenced at any point on the line, and the name of the company changed to Danville, Hazleton & Wilkesbarre Railroad Company. It was not finally opened until 1872, when it extended from Sunbury to Tomhicken. It was subsequently sold and reorganized as the Sunbury, Hazleton & Wilkesbarre Railroad Company, and is now controlled by the Pennsylvania company. It is forty miles long and does a good coal traffic.

The latest completed railroad through Columbia county, like the first, is of home origin, but unlike the first it was carried through to successful operation by the energy, skill and resources of one man. Before the construction of the North & West Branch railroad the Laekawanna & Bloomsburg road had a monopoly of the greater part of the traffic in the county, and by its extortionate charges proved a great obstacle to its development. The people seemed powerless until D. J. Waller, single-handed, showed the way for relief. He had decided in his own mind that competition was the only effective remedy, and he relates that as he lay in his bed at night and heard the puffing of the struggling engines, the thought occurred to him that the formation of the valley indicated the other side of the river as the true route for a successful railroad. Upon his own responsibility he had a line surveyed on the south side of the river, and demonstrated the truth of his idea. The result was that in 1871 a charter was granted to himself, William Neal, James Masters, John J. McHenry, D. H. Montgomery and Robt. F. Clark to organize a company to construct a railroad from Wilkesbarre along the south side of the Susquehanna to a point opposite Bloomsburg, and thence by a bridge over the river and by the valley of little Fishing creek to Williamsport, with authority to construct a branch up big Fishing creek to connect with any railroad existing or projected in Sullivan county. The plan was a far-sighted one, and in many ways still looks to the future for its fullest fruition. The road has been extended to Catawissa, and connects with the Sunbury, Hazleton & Wilkesbarre road at that point, and is operated by the Pennsylvania company. Its immediate results were most happy, and have done more to bring the advantages of the railroads to the benefit of the people than all the other railroad enterprises combined.

The Bloomsburg & Sullivan railroad, projected up the valley of the big Fishing creek from Bloomsburg, with the other terminal point still undecided, is now in course of construction. The Wilkesbarre & Western railroad is another line now in process of construction, and is projected from Wilkesbarre to Watsonstown, but its course is not yet unalterably fixed.

The effect of improved transportation upon the development of the county has been marked. In fact, the year 1860 marks the beginning of a new era in the history of both town and country, the course of which has been one of steady improvement. Improved methods of agriculture have been entertained, public improvements have been encouraged, varied manufactures have been introduced and placed upon a paying basis, and progressive thought has been manifested in all the higher social activities. There is undoubted promise of further development in these directions in the future. With an abundant supply of excellent water, cheap fuel, and increasing shipping facilities, manufacturing interests must certainly continue to thrive. The county as a whole, however, will continue to be predominantly agricultural in its character, but the impetus which an extensive manufacturing center at the county-seat would give to this industry, would greatly stimulate the interest already awakened in the best methods of farming.

A good evidence of the growing intelligence of the farming community is the interest taken in the different agricultural societies in the county. On December 8, 1868, a charter was granted to the "Columbia County Agricultural, Horticultural and Mechanical Association," on the application of B. F. Hartman, James Masters, William G. Shoemaker, Caleb Barton, Matthias Hartman, Jacob Harris, J. K. Ikeler, N. J. Sloan, Paleman John, E. R. Ikeler, C. G. Barkley, Joshua Fetterman, Thomas Creveling and Joseph P. Conner. The name was suggested by John Taggart. In 1885 the charter was so amended as to provide for perpetual membership; to remove the restriction to the authorized amount of receipts; and to empower the association to hold real-estate by purchase or lease.

In the summer of 1855 Mr. John Taggart visited a country fair in the northern part of the state, and was so impressed with the benefit to be derived from such an exhibition by the whole community, that on his return he began to agitate the question of securing a similar institution for this county. He was successful in interesting a number of gentlemen in the movement, among whom were John Ramsey, B. F. Hartman, Caleb Barton, William Neal and I. W. Hartman. A consultation was eventually held by these gentlemen in Mr. Neal's office, where it was decided to inaugurate a fair. Personal solicitation was made for exhibits of vegetables, fruits, farm products, etc., and after great effort sufficient were secured to warrant the opening of a "fair." The only exhibit of agricultural machinery was a grain-drill which Mr. Barton had used for several seasons, but the whole made a good beginning. The fair was held in Mr. Barton's field at the foot of Second street, and the public road was used for the race course. The "grounds" were inclosed by a common rail fence, the admission fee was ten cents, and nearly the entire gate receipts were required to maintain the police service. There was sufficient left, however, to pay two dollars to B. F. Hartman, who was awarded the first premium upon a single driving horse entered. A fair attendance, with the general satisfaction manifested, encouraged the projectors of the enterprise and gave them good ground for mutual congratulation.

A second fair was held in the following year in the field of Mr. Sloan, which now lies on the south side of Fifth and the west side of Market street. This exhibition was characterized by a marked improvement in the number and quality of the exhibits, the number in attendance and the financial returns. The third fair was held in grounds situated on Fifth street, between Market and East streets, and the fourth, on the grounds now used in the southwestern portion of Bloomsburg. This property was then leased at ten dollars per acre, and annual exhibitions have since been held here without interruption. In 1884 the race track was increased to a half mile in length, and the association admitted to membership in the National Trotting Association, and has since renewed its membership from year to year. In the summer of 1886 a new exhibition hall, fifty by three hundred feet, was erected, which, with ample stabling for horses and cattle and pens for smaller animals, render the equipment of the grounds superior to those owned by most of the local associations in this part of the state.

During the first three years of this movement, each one interested worked upon his own plan. Lumber merchants in town loaned material for the erection of sheds, etc., which were torn down after the exhibition, but after the organization, in 1858, some discipline was introduced into its methods. Since then the enterprise has steadily gained favor with the people, and the character of the exhibitions has steadily improved. The association is conducted on strictly business principles. It neither pays dividends nor levies assessments,



the surplus going to make improvements in the grounds or to increase the premiums, every one of which, that has been earned, having been promptly paid. The original officers of the association were John Ramsey, president; Andrew Madison, secretary; Elias Mendenhall, treasurer. The present officers are: president, Samuel Camp; vice presidents, William Shaffer, J. M. DeWitt, Baltis Sterling, Jere Kostenbauder; treasurer, J. C. Brown; secretary, H. V. White; librarian, Thomas Webb; executive committee, James P. Freas, John Appleman, Dr. A. P. Heller; auditors, K. C. Ent, J. P. Sands, George Conner; chief marshal, Capt. U. H. Ent.

The "Northern Columbia and Southern Luzerne Agricultural Association" was chartered on February 16, 1884, and held its first fair in the last week of September, in that year. Its grounds are situated in the southwestern suburbs of Berwick, a village centrally located in the region to which it looks for support. Thus far it has been successful in its exhibitions, and in its financial returns. Its career has not yet demonstrated its probable future, but if supported by the adjoining county it will undoubtedly prove beneficial to the farming community at large. The "Benton Agricultural Association" received its charter on October 3, 1885, and has held two fairs which give it promise of future success. It is questionable whether more than one fair can be profitably supported in a county of the size of Columbia, but if these different associations are the outgrowth of the enthusiasm of the farming community, and not simply of the enterprise of energetic individuals, they cannot fail to produce lasting benefit.

In all this progress the public press has borne its part of responsibility and labor, and there is no more powerful agency in stimulating progressive tendencies in a community than the newspaper. Since 1818 it has been a prominent social factor in Columbia county. On Saturday, May 2d, of this year, Mr. William Carothers issued the first number of the Berwick Independent American. A few of the earliest numbers were published in Nescopeck, but the establishment was then moved across the river and was subsequently identified with Columbia county. In 1823 David Owen, son of the founder of Berwick, came into possession of the paper, and with the change of proprietor came a change in the name, the heading losing its "independent" characteristic. Orlando Porter soon succeeded to the ownership of the paper, but at the end of the year the issue of the Berwick American ceased. The materials of the office were sold to George Mack, who on March 13, 1824, issued the first number of the Columbia Gazette. He subsequently changed the name to Berwick Gazette, and on September 18, 1830, sold an interest in the paper to John T. Davis, who subsequently became sole proprietor.

Some time in 1834, Evan O. Jackson began the publication of the Berwick Argus, and the two papers maintained an existence until March, 1837, when Messrs. J. F. Wilber and P. S. Joslin purchased and consolidated them in the Berwick Sentinel. In the early part of the year 1838, Levi L. Tate became editor and proprietor of this publication; two years later A. M. Gange were became associated in the business, but in 1843 this relation was dissolved. With this change, the Sentinel seems to have been relieved, and The Enquirer put in its place. In 1845 B. S. Gilmore was associated in the ownership of the paper and took editorial charge, Mr. Tate going to Wilkesbarre to establish a paper there. Two years later, Mr. Gilmore became sole proprietor and continued its publication until the spring of 1849 when the county-seat having been removed to Bloomsburg, Mr. Gilmore removed his office to that place, and began the issue of a new paper.

About a year after Mr. Wilber sold the Sentinel, and in company with Moses



Davis, he began the publication of a small eight-paged paper, called the Independent Ledger. It continued a little more than a year, when it changed its name to the Conservator, with John T. Davis as editor and proprietor. This paper continued through the "Hard Cider" campaign of 1840, and then hid its diminished light in obscurity.

In 1843, on the dissolution of the firm of Tate and Gangewere, the latter established the Star of the North, and published it about a year when he sold the office and publication to U. J. Jones and John H. Winter. The new proprietors continued its publication until 1848, when they disposed of it to De-witt C. Kitchen, who changed the name to The Standard. In 1850 it again changed owner and name, when it became the Telegraph, edited by John M. Snyder. In 1851 James McClintock Laird purchased it, and changed the name to The Berwick Citizen, which was published until 1853, when it was suspended, and the outfit sold.

The Investigator was founded in the same year by Stewart Pearce and John M. Snyder. Mr. Pearce retired at the end of a month, but Mr. Snyder continued the publication until the spring of 1855, when Levi L. Tate became its purchaser. The name was changed to the Berwick Gazette, with Tate and Irwin as publishers. In 1856 Walter H. Hibbs purchased the paper, and in the following year he was succeeded by A. B. Tate, who published it until 1860, when Jeremiah S. Sanders bought the paper. The latter published the paper at Berwick until 1869, when it was suspended, and the material removed to Hazleton.

For some three years Berwick remained without an "organ." In June, 1871, however, the Snyders ventured again to establish a paper, which they called the Berwick Independent. It started out with an imposing array of editorial talent, Charles B. Snyder acting as managing editor, Frank L. Snyder as assistant, J. M. Snyder as city editor, and so continued until September 1, 1879, when Robert S. Bowman purchased the paper. Mr. Bowman, having decided in early life to become a disciple of Johann Faust, entered, when eighteen years of age, the office of the Republican, at Bloomsburg, where he served an apprenticeship of three years, then returned to Berwick and bought out the Independent.

In March, 1882, the Berwick Gazette, the third paper to appropriate the name, was established by J. H. Dietrick. On January 1, 1884, he sold the establishment to M. B. Margerum, who in September of the following year associated H. R. Reedy with himself, and the paper is still published by the firm of Margerum & Reedy.

In Bloomsburg the first paper was published considerably later than in Berwick. This was the Bloomsburg Register, which made its first appearance under date of October 5, 1826, with James Delavan as editor and proprietor. In April, 1828, Thomas Painter purchased the paper and changed the name to Columbia County Register. This paper continued in existence until 1844, when it was discontinued. In 1837 the Columbia Democrat was established by John S. Ingrain, with whom F. S. Mills was early associated. In 1838 the paper was sold to Henry Webb, who conducted it until 1847, when it passed into the possession of L. L. Tate. Mr. Tate retained the paper until 1866, when he sold it to E. R. Ikeler. In the meantime, the Star of the North had been founded here. In 1849 B. S. Gilmore suspended the publication of the Enquirer at Berwick, and removed the material to Bloomsburg, where, in company with R. W. Weaver, he founded the Star of the North. Gilmore retired from the management in 1850, but Mr. Weaver continued it until his death some seven years later. It was subsequently sold to W. H. Jacoby, who conducted it until the fall of 1862, when he went into the army. It was then sus-

pended until August, 1863. when he returned and resumed its publication. It was thus conducted until February, 1866, when E. R. Ikeler, having purchased both the Columbia Democrat and the Star of the North, consolidated these papers under the name of the Democrat and Star.

On May 5, 1866, the first number of the Columbian was issued as the organ of the "Johnson republicans," under the management of George H. Moore. During the campaign of 1866 a half sheet publication called the "Campaign" was issued by S. H. Miller & Co., and edited by E. H. Little as an organ of a certain political following. It was of only a temporary nature, but it indicated that the "organ" of the Johnsonian republicans did not satisfy their tastes, and as there were probably too few "J.r's" in the community to support the paper, after issuing thirty-five numbers, a company of democrats purchased it and placed J. G. Freeze in the editorial chair. A fresh start was made, and it was editorially announced that it would hereafter support the "Jeffersonian school of politics." Some six weeks later C. B. Brockway became associated in the business, and eventually bought up the stock and took entire charge and ownership of the paper. On the 1st of January, 1869, he bought the Bloomsburg Democrat and consolidated it with his own, under the name of Columbian and Democrat. The Democrat was the descendant of, or rather the Democrat and Star with a new name and editor. After conducting the latter some seven months, Mr. Ikeler had sold his interest to J. P. Sherman and W. H. Jacoby; Sherman had published the paper until January, 1867. Mr. Sherman then retired and Mr. Jacoby, choosing a new name, continued its publication until he sold out to Mr. Brockway. On the 1st of January, 1871, H. L. Dieffenbach bought the Columbian Democrat and published it a year, when Mr. Brockway resumed control. In July, 1873, Mr. Dieffenbach again took charge of the paper, but on October 1, 1875, Mr. Brockway and George E. Elwell purchased the paper. They conducted the paper until October 1, 1875, when Mr. Brockway gave place to J. K. Bittenbender. Since then Messrs. Elwell & Bittenbender have published the paper with increasing success.

The Democratic Sentinel was founded in Bloomsburg in 1871, by Charles M. Vanderslice, and conducted by him with some success until 1885, when William Krickbaum purchased it.

The Columbia County Republican was established March 1, 1857, by Palemon John, who conducted it until 1869, when it passed into the hands of a stock company, with W. H. Bradley as editor. The paper was subsequently purchased by Mr. Bradley and Lewis Gordon, but in 1871 it was sold to D. A. Beckley and John S. Phillips, the former acting as editor. In 1873 E. M. Wardin bought the interest of Phillips, and soon afterward became sole proprietor. On August 1, 1875, James C. Brown purchased the paper from Mr. Wardin, and has since conducted it.

Other periodicals of transient character have had a brief existence here. Of these, the Bloomsburg Journal was founded by G. A. Potter in 1876. It was intended as an expositor of the temperance question, and beginning as a five-column folio, it expanded in 1881, to a quarto of twelve pages and finally reached sixteen pages. In September, 1882, Jacob Schuyler became half owner of the paper, which was reduced to a folio form, and in 1885 was moved to Wilkesbarre, where it was merged into the Watch Fire. The Herald of Freedom was a short-lived advocate of the freesoil doctrine, and had an existence here in the transition period preceding the civil war. The Sun was an ambitious venture in daily journalism. It was published in 1881, by A. B. Tate and W. H. Kahler, but was suspended after some eighty issues.

In January, 1870, the Christian Messenger, a monthly periodical of twenty-

four pages was founded by E. E. Orris. In 1872 its title was changed to the Messenger and Laborer, the number of its pages increased to thirty-two, and D. Oliphant added to the editorial staff. In January, 1875, this publication was changed to a four-page, twenty-four column weekly, and in the following October the publication office moved to Orangeville. In December, Oliphant retired, and the paper was discontinued. In the meantime W. H. Smith, in company with Orris, began the publication of the Independent Weekly at Benton. Its first issue appeared April 1, 1874; in October, 1875, it migrated with the monthly to Orangeville, where Smith and Orris dissolved partnership. On the first of April, 1876, the Independent Weekly, which was then conducted by Smith alone, returned to Benton, where it was published until September, 1877. It was then removed to Milton, where it has since remained, and is now published under the name of the Argus.

In Catawissa the first newspaper enterprise was inaugurated in the spring of 1876, when the Catawissa Advertiser was published by Harry John and Joseph Rinard. The Advertiser did not survive to the end of its first volume, although it offered a new feature in the way of an original serial by "Virginia." It would be cruel to suggest that this mark of enterprise may be the cause of the fatal result, but whatever the cause, like the early riser to whom the poet Hood refers, it "died young." The News-Item is the second venture in Catawissa journalism, and is a bright local newspaper. Its first issue appeared on May 16, 1878, and was a five-column folio. In the spring of 1879 it was increased to twenty-four columns, and in 1881 to twenty-eight columns. It is a sprightly paper, devoted to the interests of its home town, and enjoys a merited prosperity.

The long array of names in the above recital would naturally indicate to the casual reader a wonderful activity in newspaper enterprises here, but such a conclusion would be somewhat modified by the fact, which examination would develop, that there were only nineteen distinct ventures. But this number, on account of the size and character of Columbia is sufficient to excite inquiry. The fact that Berwick was at that early date the most important interior village of the county, and that its situation on the most important turnpike of that day promised to maintain its prominence in the future, probably led to the early founding of a newspaper there. It is not probable that its projectors had any idea of forcing the growth of the village, as the modern belief in the efficacy of the newspaper in this direction was not then developed, but such an enterprise was then a feature in all the large boroughs, and it was hoped that the natural growth of the village would bear the venture on to fortune and success.

The early newspaper was really the people's forum. Editorials had little or no space in them. Its news columns were devoted to foreign affairs, many weeks and sometimes months old, and the congressional proceedings. The miscellany consisted of stories and poetry, the original production of which was encouraged by the admission of every such contribution offered. But the most highly prized privilege accorded to the public was the liberal space granted to all comers for exhaustive and unrestricted discussion of every conceivable topic. Governmental affairs and policies constituted the most favored themes, but unlike the light-armed fusilade of modern newspaper criticism, the discussions of that day had in them the shock of armies, the crushing force of the battle-ax, and the crash of missiles hurled from a catapult. The proscription against articles not responsibly endorsed had not then been inaugurated, and vicious personal attacks were then universally tolerated which would now properly bring down upon the offender condign punishment. But with all these objectionable



features, these old-time, polemic contributions were characterized by a remarkable knowledge of the constitutional history of the country, and were graced with classical quotations and allusions that would do credit to a modern professor of languages. It is said that the citizens of the United States are not at this day, with all their superior advantages of education, as thoroughly versed in the principles of their government, and as well qualified to perform their duties as citizens, as they were fifty years ago. If this be true, it may be found that in refining away certain crudities of taste and inelegancies of manner, some vigor of intellect has been lost.

It was not until the period of Jackson's first administration that country papers generally began the development which has made the newspaper a so conspicuous element in society, and it is to this development that may be largely attributed the frequent changes in the name and owner that have occurred in the different papers of the county. Until this time, while the prevailing sentiment of the region now embraced within the limits of Columbia county was undoubtedly in favor of the principles supported by the democratic party in politics, the only papers at Berwick and Bloomsburg, so far as they had a political individuality were supporters of whig principles. It was probably not until 1832, that the Gazette, at Berwick, came actively to the support of the democratic faith, and it was five years later when the first paper was established in Bloomsburg to advocate similar political doctrines. From this time forward it has been considered a party necessity to have a regular exponent of its principles, and whenever the vicissitudes of business have extinguished the political beacon, or a heterodox editor has come into possession of a recognized "organ," successful efforts have at once been made to repair the loss.

Viewed from the standpoint of the newspaper, the democratic party in Columbia early achieved an embarrassing success. With the suspension of The Conservator, of Berwick, in 1840, and the Columbia County Register, of Bloomsburg, in 1844, began a period of twenty-five years in which no opposition "organ" (save The Standard for a brief period at Berwick, 1848-50) was published in the county. Such a condition of things invited competition, and democratic expositors were multiplied, which divided the party scarcely less than the business. Consolidations have three times been resorted to in this county only to find a new rival immediately in the field, and in the nature of things this experience is likely to be a fixed quantity so long as the conditions favor it. The supporters of whig principles were too weak in numbers to maintain a paper in the county, and so for years they generally subscribed for the "organ" of the party, published at Danville. With the founding of the republican party, the element which was naturally drawn to it, made it a far more vigorous political factor than the whigs had been. In 1857 it secured a representative publication, and gradually made such progress as to challenge the respect of the dominant party. In 1866 a gentleman was invited from Washington, D. C., to edit a paper in the interest of Andrew Johnson's policy, but it proved a signal failure, and after the publication of thirty-five numbers gave place to a democratic expositor.

The more recent development of the newspaper, the "independent journal," has also had its representative in the county. Instead of attempting to carry water on both political shoulders, the independent newspaper has here endeavored to secure the patronage of all without offending the political prejudices of any, an undertaking extremely difficult to accomplish in the narrow field of county literature, under the present constitution of society. In Berwick the Gazette, and the News Item in Catawissa, are fairly successful examples of this class. The newspapers of Bloomsburg are more than ordinarily



good representatives of country journalism, and in typographical appearance, in true journalistic enterprise and editorial equipment would honor a much larger sphere.

In the nature of the case, political honors have, with rare exceptions, been conferred upon the members of the democratic party. Until the question of the removal of the county-seat was finally settled, that issue dominated all others, and various considerations brought about the election of whigs to both branches of the legislature. In borough elections republicans are occasionally successful, but in contests for county offices, even where the dominant party is seriously divided, the republicans are too few to elect one of their own number, and have wisely refused as an organization to attempt to wield the balance of power.

The eighth section of the act erecting Columbia county, in 1813, provided "that the inhabitants of the counties of Northumberland, Union and Columbia, shall jointly elect four representatives." Those elected in 1813 were Samuel Bound, Leonard Rupert, Thomas Murray, Jr., and George Kreamer; in 1814, David E. Owen, Robert Willett, Joseph Hutchison and Henry Shaffer.

In 1815 Columbia county was made a separate representative district with one member, and James McClure was elected in that year; Samuel Bond, in 1816, 1817 and 1818; James McClure, 1819; John Snyder, 1820; John Clark, 1821.

In 1822 Columbia county was constituted a separate district with two members, and in that year William McBride and Alexander Colley were elected, and re-elected in 1823; John McReynolds and Eli Thornton, in 1824; John McReynolds and Christian Brobst, in 1825; John McReynolds and William McBride, in 1826; John McReynolds and Christian Brobst, in 1827; John McReynolds and John Robinson, in 1828.

In 1829 Columbia county's representation was reduced to one member, and John Robinson was elected; Uzal Hopkins in 1830 and 1831; Isaac Kline, in 1832 and 1833; John F. Derr, in 1834 and 1835; Evan O. Jackson, in 1836; John Bowman (whig), in 1837; William Cost, in 1838 and 1839; Daniel Snyder (whig), in 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843; Thomas A. Funston (whig), in 1844 and 1845; Stewart Pearce, in 1846, 1847, 1848; Benjamin P. Fortner (whig), in 1849.

In 1850 Columbia and Montour counties were constituted a district with one representative, and John McReynolds was elected; in 1851, M. E. Jackson; in 1852 and 1853, George Scott; in 1854, James G. Maxwell; in 1855, J. G. Montgomery; in 1856, Peter Ent.

In 1857 Columbia, Montour, Sullivan and Wyoming were constituted a representative district, with two members, and Peter Ent and John V. Smith were elected; in 1858 and 1859, G. D. Jackson and — Oakes; in 1860, H. R. Kline and — Osterhaut; in 1861, L. L. Tate and — Tutton; 1862 and 1863, G. D. Jackson and J. C. Ellis.

In 1864 Columbia and Montour counties were constituted a district with one member, and W. H. Jacoby elected, and re-elected in 1865; Thomas Chalfant, in 1866 and 1867; George Scott, in 1868 and 1869; Thomas Chalfant, in 1870.

In 1871 Columbia county was made a separate district with one member, and C. B. Brockway elected, and re-elected in 1872 and 1873. In 1874, under the constitutional provision of previous year, Columbia county was given two members, and the term of service made two years; E. J. McHenry and S. P.

Ryan were elected; in 1876, E. J. McHenry and — Brown; in 1878 and 1880, T. J. Vanderslice and Joseph B. Knittle; in 1882, William Bryson and Thomas J. Vanderslice; in 1884, A. L. Fritz and William Bryson; in 1886, A. L. Fritz and James T. Fox.

The state senatorial district in which Columbia county was first placed, was composed of Luzerne and Susquehanna, to which the new counties of Union and Columbia were added. This district elected two senators, Thomas Murray, Jr., and William Ross, the former being re-elected in 1814, the first senatorial election in which the new county of Columbia participated. In 1815 the ninth senatorial district was composed of the counties of Northumberland, Columbia, Union, Luzerne and Susquehanna, with two senators to elect. Their term was four years, and were chosen alternately. In 1816 Charles Frazer was elected; in 1818, Simon Snyder; in 1819 a special election, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Snyder, resulted in the election of Robert Willett; in 1820 Redmond Conyngnam was elected.

In 1822 Luzerne and Columbia were constituted the tenth senatorial district with one member, the first election under this change occurring in 1824, and resulting in the choice of Robert Moore. The term was changed to three years. In 1827 Moore was re-elected; in 1830 Jacob Drumheller was elected, and in 1833 Uzal Hopkins.

In 1836 Columbia and Schuylkill were constituted the ninth senatorial district, with one member, and in 1837 Charles Frailey was elected; in 1840, Samuel F. Headley. In 1843 another change was made in the district, and Columbia and Luzerne were associated to form the thirteenth senatorial district, with one member. In 1844 William S. Ross was elected; in 1847, Valentine Best. In 1850 Columbia, Luzerne and Montour constituted the sixteenth district, with one senator, and C. R. Buckalew was elected, and in 1853 re-elected; in 1856 George P. Steele was elected. In 1857 Columbia, Montour, Northumberland and Snyder counties were constituted the thirteenth district, with one senator. In this year Mr. Buckalew was again chosen, but resigned after serving one session. In 1858 Reuben Keller was elected to fill the vacancy, and in 1860, re-elected; in 1863 D. B. Montgomery was elected.

In 1864 the counties of Columbia, Montour, Northumberland and Sullivan were constituted the fifteenth district, with one senator. In 1866 George D. Jackson was elected, and in 1869, C. R. Buckalew. In 1871 Lycoming was substituted for Northumberland county in this senatorial district, the number remaining unchanged, and in 1872 Thomas Chalfant was elected. The change in the constitution in the following year required a new districting of the state, but this district suffered no change save in the number being changed from the fifteenth to the twenty-fourth. In 1875 and again in 1876 — Allen was elected; in 1878, G. D. Jackson; in 1880 E. J. McHenry was elected to fill vacancy occasioned by the death of Jackson; in 1882, W. W. Hart; in 1886, Nerus H. Metzgar.

For congressional elections Columbia was originally placed in the tenth district composed of the counties of Northumberland, Union, Lycoming, Luzerne, Bradford, Potter, Susquehanna and Tioga, with two members. In 1814 William Wilson and Jared Irwin were elected; in 1816, William Wilson and David Scott; in 1817, Mr. Scott having resigned to accept a place on the bench, John Murray was elected to fill the vacancy, and in 1818 John Murray and George Dennison were elected; in 1820, George Dennison and W. C. Ellis; in 1821, Ellis having resigned, Thomas Murray, Jr., was elected to fill the vacancy.

Under the apportionment of 1822, the ninth district was composed of the

counties of Columbia, Union, Northumberland, Luzerne, Susquehanna, Bradford, Lycoming, Potter, Tioga and McKean, with three members. In 1822 W. C. Ellis, Samuel McKean and Kreamer were elected; in 1824 and 1826, Samuel McKean, George Kreamer and Espy Vanhorn; in 1828, Philander Stephens, James Ford and Allen Marr; in 1830, Lewis Dewart, Philander Stephens and James Ford.

In 1832 Columbia and Luzerne were constituted the fifteenth congressional district with one member. In that year and in 1834, Andrew Beaumont was elected; in 1836 and 1838, David Petriken; in 1840 and 1843, B. A. Bidlock. In 1843 Wyoming county was associated with Columbia and Luzerne, and the number of the district changed to the eleventh. In 1844 and 1846 Owen D. Leib was elected; in 1848, Chester Butler; in 1850, Hendrick B. Wright; in 1851, J. Brisbin, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Butler. In 1852 the district was numbered the twelfth, and comprised the counties of Columbia, Luzerne, Montour and Wyoming. In this year H. B. Wright was elected; in 1854, Henry M. Fuller; in 1856, John G. Montgomery; he died, however, before he took his seat, and in 1857 Paul Leidy was elected to fill the vacancy. In 1858 and 1860 George W. Scranton was elected; he died in March, 1861, and in the following June a special election was held when H. B. Wright was chosen to fill the vacancy.

In 1861 the counties of Bradford, Montour, Columbia, Sullivan, Wyoming and all of Northumberland, except Lower Mahanoy township, were made to constitute the twelfth district. In 1862 Northumberland was assigned to another district, and the remaining counties elected Henry W. Tracy; in 1864, 1866, 1868 and 1870, Ulysses Mercur; in 1872, — Strowbridge. In 1872 Mercur resigned, and on December 24 a special election was held to fill the vacancy, — Bunnells being chosen. In 1873 a bill was passed designating the eleventh district composed of the counties of Montour, Columbia, Carbon, Monroe, Pike, and the townships of Nescopeck, Blackcreek, Sugarloaf, Butler, Hazel, Foster, Bearcreek, Bucks, Roaringbrook, Salem, Hollenback, Huntingdon, Fairmount, Springbrook, and that part of the city of Scranton south of Roaringbrook creek, and east of Lackawanna river, and the boroughs of Dunmore, New Columbus, Goldsboro, White Haven, Jeddo and Hazleton. From this district, — Collins was elected in 1874, and re-elected in 1876; Klotz, in 1878 and 1880; in 1882 and 1884, John B. Storm; in 1886, C. R. Buckalew.

## CHAPTER V.

## THE STORM AND STRESS PERIOD.

THE civil war of 1861-5 brought to the people of Columbia county as it did to the whole country, an experience for which their previous training afforded no adequate preparation. There was little of the purely martial spirit to be found here. The first settlers were not the most successful Indian fighters, nor did they number among them—with the possible exception of Van Campen—any of the class whose achievements have embellished the tales of other borders. They were peaceful and industrious farmers rather than Indian-slayers; but such a character did not prevent their doing substantial service where duty called or danger threatened. During the war of 1812 Columbia was situated too far from the scene of hostilities to be called actively into service. When the attack on Baltimore was threatened the militia was rendezvoused at Danville, but was disbanded after a few weeks of camp-life. The requirements of the militia system, which was nominally maintained by the commonwealth for years, were at first met with a moderate degree of faithfulness, but the amusements of training-day gradually lost their charm, and the absentees numbered far more than those who reported for duty on field and muster days.

There was one company, however, which proved a remarkable exception. Its rendezvous was at Danville, and its original organization dated in 1817; and when, in November, 1846, the call for troops for service in Mexico came, it reunited its ranks from all parts of the then county of Columbia, took the name of Columbia Guards, and offered its services to the governor. It was accepted, and on the 26th of December, 1846, the county authorities appropriated seven hundred dollars to uniform them and defray their expenses to Pittsburgh. They were escorted thus far by a committee of citizens, and under the command of Captain John S. Wilson were mustered into the service of the United States as a part of the Second regiment, on the 5th of January of the following year. They were at first commanded by Colonel Roberts, who was succeeded by Colonel Geary. Captain Wilson died on the 10th of April, 1847, at Vera Cruz, and the command devolved upon Lieutenant Frick, who led the company during the campaign.

Their first engagement was at the capture of Vera Cruz, and the second at Cerro Gordo, where they lost one man, John Smith. At the battle of Chapultepec they lost two men, William Dietrich and John Snyder. On approaching the city of Mexico, the defense of San Angelos, with all the military stores, was committed to the Guards; and on the 13th of September, 1847, they were among the first in the triumphant entry into the city.

They returned to Danville on the 28th day of July, 1849. The whole county turned out to welcome them, and such a demonstration as was then made had never been seen in Danville before or since. The Guards kept up their organization until the rebellion, and entered the union service under Captain Oscar Ephlin. On the expiration of their term of service they were honorably discharged, and the company disbanded.



\*The following is the muster roll of the Columbia Guards as they went into the United States Service for the war with Mexico:

Captain—John S. Wilson.

Lieutenants—First, Clarence H. Frick; second, Edward E. LaClere; third, William Brindle.

Sergeants—First, George S. Kline; second, Jas. D. Slater; third, Robert Clark; fourth, Charles Evans.

Corporals—First, John Adams; second, James Oliver; third, John Smith; fourth, Arthur Gearhart.

Music—Drummer, Thomas Clark; fifer, Jesse G. Clark.

PRIVATES.

Charles W. Adams,	Samuel Huntingdon,	Norman B. Mack,
Alvin M. Allen,	Adam Heisler,	William McDonald,
Jacob App,	Henry Hencastle,	Casper Oatenwelder,
Geo. W. Armstrong,	Oliver Helme,	Daniel Poorman,
Frederick Brandt,	William S. Kertz,	Peter S. Reed,
Samuel Burns,	William King,	Philip Rake,
Elam B. Bonham,	Jerome Konkle,	James A. Stewart,
Wm. Banghart,	Charles Lytle,	Peter M. Space,
John Birkenbine,	Ira Lownsberry,	Jona R. Sanders,
Samuel D. Baker,	Robert Lyon,	Oliver C. Stephens,
Francis Bower,	John A. Lowery,	Daniel Snyder,
Francis B. Best,	Benjamin Laform,	Edward Seler,
William Brunner,	Benj. J. Martin,	Peter Seigfried,
Wm. H. Birchfield,	Jasper Musselman,	John C. Snyder,
Randolph Ball,	Edward McGonnel,	John N. Scofield,
Peter Brobst,	George Miller,	William Swartz,
Abram B. Carley,	William Moser,	Joseph Stratton,
Michael Corrigan,	Archibald Mooney,	Wm. H. Sawaney,
Wm. Dierech,	Mahlon K. Manly,	John A. Sarvey,
William Erle,	John G. Mellon,	Benj. Tumbleton,
Daniel S. Follmer,	Alex M'Donald,	Adam Wray,
Chas. W. Fortner,	Daniel Martial,	Wm. White,
Robert H. Forster,	Richard H. M'Kean,	George Wagner,
Sewell Gibbs,	Charles Moynthan,	Jacob Willet,
Edward Grove,	Robert M'Almont,	Jerome Walker,
George Garner,	Hugh M'Fadden,	George Wingar,
Thomas Graham,	James M'Clelland,	Peter W. Yarnell.
Shepherd W. Girton,		

The interest which kept up the organization of the Guards in Montour was not shared to any great extent in Columbia county; yet the president's call for volunteers, following Sumter's fall, met with an enthusiastic response.

The presence of W. W. Ricketts, a former West Point cadet, had fostered a military spirit at Orangeville, and a company was quickly formed there and put in drill, but for a time others seemed at a loss how to proceed. A meeting, however, was called at the court-house, and addressed by Robert F. Clark in a speech that made the young men struggle for precedence in subscribing to the enlistment roll. C. B. Brockway is said to have been the first man in the county to enlist, and others followed so that the complement of Rickett's company was soon filled. Their services were tendered to the governor, but the state quota under the first call was already filled. Not to be put off in this way, the company chartered canal boats and went to Harrisburg, where they were subsequently accepted. There were but few meetings in the county to awaken enthusiasm. There was no call for them. Many volunteered without hesitation, and company after company marched to "the front." Later on, however, the quotas were not so readily filled, and unfortunate dissensions arose, which, during and for a long time after the war, disturbed the peace and happiness of the citizens of the county.

In the summer of 1862 a "war meeting" was held at the court-house in

\*The roster, with some of the facts concerning the career of the company, is derived from the "History of Columbia County," by J. G. Freeze.

the latter part of July, which requested the county commissioners to grant a bounty to each soldier that had enlisted from the county. Only two of the commissioners were present, and they very properly declined to accede to the request until assured of the approval of the county at large, and of their authority to do so under the law, but advised the calling of another meeting to consider the question. Early in August a second meeting was held with a similar result. This was in the forenoon. The commissioners met in the middle of the day, but in the meanwhile another call for troops had greatly increased the number to whom bounties would have to be paid. There was a great difference of opinion on the subject throughout the county, and, still in doubt as to their authority, the commissioners refused to take action. Their decision was received by the members of the morning meeting with indignation, and a meeting was held in the afternoon at which the commissioners' action was unsparingly denounced.

After the meeting, an altercation having taken place between a drunken man and a convalescent soldier, and the former having cheered for Jeff. Davis, he was pursued and maltreated by a mob. Some dozen or more republicans were arrested on a charge of riot, under a warrant issued by a justice of the peace of Hemlock township: the accused were taken there for a hearing and bound over for trial. The trial was had, and the accused were convicted, and sentenced by the court to fine and imprisonment. No attempt was made to enforce the penalty, however, and the governor's pardon put an end to the matter.

An enrollment was ordered this year, and the number subject to military duty was found to be 4,587; the quota, under all calls prior to September, 1862, was 1,447; the number in the service, at the same date, was 626, leaving a balance of 821 men to be supplied by draft or otherwise.

The militia of Pennsylvania, as generally throughout the country, was practically to be found only on paper. There was a form of organization; a military tax was levied on each voter liable to duty, save those in volunteer companies, and C. M. Blaker, of this county, by the regular removal of his seniors, in 1861 had reached the chief command in the state. At the breaking out of the war, the legislature revived and revised this organization, and in 1862 a draft was ordered by the state to fill its ranks. The townships of Catawissa and Pine, and the borough of Berwick, filled their quota with volunteers, but in the other divisions of the county, the draft was drawn; a total of 695 men was drawn, 45 from Bloom, 49 from Briar creek, 40 from Beaver, 27 from Benton, 60 from Conyngham, 54 from Center, 50 from Fishing creek, 4 from Franklin, 45 from Greenwood, 25 from Hemlock, 19 from Jackson, 40 from Locust, 24 from Montour, 18 from Maine, 27 from Mount Pleasant, 46 from Mifflin, 48 from Madison, 9 from Orange, 36 from Scott and 29 from Sugarloaf. No opposition was manifested to this draft. In fact it had the effect of stimulating enlistments in the national service, as many, when they found it necessary to enter the military service at all, preferred to avail themselves of the advantages to be derived from such enlistments.

The drafts on the part of the general government, however, were not received with equal unconcern. The first was drawn at Troy, Pennsylvania, September 17, 1863, and called for 634 men from Columbia county.

In the spring of 1864, some trouble occurred between a company of "Home Guards," in Mifflin township, and a portion of the invalid corps, which the enrolling officer for that township had summoned to his assistance. A conference was finally had, at which it was agreed to allow a citizen of the village to proceed with the enrollment, unmolested, and this was done.



S. Knorr





Similar companies were formed in Benton and Fishingcreek townships, but they never figured offensively as an organization in the history of the period. There was vague talk in these and neighboring localities, that there were places in the North mountain where a hundred men could successfully defy a thousand, and indefinite references to "the fort," where a stand would be made against any attempt to enforce the draft. This was undoubtedly mere gasconade, and no such stand was ever made. There was quite a number of drafted men who refused to report for duty, and they, with their friends, constituted a considerable element in the townships of Fishingcreek, Benton, Sugarloaf, Jackson, Pine, and the neighboring portions of Luzerne and Sullivan counties.

A series of half-open, half-secret meetings had been held by disaffected parties, for the purpose of discussing the situation, and devising the safest means to obviate the difficulties which now appeared to be daily growing more serious. There was no unanimity in the choice of measures. Some advocated hiding, others proposed the raising of money to procure substitutes, and each finally acted individually upon their own suggestions.

Early in August, 1864, Lieutenant Robinson, of Luzerne county, with a squad of eight men appeared one evening near what is now Raven's-Creek post-office in this county, and attempted to stop by challenging a party of citizens whom they met. They were fired upon by the challenge party and Robinson was fatally wounded. Shortly afterward, on August 13, 1864, a detachment of government troops arrived in Bloomsburg, for the purpose, it was said, of enforcing the draft, and went into camp on the fair grounds. This force was increased until it included Captain Lambert's independent company of mounted men; one section of the Keystone Battery of Philadelphia, under the command of Lieutenant Roberts; a battalion of infantry under Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart; and a battalion of the Veteran Reserve Corps, aggregating, it is said, a thousand men. On the 16th of August, Major General-Couch, commanding the department of the Susquehanna, reached Bloomsburg, and on the same day conferred with some of the leading republicans and democrats of the county. He was assured by prominent gentlemen of the democratic party, that he had greatly misapprehended the situation; that there was no fort, there would be no resistance, and that ten men could arrest the delinquent conscripts as safely as ten hundred. J. G. Freeze was at length persuaded to carry to the recalcitrant drafted men the general's offer to remit the charge of desertion in the case of all those who would report themselves on or before 12 p. m. on the following Saturday, and on the 17th, General Couch returned to Harrisburg, leaving Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart in command of affairs. The drafted men did not report at the time appointed, and on the following day a body of troops under command of Stewart proceeded to Benton.

On Saturday, August 28th, Major-General Cadwallader arrived in Bloomsburg from Philadelphia, and assuming command, proceeded on the following day with another body of troops to join the advance detachment.

On the 30th General Cadwallader was in Bloomsburg, to confer with the leading supporters of the administration, and during that night, by his orders, squads of troops were posted at various localities in the upper townships. Early on the following morning about one hundred arrests were made, and the prisoners brought to a meeting house near the village of Benton, where a preliminary examination was held. Of the persons arrested forty-four were held and dispatched under guard to Harrisburg. These prisoners were treated with little consideration. They were compelled to make the

eighteen miles from Benton to Bloomsburg on foot, while some, at least, of the guards rode. Arrived at the county seat, no delay was made in getting them on board the cars, and no attempt was made to interpose any legal obstruction to their removal. This done, General Cadwallader explored the adjacent country for evidences of forts and artillery, which exaggerated rumors had indicated were in that region, but which, it is needless to say, were not found. The general pronounced "the whole thing a complete farce," and on the 7th of September returned to Philadelphia. The larger part of the troops was subsequently withdrawn, but the remainder was retained, and other arrests made from time to time.

These summary proceedings on the part of the military authorities, naturally and properly gave rise to an investigation of their legality, and spirited measures were at once taken to secure the release of the persons arrested.

On the 17th of October 1864, twenty-one of them were conditionally relieved from arrest. Among these twenty-one, five were previously discharged on account of sickness, one, however, having died in prison before his discharge had reached him. On the same day the trials of the remaining twenty-three were begun before a military commission, organized at Harrisburg. The general accusation brought against all that were placed on trial was the same, and charged that the accused, "a citizen of Columbia county, Pennsylvania, did unite, confederate and combine with —, —, and many other disloyal persons whose names are unknown, and form or unite with a society or organization commonly known and called by the name of the 'Knights of the Golden Circle,' the object of which society or organization was and is to resist the execution of the draft, and prevent persons who have been drafted under the provisions of the said act of congress, approved March 3d, 1863, and the several supplements thereto, from entering the military service of the United States. This done at or near Benton township, Columbia county, Pennsylvania, on or about August 14, 1864, and at divers times and places before and after said mentioned day." Of those earliest tried seven were convicted. These were sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from six months, with labor, to two years. In one case the penalty was a fine of \$500 or a year's imprisonment, and the prisoner elected to pay the fine. Of the others, one was pardoned by President Lincoln, and five by President Johnson. Several others were tried, but acquitted, and the charge was subsequently withdrawn in the case of the rest.

Among the citizens of Columbia county there still exist widely varying opinions in regard to the troubles in connection with the draft, and the sending of troops to the county.

On one side it is claimed that there was organized and armed opposition to the draft, that menaces and threats were used against officers in the proper discharge of their duties, that in some townships Republicans were terrorized by threats of incendiarism and assault, that officers of the law were in many instances in sympathy with the law-breakers, and that military interference was necessary to restore order and enforce the draft. On the other side it is claimed that by means of a dishonest enrollment, it was sought to compel Columbia and other democratic counties to furnish more than their just quotas; that there was no organized opposition to the draft; that a reign of terror prevailed among democrats, which was instituted by republicans; that military interference was unnecessary, and was resorted to for the purpose of influencing elections; that some of the soldiers sent to the county were guilty of gross outrages, and that many innocent men suffered arrest and imprisonment without cause or warrant of law. It would be a difficult matter to prove the exact truth

in regard to some of these charges. It is generally admitted, however, that in Columbia county as in many other parts of the north, some of the democrats were opposed to the prosecution of the war; that a considerable number of men attempted to evade the draft, and in some places concert of action was had for that purpose. It is also admitted that the enrollment was very inaccurate, that the force sent here and the large number of arrests were unnecessary, that power placed in the hands of irresponsible subordinates was exercised in a vindictive manner, and that one of the results of sending troops to the county was a considerable republican gain at the fall elections.

Of the convictions before the military commission, all has been said when the decision of the United States supreme court, in the case of Lambdin P. Milligan is considered. What is there said of the petitioner in the case may be applied to the cases from Columbia county. On the third point in controversy the court said in part:

It is claimed that martial law covers with its broad mantle the proceedings of the military commission. The proposition is this: That in a time of war the commander of an armed force (if in his opinion the exigencies of the country demand it, and of which he is to be judge,) has the power, within the lines of his military district, to suspend all civil rights and their remedies, and subject citizens as well as soldiers to the rule of *his will*, and in the exercise of his lawful authority cannot be restrained, except by his superior officer or the President of the United States. If this position is sound, to the extent claimed, then when war exists, foreign or domestic, and the country is subdivided into military departments for mere convenience, the commander of one of them can, if he chooses, within his limits, on the plea of necessity, with the approval of the executive, substitute military force for and to the exclusion of the laws, and punish all persons, as he thinks right and proper, without fixed or certain rules.

The statement of this proposition shows its importance, for, if true, republican government is a failure, and there is an end of liberty regulated by law. Martial law, established on such a basis, destroys every guarantee of the constitution, and effectually renders the "military independent of and superior to the civil power"—the attempt to do which by the King of Great Britain was deemed by our fathers such an offense, that they assigned it to the world as one of the causes which impelled them to declare their independence. Civil liberty and this kind of martial law cannot endure together; the antagonism is irreconcilable; and in the conflict, one or the other must perish.

Notwithstanding some opposition to the draft, Columbia county was by no means unrepresented at "the front." There is no data at hand to show how many men she contributed to the army, nor how far she fell short of filling her assigned quota; but in eighteen regiments she was conspicuously represented in point of numbers, and in several others in a varying degree. And their patient endurance of the tedium of the camp, the toil of the march, and their gallantry upon the field of battle, constitute a record to which she may ever point with pride.

On the afternoon of the 15th of April, 1861, the president's proclamation, with the summons of the state executive, was sent throughout the commonwealth, and the state's quota of sixteen regiments was immediately filled by the tender of the militia, which had a more or less efficient organization. By the first of May the full complement of Pennsylvania was mustered, and a part already in Washington or at other threatened points.

Among the earliest companies to form anew was the "Iron Guard" of Columbia county; but such was the forwardness of the partially organized force of the state, that the offer of their services came too late to be accepted under the first call. There were twenty-five men, principally from Berwick however, who gained admission in the Sixteenth regiment. They joined company C, which was recruited in Mechanicsburg, Cumberland county, and were mustered into the United States service on the 20th of April. After organization the regiment was ordered to Camp Scott, near the town of York, where it was uniformed and drilled. Upon the inauguration of the Shenandoah campaign



the Sixteenth proceeded to Chambersburg, where its equipment for field service was completed, and in June advanced across the Potomac with the leading division. In the battle of Bull Run it formed a part of the left of the line as part of the Fifth Division. It took part in the second movement, and had a slight brush with the enemy on the way to Martinsburg, where a halt for supplies consumed several days. On July 15th the regiment moved to Bunker Hill, and two days later made a forced march toward Harper's Ferry. At Smithfield, with its brigade, it took position to repel the attack of Stuart's cavalry, but after the passage of the army it again resumed its march, and encamped that night at Charlestown. Here it remained until near the expiration of its term of enlistment, when it proceeded to Harrisburg, and was mustered out of the service on the 30th of July.

On the 16th of April, General Patterson was appointed to the command of the Pennsylvania contingent by the governor, and a short time afterward General Scott gave him charge of the Department of Washington, consisting of the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, and the District of Columbia, with headquarters at Philadelphia. It was well known that in the event of a war, the leaders of the South determined to make the North the scene of hostilities, if possible, and when, on the 19th of April, the communication with Washington was cut off, in the absence of other orders General Patterson upon his own responsibility made a requisition on the governor of Pennsylvania for twenty-five additional regiments of infantry, and one regiment of cavalry, to be mustered in the United States service.

The recruiting of troops, which had been suspended, was at once revived by the governor's proclamation and vigorously pushed, but when the interrupted communications were restored, the national authorities, unprepared to accept more troops, countermanded General Patterson's order. The attitude of Maryland, however, was a continual menace, and recognizing the danger to which the long line of border adjoining disaffected states exposed Pennsylvania. Governor Curtin called an extra session of the legislature to provide for the emergency. On the 15th of May, the governor was authorized to organize a military corps, to be called the "Reserve Volunteer Corps of the Commonwealth," consisting of thirteen regiments of infantry, one regiment of cavalry, and one regiment of light artillery. They were to be organized and equipped as similar troops in the service of the United States, and to be enlisted in the service of the state for a period of three years or for the war, but liable to be mustered into the service of the United States to fill any quota under a call from the president. Under this law the governor established camps of instruction at Easton, West Chester, Pittsburgh, and Harrisburg; each county was assigned its quota, and the enthusiastic response everywhere made to the governor's call soon placed the full force in the course of preparation for active duties.

On the 22d of April, 1861, ten companies were organized in different parts of the state under the first call for troops; the quota of the State having been filled before the tender of their services was received, they were not given transportation, but nothing daunted they proceeded to Harrisburg, where they met each other in camp. In the meantime the "Reserve Corps" had been projected, and these troops with others maintained their organizations and awaited the demand for their services. The law authorizing the governor to accept them was subsequently passed, and in June, such companies as were not recruited to the national standard, sent out officers for recruits, and the companies thus brought together were organized on the 22d of June as the Thirty-fifth regiment of the line, and the Sixth of the reserve. The



“Iron Guards” were mustered as Company A; their captain, W. Wallace Ricketts, was commissioned colonel; William M. Penrose, lieutenant-colonel; Henry J. Madill, major; and Lieutenant Henry B. M’Kean, was appointed adjutant.

The regiment was assigned to camp duty, which it continued to perform while perfecting itself in the manual of arms. On the 11th of July, companies A and K were supplied with Springfield muskets, the rest of the regiment being armed with Harper’s Ferry muskets, and ordered to Greencastle, where it received instruction in drill at Camp Biddle. On the 22d it proceeded to Washington, and encamped east of the Capitol. From thence it moved to Tenallytown, where General M’Call organized his division of Pennsylvania Reserves. The Sixth (35th) was brigaded with Ninth, Tenth and Twelfth regiments of the Reserves in the Third brigade under the command of Colonel M’Calmont, and on the 9th of October marched across Chain bridge to a camp near Longley. Until the 19th of December, a movement for the double purpose of reconnoissance and securing forage alone varied the routine of camp life. Early on this date, however, the brigade was ordered forward on the Leesburg pike, where it was soon involved in the first regular engagement with the enemy.

The Ninth Reserve was posted on the right, the Sixth in the center, the Kane Rifles on the left, and the Tenth and Twelfth in reserve. While taking position they were fired on by the enemy from a battery posted on the Centreville road. A section of the Easton battery responded, and the Sixth was immediately ordered to advance. For a little time there was some doubt whether the attacking party were friends or foes, but their true character was soon discovered and a charge was ordered. “At the word ‘forward,’ the regiment bounded the fence in front, crossed the open field and in a moment had driven him from his position in confusion, capturing one caisson and some prisoners.” Private S. C. Walter, of Company A, was killed, and thus the Reserves won their first victory.

But little occurred, save the constant round of picket and fatigue duty, to enliven the camp-life during the next two months. In February, 1862, Colonel Ricketts was discharged on account of continued ill-health, and, Lieutenant-Colonel Penrose having previously resigned, Major Madill was left in command of the regiment. On the 10th of March, the army having advanced to Centreville and Manassas, the Sixth marched sixteen miles, to Hunter’s Mills, remaining there until the 14th, when it was ordered to Alexandria. While here William Sinclair was made colonel, and Henry B. M’Kean lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. On the 27th of April the Sixth moved to Bailey’s Cross Roads; on the 12th of May they reached Manassas Junction; on the 18th, moved to Catlett’s station; on the 3d of June it reached Falmouth, where comfortable quarters were constructed from lumber obtained at a neighboring saw-mill. On the 13th of June the brigade embarked for White House, to join McClellan’s army on the peninsula. On their arrival there was considerable alarm lest Stuart, whose forces were hovering in the vicinity, should attack the post, where vast supplies for the army had been accumulated. The Sixth regiment was therefore ordered to remain to guard the post, and was stationed at Tuntstall’s station. On the 19th, five companies were ordered to fall back to White House, while the remaining companies threw up protecting earthworks. The flanking movement of the enemy, however, rendered White House no longer available as a base of supplies, and preparations were hastily made for its evacuation. On the 28th of June the advanced detachment of the regiment was recalled by urgent instructions, and their movement hurried by repeated orders. The en-

emy followed, but made no attack, and the whole force, having embarked, proceeded down the river by the light of the burning stores. On the 1st of July the regiment reached Harrison's Landing, where the wagon-trains of the retreating army began to arrive that night.

On the 4th of July the Sixth was transferred to the First brigade and did skirmish duty alternately with the Kane's Rifles. On the 14th of August it proceeded by water to Acquia creek and thence by rail to Falmouth. A week later it set off with its division for Kelly's ford, on the Rappahannock. From thence the regiment proceeded to Rappahannock station and to Warrenton, where it went into camp on the 24th. The opposing forces were again centering about the field of Bull Run, and on the morning of the 28th, as the troops approached Gainesville, they were suddenly assailed by a battery posted in a piece of woods. The Sixth was deployed as skirmishers and moved forward across an open field. No further demonstrations followed, and the regiment bivouacked that night on the Alexandria pike. On the following day the division moved to the front of the enemy's position, at Groveton, but while actively maneuvering to gain an advantageous position, the regiment was not engaged in any serious encounter. On the 30th the Sixth was ordered to support Cooper's battery, but was subsequently moved to the left, to cover the flank of the division. In covering the retreat of Porter's corps, the Third brigade, of which the Sixth regiment was a part, met and repulsed a vigorous charge of the enemy. A little later the brigade was placed in support of the artillery, which was massed on a hill. A brisk artillery duel ensued, but, after enduring this for a while, the enemy charged in force, to secure the road which lay between the opposing lines. The Reserves were immediately ordered to charge the coming enemy. They first reached the road, repulsed the rebels, and sent them back in confusion. "In this charge the flag of the Sixth was shot from the staff while in the hands of Major Madill. It was instantly taken by the gallant Reynolds, who, holding it aloft, dashed along the line, the wind catching it as he turned and wrapping it about his noble form." The loss in this stubborn fight, including the three days, was six killed, thirty wounded, and eight missing.

The regiment moved thence to Centreville, Annandale, Bailey's Cross Roads and Hunter's Chapel, to Munson's Hill. On the 6th of September the regiment took up its march to South mountain, across Long bridge, through Washington, Leesboro, Poplar Springs, New Market, Frederick City and Middletown. Arriving at the scene of action, it was posted on the extreme right of the army, and when the enemy was compelled to fall back on his supports, the Sixth dashed up the mountain to gain the flank of the foe. This movement was observed and the line still further withdrawn. "The top of the mountain was only a few hundred yards distant, and when reached would end the battle on that part of the field. Night was fast approaching and the battle raged furiously for many miles to the left. Companies A and B, Captains Ent and Roush, were ordered out to seize and hold the knob of the mountain immediately in front. They marched from the woods, passed the enemy's flank, and, firing into it one volley, made straight for the mountain top. When within one hundred yards they received the fire of the enemy, protected by a ledge of rocks which capped the summit. Immediately companies C, D and E, Captains Wright, Dixon and Lieutenant Richards, were ordered to their support, and, forming to the left of the first two, the line advanced at a charge. The numbers of the enemy were largely in excess of those of the Sixth, but the five companies, restrained during the earlier part of the battle, dashed, like a steed released from his curb, against the very muzzles of their guns. The enemy,

staggered by the impetuosity of the charge, yielded the first ledge of rocks and retreated to the second, from behind which he delivered a most galling fire, causing the advance to reel under the shock and threatening its annihilation. The rebel line to the left, which had been passed by these companies, had in the meantime been compelled to yield to the persistent hammering of the other regiments of the Reserves. The cheers of the brigade were distinctly heard by both, when the rebels, broken in spirit by the severity of their losses and the determined front presented by the Reserves, fled down the mountain side. These five companies had performed an important service and driven before them in confusion the Eighth Alabama regiment. The loss was twelve men killed, two officers and thirty-nine men wounded.

The regiment moved forward with its division to Antietam creek, where on the 16th, with "the Bucktails," it was engaged in a spirited contest with the enemy. In the early morning following, the rebels attempted to dislodge these regiments from the position they had gained, but with no success until the giving way of other portions of the line exposed their flank. The Sixth, shielded by a piece of woods, still maintained their position although assailed in front and flank, and submitted to a concentrated fire of artillery. The enemy now desisted from the attempt to clear the wood, and, moving to the right, the division took a position in support of the artillery, where it remained the balance of the day unengaged, but still the target of the enemy's artillery fire. In this engagement eight men were killed, and among the wounded were four officers.

On the retirement of Lee's army the Sixth marched to the Potomac near Sharpsburg, where it went into camp. Here it remained until the latter part of October, industriously perfecting its discipline and drill and gaining the reputation of being the best drilled regiment in the division. From this point the regiment proceeded again to Warrenton where it arrived on the 6th of November. On the 11th it again broke camp and marched through Fayetteville, Bealton station, Morrisville, Grove Church, Hartwood and Stafford C. H., to Brook's station on the Acquia creek and Fredericksburg railroad, where it erected snug quarters. Colonel Sinclair was now in command of the brigade, and, Lieutenant-Colonel M'Kean having resigned, Major Ent commanded the regiment.

The Fredericksburg campaign began on the 5th of December, when the Sixth broke camp and marched to the north side of the Rappahannock, reaching the hills overlooking that town on the 11th instant. On the following morning it crossed the river about three miles below the city on a pontoon bridge, where a line of battle was formed at right angles with the river, the left of the brigade resting on it. At day-break on the 13th the pickets became engaged, and the Sixth led the brigade across a small stream and through a cornfield, in a dense fog, to the Bowling-Green road, where the line was re-formed. Here the enemy was found intrenched, and the brigade at once advanced to the attack, with the Sixth acting as skirmishers. One after the other, the three lines, though stubbornly contested, were taken. "The regiment had now lost more than one-third of its entire number, the brigade had suffered heavily, and Colonel Sinclair had been borne from the field wounded, when the enemy was detected moving through the woods to the right in large numbers. At the same time a terrific fire of musketry was opened on the left of the brigade. The line began to waver, and no supporting troops being at hand, it finally yielded, and the regiment, with the brigade, fell back over the same ground on which it had advanced. In this battle, of the three hundred men who went into action, ten were killed, ninety-two wounded and nineteen missing.



On the 20th of December, the regiment went into camp at Belle Plain. It left its camp to participate in the "mud march," and returned to remain until the 7th of February, 1863, when it was ordered to Alexandria. Here it did guard and picket duty until the 20th of June, when it moved, to take part in the Gettysburg campaign. Marching by way of Dranesville, Edward's Ferry, Frederick, Uniontown and Hanover, it reached Gettysburg at two o'clock p. m., of July 2d, and made a charge from Little Round Top. It remained in front all night, and on the 3d did skirmish duty. Toward evening the Sixth made another charge, recapturing one gun and five caissons, besides liberating a number of union prisoners. It remained on the skirmish line until the afternoon of the 4th, when it was relieved and allowed to camp on Little Round Top. In this engagement the regiment lost two men killed, and Lieutenant Rockwell and twenty-one men wounded.

The regiment took part in the pursuit of the retreating enemy as far as Falling Waters, engaged in a continuous skirmish on the way, and from the 14th, until the 18th of August, the regiment remained here engaging in reconnoissances which involved occasional skirmishes, when it went to Rappahannock station. Here it remained until the 15th of September. In the meantime, among other changes in the officers of the regiment, W. H. Ent had passed through the lower grades and been made colonel. It was therefore under his command that the Sixth proceeded on the 15th to Culpeper C. H., where it remained until the 10th of October. Two days later it crossed the river and took part in the engagement at Bristol station, having three men wounded with the enemy's shells. It shared in the various maneuvers of the army at this time, and on the 26th of November again met the enemy at New Hope Church. The Sixth was deployed as skirmishers and sent forward to the support of the cavalry. The left wing of the regiment was twice charged by the enemy, but without success. Its loss was two killed and four wounded.

December 5th, the regiment went into winter quarters near Kettle Run, where it passed an uneventful experience until the 29th of April, 1864. At this time it broke camp and entered upon the spring campaign, reaching the Wilderness tavern on the 4th of May. On the next day the passage of the Wilderness was begun, the Sixth being actively engaged in the fighting which took place on the 5th and 6th instants. It had a slight skirmish on the 7th; at Spottsylvania, on the 8th, it was engaged in heavy fighting, and on the 9th, moved to the right of the line and constructed rifle-pits; on the 10th it made two successful charges upon the enemy's works, and again on the 12th, Colonel Ent commanding the brigade. The loss of the regiment in these engagements was thirteen killed, sixty-four wounded and nine missing. In all this active campaign the Sixth was found in the front doing valiant service, on the 22d capturing ninety men of Hill's corps.

The battle at Bethesda Church occurred after the expiration of its term of service. Here the regiment was deployed as skirmishers, and had gained a position on the Mechanicsville road, when it was attacked by an overwhelming force and thrust back. It then protected its position by a rifle-pit, which the enemy charged with the determination to drive out its defenders, but was forced to retire with terrible punishment. Although but about one hundred and fifty strong, the Sixth captured one hundred and two prisoners and buried seventy-two of the enemy in front of their works. Colonel Ent and Captain Waters were wounded and nineteen men captured. On the 1st of June the regiment started for Harrisburg, and on the 14th was mustered out of the service. On the same day they reached Bloomsburg, where they were accorded an enthusiastic reception. The following were those who returned:



Col. Wellington H. Ent, Adjutant George S. Coleman, First Lieutenant A. B. Jameson; Second Lieutenant H. J. Conner, commanding company; Sergeants James Stanley, W. S. Margerum; Corporals W. H. Snyder, Benjamin F. Sharpless, Joseph R. Hess, Marks B. Hughes; Privates Charles Achenbach, H. C. Bowman, Alfred Eck, Thomas Griffiths, Henry Gotschall, William Hollingshead, Sylvester Hower, Theodore Mendenhall, A. W. Mann, Baltis Sterling, George Waters, Nelson Bruner, Joseph S. Eck, Charles S. Fornwald, Samuel G. Gottschall, P. S. Hamlin, J. H. Hughes, John Kern, Augustus Willard, William Raup, Abraham Shortz, Alexander Zigler, Emanuel Kurtz.

To the Forty-third regiment of the line (1st Artillery) Columbia and Montour counties contributed some thirty-six men, but the officers who gave it a certain local character were from the former county and give it a claim to its glory that entitles it to extended mention in these pages. This regiment had its origin in the efforts of James Brady, of Philadelphia. On the 13th of April, 1861, he issued a call for volunteers for a regiment of light artillery. In three days he had thirteen hundred men enrolled, but the tender of their services was not accepted, as it was not a militia organization. Before this decision was reached, however, the different companies, impatient with the delay, joined other regimental organizations until only some five hundred men remained. These were maintained by the officers and friends until the organization of the Reserves was authorized, when four companies were accepted and ordered to Harrisburg. These were subsequently joined by four other companies, and the regiment organized in June. It was armed and equipped by the state and the city of Philadelphia. In August the regiment was ordered to Washington, when it was fitted for field service, and encamped east of the Capitol. From this point the different batteries were assigned to various corps and divisions of the army.

Battery F, in which Columbia and Montour counties were represented, 'was furnished in the month of August, 1861, with horses and equipments, and four smooth-bore pieces, and was transferred shortly after to the camp of the Reserve Corps at Tenallytown. On the 12th of September, it was ordered to join General Banks' command at Darnestown, Maryland, and was never afterward in any way connected with the regiment or with the Reserves. On the 8th of October the battery was enlarged by the addition of two Parrott steel-rifled, ten-pounder guns, and immediately thereafter orders were received to move with the new section to Williamsport, Captain Matthews in command. Soon afterward, Sergeant Charles B. Brockway was elected second lieutenant, and placed in command of the detached section, and was sent to oppose the enemy making demonstrations at Hancock, Maryland. A slight skirmish ensued, in which the great accuracy of the rifled pieces was demonstrated, several men and horses of the enemy being killed and wounded by the first shell discharged. A few days later it was reported that the enemy were destroying the railroad in that vicinity, and Lieutenant Brockway was ordered to mask one of his pieces and open upon the party. The first shot struck the engine employed, and the second burst among the men, killing five and wounding twelve others.'

On the 20th of December, Lieutenant Rickett's section had an engagement at Dam No. 5, on the Potomac, where it was forced to retire after having one gun dismounted. In January, 1862, it joined General Lander's command and participated with signal effect in the fight with Jackson near Hancock.

Until February, 1862, the guns were in service singly and in sections between Edward's Ferry and Hancock, but on the 20th the sections were united at Hagerstown, where new equipments were received, and the guns furnished

by the state were exchanged for six regulation, three-inch, rifled guns, together with new carriages and Sibley tents. On the 1st of March the morning report showed one hundred and nineteen effectives, officers and men, with one hundred and five horses. On the same day it moved with Bank's advance up the Shenandoah valley, and was prominently engaged in the actions at Bunker Hill, Winchester and Newtown, beside several reconnoissances in force.

The battery encamped at Warrenton in the latter part of March, and from there took part in the general movements in that region. In May it took part in the abortive attempt to cut off Jackson's retreat, and on the 10th of August moved with McDowell's corps to stay the enemy's progress after the defeat of Banks. When Pope withdrew his forces across the Rappahannock, battery F was posted at the crossing to cover the retreat, where it did valiant service. It had two guns disabled and several horses killed, but the pieces were all brought off. The battery was then ordered to Thoroughfare-Gap to dispute Longstreet's passage to reinforce Jackson. Brockway's section was pushed into position by hand, and held the enemy at bay until dark, when it was withdrawn. On the 30th the battery was stationed on a hill near the Henry house. The rest of the guns were subsequently ordered elsewhere, leaving Brockway alone. A determined attack was made upon his position, and his supports having been driven away, his guns were captured, and all but three of its men disabled or captured. Another gun with a fresh detachment of men was placed under Lieutenant Brockway, with orders to fill "the chest with ammunition." He was ordered to hold his position and maintain a slow fire until further instructed. This he did until dusk, when the enemy made a furious charge upon him. Supposing he was to be supported, he stoutly defended his position until he found himself and command in possession of the enemy. The union forces had safely crossed Bull Run in the meantime, and Brockway's command was simply left behind to deceive the enemy. The ruse was entirely successful; the retreat was effected with the loss of one gun and caisson and eight men.

Only one gun was saved, and the remnant of the command marched all night and encamped on the following day at Centreville. Here the guns and horses of an Indiana battery were turned over to Captain Matthews, and with them the battery was partially refitted. At the battle of Chantilly it was in line but not engaged. At South mountain the battery was not engaged, and on the 15th of September it encamped on Antietam creek. On the next day it was moved to the right, where it occupied a position in Rickett's division. It first occupied the historic position near the Dunkard church, in the rear of a cornfield. The enemy's fire was soon concentrated upon it and it was advanced. The enemy several times charged the position unsuccessfully. Most of the battery horses were killed or wounded, and of the men, four were killed and fifteen wounded.

On the 23d Lieutenant Ricketts rejoined the battery from recruiting service; Captain Matthews left on account of sickness, and never returned. From severe service the battery had been reduced from a six-gun to a two-gun battery; the men were greatly reduced in numbers and worn out with constant service, and the horses and equipments were equally reduced in effectiveness. Lieutenant Goldbad was dead, Brockway a prisoner, Captain Matthews and Lieutenant Case absent, prostrated by disease, and the men scattered by wounds, desertion and sickness. On the 1st of September, while encamped at Brook's station, Lieutenant Ricketts was ordered to Washington, where he obtained two guns, fourteen men and twenty-nine horses. On the 10th the battery was ordered to Falmouth, where it was posted to cover the laying of pontoon

bridges. It remained here during the action of the next three days, and contributed conspicuous aid in the movement across the river. With the ending of this movement the battery retired to Belle Plain and went into winter quarters. Lieutenant Brockway was exchanged and returned to his command shortly after the battle of Fredericksburg. Early in January, 1863, the battery was transferred to the Third division of the First corps, and upon the promotion of Captain Matthews, Lieutenant R. B. Ricketts was promoted to the captaincy.

The movement upon Chancellorsville opened on the 27th of April. Battery F took part in this movement, and on the 2d of May was ordered to relieve Seeley's regular battery, which had suffered heavily in the previous day's fighting. The enemy's line was only two hundred and fifty yards away, and Captain Ricketts was instructed to hold the position at all hazards. The battery was the center of repeated assaults, but its death-dealing engines each time forced the enemy to recoil with terrible slaughter.

On the 13th of May, the battery was ordered to report to General Tyler, in command of the reserve artillery. On the 15th, the battery moved by forced marches toward Pennsylvania, arriving on the field of Gettysburg on July 2d, and taking position in front of the cemetery gate. It was almost instantly engaged, and soon after was charged by the Louisiana Tigers. The battery occupied an exposed position. Captain Ricketts had been advised that the enemy would probably make a desperate attempt to take it, and he was ordered to hold his position to the last extremity. He recognized the desperate character of the attack, and, charging his pieces with canister, poured in deadly volleys at the rate of four discharges per minute. Never before defeated in a charge, the Tigers held on their way undaunted, and were soon among the guns bayoneting the gunners. The guidon was planted in one of the earthworks, and an officer of the enemy was in the act of seizing it when its bearer rode up and shot the assailant down. He leveled his revolver again, but before he could fire was prostrated by the enemy. The guidon at length fell into the hands of the enemy. Observing this, Lieutenant Brockway seized a stone and felled the captor to the ground. A scene of the wildest confusion ensued, and both contestants struggled with the most desperate valor. It ended in the crushing defeat of the enemy, who, coming forward seventeen hundred strong, retired with barely six hundred. The loss of the battery in this engagement was nine killed, fourteen wounded and three taken prisoners, one-half of the number actually engaged.

In Mead's campaign, during the remaining months of 1863, the battery participated. At Bristoe station it acted with especial gallantry, and was complimented in general orders. On the 22d of November, Lieutenant Brockway commenced re-enlisting the men for the veteran service, and soon after went into winter quarters. Early in January, 1864, over one hundred men having been re-enlisted, they were re-enrolled on the 10th, remustered for three years, and granted the usual veteran furlough. After the expiration of their furlough, the men rendezvoused at Chester, Pennsylvania, where the company was recruited to two hundred. About the 1st of March it returned to its old camp on Mountain run, and the surplus men were distributed to other batteries.

On the 4th of May, the army under the command of Grant again turned its march toward Richmond, and Battery F moved with it, crossing at Ely's ford. At noon of the 5th the enemy was met in the beginning of the Wilderness. Here the battery was early brought into action, and did especial execution with its percussion shells. With this battle began the series of movements



which terminated at Petersburg. At Cold Harbor the battery was attached to the Eighteenth corps, and was sharply engaged. For six days the battery was in the line of battle without relief, but on the 8th of June it was returned to the Second corps. On the 11th, this corps reached the James river, and was soon in position before Petersburg. The battery took part in the diversion toward Deep Bottom, from which it returned to the lines about the city, and continued to take part in the siege until the final surrender. On the 3d of April it went into camp at City Point. From this place it subsequently went to Washington, where its guns and horses were turned over, and the company dispatched to Harrisburg. On the 10th of June, 1865, it was mustered out of the service.

The Fifty-second regiment contained one company (company G) formed in Columbia county, and another (company A) in which a number of its citizens were enrolled. This regiment was recruited under the president's call in July, 1861, and was organized on the 7th of October, at Camp Curtin. On the 8th of November it proceeded to Washington, and went into camp at Kalorama Heights. In January, 1862, it moved into comfortable barracks, where it remained until the 28th of March, when it was summoned to the field. It first faced the enemy at Lee's Mills, but was principally engaged in the flanking movement which caused the confederates to abandon their fortifications at Yorktown. On the 20th, with its corps, the regiment took position opposite Bottom's bridge, on the left bank of the Chickahominy, and on the 23d engaged with others in slashing timber to form a defense about the head of the bridge. On the 24th the Fifty-second took part in a reconnoissance toward Richmond, and, developing the enemy in force, it was deployed as skirmishers. A spirited fight ensued, and a partial success gained, but being under orders not to bring on a general engagement, the pursuit of the wavering enemy was not pushed. On the succeeding three days the force was cautiously pushed forward to within five miles of Richmond, and went into camp a half mile beyond Fair Oaks.

The battle of Fair Oaks was fought on the 30th of May. The regiment was greatly depleted by details at guard at different points, and from its advanced position came into action later than the rest of the brigade. It narrowly escaped capture, and behaved itself with such gallantry as to be honorably mentioned in the report of General McClellan. A month intervened before the regiment was again called into action. On the 26th the enemy attacked the right wing of the army, and on the following day involved the Fifty-second, which stood in water waist-deep. For five days the safety of the army depended on the brigade of which the regiment formed a part. The defense of the bridges in the White Oak Swamp was assigned to this command, and many of the men were compelled, during the most of this time, to stand in the water up to their waists. It retired with the army to Harrison's landing, and finally to Yorktown.

In December the Fifty-second was ordered to North Carolina, with the probable purpose of attacking Wilmington, but a severe storm at sea balked this plan. On the 29th of January, 1863, it proceeded to Port Royal, and on the 6th of April embarked for Charleston, but the naval attack failing, the regiment finally returned to Beaufort. On the 5th of July it took part in the expedition up the Stone river. Landing on the James island it was attacked on the 16th by a heavy force of the enemy, and on the following night, finding their assailants too powerful, the command was successfully withdrawn. On the next night, at dark, the regiment reached the head of Folly island, and subsequently took part in the work of constructing approaches to Fort Wag-



ner. When it was decided to carry the fort by direct assault, the Fifty-second was ordered to pass Fort Wagner on the beach and charge Fort Gregg, but the evacuation of the fort made this hazardous duty unnecessary.

In December, 1863, a large portion of the regiment re-enlisted, and was granted a furlough. Upon its return it was recruited to its full complement, newly armed, and attached to the Tenth corps. It was by some unexplained circumstance detained at Hilton Head. From this point it participated in several reconnoissances, and in July, 1864, took part in the vain attempt to capture Charleston. The attack on Fort Johnson was assigned to the Fifty-second. The approach was made by boat, but, owing to miscalculations, the fort was not reached until daylight. It nevertheless made the assault, but the garrison, only partially surprised, rallied in overwhelming numbers and captured the whole party that gained an entrance. One hundred and thirty-five men were thus captured or killed, more than fifty of the former perishing in the Andersonville or Columbia prisons.

The regiment remained on Morris island during the summer and autumn, working the heavy siege guns, and doing picket duty on the harbor. On the 18th of February, 1865, it was suspected that Fort Sumter was evacuated, and Major Hennessy, taking a select boat crew and the old flag of the regiment, cautiously scaled the old ruin to find it abandoned. He at once proceeded to Charleston and received its formal surrender. Here the regiment remained until Sherman's army came through the state, when it joined company, continuing to near Raleigh, where Johnson surrendered in April. A few weeks' duty at Saultsbury concluded its service, when it proceeded to Harrisburg, and on the 12th of July, 1865, was mustered out.

In the Eighty-fourth regiment, company D was recruited chiefly in Columbia county with some from Montour and other counties. It was locally known as the "Hurley Guards." The regiment was recruited from August to October, 1861, and in the latter month was organized at Camp Austin. It was ordered to Hancock, Maryland, arriving on the 2d of January, 1862, where it was armed. During the winter and spring it was employed in the Shenandoah valley with General Lander's command in opposing Jackson's movements. On the 23d of March, 1862, it was suddenly attacked and severely handled before other troops could be brought to its aid, and out of two hundred and sixty men who went into the fight, twenty-three were killed, and sixty-seven were wounded.

The Eighty-fourth, after doing provost duty in the town of Berryville until the 2d of May, joined in the general advance up the valley. The regiment had one or two sharp skirmishes, but was very much worn down by the laborious marching. On the 25th of June Samuel M. Bowman was made colonel of the regiment, and in the following month the regiment broke camp and joined Pope's army. It was present at the battle of Cedar mountain, but was not seriously engaged. On the 14th it joined in pursuit of the enemy; it took part in the movement to Thoroughfare-Gap, but took little part in the action there. At the second battle of Bull Run, it narrowly escaped capture, and when it arrived within the defenses at Washington there were scarcely seventy men fit for duty.

Here it was assigned to light duty, remaining until the middle of October. In the meantime, through the efforts of Colonel Bowman, the regiment received about four hundred recruits, and in October was ordered to rejoin the army. In the battle of Fredericksburg, which followed, the Eighty-fourth assaulted the works of the enemy, and received particular mention for "coolness, judgment and unsparing bravery" in General Carroll's report. In the

Chancellorsville campaign, the regiment, after severe marching for some five days, on the 2d of May, 1863, was brought in contact with the enemy. On the following day it became involved by the inclosing columns of the enemy, and only escaped capture by the most intrepid conduct, capturing some thirty prisoners while extricating themselves.

In the Gettysburg campaign, the regiment was assigned to protect the corps train on its arrival at Taneytown, and immediately proceeded with it to Westminster, where it was employed in forwarding supplies. Upon the return of the army to Virginia it had numerous skirmishes with the enemy, and after the conclusion of the campaign at Mine run, returned to the neighborhood of Brandy station and went into winter quarters. In January, 1864, a considerable number of the regiment re-enlisted and were granted veteran furlough. On the 6th of February it started toward the Rapidan. On the opening of the Wilderness campaign, it proceeded with its corps by the Germania Ford. The regiment had several brisk skirmishes, and on the 12th of May it joined the corps of Hancock in its brilliant charge. Until the 14th of June each day brought its skirmish. On this date it crossed the James, and at once engaged in the operations of the siege. It took part in the diversion toward Deep Bottom; returning to the lines in front of Petersburg it resumed its part in the attack, and later took part in a second diversion toward Deep Bottom. It was subsequently transferred to the extreme left of the line about Petersburg, and early in October participated in a desperate charge upon the enemy's works. In October, the men whose term of service had expired were mustered out, and the veterans and recruits were organized into a battalion, of four companies, which remained on duty until the 13th of January, 1865, when it was consolidated with the Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania. The battalion took part in the operations on the Weldon railroad. It was finally mustered out on the 29th of June, 1865.

In the One Hundred and Twelfth regiment (Second Artillery), company F was largely recruited in Columbia county. On the recommendation of General McClellan, President Lincoln authorized the organization of a battalion of heavy artillery. This was afterward extended to a regiment. The rendezvous was established at Camden, New Jersey, and in January, 1862, the regimental organization was completed. Batteries D, G and H were ordered to Fort Delaware, and on the 25th of February the balance of the regiment was transferred to the defense of Washington.

In the spring of 1864, although the regiment numbered more than eighteen hundred men, recruits still continued to come in, and it was accordingly determined to form a new regiment from the surplus men. Officers were selected from the members of the original regiment to command the new one so long as their services were needed, and then to be returned to the old organization. On the 27th of May, 1864, the original regiment was ordered to join the army of the Potomac, and on the 28th reached Port Royal on the Rappahannock. On the 4th of June it joined the Eighteenth corps at Cold Harbor. Being too large to maneuver as infantry, the regiment was divided into three battalions, company F being in the second battalion under the command of Captain Jones.

On the 18th of June the Second battalion was ordered to join in a charge on the enemy's works before Petersburg. Owing to a failure on the part of other troops the battalion found itself isolated and a target for the concentrated fire of the enemy. Screening themselves in some tall oats, the men constructed a temporary defense with the aid of their caps and bayonets, and the line thus seized was afterward retained until the fall of the city. During the months of June, July and August, the regiment did arduous work in the trenches, losing in that time more than one-half its effective strength.

At Fort Harrison, on the 20th of September, the First and Second battalions of the regiment, under Major Anderson, were ordered to attack the confederate works in the rear; lack of support rendered the movement unsuccessful, and with ranks decimated by two hundred killed, wounded and prisoners, they were compelled to fall back, their gallant leader himself being among the slain. His commission as colonel reached regimental headquarters only one day later. Captain W. M. McClure, of company F, was appointed to the position of colonel, after the death of Anderson, and captain S. D. Strawbridge was promoted to fill the position of lieutenant-colonel. On the 2d of December, the regiment was ordered to the Bermuda front, and while there, in January, 1865, its original term of service expired. A large number of the men having re-enlisted, however, these with recruits secured, soon enabled the regiment to show an effective force of over two thousand men.

After the evacuation of Petersburg, it was assigned to duty in that city, and upon the surrender of Lee, a week later, the different companies were stationed at various points in Virginia, as provost guards. When the departments were established, these troops were relieved, and on the 29th of February, 1865, the regiment was mustered out at City Point. From this place it proceeded to Philadelphia, where the men were disbanded.

The One Hundred and Thirty-second regiment (nine months' service) was recruited in the north central part of the state, and was composed of an unusually fine body of men. Companies E and H were recruited in Columbia county, and were locally known as the "Columbia County Guards" and "Cat-wissa Guards." They left for Harrisburg early in August, 1862, and were mustered into the service on the 14th and 13th, respectively. On the 19th the regiment proceeded to Washington, and were encamped near Fort Corcoran, on the Virginia side of the Potomac. On the 2d of September, it moved to Rockville, Maryland, and, on the 13th, made a forced march of thirty-three miles, reaching the battle-field of South Mountain just as the fighting for the day closed. It participated in the pursuit of the enemy, and on the 17th was brought in contact with the enemy in close quarters. For four hours the regiment maintained its position without wavering. The loss of the regiment was thirty killed, one hundred and fourteen wounded and eight missing.

After the battle, it moved with its corps to Harper's Ferry, and encamped on Bolivar Heights. On the 31st of October, it joined in the movement on Fredericksburg, and in the attack of December, the regiment was ordered to charge the works on Marys's Heights. In this trying ordeal they won the highest encomiums from its brigade commander. After this battle, the regiment encamped at Falmouth, until near the close of April, 1863. When the movement to Chancellorsville commenced, the term of service of a portion of the men had expired, but when the order to march was received, there was not a murmur, as they promptly responded. In this fight, the regiment lost about fifty killed and wounded. On the 14th of May, its term of service having fully expired, it was relieved from duty, and returned to Harrisburg, where, on the 24th, it was mustered out.

Company I, of the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth regiment, was recruited from Crawford, Centre and Columbia counties, the latter contributing some eighteen men. It was mustered into the service for nine months, on August 14th, 1862, at Camp Curtin. On the 29th, the regiment was ordered to Washington, in the vicinity of which it was kept, until the Fredericksburg campaign. In the attack on the latter place, the regiment suffered a loss of one hundred and forty in killed, wounded and missing. It took part in the subsequent movements of this army, and in the battle of Chancellorsville saw some hard



fighting, and did excellent service. It was subsequently employed, chiefly in routine duties, and on the 29th of May, 1863, was mustered out.

The repeated attempts of General Lee to effect a foothold in Pennsylvania were a subject of constant fear. The exposed condition of the state, which had suggested the organization of the Reserve corps, was not improved when the exigencies of the national cause called these troops to the front, and when the confederate army, after its victory over Pope, began to press northward, it became apparent that new efforts must be made for home defense. On the 4th of September, 1862, therefore, Governor Curtin called upon the militia to arm. On the 10th, the danger was more imminent, and a call was issued to all able-bodied men to provide their own guns and ammunition, and hold themselves in readiness to answer a summons to the field; and on the following day fifty thousand of this militia were called for. The people everywhere flew to arms. Columbia county sent out four companies of these "emergency men." Two were mustered in as companies B and D in the Thirteenth regiment of the militia of 1862, from the 12th to the 17th, and were discharged on the 25th or 26th of September; a third was mustered on the 15th of September, as company G, in the Twenty-first regiment, and discharged in the last week of the same month. The fourth left Bloomsburg on the 22d of September, but was probably not mustered into any regimental organization. There were some twenty-five of these regiments, besides a number of independent organizations, assembled within two weeks. They were rapidly concentrated at Hagerstown, Chambersburg and Greencastle. Happily the battles of South mountain and Antietam, on September 14th-17th, rendered the services of the militia no longer necessary and they were as quickly as possible disbanded.

In the One Hundred and Seventy-first regiment, of the drafted militia, Columbia county was represented by some dozen or fifteen, divided between several companies. This regiment was organized at Camp Curtin about the middle of November, 1862, and, on the 27th, left camp for Washington. From the capital it proceeded to Norfolk, and thence to Suffolk, Virginia. On the 28th of December it broke camp, and, under orders, went to Newbern, North Carolina, where it took part in the movements of the army in this region until near the close of June, 1863, when it was ordered to Fortress Monroe. From this point it participated in a demonstration against Richmond in favor of Meade at Gettysburg. On the 3d of August, it proceeded to Harrisburg, where it was mustered out a few days later.

In the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth regiment, of the drafted militia, companies A, H, I and a considerable number in F, were from Columbia county. The men assembled in Camp Curtin from the 20th to the 25th of October, 1862, where, on the 2d of December, regimental organization was effected. On the 5th of December, the regiment moved to Washington, and on the 10th, proceeded to Newport News. About a week later, it marched to Yorktown where it encamped, and on the 29th went inside the fortifications and commenced drill and garrison duty. In April the regiment was ordered out to relieve a small garrison near Williamsburg, threatened by the enemy, but there was no determined attack. In June it participated in a reconnaissance on the peninsula to Charles City and Providence ferry. The One Hundred and Seventy-eighth took part in the demonstration against Richmond in favor of General Meade at Gettysburg, and was in the column directed toward Bottom's bridge, on the Chickahominy. Here the regiment had a slight skirmish. It was soon ordered to Harrisburg, where, on the 27th of July, 1863, it was mustered out.

In 1863 another "emergency" arose. The confederate victories at Fred-





Photo. by M. Kilip, Blanesburg, Pa.

*Calhoun Barton*



ericksburg, in December, 1862, and on the field of Chancellorsville, in May, 1863, invited General Lee again to attempt an invasion of Pennsylvania. Some knowledge of this design came to the national authorities, and as a precautionary measure, on June 9, 1863, two departments were established, that of the Monongahela embracing that portion of Pennsylvania west of Johnstown and the Laurel Hill range, and portions of West Virginia and Ohio, with headquarters at Pittsburgh, under the command of Major-General W. T. H. Brooks; and that of the Susquehanna, comprising the remaining portion of Pennsylvania, with headquarters at Harrisburg, under the command of Major-General D. N. Couch. These officers were authorized to organize departmental corps, and on assuming command they issued orders calling upon the people of the state to volunteer. Governor Curtin aided in this movement, but the call came when the farmers were busiest with their farm cares, and so many unfounded fears of invasion had been previously raised that the call was to a large extent unheeded.

It daily became more apparent that there had been no mistake made in the judgment formed of the enemy's designs, and on the 15th of June the president called for fifty thousand men from Pennsylvania, to serve for six months. Troops began to arrive at the capital soon after, but there was still a reluctance to volunteer manifested, which Governor Curtin sought to overcome by granting the option to the men of being mustered for six months, or the emergency. Eight regiments were soon enrolled for the "emergency," and meanwhile the threatening danger grew more imminent. At this juncture all reluctance passed away, and men came pouring into Harrisburg. The approaches to the capital were fortified. Chambersburg was occupied, and the militia was soon in contact with the advance of the rebel army. On the 26th another more pressing call was issued by the governor, and the people, alive to the real danger, flew to arms. The greater part of the troops assembled at Harrisburg were pushed up the Cumberland valley, part joining the army of the Potomac, and part standing in readiness to participate in the battle expected to take place at Williamsport. During the first three days of July, the battle of Gettysburg was fought, and with the defeat of Lee ended the danger of invasion. With this the demand for further service on the part of the "emergency men" ceased, and in the months of August and September the majority of the men were mustered out. With few exceptions, they were not brought in serious conflict with the enemy, but they none the less rendered efficient service.

Columbia county was represented by companies C and H, of the Twenty-Eighth regiment of militia, by company E of the Thirtieth regiment, and by companies H and I of the Thirty-Fifth.

Of the Two Hundred and Ninth regiment, of the one year's service, company E was recruited in Columbia county. The regiment was organized on the 16th of September, 1864, at camp Curtin. It was immediately ordered to join the army of the James at Bermuda Hundred and was employed in such duties as would free the more experienced troops for active operations. On the 17th of November it had a lively brush with the enemy in repelling an attack on the picket line. On the 24th it was transferred to the army of the Potomac, and during the winter was chiefly engaged in fatigue duty on the roads and fortifications. On the 25th of March, 1865, they were called into action by an attack of the enemy, and won high compliments from the corps commander for their gallantry and steadiness in a very trying situation. On the 2d of April, the regiment participated in a charge upon the enemy's lines, and notwithstanding it was exposed to a fearful fire of infantry and artillery, they pushed on unfalteringly, captured the line and held it. After the evacuation of Pe-

tersburg, the regiment was employed in repairing the railroad track to Nottoway C. H., where it was held until the 20th, when it returned to City Point, and thence to Alexandria, where it went into camp. On the 31st of May, its recruits were transferred to another regiment, and the balance of the men mustered out of the service.

In the spring of 1865 a company was recruited in Columbia county for the "one year's service." Some eighteen or twenty of its members, however, were drawn from Wyoming county. This was assigned to the Seventy-Fourth regiment, and designated as company H. In March it joined the regiment, which was then doing garrison duty on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, with headquarters at Green Spring. In the early part of April the regiment was ordered to Beverly, where it remained doing guard and picket duty until the 12th of May. It was then ordered to Clarksburg as guard for the stores deposited there. The headquarters were removed subsequently to Parkersburg, and the regiment detailed in squads and companies to guard the Parkersburg branch of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. It was mustered out on the 29th of August at Clarksburg, and immediately sent to Pittsburgh, where it was finally disbanded.

Another company was recruited in the county about the same time, which was mustered into the service and assigned in March, 1865, as company B, to the One Hundred and Third regiment. They served in the Albemarle district in North Carolina, and were finally mustered out at Newbern, on June 25, 1865.

In other regiments there were from one to six or eight men from Columbia county, among which may be mentioned the Fifth, Fifty-Seventh, Eightieth, Eighty-First, One Hundred and Sixth, One Hundred and Fifty-Second, One Hundred and Sixty-first, and the Two Hundred and Tenth.

Since the disturbed period of the "war," Columbia county has rapidly developed. The county seat has been the center of progressive activity, and, with increased facilities for shipping, its natural advantages are certain to invite manufactures and interests which will eventually make the borough a large, thriving town. Its beautiful and healthful location on the side of protecting hills, with its view of hill, dale and river, will attract those who resort to such scenes from the heat and dirt of the city. A beginning has been made in this direction in the founding of the sanitarium. This institution has not always received the unqualified indorsement of the medical fraternity, but the natural advantages of the place will eventually overcome professional scruples or lead to the establishment of such as will meet the most intelligent scrutiny.

It is difficult to give a complete *resume* of the growth of this profession in the county. While the center of its influence is to be found at the county seat there were many—in the days of long country rides—important practitioners in the remoter parts of the county, such as Doctor Parks, and there are such still. A *resume* of the profession in the vicinity of Bloomsburg and vicinity, however, while not including everyone in the county, will yet serve to illustrate the general career of the fraternity.

There is no account of doctors here prior to 1807. In that and the following year, an enterprising Yankee "blazed the way" for the succession of professional gentlemen that have since graced the fraternity. This adventurous knight of the pill-bag and lancet was Dr. Ethel B. Bacon, who was popularly known as the Yankee doctor. He came from Kingston. At that time there were few physicians, and his practice extended to the head-waters of Fishing Creek. He stood high in the estimation of the people, but removed, in 1817, to Wellsboro, where he engaged in farming.



About 1816 Doctors Townsend and Krider came to Bloomsburg. The former remained only a short time, but Doctor Krider continued his practice until his death. About 1818 Doctor Roe came and divided his time between the practice of his profession and teaching. He removed to a point further up Fishing creek. Doctors Ebenezer Daniels and Harmon Gearhart came about 1823, though the former apparently came first and was well established in the confidence of the people when the latter came. Dr. Daniels located at Catawissa and then gave the following testimonial to his less experienced contemporary:

CATAWISSA, May 24, 1823.

Having had an acquaintance with Doctor H. Gearhart ever since he commenced the study of Medicine and having frequently conversed with him on Medical subjects since his return from the University of Philadelphia last spring, I am entirely satisfied that he is eminently qualified to practice Medicine with safety and advantage to those who may be the subjects of his care, and with honor to himself and the profession.

EBENEZER DANIELS.

Mr. Daniels remained until about 1834, when he sold his practice to Doctor John Ramsay, and removed to Indianapolis. Mr. Gearhart died in 1833, with the esteem of those who knew him.

The year of 1825 was marked by the prevalence of a bilious fever of unusual virulence throughout the county. In Bloom township alone there were seventy-one deaths. Doctor Ramsay was a large-hearted man, who was much endeared to the community by his sympathetic nature. He early took a leading place in the direction of public affairs, and was especially active in educational matters. He died suddenly in 1863, leaving the whole community to mourn his loss. Doctor William Petriken came here after the death of Mr. Gearhart. He was the son of Doctor David Petriken, of Danville, who had a great reputation, and was invariably called in to counsel on critical cases. His son, William, inherited his father's ability, and would undoubtedly have taken a high place in his profession, had not his career suddenly ended, in 1842, by a sudden death. David Scott located in Bloomsburg about the same time, and his name has been perpetuated as the popular designation of a suburb of the town, where he built the first house. He subsequently removed to Kansas.

Doctor Thomas Nastine practiced here for a short time about 1833; he subsequently went to Williamsport, and from there to St. Louis. Doctor Hawkins came here in 1846; he remained here only a short time, and moved to Michigan. George Hill located here about the same time, and remained three or four years in the practice of his profession, when he removed to Muncy. Soon after Doctor Hill came Doctor Thomas Butler, who was associated with the former in business. Doctor J. B. McKelvey began practice at Mifflinville in 1849; he soon moved to Graysville, Kentucky, some nine months later he removed to Arkadelphia, Arkansas, and in 1851 returned to Bloomsburg, where he is still practicing.

About 1855 F. C. Harrison came to the county, and for a time practiced at Mifflinville. He had a large patronage, but subsequently went to Lewisburg, and engaged in banking. After his departure, Doctor Wells, of Wilkesbarre, located there for a short time. About the same time, William H. Bradley located at Bloomsburg, but soon abandoned his professional labors for the editorial field. In 1868 Doctor Reber began the practice of medicine in this place. Prior to his coming here he was a surgeon in the United States navy, and his varied experience during the war of the rebellion was an admirable school to fit him for the successful practice he now enjoys. Doctor Evans began the practice of the profession also in 1861, and still continues. Doctor A. L. Turner came from New York in 1870, and took charge of the sanitarium. In 1874

Doctor F. B. Gardner came here from Tennessee. He was a surgeon of high rank in the Confederate service. In 1875 Doctor H. W. McReynolds located in Bloomsburg, coming from Buckhorn, where he had practiced for a number of years.

The Columbia County Medical Society had its origin in 1858. On July 31st of that year, a meeting of physicians was held at Bloomsburg, over which Doctor Ramsay presided, and to which the members of the profession in Montour county were invited. Among the original members were John Ramsay, J. K. Robbins, George Scott, J. D. Strawbridge, H. W. McReynolds, W. M. Beckley, F. C. Harrison, R. S. Lemington, W. H. Magill, Jacob Schuyler, D. W. Montgomery and George Yeomans. Messrs. J. K. Robbins, F. C. Harrison and J. B. McKelvey were appointed to frame a constitution. In the following month it was decided to make the society auxiliary to the state society, and to extend an invitation to the profession of Northumberland county to unite with them. In view of this enlarged membership, the name was changed to the Susquehanna Union Medical Society; but on June 21, 1864, it was changed to Columbia and Montour Medical Society, and still later it was changed to its original title. This society includes about one-fourth of the practicing physicians of the county.

By the act of June 8, 1881, it was provided that the names of all medical practitioners, with their residence and name of institution by which their degree was conferred, should be recorded. Physicians practicing in the state since 1871, were permitted to continue, if not graduated by a medical school, and the blanks in the following table indicate those whose experience gave them legal standing in the medical fraternity. The names of those who have moved are omitted:

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF MEDICAL DIPLOMA.	INSTITUTION BY WHICH DEGREE OF M. D. WAS CONFERRED.
John K. Robbins.....	Catawissa.....	March 10, 1842.....	Jefferson Medical College.
J. B. McKelvey.....	Bloomsburg.....	April 8, 1848.....	University of Pennsylvania.
Jugh W. McReynolds.....	Bloomsburg.....	April 8, 1848.....	University of Pennsylvania.
Jacob Schuyler.....	Bloomsburg.....	March 7, 1843.....	Pennsylvania Medical College.
John C. Rutter.....	Bloomsburg.....	March 3, 1855.....	Homeopathic Medical College of Penna.
William M. Reber.....	Bloomsburg.....	March 10, 1863.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Benjamin F. Gardner.....	Bloomsburg.....	March 11, 1861.....	Medical College of Virginia.
Isaiah W. Willits.....	Bloomsburg.....	March 11, 1875.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Luther B. Kline.....	Catawissa.....	March 9, 1867.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Thomas J. Swisher.....	Jerseytown.....	March 10, 1862.....	Bellevue Hospital Medical College, N. Y.
Alex B. McCrea.....	Berwick.....	June 1, 1865.....	Long Island Hospital Medical College, N. Y.
George L. Reagan.....	Berwick.....	June, 1865.....	University of Vermont.
Frederick W. Releker.....	Espy.....	March 12, 1878.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Alfred P. Stoddart.....	Orangeville.....	March 10, 1850.....	Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia.
J. Jordan Brown.....	Millville.....	March 12, 1870.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Thomas C. McHenry.....	Benton.....	March 30, 1870.....	University of Pennsylvania.
Ralph M. Lashell.....	Centralia.....	.....	.....
David H. Montgomery.....	Millville.....	March 10, 1852.....	Philadelphia College of Medicine.
John B. Patton.....	Millville.....	February 23, 1869.....	Philadelphia University of Medicine and Surgery.
David H. Montgomery.....	Millville.....	March 10, 1852.....	Philadelphia College of Medicine.
John B. Patton.....	Millville.....	February 23, 1869.....	Philadelphia University of Medicine and Surgery.
Josiah Smith.....	Berwick.....	April 1, 1854.....	University of Pennsylvania.
James K. Montgomery.....	Buckhorn.....	March 13, 1880.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Abia P. Heller.....	Millville.....	February 22, 1854.....	Eclectic Medical College of Penna.
Pius Zimmerman.....	Numidia.....	April 2, 1883.....	Jefferson Medical College.
J. H. Vastine.....	Catawissa.....	March, 1858.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Charles C. Willits.....	Catawissa.....	March 30, 1882.....	Jefferson Medical College.
John W. Carothers.....	Berwick.....	April 13, 1883.....	University of Pennsylvania.
Laforest A. Shattuck.....	Bloomsburg.....	May 6, 1869.....	Eclectic Medical College, N. Y.
Charles T. Steck.....	Mainville.....	March 28, 1878.....	University of Pennsylvania.
John G. Schaller.....	Rohrsburg.....	.....	.....
Samuel A. Gibson.....	Berwick.....	.....	.....
George I. Jolly.....	Orangeville.....	March 1, 1883.....	Jefferson Medical College.
John C. Wintersteen.....	Numidia.....	April 2, 1886.....	Jefferson Medical College.
W. T. Vance.....	Rohrsburg.....	March 3, 1881.....	University of Maryland, Baltimore.
Norman J. Hendershott.....	Bloomsburg.....	.....	.....
Isaac L. Edwards.....	Benton.....	March 11, 1870.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Isaac E. Patterson.....	Benton.....	March 12, 1869.....	Jefferson Medical College.
William B. Robbins.....	Catawissa.....	March 12, 1873.....	Jefferson Medical College.
David E. Krebs.....	Eighth Street.....	March 3, 1857.....	Pennsylvania Medical College, Philadelphia.
Frank P. Hill.....	Berwick.....	March 14, 1876.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Everett W. Rutter.....	Berwick.....	March 6, 1874.....	Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia.

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF MEDICAL DIPLOMA.	INSTITUTION BY WHICH DEGREE OF M. D. WAS CONFERRED.
Jonathan R. Goedner.....	Berwick.		
B. Frank Sharpless.....	Catawissa .....	March 23, 1880 .....	Jefferson Medical College.
Christian Leuker.....	Buckhorn .....	March 12, 1877.....	University of Pennsylvania.
Joseph R. M. Evans.....	Bloomsburg.....	March 5, 1859.....	Jefferson Medical College.
O. A. Megargell.....	Orangeville .....	June 15, 1859.....	Castleton Medical College, Vermont.
Louis J. Adams.....	Evansville.....	March 10, 1877.....	Jefferson Medical College.
John C. Fruit.....	Jerseytown .....	March 7, 1857.....	Jefferson Medical College.
Honora A. Robbins.....	Bloomsburg .....		University of Pennsylvania.

## CHAPTER VI.

### BLOOMSBURG.

THE observer, standing on the Rupert hills and looking up the valley of the northeast branch of the Susquehanna, beholds a scene spread out before him which rivals in quiet beauty the most famous landscapes in the country. There is not in the distant profile of the Knob mountain, nor the less regular contour of the river hills, that aspect of grandeur presented by elevations of greater magnitude, but their proportions, and the general characteristics of the valley they enclose, harmonize perfectly at that point in the eastern horizon where they seem to converge. The town of Berwick is scarcely distinguishable in the diminishing prospective. At this point, also, the river comes within range of vision, apparently widening in its downward progress. The one street of the village of Espy is clearly distinguished from its situation in a notch at the foot of the hills. Bloomsburg is less distinct, and presents the appearance of a terraced grove, but this impression is dispelled by the spires and cupolas which rise above the surrounding verdure. The hills in the rear have been deeply serrated in the mining of iron ore; and this, with the columns of smoke and vapor which ascend on either side of the town, indicates one phase of the industrial character of the people. The winding channel of Fishing creek, for several miles from its mouth, and the village of Rupert form the foreground of this landscape view. Its aspect as a whole cannot fail to impress the beholder favorably.

It is possible that more than a century ago the first settlers looked upon this valley with feelings of equal pleasure as far as the effect of natural scenery was concerned. The primeval forest had not yet disappeared before the encroachments of advancing civilization. A swamp extended from Fishing creek for several miles to the east, and while this may have caused grave apprehensions as to the healthfulness of the region, its luxuriant vegetation did not mar the beauty of the landscape. A number of islands in the creek, and the water-fowl wont to congregate there, may have attracted attention. The ceaseless splash of the river, the cautious movements of the deer as they brushed through this undergrowth, the stealthy tread of the savage or his shrill whoop and its answering echo—such sounds as these broke the stillness which seemed to pervade everything. From an economic standpoint circumstances were not altogether favorable. The soil gave promise of great fertility, but years of labor would be required to bring it to a condition of tolerable productiveness with the rude implements of the period. The region was remote from any market for its products, and the broad channel of the Susquehanna was the only available highway of travel. When James McClure, in the year of 1772, looked upon



this as the region of his future home, it is possible that while he realized its advantages, he was also cognizant of the danger of thus living at such a distance from the limits of civilization and in a country as yet unmarked by its influence.

Some facts regarding his previous history may indicate the motives of his immigration. James McClure was of Scotch-Irish descent, and a resident of that part of Lancaster county then known as the Paxton district, but included since 1785 in Dauphin county. He was connected, by marriage, with Captain Lazarus Stewart, and with George Espy, the proprietor of Espytown. It cannot be definitely determined whether he took an active part in those exploits which have made the "Paxton Rangers" such conspicuous characters in the colonial border annals, or whether he remained unmoved by those outrages which incited his neighbors to armed hostility in defiance of the proprietary government. That he was in active sympathy with his brother-in-law, Captain Stewart, when the latter espoused the defense of the Connecticut colony at Wyoming, seems evident from certain statements in a letter from Fort Augusta, by the military representative of the Penns, from which it appears, that, on Wednesday, May 10, 1769, James McClure, with several others, was encamped at the mouth of Fishing creek, *en route* for Wyoming. It is not further stated whether he reached Wyoming or not; but it seems probable that, for political reasons, his residence in Lancaster county was no longer agreeable, and that when a number of families from Paxton removed to Hanover township, in Wyoming, he went no farther than the mouth of Fishing creek, still, however, within the nominal boundaries of the "Town of Westmoreland." The tract upon which he located was surveyed in June, 1769, for Francis Stewart, who conferred upon it the name of "Beauchamp." It was patented for Mr. McClure, in 1772, under the name of "McClure's Choice," and here, in a rude log cabin, James McClure, Jr., was born, in 1774, this being the first birth of a white child within the forks of the Susquehanna.

The McClures were not the only settlers in this part of Wyoming township for any length of time. In the year of their arrival, 1772, Evan Owen and John Doan became their neighbors. They came from Chester county, with the intention of forming, at the mouth of Fishing creek, a community in which their faith should predominate, as it subsequently did at Catawissa. Evan Owen lived south of a small stream which flowed through the town of Bloomsburg, and near its source. John Doan's land adjoined the McClure tract. Samuel Boone, also a member of the Society of Friends, emigrated from Exeter township, Northampton county, in 1775, and secured the title to four hundred acres of land, including the farm owned by one of his descendants. His land comprised the "Point" between the river and the creek, and extended along the banks of both. From all the evidence obtainable on this subject, it would appear that but three other families, the Claytons, Coopers and Kinneys, lived within the present limits of Bloomsburg, before the war of the revolution. Thomas Clayton was a Quaker from Chester county; Kinney was from New Jersey; nothing is known concerning the Coopers, except a tragic incident in connection with the Indian troubles. And thus, in the interval of comparative quiet which followed the French war, civilization was extended to this county. But before the settlement had experienced the first severity of the next struggle, the death of James McClure, Sr., deprived it of one of those most capable of acting in its defense. In abetting the schemes of Lazarus Stewart, the apparent disloyalty to his state was a vigorous, but palliative, remonstrance against the vacillation of the authorities in providing for the



defense of Paxton; as a member of the committee of safety for Wyoming township, in 1776, he was equally vigorous in advocating measures for the protection of the settlements, although in the preceding year Colonel Plunkett had passed up the river with an armed force, and repassed the McClure plantation in hasty retreat, after an unsuccessful attempt to reduce Wyoming.

His family did not remain at their home long after his death. Among the victims of the Wyoming massacre, July 3, 1778, was Capt. Lazarus Stewart. With the assistance of friends his wife collected her household goods upon a raft supported by two canoes, and thus descended the Susquehanna with her family. Alarmed by her story of danger and desolation, Mrs. McClure collected her family and embarked in a similar craft. They reached Lancaster county in safety, and remained until the close of the war permitted a return to their respective homes. In the meantime Fort McClure was built, consisting of a row of palisades around her house, for the double purpose of protecting it and affording a safe retreat for the neighbors in case of emergency. It is probable that during Mrs. McClure's absence it was occupied by Major Moses Van Campen, who had married her daughter. The site of the fort is now marked by a dwelling-house on the farm of Douglas Hughes.

An incident illustrative of certain phases of frontier life occurred during the last years of the war. Robert Lyon, a soldier at Fort Augusta, was sent from that place to Wyoming with a boat load of stores. He ran his canoe aground at the mouth of Fishing creek, and, leaving his dog and gun in it, started on to visit his affianced bride, the daughter of a Mr. Cooper. His movements were observed by Shenap, an Indian chief, and in his defenseless condition, he was easily captured and taken to Niagara. Here he was released through the mediations of a British officer, who, by a singular coincidence, was his brother. The fate of Mr. Cooper was less fortunate. The mysterious disappearance of Lyon made him an object of suspicion. He was arrested and placed in a canoe to be taken to Sunbury jail. A rifle belonging to one of the posse was dropped into the river by some accident, and he was accused of having thrown it overboard. In the altercation which followed, one of the men seized a tomahawk and buried it in his skull. He lived about twenty days, and expired in prison before Lyon's return had established his innocence.

When the peace of 1783 finally relieved the valley of the 'North Branch' of the harassing experiences of the five preceding years, immigration was again directed to this county, but the lower valley of Fishing creek did not immediately receive an increase of population. Thomas Clayton removed to Catawissa, and Evan Owen to Berwick, of which he was the founder. This would seem to indicate that other localities were considered preferable. There were still occasional additions to the community, however. About 1783 Elisha Barton became a neighbor of the McClures and Boones. He was born in Virginia in 1742, from whence with his father he went to New Jersey. After his marriage, in 1766, he removed to Northampton county, and after a second marriage, he again changed his residence, emigrating this time to "Shamokin," by which name a large section of country including this county was popularly known. He built the "white" mill, owned a large farm west of Bloomsburg, became justice of the peace, and was one of the most substantial citizens of this locality. Joseph B. Long, a Jersey emigrant, bought Owen's land upon his departure, and in 1795 he was succeeded in its possession by Ludwig Eyer, a native of Northampton county. In 1801 Joseph Hendershott and Andrew Schooley bought a tract of several hundred acres adjoining the river and east of the Kinney farm. They settled here the previous year, hav-

ing previously lived at Belvidere, N. J. Mr. Schooley disposed of his interest to Simon Wirtman, a native of Germany, a few years afterward. Jacob Wanich, also of German descent but a native of North Carolina, settled west of Hendershott some time prior to 1809. And at this time the present limits of Bloomsburg had become quite as thickly settled as any other part of the surrounding region.

Apparently dissatisfied with the slow increase of population, and doubtless intending to give a new impetus to settlement and improvement, Ludwig Eyer laid out the town of Bloomsburg in 1802, thus following the example of Evan Owen at Berwick, William Hughes at Catawissa, Christian Krenchel at Millinburg, and George Espy at "Liberty." Bloomsburg, at that time, had no existence except in the mind of its projector, if two buildings—the Protestant Episcopal Church and John Chamberlain's hotel at the corner of Second street and Miller's alley—may be excepted. There was also a deserted hovel with log chimney and clapboard roof on the south side of Second street below Market. Within a few years after the town was laid out, George Vance, a Scotch-Irish Presbyterian from New Jersey, built a cabin on the south side of Main street, the location of which was nearly identical with the terminus of East street at that place. Abram Grotz removed from Easton in 1806, and built the house occupied by C. C. Marr, at the southeast corner of Second and Iron streets. Christopher Kahler and John Coleman had formerly been neighbors of Grotz in Easton, and no doubt followed him on the strength of his representations. The former arrived in 1807; Coleman lived for two years in the tumble-down log house previously mentioned, and then removed from this temporary habitation to a more pretentious residence on the corner of Center and Third streets. With seeds brought from his former home he planted an orchard, which covered the square of which his buildings occupied a part. In 1809 Philip Mehring, a native Hessian, opened a store in a house which adjoined the Central hotel. Daniel Snyder, formerly a resident in the Lehigh valley near Allentown, removed to the village in 1810, and bought the land adjoining Eyer's town plat from John Vance. And thus, by successive immigration from various parts of the country, Bloomsburg had become an incipient village; and in 1814 the population was distributed as follows: Henry Weaver lived in a one and one-half story log house on Front street between Market and West; George Frey lived on the south side of the same street near its intersection with West; at the forks, on the south side of Second street, was a one-story log dwelling owned and occupied by Daniel Snyder; Abram Grotz conducted his business as a hatter at the southwest corner of Second and Iron; a frame house on the east side of the Central hotel was occupied by Christopher Kahler; John Chamberlain lived in a frame dwelling on the site of Moyer's drug store; John Hagenbuch's log house was situated opposite Kahler's; Mrs. Moomey resided in a frame building at the southeast corner of Second and Jefferson; a log house, at the northeast corner of Center and Second, was occupied by — Fisher; John Hess lived in the one other house on the north side of Second street, at the location of Dr. McKelvey's residence; Caleb Hopkins' house was on East street below Third, and James Thornton lived in the red building still standing on the same side of that street.

John Chamberlain was a tavern-keeper at the time when every guest was expected to spend at least sixpence at the bar for the privilege of passing the night with such comforts as the bare floor of the public room afforded. His establishment was a two-story frame building at the northwest corner of Second and Center streets. Casper Chrisman is remembered as the jovial host at a less pretentious building erected in 1810, which occupied the same site as its

modern successor, the Exchange. Conrad Hess was the proprietor of a public house on Second street, below Jefferson. The original predecessor of the Central hotel was a log building erected in 1818 by Philip Mehrling, who lost his life by an accident in the progress of the work. About the year 1825, Daniel Snyder built the "Forks" hotel. The public house at this period was an important social institution, not always possessing those attributes usually ascribed to it at the present day.

Philip Mehrling was the first merchant in Bloomsburg, and was a man of some wealth, judging by the standard of that day. A Mr. Bishop opened a store in 1810 at the northwest corner of Second and Center streets. John Barton was also a merchant about this time. William McKelvey opened the largest mercantile establishment the village had yet known in 1816, and during the sixty years following was prominently identified with the business interests of the place. In 1835 John Moyer, with a capital of one hundred dollars, inaugurated the drug business, which has steadily expanded to its present proportions. Eyer & Hefley was the caption of a well known business house from 1835 to 1845. In 1843 the business career of I. W. Hartman was begun in the old Arcade building.

Local manufacturers at an early period in the history of the town comprehended the shops of such mechanics—blacksmiths, weavers, carpenters, etc.—as formed the usual features of country villages at that time. Industrial enterprises of greater importance were the tanneries and wagon factory. Daniel Snyder came to Bloomsburg with the express purpose of establishing a tannery, but found himself so seriously embarrassed financially after purchasing land, that he was on the point of relinquishing the idea. Fortunately for the prospective enterprise, Mrs. Snyder was able to sell several pounds of butter every week; and taking a roll of some size he bartered it at the store for a shovel, and was thus enabled to begin the work of digging the vats. Philip Christman's tannery was situated in front of a stone building still standing on Third street. William Robison was afterward proprietor. Sometime in the year 1816, a stranger came into the village and remained over night at a hotel. Strangers at this time so rarely appeared as to be regarded as objects of curiosity, as well as suspicion. Inquiry elicited from him the fact that he was a Yankee, and a wagon-maker by trade. When the landlord suggested that he should stay and make him a wagon he was repeatedly refused the use of such tools as were needed by the different carpenters of the town, so great was the prejudice against New Englanders. Finally, William Sloan agreed to give him a bench. He obtained seasoned wood from fences on neighboring farms, and in due time the first one-horse wagon that ever appeared in Bloomsburg was driven through its streets by the proprietor of the inn, to whom it gave abundant satisfaction. Mr. Sloan at once incorporated the manufacture of wagons with his business and established an industry of some importance, considering the size of the town and the extent of its resources. He would send salesmen with a dozen or more "dearborns" into adjoining counties, and thus "Eyerstaedtel" became better known as the location of this factory than from anything else connected with it. About the year 1832, it was proposed to begin the manufacture of plows, with John K. Grotz as managing partner of this branch of the business. Accordingly, he made a journey to Lewistown, Mifflin county, the nearest location of a plow factory. The proprietors refused to sell patterns, but he bought a plow by strategy and started for home with his load on one of the famous dearborns. At Sweisfordtown, Union county, he sold the wagon. In this dilemma, he extemporized a sled by fastening the root of a sapling beneath the plow point, and thus traversed a dis-



tance of forty miles in one day. It does not appear that the plow factory prospered as Mr. Grotz's efforts made it deserving. In this connection, it should be mentioned that about the year 1832 John Whitenight built a Union canal-boat on his lot in West Bloomsburg. It was sixty-nine feet long and eight feet wide. It was hauled to the "deep hole" in Fishing creek, floated to Northumberland, and there launched in the canal. The following year, John Barton and Isaac Green built a similar craft at the "ark" building and named it the "Water Witch." Isaac D. Gulick was master or captain. It was also taken to Northumberland to be entered into the canal. This seems to have been the extent of boat-building in Bloomsburg; but before the canal was excavated, grain and produce were exported by means of arks—a variety of river craft usually seventy feet long and sixteen feet wide—the building of which constituted an important branch of industry. Samuel Ludwig and George Frey are remembered as master builders. The ark building was situated on Fishing creek, and the different stages of the work were as follows: The "stringle" was laid flat upon the ground and the bottom boards affixed thereto with wooden pins three-fourths of an inch in diameter. It required a force of thirty men to raise the bottom platform to a vertical position, when it was allowed to fall upon ground prepared for the purpose; the sides were secured by means of mortises, and the seams carefully caulked; when finally completed another force of men was summoned, and the unwieldy structure was launched. William McKelvey and John Barton were the largest dealers in grain, and usually shipped the ark as well as its cargo, both being sold when their destination was reached.

About the year 1838 the culture of the silk-worm was agitated in many parts of this country. Among those who conceived the idea that golden possibilities could be realized were Robert Cathcart and William G. Hurley, of Bloomsburg. An orchard of the *morus multicaulis*, or Chinese mulberry, was planted on the north side of First street. The cocoonery was reported as in active operation in 1841; and about this time it seems to have lapsed into desuetude.

The importance of Bloomsburg as an inland town increased as the settlement of the surrounding region became more compact, and the efforts of its citizens were directed toward improving its business facilities and extending its manufacturing interests. In 1838 the population slightly exceeded three hundred. In the size and appearance of the houses, there was a marked improvement over those first erected, many of which had been replaced by more substantial structures of brick and stone. McKelvey's store and dwelling at the southeast corner of Second and Market streets, the Forks hotel, William Robison's hotel, Thomas Witlit's, John R. Moyer's, and Reverend George C. Drake's residences were built of brick. Market street extended from First to Third, and at either end a building fronted the open avenue, while the Forks hotel was similarly situated with reference to Second street. It verily appeared as though it was meant to circumscribe the growth of the town, by thus closing all the streets except such as were absolutely necessary for ingress and egress. If productive of no other benefit, this arrangement prevented to some extent that straggling appearance by which country villages are wont to apologize for being such; but the time had arrived when Bloomsburg should pass that period of its history forever.

In the year 1822 a laborer in a field on the Montour ridge noticed a peculiar color in the ground he was plowing. He called the attention of his employer to this, and, when assayed, it was found that the soil contained an appreciable proportion of iron ore. Drift mining was at once begun, but for



some years the product was hauled to furnaces on the south side of the Susquehanna, thus depriving Bloomsburg of the advantage it should have derived from the mineral wealth in its vicinity. It was nearly twenty years before local enterprise realized that fact and acted upon it. June 22, 1839, "The Bloomsburg Rail-Road and Iron Company" was incorporated by the legislature. The leading capitalists were Joseph Paxton, William McKelvey, Edward Miller, Thomas Hayes, Robert M. Lewis, Ellis Lewis and Charles G. Donnell. The country had not yet recovered from the financial stringency of 1838, and the furnaces were not completed until 1844. The rail-road connecting Irondale with the canal was the first work of this character in this county. Irondale furnaces have been supplied with ore from Hemlock township until recent years, when the supply has been drawn largely from Snyder county. The name of the company has been so changed as to exclude the word "Rail-Road." The management during the past third of a century has been directed by E. R. and Y. P. Deinker, and the ownership of the plant continues with the original investors or their descendants.

The discovery of ore on Montour ridge was followed by similar developments regarding the hills east of Fishing creek. Here, too, its existence was found out by a trivial circumstance. While plowing on the side of a hill deeply seamed with water-courses, Jacob Melick allowed his plow to retain a uniform depth, and thus, when passing through a place where the surface soil had been washed away, he noticed, in the substratum, that peculiar color possessed by iron ore. December 27, 1852, an agreement was entered into by Mr. Melick, William McKelvey and William Neal, to erect and operate an anthracite furnace. April 1, 1853, seventeen acres were purchased from Daniel Snyder and Joseph W. Hendershott, and on the same day ground was broken for the contemplated works, which were completed and put in full blast, for the first time, April 14, 1854. In 1873 the firm name was changed from McKelvey, Neal & Co., to William Neal & Sons, its present style. The furnaces have been continuously operated, except occasional short periods when suspended for repairs. Prior to January 1, 1875, the gross aggregate product was one-hundred and seventeen thousand, nine-hundred and sixty-eight tons—an average of one-thousand, eight-hundred and five tons per annum, which has been fully sustained since that time. Owing to the exhaustion of the ore deposits near Bloomsburg, the bloom furnaces are supplied mainly from mines in New Jersey. The transportation charges thus incurred are more than compensated by the advantage of a short transit from the anthracite coal region.

While this branch of the manufacture of iron has become a permanent factor in promoting the growth of the town, the practicability of extending the industry in various directions has also been demonstrated. In 1863 Messrs. Sample & Taylor established a machine-shop and foundry. In 1871 the capital was increased, facilities enlarged, and the manufacture of mine-cars begun by the "Columbia County Iron Manufacturing Company," successors to the gentlemen who established the business. The new firm became involved financially in 1873; the plant was sold by an assignee, and purchased by G. M. and J. K. Lockard, who had been foremen in the shops since they were first operated. In 1875 a part of their present quarters was first occupied, and in 1879 they became sole proprietors. In the same year a destructive fire destroyed a part of the works, causing a loss of many thousands of dollars. Within three months' time, the site of the burned buildings was occupied by others of improved appearance. The succeeding four years were the most profitable in the career of this establishment. Upward of four thousand rail-road cars were built, and the volume of business annually exceeded a million

of dollars. In 1870 S. M. Hess began the manufacture of car-wheels, iron fencing, etc., and still continues in this branch of industrial pursuit. In 1875 Harman & Hassart inaugurated a business career which has now had an existence of more than one decade. The Eagle Iron Works have also become well known, through the energy of their proprietor, Mr. B. F. Sharpless.

The origin of the carriage factory of M. C. Sloan & Bro. has already been explained. The oldest establishment of the kind in this section of country, its management continues to retain that energy with which Major William Sloan was wont to engage in everything he undertook.

The Bloomsburg woolen mills were established in 1882 by S. A. Caswell, M. E. Caswell, H. C. Caswell and H. C. Halfpenny, and have been in successful operation since that time. The plant consists of a brick factory one-hundred and twenty-four feet by sixty-four feet, engine house, fourteen looms, and other apparatus of improved design. The value of the annual product has reached sixty-thousand dollars. The location of the mills is at the foot of West street, and was given as a bonus by D. J. Waller, Sr.

The Bloomsburg School Furnishing Company was incorporated July 17, 1885, 'for the purpose of manufacturing school and church furniture, and doing general planing-mill, foundry and machine work.' Among the projectors of this enterprise were C. W. Miller, W. S. Moyer and J. C. Brown.

The Bloomsburg Planing and Cabinet Company succeeded November 1, 1886, to the plant of the Agricultural and Iron Works. Charles Krug's Planing-mills were first operated in 1880. Sashes, doors, frames, moldings, etc., constitute the product at these places.

The industrial activity of Bloomsburg has resulted in great measure from the transportation facilities afforded by the canal and rail-roads. The former was opened in 1831, and rapidly fulfilled the expectations of those who advocated state aid to public works. Its period of greatest usefulness to Bloomsburg was the decade immediately preceding the construction of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg rail-road. This line of traffic was projected by citizens of Wilkesbarre, whose only way of reaching Philadelphia was the circuitous route *via* Scranton and New York. It was originally intended that Rupert should be the western terminus of the line, as the connection at this point with the Catawissa rail-road effected the main objects of the projectors. January 1, 1858, the first train of cars rolled into Bloomsburg, or rather passed it, as the line of the road was then quite beyond the limits of the town. For several years one regular passenger train and one mixed train, in which freight predominated, constituted the daily traveling facilities. The way in which accommodations were thus limited was due in great measure to lack of enterprise on the part of the officials of the road. Two trains daily were advertised in 1861, three in 1871, and four in 1881, from which it appears that an addition of one train daily has occurred for every ten years in the history of the road.

It may fairly be predicted that Bloomsburg will become a rail-road center of importance, second to no inland town of its size in this state. This is inferred from its geographical position, and from the work in rail-road construction now in progress and approaching completion. The reason first given is purely theoretical; the forty-first parallel of north latitude crosses the Susquehanna at the mouth of Fishing creek; this is approximately the latitude of both New York and Chicago, and if the proposed air-line route between those places—'The New York, Bloomsburg and Western rail-road'—should ultimately become an accomplished fact, Bloomsburg cannot fail to derive importance and advantage from it. When the Bloomsburg and Sullivan rail-road

has been completed, the county seat of Columbia will also become its commercial metropolis. But, returning to the consideration of things as they now exist, the business interests of Bloomsburg have materially improved since the completion of the North and West Branch railway. The history of this road from its first inception in the mind of the Reverend D. J. Waller, Sr., to its present condition, is directly traceable to the tireless energy with which he fought its battles and achieved its final success. He conceived the idea that a road bed of uniform grade could be constructed at the foot of the hill on the south bank of the Susquehanna. Simon P. Case, a vigorous but unscrupulous man, had previously projected a telegraph line, merged it into a railroad, and finally, by deciding to tap the coal field at the Hazel region instead of at Wyoming, vacated the river route from Catawissa to Wilkesbarre. Mr. Waller was one of those who had confidence in Case's rail-road, if not in its projector; he wrote a charter for the North and West Branch Rail-Road company, and through the efforts of Hon. C. R. Buckalew, it received legislative sanction in May, 1871. This was but the initial step, however; ten years elapsed before the line was operated from Wilkesbarre to Catawissa. J. C. Brown was chief engineer, and Samuel Neyhard assistant, in directing its construction. It is provided, in the charter of this company, that a wagon way may be constructed in connection with its bridge over the Susquehanna, and that upon the payment of one-fifth its cost by the commissioners of Columbia county, the company shall maintain it as a free bridge for public use. There is every probability that this bridge will be built in the near future, and Bloomsburg will then realize to the full extent what advantage can be derived from competing lines of railway.

It seems unnecessary to state that the mercantile interests of inland towns receive an impetus from lines of travel which bring them into more direct communication with the commercial centers of the country. The returns from the mercantile appraisements of May 1, 1886, show an aggregate of seventy-one dealers, representing every branch of business enterprise. A similar exhibit in 1858 would not have shown one third of this number. There are two financial institutions—the First National Bank and the Bloomsburg Banking Company. February 5, 1864, William McKelvey, William Neal, I. W. McKelvey, Robert Cathcart, Robert F. Clark, John K. Grotz, George Hughes, Lloyd Paxton and C. R. Paxton formed a temporary organization and began to transact a banking business. February 29, 1864, the Comptroller of the Currency issued his certificate authorizing such action; and, March 7, 1864, the bank was formally opened with C. R. Paxton, president, and J. P. Tustin, cashier. In 1868 Charles Conner and John A. Funston established a broker's office in Bloomsburg, which, in March, 1871, was merged into the Bloomsburg Banking Company, of which Mr. Funston was president; Charles Conner, Joseph Sharpless, John G. Freeze and Wilson M. Eves were the first directors. It is a private corporation, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars, and a surplus equal to fifty per cent of the same. Both are prosperous and successful institutions, and have greatly facilitated the general business workings of the community.

The Bloomsburg Board of Trade, "founded for the encouragement and protection of trade and commerce," numbers among its members the leading merchants and other citizens of the town. It was incorporated May 12, 1886, with Hon. C. R. Buckalew, C. G. Barkley, D. W. Kitchen, I. W. McKelvey and I. S. Kuhn, directors.

In medical circles, Bloomsburg is well known as the location of Dr. L. A. Shattuck's Rest-Cure Sanitarium. It was originally established in 1870 by



Dr. A. L. Tench, who was succeeded within a few years by Dr. A. L. Turner. His experience as a surgeon in the late war and as superintendent of Onondaga insane asylum, rendered him exceptionally competent to treat nervous diseases with success. The location combines healthfulness, accessibility and congenial natural surroundings. Dr. Shattuck assumed the management in 1882, since when it has maintained a high character as a popular resort.

As this industrial development of the county seat progressed, the population increased, the building area was extended, and a different political organization followed in the wake of changed social conditions. The town plat laid off by Ludwig Eyer extended from First street to Third, and from West to East (Iron) street, comprising thirty-two blocks of three lots each. Mr. Eyer was not an exact geometer, but his good judgment is seen in the location of the town, the width and regularity of the streets, and their distance from each other. About the year 1815, the Reverend Caleb Hopkins laid out a number of lots on East street below Third. Although this nominal addition comprised for years no other houses than the reverend gentleman's residence, it was known and recognized as Hopkinsville.\*

When the size and importance of this suburb became such as to really require a name, this designation was succeeded by the less complimentary one of Snaketown, for which East street has finally been substituted. When the canal was opened in 1831, Port Noble came into existence as the port of entry for Bloomsburg, and a road was made from Market street thither. Daniel Snyder's addition, the south-west corner of Second and East streets, between Iron and Third, was made about 1837. Anticipating an influx of laborers when the Irondale furnaces should begin operations, D. J. Waller, Sr., in 184-, laid off that portion of Bloomsburg, known as Welsh hill, from the prevailing nationality of its people, the northeast corner of Iron and First streets. Dr. John Ramsay's addition adjoins this on the south side of First street. On the west side of the same street between Oyer and Murray alleys, Messrs. Cathcart and Hurley laid out a number of lots, after the failure of their cocoonery. In 1857 Catharine street was opened; the location of the depot of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg rail-road had determined to a great extent the direction in which Bloomsburg has expanded since that time. Passenger trains stopped at the Market street crossing at first, but when negotiations for the purchase of land proved fruitless, a temporary station was built at East street. If this arrangement had become permanent, Bloomsburg as then existing, would have virtually ceased to be the business portion of the town. This was averted by the prompt action of D. J. Waller, Sr., who purchased a tract of land, and in 1859 gave the rail-road company the site occupied by its stations. Since this time, the area between Fourth street and Seventh has gradually become one of the most beautiful parts of the town. The extension westward has been popularly known as Scott-Town, from the fact that Dr. David N. Scott was the first person who lived below the hill on Second street and still considered himself a resident of Bloomsburg. The addition by Messrs. Rupert and Barton is bounded by Fourth, Iron and East streets, and the canal. Upon the erection of the Normal School building in 1869, Second

\*The origin of the name Bloomsburg cannot so easily be explained. It is said that the name was suggested by certain of the old settlers who had formerly lived at Bloomsburg, N. J. Bloom township was formed from the western part of Briarcreek in 1797 and so named in honor of Samuel Bloom, one of the county commissioners for Northumberland county at that time. It is said that when the name for a post-office was discussed, some of the citizens protested against Dryertown, notwithstanding their German nationality and respect for the proprietor. On the occasion of a fourth of July celebration in the wood above First street, some one, with excellent tact, called for three cheers for Bloomsburg at the instant when patriotic enthusiasm was at its height. In the excitement of the moment, the name made a favorable impression on the popular mind. It is not a matter of vital importance, but of curious importance, how the name originated, and the reader can best judge which of the explanations given is most plausible.



street was extended beyond the forks. Morgantown is the name applied to the company houses at Irondale furnace, while Rabtown comprehends a number of similar structures at Bloom furnace. The population of Bloom township in 1820 was one thousand six hundred and twenty-six; in 1830, two thousand and eighty-one; in 1840, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four; in 1850, three thousand one hundred and twenty-two; in 1860, two thousand six hundred and sixty-eight; in 1870, three thousand three hundred and forty; in 1880, three thousand seven hundred and two. The apparent decrease in the decade ending in 1860 is explained by the fact that Scott township was not included in the census of that year.

In view of this constant increase in population, it is matter of surprise that the township organization, established in 1797, and continued for seventy-three years, was not sooner supplanted by a form of government better adapted to a compact community. Efforts to secure incorporation as a borough under the act of 1834, were successively made and as frequently defeated. The reasons to which this may be assigned, is the situation of Bloomsburg within a farming region too small to constitute a separate township, and the great diversity of opinion as to what limits should be prescribed for the purposed borough. March 4, 1870, an act prepared by Hon. C. R. Buckalew, was passed by the legislature, in which the limits of the town are defined in a manner that completely obviates this difficulty, by the simple declaration, "that the Town of Bloomsburg shall hereafter include all the territory now included within the limits of Bloom township." It provides for a classification of real estate, based upon the situation of property in the built up or suburban portions of the town, or its use for exclusively agricultural purposes. The burden of taxation is thus distributed; farm lands are assessed at a rate equal to one-half, and suburban property, at a rate not exceeding two-thirds, respectively, of the highest rates of tax required to be assessed in each year. Cumulative voting is authorized by this act, which thus provides in the only instance in this country, a method for securing proportional representations. The following is extracted from section fourth, of the act referred to, and sufficiently explains the distinctive features of this system of voting.

In any case where more persons than one are to be chosen in said town to the same office, for the same time or term of service, each voter duly qualified shall be entitled to as many votes as the number of persons to be so chosen, and may poll his votes as follows, to-wit:

*First*—Where two persons are to be chosen he may give one vote to each of two candidates, or two votes to one.

*Second*—Where three persons are to be chosen, he may give one vote to each of three candidates, two votes to one candidate and one to another, one vote and a half to each of two candidates or three votes to one.

*Third*—Where four persons are to be chosen, he may give one vote to each of four candidates, one vote and one-third to each of three, two votes to each of two, or four votes to one.

*Fourth*—Where six persons are to be chosen, he may give one vote to each of six candidates, one vote and a half to each of four, two votes to each of three, three votes to each of two, or six votes to one.

A town council, consisting of president and six members, is elected annually. A list of the incumbents since the organization of the town has been compiled from official sources and is herewith subtended:

1870—President, Elias Mendenhall; members, Joseph Sharpless, Stephen Knorr, W. B. Koons, F. C. Eyer, Caleb Barton, C. G. Barkley.

1871—President, Elias Mendenhall; members, Joseph Sharpless, C. G. Barkley, Stephen Knorr, W. B. Koons, F. C. Eyer, John Rinker.

1872—President, Elias Mendenhall; members, Freas Brown, Stephen

Knorr, Caleb Barton, John S. Sterner, James Dennis, J. H. Maize, *vice* W. B. Koons, resigned.

1873—President, Stephen Knorr; members, Louis Bernhard, Charles Thomas, C. W. Miller, Samuel Knorr, J. S. Evans, John S. Sterner.

1874—President, David Lowenberg; members, Joseph Hendershott, P. S. Harman, J. K. Eyer, Louis Bernhard, Stephen Knorr, W. Peacock.

1875—President, David Lowenberg; members, E. R. Drinker, G. W. Sterner, Eli Jones, Isaiah Hagenbuch, W. O. Holmes, Wellington Hartman, *vice* John Cadman, resigned.

1876—President, David Lowenberg; members, Peter Jones, Isaiah Hagenbuch, E. R. Drinker, G. E. Elwell, W. O. Holmes, E. M. Knorr.

1877—President, David Lowenberg; members, E. R. Drinker, W. Rabb, W. O. Holmes, Peter Jones, G. W. Correll, G. E. Elwell.

1878—President, G. A. Herring; members, J. S. Evans, E. R. Drinker, W. Rabb, G. E. Elwell, B. F. Sharpless, W. O. Holmes.

1879—President, I. S. Kuhn; members, J. S. Evans, W. O. Holmes, G. M. Lockard, B. F. Sharpless, E. R. Drinker, W. Rabb.

1880—President, G. A. Herring; members, W. Rabb, J. S. Evans, B. F. Sharpless, Charles Thomas, George Hassert, W. O. Holmes.

1881—President, G. A. Herring; members, W. Rabb, George Hassert, J. K. Lockard, I. W. Hartman, G. W. Correll, C. W. Neal.

1882—President, G. A. Herring; members, C. B. Sterling, W. Rabb, George Hassert, W. S. Moyer, L. E. Waller, I. W. Hartman.

1883—President, G. A. Herring; members, C. B. Sterling, W. Rabb, George Hassert, I. W. Hartman, L. E. Waller, W. S. Moyer.

1884—President, L. B. Rupert; members, C. B. Sterling, W. Rabb, Eli Jones, C. A. Moyer, Isaiah Hagenbuch, L. T. Sharpless.

1885—President, L. B. Rupert; members, C. B. Sterling, J. C. Sterner, Henry Rosenstock, C. A. Moyer, Isaiah Hagenbuch, L. T. Sharpless.

1886—President, B. F. Zarr; members, C. B. Sterling, J. C. Sterner, Henry Rosenstock, E. B. Clark, L. F. Clark, W. J. Correll.

The election of the first town council expressed an almost unanimous sentiment in favor of internal improvement. Little effort had been directed to this object, and much had been misdirected. If one township supervisor attempted to correct the inherent muddy propensity of the streets, the conscientious scruples of his successor impelled him to immediately suspend road making operations on the score of retrenchment. As early as 1793, the brook was crossed at Second street by a pine bridge, a neighborhood affair which greatly inconvenienced people on their way to church. The first combined effort at street improvement was made in 1813, when the town was much excited over the prospect of becoming a county seat. As if to emphasize its eligibility, stumps were removed and the streets generally levelled. The commissioners appointed to select the county town visited Milton first; after preparing Bloomsburg for their reception, James McClure, John Chamberlain, Casper Chrisman, and others, rode over to Jerseytown to meet them. Although it was years before their object was finally attained, their efforts were not in vain. In 1838 the hill in Second street beyond West was deemed too steep for travel, and the public road followed the channel of the creek after a circuitous descent. The Port Noble road at this time was narrow, crooked, and almost impassable in wet weather. After purchasing the land on either side of the road, Mr. Waller straightened its course, graded it as a private enterprise, and built a bridge over the rail-road as one of the conditions for the location of the station at its present site. Market street was not fully opened until 1874, when the



Ellis Enes





house of ——— Wells below Third street was removed. The Forks hotel was removed in the following year, and Second street extended to the Normal School grounds. Center street was opened and extended from Second to First. The grading of East street was begun in 1872, and this work has been extended to every street in the town, agreeably to plans prepared by Samuel Neyhard at the instance of the council. The initial effort toward establishing a fire department was made in 1868, when the Bloomsburg Fire Company, (known as Friendship Fire Company No. 1), was incorporated. Two similar organizations have since been formed. The police service was established by the town council in 1870.

While the process of improving the general appearance of the town was in progress, efforts were also made to provide public conveniences of a character which had not hitherto been attempted. May 9, 1874, the Bloomsburg Gas Company and the Bloomsburg Water Company were incorporated. Gas was supplied to private houses and business places, October 28, 1874; the streets were lighted with gas for the first time, May 1, 1875. The water company proposed to secure an adequate supply from Stony brook, a small affluent of Fishing creek. Negotiations were opened with the municipal authorities to dispose of the franchise to them, but before this was effected, an act passed by the legislature, limiting the bonded indebtedness of boroughs, suspended this proceeding in a summary manner. August 14, 1877, a second water company was organized. The advantage of bringing water from such an altitude that the natural flow would raise it above the level of the town was strongly advised, but as no springs of sufficient volume and elevation are found in the immediate vicinity, a system proposed by Mr. Henry Birkenbine was adopted. The water is carried from Fishing creek into a well by a brick conduit. It is then pumped a distance of one-thousand, one hundred feet, into a reservoir, from which it is distributed through the town. The water-works were completed in August, 1880. A public sewer was established in 1884 by the town authorities, the trustees of the Normal School and the county commissioners, conjointly. The Bloomsburg Steam and Electric Light Company was incorporated December 7, 1885. The Birdsall-Holly system has been used, and many residences and stores are thus heated with economy and convenience.

The extent to which industrial and commercial pursuits have been developed in Bloomsburg, the character and efficiency of its local government, and the degree of interest manifested in public improvements, combine in establishing its claim as the most progressive town in the lower valley of the "North Branch" of the Susquehanna. Contemporary with its growth in population and material wealth, it has become the educational center of this section of the state. There was little in its early history to indicate that it would reach its present prominence in this respect. George Vance taught an English school in a log building on the site of the Protestant Episcopal church edifice in 1802, and about the same time, Ludwig Eyer taught a German school in a building at the north-east corner of Second and Market streets. Robert Fields, William Ferguson, Murray Manville and Joseph Worden were among the immediate successors of these two pedagogues. On the introduction of the public school system, in 1842, school-houses were built in various parts of the town. Practically, there was no system of grading, nor any general supervision by any one. Consolidation was begun in 1870, when the Fifth street school building was erected at a cost of twelve thousand dollars, and first occupied with F. M. Bates as principal. Five years later, the Third street building was erected. I. E. Schoonover was the first principal of the schools of West Bloomsburg, after it was occupied. In 1885 it was decided to place

all the schools of the town under one superintendent, and D. A. Beckley was elected to that office. A regular course of study has been prepared, and the condition of the schools improved in various ways under his administration. The present (1886) board of directors is constituted as follows: J. J. Lawall, president; J. C. Brown, secretary; Stephen Krum, Isaiah Hagenbuch, William Kramer and Henry Rosenstock.

The general unsatisfactory condition of the public schools led to many ventures on the part of teachers of more than ordinary acquirements in establishing private schools. An effort of this kind was made in 1839, when the building at the corner of Third and Jefferson streets was first occupied for school purposes.\* "The standard of instruction was elevated, if judged by the advertisement of the first teacher, to give instruction in the Hebrew language, which was not extensively pursued at that early day in Bloomsburg. But the teacher's literary reputation dwindled, when, on perusing a copy of Shakespeare, he inquired whether this was the celebrated author of that name, and what were his principal works, and evinced his astonishment in the question, 'What, these dialogues?'" This teacher took his departure the same year (1839); and, by the efforts of the citizens. Mr. C. P. Waller, a graduate of Williams college and subsequently a president judge in this state, was induced to come to Bloomsburg to found an academy. He remained two years, and left it in a flourishing condition. The far-reaching results of this effort may be traced in all the subsequent educational history of the town. The existence of the academy for some years after this was merely nominal. Teachers in the public schools during the winter months opened subscription schools in vacation. Joel E. Bradley, one of the most successful teachers who ever made teaching a profession, restored, to some extent, the high character and advanced standard of the course of study prepared by Mr. Waller. About the year 1854, B. F. Eaton opened a classical school in the Primitive Methodist church building (afterward purchased by the parish of St. Colomba's church). It was continued the following year with such success that its friends began to consider measures for making it a permanent institution. Reverend D. J. Waller prepared a charter, and William Robinson and others circulated it; after obtaining the signatures of A. J. Sloan, M. Coffman, E. Mendenhall, A. J. Evans, William McKelvey, J. J. Brower, B. F. Hartman, S. H. Miller, J. M. Chamberlin, Philip Unangst, Jesse G. Clark, A. Witman, Michael Henderson, J. G. Freeze, Levi L. Tate, Peter Billmeyer, W. C. Sloan, Jonathan Mosteller, A. J. Frick, E. B. Bidleman, Robert F. Clark, A. M. Rupert, R. B. Menagh, W. J. Bidleman, Robert Cathcart, A. C. Mensch and H. C. Hoover, it was submitted to the court, and confirmed at the September term, 1856. It provided for establishing and maintaining a school, to be known as the "Bloomsburg Literary Institute," and the object of the corporation was defined to be "the promotion of education both in the ordinary and higher branches of English literature and science, and in the ancient and modern languages." Under the articles of incorporation, Reverend D. J. Waller, William Robison, Leonard B. Rupert, William Snyder, Elisha C. Barton, William Goodrich, D. J. Waller, Joseph Sharpless, John K. Grotz and I. W. Hartman were constituted a board of trustees. Mr. Eaton's school was continued in the building it formerly occupied for several years, when it was discontinued. It was subsequently opened in the old academy building, and there conducted with fair success by ——— Lowry, D. A. Beckley, Henry Rinker and others. There was no connected succession of teachers, nor does it appear that the board of trustees exercised control over the management of its affairs. As a conse-

\* Reverend D. J. Waller's Presbyterian Centennial discourse.

quence, the character of the school depended altogether upon the attainments and ability of the teachers, in some of whom executive ability was not a characteristic, so that the prospects of the so-called "Literary Institute" were not always encouraging.

Fortunately for the educational interests of this county, a new actor appeared upon the scene, when the condition of affairs seemed to have reached the lowest ebb. This man was Henry Carver, a native of New York state, a self educated teacher, whose power of exerting an unconscious influence over the minds of those with whom he came in contact, was phenomenal. After serving as principal of an academy in his native state, in which capacity he evinced marked ability, he was placed in charge of the preparatory department of the University of California, and here his faculty for organizing was again manifest. He returned to his home in Binghamton, New York, and while making a pleasure tour through the valley of the "North Branch," stopped for several days at Bloomsburg, impressed with the beauty of its natural environments. He made some inquiries regarding the general condition of the schools, and was introduced to Reverends D. J. Waller and J. R. Dimur, Messrs. I. W. Hartman, D. A. Beckley, and others, who, after learning his character and profession, persuaded him to prolong his stay, and open a school. Its success surpassed any thing in his previous career, or in the school history of Bloomsburg. After continuing this school two years, Mr. Carver declined to remain any longer unless better accommodations were provided than the academy building then occupied. There was a general feeling of confidence in his methods, and measures for securing adequate facilities for the unrestricted growth of the school were vigorously agitated; and, that the movement might properly crystallize, the charter of the "Literary Institute" was revived, May 2, 1866. William Snyder, John K. Grotz, L. B. Rupert, I. W. Hartman and D. J. Waller met at the latter's study in the capacity of trustees, under the articles incorporating the Institute, and reorganized, with the election of D. J. Waller as president; I. W. Hartman as secretary; John G. Freeze, Robert F. Clark and William Neal as trustees, to fill vacancies caused by removals of an equal number of the original board. At the second meeting, two days later, a committee was appointed to attend to the financial necessities of the undertaking, and another to secure a location for the contemplated building. The efforts of the finance committee were seconded by Mr. Carver with characteristic energy. This all important part of the work progressed to such an extent, that, June 16, 1866, a meeting of the stockholders was held in the court-house to decide the question of location. After some discussion, the consideration of this subject was postponed until the 22nd instant. On assembling in pursuance of adjournment, various portions of the town were suggested as most eligible for the site of the contemplated structure. When the matter was put to a vote, it was found that the sentiment in favor of the location proposed by William Snyder was almost unanimous. This was finally accepted in August, 1866, on the assurance that the owners of the Forks hotel would, at no distant time, remove it, and extend Second street to the front of the Institute grounds. It was formally resolved, the preceding July, to procure specifications and plans, and contract for the erection of a building at a cost not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars. This sum was six-fold larger than any one except Mr. Carver had ever thought of expending. The cost of the building and its furniture aggregated about twenty-four thousand dollars. Under ordinary circumstances the project would have collapsed, but the unremitting exertions of Mr. Carver were equal to the emergency. His faith in its ultimate success never faltered, and



was amply justified, when, on Thursday, April 4, 1867, the completed\* structure was dedicated to the cause and purposes of education. The state of the weather was favorable to the enactment of the inaugural ceremonies in the pleasantest manner. That the connection between the old academy and the Institute in which it was thus merged might be properly indicated, a procession, consisting of a band of music, the members of the board of trustees, the clergy of the town, the parents of the pupils, the pupils themselves, and lastly, the faculty, formed at the academy building, on Third street, and proceeded to the Institute building. Hon. Leonard B. Rupert, as president of the board of trustees, unlocked the door, and the procession entered in inverse order. After music of an appropriate character, and prayer by Reverend D. J. Waller, Mr. Rupert briefly outlined the progress of the work from its first inception to the final accomplishment. Professor Moss, of Lewisburg, delivered the dedicatory address. The exercises of the evening were opened with prayer by Reverend J. R. Dimur, after which, Hon. William D. Elwell spoke upon the past history and future prospect of the Institute, and emphasized the importance of continued effort on the part of its friends. Among the pupils who participated on both occasions, were many who have since risen to positions of honor and responsibility in the various walks of life.

The initial step in organizing a corps of instructors for the Institute was made May 25, 1866, when Prof. Henry Carver was elected principal by the board of trustees. The first faculty was constituted as follows: Henry Carver, professor of civil engineering, intellectual and moral philosophy; Sarah A. Carver, preceptress, teacher of French, botany, and ornamental branches; Isaac O. Best, A. B., professor of ancient languages; Martin D. Kneeland, teacher of mathematics and English branches; Alice M. Carver, teacher of music; Jennie Bruce, in charge of the primary department. Two courses of study were arranged, in one of which scientific studies predominated, while the classics were represented to an equal extent in the other. It was proposed that four years should be ample time to complete either. There was also a commercial department, and the first catalogue, issued for the school year 1867-68, makes mention of the fact that lessons would be given in sewing. The liberal ideas of the principal were manifest throughout. The number of pupils in attendance and the general results of the school for this first term were fairly satisfactory. It ceased to be merely a local institution, and became well known in other sections of the state, and even beyond its limits. To those who were interested in educational matters the success of the Institute was truly gratifying.

The first year of active work was not yet completed, however, when a change in the character of the school was agitated. Hon. James P. Wickersham, state superintendent of common schools, passed Bloomsburg by rail shortly after the building was finished, and was favorably impressed with its conspicuous situation and symmetrical proportions. The idea of erecting additional buildings and converting the Institute into a state normal school seems to have occurred to him at once. He presented the matter to the board of trustees. At a meeting of that body, March 9, 1868, it was "*Resolved*, that the trustees of the Bloomsburg Literary Institute agree to establish in connection with the same, a state normal school, under the act of assembly of the 2nd of May, 1857, and to procure the grounds and put up the necessary buildings as soon as the sum of seventy thousand dollars is subscribed by responsible persons, agreeably to the foregoing propositions." At this and sub-

\*Properly speaking, it was not completed until the following year, when a bell, weighing two thousand, one hundred and seventy-one pounds, was secured through the efforts of D. J. Waller, Jr., G. E. Elwell and Charles Unangst, who were then pupils.



sequent meetings, plans and estimates for the proposed building were presented and discussed. A soliciting committee was also appointed; but from the meagre results realized through its efforts, it was evident that the project did not receive the co-operation of the entire body of citizens. That the views of all might be considered, a public meeting was held in the court-house, April 18, 1868. Reverend D. J. Waller was called to the chair. It was found that the opposition or indifference resulted from a misconception of the position taken by the trustees; but when it was explained to the satisfaction of all that the proposed change would not effect the academic character of the school, and thus contract its local advantages, and that its influence would be extended in the manner suggested, the meeting became as enthusiastic as it had previously been reluctant. This is sufficiently indicated by the following minute, which appears as part of its proceedings: "*Resolved*, that the trustees of the Bloomsburg Literary Institute be earnestly requested to purchase the necessary grounds and proceed to make an agreement to carry forward the enterprise of erecting the building required; that the plans submitted by Prof. Carver be recommended to the trustees for adoption; that it be recommended to let the building to Prof. Carver at his estimate of thirty-six thousand dollars." This was submitted to the board of trustees the same day, and on the strength of the financial support thus assured, Hon. Leonard B. Rupert, Peter Billmeyer and F. C. Eyer were constituted a building committee and empowered to contract for the erecting of the building with Mr. Carver at his bid of thirty-six thousand dollars. Subsequently, Hon. William E. Elwell and William Neal became members of the building committee instead of the last two named.

June 25, 1868, the corner-stone of the state normal school building was laid. The exercises were preceded by an address in Institute hall by Hon. C. L. Ward. The audience then proceeded to that part of the grounds where the foundation walls of the building formed the exterior angle of its two wings, and where the stone was to be placed. The exercises began with prayer by Reverend D. J. Waller, after which John W. Geary, governor of the state, placed the corner-stone in position, depositing within it documents relating to the history of the school, its charter, with the names of the trustees, the faculty and students, and of the state school board, contemporary issues of the local newspapers, a copy of the Bible, and specimens of currency, after which he delivered an address. Hon. William E. Elwell spoke in behalf of the board of trustees, and Hon. Leonard B. Rupert read a history of the Institute. Governor Geary placed the plans and specifications in the hands of Professor Carver, and the latter, in accepting, promised to complete the work he thus assumed as rapidly as possible. Hon. James P. Wickersham addressed a large audience that evening on the general aspect of educational effort, particularly as directed in the preparation of teachers for teaching, which he emphasized as the central object in the normal school idea.

Mr. Carver pushed the work he had undertaken with his usual energy, and the building was finished within nine months from the date upon which the corner stone was laid. It remained for the state authorities to formally recognize the Institute as a state normal school. February 8, 1869, the board of trustees, through its president, Hon. Leonard B. Rupert, and secretary, Col. John G. Freeze, signified its desire that a committee should be appointed agreeably to the act of 1857, to consider the claims of their institution for recognition as a state normal school. The following named gentlemen constituted this committee: Hon. James P. Wickersham, *ex officio*, Hon. Wilmer Worthington, Hon. James C. Brown, Hon. George D. Jackson, Hon. Henry W. Hoyt; the superintendents of schools in the counties composing the

district were notified, and Friday, February 19, was appointed as the day for the examination. The committee met on the day appointed; examined the charter, deeds, organization, methods of instruction—everything pertaining to the character of the school, and embodied its conclusion in the following report:

BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, February 19, 1869.

WHEREAS, The "Bloomsburg Literary Institute," having made the formal application to the Department of Common Schools for the appointment of a committee to examine its claims to be recognized as the State Normal School of the Sixth District, according to the provisions of "An Act to provide for the due training of teachers for the Common Schools of the State," approved the 20th day of May, 1857; and

WHEREAS, The undersigned, being duly appointed and authorized under said act, and having personally, and at the same time, on Friday, the 19th day of February, 1869, visited and carefully inspected said Institute, and made a careful examination thereof of its by-laws, rules and regulations, and its general arrangements and facilities for instructing, and having found them to be substantially such as the law requires:

*Resolved*, That the "Bloomsburg Literary Institute" is, in our opinion, entitled to recognition as a State Normal School, with all the privileges and immunities enjoyed by other institutions of like character in this Commonwealth.

WILMER WORTHINGTON, *Chairman*.

J. P. WICKERSHAM, *Secretary*.

GEORGE D. JACKSON.

JAMES C. BROWN.

HENRY M. HOYT.

C. G. BARKLEY, *sup't. Columbia county*.

C. V. GUNDEY, *sup't. Union county*.

WILLIAM HENRY, *sup't. Montour county*.

The legal existence of the "Bloomsburg State Normal School of the Sixth District," dates from the anniversary of this report, February 19, 1869, although the proclamation from the department of public instruction was not promulgated until three days later.

In his report for this year (1869), Mr. Wickersham states that the estimated value of the buildings and grounds was one hundred thousand dollars, and that the general equipments of the school were superior to those of any similar institutions in the state. While this was no doubt true, the troubles that immediately followed threatened to compel a suspension of the school. Mr. Carver's health was seriously impaired by his multiplied duties as principal, contractor and business manager. His departure from Bloomsburg, in 1871, was quite unexpected to the trustees, who were thus obliged to assume his liabilities in order to save the property. At one time they personally obligated themselves for an amount exceeding twenty thousand dollars. Meetings were held every night for several months consecutively, and the whole board was resolved into a ways and means committee. Every circumstance seemed discouraging. Every element of opposition that had ever existed seemed to assert itself. And when finally the crisis seemed to have passed, the boarding hall was destroyed by fire, September 4, 1875. Monday, September 6, a meeting of the citizens was held in the court-house: Reverend J. P. Tustin presided. Hon. William E. Elwell stated the object of the meeting. It was a critical period in the history of Bloomsburg. There were those who favored the application of the thirty thousand dollars of insurance, to the improvement of the property that remained, and an organization from which the normal school idea should be excluded; Reverend D. J. Waller was called upon to express his views. He did so with the force and vigor which the importance of the occasion demanded. He stated that it was not possible that the school could experience greater reverses and misfortunes than had already befallen it; that even under such a combination of unfavorable circumstances—financial embarrassments, unfortunate selection of principals, or the existence of a

vacancy in that department—the results had been only such as might be expected in the incipient stages of an educational enterprise; that the inducements which prompted their first effort were still operative, but as the opportunity was greater, so was their responsibility; that it required but the influence of that energy which the supreme importance of the hour should inspire to raise, Phoenix-like, a new building of larger proportions from the ashes of the old; and that the time would come when a thousand students would be assembled on the hill for the purpose of securing an education. These remarks had the desired effect. It was unanimously decided to rebuild. Temporary accommodations were provided for the students. October 30, 1875, the cornerstone of the new building was laid. The work of construction progressed rapidly, and on Wednesday, April 26, 1876, the building was opened for students. It has a front of one hundred and sixty-two feet and an extension of seventy-five feet. Its predecessor was L shaped, with a front of one hundred and twelve feet in each direction.

While the financial stringency of this period was a most perplexing problem, it did not monopolize the attention of the trustees. Their constant inability to provide for the support of teachers necessitated frequent changes in the constitution of the faculty. There were ten instructors at the opening of the first annual term of the Normal School, and their respective departments were as follows: Henry Carver, A. M., Principal—Mental and Moral Science, Theory and Practice of Teaching; Sarah A. Carver, Preceptress—French, Botany, and Ornamental Branches; Isaac O. Best, A. M.—Ancient Languages; J. W. Ferree, A. M.—Mathematics and Practical Astronomy; Reverend David C. John, A. M.—Chemistry, Natural Philosophy and Physiology; F. M. Bates, Superintendent of Model School Department, History, Geography, and Book-keeping; James C. Brown, Assistant in Mathematics; Alice M. Carver, Instrumental Music; Hattie L. Best, Vocal Music; Julia M. Guest, Assistant in the Model School. When Professor Carver's sudden illness, at the opening of the second term, left the institution without a principal, the duties of the position devolved upon James C. Brown. His efforts and Professor Ferree's co-operation prevented the school from disbanding, and at length it successfully passed through the most critical period of its history. At his own request, Mr. Brown was relieved, December 20, 1871. At Mr. Wickersham's suggestion, C. G. Barkley assumed the principalship, and continued in that capacity until March 27, 1872, when Reverend John Hewitt was elected in his stead. He was succeeded at the commencement of 1873 by L. T. Griswold, A. M., M. D. Concerning his administration it need only be stated that the financial management was such as to limit the expenses of the school to its income, or *vice versa*. In the judgment of the trustees it was thought best the change should be made, however, and for the school year of 1877-78 an entirely different faculty was elected, with the single exception of Professor Ferree, who retained his position as instructor in Higher Mathematics. The present faculty is constituted as follows: Reverend D. J. Waller, Jr., Ph. D., Principal—Mental and Moral Science; J. W. Ferree, A. M.—Natural Sciences; H. A. Curran, A. M.—Ancient and Modern Languages; William Nottling, A. M.—Rhetoric, Theory and Practice of Teaching; G. E. Wilbur, A. M.,—Higher Mathematics and History; I. W. Niles—Music; F. H. Jenkins—Grammar and Composition; Miss Enola B. Guie, M. E.—Physical Culture and Elocution; J. G. Cope, M. E.—Mathematics and Geography; Miss Dora A. Niles, Drawing and Painting; E. Gertrude La Shelle, M. E.—Model School; Miss Sarah M. Harvey—Assistant in Model School; I. H. Winter, B. E.—Geography and History. That the change in 1877 was judicious seems evident from the fact that the



four professors, whose names appear in order from the head of this list, have been continuously connected with the school since that time.

More than four hundred pupils were in attendance during the term of 1885-86. During the existence of the schools, four thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight pupils were enrolled prior to July, 1886; four hundred and nineteen have graduated in that time, and twenty-five were prepared for college and received since 1877. These facts need no comment.

The present principal is a native of Bloomsburg, and a graduate of La Fayette College, with which he was also connected as a teacher. He is a gentleman of extensive and varied attainments, of natural aptitude for teaching, of rare executive ability, and fine social qualities. His administration has been eminently satisfactory. The patronage of the school has increased from year to year. It has become an educational power, and influences to a great extent the character of the public schools of a large section of country.

Bloomsburg has been a prolific field for the organization of secret societies. Whenever a movement of this character has been inaugurated it has eventually secured a representation here. Many of the organizations thus affected have succumbed to the absorbing character of these stronger rivals, thus presenting in the rise and growth of social institutions an illustration of the principle of the "survival of the fittest." The Masonic order alone has increased in numbers and influence with the added years of its existence. The first regularly organized Masonic body in this county, Rising Sun Lodge, No. 100, was instituted June 16, 1804, by Israel Israel, R. W. G. M., and George A. Baker, G. S., of the R. W. G. Lodge of Pennsylvania. The first officers of Lodge, No. 100, were Christian Brobst, W. M., William Parks, S. W., and John Curlee, J. W. The intense opposition to Masonry resulted in disbanding "Rising Sun" Lodge about the year 1830. The efforts thus relinquished were renewed in 1852, when Washington Lodge, No. 265, F. and A. M., was chartered, with William Sloan, W. M., Jacob Melick, S. W., and Christian F. Knapp, J. W. The officers for 1885-86 were as follows: Robert R. Little, W. M., John Appleman, S. W., George W. Barch, J. W. A complete list of the Past Masters of this Lodge is herewith presented: C. F. Knapp, F. C. Harrison, M. D., J. A. DeMoyer, Agib Ricketts, John Penman, D. A. Beckley, R. H. Ringler, C. W. Miller, J. C. Rutter, M. D., Rev. John Thomas, S. Neyhard, W. O. Holmes, Rev. John Hewitt, A. C. Smith, J. V. Logan, W. W. Barrett, Theo F. Hayman, I. Hagenbuch, P. E. Knapp, W. T. Callan, C. K. Francis, D. W. Conner, V. N. Shaffer, P. S. Harman.

The charter of Bloomsburg Chapter, No. 218, R. A. M., was granted July 28, 1868. The officers named therein are as follows: D. A. Beckley, H. P.; Paleman John, J. B. Robison, E. P. Lutz, and C. F. Knapp.

Mount Moriah Council, No. 10, R. S. EX. & S. M., was originally organized under a dispensation granted December 27, 1857, but was chartered June 14, 1864, with J. A. DeMoyer, T. I. G. M.; C. F. Knapp, D. I. G. M.; J. B. McKelvey, P. C. W.; Jacob Melick, M. E., and E. F. Lutz, Recorder. The following named individuals have been T. I. G. Masters: C. F. Knapp, P. M. P. G. M.; J. A. DeMoyer; F. C. Harrison, M. D.; E. P. Lutz; H. S. Goodwin, P. G. P. C. W.; D. Lowenberg, D. A. Beckley, A. J. Frick, C. L. Stowell, P. E. Knapp, G. W. Reifsnnyder, C. K. Francis, W. W. Barrett, W. J. Scott, John Thomas.

Crusade Commandery, No. 12, K. T., was formed by virtue of a dispensation granted March 15, 1856, and received a charter June 8, 1864. The original officers of this body were as follows: Christian F. Knapp, C.; J. B. McKelvey, G.; F. C. Harrison, C. G.; J. A. DeMoyer, P.; Jacob Melick, T.;



E. P. Lutz, R.; C. Bittenbender, S. W.; George S. Gilbert, J. W.; Lewis Enke, S. B.; F. H. G. Thornton, W.

Orient Conclave, No. 2, K. of R., C. of R. & C., was chartered February 16, 1871, with C. F. Knapp, Sov.; Charles P. Early, F. V. R., and G. T. Wheeler, Secretary.

The "Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, in the valley of Bloomsburg, Pa.," consists of four distinct bodies, numbering a total membership of seven hundred. Bloomsburg is one of four places in this State where the Scottish Rite has been introduced, and this fact, with its large numerical representations, sufficiently indicates the energy and enterprise of the Masonic fraternity at this place.

Enoch Grand Lodge of Perfection, 14°, was instituted October 8, 1865, and chartered May 19, 1866, with the following members: C. F. Knapp, George Shorkley, John Vallerchamp, Paleman John, C. C. Shorkley, E. W. M. Lowe, F. G. Harrison, B. M. Ellis, J. R. Dimm, C. Bittenbender, E. P. Lutz and John Penman.

Zerubbabel Council of 16°, was instituted and chartered on the same dates, respectively. Its original membership consisted of John Vallerchamp, E. P. Lutz, C. F. Knapp, Paleman John, E. W. M. Lowe, S. G. Vangilder, John Thomas, J. R. Dimm, John Vanderslice and John Penman.

Evergreen S. Chapter of Rose-Croix de H. R. D. M., 18°, was chartered May 19, 1866, with the following named officers: C. F. Knapp, John Vallerchamp, J. R. Dimm, Paleman John, S. G. Vangilder, C. C. Shorkley, E. P. Lutz and John Penman.

Caldwell S. Consistory, S. P. R. S., 32°, was chartered May 19, 1867. The following individuals were among the first members of this body: John Vallerchamp, Paleman John, C. F. Knapp, C. C. Shorkley and George Shorkley.

Van Camp Lodge, No. 140, I. O. O. F. was chartered November 17, 1845, with Andrew D. Cool, N. G.; Ephraim Armstrong, V. G.; Edward Keifer, S.; Henry Webb, A. S.; and George W. Abbott, Treasurer. Among the other members at this time were Anthony Foster and Robert Cathcart. The latter died in Danville, in 1879, and was the last surviving charter member.

Bloomsburg Council, No. 146, O. U. A. M., was chartered July 16, 1868, with the following members: Henry F. Bodine, Tobias Henry, Harman Kline, H. J. Evans, M. S. Houseknecht, M. M. Snyder, A. S. Crossly, Robert Roane, James M. Thornton, Frederick Gilmore, George Nicholas, I. K. Miller, J. S. Jacoby, Edward Searles, William Thomas, Joseph Christman, M. M. Johnson, J. S. Evans, I. Hagenbuch, P. Welsh, J. Schultz, Henry Shutt, W. M. Furman, John Culp, George Moyer and C. W. Miller.

Bloomsburg Council, No. 957, Royal Arcanum, was organized by H. E. W. Campbell, D. G. R. of this state, February 26, 1886, with the following persons as officers: I. W. Willitts, G. A. Clark, Thomas E. Geddis, D. A. Beckley, C. H. Campbell, John F. Peacock, F. D. Dentler, L. F. Sharpless, C. S. Furman, S. F. Peacock, G. M. Quick, William Reber, W. H. Brooks, and C. W. Miller.

A number of flourishing church organizations attest the religious character and activities of the people at any period of the history of the town. The parish of Saint Paul's Protestant Episcopal church is the oldest religious organization in Bloomsburg. Its existence dates from 1793, when Elisha Barton appeared in the diocesan convention at Philadelphia as the representative of certain members of the church in Fishingcreek township, who had formed themselves into a congregation. The object of his mission was to present a

request for the appointment of a rector; and in the minutes of the convention of the following year, the name of Reverend Caleb Hopkins appears as missionary in a field which embraced all the territory within the forks of the Susquehanna—among other points, Saint Paul's church at Bloomsburg. About this time there was erected "on the west side of the grate road leading from Esq. Barton's to Berwick" a house for worship, the outward appearance of which suggested the workmanship of no artisan save nature herself in the unhewn logs which still retained that massive rotundity developed through years of exposure to wind and rain and sunshine. Its interior was scarcely less striking. There was neither fireplace, stove nor chimney. A charcoal fire burned on a rude grating before the chancel. The minister's face was either illuminated by the fitful flames or completely obscured by the ascending smoke, which found such outlet as the crevices in the roof or the chinks between the logs afforded. Upon the wall there was a constant play of fantastic forms, the shadowy outlines of rude benches and their occupants. Young people sneezed, while their parents and grand-parents seemed to experience no unpleasantness from the fumes of this primitive heating apparatus. The congregation assembled from all directions, and engaged in the service with that interest usually manifested when such occurrences were only occasional. Before mounting their horses for the homeward journey, current topics were discussed, and the social spirit of the worshippers expressed in hearty hand-shaking and kindly inquiries for absent ones. Churches at the present day are undoubtedly far in advance of their predecessors of a century ago in many respects; but nothing has been gained in losing that simplicity which invariably characterized religious services at that period.

The Reverend Mr. Hopkins officiated in this church at irregular intervals until 1805, when he resigned, August 4, 1806; at the conclusion of service, he was called to become stated minister. He was offered an annual salary of one hundred dollars and the use of a glebe about to be erected by the Saint Paul and Saint Gabriel (Sugarloaf) congregations. He signified his acceptance, and entered upon the duties of the rectorship, October 1, 1806. From this time his field of labor was restricted to the churches at Bloomsburg, Jerseytown and Sugarloaf, and Saint Paul's congregation enjoyed greater frequency and regularity of religious services. Mr. Hopkins resided in that part of Bloomsburg properly known as Hopkinsville, until 1819, when his incumbency as rector ceased. The Reverend — Snowden succeeded him in 1820. The erection of a new church was vigorously agitated about this time, and Mr. Snowden took measures to have the parish incorporated as a protection to its financial interests. An act of the legislature under date of April 5, 1824, created the church a corporate body, with Daniel Pursel, Battis Appelman, Littleton Townsend, Isaac Green, Robert Green, Philip Appelman, Elias Bidleman, Peter Melick and John Barton, wardens and vestry. The Reverend — Eldred succeeded Mr. Snowden in 1825, and was the last rector who officiated in the old church. It was replaced in 1827 by a frame structure with greater pretensions to architectural beauty, which was used as a place for worship during the ten years following. July 13, 1837, the corner-stone of the third building on this site was laid. This was one of the few brick structures in the town at that time, and one of the finest churches in this section of country. The next effort at church building was made in 1868, when legislative action was secured for the disinterment and removal of the dead from that part of the burial ground at the corner of Second and Iron streets, upon which it was proposed to build. The acre of ground upon which the church and rectory are situated was secured by Elisha Barton, John Trembly and Edmund Crawford, the vestry, in 1795, from Joseph Long. The amount paid was five shillings. The

site of the log church was nearly identical with that of the rectory. The remaining portion of the inclosure was used as a cemetery; hence the legislation and disinterment agreeably to its provisions. The corner-stone of the fourth and present church edifice was laid in September, 1868. The first service in the completed structure was held on Sunday, October 28, 1870. Ten years were required to liquidate the debt of eight thousand dollars that then remained. Tuesday, June 28, 1881, the dedication occurred. There were present on this occasion Reverends T. H. Cullen and J. Hewitt, former rectors; J. H. Black, G. H. Rockwell, C. E. Fessenden, H. E. Hayden, J. P. Carnecross, C. E. Dodson, G. H. Kirkland, J. M. Peck, G. Gregson, and Bishop Howe. The certificate of the rector and vestry was read by E. R. Drinker, senior warden. Bishop Howe conducted the service. Reverend T. H. Cullen pronounced the sentence of consecration. The ceremonies throughout were of an interesting and appropriate character. In 1850 the parish came into possession of a house on East street, by the will of Elizabeth Emmitt. The proceeds of its sale were applied to the purchase of a pastoral residence on First street. The brick rectory contiguous to the church was built in 1883, and occupied by the Reverend L. Zahner in that year. After completing a pastorate of ten years, he resigned in September, 1886. The vestry has elected Reverend William C. Leverett to fill the vacancy thus existing, and he has signified his acceptance.

Saint Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran church has been known by that name since its incorporation, December 3, 1856, although known as Saint Paul's during the first fifty years of its history. During this period, the congregation worshiped in a church building at the corner of First and Center streets. This structure was built in 1808, and jointly owned by the Reformed and Lutheran churches. It was nearly square, with wide galleries on three sides and a high, "wine-glass" pulpit on the fourth side. Its seating capacity was about five hundred, of which number as many people would be upstairs as down, when the house was crowded. After some years, its exterior was weather-boarded and painted white, and this improvement seemed to give it a new lease of life in the affections of the community. It was finally removed in 1861, but the two congregations still retain their joint ownership of the cemetery of which its site forms a part. This burial ground comprises about one acre, and was purchased for eighty dollars from Ludwig Eyer, who was a member of this church.

Reverend Frederick Plitt is the first pastor of whom mention is made in the records, although the fact that Reverend — Frederitze was here as early as 1800 and preached in the Episcopal church building, seems well authenticated. March 13, 1808, the church adopted a constitution of fourteen articles, signed by Mr. Plitt, as pastor, John Deitterick and Bernard Lilly, elders and trustees, and Bernard Stetler, deacon. The records were made exclusively in German until 1833, and part in that language for some time afterward. Public worship was conducted in German until 1835; from that time until 1851, this language was used alternately—with the English. The transition was finally completed in 1851, under the ministry of Mr. Weaver.

Mr. Plitt's name appears at the head of a list of thirty-eight communicants under date of May 1, 1808. From 1809 to 1816, Reverend J. Frederick Engel served the congregation as pastor. At the communion of April 23, 1815, the names of fifty-seven persons appear upon the records. Reverend Peter Kessler followed him and remained until 1829. Reverend Jeremiah Schindel was pastor from 1830 to 1837, and Reverend William J. Eyer from 1837 to 1845. The latter was assisted during part of this time by Reverend Charles Witmer, who preached quite frequently at Bloomsburg. Reverend



Monroe J. Allen assumed the pastorate from 1845 to 1847, when Mr. Eyer again became pastor. Reverend Philip Weaver succeeded him in 1851, but resigned two years later. His immediate successor was Reverend E. A. Sharrets. The church building on Market street, since occupied by the congregation, was erected during this pastorate. Jacob Eyer was the leading spirit in this enterprise, in which he was ably assisted by David Stroup and John K. Grotz, the other members of the building committee. The building of so large and substantial a church edifice at this time speaks highly of the faith and liberality of the people. It was dedicated September 20, 1857. In the autumn of the following year, the East Pennsylvania Synod convened at Bloomsburg, numbering among its members many of the most eminent Lutheran divines in this country. Reverend J. R. Dimm, D. D., was pastor from 1859 to 1867. During his ministry the remaining indebtedness on the church building was paid, and the finances of the congregation further improved to such an extent that Bloomsburg was constituted a separate pastorate. Previous to this time it had received pastoral care in common with neighboring congregations. Reverend B. F. Alleman, D. D., was pastor from 1867 to 1872, Reverend J. R. Williams from 1872 to 1875, Reverend J. McCron, D. D., from 1875 to 1878, Reverend O. D. S. Marelay from 1878 to his death in 1881, and Reverend F. P. Manhast, the present incumbent, since June 1, 1881. Several thousand dollars have been expended within the past five years upon chancel and pulpit furniture, repairs to the church property, and a pipe-organ. And thus, under the leadership of an able ministry, devoted and efficient church councilmen and Sunday-school superintendents, the congregation has steadily developed to its present strength of three hundred and twenty-five communicant members. A marked degree of interest and activity is manifested in Sunday-school work, while several organizations of a benevolent and charitable character are well sustained.

As nearly as can be ascertained, the Reverend John W. Ingold was the first Reformed minister who preached in Bloomsburg. Among the German immigrants, this body of Christians was numerously represented. The services were held in the Episcopal church building mentioned above. On one occasion, a large congregation had assembled outside the church, when they were summarily denied admittance. Upon the arrival of Mr. Ingold, he was requested to announce preaching in four weeks at a school-house to be built about two miles distant on Little Fishing creek. Not a tree had yet been felled nor any preparation made for the contemplated building, but it was completed within the specified time, and Mr. Ingold preached agreeably to appointment. The burial ground, in the rear of the site of this school-house, is still pointed out, and here repose many of the first settlers of this region in unmarked graves.

The Reverend John Deitterich Adams succeeded Mr. Ingold about 1807, upon the death of the latter. It was decided to co-operate with the Lutherans in building a house of worship more convenient to Bloomsburg. The Reverend Jacob Dieffenbach preached the sermon at the dedication of this church. April 1, 1815, he received a call to become pastor at Bloomsburg. He accepted, and removed his family and household goods from Lynville, Lehigh county, to Espy, where a parsonage had been prepared for his use. His field of labor embraced Bloomsburg, Briar creek, Mifflinville, Muncy, Nescopeck, Wapwallopen, Shamokin, Catawissa, and several minor points. He was a man of considerable intelligence, and exerted a degree of influence not usually possessed by clergymen at this period. He died of consumption April 13, 1825, but in the decade of his residence in Columbia county, he laid the foundations of all the Reformed churches within its limits. His immediate successor, the Rev-



erend Larosh, served the different congregations for two years, when he fell a victim to malarial fever, then unusually virulent and prevalent. The Reverend Richard Fisher, of Catawissa, preached at Bloomsburg occasionally for a short period, but Reverend Daniel S. Tobias, who entered upon the pastorate, in 1828, and remained in charge until 1851, was the next regular pastor. He was assisted during part of this time by Reverend Henry Funk, who preached in English to the five churches which constituted the Bloomsburg charge. Mr. Funk resigned in 1854 and was succeeded the following year by Reverend William Goodrich. During his ministry the exclusively Reformed church building at the corner of Iron and Third streets was erected. He resigned in 1866, and in the same year a call was extended to Reverend L. C. Sheip. He accepted, and the charge was reduced to two congregations, which it numbers at present. Reverend F. J. Mohr became pastor in 1868 and added several other churches to his charge. In the space of three years he traveled more than four thousand miles; but finding this labor greater than his strength, he resigned in 1871. Reverend T. F. Hoffmier was pastor from March, 1872, to June 1, 1876; Reverend G. D. Gurley, from 1876 to 1878; Reverend Walter E. Krebs, from May 3, 1878, to 1883, during which time the appearance of the church building and the finances of the congregation were much improved. Reverend O. H. Strunck assumed the pastorate in August, 1885. His work was quietly pursued, but was eminently satisfactory. In February, 1883, a unanimous call was extended to Reverend S. R. Breidenbaugh, then pastor at Berlin, Somerset county, Pa. He accepted and was installed on the evening of April 25, 1885, by a committee of classes consisting of Reverends J. S. Peters, G. B. Deehant, and A. Hantz. A debt, incurred in the purchase of a parsonage, has been paid during Mr. Breidenbaugh's incumbency. This church is connected with the East Susquehanna session of the Synod of the United States. Both bodies have met here—the former quite frequently, the latter on the occasion of its annual convention, in October, 1873.

The Presbyterian element of the population of Bloomsburg and vicinity was originally connected with the old Fishingcreek church, the organization of which is still sustained in Center township. This church is mentioned in 1789 in the records of Carlisle Presbytery. Reverends Henry, Bryson, Porter, Judd, Condit, Andrews and Gray, were successively sent to missionate in the valley of the Susquehanna, and undoubtedly numbered among their hearers, at the Fishingcreek church, the McClures, Kinneys, Sloans, Pursels, and others, who afterward formed the membership of the Bloomsburg church. Reverend Asa Dunham, a native of Middlesex county, N. J., and a revolutionary soldier, became a resident of the Fishingcreek valley in 1798, and preached in the barn of Elias Furman, between Bloomsburg and Espy. The fact that public worship was thus held in the vicinity of the incipient village of Bloomsburg, and also at the Briarcreek church, would seem to indicate an increasing number of Presbyterians at the former place. Their religious privileges were convenient only through the courtesy of the German people or the Episcopalians, while their growing numbers emphasized the importance of a separate organization, and the building of a house of worship for their own use. Accordingly the Presbyterian church of Bloomsburg was organized in 1817, with James McClure, Paul Leidy and Peter Pursel, as elders. The congregation united with the Briarcreek and Shamokin churches, in extending a call to the Reverend Samuel Henderson, whose services should be divided equally among them. This call was made December 6, 1817, but the Bloomsburg congregation had already taken measures to provide their quota for his support. His energy was further manifested in the purchase of a lot at the west

end of Third street for a cemetery and building site. It was decided that the church building should be two stories high, with galleries on three sides, and that its dimensions should be thirty-six and forty feet. After the foundation had been laid, a controversy arose as to whether the entrance should be from the rear, agreeably to the custom of the neighborhood, or from that end of the building next the street. The more modern ideas prevailed, although a change was required in the work already done. While this structure was in course of erection, the trustees united in an agreement with the officers of the Episcopal church for the use of their church building. An instance in which the announcements of the two clergymen conflicted has thus been described: "When a communion service had been appointed, and the Rev. J. B. Patterson had been published to preach on Saturday preceding, the Rev. Caleb Hopkins, the founder and rector of the church, wrote a note to Mr. Henderson, announcing that he wished to occupy the pulpit on that afternoon. The notice reached Mr. Henderson, on his coming to town, to meet his congregation, who were already gathering. Finding Mr. Hopkins in the little pulpit, which would hold but one, he ascended the steps and asked permission to publish a notice, which, being courteously granted, he announced that those who wished to hear the Rev. Mr. Patterson, would repair to the German church on the hill. The whole congregation left. As the last were passing out Mr. Hopkins said, despairingly, 'Well, if ye will go, ye may.'"

Mr. Henderson continued to preach at Bloomsburg until 1824, when he was succeeded by the Reverend John Niblock. Reverends James Lewers, ——— Crosby, Mathew B. Patterson, Robert Bryson, and ——— Irvin successively assumed the pastorate, but found no encouragement to remain any length of time. The Reverend John P. Hudson's connection with the Bloomsburg congregation began in December, 1832, when he became stated supply, and subsequently regular pastor, until his resignation in 1838. The vacancy that ensued was temporarily supplied by Reverends ——— Tobey and Daniel M. Barber, but the latter had established a flourishing boarding school for young ladies at Washingtonville and declined to relinquish it, although importuned to do so. At the instance of Reverend D. M. Halliday, of Danville, D. J. Waller, a licentiate of New Castle Presbytery, had preached once in Bloomsburg, in the summer of 1837; he was now invited to make his residence in the town, and take charge of a pastorate embracing the whole of Columbia county, with several preaching points beyond its limits. The call was tendered and accepted in the autumn of 1838, and May 1, 1839, the pastor was ordained and installed. The pastoral relations thus established continued through thirty-three years. What was then included in one pastorate has now been formed into five or six. Mr. Waller's reminiscences would fill a volume. His house was the recognized stopping place for traveling clergymen, book agents, agents of benevolent societies, and other travelers of a miscellaneous character. He relates that that hospitality attained such proportions that occasionally more guests and conveyances left his house in the morning than left the hotel; and when the village landlord erected a new sign-board in hopes of thus emphasizing his claims upon the traveling public, some wags procured the old one and elevated it in a conspicuous place before the pastor's dwelling.

Upon the removal of the seat of justice to Bloomsburg in 1845, the future prospects of the town were supposed to be improved to such an extent as to require the erection of a new church building. The question of location was one of importance, and the different views entertained were widely different, and, unfortunately, equally pronounced. That the energies of the congregation might be concentrated on the erection of the church, and thus diverted

from the consideration of this delicate subject, the pastor secured financial aid from friends abroad and purchased the lot on Market street which is the present location of the church edifice. The plans for its erection were prepared by Napoleon Le Brun. Its cost was about three thousand dollars. The last sermon in the Third street church building was delivered on the last Sabbath of August, 1848. The new structure was dedicated on the following Wednesday, on which occasion the pastor was assisted by the Reverend W. R. Smith.

Mr. Waller tendered his resignation in 1871; it was accepted and the relation terminated by the Presbytery. After an interval of one year, the Reverend Stuart Mitchell, D. D., was installed as his successor, October 17, 1872. A parsonage was erected in 1880 on the lot formerly occupied by the old church. The subject of building a new church has been under consideration for some time, and a fund for this object has been accruing during this period. The erection of a more commodious church edifice certainly cannot be long delayed.

The first Methodist service in Bloomsburg was conducted by Reverends Geo. Lane, a former member of the Genesee Conference, who was obliged, in consequence of lost health, to engage in business in Berwick. He preached in the Episcopal church, during a vacancy in the rectorship of the parish. This was probably in the year 1829. In the autumn of 1831, while William Prettyman and Wesley Howe were stationed at Berwick, Reverend Alem Brittain visited Light Street and found it necessary to remain, although the presiding elder insisted that he should return to his circuit in Center county. At Mr. Prettyman's suggestion, Mr. Howe exchanged work with Mr. Brittain. It had meanwhile been publicly announced that regular religious services would be held at Bloomsburg, and on a Sunday evening in October, 1831, Mr. Brittain preached to a large audience in the school-house. This was the first sermon delivered in Bloomsburg, after it had become a regular appointment. A class was formed in 1832, and consisted of Dr. Harman Gearhart, William Paul, Jesse Shannon, Delilah (Creveling) Barton, and others. Preaching at that time was held in a school-house, at the corner of Second and Iron streets. Subsequently, William Paul's carpenter-shop on Market street, between First and Second, became the place of meeting. In 1835, a frame church building was erected on Third street; this was replaced in 1857 by the brick structure that now marks its site. It was dedicated in December, 1857, by Bishop Levi Scott. Its appearance, both internally and externally, has been improved at various times since. An extensive revival was held at the dedication of the church in 1857, during the pastorate of Rev. George Warren, and again in 1869, under the leadership of Reverend J. A. Melick.

The Primitive Methodist and Welsh Wesleyans were represented in Bloomsburg by strong congregations during the first prosperity of the iron industry. The African Methodist church seems to have become a permanent organization. A building site on First street was purchased in 1868, and a frame church building erected thereon. It is the place of worship of a flourishing organization.

It has been thought proper in this connection to present the names of all the Methodist clergymen who have preached in Bloomsburg or the surrounding country, by conference appointment. This section was embraced in Northumberland circuit from 1791 to 1831, with the exception of the years 1799 and 1800, when it was included in Wyoming; Berwick circuit comprehended this territory during the fifteen years following; Bloomsburg circuit in 1847, and Bloomsburg station in 1862. Having thus summarized the changes in the ecclesiastical map, the list of ministers is herewith subtended: 1791, Richard



Parrott, Lewis Browning; 1792, James Campbell, William Colbert; 1793, James Campbell, James Paynter; 1794, R. Manly, J. Brodhead; 1795, James Ward, Stephen Timmons; 1796, John Seward, R. Sneath; 1797, John Lackey, D. Higby; 1798, J. Lackey, J. Leach; 1799, J. Moore, B. Bidlack, D. Stevens; 1800, E. Chambers, E. Larkins, A. Smith; 1801, J. Dunham, G. Carpenter; 1802, Anning Owens, J. Atkins; 1803, D. Ryan, J. Ridgway; 1804, T. Adams, G. Draper; 1805, C. Frye, J. Saunders; 1806, Robert Burch, John Swartzwelder; 1807, Nicholas Joel Smith; 1808, Thomas Curren, John Rhodes; 1809, Timothy Lee, Loring Grant; 1810, Abraham Dawson, Isaac Puffer; 1811, B. G. Paddock, J. H. Baker, R. Lanning; 1812, George Thomas, Ebenezer Doolittle; 1813, Joseph Kinkead, I. Chamberlain; 1814, John Hazzard, Abraham Dawson; 1815, R. M. Everts, I. Cook; 1816, John Thomas, Alpheus Davis; 1817, Benjamin Bidlack, Peter Baker; 1818, Gideon Lanning, Abraham Dawson; 1819, John Rhodes, Darius Williams; 1820, John Rhodes, Israel Cook; 1821, Marmaduke Pearce, J. Thomas; 1822, John Thomas, Mordecai Barry; 1823, J. R. Shepherd, M. Barry; 1824, R. Cadden, F. Macurteny, R. Bond; 1825, R. Cadden, R. Bond; 1826, John Thomas, George Hildt; 1827, John Thomas, David Shaver; 1828, Charles Kalbfus, William James; 1829, James W. Donahay, Josiah Forrest; 1830, James W. Donahay, A. A. Eskridge; 1831, William Prettyman, Wesley Howe; 1832, William Prettyman, Oliver Ege; 1833, Marmaduke Pearce, Alem Brittain; 1834-35, J. Rhodes, J. H. Young; 1836, J. Sanks, J. Hall; 1837, J. Sanks, George Guyer; 1838, Charles Kalbfus, J. Hall; 1839, Charles Kalbfus, Pentfield Doll; 1840, James Ewing, William R. Mills; 1841, James Ewing, W. F. D. Clemm; 1842, Thomas Taneyhill, Joseph A. Ross; 1843, Thomas Taneyhill, Thomas Bowman; 1844, Francis N. Mills, W. L. Spottswood; 1845, John Bowen, W. F. Pentz; 1846, John Bowen, J. W. Bull; 1847, S. L. M. Couser, J. Turner; 1848, G. H. Day, J. W. Elliott; 1849, John W. Gere, P. E., G. H. Day; 1850, J. S. Lee, E. H. Waring; 1851, J. S. Lee, T. M. Goodfellow; 1852, Thomas Taneyhill, W. E. Buckingham; 1853, Thomas Taneyhill, J. A. DeMoyer; 1854, J. A. Ross, A. W. Guyer; 1855, J. Morehead, F. M. Slusser; 1856, George Warren, S. Barnes; 1857, George Warren, N. W. Colburn; 1858-59, J. Guyer, T. Sherlock; 1860, F. Gearhart, A. R. Riley; 1862-63, D. C. John; 1864-66, R. E. Wilson; 1867, J. A. Price; 1868-69, J. A. Melick; 1870-71, B. H. Crever; 1872-73, N. S. Buckingham; 1874-75, J. H. McGarrah; 1876, J. S. McMurray; 1877-78, M. L. Smyser; 1879-80, E. H. Yocum; 1881-82, John Donahue; 1883-85, D. S. Monroe, D. D.; 1886, F. B. Riddle.

The first efforts to establish the Baptist faith in Bloomsburg were made in 1840 by the Reverend J. Green Miles, who preached in the Methodist church building in April or May of that year. He was then in charge of the Little Muncey, or Madison church. He was given the use of the union meeting house, and preached, in all, six sermons. The next minister of this denomination was Reverend William S. Hall, of Berwick. In January, 1843, he preached two sermons and baptized John Snyder in Fishing creek. This was the first baptism in Bloomsburg agreeably to the doctrine and practice of the Baptist church. Subsequently, Reverend Joseph B. Morris preached several times in the "Smoketown" school-house. At a still later period, and after the erection of the Welsh Baptist church, Reverend A. D. Nichols visited the town and preached several sermons. No continued and regular services were held in Bloomsburg until 1853, when Reverend J. R. Shanafelts, of Berwick, began to preach once in three weeks in the court hall. He delivered his first sermon October 3, 1853. In less than a year from this time a house of wor-





G. W. Greenberg



ship was dedicated. It is a neat and substantial frame structure, and required a greater degree of liberality than would now be required. It was dedicated July 11, 1859, Reverends Joseph Kelley and A. F. Shanafelts preaching on that occasion. The church was organized with Martin C. Woodward, deacon; John Snyder, clerk; Daniel Breece, treasurer, and nineteen members, of whom Martin C. Woodward, Sarah J. Woodward, Isaac Tyler, Susan Tyler, Harriet Roan and Lena Fidler were received by letters from the Danville church; Sarah A. Philips, by letter from the Madison church; John Snyder, in a similar manner from the Berwick church; Richard Edward and Martha Edward, by letter from England; Daniel Breece, Robert Roan, Elizabeth Cadman and Maria Logan, on experience; Margaret Derr, Mary A. Breece, Lucy Cosper, Mary N. Powell and Mahala Brittain, by baptism. The organization thus effected was constituted a Baptist church by an ecclesiastical council, composed of the following clergymen, representatives of eleven different churches: S. H. Mirick, A. J. Hay, O. L. Hall, E. M. Alden and A. J. Kelly.

Mr. Shanafelts resigned after a three years' ministry. He was succeeded by Reverend J. G. Penny, who remained one year. Reverend G. W. Scott took charge January 12, 1863, and resigned in March, 1865. Reverend J. P. Tustin became pastor March 15, 1865, and continued in that capacity for fifteen years. Reverend C. Wilson Smith took charge in the spring of 1882, and remained one year and six months. He was succeeded, in 1884, by Reverend D. J. R. Strayer. Since his resignation, in the autumn of 1885, Mr. Tustin has again become pastor, and continues in that capacity at this time (1886). Since the organization of this church two hundred and nine persons have been received into membership by baptism, fifty-six by letter and twenty-six by experience—a total of two hundred and ninety-one. During the same period a loss of thirty-two has been caused by death, of thirty-seven by expulsion, of sixty-eight by erasure, and of fifty-four by letter—a total of one hundred and ninety-one. From a comparison of these figures it appears that the present numerical strength of this church is one hundred members.

The first religious service in Bloomsburg agreeably to the ritual of the Roman Catholic church was held while the canal excavations were in progress, by Reverend Father Fitz-Patrick, of Milton. His successor at that place, Father Fitz Simmons, held mass on several occasions, in 1844, for the population attracted to Bloomsburg during the construction of Iron-dale furnace. Services were held regularly several times a month at the house of Michael Casey, on Iron street, below the hill and across from the culvert. Many of the workmen attended, and if they had remained permanently in the town, a strong organization might have been effected. After they left the town services were held at irregular intervals by the priests stationed at Pottsville, Shamokin, Sunbury, and Danville. Among this number were Fathers Sherdon, Murray, McGinnis, Smith, and Noonan, from Sunbury, and Schleuter, from Danville. Under their ministrations, a congregation was gradually collected. The need of a permanent place for public worship became apparent with every addition to its membership. The purchase of a stone structure on Third street, between Iron and Center, formerly occupied by the Primitive Methodists, was successfully negotiated. It was rebuilt in 1874, and the pastoral residence adjoining was purchased in 1883. Fathers O'Brien, Reilly, Clarke and McCann have been resident pastors. The parish of St. Columba's church also embraces several other points in this county where the Roman Catholic faith is represented by members, but not by regularly organized churches.

The success of the Evangelical Association in extending its borders is largely due to the spirit of its leadership in advancing into new territory, establishing missions, and taking up new appointments. In March, 1873, the Central Pennsylvania Conference of this body decided to occupy Bloomsburg as a mission, attach to it several points in the vicinity, and place the whole under the pastoral care of the Reverend R. C. Bowersox. Six years previous, in the winter of 1867, the Reverend U. W. Harris held the first service of this church in Bloomsburg, in the "Port Noble" school-house. A class was formed with George Rishel, leader. Among its members were Joseph Garrison, Henry Garrison, George Rishel, Elijah Strohm, — Houseknecht and Tobias Henry. Public worship was held regularly, but the necessity of moving from one place to another greatly hindered the growth of the society. A lot of ground was purchased in 1873 for a building site; December 12, 1880, Bishop Thomas Bowman dedicated the brick structure erected thereon, and the congregation for the first time worshiped in their own house. The following ministers have sustained pastoral relations with the Bloomsburg mission: 1873-74, R. C. Bowersox; 1875-76, J. N. Irvine; 1877, A. W. Sheuberger and J. S. Hertz; 1878-79, G. W. Hunter; 1879-80, L. K. Harris; 1880-81, S. E. Davis; 1882-84, S. P. Remer; 1885—, H. W. Buck.

The Columbia County Sunday School Association is an organization which includes all evangelical Sunday schools. It is auxiliary to the State and International Sunday School Association. It is the purpose of this organization to encourage weak schools and to organize schools where needed. It has been organized eighteen years and holds conventions annually in various parts of the county, at which time its officers are elected. The work of organizing an association in each township and borough auxiliary to the county association has progressed until but four remain unorganized.

At the time when Bloomsburg is best described as a country village, the burial ground of each congregation was in the rear of its church building. This arrangement continued until Rosemont Cemetery was incorporated. Messrs. D. J. Waller, Jacob Eyer, Joel Ruderow and the clergy of the town were the leaders in this movement. Subsequently, the different denominational burial grounds have ceased to be used for that purpose, and except in the case of the German cemetery, the remains of those buried there have been disinterred and removed to Rosemont.

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## CHAPTER VII.

### SCOTT TOWNSHIP.

THE last change in the political map of this county north of the river was made in 1853, when Bloom township was divided, and its eastern portion given the name which appears at the head of this chapter. The latter was conferred in honor of George Scott, then entering upon his second term as a member of the legislature from the district embracing Columbia and Montour counties. This township is the smallest in the county. It is inclosed between Fishing creek and the Susquehanna, on the north and south, and between Centre and the town of Bloomsburg on the east and west. The points of his-



toric interest of which this sketch treats, are the circumstances of its settlement, the growth of its villages, the industrial and social character of its people.

The early settlers were principally of English origin, and emigrated from West Jersey, and from the eastern counties of this state. Among this number the names of Melick, Bright, Henrie, Leidle, Webb, Brittain, Creveling and Boone are still familiar. Peter Melick, the first of that name in this neighborhood, emigrated from Jersey before the revolution. He lived on a farm below Espy, which was purchased in 1774, from the proprietaries of the province. He enlisted twice in the continental army and passed the winter of 1776-77 at Valley Forge. When the Indian troubles of 1778 threatened to extend to his house, he returned to its defense. In the spring of that year Lieutenant Moses Van Campen was placed in command of twenty men and directed to build a fort on Fishing creek, for the protection of the frontier. He selected as its site, a rising ground on the south side of that stream, about three miles from its mouth, near the location of the paper mills. The Salmons, Wheelers, Aikmans and Van Campens lived in the vicinity. The fort was located on the farm of Mr. Wheeler, and has been generally known by his name. It was also popularly known as the "Mud Fort" from the appearance of its walls, which consisted merely of a frame work of logs covered over with earth. Its erection was timely; even before its completion a threatened attack compelled the inhabitants to seek protection within its walls. Peter Melick was then living in a dwelling on the John Sherman farm below Espy. The cellar excavation of this house is still pointed out near a pear tree, sixty yards northward from the canal bridge. On the 17th of September, 1778, it was burned by the Indians, the occupants having previously escaped to Fort Wheeler with such valuables as they could collect. It is related that the enemy selected a feather tick from among his personal effects and fastened it upon the back of a pony. The latter became frightened, broke away from his captors, and reached the fort with the tick, valued so highly by friend and foe.

During the night of siege that followed, the ammunition of the garrison was exhausted. Two privates, Henry McHenry and another whose name has not been preserved, volunteered to go to Fort Jenkins and secure a supply. Although the intervening country was infested with savages, they performed the journey in safety and the fort was saved. Its protection was deemed insufficient however, and some of the families retired to Sunbury where they remained until the close of the war.\* Other families had meanwhile made their appearance in the vicinity. About the year 1779 Henry with his wife and children descended the Susquehanna from New York state in a canoe and stopped at Wilkesbarre until the Indian troubles had cleared away. They then continued the journey in the same manner as before to the mouth of Fishing creek. A deserted log cabin within the present limits of Light Street was occupied as a dwelling. An acre of ground adjoining was planted in potatoes; but before the first crop had matured they were compelled to dig out for food the seed thus planted. When this supply was exhausted, wild potatoes in the swamps were eagerly sought after, roasted on the coals, and eaten with avidity. A parallel instance occurred in the experience of the Webbs, who lived above the town of Espy. Levi Aikman had settled in Briar creek valley the previous year and gathered in his first harvest. The grain was put in a sack, and a son sent to take it to mill at Sunbury. He made the journey in a canoe, and on the return trip recruited his strength by eating a crust of

\*When the fort was evacuated its one piece of ordnance, a small brass swivel, was sunk in a deep hole in Fishing creek. The course of the stream has changed since then and all efforts to discover the missing cannon have proved fruitless. Its traditional location is known as "Cannon hole."

bread, the only provision he had taken from home. He reached the landing nearest his home at nightfall and carried the sack of meal to Webb's. Mrs. Webb would gladly have given him supper, but there was no food in their home. He shared the contents of his sack with that family, and with several others before he reached home the next day. The ravages of disease were added to the hardship of insufficient food supply. Zebreth Brittain and — Robbins made a visit to the region about 1782 for the purpose of buying lands. The former was attacked with small-pox; he died and was buried in the old Derry graveyard. His family was on the way to join him when they were apprised of his death. They did not turn back however, but continued to their destination and settled east of Light Street. John Bright removed from Mount Bethel, Northampton county, about the same time, and became a neighbor of the Brittaines. Mr. Bright had sent a son in advance to secure land but he was attacked with the fatal small-pox and died without the care of friends and kindred. Alem Marr located on a farm adjoining. And thus, through hardships and inconveniences from which none were exempt, the first representatives of some of the oldest families in the county became residents of Scott township.

The fertility of its soil is attested by the fact that every acre of ground that was ever farmed is still under cultivation. The land that seemed least adapted to farming has in some instances proven most valuable. The wealth in these cases was beneath the surface and not upon it. This is particularly true of the hills bordering Fishing creek where valuable deposits of iron ore have been found. Rodman, Morgan & Fisher, constituting the Duncannon Iron Company, purchased land from Samuel Melick and began the mining industry in this section. The ore was hauled to Espy and forwarded by canal. The Bloomsburg furnaces have received ore from these hills since 1844. Matthew McDowell operated a furnace at Light Street for some years on a small scale. The Light Street Iron Company engaged in a similar business but was not financially successful. A paper-mill on Fishing creek, some distance below the town, has had a career of greater permanency. Thomas French purchased a grist-mill from John Barton about 1830 and converted it into an establishment for the manufacture of paper. It has passed through different hands and suffered many changes, but still retains its character as a manufacturing point. The lime ridge should be mentioned in connection with the mineral resources of the township. The ridge has furnished employment for a number of people and a small hamlet has been formed in consequence. It bears the poetic name of Afton, but its appearance is not likely to inspire the beholder. The cottages are substantial and comfortable, however, while two churches seem amply sufficient to minister to the spiritual wants of the population.

Like the iron industry, the fisheries no longer possess the importance once attached to them. They were known, in order, from the mouth of Fishing creek to Mifflin rapids, as the Boone, McClure, Kinney, Hendershott, Kuders, Whitner, Creveling, Webb and Miller fisheries. Fishing seems to have begun about 1780 and reached its point of greatest importance fifty years later. Certain varieties once numerous represented are now practically extinct. The shad, gar-fish, salmon, and rock-fish may be mentioned among this number. Lines used were from two-hundred to four-hundred yards in length and four or five yards in depth, with meshes two inches square. The season began the latter part of March and continued until June. A statute law prohibited fishing on Thursdays in order "to give fish a chance for head-waters." Two hauls per day was the rule—one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The flats used were about twenty-five feet long, eight feet wide, and eighteen

inches high, provided with two stout oars near the bow. Two men were required at each oar, one attended to "paying out" the seine, while two others remained on shore to adjust the land end. Seven men thus constituted a fishing crew. Two flats were used to one seine at Webb's fishery. It is said that at this place nine thousand fish were once caught at a single haul. The price of shad in 1800 was six dollars per hundred; in 1830 it had risen to more than twice as much. People came to the river from all points to buy fish, bringing in exchange produce of every description—corn, meat, peach cider, whisky, metheglin, etc. Both the fisheries and the ore industries have ceased to be important in comparison with their former influence upon the general business character of the people.

One result of their existence was the growth of two villages—Light Street and Espytown, from their respective locations in the iron region and on the river bank. The former originally consisted of two villages at each extremity of the present one. In 1821 John Hazlett, Uzal Hopkins, William McCarty, James McCarty, — Lake and George Zeigler were living on the town plot of "Williamsburg." It was laid out by Philip Seidle, December 12, 1817, and consisted of Front and Second streets, and Magdalene's alley parallel with the public road, and Catharine street, South street, Walnut, Strawberry and Cherry alleys crossing these at right angles. The hamlet about a half-mile distant in the direction of Bloomsburg was represented at this time by the blacksmith shop of Robert Gardner and the farm house of John Deaker. General Matthew McDowell came into possession of the Jew's mill about the year 1823, and established a post-office under the name of McDowell's Mills. Benjamin Seidle was the proprietor of the mills at an earlier period and popular usage was divided between the names of Seidletown and Williamsburg. As is usually the case, the post-office designation superseded both. Mr. McDowell found his mill a profitable enterprise and built another at the lower end of the town, previously mentioned as the location of a smithy. When he engaged in the iron business, this was sold to Reverend Marmaduke Pearce, a Methodist clergyman. He found the distance of half a mile to post office too long, and took measures to have it established at his mill. The location was changed and also the name, which became Light Street and so remains. Mr. Pearce was once stationed in Baltimore, Md., and lived on Light street in that city. This explains the origin of the name. The two villages gradually approached each other until they have become practically one. The town contains a number of stores and hotels, two flouring mills, three churches, a school building and a population of about three hundred. It was a place of considerable business activity during the prosperous period of the iron industry and still retains more of this character than the average country town.

Espytown has not experienced the frequent changes of name which characterized its neighbor; but the mutations in its fortunes have been equally unfavorable in their influence. It appears that in 1775 Josiah Espy purchased from the Penns a tract of about three hundred acres of land, including the site of the town that bears his name. He sold this to George Espy, his son, in the same year. The George Espy property is supposed to have been a two-story log house about twenty-four feet square, with two rooms below and one above, covered with shingles three feet long, fastened with wrought iron nails. It was situated on the Abbot lot, about one hundred yards from the house of William Carson and twenty yards from the towing path of the canal. It was built by Mr. Espy about 1785, and occupied by him until 1810, when he removed to Crawford county, Pa. In locating the town he seems to have



observed a notch in the river hill and a corresponding depression in the ridge in the rear of his land. It is probable that he thus meant to secure the advantage of a roadway from Fishing creek to Catawissa which would eventually pass through those points. Directly on the line of this route he laid off twenty-five acres into sixty building lots, the length of the plot being eighty perches and its width fifty perches. It is supposed that this was done about the year 1800, for in 1802 several lots in "the town of Liberty" were sold by Mr. Espy to various persons. The modesty of the proprietors was overruled by the general practice of the villagers, which was confirmed in 1828 when a post-office was established under the name of Espy. Among the residents of the place at an early period were John Edgar, Alexander Thompson, John Kennedy, Samuel McKamey, — Hinkle, John Haverman, — Miller and Frederick Woeman. There were fourteen log-houses and twelve frame dwellings in the town in 1826; the population at that time may therefore be estimated at one-hundred and thirty. The first hotel was built about 1805 by John Kennedy, rebuilt in 1856 by Henry Trembly, and constitutes the present Espy hotel. The first frame house was owned by John Shuman, and was built of lumber sawed at the Elias Barton saw-mill in Hemlock township. The first brick house was built in 1845 by John Hughes. In 1826 the people were supplied with water from three wells, located respectively at the Woeman hotel and the houses of John Webb and Philip Miller. The latter was at the center of Main street at its intersection with Market. At this time the bog in the rear of the town was scarcely passable. The "Indian path" consisted of two rows of yellow pine logs and lead in the direction of Light Street. The swamp extended from the brook above Espy to the canal culvert, a mile from Bloomsburg. A corduroy road was laid by John Hanch in 1815 to haul iron ore to his furnace at Mainville. Among the attractions of Espy from 1810 to 1835 was Webb's lane, a famous racing ground. Jockeys resorted thither from Sunbury, Towanda, Wilkesbarre, and other places, to try the speed of their nags. The following anecdote of Reverend John P. Hudson is related in a historical discourse by the Reverend David J. Waller: "On a visit to his home in Virginia his father gave him a blooded horse, the speed of which, in carrying him from place to place in his wide circuit, gave the clergyman an inconvenient reputation for horsemanship. On one occasion, riding along the river road, he passed over the old race course at Webb's lane, when a shower of rain obliged a farmer to loose his horses from the plow. One horse, coming out of the field, took the track at his best speed. Meeting the clergyman, under his umbrella, the Virginia courser promptly accepted the challenge, wheeled, and took his master a 'John Gilpin ride,' with umbrella stripped backward in the wind, and distancing the pretentious plow horse. A wag, who saw the unique performance, related to a listening company the story of having seen the preacher run his *blooded horse* against a famous courser of the neighborhood and win the race. A man of high pretensions who was present, but in whom charity was not a shining ornament, declared that it was 'just like those Presbyterian preachers.' This brought out the correct version of the affair, to the confusion of the caviller, and also evoked the confession of some young sports that they had often stolen the preacher's horse from his stable and tested him on that track at night."

From an industrial point of view, the town has been equally well known on account of its boat yards. About the year 1834 George and Thomas Webb built a Union canal boat on their land at the lower bank of the canal. It was launched about three miles above Espy and christened "The Fourth of July." It was about seventy feet long and eight feet broad. The industry thus begun



has been continued with fluctuating energy until the present time. The boat-yards of Barton & Edgar, Kressler & Vansickle, Fowler, Trousoe & McKamey, have at one time or another been locally important. The works of the Pennsylvania Canal Company were established in 1873, and have gradually absorbed similar enterprises. Manufacturing interests have also been represented by an annery, distillery, pottery, flouring mills, and brick-yards. The first merchant was William Mann, a storekeeper from 1816 to 1818; C. G. Ricketts, Samuel Woeman, Woeman & Seraby, Cyrus Barton, Miles Bancroft, and Pat-ricken, cover the period from 1820 to 1850 in their financial operations. About sixty individuals and firms have been engaged in business at various times.

The citizens of Espy have displayed a degree of interest in improving the appearance of its streets. The Lombardy poplar was the first ornamental shade tree; it was superseded in 1836 by the weeping willow. A single shoot was brought from a tree in front of the Forks hotel at Bloomsburg, and planted in a similar position before Woeman's tavern. The planting of trees was pushed vigorously about 1868 by Mr. McCollum and others. Efforts have been made for some time to secure legal action for the erection of Espy into a borough. Should this be accomplished, the administration of its affairs by judicious hands would certainly be a benefit to the citizens in various ways.

The first school in Scott township was established in 1805 with Messrs. Webb, Kennedy and Waters, trustees. The course of study included the alphabet, spelling, writing, reading and arithmetic. Between 1830 and 1840 grammar and geography were added. Algebra and history became part of the course sometime in the next decade. The first school-house stood on lot No. 56, in Espy, the north-eastern corner of Market and Main streets. It was the only one for the town and vicinity within a radius of three miles. The ceiling of its one room was eight feet high, and unplastered, while the other dimensions were twenty and twenty-four feet. The three windows on each side were filled with eight-by-ten glass. Benches were made of slabs; three-writing tables extended around three sides of the room; a "John Heacock" wood stove occupied the center; a tin cup and wooden water-bucket completed the furniture of this temple of learning. The educational interests of the township are well sustained, if the general appearance of school buildings and grounds may be regarded as evidence in this respect.

The religious denominations represented are the Methodist, Episcopal, Lutheran, Presbyterian and Evangelical. The oldest congregation of the society first mentioned is at Light Street. A camp-meeting at Huntingdon in the autumn of 1819, was attended by Jacob Freas, John Brittain and others who lived in the vicinity of the village. They were converted and formed into a class by Reverend John Rhoads, who was then stationed at Berwick. Meetings were held at Mr. Brittain's house for eight years before the society had become strong enough to build a place for worship. General Daniel Montgomery, of Danville, gave the church one-hundred perches of ground in 1827, at which time Paul Freas, John Brittain, John Millard, Samuel Melick and Peter Melick were trustees. The church building was erected the same year. In 1851 the church was incorporated, thus rendering a new deed necessary in order to give the corporate body the title to its property. Two years later, "in consideration of the love and veneration in which they hold the memory of Daniel Montgomery, and Christiana, his wife, and their desire that their pious and charitable acts should be confirmed," the heirs at law of William Montgomery executed a new deed. The old log structure was removed some years ago and replaced by a structure better adapted to the needs of a strong and increasing congregation.

The Reverend Isaac John preached in Espy as late as 1828. Lorenzo Dow visited the place in 1833, and preached to a large congregation in the school-house. The barking of dogs in an adjoining yard exasperated the reverend gentleman. He announced with some indignation that he had come to preach to people and not to dogs. A gentleman from Light Street offered to take him to Mainville in a carriage. He declined in favor of Mr. Murray's truck-wagon. The first place for worship was built in 1838, and the present structure upon its site in 1883. It was dedicated by Bishop Thomas Bowman. On the death of Reverend H. C. Chester, the pastor at that time, Reverend R. H. Wharton, succeeded him. Reverend J. Beyer was Mr. Wharton's successor. Reverend Richard Mallalieu has been in charge since August 20, 1886.

Reverend William Weaver, a Lutheran minister at Bloomsburg from 1851 to 1853, preached occasionally at Espy during that period. A number of members of the Bloomsburg church were formed into a separate organization. Among those who were prominently identified with the movement were David Whitman, John Shuman, Samuel Kressler, John Kressler, J. D. Werkheiser, Cyrus Barton and Conrad Bittenbender. The last two named were constituted a building committee, and in the summer of 1853 a church building was dedicated. Reverends Philip Willard, William Weaver and the pastor were present at the ceremonies. Reverend E. A. Sharrets became pastor in 1853, and remained in charge until 1860. Reverend J. R. Dimm was his immediate successor, but resigned in 1863. Reverend D. S. Truckenmiller was pastor from 1863 to 1867, J. M. Rice from 1867 to 1872, J. M. Reimunsnyder from 1872 to 1876, William Kelly from 1876 to 1878, and E. A. Sharrets from that time until October 1, 1886, since when the pastorate has been vacant.

The Presbyterian church at Light Street is not a regularly organized body. Its membership was originally connected with the Briarcreek church, but the distance from their homes to the place of worship prevented many from attending. The Light Street church was built in 1853, but services have not been held with any degree of regularity in recent years.

The Evangelical societies at Espy, Afton and Light Street are included in Bloomsburg mission, but were established while this territory was embraced in Columbia circuit. During the ministry of Reverend A. J. Irvine, he held occasional services in the Presbyterian church at Light Street, and in the winter of 1866-67 conducted a protracted meeting, which resulted in sixty conversions. Among the members of the first class were James Pullen, Thomas Bear and James Meradis. Measures were at once taken to build a church, and this was highly necessary as well as feasible in view of the membership that had been formed upon the first revival effort. August 4, 1869, the corner-stone was laid; the dedication occurred in the following winter. Afton became a preaching place in 1866. Worship was at first held in the school-house, but when this privilege was withdrawn, a church was built. The corner-stone was laid in May, 1872, and the consecration of the church occurred in the following September. In the winter of 1875-76 Reverend J. A. Irvine was invited to preach in Espy. February 1, 1876, he began a protracted effort, in which one hundred persons were converted. Two classes were formed under the leadership of William Schechterley and William Heidley, with John McKamey and Clark Price as exhorters. Reverend H. W. Buck is the present pastor of Bloomsburg Mission, which embraces these appointments.

## CHAPTER VIII.

## BRIARCREEK TOWNSHIP AND BOROUGH OF BERWICK.

BERWICK-ON-TWEED, a borough of Northumberland county, England, has existed from an early period of British history. It presents to-day, in its Gothic cathedral, fortified walls and massive battlements the characteristic features that might have impressed the visitor of two centuries ago. The general appearance of the town has suffered no material change. Its circumference of fortifications has proven an effective barrier to the extension of its limits. Consequently the population not employed at home has been compelled to emigrate, and thus sever with reluctance endearing associations with the quaint old town. In different states and widely separated localities, those who thus went forth conferred its name on the settlements they established.

Evan Owen was among those who sought to ameliorate their condition by removing beyond the seas. He was an ardent advocate of the doctrines of Fox, and was warmly welcomed by his co-religionists upon his arrival at Philadelphia. When the land office was opened by the Penns in 1769 for the disposal of their recently acquired purchase, he was among the first to take advantage of the opportunity thus offered to secure lands at a merely nominal cost. In relying upon the fidelity and sagacity of the woodsman or explorer employed to seek out the best land he was not disappointed, as the selection at Nescopeck falls was certainly judicious. In 1772 he performed the journey from Harris' ferry to Fishing creek in a river boat, accompanied by Benjamin Doan and others, with the intention of establishing a Quaker village. The troublous times that ensued compelled them to relinquish the idea. In 1780 Owen returned and continued his journey above the mouth of Briarcreek, some distance from the locality where he had previously settled. He finally decided upon a point opposite the mouth of Nescopeck creek as the location of the prospective town. Six years, however, elapsed before it was laid off, and during this period several families arrived and formed a small hamlet, conferring upon it the name of Owensville. In 1786 the streets were surveyed, and corners established by blazing on the trees. The propriety of their names—Oak, Vine, Mulberry, Pine, Chestnut and Walnut—is thus explained. When the complicated and conflicting titles of Connecticut and other claimants were adjusted, part of the area originally embraced in the town plot was diverted from Owen's possession; it was included in Salem township, which in 1786 became part of Luzerne county upon its erection. The same year the town was formally named Berwick by the proprietor, who thus expressed the attachment he still retained for his former home; like Berwick-on-Tweed, it was also in Northumberland county, and on the bank of a river already famous in history.

The visitor to Berwick cannot fail to be impressed with the beauty and variety of natural scenery, which characterize the surrounding region in every direction. Northward the outline of Lee mountain is visible from the knob to its terminal point at Shickshinny; the Summer hills, geological formations of an anomalous character, appear in the foreground. South of the Susquehanna the Nescopeck range can be distinguished throughout a wide extent both east and west, while the river hills in the distance apparently approach



the line of its base. The deep gorges of the Catawissa, Nescopeck and Wapwallopen creeks relieve the monotony of an otherwise unbroken trend. Above the mouth of the latter "Council Cup" rears its crest and maintains a majestic silence concerning the mighty questions once deliberated there by a race that has long since disappeared before the advancing tide of civilization. The location of the town itself reflects credit on the excellent judgment of the proprietor. An elevated situation and perfect drainage preclude the idea of the mephitic miasms from the stream below seriously affecting the general healthfulness of the place.

The first inhabitants of Berwick appeared upon its soil during the period that intervened between Owen's first visit and the laying off of the town.\* Two brothers, John and Robert Brown, had but recently arrived from England when Owen, who was then in Philadelphia, induced them to remove to his land on the Susquehanna. They reached Catawissa with no adventures other than those usually incident to the overland journey, but were compelled to transport themselves and their goods from that point to their destination in canoes, and this occasioned no little inconvenience and delay. A landing was effected at the Nescopeck rapids. The bluff was ascended with difficulty by an Indian path which marked the course of the road since opened. The household goods and meagre supply of provisions were deposited at the summit, and then they sat down on the trunk of a fallen tree and rested. But the satisfaction of having at last arrived at their destination could not idly be enjoyed. To add to the multiplied labors of the day, rain began to fall before provision had been made for such an emergency. In recounting these particulars John Brown was wont to relate that their wives, overcome at the dismal prospect of thus passing the night without shelter, relieved their feelings in tears. There is a tradition current to the effect that the Browns passed the winter with only the temporary protection afforded by pulling the tops of trees together and covering them with bark; but this is altogether improbable, as the men were carpenters and well prepared to erect comfortable cabins. They did so at once; John Brown located on the north side of Front street, near Market, and Robert, nearly opposite, on the west side of Market. These were the first houses erected in Berwick. In 1786 Evan Owen built the next on the site of the St. Charles hotel. Samuel Jackson, his relative by marriage, located on the opposite corner. Josiah Jackson was a hatter by trade, and conducted his business on Front street below Market. James Evans, a millwright by occupation, became the next resident. John Smith and Henry Traugh complete the number of those who arrived at Berwick about 1786. It appears that Owen had just returned from

\*Thomas Cooper, one of the Pennsylvania Commissioners under the act of 1799, known as the "Compromising Law," in the performance of his duties wrote as follows:

Northumberland, January 18, 1803.—A part of the town of Berwick stands on a tract of land taken up under Pennsylvania by Evan Owen, who laid out that town, and who, I understand, is now at Lancaster making his complaints on the subject, and who, to my knowledge, most egregiously exaggerates the importance of the case as will soon be perceived. A part of this tract and of the town of Berwick is included in the "town of Salem." General Steele, Mr. Wilson and myself directed Mr. Sambourne, the surveyor, to run out the lines of interference. They can give evidence respecting it. Mr. Sambourne's return to me makes the business quite insignificant, but whether more or less, I had to decide on principles that have no relation to the *quantum* of the dispute. I held this case under advisement on the following ground: It appeared in evidence before me by the voluntary deposition of Evan Owen himself, that he made his commencement of settlement on the tract of land whereon the town of Berwick now stands, on the 10th day of May, 1787, the confirming law having passed on the 27th day of March preceding. It appeared to me that this confirming law was public and legal notice to him of an opposite and older title *then* recognized by the legislature and that he settled at his peril. He took up the land and settled it, knowing of a precedent title.

THOMAS COOPER.

This communication would seem to establish a later date for the settlement of Berwick than that given above. In the act of January 29, 1818, for the incorporation of Berwick, it is expressly stated that in 1786, Evan Owen laid out the town. It is also a well authenticated fact that certain of the first buildings were in these streets, as then located, which would hardly have been the case if settlement had followed this survey. Moreover, the land under dispute was merely that small, triangular portion of the original town plot included in the "Town of Salem," and it is not improbable that settlement may have been made here in May, 1787 which does not conflict with the author's statement regarding settlement in the present limits of the town.



an extended journey through the lower counties selling lots and endeavoring to induce families to remove to his town. He was fairly successful. Among others who became residents in consequence of these efforts was Joseph Stackhouse, a wealthy farmer from Bucks county. In the rear of his residence on Second street he planted the first fruit trees brought thither, with great care and trouble. The square between Second and Third, Mulberry and Vine, ultimately became a luxuriant orchard. Thomas Cole from New Jersey; James Herrin, from Northampton county; Benjamin Doan and Jacob Cooper, from Montgomery county, were also among those who removed to the town on the personal representations of the proprietor.

The first indications of settlement and improvement in Briarcreek township became apparent about this time. A number of families removed from mount Bethel, Northampton county, near the Delaware river. Among the number appear the familiar names of Freas, Bowman, Hutton, Rittenhouse, Cauley and Mack. They emigrated in a body and entered the region in 1793, journeying by way of Bethlehem, Nazareth and Beaver Meadows. Mutual assistance was rendered in the work of clearing the land and providing temporary shelter. The tract upon which John Freas located comprised farms now owned by Levi Garret and Henry Bower. On the land of the former a rude log cabin was built, the main room of which was used as a dwelling and an addition as a stable. Daniel Bowman and Wesley B. Freas own the tract originally occupied by Thomas Bowman. A substantial brick and stone structure, which superseded the log cabin first erected, was built in 1802 and was the first house of such material in this section of country. Jesse Bowman settled on the river road at its intersection with Briar creek. William Rittenhouse secured the title to an extensive tract on both banks of the creek to a considerable distance above the junction of its north and west branches. It embraced the farms of Samuel Conner, William Hughes, Joseph Eck and William Freas. The Bower, Millard, Evans, Engle, Adams and Wartz families were also among those who arrived at an early period and located in various parts of the township. Jacob Mack, who possessed considerable knowledge of building, superintended the erection of many of the first houses.

Certain features of the domestic and social life at this period strikingly illustrate the simplicity of the general style of living. The spinning-wheel and loom were of primary importance in every household. Linsey-woolsey and cassinette, homespun fabrics of coarse texture but excellent durability, were the usual materials for clothing. Wooden spoons and bowls, pewter knives and forks, constituted the table furniture. The gun and rod were indispensably necessary in providing for the wants of a family. A general partnership seems to have existed among the citizens. The two fisheries, "Tuckey Hoe" and "Jacob's Plains" were the exclusive property of no one. Every bear killed was taken before Justice Owen and divided equally among the different families. When strangers appeared in their midst the elastic dimensions of the rude log cabin were so expanded as to comfortably shelter them. In 1805 a market house was built in the center of Market street, between Second and Third. The structure rested on massive wooden pillars, and was elevated sufficiently to allow the passage of horses and wagons beneath. It was used for town meetings, elections, church and school purposes. The inhabitants of Berwick utilized the water of the river in performing the operations of the laundry. When the women repaired thither on wash days, the smoke and steam rising in artistic confusion from the kettles, and the appearance of so many garments of various colors may have suggested the idea of the decorations incident to a patriotic demonstration. Before the

tanneries had been established in the vicinity leather was scarce and shoes correspondingly high in price. As a measure of economy, church-going maidens did not put on their shoes until within sight of the church, and removed them after service, going home bare-footed. One of the early preachers did not fully approve of this, and administered a caustic rebuke. He justified the severity of his censure by alluding to a direct command with regard to duly reverencing "holy ground." The first marriage solemnized in Berwick was that of Annie Brown and Jesse Bowman. That the social custom thus inaugurated has become quite popular may be inferred from the frequent recurrence of these pleasant and interesting occasions.

At the period of Berwick's first settlement, Northern Pennsylvania was a region of magnificent distances. The means of communication with distant points were slow, tedious, and inadequate. As the population, productions and wealth increased, there was an urgent necessity for better roads and more direct routes to important points. The citizens of Briar creek manifested a deep interest in promoting internal improvements of this character. In 1787 Evan Owen was appointed to superintend the construction of a road laid out from Nescopeck falls to the Lehigh by authority of the state. Two years later the work was completed, and the Indian trail which marked the proposed route improved so as to be passable for vehicles. March 19, 1804, the Susquehanna and Lehigh Turnpike and Road Company was incorporated. The old Nescopeck road was transformed into a graded pike in 1805 at an enormous expense. Andrew Shiner of Berwick was one of the contractors, and Christian Bowman first traversed the road to Easton. The Susquehanna and Tioga Turnpike Road Company was chartered in 1806 "for making an artificial road by the best and nearest route from Berwick, on the north-east branch of the Susquehanna, or from the mouth of the Little Wopohawley, to that point on the north line of the state which is nearest Newtown, on the river Tioga in the state of New York." It was finally completed to Towanda in 1818, at an immense expenditure by the state and individual investors. Among those prominently identified with both these enterprises were Nicholas Seybert, Andrew Shiner, Jesse Bowman, Jacob Mack, McKinney Buckalew and John Bostian.

A connecting link between these two thoroughfares of travel, the bridge across the Susquehanna, was early deemed important and necessary. The initiatory movement was made in 1807, when the legislature authorized the formation of the "Susquehanna Bridge Company at Falls of Nescopeck." An organization was effected five years later with Abraham Miller, Sr., president; John Brown, treasurer, and a board of managers consisting of Silas Engle, Thomas Bowman and Elisha Barton. The contract for the construction of the bridge was awarded to Theodore Burr. When completed in 1814 it cost \$52,000. The length was 1,260 feet, and the structure rested on piers of heavy planked timber. It was entirely destroyed by an ice flood in the winter of 1835-36. The managers forthwith delegated Jesse Bowman, one of their number, to represent the interests of the company before the legislature. An appropriation of \$10,000 was secured, and in 1837 the present bridge was erected. The efforts of Josiah T. Black, Samuel F. Headley, A. B. Wilson and Robert McCurdy, contributed largely to the celerity with which this was accomplished.

A connected line of travel was thus established between Towanda and Easton. These roads, like many similar enterprises, although advantageous to the section of country traversed, have not been productive investments to stockholders. The benefits conferred have not been commensurate with the capital

consumed in their construction. It was a period, however, of high speculative excitement, not confined to the limits of any geographical section, or to any class of the people.

The position of Berwick, at the terminal points of two turnpikes, and at their intersection with the route traversed between points on the river rendered it a place of considerable importance. The effect on its growth in size and population was at once apparent. The log cabins first erected were gradually superseded by structures of an improved and more substantial appearance. The first frame house was built by Robert Brown, and is still standing opposite Odd Fellows hall. The first brick dwelling was erected in 1816 by H. Seybert, and is at present known as the St. Charles hotel. Brick buildings at the corner of Mulberry and Front, and on Front between Market and Mulberry were built by Thomas Richardson and Samuel F. Headley about the same time.

John Brown opened the first hotel on the corner of Second and Market streets; the scrupulous care with which neatness and cleanliness were maintained rendered it the favorite stopping place of travelers on the river road. John Jones was the next hotel proprietor; he was succeeded by Abraham Klotz and Frederick Nicely, and during the latter's ownership it was first known as "Cross Keys." At a period anterior to the construction of the bridge, William Brien conducted a public house above its approach on the Berwick side. He also established a ferry, which was patronized by those who crossed the river. John Jones, at the sign of the "Golden Lamb," and Samuel F. Headley, at the corner of Front and Mulberry, complete the list of hotel keepers at this period.

The uniform prosperity enjoyed by this class of persons was largely derived from the stage travel. The time at which this began cannot be definitely determined. It did not assume a permanent character until 1810, when a mail service was connected with the stage. Previous to that time the postmaster at Wilkes-Barre designated certain private houses at Nescopeck and Berwick, and a post-rider distributed mail agreeably to his directions. Berwick first appears as a post-village in 1797; Jonathan Hancock carried the mail in 1800; and William Brien was the first regularly appointed post-master, receiving his commission several years later. In 1811 Conrad Teter was awarded a government contract for establishing mail coaches between Sunbury and Painted Post. He transferred that portion of the route between Sunbury and Wilkes-Barre to Miller Horton, by whom the first coaches between those points were controlled. In 1824, Miller, Jesse and Lewis Horton opened a new era in stage coach travel. They assumed control of a mail route from Baltimore to Owego, by way of Harrisburg and Sunbury. Four-horse coaches, substantial, comfortable and attractive, rolled into Berwick every day. The crack of the driver's whip and the blast from his horn relieved the monotony of life in the otherwise quiet village. John Jones, tavern keeper, farmer and lime-burner, became stage proprietor as well, by operating a line of coaches to Easton. The journey to that point required two days. Joshua Dodson drove the first stage coach from Berwick to Elmira. A week was required to reach that point and return. Joshua Kindy was toll-collector beyond Berwick on the Towanda road. Philip Abbot and George Root deserve honorable mention in connection with stage coach travel. The latter, a trusted and skillful driver, served in that capacity more than forty years.

The turnpikes, the bridge and the stage enterprises did not so fully engross the public mind as to divert its attention from the equally necessary considerations of organized government. In 1797 the township of "Green Brier-Creek" was formed, comprising the area included between the Susquehanna



and the line of Briarcreek's northern boundary extended to Little Fishing creek. This was formerly included in Fishingcreek township, and prior to 1789 in Wyoming. The erection of Centre in 1844 reduced Briarcreek to its present limits. The borough of Berwick was separated from it in 1850, previous to which time elections for school officers were not held separately. When the borough was incorporated, January 29, 1818, burgesses, councilmen and high constables were the only elective officers for whom provision was made. The borough limits, as originally described, included the whole of the town plot as laid off by Evan Owen; subsequently, the eastern boundary was so changed as not to exclude that portion embraced in Luzerne county. Although the borough organization was a measure of unquestioned wisdom and prudence, it was decidedly in advance of the general sentiment of the citizens, and lacked character and efficiency during the first period of its history.

While the internal improvements already noted were absorbing the interest of the masses, the attention of others was directed to a question of equally serious import—the navigation of the Susquehanna. This stream was declared a public highway by the provincial assembly in 1771, and a sum of money appropriated to render it navigable. The Durham boats, in which the first families ascended the river to Berwick, derived their names from Durham, a town on the Delaware below Easton, where they were made. They were sixty feet in length, eight feet wide, and two feet deep, and drew twenty inches of water under fifteen tons burthen. When manned by four men with setting poles, a boat progressed at the rate of two miles an hour against the current. Various improvements were attempted in the construction of boats. Isaac A. Chapman built a "team" boat at Nescopeck, and named it "Experiment." It was launched in July, 1824, but was unwieldy in size and shape, and was abandoned. The farmers of Briarcreek, with those of the whole section, resorted to rafts, arks, and other varieties of river craft in transporting their wheat and flour to Baltimore. In April, 1826, the "Codus," a steamboat built at York Haven and commanded by Captain Elger, passed Berwick on its way to Wilkesbarre and Binghamton. A crowd of people collected on the shore and cheered with much enthusiasm the craft that moved against the current with such apparent ease. The following month Captain Collins in the "Susquehanna," a boat of larger dimensions than the "Codus," made the second attempt to navigate the "North Branch" by steam. On the afternoon of May 3, 1826, the falls of Nescopeck were reached. These rapids were regarded as the most dangerous and difficult yet encountered. The memorable disaster that occurred at this point is thus described by Colonel Joseph Paxton, of Catawissa: "With our rich pine we succeeded in raising a full head of steam, and set off in fine style to ascend the rapids. The strength of the current soon checked our headway, and the boat, flanking towards the right bank of the river, struck a rock. I stood on the forward deck with a long ash pole in my hand, and was in the act of placing it in the water hoping to steady her, when the explosion took place. Two young men standing near were blown high into the air, and I was hurled several yards into the water. I thought a cannon had been fired, and shot my head off." All that remained of the unfortunate "Susquehanna" floated with the current. The mangled bodies of her passengers and crew, some dead, others disfigured beyond recognition but still clinging to life, were taken into Berwick, where every kindness was bestowed upon the unhappy survivors. This disaster conclusively demonstrated the impracticability of navigating the river by steam.

The construction of a canal was at once discussed as the only feasible



means of transporting the increasing productions to the seaboard. July 4, 1828, the patriotic demonstrations at Berwick were characterized by an unusually interesting feature. The excavation for the "North Branch" canal was begun in the presence of a large concourse of people from various places along the river. Several furrows were plowed by Nathan Beach and Alexander Jameson. The former held the plow; the latter drove the oxen. The "Berwick Guards" appeared upon the scene in full military uniform. The loose earth was removed with shovels, a blast was fired and a mass of rock shattered; the discharge of a cannon and several exhibitions of pugilistic skill added to the interest of the occasion. Berwick was not benefitted morally by the construction of the canal, if an inference may be drawn from the fact that there were fourteen drinking places in the place during that period. The first canal-boat, the "Wyoming," passed Berwick on the river in 1830, before the canal was opened for navigation. It is problematical whether the "Wyoming" may be called a canal-boat with propriety under such circumstances. The following year the "Luzerne" passed the town in the canal. In 1835 the "George Denison" and "Gertrude," packet-boats, were launched by Miller Horton and A. O. Cahoon, respectively, for the transportation of passengers between Wilkesbarre and Northumberland. The Lackawanna and Bloomsburg rail-road was opened through the town in 1858; and in 1882 the North and West Branch railway became a valuable addition to its commercial facilities.

The manufacturing industries of Briar creek at an early period present no special features. William Rittenhouse built the first mill in this region. It is still in existence, but has not been operated for many years. It stands within the angle formed by the confluence of the north and west branches of the creek, and receives its water-power by means of dams erected in both streams. Millard's fulling mill was locally important at one time. Evan Owen attempted to utilize the water power of the river, and built a grist mill on its bank, but the attempt was a failure. James Evans engaged in a similar undertaking with better success, locating his establishment on Briar creek. Some half dozen houses clustered around this mill constitute the village of Evansville. George Mack established a foundry in 1825, and operated it on a small scale for some years. The homes of the operatives here employed form the scattered village of Foundryville. The first representatives of their respective vocations in Berwick were Benjamin Doan, tailor; Abel Dally, chair-maker; Hiram Inman, tinner; Henry Traugh, tanner; the Browns, carpenters; Burlingame, cooper; Aquilla Starr, blacksmith; Bush, cloth-dyer; Joseph Stackhouse, butcher; Polly Mullen, weaver; Samuel Herrin, cabinet-maker; John Snyder, saddler; James Evans, wheel-wright; Roxana Cortright, milliner; Sleppy and Company, gunsmiths, and Marshall, silversmith.

The initiatory step in conferring upon Berwick its present prominence in manufacturing circles was made in 1840, when M. W. Jackson and George Mack established a foundry at the corner of Third and Market streets. Their works comprised one building forty feet long and twenty-five feet wide, with a shed in the rear in which agricultural implements were manufactured. Fifteen men were usually employed. The machinery consisted of a blower and lathe, operated by horse-power. Robert McCurdy succeeded to Mack's interest in 1843, but retired three years later. Louis Euke was associated with Mr. Jackson from 1846 to 1849, and during this time the manufacture of heavy wagons received some attention. The firm of Jackson and Woodin was formed in 1849, W. H. Woodin being the new partner. The iron pipes, laid by the Berwick Water Company in 1850, were the first product of any magnitude manufactured at their works. Bridge castings were made for the Philadelphia and

Erie rail-road in 1858, and the number of operatives increased to fifty. Twenty four-wheel cars were built in 1861, thus inaugurating the most important branch of the subsequent business. Two men were able to build one car in a week. Improved machinery was secured, and the capacity increased to five cars a week, and ultimately to one a day. Additional shops were there erected, and in 1865 one hundred and fifty men were employed. A destructive fire reduced the works to ashes on the morning of March 17, 1866. The following day it was decided to rebuild. The hours that intervened marked a critical period in the history of Berwick. The result was awaited with anxiety by every citizen of the town. It was everywhere discussed with approving comment. A period of building activity ensued. In 1869 two hundred and fifty men were employed at the shops. In 1872 the "long switch" was built, connecting the works with the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg rail-road. March 1, 1872, the Jackson and Woodin Manufacturing Company organized, with C. R. Woodin, president; C. G. Jackson, vice-president; Garrick Mallery, treasurer; M. W. Jackson and W. H. Woodin, executive committee. The Berwick Rolling Mill Company was organized the same year; M. W. Jackson, C. G. Jackson, G. B. Thompson and B. F. Crispin were its first officers. The pay-rolls of these two establishments aggregate several hundred thousand dollars in the course of a year. Thus have the insignificant proportions of the industry established in 1840 expanded to their present comprehensive magnitude.

To say that the growth of Berwick has been directly resultant from that of its manufacturing interests would be the expression of a platitude. In illustration of this it may be stated that the population was four-hundred and fifty-two in 1840; four-hundred and eighty-six in 1850; six-hundred and twenty-five in 1860; nine-hundred and twenty-three in 1870; two-thousand and ninety-four in 1880; and at this time (1886) probably more than three-thousand.

The extent and importance of the business interests of Berwick followed in the wake of its increasing population. John Jones opened the first store about 1800. William Brien followed with the second, at his hotel. George Payne and Thomas Richardson removed from Boston in 1807, and both became merchants. The former located on the corner of Market and Second streets; the latter on the west side of Second between Market and Mulberry. Other business houses of local prominence at different periods were those of Matthew McDowell, J. & A. Miller, Wright & Slocum, Robert McCurdy, J. & E. Leidy, Stowers & Ellis, J. & J. Bowman, Clark, Deilly, Scoville, Rittenhouse & Shuman, Headley, McNair & Co. and George Lane. January 27, 1818, the legislature authorized John Brown, John Vennet, Samuel F. Headley and Sherman Clark to organize the Berwick Water Company. Water was brought from Briar creek, two miles distant, in wooden pipes. The supply from this source was inadequate, and in 1841 George Mack, Samuel F. Headley and A. B. Wilson projected hydraulic works and perfected arrangements for pumping water from a spring below the hill. In 1848 the Water & Hydraulic Companies were consolidated. The decayed wooden pipes were replaced with cement and iron mains. Upon the reorganization of the company in 1883 the general condition of its distributing service was greatly improved. An institution of more recent origin and scarcely less importance is the First National Bank of Berwick. June 3, 1864, articles of association were properly drawn and signed by M. W. Jackson, P. M. Traugh, Jesse Bowman, S. B. Bowman, M. M. Cooper, Francis Evans, F. Nicely, Abram Miller, W. H. Woodin, M. E. Jackson, William Lamon and Henry Lamon. A charter was granted by the comptroller of the treasury November 10, 1864. December 1, 1865, an organization was effected, with M. W. Jackson president, and M. E. Jackson,



Photo by M. Kelly, Blommsburg, Pa.

*Benjamin P. Fortner*

*Royce Low*





cashier. The capital stock, originally fifty-thousand dollars, was increased, January 3, 1865, to seventy-five thousand dollars.

The din of peaceful industry has not always, as now, been unbroken by the mingled discord of military parade. The old "battalion days" are remembered by the older citizens as topics of absorbing interest at the time of their occurrence. In the latter part of May in each year, infantry and cavalry, a motley crowd of men and boys in citizens' attire, paraded and maneuvered to the roll of the drum and the shrill notes of the fife. An ancient piece of ordnance, primed, polished and mounted, represented the artillery. The population was in attendance *en masse*; training day was the gala occasion of all the year. James Pratt drilled the infantry; Matthew McDowell organized the first company. John M. Snyder and John Bittenbender are remembered as colonels, George Kelekner and Christopher Bowman as majors.

Berwick furnished a full quota of soldiers to the late war. A company of thirteen enlisted in May, 1861, and twenty-three for three years' service a short time afterward, while others joined the ranks at intervals during the war. A regiment passed through the town in April, 1861, and was greeted with enthusiasm. The remains of twenty-six soldiers repose in the Berwick cemetery. Two of this number, Moses Davis and James Pratt, were veterans of the revolution, three of the war of 1812. two of the Mexican war, eighteen served in the war for the union and one was a member of the National Guards. The military prestige of the town is still maintained to a certain extent. The Jackson Guards were organized in 1871, but disbanded in 1880. April 1, 1886, Julius Hoft, formerly a student at the Prussian military academy, organized the Berwick Guards, a juvenile company, C. C. Jackson, captain. Jackson Post, No. 159, Grand Army of the Republic, was chartered January 26, 1886, with the following members: George A. Buckingham, J. T. Chamberlin. Samuel Simpson, D. W. Holly, Abner Welsh, Reuben Moyer, George Keenor, W. H. Morton, John Withers, R. H. Little, W. C. Barnard, Minor Hartman, Martin McAlister, Leroy T. Thompson, Tighlman Mahorter, S. C. Jayne, A. D. Seeley, W. J. Scott, Michael Thornton, John Wooly and E. D. Lepkicher. John H. Styer, Camp, No. 25, was instituted May 29, 1882, with D. C. Smith, captain; E. P. Wolfe, first lieutenant; Harry Low, second lieutenant; David Thomas, chaplain; Augustus Low, surgeon; George Hoppes, orderly sergeant; Harry Barnard, sergeant of the guard; David Thomas, quarter-master; Jerome Pifer, color-sergeant; Albert Low, corporal.

The various secret societies are also represented. Berwick Lodge, No. 246, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted July 23, 1847, with Isaiah Bahl, N. G.; O. H. P. Kitchin, V. G.; Aaron Deitterich, secretary; James S. Campbell, treasurer. Besides these persons the names of Stewart Pearce, G. W. Nicely, William Brewer and B. S. Gilmour appeared among the list of first members. A hall was built in 1868-69 at a cost of twelve thousand dollars under the supervision of Hudson Owen, H. R. Bower and David Baughey.

Knapp Lodge, No. 462, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized March 2, 1872, with John H. Taylor, W. M.; F. E. Brockway, S. W.; G. B. Thompson, J. W. The original members were John H. Taylor, Frank E. Brockway, George B. Thompson, C. G. Jackson, A. B. McCrea, H. C. Freas, C. R. Woodin, Samuel Hetler, Hudson Owen, Daniel Reedy, W. H. Woodin, Adrian Van Houten, R. H. Little, J. W. Driesbach, George W. Fisher, J. F. Opdyke, J. F. Hicks, S. B. Bowman, N. W. Stecker, Benjamin Evans, William Ross and Nicholas Seybert. The following persons have been Past Masters since the organization: John H. Taylor, F. E. Brockway, Joseph F. Hicks, Henry C. Augstadt, Jacob F. Bittenbender, W. A. Baugher, B. F.

Crispin, Jr., R. G. Crispin, John Everard, W. S. Heller and D. H. Thornton. Washington Camp, No. 105, Patriotic Order Sons of America, was established in 1869, but disbanded in 1878. February 17, 1880, it was reorganized with the following members: N. W. Dickson, W. A. Ross, C. A. Croop, S. C. Marteeny, F. R. Kitchin, C. E. Ross, H. C. Learn, F. S. Hartman, Anselm Loeb, Will H. Owen, W. M. Hampshire, Conway Dickson, J. W. Kurtz, J. S. Hicks, Charles W. Freas, F. P. Hill, George B. Kester, J. C. Deitterick, John W. Morhead, J. C. Reedy, J. M. Witman, William F. Rough, M. E. Rittenhouse, A. J. Learn, F. G. Hull, J. E. Frey, and H. Z. Hempfield. In April, 1886, the lodge first occupied its present comfortable quarters on West Front street. The membership is more than one-hundred and is steadily increasing.

The schools of Berwick date from an earlier period than its military and business institutions. The first school in Briarereek township was opened in the old stone church building. In 1810 this school was removed to a building erected for school purposes at Foundryville. Cordelia A. Preston, Daniel Goodwin, Morris Hower and John Arney were teachers at these places. The first school at Berwick was opened in 1800 by Isaac Holoway in the Quaker meeting-house. Prior to 1837 this building and the market-house were the only houses used for school purposes. David E. Owen, Doctors Dutlon and Roe, David Jones and James Dilvan are remembered as teachers prior to 1818; between that date and 1837, Messrs. Comstock, Hoyt, Richards, Crosby and Haik were their successors. Berwick Academy, "for the education of youth in the English and other languages, and in the useful arts and sciences, and literature," was incorporated June 25, 1839, with Marmaduke Pearce, John Bowman, Thomas McNair, A. B. Wilson, George Mack and A. B. Shuman, trustees. Among the instructors connected with this institution were J. H. Rittenhouse, George Waller and Joel E. Bradley. A building was erected in 1839 on the site of the market-house. It was removed in 1872 and the proceeds applied to public school purposes. The interest of the citizens in educational matters is tangibly expressed in the commodious brick structures on Market and Third streets. The former was erected in 1872, the latter in 1886. D. C. McHenry has served as school director continuously since 1859, with the exception of one year. Timothy Mahoney became principal of the high school in the autumn of 1858; Michael Whitmire in 1859; Joseph Yocum in 1860; Henry Keim in 1861; J. G. Cleveland in 1862; Samuel E. Furst in 1863; Reece W. Dodson in 1864; William Patterson in 1865; J. H. Hurst in 1866; S. C. Jayne in 1867; H. M. Spaulding in 1868; H. D. Albright in the four years following and in 1874; J. G. Williams in 1873; C. F. Diffenderfer in 1875; A. H. Stees in 1876; W. E. Smith in 1877 and the four succeeding terms; J. T. Bevan in 1882; L. T. Conrad in 1883; Amelia Armstrong in 1884 and 1885, and Henry G. Clark, the present principal.

The various religious bodies were early represented in Briarereek township. The Friends were the first to erect a house for worship. October 21, 1799, the ground was purchased upon which the brick structure that succeeded it is situated. The following entry appears in the minutes of Catawissa monthly meeting, November 11, 1800: "Friends of Berwick laid before this meeting in a serious manner, in writing signed by Aquilla Starr, a request for the privilege of holding a meeting for divine service on the first day of the week at the eleventh hour." April 25, 1801, the request was favorably considered but the meeting thus established has long since been discontinued. Evan Owen, Joseph Stackhouse, Andrew Shiner, William Rittenhouse, Joseph Pilkington and Joseph Eck were prominently identified with the affairs of this meeting.

A union house of worship was built in 1805 by the Lutheran and Reformed congregations of Briarcreek valley. This was the first effort in this direction made by either denomination in the county. A constitution for the joint ownership of this building was framed in 1807. Reverends Plitt and Adams were pastors at that time. The English element of the Lutheran congregation subsequently separated from it and became a distinct organization. The Reformed congregation has usually been connected in pastoral care with the Orangeville church.

In the minutes of the Central Pennsylvania Conference for 1876 the following appears from the pen of B. H. Creever, D. D., regarding the origin of Methodism in this section:

In Brier creek valley, Columbia county, Penn., a mile or more from the north branch of the Susquehanna, and within four miles of Berwick, may be seen a stone building forty feet front, as measured by the eye, and nearly or quite square. It is severely plain, and might easily escape the eye of a traveler; but modest as it is, it is monumental, and, historically considered, is invested with an abiding interest. This plain house was the first completed church edifice belonging to the Methodists, within what are defined as the present limits of the Danville district. It was erected in 1808.

As a shrine of religious worship it has long been deserted; but, as a lingering fragrance hangs about the broken vase, so, around this deserted temple, linger still its sacred memories—memories of holy joy that once thrilled the hearts of its worshippers, and of gospel triumphs once celebrated within its walls.

Events and incidents, thus commemorated, possess more than a local or passing interest; with others of similar import in adjacent territory, they constitute no unimportant part of the early history of a great denomination. The country extending for miles from this venerable shrine is in the highest degree beautiful, consisting of highly cultivated farms, held by prosperous people. When this church was built, the primitive forest of the river country had been but barely grazed by the axe of the adventurous frontiersman. Hemlock, pine, beech and maple towered aloft everywhere, in solemn grandeur, from Northumberland to the farthest reach of Wyoming.

In the rear of the church is a rural burial ground, where lie—like warriors asleep on the field of their triumphs—many of the moral heroes who did valiant service in the heroic era of Methodism. At a short distance from the church is a farm house, which likewise possesses historic interest. Like the sanctuary, it is of stone, and so survives, while more perishable structures have disappeared. It is of unusual elevation, having in some sort a third story. This was the home of Thomas Bowman, who, with his brother Christian, emigrated from Northampton county and settled here in the wilderness in 1792. This third story was a recognized place of worship, and became famous among the scattered saints years before the erection of the church.

Here occurred, in 1805, the first great revival of religion in the "North Branch" country, so far as it is embraced in this sketch. A spirit-baptism anywhere at that day was the signal for the gathering of God's people from great distances, and so by an irresistible impulse they met here, coming—some on horse-back, more on foot—from a distance of thirty or forty miles.

A direct and immediate result of this was the formation of a class at Berwick. The following persons were members: William Stahl, Jane Herrin, Rachel Traugh, Hugh Thompson, Nancy Thompson, Robert Brown, Samuel Steele, Sallie Steele, James Herrin, William Sisty, Mary Sisty, Andrew Petit and Benjamin Doan. Previous to this time Reverends William Culbert, James Paynter, Morris Howe and Robert Burch had preached occasional sermons. In 1806 Berwick appointment was attached to Northumberland circuit. In 1831 Berwick circuit was established, embracing twenty-eight preaching places in Columbia and Luzerne counties. In 1867 Berwick became a station. The class leaders at this time were Jesse Bowman, Isaac Smith, Amos F. Creasy, W. H. Woodin, M. W. Jackson and C. R. Woodin. Jesse Bowman, M. W. Jackson, H. C. Freas, W. H. Woodin, M. E. Jackson, Paul Fortner, W. J. Knorr, E. B. Hull and Isaac Smith constituted the board of stewards. Jesse Bowman, M. W. Jackson, Paul Fortner, M. E. Jackson, H. C. Freas, W. H. Woodin, J. W. Bowman, James Jacoby and Isaac Smith were trustees. J. A. Gere was pastor in 1867-68; F. B. Riddle, 1869-70; W. W. Evans, 1872-73; S. Creigh-



ton, 1874-75; J. H. McGarrah, 1876-78; M. L. Smyser, 1879-81; W. W. Evans, 1882-85; E. H. Yocum, 1885.

Services were held in the second story of the market-house during the first years of the history of this church. Subsequently a store-room was fitted up in a rude manner and used for this purpose. In 1811 Hugh Thompson tenured a room in his house on Second street for the use of the society. In 1817 a lot on the corner of Mulberry and Third streets was secured and the brick structure now used as a dwelling erected thereon. In 1845, the second Methodist church building was erected on a lot donated by Robert McCurdy. Gilbert Fowler, Samuel F. Headley and W. McCurdy were the building committee. Reverend John Bowen was pastor at that time. February 19, 1871, the present church edifice was erected on the same site as its predecessor of a quarter century previous. Reverend Thomas Bowman, at present (1886) the senior bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church in this country and a native of Berwick, performed the ceremony of dedication. Houses of worship have also been built at Summer Hill and Foundryville.

The Evangelical Association has been represented in Briar creek since 1826, when Reverends Seybert and Noecker conducted religious services at the house of George Zahner. The Summer Hill church building was erected in 1849. Prior to this Daniel Kahr, Simon McLane, James Dunlap and others continued to preach at private houses. The Evansville church was built in 1854. The organizations at both points are connected with Columbia circuit. Jacob Hartzel, John Young, George Hunter, A. H. Irvin, S. D. Bennington, P. H. Rishel, H. W. Buck, S. P. Remer, A. W. Shenburger, W. W. Rhoads, I. W. Pines and D. P. Kline have successively served as pastors.

The first service of this church in Berwick was held in March, 1870, at the town-hall by Reverend P. H. Rishel. A class had been organized somewhat earlier. It was composed of Isaiah Bower, Hannah Bower, George P. Clewell, Susan Clewell, Elizabeth Clewell and Fannie Kirkendall. The meetings of the class were held in the hall until January 18, 1874. During this period, protracted meetings were conducted with frequency and success. In February, 1873, it was formally decided to build a church edifice. Isaiah Bower was constituted the building committee. January 1, 1874, the brick structure on Second street between Pine and Chestnut was dedicated. M. J. Carothers, presiding elder, H. B. Hartzel and others participated in the ceremonies. In March, 1875, Berwick and Beach Haven were separated from Columbia circuit and constituted Berwick mission. W. M. Croman was appointed missionary. Under the pastoral care of Reverends J. A. Irvine, J. M. Ettinger, C. W. Buck and J. J. Lohr, the mission has become practically self-sustaining.

The doctrines of the Baptist society were first promulgated at Berwick in 1842 by Reverend Joseph Morris, who preached in the Methodist church building. The only adherents to this faith in Berwick at that time were Levi L. Tate and Mrs. Silas E. Craig. In September, 1842, W. S. Hall, of White Deer, Union county, succeeded Mr. Morris. Services were held in a store-house at the corner of Mulberry and Second streets owned by Saml. A. Headley, and fitted up for that purpose by him. Religious meetings were held continuously between September 10th and 15th, resulting in forty-two conversions. The following week the converts were baptized in the canal at the head of the lock in the presence of a large concourse of people. At the conclusion of this ceremony the bridge was crossed, and the church formally organized in Williams grove on the opposite side. Levi L. Tate, John T. Davis and Abram Miller were elected deacons. Mr. Hall resigned the pastorate at the expiration of three years. During this period, a frame church edifice was erected; it has



subsequently been replaced by a brick structure of enlarged size and improved appearance. Reverends Rohrer, Worrel, Miller, Prentess, Brinsinger, Cattell, Caterall and Galloway have successively served this church.

On Saturday afternoon, November 24, 1827, the Reverend Joseph M. Ogden, a Presbyterian clergyman, held a service preparatory to communion in the brick church building, which appears to have been regarded as a union meeting-house at that time. A congregational meeting was held at the close of the regular exercises and it was unanimously decided to form a district Presbyterian church. William Willson and Sarah Willson became members of this organization, having previously been connected with the church at Abington, Pa. Daniel Bowen was received from the old South Church, Boston; Isaac and Abigail Hart, from Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Mary and Eliza Polluck from the Derry church; the remaining members, Thomas and Eleanor Lockart, Emanuel Kirkendall and Rachel Beach had been received into the church by Reverend John Patterson on a previous visit. It was resolved that the articles of faith and covenant for admission of members at Wilkes-Barre and Abington be adopted and enforced in a similar manner. The organization was completed on the following Sabbath when Daniel Bowen, Isaac Hart and Thomas Lockart were installed as elders; and at a meeting of the session, February 19, 1828, a request was formulated for admission into Northumberland Presbytery.

July 20, 1839, Reverend David J. Waller entered a minute upon the record of this congregation, in which he stated that the church had been for a long time without pastoral care and, as far as the manifestations of life were concerned, was virtually extinct. The only knowledge of the facts above stated had been learned from the Reverend D. Gaston, of Conyngham, who sent Mr. Waller the record in which they were embodied. It contained the approval of the moderator of presbytery, and he accepted this as sufficient evidence of the existence of an organization, although but two or three of its original members were any longer residents of the town. At Mr. Waller's request, Reverend A. H. Hand took part of his extensive charge, entering upon his duties at Berwick July 7, 1842. He at once agitated the erection of a church building, and with such success that on the 7th of October, 1843, the completed structure was dedicated by Reverend George W. Yeomans, president of Lafayette College. Its appearance was greatly improved in 1881, when the building was completely remodeled and a tower of symmetrical proportions erected. The rededication occurred July 10, 1881, when Reverends D. J. Waller, S. Mitchell, D. D., C. K. Canfield and L. M. Kumler participated in the ceremonies. Many pastoral changes occurred in the years that intervened between these two events in the history of this church. Mr. Hand resigned on account of ill health, and on the 14th of July, 1845, a call was extended to Reverend Alexander Heberton. He entered upon his pastoral duties the 1st of August of that year, and was installed November 25th following. Reverend T. K. Newton became pastor August 18, 1853, having for three years previous been seamen's chaplain at the island of St. Thomas. Reverend M. L. Kumler was installed as pastor July 10, 1881. His immediate predecessor was the Reverend James Dickson. Reverends James F. Kennedy, — Morgan, Joseph Marr, Edward Kennedy, James M. Salmon and P. M. Melick have also sustained pastoral relations with this church.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Berwick is an institution which affords rare opportunities for coöperative effort on the part of all evangelical denominations in surrounding young men with healthful moral influences. The genius which had transformed the country village into a manufacturing

town turned with equal energy and success to the solution of a perplexing problem of social life—how to restrain and direct the various classes of society which had populated its expanding limits and develop from them a body of useful citizens. The practicability of organizing christian effort for the attainment of this object was quietly discussed. The movement assumed tangible form in 1878, when, on the 9th of June, a meeting of the clergy and citizens was held in the basement of the Methodist church edifice, C. H. Zehnder, secretary of Pennsylvania district, Y. M. C. A., presiding. An organization was effected by the election of C. G. Jackson, president, and Isaiah Bower, vice-president. The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Co. manifested their interest in promoting the success of the Association in its incipency by placing at its disposal the third floor of their building, free of all charges for rent, light or heat. A reading room was here opened between the hours of 7 and 9 P. M. In June, 1879, C. H. Zehnder was appointed executive secretary, and a janitor was employed to keep the rooms in order. J. F. Opydke became president in 1880. The Jackson & Woodin Co. opened a reading room on the second floor of this building, and purchased one thousand volumes as a nucleus of a library. Mr. A. G. Kimberley was elected librarian, and devoted his whole time to the task of systematizing the workings of the library and rendering its results more effective. The various departments of the work were sustained with such effect as to fully compensate the projectors for their efforts. John W. Evans became president in 1882, and C. H. Zehnder the following year. In June, 1883, the "Young Men's Christian Association of Berwick" was incorporated, with M. W. Jackson, W. H. Woodin, C. R. Woodin, B. F. Crispin, F. R. Jackson, S. P. Hanly, L. F. Bower, S. C. Jackson and C. H. Zehnder, trustees. Prior to this time the association had been an experiment; its projectors observed with complacency their confidence in the success of its methods gradually infusing itself into the minds of those who had at first been doubtful. Its work had increased to such an extent as to require enlarged facilities for its unrestricted usefulness.

The executive officers of the association realized their requirements and took immediate measures for the erection of a hall. The following year (1884) C. R. Woodin deeded to the trustees a lot on the corner of Market and Second streets, and by an additional donation of eleven thousand dollars placed the institution upon a firm financial basis. Mrs. Lizzie Jackson followed with a three-story dwelling house on Market street and two-thousand dollars. W. Taggart, state secretary, made personal solicitations with the board of trustees, for funds to supplement these generous donations. The plan for a hall, suggested by Mr. S. Fraser and approved by the board of trustees, embodies all the latest ideas in association architecture. The new building was formally dedicated April 7, 1885. The general secretary at that time was Mr. S. T. Dimmick, who entered upon his duties May 21, 1884. In August, 1886, he was succeeded in this capacity by Mr. W. N. Multer. The financial exhibit for the eighth year of the association (ending June 8, 1886) shows total assets of twenty-seven-thousand nine-hundred and thirty-one dollars and sixty-nine cents, larger in proportion to the population of the town than the assets of any other institution of a similar character in the world. A judiciously selected library of three-thousand, five hundred volumes comprises works of a religious, scientific, philosophical and miscellaneous character. The leading journals and magazines are constantly on file and are generally read by those who are interested in contemporary issues. The management has this season added to its advantages a curriculum of study embracing courses in vocal and instrumental music, the modern and classic languages, book-

keeping and penmanship, social and parliamentary etiquette, and physical culture. But the work of training mind and body is merely accessory to that higher culture of conscience which reaches its full fruition in the true nobility of christian character. If the question of adequate returns be asked there can be but one answer. The ablest mathematicians the world has ever produced could not compute the influence exerted by such institutions in molding individual character by surrounding pliant minds with a healthful, moral atmosphere.

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## CHAPTER IX.

### CENTRE TOWNSHIP.

IN 1843 certain citizens of Bloom and Briar creek petitioned the court for the erection of a new township to be formed from the adjacent portions of each. The court accordingly appointed Joseph Brobst, Isaac Welch and George A. Bowman commissioners to locate the boundaries agreeably to the terms of the petition. In the succeeding January, these commissioners submitted their report with a plat of a township "to be called Centre," which was approved by the court, and its organization ordered.

The township thus erected extended from the Susquehanna to the top of Lee mountain, which separates it from Fishingcreek and Orange; and from the valley of Briar creek on the east to Orange and Bloom, which then included Scott. The regularity of its western boundary is broken by the excision of its northwest corner in favor of Orange. Two distinct ranges of hills extending in a direction parallel with the course of the river, diversify the surface. A narrow, rugged valley separates Lee mountain from the Summer hills, and between these and Lime ridge is one of the most fertile valleys of the county, in which the west branch of Briar creek takes its rise. South of the ridge the surface slopes gradually down to the level lands of the river "bottoms."

This region was among the earlier settled sections of Columbia county. Here in the valley of the west branch of Briar creek, the Van Campen, Salmon, and Aikman families reared their homes, which were subsequently involved in the devastation which fell with savage cruelty upon the flourishing colony at Wyoming. In the year 1777 Alexander Aikman emigrated from New Jersey and built a cabin on the bank of a stream known from this circumstance as Cabin run. In the autumn he returned to Northumberland. The Van Campens and Salmons remained, relying on the forts in the vicinity for protection. In the spring of 1778 the house of the former was burned. Joseph Salmon was a near neighbor. Recognizing in the smoke indications of the presence of an enemy, he hastened from the field to his own cabin to take his wife and child to a place of safety. Between it and the clearing was a marsh crossed by a corduroy bridge. It was not until he reached this point that he observed the cabin already surrounded by savages. He approached near enough to see that his wife and child were prisoners, but that apparently their lives would be spared. Unfortunately the Indians discovered him; he sought concealment in the bridge, and they were unable to dislodge or murder him there, although several attempts were made to burn it. Exasperated with this failure, they



scalped his wife and then set her at liberty, while her infant child was inhumanly killed before her eyes.\*

The Van Campens were reserved for a fate even more sanguinary in its details of savage ferocity. In the spring of 1780 the Indian disturbances having apparently subsided, several members of the family left Fort Wheeler to make preparations for rebuilding the house destroyed two years previous. About the same time a small party of Indians and Tories, after committing various depredations in the neighborhood of Wyoming, pushed down the river to Fishing creek. March 30th they reached the head-waters of the west branch of Briar creek.

As the spring opened, the Van Campens, who had taken refuge in Fort Wheeler, determined to go out to their place, rebuild their destroyed cabin and put in crops for their future support. They appear to have been an exception among the settlers in their freedom from apprehension of molestation by the Indians, and left the fort in the latter part of March, the party consisting of Moses Van Campen, his father, a younger brother, an uncle, and his son about twelve years old, and one Peter Pence. The sequel, as related by Van Campen, is as follows:

We had been on our farms about four or five days when, on the morning of the thirtieth of March, we were surprised by a party of ten Indians. My father was lunged through with a war spear, his throat was cut and he was scalped, while my brother was tomahawked, scalped and thrown into the fire before my eyes. While I was struggling with a warrior, the fellow who had killed my father drew his spear from his body and made a violent thrust at me. I shrank from the spear; the savage who had hold of me turned it with his hands so that it only penetrated my vest and shirt. They were then satisfied with taking me prisoner, as they had the same morning taken my uncle's little son and Pence, though they killed my uncle. The same party, before they reached us, had touched on the lower settlements of Wyoming and killed a Mr. Upson and taken a boy prisoner of the name of Rogers. We were now marched off up Fishing creek, and in the afternoon of the same day came to Huntington, where the Indians found four white men at a sugar camp who fortunately discovered the Indians and fled to a house. The Indians only fired on them and wounded a Captain Ransom when they continued their course till night. Having encamped and made their fire we, the prisoners, were tied and well secured, five Indians lying on one side of us and five on the other; in the morning they pursued their course, and leaving the waters of Fishing creek, touched the head-waters of Hemlock creek, where they found one Abraham Pike, his wife and child. Pike was made prisoner but his wife they painted and told *Joggo, squaw*, go home. They continued their course that day and encamped the same night in the same manner as the previous.

It came into my mind that sometimes individuals performed wonderful actions and surmounted the greatest danger. I then decided that these fellows must die, and thought of a plan to dispatch them. The next day I had an opportunity to communicate my plan to my fellow-prisoners; they treated it as a visionary scheme for three men to attempt to dispatch ten Indians. I spread before them the advantages which three men would have over ten when asleep; and that we would be the first prisoners taken into their towns and villages after our army had destroyed their corn; that we should be tied to the stake and suffer a cruel death; we had now an inch of ground to fight on and if we failed it would only be death, and we might as well die one way as another. That day passed away and having encamped for the night we lay as before. In the morning we came to the river and saw their canoes; they had descended the river and run their canoes upon Little Tunkhannock creek, so called. They crossed the river and set their canoes adrift.

I renewed my suggestion to my companions to dispatch them that night, and urged that they must decide the question. They agreed to make the trial; but how shall we do it, was the question. Disarm them and each take a tomahawk and come to close work at once. There are three of us; plant our blows with judgment, and three times three will make nine, and the tenth one we can kill at our leisure. They agreed to disarm them

\*Another version of this story, and probably the correct one, is as follows: When Mr. Salmon reached the house, the Indians were on the point of killing his wife and child. He interposed and had some influence with the chief, who promised to spare their lives and assured him of a safe return if he would accompany them as a prisoner. He agreed to do so, and remained in captivity more than a year. He accompanied the chief on his expeditions, but the latter never mentioned his promise of granting the release, nor did Salmon dare do so. After following the chief alone through a whole night, they reached the summit of the North mountain at day-break. Salmon recognized with joy the outline of Knob mountain in the distance. "Go," said his captor, "thus can Indians keep their promises." He did not hesitate to obey the command, and followed Fishing creek to his home, where he lived for many years.



and after that one take possession of the guns and fire at the one side of the four, and the other two take tomahawks on the other side and dispatch them. I observed that would be a very uncertain way; the first shot fired would give the alarm; they would discover it to be the prisoners and might defeat us. I had to yield to their plan. Peter Pence was chosen to fire the guns, Pike and myself to tomahawk. We cut and carried plenty of wood to give them a good fire; after I was laid down one of them had occasion to use his knife; he dropped it at my feet; I turned my foot over it and concealed it; they all lay down and fell asleep. About midnight I got up and found them in a sound sleep. I slipped to Pence, who rose; I cut him loose and handed him the knife; he did the same for me and I in turn took the knife and cut Pike loose; in a minute's time we disarmed them. Pence took his station at the guns. Pike and myself with our tomahawks took our stations. I was to tomahawk three on the right wing and Pike two on the left. That moment Pike's two awoke and were getting up; here Pike proved a coward and laid down. It was a critical moment; I saw there was no time to be lost; their heads turned up fair; I dispatched them in a moment and turned to my lot as per agreement, and as I was about to dispatch the last on my side of the fire Pence shot and did good execution; there was only one at the off wing that his ball did not reach; his name was Mohawke, a stout, bold, daring fellow. In the alarm he jumped off about three rods from the fire; he saw it was the prisoners who made the attack, and giving the war-whoop he started to take possession of the guns; I was as quick to prevent him; the contest was then between him and myself. As I raised my tomahawk he turned quick to jump from me; I followed him and struck at him, but, missing his head, my tomahawk struck his shoulder, or rather the back of his neck; he pitched forward and fell; at the same moment my foot slipped and I fell by his side; we clinched; his arm was naked; he caught me round my neck; at the same time I caught him with my left arm around the body and gave him a close hug, at the same time feeling for his knife but could not reach it.

In our scuffle my tomahawk dropped out. My head was under the wounded shoulder and almost suffocated me with his blood. I made a violent spring and broke from his hold; we both rose at the same time, and he ran; it took me sometime to clear the blood from my eyes; my tomahawk had got covered up, and I could not find it in time to overtake him; he was the only one of the party that escaped.

Pike was powerless. I always had a reverence for Christian devotion; Pike was trying to pray, and Pence swearing at him, charging him with cowardice, and saying it was no time to pray, he ought to fight; we were masters of the ground, and in possession of all their guns, blankets, match coats, etc. I then turned my attention to scalping them, and recovering the scalps of my father, brother, and others, I strung them all on my belt for safe keeping. We kept our ground till morning and built a raft, it being near the bank of the river where they had encamped, about fifteen miles below Tioga Point; we got all our plunder on it and set sail for Wyoming, the nearest settlement. Our raft gave way, when we made for land, but we lost considerable property, though we saved our guns and ammunition, and took to land; we reached Wyalusing late in the afternoon. Came to the Narrows; discovered a smoke below, and a raft laying at the shore, by which we were certain a party of Indians had passed us in the course of the day, and had halted for the night. There was no alternative for us but to rout them or go over the mountain; the snow on the north side of the hill was deep; we knew from the appearance of the raft that the party must be small; we had two rifles each; my only fear was of Pike's cowardice. To know the worst of it, we agreed that I should ascertain their number and give the signal for the attack; I crept down the side of the hill so near as to see their fires and packs, but saw no Indians. I concluded that they had gone hunting for meat, and that this was a good opportunity for us to make off with their raft to the opposite side of the river. I gave the signal; they came and threw their packs on the raft, which was made of small, dry pine timber; with poles and paddles we drove her briskly across the river, and had got nearly out of reach of shot, when two of them came in; they fired; their shots did no injury; we soon got under cover of an island, and went several miles; we had waded deep creeks through the day, the night was cold; we landed on an island and found a sink-hole, in which we made our fire; after warming we were alarmed by a cracking in the crust; Pike supposed that the Indians had got on the island, and was for calling for quarters; to keep him quiet, we threatened him with his life; the stepping grew plainer, and seemed coming directly to the fire; I kept a watch, and soon a noble raccoon came under the light. I shot the raccoon, when Pike jumped up and called out: "Quarters, gentlemen! Quarters, gentlemen!" I took my game by the leg and threw it down by the fire: "Here, you cowardly rascal," I cried, "skin that and give us a roast for supper."

The next night we reached Wyoming, and there was much joy to see us; we rested one day, and it being not safe to go to Northumberland by land, we procured a canoe, and with Pence and my little cousin, we descended the river by night.

Fort Jenkins was erected in 1778, and became an important place of retreat for the settlers along the river. It appears that the fort was merely the house

of a Mr. Jenkins, barricaded and surrounded by a stockade. In September, 1780, a party of Indians from the Chillisquaque, having passed through the Fishing creek valley below Knob mountain, crossed the Summer hills through the defile of Cabin run and burned the cabin built by Aikman three years previous. Fort Jenkins had been evacuated by its garrison, who retreated to a point farther down the river. The Indians burned the fort, which was never rebuilt. In an appendix to the "Pennsylvania Archives," the following particulars concerning it are credited to a communication from Jacob Hill under date of October 2, 1855. "Its location was about twenty rods from the river, and about half the distance from the "North Branch canal." It stood upon the very spot where my house now stands. There are no remains left above ground, but I think there might be some pieces of the logs found buried in the ground. There is a very low spot between my house and barn, which is said to have been the well inside the fort. There is also another such spot near my house, and about four rods from the former which is said to be the cellar of a house built by Jenkins; and in digging the cellar for my house my hands found a quantity of stone which I took to be the foundation of some building, among which were some brick of rather singular dimensions, four or five feet under ground. The fields in the vicinity are scattered with arrows such as Indians use." Upon the cessation of hostilities the sense of security and repose, so welcome to the wearied settlers after the harrassing experiences of the preceding years, attracted to their depleted ranks a class of pioneers whose characteristic energy and perseverance gradually removed the traces of war and bloodshed. Alexander Aikman returned from New Jersey, whither he had removed with his family. In 1782 Benjamin Fowler, a young Englishman who had participated as a British soldier in the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown the previous year, traversed the distance from New York to the Briar creek valley on horseback. Here he formed the acquaintance of a Miss Fowler, whose family had but recently entered the region. He conceived a strong attachment for her, and amid the multiplied labors of his first year on the frontier, found time to learn that his feelings were reciprocated. The marriage that ensued might be chronicled as the first in Centre township, if there had been a clergyman in the vicinity to perform the ceremony. Under the circumstances a journey was made to Reading, where the wedding was celebrated.

In 1792 Frederick Hill purchased from Jenkins a tract of land embracing the location of the old fort. On the site of the original building he erected a house and opened the Fort Jenkins hotel, then the only public house in the present limits of the county. The following year a number of families from Mount Bethel, Northampton county, attracted to the region by reports of its fertile soil, located in the valley of Briar creek. Among those who settled within this township were John Hoffman, Nehemiah Hutton and James Cauley. The same year Henry Hidlay, having secured the title to "Mendham," a tract "situate three miles northwest of the Susquehanna," removed his family and household goods thither in a covered wagon. These families journeyed from Easton by a road recently opened from that point to Nescopeck falls, across the Broad, Buck and Nescopeck mountains.

Travel between different points along the river had increased to such an extent since the opening of the Fort Jenkins hotel, that Abram Miller, in 1799, established another. From its position midway between Bloomsburg and Berwick, it was afterward known as the Half-Way house. When a stage-line was established between Sunbury and Wilkesbarre, its land-lords became widely-known for their hospitality and for the celerity and promptness with which an

exchange of horses could here be made. Thomas Miller succeeded his father, but the establishment reached the zenith of its prosperity under the management of Samuel Harman, who was proprietor at a period when stage travel was necessary for a large class of people. When the canal was opened, the packet, a long, narrow boat drawn by six horses, was regarded as a more rapid and comfortable conveyance than the coach, and received a fair degree of patronage during the summer months. The decade immediately preceding the construction of the rail-road, was the most profitable one in the finances of stage proprietors. The volume of travel was such as to give a lucrative business to several companies. Since the opening of the railroad in 1858 the Half-Way house has ceased to be a place of popular resort, as the conditions under which it became such no longer exist. To the imaginative observer the quaint appearance of its broad porches still suggests the hurry and confusion of the old stage-exchange.

The name of Abram Miller is also associated with an early industry of Centre township, and one that has adapted itself to the changing characters of the circumstances under which it has been conducted. The tract purchased by him in 1799 embraced a portion of lime ridge, in which the strata of limestone were but thinly-covered by soil, and appeared in some places at the surface. Quarries were opened and the stone reduced to lime. This was conveyed to different points by means of flat-boats and wagons. A considerable portion was used in constructing the first brick buildings of Wilkesbarre. When the manufacture of iron was begun at Danville, Roaringcreek, Hemlock creek, Shickshinny and Wilkesbarre limestone for smelting purposes was obtained at this point. The canal-boat superseded the batteau as a means of transportation. The limestone was thus taken to Lackawanna in 1841, then at the head of navigation, and from there by a gravity railroad to Scranton, where it was used in considerable quantities for some years. The Millers, Abram and Thomas, operated quarries at the west end of the Centerville surface strata, John Jones its eastern, and John Knorr its central portion. Since 1854 Low Brothers have controlled three-fourths of the product. The quarries are practically exhausted at some places, although still operated to a limited extent.

The village indications on the map of Centre are somewhat misleading. Two or three locations are dignified as postoffices, where no villages are visible to the naked eye. An aggregate of dwellings variously known as Centreville and Stony town is somewhat more tangible. About 1845 several lime-kiln proprietors, desirous of securing better shipping facilities, purchased twenty-four acres of land bordering the canal. After erecting suitable wharves, the remainder of the land was disposed of to quarry hands as building sites on which some fifteen or twenty cheaply constructed dwellings were built. The name Lime Ridge applies exclusively to some half-dozen more substantial residences subsequently erected to the west of these. During the greatest activity of the lime business Centreville was a thriving hamlet, and still does considerable business, though many of its residents are now transferred from the quarries to canal-boats. Two stores, which conduct a thriving local trade, and two church buildings add to the attractiveness of the place. The denominations represented here are the Evangelical and the Methodist. The condition of the former is not as flourishing as formerly, a large proportion of the membership having moved to other points. The latter was organized in 1832 by Isaac Low, George Sloan, Henry Trembly and Aaron Boon, in a school-house at some distance from the village. Ten years later its present house of worship was built. A second structure for Methodist services was dedicated at Fowlersville, November 3, 1867. The congregations at both places are connected with the Mifflinville circuit.



The only society represented at Centreville is Centre grange, No. 56. The Briarcreek Farmers Mutual Insurance Company was organized by its membership January 11, 1875, with Levi Aikman, president; Samuel Neyhard, secretary; and George Conner, treasurer. These persons have held their respective offices continuously to this time (September, 1886), and have conducted the company's affairs through a decade of prosperous usefulness.

Briarcreek Presbyterian church has existed from a period compared with which the societies above mentioned are of but recent origin. Its history begins with the early settlement of the township. By indenture of August 19, 1796, Henry Hidlay conveyed to Andrew Creveling, George Espy and Conrad Adams, trustees of the Briarcreek Presbyterian society, an acre of ground for the location of a house for worship. It is probable that the latter was erected the following year, but this cannot be positively stated. The following names constitute a list of pew-holders, August 17, 1807: William Sloan, John Freas, Moses Oman, William Hutchison, William Parks, Samuel Webb, Hugh Sloan, Samuel Bellas, Alexander Aikman, William Aikman, William Henderson, Benjamin Boone, Andrew Creveling, Daniel McCarty, John Kennedy, William Marr, John Bright, Samuel Creveling, James Hutchison, Joseph Brittain, Joseph Salmon, Ephraim Lewis, William Oman, Josiah McClure, James Fowler, Benjamin Fowler, John Stewart, Henry Hidlay, Levi Aikman and John Brittain. In 1792 the Presbytery of Carlisle appointed Reverend Henry to supply this congregation. Two years later, he was succeeded by Reverend John Bryson. Asa Dunham was pastor from 1798 to 1816. Reverends Henderson, Crosby, Lewers, Patterson, Bryson, Hudson, Waller, Hand, Williamson, Newell, Salmon, Melick, Dickson, Spear and Canfield have successively been the pastors of this organization. August 28, 1838, a new structure was dedicated on the foundation of the old one. In the burial ground adjoining are the graves of many of the original members.

Lutheran and Reformed congregations have also worshiped in the Briarcreek church building. Reverend Isaac Shellhammer in 1846 was the first to minister to the latter. At a later date Reverend William Fox organized the former. With the Centre English Lutheran church, it forms part of Briarcreek charge. Reverends Sharrets, Dim and Bergstresser were its first pastors.

Whitmire Evangelical church and Briarcreek Baptist society, complete the number of religious organizations in the township. The first meeting of the former was conducted by James Fowler and Emanuel Kohe in David Fowler's house. Its first church building was erected in 1849; the second was dedicated August 29, 1880. The latter religious body was admitted to Northumberland Baptist Association in 1851, with John H. Worrell, pastor, and thirty members. It has generally been connected with the Berwick church.

#### FORT JENKINS.

For the following interesting facts in relation to Fort Jenkins and the site on which it stood, the editor is indebted to Mr. C. F. Hill, of Hazleton, who has been at great pains to furnish the following details, not elsewhere to be found in any published work:

The following letter is from the Hon. Steuben Jenkins, of Wyoming, Pa., who is a recognized authority on early history of this portion of the state, especially of Wyoming valley. He writes as follows:

WYOMING, October 2, 1886.

*Dear Sir:*

In reply to yours of the 28th ultimo, I can add but little to the account of Fort Jenkins which will be found on pages 380, etc. of the "Appendix" to the Pennsylvania Archives. You are right in suggesting that Van Campen was "Big Indian" and his nar-



rative is a tissue of brag and falsehood, mingled with a little truth that makes the falsehood the greater deception. None of his statements are to be relied on. On Friday, 16th April, 1869, accompanied by Henry Woodhouse, Esq., of Wyoming, and W. W. Smith, president of the board of county comm'rs of Luzerne county, I visited the site of Fort Jenkins. We found the site about a mile below Willow Grove station, on the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg R. R., and just opposite the lower part of the town of Millinsville, on the opposite side of the river. The situation was high and dry and commanded a fine view of the country around and of the Susquehanna river, on the east. The location was beautiful and well adapted for defence. We were shown by the wife of Jacob Hill, who occupied the premises, the place of the well and one of the ditches of the fort. They are situated between the house and the barn, somewhat nearer the barn than the house. The land around it is of the first quality for farming purposes. The Hill family were not able to give us much of the history of the fort. They only knew that a family by the name of Jenkins came there before the revolutionary war, built a blockhouse, which in the early part of the war was converted into a fort; that they got tired of the place, there were so many Indians about, and built a boat and in that went off and left it, and the Hills afterward bought the place of them. After we had examined the premises around, we passed on down to upper Lime Ridge, where we fell in with an old man who gave us this account of the fort and premises:

"Sometime before the revolutionary war, two brothers by the name of Jenkins built a blockhouse, which was afterward converted into a fort, by setting up saplings sharpened at the upper end, making a kind of stockade; that the Indians had a town on the opposite side of the river, at the mouth of a small stream; that during the war the Indians became troublesome, and under cover of an island in the river, they passed over to the island unseen, and from that point had shot and killed one of the brothers as he was down at the river. The other brother, with the women and children, got into a boat and passed down the river to Sunbury, and from there over the country to Berks county, or Philadelphia, where they traded their title to the Fort Jenkins property to James Wilson, attorney at law, Philadelphia, who conveyed the same to Jacob Zoll, of Hamburg, Berks county, 15th of July, 1796, who conveyed the same to Frederick Hill, of Richmond, Berks county, 17th of June, 1797, the ancestor of the present owner. An entry under date of Thursday, September 14, 1780, in the journal of Lieut. John Jenkins, says: 'This day we heard that Fort Jenkins and Harvey's Mills were burnt.' This fort need not be confounded with 'Jenkins Fort,' in Wyoming, which was built by John Jenkins, Esq. The one at Wyoming is invariably called 'Jenkins Fort,' while the one about which I have written is invariably called 'Fort Jenkins.' This latter was built as a 'blockhouse,' of hewed logs, closely laid together, and stockaded by the provincial authorities of Pennsylvania, on land owned by James Jenkins, a merchant of Philadelphia—himself and family afterward of Northumberland, Pa., at and near which place, and in Buffalo valley, they carried on merchandising, milling, farming and iron smelting. The following memoranda of title would seem to fix the dates when Jenkins obtained the land at Fort Jenkins and when he parted with it. I have in my possession a patent issued by John Penn, dated 25th Feb., 1775, in behalf of himself and Thomas Penn, for a tract of land called 'New Orleans,' situate on the westerly side of the N. E. Branch of Susquehanna river, county of Northumberland, beginning at a marked black oak at the side of the N. E. branch of said river; thence by Wm. Chambers' land N. 30° W. 304 perches; thence by vacant land S. 61° W. 166 perches to a pine, thence by Rev. Doctor Francis Allison's land S. 30° E. 312 perches to a white oak on the river, thence up said river to the beginning, containing 304½ acres. Surveyed for *Daniel Rees*, 24 Oct., 1774, on warrant dated 24 Oct., 1774, who assigned to James Jenkins 25 Feby., 1775."

This is enough to give you dates, etc., besides what you have, and I will end this part of the case here. Hon. Samuel Freeman Headly gave me the following in reference to the fort:

"James Pratt was wounded at Fort Jenkins by a shot in the hip. He kept the ferry. As he was coming up from the river to the fort some person pursued him. There was a girl by the name of Utley outside of the fort milking a cow; he called to her to run for her life; she ran for the fort and arrived in it in safety; date not known. At the time of the invasion of Wyoming by the combined forces of the British Tories and Indians, Capt. Clingman was in command at Fort Jenkins with a force of ninety men. He was sent for by express, the urgency and danger of the situation made known to him and his assistance with his command earnestly solicited, but he failed to respond. The force were Pennamites who felt no interest in defending the settlers, but rather were willing they should be destroyed, and so they left them to perish.

Fort McClure was about a mile above the mouth of Fishing creek on the Susquehanna. Fort Jenkins was where I have stated, some six or seven miles above, and these were all the forts there were on the west side of the Susquehanna above Northumberland.

Abraham Pike remained after the revolutionary war and settled in Lehman township, about 12 miles from Wilkesbarre and died a town pauper about 1834. Van Campen had

no farm. He settled on land under Pennsylvania, but I do not know that he ever owned what might be called a farm.

My grandfather, Lieut. John Jenkins, in his diary says:—1780, Apr. 4, "Pike and two men from Fishing creek and two boys that were taken by the Indians made their escape by falling on the guard of ten Indians, killed three and the rest took to the woods and left the prisoners with 12 guns and about 30 blankets."

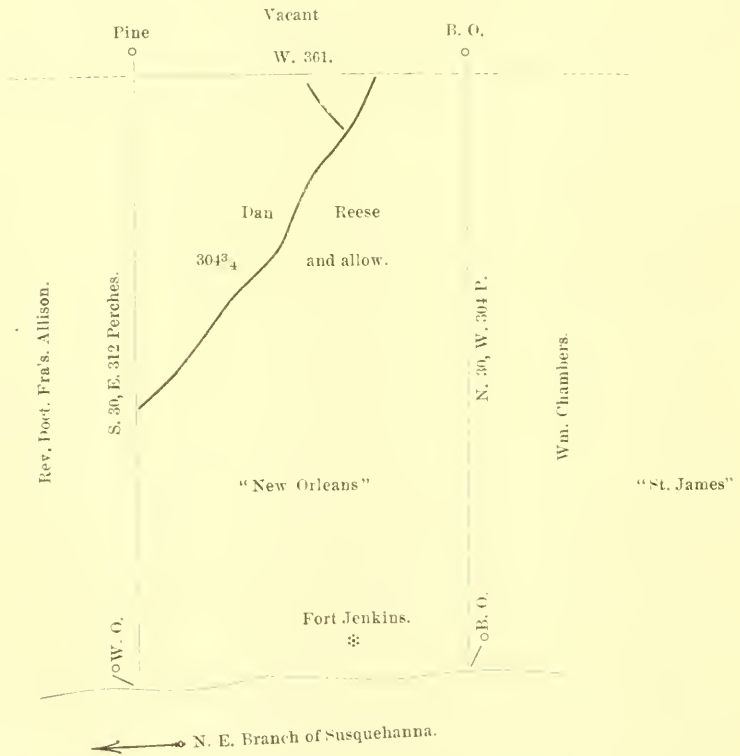
Col. Franklin, April 4, says:—Pike and others returned, made their escape at Wysox on the 1st; killed 3 Indians and took all their arms. Van Campen, after describing the conflict with the Indians says, in his Falstaffian way, "Nine Indians were lying dead upon the ground." (Life, &c., of Van Campen, Page 205.)

Van Campen was of Low Dutch descent and came there from Delaware river and was a neighbor of the Van Gordons, the Van Ashtines, Van Leers, etc. Two of the family were residents of this place for many years, leaving for Illinois about 1840. One Garret was a blacksmith, the other, Aaron, a general laborer. They were both great story tellers, and none too honest in general. Pike was a wanderer, settling and staying anywhere, never pretended to farm or own lands. I leave it for you to reconcile V. C. with the facts.

I would like the Jenkins surveys, deeds and title to the fort.  
Yours respectfully,

STEBEN JENKINS.

To C. F. HILL, Esq.  
Hazleton, Pa.



A draught of a tract of land called "New Orleans," situate on the westerly side of the northeast branch of the Susquehanna river, below and joining land surveyed for William Chambers in the county of Northumberland, containing three hundred and four acres and three-quarters of an acre besides the usual allowance of 6 per cent for roads, etc., surveyed the 26th day of November, 1774, for Daniel Reese in pursuance of a warrant dated the 24th day of October, 1774.

By CHAS. STEWART. Dep. Sur.

To John Lukeus, Esqr., S. Gen'l.

In testimony that the above is a true copy of the original remaining in my office I have hereto set my hand and seal of office at Philadelphia this 18th July, 1796.

DANIEL BRODHEAD, S. G.

The following is a brief of title to a tract of land in Centre Township, Columbia Co., Pa., called "New Orleans" on which is the site of Fort Jenkins.

Surveyed the 21st day of October, 1774; Warrant dated 24th day of October, 1774. See copy of survey herewith.

New Orleans.

Patent James Jenkins dated the 25 February, 1775.

In pursuance of a warrant dated the 24th October, 1774, there was surveyed for Daniel Reese a certain tract of land called "New Orleans," situate on the westerly side of the north east branch of Susquehanna river in the county of Northumberland. Beginning at a marked Black Oak at the side of the north east branch of the Susquehanna river, thence by William Chambers' land north thirty degrees west three hundred and four perches to a marked Black Oak, thence by vacant land south sixty-one degrees west one hundred and sixty-six perches to a marked pine, thence by the Reverend Doctor Francis Allison's land south thirty degrees east three hundred and twelve perches to a marked White Oak at the side of the aforesaid branch, thence up along the side of said branch to the place of beginning, containing three hundred and four acres and three quarters and allowance, etc., under one penny per acre to Penn's.

Daniel Reese by deed dated same day conveyed to James Jenkins. Inrolled in Pat. Book A. A. 15, page 107, the 27th Feby., 1775.

St. James.

Patent James Jenkins dated 25th Feby., 1775. Inrolled in Pat. Book A. A. 15, page 108, the 27th Feby., 1775.

Warrant dated 24th October, 1774, to William Chambers, a certain tract of land called St. James, situate on the westerly side of the north east branch of Susquehanna river in the county of Northumberland, beginning at a marked Red Oak at the side of the north east branch of Susquehanna river, thence by Philip Johnston's land and vacant land north thirty degrees, west three hundred and twelve perches to a marked White Oak, thence by vacant land south sixty-one degrees, west one hundred and sixty-eight perches to a marked Black Oak, thence by Daniel Reese land south thirty degrees, east three hundred and four perches to a marked Black Oak at the side of the north east branch aforesaid, thence up along the side of the said river one hundred and sixty-nine perches to the place of beginning, containing three hundred and three acres and three quarters and allowances, etc.

Wm. Chambers by deed dated 24 Oct., 1774, granted to Philip Johnston. Philip Johnston by deed dated 25th Feby. instant granted the same with appurtenances unto James Jenkins in Fee under one penny per acre.

I do hereby certify the above to be true extracts taken from the records this 14th day of July, 1796, for Nath. Irwin, Esq., M. R.

(SEAL.)

C. HUNT.

Inrollment office  
of Pennsylvania.

Daniel Rees of the  
county of Philada  
Deed Poll  
to  
James Jenkins of the  
city of Philada  
Merchant.

Dated Feby 25th 1775.

Witnesses Phil Johnston Wm. Gray.

Consideration 100 £ a certain warrant obtained out of the Proprietary's land office for 300 acres more or less on the North East Branch of the Susquehanna and below and joining lands granted to William Chambers in Northumberland County.

John Penn in behalf  
of himself and Thos  
Penn Patent to  
James Jenkins.

Tract of Land called New Orleans.

Dated 25 Feby 1775.

James Jenkins, and Phebe, his  
wife of the county of Lancas-  
ter Pa.  
Gentleman. Deed to  
James Wilson of the city of  
Philadelphia Attorney.

July 27th 1781.  
Tract Land called New Orleans 304 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres.  
Consideration 500 Pounds.  
Acknowledged before the Hon. William A. Atlee,  
one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Pa. Aug 24  
1781.

Witnesses Stephen Chambers,  
Morgan Jenkins.

Recorded in Northumberland County Oct 13 1781 Book B page 286.

James Wilson and Hannah his  
wife Deed to  
Jacob Zoll of Hamburgh  
Windsor Township county of  
Berks, Yeoman.

Date July 15th 1796.

Two tracts of land New Orleans And St. James,  
400 acres.

Jacob Zoll  
to  
Frederick Hill of  
Richmond township in the said  
county of Berks, Pa.  
Yeoman.

Dated June 17th 1797.

Two tracts of land the whole of tract called New  
Orleans 304 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres and part of the tract called St. James  
in all 400 acres.

Consideration of 2500 Pounds Gold and Silver.

Witnesses Joseph Hoch, John Spyker.

Acknowledged before James Diemer one of the Judges of the Common Pleas of Berks  
County Pa. June 20th 1797.

Recorded on Northumberland County in deed Book K page 66 &c Jan. 23 1798.

The following is a copy of a legal opinion given to Frederick Hill of his purchase  
from Judge Wilson, and evidently relates to the purchase of the Fort Jenkins Tract.

"Frederick Hill, the purchaser of a tract of land in Northumberland county the title  
of which is derived from Judge Wilson generally asks my opinion whether or not judgments  
against said Wilson can affect the aforesaid tract of land?"

"To this I answer,

"1. That judgments against Mr. Wilson in the Court of Common Pleas in Philadel-  
phia cannot.

"2. That judgments in the supreme court of Pennsylvania against Mr. Wilson upon  
action brought within the original jurisdiction of said court cannot.

"3. That judgments confessed in Northumberland county—or generally judgments  
rendered in said county will bind the land aforesaid.

"4. That judgments upon actions removed from any county into the supreme court  
will also bind the said land.

"But as Mr. Wilson has constantly resided in Philadelphia it is not probable that  
judgments of the 3rd and 4th description have been rendered against him, therefore, I think  
Mr. Hill safe in his purchase. June 3rd 1797. (signed) Jno. Spayd."

Frederick Hill settled upon the site of Fort Jenkins in 1797 about seventeen years  
after the fort had been destroyed by the Indians. He was the son of Leonard Hill of near  
Kutztown, Berks county Pa. and was married to Catherine Connor a sister to John  
Connor the tanner, of Briar creek. A good home had been built on the site of the de-  
stroyed fort by Judge Wilson to which Frederick Hill built a large addition and opened  
the Fort Jenkins Hotel, which he conducted until his death in 1823. In the year 1807 he  
was appointed a captain of the 6th company 112th Regt. Second Brigade of Ninth Division  
of the Militia of the counties of Northumberland and Luzerne. His commission bears  
date August the 3rd 1807, and was issued by the second governor of the State of Pennsyl-  
vania, Governor Thomas McKean. It is not known that a muster roll of Captain Freder-  
ick Hill's company is in existence although efforts have been made to find one; the fol-  
lowing is a copy of a report found among his papers which gives the names of a number  
of persons who belonged to his company.

"Absendees of Capn. Frederick Hills Company the 112 Regemont of Northumberland  
County Millitea Commanded by Collonel Leonard Ruppert for not Attending Muster &  
Fild Days in October 1807.





Photo. by M. Kilby, Birmmshurg, Pa.

Joseph Pober



	1st Muster Day.	Field Day.	
1 James Evans.....		1	Exempt David Owen
1 John Patton .....		1	
1 Josiah Jackson.....		1	
1 Hezekiah Bierce.....		1	
1 Abraham Stackhous.....		1	
1 John Millard.....		1	
1 George Webb.....		1	
1 John M. c. Quowen.....		1	
1 James Herren.....		1	
1 William Stall.....		1	
1 Jacob Cooper.....		1	
1 Thomas Welch.....		1	
1 Mordecai Owen.....		1	
1 David Witmier.....		1	
1 John M. c. Neal.....	1	1	
1 John Snyder.....		1	
1 Leonard Kisner.....		1	
1 Thomas Iddings.....	1	1	
1 Hugh Thompson.....		1	
1 Sebastian Kisner.....		1	
1 Charles Berret.....	1	1	
1 Samuel Millard.....		1	
1 Henry Drach.....	1		Frederick Hill.

Endorsed on the back as follows:

“Return of Cap Frederick Hill Company,”  
 “We Do Certify that the Within Names Is Un\_Croast Are Charged With fined—  
 Andrew Ikler  
 Henry Pettit  
 James M Clure”

The following receipt was also found among his papers:

Received of captain Frederick Hill one Dollar for Repairing the Drum I say Received by me. “1 November the 18th 1808  
 GEORGE KELCHNER.”

## CHAPTER X.

### FISHINGCREEK TOWNSHIP.

THE signification of names by which political divisions are designated is suggestive of their origin. Upon the erection of Luzerne county in 1786, the formerly indefinite limits of Wyoming township were restricted to that portion of Northumberland north of the Susquehanna and east of Little Fishing creek. Contemporary custom conferred upon this region the name more specifically applied to its distinguishing natural feature. The popular designation was sanctioned by legal action in 1789, when this area was constituted the township which forms the subject of this chapter. The erection of Briarcreek in 1797, and of Greenwood in 1799, reduced its size without affecting its relative dimensions. Sugarloaf was formed in 1813, and the northern boundary of Fishingcreek established as at present defined. Its western confines suffered a

change in 1840 upon the erection of Orange. The division line between Fishingcreek and Briarcreek became a topic of heated discussion, as the question at issue involved the making of roads over the Lee and Huntington mountains, and through the intervening Shickshinny valley. The northern or Huntington range was finally decided to be the "Knob" mountain referred to in the description of the line as originally located. Huntington township, Luzerne county, adjoins Fishingcreek on the east.

There is a general similarity in the topography of both these townships, but the circumstances of their settlement were widely different. While the Connecticut Susquehanna Land Company was populating the region at the head waters of Huntington creek, the land speculator, the squatter and the settler were gradually possessing the valley at its lower course, and securing titles from the proprietary and commonwealth governments. Connecticut settlers transplanted the "steady habits" of their native state to the section east of the Luzerne county line; the pronounced Pennamite proclivities of their neighbors on the opposite side of the line appeared in marked contrast.

It was not until the former had appeared in some numbers that settlement in Fishingcreek township actually began. In the summer of 1783 Daniel McHenry became the first settler in the valley of Fishing creek above Orangeville. Originally a native of Ireland, and successively resident in New Jersey and near Milton, on the "West Branch," he secured the title to a tract of land above the present location of Stillwater on the representation of a brother who was connected with the land office. He visited his purchase in 1783, carrying with him a gun, axe, hoe and provisions sufficient to last six weeks. The gun afforded protection from the dangers of the unexplored forest; the blows of his axe and the crash of falling trees re-echoed through its dark recesses; and when the work of clearing a small plot had been accomplished, the woodsman and hunter became farmer as well, and used his hoe in planting Indian corn, drawing the loose earth into a small mound and depositing the grains therein after the Indian custom. Mr. McHenry removed his family to their new home the following year (1784); and here, September 13, 1785, John McHenry was born. This was the first birth of a white child in this county north of Knob mountain.

The second family to enter this township appeared in 1786. Abram Dodder, from Muncy, having bought the confiscated lands of Mr. Bartram, a tory, with "scrip" at six cents per acre, removed thither and located on Huntington creek at the mouth of Pine creek. His father came two years later and settled near his son; he died in 1790, and was buried in the Dodder cemetery near Jonestown. So far as known this was the first death and burial of a white person in this section. Ludwig Smith removed from Berks county about 1800 and settled on Huntington creek adjoining the county line. A Mr. Craig, a former neighbor, continued to be such by occupying an adjoining tract. Henry Yaple, from Montgomery county, arrived in 1796, and Sebastian Kisner, a few years later. The former was a veteran of the revolutionary war. He was one of five brothers whose term of service was four years and nine months. Captain Weidman, his former commanding officer, owned land in this section, and transferred it to him at a merely nominal price. Sebastian Kisner removed from one of the lower counties and located on Huntington creek near Ludwig Smith in 1808. John M. Buckalew settled on the farm now owned by John M. Buckalew, Jr. Samuel Creveling and Samuel Cutter entered the township in 1810; Richard Brown, Benjamin Jones and John Paden became residents about the same time. Subsequent settlement has gradually extended until the township has become quite as thickly populated as its agricult-



ural resources permit. Benjamin Jones and Richard Brown built a grist-mill on Huntington creek in 1810 and 1811. John M. Buckalew operated a saw mill in 1808. A woolen mill was established about 1820 by — Kennedy on Little Pine creek. It has long since ceased to be operated, and Fishing creek continues to be an exclusively farming district.

The antagonism between the Yankee and Pennamite was expressed in the selection of a name for the first post-office. It was strenuously averred by the latter that the stream known as Huntington creek (named in honor of a certain governor of Connecticut) was the east branch of Fishing creek, and should be known by that designation. Accordingly the post-office of Fishingcreek was established in 1815 with Benjamin Jones as post-master. The name has not, however, received popular sanction. The stream will continue to be Huntington creek as long as it has an existence.

Fishingcreek was at this time the only intermediate post-office on a mail-route of which Shickshinny and Jerseytown were the terminal points. The next postoffices, at Stillwater and Pealertown, were established about 1849 by James McHenry and Daniel Pealer, respectively. Daniel McHenry succeeded to the former in 1854 and is the present incumbent. Pealertown was changed to Forks in 1855, when Bernard Ammerman became postmaster. It was re-established under its former name in 1861; ten years later, J. M. Ammerman again became postmaster, and has continued the office to the present time under its old name of Forks. Van Camp post-office was established in October, 1857, with George M. Howell as postmaster. He has held this position since then continuously. Mail was first received by this route from Bloomsburg to Cambra. Runyon post-office was opened January 8, 1886, at the village of Asbury. Various names were suggested by the citizens, and successively rejected by the department. The name finally accepted is that of an ex-soldier and former resident of the village.

Jonestown derived some importance from its position on the old turnpike. In connection with the latter it may be stated that John M. Buckalew graded one mile for the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars; and that, although the prerogative of collecting tolls from the travel on this road has not been exercised by the Susquehanna and Tioga Turnpike Road Company for years, it has not forfeited its corporate existence. Moreover, an item of some thousands of dollars invested in this road by appropriation of the legislature, still appears in the assets of the state. Asbury aspired to becoming the business center of the township, but the equally accessible positions of Stillwater and Pealertown prevented any one of them from reaching that distinction. Forks, Ikelertown and Bendertown also rejoice "in that strange spell, a name."

Christopher Pealer taught the first school in this township in connection with his occupation of weaving. Jonathan Colloy taught in a building erected for school purposes at Pealertown. A similar structure was also built near the location of Zion church. In 1885 Fishingcreek supported nine schools for a term of six months. The average attendance of pupils is about two hundred and forty-nine.

The establishing of the first churches in this section was contemporary with the appearance of the different denominations in other parts of the country. The first services of a religious character were conducted by John and Christopher Bowman, Methodist Episcopal clergymen from Briarcreek. These services were held at the house of Abram Dodder, but the time at which they began cannot be definitely determined. In 1812 the names of seven of this family appear on a list of the membership of the Southold Huntington church. Preaching was continued at Dodder's until school-houses were built. The Jonestown Methodist church building was erected in 1880.

John Andrews, Martin Andrews, Albert Ammerman and others removed from Rush township, Northumberland county, in 1836 and at once made arrangements for the holding of religious services by the Methodist itinerant clergymen who were then in charge of Berwick circuit. The first meetings were held at John Andrews' house, on the road from Asbury to Huntington. Subsequently, a schoolhouse west of Asbury was occupied. The church building was erected in 1848, Reverends John Tongue and William Gwinn being pastors at that time. The name of the founder of American Methodism was conferred upon the church previously organized, at the suggestion of John Andrews. The Stillwater church organization was being effected about this time in the house of Alexis Good, which stood on the bank of Fishing creek some distance from that village. The meetings of the class were afterward held in the school-house at Stillwater. The corner-stone of a church edifice at that place was laid July 4, 1880. Both these churches are included in the Orangeville circuit.

The following with reference to Reformed churches in this township, is presented through the courtesy of Reverend A. Houtz, who has been in charge of Orangeville pastorate for some years, and has collated valuable data regarding the introduction of that denomination into this section: "Occasionally, in the latter part of his ministry (1820-1822), Reverend Jacob Deiffenbach preached in private houses and in a school-house located where the old Pealer and Bellas graveyard is in Fishingcreek township. Tradition says he was a fine German preacher and an excellent singer. After his death Reverend John Nicholas Zeiger, who resided below Wilkesbarre, preached here from perhaps 1822 to 1825. His son occasionally filled his appointments. About the year 1825 there was a Lutheran Reformed church built at New Columbus. The Reformed congregation moved their place of worship to this church and procured the services of Reverend Isaac Shellhammer. Here they worshiped till 1840, when they moved to the Creveling cross-roads school-house. Here they remained till 1852. The St. James church being now completed, they occupied it and have continued there ever since. While the congregation was worshipping at the cross-roads school-house, the desire for some English preachings was expressed on the part of a few members. Accordingly Reverend H. Funk, who had already been preaching at the old log church where the present St. Gabriel church stands, was secured and he became the regular English pastor while Reverend Isaac Shellhammer remained their German pastor. They continued thus to have two regular pastors till the close of Reverend I. Shellhammer's pastorate in 1858, when the transition from the German to the English language was completed.

Rev. W. Goodrich became the immediate successor of Reverend H. Funk in 1854, and served this congregation with great acceptance and success till 1865. During his pastorate of this congregation he baptized sixty-seven and confirmed sixty-four. In the spring of 1866 Reverend E. B. Wilson took charge of his congregation and served them till 1868, during which time he baptized fifteen and confirmed eight. On the 1st of August, 1869, Reverend A. Houtz took charge of the congregation, and up to the present time (1881) baptized fifty-seven and confirmed sixty-one. In December, 1878, this congregation was incorporated under the title of St. James Reformed Church, and adopted the constitution recommended by General Synod.

"Thus the St. James congregation, at first like a tenant, moved from one place to another until it finally settled down permanently in its present house of worship. In its progress it has absorbed kindred interests and elements, and now has the form of a solid phalanx. Its membership is composed of sub-

stantial material. Here all are attentive and devout in their worship. Here all, from the least to the greatest, sing. Here are found unity of feeling, singleness of purpose, and great church attachment. Here parents generally bring their children to their church, have them baptized, catechized and confirmed. The members of this congregation are noted for their liberal support of their pastor and benevolent objects, also for their attendance; those coming three and four miles are as regular as those living near. This is a model congregation, and has commended itself to the observing and unprejudiced community. Within the last four years the congregation added a number of improvements to their church building, and surrounded the graveyard with a neat picket fence."

He thus speaks of Zion Reformed congregation: "The first regular Reformed service in this neighborhood was held in 1842 by Reverend D. S. Tobias in the old Stucker school-house located where the Zion graveyard is in Fishingcreek township. Previous to this time the few Reformed families in this locality worshiped either at the old McHenry log church, located a short distance west of Orangeville, or at the old log church at New Columbus. In the winter of 1843, or about that time, Reverend Tobias was assisted by one Reverend Loader in holding a protracted meeting. There being good sleighing the people came from near and far in great sled loads. As the school-house was too small they obtained permission to hold their service in the old church at Stillwater. After occupying this church one week, they were denied further privilege, and they were obliged to return to the school-house. During this revival a number made a profession of religion who subsequently became the virtual founders of the Zion congregation. This Stucker school-house continued from 1842 to 1857 as a preaching point, and the congregation, without church organization, was served by Reverends D. S. Tobias, H. Funk and W. Goodrich. On the 17th of February, 1857, the Zion church was dedicated, and on the following Saturday the Zion congregation was organized with thirty members: They were principally from Orangeville and St. James congregations."

Stillwater Christian church (Disciples) was among the first of that denomination established in this section of the country. In 1835 Reverends John Ellis, J. J. Harvey and John Sutton associated themselves together to propagate its doctrines, and established preaching places from Union county to Luzerne. Mr. Sutton visited Stillwater at the request of certain persons there residing and preached occasionally during the two succeeding years. The success which attended his work was such that in 1838 a monthly appointment was begun and sustained. In compliance with the general desire of his people he made his residence among them. The material of an old log school-house was purchased, and when rebuilt constituted the first parsonage in this region. On Friday, August 10, 1838, Reverends Sutton, Richards, Harvey, Philips and McConnell inaugurated a protracted meeting. It continued for some days, resulting in twenty conversions. Sabbath, August 17, three persons were baptized; the ceremony was again performed four weeks later and twelve more accessions were made to the church. The interest in the revival culminated December 8, 1838, when, after a sermon by Reverend J. S. Thompson, an organization was effected with twenty-nine members. The design of the organization is thus expressed: "That the believers in Christ may the better support the truth and in a united capacity let their light shine as a city set upon a hill that cannot be hid; that they may watch over each other for good and not for evil; that they may meet together and improve the gift that God has given them, exhorting and teaching, comforting and strengthening each other in the



faith of the gospel: and that they may thus grow up together, an holy temple in the Lord, their living Head." August 11, 1839, Moses McHenry and Benjamin Morriss were deputed to present to the Pennsylvania Christian Conference a request for admission into that body. August 26, 1841, and August 30, 1861, that body met with this church. The discussions on both occasions resulted in disseminating their doctrines and strengthening the church. October 23, 1842, the first house of worship was dedicated, Reverends Rodenbaugh, Hance, Miller and Sutton being present. The last service was held here May 27, 1877. A new structure marks the site of its predecessor. The following elders have been regularly in charge of this church: John Sutton, Theobald Miller, Jacob Rodenbaugh, J. J. Harvey, J. G. Noble, Zephaniah Ellis, E. E. Orvis and D. M. Kinter. It has been for years the religious center of this denomination in this region.

## CHAPTER XI.

### SUGARLOAF AND BENTON TOWNSHIPS.

#### SUGARLOAF.

AN interesting and peculiar characteristic of the population in the extreme northern part of Columbia county is the tenacity with which the descendants of the original settlers have remained in the locality of their birth, while the Quaker settlers in the valley of Roaring creek and at Catawissa, with others of a different nationality and faith north of the Susquehanna, have been supplanted to such an extent that their family names are in many instances no longer represented. The larger proportion of the population of this section is descended from those hardy pioneers who first reclaimed its soil for civilization. The passing years have witnessed the appearance of successive generations of Hesses, Coles, Kiles, Fritzes and McHenrys, apparently well content to remain where their ancestors had lived and where the circumstances of birth had placed them.

One hundred years ago there lived in Williams township, Northampton county, a wealthy farmer whose name was John J. Godhard. He was an Englishman, a patriot and a member of the Episcopal church. His wife had died previous to the time at which this history commences, leaving her unfortunate husband to support, protect and educate a large family of daughters. If any part of the skill in the culinary arts displayed by their descendants in this section has been inherited from them, it may be correctly inferred that their education was rather useful and serviceable in its character than ornamental and liberal, while the symbol of an unknown quantity, which appears as their respective signatures to an old deed, affords additional evidence to the same effect. The custom of the period, as well as a virtual expediency in this case, constrained the father to consent to early matrimonial alliances for his children, and thus relieve himself in a measure from the exercise of that care and solicitude of which they had always been the recipients, but which could not always be extended in view of the casualties of life. The son-in-law who particularly concerns this sketch was William Hess, while four grand-daughters of Mr. Godhard became respectively the wives of Philip Fritz, Christian Laubach,



Ezekiel Cole and John Kile. With the exception of Mr. Fritz, who was engaged in business in Philadelphia, they were all engaged in farming in Williams and Forks townships, both of which border upon the Delaware river, while the Lehigh forms a mutual boundary. A considerable part of the area of both consists of the "dry lands," which are not remarkably fertile though fairly productive.

There was a strong tide of emigration from this section of country—Berks and Northampton counties in Pennsylvania, and the contiguous portion of New Jersey on the opposite side of the Delaware—to the lower valley of the "North Branch." It was a hazardous undertaking for those who inaugurated this movement; but, relying on the favorable nature of their reports, those who followed could do so with much more certainty and satisfaction. Among this number was John Godhard. He sold his plantation on the Lehigh some time prior to 1789, and invested the proceeds in a tract of much greater extent at the head-waters of Fishing creek. It appears that this purchase was made at the instance of Philip Fritz and William Hess. The former had seriously impaired his health by too close application to business, and wished to seek its recovery by engaging in other pursuits. The latter had a family of twelve sons and six daughters, for whose maintenance the limits of their farm on the "dry lands" seemed far too contracted. There were other members of Mr. Godhard's family and those among his neighbors who were also interested in the new country, the security of which, since the fortunate issue of the late war, seemed to invite immigration. It was prudently resolved to personally investigate the advantages claimed for this region before finally deciding to make it their home. Accordingly Mr. Godhard and those of his family already mentioned by name, with William Coleman, Matthias Rhone, Benjamin Coleman and others of their neighbors, made a journey on horseback to the valley of Fishing creek. They explored that stream from mouth to source, minutely examining the quality of soil, character of the land with regard to water, and the different varieties of timber which constituted its forests. This latter circumstance was regarded as an infallible criterion of the other two, indicating the presence of a fertile or a sterile soil, and affecting the permanent character of the springs of water. The price uniformly asked for lands was two dollars an acre. It is hardly necessary to acquaint the reader with their final decision, which seems unaccountable at the present day. It must be borne in mind, however, that the river could not confer a great degree of benefit as a highway of traffic upon a region for whose productions there was no market; while the canal and railroads which parallel its course had scarcely an existence in the most progressive minds. The best judgment of the prospective settlers directed them to the region at present known as Sugarloaf and Benton townships as one of fertile soil, equable climate and abundant game.

The following year (1792 in all probability) the actual immigration occurred. The route pursued was the Susquehanna and Lehigh road from Easton to Nescopeck falls, laid out by Evan Owen in 1787. In their progress up Fishing creek they passed a few houses in the vicinity of Light Street, one at Orangeville, the Klins above the Knob, and Daniel McHenry at Stillwater. William Hess owned a tract of land four miles in length, extending from Coles mills to North mountain. He built a log cabin near a small spring, the site of which is on land in possession of Andrew Laubach. His sons, George, John, Andrew, Tobias, Conrad, Frederick, Henry and Jacob took up their residences in the valley of the creek above their father in the order of their names. John Kile and Ezekiel Cole located in the immediate vicinity of William Hess. Christian Laubach settled at first in Montour township (then Mahoning) prior

to 1795, and about two years thereafter removed to Sugarloaf township. John G. Laubach, his grandson, has succeeded to his land. When Leonard Rupert, the near neighbor of Christian Laubach in Montour township, had returned from assisting to move his effects to the North mountain country, he is reputed as saying that that region was certainly at the end of the world. Whether it was or not, Philip Fritz followed his relatives thither in 1795 and took possession of "Fritz's Hill." Jonathan Robbins arrived in the same year from Bethlehem township, Huntingdon county, New Jersey. He located upon land now owned by David Lewis and planted an orchard at that place with seeds brought from his former home. Two brothers of Mr. Robbins, Daniel and John, also settled in this region. Godfrey Dilts and William Bird, from New Jersey, David and Jacob Herrington from New York, became residents of this section at a later period. James Seward, Jesse Hartman, James A. Pennington, Ezekiel Shultz, William Shultz and others have crossed from Fairmount township, Luzerne county. The population of Sugarloaf in 1800 consisted of the Hesses, Kiles, Laubachs, Robbins and Coles. Excepting a comparatively small element of the inhabitants the same remark applies equally well to-day.

The North mountain country has always sustained an excellent reputation among the patrons of gun and rod. The Fishing creeks and their numerous tributaries were literally alive with trout, if the stories of old residents may be credited. The successful angler was not, as now, an exceptional personage; nor was the shooting of a deer or bear an unusual occurrence. The chase was pursued by some for adventure and by others for profit, while with the majority of hunters the two motives were combined. An incident of more than ordinary interest at the time occurred in the winter of 1836, and forcibly illustrates a phase of hunting experience of which it can be stated that there has not been a similar occurrence in this region. At this time much of Sugarloaf township was a wilderness, and game of all kinds was plenty. A deep snow fell in February, and after successively thawing and freezing, a crust was formed on the surface, which, as it was not strong enough to bear the weight of either deer or hunters, greatly impeded the progress of the former, while it placed the latter at no serious disadvantage. On a morning in the month of March, John Hoover, John Harp and Joseph Dugan, residents in Luzerne county, crossed over into Columbia on a hunting excursion. They traveled all day, and became so fatigued and exhausted that but one of their number, John Harp, was able to exercise himself sufficiently to keep warm. When he found that his comrades could go no farther he left them to seek assistance and finally reached the house of Robert Moore, to whom he made known their unfortunate condition, but was unable to conduct him to them. Mr. Moore started with food and stimulants and reached the perishing men by following Mr. Harp's tracks. Hoover was able to eat and drink, but Dugan was not. Both were unable to walk, and as Mr. Moore could not carry them himself he was obliged to leave them in order to get assistance. When he returned, Dugan was not able to speak, although he still showed faint signs of life. He expired soon after being removed to Seward's tavern, but his comrade recovered. The place where the men lay in the snow was a few rods west of where Alem White now lives.

An instance of how two planters gratified their feelings of revenge, quite natural under the circumstances, and were well remunerated for so doing, occurred at an earlier date. The object of their vengeance on this occasion was a panther, and this animal in general seemed to have been most destructive in its incursions upon the cattle and sheep of the farmers. Frederick and Henry Hess found one of their cattle mangled by one of these unwelcome visitors, and took

prompt action to punish the marauder. A steel trap was baited, and on the following morning the brothers had the satisfaction of seeing this wily thief successfully ensnared. It was beyond the county line that the trap had been set; in order to secure the bounty of ten dollars, a crotched stick with a noose attached was thrust over the neck of the brute, which dragged the trap, *volens volens*, a mile or farther into Sugarloaf township, and was then killed. John McHenry was the most famous representative of that class of hunters who were such as much from practical considerations as from a keen enjoyment of the chase. Born in 1785, he shot his first deer at the age of thirteen years, and his last seventy years afterward, having killed in that time upwards of two-thousand deer and a number of wolves, panthers, bears and smaller game. He took pleasure in recounting the varied experiences of his life, and was urged to have them compiled into a connected biography. The old gentleman failed to comprehend the interest such reminiscences would possess, and only replied that "it might help young hunters." He preferred the "still hunt," and could pursue the game with a stealth, caution and cunning rarely equaled. The only instance in which he admitted that his life was endangered was in an encounter with a bear at a narrow defile in the mountains. The brute had received the contents of one barrel of his gun, but was only infuriated by the wound. Rising upon his haunches he advanced upon the hunter in a threatening manner. Mr. McHenry took aim with his usual precision, but to his surprise and discomfiture, the gun missed fire. He threw the weapon aside and advanced with his tomahawk for a life or death struggle with his dangerous foe. Several well aimed blows dispatched him, and his glossy coat was added to the trophies of his veteran antagonist. The latter, with numerous other professional hunters, spent several months of each year in the woods. They preserved the salable portions of the deer they had killed, usually by suspending them some distance from the ground on stout saplings bent over for that purpose. The saddles were collected and hauled to Philadelphia, where they were converted into money or such supplies as were needed in "back country" households. The mutual confidence placed in each other by these hunters, in thus leaving their game exposed and unprotected for days and weeks, suggests thoughts of a practical honesty which is not universally characteristic of human nature.

The chase did not so completely absorb the energies of the people as to leave no time for the pursuits of a farming community. Agricultural implements were simple in construction, serviceable, durable and easily replaced. It may surprise certain of the present generation to learn that much of the land was first broken with wooden plows, manufactured at the smithy and carpenter shop in the neighborhood. The first step in the transition to the present construction of the plow was the substitution of an iron point for one of wood, and the addition of a coulter to further strengthen the implement. Subsequently the wooden mould board was covered with sheet iron, which was regarded as a great improvement. John Knopsnyder was an expert workman in making plows. His services were not required for pitch-forks and harrows, which every farmer could make for himself. Grain drills and cultivators date their introduction from a comparatively recent period. The general status of Sugarloaf township as a farming region has been greatly elevated within the past few years. A Grange is well sustained, and numbers among its membership the most progressive farmers of the region. Buckwheat is a staple agricultural product, and the flour manufactured here is well-known in various sections of the country.

Cole's mill was built some time in the last decade of the last century. The summer of the previous year was extremely dry. Vegetation suffered and



small streams were literally absorbed by the intense heat. There was at this time a mill on a branch of Huntingdon creek in Luzerne county. The volume of water in that stream was reduced to such an extent that the mill could not be operated. Catawissa thus became the nearest milling point, and continued such during the following winter, which was one of unusual severity. The farmers at the head-waters of Fishing creek resolved to have a mill, and they got it. Four generations of Coles have successively owned the mill of that name, and as many different structures have occupied its original site. Like the Irishman's knife, which received a new handle one year and a new blade the next, but still continued "the same ould knife," the Cole's mills of to-day are nominally identical with the Cole's mills of nearly a century ago.

A circumstance in this connection illustrates the manner of laying out roads at this period. While Ezekiel Cole was building the framework of his mill with a sound of axe, chisel and hammer, quite unusual in the quiet depths of the forest, a party of hunters from Huntingdon heard the noise from a neighboring mountain (or hill, in deference to popular usage), and descended to ascertain its cause. They were agreeably surprised to see the almost completed structure, and returned in a few weeks with their ox-teams and sled loads of grain. No serious delays occurred in crossing the country, although it was covered with a hitherto unbroken forest. They avoided ravines and water courses as much as possible, as the dense undergrowth and heavy timber there found would have greatly hindered their progress. They ascended hills by the steepest way if that was the most direct route to the summit, as there was then less danger of upsetting, and the view from the eminence thus gained aided in directing their course. The axe was used in removing obstacles where it was absolutely necessary; corduroy roadways were constructed in marshy places; and thus the first road eastward through Sugarloaf was laid out. It need hardly be stated that it was hilly to a remarkable degree. It was traveled extensively for many years, but finally gave place to an easier and more direct route. The ox-teams have also been superseded to a great extent. People usually traveled on horseback to weddings, venison dinners, church, and in attending other social occasions. The carriage of the period would correspond to the spring wagon of the present, excepting the springs, which were "D" shaped, seasoned white oak, and placed directly under the seat. Elliptic springs were introduced about 1840 and at once became popular. The next addition to the traveling facilities of this region will far surpass anything in that direction that has yet been attempted. When the railroads under construction have been completed, the unrestricted development of farm, forest and mountain, will work such changes as must be relegated to the future historian for discussion.

Herrington's Foundry was established by Newton R. Herrington in August, 1866. The building is 26x50 feet, and they originally made sled shoes and plows. In 1882 a saw-mill was built in connection by the same party, and now they make plows, sled shoes, mill gearing, bells, shingles, etc. The capacity of the shingle and circular saw-mill is 4,000 to 5,000 shingles per day, if kept busy. Here they intend to continue the business in all its branches, and the place will be known as Pioneer Station, Coles Creek.

While the past has witnessed gratifying progress in the material prosperity of the people, their educational advantages have correspondingly increased. Philip Fritz taught the first school in Sugarloaf township in a log building which marked the site of Saint Gabriel's church. The first house for school purposes was built on West creek. The public school system was established in 1837 with John Laubach, William Roberts, Matthias Appelman, Henry H.



Fritz, Samuel Krickbaum and William E. Roberts as directors. Eighty-eight voters were present at the election. Two schools were started, Hess' and Cole's creek. In 1885 there were seven schools in the township.

There are three post-offices in Sugarloaf—Cole's Creek, Guava and Central. Central was established in 1836 under the name of Campbell, through the exertions of a doctor of that name. Upon his removal the office was discontinued until 1850, when Peter Hess was commissioned as postmaster. Joshua B. Hess succeeded to that position in 1861, Henry Hess in 1876, and Elijah Hess in 1886. Cole's Creek was formerly known as Sugarloaf. Ezekiel Cole, Alinas Cole, Benjamin Cole and Norman L. Cole have successively been incumbents as postmasters. Guava was established May 11, 1883, at Andrew Laubach's store. He has continued in charge of the office. These points are on the mail route from Benton to Laporte, Sullivan county.

While the industrial, social and educational character of the people was being formed, religious bodies were assuming a permanent and influential condition. The Sugarloaf "log church" was the only structure of its kind in the two townships during the first fifty years after their settlement. It was begun in 1810 and finished two years later, though not dedicated until July 15, 1828, when Right Reverend Henry M. Onderdonk performed the ceremony of consecration agreeably to the ritual of the Protestant Episcopal church. The following names appear in "An account of the subscribers to the building of Saint Gabriel's church on a settlement had on the 26th day of December, 1812:" Caleb Hopkins, William Wood, Ezekiel Cole, Matthias Rhone, James Peterman, John Keeler, Philip Fritz, Jacob Cough, Conrad Hess, Henry Fritz, Uriah McHenry, John Kile, William Osborne, George Hess, William Hess, Sr., Daniel Stone, Jacob Hess, John McHenry, Tobias Hess, John Knopsnyder, Andrew Hess, Cornelius Coleman, Frederick Hess, John Roberts, John Hess, Daniel Robbins, Levi Priest, George Rhone, Jonathan Robbins, William Edgar, Benjamin Coleman, Abraham Kline, Sr., Jacob Rine, Conrad Laubach, Peter Yocum, Abraham Whiteman, William Hess, Jr., Samuel Musselman, Paul Hess, Jonathan Robbins, Henry Hess, William Waldron, William Yorks, Christian Pouts, Edward Roberts, Casper Chrisman, Emanuel Whiteman, Daniel McHenry, Jesse Pennington, John Emery, William Willson, Thomas Miller, Frederick Harp, Benjamin Stackhouse, Silas Jackson, John Whiteman and Jacob Whiteman. The structure was built of hewn pine logs, with galleries around three sides of the interior. After being occupied sixty-four years as a place of worship it was burned to the ground on Palm Sunday, April 9, 1876. It was jointly owned by Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Lutherans. The Episcopal church organization was effected July 1, 1812, when Christian Laubach and James Peterman were chosen wardens and William Willson, Jacob Rine, John Roberts and Matthew Rhone were constituted the vestry. Reverends Caleb Hopkins, — Eldridge, Benjamin Hutchins, James De Pui, — Burns, George C. Deake, — Harding and John Rockwell have been connected with this church as regular pastors. On Easter Monday, April 17, 1876, a meeting of the congregation was held in the grove to consider ways and means for the rebuilding of Saint Gabriel's. Reverend John Hewitt of Bloomsburg presided, and Jacob H. Fritz was chosen secretary. On motion Thomas B. Cole, John Moore, Montgomery Cole, Benjamin Cole and John Swartwout were constituted a building committee. The corner-stone of the new structure was laid May 23, 1876. A number of clergymen was present, and Colonel John G. Freeze delivered an eloquent address. The dedication occurred May 1, 1877, Bishop Howe officiating. Reverend T. F. Caskey, now in charge of the American chapel, Dresden, preached on this occasion. Saint Gabriel's is the only Protestant Episcopal parish within a radius of twenty miles.

Three other denominations, the Church of Christ (Disciples), Methodist Episcopal and Methodist Protestant are also represented. Elders John Ellis, J. J. Harvey and John Sutton introduced the doctrines of the sect first mentioned in the autumn of 1836, when they held a protracted meeting in Hess' school-house. It resulted in a number of conversions; four persons, John Kile, Richard Kile, Rebecca Cole and Sarah Steadman were baptized near Guava on the 8th day of December, 1836. These were the first accessions to this faith in Columbia county.

In 1855 Elijah Fulmer, a local Methodist Episcopal preacher, conducted a revival at the school-house near Central post-office. A number of persons were converted and a class was formed. Ten years later, during the pastorate of the Reverend John A. DeMoyer at Berwick, he conducted a protracted effort, and at its close began to agitate the building of a church. This was forthwith accomplished, and the church named Simpson chapel, in honor of Bishop Simpson. The appointment at this place is filled by the resident pastor at Benton. A second class was formed some time since, and with the aid of other persons in the neighborhood, the "Lower Hess" church was built. It is now the place of worship of a flourishing Methodist Protestant society.

The necessity for separate political organization, and the obvious convenience and advantage of such an arrangement became apparent with the gradual but permanent increase of the population. In April, 1812, a petition was laid before the court requesting a division of Fishingcreek township. It was granted and the name "Harrison" conferred upon the new division by authority of the court. The record does not show in what manner this was supplanted by "Sugarloaf," although it is obvious that the latter was suggested from an important natural product of the region. The record of elections begins as follows: "October 1, 1813—This day a meeting was held at the house of Ezekiel Cole in and for this township of Sugarloaf for the purpose of voting for by ballot, agreeably to law, the several township officers, to wit—one assessor and two assistant assessors; nineteen voters present; the candidates were as follows: for assessor, Philip Fritz, John Keeler, Uriah McHenry and James Peterman; for assistants, Philip Fritz, John Keeler, Alexander Colley and Matthias Rhone. Philip Fritz was clerk of the meeting. At the second election, March 18, 1814, twenty-one individuals availed themselves of the highest prerogative of citizenship. The several candidates were, for constable, John Kile and Daniel Robbins; for auditors, Philip Fritz, Christian Laubach, James Peterman and Alexander Colley; for supervisors, Philip Fritz and William Willson; for overseers of the poor, John Roberts and Conrad Hess; for fence viewers, Jacob Rine and William Hess, Jr.; for judges of the meeting, Alexander Colley and Christian Laubach. There were at least fourteen office holders, two thirds of the number of voters. This was certainly the golden age with aspirants for political honors and emoluments, in this section.

#### BENTON.

The first move for the erection of Benton was made in 1845, but the Court rejected the petition and also one of similar import in January, 1850. The impertunity of the petitioners was at length effectual, and in April, 1850, the ninth township from the original area of Fishingcreek was formally erected. It was named in honor of Thomas H. Benton, then in the zenith of his power, and warmly admired by his political coadjutors in this region. The eastern boundary of Benton was formed in 1786 upon the erection of Luzerne county; its western limit was established in 1799 as the eastern line of Greenwood;

the line of separation from Fishingcreek was marked out in 1813 as the southern boundary of Sugarloaf; and the division of the latter in 1850 was effected agreeably to the terms of the petition by virtue of which Benton was erected.

Nothing of striking importance characterized the settlement of the latter township.\* Benjamin Coleman bought land from Daniel McHenry about 1791, and was the first to improve what is known as the John Laubach farm. Jonathan Colley settled on Fishing creek prior to 1797, as is shown by the fact that his name appears in a list of purchasers at a vendue which occurred in that year. The first house in which he lived was built across the brook from Swartwout's mill, where an old orchard of his planting marks the place. He was formerly a resident of Norristown, and was accompanied by—Peterman and Jesse Pennington. The latter built the first saw-mill† on the waters of the upper Fishing creek. Joshua Brink, from New Jersey, settled upon a farm with which his name is still associated in that locality. Robert and John Moore entered this region when they were young men and tried the experiment of keeping "bachelor's hall" on their lands at the sources of Raven and Little Pine creeks. A descendant of the former remarks that this was only a temporary expedient as they soon dissolved partnership and each began life on an individual basis.

William Eager, Samuel Rogers and John Keeler removed from Orange county, N. Y., and settled on adjoining farms. Daniel Whiteman, Peter Robinson and Jonathan Hartzel were among those who formerly lived here, but have moved to Seneca county, Ohio. Daniel Jackson improved a tract of land which embraced the site of the town of Benton. He lived upon it from 1800 to 1833, when his right of possession was successfully disputed by a rival claimant. It appeared that the lands for which Mr. Jackson held the title were situated on another Fishing creek in a distant part of the state. His house for many years comprehended all of the village of Benton that then existed. It now comprises about forty dwellings, two excellent hotels, a number of stores, a school building and two churches. Its central location in the midst of a fertile farming district and the prospect of soon becoming a rail-road point insure the continuance of its importance as an inland business town.

Having thus outlined the settlement of this valley, certain contemporary features of social and domestic life should also be noticed. The following observations of a writer of this section apply equally well to both townships included in this sketch. "It was not an uncommon thing to find a family consisting of parents and from six to a dozen children living in a house about twenty-two feet square with rooms and loft, the latter reached by a ladder. In the lower apartment were one and sometimes two beds (besides the trundle-bed, which in the day time was pushed under the other), a bureau, a table, a few chairs, benches and cooking utensils. In the chamber were the beds for the

\*The Penn Manor Lands here surveyed November 8, 1769, and consisted of two separate tracts of five hundred and thirty acres each. The warrantee names were James Athill and Francis Hopkinson. The warrants were issued March 6, 1770, and the returns made the 13th day of the same month. These lands were said to be "situate on a large branch of Fishing creek, eight or ten miles above the end of Fishing creek mountain," or about two miles north of the town of Benton. "Putney Common" is the name applied to this manor in the original survey.

†On the night of July 2, 1848, the waters of Fishing creek rose to an unprecedented height, destroying this mill and inflicting much damage upon property along its course. A waterspout burst upon the mountain side near Central P. O. Trees were uprooted, huge boulders removed from their foundations, and such lesser obstacles as decayed logs and uneven surface completely obliterated. Where the full force of the deluge was experienced, the country presented the appearance of having been carefully swept. Aaron Lewis was living at this time in the valley of the creek but some distance from its channel; a jam of logs and *debris* diverted the stream from its former channel, and placed his farm buildings at the mercy of the torrent, the violence of which swept away the foundations of his house and compelled its inmates to seek safety on the roof. Not until five o'clock in the afternoon of the next day had the waters subsided sufficiently to permit their rescue. A few rods from the site of Swartwout's mill was a similar structure owned by Isaiah Cole. It was entirely destroyed and one of the mill stones has not been found to this day.



larger children, surrounded with barrels, boxes and heaps of grain of various kinds. And yet, as limited as the whole concern appeared to be, there was room enough for all, so easy is it to adapt ourselves to circumstances. There were buildings of larger dimensions, better divided and more comfortably arranged, but, compared with the spacious and beautiful residences that now dot the valley in all directions, their number was insignificant. Nor was their furniture more elaborate, judging by the standard of the present. Cooking stoves began to be introduced about 1835, the old 'ten plate' serving for room stove if there was any place to put it. The great wide fireplace, with its trammels of pot-hooks and hangers, was found in every house. Here the good mother and grown up daughters—over a roaring fire made of a huge back-log, front-stick and a pile of other wood—fried the meat, baked the cakes, and boiled the mush for the family. Plain chairs, bottomed with hickory or oak splints, were the only kind used; even the rocking-chair was of the same style and material." The wants of the people were simple and readily supplied from the circumstances that surrounded them. Within the house, the whirl of the spinning wheel and the clatter of the loom attested the requirements of assiduous industry. Inclination as well as necessity compelled the stronger members of the family to develop to their fullest extent the resources of forest and stream. Maple sugar and syrup were staple commodities. The sugar season was anticipated with the degree of interest now felt in an approaching wheat harvest. It was scarcely less important, and would be equally profitable if it could be made to yield the returns realized fifty years ago.

Benton schools date from 1799, when Isaac Young opened a school in the vicinity of Benton village. Upon the close of this school another was opened in a private dwelling upon the site of Eli Mendenhall's barn, above the village. The first houses for school purposes were two in number, one being situated on West creek, and the other below the village. Hon. Alexander Colley sustained the same relation to public matters in general in this section as Philip Fritz in Sugarloaf. He was a surveyor, a school teacher, a member of the legislature, and at the time of his death, in 1881, was the last surviving member of the first school board.

The propriety of mentioning post-offices as educational influences may perhaps be questioned, but in sparsely settled districts, where it is impossible to maintain schools more than five or six months in a year, the general intelligence of the people is directly proportional to the circulation of newspapers. Postal facilities were extended to this section in about 1836, when a mail route was established from Fairmount springs in Luzerne county, to Taneyville in Lycoming, by way of Cole's creek, Campbell and Davidson. James N. Park was contractor, but Orrin Park usually carried the mail, traversing a distance of forty miles on foot, and experiencing considerable hardship in breaking roads in winter, and danger in walking foot-logs over rapid streams. Not until 1848, twelve years later, had the amount of mail matter become too great to carry on foot. July 1, 1852, the route from Pealertown (now Forks), was undertaken by Mr. Parks. Stillwater, Benton, Cole's creek, Central and Davidson were the intermediate points. Daniel Hartman was first postmaster at Benton. Raven Creek P. O. has appeared upon the files of the department since November 11, 1872, when Peter Laubach was commissioned to conduct it. C. M. Smith succeeded him March 9, 1886. During Mr. Laubach's incumbency it was on the line of the route from Muncy to Cambra. A daily mail has since been established from Stillwater *via* Van Camp and Cambra. July 17, 1886, R. T. Smith was appointed to take charge of Taurus post-office on the road from



Fairmount Springs to Raven Creek. The usual difficulty was experienced in selecting a name, and the projectors were finally compelled to go beyond the pale of civilization in their search. This office is connected with Raven Creek by a tri-weekly messenger service.

The organization of religious societies in Benton did not begin until the character of the people in other respects was practically established. The Methodist Episcopal church is represented by two churches, the Presbyterian, Church of Christ (Disciples), and Methodist Protestant by one each. The congregation last mentioned was disbanded a few years since, and the church property is about to be sold by the general conference of that denomination. The building was erected in 1872 through the exertions of the Reverend A. E. Kline, then in charge of Pine creek circuit. The Christian church at the village of Benton was organized about the year 1849 by John Sutton with thirty members. Robert Colley and Elias McHenry were elected elders and have served continuously in that capacity to this time, 1886. A meeting-house was built in 1856. Reverends Theobald Miller, Jacob Rodenbaugh, J. J. Harvey, J. G. Noble, Zephaniah Ellis, E. E. Orvis, C. M. Cooper and D. M. Kinter have been pastors of this church. Mr. Ellis was the author of "The White Pilgrim," a poem widely copied by the press at that time.

The Methodist congregation at Benton village has worshipped in the frame church building erected by them in 1872, prior to which time the West creek church was occupied. A class of sixteen was formed in 1870, with William Y. Hess as leader. The place of worship of the Hamlin church was built in 1879, near the site of a similar structure built in 1845. The first class was formed about ten years previous with Charles Snyder, leader. Both congregations are embraced in Benton circuit, which formerly formed part of Bloomingdale. Reverend Gideon H. Day was the first pastor in charge of the former after the division. Reverend John F. Brown was pastor when the Benton church was built, and H. B. Fortner when "Hamlin" was rebuilt. Reverend S. P. Boone, the present resident minister at Benton, is a native of Luzerne county, and acquired his education at New Columbus academy and at Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Illinois. He was a teacher eight years prior to his entrance into the ministry. He is a man of progressive ideas and enthusiastic devotion to his work, which explains the success which has everywhere attended his efforts.

Presbyterian services were probably held at Saint Gabriel's church in Sugarloaf as early as 1812; but, as no record was preserved, particulars cannot be given. In 1859 a number of persons from Cole's mills and the surrounding neighborhood petitioned the Presbytery of Northumberland, then in session at Berwick, for a church organization in that vicinity. In response to which, John Doty, Esq., Reverends D. J. Waller and John Thomas were appointed a committee to inquire into the propriety of such action. They met at the "log church" on Friday, August 12, 1859, and proceeded to organize a church consisting of Earl Boston, Frederick Laubach, James Willson, Simon W. Tubbs, Freas Conner and others. July 1, 1872, a congregational meeting was held at Hamlin church, where services had been held for some time previous, as it was more convenient for many of the members. It was decided to build a new place of worship, and to change the name to "Raven Creek Presbyterian Church." Peter Laubach, Samuel Willson, Samuel Krickbaum and William R. Mather were constituted a building committee. November 7, 1874, the completed structure was dedicated. The congregation has usually been connected with the Orangeville pastorate.

## CHAPTER XII.

## GREENWOOD AND JACKSON TOWNSHIPS.

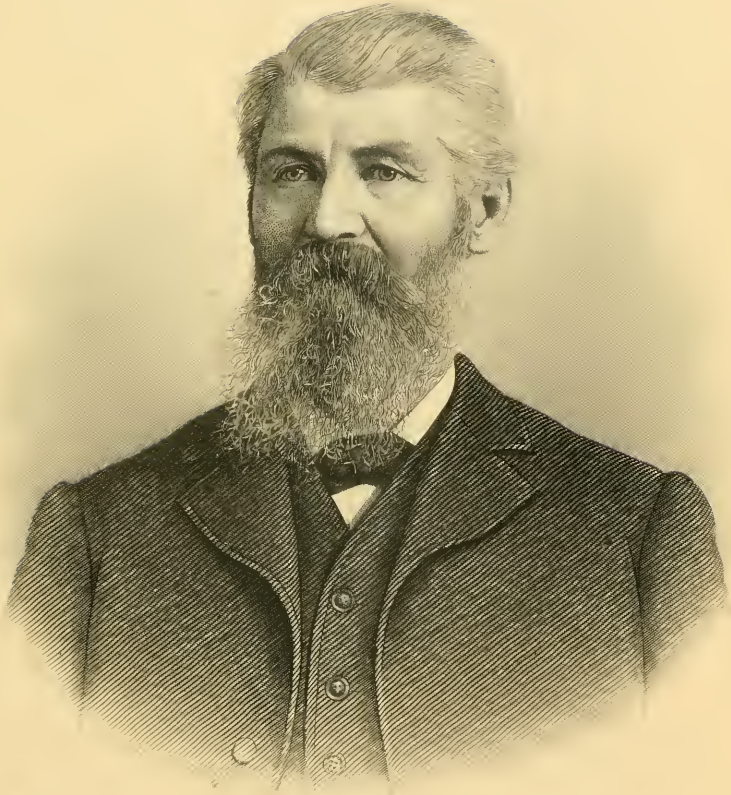
## GREENWOOD.

GREENWOOD, one of the original subdivisions of the county, and the fourth in order of time erected within its present limits, embraces an area of considerable extent between Little Fishing and Green creeks. In a strictly topographical sense the name is applied to a valley extending east and west between these streams, from the hills of Pine and Jackson to the more regular elevations at the south, known as the Mount Pleasant hills. The larger portions of the township of that name, and of Jackson, were embraced in the boundaries of Greenwood as originally defined in 1799; previous to that date, the region was included in Fishingcreek, and still earlier in the extensive township of Wyoming.

It was during this early period of the political organization of Northumberland county that Greenwood valley ceased to be public land, and received its first white inhabitants. Benjamin Chew, a prominent citizen of Philadelphia, secured successive warrants at various dates for surveys in the Green creek valley, and eventually became owner of a tract the area of which approximated two-thousand acres. This tract was the largest in the county held by a single individual. The site of the town of Millville was originally possessed by William and Elizabeth McMean. Their applications for warrants were dated April 3, 1769, and the corresponding surveys were among the first in this region. This part of the township was also the first to receive settlement and cultivation. The title to the McMean tracts and others adjoining passed to Reuben Haines, a Philadelphia brewer, and from him, in 1774, John Eves purchased twelve-hundred acres of land for the sum of one-hundred and forty-five pounds. There is a difference of opinion as to the time when he became a resident of the valley of Little Fishing creek, but the preponderance of evidence seems to indicate that he settled upon his land before the title was acquired or the purchase concluded.

If this view is correct, his first visit to the region was made in 1769. Leaving his home at Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle county, Delaware, and crossing Lancaster county, he reached the Susquehanna at Harris' ferry. Following the river to Sunbury, he crossed to the east bank of the "West Branch," which he followed to a settlement near the present site of Milton. Here he made diligent inquiry concerning Little Fishing creek, and the location of lands then owned by the McMeans. He was unable to glean any information from the settlers, but two Indians offered to guide him thither; they followed the Indian trail from "ye great isle" to Nescopeck, until they reached the foot of Fairview, an eminence overlooking Millville. When they had ascended to its summit, his guides pointed to the valley below, and Eves knew that he had at last reached the vicinity of his future home. After examining the timber and soil they returned that day to the Susquehanna, whither he continued his journey to Mill-Creek Hundred.

The next summer he returned, and with his eldest son, Thomas, built a small log cabin in a ravine to the west of Little Fishing creek. The following



*E. W. M. Lom*





spring he made his third journey from New Castle county, accompanied this time by his family. They followed the same route as he on his first journey, but, from the mouth of the Chillisquaque, were obliged to cut a road through the woods. Shortly after their arrival at the cabin, built the previous summer, an incident occurred which caused some regret concerning the trouble taken in bringing hogs from Delaware. These animals found shelter in a bank of leaves among the branches of a fallen tree. The porcine community was one night invaded by an enemy from the forest, and one of its numbers died a violent death; the next day the drove went into the woods, apparently upon their usual foraging expedition, but failed to return at night. Some months later it was ascertained that they crossed the Susquehanna, and from all appearances were progressing in a bee-line to New Castle county. The first effort to introduce hogs into Greenwood, was thus a failure. The abundance of all kinds of game, however, prevented any serious inconvenience in consequence.

The family at Little Fishing creek were not utterly isolated, although their nearest neighbors were in the valley of the "West Branch." Parties of Indians from Wyoming traversed the trail on visits to their dusky brothers at points farther west, passing and repassing the solitary farm, and bringing its occupants into constant contact with every phase of savage character. The opportunity to receive them with uniform courtesy and kindness was well improved. The presence of the family on an exposed frontier at a time when others found safety only in flight, and the refusal of John Eves, with others of the society of Friends, to take up arms when the war of the revolution began, caused the provincial authorities to suspect him of being a tory. Spies were sent to inquire into the matter, but the charge could not be substantiated. It was not sympathy with the British, but exceptional wisdom and kindness that secured for them an immunity from the ravages of the border warfare.

The day after the Wyoming massacre, July 4, 1778, a friendly Indian gave timely warning of the approach of danger. By noon of that day the household goods were on the wagon, and by nightfall the party reached Bosley's mills, a stockade on the site of Washingtonville. From this point the journey was pursued to Mill-Creek Hundred.

In 1785 or 1786, the settlement of Greenwood valley was again begun. On their return the Eves found their buildings a mass of charred ruins, and the fields overgrown with bushes. Two houses and a mill were built, the latter being the first in the township. Piles at the side of the old mill race are still in a good state of preservation after the lapse of a hundred years. Others began to enter the township about the same time. Among these families appear the familiar names of Lemon, Lundy, Link, Battin and Oliver. The Lemons located about the center of the township. The Lundy family built a house in which Reuben S. Rich, a descendant, now lives. Jacob Link, in 1797, opened the first tavern in the township. In the same year four brothers Thomas, Samuel, John and William Mather, removed from Buffalo valley to Green creek. Joshua Robbins, Archibald Patterson, George and William McMichael, native Scotchmen, settled in the same locality.

The first road through this region followed the course of the Indian trail from the "West Branch" to Berwick. Until 1798 the trail itself constituted the only highway to the "North Branch." In that year a road was surveyed from the river across the Mount Pleasant hills. At this early date, and to a greater extent during certain periods since, the Green and Little Fishing creeks have been the channels by which the timber on their banks has found its way to the Susquehanna, and thence to the mills at Harrisburg and Marietta. During autumn and winter, trees were felled, and logs collected where the banks of the

streams were high and steep. They were here built into rafts of such shape that when the stream's current had risen to a sufficient height these could be pushed into the seething torrent below. Skillful piloting was required to conduct them safely to the broader channel of the river. Sometimes the fastenings of a raft would burst asunder, and the logs and driftwood form a compact dam, diverting the waters of the creeks into the meadows on their banks; or perhaps the jam would break, and the pent-up volume of water rush madly on with overpowering velocity. The sluggish appearance of these streams in the summer months cannot convey an adequate idea of their importance in years past in connection with the lumber industry. As early as 1820 an effort was made to obviate the danger of thus transporting the principal commodity of the region by opening another road to the river. It was not until 1856 that the final success of this project was assured. The legislature in that year made an appropriation for the construction of a road from Bloomsburg to Laporte, in Sullivan county, through the valley of Little Fishing creek. The extensive travel which has ever since passed over this highway proves its necessity and importance. The year 1856 begins an era of rapid development and improvement in the whole township, but particularly in the struggling village of Millville.

It had an existence, however, long before the first inception of the state road in the minds of its original projectors, and has completed the first century of its history, dating the beginning at the time when the Eves' mill was built. Thomas Eves succeeded his father in the ownership of the mill, and built the first house in the village on the site of a structure recently erected by Josiah Heacock. In this house, in 1827, David and Andrew Eves opened the first store in the township. Four years later David Eves was commissioned postmaster; Andrew Eves succeeded him; James Masters held the position from 1842 to 1849; George and William Masters were in charge from the latter date until 1886, from which it appears that during a period of more than fifty years but two families were represented in the list of incumbents. The mail was brought from Berwick until October, 1879, at first once, but afterward twice, a week. Subsequently, a route was opened from Bloomsburg to Sereno, and mail received at Millville three times a week. A daily mail has since been established.

The business interests of Millville are represented by a number of stores, factories and planing-mills. In 1813 John Watson started a woolen factory. The plant comprised two carding machines and a fulling-mill. Wool was brought here by farmers to be cleaned and carded; the process of weaving was performed at their houses, after which it was returned in the shape of "homespun," to be colored and pressed. Chandler Eves succeeded Watson, and built a large brick structure on the opposite side of the water-course from the site of his first building. Unfortunately, it has not fulfilled its promise of an extensive manufacturing establishment. The wagon factory established by Charles Eves in 1837 has had a different career. The wagons here made have always sustained an excellent reputation for durability and superior finish. Under the management of John Eves, the present proprietor, the quality of the work has not deteriorated from its high standard of excellence. Henry Getty and William Greenly started a planing-mill in 1881; Shoemaker and Lore followed with another three years later. The lumber here manufactured finds a market in the vicinity, or is shipped to various points. It is probable that these industries will be important and permanent factors in furthering the growth of the town.

A striking feature of the business enterprise of this village, not often found

in places of its size, is the "Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Millville." It was incorporated September 7, 1875, and organized the following month with Joseph W. Eves, president, and Ellis Eves, secretary. They have held their respective offices continuously to this time (September, 1886). For the six years preceding July 31, 1886, there was no assessment whatever, notwithstanding the low rate at which policies are issued. Nothing further need be advanced in proof of the prosperous condition of the company's finances.

Amid all this business activity, the social necessities of the people have not been neglected. The Millville Reading Circle was organized in the winter of 1882-83, and met at the houses of its members. In order to increase and extend its usefulness, it was subsequently merged into the "Good Intent Literary Society." A large library has been collected through the co-operation of the citizens and public schools.

Several fraternal and beneficent societies are also represented. Millville lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 809, was organized August 20, 1872, with twenty-one members. Its first officers were Ellis Eves, William Burgess and John Richart. After an existence of ten years the interest had abated to such an extent that the charter was relinquished. Valley Grange, No. 52, is one of the oldest in the state. It was chartered with twenty members, February 4, 1874, having been organized the previous year. The library owned by the association comprises a number of judiciously selected works. The grange numbers one-hundred members, and exerts an influence in the direction of more general intelligence among the agricultural community.

J. P. Eves Post, No. 536, Grand Army of the Republic, was mustered September 3, 1886, by M. M. Brobst, A. D. C. as P. C., assisted by M. L. Wagenseller, of Post No. 148, Selinsgrove, William Mensch, T. F. Harder and J. M. Seitzenger, of Hoagland Post, No. 170, Catawissa. The following is a list of its members: James W. Eves, Henry J. Robbins, George W. Bellig, B. F. Fisher, Isaac M. Lyons, John Shaffer, J. C. Eves, W. G. Manning, Emanuel Bogart, Jacob Derr, Henry J. Applegate, John Thomas, D. F. Crawford, Charles M. Dodson, William L. Caslan, W. H. Hayman, Richard Kitchin, George W. Perkins, John Applegate, Harvey Smith, John Krepnec and John M. Moridan. [J. P. Eves, in whose honor the post has been named, was a member of Company I, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was wounded at the battle of Fredericksburg and died in the field hospital. His remains found their last resting place in an unmarked grave on the banks of the Rappahannock.]

Greenwood township comprises, in addition to Millville, three villages of minor importance: Rohrsburg, Iola and Eyer's Grove. Rohrsburg is so named from Frederick Rohr, a Prussian who had fought against Bonaparte, and who secured the site of the town in 1825 from Samuel Sherts. It was included in one of the Chew surveys. In 1826 the wheel-wright shop of Robert Campbell comprised all of the village that then existed. In 1828 Peter Venett opened a store in this shop, and, at a later date, Shoemaker and Rees became the second merchants of the place. Rohrsburg Grange, No. 108, was organized February 12, 1874 with thirty members. The report of its secretary for the quarter ending June 30, 1886, showed a membership of eighty-four. A commendable degree of energy is displayed in testing and discussing various methods of conducting farming operations.

Industries of varied character have been established in the vicinity of Rohrsburg. A flouring-mill below the town on Green creek was built by Joseph Fullmer of Limestoneville, but this original structure has long since disappeared. In 1832 a fulling and carding-mill was operated on the same



stream by Joseph Sands. For many years lumbering was a thriving business. In 1820, four brothers, Joseph, Jonathan, Isaac and William Lemon, started a saw-mill on Green creek below the village. They owned a tract of timber extending three miles in the direction of Millville. In 1847 Kester Parker established a pottery on the Greenwood road. It is still operated with a fair degree of prosperity.

Eyer's Grove and Iola are situated on the Bloomsburg and Laporte road and Little Fishing creek. The former comprises fifteen dwellings, a store and mill built in 1860 by Jacob Eyer on the site of a similar structure, erected in 1807 by Robert Montgomery. At the latter place, in the winter of 1828, Joseph and John Robbins established a milling business.

The industrial development of Greenwood and growth of villages in consequence have been outlined at some length. No large town has grown within the limits of the township; no great manufacturing enterprise has ever been attempted. The development of the lumber interests has largely resulted from individual enterprises, and received capital and encouragement from the immediate vicinity. Greenwood valley is a region of great fertility. The presence of an intelligent agricultural community, and the prospect of improved facilities for the transportation of its products, indicate a steady and permanent prosperity.

It is a natural inference and a correct one that the township has religious and educational advantages commensurate with the wealth and intelligence of its people. Six denominations of Evangelical Christians are represented in eleven different church organizations. The Society of Friends is first in order of time. A meeting house was built at Millville in 1795, and the indulgence of holding services at this place granted by Exeter (Berks county) monthly meeting. At a meeting of a body similarly constituted at Catawissa, May 21, 1796, Jesse Haines and Jacob Clayton, on behalf of Fishingcreek Friends, requested the continuance of this indulgence. It was granted, and William Ellis, Thomas Ellis and John Hughes were appointed to the supervision of affairs at that point. In 1799, at the instance of Catawissa Friends, the Philadelphia Quarterly established the Muncy monthly meeting, alternate sessions of which were held at Fishingcreek. In 1856 the name was changed to Fishingcreek monthly meeting of Friends, held at Millville.

In 1832 Roaringcreek Friends suggested to Philadelphia yearly meeting the propriety of establishing a half-yearly meeting at Millville. The matter was referred to a committee consisting of John Foulk, Amos Basly, Ruth Pyle and Mary Pike, and on their recommendation Roaringcreek and Muncy were united into "Fishingcreek half-yearly meeting." October 18, 1834, this body convened for the first time. Thomas G. Rich was appointed clerk. William Watson, James Millard, James Stokes and Benjamin Kester were elected delegates to the ensuing yearly meeting at Philadelphia. In 1845 an effort was made to incorporate Fishingcreek and Centre Chester county into Centre yearly meeting, but this was never effected.

Since 1795 it does not appear that Fishingcreek Friends have deviated from an established regularity in their appointments for religious services. These have been attended and supported during this period by successive generations of the families by whom they were commenced. A record of this character, unbroken for nearly a century, cannot be claimed by any other religious organization in the county.

Methodism also found adherents among the early settlers of Greenwood valley. The first service was held in 1809 in Thomas Eves' mill. A class of eleven members was formed, among whom were William, Lydia, John and



Mary Robbins, Elizabeth Richie, Mary Richie and Jacob Evans, who was appointed leader. For sixteen years they held meetings in William Robbins' barn. A house of worship was built in 1825, and after thirty-five years of use was abandoned as unsafe. In November, 1882, the corner-stone of a new building was laid. The site of the first structure was at the forks of the roads from Millville to Rohrsburg. The adjoining burial ground is known as Greenwood cemetery. The second and third Methodist church buildings were erected in 1850 at Rohrsburg and Iola. The pastors at this time were Reverends Joseph S. Lee and George H. Day. Eyer's Grove and Chestnut ridge appointments were formed in 1860 and 1881, respectively.

The Presbyterian church of Rohrsburg has been a regularly organized body since 1843. Previous to that date the Presbyterian element of the population worshipped at Orangeville, and attended occasional services at school-houses in the vicinity. Finally application was made to the Presbytery of Northumberland for aid in effecting an organization, and Reverends Williamson, Thomson and Boyd were appointed to that service. Philip Siple, Elias Smith, James Wilson and Charles Fortner were among the original members of the congregation thus formed, which for seven years met for service in William Mather's barn. In 1850 the church edifice still occupied was completed. This church forms part of the Orangeville pastorate.

The Christian church at Rohrsburg was the third and last religious body formed at that place. August 4, 1870, Elder J. J. Harvey organized this congregation with a membership of thirty-one. Services were held in Appelman's shop until the following year, when a house of worship was completed. This society is also represented at Millville. In 1870 and 1871 Elders Harvey and Radenbaugh held occasional services in the school-room of the seminary. February 21, 1880, a number of citizens assembled here to consider the feasibility of erecting a church building for the use of all denominations. S. B. Kisner, R. M. Johnson and Josiah Heacock were appointed a committee to superintend the financial requirements of the work. In November of the same year the "Free-Church" was dedicated. At this place, in the autumn of 1881, Reverend F. P. Manhart organized the Millville English Lutheran church; a charge was formed embracing St. Paul's, in Pine township, and Cady's church, in Lycoming county.

The most recent addition to the number of religious bodies is the Greenwood Evangelical church. April 22, 1880, Reverend W. H. Lilly conducted its first service at the house of Eli Welliver. The following year, through the efforts of David Albertson and Wilson Kramer, a church building was erected. The appointment is embraced in Waller circuit.

The religious and educational institutions of a community are reciprocally related in various ways. With the Quaker settlers of Greenwood, schools and churches received an equal degree of attention. One end of their first meeting house was partitioned from the rest and used exclusively for school purposes. In 1798 Elizabeth Eves instructed the children of the vicinity in this room; Jesse Haines and John Shirely were among her successors. The first school-house in the eastern part of the township was situated on the farm of Jacob Gerard. The school was subsequently removed to a building erected for its use where Catharine McCarty now lives.

If the Friends deserve honorable mention in connection with the early schools, much more should their later educational efforts receive favorable comment. In the year 1851 a number of citizens of Millville, influenced by a desire to provide for their children better educational advantages than the public schools could confer, erected a suitable building by their joint efforts

and planned an institution known as the Millville High-School. In the following year, William Burgess, a man of broad culture and liberal views, was called to the principalship of the school. He opened it in the autumn of 1852 with an enrollment of thirty, and continued at its head for twelve years. During this period, although the school as such was a complete success, it became involved to an extent that threatened to result in its permanent suspension. To avert this impending danger, the Greenwood Seminary Company was organized March 30, 1861, with a capital stock of five-thousand dollars. It assumed the liabilities of the former management; made extensive improvements and additions to the buildings, and established the school on a firm financial basis.

Professor T. W. Potts, of Chester county, took charge in 1865. July 17, 1866, the property was leased to C. W. Walker. Three years later William Burgess returned and remained until 1872, when he resigned to accept an appointment on an Indian reservation tendered him by President Grant. He was succeeded by R. H. Whitacre. During the winter of 1874-75 Florence Heacock, of Benton, conducted the school. March 6, 1875, the trustees leased the property to the Fishingcreek monthly meeting of Friends. Professor Arthur W. Potter was employed as principal. Two years later the property reverted to the trustees, and R. H. Whitacre was again placed in charge. During the succeeding seven years the seminary was conducted only in the summer. John M. Smith, Harold Whitacre, M. C. Turwell and A. L. Tustin were the teachers during this period.

At the opening of the present school year (1886) the Fishingcreek monthly meeting of Friends has again become lessee of the property. The buildings and grounds have been improved in appearance, courses of study have been prepared, and every arrangement completed for the accommodation and instruction of a large number of students. The management has not been disappointed. August 16, 1886, the school opened with seventy-five pupils. Anna C. Dorland, of Philadelphia, is principal. Her assistants are Roland Spenser and Frances Foulk. A normal class is under the tuition of Lizzie Hart, of Doylestown, Sidney B. Frost and George L. Mears, of Philadelphia.

Among those who have attended this school may be mentioned B. Frank Hughes, of Philadelphia; Charles B. Brockway and Thomas J. Vanderslice, of Bloomsburg, and J. B. Knittle, of Catawissa, all of whom have at various times been members of the state legislature. It remains to be seen whether the record of the seminary in the future will approach its usefulness in the past.

#### JACKSON.

The unwieldy proportions of Greenwood interfered with the convenient transaction of township business to such an extent that in April, 1837, a proposition to annex its northern portion to Sugarloaf was laid before the court. It was not favorably considered however. The petitioners met with better success the following year by requesting the formation of the new township of Jackson from the contiguous portions of Greenwood and Sugarloaf. Fishingcreek became its boundary on the east, and Little Fishingcreek on the west. This arrangement continued in force until January 31, 1840, when the area formerly included in Sugarloaf was reannexed to it, thus reducing Jackson to its limits as at present defined.

Settlement does not appear to have advanced to this region until other portions of the county were marked by the presence of an aggressive population. To a certain extent this may be attributed to the nature of the tenure by which

the lands were held. The Asylum Land Company, a syndicate of land speculators, secured a large tract embracing the whole of this township and the adjoining portions of Sugarloaf, Greenwood and Pine, and of Lycoming and Sullivan counties. The character and methods of such corporations at this period were not such as to recommend them to prospective settlers. This class of people feared, and not without reason, that after paying for lands on the representations of unscrupulous agents, they might find the titles defective, or perhaps fail to find their lands at all. The existence of these circumstances, the utter absence of good roads, and the distance from markets seemed insuperable obstacles in the way of advancing settlement. Not until 1800 did the smoke from a cabin reveal the location of a human habitation. Jacob Lunger removed from Northampton county in that year and settled on Green creek. In the autumn of 1805 Abram Whiteman made an improvement at the head waters of that stream, about four miles from the North mountain and the same distance from the southern boundary of the township. Jonathan Robbins, formerly a resident of Bethlehem township, Huntingdon county, New Jersey, entered this township about 1810, having settled in Sugarloaf, in 1795. In 1811 Paul Hess located north of Waller on a tract of two hundred and forty acres. At this time Levi Priest was living southeast of that village, and George Farver on land bought in 1809 by John Conrad Farver of James Barber. These families comprised the population of the township at this time. Subsequent immigration was drawn principally from Greenwood, although several families removed from New Jersey and the lower counties. The familiar names of Yorks, Golder, Waldron, Everhart, Campbell and Parker may be mentioned among this number.

An incident in connection with the early settlement should not be passed unnoticed, as it affords a striking illustration of the dangers incident to pioneer life, and the courage which characterized the early settlers. Abram Golder, Sr., had gone into a swamp near the present residence of Daniel Young, for the purpose of cutting hoop-poles. His only defensive weapon was a small hatchet, but no danger was apprehended, although it was known that bears and other wild animals infested the region. He had scarcely begun his work when a panther crossed his path. True to his instinct Mr. Golder's dog attacked the animal, while he himself called for a gun. Not waiting for it, however, he seized a large pine-knot, and when an opportunity was presented struck the panther's neck with such force that it fell dead at his feet. The animal measured eight feet from the nose to the tip of its tail. Mr. Golder's presence of mind was equaled only by the skill with which he delivered his blow.

The first well constructed road through this section was opened from Unityville, in Lycoming county, to Benton in 1828. The first post-office, Polkville, was established on this road in 1848, at the house of John P. Hess near his present residence, one-half mile west from Waller. Lot Parker succeeded Mr. Hess in 1863, and the office remained at his house until 1866, when D. L. Everhart became postmaster. At the expiration of his term of office it was discontinued several years and was next established at Waller on the mail route from Benton to Muncy. The village comprised at that time a church building, school-house and store. The number of buildings has since increased to thirteen, while the fine location and central situation warrants the prediction that it will become a place of considerable local importance. Postal conveniences were extended to the southern part of Jackson in 1878, when the enterprising citizens of that region secured the services of a carrier to bring their mail from Rohrsburg. December 22, 1879, Derr's post-office was established with A. J. Derr as postmaster at his store.



The introduction of church and school organizations followed in the wake of increasing population. John Denmark was the first teacher, and conducted his vocation in a log dwelling near the location of the Union church building at Waller. This school was opened in the winter of 1821-22. A school-house was built in this vicinity the following year, and here John Keeler and William Yocum continued the work begun by their predecessor. The first house for school purposes in lower Jackson was built in 1825. Cornelius McEwen, Helen Calvin, Joseph Orwig and Peter Girton successively taught at this place. The township maintains four schools for a term of five months. The appearance of the buildings and grounds compares favorably with similar school establishments in thickly settled localities.

The different religious denominations represented did not secure houses of worship until a comparatively recent period. As early as 1819 the township was visited by ministers of the Baptist denomination on their missionary tours through this section. Joel Rodgers and Elias Dodson, the former a licentiate, the latter an ordained minister, regularly held monthly services, preaching in houses, barns, in the open air, in the woods and in school-houses, when they were erected. Subsequent to this Samuel Chapin, Brookins Potter and Merrit Harrison made excursions from Huntington, Luzerne county, and maintained the appointments in Jackson for several years. They all labored without compensation. They were plain, earnest men, and supported themselves by farming at their homes. Elders William S. Hall and J. Edminster, preached occasionally, 1845-49. In 1852 Reverends A. B. Runyon and F. Langdon visited Jackson and held a series of meetings which resulted in a number of conversions. For some years previous to this time efforts had been made to build a house of worship. Upon the death of John Christian in 1849, who was deeply interested in this, the work stopped. Finally, September, 11, 1853, the completed structure was dedicated. In the autumn of 1848 Reverend John S. Miller held a protracted meeting, and thirty or forty accessions were made to the church. The necessity of an organization became apparent. March 24, 1856, the Benton Baptist church was organized with a membership of nineteen, resident principally in Jackson, although twenty-two persons had been converted at the former place the preceding winter through the efforts of Reverend E. M. Alden. The following summer this church was admitted into the Northumberland Baptist association. Reverend J. Shanafelts succeeded Mr. Alden in 1859. The violent political agitation of the succeeding six years resulted in virtually disbanding this congregation. Reverends Alden, Furman, Zeigler, Stephens and Tustin preached occasionally. May 5, 1866, at the instance of Mr. Furman, a meeting was held at Benton to consider the propriety of attempting a reorganization. It was at once decided to do this. John R. Davis and Theodore W. Smith were elected deacons, and John F. Derr, clerk. March 6, 1869, the name was changed to "Jackson Baptist church," which it still retains. The Sunday-school was organized in 1870. The resignation of Mr. Tustin in 1872 severed his connection with this church. Reverend Benjamin Shearer was pastor from 1873 to 1882. Mr. Tustin again became pastor in 1882, but was succeeded in the winter of 1885-86 by Joseph W. Crawford, a licentiate of the Northumberland Baptist association. Considering the difficulties under which the existence of this church has been maintained, there is much encouragement in its present prosperous condition.

The Church of Christ (Disciples) of lower Jackson was organized in 1858 with eleven members, among whom were Luther German, Iram Derr, Thomas W. Young, and Absalom McHenry, all of whom had formerly been connected with the churches at Benton and Stillwater. The following persons have suc-



cessively been its pastors: John Sutton, J. J. Harvey, A. Reutan, Edward E. Orvis, Charles S. Long, C. W. Cooper and D. M. Kinter. Luther German and Iram Derr have been elders of this church since its organization. The church edifice in which this body worships was built in 1879, and dedicated in November of that year by Reverend C. G. Bartholomew and John Ellis.

The Evangelical Association is represented in this township by two organizations. The older, at upper Jackson, was established by Reverends James Dunlap and Jeremiah Young. The former preached at "Hilltown" (Waller) in 1846. The first class was formed by Reverend James Seybert and consisted of George Hirlman, Henry Wagner, Michael Remly, David Remly and Frederick Wile. At this time the congregation was embraced in Columbia circuit, which included the whole of this county. The union church building at Waller was built in 1854. The Evangelical class at lower Jackson was formed in 1876 with nineteen members, and D. B. Stevens class leader. Reverends James T. Shultz and C. D. Moore are at present in charge of Waller circuit. It is to be regretted that church buildings in this section were erected with an undenominational ownership. Though a necessary expedient at the time, this has done much to retard the growth of the different churches.

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## CHAPTER XIII.

### MOUNT PLEASANT AND ORANGE TOWNSHIPS.

#### MOUNT PLEASANT.

PREVIOUS to August, 1789, the region at the junction of the two Fishing creeks was included in Wyoming township, Northumberland county; during the succeeding ten years, in Fishingcreek; from 1799 to 1818, in Fishingcreek, Greenwood and Bloom. In January, 1818, the township of Mount Pleasant was erected, a comparatively small area north of Big Fishing creek being received from Bloom, and all that part of the township northward to the Mount Pleasant hills, from Greenwood and Fishingcreek.

It was while the latter township comprehended this whole area that it began to show the results of settlement and improvement. Those features of the region which most favorably impressed the land-buyer were its strong growth of timber and inexhaustible supply of water. The nature and quality of the timber, particularly, was such as to insure a fertile soil and invite improvement and cultivation. Although distinguished at a later period by a strong German element, the population of the region south of the Mount Pleasant hills was originally composed of English people from New Jersey. They were from Sussex county, in that state, and followed their neighbors who had located in the vicinity of Jerseytown. Not until the close of the revolution, however, and the establishing of peace and security on the border, did this section receive the attention of those who subsequently made it their home. It appears that Peter Eveland and Jacob Force were among the first to permanently locate here, the former near Welliversville, the latter at Kitchen's church, in the north-east part of Mount Pleasant township. Abram Welliver's land adjoined the farms of both of them, and embraced the site of the village which bears his name. Frederick Miller, a German from Northampton county, was the

proprietor of the village of Millerstown, but did not enter the township until a later period. John Mordan, who had lived in the same township of Sussex county, New Jersey, as Eveland and Force, followed them to the Mount Pleasant hills but removed a few years later to Little Fishing creek, where he built the first saw-mill in the present limits of the township. John Kester located on the hill above the village of Mordansville. In 1798 a road was surveyed over the Mount Pleasant hills to the Greenwood valley beyond; from that time until 1856 it was the only highway from north to south in the region. The position of the township near the growing towns of Bloomsburg, Orangeville, and Millville prevented the growth of any important villages on its own territory. Its exclusively agricultural resources and the inconvenience of distributing any products that might be manufactured, have not favored the establishment of industries of this character.

Quiet country villages have, however, clustered round each of the two hotels that formerly received the travelers on the Mount Pleasant road. Welliversville, first known by that name when Thomas Welliver was commissioned postmaster in 1857, comprises several substantial farm-houses, and the shops of two mechanics. At Millerstown the first post-office in the township was opened in 1831 by Frederick Miller, in the days when every package or letter was receipted to the sender, and the date of its delivery, its destination and the amount of postage paid, reported to the department at Washington. Subsequently the office at this point was discontinued; it was again established in 1873 under the name of Canby, the year the gallant general of that name was treacherously killed. At this point a dozen houses, a place of worship and a school-building suggest thrift and prosperity.

The last village to make its appearance was Mordansville, the nucleus of which was the saw-mill of John Mordan, built in the early years of the township's settlement. The Mordansville woolen-mills, established in 1858 by Joseph E. Sands and Thomas Mather, have made the place a well known point. Mr. Sands became sole proprietor in 1860; on his death, in 1881, Charles S. Sands succeeded to the business. During the first years it was in operation farmers brought wool here to be carded, and after spinning, and weaving the cloth, returned it for the finishing touches of the fulling and pressing machines. Mr. Sands' enterprise and energy did not long submit to a process of manufacture subject to so many delays. He early introduced improved machinery, and was thus enabled to perform every process of the manufacture. The product of these looms found a ready sale in the coal regions of this state, and continues to do so wherever introduced. He established, also, the only store that still exists in the township, and secured for the community a post-office, known first as Bear Run but subsequently as Mordansville. In addition to these features of the place, it comprises a number of private houses, two saw-mills, and the shops of various mechanics.

The church buildings of Mount Pleasant township, three in number, are located near the old Mount Pleasant road. Two of the congregations are Methodist Episcopal, and one an English Lutheran. The former are known as the White and Kitchen appointments. The Kitchen church-building was erected in 1859, but services for many years previous had been held in the Welliversville school-house, and, previous to its erection, in the house of Harman Kramer. White's church-building was erected in 1875, during the pastorate of Reverend Frank P. Gearhart. The White, Oman, Shipman, Melick and Hilbern families were connected with this organization during its earlier history.

The English Lutheran church of Canby was organized November 18, 1859,

in the Millerstown school-house by Reverend E. A. Sharrets, of Espy. The present house of worship was built two years later. The congregation is connected with the Espy charge of the Susquehanna synod.

The early schools of the township, as well as its villages and churches, were formed near the old Mount Pleasant road. Peter Oman, desirous of providing some educational advantages for his children, employed an instructor to teach them at his own house. Children of neighboring families were also received into this school. Subsequently three houses were built, located respectively on lands of Joseph Gilbert, Aaron Kester and Andrew Crouse. The substantial appearance of some of the school-houses of Mount Pleasant, and the taste exhibited in the arrangement and shading of the grounds, evince a progressive spirit among some of its citizens.

## ORANGE.

Orange is situated in the southern part of the fertile Fishing creek valley. There are two townships westward to the Montour county line; it is also the third township from Luzerne county. Its position in that part of the county of Columbia north of the Susquehanna river is as nearly central as the irregular form and unequal area of the different townships permit. As elsewhere in its course Fishing creek here follows a winding channel, the current in some places splashing and foaming as it widens over a primitive bed of red-shale or a sand-bar of its own creation; in others, quietly meandering along the base of wooded hills and in the shade of overhanging trees, whose reflection in the clear depths of the stream below is not disturbed by the slightest ripple on its surface. In this township the volume of the stream is considerably increased by the waters of Green creek, which enter it just above Orangeville, and several miles farther in its course by Stony brook, a smaller tributary stream. At the point of its junction with the former Fishing creek makes a bold curve around the Knob mountain.

This elevation is an interesting and peculiar feature of the topography. Rising abruptly from the low valley of the stream, the mountain continues in an unbroken trend for miles to the east. It is but a natural surmise that its regular crest formed the division line of the townships at its base; and this indeed it did at the time when Bloom and Fishing creek met each other, and Mount Pleasant adjoined both just across the creek. Now, however, the western extremity of the Knob has ceased to be a boundary, and overlooks on all sides the hills and valleys of the township of Orange. It is only since 1840, however, that this order of things has existed. Previous to that date the part of Orange south of Fishing creek and a line which passed just north of the present limits of the town of Orangeville was embraced in Bloom township; that portion west of Fishing and Green creeks, in Mount Pleasant; and to complete the enumeration of the townships in which Orange was originally included, the part east of Green creek and north of the Knob was within the limits of Fishingcreek. A few years previous, in deference to the wishes of the electors of the locality, about the same area had been formed into the election district of Orange. Previous to this change primary meetings were held at Light Street, while Bloom was the voting place for the whole region. The obvious inconvenience of this arrangement suggested the propriety of the change, and the erection of the new township met with little opposition.

The earliest mention of people living in this part of the Fishing creek valley occurs in connection with Salmon's capture by the Indians in the year 1780. It is said that the same party of savages with whom he journeyed as a prisoner murdered a family who then lived at the foot of Knob mountain on



the bank of the creek. The rangers who followed from Sunbury buried the mangled corpses where they were found, on the east bank of the stream. Since then the channel has gradually crossed to the west side of the swamp, whose subsequent drainage has opened for cultivation quite a wide strip of land formerly covered with water. While plowing here a few years since some workmen discovered a human skull, and on further excavation unearthed two complete skeletons, which, however, crumbled to ashes when removed from their rude coffin of decayed logs. The people would fain associate the appearance of these "fearful guests" with the Indian outrages of 1780, and there seems a degree of probability that their view is correct.

Following the course of the stream, the savages camped for the night under a spreading white oak tree on the point of land at the junction of Green and Fishing creeks. The next morning two of their number left the camp, crossed Fishing creek, and after an absence of several hours returned with their blankets filled with a dark-looking substance apparently cut with tomahawks. They proceeded to melt it, upon which it was seen to be lead ore of a very good quality. This has induced the owners of the knob to make investigation concerning the presence of an out-crop of this valuable ore; but no discoveries of any value have as yet rewarded their efforts, although the Indians certainly obtained lead from such a deposit. The occurrence has always existed in the traditions of the locality, and seems fairly probable.

About the year 1785 the region around Knob mountain was again invaded, this time by a party of peaceful immigrants. They journeyed from New Jersey across the Broad mountain to the present site of Berwick, and thence westward to the mouth of Fishing creek. Following its course northward they cut their way through the almost impenetrable wood from Light Street, then represented by a single house, and the farthest settlement from the river in the valley; pushing farther to a distance of three or four miles they reached their destination, and established their camp under the same tree and on the same ground occupied by hostile savages more than a decade before. The waters of the creeks subsequently washed away the point of land between them; and in a freshet about twenty-five years ago the tree itself was carried away by the resistless current. A sand-bar now occupies the place where it once stood.

The party consisted of Abram Kline, his wife, and a family of grown sons, some of whom were also married and accompanied by their families. They lived in their wagons and a tent beneath this tree during the first summer until a cabin was built. This first structure erected by them is still standing on the land of Hixson Kitchen. An important article of food was the milk from their cows. They felled "lin-trees," the leaves of which served for both grass and hay. During the second and third summers the united labor of the family had cleared a tract of considerable extent, and some wheat and corn was raised. The nearest mill was at Sunbury, thirty-five miles distant. When the wheat had been threshed and cleaned it was put into sacks, which were securely fastened to the backs of several horses. The man in charge led the foremost horse, while the bridles of those behind were united by a rope to the load of the animal in front. Thus equipped the "caravan" wound slowly through the woods to the river, where the grain was transferred to a batteau or raft, and thus completed its journey. Subsequently a mill was built at Catawissa, and was a great convenience. Matthias, Isaac and George Kline built cabins for their families and farmed the region between the creeks just above their father's homestead. Thus was established what was, at this time, the out-post of civilization in the Fishing creek valley.

It was not until 1796, however, that Abram Kline, being firmly convinced



that the region was fertile and the climate healthful, secured a title for his land. By a warrant of April 3, 1769, the tract had originally been surveyed for Hester Barton. This was one of the earliest surveys in the Fishing creek valley. Hester Barton subsequently married Paul Zantzinger, from whom, under date of April 21, 1796, the title passed to Abram Kline. The tract was of considerable extent, and adjoined the lands of Randall Mitchell, Jonathan McClure and Charles Smith in right of William Anderson. Including several tracts on both sides of Green creek, which the Klins secured by patents, their lands comprised an area of six and seven hundred acres.

Other owners of lands north of Fishing creek were George Cutts, William Montgomery, Catharine Razor, Frederick Yeungling and Andrew Crouse. South of that stream were the tracts of Whitehead Jones, Thomas Christy, Richard Peters, Enos Randall and Abner Kline.

Abram Kline and his sons did not long remain the only settlers within the present limits of Orange township. The Whites, Parks and Culps followed from New Jersey; George and Frederick Rantz, James VanHorn, the Netenbachs and Weremans came from Berks and Northampton counties. Peter Blank and Andrew Larish came from New Jersey about 1800, and Samuel Staddon about the same time from Lancaster county. Ludwig Herring and the Vance and Patterson families arrived among the last years of what may be called the early history of the township.

To lessen the labor of building houses and barns Abram Kline constructed a saw-mill before he had been in the region many years, in all probability prior to the year 1800. The demand for sawed lumber, however, did not reach his expectations, and the mill decayed from disuse. It was abandoned and nearly all traces of it were obliterated seventy years ago. This mill was situated near the present site of Laurel-Hill cemetery.

A few years afterward two Jews built a grist-mill several miles farther down on the site of a modern building now owned by John Hoffman. This mill was owned for many years by General McDowell of Berwick. Another old mill was built by Henry Geiger, but sold by him to Jacob Seidle in 1822; Wesley Bowman, the present owner, came into possession twenty-two years later.

The road opened by the Klins from Light Street to their homes was soon extended by the settlers who followed them to the settlements farther north in the Fishing creek valley. The trading point for all this region was Bloomsburg, as no town then existed farther up the valley of the creek. But in 1822 Clemuel G. Ricketts, a native of Fairview county, Ohio, conceived the idea of planting a town at the foot of Knob mountain. The advantages of this location for a commercial center first presented themselves to his mind; all the travel from upper Fishing creek passed this point, the base of the mountain and the channel of the stream being but little farther apart than the width necessary for a road-way. There was here a level plot of ground, hemmed in by the mountain, creek and surrounding hills, but amply large enough to accommodate the prospective growth of the town. With a sagacity, penetration and energy rarely equaled he began the work of laying out his town within a few months after entering Columbia county. He purchased from Henry Dildine and others, heirs of Andrew Dildine, the ground on which the town of Orangeville now stands. This deed was dated March 15, 1822. The tract was included in a much larger one, originally patented to Thomas Minshall. His executors, William Crabbe and John Ewing, by indenture of May 14, 1793, conveyed it to Henry Dildine and John Frutehey, executors of the will of Andrew Dildine; and from his heirs, as above stated, it came into possession of Clemuel G. Ricketts.

When, in 1822, he bought the site of the town, a log building occupied the site of the house owned by the late John Covanhoan. This was a farm house and was occupied by Abraham Eveland. Another was farther down, along Spring run, just where the stable of the Orangeville hotel has since been built. The lower timbers of this house were so rotten that it was necessary to support the corner with a stout prop. The former tenant, Harman Labour, having vacated it, the proprietor of the town took possession and occupied it with his family until a more substantial habitation could be erected. In the meantime, however, the course of the road, which here made a curve round the foot of the mountain, was so changed as to be exactly straight; and, on either side, lots of convenient size were laid off and offered for sale. Two of these, situated where Spring run crosses the road, a short distance from the house occupied by Ricketts, were bought by Elisha Boon, who at once erected a dwelling house and tannery, thus beginning a manufacturing industry when the town as yet hardly had an existence except in the mind of the proprietor. He pushed his new house to completion as rapidly as possible, and in the same year (1822), having purchased the stock of goods of an Espy merchant, he removed them to his house and opened the first store in Orangeville. Ludwig Herring was employed to bring a wagon load of goods from Philadelphia, and in the following year repeated the journey quite frequently.

Daniel Melick built the third new house, which was at once occupied by Philip Snyder and Solomon Siegfried, from Northampton county. The house is still standing, and is now owned by Mrs. Hayman. On the corner now owned by Alexander B. Stewart, Clemuel G. Ricketts built the next house, in which David Fausey opened the first hotel. Just opposite, the proprietor now completed a brick residence known at present as the Orangeville hotel. John Unger removed to the village in 1824, and built many of the first houses.

Some interesting stories are related of the experiences of the people with bears and wolves. It appears that the fastnesses of the Knob mountain were the favorite haunts of these animals. Occasionally a black bear would come down from the mountain, walk through the "town" with the most perfect unconcern and self-possession, and break into the swamp below; for at this time between the road and creek there was a dense growth of underbrush, with here and there the bare, naked top of a dead pine rising above the foliage and the mire below. On one occasion the little daughter of a farmer who lived just above the store was sent to bring the cows. She ran down the road a short distance and returned with the news that she had seen something big and black which was not a cow. The first traveler over the road in the morning reported having seen the tracks of a bear. For weeks afterward the mothers could not repress a feeling of uneasiness when their children were out of sight. It does not appear, however, that any loss of life resulted from the depredations of these fierce brutes.

The number of houses in the town having increased to five or six, the establishment of a post-office was agitated. This involved the choice of a name as a necessary preliminary. The sages of the village having, as usual, congregated in the store, the question was freely discussed. Knobtown was suggested as significant of the locality; Rickettsville, as a deserved compliment to the founder, and "The Trap" in consideration of his foresight in locating the town where it intercepted all the travel from the region above. Mr. Ricketts observed that some of the old residents might enjoy hearing the familiar names of their former homes, and it appeared that some of those farther up the creek had come from Orange county, New York, and others from Orange, New

Jersey. Thomas Mills, his clerk, thereupon suggested the name *Orangeville*, which was at once adopted, and has clung to the place ever since.

Elisha Boon continued his tannery for many years. A distillery was once in operation on the same ground now occupied by the Methodist church-building. Benajah Hayhurst began the manufacture of farming implements soon after. William Schuyler succeeded to the business in 1853, and continued it for twenty years. After passing through various hands and experiencing successive reverse and prosperity, the manufacturing industry is now conducted by White and Connor. The Orangeville plows and grain-threshers have a high reputation wherever introduced. Alfred Howell in 1853 opened an undertaking establishment. In 1855 James B. Harmon became proprietor and extended the business in various directions. He introduced the first hearse ever used in the region, and manufactured furniture for many years. The town at present comprises more than a hundred substantial homes, numerous stores and three church-edifices.

All of the latter were preceded in the time of their erection by the old McHenry church-building. It was situated about two miles west of Orangeville. Andrew Larish gave land for the church site soon after he entered the region in 1800; the church-building was erected about 1810, and was used as a house of worship by the Reformed, Lutheran and Presbyterian congregations for more than a quarter of a century. Among those who preached here were Reverends Dieffenbach of the Reformed church; Baughey and Benninger of the Lutheran, and Patterson and Hudson, Presbyterians. In 1818 Harman Fausey fenced off a part of his farm for a burial ground. It had however been a place of interment five years previous. Edward McHenry came into possession of the farm in 1828, and increased the size of the grave-yard. The place took its name from him. Among those buried here are Enzius Vance, Archibald Patterson, Frederick Rantz, Andrew Dildine and others of the first settlers of the region.

In 1837 the roof of the church-building collapsed beneath the weight of a heavy snow. The ruins of the building were removed shortly afterward to make place for a school-house. But the ravages of time cannot destroy the good that has resulted from the services of worship held in this rude log church.

During the succeeding year there was considerable discussion as to where the new church-building should be located. The influence of Clemuel G. Ricketts resulted in the choice of Orangeville. The three denominations who had worshipped at McHenry's again united their means and in 1839 erected the union church building, at a cost of one-thousand six-hundred dollars. The churches had now increased in membership, and from this point may be considered separately.

The Presbyterian appointment was at this time a preaching station of the old Briarcreek charge. Occasional services in the Orangeville school-house were held by pastors on their way to McHenry's. Reverend David J. Waller, Sr., of Bloomsburg, became pastor in 1838, and from that time services were held with a greater degree of regularity than formerly. The church was formally organized in 1842, with Samuel White, John B. Patterson and John B. Edgar, elders. The other original members were their wives, Sarah White, Ann Charity Patterson and Elizabeth Edgar. Isaac Kline and Mary Kline, John White and Lucy White, Ann Kline, Ruth Dildine and Mary Welsh complete the list of the original members. Mary Welsh is the only one still in connection with the church. It was Isaac Kline, the father of Colonel Hiram R. Kline, who raised the subscription for the building. Reverend Charles



Williamson became pastor in 1843, and Reverend George W. Newell four years later. The latter still lives at an advanced age in Nebraska. He was succeeded in 1858 by Reverend W. P. Teitsworth. In 1861 Reverend Nathaniel Spear settled here, preaching also at Rohrsburg and in Benton township. In 1876 Reverend David J. Waller, Jr., was called to the pastorate. He remained for a year and a half, when he resigned to take charge of the Bloomsburg State Normal School. He was followed in 1877 by Reverend C. K. Canfield, the present pastor. Since that time the membership has increased from forty-eight to one-hundred. The present handsome church edifice was built in 1885 and dedicated during the following year.

The Reformed congregation at Orangeville was formerly part of the Bloomsburg charge. When the Reverend William Goodrich resigned his position as its pastor in 1865, the Orangeville charge was formed; it embraced the congregations at Orangeville, St James and Mount Zion. April 1, 1866, Reverend E. B. Wilson was called to this pastorate at a salary of five-hundred dollars a year; he served until his death, in May, 1868. He is buried in the cemetery at Arentdsville, Adams county. Though not an educated man, his rare ability made him peculiarly useful at a time when the charge needed a strong guiding-hand. For three years the charge was without a pastor; the removal of many prominent members created discouragement. In August, 1869, Reverend A. Houtz, the present incumbent, became pastor; since then its condition has materially improved, its membership has increased, and the contributions to benevolence made more systematic and regular.

The Orangeville Lutheran charge was organized by Reverend P. Bergstresser; he arrived at the place in September, 1857. As directed by the Susquehanna Conference (since grown to the Susquehanna Synod) he organized a charge consisting of the congregations at Orangeville, Rohrsburg, Zion's and Briarcreek.

The Orangeville Methodist Episcopal church was formerly embraced in the Bloomsburg circuit. In 1852 the Orangeville circuit was formed, with Reverend Albert Hartman as first preacher in charge. Twenty-three years previous, however, in 1829, Reverend J. W. Dunahay preached the first sermon ever delivered in Orangeville, from the twenty-first verse of the third chapter of Revelations. Religious services were held in the school-house until 1843, when a brick church building was erected opposite Snyder's mill. The growth of the church in numbers and wealth rendered the building of a new house of worship a feasible, as well as a necessary, undertaking. At a meeting of the trustees January 10, 1880, it was decided to begin the enterprise. The present location at the corner of Pine and Mill streets was selected two weeks later. On Sunday, April 10, 1881, the corner-stone was laid; September 11 of the same year the new structure was dedicated; Reverends T. O. Clees, Elial M. Chilcoat and A. B. Hooven have been pastors since that time.

During the same pastorate Reverend T. O. Clees built a tasteful frame structure at the McHenry appointment; it is now the place of worship of a growing congregation.

Mountain Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 264, of Orangeville, has an existence nearly as old as any of its church buildings. It was instituted September 17, 1847, with Abraham Covel, N. G.; George W. Lott, V. G.; Joseph E. Sands, secretary; and Elijah G. Ricketts, treasurer.

November 12, 1870, Oriental Lodge, No. 460, F. & A. M. of Orangeville was instituted. The original members were James B. Harman, Miles A. Williams, Frederick Laubach, John F. Brown, Alick H. Megargall, Jeremiah





Photo. by W. Kilby, Blanesburg, Pa.

*J. C. Mason*



Comstock, Hiram C. Eves, Jacob M. Harman, Nathaniel Spear, John Heacock, Orville A. Megargall and Peter Laubach. It was chartered December 7, 1869. Both these societies hold their meetings in the Odd Fellows' hall.

The early school history of Orange township, as well as its early settlement, is associated with the Kline family; for it was on the farm of Hiram R. Kline that the first school was taught. Among these early teachers were Daniel Rake, Philip Doder and Jonathan Colley. George Vance opened a school in a log building which stood below Orangeville, at a later period. Among those who subsequently taught here was Clemuel G. Ricketts. The first school house in Orangeville was built in the year 1824, and stood at the intersection of Mill and Pine streets. It was a place for the holding of religious services as well. Among the first teachers were Abraham Kline and Ira Daniels.

The growth of a population of more than ordinary intelligence and enterprise has resulted in the establishment at Orangeville of an institution of learning far superior to the average village high-school. The Orangeville Male and Female Academy was incorporated by act of assembly dated March 11, 1858. Pursuant to the directions of the charter a board of trustees was elected. This first board consisted of George W. Lott, Samuel Achenbach, Michael C. Vance, James S. Woods, Wesley Bowman, Hiram R. Kline, and Edward Lazarus. They appointed Reverend Peter Bergstresser first principal. He prepared a course of study contemplating a period of three years for its completion. On May 1, 1860, the Orangeville Male and Female Academy was opened in the public school building with thirty-two students. Reverend Bergstresser continued as principal two terms, when the conflicting duties of his pastorate and school-room compelled him to relinquish the latter. At his recommendation John A. Shank, a graduate of Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, was elected as his successor.

The trustees, meanwhile, had formed a stock company for the purpose of obtaining funds for the erection of a school building. This was completed and occupied by Professor Shank and his school in the autumn of 1861. The attendance was large, and the school enjoyed a fair degree of prosperity in every way. At the beginning of the next year, 1862, Reverend H. D. Walker, a Baptist clergyman, was placed in charge. Two years later, in 1864, he was called upon to take charge of a number of soldiers' orphans. He rented the academy building and grounds from the trustees, and transformed the institution into a "Soldiers' Orphan School." He also erected a building on a lot adjoining the academy grounds for the occupation of the children. Prior to its completion they were received into private families, and every provision for their comfort made by the citizens of the town. The "Home" was occupied in the spring of 1866. Under the efficient government of the principal and matrons, Mrs. Charles Walker and Priscilla Snyder, the appearance of the school children was always neat and cleanly. The general management of the school and its results compared favorably with the reports from other schools of a like character in the state. But the supervisor of orphans' schools, Colonel John F. MacFarland, in consequence of untrue reports to which he gave a too-ready belief, ordered the removal of the children and suspension of the school. The summary execution of his directions caused quite an excitement in the village. Nor did it end here. Reverend Walker carried his case before the bar of the state senate, and secured from that body an appropriation of ten-thousand dollars to remunerate him for the pecuniary loss he suffered from the unwarranted action of the supervisor. There was nothing in the record of this orphan school of which the village of Orangeville need feel ashamed.

In 1870 Professor Isaac E. Schoonover became principal of the academy, which had now been virtually suspended six years. He remained in charge four years and a half. In 1875 Reverend Alfred Houtz, the present Reformed pastor, succeeded him; John Aikman and Francis Herring taught the yearly term of 1876 and 1877. Reverend Charles R. Canfield was principal from 1877 to 1882; Professor Francis Heck from 1882 to 1884; Professor James F. Harkens, of Juniata county, is the present principal.

The school has had a checkered career, but in the main has done good work. It has ceased to be governed by a board of trustees, and the property is now owned by Silas A. Conner, a public spirited citizen who has materially improved its appearance. Although its patronage is confined to a comparatively limited area, in moulding individual character and elevating the tastes and social life of the immediate community, it has done a work the importance of which can hardly be estimated.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### HEMLOCK AND MONTOUR TOWNSHIPS.

#### HEMLOCK.

AT the November session of the court in 1801, Hemlock was erected out of Mahoning township, both being then in Northumberland county. It is therefore one of the twelve townships embraced in Columbia county when it was originally organized. A part of Hemlock, as at present constituted, was included in Montour county by the provisions of the act first defining the boundary line. The act of January 15, 1853, however, provided for a revision of the line, and fixed the present western limits of this township.

In the earliest warrants for surveys, this region is mentioned as Wyoming township, Northumberland county. Hemlock creek is here mentioned, but the location is more definitely fixed by reference to Fishing creek, a larger stream. The extreme northeast corner of the township was surveyed, in pursuance of a warrant granted to John Nicholson, southward along Little Fishing creek; Robert Bogard, William Oike, Philip Hahn, David Lynn and Elizabeth Gray were the warrantees. The land at the forks of Fishing and Hemlock creeks was surveyed for William Patterson; north of this, and east of the Hemlock, were the tracts of Evan Owen, Michael Bright, Henry Funk, Philip Gable, Samuel Emmitt, Sebricht Wagner, Alexander Johnson and James Ellis. West of the Hemlock, Margaret and Daniel Duncan, Thomas Barton, Daniel Montgomery, Nathaniel Brader, Peter Brugler, Andrew Waltman and John Lilly secured large tracts.

Peter Brugler entered this region about the year 1788 or 1790, being among the first to permanently locate within the present limits of the township. His land extended across its western end, from Frosty valley into the *Liebethal*, a deep, narrow valley, through which the west branch of Hemlock creek finds its way. This track embraced about six-hundred acres. The house he built on the southern slope of Frosty valley was destroyed by fire some years since. On one occasion while out hunting, he had an adventure which illustrates how



much the life of the pioneer sometimes depended on cautious but decisive action.

The ground was covered with snow to the depth of several inches. He had followed a deer for some distance, when, on turning a hill, he came upon what at first appeared to be an entirely different trail, but the discovery of his own footsteps proved that he had made a circuit, and reached the same trail he had previously traversed, and at the same instant he noticed before him in the snow the prints of an Indian moccasin. Their contrast with his own tracks may have caused a momentary fear, but this only intensified the keenness of his faculties, as the certainty of his danger became conclusive. He remembered having seen a hollow tree when he first passed over the trail. It required but a few minutes to reach it and conceal himself within its dark recess. The stealthy tread of the pursuing savage could be plainly heard at a short distance, and presently his dusky form emerged from the pines into full view. Brugler waited till his rifle was well aimed at the eye of the Indian. The sequel must be inferred. In relating the story he never went beyond this point.

A few years after the coming of Brugler, Peter and Philip Appelman entered the township. Peter Appelman succeeded to the ownership of part of the Duncan tract, but was misinformed regarding the location of his land, and built a house before the mistake was ascertained. Margaret and Daniel Duncan secured patents for their land under date of December 17, 1774, but subsequently disposed of both to George Clymer, a Philadelphia merchant. It was from him that the Appelmans received their titles; part of the tract was sold to Hugh McBride, in whose family it remains to-day.

Other German families who came with the Bruglers and Appelmans, or followed them in the course of a few years, were the Ohls, Hartmans, Neyharts, Whitenights, Leidys, Girtons, Menningers, Merles, Grubers, Yocums and Haucks. They emigrated from the older counties of Berks and Northampton, and the adjoining region of New Jersey across the Delaware. They journeyed over the Broad and Little mountains by a road which has since been known as the Lehigh and Susquehanna turnpike. Berwick was its northern terminus, and practically the end of the journey. Sunbury and Catawissa were the points from which supplies were first obtained. The Germans purchased their land from the patentees; few of them received it direct from the state. These first owners were the predecessors of the more recent land jobbers, but their profits were in most cases merely nominal.

Henry Ohl, a soldier of the revolution, entered the township in 1804, from New Jersey. He built a house on the land now owned by his grandson, Samuel Ohl. It has long since disappeared. Ludwig Neyhart's land is now owned by Lewis Girton. The old house was built in a hollow near where Mr. Girton's buildings have since been erected, but nearer the springs. Michael Menninger located his buildings on a hill above Little Fishing creek. Henry Warrich was the owner of an adjoining tract. The house he built is still in use on the farm of John Girton. In the *Liebethal* a saw-mill was erected at an early day, but all trace of it disappeared fifty years ago.

The township of Hemlock is, to the casual observer, almost exclusively agricultural. The hills of the Fishing creek, the *Liebethal* and Frosty valley present nothing in appearance more striking than fields of waving grain or forests of hemlock; but on the slope of Montour ridge, deep seams and furrows, certainly not the water-courses of exhausted springs, arrest the attention and awaken interest. From these drifts, however, the only mineral wealth of the township, iron ore, has been removed until it is practically exhausted.

The first discovery of the ore was made about the year 1822 on the land of

Robert Green, by Henry Young, a farm laborer. He noticed the peculiar color of the ground he was plowing, and procured a pick and shovel to ascertain how deep it continued so. An examination revealed its true character and value and led to the immediate commencement of drift mining. The entire product, until 1844, was hauled across the river to be smelted at Bittler's Esther furnace and the Penn furnace. But in that year the Bloomsburg Rail-Road and Iron Company began to operate their works, and for ten years received nearly all the ore that was mined in Hemlock township. Since 1854 the firm of McKelvy and Neal, now William Neal and Sons, have divided the product with them.

The company first mentioned owns the "Bank" and "Farrandsville" farms. The latter was purchased from the Farrandsville Iron Company, which mined several hundred tons of ore, and had it forwarded over the canal to their works in Centre county, some time prior to 1844, but never manufactured a ton of iron. The ore was here unloaded and forgotten, apparently, until a few years since, when an enterprising boatman reloaded it and brought it back to Bloomsburg. The Bloomsburg Rail-Road and Iron Company also retains the ore in land purchased by them from Caleb Barton, but now owned by Edward W. Ivey. It is land bought from Charles R. Paxson and Leonard B. Rupert, and is the Robinson farm now owned by Daniel Yocum.

William Neal and Sons have succeeded McKelvy and Neal as lessees of the land of Daniel, Isaac and Sylvester Pursel. A few years since, having exhausted the surface basins, a shaft was sunk on the north side of Montour ridge. Mining in this way is attended with so much expense as to render it unprofitable. But for the fact that the hard ores thus obtained are needed to mix with others of a different character, the shaft would be abandoned entirely.

The ore drifts of the Montour ridge have contributed largely to the wealth and prosperity of the whole region. The villages of Buckhorn and Wedgetown were built for a class of laborers for whom there is no longer employment. It is not probable that Hemlock township has any resources whose development will necessitate a return of this floating population.

Seventeen years ago, however, when even the most sanguine were forced to admit that the drifts had passed their period of most profitable production, the bluffs on Little Fishing creek began to be looked upon as the probable site for the opening of another industry. A quarry at this point had for years supplied the furnaces at Bloomsburg with limestone; just above this, from the appearance of the shale on the perpendicular surface of the bluff, Reverend Thomas, a clergyman from Northampton county and interested in the manufacture of slate, conceived the idea that suitable material was here available. In the year 1869 the Thomas Slate Company, through William Milnes, its president, purchased twenty-three acres of land along Little Fishing creek. On this land a building was erected, valuable machinery arranged therein, quarries opened, and the manufacture of roofing-slate and slate-mantels begun on an extensive scale. The fine quality and superior finish of their mantels created an encouraging demand. But the death of Mr. Milnes caused the suspension of the works within a few years after they were first operated. The plant has been allowed to rust and rot for the past twelve years. There are no indications that the manufacture will ever again be resumed, although such an occurrence is possible, as slate of superior quality certainly exists.

The circle of local manufactures is thus narrowed to three flouring mills. The Red mill, built some years ago, has recently come into the possession of I. W. McKelvy, who has enlarged and improved it. Near it there were at

one time two establishments known respectively as Groetz's tannery and Minshall's fulling-mill. But the pursuits here conducted, though locally important at one time, can now be referred to only as "lost arts."

Although the village of Buckhorn has been built as the result of the discovery of ore, there is associated with its name a story that begins many years before that occurred. It is said that before any settlement had been made in this section the antlers of a deer, fastened between the forked branches of a white-oak sapling, marked the course of an Indian trail through this region. This tree stood on the edge of a swamp, within three miles of Catawissa. When, subsequently, it became necessary for the pioneers of the upper Fishing creek valley and North mountain to communicate with the forts on the Susquehanna, a path was blazed through the woods, crossing the Indian trail at the Buckhorn tree. The sight of this tree to the weary traveler from the distant settlement, was an assurance of his nearness to friends and safety. Other way-marks disappeared; the blazing on the trees became quite indistinct; and the trees themselves succumbed to decay; but the sapling grew apace, and gradually locked the antlers in a vise-like embrace. It finally completely concealed them in the widening circles of its yearly growth. The story of the buck's horn within was received with questioning credence from the "oldest inhabitants." A few years since, a long-billed bird made an opening to the hollow interior of the tree, revealing the antlers, and also establishing the fact of its early usefulness and later imprisonment. It was removed, and a part has been preserved in a museum at Allentown.

Just opposite this tree, where the house of Isaac Pursel now stands, Vaniah Rees built the first house in the village. It was a hotel, and received the patronage of the stage line from Bloom to Muncy. He bought land from James and Robert Dill, and laid out the town. In 1832, twelve years after Rees built his hotel, Hugh Allen erected another on the site of the present one. Rees built the third house at the opposite end of the village, and in 1836 opened the first store. He subsequently built about twelve houses, nearly one-third the present number.

Hugh Allen was the first postmaster. Noah Prentiss carried the mail from Bloom once a week for many years. About 1850 Israel Bittler was commissioned to carry it twice a week. In 1866 a tri-weekly service was begun by Jacob Crawford, but not until 1883 was the daily mail established. In 1843 Marshall Shoemaker succeeded Allen as postmaster. The office has been in the same building ever since, except one year.

The village comprises a number of well built houses, two stores, a hotel, carriage-shop, school-building and two houses of worship. N. Patterson Moore, proprietor of the carriage-shop, has been justice of the peace for fifteen years. Previous to this Jacob Harris filled the office for twenty-one years. Henry Ohl was the first justice of the peace in Hemlock township after the formation of Columbia county.

The school-building, erected some years since at a cost of three-thousand five-hundred dollars, compares favorably with others of a similar character anywhere. It was originally intended that the school here conducted should be a township high-school, but this design has never been fully carried out. Under the principalship of Josephus Grimes, the first principal and present county superintendent, and his successors, it has done much to raise the standard of teachers and teaching throughout the entire township.

The first school in Hemlock was opened in 1801, the same year that the township was erected. It was held in a dwelling house on the road leading from Buckhorn through Frosty valley. A Mr. Davidson was the first teacher.



Another was opened shortly afterward by Thomas Vanderslice, and a third in the *Liebenthal*, just within the present limits of the township. It was widely known as a place for social gatherings and singing-schools. John Nevins was one of its early teachers. Other old teachers were Henry Ohl, Jacob Wintersteen and Charles Fortner. The present well-built school-houses, and the improved methods of teaching generally pursued, certainly indicate a progress which has kept the system abreast of the times.

It is probable that the school in Frosty valley was opened before religious services of any kind had been held in the township. It is said that Reverend Frederick Plitt, a German Lutheran minister from Philadelphia, followed those of his nationality and faith across the mountains and into the valleys where they had planted their homes. He ministered to the settlers in the Hemlock region; his successors, Reverends Ball, Frey, Weaver and Oyer, preached occasionally in the old school-house a short distance from Buckhorn. The first house of worship, however, built by contributions from persons of all denominations, but dedicated as a Methodist church, was completed in the year 1848, and occupied a lot of ground formerly owned by John McReynolds. Reverends Funk, Price and Consor, of the German Reformed, Evangelical and Methodist denominations, respectively, preached in this building in the years immediately after its erection. Only the Methodists, however, were regularly supplied with religious services. Among the Reverend Consor's successors were Reverends Hartman, Taneyhill, Buckingham, Gearhart, Ross, Bolton, Warren, McClure and Chilcoat.

The old church building, having been in continuous use for twenty years, began to show indications of decay. Reverend T. O. Clees, the pastor in 1868, began to agitate the necessity of immediately replacing it by a new structure. With characteristic energy he pushed the work to completion, and in the following year dedicated an edifice costing seven-thousand dollars. Thomas J. Vanderslice, John Appelman, Jacob Richart and John Kistler, trustees, secured the funds for both this building and the parsonage. The latter was erected several years later on a lot adjoining the church property. The pastors of this church in recent years have been Reverends Bowman, Brittain, Ale, Savage, and W. H. Tubbs, the present incumbent.

The Frosty valley Methodist congregation, as part of the Buckhorn circuit, has had the same pastors as the Buckhorn church, since its organization. It worshiped in a school-house until 1869, when a substantial frame church-building was erected on the road from Bloomsburg to Mooresburg, three miles from Buckhorn. December 23, 1878, Elisha Brugler conveyed to Henry Hodge, William McMichael, John Gulliver, Samuel Runzley, Peter Brugler and Pooley, trustees, the ground on which the building had been completed nine years before. The membership has been weakened considerably in recent years by the removal of persons formerly at work in the mines on the Montour ridge.

Reverend William J. Eyer, the Lutheran minister mentioned above, began to hold religious services in the old Methodist church immediately after it was built, and continued to do so for some years. It was his successor, Reverend E. A. Sharrets, who first organized its scattered membership into a regular congregation. In the winter of 1859-60 he held a protracted meeting which resulted in the conversion of forty-three persons. The organization was effected in the spring of 1860 and numbered sixty-three members.

In 1867 Reverend Sharrets was succeeded by Reverend J. M. Rice. During these seven years neither a complete organization nor regular religious service had been maintained. Sunday, Oct. 20, 1867, a re-organization was



effected by the election of James Emmitt and Peter Werkheiser, elders, and George Wenner and John H. Miller, deacons. "Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Buckhorn," became part of the Espy charge, and took measures to provide for the support of a regular pastor. The aggressive spirit thus displayed was further manifested in the appointment of a committee to select a suitable lot for a church building. One month later, at a congregational meeting called for the purpose, the present location of the house of worship was chosen, and James Emmitt, Peter Werkheiser, Sr., John H. Miller, Reuben Bomboy and George Russell constituted a committee to solicit contributions for the enterprise. On the 29th of November, 1869, the new edifice was dedicated by Rev. E. A. Sharrets, president of the Susquehanna synod. The cost, about five-thousand dollars, was fully provided for. Succeeding pastors have been Reverends B. F. Selleman, H. C. Haithcox, J. M. Reimunsnyder, William Kelley and E. A. Sharrets, who began his second pastorate April 28, 1878, and has been in charge ever since.

## MONTOUR.

The position of Montour is best indicated by reference to the county line, the Susquehanna river and Fishing creek. It adjoins the county of the same name, while the Montour ridge separates it from the township of Hemlock on the north. From the county line it extends east to the Fishing and Hemlock creeks, and from the Montour ridge south to the river. East of Fishing creek, the north bank of the Susquehanna for some distance is a level area of exceptional fertility; but west of the mouth of that stream an elevation abruptly terminating at the water's edge appears in striking contrast. Between these river hills and the Montour ridge at the opposite side of the township is the Dutch valley, so named because of the nationality of the first occupants of its soil.

When it is stated that these first settlers were of German origin, it need hardly be added that they emigrated from Berks and Northampton counties. The first to make their appearance were the Ruperts. They followed the same route as those who preceded them to the region of Roaring creek and Catawissa. Leaving the city of Reading in the spring of 1788, they crossed the mountains of what is now Schuylkill county over a rough wagon track or bridle path, since known as the Reading road. From Catawissa the journey, though comparatively short, was extremely dangerous. The contents of the wagons were placed in canoes and thus taken to the opposite side. The wagons were transported in the same way, two canoes being required for this purpose. The two wheels on each side were placed in one of them, while the rowers took their places between the wheels and under the wagon. A landing was effected as desired just below the mouth of Fishing creek. A rude log cabin, apparently used by a "squatter" for a short time and then abandoned, was occupied until a more substantial habitation could be erected. This "house," which stood near the present site of the Paxton mansion, was considered a marvel of frontier architecture in size and finish. It comprised three rooms instead of the single apartment usually constituting a dwelling. Built in 1788 it was occupied by the Ruperts for thirty years, and a portion has since been incorporated in one of the farm-buildings of the Paxton estate. Thus, in 1788 did Leonard Rupert become the first permanent occupant of any part of Montour township. The tract of land he owned comprised the site of the village which bears his name. Originally surveyed in pursuance of warrant No. 1,000, issued April 3, 1769, to John Spohn, it was patented February 4, 1784, a half interest having been previously secured by Michael Bright, the

owner of large tracts of land in different parts of the state. The original patent designates the tract "Partnership," and locates it "on the North Branch Susquehanna, at the mouth of Fishing creek." Michael Bright was Leonard Rupert's father-in-law, and transferred the title to him in 1801, thirteen years after his first occupation of the soil. Among those who followed him were the Tucker, Frey, Dietterich, Blecker, Lazarus Hittle and Leiby families, who located in the region beyond the river hill, appropriately known as "Dutch valley."

Although separated from its nearest town by the broad channel of the Susquehanna, the region at the mouth of Fishing creek was not necessarily entirely secluded. On the other hand its people had rare facilities for learning what was transpiring at other places in the outside world. In 1786, and during the subsequent twenty-five years, Sunbury and Wilkesbarre were the seats of justice in the valley of the "North Branch," and the only towns of any importance in that section of the state. The constant stream of travel between these two points found a road near the river, its shortest and easiest route. From Danville to the mouth of Fishing creek, however, the course of this highway avoided the almost impassable river hills, and traversed the Dutch valley in their rear. At the mouth of Fishing creek the stream was crossed by a ferry. Although not a regular public-house, Leonard Rupert's establishment was practically rendered such by the hospitality of its proprietor. The distinguished personages of the day, judges and lawyers, with others of every character and occupation here found a ready welcome.

A ferry was established at the exact points of the river now crossed by the railroad bridge. Its first proprietor was William Hughes, and afterward a Mr. Clark. As they objected to paying Mr. Rupert for the use of his lands at the terminus on his side of the river, he established a ferry of his own, which eventually absorbed its rival. In 1829 the "North-Branch" canal was opened and the packet became a formidable rival to its predecessor, the stage-coach. The work of excavating a channel at the base of the river hills, and the building of an aqueduct across Fishing creek, were among the most difficult works of their respective characters accomplished throughout its entire extent. In the summer of 1853 the rail-road bridge across the Susquehanna was begun. September 5, 1854, the first train passed over it, and Rupert station, on the Catawissa, Williamsport and Elmira rail road, was established. Wesley Fleming was appointed first freight agent at this point, and still remains in his original capacity after thirty-two years of continuous service. As the only rail-road point in Columbia county, north of the river, Rupert became a place of some importance, although it comprised, when the rail-road was opened, but two houses, the Paxton mansion and the lock-keeper's house. Four years later, January 1, 1858, the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg rail-road was opened to Rupert, which was for some months its southern terminus. But before discussing the subsequent growth of the town, it is necessary to state an important circumstance in the history of the township in general.

One of the results of the opening of the "North-Branch" canal was an increase in population more rapid in proportion to the relatively shorter time required to perform the journey from the lower counties. And a result of this was the formation of the township of Montour. The agitation of the public-school question, however, was the immediate cause of the change in the political organization of the county. Originally embraced in the extensive township of Turbot, the "region on the North Branch Susquehanna at the mouth of Fishing creek" was subsequently included in Mahoning and Hemlock, and in 1837 erected into the township of Montour. It appears that some of the

most prominent citizens of the township thus formed had tried in vain to secure efficient schools under the act of 1834; failing to do so, they sought a separate organization, with results, educationally, highly satisfactory. Having made this necessary digression, the account of the growth of the village of Rupert from the time it became important as a rail-road point may be resumed.

Three years after the completion of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg rail-road, W. M. Mouroe established a powder-keg manufactory at its junction with the Catawissa road. From a comparatively small beginning, this enterprise has grown to considerable local importance. With improved machinery and a full force of workmen, it has a capacity of one-thousand kegs per day. They find a ready sale at the Dupont powder-works at Wapwallopen, in Luzerne county, and Wilmington, Delaware.

It was several years after this, however, that what promised to be the most important industry of the place was begun, by the establishment of extensive paint works. The Susquehanna Slate Company had begun the manufacture of paint at their slate works some distance from Rupert on the Fishing creek. In order to extend this branch of their business and avail themselves of the rare facilities of Rupert for the shipment of their product, the plant was removed thither in 1871, and the manufacture of paints begun, under the firm name of Reay and Drehr. The works had been in operation but ten days when a destructive fire reduced them to ashes. While the ruins were yet smoking, new buildings were begun and pushed to completion with energy. Owing to the financial depression of 1885 and the following year, the manufactory was temporarily suspended.

Beside the two industries mentioned, Rupert comprises about twenty-five dwellings, a store and hotel, the "Rupert Marble Works," and the coal-office of Paxton & Harman. It combines a beautiful and healthful location with exceptional convenience of access to all parts of the country. Its educational and religious interests are represented by a commodious school-building and a house of worship—the only one in the township.

The original predecessor of the Rupert school-house was a rudely framed building occupied by contractors while constructing the aqueduct across Fishing creek. Harriet Rupert opened a school here in 1831, but removed it to a more comfortable and suitable building on her father's land. The present school appliances and methods in Montour township compare favorably with others in rural districts anywhere. Until 1884 the school-building was the place of religious services as well. In June, 1870, Reverend Creever of Bloomsburg delivered the first Methodist sermon in Rupert in the dwelling house of James Farnsworth. From 1869 to 1872 Reverends Barsaux, Irvin, Shuneberger and Hertz conducted Evangelical services in the school-house. In September, 1884, the corner-stone of a Methodist Episcopal church was laid with appropriate ceremonies by Reverend G. W. Stevens, then pastor at Buckhorn. It was completed the following winter. Its general appearance is tasteful, substantial and attractive.



## CHAPTER XV.

## MADISON AND PINE TOWNSHIPS.

## MADISON.

THIS township embraces that part of Columbia county west of Little Fishing creek and Pine township, north of Hemlock, east and south of the adjoining counties of Montour and Lycoming. A striking feature of the topography is the "divide," a continuation of a spur from the Muncy hills. It extends in a direction nearly parallel with the course of Little Fishing creek, and defines the basins of that stream and of the Chillisquaque. The latter here takes its rise, and flows in Madison, through the fertile Jerseytown valley. This is the only area of any extent in the county drained by a tributary of the "West Branch."

"Frozen Duck" is the literal meaning of the Indian designation, Chillisquaquæ. The contribution of this people to the history of the region about its source is not, however, confined to the single circumstance of bestowing upon it this name. The Indian trail from the "West Branch" to Nescopeck crossed the "divide" several miles above Jerseytown; one of the early surveys locates an Indian town about the point where Lycoming, Montour and Columbia meet, and therefore partly in Madison township; and even after the whites had begun to occupy the soil in considerable numbers, the savage clung tenaciously to a region that had once been a favorite hunting ground. A thrilling incident of their struggle for its possession, and one of the last outrages committed in the region was the murder of the Whitmoyer family.

In the year 1775 this family, with two others, the Billhimes and Wellivers, made their appearance at the head-waters of the Chillisquaque. All came from the region in New Jersey on the opposite side of the Delaware from Northampton county. In their journey they crossed eastern Pennsylvania to Harris' ferry, and followed the Susquehanna and "Frozen Duck" to the Jerseytown valley. Michael Billhime located on Muddy run, where he built a cabin and cleared six acres of land. Daniel Welliver fixed his residence on Whetstone run, an affluent of Little Fishing creek. The Whitmoyers settled a short distance west of Jerseytown. The dangers incident to frontier life were early realized by the Billhimes and Wellivers, who retired to a place of greater security; but their unfortunate neighbors remained in fancied and apparent safety. On a morning in the month of March, 1780, there was unusual stir at their solitary cabin. It was evident from the preparations made that certain members of the family were about to leave in order to establish a sugar camp and it would have been a happy circumstance if the departure of all had taken place. Some time during the day, a party of hostile savages passed through the region, leaving in their rear traces of the tomahawk and firebrands. It is disputed whether three or five of the Whitmoyers were murdered. The son returned the following morning in quest of a needed utensil, or perchance with a premonition of the tragedy already enacted. Turning with a shudder from the melancholy spectacle which met his gaze, he fled in haste to Fort Augusta. The next day a party of rangers reached the spot and buried the



dead. Their graves are still pointed out on the old road from Jerseytown to Washingtonville.

In the autumn of the same year, the Billhimes and Wellivers returned from New Jersey. They came by a route different from that taken on their previous journey. Following the Delaware some distance northward, and crossing the ranges of the Blue Ridge and Kittatinny in a north-westerly direction, the North Branch of the Susquehanna was reached through the Nescopeck Gap. Daniel Welliver was accompanied by three cousins, John, Adam and Christopher, and in course of time this family became numerously represented. The purchase of the latter included the site of Jerseytown. John located where the Whitmoyers had previously lived, and Christopher occupied an adjoining tract. Michael Billhime found his former residence in possession of a "squatter," and was obliged to make a second clearing on Spruce creek. Joseph Hodge and Peter Brugler, former neighbors in Jersey, continued to be such by securing titles to contiguous surveys. In 1785 Thomas Pegg settled on the Chillisquaque two miles south-west of Jerseytown. Three years later Phineas Barber became owner and occupant of a tract on the opposite side of that stream. The following year Hugh Watson became a resident of the vicinity. John Funston located one mile west of the village, and Evan Thomas about the same distance east on the Millville road, near the lands of Richard Demott, who had entered the region several years previous. Lewis Schuyler, an ex-revolutionary soldier, came to the neighborhood in 1794, and permanently fixed his residence in the valley of Spruce creek five years later. This seems to have been regarded as a desirable locality, for in 1794 Jacob Swisher, and in 1796 George Runyon also became residents here. The former was appointed justice of the peace by Governor Snyder, and continued in that capacity until the office became elective. Other early settlers were James Laird, Thomas Laird, John Smith, Henry Kitchen and Hugh McCollum. The trials and inconveniences of this pioneer community were lessened to each of its members in being shared by all. A mitigating circumstance was the fact that the larger proportion of families represented had previously resided in Sussex county, New Jersey, and there formed the acquaintance of each other. Those who were not among the first to enter the region did not on their arrival have the feelings of "strangers, in a strange land." They were constrained to leave Sussex by gratifying reports of a fertile soil and equable climate at the frontier settlement, which appropriately bore the name of their native state.

From a comparison of the dates above given with the time at which other portions of Columbia county received settlement, it appears that Madison is one of the earliest settled townships north of the Susquehanna. A person considering the relative value of the river land and the Jerseytown valley at the present day, would doubtless conclude that this order should have been reversed. The comparison in 1780, however, was between the swampy, malarial region near the mouth of Fishing creek, and the healthful, undulating, and well watered hill country further north. At this period, and to a certain extent since, the quality of the timber was regarded as a criterion of the quality of the soil. At Sussex, in Jersey, the best lands were invariably covered with luxuriant forests of pine and oak. The natural inference from this circumstance explains the priority of settlement and improvement at localities which would not now be regarded as preferable. The indefinitely increasing value of the river lands between Fishing and Briar creeks, and the growth of a thriving town contiguous to an apparently irreclaimable swamp, were contingencies which no foresight could then determine.

Jerseytown valley was not exempt from the ubiquitous operations of the

land speculator. The class of individuals which originally owned the larger portion of its area secured their titles without the remotest idea of ever becoming resident proprietors. In the immediate vicinity of the village William Wilson, John Rogers, Jasper Yeates and Benjamin Humphreys were the warrantees. One of the most singularly shaped surveys ever recorded in the land office was that of Joseph Codd. In proof of its irregular form it may be stated that thirty-four corners and ten adjoining surveys are mentioned in a description of its boundaries. Some of the first settlers secured titles from the warrantees; others "squatted" on the land, and were not disturbed in its possession. The notorious carelessness and indifference of the latter with regard to its ownership have resulted in legal complications which might otherwise have been avoided. There was not, however, any apparent fear of defective titles to discourage settlement. The population increased; the opening of a road from Bloom to Muncy, and of another from Berwick to Milton, both of which passed through this region, gave a new impetus to the improvement of lands and farm buildings.

The growth of population called for a separation from the old and extensive township of Derry. Accordingly at the April sessions, 1817, of the Columbia county court at Danville, the new township of Madison was erected and its organization ordered. The president of that name was just completing his second term. The compliment thus bestowed indicates the political faith of those who conferred it. The democratic majorities in the township through a series of years would seem to signify hereditary tendencies in the expression of political preferences. The complexion of the township in this respect has not been changed by the reduction of an area originally including Pine and part of West Hemlock to its present limits.

The stage line from Bloom to Muncy in the years immediately following received a fair degree of patronage. At the former point it connected with other lines for Reading, Sunbury and Wilkesbarre. The Muncy hills and the valley at their base may have been a pleasant region to traverse in summer and autumn; but this was amply compensated by the almost impassable condition of the road in winter and spring. The wheels of the vehicle sank in the mire to their hubs. When further progress became impossible, the impatient passengers alighted unceremoniously, and gave vent to their feelings in vigorous and energetic efforts to assist the team in surmounting the obstacle. Sometimes the coach obstinately refused to move, and a fence rail was hastily improvised as a lever to pry the wheels from the mud. When this was ultimately accomplished, the journey could be pursued until an occurrence of a similar character relieved its monotony.

The village of Jerseytown reached its present proportions during the most prosperous period of stage travel. The first store in the township was opened by John Funston on the site now occupied by Conrad Creamer, and formed a nucleus for subsequent growth. Evan Thomas was the first blacksmith and hotel proprietor of the place. Jacob McCollum began the manufacture of leather in 1826; Hugh McCollum succeeded to the business in 1856 and E. W. McCollum became proprietor twenty years later. James Masters, who settled on Spruce creek in 1788, built the first saw-mill in this section and operated the first carding machine north of Danville. No grist-mill has ever existed in Madison as none of its numerous streams affords adequate or reliable motive power. Besides the tannery above mentioned Jerseytown comprises about forty dwellings, two stores, a church building and school-house.

The predecessor of the latter was the first of that character in this region. The school opened here in 1799 was taught by Mr. Wilson. In 1810 Thomas

Lane opened another in a dwelling on the land of Leonard Kisner. A third opened in 1815 where the Reformed church has since been built, and a fourth, conducted in the eastern part of the township, completed the number of early schools.

Organized religious bodies appeared in Madison at a later period than the schools just noted. Many of the early settlers, the Demotts, Runyans, Hulits, Hodges, Wellivers and Swishers were members of the Baptist society, and retained their religious preferences in their new homes. September 27, 1817, Elders John Wolverton of Shamokin, Smiley of White Deer, and Simeon Coombs of Middleboro, Massachusetts, organized the Little Muncy (Madison) Baptist church in the union meeting house of Moreland. This society is one of the oldest within the present limits of the Northumberland Baptist Association. Its representatives at the formation of that body in 1821 were Henry Clark and Silas E. Shepard, pastors; James Moore, Richard Demott, James Hulit and Powel Bird, lay delegates. In 1845 the Madison church edifice was erected. Elder Clark remained in charge until 1829; his successors were J. Green Miles, Joseph B. Morris, Henry Essick, A. B. Runyan, Henry C. Munro and R. M. Hunsicker.

In 1826 the German element of the population erected a church building on the exact site of a structure in which the Reformed congregation now worships. Many of those connected with this body reside in the adjoining township of Hemlock. Reverend Jacob Dieffenbach organized "Heller" church about 1820; among his successors were Daniel S. Tobias, Henry Funk and William Goodrich.

The Methodist and English Lutheran denominations were the last to secure a representation in the township. The Jerseytown appointment of the former is connected with the Washingtonville circuit. A house of worship was erected in 1832. Vandine Lutheran church was organized in 1869 by Reverend George Eicholtz of Lairdsville, Lycoming county. A building for religious services was erected in the following year. Reverends Miller, Bodine, Battersby and Hutchison have successively preached at this place.

#### PINE.

The extreme northern and western parts of Columbia county comprise an extent of surface drained by Fishing and Green creeks. The chief features of this region are the mountains and foot-hills in which numerous tributary streams find their sources. That part of this district adjoining Lycoming county, and bounded on the south and east by Little Fishing creek, is embraced in the political division the name of which appears at the head of this chapter. Although possessing the general characteristics of the entire sections, Pine township has peculiarities distinctively its own. The Muncy hills and their forests of waving hemlock and pine overshadow apparently insignificant streams and shallow water courses which have, by centuries of constant attrition, deeply seamed their ribs of rock. The picturesque and diversified character of the landscape is presented in a most favorable aspect when the last rays of the setting sun gild the clouds above the horizon and irradiate from the foliage which forms it, bringing into exquisite harmony an infinite variety of contour, elevation and color—the frame of a picture of wooded hills, verdant slopes and winding brooks scarcely less beautiful.

Natural beauty of scenery, although desirable, was not an essential feature of a prospective agricultural region. It was its economic resources, a fertile soil and the growth of timber to indicate it, that engrossed the interest of the



farmer, or attracted his attention. Thus neglected by the class of persons known as permanent settlers, that part of Columbia county to the northwest of the headwaters of Little Fishing creek remained a wilderness long after the adjoining valleys of Jerseytown and Greenwood had been marked by the presence of an aggressive and enterprising population.

During this period, however, it was not unknown nor entirely unoccupied. The deer, panther and bear, here found a secure retreat; and even here they were eventually pursued by hunters of undoubted bravery, prominent among whom appears the name of Peter Brugler. It appears that he removed from New Jersey to Spruce creek for the sole purpose of gratifying a decided predilection for the enjoyment of the chase. He discovered the deer-lick above Sereno which bears his name, and kept the matter secret for some years. Not content with this as his exclusive property, he "salted" the earth at a locality more accessible, and so well imitated the natural deposit as to completely deceive the deer. On one occasion a companion had a narrow escape from death in an encounter with a panther. He had emptied the contents of his gun into the animal's flank, but this only served to make it more furious. The hunter had only time to reload before the brute sprang toward him and seized the end of the rifle barrel between his teeth. At this instant it was discharged and took effect in his throat. The iron was perceptibly indented by the death grip of his teeth. The reminiscences of a farmer in the vicinity of Millville present some curious incidents of his experience at a later period, when wild animals had been partially exterminated. He rode into the brush one evening in search of his cows, which had failed to return at their usual hour. On a rising ground beside Little Fishing creek he found the herds with erect heads and dilated nostrils, apparently in great fright and about to stampede. At a short distance from the rest stood one of the number with his head firmly planted against a tree, bellowing furiously. It was discovered that in this position he held the body of a wolf in which signs of life were not extinct, but which was speedily dispatched by a blow from a cudgel in the hands of the farmer.

Beside the patrons of gun and rod the hills of Pine were visited by the shingle makers from Muncy, who built lodges in the forest but made no effort at improvement and cultivation. The first work of this kind was reserved for John Lyon, a native of Sussex county, New Jersey. Emigrating to Greenwood in 1796 he remained there until six years later, when he crossed the Muncy hills to their summit, the region known as the pine "flats." At this place, on the land now owned by Jeremiah Fowler, he made the first improvement in the township. In the course of a few years he was followed from Greenwood by David Hamilton and Daniel Whipple, who settled some distance above Sereno. Hamilton's cabin was on the site of a bark-house at James Ritchie's tannery. The next comers were Joshua and Samuel Davis, with their families, originally from the same region in Jersey as Lyon. They built the first saw-mill in Pine township, on the same site as the present one at Sereno. Subsequently Jno. Thomas built another on Little Fishing creek, and these two mills did all the sawing that was done in Pine at an early day. Much of the timber was merely cut into logs and rafted down the creeks and the Susquehanna to Harrisburg and Marietta. There are neither adequate shipping facilities nor reliable water-power to justify the establishment of an extensive lumber manufactory, and hence the population of Pine has not been materially benefited by the development of its timber resources. In 1853 Henry Battin built the California mill, and about the same time Zebulon Robbins embarked in a similar enterprise. The latter bought three-hundred



acres of land formerly embraced in a track of several thousand acres owned by Frederick Veates.

He was a member of a corporation known as the Asylum Land Company, which owned the larger portion of Pine township. To evade the requirements and restrictions of the land laws, warrants were obtained for the prescribed four-hundred acre tracts, although the real owners were members of this powerful syndicate of speculators. These warrants were issued December 29, 1792; the names that appear most frequently among the list of holders are Montgomery, Cornelison, McHenry, Giffin, Mackey, Sample and Strawbridge. Some of this land has never been patented. However, under the management of the company which first acquired possession, no conflicting titles or boundary disputes involving any great interest have ever resulted in consequence.

At the time when William Montgomery as deputy surveyor was marking off these tracts, the region was included in Derry township, Northumberland county; from 1817 to 1853, in Madison, in Columbia. By act of assembly approved January 15 of that year, the township of Pine was erected, its boundaries fixed and its organization ordered as one of the provisions of the act providing for a readjustment of the division line between Columbia and Montour counties. This new feature of the political organization of the former was not however, entirely resultant from the division process. The geographical isolation of that part of Madison, thus separated from it, and the numerical minority of its citizens when voting on questions of roads or schools had created a wish for the change some years previous.

Since this time (1853) the village of Warnersville has not perceptibly increased in size. It practically began in 1837 with the erection of a tannery by Edward Ritchie, which is still in operation. During Buchanan's administration the post-office (named Sereno at the suggestion of John Starr) was removed to Iola; but in 1861 Francis B. Masters, the present postmaster reopened it. The village comprises a store, several dwellings and a school-house. In the predecessor of the latter, John Masters, in 1830, opened the first school in Pine. The schools in the township compare favorably with those in more thickly settled localities.

Iola Lodge, No. 711, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized at Iola July 5, 1870, by C. F. Knapp and others, members of Van Camp Lodge at Bloomsburg. The charter members were Wilson M. Eves, N. G.; John Lore, V. G.; John Leggatt, treasurer; William Burgess, secretary; W. H. Hayman, assistant secretary; Ira C. Pursel, S. W.; Isaac K. Titman, J. W.; William Lowton, O. G.; Benjamin Lore, L. S. S.; Amos Harlan, R. S. S. It was removed to Pine Summit, October 1, 1881, at the dispensation of the Grand Lodge. The present officers are Samuel Williams, William Kingston, J. R. Fowler and J. F. Crist.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran church was organized in 1879 by Reverend N. A. Whitman; May 4, 1880, a house of worship was dedicated by O. D. S. Mareley, his successor. The officers at this time were John Bruner, P. W. Sones, Samuel Eckman and A. E. Girton. Owing to a change of faith among its members the congregation disbanded. At this time, September, 1886, there is no regularly organized religious body in Pine township.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## CATAWISSA AND FRANKLIN TOWNSHIPS.

## CATAWISSA.

CATAWISSA was formed from Augusta in 1785, and originally covered the triangular area now embraced in the townships of Beaver, Conyngham, Franklin, Locust, Maine, Mifflin, Mayberry, in Montour county, and part of Union, in Schuylkill. Practically, it has been reduced to its present limits by the formation of Roaringcreek in 1832, Franklin in 1843, and Maine in 1844. It is the oldest political subdivision of the county, having completed the first century of its history.

Authorities differ as to the nationality of the aboriginal tribe which conferred upon the mountain, creek and town their beautiful and euphonious designation. Redmond Conyngham, who has extended his researches into everything relating to the primitive history of the region, states that "The Piscatawese, or Gangawese, or Conoys had a wigwam on the Catawese, at Catawese, now Catawissa." Stewart Pearce asserts that the Shawanese, after successive immigrations from New York to Florida, from there to the Wabash, and from that region to the Susquehanna valley, established a village at Catawissa in 1697, or about that time. The orthography of the word affords no additional light on the subject. Catawese occurs in the different dialects of the Shawanese and Delawares, and always with the same meaning, "pure water."

The first Europeans who visited Catawissa were not interested in attempting to dissipate the obscurity which involved its primitive history. James Le Tort, an adventurous Indian trader, found the valley of the Susquehanna a profitable field for his operations. The provincial authorities frequently employed him on diplomatic missions to chiefs of the various tribes. In 1728 he bore the governor's compliments to the celebrated Madame Montour and several Delaware chieftains, presenting to each a "strowd match coat" as an expression of continued friendship. The communication in which Le Tort acquainted the executive council with the views of the chiefs, though throwing no light upon local affairs, still possesses special interest, inasmuch as it contains the first mention of any part of Columbia county. It is herewith inserted:

CATAWASSE, May ye 12, 1728.

We always thought the Governor knew nothing of the fight between the Shawaynos and the White People. We desire the Governor to warn the back Inhabts Not to be so Ready to attack the Indians, as we are Doubtful they were in that unhappy accident, and we will use all Endeavaurs to hender any Such Like Proceeding on the part of the Indians. We Remember very well the League between William Pen and the Indians, which was, that the Indians and white people were one, and hopes that his Brother, the present Governor, is of the same mind, and that the friendship was to continue for three Generations; and if the Indians hurt the English, or the English hurt the Indians, itts the same as if they hurt themselves; as to the Governors Desire of meeting him, we Intend as soon as the Chiefs of the Five Nations Come to meet the Governor, we will Come with them; but if they come not before hereafter, we will to Philadelphia to wait on the Governor. We have heard that William Pen Son was come to Philada., which We was very Glad of.

JAMES LE TORT.



Photo. by McKillop, Bloomsburg, Pa.

*A. P. Kester*





After the visit of the French trader, the place is not again referred to until 1754, when Conrad Weiser, in a letter from Shamokin, mentions Oskohary, supposed to be identical with the Catwasse of Le Tort, and the Catawissa of the present. Lapackpitton, a Delaware chief who figured prominently in the settlement of disputes at the close of the French war, made his residence at the village, which was known for some time by his name. Local tradition assigns to this dusky warrior the character of "Hunkee Punkee," in J. W. Alder's "Indian Legend." It appears that Minnetunkee, his daughter, was disposed to encourage the advances of a lover whose prospective position as a member of the family was not received with complacency by her father. On a summer evening he followed them to the summit of an eminence known as "Lovers Leap," and announced his presence in a manner characteristic of Indian nature. The younger brave, mortally wounded by an arrow, fell over the precipice. The splash of the river as the body parted its waters had scarcely subsided when the maiden, with a cry expressive of defiance, triumph and despair, threw herself from the dizzy height, and followed her lover to a watery grave. The sequel harmonizes with generally recognized ideas of the succession of events. The whole tribe removed from a locality rendered to them intolerably sad by this tragic occurrence.

The region of "pure water" did not long remain unoccupied. A number of English Quakers from Maiden creek and Exeter, in Berks county, planted their homes in the Catawissa valley. Following the route generally traveled from Reading to Sunbury, and the valley of the "North Branch" from that point, they finally reached their destination after days of exhausting labor, and nights of weariness and insecurity. The natural advantages of the locality had been early recognized by land-jobbers and others who preferred to be proprietors without being residents. Among those who succeeded to their titles, or established claims as warrantees, were William Collins, William Hughes, James Watson, John Lore, John Mears, Isaiah Willits and John Lloyd. It was between 1774 and 1778 when these persons arrived. Moses Roberts in 1774 built the first house in the vicinity of Catawissa.

Subsequent additions to their number represented a different nationality. Some were Germans, but a few were English. They journeyed on horseback, and followed an Indian trail over the Broad, Blue, Locust and Little mountains. Among those who reached Catawissa in 1782 were Michael Geiger, Joseph McIntyre, John Furry, Thomas Wilkinson, George Huntzinger and Conrad Wamphole. About this time a party of Indians re-established a wigwam at the old site of Lapackpitton's town, greatly to the annoyance of the settlers. Thomas Wilkinson incurred their displeasure by interfering with their fishing operations, and on one occasion was compelled to seek shelter in the river. He was unable to swim, but waded out into the channel where the depth was sufficient to cover him. He was obliged to raise his head above the water in order to breathe, and whenever he did so, became a target for several practiced Indians who had taken a commanding position on the bluff. Although thus subject to the greatest danger he reached the opposite shore in safety, much to the chagrin of his foes, who thenceforth believed that he bore a charmed life. His explanation to the effect that he was only "gauging the water," created some merriment over the incident, and secured for him the name of "Tom Gauger."

Another occurrence was more tragic and less jocose in its details and results. July 26, 1782, a party of Indians made a descent upon the German settlement, the exposed condition of which invited attack. John Furry had settled on the west side of the river. His family consisted of two daughters

and four sons. The three older sons, John, Jonas and Lawrence, were absent, having gone for flour to the mill at Sunbury. On their return they found their parents and sisters killed and scalped. Their mangled remains were interred under an apple tree near the house. The brothers buried their household goods and farming implements in the ground and returned to Reading. The panic seemed contagious, for several other families became alarmed and followed them. The sequel of this story would seem to verify the old adage that "Truth is stranger than fiction." Years afterward Jonas and Lawrence Furry were in Montreal, and there formed the acquaintance of Henry Furry, a prosperous trader. The similarity of names was at once noticed. Mutual explanations followed; his identity as their brother was readily established. He described to them the tragic death of their parents and sisters and the brutal treatment he had received on the journey with his captors to Tioga. At that place he was ransomed by a Frenchman, and treated by him with kindness and consideration.

Notwithstanding the general alarm the Quakers remained, and in 1787 William Hughes laid out the town of "Hughesburg, alias Catawissey, in the county of Northumberland, state of Pennsylvania, North America," on the "bank of the north-east tract of the river Susquehanna near the mouth of Catawessey creek, about twenty miles above Sunbury and about one-hundred and six miles from Philadelphia." William Gray and John Sene were the surveyors. Water, Front, Second, Third and Fourth streets extend east and west, parallel with the course of the river; Lumber, South, Main and Pine cross these, and are named in order from the creek. The proprietor provided that lots were to be disposed of by lottery, and this seems to have been customary, in order to prevent partiality. It does not appear that this was done, for in 1789 John Mears secured titles to sixty-five lots, and became virtual proprietor. It is well authenticated that William Henry, by virtue of his warrant for its survey in 1769, was the original owner of the tract in which the town plot was embraced; but Edward and Joseph Shippen were the patentees, and from them the title was transferred to Hughes. In 1796 James Watson laid out "Roberts addition," extending Second, Third and Fourth streets, and opening Walnut and North, parallel with Pine.

The size of the town plot was then considerably in advance of its population or business interests, although the latter were of considerable local importance. In 1780 Isaiah Willits established a tannery at the corner of Third and South streets. Knappenberger and Willits were proprietors of a ferry, and landed their flat where the bridge approaches have since been constructed. George Hughes and William Mears were justices of the peace. The Watsons, Jacksons, Lounts, Lloyds and Hayhursts were familiar to the whole community as substantial, hospitable farmers. In 1774 the first mill in the county was built on the site of the Paxton mill on Catawissa creek. It was a primitive structure and was frequently out of repair; at such time Sunbury was the nearest milling point. In 1789 Jonathan Shoemaker built a grist mill on the north side of this stream. This was then the only mill in a radius of many miles, and at once received an extensive patronage. In 1799 Christian Brobst erected a second and larger mill a short distance above Shoemaker's. It was completed in 1801, and when a boat began to ply regularly between points on both branches of the Susquehanna, Catawissa became an important and well-known point.

Another circumstance to which this may be attributed was the existence there of a store, one of the first between Sunbury and Wyoming. Isaiah Hughes was proprietor. The building occupied by him is still standing on the river

bank at the foot of South street. The second merchant was Joseph Heister, whose store was located on Water street several doors below Main. John Clark was its second proprietor. He was a man of courage and determination as may be inferred from the following incident: He was making a journey to Philadelphia on horseback to make his usual purchase of goods when a robber seized the bridle of his horse and summarily demanded his money. The merchant was unarmed, but his ready wit was equal to the occasion. He drew a spectacle case from his pocket and opened it. In the darkness the sharp click of the lid produced the desired effect. The horse plunged forward while the highwayman was both deceived and nonplused.

At this period the shad fishery was of considerable local importance. Salt was brought from Reading and exchanged for fish which sold for six cents apiece. The circulating medium was extremely scarce, a result of which was that nearly all business was transacted by barter. New stores were opened at irregular intervals, as the growth of population or enterprise of the proprietors justified it. Among those who will be remembered as merchants during the early history of the town are Thomas Ellis, Stephen and Christopher Baldy, David Cleaver, Jacob Dyer and Samuel Brobst. In all of their stores there was an assortment of every variety of merchandise—dry goods, groceries, hardware, drugs, etc.

The importance of a bridge across the Susquehanna was realized by public spirited citizens at an early period. The original projectors were Christian Brobst, Joseph Paxton, Leonard Rupert, Philip Marling, William Baird, Isaiah N. Willits and Richard Dennett, of Columbia county; Cadwallader Evans and Samuel Wetherill, of Philadelphia; J. K. Boyer, Lewis Reece and Gabriel Heister, of Berks county; James Linton and Daniel Seager, of Lehigh; Daniel Graff and James McFarlin, of Schuylkill, and Samuel Baird, of Montgomery. The site at first proposed was the present crossing of the Catawissa railroad. March 15, 1816, the legislature passed an act authorizing the opening of books to receive subscriptions. It does not appear that flattering progress was made in organizing the company for eight years later. Thirteen additional commissioners were appointed for that purpose, among whom Columbia county was represented by David Cleaver, William McKelvy, John Barton, William Miers, Jacob Rupert, James C. Sproul and John Derr.

With the citizens of the county the success of the project was a matter of primary importance; the only bridge within its limits crossed the river at Berwick, a point where it failed to confer material benefit on the large proportion of the population south of the river. Although disappointed for twelve years, those most interested at Catawissa continued to present this consideration with unabated persistence, and finally, in 1828, secured an appropriation of five-thousand dollars from the treasury of the state. Half of this was to be paid when the abutments and piers had been constructed, and the remainder when the entire work had been completed; but no part could be secured until ten-thousand dollars had been paid by individuals, and an amount additional subscribed sufficient to finish the bridge. George Taylor and Jacob Alter, of Philadelphia; Philip and John Rebsome, of Muncy; George Keim, George Getz and Henry Foster, of Berks county; John C. Appelman and Samuel Brooke, of Schuylkill; Benjamin Beaver, Peter Schmick, George H. Willits, Stacy Margerum, John Barton and William McKelvy, of Columbia, were appointed to reorganize the company and establish its finances on a firm basis. The North Branch canal was at this time in course of construction; it was plainly apparent that the bridge was a necessity if Catawissa was to derive any benefit from that line of traffic, and this consideration induced many to



subscribe to the stock of the company. The bridge was finally completed at a cost of twenty-six-thousand dollars, and opened for travel January 15, 1833. In view of the inconvenience of reaching the county-seat (then at Danville), it was not built, as originally proposed, to the mouth of Fishing creek. Subsequently the stock in the bridge held by the state was sold, and the proceeds applied to the construction of a public road on the berme side of the canal between Rupert and the bridge approach on the north side of the river.

The bridge has repeatedly suffered from the freshets and ice floods which periodically threaten life and property in the Susquehanna valley. In 1846 five spans were destroyed; they were rebuilt the following year. March 17, 1875, the entire structure was swept away. A Howe truss, thirty feet above low water mark, was constructed the same summer on the piers of its predecessor. It was opened for travel November 22, 1875.

The slowness and vacillation which characterized the bridge scheme did not prevent Christian Brobst from planning an enterprise, the future development of which he scarcely comprehended. He conceived the idea of a railroad from Catawissa to Tamaqua, and in 1825 traversed the distance between the two points on foot, studied the topography of the Quakake valley, and concluded that the plan was feasible. With Joseph Paxton he interviewed prominent capitalists of Reading and Philadelphia and interested them in the scheme. He induced several who seemed favorably impressed with his representations to accompany him on horseback over the proposed route. Moncure Robinson, a civil engineer, was one of the party. March 21, 1831, an act was passed by the legislature authorizing Christian Brobst and Joseph Paxton, of Catawissa; William McKelvey and Ebenezer Daniel, of Bloomsburg, and others at Philadelphia and Reading, to receive subscriptions for the stock of the Little Schuylkill and Susquehanna Railroad Company. The terminal points of the road were to be Catawissa and the Broad mountain where the Wilkesbarre state road intersected the Little Schuylkill. The mountains were to be avoided by traversing the valleys of Mosser's run and Catawissa creek.

Energetic measures were at once taken to execute these plans. Edward Miller, an experienced engineer, surveyed the line. Contracts were issued for grading and building bridges. Capital was furnished by the United States bank of Philadelphia. With the collapse of that institution, in 1838, and of other corporations dependent upon it for financial support, the projectors of the railroad were compelled to abandon their enterprise. For fifty years the unfinished embankments and bridges reminded unfortunate investors of the alluring prospect which prompted their erection.

March 20, 1849, the original corporation was reorganized under the name of the Catawissa, Williamsport and Erie railroad Company. During the succeeding five years, the road was finally completed. The first locomotive that ever appeared in Catawissa was the "Massachusetts," which was brought from Philadelphia by canal and transported across the river on a flat. Sunday July 16, 1854, the first passenger train entered the town. William Cable was conductor and John Johnson, engineer.

Unfortunately the new company was not financially prosperous, and in pursuance of an order from the supreme court of the state, its property was sold; March 21, 1860, its purchasers were constituted the Catawissa Rail-Road Company. In November, 1872, the Philadelphia and Reading Rail-Road Company became lessees. In 1858 the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Rail-Road became an available line of transportation from Catawissa. In 1870 a third road, the Danville, Hazelton and Wilkesbarre, was opened through the



town. \* The latest acquisition to its commercial facilities was the North and West Branch Railway, completed in 1882.

It is a matter of surprise that extensive manufacturing industries have not been established at a place commanding such advantages. The Penn furnace, operated by Fincher and Thomas, and a nail factory conducted by Thomas Hartman on a small scale at the time when a laborious and tedious hand process was employed, were formerly of some local importance. The only establishment of any magnitude that now exists, the Catawissa wood-pulp mill, has had an existence of three-quarters of a century. It was established in 1811 by Benjamin Sharpless. It appears that he lived near Sunbury, but resolved to remove to Ohio and settle there. He visited a brother on his journey and found him amassing wealth manufacturing paper. Returning to Catawissa, he embarked in a similar business in company with John Clark. The Shoemaker mill was purchased, and, with small expenses and trifling alterations, adapted to the prospective industry. Raw material became finished fabric after undergoing a slow and laborious process. The first stage was the reduction of straw or rags to pulp; this was removed from the vat with a wire sieve and poured over a felt cloth; when a certain number of alternate strata of pulp and felt had accumulated, the water was extracted by powerful pressure; the sheets were then dried, folded and pressed, when they were ready for the trade. After passing through different hands, the mill has come into possession of McCready Brothers, of Philadelphia. It was completely destroyed by fire in 1882. In the structure as rebuilt, the manufacture of wood pulp receives exclusive attention. The general management is entrusted to E. B. Guie, a gentleman of extensive business experience and thorough acquaintance with all the details of the manufacture.

The development of the railroad scheme of Christain Brobst and Joseph Paxton has been briefly outlined. If the existence of the road is to any extent due to the sagacity and persistence of Catawissa's citizens, it is also true that the town has been amply compensated for their efforts. This is rather a coincidence than the expression of any feelings of gratitude or obligation the railroad or its management might be supposed to have entertained. It had not been operated six months until the superintendent found it impossible to move the trains south from Catawissa that could be brought to that point from the northern terminus of the line. This is due to the altitude at which the mountain is crossed, the slope of which begins at the Susquehanna. Arrangements were therefore made for the general forming of trains at Catawissa, which thus became the home of nearly all the operatives employed in the freight service of the company. Extensive repair shops were also established there in 1864. They have become an important factor in furthering the growth of the town.

The rapid increase of population in consequence created a tendency among property holders to advance rents, and a demand for homes. Two institutions, the Catawissa Land and Building Company, and the Catawissa Mutual Building Fund Association, were organized in 1865 and 1870, respectively, to assist their stock-holders to obtain homes. Although their operations have been severely criticised, they were, in the main, conducted in the interest of the class of persons it was proposed to benefit. A result of their existence was a period of considerable building activity, extending from 1869 to 1873. The number of dwellings was still inadequate, and in 1882 F. L. Shuman purchased the Zarr farm, and laid off "Shumantown." Poplar, Shuman, Zarr and Mill streets extend northwest from the creek. Cemetery street crosses these at right angles, and is deflected from its course at the cemetery, where it intersects the public road. There was an immediate extension of the

town over this addition to its building area. The efforts of citizens in thus establishing homes is an earnest of an improved condition of society in every respect.

In 1870 the population of the township was one-thousand, six hundred and fourteen; in 1880 it had increased to two-thousand and four, and at that time four-fifths of this number were residents of the town. It is estimated that a census at the present time would show a population of two-thousand-five-hundred. Strenuous efforts have been made for years to secure legal enactments for the erection of Catawissa into a borough. Township government is notoriously inadequate. It makes no provision for police regulations, the lighting and grading of streets, or the promotion of internal improvements of any kind. When this is recognized and judiciously considered, incorporation will logically and promptly follow.

Private enterprise, however, has to some extent supplied this deficiency. Sidewalks have been constructed along the principal streets, and lamp-posts, erected and supplied at private expense, are found here and there in the town. Soon after the laying out of the village a market house was erected, but this appears to have been too far in advance of the ideas of the people. It early fell into disuse, and became the resort of the village cows and hogs. Thenceforward it was chiefly noticeable for its fleas, and was generally declared a nuisance, though there was sufficient influence to save it from destruction. Sometime after 1820 its demolition was determined upon, and one night a loud explosion called out the startled inhabitants to find that the market house had been blown up. Some fruitless attempts were made to discover and punish the perpetrators, but no immediate effort was made to replace the building.

In 1831 it was proposed to erect a town-hall and market house in Main street at the intersection of Third, on the site of the old structure. Discussion on this proposition became acrimonious and personal; the project was defeated, and no attempt to revive it has since been made. A more unfortunate result of this difference of opinion was the dissolution of the only fire company which has existed in the village. The "Catawissa Fire Company" was organized May 17, 1827, at Stacy Margerum's hotel, with Joseph Paxton, president, and Ezra S. Hayhurst, secretary. The latter, with Christian Brobst, George Hughes, Stephen Baldy, George H. Willits and Jacob Rupert, was appointed a committee to "draft an essay of a constitution." Four days later the "essay" was adopted and signed by fifty-four persons. Meetings were held quarterly at Margerum's: an assortment of buckets, ladders, hooks and chains was secured and distributed so as to be conveniently accessible in an emergency. The utmost harmony prevailed until the building of a hall was suggested. In February, 1832, after repeated adjournments the organization was unceremoniously disbanded.

The volume of business transacted at Catawissa has been constantly augmented since 1864. Large general stores have not yet been superseded by special and exclusive lines of merchandising. The Catawissa Deposit bank (originally incorporated May 26, 1871, as The Catawissa Deposit and Savings bank) has been known by its present name since April 12, 1872. It was organized in that year with John K. Robbins, president and B. R. Davis, cashier. The capital stock is fifty-thousand dollars. The Catawissa Water Company, chartered June 29, 1882, is another prominent business feature of the village. F. L. Shuman, P. H. Shuman, William H. Rhawn, Gideon E. Myers and Reuben Shuman were the first board of directors. The water is obtained from Catawissa creek and distributed to every part of the town.

Various fraternal and benevolent societies are numerous represented.

Lieutenant H. H. Hoagland, Post No. 170, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized in October, 1868, with the following members: M. M. Brobst, Samuel Waters, Daniel Walters, John G. Forborg, Thomas Harder, I. W. Willits, Clark Harder, Henry Thomas, Arthur Harder, T. P. Hause, B. B. Schmick, George W. Waters, John R. Brobst and John Reicheldeefer. In 1876 it was disbanded for want of a quorum. June 16, 1880, a reorganization was effected. M. M. Brobst, D. W. Spalding, G. W. Reifsnyder, I. W. Willits, John R. Brobst, I. H. Seesholtz, D. W. Walter, John McCoy, J. G. Waters, B. B. Schmick, Joseph P. Hause, T. E. Harder, Theodore Fox, John Wotstine, Joseph Walter, John Getkin, M. V. B. Kline, Thomas F. Harder, C. F. Harder, Daniel Giffin and J. C. Fletcher constituted the membership at this time. The Post is in a flourishing condition with encouraging prospects of future usefulness.

Concordia Lodge, No. 60, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was chartered September 24, 1838. The first officers were Owen D. Leib, N. G.; John F. Mann, V. G.; Michael Farnsworth, secretary, Joel E. Bradley, assistant, and Christian A. Brobst, treasurer. Meetings were held at the house of the latter on Main street until April, 1882, when the Pine street school building was occupied. It was purchased the previous year.

Catawissa Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons, No. 178, was instituted February 19, 1855 with James D. Strawbridge, H. P.; John K. Robbins, K. and J. Boyd McKelvy, S.

Catawissa Lodge, No. 349, Free and Accepted Masons, was granted its charter by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania December 5, 1864. Its first officers were John Sharpless, W. M.; W. M. Monroe, S. W., and Walter Scott, J. W.

December 8, 1869, the Catawissa Masonic Association was organized by the following persons, members of the chapter and lodge: I. W. Seisholtz, George S. Gilbert, M. V. B. Kline, Walter Scott, W. B. Koons, J. B. Knittle, W. H. Abbott, C. Ellis, I. Monroe, John K. Robbins, C. B. Brockway and John Thomas. A hall was erected in 1870 at a cost of \$15,000. The association subsequently became involved, financially, and was obliged to sell its property.

Catawissa Council, No. 96, Order of United American Mechanics, received its charter from the state council October 1, 1866. The following persons were original members: Simon Raup, Charles Garner, J. Q. A. Brobst, Henry S. Geiger, Valentine Metz, Jacob Millard, Nathan Northstein, John Getchey, C. P. Reese, Gideon Haldeman, John M. Gordon, Adry Bowers and Charles H. Kateer.

The Catawissa Silver Cornet Band Association became a corporate body April 7, 1869. The names of Monroe Seitzinger, Jeremiah S. Cornelius, Allen J. Brandt, Emery Getchey, Charles Schmick, Perry Walters, A. Z. Lewis, J. M. Walsham, Luther Eyer and F. D. Berninger appear in the list of its first members.

Washington Camp, No. 132, Patriotic Order Sons of America, was organized April 3, 1870, with the following members: W. H. Inhoff, Jacob Cool, J. K. Rhawn, Harry Yeager, Charles H. Bibby, Samuel H. Young, C. P. Pfahler, C. D. Hart, George L. Kostenbauder, W. K. Russel, P. A. Brown, Thomas E. Harder, Dennis Waters, William F. Bibby, Jacob Morrison, Thomas B. Cullihan, A. W. Stadler, Charles D. Cool, W. H. Abbott, O. D. Kostenbauder and J. Kostenbauder.

Catawissa Grange, No. 216, Patrons of Husbandry, was chartered April 30, 1874. Among its first members were Matthias Hartman, Josiah Roberts, E. M. Tewksbury, Solomon Helwig, Martin T. Hartman, Samuel Fisher and John



S. Mensch. May 25, 1883, the Catawissa Grange and Hall Association was incorporated. A commodious brick structure was erected the following year at a cost of six-thousand dollars. June 13, 1884, the hall was dedicated by James Calder, D. D. May 28, 1884, a stock company was formed for its management with William T. Creasy, president, E. M. Tewksbury, secretary, and William J. Martin, treasurer. It may be proper to mention in this connection several agricultural discoveries for which Catawissa is noted. The Catawissa monthly raspberry has been propagated from a single plant discovered in the Friends burial ground some years ago. Blossoms and berries appear at the same time from July to October. In 1872 J. K. Sharpless originated the Sharpless seedling strawberry, and in 1878 William J. Martin discovered a new variety of an extensively cultivated cereal widely known as Martin's amber wheat.

Sylvania Division, No. 23, Order of Railway Conductors, was organized May 18, 1881, with the following members: John W. Dent, P. S. Robison, Samuel L. Bowers, William H. Berger, James F. Miller, Lewis C. Reifsnyder, Peter Runker, Benjamin F. Ryan, Theodore Schmick, George W. Forrer and John W. Fenstermacher.

Mountain Grove Lodge, No. 324, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, was organized July 14, 1886. The members at that time were Daniel Geiger, James Kelley, Jeremiah Haley, Charles Brown, George D. Bowman, James Fisher, Charles E. McAfee, George E. Mensch, Ham. Yeager, William R. Smith, Ira B. Ervin, Boyd Longenberger, Frank Perry, John L. Getkin, John I. Chambers, George W. Ervin and G. W. Linn.

The Quakers who first settled Catawissa shared in that devotion to their faith which characterized its adherents at this period. Their meeting-house may be seen on a knoll a short distance from the confluence of the creek and Susquehanna. It is a log building, nearly or quite square, and no entrance is visible from the front. It presents a weather-beaten but substantial appearance. The furniture of the interior is severely plain and not suggestive of comfort or elegance. In the rear of this structure is a burial ground surrounded by a stone wall. Within the inclosure are a number of trees, the massive trunks and spreading branches of which would seem to indicate great age. The majestic oaks, the low, wooden building and the quiet burial ground are invested with associations of the most sacred character. This plain structure was the first completed house of worship in the valley of the "North Branch" between Sunbury and Wyoming.

How long it has been a place of worship cannot be definitely determined. It is the oldest building in Catawissa, and this statement implies an existence of more than a century. In 1787 William Collins, William Hughes, James Watson, John Love and other Friends resident in the vicinity were granted permission to hold religious services here by the Exeter (Berks county) meeting, the ecclesiastical body in the jurisdiction of which they were embraced. At the Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting, November 2, 1795, Exeter Friends reported having for some time been considering the advisability of forming a new meeting within their limits. After due deliberation the proposed change was made and Catawissa monthly meeting established. April 23, 1796, the body thus instituted held its first session. It was attended by Ellis Yarnall, Arthur Howell, Henry Drinker, John Morton, James Cresson, David Potts, Thomas Lightfoot and Benjamin Scarlot, from Philadelphia; and by Amos Lee, Jacob Thomas, Owen Hughes and Thomas Pearson, from Exeter. An organization was effected by the election of Isaac Wiggins as clerk. Among other business transacted was the appointment of Ellis Hughes and William Ellis to prepare suit-



able marriage certificates; and of James Watson, John Lloyd, Joseph Carpenter, Benjamin Warner, Thomas Eves, Reuben Lundy, Nathan Lee and John Hughes to care for the Friends burial ground. The meeting thus begun continued for twelve years. Toward the close of that period the Friends had become so reduced in numbers that this body dissolved December 24, 1808. Since that time meetings have been held by the few Friends who still reside in the vicinity, but such occasions are neither frequent nor regular.

The German element of the population also took measures at an early date to secure for themselves those religious privileges they had previously enjoyed. When Christian Brobst entered Catawissa in 1795 he was accompanied by Reverend Seely, a Lutheran pastor from Berks county. May 1, 1796, a communion was held at Brobst's recently built cabin. The following persons participated: Michael Raup, Michael Hower, Daniel Geiger, Christian Brobst, John Wirts, Jacob Yocum, Conrad Geiger, Catharine Wirts, Barbara Brobst, Regina Hartel, Maria Gillihans and Catharine Hower. This is the first service of this kind held at Catawissa. January 1, 1796, the first baptisms recorded occurred. The subjects were Joseph, Edna and Maria, children, respectively, of Christian Brobst and Frederick Knittle and Daniel Yocum.

Denominational distinctions were but slightly observed in those days. Reverend G. V. Stock became Lutheran pastor in 1802, and Reverend John Dietrich Adams six years later is mentioned as occupying a similar position over the Reformed congregation. March 10, 1804, articles of agreement in the joint ownership and use of a house of worship for both denominations were signed by Michael Hower, Jacob Yocum and Harmon Yost, elders, Samuel Felter and Daniel Geiger, deacons. Christian Brobst presented a building site. In the same year the church building was completed and dedicated. It was a stone structure.

The furniture and arrangement of the interior conformed to the usual style of the period in that respect. The galleries extending round three sides, and the nine-glass pulpit would present a novel appearance if viewed at the present day. In 1853 this building was replaced by the brick edifice of which Saint John's German Lutheran congregation is now exclusive owner. Reverend Frederick Plitt succeeded Mr. Steely in 1808; Peter Hall became pastor in 1817; Peter Kester in 1820; Jeremiah Schindle in 1831; William J. Eyer in 1838; William Laitzel in 1874; L. Lindenstreuth in 1878; and J. H. Neiman in 1881. Mr. Eyer's pastorate covered a period as long as those of his predecessors combined.

At his suggestion June 25, 1845, a meeting was held to devise means for the organization and government of that portion of the congregation which preferred English services. Christian Brobst was called to the chair and Charles Witmer appointed secretary. It was decided to make the proposed division, and confer upon the new organization the name of Saint Matthew's English Lutheran church. William J. Eyer, Stephen Baldy, Joseph Brobst, Jacob Kreigh, John Hartman and Peter Bodine were directed to prepare a constitution. July 13, 1845, the draft submitted by them was adopted; and November 19, 1850, the church became a corporate body. William J. Eyer remained in charge as pastor until 1851; J. F. Wampole and J. R. Dimm served in that capacity until 1867, when Daniel Beckner became regular pastor; Sylvanus Curtis followed in 1870; C. F. Coates in 1871; R. F. Kingsbury in 1872; E. H. Leisenring in 1875; F. P. Manhart in 1878; J. F. Deiner in 1879; D. M. Henckel in 1882; and U. Myers in 1883. In 1851 a church edifice was erected; in 1884 this was remodeled at a cost of ten thousand dollars. The rededication occurred October 14, 1884. Reverends

Sharrets, Manhart, Schindel, Leisenring, Bodine, and resident ministers of other denominations, assisted the pastor.

Reverends Diefenbach, Knable, Tobias, Fursch, Steeley, Daniels, Moore, Dechant and Derr successively followed Mr. Adams as pastor of the Reformed congregation. During Mr. Dechant's pastorate the joint ownership of Saint John's union church was dissolved. May 18, 1882, the corner-stone of a new Saint John's was laid. The building operations were directed by Mr. Dechant, who was entrusted with entire supervision over the work, financial and otherwise. May 6, 1883, the completed edifice was dedicated. The pastor was assisted by Reverends O. H. Strunch of Bloomsburg, and William C. Scheaffer of Danville.

The history of Methodism in Catawissa is different from that of the denominations mentioned. The latter owe their existence to emigration from localities where they were already established; the former dates its origin from a visit of Bishop Asbury, the founder of that religious body in America. Tradition asserts that he stopped at Joseph McIntyre's on a journey from Sunbury to Wyoming; that he held services there which resulted in the conversion of that family and others; and formed a class, which in course of time became a regular appointment. Asbury was followed by other itinerant missionaries—Nathaniel Mills, James Paynter and Benjamin Abbott. Services were held in McIntyre's house and barn, where E. M. Tewksbury lives. In 1828 a church building was erected; July 4, 1869, a second structure was dedicated. At that time it formed part of Elysburg circuit, but has since been transferred to Catawissa.

In the town of Catawissa Methodism has been represented since 1834 by a church building; the second structure was built in 1854, and a third in 1884. At an adjourned Quarterly Conference held November 4, 1883, the following action was taken—"Resolved, that it is the judgment of this Quarterly Conference that we enter at once upon the work of building a new church; and that a committee be appointed to take subscriptions for that purpose." Pursuant to which, Reverend R. E. Wilson, J. M. Smith, L. B. Kline, H. F. Clark and C. C. Sharpless were authorized to solicit subscriptions. February 16, 1884, a building committee was appointed composed of R. E. Wilson, H. F. Clark, W. W. Perry, J. M. Smith, C. C. Sharpless, Jesse Mensch and L. B. Kline. Saturday, July 12, 1884, the corner-stone was laid. Sunday, February 15, 1885, Doctors Vincent and Upham dedicated the structure in the presence of a large concourse of people.

The services of the Protestant Episcopal church were first held in Catawissa in 1860 by the Reverend E. N. Lightner, rector of Christ church, Danville. Some years later the Reverend T. H. Cullen, rector of Saint Paul's church, Bloomsburg, held services monthly, and administered baptism to a few adults and infants at various times. In 1870 his successor, the Reverend John Hewitt, conducted bi-monthly services in Masonic hall, alternating with the Reverend J. M. Peck of Danville. During this time the Right Reverend William B. Stevens, bishop of the diocese, officiated at two confirmations. In May, 1871, Saint John's parish was formed. George S. Gilbert, Walter Scott, Isaac H. Seesholtz, William H. Abbott, W. B. Parkins and—Jones were elected wardens and vestrymen. They immediately applied to the convention of the diocese of Pennsylvania for a charter, but for some reason failed to secure it. Catawissa being geographically within the limits of the Central Pennsylvania diocese, that body at its first annual convention received the parish into union with itself June 12, 1872. A short time previous, the Reverend Joseph L. Colton was called to the rectorship. April 2, 1872, he

entered upon his duties, and opened a parochial school. In January of this year, the church purchased the property of the Catawissa Seminary Company, but worshiped in Masonic hall until the necessary alterations had been made in its interior furnishing. The communion was first celebrated in the town agreeably to the ritual of the Protestant Episcopal church the first Sunday in June, 1872. Two weeks later the congregation worshiped in its own building. July 21, 1878. Mr. Colton's connection with the parish ceased with his resignation. December 31, 1881, Reverend Charles E. Fessenden resigned after a rectorship of six months. The Reverend L. Zahner, of Bloomsburg, has conducted occasional services since then.

The educational history of Catawissa, as well as its religious record, was begun by the society of Friends June 24, 1797. John Mears informed the monthly meeting that a sum of money raised by general subscriptions among Philadelphia Friends had been placed in his hands, for the purpose of establishing a school at Catawissa "for the education of children in useful learning," and that he had expended part of it in the purchase of a lot of ground, the title to which was held in trust by John Lloyd, Robert Field, Charles Chapman and Ellis Hughes. The following year the gratifying announcement was made that John Pemberton, a prominent citizen of Philadelphia, had bequeathed the sum of twenty pounds toward the encouragement and support of the school, "to be applied to the instruction of children of members of our society in useful and necessary school learning." The school thus begun in 1797 was continued with satisfactory results until the dissolution of the monthly meeting.

The Germans also manifested a degree of interest in establishing and maintaining schools. In 1800 Martin Stuck, of Hamburg, Berks county, opened a school in Michael Geiger's dwelling near McIntyre's. The following year he removed to a building erected for school purposes nearer Catawissa creek. He was employed by Peter Fornwald, Archibald Hower, Frederick Knittle, Thomas Fester and others. In 1804 Mrs. Mary Paxton opened a school in her house at Catawissa. In addition to the usual branches, she taught the girls to sew and knit. Elijah Barger and Ellis Hughes were teachers about this time in the Friends' school. Messrs. Kent and Ely, of New York, succeeded to the patronage of Mrs. Paxton's school when she closed it. In 1818 Thomas Barger established the most extensive educational institution that had yet existed. His scholars came from Mainsville and other points as well as the immediate vicinity. The "institution" was conducted on the second floor of a spring-house.

The year 1838 marks the beginning of a new era in the school history of Catawissa. The advent of the new *regime* is thus explained:

CATAWISSA, March 16, 1838.

*To the School Board of Catawissa Township:*

GENTLEMEN: At a meeting of the qualified electors of said district, held this day at the house of Stacy Margerum, in pursuance of an act of assembly entitled: "An act to consolidate and amend the several acts relative to a general system of education by common schools," passed the 13th day of June, 1836, they, the said electors, determined by a majority of those then and there present and voting on the question, to accept of the system of common schools as established by said act, of which you will take notice, and govern yourselves accordingly. Witness our hands the date above mentioned.

EZRA S. HAYHURST,  
CHARLES CONNER.

*Secretaries of said meeting.*

Accordingly March 19, 1838, a meeting of the first school-board was held. William Clayton, Isaiah John, Ezra S. Hayhurst, Caspar Hartman, Christian A. Brobst and Milton Boone constituted this first board of directors. They were called to order by Caspar Hartman, who nominated Christian A. Brobst



for president, and Ezra S. Hayhurst for secretary. Both were elected unanimously. A code of resolutions, fourteen in number, was presented by the secretary and adopted as rules of order. Messrs. Clayton, Boone, Hartman and John, agreeably to instructions from the board, divided the township into ten sub-districts. Provision was made for the erection of ten houses, the amounts paid ranging from one-hundred and eighty-five to two-hundred and ten dollars. More than four-thousand dollars were expended the first year. The taxation necessary to provide for this was regarded by many as onerous and unnecessary. At an election held March 19, 1841, the continuance of the system was sustained by a small majority. It was again submitted May 5, 1846, and this time there were but four dissenting votes.

Although the system gave general satisfaction, there were those who desired better educational advantages than it could confer. After mature deliberation on the part of those most interested, it was decided to establish a school "for the promotion of education, both in the ordinary and higher branches of English literature and science, and in the ancient and modern languages." To accomplish this, they secured a charter for "Catawissa Seminary." February 9, 1866, George H. Willits, Charles W. McKelvy, Samuel B. Diemer, George Scott, Isaiah John, Henry Hollingshead, David Clark and John K. Robbins were its first trustees. Professors Lance, Forsyth and Case were among the teachers. The general results of the school were satisfactory and beneficial; but on account of the limited patronage received, it was closed before completing the first decade of its history.

Although not apparently a fortunate occurrence, this circumstance has indirectly advanced the educational interests of the community in general. When the seminary closed, intelligent and public spirited citizens began to direct their attention to the improvement of the common schools, which had retrograded from the high standard established by Joel E. Bradley in 1838. The question of replacing the dilapidated school-house with a structure of adequate size, and of lengthening the term, was agitated with energy and persistence. A director of pronounced views in favor of both changes was elected in 1877. The movement gained strength, and in 1879 its supporters had a controlling influence in the board. The ideas which actuated their policy of improvement are tangibly expressed in the imposing structure which Catawissa has dedicated to the cause of education.

It is pleasantly located at the head of Main street and commands a view of the most picturesque section of the Susquehanna valley. The surroundings are eminently adapted to exert that unconscious influence on pliant minds which creates in them aspirations for what is beautiful, true and good in character. The location is healthful, salubrious and agreeable. The building presents an attractive, symmetrical and substantial appearance. A marble block in the brick wall is inscribed with the names of E. B. Guie, B. R. Davis, G. W. Reifsnnyder, J. B. Yetter, L. Eyer and Dr. W. Walter, directors; W. W. Perry, architect, and Charles King, contractor. The interior is conveniently and judiciously arranged. It was first occupied for school purposes in April, 1882. Charles H. Albert was principal and E. B. Guie first assistant. A library of well selected books, to which pupils have constant access, and a cabinet of philosophical and chemical apparatus add interest to every study embraced in the curriculum. The establishment of this institution, and its successful operation under the management of competent teachers and enterprising directors, reflect credit on the intelligence of the entire body of citizens.



## FRANKLIN.

At the January session of the court in 1843, certain citizens of Catawissa petitioned for a division of that township "on account of the great inconvenience of attending elections and other township business." The prayer of the petitioners was granted, and a favorable report having been received from the commissioners appointed to inquire into the matter, the new township was erected with the name of Franklin. Its limits included the area now embraced in the townships of Mayberry and Franklin. When Montour county was formed in 1850 it became one of its sub-divisions; but when, in 1853, the division line was re-adjusted, Franklin was divided, the portion remaining in Montour being erected into Mayberry township.

Settlement in this region began at a later period than in the Catawissa valley. In 1783 John Cleaver, a Quaker from Chester county, visited friends who had located there and decided to purchase a tract on the opposite side of the river. He returned with his family in the spring of the following year, but was deterred from completing his purchase by accounts of a flood the previous winter. The river rose to an unprecedented height, overflowing its banks and compelling families living on the "bottoms" to leave their homes. The Cleavers thereupon settled on the hills above Roaring creek. The Claytons, another family of the same religious preferences, followed them from Chester county to their new homes. At a later period German settlers also made their appearance. Frederick Knittle, from Richmond township, Berks county, located on the Esther furnace road. In 1795 Daniel Knittle became owner of an adjoining tract. John and Peter Mensch located north of Roaring creek, near the river. Michael Hoover settled on the hill road to Danville, and Christian Hartley on the site of Pensyl's mill.

Catawissa has always been the town for this section. Its business interests are represented by two stores, located respectively at Parr's mill and at Pensyl. A post-office is connected with the latter. It was formerly known as Willowvale, but has been re-established under the name of Pensyl.

The churches and schools attended by Franklin people were also located in Catawissa township. The following with regard to the latter appears in the report of William H. Snyder, county superintendent in 1876: After the school closed at McIntyre's, a house was built just above the foundry to accommodate the settlers at the mouth of Catawissa creek. Mr. Stuck, who had taught at McIntyre's, was succeeded in this school by Daniel Krist and Daniel Bigles. Several married men availed themselves of the opportunity to receive instruction at this school. Near where Joseph T. Reeder lives, Joseph Horlecker opened a school which was called "Clayton's school," by which name it is now known. The one established below Esther furnace was taught by Samuel Bitler and James Stokes.

The religious organizations, Bethel and Mount Zion churches, have been formed with a membership originally connected with the McIntyre appointment. The Bethel church edifice was erected in 1859, at which time David Zarr, Jonas Berninger, Joseph Hartman, John Teitsworth, Nicholas Campbell, William Reeder, Peter Yocum and William Kiesle were trustees. In 1874 Mount Zion church was built. At this time the trustees were William Fisher, Joseph Reeder, Peter G. Campbell, Wellington Cleaver, Jackson Cleaver, John Hile, Joseph Fisher, Sylvester Cleaver and Eli Keilner. Both appointments are connected with the Catawissa circuit, and embraced in the Danville district of the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church.

## CHAPTER XVII.

## MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP.

THIS township was erected in 1799, in the last term of Thomas Mifflin's incumbency as governor of the state. It was one of the two political divisions south of the Susquehanna embraced in Columbia county at the time of its formation, and was originally formed from the eastern portion of Catawissa. By an act of assembly approved March 3, 1818, part of this territory was annexed to Schuylkill county. Practically, however, Mifflin was reduced to its present limited area by the erection of Maine and Beaver in 1844 and 1845, respectively. It extends from the Susquehanna to the summit of Nescopeck mountain, and adjoins Luzerne county on the east. The foot-hills of the Nescopeck range extend in a south-westerly direction from the mouth of the stream of that name to a point where they are intersected by Ten-Mile creek. The triangular area of level land between the base of these hills and the river is known as Mifflin "flats."

The date of the earliest settlement in this region cannot be definitely determined. There were some families here in 1779 who were probably recent settlers at that time. One of these families was murdered by a band of hostile Indians in this year, and their more fortunate neighbors fled across the river to Fort Jenkins for protection. Whether they returned is unknown. The last Indian tragedy in this region occurred about the year 1785, and was perpetrated by a party of savages on their way to New York state. A family of three—father, mother and son—were murdered on the Mifflin "flats." They had pushed some distance ahead of the body of immigrants with which they traveled, and who, upon reaching the summit of the hill on the following day, saw the smoke from the cabin and retired to Catawissa. Returning in a few days, they buried the dead in one grave. It appears that a neighbor of this unfortunate family, with a presentiment of danger, crept into a potato-hole or cave-cellar for protection; in the dead of night he came out to reconnoiter, and found the savages sleeping on the floor of his cabin. He retreated to his asylum and was not discovered. Of the subsequent permanent settlement, the first families came after the close of the war, and included the familiar names of Creasy, Angle, Gruver, Aten, Kirkendall, Brown, Koder, Bowman and Kern. All these families came from Warren county, New Jersey, a section that gave to Columbia county many of its best citizens in the earlier years of its history. Those who appeared first followed the Reading road to Catawissa, and from that point made their way over the river hills. At a later period the journey was made by way of Beaver meadows and the Sugar-Loaf across the Buck, Broad and Nescopeck mountains. The river "bottoms," now acknowledged to exceed in fertility any other part of the township, were regarded by the pioneers as pine "barrens." They turned from them to the surrounding hilly region, well watered and covered with a luxuriant growth of timber.

Nicholas Angle located on Ten-Mile run\* a mile from its source. West-

\*The name of this stream has no reference to its length. When the hill road from Catawissa was surveyed, ten miles had just been completed upon ascending the hill. The propriety of the name is thus explained.

ward, at the base of Nescopeck mountain, Paul Gruver made an improvement, and in his neighborhood Thomas Aten and Jacob Schweppenheiser also settled. The latter built the first saw-mill in the township on a branch of Ten-Mile creek. On the ridge above this stream were the Creasys, John and David Brown and the Kirkendalls. John Brown, Sr., in 1793 located in the valley of the creek on a tract of four-hundred acres purchased by his father for twelve dollars an acre. It included the Brown mill property, the Frymire and Snyder farms.

A considerable German element from Berks and Lehigh counties appeared subsequent to the arrival of the families just mentioned. Among the number the Hartzels, Mostellers, Zimmermans and Mensingers are still represented.

In August, 1794, John Kunchel and William Rittenhouse laid out a town on the Mifflin "flats," and conferred upon it the name of Pennsylvania's first governor. The original draft describes it as "situate on the south side of the river Susquehanna, opposite to three islands in Catawissa township, Northumberland county, about thirty miles above Sunbury, and the same distance below Wilkesbarre." The last part of this description is significant. The erection of Northumberland county in 1772, and of Luzerne in 1786, with their seats of justice sixty miles apart, made it probable that the formation of a county from the adjacent parts of each would eventually be necessary, and these enterprising founders, taking time by the fore-lock, sought to emphasize the eligibility of Mifflinsburg as the county seat of the future. While the population of the township was receiving constant additions in rapid succession, the town of Mifflinsburg increased in size with a slowness which characterized the growth of other places in this section at the period.

The floods of nearly a century have gradually but effectually denuded the islands of their once fertile soil, leaving a barren sand-bar to mark the location of each. At this point the course of the river is slightly curved away from the "flats," and the bank is steep and high. Front or First street extended along the river a distance of one mile. Market crosses it at a right-angle and extends the same distance through the center of the town. In the rear of Front are four parallel streets, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth. Ferry street is above Market, at the eastern limit of the town plot. West street forms the opposite boundary. Market and Third are one-hundred and thirty-two feet wide. Their intersection formed the public square, in which an acre of ground was reserved for the site of public buildings. All the corner lots on Fourth, ten in number, were reserved as locations for houses of worship. The public spirit of the proprietors was further manifested by appropriating two lots on Third for the respective locations of a German and an English college. Neither of these institutions ever progressed further than this incipient state, if we except a school opened in 1794 by David Jones in a hut which stood among the scrub oak and pine beyond the limits of the prospective town.

The first house in the village was built by Peter Yohe, a German from Berks county, and occupied a lot adjoining Hess hotel. It is said that before his first crop had matured, being reduced to the last extremity for food he went to Wilkesbarre in a canoe, and there procured a bushel of corn. It may be inferred from this circumstance that he entered the region at a very early date. Other old houses stood at the south-west corner of Race and Third, on Market between Front and Second, and on Front above Market. Their respective occupants were John Reynolds, Christian Kunchels and Michael Wehr. The landing of the ferry was some distance above its present location. Raftsmen on the river frequently replenished their supplies of rum and provisions at



the hotel of Matthias Heller, on Front street. Subsequently, Jacob Harman built another public house a short distance from the site of the present one, and here opened the first store in the township. About the year 1825 Clement Millard, M. D., a native of Philadelphia and nephew of Dr. Benjamin Rush, located in the town as its first regular physician.

The sagacity of the proprietors in locating it midway between Sunbury and Wilkesbarre, and in making generous provision for religious and educational institutions could not compensate for its commercial disadvantages. So apparent was this, that no attempt was made to accomplish their original design when the new county was eventually erected. In 1808 an unsuccessful effort was made to induce the projectors of the Mauch Chunk and Towanda turnpike to locate its course through the town. The "North Branch" canal might have conferred substantial benefit on the place had it not been constructed on the opposite side of the river. To reap the greatest advantages from this line of traffic, Captain Yants proposed the erection of a bridge, and with characteristic promptness and energy secured subscriptions to the amount of some thousands of dollars. Although a comparatively small amount in additional pledges would have secured an appropriation from the legislature, the enterprise was never consummated.

Failing to realize any pecuniary benefit from the town, the proprietors ceased to exercise any supervision over its affairs. Many of the lots were occupied and improved without any formal purchase, and are held to this day under no tenure save the right of possession. The streets and commons originally embraced one hundred acres. Many of the citizens curtailed the width of the streets by appropriating for cultivation those portions adjoining their lots. To such an extent had this been carried that in some places the public ways were scarcely wide enough for the passage of a single vehicle. Such proceedings demanded a vigorous protest from the conservative element of the population. Accordingly on the evening of Saturday, March 28, 1835, thirty-one citizens assembled in the school-house to take into consideration the propriety of opening the streets. Captain S. B. M. Yants was called to the chair, and Benjamin Seidle appointed secretary; John Keller, S. B. M. Yants, Benjamin Seidle, Samuel Harman and Charles Hess were elected a town committee for a period of six years. They were empowered to take measures for a re-survey of the town, to rent the public lots, and to call meetings of the citizens. Though not regarded as a legally constituted body, these town committees have never been opposed in the exercise of their prerogatives. After five days' work in locating the corners of the streets, Ezra E. Hayhurst, the surveyor, produced a plat of the town in which the original wide streets and broad commons were again a prominent feature.

With no facilities for transportation until the construction of the North and West Branch railroad, Mifflinville has not been a desirable point for the location of industrial enterprises. On a small scale the manufacture of blasting powder was begun in 1855 by Matthew Brown and Samuel Snyder. Their mill had been in operation but three days when an explosion completely shattered the building and machinery. Such occurrences, from their frequency, eventually ceased to attract attention. The old stamping process was here used. The product found a ready sale in the coal regions of the state; but the manufacture has been abandoned, having ceased to be profitable since the opening of works on a larger scale at other points. Contrary to the wishes of its citizens, the rail-road station has been given the name of Creasy. The town comprises one hundred houses, six stores, a commodious school building and three church edifices. At Zion church, some distance in the country, an Evan-





*C. How*



gical congregation meets for worship. Considering the provision made for buildings of this latter character, it is a matter of surprise that more religious societies have not gained a footing.

The Lutheran and Reformed congregations were the first to avail themselves of the generosity of the proprietors. April 19, 1809, articles of agreement for the erection of a union church building were signed by their respective representatives. It was begun the same year, but not completed until four years later. Among those who have ministered to the Reformed congregation may be mentioned Reverends Dieffenbach, Shellhamer, Tobias, Hoffman, Huttenstein and Dechant. The Lutheran congregation was organized in 1809 by Reverend John Paul Ferdinand Kramer. His predecessor, Reverend Shelhardt, was one of the pioneers of his church in the Susquehanna valley. The Wolf, Hetler, Creasy, Brown and Gruver families formed the first organization. Its successive pastors were Reverends Kessler and Schindle; Isaiah Bahl from 1830 to 1862; William Fox from that date until 1868; S. S. Henry, the succeeding four years; Thomas Steck from 1873 to 1879, and J. P. German in charge since August 1, 1881. In January, 1882, the union between the two congregations was dissolved. The Lutherans laid the corner-stone of a new structure August 14, 1883, and dedicated it December 2 of the same year. During the winter of 1859-60, as a result of radical difference of opinion regarding certain points of doctrine and discipline, a portion of the German Lutheran congregation separated from it and organized an English Lutheran church. Reverend E. A. Sharrets has been succeeded by Henry R. Fleck, David Truckenmiller, William E. Krebs, M. V. Shadow and J. E. F. Hassinger, the present pastor. A neat brick structure erected in 1860 has since then been used as a house of worship.

About the time the German element was establishing a church home, Methodist services were held in the house of Samuel Brown, and when the growing number of adherents to this faith could no longer congregate here, in the barn of Henry Bowman. In 1819 Samuel Brown built a small frame house near the burial ground of his family. A gallery extended around three sides of the interior, and was reached by ascending a ladder; the pulpit had the appearance of a bird's nest affixed to the wall some distance above the floor. It was scarcely large enough to contain the portly form of Reverend Marmaduke Pearce, but as this was one of the few appointments on his circuit with any house of worship whatever, he cheerfully submitted to this inconvenience. A frame church building erected in Mifflinville in 1831 was used for Methodist services during the following thirty years. In 1861 it was replaced by the house of worship now occupied. This congregation is connected with the Danville district of the Central Pennsylvania conference.

The South Mifflin Mills were erected in 1869 by George Nungesser, who conducted them until 1881, since which time they have been operated by William J. Nungesser. The mills are equipped with three run of buhrs, and have a capacity of grinding 100 bushels of grain per day, and are supplied with water from Ten-Mile creek, which flows by the mill. The building is 36x45 feet, and three stories in height.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

## MAINE TOWNSHIP.

PREVIOUS to 1799, what is now Maine township was included in the extensive territory of Catawissa; for nearly fifty years after that date the portion adjoining Mifflin was embraced in that township, the western part of Maine still forming part of Catawissa. In January, 1844, by authority of the court, the township of Maine was erected, its boundary on the north being the Susquehanna, and on the south Catawissa mountain.

It comprises a beautifully diversified area. The distinguishing features in this respect are the bluffs which overlook the Susquehanna; the Mifflin valley in their rear, at the base of the Nescopeck mountains; the regular contour of this range, and its abrupt termination above the Catawissa creek; the valley of that stream, as it winds around the projecting spurs of the mountain of the same name, and the mine-gap road, where it ascends Catawissa mountain.

It was while this region was known as Augusta township, and included in Berks county, that its first permanent settlers appeared upon the soil. In the year 1709 Samuel John emigrated from Wales to Uwchlan, Chester county. Samuel John, Jr., removed from his father's farm to Exeter, Berks county, and from this place, in 1772, his son, Isaac John, with Margaretta (Broug), his wife, having purchased three-hundred acres of land in the valley of Catawissa creek, removed, thus becoming the first residents within the limits of the township of Maine. During the summer of 1778 they were twice compelled to leave their farm, and, to increase their misfortunes, a loss of one-hundred pounds was incurred by the depreciation of Continental currency. They occupied a log cabin, a story and one-half high, the door being in the roof, and reached by a ladder within and one without. It seems almost incredible, but it is a well attested fact that a family of ten children was brought up in this house, one of whom, Abraham, was the grandfather of Wesley John, the present owner of the land on which it was situated.

Among those who followed Isaac John and pushed farther up the valley of the creek were Peter and John Klingaman, both of whom located in the vicinity of Mainville. Jacob Gearhart, from Allamingo, Berks county, made a clearing on the hill above the town. Jacob Bower, from Lehigh county, settled on a tract nearer the river. These persons were all in the region prior to 1808, and complete the number of early settlers. The route followed by them from the lower counties was the Reading road; from Catawissa a passage was opened by themselves into the valley of the creek at the gap between the Nescopeck and Catawissa mountains. John Hauck in 1815 erected the first iron furnace in Columbia county.

The advantages of this location were the water-power available, an abundant supply of fuel and the short distance to the Reading road. The ore was brought in wagons from the bogs of Locust mountain; the most important deposit was situated near the present site of the town of Centralia. It was hauled through Roaringcreek, and thence by the Mine Gap road to Hauck's furnace. It is said that at a spring at the foot of Catawissa mountain the teamsters were accustomed to pour water over the ore, in order to increase its weight. Such a deception could not be readily discovered, as the ore was naturally damp and heavy.



For several years this furnace was the only one in Columbia county. Its product was sent to Reading to be forged and returned for local consumption. In 1821 Mr. Hauck built a mill near his furnace, the first in Maine township. In 1831 Abraham Creesemer became proprietor of both. Harley and Evans in 1826 constructed a forge on the same stream. It was operated until 1883; but the furnace, abandoned as no longer profitable, had succumbed to decay some years previous.

The Mainville Mills, grist and saw-mills, J. M. Nuss & Son, proprietors.—The grist-mill was erected in 1814, and after nearly three-quarters of a century still remains. The edifice is 45x50 feet, and three stories and a half in height. The old process was used up to 1885, but in May of that year the roller process was introduced, and the capacity of the mill is now fifty barrels per day. The miller is Nathan Houck, who has had an experience of twenty years in the business. The mill is conducted by John M. Nuss & Son, who have operated it since 1876. A saw-mill, which is run during the winter and spring, is also operated by this firm.

The prospect of a successful manufacturing enterprise being established at Mainville was not always as discouraging as it has finally become. From 1832 to 1838 the Catawissa rail-road was graded at various sections of the line in Maine township. The gap between Nescopeck and Catawissa mountains was crossed by a network of trestling, constructed at an enormous cost. Then the work suddenly ceased. In 1853, nearly twenty years later, work was resumed and the road was completed. In the mean time, however, the bridge timbers at the Catawissa crossing had become so rotten as to necessitate the removal of the entire structure before even a track had been laid over it. A second rail-road, the Danville, Hazleton and Wilkesbarre line, was built through Mainville some years later, and at a still later period the North and West Branch rail-road was constructed at the extreme northern boundary of the township, on the southern bank of the Susquehanna. On the Catawissa railroad stations are located at Mainville and Forensty; on the Sunbury, Hazleton and Wilkesbarre road (so known since the sale and reorganization of the Danville, Hazleton and Wilkesbarre), at Mainville and Mainville Trestling. Mainville has in consequence a degree of business activity. The place comprises twenty dwellings, three stores, a lumber yard, school-house and church edifice, in which a Methodist congregation worships.

Previous to 1880 religious services were held in the school-building. At the Second Quarterly conference of the Mifflinville circuit, August 7, 1880, E. W. Low, Lafayette Creasy, J. J. Brown, C. L. Bencoter, J. D. Bodine and J. W. Shuman were appointed a committee to erect a house of worship at Mainville. John W. Shuman deeded ground for the location. October 10, 1881, work on the building was begun. It was completed and dedicated the following year. Reverend C. L. Bencoter, pastor at that time, has been succeeded by Reverends John W. Hoening and J. K. Dearor.

The oldest religious societies in Maine township are the Lutheran and Reformed. In 1813 they erected a rude log structure, the first predecessor of a commodious church edifice which replaced it in 1877. The corner-stone was laid July 15th of that year, and the dedication occurred November 11th following. The corner-stone of the second church building was laid September 23, 1832. This edifice was dedicated January 16, 1833. The burial ground near the church was deeded by Henry Fisher, Peter Bowman, John Neuss and John Peiffer. In a cemetery adjoining, many of the first residents of the township are buried. These churches have generally been connected with those of the same denomination at Catawissa.

The primitive structure at Fisher's was used for school as well as religious purposes. In 1824 John Watts opened a school here, which was continued by different persons until public schools were established. In 1820 the first school in Maine township was opened by Jacob Gensel, near George Fleming's carding mill, on Scotch run. During the term ending June, 1, 1886, five teachers were employed for a term of five months, at an average salary of thirty dollars per month. This compares favorably with reports from wealthier and more thickly settled localities.

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## CHAPTER XIX.

### BEAVER TOWNSHIP.

BEAVER TOWNSHIP, the fifth in order of time formed from the original territory of Catawissa, derives its name from a small stream, Beaver run, which flows through a valley of the same name, and empties its waters into the Catawissa creek after a course of ten miles from its source at the Luzerne county line. The region drained by this stream is a comparatively narrow valley between Buck and McCauley mountains. The former terminates abruptly a short distance from the point where these two streams unite. The latter is an interesting and peculiar feature of the topography. Rising to a considerable altitude above the surface of the valley at a point just within Columbia county, it extends westward in an unbroken trend for a distance of five miles, where, by a gradual slope, it sinks to the level of Catawissa creek; northward from the McCauley ridge is Nescopeck mountain—a natural and effective barrier, appropriately utilized as the boundary between Beaver and Mifflin townships. The regular and symmetrical proportions of these elevations appear in strong contrast with the varying characteristics of the Catawissa range. Distinguished by the spurs and foothills which mark its northern slope, it encloses Beaver township within its semi-circular convolutions. At its base the Catawissa creek meanders through a region of unbroken quiet disturbed only by the splash of its waters, or the shrill whistle of a locomotive as it rounds a curve, or rumbles over a trestling above. A no less secluded retreat is the valley of Scotch run, a small tributary stream whose course marks the lowest depression between the Nescopeck and McCauley mountains.

A region of alternating elevations and depressions, with no advantages of fertile soil or accessible location, did not attract settlement and improvement until the more desirable lands were no longer available. As early as 1774, however, Beaver valley was entered by Alexander McCauley, an account of whose mysterious disappearance is given in the history of Locust township. It is said that at this time his nearest neighbors were in the vicinity of Catawissa, excepting a community of beavers, who erected a dam on the stream, which derives its name from this circumstance, a short distance above its junction with Catawissa creek. The region known as "Beaver swamps included the area drained by both the affluents of this creek, Scotch run and Beaver run. The beaver, bear and deer were followed to these fastnesses by a class of men with whom danger and distance were no unfavorable considerations. Alexander McCauley retired from the frontier in 1776, none too soon to escape the ravages of the border warfare; but Andrew Harger, his neigh-

bor on Catawissa creek, with more courage than prudence, remained until summarily abducted by a party of hostile savages. For some days his captors pursued their journey in a northerly direction, their destination apparently being what was then known as Upper Canada. Without any apparent reason they turned about when they had reached a point in western New York, and after several weeks of suspense and anxiety Harger realized that he was somewhere in the vicinity of the north branch of the Susquehanna. He had now been in captivity nearly a year, but was not guarded as closely as at first. Embracing a favorable opportunity of escape, he made his way to the river by night, and concealed himself beneath a pile of drift wood. With a surprising degree of physical endurance, he kept his body beneath the water, while, through the crevices between the logs, his foes were plainly seen engaged in the search. For seven days he continued his journey, subsisting on such roots and herbs as were nutritious, and on a maimed turkey he was so fortunate as to capture. Greatly emaciated, he at last reached a frontier settlement wiser by one year's experience as an Indian prisoner.

No attempt was made to resume the settlement of the "Beaver swamps" until after the close of the revolution. No considerable number of people were yet residents at the time Mifflin township was formed, in 1799. Thomas Wilkinson, an Englishman, lived in a cave along Catawissa creek near the site of an Indian town and burying ground, but does not appear to have extended a very cordial welcome to the settlers who followed him and invaded the solitudes he seemed to have regarded as his exclusive property. James Van Clargan, the Klingamans, Oaks, Rarig, Mensinger, Swank, Longenberger and Fisher families were among the first to become permanent settlers. The Van Clargans cleared the farm now occupied by Charles Michael. The farms owned by the Klingamans were claimed by Daniel Oaks, an Englishman from New Jersey, but his rights were disputed by Reuben Eyerly. Oaks and all his family were one night burned in their house. Eyerly was seen in the neighborhood the preceding evening; there was not, however, sufficient evidence to criminate him, and he was set at liberty. He was subsequently hanged on a similar charge. About 1810 John Dalins, a German from Lehigh county, made an improvement near Catawissa creek, at the foot of the mountain. Following the course of the creek John Rarig, Ludwig Mensinger and John Hoats, from Berks county, cleared the land on what is now the Catawissa and Ringtown road. John and Christian Shuman, from Catawissa, erected a tannery and saw mill on the site of the present tannery at Shumantown.

The route followed by these persons from the southern counties was the Reading road to Catawissa, and from that point a way opened by themselves along Catawissa creek. This road was subsequently extended to Reading but was not improved until 1852, although traveled extensively long before that time. For many years the hotel of Adam Michael, at the foot of Buck mountain, was a prominent place of social resort. When Mifflin township was erected in 1799 Mifflinville was the voting place for the population of Beaver valley; subsequently the Paxton election district, so named in honor of Colonel Joseph Paxton, was formed out of the region south of Nescopeck mountain, and a voting place was established at Michael's hotel; finally in November, 1845, the township of Beaver was erected, comprising nearly the same area previously included in the separate election district. While these changes were being made in the political organization of the region, plans were being matured the execution of which promised to revolutionize the industrial character of its people. The object of those who projected these changes was the development of rich deposits of coal supposed to exist in the McCauley and Buck mountains.



As early as 1826 the presence of coal in the McCauley mountain was an established fact. Ten years later Nicholas Biddle and others projected the Catawissa railroad, and graded various sections of the line in Beaver township. Not until 1853, however, was the road open to traffic and travel. The attention of capitalists and others was then directed to the coal measures of the McCauley and Buck mountains thus brought within reach of transportation facilities. By an act approved May 5, 1854, the McCauley railroad company was incorporated, the rail-road projected being a line five miles in length to connect the coal veins of McCauley mountain with the Catawissa rail-road. By an act approved April 27, 1855, Charles B. Penrose, Lee W. Buffington, M. D., and John C. Sims were constituted the Columbia Coal and Iron company. By the provisions of its charter the capital stock was fixed at five-hundred thousand dollars, and its operations confined to Columbia and Montour counties. By an act approved April 19, 1858, the McCauley rail-road company was consolidated with the Columbia Coal and Iron company. The construction of the rail-road and of an extensive coal breaker was begun, a tract of land embracing two-thousand four-hundred acres having previously been purchased. It embraces four tracts, originally surveyed for John Reese, John Brady, Jeremiah Jackson and Robert Gray, in pursuance of their warrants issued December 7, 1793. In 1867 coal shipments from the McCauley colliery were begun. The same year Simon P. Case erected another breaker, and formed the Beaver creek Coal company. Five years later the coal deposits at both points were practically exhausted. In September, 1869, both breakers and the track of the McCauley rail-road were removed. The shaft of the Columbia Coal and Iron company is under lease from James Long, James Hunter and P. W. Shaffer, its successors, to Allen Mann, who operates it to a limited extent to supply local consumption.

Although the mining of coal on the east side of McCauley mountain had resulted disastrously to the corporations which attempted it, Simon P. Case, having completed the construction of the Danville, Hazelton and Wilkesbarre rail-road, as pretended owner of a tract of land on the line of that road and the west slope of the McCauley mountain, leased the Glen City colliery to J. H. Losee for a period of ten years. After several years of litigation between Simon P. Case and George Longenberger, the latter secured a verdict in his favor as rightful owner of the Glen City colliery. The lease of J. H. Losee expired April 1, 1881, when the colliery was suspended for five years. In 1886 James and Mary McAlarney completed improvements and repairs about the works, which resumed operations under favorable circumstances. Adjoining the Glen City colliery, Allen Mann and F. L. Shuman, as lessees of Long, Fisher and Shaffer, successors of the Columbia Coal and Iron company, operated the McCauley colliery from 1873 to 1876. With reference to the development of the coal product of Beaver township, it is only necessary to state further that Coxe Brothers & Company are the operators of a colliery at Gowen, in Luzerne county, the excavations of which extend into Columbia county, following the Buck mountain vein. The coal measures at this point have not, as yet, been exhausted.

In addition to the rail-road above mentioned, Beaver is traversed by the Tide-Water Pipe-Line, the features of which, as a factor in distributing an important commodity of the state, are of an entirely different character. The economy and convenience of transporting petroleum from the wells to shipping points by means of pipe-lines was realized by the proprietors of oil-wells at an early period in the development of the oil region of Pennsylvania. Until 1880, however, no pipe-line of any extent had been successfully operated. In that



year the Standard Oil Company practically demonstrated the feasibility of transporting crude petroleum long distances through iron tubes, the principle being to take advantage of the action of gravity upon the flowing liquid whenever possible, and surmount the obstacles of varying elevation by powerful force pumps when necessary. With the object of lessening the expense of transporting oil to distributing points on the sea-board, the Tide-Water Pipe Line Company in 1882 secured the right of way for a pipe-line from Rixford, in McKean county, to Tamanend in Schuylkill, a distance of one-hundred and eighty miles. Notwithstanding the violent opposition of rival corporations, the enterprise was successfully consummated in the autumn of the same year. The course surveyed enters Columbia county after crossing the Muncy hills, passes several miles north of Jerseytown and about the same distance south of Buckhorn, crossing the Fishing creek and Susquehanna at the mouth of the former stream. The course of Catawissa creek is followed through the townships of Main and Beaver. The mains are six inches in diameter, the cost of construction aggregating six-thousand dollars per mile. Although involving this enormous expense, the financial success of the enterprise may be inferred from the fact that it has reduced the cost of oil transportation to one-twentieth of the former freight charges. A telegraph line connects the office of the general superintendent at Williamsport with the several pumping stations along the route. These are located at Rixford, McKean county; Olmstead, Potter county; County-Line and Muncy, in Lycoming; and Shuman's, in Columbia. The distance between the last named two is one-hundred miles; between Shuman's and Tamanend, the terminus of the line, seventeen miles. Owing to the presence of a considerable elevation between Shuman's and Tamanend, the pumping apparatus is there constructed on a larger scale than at Muncy. The altitude to be surmounted, and not the distance, determines the amount of force necessary to propel the stream of oil.

Shuman's pumping station is situated in Beaver valley, near the line of the Catawissa rail-road. The buildings and grounds comprise an area of five acres. The plant consists of an oil tank, furnace and boiler, a steam engine and pumping apparatus. The oil tank is thirty feet high and ninety-five feet in diameter; wrought-iron plates, a half-inch in thickness, and a canvass roof enclose an air-tight compartment with a capacity of thirty-five-thousand barrels. The two pumps are capable, respectively, of elevating fifteen-thousand and ten-thousand barrels of oil in twenty-four hours to an altitude of one-thousand three-hundred and twenty-five feet, the vertical distance from Beaver valley to the summit. A battery of three "Riter and Conley" boilers, and a "Murphy smokeless furnace" generate the power which performs this work, while the machine which applies it is a Holly engine of three-hundred horsepower. By means of an elaborate system of gauges, the superintendent is enabled to compute with mathematical exactness the amount of work performed by every pound of coal or gallon of water consumed. The buildings throughout are equipped with every appliance of convenience and comfort. Cleanliness, order and discipline are everywhere apparent, the results of a rigid, personal supervision by Mr. F. G. Laner, who has now (September, 1886,) been superintendent for several years. The ceaseless whirr of the machinery is the only disturbing element in the quiet of the surrounding neighborhood.

Beaver Valley Mills.—The present mill structure was commenced in 1876, the old building having been destroyed by fire while the proprietor, F. L. Shuman, was at the Centennial at Philadelphia. In 1881 Mr. Shuman sold the mills to Charles Reichart, who was the proprietor until December, 1885, when he sold to Dr. A. P. Heller of Millville, who bought for his son, Sher-

man Heller, and April 1, 1886, the present firm, McHenry & Heller, was organized. The building is 36x40 feet, three stories high, and equipped with two run of buhrs, one chop stone, and the roller process for buckwheat. The power to move the mill is supplied from a dam across Catawissa creek. M. W. McHenry, one of the firm, is the miller.

Failing to give more than a temporary impetus to the industrial pursuits of Beaver township, the erection of railroads has also failed to impart permanent benefit to the schools and churches of the region. In 1821 Isaac Davis taught the first school in the township, at Kostenbänder's mill. Four years later he opened another in his dwelling, in the southern part of the township. In the same year Henry Schell taught in a dwelling near Beaver church, and Adam Holocher near the old Michael hotel. Education was conducted by these pedagogues with a primitive simplicity admirably imitated by their successors at the present day.

The first Methodist sermon in Beaver was delivered in the year 1815 in the house of David Davis. Reverends Dawson, Rhoads, Taneyhill and Monroe continued these services, the last named clergyman in the winter of 1822-23 organizing a congregation. Owing to a lack of harmony among its members, it was subsequently disbanded. The house of worship is now occupied by an Evangelical congregation.

A union house of worship, built by the Lutheran and Reformed denominations, has long been known as the "Beaver Church." Both congregations have had many pastoral changes, and are now served by the pastors at Ringtown, Schuylkill county.

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## CHAPTER XX.

### ROARINGCREEK TOWNSHIP.

**R**OARINGCREEK, the third township formed from Catawissa, embraced when erected in 1832, the townships of Locust and Conyngham in addition to its present limited area. A semi-circular spur of the Little mountain forms the eastern boundary, and extends farther only a short distance until it is merged into the Catawissa range. This natural barrier separates Roaringcreek from the adjoining county of Schuylkill. It formerly included the head waters of both branches of the creek, from which circumstance with great propriety it received its name. When this designation was first applied to the stream cannot be definitely ascertained. Under its Indian name of Popememtunk, it is mentioned at various times by early visitors to the region; but in the earliest warrants for surveys the Indian name is nowhere mentioned, the stream being always referred to as Roaring creek.

In the year 1850 the township was reduced to its present limits by the formation of Montour county. There had for some time been a desire for a division of the township; however, as may be learned from the history of Locust, the provisions, under which the division was at first effected, failed to entirely satisfy those most concerned. By a re-adjustment of the county line it was proposed to again include in Roaringcreek the territory taken from it; but meanwhile both divisions of the original township had elected their respective officers. This arrangement was abandoned in view of the complications which

would have inevitably resulted, and the township has been neither increased nor diminished since 1850.

Among the first persons who located within the present limits of Roaringcreek were Samuel Hunter and Bezaliel Hayhurst. The former secured a patent under date of July 25, 1774, for a tract of land known as "Trout Springs" farm. He died in 1784, having made his will in a house on the land now owned by John Whitner. From Alexander Hunter, who succeeded to the ownership of part of this tract, it passed into possession of George Randall, and from him to Abram Whitner, the father of the present owner. Other persons who secured tracts in the southern part of the township at the head waters of Roaring creek were Samuel Morris and Anthony Morris, Hugh and Michael Hughes, Francis Artilla and Barbara Artilla, Henry Hurtzel, Andrew Helwig, John Hemminger, John Harmon, George Groh, George Duvald, Stephen Peabody and George Dewees.

"Four Springs Farm," along Mill creek, was patented to Adam Zantinger November 9, 1784, although the warrant for its survey had been issued ten years previous to that date. It adjoined the lands of Jonathan Pearson, Bartholomew Wambech and the Wilson and Robinson tract. Christian Immel, Peter Minnich, Frederick Wagoner, William Lamon and Christian Shultz owned the mountain lands above the Mill creek. What has since proved to be the best farming land in the township was originally surveyed for Matthew McGlath, Charles Truckenmiller, John McKay, Jacob Shakespear and Thomas Fisher.

Some of these persons, the Immels, Hayhursts, Hughes, and others, planted their homes here and are now resting in unmarked graves in the Friends' Roaringcreek burial-ground. Of scarcely a single tract can it be said that it remains in the family of the original owners. German families, the Whitners, Rarigs, Kunkles, Driesbachs, Houcks, Holstines, Kreischers and Songenbargers, followed in the wake of the Quakers, and rapidly gained the ascendancy in population and wealth. They followed the Reading and Sunbury state road from their former homes in Berks and Northampton counties to a point beyond Ashland where it was intersected by a turnpike leading northward; this was traveled to Bear Gap, in Locust township, from which the distance to the upper branch of Roaring creek was comparatively short and easy.

A road from Catawissa direct to Reading, entering the present limits of the township at its northern boundary, and, crossing the Little mountain in a southeast direction, gave to the people on this upper branch the same advantages conferred by the turnpike to the people at the Gap, and by the other Reading road to the farmers midway between the two. At first, wheat was the only article for which there was any market; the best white wheat had to be hauled to Reading in order to be worth forty or fifty cents a bushel. Subsequently, when the orchards first planted began to bear, dried apples became a valuable commodity. Stage coaches were run on this road for a few years immediately after it was opened, about the year 1812. The advantages of an easier and shorter route over the older Sunbury and Reading road as far as Ashland, and thence to Catawissa, caused their transfer to the latter road. The highway to Reading through the valley of upper Roaring creek has certainly done much to develop the timber resources of the region. It has been, and is still the route over which nearly all the produce of the farms finds a market in the mining towns of Schuylkill county.

The first mill in the township was erected about the year 1816, shortly after this road was opened. James Hibbs, Senior, was the proprietor, and the



place is still known as Hibbs' mill. March 13, 1793, in partnership with Joseph Hampton, he bought a tract of land from John Nixon and Alexander Foster, Philadelphia merchants, who, under date of Sept. 26, 1783, had secured a patent for it. Judah Cherington in 1856 built the present mill, which is now owned by Peter Swank. Abner Hampton, a son of Joseph Hampton just mentioned, built a small mill on Mill creek some years after the Hibbs mill was built. It subsequently came into possession of William Heupka, who removed it and erected the present building. It is now owned by John Mourer.

A few houses were built around Hibbs mill, eventually forming the village of Mill Grove. Judah Cherington opened the only store in the township in 1859; it is now owned by O. W. Cherington, who, as the result of his energetic persistence, opened a post-office a few years since. It is the only one in the township and certainly a great convenience to the people.

The Hibbs name is also associated with the first school in the township. In the year 1816, in a dwelling owned by Mahlon Hibbs, a son of James Hibbs, Senior, Joseph Stokes opened a subscription school. In the following year Thomas Cherington, a teacher of thirty-six years' experience in Berks county, entered the township. He was also a surveyor; a work on mathematics prepared by him and still preserved in manuscript form evinces considerable ability and carefulness. It was for the purpose of instructing the family of his son Samuel, who was a mill-wright, that he was first induced to come over the mountains. He cheerfully took the children of neighboring families into his school, however, and continued it several winters. Samuel Cherington succeeded his father and remained a teacher for many years. In 1821 the school in Mahlon Hibbs' house was reopened by Charles Brush. David Chase was another early teacher. The first house used exclusively for school purposes was built in 1830 where number two school is now held. In this school-house for twenty-three years the only religious organization in the township held its services.

The Roaringcreek appointment of the Methodist Episcopal church has had an existence of seventy years. Previous to the building of the school-house, people of this faith met in the barn of John Yocum, about a mile from the school-building, on the farm now owned by Elijah Horn. Mrs. Yocum's family, the MacIntyres of Catawissa township, may well be called the leaders of Methodism in this whole section. Among those who worshiped here were Phoebe Dyer, J. J. Thomas, Joseph Jesse, and Ezra Yocum and Samuel Horn. The first preachers were Reverends Oliver Ege, Alem Brittain and Thomas Taneyhill.

In the year 1853 measures were taken to erect a church-building. William Yocum, David Case, J. J. Thomas and William Rhoads, trustees, pushed the work with energy, and on the ninth day of June, in that year, the corner-stone was laid. The dedication service was held in the following autumn. The congregation since then has been served by Reverends Black, Tongue, Mendenhall, John Haughwant, Frank Gearhart, T. A. Cleese, S. V. Savage, John F. Brown and Jonathan Guilden.

In 1873 William Yeager, who had but recently entered the township from Parks county, offered one-hundred dollars and an acre of ground to any denomination of Christians who would build a house of worship thereon. Two years later Reverend M. P. Saunders, of the United Brethren church, held a bush-meeting in the vicinity, which resulted in the conversion of fourteen persons. The Free-Will congregation, United Brethren in Christ, was organized, and the erection of a church-building on the land of Mr. Yeager at once



begun. It was dedicated in the autumn of 1876, and a revival held the following winter increased the membership to sixty. The pastors since have been Reverends S. R. Kramer, H. S. Gable and G. W. Herrold, at present in charge.

Roaringcreek is distinctively an agricultural township. It does not have the rare advantage of an exceptionally fertile soil, nor are the markets for its products as accessible or convenient as would be desirable. But, in the transition from the log-houses and rude stables of fifty years ago to the substantial dwellings and barns of to-day; and in the contrast of the neglected, uninviting appearance of church and school buildings but twenty years ago with the comfortable, attractive structures of the present, there are evidences of a material prosperity and certain progress, slowly apparent, but nevertheless permanent in its character.

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## CHAPTER XXI.

### LOCUST TOWNSHIP.

THE erection of Locust grew out of the controversy regarding the boundary between Columbia and Montour counties. As at first defined Montour embraced nearly the whole of Roaringcreek township. But by a readjustment of the division line in 1853, Roaringcreek township, in Montour, became Scott, in Columbia. By this name it was known for about one month, when, by act of assembly dated April 18, 1853, the name was changed to Locust. It is one of the eight townships originally embraced in Catawissa, when it was part of Northumberland county.

In the year 1768 the proprietary government acquired the title to all the northeastern section of the state, the southern limit of this purchase in Columbia county being nearly identical with the southern boundary of Locust township. The earliest warrants for surveys in this section were issued the following year. In these early records this region is mentioned as the valley of Roaring creek, in Augusta township, Berks county. From the older settlements of Maiden creek, Exeter and Reading, within the present limits of that county, the early Quaker settlers, after weeks of toilsome travel, reached the wilderness of Roaring creek. Their first point was Harris' ferry; from here the journey was continued, partly by water and partly by land, to Catawissa, which was practically their destination.

Warrants for surveys in this township were early issued in rapid succession, but there were comparatively few actual resident patentees until after the revolution. On the cessation of hostilities, however, the increased quiet and security of the frontier is indicated by the coming of many more families in 1785 than in any previous year. Among those now in the township were the Sidons, Bonsalls, Whiteheads, Hughes, Lees, Williams, Millards and Starrs.

Their names are not even locally remembered. In their pronounced opposition to all ostentation, they would not suffer the erection of a marble slab to perpetuate their memory. But in the early development of this fertile valley they have written a history of untiring toil for which few of them ever received any adequate return.

Pioneer life in this section was not devoid of adventure. To the labor of redeeming the waste places there was added the fear of wild beasts and still

wilder men. An occurrence that created wide-spread interest at the time, was the disappearance of Alexander McCauley. He came from Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1771, and settled in Beaver valley three years later. Fearing an Indian raid, his wife and three older daughters returned to Harris' ferry. They were followed in the fall by Mr. McCauley, his youngest daughter, Jeannie, and her brother, still younger. In 1783 they returned to the farm. In the autumn of that year his horses strayed away, and he followed them through the woods into what is now Locust township. At a house near Roaring creek he obtained information which induced him to continue the search. He was never again seen. Twenty-five years afterward, twenty Spanish dollars and a number of silver buttons were found in a deep ravine near Bear Gap. He was known to have carried such money, but any connection between his disappearance and this discovery can only be matter of conjecture.

In 1769 Samuel Mears arrived at Philadelphia and settled near Valley Forge. In the winter of 1777-78 several American officers were quartered at his house, and General Washington was a frequent visitor. June 6, 1787, he secured from the commonwealth a patent for land in the Roaring creek valley, and at once removed thither. In March, 1794, his eldest son, Alexander Mears, was married to Jeannie McCauley, who as a young girl has been mentioned as descending the Susquehanna eleven years before. The bridal party left the house of William Collins near Catawissa, and rode on horseback to the prospective home of Mr. and Mrs. Mears. The ceremony was here performed, and was duly celebrated after the manner of the olden time. It was one of the first marriages within the present limits of Locust township. Catawissa being the residence of the notary, and place of meeting for the Quakers, seems to have had a monopoly of these interesting occasions.

The first roads were merely bridle-paths from house to house, converging to a rough wagon track leading to Catawissa. This was the only point from which supplies were to be obtained. That only a minimum quantity was needed is readily apparent when it is remembered that only home-spun was worn, and that the style of living was as simple as the avowed religious character of the people could make it.

About the year 1798 Samuel Cherington, mill-wright of Maiden creek, erected a grist-mill and saw-mill for Thomas Linville on the site of the present one at Slabtown. It was the first in the present limits of the township, and was a great boon to the people.

Shortly afterward he built a grist-mill for Nathan Lee on the site of one now operated by Jeremiah Snyder. The machinery for this mill was brought from Philadelphia. The money was carefully stowed in two wooden boxes, which were concealed between the linings of a wagon-top and thus taken to the city. This was the largest mill in the whole region. During an extremely cold winter just before the war of 1812, people resorted to it from all directions, as its strong water-power enabled it to continue after the ice had compelled others to stop. But at last it too stood still. Then Nathan Lee resolved on an expedient of which, too late, he saw the folly. He placed a mass of straw around the water-wheels, and hoped, by firing it, to release them from their icy fetters. In one hour his mill and its bins of grain and meal were reduced to ashes. It almost resulted in a famine.

About the time that these mills were built, and during the decade following, there was an influx of people from the same old county of Berks, but differing widely from the Quakers who preceded them. They were Germans, some of whom had but recently come to this country, and by several years of service in the lower counties were obliged to redeem their passage money

before going farther. They entered the Roaring creek country by a road just opened from Reading northward across the mountains. This was a shorter route, but not an easy one by any means. Many of these people at once became proprietors. The price of land had appreciated from the twenty-five cents per acre, paid by the original patentees, to eight or ten dollars for cultivated land. The German element rapidly supplanted the Quaker, and has retained its predominance to the present day.

The road from Reading did not cease to be useful when the emigrants' load of goods and small drove of domestic animals had passed over it. It forthwith became his road to market; and Reading, on the Schuylkill river and canal, superseded Catawissa and Sunbury as the "town" for this section. Great covered wagons loaded with grain and corn wound slowly over the mountains. Twenty bushels of wheat were load enough for two horses. The journey to Reading and return required eight or ten days. The price of wheat was five shillings (sixty-two and one-half cents) per bushel.

About the year 1817 a sum of money was appropriated to improve the Reading road. Then a local strife of much bitterness ensued regarding its course in this township. Caspar Rhoads finally induced the viewers to decide on the upper road, which passed his hotel. The amount appropriated was not yet exhausted, and the lower road was also graded, to the satisfaction of all parties. A line of stage-coaches appeared in 1825, Joseph Weaver being proprietor. Benjamin Potts started an opposition line in 1839, and for some years both changed at Yeager's hotel in Slabtown. The opening of the Catawissa rail-road rendered them no longer profitable, and they were soon afterward discontinued.

The improvement of this Reading road led to the opening of the only manufacturing industry of any magnitude that has ever existed in Locust township. Directly after its completion, Esther furnace was built by Samuel Bittler. It was situated on land originally patented to Samuel Shakespear under date of August 17, 1773. The tract was located "on Roaring creek, nineteen miles from Fort Augusta," now Sunbury. David Shakespear inherited the land, and died in Newcastle county, Delaware. John Harland, as his executor, deeded it to Jacob Yocum, from whom it passed to the Bittlers. There was neither iron ore nor limestone in the vicinity, but an abundant supply of wood for charcoal, and a location near the Reading road were thought to compensate for these disadvantages. The bulk of the ore was carted from the Fishing creek valley. The articles at first manufactured were stoves, and the first cast-iron plows used in the region. Subsequently it was enlarged and leased successively to Trego & Co., Lloyd Thomas, and Fincher & Thomas. The opening of a canal along the Susquehanna made Catawissa the shipping point, and rendered the location less advantageous.

In 1845 Samuel Diemer became lessee, and in 1861 proprietor. From him it has passed successively to John Richards, John Thomas, D. J. Waller, Sr., and Caspar Thomas, and is now owned by Jacob Schuyler and J. B. Robison. A crumbling wall, overgrown with bushes, marks the place where the last blast was taken off twenty years ago.

About the year 1840 a new element, the Welsh, made its appearance in Locust township. Among the families were the Watkins, Evans, Humphreys, Reeses and Joneses. They bought farms with money brought from Wales; but after building a church many of them removed to the west and Canada.

The character of the early settlers of Locust township, its exclusively agricultural resources and the absence of any rail-road, have not favored the growth of towns. A small village, however, clustered around each of its old hotels;



but since the stream of travel over the Reading road has been diverted in other directions, their growth has ceased, the erection of a new house, or opening of a new store occurring only at long intervals, as the clearing of the forests and increase of population required.

The village of Slabtown was the first to receive a name. When Thomas Linvill began to saw lumber for the first houses, a few sheds were built of rough boards several rods above the mill. The name was suggested by their novel appearance, and is retained by the village that has succeeded them. Linvill bought his land from the Penroses, who secured it from James Lukens and John Pemberton, the original patentees. Lukens also sold a part of his tract to Andrew Trone, who built a log-house about the year 1797, a short time before the saw-mill was built. He opened a tavern at once, but in 1804 sold it to John Yeager, who continued as landlord for many years.

At that time Catawissa was the post-office for all this region. At Slabtown, however, there were postal facilities which were both appreciated and patronized by the farmers of the vicinity. In front of Yeager's hotel, a box with a sliding lid was fastened to a post. Persons going to Catawissa would look over its contents and take with them the out-going "mail;" on their return they would deposit what they had received at Catawissa in the box, retaining whatever was addressed to themselves, or to persons whom they would see on the road home. Everybody had access to the box. This postal service was perfect in its simplicity, but its workings were hardly free from friction, unless the prying propensities of human nature have but recently been developed. The appointment of John Yeager as post-master and of a regular weekly carrier, did not immediately result in entirely discontinuing the old way of distributing the mail. About the year 1847 the post-office was removed to the rival village of Numidia; but in 1855 it was again opened, and has been continued ever since under the name of Roaringcreek. The village at present embraces about a dozen substantial houses, a store, hotel, school-house and church. Yeager's tannery has been in successful operation since 1837. The Roaring creek is here spanned by an iron bridge, built in 1874, at a cost of one-thousand, five-hundred dollars.

Shortly after Andrew Trone built his hotel on Roaring creek, Caspar Rhoads built another about two miles farther south, on the upper Reading road. Samuel Cherington subsequently built the mill now owned by William Snyder. The place has been known as Kernville since 1840, when John Kern became proprietor of the village hotel. July 12, 1884, the post-office of Newlin was established, but this new name has not yet entirely superseded the older one in popular use.

Caspar Rhoads succeeded in having one course of the Reading road opened past his property, but the stage driver obstinately persisted in preferring the other. That the family might yet share in the profits of this travel, Isaac Rhoads, his son, in 1832 became landlord of a public-house on the lower road, built three years previous by Benjamin Williams. The half-dozen houses built around it have since been known as Rhoadstown. A post-office under this name was here opened from 1855 to 1864, when it was removed to Numidia.

The latter village is geographically nearest the center of the township, surrounded by the finest farms of the Roaring creek valley. It is situated on land originally patented to Nathan Lee; and it was his son-in-law, Peter Kline, who built the first house in the village. It was situated on the ground now occupied by Dr. Wintersteen's garden. In 1832 a store was opened in this hotel. It was not the first in the township, however, as one had been



kept by John Yeager at Slabtown five years previous. About the year 1835 Elijah Price laid out the town and changed the name from Leestown to New Media. Subsequently Anthony Dengler built the present hotel and store. By his energetic efforts the post-office was removed to Numidia from Slabtown in 1847; the local strife was renewed at frequent intervals, and in 1855 the office for the southern part of the township was removed to Rhoadstown. It was again opened at Numidia in 1864, and has since remained there.

A knowledge of the principles of Odd-Fellowship, gained from members of the order in other places, led to the formation of a branch of the society in Numidia. Good Will Lodge, I. O. O. F., was chartered April 17, 1847, but this charter was destroyed by fire and another issued four years later. George F. Craig, N. G.; Henry Apple, V. G.; Harmon Fahringer, secretary, and Christian Small, treasurer, are the present officers of the society. The lodge erected a hall some years ago at a cost of one-thousand dollars. This hall was also used by another society until its meetings were discontinued a few years since. Camp No. 204, Patriotic Order Sons of America, was chartered December 13, 1873. The twelve original members were D. N. Bachman, Joseph C. Knittle, William H. Morris, John Fetterman, John Gable, William H. Billig, David Fetterman, Charles W. Fisher, John H. Helwig, Albert Sevan, J. H. Vastine, Daniel Morris, Franklin Fetterman and Harmon Fahringer.

Numidia comprises a number of comfortable homes, and a store, hotel, carriage-shop and smithy, the usual and necessary features of a country village.

The Quaker pioneers of this region were characterized by a simplicity of life which permitted few wants their own efforts failed to supply; but, however well contented they may have been with the natural wealth of forest and farm, their industry was rapidly developing; they had a desire for general intelligence among their children which was never to any extent gratified. As soon as their numbers had so increased as to render it necessary, they erected a school-building and employed a teacher. The school-house was situated on the road from Newlin to Slabtown, near where the old Friends' meeting-house stands. William Hughes was one of the first teachers. In 1796 the school passed to the care of the Catawissa monthly meeting of Friends, by whom it was continued for twelve years.

The German population did not seem so desirous of continuing this school as the Quakers had been to secure it. However, they patronized the meeting-house school, which was subsequently taught by James Miller, and also others which had meanwhile been opened at Slabtown, Kerntown and Esther Furnace. Among the early teachers were Joseph Stokes, Alexander Mears, Joseph Hughes, Isaac Maish and a Mr. Crist.

In 1839 the public school question was voted upon, having been previously submitted to the people several times. The result was the establishment of public-schools, accomplished, it is said, by a majority of only one vote. Nine buildings for school purposes were erected that year in the districts known as Numidia, Beaver, Miller, Fisher, Wynn, Leiby, Eck, Deily and Furnace. This number has since been increased to thirteen. All the present buildings are in good repair; many of them are furnished with a degree of comfort, care and taste in strong contrast with the forbidding, neglected appearance of their earlier predecessors.

The first church-building, as well as the first school-house, was erected by the Quakers. It was built in 1796 on land adjoining their school-building. The Exeter monthly meeting granted them permission to hold weekly meetings at least ten years previous; subsequently a preparative meeting was established, which in 1796 became part of Catawissa monthly meeting, and was known as

the Roaringcreek preparative. In 1802 Amos Armitage was appointed overseer of this meeting in place of Joseph Hampton, who had held the office for some time. December 24, 1803, John Hughes and Thomas Linvill were appointed to assist Isaac Wiggins in the care and education of certain poor children of deceased Friends. December 12, 1804, Thomas Penrose succeeded Amos Armitage as overseer. The latter, with Job Hughes, Isaac Penrose, James Hughes and Samuel Siddons removed to Pelham, Upper Canada, the following spring. Later in the same year Isaac Wiggins and Thomas Linvill removed to Yonge Street, Upper Canada, and John Lloyd to Shortcreek, Ohio. February 2, 1808, Bezaleel Hayhurst succeeded to the office of overseer. In the same year he, with Thomas Penrose and Jeremiah Hughes, was appointed trustee to succeed Isaac Wiggins and Jacob Strahl. The title to the property was held in trust by these persons as long as any of their number was connected with this meeting; when the removal or death of some of them made such action necessary, a new board was appointed, to whom the title was transferred.

In 1808 the Roaringcreek preparative meeting was attached to Muncy, the monthly meeting of Catawissa having been discontinued. In 1814, Muncy Friends having first made the request, the quarterly meeting of the society at Philadelphia established the Roaringcreek monthly meeting. This was a virtual re-establishment of the old Catawissa meeting under a new name, for it embraced Catawissa, Berwick and Roaringcreek, the original territory.

Although much reduced in numbers the Friends of the vicinity have held regular meetings in the Roaringcreek meeting-house until a few years since. For ninety years it has been a place of worship. The quiet of the burial ground, within its crumbling, moss-grown wall, and the quaint appearance of the house itself, suggest thoughts of a people whose peculiar religious ideas and customs were but the expression of a sincere and uncompromising regard for truth and virtue.

In the year 1808 other religious teachers and preachers made their appearance. Reverend John Dieterich Adams, a Reformed minister from Sunbury, preached to the German people in a barn then owned by John Helwig, a short distance north of where Numidia has since been built. At the same place, and but a short time afterward, Reverend Frederick Plitt held services for the Lutherans. He rode on horseback from Philadelphia, and may be regarded as the pioneer minister of his church in Northern Pennsylvania. In October, 1815, Rev. Jacob Dieffenbach succeeded Mr. Adams, whose inconsistent life made the change necessary.

About this time measures were taken to build a house of worship. Caspar Rhoads, George Miller and Matthias Rhoads were appointed a building committee. They bought a lot from Jacob Kline and began to build at once. In the fall of 1816 the new structure was dedicated. It had not been completed, however, and remained in an unfinished condition for fifteen years.

For years after this religious services were held here once in every month by the two denominations, alternately. Denominational distinctions were not observed however; the whole church-going element of the German population attended all the services without regard to the liturgy used or the minister who preached. The privilege of hearing the Word expounded twelve times a year was too precious to be neglected.

The succeeding Reformed pastors were Reverends Knable, Tobias, Fursch, Steeley, Daniels and Moore; the Lutheran ministers, Reverends Baughey, Benninger, Schindle and Eyer. Reverend Eyer's pastorate began in 1837, and ended with his death in 1874, covering a period of thirty-seven years. During his ministry and that of Reverend Moore the present brick church build-



*J Pursel*





ing was erected. Reuben Fahringer, Leonard Adams, John Reinbold and Henry Gable were the building committee. Its cost was seven-thousand dollars. It was dedicated in the spring of 1870. Reverend William Litzel became pastor of the Lutheran congregation in 1874, and in 1878 Reverend L. Linderstreuth, who was succeeded in 1881 by Reverend J. H. Neiman, at present in charge. Reverend George B. Dechant has been, since 1872, pastor of the Reformed church.

Unfortunately the relations between the two congregations in recent years have not been harmonious. In the spring of 1882 the officers of the Lutheran congregation established a Lutheran Sunday-school in the union church-building. In July, 1883, the officers of the Reformed church, in a written protest, objected to the holding of a sectarian school in the house of worship jointly owned on the alternate Sundays, when its use for service belonged exclusively to them. An effort was made in 1885 to effect a peaceable settlement. It failed, however, owing to a want of unanimity among the Lutherans, and the matter has been referred to the civil court.

A desire for religious services in English, on the part of persons not connected with the Society of Friends, led to the establishment of a Methodist congregation, or at least the holding of Methodist services, about the year 1835 at the houses of Nathaniel H. Purdy and Michael Philips, near Rhoadstown. The early pastors, Reverends Oliver Ege and Thomas Taneyhill, were stationed at Sunbury.

Two of the Methodist congregations in Locust township form part of the Catawissa circuit. Previous to 1879 they were embraced in the Elysburg circuit. The oldest, however, known as the Bear-Gap church, is still included in that circuit. It has existed as an organization forty-five years, and is at present served by Reverend H. B. Fortner.

The Slabtown congregation worship in a building erected by the Reformed church in 1848. Three years later a Methodist camp-meeting was held in the vicinity; it resulted in the conversion of the most prominent of the Reformed members, and many others. The church-building thereupon became a Methodist place of worship, and as such it is used at the present day.

In 1864 the Welsh chapel appointment was begun by Reverend Franklin E. Gearhart. George Wheary was one of the first members. Some of the Quakers, and many English speaking persons from German families, speedily connected themselves with the organization. Reverends Henry S. Mendenhall, John F. Brown, T. A. Clees, John Guss, John Z. Lloyd, Thomas Owens and W. S. Hamlin have successively served this and the Slabtown appointments. In 1871 the services were held in a school-house. The discomfort of this arrangement led to the erection of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church. It was completed at a cost of twenty-two hundred and fifty dollars, and dedicated in the autumn of 1872. Isaac Dyer, Daniel Levan, Thomas Seaborne and William Kline were the trustees at the time.

The Welsh chapel mentioned above was built in 1850 on lands given for the purpose by James Humphreys and Michael Philips. The Welsh Baptists first occupied it, with Reverend William Jones as their first pastor. It is now a preaching point for the United Brethren church. This religious denomination was the last to make its appearance in the township. There are at present two other organizations in the township, St. Paul's and Fisher's. St. Paul's congregation was first served in 1866 by Reverend John Swank. The church-building was erected that year on land deeded to the church by John Richards. Fisher's church has resulted from a bush-meeting held in the summer of 1883

by Reverend J. G. M. Herrold. Ground for a house of worship was secured from Isaac Fisher. The new church-building will be completed before long.

The increase in the number and efficiency of church organizations and schools has resulted from the changed condition of the people in general. The last twenty years have been marked by greater material prosperity than any two succeeding decades in the previous history of the township. Woodland has been cleared and brought under cultivation; judicious drainage has improved the farming land and increased its value, and with more comfortable homes there are also better facilities for the intellectual and religious instruction of the people.

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## CHAPTER XXII.

### CONYNGHAM TOWNSHIP AND BOROUGH OF CENTRALIA.

CONYNGHAM was the seventh and last township formed out of the original territory of Catawissa. After being embraced successively in Roaringcreek and Locust, the extreme southern part of the county, at the February court, 1856, was erected into the township of Conyngham. It was named in honor of the president judge, Honorable John Nesbitt Conyngham, and by an unforeseen coincidence the township which perpetuates his name was formed at the last session in Bloomsburg over which he presided. The propriety of this tribute in appreciation of his upright character and unswerving integrity is attested by his eminent ability and untarnished record as an impartial judge and an honorable man.

Until the year 1830 Conyngham township, and indeed the western middle coal field, was known only as a wild, mountainous country, whose fastnesses were the haunts of the deer, the fox and the catamount. The region was not, however, entirely unknown. The Sunbury and Reading state road passed through Ashland, just at the foot of Locust mountain, and from that point a rough wagon track led over the mountains northward. About the year 1804 the Red tavern was built on the top of Locust mountain by John Rhodeburger. Subsequently, when in 1816 or 1817 the bridle path was so improved as to be really a good road, there was an almost ceaseless stream of travel past the Red house. Stage-coaches dashed down the level grade above, while the echoing horn intensified the hurry and confusion of the always noisy tavern yard. Four hostlers emerged from the stable door, ready to grasp the bits and undo the fastenings of the coach horses the moment they were stopped; others brought out the relay that had been resting, and the coach was ready to renew the journey before the jaded passengers had scarcely become aware of the stop. A new driver mounted the box, deftly grasped the reins, uttered a quiet signal to start or noisily cracked his whip, and the coach disappeared in a cloud of dust.

Nearly the whole of Conyngham township was surveyed about the year seventeen hundred and ninety-three. No one, at that time, would have supposed that beneath its rugged surface were the store houses of a vast mineral wealth. But during the succeeding thirty years rumors of discoveries of coal and iron began to be circulated and credited. The confirmation of these reports caused

a fever of excitement among the capitalists of the period. On various pretexts, the land commissioners were induced to issue warrants for the resurvey of some of the most valuable portions of the anthracite coal region during 1830 and the following years. There are tracts of land in this township which are covered by two and even three titles from the commonwealth.

Among the first to foresee the possibilities of wealth to accrue from the mining of a commodity, then hardly known, was that sagacious financier, Stephen Girard. April 30, 1830, he purchased from Horace Binney, James C. Fisher, Joseph Sims, Archibald McCall, Samuel Coates, Henry Pratt, John Steele, Paschal Hollingsworth, George Harrison, Abijah Hammond and Alison Walcott, trustees of the bank of the United States at Philadelphia, an extensive tract of land on the waters of Catawissa and Mahanoy creeks and the Little Schuylkill river. It extended into the southeastern part of Columbia county.

Stephen Girard at once pushed the construction of roads and bridges through his new domain. Though left in an incomplete condition these substantial archways have defied the storms and floods of fifty years. He expected to find iron ore, and amass wealth from its manufacture; the discovery of coal has given the college which bears his name apparently inexhaustible resources, surpassing even his most sanguine hopes.

It was nearly a quarter of a century after the Girard purchase was made before any considerable quantity of coal was mined in Columbia county. The Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company, the corporation which took the initiatory step in developing the region, and controls the most valuable coal land in the county at the present day, was not formed until 1842. In the year 1854 Mine Hill rail-road was opened to Big Mine run. Two years later Mine-Run colliery shipped the first coal over this road from Columbia county. In the same year Locust-Run and Coal-Ridge collieries were opened, the former being operated by Repellier and Company, the latter by Longstreet and Company. The Hazel Dell colliery was completed in September, 1860; the Centralia colliery in 1862. They were leased respectively by Robert Gorrell and J. M. Freck and Company. The Centralia breaker was burned Sunday, October 21, 1866, and twice subsequently.

In 1863, on the Girard estate, the Continental colliery was opened by Robert Carter and Company. It was leased successively by Goodrich and Company and Gorrell and Andenried; it is operated by the Lehigh Valley Coal Company. Union colliery, on the same estate, was opened in the same year by John Anderson and Company. It is known as North Ashland, and is leased by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. In 1865 the Lehigh and Mahanoy rail-road was opened from Mt. Carmel to Mahanoy City, through the property of the Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company. In the following year the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain rail-road was made available for coal shipments from the company's works. In 1867 the Locust Run colliery produced one-hundred and forty-seven thousand tons of coal up to that date, the largest annual yield of any colliery in the anthracite region.

In 1869 Thomas R. Stockett was appointed chief engineer and agent of the corporation above mentioned. In 1872 he was succeeded by Lewis A. Riley. He resigned in 1880, and in 1881 Lewis A. Riley and Company leased the Centralia and Hazel Dell collieries. In the same year they erected the Logan breaker in South Conyngham. About the same time Isaac May and Company began to mine coal on Morris Ridge.

From the geological report is compiled the following statistics in regard to the mine product for the year 1882, since when there are no reliable data available:



Name of colliery, 1882.	Location.	Operator.	Tons, 1882.
Bast.....	Big Mine Run.....	Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Co.	90,161
Pots.....	Locustdale.....	Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Co.	83,941
Hazel Dell.....	Centralia.....	L. A. Riley & Co.....	7,628
Continental.....	Centralia.....	Lehigh Valley Coal Co.....	16,642
Montana No. 1.....	Centralia.....	Daniel Beaver.....	Abandoned.
Monroe.....	Montana.....	A. H. Church.....	35,854
Logan.....	Centralia.....	L. A. Riley & Co.....	231,169
Centralia.....	Centralia.....	L. A. Riley & Co.....	88,283
Bear City.....	Centralia.....	John Q. Williams.....	2,000
Morris Ridge.....	Centralia.....	May & Co.....	55,490
North Ashland.....	Centralia.....	Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Co.	111,036

In the development of the natural resources of Conyngham township, the usual order was reversed; capital was invested, and the work resolutely begun without any assurance that the product of the mines would reach a market, except at such expense as to seriously diminish the profit of the enterprise. Until 1865, all coal shipments were made by the Mine-Hill rail-road, and were accompanied with great inconvenience, as it penetrated the township but a short distance. Not until the presence of an almost inexhaustible wealth was practically demonstrated and the future of the region firmly assured, did it receive really adequate facilities for its unrestricted development.

The growth of the towns of this section has been parallel with the growth of the mining industry. Centralia, Locustdale, Montana and Germantown accommodate the population whose steady work and busy thought hew the veins of coal from the dark caverns of the earth, and separate the shining crystals from the worthless conglomerate in the whirring machinery of the breakers above.

When the Reading road was surveyed, a swamp, overgrown with brush-wood and tall pines, marked the site of the town of Centralia. The land was level, however, a desirable feature as a location for the town. By subsequent drainage, the bogs have entirely disappeared and the place is decidedly healthful.

The land was originally surveyed for George Ashton and William Lownes, and subsequently came into possession of the Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company. The first house was the "Bull's Head," a tavern built by Jonathan Faust in 1841, about a mile from the Red tavern, and on the same Reading road. It intersected the Reading and Sunbury state road about two miles further south. This hotel subsequently passed to Reuben Wasser, but retained its former name throughout its natural life as a stopping place for travelers, and for twelve years comprehended all of Centralia that then existed. Jonathan Faust did not own the land on which his house was built; he did not even buy the lumber, but appropriated it without compunction, and his right of possession was never disputed. In 1855 Alexander W. Rea, the first engineer and agent of the Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company, built a cottage above the hotel, and removed thither from Danville. He made surveys for several streets parallel with the Reading road and others crossing it at right angles. On one of the latter a row of houses was built the same year. They were immediately occupied by employes of the company, but all have since been removed. This was practically the beginning of the town.

In 1860 Jonathan Hoagland opened the first store just opposite the "Bulls Head." Two years later he was appointed first postmaster. The name Centralia was suggested by Mr. Rea. For a few years previous the place had been known as Centreville; the change was made at the instance of the postal authorities, as an office of that name already existed in the state.



Three years later, in 1865, the Lehigh and Mahanoy rail-road, since known as the Lehigh Valley, was built through the town on what is appropriately known as Rail-Road avenue. With its entrance into the section several new collieries were opened and the town began to grow in size, population and wealth. In this very circumstance, however, there was an element of danger. The influx of people of different nationalities and conflicting creeds threatened to involve the community in disorder and lawlessness, and demanded provision for a more stringent enforcement of the laws.

Accordingly, at the February court, 1866, the borough of Centralia was incorporated. James B. Knittle was elected president of the town council; L. S. Boner, town clerk; and James Dyke, Chief Burgess of the town, an office which he has held during the stormiest periods of its history. The persons thus elected officers of the borough, with other public spirited men, took measures to maintain and improve the state of order, and were, in the main, successful.

An undertaking in which the projectors sought to prevent reckless and improvident expenditure by many of the operatives was the Centralia Mutual Savings Fund Association. It was organized Feb. 2, 1866, with E. S. Betterly, and a board of directors consisting of A. W. Rea, James Dyke, Henry W. Sable, Reuben Wasser, M. M. L'Velle, L. S. Boner, Joseph H. Dawes, Edward Sweet, William James, William Peiffer, J. J. Hoagland, David Camp and John M. Belford. For a time its results were satisfactory and profitable; but it subsequently became involved, and is now being closed by James Dyke. Although apparently a failure, it has certainly accomplished a good work. Many of the homes in Centralia trace their first inception in the minds of the owners to the comfortable sum which had here slowly accumulated.

One of the greatest disadvantages of the location of the town is the absence of an adequate water supply. To supply this want the Centralia Water Company was chartered in 1866. A reservoir was constructed on the side of Locust mountain, and wooden mains were laid to conduct the water to its consumers. In the course of a few years the pipes began to decay; the expense of removing them and securing others of a more durable character seriously involved the company. Its property was sold on execution of Mayberry Hughes, and was bought by William Brydon Oct. 26, 1876. This transfer closed the first ten years of the company's history, and the result was total failure. From William Brydon, the property passed into possession of A. B. Fortner, Daniel C. Black, Edward Williams, Jr., A. K. Mensch, A. B. Willard and John W. Fortner. In their hands the property has been much improved and pays a fair return.

The water supply of this company is obtained from springs in the vicinity of the town. The exhaustive pumping process necessary to keep the mines free from water threatened to seriously affect their permanency. To meet the increasing need for an absolutely inexhaustible supply of water the Locust Mountain Water Company was chartered October 24, 1881, with a capital stock of fifty-thousand dollars, to which the Lehigh Valley Rail-road Company largely contributed. A large dam was built across Brush valley run and a reservoir on the top of Locust mountain, while three miles of underground mains connect the two. The works were completed two years ago and remove the possibility of any "water-famine" in the future.

The borough organization, beneficial as it was in every respect, failed to curb the spirit of ruffianism which asserted itself in the years which immediately followed. About the time it was effected, the Mollie Maguire troubles began in Schuylkill county. This organization, one of the most formidable that has ever existed in defiance of law, rapidly extended over a large extent of the ad-

joining counties. On the 17th of October, 1868, Alexander W. Rea was murdered on the road leading from Centralia to a colliery of which he was superintendent. The object ostensibly was to rob him of some hundreds of dollars it was supposed he would have with him, as it was pay day. The murderers secured but ten dollars from his person and made good their escape. Ten years afterward, Hester, Tully and McHugh were tried and convicted as accessories before the fact. They were hung at Bloomsburg, March 25, 1878.

This murder begins a period in the history of Centralia which had its parallel in every town in the anthracite region. There was a virtual reign of terror. Sentence of death seemed to be pronounced against every miner-boss who dared perform his duties and oppose the roughs. When the life of Alexander Rea, a man who had been identified with every project to benefit the miners and improve the town, could be sacrificed to the hatred and cupidity of designing villains, all security of life and property seemed to have disappeared. Many of the leading citizens fled. It was not safe to be in the streets after night-fall, and hardly safer to remain indoors. The outrages in Centralia reached a culminating point in 1874, when Michael Lanathan was shot in the streets, and Thomas Dougherty was murdered on his way to work. These tragedies occurred within a month of each other; both were shrouded in mystery, but every circumstance pointed with moral certainty to the "Maguires" as the conspirators and perpetrators. With the disclosures of McFarland, the reign of law was once more established and Centralia shared in the feeling of security which soon became general throughout the whole region.

Another phase of the lawlessness of the period was the frequent occurrence of incendiary fires. In March, 1872, a destructive fire consumed four blocks on the east side of Locust avenue. In the same year a half-square between Centre Railroad streets was reduced to ashes. January 12, 1873, a whole square on the west side of Locust was burned, leaving only three houses on that side of the street. In the four succeeding years, several business houses and private residences were burned, all of which with one exception were believed to be the work of incendiaries.

Centralia has entered upon its period of greatest prosperity within the last few years. The discovery and development of rich veins of coal in the immediate vicinity give promise of labor for hundreds of men for years to come. It comprises a population of about three thousand; a number of well established business houses, distributing every commodity within the circle of the needs of any community; five congregations of evangelical christians, with an equal number of places of worship; a large and substantial school-building; and a number of benevolent and co-operative associations. The religious and social development of the people has made great advances in the past few years, and may be examined in detail.

Methodism was introduced into Centralia in January of 1863, and was therefore the first denomination represented in the town. Morris Lewis was appointed leader of a class of eight by Reverend W. M. Showalter, who was then pastor at Ashland. Two years later Reverend N. W. Guire, from the same place, organized the Methodist Episcopal appointment of Centralia, formed a class, and appointed William M. Hoagland, leader. In April of the same year the appointment was connected with the Mt. Carmel circuit of the East Baltimore Conference. Reverend J. M. Mullen was in charge the three succeeding years. During the summer of 1866 the church edifice was begun by John James and Joseph Steel. Assisted by others favorable to the cause, they excavated the foundation without the expenditure of a single dollar. The cornerstone was laid in the autumn of 1866, by Reverend W. A. Stephens. In Feb-

ruary of the following year, the basement was completed and dedicated by Reverend J. B. Riddell. During the pastorate of Reverend J. A. Dixon, the Sunday-school was organized. In March, 1869, Centralia station was established by the annual conference and C. D. McWilliams, S. R. Nankervis and A. C. Crosthwait successively appointed pastors. In 1871 the audience room was dedicated.

Several other appointments were annexed to Centralia about this time. Reverends H. B. Fortner and Samuel Barnes served as pastors until 1873, when Centralia again became a station with Reverend A. H. Mensch as pastor. Being unable to sustain itself, the annual conference of 1874 again connected it with its former circuit. Reverends G. W. Larned, N. S. Buckingham, G. W. Marshall, T. H. Tubbs, J. P. Benford, R. L. Armstrong and J. S. Buckley have been pastors since then. In 1883 it again became a station, and since then has increased in membership sufficiently to warrant the erection of a new church-building.

The next denominations to make their appearance were the Presbyterian and Protestant Episcopal. The former was organized July 31, 1867, by Reverend S. W. Reighart. Reverend L. L. Haughwant became first pastor and ministered to a congregation of eighteen members. A church building was erected at a cost of three-thousand dollars. It is an attractive, substantial structure, and has a pleasant location. Reverend J. H. Fleming became pastor in 1871, and in 1874 Reverend J. Caldwell, who was succeeded in 1883 by Reverend J. F. Stewart, the present pastor. The Protestant Episcopal church edifice was erected in 1867 at a cost of four-thousand dollars, contributed largely by Robert Gorrell and J. M. Freck. Bishop Stephens, of the diocese of Harrisburg, consecrated it. Reverend M. Washburn was the first rector; he resigned in 1870, when Reverend Charles E. D. Griffith took charge. His successors have been Reverends Robert H. Kline and D. Howard, the present incumbent.

The parish of St. Ignatius' Catholic church, Centralia, is in the diocese of Harrisburg. Right Reverend J. F. Shanahan selected the Very Reverend D. J. McDermott to organize it. Before the erection of the see of Harrisburg the Catholic population of Centralia formed part of St. Joseph's congregation at Ashland. Previous to Father McDermott's advent no public service had been held in the town by a Catholic priest. He arrived in the place April 12, 1869, and the following Sabbath celebrated two masses in a school-house which has since been abandoned as unsafe because it stood on the verge of a "cave-in." The congregation was organized but there was no ecclesiastical property of any kind belonging to the Catholics of Centralia, and there was no money, for the miners had been on an eight months' strike and had not yet resumed work.

The first property was acquired by the donation of four lots from the Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company. The corner-stone of the church building was laid by Bishop Shanahan July 18, 1869. It was completed the following November. Father McDermott completed the pastoral residence in the next year. The church edifice, rectory and cemetery cost twenty-two thousand dollars. In 1872 the number of souls in the congregation numbered fifteen hundred. In that year Reverend Edward T. Fields became pastor; he remained in charge until his death in 1884, when he in turn was succeeded by Reverend James I. Russell, the present pastor. He is assisted in the work of the parish by Reverend J. A. O'Brien. During the twelve years of Father Field's pastorate his assistants were Fathers Davis, McShane, Kenney, McKenna and Barr.

The Baptist denomination has secured a representation. In April, 1886, Reverend B. B. Henchy, of Girardville, organized a congregation of twelve



members. A church building will be completed in course of a short time. The new organization has shown an aggressive spirit, and will no doubt have a prosperous and useful career.

The secret societies represented in Centralia are the Odd-Fellows, Patriotic Order Sons of America, Miners' and Laborers' Amalgamated Association and Knights of Labor. Centralia lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 586, was chartered September 22, 1866, but this charter was burned, and another issued November 25, 1872. A new hall is in course of erection on Centre street, above Locust. Its estimated cost is four thousand dollars. It will have two floors, one of which will be furnished for public entertainments, thus meeting a long-felt want. The present membership is seventy-one. The officers are James Thomas, James Thompson, C. B. Spurr and Seth Thomas.

Camp No. 106, Patriotic Order Sons of America, was organized in 1866 with thirty-six members. Its first officers were J. P. Hoagland, president; C. G. Freck, secretary, and J. F. Scott, treasurer. It was reorganized in 1872, and rechartered February 17, 1883, with twenty-four members. This membership has since increased to sixty.

District 16, of the Miners' and Laborers' Amalgamated Association, was organized February 15, 1885, with one-hundred and seventy-five members. The district comprises four branches, and has a membership of about eight-hundred. Assembly 4641, Knights of Labor, was formed December 13 of the same year. April 17, 1886, Assembly 6364 was organized. These two have a combined strength of two hundred and forty members.

The central location of Centralia in the coal-field of the township has caused more than half of its population to collect within the borough limits or on the land adjoining, thus preventing the growth of other towns in the vicinity. Several small villages have, however, gathered around the collieries at a distance from Centralia. Montana, Germantown and Locustdale were built in the years immediately following the opening of the coal-mines; but, for the reason just given, never approached in point of size their older neighbor, Centralia.

The village of Locustdale is situated in the adjoining counties of Schuylkill and Northumberland, as well as Columbia. The first buildings were erected in 1856 by George C. Potts and Company, the proprietors of the colliery still known by the name of its projector. The following year this colliery was first operated, and in 1858 the shipment of coal was begun. The growth of the village was energetically forwarded by J. L. Beadle, the first manager of the colliery. A. S. Morehead, of Pottsville, in 1859 opened the first store. Mrs. Mary Young was the next merchant. The first hotel, however, was built in 1840 by Jacob Brisel before any prospect of a village was apparent.

J. S. Beadle and William Rearsbeck invented a device for the ventilation of coal-mines, first adopted by the Potts colliery in 1860, but now extensively used.

The village of Montana was laid out in 1865 by Samuel Seidy. The Reno colliery, just opened by Morris Robison and Company, gave employment to many laborers, and the town rapidly expanded to its present proportions. The Red tavern, a great place of social concourse during the old stage days, has not outlived its usefulness, but is still fairly patronized. The United Brethren church, organized in 1871 by Reverend J. G. Fritz of Mt. Carmel, Northumberland county, meets in the school-house. The membership has increased to thirty-two. A new church-building is now in course of erection.

An enumeration of the villages of the township is manifestly incomplete without mention of "The Shanties." A straggling collection of dilapidated houses



at the site of the old Repellier breakers appropriately bears this name; and about a dozen houses, of more substantial appearance, however, at the opening of an abandoned shaft of the same colliery have been known as Germantown, from the fact of several of the first families being Germans. The oldest of the shanties was built on a Sunday in the summer of 1856, and the village of Germantown the following year. It now comprises about a dozen houses and a school building, whose predecessor was one of the first built in Conyngham township.

The first school-house, however, was situated above Montana, where the road turns to descend into Bush valley. It was built about the year 1840, but even then there was hardly population enough to warrant its erection. The work of education was here pursued under difficulties of which only the pedagogue of that early day can form an idea. Unlike the generality of schools, then as now the attendance was discouragingly small. To the teacher this was a vital consideration, as his salary and the continuance of the school depended on the presence of a certain number of pupils. It is said that one of the first teachers was constrained under these circumstances to sometimes carry several small children to the school from their homes. It is possible, however, that even these difficulties would be an agreeable alternative if presented to the teachers of the over-crowded schools which have grown from this small beginning.

The school at Locustdale was opened in 1859, with John Wagner as first teacher. The year previous, the first school building at Centralia was erected. It was subsequently engulfed in a "cave-in" of a coal mine. It was in this building that the Methodist, Catholic and Presbyterian churches were organized. For ten years it was the only place for public gatherings in the town. The commodious building which has succeeded it indicates a progressive and liberal spirit among the citizens.

Conyngham township is, in many respects, unlike any other portion of Columbia county. Geographically, it is isolated. Its people are compelled, in order to reach the county seat, to make a circuitous journey of sixty miles by rail, or resort to the less convenient modes of travel near akin to the stage-coaches of forty years ago.

Topographically, it is characterized by the Little and Locust mountains, two parallel ranges. The crest of the former is a natural boundary between it and the adjoining township of Locust; the southern slope of the latter extends into Schuylkill county. Between the two, and extending completely across the township from east to west, is the Brush valley, a deep, dark ravine, whose almost impenetrable thickets attest the propriety of the name. The Brush valley run rises from a spring on the northern slope of Locust mountain; within a mile of this, to the south, are the head waters of the Big Mine run. These streams are branches, respectively, of the Shamokin and Mahanoy creeks, two of the most important tributaries of the Susquehanna river. Their respective basins are thus determined by Locust mountain. In no other township of Columbia county is the surface so mountainous and rugged and utterly unfit for agricultural purposes. Nor has the mining of coal any where else become an exclusive industry.

For this reason more than any other there is a marked difference in the general character of the people. While the Quakers and Germans were bringing the valleys of Roaring and Fishing creeks under cultivation, the new settlers hurried over the Locust and Little mountains, relieved when the bold outline of the latter was behind them against the southern horizon. And when, a half century later, the population that first developed the resources of

these mountains finally began to arrive, it differed in nationality from that which had preceded it, and passed to the farming region beyond. The history of the people, their churches, schools and the towns they have built, is a history of a rapid growth of population with the successive opening of the different collieries of the region.





T. C. HARTER. M. D.





# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### BLOOMSBURG.

CHARLES GILLESPIE BARKLEY, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, is a native of that place, born January 30, 1839. When young he obtained an academic education, then turned his attention to mechanics and learned the trade of a carriage-maker, serving nearly three years of an apprenticeship with William Sloan & Son. When his term of apprenticeship was nearly expired, while engaged in the work, he met with an accident which for a time disabled him. He then returned to educational pursuits and prepared for the work of teaching, in which he engaged in 1857. In May, 1863, he was elected county superintendent of common schools, and in this office, being re-elected in 1866 and 1869, served nine years. He was a member of the first and second town councils of the town of Bloomsburg upon its organization in 1870. By appointment, from time to time, of the superintendent of public instruction, he has been since May, 1874, and still is, a member of the board of trustees of the State normal school of the Sixth District located at Bloomsburg. He is a member of the F. & A. M. In the First Presbyterian Church of Bloomsburg he has held for some years the position of elder, superintendent of the Sunday-school and member of the board of trustees. In 1860 he entered upon the study of law with Col. John G. Freeze, and was admitted to practice in September, 1863. Since his retirement from the office of county superintendent, in 1872, he has given his entire attention to his legal profession. He married, June 2, 1864, Margery A. Wilson, a daughter of Samuel Bond Wilson and Margery (Strawbridge) Wilson, formerly of Washingtonville, Montour Co., Penn. They have three children: Mary Garrison Barkley, Josephine Redfield Barkley and Jennie Wilson Barkley. Mr. Barkley is a descendant of the early settlers of this county and State, of Scotch and Irish ancestry. His paternal ancestor, Iddings Barkley, born at Churchtown, Lancaster Co., Penn., in 1781, of Scotch parents, married in 1803 Mary Jackson, a Quakeress, a native of a neighborhood then known as "The Forest," in Robeson Township, Berks Co., Penn. They (Iddings and Mary) lived at Pottsville, Penn., about two years, and in 1806 moved to a house at the "Red Mill" in Hemlock Township, Columbia County, where the present mill house is built; thence to a house where the farm house of James Barton, deceased, now is, in Montour Township, and from the latter place they moved to Bloomsburg, where he built and lived in the house first erected on the lot now owned and occupied by I. W. Hartman. Subsequently he became the owner of the lot at the northeast corner of Second and West Streets, and for many years in a long story and a half frame house which stood on West Street a few rods back from Second, he lived and carried on the business of a cabinet-maker. Some years prior to his death he built the brick dwelling on the same lot now owned and occupied by K. C. Ent. In this latter house his wife Mary died in 1854, and he in 1857. Iddings Barkley was an active and prominent citizen of the early days of the township and county, and held numerous positions of trust, both public and private. His son, John J. Barkley, the father of Charles G., married December 18, 1828, Rachel McBride of Hemlock Township, Columbia County. To them six children were born, Charles being the fifth. John J. Barkley died July 5, 1876, his wife Rachel having died April 8, preceding, both having lived useful and active lives in much esteem in the county. The maternal grandfather and grandmother of Charles G. Barkley, William and Mercy McBride of Irish ancestry, soon after 1800 settled upon a large tract of land, of which he was owner, in Hemlock Township, part of which, where the old buildings formerly stood, is now owned and occupied by Hugh D. McBride, one of their children. William McBride was active and prominent in public and private life, but died a comparatively young man, his widow surviving him to old age.

**BARTON FAMILY.** Thomas Barton was one of three brothers who emigrated from England to America early in the eighteenth century. He settled in Virginia, his brothers in Connecticut. Thomas was married in England to Hannah Clark, a daughter of Daniel Clark, and he had ten children: Daniel, Elisha, Theophilus, Roger, Undrel, Thomas, Clark, Amelia, Sarah and Isabella. Amelia was the wife of Abraham McMurtrie and was the only daughter who married; she lived in New Jersey and became the mother of a large family, some of whose descendants are now living in Columbia County. Elisha was born in Virginia June 21, 1742; immigrated to Pennsylvania; in 1766 married Mary Simonton in Northampton County, who died leaving one son, Thomas. His second marriage occurred July 10, 1771, with Anna McCarty, who was born in New Jersey March 20, 1754. Her father came from Ireland, and her mother, Mary Paine, was a native of New Jersey. Elisha after his second marriage moved from Northampton County to Northumberland County, and from the latter to Columbia County about 1781, and located in the neighborhood of what is now Bloomsburg. He was a justice of the peace here and a farmer, and built what is known as the "Red Mill," and furnished the lumber gratis for the first Episcopal Church in Bloomsburg. He died September 12, 1816, and his widow January 11, 1823, and both are buried in the Episcopal churchyard. Their children were as follows: Mary, born December 16, 1772, married in November, 1795, to John Boone, and died November 2, 1796, of hydrophobia; Amelia, born October 2, 1774, died September 15, 1796; Elisha, born September 21, 1777, married March 22, 1806, to Rachel Miller, died August 26, 1815; Isaiah, born June 21, 1780, married March 1, 1810, to Mary Thornton, and died April 6, 1842; Hannah, born May 25, 1783, married in January, 1801, to James Boone, died July 6, 1859, in Geneseo, Ill.; John, born May 10, 1785, married February 15, 1816, to Mary C. Kreider, and died May 23, 1856; Anna, born January 6, 1788, married December 13, 1821, to Abraham Klotz, died January 30, 1864; Sarah, born May 22, 1790, died September 12, 1796; Caleb, born November 26, 1792; married in 1823; Mary Craig, died December 30, 1863; an infant (deceased); Cyrus, born May 3, 1796, married in December, 1826, to Catherine Brewer, and died March 8, 1862; Betsey, born January 30, 1799, married January 30, 1816, to William Robison, died June 9, 1877.

**CALEB BARTON,** Bloomsburg, was born August 30, 1812, a son of Isaiah and Mary (Thornton) Barton, and a grandson of Elisha and Anna (McCarty) Barton. He was reared on the farm of his father, and in February, 1836, married Sarah, daughter of Peter Rupert, and by this union there were six children: Evelina B., born February 6, 1837, married to Dr. McReynolds; Mary (deceased); Thomas J., born September 28, 1841, married to Henrietta Guild; Catherine B., born March 10, 1842, married to Alfred Ale (reside in Warsaw, Ind.); Emma B., born May 24, 1844, married to John Moore (is now a widow and resides in Indiana); Anna B., born September 27, 1846, married to Thomas Webb, of Bloomsburg. The mother of this family died in September, 1854, and the father married, in February, 1862, Delilah Creveling, and he and wife now reside at Bloomsburg. Mr. Barton has followed agricultural pursuits all his life, and still owns a farm one mile from town, on the main road to Catawissa, where he erected a house in 1856, and resided until his coming to Bloomsburg in 1875. The old "white grist mill," owned by his father, is still the property of his descendants, our subject yet owning a share. When Elisha Barton, the grandfather, first came to the county, he located on the present site of the red mill, which he built, and lived in his wagon until his cabin was erected. Mr. Barton is a member of the Methodist Church. In politics he is a Republican. The parents of Mrs. Barton, John and Charity (Moore) Creveling, were born, respectively, March 10, 1772, and December 1, 1773. The former was probably a native of this county, his ancestors coming from New Jersey and settling near Espy, this county, at an early date. Mr. and Mrs. Creveling had ten children: Martha, born February 1, 1799, married to John Mellick, died December 2, 1853; Margaret, born December 17, 1801, married to Dr. Herman Gearhart; Jonathan, born June 26, 1803, died in 1807; Andrew, born January 22, 1806, married to Ann Henry; Moore, born May 5, 1808, married to Mary Fowler, died December 13, 1881; John, born October 22, 1810, married to Sophia Roseberry; Jared, born January 24, 1813, died March 4, 1826; Delilah, born November 4, 1814, married to Caleb Barton; Nelson, born February 14, 18—, married to Phebe Eck. Mr. and Mrs. Creveling died, respectively, August 27, 1827, and July 12, 1858, and are buried in Afton Cemetery near Espy, this county, formerly known as the Creveling burying-ground.

**MRS. MELVINA BARTON,** a daughter of Daniel Snyder, and widow of Elisha C. Barton, was born July 1, 1818, in Bloomsburg. Elisha C. Barton was born in 1816 and was for several years a merchant with Leonard Rupert at Bloomsburg. He owned and operated a furnace at Paxinos, in Northumberland County, for six years, and later, while living at Lewisburg, owned and operated a furnace at Dry Valley. He died at Mt. Carmel, Penn., in 1878, leaving two children: Mary A., married to Jefferson M. John, of Shamokin, who died in 1877. He was a coal operator; read law at Sunbury, was admitted to the bar of that city, and practiced at Mt. Carmel. His two children are Helen and Barton. The second child of Mr. and Mrs. Barton is Matilda, who married Sanderson Lazarus. Elisha Barton was a staunch Republican, and himself and family early identified themselves with the Episcopal Church.

D. A. BECKLEY, superintendent of public schools, Bloomsburg, is a native of Mifflinburg, Union County, Penn., born December 25, 1833, a son of Benjamin and Barbara (Stees) Beckley, the former of whom was long a merchant at Mifflinburg. Our subject obtained his early education in the academy of his native place, where he also prepared for college, and at the age of twenty or twenty-one years, became a student at Dickinson College. He graduated from that institution in 1859, delivering the German oration on that occasion. The same year he became principal of the Bloomsburg schools, holding the position for six years, and in 1865 was appointed by President Lincoln (two days before his assassination) postmaster at Bloomsburg, and was removed in October, 1866. May 1, 1869, he was re-appointed by Gen. Grant, and held the office until removed by President Cleveland in June, 1885. He held the chairmanship of the Republican County Central Committee for Columbia County for ten years; was delegate to the noted conference nominating Grant for a second term, and also to the National Convention at Cincinnati, which nominated Hayes. He was appointed by Gov. Hoyt in 1879 chairman of the commission locating and building the Miners' Hospital near Ashland, this State. This was entirely an honorary position, and for three years occupied in its construction Mr. Beckley devoted a great part of his time. He is a Knight Templar; a member of the Royal Arcanum, Council No. 957, and is now Past Regent of the order at Bloomsburg. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for thirty-three years, and has served the church as Sunday-school superintendent for ten years, as well as in other official positions. Mr. Beckley was elected in 1885 superintendent of schools and re-elected in 1886. He has been twice married; first in 1860, to Miss Amanda Devling of Clinton County, Penn., who died in 1870, leaving two children, William and Annie. In August, 1873, Mr. Beckley married Ella Johnson, who has borne him one child, Jennie. In September, 1862, Mr. Beckley volunteered in the emergency service and served for about one month. His regiment was then ordered to Hagerstown, Md., arriving there while the battle of Antietam was in progress, but the emergency passing, it was discharged and returned home. In March, 1871, Mr. Beckley bought the office of the *Republican*, and two years later sold out, but retained his position as editor for ten years. He is a member of the board of trustees of the State normal school, having served as such for twelve years, and has always been active in his efforts to sustain and promote the best interests of that institution.

LOUIS BERNHARD, watchmaker and jeweler, Bloomsburg, was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1839. When he was a year old his parents immigrated to America, settling in New York City, and a few years later in Wilkesbarre, Penn. Here our subject passed his youth and early manhood, meanwhile obtaining a good education in the Wilkesbarre schools. When seventeen years of age he began an apprenticeship at the watchmaking trade with John F. Jordan of that place, under whose instruction he remained several years, and in 1858 located at Bloomsburg, where he established the watchmaker's and jeweler's business, which he still continues. He exhibited at the county fair in 1859 a chronometer watch, all the parts of which were made by himself. This, without doubt, was the first watch ever made in Columbia County, and since then he has made many. During his residence in Bloomsburg he has had eleven apprentices, all of whom served their time and subsequently made a success of their vocation. Mr. Bernhard is also an architect, and has furnished plans for many buildings, among them the Lowenberg & Cadman block, the Episcopal parsonage and his residence on Fifth Street. Even the iron fence surrounding his well kept and ornamental grounds was cast from designs drawn and furnished by him. In his house many evidences of his mechanical skill and artistic talent meet the eye, as he is also an artist in oil painting and a carver in marble and wood. Among the articles of the latter class may be mentioned a most elaborately finished case of black walnut, an astronomical clock of most intricate and perfect workmanship, which runs for two months after one winding, and valued at upward of \$500; an elegant inlaid box for his drawing instruments; a large black walnut looking-glass frame, elaborately carved, reaching from floor to ceiling; a center table, and many other handsome articles. His walls are hung with several oil paintings executed by himself, several landscapes representing some of the choicest scenery in the vicinity of Bloomsburg, also several copies of famous paintings, among them "Shakespeare and his Friends." All of these paintings are well executed and denote a high order of artistic skill. He has also executed oil portraits of himself and wife and other members of his family. Mr. Bernhard has been a resident of Bloomsburg for nearly thirty years; is progressive and public-spirited, and has served his vicinity as a member of the council. He married in April, 1862, Anna J. Townsend, who has borne him six children: Annie J., Ida, Laura E., Louis F., Carl G. and Lillian Mabel. Mr. and Mrs. Bernhard are members of the Episcopal Church. He made a study of civil engineering at Wilkesbarre Academy, and completed his studies in New York City.

GEORGE W. BERTSCH, merchant tailor, Bloomsburg, is a native of Mauch Chunk, Carbon Co., Penn., and a son of Daniel G. Bertsch, a merchant tailor of that place. He began to learn the trade of cutter and tailor with his father, and remained with him until 1883, when he located at Bloomsburg. He carries a full line of gents' fine furnishing



goods of every description. In clothing his business is all order work; is now in its fourth year in town, and has gradually increased until he now does one of the best trades in his line in the place. He was married, in October, 1884, to Miss Fleckenstine. Mr. Bertsch is a member of Washington Lodge, No. 265, F. & A. M., Council No. 957, R. A. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Bertsch is an enterprising young business man of Bloomsburg, a thorough master of his business in all its branches, and makes a speciality of fine suits to order. For this class of work his long training under his father as a fashionable and scientific cutter makes him specially adapted, insuring the latest fashions and best fitting garments to his customers. In politics he is a straight Republican.

FRANKLIN PIERCE BILLMEYER, Bloomsburg, district attorney of Columbia County, is a native of this county, born December 31, 1852, son of Peter Billmeyer, who was sheriff at the time, residing in the old jail. The subject of this sketch obtained his early education at the schools of Bloomsburg and Bloomsburg Literary Institute, where he completed his preparatory studies for college. He entered Lafayette College in the second term (the Freshman class), in January, 1870, and was graduated from there in June, 1873. He was a member of the "Theta Delta Chi" fraternity, a popular student, a proficient in athletic exercises, class orator on public occasions, and was class historian and orator on graduating. After his graduation Mr. Billmeyer read law in the office of E. R. Skiler, was admitted to the bar in 1875, and the following spring began the practice of law at Bloomsburg. He has taken an interest in the politics of the county and State, and in September, 1877, was elected a member of and secretary of the board of trustees of the State normal school, and still serves in that capacity, the balance of the board being composed of men of fifty years of age and upward. In the spring of 1877 he was elected town treasurer, an office he filled two years. In 1879 he took a prominent part in organizing the water-works, and in July was elected secretary of the citizens' meeting called to discuss the feasibility of the enterprise. In August a permanent organization was effected, of which he was elected secretary, an office he has continued to fill, and since 1881 he has been treasurer. In 1881 he was again elected town treasurer for one year; in 1882 was elected a director of the Rosemont Cemetery Company, and still fills the position; in 1884, for the third time, he was elected town treasurer; in June, 1885, he was one of the organizers of the School Furniture Company, was elected secretary, and as such is still serving. In September, 1885, Mr. Billmeyer was appointed district attorney by the court to fill a vacancy, and in November was elected to the office, being the present incumbent. He was also one of the organizers, in 1886, of the board of trade, and was elected its secretary. He was also one of the proprietors of and is now a stockholder in the Oak Grove Association. Mr. Billmeyer was married in December, 1879, to Anna D. Snyder, youngest daughter of Wm. Snyder, an old and prominent citizen and business man of Bloomsburg. They have one child, Helen May.

JOHN K. BITTENBENDER, of the firm of Elwell & Bittenbender, proprietors of "*The Columbian*," Bloomsburg, was born in Centre Township, this county, June 4, 1854, a son of Conrad and Lovina (Knorr) Bittenbender, the latter of whom died October 14, 1875. They were the parents of three sons and one daughter. The father was a farmer, but moved to Bloomsburg in 1869, where he carried on a planing-mill and lumber business, and for many years was one of the most substantial men of this place. He was treasurer of the Bloomsburg Lumber Company, and had charge of its financial affairs during its existence. When our subject was but two years old his parents moved to Bloomsburg where he was reared. Up to 1870 he attended the schools of the borough, and graduated at the normal school in 1874. In 1870 he began to learn the trade of printer, and after graduating taught school for one year. In 1875 he opened a job printing office in Bloomsburg, which he conducted for three years; then sold out and became interested in a planing-mill about a year. In 1878-79 he accepted the position of foreman in the office of *The Columbian*, and held it until October 1, 1879, when he became one of the proprietors of the paper. Our subject married, January 19, 1881, Alvaretta, a daughter of I. S. Kuhn, and they have one son—Claude K. The family attend the services of the Lutheran Church.

SAMUEL VASTINE BOONE, farmer, P. O. Bloomsburgh, was born November 5, 1828, in the old homestead in Bloom, where he has always resided. The first of his ancestors to settle in this county was Samuel Boone, who was born in Exeter Township, seven miles below Reading, and came to this township about 120 years ago. He took up nearly 400 acres, 123 of which being where our subject now resides, a part of the old homestead. He was a member of the society of Friends and a man highly respected. He and his wife, whose maiden name was Eleanor Hughes, are buried in the Friends' burying-ground at Cat-awissa. Their son, Samuel, was the father of our subject, and was born September 3, 1786, in Bloom Township. He married August 18, 1813, Mary Vastine, a native of Rush Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., and a daughter of Benjamin Vastine. Subject's father inherited the farm and always resided there. He learned the blacksmith's trade though he was principally engaged in farming. He attended the Friends' meetings. He and wife had five children, four of whom lived to be married: Elizabeth, born July 3, 1815, became the wife of David Clark, and is now deceased; Anna, born December 19,



1818, was the wife of Andrew Clark and is now deceased; Benton, died aged twenty-three years; he was born December 31, 1816; James, born March 5, 1821, married Anna Ohman and died aged forty-nine, and Samuel V., our subject. The mother of this family died in 1835, and later the father married a Mrs. Shroek, by which union there was no issue. Our subject's father died October 9, 1863, and is buried by the side of his wife in the Friends' burying-ground at Catawissa. Samuel V. inherited the homestead after the death of his father and there he yet resides. He married, October 23, 1856, Nancy, daughter of Gideon and Anna (Dodson) Post, and they had five children, four sons and one daughter—Rosa Eleanor, who died in childhood. Of the sons, Samuel D. is the eldest, Josiah B. is the second, John S. is the third and Frank W. the youngest. Mr. and Mrs. Boone are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JEREMIAH JOHN BROWER, merchant, Bloomsburg, was born in the village of Brower Town, Union Township, Berks Co., Penn., April 10, 1821, a son of John Brower, and from him the village took its name. John Brower was the patentee of a grain scoop that had a very extensive sale, also of door locks and many other manufactured articles that were universally used. He was a native of Berks County, Penn., and a son of Abram Brower. The father of our subject was of German, the mother of Quaker descent. John and Frances (Millard) Brower had two children: Jeremiah John, and Matilda, who married Richard H. Jones, now a widow and resides at Brower Town. Our subject was educated in the common schools and when seventeen taught school, which profession he followed eight years. He came to this county in 1839, where he resided until 1843; then for two years kept a boarding-school at Brower Town. In 1846 he came to Catawissa, this county; from 1848 to 1850 he resided in Mifflinville, and in the latter year opened a general store in Bloomsburg, which he conducted nineteen years. He was elected in 1870 justice of the peace, and served ten years. He has also served as school director and has taken an active part in forming four building and loan associations, and is now treasurer and secretary of the Mutual Building and Savings Fund Association, of Bloomsburg. The first which became a success was organized October 19, 1867, and terminated in June, 1877, Mr. Brower being its president. Our subject was married in 1841 to Eliza, daughter of Dr. Eleazer Brothwell, of Mifflinville. They have four children: Eleazer B. Brower, Frances J., wife of James K. Brugler, now of Butler, Bates Co., Mo.; Ada Eveline, wife of L. S. Wintersteen; Mary Eliza, wife of J. H. Lingle, of Bellefonte, Penn. Mr. Brower established in 1881 his present business, trading in carpets, oil cloths, etc.; erected the building occupied by him in 1868 at a cost of \$25,000 and has occupied it since 1869.

J. C. BROWN, editor and proprietor of the *Columbia County Republican*, Bloomsburg, is a native of Mifflinville, Columbia Co., Penn., born April 29, 1848, a son of William N. and Loretta (Yonker) Brown. He was reared to the life of a farmer until about sixteen years of age, attending the schools of his township and a seminary at his native place. At the above age he became a student in Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, from which he graduated in the classical course in 1868, with the highest honors of his class. That year he accepted a position as teacher in the Bloomsburg Literary Institute, which subsequently was merged into the State normal school, and where he remained until January, 1872, serving the last year as principal. He then engaged in civil engineering and was on the original survey for the North & West Branch Railroad, of which he was director six or eight years, and is still connected with the profession of engineering. August 1, 1875, he bought the office, presses and other material from E. M. Wardin, of the *Republican*, and has since conducted that paper. It is an eight-column quarto, and has a circulation of upward of 1,200; is Republican in politics as its name indicates. Mr. Brown is now a member of the board of directors for the proposed New York, Bloomsburg & Western Railroad; has served the town as member of the school board nine years; is a member of the Methodist Church, and has been for several years a member of the board of trustees; is treasurer of the Columbia County Agricultural Society; is one of the managers of the school furnishing company; a director of the steam heating company. In 1884 he was elected and served as a delegate to the National Republican Convention at Chicago. Mr. Brown's ancestors were of Scotch descent, immigrated to America in the early part of the eighteenth century and settled on Long Island, afterward moving to Warren County, N. J. His great-great-grandfather, James Brown, was born November 12, 1716. His children were John Brown, born June 25, 1746; James, Martha, Sarah, Daniel and Charity. John Brown was a blacksmith by trade and served as a soldier in the war of the Revolution. His first wife, Mary (Brugler) Brown, died in Warren County, N. J., October 3, 1793. He married for his second wife Mrs. Margaret Haines, October 21, 1794, and removed to Columbia County, Penn. He and his family settled about one mile south of Mifflinville in 1795, where he bought a mile square and resided until his death, September 24, 1819. He had five children, all by his first marriage: James; Samuel, born April 2, 1778, married Dorothy Nice, died October 12, 1823; Mary, who married Joseph Otto and moved to McKean County, Penn., where she died; Elizabeth, who married George Hess and moved to Benton Township, this county, where she died; Sarah married Henry Bowman and lived and died in Mifflin Township, this county. Samuel, above mentioned, was the grandfather of Mr. J. C. Brown, and at his father's death inherited the homestead.

He was the father of the following named children: John; Margaret, who married Samuel Creasy; Sarah, married to George A. Bowman; William N., born February 15, 1807, the father of Mr. J. C. Brown; Matthew; Elizabeth, widow of Alexander Thompson of Berwick, Penn.; James, who died when a young man; George B. and Elisha B. The old homestead of 130 acres is still owned by the Brown heirs, and has been in the family name for ninety-three years. The early Browns and their descendants were members of the Methodist Church, and were among the principal founders of the early Methodist congregation at Mifflinville. Only one of the fourth generation still resides at Mifflinville, Margaret Creasy; two more of that generation are living: George B., in Danville and Elizabeth Thompson in Berwick. William N. Brown (father of J. C.) was twice married, and by his first wife, Nancy Freas, five children were born: George, Albert, John F., Almira and Dorcas. His first wife died in 1846, and in 1847 he married Loretta Yonker, who bore him two sons and three daughters: James C. (whose name heads this sketch), Martha, Samuel C., Melissa J. and Victoria. Mr. Brown died September 17, 1876, and is buried in the family lot near Mifflinville. He had retired from farming in 1870 and built a house in Mifflinville, where he died and where his widow still resides.

PETER BRUGLER, capitalist, of Bloomsburg, was born in Hemlock Township, this county, October 7, 1824, a son of John and Mary A. (Kinney) Brugler, and grandson of Peter Brugler, who came to this county, and settled at Limestone about 1790. He subsequently moved to Jerseytown, and thence to Hemlock Township, where he purchased 200 acres of land, on which he erected buildings and where he died, aged about ninety-four years. His wife also died there aged about seventy years, and both are buried in the Columbia graveyard, Hemlock Township. He was of Dutch and his wife of English descent. John Brugler, the father of our subject, was born in this county, married Mary A. Kinney, a native of New Jersey. John was a farmer all his life and lived on and owned the homestead, to which he added until it consisted of 360 acres. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church and an elder for many years. During the latter years of his life he resided at Bloomsburg, where he died, aged about sixty years. His wife died aged about fifty-nine years, and both are buried in Rosemont Cemetery. Our subject lived on the old homestead which was owned by himself and his brother, Elisha, until 1872, when he moved with his family to Bloomsburg, where he resided in a commodious residence on Third Street, engaged in the care of his estate and the loaning of money. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and has officiated as church steward for several years. He married, July 16, 1862, Sue Billig, who was born February 18, 1842, a daughter of Daniel and Martha (Talbert) Billig. They have had five children: Anna May, Lizzie J. (deceased), John (deceased), Elmer and Martha.

DANIEL BRYFOGLE, farmer, P. O. Bloomsburg, was born in Nescopeck Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., July 5, 1833, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Keen) Bryfogle, the former a son of Daniel, a native of Berks County. Daniel's father came from Germany. Jacob was a farmer in Luzerne County and owned 125 acres of land, where our subject was reared. October, 1854, Daniel Bryfogle married Emma Jane Gould, and they began keeping house the same year on ninety-three acres, owned by his father-in-law, in Salem Township. There they lived for eighteen years, and in 1873 they moved to this county and settled on 105 acres in Bloomsburg (now one of the finest improved and most productive farms in the county, the result of Mr. Bryfogle's labor and industry). He is a Republican, and, with his wife and family, a member of the Christian Church. They have had seven children: Sarah E., born in 1855, died in 1862; Jacob J., born in 1858, died in October, 1862; Winthrope, born in 1863; Ellanora Viola and Ellen Estella (twins), born August 13, 1866 (Ellen died at the age of one year); Stanley Grant, born August 4, 1869; Philip F., born September 25, 1874, died April 2, 1876. Mrs. Emma J. (Gould) Bryfogle was born November 18, 1832, and is a daughter of John and Sarah (Davenport) Gould, the former a native of Plymouth and the latter of Ithaca, N. Y. The Goulds were among the earliest settlers of Plymouth. The grandmother of Mrs. Bryfogle was a Lamareau, and married a Davenport. During the Indian wars, while her husband was with the army, she was left alone at Plymouth, and in order to escape from the Indians took a boat and, with her children and goods, rowed the whole distance to Port Deposit, where she arrived safely. Mrs. Bryfogle's father, John Gould, died September 27, 1883, and is buried in Beech Grove graveyard, Salem Township, Luzerne County. His widow now resides with our subject. On their farm in Bloomsburg, Mr. Gould donated land for the Christian Church. This farm of ninety-three acres was willed to Mrs. Bryfogle by her father, but later she sold it to a brother, who now owns it. On her mother's side she is of French and German descent, while the Davenports were among the earliest settlers of this county. Ziba Davenport, her grandfather, built and owned the first hotel in Plymouth, and was the first to freight coal down the river to Port Deposit. He was also a colonel in the militia and was highly honored and respected. The father of Ziba, named Stephen, owned a large portion of the land where Ithaca now stands.

CHARLES R. BUCKALEW was born in Fishingcreek Township, Columbia Co., Penn., December 28, 1821. He received an academic education, taught school, was clerk in a store, studied law and was admitted to the bar of Columbia County, August, 1843.



He settled at Bloomsburg December, 1844, was appointed prosecuting attorney for Columbia County and served from 1845 to 1847, when he resigned. He was elected to the State Senate in 1850 from the counties of Columbia, Luzerne and Montour, and re-elected from the same district in 1853. In 1854 he was commissioner to exchange the ratifications of a treaty with Paraguay, serving as such in the summer and fall of that year between sessions of the Legislature. Mr. Buckalew was chosen presidential elector in 1856 at the head of the Democratic electoral ticket for the State; was chairman of the Democratic State Committee in 1857 when Packer was elected governor, and was again the same year elected to the State Senate from the district composed of the counties of Columbia, Montour, Northumberland and Snyder. The following winter he was appointed one of the commissioners to revise the penal code of the State, which position and the office of senator he resigned in 1858, upon being appointed minister resident of the United States to the Republic of Ecuador. Under that appointment he resided with his family at the city of Quito for three years—1858 to 1861. January 13, 1863, our subject was elected by the Legislature of Pennsylvania United States senator by a majority of one vote, and served as such for six years or until March 4, 1869. In the fall of 1869 he was elected to the State Senate for the fourth time from the district composed of the counties of Columbia, Montour, Northumberland and Sullivan. In 1872 he was the Democratic candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, but was defeated upon the popular vote. Served in the Constitutional Convention of 1873, and took a leading part in framing the present Constitution of Pennsylvania. In 1876, his name headed the Democratic State electoral ticket. May 3, 1886, he was elected president of the Bloomsburg and Sullivan Railroad Company. In November, 1876, he was elected Representative in Congress from the district composed of the counties of Columbia, Montour, Carbon, Monroe and Pike, and parts of the counties of Lackawanna and Luzerne. In 1872 Mr. Buckalew published a volume upon "Proportional Representation," edited by Col. Freeze; in 1877 he contributed an article upon the same subject to Johnson's Cyclopædia, and in 1883 gave to the public an elaborate work upon the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

R. C. BUCKALEW, liveryman, Bloomsburg, was born in Cambria, Luzerne County, Penn., July 9, 1836, a son of John and Rachel (Creveling) Buckalew. He was reared on a farm, where he remained with his father until 1862. In the spring of that year he enlisted in Company F, Seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, and participated in many engagements; was through the Seven Days' fight, second Bull Run, Harper's Ferry and through Virginia, where he served on detached duty, taking part in several engagements and skirmishes; was at the battle of South Mountain and Antietam. He was mustered out at Philadelphia in the spring of 1865, having served just three years and three days. Returning home he remained there until 1871, when he went to New York City where he was engaged by Dufais & Walter, cotton brokers, one of the most prominent firms in that business in New York. There he acted as shipping clerk and cotton sampler, for which office he was licensed by the New York Cotton Exchange. These responsible positions he held until 1879, on October 1 of which year he came to Bloomsburg, and the day after his arrival bought his present business. Mr. Buckalew married January 28, 1880, Mary E. Gager, who has borne him two children: Louis Walter and Lillian, aged respectively four and two years.

AMOS BUCKALEW, liveryman, Bloomsburg, was born in Cambria, Luzerne Co., Penn., October 11, 1837, a son of John and Rachel (Creveling) Buckalew. He was reared on a farm, educated in the schools of the vicinity, and remained at home until twenty-five years of age, when he married, January 4, 1879, Mrs. Mears, *nee* Creveling. Mr. Buckalew came to this county in April, 1869, and entered the employ of George Reiswick, in the livery business. October 3, 1879, he purchased it in company with his brother R. C., and since then they have conducted the business. They keep on an average ten single buggies, some carriages, and also run the stage lines to Rupert and the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad.

ROBERT McREYNOLDS BUCKINGHAM, Bloomsburg, deputy United States revenue collector for the Eighth Division of the Twelfth Pennsylvania District, including the counties of Columbia, Montour and Northumberland, is a native of Centre Township, Columbia County, born December 14, 1856. He was reared in the family of his grandfather, John McReynolds of Hemlock Township, this county, and completed his education at the normal school at Bloomsburg, graduating June 26, 1873. He began to teach the same fall, and continued for four successive terms of ten months at Milnesville, Luzerne County. He then accepted the position of principal of Room No. 3, of the graded school of Bloomsburg for one term of nine months, and an unexpired term of four months at Mainville, this county. During part of that time he had given considerable attention to reading law, having registered as a student in 1876, with Charles G. Barkley, Esq., of Bloomsburg, and September 2, 1879, was admitted to the bar at that place. In 1882 he was elected chairman of the Columbia County Democratic Standing Committee, and served one year. In 1883 he was elected district attorney, serving until September 1, 1885, when he resigned to accept his present official position. Since his majority Mr. Bucking-

ham has been an active participant in the politics of the vicinity, and an earnest worker in the interest of the Democratic party.

MICHAEL CASEY was born April 10, 1815, in the parish of Effin, County Limerick, Ireland, and came to the United States in the spring of 1836, landing in New York. He settled in Catawissa, Columbia County, and finally came to Bloomsburg in 1842. His parents were Patrick and Ellen (Clarey) Casey. Mrs. Michael Casey, a daughter of John and Margaret (Griffith) Boice, was born November 16, 1818, in Berks County, Penn., died June 30, 1878. Her grandfather was Abraham Boice, a native of Berks County, and a Revolutionary soldier and pensioner. He died in 1838. Her father, John Boice, and his brother, Abraham Boice, served in the war of 1812. John Boice settled in Roaringcreek Township, Columbia County, in 1840, and in Bloomsburg in 1847. Daniel Boice is the only one of John's children now living in Columbia County. Eight children have been born to Michael and Mary Casey: Margaret, born November 27, 1842, intermarried with Thomas Downs, who resides in Beaver Township, this county; John B., born June 1, 1844; Ellen, born April 24, 1846; Thomas P., born July 31, 1847; Michael J., born April 8, 1849; Edward, born August 6, 1854, died July 31, 1855; Joseph A., born February 4, 1857; William, born March 25, 1860. All of the above children are now living, and except Margaret, reside at Bloomsburg, this county.

JOHN B. CASEY, commissioner's clerk of Columbia County, Bloomsburg, was born June 1, 1844, a son of Michael and Mary (Boice) Casey, the former a native of County Limerick, Ireland, and the latter of Berks County, Penn., and a daughter of John Boice. John Boice was a son of Abraham Boice, and a soldier in the Revolution. Our subject was educated in the schools of Bloomsburg, also at Millville Seminary, and completed his studies by a course at the Crittenden Commercial College at Philadelphia in 1863. Mr. Casey served as deputy sheriff in 1877-78, and has, since 1879, held the office of commissioner's clerk, a position he fills with credit. He was married December 29, 1868, to Matilda E. Murphy, and seven children have been born to them: Edward, born June 14, 1870; John M., born March 25, 1872, died July 19, 1872; Mary E., born August 31, 1874; Matilda, born February 12, 1877; Michael H., born October 20, 1880; Charles, born February 17, 1883; Henry, born August 24, 1885. In politics Mr. Casey is a Democrat. The family attend the services of the Catholic Church.

CASWELL. The Bloomsburg woolen-mill was established in 1882 by S. Alfonso and Edwin C. Caswell, who were reared to the business from their youth. The factory is a brick structure 54x124 feet, three stories high, with a boiler and engine house 26x36 feet, and cost \$15,000. It is fitted with fourteen looms and other machinery of the latest improved and modern kind for the manufacture of ladies' fancy dress goods, and is adapted to manufacture all kinds of work—machinery, boilers, engines, etc., costing upward of \$30,000. The establishment furnishes employment for forty hands, two-thirds being females, and turns out annually \$75,000 worth in manufactured goods. They use only XX fine merino wool, buying mostly in the Philadelphia and New York markets. The factory is still owned by the original proprietors, but has been operated from its completion by S. A., E. C. and Marcus E. Caswell and H. C. Halfpenny. Marcus E. Caswell died three months after the factory was completed, leaving a widow and one son—Carlton A. Caswell, and since then the mill has been conducted by the three surviving partners, under the firm name of Caswell Bros. & Co. It occupies about one and three-quarters acres, located on the south end of West Street adjacent to the Delaware, Lackawana & Western Railroad, which land was given as a bonus to the firm, to induce them to put in the plant, by D. J. Waller.

S. ALFONSO CASWELL, the senior member of this firm, was born in Douglass, Worcester Co., Mass., March 8, 1836, and when but twelve years of age was employed in a cotton-mill at Southbridge, Mass., and continued in that employment until seventeen years of age. He then engaged as an employe in the Granite woolen-mill at Burrillville, R. I., and at nineteen was given charge of a room as overseer. From that time until he was thirty-eight years of age he was employed as overseer at different mills, at times having fifty or sixty hands under his direction. In 1874 he formed a partnership with his brother, E. C., and George and William Youngman, and leased the Nippenose mills, in Antes Fort, Lycoming County, which he conducted successfully for eight years. He then came to Bloomsburg in 1882.

EDWIN C. CASWELL, partner in the Bloomsburg woolen-mills, was born in the town of Thompson, Windham Co., Conn., July 16, 1838, son of Whipple and Olive H. (Blacknar) Caswell, the former a native of Douglass, Mass., born in 1808 and now residing in Bloomsburg; the latter was born in Abington, Conn., in 1812 and died in Antes Fort, Penn., in 1881. They had nine children—eight boys and one girl—all of whom are living except the youngest son. The third son, Edwin C., the subject of this sketch, at the early age of ten years commenced working in a factory in Woodstock, Conn., as "mule boy." At the age of fourteen his parents moved to Burrillville, R. I., where he had his first experience in a woolen-mill, first learning to weave fancy cassimere, then had the care of looms, and finally the art of weaving or designing, which requires a general knowledge of the whole process of the manufacture of woolen goods. After holding sev-



eral positions as boss weaver in different mills in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and in 1868 in the Johnstown (Penn.), woolen-mills he accepted a position as boss weaver and designer in the large twelve-sett Uxbridge woolen-mills in Uxbridge, Mass., having seventy-five hands under control. In 1870 he accepted a similar position in "Maple Grove" woolen-mills, Adams, Mass., at a salary of \$1,500 a year. In 1874 he commenced manufacturing along with his brother, S. A. Caswell, at Antes Fort, Penn., since which time their business operations have been identical. They are self-made men, and have realized their early ambition to own and operate a mill of their own, which they now have in successful operation. Jerome O. Caswell, the fifth son, is employed as boss dyer, and Miss Emma L. Caswell, the sister, in the management of the weaving department.

HENRY J. CLARK, of the firm of Clark & Son, dealers in dry goods, fancy goods, notions, etc., Bloomsburg, was born at Catawissa, November 4, 1829, a son of James and Sarah (Funston) Clark, the former of whom was a native of Catawissa, and a son of John Clark, one of the original settlers of that place. Our subject, when young, learned the tin-smith's trade, which he carried on at Muncy, Lycoming Co., Penn., for several years. In 1868 he came to Bloomsburg, where he has been interested in various lines of business, and established his present enterprise in 1870. Mr. Clark has been identified with the business interest of Columbia County for nearly thirty-eight years, with the exception during that time of four or five years, part of which he spent in the army at Washington, D. C., during the Rebellion. When the "Exchange Hotel" was burned in 1869 Mr. Clark was the proprietor, and the following year, 1870, he established his present business which he has since continued. His stock is probably the largest of its kind in the county and its arrangements and appearance are equal to many pretentious stores in metropolitan cities. This establishment does an average business of from \$25,000 to \$30,000 per annum. Mr. Clark has the reputation of being an enterprising and public-spirited citizen, and one of the most substantial business men of the town. He has one son, who is associated with him in the business, firm name being H. J. Clark & Son.

CHARLES CONNER was born near Orangeville in 1815, and spent his boyhood days on the farm with his father. At an early age he began as clerk in the Montour Hotel in Danville, and remained there several years. During his stay he identified himself with the Episcopal Church and formed associations with the best families of Danville; at his death he left Mrs. Brady, the widow of Samuel A. Brady—the proprietor of the Montour House, in whose employ he was—\$1,000 as a reward for her kindness in his delicate health. This was of great benefit to her in her declining years. When a boy he was a clerk in the store of the late Judge Baldy, of Catawissa. He engaged in mercantile business in Bloomsburg, and was subsequently elected register and recorder of Columbia County. He was appointed to a desk in the auditor-general's office at Harrisburg and served for about seventeen years, and in 1868 he entered life insurance partnership with J. A. Funston. He was also identified with Mr. Funston in starting the Bloomsburg Banking Company. About the year 1872 or 1873 he went to live with his half-sister Mrs. Fisher of Orangeville, and died there in January, 1875, aged about sixty years. Hon. William Elwell and John A. Funston were selected in his will as executors of his estate. The inventory amounted to about \$35,000; through the accumulation of interest and premiums on filing the account about one year after, the estate amounted to \$42,000. He bequeathed to his half-sister, Mrs. Fisher, the semi-annual interest on \$8,600 during her life, after her death said \$8,600 is left in trust with his executors for the University of the South, at Sewanee, Tenn., and to the three children of said Mrs. Fisher, viz.: Lizzie, Jesse and Charles, \$2,000 each, to be paid to them with interest when twenty-one years old. Mrs. Jane Brady, \$1,000; Mrs. Rev. Robert Allen Castleman, \$1,000; to his three namesakes, Charles Conner Sharplas, Charles Conner Evans and Charles Conner Tate, and his nephew, Millard F. Conner, each \$500; to the rector and vestry of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church in Bloomsburg for use of said church, \$1,000; and the rest, residue and remainder of his estate to St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church in Harrisburg, which enabled this parish to build a neat and comfortable church. The will was written and dated December 4, 1873. His executors purchased a lot in Rosemont Cemetery at Bloomsburg, where he was interred; a neat metallic fence incloses his lot, and a plain but substantial and beautiful Scotch granite monument marks his resting place.

GEORGE W. CORELL, retired, Bloomsburg, was born in Upper Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County, July 4, 1824, to John George and Susannah (Shock) Corell. The father was born in Northampton County and reared to farm life. He was twice married; first to Miss Beck, who died leaving one child, Elizabeth, who married George Winner of Columbia County, and died in 1883; his second marriage was with Miss Susannah Shock, who bore him twelve children, eight of whom are living: Sallie, widow of John Grover, in Monroe County; Philip, in Upper Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County; Joseph, in Mausdale, Montour County; Mary, wife of Jacob Snyder, in Lower Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County; George W., our subject, Margaret Ann, wife of Jacob Darhone, in Upper Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County; Susan, widow of Robert Dunbar of Lebanon, Penn., and Henry, who resides in Republic, Seneca Co., Ohio. The deceased are Catharine, Samuel and two infants

who died unnamed. The father of this family died about 1865, aged eighty years. The mother died about 1863, aged seventy-four years, and both are buried at the new school Lutheran Church, Upper Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County. The latter was a member of that church, but Mr. Corell belonged to the Reformed Church. Our subject was reared at the place of his birth, and in his eighteenth year went to Richmond in the adjoining township of Lower Mount Bethel, to learn the trade of cabinet-maker with Jacob Keefer. He remained there three years and three months learning his trade, and after arriving at age was employed by Mr. Keefer as a journeyman for nine months, and then worked a year at his trade and carpenter work for John Wagner, in Upper Mount Bethel Township. He then moved to Bloomsburg, and for a while carried on carpentering, and in the fall of the same year, 1847, opened a shop and embarked in the undertaking and cabinet-making business. He conducted this for about twenty years, and then put in a line of furniture and conducted the business in this way until 1878, when he sold out to his eldest sons. About two years later the Farmers Exchange was organized, in which Mr. Corell bought stock, and since that time the business of the concern has increased to about \$100,000 per annum. August 8, 1882, he and his step-son, Lloyd, purchased a drug store in Hughsville, which is conducted by his step-son, under the firm name of Corell & White. Mr. Corell also owns forty acres of land left in Hemlock Township, after selling eleven acres in 1885; also eighty-three acres in Northampton County. The latter he rents, but the former is supervised by Mr. Corell. He married in Northampton County, in 1845, Miss Amanda Mack, a native of Northampton County, a daughter of Samuel and Isabel Mack, who are both living in that township. Mrs. Corell died in 1870, and is buried in Rosemont Cemetery, Bloomsburg. By that marriage there were ten children, four of whom died in infancy. The living are William J., married to Agnes Faust, and George Winner (these two sons are engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in Bloomsburg, succeeding their father); Mary, wife of Frank C. Casper, who lives at Pittston, where he conducts a job printing office; Isabel, wife of N. M. Hartman of Nanticoke, proprietor of *The Sun* (newspaper) office at that place; Albert Henry, who has a job office in Bloomsburg, and Edwin, who is employed by William Krickbaum. Mr. Corell married, February 28, 1871, Mrs. Mary Ann White, widow of Russell White, by whom she had four children, two now living: Cyrus, who lives at Cherokee City, Iowa, engaged in the bakery and confectionery business, and Lloyd M., who conducts the drug business previously mentioned, at Hughsville. Mr. and Mrs. Corell are members of the Methodist Church, as is also the elder of their children, of which church Mr. Corell has been trustee for the past thirty years; was treasurer of the church from 1854 to 1884, when he resigned; has been class-leader for twenty-five years. He was a member of the borough council two terms; was school director of the township before it became a borough, and was tax collector of the borough one year. He is manager and treasurer of the Farmers Exchange, which positions he has held since the establishment of the institution.

FRANK D. DENTLER, boot and shoe merchant, Bloomsburg, is a native of Parkville, St. Joseph Co., Mich., born March 7, 1851, a son of Franklin G. and Mary (Cathcart) Dentler, natives of McEwensville, Northumberland Co., Penn., the former of German and the latter of Scotch ancestry. The father, who was always engaged in the stock and farm business, when a young man went to Michigan, and has lived nearly ever since in the vicinity of his present home, St. Joseph Co., Mich., where he owns some 300 acres of land. Our subject lived with his father on the farm until he was fifteen years of age, when he became a clerk with I. W. Pursel & Co., Schoolcraft, Mich., with whom he was engaged four years. The following two years he spent in the store of his uncle, Joseph Cathcart, at Clarinda, Iowa, and the next two years at Constantine, Mich., in the store of Briggs & Davis; was then engaged one year with C. H. Gainsley at Schoolcraft, Mich. In 1874 he came to Bloomsburg and accepted the position of head clerk in the store of I. W. McKelvy, which he held seven years. In the spring of 1881 he established his present business in the building now occupied by the postoffice, and subsequently built the block he now occupies on Second Street. Mr. Dentler married in 1873 Mary Pursel, daughter of Sylvester and Mary J. (Emmett) Pursel, and they have one son, William C.

J. LLOYD DILLON, florist and seedsman and proprietor of the greenhouses on Normal Hill, Bloomsburg, is a native of that place, born July 7, 1851, and was educated in the schools of his native place. In 1867 his father bought a farm just in rear of the present greenhouses and, besides general farming, was extensively engaged in market gardening. From the age of sixteen our subject became interested in the raising and selling of vegetables, for which he had a special liking. At twenty-one he became a partner with his father, and as their business increased they annually grew a large quantity of lettuce in hot beds, but the amount of labor involved in procuring manure and protecting the beds from freezing, the impossibility of opening and working the beds in severe cold weather, made the cost of growing the lettuce very expensive. In the spring of 1875 our subject rented ground of his father and proceeded to build a greenhouse 20x60 with the view of having lettuce for sale all through the winter, and at a lower cost of production than in hot beds. This was the first greenhouse built in Bloomsburg and, when commenced, J. L. Dillon had less than \$150 capital, part of which he expended for lumber,



and during mornings, evenings and odd spells, he ripped and worked by hand all the sash bars, planed and painted all the lumber and did the greater part of the work of building the greenhouse himself. The demand for lettuce not meeting his expectations, Mr. Dillon began giving his attention to the raising of flowers. The partnership with his father dissolved, he devoted his entire time to the raising of flowers and small fruits. About that time the famous "sharpless strawberry" became known, and Mr. Dillon raised thousands of the plants, taking an active part in introducing them throughout this country and Canada, sending orders as far as Victoria, British Columbia. He bought in 1879 nearly ten acres of ground on Normal Hill, adjoining the grounds and northeast of the normal school buildings, and removed the old greenhouse to this site. He has since added four more and is now building the sixth. The present buildings have over 10,000 square feet of glass surface, and, when the new one is completed, there will be 12,000 square feet. The entire buildings are heated by steam from two twenty-horse power steam boilers, with pipes radiating in all directions and providing a uniform temperature during the coldest weather. The furnace and boilers are fitted with an automatic attachment that may be set or gauged to furnish a certain amount of heat, and requires no further attention for ten or twelve hours at a time. It is one of the first greenhouses in the country successfully heated by steam. The water supply is from an artesian well on the premises, sunk to a depth of 150 feet through the solid rock. (The windmill that now pumps the water from this well, also drilled the hole through the solid rock from which the water comes. The mill was first erected and by an ingenious invention of Mr. Dillon, the drill was attached to the wind power and thus the well was made. These greenhouses are the most extensive ones in central Pennsylvania as well as being the most successfully conducted.) In a greenhouse containing 3,600 square feet of glass, built in 1885 for raising carnations and for other purposes, Mr. Dillon gathered and sold off of 1,610 square feet 185,000 carnations, realizing from them alone in one crop enough to pay for the entire cost of the greenhouse and heating apparatus. The establishment cultivates every variety of flowering plants, but makes a specialty of roses, verbenas and cut flowers. Mr. Dillon also ships large quantities of loose flowers to nearly all the large cities of the country. It is one of the important industries of Bloomsburg and has grown steadily from its start in 1875 with an annual sale of \$513, to the year ending July 1, 1886, when the annual sales amounted to \$4,500. Mr. Dillon was married in May, 1873, to Eliza J. Barkle, a native of England, who came when young with her father, William Barkle, and settled in Bloomsburg. To this union three children were born: Alice M.; J. Lloyd, born January 31, 1882, and died April 8, 1882; and Max G. Our subject's father, Patrick Dillon, a native of Dublin, Ireland, immigrated to this country when eighteen years of age and located in Bloomsburg. He was employed for years as a clerk in the Irondale Iron Company and subsequently bought the farm above mentioned. He married Mary Emmerson (the mother of our subject), who was born in England, but came with her parents to this country when she was but a year old. They still live on the farm northeast of the normal school.

EDWARD RODMAN DRINKER, manager of the Bloomsburg Iron Company. Bloomsburg, was born near Clifton postoffice, Covington Township, Luzerne, now Lackawanna, County, November 5, 1830. His ancestors were from England, and settled in Philadelphia about the time of William Penn, and one, Edward Drinker, was the first white child born where Philadelphia now stands. The grandfather of our subject was Henry Drinker, a direct descendant of the Edward above named. Henry was for many years cashier of the Bank of North America at Philadelphia, where he died about 1830. His wife's maiden name was Mary Howell, and their son, Richard Drinker, the father of our subject, first came to Luzerne County with his brother Henry W., to take charge of a tract of 25,000 acres owned by their father. They received the charter for the railroad from Great Bend to Delaware River, now the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western. They also built fifty miles of turnpike in that county. In 1846 Richard moved to Bloomsburg, and bought a farm just adjoining the village. In 1854 he moved to Scranton and engaged in conveyancing and real estate business, and there died in November, 1861. He married Lydia, a daughter of John Wragg, a native of England, who came to this country about the time of the French revolution; while on the ocean the ship was captured with all on board, and Mr. Wragg was detained a prisoner on shipboard a long time. Later he settled in Luzerne County, Penn., but died at Beloit, Wis., aged about ninety years. Our subject became identified with the iron business in 1846, being employed as an office boy, and when seventeen became bookkeeper; continued as such for twenty-seven years, and for the last six years has been manager. He has served his vicinity in various local offices, and was a member of the council for five years; is a member of the Episcopal Church; he is a F. & A. M. He was married to Martha Mendenhall in 1859, and they have three children: Edward W., Richard C. and Lydia W. In 1862 Mr. Drinker enlisted as an emergency man, and soon after went with his regiment to the front, arriving during the battle of Antietam, after which the regiment returned home and was disbanded.

FRANCIS PEROT DRINKER, brother of the above, was born in Luzerne, now Lackawanna, County, November 16, 1832. He became identified with the Bloomsburg Iron Com-

pany in 1848-50, as bookkeeper, and has acted in that capacity up to the present time, with the exception of a few intervals. He was a member of the Anderson Cavalry, a cavalry organization belonging to Philadelphia, Penn. This cavalry organization was at the battle of Murfreesboro, Tenn., at which battle Mr. Drinker was taken prisoner by Wheeler's rebel cavalry. By them he was stripped of his uniform and accoutrements, and then paroled and turned loose to shift for himself. After wandering about sick and without medicine or food, he finally reached Columbus, Ohio, where he remained for some time for exchange. He was finally discharged on account of sickness, when he returned home. Subsequently he enlisted again, and was at the battle of Gettysburg and in other engagements. He married in 1864 Miss Mary Chamberlain, who has borne him the following named children: Martha C., William W., Margaret, and Francis P., Jr.

GEORGE EDWARD ELWELL, attorney at law, and one of the proprietors of the *Columbian*, Bloomsburg, is a native of Towanda, Bradford Co., Penn., born in October, 1848, a son of Judge William Elwell of Bloomsburg. He was educated primarily in the Towanda schools, and prepared for college at Barker's select school in Philadelphia. In 1867 he became a student at Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., and took a three years' course in the class of 1870. After leaving college he accepted the position of teacher in the Fifth Street School, Bloomsburg, being so employed for one year and a half, and filled the chair of English literature at the normal school, also of French and German for a year and a half. He in 1872, in the meantime, began the study of law; became in the summer of 1873 a student in his father's office, and was admitted to the bar in September, 1874. He immediately formed a partnership with C. B. Brockway, and in 1875 they bought the *Columbian*, though still fully attending to law practice. In October, 1879, the partnership was dissolved, J. K. Bittenbender buying Mr. Brockway's interest in the paper, the firm becoming Elwell & Bittenbender, and since 1879 Mr. Elwell has conducted his law practice alone. Our subject married in October, 1876, Miss Mary A., daughter of I. W. McKelvy. Mr. Elwell is a member of the Episcopal Church, and has been a vestryman for the past ten years. In politics he is a Democrat; served in the town council four years, and was a member of the Democratic State Committee for three years.

HON. WILLIAM ELWELL, president judge of the Twenty-sixth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, resident in Bloomsburg for the last twenty-four years, was born at Athens, in Bradford County, on the 9th of October, 1808. His father, Dan Elwell, was a native of Massachusetts, and his mother, *nee* Nancy Prentice, of Connecticut. They were of English extraction. Their lineage is traceable back to the time of Cromwell. His father was a carpenter and builder and a mathematician of considerable notoriety. He was an active promoter of the cause of education in the community in which he lived, his own children having the best advantages which the common schools and an academy of high standing afforded. He married Nancy Prentice at Athens in 1800. She was the daughter of Dr. Amos Prentice, a physician and surgeon in the army of the Revolution. Dr. Prentice suffered great loss at Groton, Conn., by the destruction of property by the soldiers of Arnold, the traitor, he and his family barely escaping with their lives. He afterward moved to Athens, Bradford County, where he died in 1805. One of his sons, William, after whom our subject was named, was a lawyer, whose books and papers on his death came into the hands of the father of Judge Elwell. It was the perusal of these, together with the fact that he was a namesake of his uncle, a lawyer, that inspired the young mind of the future judge with the idea of becoming a lawyer. His father died in 1868 at the age of ninety-four years, and his mother died in 1858 at the age of eighty-three years. They had eight children, William being the fourth child and third son. Two of the sons now dead were ministers, the eldest being an Episcopal and the fifth a Methodist clergyman. Two sons, the only members of the family now living, became lawyers and subsequently judges, one in Wisconsin and the other (our subject) in Pennsylvania, as first stated. He received a good academic education and continued his studies years after his school days. He began teaching school when but seventeen years of age, and taught for several years. In 1827, having previously acquired a knowledge of surveying, he was employed with the corps of engineers under Chief Engineer John Randall, engaged under the authority of the State in running advance or exploring lines on both sides of the North Branch of the Susquehanna River from the State line south, for the canal proposed to be constructed from the State line to tide water. The use of the compass and other practical knowledge acquired during the progress of that survey was afterward very beneficial to him in preparing ejection cases for trial. In September, 1830, he commenced the study of law in the office and under the preceptorship of Hon. Horace Williston, a lawyer of the old school well versed in the principles of the common law. He came to the bar in the State of New York, and was familiar with equity practice and principles as administered by the courts of that State, under the administration of Chancellor Kent and other eminent judges of that day. On the 13th of February, 1833, Judge Elwell was admitted to the bar of Bradford County. He at once became the partner of his preceptor on equal terms, opened an office at Towanda and for the next sixteen years the firm continued in practice in the northern tier of counties.



In 1849 the senior partner was appointed judge of the district. From that time until 1862 the junior continued the practice alone, retaining all the business of the old firm. In 1841 Judge Elwell was elected to the House of Representatives for 1842 from Bradford County. He was chairman of the judiciary committee of that session. That committee was composed of men of mark. Four of its members were afterward president judges, one became chief justice of the supreme court of the State, one was Thaddeus Stevens, afterward known in Congress as the great commoner, and one of them was subsequently minister to a foreign government.

In the course of his practice Judge Elwell had been often employed to procure the release of persons from prison who had been committed for the non-payment of debts. Impressed with the barbarity of the law which permitted arrest and imprisonment for such a cause, he, without a petition requesting it and without any public agitation upon the subject, prepared, introduced and reported from his committee a bill to abolish imprisonment for debt and punish fraudulent debtors. The bill as it came from his hands, containing many sections, was passed and became a law on the 12th of July, 1842, and stands upon the statute book to-day intact. The prison doors were at once thrown open and the poor debtor set free amid general rejoicing that a relic of barbarism had been swept away. The Judge was elected to the House for 1843 and served as chairman of the committee of ways and means, then the most important committee owing to the depressed condition of the finances of the State.

In April, 1871, after a general and protracted strike of miners and other employes in the anthracite coal regions and all attempts at settlement or compromise had failed, the Judge was unanimously chosen by a joint committee, representing both the operators and the miners as umpire to decide between them. He heard the parties for two days and rendered his decision in writing which was acquiesced in by both sides. The strike was ended. Work was resumed—the rulings on all hands were considered eminently just, both as to control of the works and wages to be paid.

Judge Elwell resided in Bradford County, when, in 1862, he was elected president judge of the district composed of Columbia, Wyoming and Sullivan. In 1872 he was re-elected. In 1874 Columbia and Montour Counties were made a separate district, of which he was continued the judge. In 1882 he was elected again without an opposing vote, as had been the case in the two preceding elections. He has been, it is believed, more frequently called to hold special courts in other districts than any other judge in the State. His decisions, which have undergone review in the Supreme Court, have with few exceptions been affirmed. In the criminal courts no case has been reversed. In equity and the Orphans' Court but three decrees have been either reversed or modified. Among the cases tried before the judge are some of the most celebrated of the time, to wit: The Williamsport bond case, amount involved more than half a million of dollars; the city of Philadelphia against Fisher, involving title to 12,000 acres of land; the Cameron will case; the trial and conviction of three Mollie Maguires for murder, whose execution, in connection with convictions in other counties, broke up the most desperate gang of murderers and outlaws that ever existed in this country.

The Judge is now, and has been for many years, president of the board of trustees of the State normal school at Bloomsburg, an institution in the prosperity of which he takes a deep interest.

He has been twice married; in 1832 to Clamana Shaw, daughter of Loren Shaw, Esq., of what is now Waverly, N. Y. By this wife he had four children two of whom survive their mother, who died October 5, 1840, to-wit: William, ex-mayor of the city of Sheboygan, Wis., where he is largely engaged in the milling business and the plaster trade, and Clamana E., widow of P. H. Smith, who was a successful merchant of Plymouth, Wis., and State senator from the Sheboygan District, serving his second term at the time of his death.

On the 19th of September, 1844, the Judge married Mary Louisa Thayer, daughter of Col. E. Thayer, of Watkins, Schuylcr Co., N. Y. Six children have been born of this marriage, four of whom are living: Ephraim W., agent of the Lehigh Valley Railroad at Towanda; George E., attorney at law, editor and co-proprietor of the *Columbian* newspaper establishment; Mary L., married to N. U. Funk, attorney at law, and Charles P., student. Two of the children died at Bloomsburg, one in its sixth and the other in its third year. The Judge and his family are members of the Episcopal Church. He is of a retiring disposition, enjoys the comforts of home, dislikes a crowd, is happy with his family, his books and his garden. He is an amateur gardener of the most enthusiastic type as all who pass his grounds can attest. He says he has voted fourteen times for the Democratic nominee for President of the United States, and claims that he has voted seven times for the candidate that was elected. Although a Democrat of decided convictions, it has never been charged that his politics have in any manner influenced his judgment or decision in judicial proceedings.

HON. PETER ENT (deceased) was born in Roaringcreek Township, this county, February 11, 1811, a son of Charles and Elizabeth Ent. He was a carpenter and contractor, and during the later years of his life carried on mercantile business and also

iron furnace at Light Street. He was a prominent Democrat, one of the county commissioners, when the county seat was removed to Bloomsburg; was collector of tolls at Beach Haven; was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, and served two terms 1856-57, and was a delegate to the Democratic Convention at Charleston, in 1860. He died in 1876, at Light Street.

UZAL H. ENT, bookkeeper, Bloomsburg, a son of the Hon. Peter Ent, was born January 13, 1838. He obtained his education in the schools of Light Street, and enlisted October 1, 1861, in Company D, Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, as first lieutenant, and served until October, 1862, when he was honorably discharged on account of physical disability. He participated in the following engagements: Winchester, Port Republic, Cedar Mountain, Thoroughfare Gap and second Bull Run. On leaving the army he came home, and in 1863 enlisted as an emergency man; was made captain of Company H, Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia and served about six weeks; was under fire at Hagerstown, Md., while following up Lee's army on its retreat to the Potomac. He then returned to Light Street, and was engaged in farming and milling for ten years. In 1879 he was elected sheriff of Columbia County, serving three years, and is now employed as bookkeeper in Krug's planing-mill. Mr. Ent was married June 10, 1863, to Helen M. Martz of Pottsville, Schuylkill Co., Penn. They have six children: Alonzo M., Ramsay M., Oscar W., Nellie M., Jessie B. and Minnie E. Mr. Ent is a member of Oriental Lodge, 264, F. & A. M. of Orangeville, and also of the G. A. R. In politics he is a Democrat. The family attend the services of the Reformed Church.

WELLINGTON H. ENT, deceased soldier, was born in Light Street, Columbia Co., Penn., August 16, 1834, and attended the common schools, and at Williamsport, Penn. He read law in Bloomsburg, and graduated in the same class with Postmaster-General Vilas, at the law university of Albany, N. Y., May 25, 1860, under the able instruction of President Reuben A. Walworth, and Profs. Ira Harris, Amasa J. Parker and Amos Dean. He was appointed, by the governor, notary public, December 5, 1860; was admitted to the bar of Columbia County at the September term, 1860. At the breaking out of the Rebellion he went to the rescue of his country, going in June, 1861, as first lieutenant in a volunteer company to Harrisburg, where he was chosen and commissioned as captain of Company A., Sixth Pennsylvania Reserves. He was subsequently promoted to the following offices in his regiment: After Antietam as major, September 21, 1862; after Fredericksburg as lieutenant-colonel, May 1, 1863, to rank from March 26, 1863; after Gettysburg as colonel, July 1, 1863, to rank from May 23, 1863; as brigadier-general United States Volunteers, March 13, 1865, for gallant conduct at the battle of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, Bethesda Church, Va.; he served in the Third Brigade, McCall's Division Pennsylvania Reserves, September 16, 1861; reconnoitered beyond Dranesville, October 19-21, and Dranesville, December 20; with the Second Brigade, Second Division, First Corps, Army of the Potomac, 1862; advance on Manassas, March 10, 1862; advance on Falmouth, May 2; ordered to Peninsula June 13; with Third Brigade, Seymour's Division, Fifth Corp., guarding supplies at Tunstall's Station, and White House, June 14-20; transferred to First Brigade, July 4; ordered to reinforce the Army of Virginia with the First Brigade, Third Division, First Corps, in August; Gainesville, August 28; Graveston, August 29; Bull Run, August 30; South Mountain, Md., September 14; Antietam, 16-17; in command of regiment at Fredericksburg, December 11-15; Burnside's Second Campaign, January 20 and 24, 1863; with Twenty-second Corps in defense of Washington, February 7 to June 25, and with First Brigade, Third Division of Fifth Corps, June 28; Gettysburg, July 2-4; Bristow's Station, Va., October 14; New Hope Church, November 26; Wine Run, November 26-30; Wilderness, May 5-7, 1864; Spottsylvania, May 8-12. In command Third Brigade, Third Division, Fifth Army Corps, May 10, 1864; Spottsylvania Court House, May 12-20; Hanover, May 23, 26; North Anna, May 24-27; Bethesda Church, May 30 (wounded). He surveyed and laid out the first "Signal Camp" in the army, and Gen. Fisher, of Philadelphia, was placed in command of it; served for a time in the signal corps; mustered out June 11, 1864, as one of the most gallant officers of the war. In the course of the engagements he had two horses shot under him, and at Dranesville the heel of his boot was shot off. In the battle of the Wilderness he was four nights and three days without food, save what berries he could gather from the bushes, and at Bethesda Church his favorite war-horse, "Billy" (which died September 15, 1884, at the age of 29 years and 6 months), had a portion of his fetlock shot off, which, although in the thickest of the fight, was the only injury he received. At this same battle Gen. Ent's regiment was three times outflanked and compelled to retreat, and on each occasion the whinnying of "Billy" served as a signal to rally the men. He was appointed by the governor of Pennsylvania to visit the Army of the Potomac to receive the soldiers' votes, September 28, 1864; captain and brigade paymaster First Brigade, Ninth Division, V. C. P., June 1, 1864. Died November 5, 1871. He was married January 14, 1869, to M. E. Petrikin, daughter of Dr. W. H. Petrikin, and granddaughter of Hon. Daniel Snyder. This marriage resulted in one daughter—Anna M. He was engaged in a furnace at Light Street after the war. In 1868 he was nominated and made the race for surveyor-general of Pennsyl-



vania, but with his party was defeated. In 1869 he was elected prothonotary of Columbia County, and served creditably until his death. February 22, 1863, he wrote to Capt. C. H. Potter Asst. Adjt.-Gen. Hertzleman's corps as follows: "Sir—I have the honor to represent that I have been in the Prince Street Hospital, Alexandria, Va., since the 10th inst., most of the time dangerously ill, and to request that an order be issued allowing me to be transferred to Washington City to report to Dr. Clynsier for medical treatment. Most respectfully your obedient servant, Wellington H. Ent, Major Sixth Regiment, P. R. N. C." His mother, Mrs. Sarah Ent, had five sons, all of whom she gave to the rescue of their country, only one surviving, suffering from bronchitis contracted in the army. In this work appears an elegant portrait of our subject, placed there by his estimable widow. He was a worthy A. F. & A. M.: was knighted April 19, 1864. At a regular conclave of Crusade Commandery No. 12, K. T., held at their Asylum December 21, 1871, Sir Knights D. A. Beckley, J. B. Robison and C. F. Knapp presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

WHEREAS, Providence has seen fit to remove, by death from our Asylum our late esteemed Sir Knight Wellington H. Ent, and although no word or deed of ours can now avail our brother who has been called to appear where the righteousness of Jesus Christ alone can secure everlasting life, yet in respect for the memory of one who was zealous in the advancement of the interests of our order, we do resolve: That in the humble submission of God's will we deplore the loss of a worthy officer of our Commandery, and a beloved member of our order.

*Resolved*, That in this dispensation of our Creator, while we commit to His merciful hands, the disembodied spirit of our brother with hope that he may have joined, in the precious blood of our savior, an entrance into the blessed regions of light and life eternal, yet we remember that as Knights Templars we are again admonished that in the midst of life we are in death, and that it is our duty ever to persevere in the path of honor, truth and integrity.

*Resolved*, That to the family of the deceased we tender our deep sympathy, in their bereavement, and may the God of the widow and the orphan give them strength to bear up under the trials which their loss may occasion.

*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the widow, and another to the newspapers for publication. In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and the seal of this Commandery to be affixed at Bloomsburg, Pa., this 22d day of December, 1871.

THOMAS E. GEDDIS.  
RUDOLPH H. RINGLE.  
JOHN THOMAS.

C. F. KNAPP, *Recorder*.

FREDERICK CHRISTIAN EYER, merchant, Bloomsburg, was born September 15, 1830, in Dutchess County, N. Y. His father, Rev. William J. Eyer, was born January 4, 1803, in Lebanon County, Penn., and came to Columbia County when thirty-four years of age, and in 1838, settled with his wife, Charlotte (Havemeyer) Eyer, at Catawissa. They were married May 7, 1829, and their children were as follows: Frederick C., born September 15, 1830; Susannah C., born August 18, 1834; Catherine, born January 23, 1838; William, born December 7, 1843; Mary, born November 8, 1840, and Luther, born March 12, 1846. The father was a Lutheran minister and graduated in New York City, where he remained for a long time under the instruction of the Rev. Geisenhammer. In 1838 he took charge of the Lutheran congregation at Catawissa, Bloomsburg and Roaring-creek, and acted as their minister until his death, February 9, 1874. He was much loved for his many Christian and kindly characteristics, and was highly respected by all denominations. His wife died February 2, 1876, and they are buried side by side in the cemetery at Catawissa. Before taking the above charges he had preached for the congregation at Rhinebeck, N. Y., for several years, and there his two eldest children were born. Our subject was educated in the schools of Catawissa and learned the trade of cabinet-making, but at the age of twenty-four opened a general store at Catawissa, which he conducted six years. In 1861 he came to Bloomsburg and kept store two or three years; thence moved to Ashland, where he was interested in flour-mills. In 1872 he was appointed steward at the State Hospital for the insane at Danville, and held that position ten years. He returned to Bloomsburg in 1882 and since has been interested in the clothing business under the firm name of Evans & Eyer. Mr. Eyer married in 1861 Emma, of Catawissa, daughter of Reuben Lins. They had four children: Charlotte, died at the age of twelve years; Warren H., Mary S. and Edward A. Mr. Eyer is a Democrat and served as a member of the town council two terms; is also a member of the Lutheran Church.

JAMES K. EYER, merchant, Bloomsburg, was born in Madison Township, a son of Philip P. Eyer, who was a son of Ludwig Eyer. Ludwig was a dyer by trade and owned the land and laid out the town of Oyertown, now Bloomsburg, his dyeing shop, being located near the bridge leading to Hemlock. He later bought a farm near Black Run, where he also had a saw-mill and there resided until his death. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, and donated the land where the First Lutheran and German Reformed Churches were built; his son, Jacob, donated the land for the present Lutheran Church on Market Street. Philip P. Eyer was a carpenter and cabinet-maker by trade, a business he carried on many years at Black Run. He died in Bloomsburg in 1883, at the age of ninety-two years. His wife, Catharine Kenney, died at Bloomsburg and she and her husband are both buried in Rosemont Cemetery. They had ten children—five sons: James K., John A., Andrew J., F. Philip and Jacob (all deceased except J. K. and F. P.),



and five daughters: Sarah A., married D. Wilson; Rebecca, married Dr. Willits; Catharine, married William Pursel; Mary, died single, and Martha, wife of Amos Ohle. James K. Eyer was reared on a farm and in 1862 or 1863 came to Bloomsburg; in 1844 he married Elmira Hollinshead of Catawissa. Mr. Eyer has the following named children, living: John Wesley, Harriet E., wife of Mr. Noyer, and S. Lettie; five are deceased. Mr. Eyer has been a member of the Methodist Church for forty-five years and class-leader for nearly thirty years. In politics he is a Republican.

JOSHUA FETTERMAN, retired, Bloomsburg, was born in what is now Locust Township, Columbia Co., Penn., January 20, 1815, son of George and Elizabeth (Soule) Fetterman. The father was born in Berks County, where he married, and coming to Columbia County bought land in what is now Locust Township, where William Fetterman now lives (the tract then consisted of 240 acres), and erected the buildings now occupied by his grandson. Here he followed farming until his death. He and his wife, Elizabeth (Soule) Fetterman, were the parents of ten children, five of whom are living: John, in Franklin Township; Joshua, our subject; Catherine, wife of Henry Harner, in Catawissa; Sarah, wife of William Yager, in Catawissa; Elizabeth, wife of Hamilton Fisher, also in Catawissa. The names of the deceased are as follows: Solomon, Henry, George, Jonas and Reuben. The father of this family died in September, 1860; the mother in April, 1844, and both are buried in Numidia Cemetery. Joshua Fetterman was reared in Locust Township, and assisted his father on the farm until seventeen years of age. He then went to Girardsville, Schuylkill County, and worked at the stone mason's trade, which he learned from his father. Three months later, accompanied with others, he went to Phoenixville, and engaged in mason work on culverts. He then worked for about a year on the high bridges of the Catawissa road, principally at the Mainville Bridge; thence he went to Franklin Township and worked on the construction of a furnace at the mouth of Roaring creek, and later on the erection of a furnace at Danville; thence to Rolston, and after a couple of months on construction there, returned to Danville and superintended the building of the Grove furnace in that city. He then contracted to build canal bridges in the Pennsylvania Canal, which engaged his attention until the following spring. He then went to Danville and engaged in the construction of the furnaces which now belong to the Reading Railroad. In 1842 he moved to Pottsville, and there was engaged as stone cutter and brick mason, doing considerable work for the Pottsville Bank, and in the following January returned to Columbia County and spent the winter in repairing furnaces. May 1, 1844, he came to Bloomsburg to superintend the construction of the Iron Dale furnaces, and here has since remained. He superintended them until 1881. In 1882 he was elected county commissioner of Columbia County, which position he held for three years. Since then he may be said to have withdrawn from active labor, although he has superintended farming on a piece of land on the outskirts of Bloomsburg. He married in this county, August 25, 1844, Miss Rebecca Miller, of Columbia County, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Mostellar) Miller. Her parents came from Northampton County to Columbia County, and in Mifflin Township her father followed farming until about ten years before his death, when he removed to Mifflinville and led a retired life. He died in August, 1860, his wife having preceded him about twenty years. To Mr. and Mrs. Fetterman six children were born, two of whom are living: Lizzie, wife of William Allen, a merchant of Bloomsburg, and Harriet. The deceased are William H., who died at the age of four months; Rachel Alice, died at the age of one year and four months; Charley Miller, died aged six years and five months, and Frances M. died August 12, 1886, aged forty years. Mr. and Mrs. Fetterman are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Fetterman is a member of Bloomsburg Lodge, A. F. & A. M. He owns a residence and business properties in Bloomsburg, including part of the Exchange Block, and has about four acres in the eastern part of the city. He also is interested in the company, owning and operating the lime quarries in Centre Township.

COL. JOHN G. FREEZE, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, is a native of Lycoming County, Penn., born November 4, 1825, a son of James and Frances (Gosse) Freeze. The Freezes were from New Jersey, and the grandfather, Peter Freeze, with his wife and family, settled in Northumberland County, a short time after the Revolution, in which conflict he served as a soldier in what was known as the "Jersey Line." He was a farmer, and lived and died at Tuckahoe. His son James was a miller by trade; carried on business for many years, and died at Bloomsburg aged eighty-two years; his wife died aged about seventy-five years. Both are buried in Rosemont Cemetery. Col. Freeze obtained his education at the Danville Academy, and by private tutors, thus acquiring a good classical training. He began reading law in 1846 with Joshua W. Comly, Esq., of Danville; was admitted to the bar April 19, 1848, at Bloomsburg, and has since been in constant practice of his profession. He served as register and recorder of Columbia County from 1863 to 1869, and was a member of the constitutional convention in 1872, but resigned in favor of Hon. C. R. Buckalew. Our subject is generally known as Col. Freeze, a title he acquired through being appointed to Gen. Bigler's staff, on which he served with rank of lieutenant-colonel. In his practice he has been identified with, or had charge of many celebrated and important cases before the courts of this and surrounding counties, notably "*Biggs vs.*

Doebler," "*Longenberger vs. McReynolds*," ejectments began in 1863 and continued in one place or another until 1885; was also engaged in the defense of the "Molly Maguire" cases. "*Commonwealth vs. Patrick Hester and others*." Col. Freeze was married in 1854 to Margaret Walker of Lancaster County, Penn., a daughter of Robert Walker of Lancaster. Our subject and wife had a family of five children (all now deceased). They are members of the Episcopal Church; he is a member of the standing committee of the diocese and chancellor of it. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Historical Society; the author of a history of Columbia County, and of a volume of poems, entitled "*A Royal Pastoral*," a 12mo. volume of upward of 300 pages.

ANDREW L. FRITZ, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, was born on the old homestead in Sugarloaf Township, Columbia Co., Penn., August 30, 1850. His great-grandfather, Philip Fritz, lived on Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, and from that city he moved with his family to Columbia County about the year 1797, where he purchased a large tract of land. He was the first school teacher and justice of the peace in the northern part of the county, and was a great scholar and local public character of more than ordinary influence. His father, Jesse Fritz, present owner of the old homestead, which had been transmitted to him from his grandfather Philip, and his father, Henry, is a farmer, and has been justice of the peace for a number of years, which office he still holds. Our subject obtained an academic education at the Orangeville and New Columbus Academies and the Bloomsburg State Normal School. He began teaching school when about sixteen years of age in his native township; followed that profession for eight years, except part of the time during the summer months he assisted his father on the farm. In 1875 he took up the study of law in the office of Hon. C. R. Buckalew, and was admitted to the bar of Columbia County in May, 1878. In November of the same year he was admitted as an attorney at Scranton, Penn., but subsequently decided to make his home in his native county. He was appointed and served as deputy sheriff for three years, and was appointed by the county commissioners and acted as collector of taxes for the town of Bloomsburg in the year 1879, and was tendered the same position in 1880, but refused to accept. He was secretary of the town council of Bloomsburg for nearly three years successively, when he resigned, and was elected a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1884, where he served on the judiciary general committee—the most important in the House, and he was also appointed and served on several other committees. Among other good measures, he advocated and made a speech in the House in favor of equalization of taxation. But the bill failed to pass. Mr. Fritz was renominated in 1886 without opposition, and was elected by a large majority. At this session he is also acting on the judiciary general committee, and is now taking an active part on the floor of the House and in the discussions before the several committees to which he belongs. He was married in 1879 to a daughter of A. J. Evans of Bloomsburg, and has one child—a son about six years old.

REV. HENRY FUNK was born near Hagerstown, Md., May 7, 1816. He was baptized in infancy and confirmed in youth as a member of the Reformed Church. At an early period of his life he felt his heart drawn toward the holy ministry, and in order to prepare himself for the holy office, he entered Marshall College at Mercersburg in the eighteenth year of his age. As a student he was diligent and exemplary. He graduated in 1841, and immediately entered the Theological Seminary, in which he took a full course, having spent, altogether, in both institutions nine years. Having finished his studies he became a licentiate and as such supplied Boonesboro charge for the space of six months in the absence of the regular pastor. In the fall of 1844 Mr. Funk was called as assistant English pastor to Rev. D. S. Tobias in the Bloomsburg charge, Columbia County, Penn. December 8, 1844, he was ordained to the holy ministry and installed in his charge at Orangeville by Rev. E. Kieffer and Rev. H. Harbaugh, a committee of the Susquehanna Classis. His field was large and laborious, but he served it for a space of ten years with great faithfulness and self-sacrifice. He married a daughter of Daniel Snyder, a well known and prominent citizen of Bloomsburg. She preceded him to the better world. They had one child which survived its parents—N. U. Funk, of Bloomsburg. A few years before his death his health began to decline, but he still pursued his calling as best he could. At length a slow consumption had done its work and he "fell asleep in Jesus" April 16, 1855, at the age of thirty-eight years, eleven months and nine days. His remains repose in the graveyard of the Reformed Church at Hagerstown. Mr. Funk was an earnest, zealous and faithful laborer. He preached very often, and it is said that he arranged one sermon for every day in the month, too much for his bodily strength. His field had been considerably desolated by distraction and division previous to his entering upon it, and much labor and wisdom were required to cultivate it. He, however, succeeded well, and the heritage over which he presided gradually put on beauty and strength under his ministry and that of his worthy colleague. Much of the fruit of his labors has only ripened since his death, and the hands of his successor have been greatly strengthened by the preparatory work performed by him. His preaching was solemn and solid, and always left a good impression. In his general character and life, Mr. Funk manifested the most excellent traits of a man and a Christian. He was amiable and modest, gen-



tle and humble, warm and true in his friendships, childlike and sincere in his devotion to God and the church. Though he passed early from earth there are many who cherish pleasant recollections of his beautiful life, and all who know him feel assured that he is safely at home among the "Saints in Light."

JOHN ALBERT FUNSTON was born February 9, 1830, in Madison Township, this county, the birthplace also of his father, Thomas A. Funston, a son of John Funston, a native of Northampton County, Penn., whose father, Nicholas Funston emigrated in an early day from the North of Ireland to reside near Easton, Penn. The mother of our subject was Hannah, a daughter of Andrew Schooley of English origin, who was a native of New Jersey at Schooley Mountain. John Funston settled on and purchased a large tract of land soon after the Revolutionary war, near where Jerseytown has since been built, and there opened one of the first stores in the county, beginning with a limited stock of goods and a limited trade in a very sparsely settled region. By dint of energy, however, the business was successfully continued there and in Jerseytown by himself and sons for many years. John Funston died December 6, 1844, on one of his farms near Jerseytown at the advanced age of ninety-two years, closely identified with the church and after having lived a respected and useful life, having held the office of justice of the peace and many positions of trust and honor in his locality. His wife, formerly Mary Aten, died November 22, 1838, aged seventy-five years, the mother of ten children: Henry, who married Sarah Thomas; Jesse, who married a Miss Strawbridge; Thomas A., married Hannah Schooley; Nicholas, a bachelor; Rachel, married John Richart; Mary, married Jesse Barber; Sarah, married James Clark; John, who died young; Caleb, married Rachel Swisher and James Campbell, married Rachel Updegraph. The children still living are Sarah Clark at Catawissa, Penn., who still enjoys life at the advanced age of eighty-six years, and Rachel Updegraph, the widow of James C. Funston, living at Newberry, Penn. Thomas A. Funston was reared to mercantile pursuits, delivering grain and produce by team to Easton, Reading and Philadelphia, where he purchased goods for the store. After his marriage, however, he devoted himself to farming. He was an influential Democrat, served in many local offices with credit and two terms in the State Legislature, by whose enactments the county seat was removed from Danville to Bloomsburg. After thirty years' agitation Thomas A. Funston died in 1874, aged eighty-three years, and left to survive him his widow, who died in 1879 aged seventy-nine years, both being interred at Jerseytown. They were blessed with ten children: John A., Andrew Schooley, now of Colfax, Wash. Ter., married to Sarah A. Eyer; Mary Jane, married to Nehemiah Welliver; Martha A., married to Jacob Dieffenbach; Sarah, who died when a young lady; Catharine H., of Bloomsburg, widow of Rev. Henry Wilson; Elizabeth M., died in early womanhood; Desdemonia W., married William Johnston; Wilbur F. and Susan, who both died young. John Albert Funston was educated at the common schools and at the Millinburg Academy, Union Co., Penn., kept by Prof. James McClure. He remained at home engaged in his father's interests until twenty-five years of age, teaching school during the winter months. He then took the responsibility of making his own way through life, doing so with remarkably small capital, save industry, perseverance and a determination to succeed by deserving it. On solicitation he accepted, temporarily, a position in the Irondale Company store near Bloomsburg, Penn., in the year 1846; then, after a summer in Pottsville, he took charge of the large store of Judge William H. Cool & Co., in Beaver Meadows, Penn. While there, in August, 1848, a proposition to purchase the store and stock of Richard Fruit, at Jerseytown, was, after a day's consideration, accepted, Mr. Funston taking charge of the business September 16, 1848. Although supplied with limited capital, watchful care and discreet management soon placed his store and business on a profitable basis that met constantly increasing trade and respect. On account of failing health, in consequence of close application for eight years, the business was disposed of to Conrad Kreamer, Mr. Funston retaining a private interest of one-third, and retiring to spend a few more years in collecting and securing outstanding debts and book accounts. Within the year after the store business was disposed of, Mr. Funston purchased what is known as the Phineas and, afterward, Thomas Barber homestead, a rich tract of about 200 acres on the east branch of the Chillisquaque Creek, which land he has leased to tenants for thirty years, three of whom realized a sufficient amount to enable them to purchase farms for themselves, one costing over \$5 000. This tract was originally taken up by Joseph Galloway of the province of Maryland in 1769, who conveyed to William Patterson of Northumberland County, Penn., October 29, 1772, who sold to Robert McClenahan and he to Phineas Barber, January 10, 1787, 100 years ago, for £50. Phineas Barber then sold to Thomas Barber in 1830, and Thomas Barber's heirs to John A. Funston in 1857. The tract originally contained 400 acres. Two farms of 100 acres each were sold to James Coats & Bro., both of which were afterward bought by John and Nicholas Funston, referred to above, and now owned and occupied by Jacob Coonfer and Jacob Wintersteen. The old log house and part of the barn built 115 years ago, have until very recently been used, and only torn away to make room for the more commodious buildings now (1887) being erected. Mr. Funston then gave some attention to dealing in real estate, and owned several farms and properties in the vicinity of Jersey-



town and Bloomsburg, finally selling his store property to William Kreamer in 1865, and his residence in Jerseytown to Dr. Thomas J. Swisher in 1867. In the same year he removed to Bloomsburg and erected his present dwelling at Fifth and Market Streets, where he has resided since 1868. In the year 1868 attention was directed to the high rate of road and poor taxes for the township of Bloom, Bloomsburg being within this township and being unincorporated; roads and streets in town and township were insufficiently cared for, and under the then existing plan of providing for the poor and collecting and disbursing poor taxes, excessive amounts were required to meet the demands of a list of self-constituted and undeserving paupers, that under the mild and liberal methods then prevailing, preferred to live on the community rather than work. Seeing the demoralizing effects of this high rate of taxation and the accumulating debt, Mr. Funston called upon the Rev. D. J. Waller, Sr., and after a short interview, a supplement was drawn transferring the act for the Luzerne Poor District to Bloomsburg. The move was approved by leading citizens. The necessary enactment was passed by the Legislature appointing Mr. Funston, Mr. B. F. Hartman and Dr. J. Schuyler directors to buy a farm and establish a home for the poor. The list of over fifty paupers was reduced to sixteen, owing to an unwillingness to accept the new and comfortable home, and the rate of poor taxes reduced from 10 mills to 3 mills. The incorporation of the town of Bloomsburg was similarly effected. In 1868 the fire and life insurance firm of John A. Funston & Co. was instituted, the late Charles Conner being associated with Mr. Funston. While in this business it was discovered that a banking business could be profitably carried on by the firm. The banking business soon followed and an extensive discount line was reached and prosperously maintained by the firm for some two and a half years without loss. Out of this private banking business grew the present Bloomsburg Banking Company, a flourishing banking institution organized in 1871 with a capital stock of \$50,000, taken by fifty stockholders, and of which institution Mr. Funston is now and always has been a director and president. An unusual number of important positions of trust have been filled by Mr. Funston, among others that of county treasurer, to which he was elected as a Democrat by his party in 1860 and into which office his usual tact and ability were carried. He took a very active interest in various improvements of the town of Bloomsburg and county, and has been a member of the board of trustees of the State normal school at Bloomsburg since 1868; is president of the Bloomsburg water-works, Bloomsburg agricultural works and vice-president of the Bloomsburg Steam, Heat and Electric Light Company. He was married January 23, 1850, to Almira Melick of Light Street, Penn. He has three children: Sara M., married to Paul E. Wirt, attorney at law and inventor of the now widely known Paul E. Wirt fountain pen; Eva Lilien, married to H. O. Rodgers, born and reared at Ironton Iron Works, Ohio, but now of Hazleton, Penn., manager of the Hazleton, Mauch Chunk & Pittston Oil Company; Charles W., remains with his parents and is engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements etc., in Bloomsburg. The family are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church. We find in the possession of Mr. Funston a number of old papers and memoranda which had been in possession of his grandfather, John Funston, relating to the raising of money to build what was known as Christ's Protestant Episcopal and Lutheran Church, Derry Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., on the road from Jerseytown to Millville; also the subscription papers with the names and amount subscribed by each person in pounds, shillings and pence, together with the original autographs of many of these pioneer church people and including several autographs of the Rev. Caleb Hopkins, the first minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this county, also letters and autographs of Bishop White, the first Protestant Episcopal bishop of the diocese of Pennsylvania, these different papers bearing various dates from 1790 to 1800.

PETER GROSS, beer bottler, Bloomsburg, was born in Sawarton, Rawnfolz, Bavaria, June 20, 1825, and came to the United States in 1860. He married in Germany, Philopina Young, and had four children born in the fatherland: Jacob, killed in Danville by a railroad accident; David, Margaret and Leanna, and the following named born in the United States: Daniel (deceased), William, Clara, Peter, Elizabeth and John. Mr. Gross first settled in Danville, and worked in a furnace. In 1871 he came to Bloomsburg and opened a bottling business, which he has since successfully conducted. Mr. Gross is a member of the Catholic Church, Mrs. Gross of the Lutheran. Politically he is a Democrat, and takes an active interest in the affairs of the county.

JOHN K. GROTZ, one of the oldest citizens and natives of Bloomsburg now living, was born October 22, 1810, in a frame house which is still standing on the southwest corner of Iron and Second Streets, built by his father, Abraham Grotz, in 1806. He began to learn the harness-maker's trade in September, 1826, and in 1833 opened a shop at the head of Market Street, where he followed his trade. In 1835 he bought the lot which is now occupied by the banking company; erected, the same year, a frame shop, and the next year a dwelling. He carried on business there until 1856, though in 1849 he built the brick structure occupied by the bank. From 1850 he carried on a tannery business in Hemlock Township, retiring in 1870. Mr. Grotz goes back, with great distinctness, to 1814, and relates the names of people, the number of buildings in Bloomsburg at that

time, as follows: A log house on First Street, occupied by Henry Weaver, where Mr. Tustin now resides; an old frame house, which is still standing on First Street near West, occupied by George Fry; at the Forks on the east end of Second Street was a one-story log house, owned and occupied by Daniel Snyder; a house on the southwest corner of Second and Iron Streets, occupied by Abraham Grotz, still standing; a house occupied by Christopher Kahler, on the lot east of Central House; a frame one-half story, where Hendershott's drug store now is, occupied by John Chamberlain; a log house opposite the Kahler House, owned by John Hagenbuch; a one-story frame storeroom, opposite the southwest corner of Second Street, kept by Philip Mehrrling, afterward by William McKelvy, Cyrus Barton and E. H. Biggs, respectively. The last named tore down the old building and erected the present block: a hotel, frame, two stories, where the Exchange now is; a one-story frame on the southeast corner of Jefferson Alley and Second Street, occupied by Mrs. Moomey; a log house on the northeast corner of Centre and Second Streets, owned by Mr. Fisher; a frame two-story hotel on the northwest corner of Second and Centre Streets, occupied as a hotel by John Chamberlain, the first regular hotel in Bloomsburg. On the north side of Second Street there was no house nearer than where Dr. McKelvy now lives; it was a log house, occupied by John Hess. On East Street below Third was a place called Hopkinsville; an Episcopal minister named Hopkins owned the land and laid out a number of lots, and thus gave the place its local name. The Episcopal Church, a frame building, stood on the site of the present Episcopal Church parsonage; the church building was moved to the lot in the rear of the store on the southwest corner of Second and Centre Streets, and is now used as a storehouse. The first wagon shop was established by Israel Wills on the southeast corner of the alley on Market between Second and Third Streets. The only school then was a one-story frame on the northeast corner of Second and Iron Streets. It was a subscription school, and its first teacher was a Mr. Ferguson. The town as originally laid out by Eyer was from Iron to West Streets. John K. Grotz was one of the original stockholders and directors of the national bank in Danville. He resigned and became an organizer and director of the First National Bank in Bloomsburg. In 1870 he sold out his interest in the First National Bank, and was one of the organizers of the banking company, of which his son is cashier. Mr. Grotz has been treasurer of the Bloomsburg poor district for the last seven years. His wife, Elizabeth Fistu, died in 1883. There are three of their children living: H. H., Mary N. and Henry C. Abraham Grotz was a native of Northampton County, Penn., as was also his wife, *nee* Mary Kuhm. They came to Bloomsburg in 1806. He was a hatter by trade and carried on that business on the corner of Iron and Second Streets until 1832. He then moved to Stark County, Ohio, and bought a farm near Uniontown, where he and his wife both died.

T. L. GUNTON, proprietor of the marble works, Bloomsburg, is a native of Plainsville, Luzerne Co., Penn., born February 18, 1851. Thomas W. Gunton, father of our subject, moved from Plainsville to Bloomsburg in the spring of 1854, and established a broom factory. Here our subject was reared, and when seventeen years of age he went to Danville, and served four years at the trade of a marble-cutter, with Hon. Peter Hughes. His present business was established by Anthony Witman in the year 1852. His shop was located on Main Street, where Hendershott's drug store now stands. From this location he removed to the court-house alley, in the rear of the old log building, the present site of the Paul E. Wirt (formerly Brower's) building. Later on he located at the southwest corner of Main and Market Streets, where he continued until 1868, when he leased the ground and erected a portion of the wooden buildings now owned and occupied by our subject on the same street nearly opposite the last named location, where he continued business until his death in November, 1870. After his death the place was bought by the present proprietor, who began business December 27, 1870. Our subject now manufactures all kinds of monumental work in granite, marble and also granite and marble coping, posts, etc. His shops are fitted with steam power and machinery for polishing the largest pieces of stone or marble. It is the only business of the kind in the place, and Mr. Gunton does not only a portion of the work of the county, but also of the surrounding country, and has the reputation of doing first-class work and using the best materials. He was married September 23, 1885, to Amanda Gunton (of no blood relationship), a daughter of Richard Gunton, of Wilkesbarre, Penn. Mr. Gunton is a member of the Lutheran Church. He owns a business lot on Main Street, where his shops are located, and a modern and commodious residence on Fourth Street, where he lives.

HENRY C. HALFPENNY, one of the partners in the Bloomsburg woolen-mills, is a native of Laurelton, Union Co., Penn., born February 24, 1843, a son of H. S. and Julia Ann (Buck) Halfpenny. He began his experience in woolen-mills with his uncle, Mark Halfpenny, in his factory at Laurelton, when but fifteen years old, remaining six years. He then enlisted, February 24, 1864, in Battery F, Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, and served until January, 1866; then returned to Laurelton to his uncle's mill, which was destroyed by fire the same fall. His uncle then moved the business to Lewisburg, Penn., and he remained in his employ until 1870. He left there to take the position of overseer in the carding, spinning and weaving department in Larry's Creek woolen-mill, in



Lycoming County. In the above position he remained about two years and then became overseer of the carding and spinning department in the Nippenose Mills, at Antes Fort, Lycoming County, where he continued ten or twelve years; then came to Bloomsburg, on the formation of the present partnership in 1882. Mr. Halfpenny gives his special attention to overseeing the carding and spinning department, in connection with his other interests attached to the business. He was married October 1, 1866, to Carrie D. Deckard, of Mifflinburg, Union County. They have one son, Grant D., now assistant foreman in the carding and spinning department of the Bloomsburg mill. The Halfpennys are of an old English family, and have been largely identified, through its various branches, in the manufacture of woolen goods. The grandfather of Henry C. Halfpenny immigrated to the United States previous to 1800, and settled in the neighborhood of Muncy, Penn. Four of his children learned their trade as manufacturers of woolen goods with Samuel Rogers, of Muncy, a very prominent and prosperous manufacturer of that place. The names of these four were Mark, now a prominent manufacturer and one-half owner of the Lewisburg woolen-mills; John (now deceased), who owned and operated a factory at Bells Mills, Blair Co., Penn.; James, formerly a partner with his brother Mark (died in 1885), and William R., who is devoting his latter years to farming.

**BENJAMIN F. HARTMAN**, Bloomsburg, was born at Catawissa, January 10, 1812, and is a son of Thomas and Sophia (Leidenberg) Hartman. He has been a resident of Bloomsburg for fifty-two years, with the exception of four years he spent at farming two miles from that place. He is by trade a blacksmith, but has been engaged in a collection and fire insurance business since 1848. From 1865 to 1869 he acted as deputy United States revenue collector. Mr. Hartman was married in 1836 to Abigail Maria Pursel, who died in 1883 aged seventy years, a daughter of Daniel Pursel, of an old Columbia County family. Mr. and Mrs. Hartman had two children: Henry H., who died aged two years, and Celestia, who married O. T. Wilson (she was born February 7, 1838, died in June, 1881, and is buried in Rosemont Cemetery; she left five children: Lilly H., Frank H., Arthur N. (killed in a mill in June, 1886), Harry S. and Charles P.) Mr. Hartman is a member of the Episcopal Church; has been secretary, treasurer and warden for twenty-five years. In politics he is a Republican.

**HENRY C. HARTMAN**, merchant, Bloomsburg, was born September 18, 1822, in Catawissa, Columbia County. The Hartman family of Bloomsburg is descended from Nicholas and Isabella Hartman, of Baden-Baden, Germany. Their son, William, at the age of twelve or thirteen came to America September 14, 1753, locating temporarily at Bristol, Bucks Co., Penn., and paid for his passage to this country after his arrival. He was a tanner by trade, and later settled half-way between Bloomsburg and Berwick previous to the massacre of Wyoming. One day on his return from the mill he found his cabin in ruins, having been set on fire by the Indians. His wife had discovered the presence of the savages in time to escape with her infant child, and was overtaken by her husband while on her way to Catawissa. There they afterward settled. He was a man of very genial nature, kind to the poor, and a pioneer known far and wide as one of good repute. He and his pioneer wife are both buried in the old Quaker graveyard at Catawissa. Here he was probably married, his wife's maiden name being Frances Reamy. He owned about 300 acres of land, which with the aid of his children he cleared up; he died aged about eighty-three years. He and his wife were Lutherans, parents of twelve children, of whom Thomas was the father of Henry C., the subject of this sketch. Thomas married Sophia Ladenberg. He was a nail-maker by trade, but during the greater part of his life was a farmer in Montour Township, this county. He was an old line Whig in politics, and attended the Methodist Church. His children were as follows: Charles, Benjamin F., Jane, Wellington, William, Daniel, Henry C. and Isaiah W. Henry C., a grandson of the first settler, was reared on the farm, and when young learned the chairmaking and painting trades, after completing which he served two months as a journeyman. He then began clerking for J. K. Sharpless at Catawissa, and October 10, 1848, opened a general store with his brother, I. W., which partnership continued twenty-one years. April 23, 1874, our subject opened his present store, in which he keeps a full line of carpets, oil cloths, etc. August 8, 1862, he was mustered in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-Second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, for nine months, and served ten. He married in 1852 Martha F. McClure, a member of the Presbyterian Church.

**I. W. HARTMAN**, merchant, Bloomsburg, was born two miles east of Catawissa, this county, October 20, 1825, a son of Thomas Hartman, a farmer of that locality. He was reared to the life of a farmer near Bloomsburg, and (his father having moved to Hemlock Township) was educated at the schools of the neighborhood until sixteen or seventeen years of age. He then attended the Catawissa school taught by Mr. J. J. Brower one session, and on leaving there, in August, 1843, engaged as a clerk with Eyer & Hefly, of Bloomsburg, in the building that Mr. Hartman now occupies. Five years later he formed a partnership with his brother, H. C. Hartman, and opened a general store in the old Arcade Building, continuing there until 1855. During that time they bought the building where our subject had been employed as clerk, and there they carried on a general business under the firm name of H. C. & I. W. Hartman, until January 1, 1869. In that year our



subject bought his brother's interest, and conducted the enterprise alone until August, 1882. He then took in his son, Edwin V., as a partner, and the firm is known as I. W. Hartman & Son. This business, as will be seen, was established in 1848. The sales that year amounted to \$12,000, and for many years averaged \$30,000 and upward per annum. Mr. Hartman has been longer in continuous business as a merchant than any other man in Bloomsburg. He is a Republican and has served his vicinity in several offices in the council; as school director; was superintendent and treasurer of Rosemont Cemetery twenty-five years. He and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of which he has been class-leader, steward for twenty-seven years and trustee for many years. He married, February 26, 1850, Mary Melinda Ritter, of Bloomsburg, and they have had six children, four of whom are living: Anna I., Edwin V., Ada M. and Robert E.

HARMAN & HASSERT, car-builders, founders and machinists, Bloomsburg. This firm was established in 1875 by Peter S. Harman and George Hassert, who still conduct the business. Their first start was in a building 60x50 feet, which was occupied as a foundry and machine shop, where they manufactured plows and stoves and did custom work with an annual business of about \$2,000. In 1879 the business had grown to such an extent that they were obliged to enlarge their facilities by erecting additional buildings, increasing their capacity and employing from twenty to thirty hands. At the latter date they added the building of mining cars to the business and have so continued up to date. They make all kinds of castings and custom work, repairing of threshing machines, and the business averages about \$55,000 per annum. The foundry and shops are located on the south end of East Street, near the D. & L. R. R.

GEORGE HASSERT was born in Reichensachsen, Hesse Cassel, Germany, November 5, 1824, a son of George and Elizabeth (Wagner) Hassert. He learned the trade of a millwright in his native country, and when twenty years old enlisted as a soldier in the German Army. He served some six years and participated in several battles in the war between Denmark and Germany. In 1848 he was in the regular army at Baden, engaged in suppressing the rebellion, and was stationed at Carlsruhe. He was wounded by a sabre in the forehead and chin at the storming of Dabbelar Fort in Denmark. After leaving the army he immigrated to the United States and located at Philadelphia, where he worked at his trade for four or five years. He came to Bloomsburg in 1856, and worked at his trade until the present business was established. He was married in Philadelphia, February 12, 1854, to Magdalena Decker, and to them were born the following children: Charles W., Henry, Annie, Elizabeth, Emma, Ella and George A. Mr. Hassert is a member of the Lutheran Church; in politics a Democrat.

PETER S. HARMAN was born in Orangeville, this county, June 5, 1831, a son of George and Mary (Knorr) Harman. The father, a native of Northumberland County, was a very early settler in Columbia County, settling first at Mifflin and afterward at Orangeville. He was a tanner by trade for many years, and died at Orangeville in 1881. Our subject learned the trade of molder when but thirteen years old, with Louis H. Maus of Bloomsburg, and followed it until establishing his present business as above stated. In 1861 he began on his own account in Mahanoy City, Penn., where he started and operated a foundry and machine shop for three years. Later he came to Bloomsburg and formed a partnership with B. F. Sharpless, under the name of Sharpless & Harman, which partnership continued four years, and, two years after dissolving the partnership, established his present business with Mr. Hassert. Mr. Harman was married in 1856 to Rebecca Freeze, and nine children were born to them, seven of whom are living: Grace, Fanny, Jennie, James Lee, Mary, John G. F. and Paul Zahner; Frank Freeze died aged five years, and Howard Feton at the age of three years. The family attend the Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Harman is a Republican.

G. A. HERRING, farmer, P. O. Bloomsburg, was born in Orangeville, Columbia Co., Penn., December 13, 1833, to John and Rachel (Snyder) Herring. His great-grandfather, Christopher Herring, came from Germany and located in Berks County, Penn., where his son Frederick was born. The latter married, in Berks County, Miss Susan Bright, and they afterward removed to Columbia County, locating in Roaring-creek Township; thence to what is now Orange Township, bought land where Henry Melick now resides, and here lived until his death, which occurred in 1838, having been suddenly stricken with paralysis. He is buried in the Orangeville Cemetery. John Herring, father of George A., was born in Lynn Township, Berks County, and when a boy of about eight years was brought by his parents to Columbia County. With them he remained until he was married, when he bought a lot in Orangeville on which he moved, and there followed the trade of a carpenter and joiner. He has now been a resident of that place for upward of half a century. He married in this county Miss Rachel Snyder, also a native of Berks County, and who came to Columbia County with her parents when she was a child. To him and his wife nine children were born, six of whom are living: C. D., in Wilkesbarre; George A., our subject; Priscilla, wife of John S. Neyhart, in Wilkesbarre; A. B., in Owensville; Calvin, in Orangeville, and E. R. in Kankakee, Ill. (the last two named are twins). The deceased are Rebecca, wife of Henry J. Knorr, and an infant unnamed. John Herring is still a resident of Orangeville, but his wife died May 11, 1882.

She was a member of the Lutheran Church. He is a member of the German Reformed Church. Our subject was reared in Orangeville until the age of eighteen years, when he began to learn the molder's trade. He then came to Bloomsburg and for three years worked at his trade for Lewis Moss and also for Joseph Sharpless. He then went into partnership with his uncle, John Snyder, then sheriff of the county, and together they conducted the Exchange Hotel one year. The next two years he spent in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Illinois; then returned to Columbia County, and for the next two years worked at his trade. He then engaged in boat-building at Lime Ridge with a brother, C. D., for three years and for the next two years carried on the same business alone. He then moved to Shenandoah, Schuylkill County, and there engaged in mercantile business for twelve years, and for six years of that time was also engaged in the coal trade; thence he removed to Bloomsburg in April, 1876, and there carried on the tanning business until 1881. In 1879 he bought a farm of 130 acres in Mount Pleasant Township, and, since giving up the tanning business, has farmed. He married, at Lime Ridge, May 9, 1861, Miss M. A. Hess, a native of Mifflinville, Columbia County, and a daughter of Daniel and Priscilla (Yobe) Hess. Both her parents were natives of that township, but the Yobes were originally from Berks County, where Mrs. Herring's grandparents were early settlers. Her father died July 29, 1850, and her mother October 24, 1880; both are buried in Mifflinville Cemetery. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Herring, three of whom are living: Grant Stanley, married to Emma Jones (resides in Bloomsburg; he is a graduate of Lafayette College, of the class of 1883); Ida, attending Mount Holyoke Seminary, South Hadley, Mass., and John R., who was prepared for the college at the Bloomsburg Normal University and is now attending the Lafayette College. The deceased are Florence Gertrude, who died at the age of three months, and an infant unnamed. Mrs. Herring is a member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Herring was county treasurer of Schuylkill County two years and was president and superintendent of the water company at Shenandoah six years, and also superintendent of the gas company at that place; served in the town council six years; was treasurer of the savings fund for a like period, director of the Shenandoah Valley Bank six years, and treasurer of the Miners' Hospital fund at Shenandoah, one year. He has been elected to the position of town council, president of Bloomsburg four terms, and was assistant county treasurer of Columbia County six years. He is a member of Shenandoah Lodge, No. 591, I. O. O. F. and of Blue Lodge, No. 611, A. F. & A. M. at Shenandoah. He passed all the chairs in the former lodge and was Past Grand Master a number of years; also held a number of offices in the latter lodge. He was one of the charter members of the Shenandoah Lodge, I. O. O. F.

GRANT STANLEY HERRING, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, is a native of Centreville, Columbia Co., Penn., born May 19, 1862. He is a son of George A. Herring, who was formerly county treasurer of Schuylkill County, Penn., where he resided, but is now a resident of Bloomsburg. Our subject obtained his preparatory education in Bloomsburg Normal School, and became a student at Lafayette College in 1879, graduating in June, 1883. He registered as a law student in January, 1883, with E. R. Ikeler, Esq., and was admitted to the bar in February, 1885. On the same day he formed a partnership with his preceptor, and the firm is known as Ikeler & Herring.

J. M. HESS, retired farmer, Bloomsburg, was born at Wapwallopen, Luzerne County, February 22, 1823, to Jeremiah and Mary (Fenstermacher) Hess. The father was born in Easton, Penn., and came from there to Luzerne County with his parents, when a boy. He bought a mill property at Wapwallopen, and operated it about eight or nine years; then traded it for a farm in Salem township, and later bought another place, part of which he sold, and for the last twenty or twenty-five years led a retired life. He was twice married; first to Mary Fenstermacher, who bore him ten children, eight of whom are living: Philip, near Fairmount Springs, Luzerne County; J. M., our subject; Nathan, in New Columbus, Luzerne County; Aaron W., in Mifflinville; Reuben, in Town of Bloomsburg; Polly, wife of Thomas Brady, in Salem Township, Luzerne County; Elizabeth, wife of Charles Hill, also in Salem Township, Luzerne County, and Catherine, wife of Reuben Hill, in Dixon, Lee County, Ill. The deceased are Susan, wife of John Fenstermacher, and John. Jeremiah Hess died in 1877; his first wife died in 1857, and both are buried in Beach Haven Cemetery, Luzerne County. Our subject was six weeks old when his parents moved to Salem Township, and there he was reared to farm life. He made his home with his parents until his nineteenth year when he went to learn the blacksmith's trade with Charles Hagenbuch of Centre Township; but after nine months he abandoned the trade and went to Salem Township where he married. He then moved to Orange Township and commenced farming on his own account, renting his father-in-law's farm, which he bought twelve years later. There he resided until 1869, when he bought a residence property in Bloomsburg, and has since made it his home. He married, January 26, 1843, Miss Maria Pohe, a native of Mifflin Township, and a daughter of Joseph and Polly (Wolf) Pohe. The Pokes were early settlers of the county, and here the parents of Mrs. Hess passed their lives. Her father died September 5, 1880, in the ninetyeth year of his age; his wife died in 1833, and both are buried in Mifflinville Cemetery. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hess, four of whom are living: George Wilson, married to Sarah Smith,

and resides on Mr. Hess' farm; Mary Catherine, wife of Frank Cavanee, in Bloomsburg; Sarah Agnes and Jeremiah A., who is engaged in the shoe business in Bloomsburg. The deceased are Clarence, Sylvester, and two infants unnamed. Mr. Hess is a member of the Reformed Church, Mrs. Hess of the Lutheran. Mr. Hess is a member of Mountain Lodge No. 264, at Orangeville. He served as supervisor of Orange Township.

WILLIAM H. HOUSE, surgeon and dentist, Bloomsburg, was born at Danby, Tompkins Co., N. Y., May 17, 1850, a son of Oakley A. and Julia Ann (Payne) House. His father was a farmer and is now living at Owego; he was also a veterinary surgeon and followed the profession for many years. Our subject obtained his education at Spencer Academy, Tioga County, N. Y., and when twenty-one began learning the carpenter's trade, but not finding it altogether to his taste, when twenty-two years old took up the study of dentistry with Dr. R. T. Dearborn of Mecklenburg, Schuylcr Co., N. Y. He remained with him about three years and then formed a partnership with his preceptor which continued one year. March 17, 1874, he located at Bloomsburg where September 1, same year, he opened a dental office on his own account, and has been continually in practice up to date. His office is fitted with all the modern appliances requisite to the completeness of a first-class office, and he has grown into a successful practice. Mr. House married, December 25, 1873, Miss Allie Bogart of Spencer, Tioga Co., N. Y., and a daughter of Isaac Bogart, a farmer of Spencer. They have had three children: Maggie J., died aged ten years, March, 1885; Jennie E., died February 4, 1885, aged about nine years. The former of meningitis and the latter of peritonitis, and Cora Belle, born March 29, 1881. The Doctor and Mrs. House are members of the Methodist Church.

HIRAM C. HOWER, surgeon and dentist, Bloomsburg, was born in 1824, a son of John and Rebecca (Davis) Hower. The family is an old one in the county and settled near Catawissa. The father, John Hower, was a soldier in the war of 1812. The Davises were also old settlers, Jonathan Davis, the grandfather of our subject, settling also near Catawissa. Dr. Hower was reared on a farm and learned the chair-making and painting trades, which he followed three years. He was educated at the schools of his vicinity, and at the age of twenty-two began to study dentistry with his uncle, Dr. Valterschamp, of McDowell's mills. After reading and studying with his uncle for about a year and a half, he opened a dentist's office at Light Street and subsequently at Wilkesbarre, where he was associated with Dr. Wadhams, but with the exception of two years since he began to practice he has been located at Bloomsburg. The Doctor is an adept in the profession, and during the thirty-six years he has been in Bloomsburg he has acquired a large practice. For ten years from 1867 he kept a general store at Bloomsburg and at the same time also was interested in the sale of reapers and sewing-machines which business he conducted while holding a large practice in his profession. He married Caroline, daughter of Charles Ent, an old resident of Columbia County, and ten children were born to them, three being dead. The living are W. Ella, married to Moris Mitchell of Camden, N. J.; Emma, wife of John F. Caldwell of Bloomsburg; Rettie, wife of Erastus Conner of Nanticoke; Cora, wife of A. M. Wintersteen, a dentist at Bloomsburg; Myrtle, Wilbur and Hiram Clarence, at home with their parents. Dr. Hower has the largest practice of any dentist in this section; is frequently called upon at his office to operate for people living in Philadelphia and other portions of this State; as also from New York City and other sections. While equal to the best in his general practice and diligent in acquiring all the latest improvements in his business, he is making a specialty of gold-filling in which he has no superior.

DOUGLASS HUGHES is descended from Irish ancestry, who came to the United States from County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1793. The first of the family to settle in Columbia County was Isaiah Hughes, who located with his wife, Henrietta (Tea) Hughes, in Douglassville, Berks County, at a very early period. They were members of the society of Friends and died in this county. Their children were as follows: Mary, died unmarried; Ann, died unmarried; Lydia, became the wife of Samuel Hartman, and George, who married Ann, a daughter of Err and Sarah (Dunlap) Harder. George and his wife became the parents of the subject of this sketch, and were both natives of this county, born October 18, 1798, and March 31, 1803, respectively, and were married February 1, 1823. George died April 10, 1881, his wife August 23, 1871. They were both members of the Methodist Church and were buried in what is known as the Friends' burying-ground in Catawissa, this county. He followed the wheelwright trade and also the foundry business at Catawissa for a number of years. They had seven children: Harriet, born November 8, 1823, died at the age of four years; Douglass, our subject, born December 27, 1825, married November 27, 1849, Matilda, a daughter of Stephen and Sarah (Fornwald) Baldy of Catawissa; Maberry, born July 21, 1828, unmarried; Marshall, born March 28, 1830, married Matilda Klutz, and died May 4, 1862; Ann Eliza, born February 29, 1832, and married Ransloe Boone; Marks Biddle, born July 19, 1834, and died, unmarried, October 14, 1859; Henrietta and Sarah (twins) born March 23, 1840 (the former married Edward Smith, and the latter Dr. Jacob Vastine of Catawissa, this county). Douglass Hughes learned the chair-making and painter's trades with his father, with whom he remained, except a year or two, until 1848. He then established himself in a chair-making and painting business, on the south-



east corner of Iron and Second Streets, Bloomsburg, and conducted it for seven years. He then bought a farm one mile from town, on the Susquehanna River, where he lived for twenty years. In 1882 he moved to Bloomsburg, bought a residence, and in 1884, his present place, which is known as the "Bidleman property." Mrs. Hughes is a member of the Methodist Church, of which her husband is also an attendant. They are the parents of three children: Clara Augusta, born March 15, 1852, married John Waggensteller of Bloomsburg; Mary A., born June 2, 1854, married Alfred Harman of Catawissa, died in May, 1882, and George Marshall, born September 28, 1858, married Rose Farnsworth of Rupert, this county.

ELIJAH R. IKELER, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, was born in Greenwood Township, this county, February 27, 1838, a son of Isaac Ikeler, an old and respected farmer of that township, now deceased. Our subject at the age of sixteen became a student at the Greenwood Seminary, Millville. Subsequently he learned the miller's trade at Millville, and on completing it bought a part interest and continued the business until 1865, when he moved to Bloomsburg, meanwhile keeping up his studies. After coming here he registered as a law student with Col. John G. Freeze in the fall of 1864. April 1, 1865, he became a regular student in his office, and was admitted to the bar in May, 1867. In 1869 he was elected district attorney and served during the first of the "Molly Maguire" trials, and upon the town organization was elected its first treasurer. Mr. Ikeler is a Democrat and during the war was an active supporter of the Union cause. In 1865 he bought the *Columbia Democrat* and consolidated it with the *Star of the North*, and called the paper the *Democrat and Star*. He was connected with it one year when he sold his interest and has since devoted his time exclusively to his profession. He married, March 23, 1863, Miss Helena Armstrong, a daughter of Ephraim Armstrong, of Bloomsburg, and a descendant of the Rittenhouses, of near Philadelphia. They have two children, Frank A. and Fred T., aged respectively eighteen and sixteen years. The ancestors of the Ikeler family in Columbia County were originally Germans and came to America in 1760. The great-grandfather of our subject was Joseph, who settled in Belvidere, N. J.; the name was then spelled Egger. He was a farmer, and on the outbreak of the Revolution enlisted and served on the colonial side. He died in New Jersey. His son, Andrew J., was the founder of the family in Columbia County. He was married in New Jersey to Christiana Johnson, and was a magistrate in this county about the year 1835. He and his wife came the entire distance from New Jersey on horseback, bringing with them their effects, and located in Greenwood Township. He took up about 1,000 acres, which still remain in possession of his descendants. He was a leading citizen and held many local and county offices. He died in 1854 aged eighty years; his widow in 1866, at the age of ninety-three. Both are buried in the family lot on the old homestead. He was for a long time colonel of militia; raised a regiment for the war of 1812 and led it to the field. His son, Isaac, married Mary Taylor, a native of New Jersey, and they became the parents of Elijah R. Isaac was a farmer and a highly respected citizen. He died in 1884 at the age of eighty years, and his wife in 1879, aged sixty-five years. Both are buried in Mount Pleasant Township, this county.

CAPTAIN A. B. JAMESON, civil service, Washington, D. C., was born in Schuylkill County, Penn., August 23, 1836, in the family of nine children born to Judith and Daniel Jamison,\* eight of whom are living, four sons having given their services to the cause of the Union during the war of the Rebellion. The father removed with his family to Columbia County in 1839 and established the hotel known as "The Halfway House," between Bloomsburg and Berwick on the Susquehanna. This hotel was but short lived, however, to Mr. Jamison, for, having connected himself with the Methodist Church in 1842, he abandoned the business. Our subject attended the public schools until he was sixteen years of age, and then left his home to battle for himself with the realities of life. Later he secured about two years' schooling at Dickinson Seminary and the academy at New Columbus; then taught a district school one year. April 21, 1862, Mr. Jameson enlisted in Company A, Sixth Pennsylvania Reserves; was commissioned first lieutenant September 21, 1862, and breveted captain United States Volunteers at the battle of the Wilderness. At the battle of Antietam he received a contused wound of the knee joint, on account of which disability he was appointed acting quartermaster of the regiment, in which capacity he served during the last year of his service. After serving the full term of his enlistment (three years), Capt. Jameson left the army a cripple, and had, therefore, to accept a position in the civil service. He also commenced the study of medicine, in which he graduated from the University of Georgetown, D. C., Medical Department, March 5, 1867. Capt. Jameson takes pride in the fact that he has assisted in the adjustment of the accounts of the interest on the public debt; redemption of Government securities; funding and refunding of national loans caused by the war of the Rebellion, involving millions on millions in amounts passed upon, requiring fidelity to the Government and honesty and care in the settlements; and it can be truly said of him, without adulation, that he has always held the confidence of those under whom and with whom he has served in any capacity. Reared in the Calvinistic faith by consistent orthodox parents, our subject has had engrafted on

\*As spelled by Capt. Jameson's father; correct spelling, however, is Jameson.

him pure Christianizing influences. In mature years, however, not being able to subscribe to the iron-bound creeds and dogmas as advanced by Calvin, he sought what he considered the more liberal, larger and broader faith, and became united with the Unitarian Church.

DANIEL W. KITCHEN, manager of the Farmers Produce Exchange, Bloomsburg, was born in Rohrsburg, this county, in 1859, a son of Amos H. and Sarah Ann (McHenry) Kitchen. Amos H. was a son of Henry and Matilda (Davis) Kitchen, and Henry was a son of a pioneer, who first settled in this county in 17—, near Rohrsburg. He was a native of Ireland, a farmer by occupation, and a member of the Methodist Church. He took up some 400 acres in the neighborhood of Rohrsburg, where he resided many years and died, leaving a family of thirteen children. Many of his descendants are still found in this county. Daniel W. educated at Starkey Seminary, Yates County, N. Y., and when twenty-one began teaching, which profession he followed two terms. He then engaged as a clerk in the general store of William Masters, at Millville, and continued in his employ for fifteen years. In 1882 he was appointed by the directors of the Farmers Produce Exchange as their business manager, and assumed charge in January, 1882, in the old building adjoining the present store. The annual sales then averaged about \$1,000, but under the supervision of Mr. Kitchen the sales of the first three months amounted to \$16,000. Shortly after he took charge a grain trade was established, which resulted in a regular grain market. In 1886 the present large three-story structure 72x42, was built at a cost of \$7,500. The Exchange has an annual sale of about \$80,000, and regularly declares dividends from 6½ per cent upward. The business carries a general stock and requires the attention of four men, besides occasional outside help. The most of the produce is sold at local points. Mr. Kitchen married, September 2, 1873, Lizzie J. Warner of Muncy, a daughter of James Warner, and they have one child, Carola J. Mr. Kitchen is a strict temperance advocate and for many years was a member of and worker in the Good Templar organization.

C. A. KLEIM, druggist, Bloomsburg, is a native of Philadelphia, born in 1847, son of Henry and Dorothea (Eicholtz) Kleim, natives respectively of Hesse Cassel and the village of Eisenach, in Saxony, Germany. They came to the United States in 1846, and in 1857 to Bloomsburg, where they still reside, and where the father keeps a grocery store on East Street. Our subject obtained his early education in the schools of Philadelphia, and completed his studies at the Bloomsburg Classical School kept by Mr. Henry Carver. He then learned the drug business with Moyer Brothers, serving a three years' apprenticeship, and soon after, in 1872, bought the present business from E. P. Lutz. He carries a full line of drugs, has a regular prescription business, and does one of the best trades of the kind in the town. He was first married in 1872 to Clara J. Seasholtz, who died in 1883 leaving one child—Harry C. His second marriage took place in September, 1884, with Miss Addie Johnson. Mr. Kleim is a Democrat and an active worker in the interests of his party, and has served two terms as secretary of the Democratic committee of the county. He is now serving as director of the poor for Bloomsburg District. He is a member of the Lutheran Church.

C. F. KNAPP, insurance agent, Bloomsburg, was born in the city of Besigheim, Wurtemberg, Germany, October 12, 1822, a son of John B. and Sophia Dorathea (Konzman) Knapp, former of whom was born in the same city in March, 1784, and the latter in Staden, August 9, 1791; they were married in April, 1814, at Besigheim. The father was a wine-dresser in his native country, and followed that occupation until April, 1831, when, with his wife and six sons, he set out for America, landing at Philadelphia on the 9th of August of that year. Here Mr. Knapp obtained employment in the glass works at Kensington, and twelve years later moved to Potts Grove Township, Montgomery County, where he purchased a farm and resided the remainder of his days. They had ten children, five of whom are living: our subject; Ernest, engaged in the stone and marble business in Phoenixville, Chester County; Charles A., a locomotive engineer in Philadelphia; Caroline D., widow of John Ellis Van Natta, residing in Philadelphia; John G., engaged in iron works in Pottstown, Montgomery County, and Jacob, a farmer near Pottstown, Montgomery County. The deceased are John David, Christian G., Louisa Clara, G. Gottlieb and William F. John B. Knapp died in Montgomery County; his wife died in Potts Grove, same county, on the 26th of August, 1848, some years before her husband. Both are buried in the Swamp Cemetery of the Lutheran Church, Montgomery County. C. F. Knapp was nine years of age when the family came to Philadelphia, and in the schools of that city received his education. When a boy he drove a horse on the towpath of the canal, and later drove a cart on the construction of the Reading Railroad. At the age of twenty-one he came to Bloomsburg and worked on the construction of the first furnaces here. After their erection he went into the mines and helped to produce the first ore that was used in these furnaces. After three years he abandoned mining, apprenticed himself to learn all the branches of masonry, and spent about four years in acquiring a thorough knowledge of the business. He was then disabled by a fall, and later was appointed first assistant revenue assessor of this district, and served in that capacity during the administration of President Lincoln, but was one of the first discharged by Johnson. He then engaged in the fire insurance business, which he has since followed, and is now the special

agent and adjuster for the State of Pennsylvania for three companies, a position he has held since 1876. He married in Bloomsburg, October 13, 1846, Miss Maria Elizabeth Van Natta, who was born in Bloomsburg October 18, 1825, a daughter of Peter and Rosina Van Natta. Her parents were natives of Bloomsburg; her grandparents of New Jersey. To Mr. and Mrs. Knapp five children were born (four of whom are living): Caroline Margaret, wife of William F. Bodine, of Bloomsburg; Sophia Amelia, wife of Harvey Long, residing at Nanticoke; John Ellis (deceased); Peter E., married to Clara Wicht (resides in Bloomsburg and assists Mr. Knapp in his insurance business), and Mary Catherine, married to George S. Robbins, in Bloomsburg. The family are all members of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Knapp is a Republican politically. He joined the I. O. O. F. in 1846, has held the secretaryship of Van Camp Lodge, No. 140, ever since, and for thirty-two years has held the office of District Deputy Grand Master of the order. He became a member of the Susquehanna Encampment, No. 60, in 1848, and was District Deputy Grand Patriarch for seven years. September 28, 1851, he became a member of Danville Lodge, No. 224, A. F. & A. M., from which lodge he withdrew and instituted Washington Lodge, No. 265, at Bloomsburg, of which he has been secretary almost from its organization; served as Deputy Grand Master eight years: He joined Girard Lodge, No. 214, in 1854, became a Royal Arch Mason in Catawissa Chapter; from which chapter he withdrew and started No. 218, at Bloomsburg, and has been a member of that organization up to date, serving five years as Deputy Grand High Priest. He has been secretary of Mt. Moriah Council, No. 10, R. S. & S. M., from its organization, served as Grand Master for Pennsylvania of that body from 1859 to 1876, a record equaled by no other living man. He became a member of Park Commandery, No. 7, March 6, 1856, and started Crusade Commandery, No. 12, at Bloomsburg, and has served as its recorder almost from its organization; was installed as Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania at the city of Reading in 1860 and was Grand Lecturer of the State 1861-63. He received the A. A. S. rite, Caldwell Consistory, S. P. R. S. Thirty-second Degree, March 5, 1865, and was Commander-in-Chief of the same organization to December, 1885. When he retired from the service he was presented with a valuable silver service; was made Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Thirty-second Degree and active member of the Supreme Council, September 18, 1872; was admitted to the order of the Knights of Rome and Red Cross, of Constantine, December 7, 1870; Past Grand Sovereign of the State of Pennsylvania and Past Grand Master of the United States of America, and received the Order of the Grand Cross, of which there can only be thirty in the Nation.

SAMUEL KNORR, attorney, Bloomsburg, is a native of what is now Centre Township, this county, born December 24, 1836, and is a son of Henry D. and Sarah (Kelchner) Knorr, of the same township. Henry D. was a son of Henry and Margaret (Deitrich) Knorr, who was a son of Leonard Knorr, a native of Germany, and located in Centre Township about the year 1782. The father was a farmer, and prominent in the affairs of the township and county in an early day. He was a member of the Reformed Church. A great-uncle, John Knorr, had a large family, and owned a farm in Centre Township. One of his descendants, Mrs. Ann Hess, now lives at the mouth of Fishing Creek. Until the age of sixteen our subject remained on his father's farm. He then came to Bloomsburg and attended the high school in the summer and taught school in the winter for two years. He then returned home and remained one year, continuing his studies and teaching that winter. In 1856 he became a student in Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, where he remained two years, and in 1858 began to read law in the office of William G. Hurley of Bloomsburg, and was admitted to the bar in December, 1860. That winter he taught school, and immediately after the firing on Fort Sumter he enlisted, April 22, 1861, in what was known as the "Iron Guards of Bloomsburg," afterward as Company A, Sixth Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserve Corps. Mr. Knorr served in the company as private and first sergeant until October 6, 1861, when he was promoted to the second lieutenantcy of the company, in which capacity he served until October 28, 1862. He was then mustered out on account of physical disability. He was in command of the picket line in the advance, and opened the battle of Dranesville; was actively engaged in the Peninsula campaign, in the engagement at second Bull Run, and the battle of Sharpsburg. Disease contracted in the Peninsula campaign, followed by the fatigue and privations of the second Bull Run campaign, caused the sickness on account of which he was discharged. On his return from the service he went west and established an office at Davenport, Iowa. Three months later Lee invaded Pennsylvania, so abandoning his office Mr. Knorr returned home, in 1863, and recruited Companies A and I, Thirty-fifth State Militia; was appointed major of the regiment. Six weeks after the regiment was mustered out and returned home. In October, 1863, the Government began organizing colored troops, and Mr. Knorr was commissioned captain of Company A, Nineteenth Regiment, United States colored troops. He was on recruiting service at Baltimore that winter, and joined the Army of the Potomac May 4, 1864. From that date the regiment was in a succession of constant engagements until June 17, when it took position in front of Petersburg, and participated in the charge on the rebel works. When the famous mine explosion took place, one-third of the regiment was killed. In December



they were transferred to Bermuda Hundred, where they repulsed a charge of the rebels. January 1, 1865, they became part of the Army of the James; were on siege duty at Fort Steadman; entered Richmond at Lee's surrender; assisted in putting out the fire, and in June, 1865, were sent to the Rio Grande. Mr. Knorr was promoted to major October 5, 1864, and lieutenant-colonel February 27, 1865, and served in that capacity until he resigned, January 6, 1866, and returned home. He at once opened an office at Bloomsburg and resumed the practice of law. He was one of the electors in 1868 in the election of President Grant, and was present at the inauguration. In 1869 he was appointed assessor of internal revenue for the Thirteenth Congressional District, and held it until 1873, when the office was abolished. Mr. Knorr has served the town as member of the council, of the school board, and the State as a trustee of the State normal school for thirteen years. He has been twice married, first in November, 1864, to Emma L. Ettla, of Harrisburg, who died July 15, 1875, the mother of two children now living; Mildred, now seventeen years of age, a student at Vassar College in the sophomore class, and Clifton C. His second marriage occurred December 24, 1876, with Mary A. Ettla, a sister of his first wife. Mr. Knorr is a member of the Methodist Church.

STEPHEN KNORR, blacksmith, Bloomsburg, was born in Milton, Northumberland Co., Penn., in 1827, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Brumheller) Knorr, who settled in Briarcreek Township, this county, about the same year. Jacob followed agricultural pursuits, and resided during the later years of his life on a farm two miles north of Berwick, where he died in 1841. He left a fair estate; was a Democrat, and served his locality in various local offices. He was buried in Briarcreek churchyard, and his wife in Rosemont Cemetery. They were both members of the German Reformed Church. Stephen Knorr until his father's death lived on the farm, and when eighteen began learning the blacksmith trade. In 1848 he opened a shop of his own between the Exchange and Central Hotel; in 1861 built his present shop on the corner of Second and West Streets, and has since carried on both. He also conducts a wagon-making business in connection with blacksmithing. He married Minerva, daughter of George Fry, one of the first settlers of Bloomsburg, having come here when there were but three buildings in the place. Mr. and Mrs. Knorr have four children living: Susan E., married to Edward Searle; Ida, widow of Christian R. Alleman; William E., married to Jennie Wintersteen; George S., married to Louisa Andes. Alice died at the age of sixteen months. Mrs. Knorr is a member of the Lutheran Church. Politically Mr. Knorr is a Democrat, and has served as member of the town council six terms, and president of the same one year, school director for about nine years, and has held other local offices such as judge of elections, etc. He has resided in town continuously, and all the custom blacksmiths, except one, now doing business in Bloomsburg, learned their trade with him.

WILLIAM KRICKBAUM, editor of *The Sentinel*, Bloomsburg, is a native of Catawissa Township, this county, born September 18, 1835. His father, Henry Krickbaum, a farmer, owning some 200 acres of land in that township, died when our subject was but a year old, and his widow, Susan (Breisch) Krickbaum, married for her second husband, Benjamin Miller. William remained on the home farm with his mother and stepfather until twenty-one years of age, and during that time attended the common schools of the vicinity two months each year for several years; also two terms at Millville Seminary; subsequently two terms at Williamsport, Dickinson Seminary, and one more term at Millville. Previous to his last term at Millville in March, 1857, he married Miss Judith, daughter of George Miller of Maine Township, this county. During his student days he had taught school, and followed that vocation before and after his marriage some twelve terms. From his majority he had always taken an active part in politics, and worked in the interest of the Democratic party, to which he is now and has always been an adherent, and in 1866, while still teaching, was appointed commissioner's clerk for Columbia County, a position he filled for twelve consecutive years, during a greater part of that time also acting as deputy treasurer and as sheriff's clerk. In 1878 he resigned the clerkship to accept the office of prothonotary, to which he had been elected the same year. He served two terms as prothonotary, and in 1884 was a candidate for a third term, and, although in reality having a majority of 175 was, under the limited system of voting in choosing delegates, defeated. For a period of upward of twenty-five years Mr. Krickbaum has been officially and otherwise prominently and influentially identified with the politics of Columbia County. Probably no man ever held public office in Columbia County who worked with a truer regard for the interest of the taxpayers and its public welfare than did Mr. Krickbaum through his long service to the county as an official. It is proverbial that, in his taking charge of the prothonotary office, and indeed, from the first years of his service as commissioners' clerk, many fees in the sheriff's and prothonotary's office which he thought exorbitant and an injustice to the citizens, were reduced through him to a lower and more considerate figure, and remained so during his official occupancy. April 12, 1885, Mr. Krickbaum bought the office and plant of the *Democratic Sentinel* at Bloomsburg. The paper was then 24x36 inches, seven columns, and had a circulation of 600. He has enlarged it to an eight-page eight-column paper, size 26x40 inches, with a circulation increased in less than two years to 2,500 subscribers. The Krickbaums are of German extraction, and the first of the

family to settle in the United States located in Montgomery County, Penn. The first to settle in Catawissa Township was Philip, in the spring of 1794. His wife's maiden name was Susannah Trexler of Hickorytown, near Philadelphia, and of German parentage. He died in 1822, aged sixty-three years; his wife also died in Catawissa Township, and both are buried in Catawissa Cemetery.

CHARLES KRUG, proprietor of Krug's planing-mill, Bloomsburg, was born in Berne Township, Berks Co., Penn., November 11, 1843, a son of Adam and Ann Eliza (Eisanhart) Krug, of that county, former of whom, a farmer, died in that county; latter is still living in White Ear Valley, Union Co., Penn., with her son, Adam. Our subject was reared on a farm, but when eighteen began learning the carpenter's trade; came to Bloomsburg in 1867, and in 1869 began the business of contractor and builder. He purchased the plant of his present business in 1880, remodeled the buildings, refitted with new boilers and engines of forty-horse power, and the latest improved machinery, including two steam planers, one a twenty-six inch and the other a fourteen inch. When running under full headway the mill furnished employment to from forty to fifty hands. The principal articles of manufacture are doors, sash, blinds, sidings and all kinds of dressed lumber to order. The establishment turns out annually \$59,000 worth of business with a pay-roll to employes of about \$12,000 per annum. Mr. Krug also does a large business in contracting and building and was awarded the contract for erecting the addition to the State normal school at a cost of \$12,500 and upward. He also built the large school-house at Catawissa, the opera house at Bloomsburg, the E. R. Ikeler house, Episcopal parsonage, and the large business blocks west of the "Exchange Hotel," the Furman Block, the "Derriek House," at Mahanoy City, and others too numerous to mention, having probably erected in Bloomsburg and vicinity upward of a thousand buildings of different descriptions. Among one of the largest was the Lutheran Church at Milton, a brick structure partly Gothic in style. Mr. Krug has been twice married; first, in December, 1864, to Frances Ann Yeager, who died in February, 1882, leaving ten children: Laura Agnes, who married Henry Jones; Willtitz, Edward, Cora, Celesta Ann, William, Morris, Arthur, John and Paul. His second marriage occurred in May, 1882, with Margaret Ann Frederick, who has borne him three children: Sarah, Julia and Helen. Mr. Krug is a member of the F. & A. M., No. 265, at Bloomsburg; a member of the Reformed Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

ISAAC S. KUHN, stock dealer, Bloomsburg, is a native of Northampton County, Penn., born at Easton in 1830, a son of Andrew and Matilda (Brutsman) Kuhn. The parents were descended from prominent farmers of that county whose ancestors came from Germany at an early day. Andrew Kuhn moved to this county in 1832 and settled in Bloomsburg, where he owned and operated a farm just back of the present normal school. He and his wife were both members of the Lutheran Church, and later moved to Akron, Ind., where they died. Our subject when young learned the harness trade at Easton and followed it for ten years. In 1855 he came to Bloomsburg and established a butcher business which he continued for thirty years, but, the last two years, has been handling stock shipping cattle from Buffalo, bringing to this market fifty or sixty carloads per season, averaging from twenty to twenty-four head per car. The family are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Kuhn married Susan Dengler, of Schuylkill Haven, Penn., in 1856, and they have six children: Alvaretta V., Eliza M., Emma D., May A., Lottie L. and Bessie R. Mr. Kuhn is one of the most substantial citizens of Bloomsburg.

EPHRAIM H. LITTLE, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, was born March 23, 1823, in the State of New York. His father, George Little, moved with his family to Bethany, Wayne Co., Penn., when our subject was quite young, and there resided, carrying on a tannery until our subject was ten years old. He then moved to Montrose, Susquehanna Co., Penn., and engaged in mercantile business. Our subject obtained his early education at the schools of Montrose, and in his eighteenth year began reading law as a student in the office of Lusk & Little, of Montrose, Penn., but completed his legal studies at Morris, Grundy Co., Ill. There he was admitted to the bar in 1844, and practiced law in Joliet, same State, for two years. He then practiced two years more at Morris, Ill., and while a resident of that place, on one occasion went hunting prairie chickens when his gun accidentally discharged, lacerating his arm in such a manner as to render its amputation necessary. In 1847 he returned to Montrose, Penn., and in 1848 opened a law office at Tunkhannock, Penn. In 1849 he was appointed weighmaster on the canal at Birchoven, and acted as such for two years. In December, 1850, he married Eliza Seybert, and in the spring of 1851 came to Columbia County, and located at Berwick, where he practiced his profession until 1860. He then came to Bloomsburg, and has been in continuous and successful practice here up to date. Mr. Little is a Democrat; was elected district attorney for Columbia County in 1856, and re-elected twice, serving nine years in all, and is well known throughout the country as an able lawyer. In addition to his law practice with his son, R. R. Little, he also superintends and operates a farm of 135 acres, located three and a half miles from Bloomsburg. He is a member of the Baptist Church.

ROBERT R. LITTLE, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, was born at Berwick, this county, in May, 1852. He obtained his literary education at the schools of Bloomsburg

and graduated at the normal school in the class of 1871. He completed his studies at Rochester University and Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y., and then began the study of law in his father's office. In 1874 he was admitted to the bar, and in the same year began the practice at Bloomsburg, in partnership with his father. He was elected district attorney of Columbia County January 1, 1878, and re-elected in 1881, serving six years. He is now serving as chairman of the Democratic standing committee of the county. In 1878 he married Deborah T. Tustin, and one child was born to their union. He is a member of the Baptist Church.

GEORGE M. & JOHN K. LOCKARD, car builders, general machinists and founders, Bloomsburg. This important business industry was established in 1863 by Semple & Taylor, who conducted a machine shop and foundry for some years, and in 1871 the plant was bought by the Columbia County Iron & Manufacturing Company. The latter enlarged the facilities somewhat and added car building, but, becoming involved, in 1873 the plant was bought by M. W. Jackson, of Berwick, of the car-building firm of Jackson & Woodin. G. M. Lockard became identified with the business in 1871 as foreman of the wood department for the Columbia County Iron & Manufacturing Company, and in 1872 with J. K. Lockard, who had also become identified with the business, bought a one-quarter interest in the concern. On the closing up of the affairs of the Columbia County Iron & Manufacturing Company they both returned to Berwick, and to the employ of Jackson & Woodin, with whom they had previously been engaged for upward of five years as foremen of different gangs of men in the car works. In 1875 they contracted for and took possession of their present establishment, and in 1879 by purchase became sole owners. In 1879 the buildings were destroyed by fire with a loss of \$40,000, and only \$18,000 insurance. The Messrs. Lockard immediately began erecting new buildings, which, with machinery ready fitted, were completed for work and under full headway within ninety days from the date of the fire, with treble the capacity they had before. The following four years they built over 4,000 twenty-ton railroad cars, and did a vast amount of other work. The business annually amounted to nearly \$1,000,000 and employed from 200 to 250 men, with a pay-roll amounting to \$10,000 per month. Since 1883 the work has been principally the building of mining cars, car wheels, mining supplies, etc., averaging about \$100,000 per annum, and employing forty to fifty men. The Messrs. Lockard have won, while comparatively young, a foremost place among the business men of Columbia County, with varied and diversified interests extending even to Florida, where G. M. Lockard has a farm of 175 acres in Marion County. There they made a visit in 1885, on the trip crossing the Gulf of Mexico, visiting New Orleans, up the Mississippi to St. Louis, Chicago and other western points, and thence home.

GEORGE M. LOCKARD was born in Briarcreek Township, near Berwick, June 6, 1835, a son of John and Elizabeth (Seybert) Lockard. His father was a carpenter and our subject when but fourteen years old began learning the same trade. He obtained his education in the schools of the vicinity and completed his studies at the academy at New Columbus, Luzerne Co., Penn.; subsequently he taught school during winters for five terms, and for about five years owned and operated a boat on the canal. In 1861 or 1862 he again returned to his trade, in the employ of Jackson & Woodin in the capacity above mentioned, and remained with them until he came to Bloomsburg. He married, April 7, 1864, Esther J. Tompson. Mr. Lockard is a Democrat and an active worker in the interests of his party; has served on various occasions as delegate to the county and State conventions, and has also been a member of the town council. He and his wife reside in a commodious house nearly opposite his place of business, and he also owns his old homestead at Berwick, this county.

JOHN K. LOCKARD was born near Berwick, Columbia County, May 23, 1846, a son of Alexander and Ann (Cope) Lockard. His father was a farmer and John K. remained at home until he was eighteen, when he learned the carpenter's trade, having previously received a good English education in the schools of the vicinity. After completing his trade he was employed in the car works of Jackson & Woodin, as before mentioned. He married, in 1869 Celenda V. Edwards, who has borne him six children: Anna V., Jennie L., William C., Alexander T., Letha and Richard. Mr. Lockard is a Democrat, and has served in the council of Bloomsburg. He lives on Fifth Street in one of the finest residences in town, which he erected in 1884 at a cost of \$15,000. It is built of brick, with a cement finish, and finished inside throughout with black walnut, and supplied with all modern improvements.

M. P. LUTZ, insurance agent, Bloomsburg, was born in Benton Township, Columbia County, January 13, 1841, to Adam and Sidney (Travis) Lutz. His grandfather, Peter Lutz, was born in Berks County, Penn., and in 1810 came to this county and located in Benton Township on what is now the State road, one mile below Cambra, where he bought a tract of land. This he improved, erected comfortable dwellings and here resided until his death. While in Berks County he married Catherine Belles, and it was a few years later when they moved to this county. He died in 1831 and his widow in 1862, and they are both buried near Pealertown. Adam Lutz was the second son of Peter



and became the father of our subject. He was reared in his native township, Benton, and made his home with his parents until his marriage, assisting on the farm and in the meantime learning the carpenter's trade. He married in January, 1838, Miss Sidney Travis, who was a native of Luzerne County, and after marriage moved to Fairmount Township, Luzerne County, where they bought a farm and resided four or five years. There Mrs. Lutz died, and her husband sold the property and resumed the carpenter trade until his second marriage, which occurred in Jackson Township, Columbia County, in January, 1851, with Catherine Knouse. He then located on the old homestead of his father and farmed it for six years. In 1857 he bought a farm near the town of Benton, and there resided until the spring of 1861, when he removed to Benton and built a house in which he resided until the time of his death. By his first marriage there were four children, three of whom are living: N. A., wife of Geo. Hazlett, in Bloomingdale, Luzerne County; M. P., our subject, and F. M., in Benton Township. The deceased one was named Sidney Mary. By his second marriage there were also four children, of whom three are living: N. A., wife of Reuben Whitmire of Wilkesbarre; Clarissa C., wife of Sylvester Sollider, of Bloomsburg; and S. A., who lives in Centre Township; Phebe J. is deceased. Adam Lutz died in 1866 and is buried at Benton. His widow resides at Espy and is now the wife of Judge James Lake. M. P. Lutz was reared until the age of twenty years in Benton Township, and received his education in the common schools of his neighborhood at the Columbus Academy, and took a commercial course at Kingston. In early life he assisted his father on the farm. At the age of twenty he entered the service of his country and remained until December, 1862. He then engaged in the furniture business in Benton until August, 1864, when he again entered the service and remained to the close of the war. He then returned home and embarked in the millwright business at Wilkesbarre until the fall of 1865. In 1866 he engaged in the dry goods business, becoming a clerk with Coolbaugh & Frantz of Wilkesbarre with whom he remained over two years. He then bought the interest of Mr. Reed, of the firm of Reed & Kennedy, and for one year engaged in the shoe trade, under the firm name of Lutz & Kennedy. He then sold his interest in the shoe store and bought out the interest of A. J. Sloan, of Bloomsburg, and conducted a dry goods business, the first exclusive dry goods business in Bloomsburg, and was the first merchant in the town to dress his windows. February 23, 1870, his store was destroyed by fire, and in March he bought out J. J. Brower, general merchant, and again engaged in dry goods. He conducted the business alone for four years, and then took in H. W. Sloan as partner, and the firm was thus constituted until April 1, 1885, when Mr. Lutz closed out his interest to his partner and embarked in the insurance business. He represents the branches of fire, life and accident insurance, being insurance broker for his companies and agent for the Mutual Benefit Life Company, Newark, N. J. He married in Bloomsburg, January 13, 1868, Miss Anna A. Brockway, a native of Berwick, and a daughter of Col. B. S. Brockway. Mr. and Mrs. Lutz are the parents of two children: Charles B. and Frank E. He has filled all the offices in the Odd Fellows' order, also in the K. of P. and Good Templars, but is not now a member of any order. During the war he was a member of Company A, Fifty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served in the Army of the Potomac under McClellan. He was in the engagements at Gaines Mill, siege of Yorktown, Williamsburg and Fair Oaks; at the latter place he was taken ill and removed to the hospital, and in December, 1862, was discharged on account of disability. In August, 1864, he returned to the service, enlisting in Company A, One hundred and Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, was promoted to sergeant and participated in the siege of Richmond, the operations about Petersburg and was present at the grand review at Washington, and carried home with him, as a memento of the struggle, a rebel flag which he took at Richmond.

**THE McKELVY FAMILY.** William McKelvy, a native of the North of Ireland, was the founder of the family of this name in Bloomsburg, Penn. His wife's name was Phoebe, and they located in Lancaster County, Penn., where the eldest child was born in 1782. The names of their children are as follows: John, born April 23, 1782; Mary, born September 1, 1783, married John Neal, January 11, 1791; and Elizabeth, born January 17, 17—-. The father of this family having died, his widow, Phoebe, married James Boyd. She subsequently came to Bloomsburg to live, where she died a widow May 15, 1824. This family are from what is generally known as Scotch-Irish extraction, and Presbyterians in religion. The first of the family to settle in Columbia County was William McKelvy, a son of William and Phoebe McKelvy; was born in Lancaster County, January 11, 1791. His parents were in moderate circumstances and unable to give him much other than a common education. But he was possessed of uncommon energy and he set out from home with the determination to succeed. In 1810 he engaged as a clerk in the store of John Clark at Catawissa, with whom he remained until June 16, 1816. He then opened a general store on his own account, at Bloomsburg, and from that time for nearly sixty years he was prominently identified with the mercantile and other interests of the place. He was reared a Presbyterian, and although never a member, worshiped in that church all his life, and always sustained an enviable reputation as a citizen. He was progressive in every sense and liberal in support of public enterprises for the benefit of the

vicinity in which he lived, and few, indeed, were those of any kind accomplished at Bloomsburg during his life or residence there, with which his name was not prominently connected as a promoter. He erected the building on the southeast corner of Second and Market Streets for a residence and store in 1822, and which is now occupied by the bank, and which he occupied as a store and homestead for many years. He also erected a number of other buildings that still stand as a memorial of his handiwork. He was not a politician in the general acceptance of the term, but was an ardent adherent of the Whig party during early and middle life, and later of the Republican party. He was never a seeker for or holder of any office, but served his vicinity in local offices, such as overseer of the poor, etc. He married, December 1, 1818, Elizabeth, a daughter of Isaiah Willitts of Catawissa, and by this union there were born the following named children: Martha, born June 28, 1822, married David L. McKinny; Harriet, born May 2, 1828, married Rev. A. A. Marple; Mary, born February 17, 1839, married John I. Hess, became a widow and married J. H. Harman; James Boyd McKelvy; Andrew Clark McKelvy, born October 9, 1826, died in December, 1850; I. W. McKelvy, born October 8, 1830, married Miss Elmira Barton; and Charles W. McKelvy, born September 13, 1832, married Miss D. J. Ramsay. William McKelvy and his wife, Elizabeth (Willitts) McKelvy, died, respectively, March 14, 1875, and June 24, 1858, and are buried in Rosemont Cemetery at Bloomsburg.

JAMES BOYD MCKELVY, M. D., Bloomsburg, is a native of that place, born in September, 1824, a son of William and Elizabeth (Willitts) McKelvy. He obtained his literary education in the schools of Bloomsburg, and attended for one year Lenox Academy, at Lenox, Mass. About the age of seventeen he became a student at Williams College, and was graduated from that institution in the class of 1845. The same year he began reading medicine with Dr. John Ramsay, of Bloomsburg, and subsequently attended the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, where he received his diploma as a physician and surgeon in the spring of 1849. That year he began to practice at Millville, relieving a physician there while on a vacation. Shortly after he opened an office at Kentucky, Penn., and nine months later located at Arkadelphia, Ark., where he opened an office and remained a year. He then returned to Bloomsburg, where he has been in the continuous practice of his profession to date, and occupies an enviable and honorable position as a physician and surgeon. The Doctor was married December 25, 1851, to Mary Elizabeth, daughter of George and Mary (Craig) Abbett of near Water Gap. They have had seven children: William, born November 17, 1852, educated in the Bloomsburg schools and graduated at the Medical University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and is now practicing at Breckenridge, Summit Co., Col. George Abbett, born March 1, 1855, educated at Bloomsburg, and is now keeping a drug store at Millersburg, married Miss Nora Jacoby; Henry W., was born July 9, 1858, married Isabella Hunter Suydam, and is now in the wholesale drug establishment of Fuller & Fuller, Chicago, Ill.; Elizabeth Willitts, born June 12, 1860, died June 15, 1864; Mary Craig, born April 29, 1862, died February 5, 1867; Martha Wilbur and Harriet Neal (twins), born April 7, 1865.

ISAIAH W. MCKELVY, a son of William and Elizabeth (Willitts) McKelvy, was born in 1830. He was trained to mercantile business and in the meantime obtained his education in the schools of Bloomsburg, and at West Chester, Penn. Later he became a partner with his father and William Neal, under the firm name of McKelvy, Neal & Co. in 1852, and in 1872 bought out his partners' interests, and he has since conducted the business alone, doing the largest trade in the place, averaging probably \$75,000 and upward per annum. Mr. McKelvy also owns and operates the flour-mill known as the "Red mill" on Hemlock Creek. It has a capacity of fifty barrels per day. He is also quite largely interested in freighting and transportation by canal, running a line of eighteen boats the whole length of the canal and its branches. Mr. McKelvy was married, in the fall of 1851, to Miss Elmira Barton. They have three children: Mary A., wife of George E. Elwell; Elizabeth W. and Charles W., both at home.

CHARLES W. MCKELVY, Bloomsburg, a son of William and Elizabeth (Willitts) McKelvy, was born September 13, 1832. He was reared to mercantile business in his father's store, and at the age of maturity moved to Catawissa, where he engaged in conducting a paper-mill, making book and news paper, etc. He then operated a flour-mill and farmed for twenty-five years. His wife, Deborah J. (Ramsay) McKelvy, whom he married June 16, 1858, was a daughter of Dr. John and Mary Ann (Downing) Ramsay. Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McKelvy have four children: Frank R., M. Louise, Anna and Josephine. Mrs. McKelvy is a member of the Presbyterian Church, which her family also attend. In politics Mr. McKelvy is a Republican.

JOHN McREYNOLDS (deceased), the father of Dr. McReynolds, was born near Watsonstown, Northumberland Co., Penn., April 3, 1788. He was a son of Hugh and Elizabeth (Snoddy) McReynolds, both natives of Belfast, Ireland. Hugh was born in January, 1750 (the first Monday old style), was married October 21, 1784, and died February 28, 1797. He served on the Continental side during the Revolution, and after that struggle settled in Black Hole Valley near Watsonstown. He had a family of children as follows: Esther, who married Thomas Laird; Andrew, married to Jane Mann; John, married to Agnes



McHard; Matthew, married to Lucinda Bennett; Robert, married to Susan Moyer; Eliza, married to Thomas Morrison; Isabella, married to Benjamin Hall, and Samuel, who went South and located somewhere in Kentucky, but of whom trace was lost. John McReynolds, our subject, was a farmer, and soon after his marriage, August 11, 1814, he settled in Derry Township, now in Montour County, and remained there until 1835, when he moved to Buckhorn, and in 1869 to Bloomsburg, where he died in March, 1880. Besides farming, he, after moving to Buckhorn, kept a hotel. He was active in all public affairs and an influential Democrat. In 1824 he was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and re-elected for four more successive terms. He was again elected in 1850, to the State Legislature at Harrisburg, serving one term. He was nominated for Congress by the Democrats in 1858, but defeated; was elected associate judge in 1861, served one term of five years, and declined re-election. Besides these positions, in 1843-44 he was supervisor of the North Branch Canal, and afterward was collector of tolls at Berwick for three years. He was a member of the electoral college in the election of President Franklin Pierce. He was also twice appointed by the judges of his judicial district as one of the Revenue Commissioners for Pennsylvania, for the equalization of State taxes and served under two appointments. He and his wife were both members of the Presbyterian Church. They are buried in Rosemont Cemetery, Bloomsburg. They had six children: twins, died in infancy unnamed; Elizabeth, married to Simon P. Kase and died in March, 1874; Mary, married to Joseph R. Vanderslice; Dr. Hugh W. (see sketch); Sarah Ann, married to William E. Buckingham.

HUGH W. McREYNOLDS, M. D., Bloomsburg, is a native of Derry Township, Montour Co., Penn., born July 4, 1822, and is a son of John and Agnes (McHard) McReynolds. He received his literary education at the Danville Academy and at the select school of Andrew Foster, of Bloomsburg. He read medicine with Dr. A. B. Wilson of Berwick, and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1848. Later he practiced with Dr. Hill a few months in Bloomsburg, then returned to college and took another course. In 1849 he began to practice at Catawissa, and continued for two years. He then went to Buckhorn and practiced twenty-five years, and in 1876 came to Bloomsburg where he has since resided. The Doctor in 1875 was elected treasurer of his county, serving three years; is one of the trustees of the State normal school for the Sixth District. The Doctor has a wife and two children. He and his family attend the Presbyterian Church.

JACOB HENRY MAIZE, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, was born near Sunbury, Northumberland Co., Penn., August 14, 1845, a son of David O. E. Maize, a miller by trade, and for some time a merchant in Sunbury, but now a resident of Boston, Mass. Our subject enlisted, August 23, 1862, in Company F, One Hundred and Forty-third Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry; was mustered in at Camp Luzerne December 4, 1862; January 1, 1863, was promoted corporal, and soon after encamped at Fort Slocum near Washington. February 17, 1863, with his regiment, he was ordered to the front and assigned to the Third Division, First Army Corps. He participated in an expedition to Port Royal, where a feint was made, and was under a brisk fire for some hours there, and was in the engagements below Fredericksburg and at Chancellorsville. The regiment marched nineteen days to participate in the battle of Gettysburg, and arrived there July 1. They were in the entire three days' fight, and during the first day Mr. Maize was color corporal, or guard around the United States' colors in the advance, where Gen. Reynolds was killed. About the time Gen. Reynolds was killed Col. Dana ordered an advance with the colors about fifty feet or more, and the colors placed on an elevation, which was done, and immediately after placing the colors on the elevation a shell struck the colors and tore them all to pieces. At the same time a rifle ball struck the hat of Mr. Maize and just missed his head. The enemy fought desperately to capture the colors, but were unsuccessful. There were two color-bearers and eight guards, eight of whom were killed and wounded, our subject being one of the two left unharmed. He personally seized the colors of his regiment, and triumphantly bore them during the balance of the day's fight, delivering them to his company's officers in the evening after their retreat to Cemetery Hill, where they encamped on the night of the first day's fight. The regiment lost that day from 400 to 500 men, killed, wounded and missing. On that occasion the colors were offered to him to carry henceforth, a promotion, however, he declined, preferring to handle his gun, an excellent piece that he had affectionately named "Old Sal," and on which he had carved his name. On this day's fight the men that were left of his company had all thrown away their rations for three days, except Mr. Maize, and these three days' rations were divided among the company, and was all they had to eat that night. During the succeeding two days' fight they subsisted on comparatively nothing. The afternoon of the second day they supported Sickles' corps, and the third day occupied the left center of the Union lines, and helped to repulse the rebel Gen. Pickett's famous charge. Mr. Maize was one of the men on that occasion at the "stone wall," where the rebel line was overthrown and turned back defeated. During this onset a comrade by his side was instantly killed, half of his head being shot off, the body falling partly against our subject. After this memorable battle, the results of which did so much to



stem the tide of rebellion, Mr. Maize was detailed on recruiting service, and so served until the close of the war, and was mustered out June 26, 1865. After his return to civil life he followed merchandising until 1879. He had, however, in 1866, registered with M. E. Jackson, Esq., to read law, and in 1875 with Robert F. Clark, Esq., of Bloomsburg; and again in September, 1879, with Hon. C. R. Buckalew, and was admitted to the bar in February, 1881, and since then has practiced at Bloomsburg. In 1880 he was elected and served three years as justice of the peace, when he resigned. Mr. Maize was married to Miss Blanche A. Campbell, daughter of James and Elmira J. Campbell of Beach Haven, Luzerne Co., Penn., April 30, 1868, and they have three children living, viz.: Annie Elmira Maize, Edith Maize and Boyd Freeze Maize. He is a thirty-second degree Mason, a member of the Episcopal Church since 1869, and a member of the vestry for the last two years. In politics he is a staunch Democrat, taking considerable interest in the election of county officers, and more especially in State and National, from the close of the war in 1865 down to the present time, by advocating the principles of his party and the qualities of his man.

CHARLES W. MILLER, attorney, Bloomsburg, was born at Millinville November 20, 1844, a son of Stephen H. and Lavina (Kline) Miller. He graduated at the State normal school, Millersville, and registered in the office of William G. Hurley, of Bloomsburg, as a law student, in 1865; in 1867 was admitted to the bar, and the same year began to practice at Bloomsburg. He is a Democrat, politically, and has served Bloomsburg in the council and school board. In addition to his legal business, Mr. Miller has been identified with the various improvements in the place, one of the organizers of the Water, Gas & Steam Company, and School-Desk Company. He is secretary of the Gas Company and also a member of the Board of Trade. Mr. Miller married Miss Cora L. Eshleman, of Schuylkill County. He is a member of the Knight Templars; F. & A. M.; I. O. O. F., and of the Presbyterian Church. He is also a member of the board of directors of the State normal school and has been for twelve or fifteen years and was largely instrumental in securing the sewage and telephone system to Bloomsburg. His grandfather, Isaac Kline, was an early settler of Columbia County; was a prominent man and served in the Pennsylvania Legislature; his son, Hiram R. Kline, was also a member of the Legislature. Abraham and Anna Charity (Kramer) Kline, the great-grandparents of Mr. Miller, lived to be upward of ninety years of age. They came from New Jersey up the West Branch to Milton, and thence cut their way to the end of Knob Mountain. They had five sons and one daughter, and settled two miles north of Orangeville on the left bank of Fishing creek, where they built a frame house, which was occupied by three generations of their descendants, and is still standing. Their younger son, Isaac, the grandfather of Mr. Miller, married Mary Willitt, whose mother's maiden name was Britton. Mr. and Mrs. Kline had seven daughters and three sons, all of whom married and lived to middle age. Lavina married Stephen H. Miller, and they became the parents of our subject. Elmira married M. C. Vance, whose grandparents, George and Martha Vance, came from Donegal, Ireland in 1804, and settled in Bloomsburg, and later moved to the banks of Fishing creek west of Orangeville. John Vance, their eldest son, married Effie Patterson, whose parents came from Scotland about 1800. George Vance erected a house that is now occupied by M. C. Vance, the third generation.

STUART MITCHELL, D. D., was born in Bucks County, Penn. His parents dying while he was an infant, he was adopted and reared in Philadelphia by his aunt, Martha Mitchell Stuart, and her husband, James Stuart. After some boyish experience of business life he entered the University of Pennsylvania and graduated with first honors, and then studied theology in the seminary at Princeton, N. J. He began his ministerial work at Warsaw, N. Y., and continued it as a home missionary at Newport and Kilbourn City, Wis., and subsequently as a district missionary of the Presbyterian Board for Wisconsin and Minnesota. On account of feeble health he gave up his work and traveled in Europe and the East; returning to Philadelphia he supplied the Second Presbyterian Church of Altoona for a year. In 1872 he was installed pastor of the church at Bloomsburg. He was married first to Miss Jane F. Patterson, of Warsaw, N. Y., who accompanied him to Wisconsin and died in western New York; afterward he married Miss C. Janet Petrikin of Muncy, Penn. They have two daughters, named Renee and Margaret. He has published "The Church, its Constitution and Government" (Presbyterian Board of Pub.), "Jonah the Self-willed Prophet" (Randolph), and some smaller treatises.

WILLIAM NEAL, of the firm of Neal & Sons, Bloomsburg, is a native of what is now Muncy, Lycoming Co., Penn., born September 8, 1812, a son of John and Mary (McKelvy) Neal. His mother died when he was an infant, and his father died when he was a small boy. He became a member of the family of his uncle, William McKelvy, at the age of ten years, though he came to Bloomsburg with his grandmother, Mrs. Phoebe (McKelvy) Boyd, with whom he lived until her death. He was a member of his uncle's family until 1839. In February of that year he married Catherine, a daughter of Casper and Mary Christman. He was educated at the subscription schools of Bloomsburg, and became a clerk for his uncle at the age of fifteen, and spent one summer under the tuition

of William G. Harley, Esq., and Dr. Ebenezer Daniels. He continued as clerk until the age of twenty-two, and in November, 1834, was given a salary, and in 1840 became a half partner in his uncle's business. This partnership continued until 1852, the firm being known as William McKelvy & Co. In January, 1852, I. W. McKelvy, son of his partner, was taken into the business and the firm became McKelvy, Neal & Co., and so continued until January, 1873. In 1853 William McKelvy, William Neal and Jacob Mellick, the latter having one-fourth interest, erected an iron furnace, which is still known as "Bloom Furnace." In 1872 Mr. Neal bought out Mr. Mellick, and the next year Mr. McKelvy's interest, but sold his own interest in the store. The same year he took in his sons, Clinton W. (a graduate of Lafayette College) and Robert C. (a graduate of the Troy Polytechnic) into the furnace business, under the firm name of William Neal & Sons. The product in 1854 was between 6,000 and 7,000 tons, and at present is "about 9,000 tons annually. The firm now employ about forty men, but when they mine their own ore have employment for about 200. Mr. Neal is a member of the Presbyterian Church, has been trustee for twenty years, and is also an elder in the same. He is a Republican politically. One of his sons, C. W., served as quartermaster of a regiment in the civil war. His children by his first wife are Clinton W., who married Emma, a daughter of William Snyder, of Bloomsburg; Mary C., who died at about four years of age; Harriet M., wife of Ephraim Elwell, and Robert C., married to Ella Clark, a daughter of Robert C. Clark, of Bloomsburg. Mrs. Neal died in January, 1850, and in June, 1854, Mr. Neal married Mary L., daughter of John C. Boyde, and she bore him the following children: James B., a graduate of Yale College and post-graduate of Yale scientific, and of the medical university of Philadelphia, is now a medical missionary in China, where he and his wife (a daughter of Rev. W. Simonton, of Emmitsburg, Md.), now reside; and Anna M., wife of Morris S. Shipley, of Cincinnati; and Montgomery B. (died in infancy). The Neals are of Scotch-Irish descent.

CLINTON W. NEAL, Bloomsburg, one of the proprietors of the "Bloom furnace," was born in Bloomsburg, this county, November 9, 1839, a son of William Neal. He obtained his education in the schools of Bloomsburg, and in 1858 became a student in Lafayette College, where he was graduated in 1861. Subsequently he was employed in mercantile business, and in 1867 established a wholesale and retail coal business. In 1870 he formed a partnership with his brother, Robert C. Neal, under the firm name of C. W. Neal & Bro., and in the year 1873 with his brother bought one-half of the entire plant of the Bloom furnace, his father retaining one-half interest, which they have conducted up to date. Robert C. Neal is also treasurer and secretary of the Tyrone Iron Company. Our subject was married in 1870 to Emma H. Snyder, a daughter of William Snyder, of Bloomsburg, this county. They have had four children, but three living: William S., Grace L. and Mabel R. His wife, Emma H., died January 8, 1887, of meningitis.

DR. RUSSELL R. PARK came from Ireland and located at Jerseytown as a boarder with John Funston. The Doctor began practicing medicine at once, and is thought to have been the first resident physician in that part of the county; his practice extended for many miles, even as far as Bloomsburg, Light Street and Orangeville. He married Martha, a daughter of the Rev. Caleb Hopkins, and reared and educated a large family of children, only one of whom is in this portion of the county—Mrs. Alexander, of Danville. He died June 5, 1851, aged seventy-four years and six months, and was buried in the cemetery of the Episcopal Church of Bloomsburg, together with his wife and son William, and was later removed to Rosemont Cemetery, Bloomsburg, Penn.

GEORGE MATTHEW QUICK, deputy prothonotary of Columbia County, Bloomsburg, is a native of Montour Township, this county, born November 15, 1856, a son of William Grier and Sarah (McBride) Quick. His grandparents, John H. and Sarah (Moore) Quick, both natives of New Jersey, settled in Montour Township in 1831, the former of whom was a boot and shoemaker, which trade he carried on all his life there, in connection with a farm of 155 acres that he owned and operated. He was an honored citizen in his day, and a thorough Presbyterian. He died aged sixty years, and he and his wife are buried in Rosemont Cemetery. William Grier Quick, their son, was born in Rush Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., September 4, 1815. He was a shoemaker and farmer, owning forty acres in Montour Township, this county, and was in the employ of the State as foreman of a division of the north branch of the Pennsylvania Canal, extending from Danville to Stony Town, for about nineteen years. Subsequently he was employed by the Wyoming Valley and the Pennsylvania Canal Company, respectively ten and eleven years, as supervisor, making in all about forty years in which he served as an official on this canal. In 1868 he was elected county commissioner, serving three years. He died March 4, 1879. His widow, Sarah (McBride) Quick, still (1886) survives. George M. Quick was educated in the schools of Montour Township, and finished his studies by an academic course at the Bloomsburg Normal School. Subsequently he was in the employ of the Pennsylvania Canal Company as a sub-foreman for seven or eight years; at his father's death he was appointed foreman, and served from March, 1879, to January, 1880. He then resigned to accept his present position as deputy prothonotary. Mr. Quick was married, December 27, 1877, to Eva Bidleman, and they have two children: William Grier and Clarence Eugene, respectively aged six years and twelve

months. Mr. Quick and family are attendants of the Lutheran Church. Since his appointment, in 1880, he has acted in his present position with the exception of one year, and is well and widely known throughout the county as a prompt, courteous and popular official.

**WILLIAM RABB**, grocer, Bloomsburg, was born in Lubeck, Prussia, January 3, 1828, son of Frederick and Caroline (Young) Rabb, who came to the United States in 1839 and settled in Little York, York Co., Penn. There Frederick, who was a baker, followed his trade, and in 1842 moved to Bloomsburg, where he also established a bakery and subsequently was interested in a pottery in partnership with his son-in-law, John Ream. He was a member of the Lutheran Church; he died in 1872, his wife in 1870. They are both buried in Rosemont Cemetery. They had seven children, only one of whom was born in this country: Augustus, William, Lewis (died at the age of two years), two infants (twins—deceased), Hannah (died at the age of fourteen) and Charles. William Rabb when young learned the cabinet-maker's trade, and when twenty-one years old established himself in business at Bloomsburg. He continued it for about thirty years, when he bought a farm about seven miles from town, and operated it three years. He then returned to Bloomsburg and has carried on a general grocery store since. Mr. Rabb is a Democrat and has served as a member of the town council eight years, and in 1887 was elected one of the board of school directors of that town. He married in 1856 Abigail J. Bell, and they have five children: Luther I., married Camilla De Sheppard, of Philadelphia; Martha A.; Clara E., married to Charles Welliver, of Morris, Tioga County; Ida V. and Charles W. Mr. and Mrs. Rabb are members of the Lutheran Church. William Rabb has been successful in his business.

**DR. I. L. RABB**, the dentist, was born September 19, 1856, in Bloomsburg. Graduated from the Philadelphia Dental College in the spring of 1877. He married July 19, 1877, Camelia E. De Sheppard, of Philadelphia, and three children have been born to them: Fredericka, Inaz Sneden and William A. Dr. Rabb is master of the dental profession and has a practice second to none in Bloomsburg. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and in politics a Democrat.

**JOSIAH RALSTON**, of the Bloomsburg Iron Company, Bloomsburg, was born January 1, 1838, in Glasgow, Scotland. His father, James Ralston, was also a native of that city, born in 1791, and there married Martha Poultney, who bore him nine children: Agnes, Robert, James, Hugh, Susannah, John, Martha, William and Josiah, all of whom were born in Glasgow. When our subject was three months old his parents with their family arrived at New York and located soon afterward at Farrandville, Penn. On the invention of the hot blast, which worked such a revolution in the iron trade, James Ralston was the first to put it in practical operation. He was then in the employ of the Clyde Iron Company at Dunlap, Scotland. The Company placed their No. 3 furnace at his disposal, and after a trial an improved apparatus was introduced similar to those now in use. In 1836 an agent of the Farrandville (Penn.) Iron Company, visited Mr. Ralston and induced him to try his fortunes in the United States and bring out hot blast pipes with him. He accordingly had them made at Glasgow and took passage on the South Carolina ship, "Leonore," arriving at New York in February, and at Farrandville, Penn., in the early spring of 1837. Here he superintended the erection of machinery and started the first successful hot blast on this continent. He was soon engaged at the pioneer furnace at Pottsville, Penn., to try smelting iron with anthracite; was assisted by Benjamin Perry, and succeeded with the celebrated ninety-day blast, beginning October 20, 1839, and terminating January 18, 1840. This was about the first successful attempt to use anthracite coal in the blast furnace; next he put the Valley furnace in operation and then removed to the Roaring creek furnace. In 1845 he superintended the "lining up" and "blowing in" of the Irondale furnace (which had never been excelled for successful working) to the time of his death, May 19, 1864, at Irondale. There he had resided and superintended the adjacent furnaces for nineteen years. He was well and favorably known throughout the iron regions as a thorough and practical master of his business. Josiah Ralston, our subject, at twenty had completed learning the machinist trade and soon after entered the employ of the Bloomsburg Iron Company as superintendent of the furnaces, which position he has since held. He married in 1862 Sarah L. Hozenbach, and two children, Edward Elmer and Roy Rodman, were born to them. Mrs. Ralston died October 1, 1880. Mr. Ralston next married March 14, 1882, Elizabeth Heist. The family attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Ralston is a Republican.

**DR. JOHN RAMSAY** (deceased). The parents of Dr. Ramsay were natives of Scotland, the mother's maiden name being Baxter. They emigrated and settled in Chester County, Penn., where our subject was reared. Dr. Ramsay was married at Orwigsburg, Schuylkill Co., Penn., in 1830 to Mary Ann Downing; located in Bloomsburg in 1831, and there practiced until his death. He died in February, 1863, aged sixty-three years. His widow died December 30, 1883, aged sixty-nine years. They left a family of seven children: Deborah J., wife of C. W. McKelvy; Josephine, wife of G. N. Willets; James H.; Charles P.; Anna D., wife of C. C. Hagenbuch; William P., married to Elizabeth



Ramsay, a cousin; Robert N., married to Mary Sallade. Dr. Ramsay was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and first began to practice at Birdsboro, near Reading, and afterward at Port Carbon, being in the two places three years. While at the latter place he was married, and soon after came to Bloomsburg.

WILLIAM M. REBER, M. D., Bloomsburg, is a native of Lewisburg, Union Co., Penn., born in 1842, a son of David and Margaret (Musser) Reber, of that county, the former of German and the latter of Scotch-Irish extraction. Our subject attended the schools of Lewisburg, and finished his studies at the university of that place. At the age of eighteen he began reading medicine in the office of Dr. Hayes, where he remained one year. The next he spent in the office of Dr. Pancoast of Philadelphia, and graduated at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in March, 1863. In April succeeding he was appointed assistant surgeon in the United States Navy, assigned to the Naval Hospital at Norfolk, Va., and subsequently to the gunboat squadron on the Ohio River, but was stationed mostly on the receiving ship, "Grampus," at Cincinnati, Ohio. In the fall of 1865 he was assigned to the Naval Hospital at Brooklyn, and in the spring of 1866 was assigned to the United States steamer "Lackawanna," which proceeded on a cruise to the Sandwich Islands, and which extended over two and one-half years. He returned in the fall of 1868, and in December of that year resigned. He located in Bloomsburg, and in February, 1869, resumed the practice of his profession. The Doctor was married in the fall of 1871 to Miss Elizabeth McKinney, of Bloomsburg. They have two children: Edith McKinney and William McKelvy. The Doctor is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

WILLIAM ROBISON (deceased), the father of James Boyd Robison was born at McVeytown, Penn., January 19, 1789, a son of Alexander and Elizabeth (McKee) Robison. His mother became a widow, married a Mr. Barber, and died in the house of her son William in Columbia County. They were all of Scotch-Irish descent and Presbyterians in religion. William Robison came to this county in 1810 and married Betsy Barton January 30, 1816. When he first came to the county he located near Orangeville and kept a store. Subsequently he moved to Bloomsburg and carried on a tannery with his brother John. From 1826 to 1840 he conducted a hotel on the northwest corner of Second and Center Streets. From 1840 to 1846 he farmed and then returned to Bloomsburg and kept a general store where he had formerly kept hotel, and retired from business in 1855. He was appointed sheriff of Columbia County in 1823 and served for some time. While in the hotel business, and after, he owned and operated several lines of stages and was extensively known throughout the country. He was a Whig in politics. In the contest to remove the county seat from Danville he took a prominent and active part, at one time being a member of a committee to present the claims of Bloomsburg to the Legislature at Harrisburg, and accomplished his purpose against Valentine Best, then speaker of the House. He died at Bloomsburg in 1866. His wife was born January 30, 1799, and died June 9, 1877; both are buried in Rosemont Cemetery. They had a family of thirteen children, of whom all except one grew to manhood or womanhood: Alexander, born November 2, 1816, married to Mary E. Thompson, November 19, 1850, died at Mauch Chunk, in April, 1878; Jane McKee, born January 19, 1819, married September 18, 1848, to Lynd Elliott; Anna Maria, born November 25, 1820, married August 29, 1848, to Ariovistus Pardee, of Hazleton; Martha E., born January 1, 1823, married October 12, 1854, to Andrew M. Rupert, and died April 4, 1874; Harriet, born November 6, 1824, and married May 24, 1860, to Charles E. Frazer, now lives in San Francisco, Cal.; Ellen, born December 24, 1826, married to Dr. William B. Hawkins, June 1, 1848, died in October, 1884; Emily, born February 8, 1829, married to George B. Markle, January 19, 1848; Isabella, born February 15, 1831, married, January 7, 1869, to Nathaniel L. Campbell, and died April 17, 1873 (she was during the war a volunteer nurse, serving the entire four years); William Barton, born September 21, 1833, died October 5, 1837; Mary Augusta, born January 25, 1836; James Boyd, born January 3, 1838, married October 16, 1873, to Mary Jane Breece; Isiah B., born January 10, 1840, was killed while leading his company at the battle of Peach Tree Creek, July 20, 1864—he enlisted in the Union Army June 28, 1861, as sergeant, and at his death was first lieutenant; Hannah Amelia, born June 13, 1844, and married June 13, 1866, to Frederick E. Barber, now living at McPherson, Kas. William Robison presented to the county one-third of the lot on which the court-house now stands, the other two-thirds were given by Elisha Biggs. Mr. Robison was several times nominated for the Legislature and associate judge, but, being in the minority, party was defeated.

JAMES BOYD ROBISON, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, was born at Bloomsburg, January 3, 1838, a son of William and Betsy (Barton) Robison. His father being a merchant, he assisted in the store when quite young and acquired an academic education at Bloomsburg. When sixteen years of age in January, 1854, he taught a school in Mifflin Township three months, and August 19, 1854, received the first permanent certificate issued by the county superintendent of Carbon County, and followed by teaching a seven months' term in the Summit Hill District, same county. In 1855 he served on an engineer corps for two months, laying out the Yeddo Branch of the Hazelton Railroad, and in the fall of 1855 became a student at Lafayette College at Easton, where he remained two years, subsequently, in 1867, receiving the degree of A. M. He went to Washington,

D. C., and was engaged in writing patents for the land office for five months. He was then engaged three months keeping books for his brother at Mauch Chunk. In 1858 and the summer of 1859 he spent in Illinois, teaching in Tazewell County, and part of the time in selling books through Henry and Mercer Counties, and during that time attended various political meetings addressed by Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas in their famous senatorial contest. The day after the State election deciding that contest, Mr. Robison suggested the nomination of Lincoln for President; that was in 1858. In August, 1859, he came to Mercer, Mercer County, this State, and began reading law with Jason T. Giebner, Esq., and paid his way while a student by clerking in the sheriff's office, in that place. In the spring of 1861, when Ft. Sumter was fired upon, he announced his intention of entering the service. The following day he drew up an enlistment paper for the Mercer Rifles, a military company, heading the list with his own name. This company was organized as Company G, tenth Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteer Corps, enlisting three years. They left the town June 11, 1861, and were mustered into the State service, June 19, 1861, under Capt. (afterward Gen.) Warner of silver bill fame. Mr. Robison was appointed sergeant of the company, and participated in all the Seven Days' battle and in the second Bull Run battle, in which engagement he was wounded in the left hand, which disabled him to such an extent that he was sent to the hospital; discharged December 18, 1862. In June, 1863, Company H, Thirty-fifth Regiment emergency men, was organized in Columbia County, and on its arrival at Harrisburg the captain was promoted to major, and Mr. Robison was elected to the captaincy. This company remained in service until August, and was on duty from Gettysburg to Greencastle. On his return to civil life Mr. Robison resumed bookkeeping for his brother a short time, when he returned to Mercer, resumed his legal studies, and was admitted to the bar at Mercer in November, 1863. He then taught school at Sandy Lake that winter. June 1, 1864, he went to Washington, D. C., and became a clerk under Capt. J. T. Giebner in the commissioner's department, and was assigned to the Nineteenth Army Corps, under Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley. September 23, he was captured by rebel stragglers, kept by guerrillas some time, and, October 17, placed in Libby prison and confined there until February 17, 1865. When Mr. Robison first enlisted in 1861, he was examined by an army surgeon, and declared unfit for military service on account of heart disease, the surgeon saying he would not live through the excitement of an engagement, and was only accepted after earnest solicitations from him. The result proves that even doctors are sometimes at fault. On his return to Mercer in 1865 he was elected district attorney, served one year of court and resigned; then he removed to St. Louis, and engaged in the real estate business for one year. In 1867 he located at Bloomsburg and began the practice of law; was appointed United States commissioner and served some three or four years, resigning the office in 1872. He was notary public from 1872 to 1875, and has also served his town three terms as corporation counsel or solicitor. In 1870 he was nominated by the Republicans for the Legislature; in 1880 was nominated for Congress by the Greenback party, and received double the number of votes Weaver had for President; was a candidate again in 1884. Mr. Robison is a Knight Templar and in the thirty-second degree Scottish rite, and has served the order in nearly all of its various offices; is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry, and of the G. A. R., Colonel Ent Post of Bloomsburg. From 1881 to 1885, he was engaged in operating a farm about four miles South of Catawissa. He has been a member of the Presbyterian Church since 1866. He was married October 16, 1873, to Miss Jennie Breese of Bloomsburg, a successful teacher, a daughter of Daniel Breese. They have had seven children—four girls and three boys; Martha E., James Boyd, Bessie May, Isaiah (deceased), William Daniel, Jennie B. and Emily.

LEONARD BRIGHT RUPERT, Bloomsburg. John Philip Rupert, the first of the family to come to America, was a native of Germany, born near Guttentburg, in January, 1738. He emigrated as a soldier in 1754, and served four years in the British Army in the French-English war. On the outbreak of the Revolution he became an active and zealous supporter of the American cause, served in the militia as an officer, and was in the army stationed near Trenton at the capture of the Hessians; was also at the battle of Brandywine, and died at Catawissa August 6, 1829, aged ninety-one years. He lived and died in the religious faith of the Reformed Church, and for a long time served as a ruling elder. He married, December 14, 1762, Catherine, daughter of Michael and Catherine Rosch. To this union were born fourteen children, the eldest being Leonard Rupert, born at Reading, Penn., October 11, 1763. He also served in the Revolution as a fifer on the war ship "Hyder Ali" under command of Com. Barney, and was in a naval engagement during that war with the British man-of-war "Wasp." He married Sally Bright in March, 1786; moved and located at the mouth of Fishing Creek, in what is now Montour Township, Columbia County, in 1788, on 229 acres that were bought by his father-in-law, Michael Bright, some years prior, and which was originally purchased by John Spohn December 31, 1769. This land is now partly occupied by the village of Rupert, and the farming portion left is still owned by the descendants. A daughter of Leonard Rupert, Mrs. Rupert Paxton, is now (December 26, 1886) one hundred years old. This



land was deeded October 12, 1774, to Michael Bright. Leonard Rupert died March 11, 1848, and his wife March 17 of the same year. They are buried in Rosemont Cemetery. They had a family of twelve children. Leonard was a man of more than ordinary ability; was self-educated, and served as colonel in the State militia for several years. He was elected about 1804, and served eleven years in the House of Representatives; first at Lancaster and afterward at Harrisburg. He also served for many years as associate judge, and in other local offices. He was reared in the faith of the Reformed Church, but about 1818 united with the Presbyterian Church, to which many of his descendants still adhere. Their children were Catherine, born December 26, 1786, at Reading, married Col. Joseph Paxton; Peter, born September, 1788, in this county, married Catherine Dhiel; Rebecca, September 26, 1790, married Maj. James Shearer; Bright, born August 18, 1793, died in 1815; Mary, born April 7, 1795, died unmarried in 1857; Sarah, March 20, 1797, died in 1817; Rhoda Ann, September 26, 1801, died in April, 1875, unmarried; Lavina, September 2, 1803, died in December, 1846, unmarried; Harriet, born January 2, 1806, resides at Bloomsburg; Charles, March 23, 1808, died February 9, 1831; Leonard B., born June 19, 1810; Elizabeth, born July 23, 1799, married Thomas W. Lloyd, and died April 5, 1882. Leonard Bright Rupert became a clerk in William McKelvy's store when eighteen years of age. After his marriage he farmed the old homestead for five years, and then opened a general store at Bloomsburg in 1845, which he continued for twelve years. He then retired. Mr. Rupert is a Democrat, and was appointed in 1839 or 1840 as county treasurer to fill a vacancy caused by the death of the treasurer, and when the appointment expired he was elected to the office for one year and re-elected for two years. He was elected associate judge November 10, 1851, and served five years. He was subsequently appointed justice of the peace, and served a year and a half; was president of the town council two terms (1884 and 1885), and held other local offices. Mr. and Mrs. Rupert have had nine children, four of whom died young, five are still living: Clara, born December 17, 1832, married, November 9, 1858, Dr. W. H. Park of Springfield, Mo.; Sarah, born November 29, 1834, married Daniel Stick December 28, 1859; Ata, born May 24, 1846, married I. K. Miller February 16, 1870; Leonard Barton, born January 8, 1849, married Mary Riswig January 26, 1876, and live in Republic County, Kas.; and Eva, born November 1, 1851, lives at home.

JOHN C. RUTTER, M. D., Bloomsburg, was born near Wilmington, Del., December 12, 1826, a son of Thomas, a farmer, and Sarah (Baker) Rutter. At fourteen years of age he left his father's house and lived with his grandmother in Newcastle Hundred, in the meantime attending the schools of the neighborhood until seventeen. He was then employed as a clerk in Wilmington, and at twenty-one began reading medicine in the office of Dr. Caleb Harlan of that city. He subsequently graduated at the Homeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania (now known as the Hahnemann) March 3, 1855. The following May he located at Bloomsburg, where he has been in constant practice since, and has enjoyed a large patronage. The Doctor was married August 26, 1848, to Jane Clayton of his native place, a daughter of John and Ann (Perkins) Clayton. John Clayton was a carpenter by trade; carried on that business in Brandywine Hundred and in Wilmington, Del. He lost his first wife by death in 1857 in Delaware, and was married again and moved to Monroe County, Penn., where he died in 1875, near Strasburg, aged about seventy years. Dr and Mrs. Rutter have a family of eight children: the eldest, Lamartine, married a Miss Rodemoyer, and lives in Bellefonte, Penn.; Henry Harlan married a Miss Cloud, and is editor and proprietor of the *Hughesville Mail*; Everett Webster, M. D., residing in Luzerne County; Mary Ella, wife of Dr. D. W. Conner of Wilkesbarre; Adah Louisa, wife of Newton W. Barton; Margaret; Rachel M. (single), and John Croghan, a printer connected with the editorial department of the *Democratic Sentinel* at Bloomsburg, and married to a daughter of Dr. J. B. McKelvy February 17, 1887. The family attend St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Bloomsburg. The Doctor is the pioneer homeopathic physician of Columbia County, being the first of that school to practice within its boundaries. He has always been a firm and consistent temperance advocate on all occasions. Politically, he is Democratic. His grandfather, Joshua Rutter, was a native of England and came to this country with a brother, Thomas, who became a merchant at Baltimore previous to, or about, 1790. Joshua located on a farm near Baltimore City. His wife's name was Elizabeth and they reared a family of two sons and two daughters. The sons were John and Thomas, the father of Dr. Rutter, and who was born about 1792 and died in 1848, near Chester, Delaware Co., Penn., aged fifty-six years. The daughters were Margery and Mary. Joshua's wife was a native of Sweden, and they were probably married near Baltimore. The grandfather of the Doctor on the maternal side was John Baker, whose wife was Lydia Marks. He was a plasterer by trade, and carried on the business in Brandywine Hundred, Newcastle Co., Del., all his life.

WILLIAM M. SHAFFER, farmer, Bloomsburg, was born in Montour County, July 8, 1835, and is of English and Scotch ancestry. His father, Samuel Shaffer, was born in 1809 in Lewisburg, Penn., and was a son of Matthias Shaffer, for many years toll-keeper at Lewisburg. Samuel learned the trade of a cooper, came to this county in 1848, and contracted for getting out limestone for the Bloomsburg Iron Company six years. He sub-



sequently became a large landholder, owned some 250 acres near Bloomsburg (our subject living on 100 acres of it), and 140 acres at Millville. In early life he was a Methodist, but later he joined the Lutheran Church, and died July 31, 1881, leaving a large estate. He married, when not quite twenty, Margaret Culp, a daughter of Peter Culp of Montour County, Penn. They had twelve children, ten now living: Mary, married to Michael Snyder; Henry, married to Catherine Whitenight; Matthias, married to Mary Zeigler; David, married to Hester Johnson; William M., our subject; Samuel, Jr., married to Catherine Zeigler; John, married to Lydia A. Lee; Jane, married to Benjamin Lee; Simon C., married to Sarah Culp, and Charles, married to Elizabeth Zeigler. April 8, 1858, our subject married Catherine A., daughter of Thomas Fry, and by this union seven children were born: Hiram A., born February 20, 1859; Mary M., born June 13, 1860, now the widow of Paul Cadman, and has one child, Pauline; Hester J., born February 16, 1862; Henry, born April 20, 1864; Thomas, born December 16, 1867; Ellen, born June 16, 1868; William, born October 6, 1869. The mother of this family died October 27, 1869, a member of the Reformed Church, and was buried in Rosemont Cemetery. Mr. Shaffer's second marriage took place December 2, 1872, with Mary Johnson, a daughter of David Johnson of Beaver, this county, and by this union there is one child, Martha E., born September 25, 1873. Mr. Shaffer is a Republican, a member of the Lutheran Church. He is a farmer and has ninety-three acres under cultivation.

JOSEPH SHARPLESS, Bloomsburg, is descended from John Sharpless, a native of England who immigrated to America about two months before the first coming of William Penn, and settled in Chester, Delaware Co., Penn. The first of his descendants to come to Columbia County, was his great-grandson, Benjamin Sharpless. The family were originally members of the society of Friends. Benjamin was born in 1764 in Chester County, and died in 1857. When a young man he crossed the mountains and settled in Sunbury, where he bought and operated a grist-mill, and also taught school for some time. He subsequently moved to Catawissa, where he purchased a farm and also a grist-mill adjoining, now the site of the paper-mill at Catawissa. Here he established a paper-mill and paid, for years nine cents per pound for white rags, and manufactured paper by hand. When young he learned the saddler's trade, but never followed it in this county, except to make his own harness. He married Hannah Bonsell, also a member of the society of Friends, and by this union there were eleven children, two of whom died young. Those who grew to maturity were as follows: Mary Ann, deceased wife of Dr. Wadsworth of Catawissa, this county; Eliza, unmarried, and now eighty-three years old; Edward, married first to Betsy Roth, and after her death to Nancy Pancoast, now a resident of Marion, Ohio; William was three times married, and now resides at Catawissa; Joseph, married Mary E. Foster of Catawissa; John, married Sally A. Harder; Harriet, married George Reifsnnyder; Sarah, married Louis Yetter; and Kersey married Mary Margaret Harder. Joseph Sharpless of Bloomsburg was born December 6, 1808, and reared to the paper-mill business with his father, with whom he remained until twenty-six years of age. He then began on his own account and has been identified with the business interests of Bloomsburg and of the county since, and for thirty years conducted what was known as the Sharpless Foundry, at Bloomsburg. Several years ago he sold the foundry to his son, and has now retired from active business. Mr. Sharpless is a Republican and has served his vicinity in such local offices as member of the council, school director, and during the war was an earnest supporter of the Union cause. Mr. and Mrs. Sharpless have had nine children, seven of whom grew up: Harriet R., born February 23, 1837; Lloyd T., born March 18, 1839, married Mattie Waggenseller; Benjamin F., born May 22, 1841, married Sophia Hartman; Loretta A., born January 4, 1843, married Jefferson Vanderslice, of Ford County, Kas.; Clara, born November 12, 1844, died April 4, 1849; Elizabeth A., born September 7, 1846, married Wesley Eyre of Bloomsburg; Araminta E., born November 24, 1848, married Jasper Wilson; Mary Ellen, born October 16, 1852, died September 9, 1855, and Harry F., born October 4, 1863, now in Ford County, Kas.

BENJAMIN F. SHARPLESS, proprietor of the Eagle Iron Works, Bloomsburg, is a native of Locust Township, this county, born in 1841, a son of Joseph and Mary E. (Foster) Sharpless. At the age of twenty years (in 1861) he enlisted in Company A, Sixth Regiment Pennsylvania Reserves, served about three years and participated in the following engagements: Dranesville, second Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredricksburg, Gettysburg, Bristoe's Station, New Hope Church and the battles of the Wilderness. At Antietam he was wounded by a bullet, the force of which, however, was spent by striking his belt and accoutrements, otherwise it would have passed through his body. He was mustered out June 13, 1864, returned to Bloomsburg, and six months after began learning the trade of an iron molder. That was in January, 1865, and in April, 1868, he formed a partnership with Mr. Harman, under the firm name of Sharpless & Harman, and bought the foundry of Joseph Sharpless. Three years afterward the partnership was dissolved, and our subject has conducted the business alone up to the present time. Mr. Sharpless was married, in 1866, to Sophia Hartman, a daughter of Charles Hartman. Mr. and Mrs. Sharpless have four children: Joseph L., Charles H., Ray F. and Arthur W. Mr. Sharpless is a member of the Methodist Church, and in politics is a Republican.

LAFORST ALMOND SHATTUCK, M. D., proprietor of the Bloomsburg (Penn.) Sanitarium, was born in Cornville, Somerset Co., Me., January 15, 1846. He obtained his literary education at the schools of his native town and at the Skowhegan Academy. When but fifteen years of age he began teaching school and in 1862 began to read medicine in the office of Dr. Green at the Boston Medical Institute, where he had excellent opportunities to study surgery and surgical diseases. A year later he entered the medical department of Harvard, and for five years in college and hospitals was a close student in the allopathic school. In 1868 he took two courses of medical lectures at Philadelphia, graduating with honors. Being ambitious and desirous of a greater knowledge of the eclectic system of practice, then attracting considerable attention, he entered the Eclectic Medical College of the city of New York, where he received the *ad eundem* degree in 1869. He then commenced the practice of his profession at Augusta, Me., making a specialty of surgical diseases and soon came into prominence through his success in critical operations considered impossible of achievement by older surgeons. In 1870, in addition to his professional duties, he assumed the editorial charge of the *American Literary Review*, which he ably conducted until the spring of 1871, when failing health compelled him to relinquish all business cares and take a much needed rest. In the autumn of that year, being desirous of a larger field of practice, he decided to locate at Chicago, and started for his new field of labor in September. While remaining over for a week at New York City to attend the National Medical Convention as a delegate from the Maine Eclectic Medical Society, of which he was secretary, the great fire at Chicago occurred, which decided him to remain East. It was at this time he was urged by the president of his New York *alma mater* to accept the chair of demonstrator of anatomy at that college, but modestly declined, and proceeded at once to locate for the general practice of his profession at Bridgeport, Conn., where he enjoyed a large and lucrative practice for eleven years, and where he attracted attention, not only as a skillful surgeon, but for his remarkable success in diphtheria and his discovery of a remedy for the cure of Bright's disease. In the autumn of 1882, his health again breaking down through overwork and the influence of the coast climate, he sold out at Bridgeport and purchased the institution at Bloomsburg, a sanitarium possessing superior facilities, such as baths of all kinds, mental and physical rest, massage, electricity, Swedish movements, etc., for the treatment of nervous, kidney and chronic diseases, in which he has acquired a high reputation. Dr. Shattuck comes of good old New England stock, being the eldest son of Luther Tarbell Shattuck, who, with Prof. Shattuck of Harvard College, Judge David O. Shattuck, the Whig candidate for governor of Mississippi in 1841, Lemuel Shattuck, the historian and compiler of Shattuck's memorials, Judge Francis W. Shattuck of California, Judge Joel Parker of Cambridge, Mass., Hon. John A. Dix, and the Rev. Morgan Dix, of New York, were descendants of William Shattuck [Shattuck Memorials, pages 57 to 289,] who died in Watertown, Mass. Dr. Shattuck was married, April 17, 1872, to Miss Ella Frances Mosher of Augusta, Me., an estimable and talented lady, connected with some of the best families in Maine and one of the heirs of the English Mosher estate.

M. C. SLOAN & BRO., carriage manufacturers, Bloomsburg. The firm consists of M. C. and C. P. Sloan, and the business was established in 1826 by William Sloan, father of the present proprietors. His shop stood on the site of the present Lutheran Church building on Market Street, and he manufactured the first "Dearborn wagon" in this vicinity. He followed manufacturing large numbers yearly, employing men who would start with fifteen or twenty and sell them throughout the country. In 1832 he erected the shops occupied by the present firm, with the exception of the wood shop, which was burnt and rebuilt in 1843. He was born near Lime Ridge, this county, and died in 1864, aged seventy two years. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Thornton, was a native of Bloomsburg, died in 1875, and both are buried in Rosemont Cemetery, Bloomsburg. In early life he was a carpenter and while stopping at a hotel in Bloomsburg, a man named Wells, a wagon-maker, came along. Up to that time there were no one-horse wagons in the neighborhood, and the landlord insisted on Wells making one, so Mr. Sloan accompanied Wells to his (Sloan's) farm, adjoining town, and from the fences secured sufficient seasoned oak timber to make one. This was the first one-horse wagon ever made in Bloomsburg, and was after the style commonly known as "Dearborn." This was the start of Mr. Sloan's long and successful career as a carriage manufacturer.

M. C. SLOAN was born at Bloomsburg in 1826, and after acquiring a good education in the Bloomsburg schools he learned the carriage-making business, and in April, 1853, became a partner with his father under the firm name of William Sloan & Son, and has ever since been identified with the business as proprietor. He was married in 1853 to Miss Emily Pursel, and they have the following named children: Maggie T. (now Mrs. W. C. McKinney, Dodge City, Kas.), W. Clark, Anne W. and Morris R. Mr. Sloan is a substantial and enterprising business man. The present firm of M. C. Sloan & Bro. was formed in 1864 after the death of their father, and manufactures the finest kind of light work.

CHARLES P. SLOAN was born March 12, 1840, and received his education in the schools of his native place. At the age of eighteen he began learning the trade of carriage trimming and painting. In 1862 he enlisted, and was appointed sergeant in Company E, One



Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and six weeks later participated in the battle of Antietam; also was in engagements at Fredericksburg and at Chancellorsville. He had enlisted but for nine months, and at the expiration of his term returned to Bloomsburg, and has since been engaged in the carriage business. Mr. Sloan was married in 1863 to Phebe A. Lott, a daughter of Dr. G. W. Lott of Orangeville. They have four children: Hattie L., Frank H., Lilla G. and George G.

SAMUEL SMITH, sheriff of Columbia County, Bloomsburg, is a native of Butler Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., born May 8, 1841, a son of William and Elizabeth (Washburn) Smith. The former was a native of New Jersey and came with his father, Samuel Smith, to Luzerne County when he was a boy of six years. He was a prominent farmer and when his son Samuel was but three years old moved to Nescopeck, where our subject was reared until the age of eighteen years; then he began learning the blacksmith trade at White Haven, Penn., with his uncle, John Washburn, and after completing the same carried on the business in Nescopeck Township for four years. He was then employed by the Dupont Powder Company at Wapwallopen for two years. In 1869 he moved to Fishing Creek Township, this county, where he bought a farm and carried it on for fourteen years. In 1883 he moved to Stillwater and followed blacksmithing for three years. Mr. Smith is a Democrat and has for the past ten years, taken an active and influential part in the politics of the county. He served Fishingcreek six years as member of the school board, and in 1885 was elected sheriff of Columbia County, and is the present incumbent. He married in 1861 Hannah Harter, and thirteen children have been born to them: Aaron Freeze (deceased), Alice Margaret, William Jacob, Clara Ann, Eudora, John Clark, Albert Newton, Amanda Ella, Samuel Theodore, Charles Day and Daisy Delphine (twins), Leona Mabelle and Hannah Edna.

DANIEL SNYDER (deceased), 1783-1855, was born in Northampton County, Penn., and was a son of John and Elizabeth (Stickle) Snyder, also natives of the same county, and he was one of six children, viz.: Catharine, married to Gen. Robert Brown, a gallant soldier of the Revolutionary war, elected to Congress several terms; Susan, married to Philip Wolfe; Mollie, married to Harness Neeley; John, a tanner at Watsontown, Northumberland County, where he died; Peter and Jacob. Our subject attended the English schools of his native county but a short time, and when about twenty-one years of age his father died, and he and a brother entered into a partnership on a farm. In one year Daniel became dissatisfied with farm life and withdrew to learn the tanner's trade. In 1809 he married Mary Magdalene Mickley, born April 2, 1792, in Allentown, Penn., daughter of Peter Mickley, who was born January 18, 1772, and Sarah Biery Mickley, born January 30, 1773 (Peter Mickley was a grandson of John Jacob Mickley (or Michelet) who came from Amsterdam, Holland, in the ship "Hope," of London, arriving in Philadelphia, August 28, 1733). Mr. and Mrs. Mickley had the following named children: Mary M.; Catharine, married to Daniel Berkholder; Sarah; Hannah; Susau; Christina; Jacob, and Charles. In 1810 Daniel Snyder came to Columbia County and bought twenty-six acres lying now within the limits of Bloomsburg, paying for the same £550. He returned to Northampton County for his wife, and was told that the little stream which ran through his new farm in Columbia County, on which he intended to locate a tannery, would occasionally run dry. He for a time contemplated giving up his claim. Finally he started on a second trip to accomplish his original purpose. On the route he met Squire Hutchison, who was going to Easton with a load of wheat, and the Squire assured him that the stream was a never-failing one. Fully convinced, he returned to Easton and employed Squire Hutchison to haul him, his family and all to the little log cabin, which stood where now Second and East Streets, Bloomsburg, meet. He brought with him some leather, which he hoped to exchange for hides, but everybody who had pelts for sale wanted money, and Mr. Snyder, having only \$100 left after erecting his tannery, was a second time discouraged, because he had to pay money for hides and sell leather on trust. A Mr. Wertman, who lived near, observed the pluck manifested by our subject, and offered him a few hundred dollars, which sum was accepted, and with which the foundation of his future success was laid. In ten years he was able to build a two-story brick house, and later turned it into a hotel, known as the "Forks Hotel." He subsequently rented it and moved into another property erected by him. His industry and economy added daily to his possessions, and aside from the tannery he owned considerable town property and five or six large farms, before his death. He was elected to the State Legislature a number of terms, and worked with all the energies in his power to secure the county seat at Bloomsburg. History tells in this work his complete success. His ever faithful consort, who still survives, blessed him with ten children: John, born December 3, 1810; William, born March 12, 1813, married first to Regina Worman, second to Mary Funk; Sarah A., who married Dr. William Petrikin, the father of Mrs. Gen. W. H. Ent, mentioned elsewhere; Melvina, who married Elisha Barton, the father of Mrs. Alice John and Mrs. Dr. Lazarus; Polly, born July 24, 1821; Daniel, born April 19, 1824, married Sarah W. Creveling, by whom he has Clinton C., a civil engineer, now in Florida; Mary B., married to William Milens who lives in this county, and Anna, who died young. (Daniel has followed the planing-mill business and is now a farmer and resides in Bloomsburg, and his aged mother lives with him. He has been overseer of the poor and is a



worthy, upright man); Matilda, born January 18, 1827, married Rev. Henry Funk, a Reformed minister, the father of Nevin U. Funk, mentioned elsewhere; Mary C., born September 18, 1829, married Dr. F. C. Harrison; Martha Alice, who married Dr. T. C. Harter; Clinton B., born June 23, 1837, and died single December 13, 1852. In this volume appears an elegant steel portrait of Hon. Daniel Snyder, made from the latest photograph that could be found. It was contributed by Daniel Snyder, Nevin U. Funk, Mrs. Melvina Barton, Mrs. Sarah A. Petrikin, Mrs. Dr. Harter, C. W. Neal and Frank P. Billmeyer.

WILLIAM SNYDER, born March 12, 1813, died October 11, 1867, married first to Regina Worman (by whom he had two children, both now deceased, to wit: Charles W. Snyder and Emma H., who was the wife of Mr. Clinton W. Neal), secondly, to Mary Funk (by whom he had one child, Anna Dora, now the wife of F. P. Billmeyer). William succeeded to the tanning business of his father, which he pursued with vigor and great financial success, and became one of the leading business men of his native town of Bloomsburg, and one of its most wealthy and substantial citizens. He was a kind and gentle father, a faithful husband, a consistent member of the Reformed Church, a helpful friend, an honest, reliable man and a public-spirited and enterprising citizen. Every enterprise that had for its object the promotion of the best interests of his fellow-citizens, and the improvement of his town found in him a strong support. His purse, as well as his mind and hand, was ready for every worthy object. He was one of the chief promoters and contributors to the erection of the Bloomsburg Literary Institute, which grew and expanded into the now beautiful and stately normal school of the Sixth District. Besides giving his counsel and labor and thousands of dollars to this great and noble educational project, he with his sister, Mrs. Martha Alice Harter, donated the beautiful and extensive grounds attached to this institution. He was its first treasurer, in which office he continued to the time of his death. He laid out the William Snyder addition to the town of Bloomsburg, and it was while he was engaged in this and other plans of kindred public improvement that he was called away to his rest.

WM. H. SNYDER, prothonotary of Columbia County, Penn., was born in Orange Township in 1840, a son of John and Catharine Snyder. His father, a native of Berks County, Penn., of German descent, when a boy came to Columbia County. He was a stone-mason and plasterer by occupation, and served as constable of Orange Township for seventeen years. He was elected sheriff of said county in 1852, and re-elected in 1858, serving in all two terms or six years. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, and died in 1878 aged sixty-seven years. He was married to Miss Catharine, daughter of Henry Wolf, who also came to Columbia from Berks County, where he had been engaged in teaching German school. Mrs. Snyder is still living at Orangeville at the age of seventy-eight years. They had eleven children—four boys and seven girls—three of whom are dead: Mary C., Frank R. and John H. Wm. H. Snyder was educated at the Orangeville Academy and Greenwood Seminary, and began public school-teaching while a minor, which profession he followed for fourteen years. In 1872 he was elected county superintendent of public schools of Columbia County, which position he held for three terms or nine years, then declined serving longer. During this time he registered as law student with E. R. Ikeler, Esq., and was admitted in 1882; was elected prothonotary in 1884, which position he holds at present. He was married in 1868 to Miss Sarah M. Fleckenstine, daughter of Nathan and Catharine Fleckenstine, of Orangeville. Her ancestors are also of German descent; her father is a member of the Reformed and her mother of the Lutheran Church. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder had six children, of whom but one, Paul R., an infant, is living. John B. died in 1879; Willic R. in 1881, and Jennie C., Charles J. and George R. but a few weeks apart, of diphtheria, at Orangeville in 1884. They were aged respectively sixteen, thirteen and nearly two years. All are buried in Orangeville Cemetery. Jennie C. was a member of the Reformed Church, of which her parents are members.

GEORGE W. STERNER, register and recorder of Columbia County, Bloomsburg, is a native of Madison Township, this county, born April 2, 1846, a son of John S. and Juda (Trump) Sterner. His father is a contractor and builder and has carried on that business extensively in Bloomsburg, and through the county from 1837 to the present time (1886), besides brick-making and farming. George W. was educated in the public schools and normal school of Bloomsburg, also attended Dickinson Seminary at Williamsport, two years, and one year the State Institute at Ypsilanti, Mich. After finishing his studies he engaged in teaching, and followed that profession for thirteen terms, six of which were spent in Bloomsburg. He was married August 6, 1873, to Mary A., a daughter of Ira Davenport, a merchant and banker at Plymouth, Luzerne Co., Penn. In 1874 he built the large store-building on the northeast corner of Second Street and Murray's Alley, part of which he occupies as a residence. In that year also he began the business of a contractor and builder, brick-maker, etc., which he followed until the fall of 1877. He has always taken an active part in the politics of the county, and in 1868 was delegate to the county convention, also served in that capacity for several consecutive years. In 1875 he was elected assessor in the west district of Bloomsburg, and was a member of the Bloomsburg Council. In 1878 he was a candidate, though not nominated, but in 1881 was nominated

and elected register and recorder; re-elected in 1884, and is the present incumbent. To the duties of his office he is very attentive; his books and records are models of neatness, and his courteous treatment of all who have business with him, whether official or otherwise, is the well deserved cause of his universal popularity, not only as a trusted public official, but as an honored and respected citizen. As an ardent Democrat there is none more loyal to his party; as a citizen he is enterprising and substantial, and as a soldier he was brave and patriotic. At the age of sixteen he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in August 6, 1862, for nine months. The regiment was soon ordered to Camp Whipple near Washington; was part of the reserve at second Bull Run, and was afterward attached to Gens. Sumner's and Couch's corps, Third Division, Third Brigade of the Army of the Potomac. He participated in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, and on the expiration of his term of service, returned home. August 31, 1864, he enlisted for one year in Company E, Two Hundred and Ninth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, in which he was appointed second sergeant of the company and subsequently color-bearer sergeant of the regiment. The regiment reported at Bermuda Hundred and participated in skirmishes in and around that vicinity, and afterward took part in the fight at Hatcher's Run, Fort Steadman and in the charge on the enemy's works in front of Petersburg, Va., April 1, 1865, and subsequently was engaged with the Army of the Potomac until the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. After the battle of Petersburg he was in command of the company until mustered out May 31, 1865, when he returned home and resumed the occupation mentioned previously, remaining, however, with his father until of age. Our subject's religious convictions are Methodist. Mr. and Mrs. Sterner have four children: Hattie E., John D., Mabel Estella and Mary Edna.

G. W. SUPLEE, Bloomsburg, was born in Chester County, Penn., July 29, 1825, to Samuel and Catherine (Rinewalt) Suplee. The Suplee family are of French extraction but for several generations have been residents of Pennsylvania and have followed farming. Samuel was born and reared in Chester County, where he married Miss Catherine Rinewalt, also a native of the same county. To them were born five children, four now living: George W.; Emeline, widow of Charles H. Soper of Los Angeles, Cal.; John R., in Lawrence, Kas., and Mary, wife of Robert Evans, in Philadelphia. Sarah is deceased. Samuel Suplee died April 23, 1875; his widow survived him just ten years, dying April 23, 1885. They are buried in the Green Tree Church graveyard, in Upper Providence Township, Montgomery County. He had farmed in that township until ten years before his death, when he and his wife removed to Philadelphia, where he lived a retired life. Our subject was reared to the age of nine years in Chester County, when his parents moved to Philadelphia, and three years later to Montgomery County, where he lived until the age of thirty-two years; then he bought a farm in Anthony Township, Montour County, and farmed here for eight years. He then sold out and bought a farm in Madison Township, Columbia County, where he resided until April, 1886, when he bought a residence property in Bloomsburg, moving to the city and renting his farm. He married in Montgomery County, April 4, 1852, Miss Sarah Hamer, a native of Montgomery County, and daughter of Humphrey and Mary Hamer. When Mrs. Suplee was a child her mother died, and her father in 1845. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Suplee, four of whom are living: Antoinette, wife of Cyrus De Mott, in Madison Township; Gertrude, wife of Albert Girton in Madison Township; Horace G. and Annie. The deceased are Emeline, Mary Catherine, Sallie Wells and George, who was accidentally killed by falling from a window of the normal school where he was a student, January 25, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Suplee are members of the Baptist Church. While a resident of Montour County, he was justice of the peace for one term, and held many township offices while a resident of Madison Township, Columbia County. He has a farm in that township of 135 acres.

WILLIAM R. TUBBS, proprietor of the Exchange Hotel, Bloomsburg, was born in Wetherly, Carbon County, in 1835, a son of William A. and Elizabeth (Henritzy) Tubbs. When a young man he learned the watch-making business, and in 1862 engaged in keeping hotel at Shickshinny, which he continued three years. In 1868 he took the Rupert Hotel and conducted it, except one year, until 1878, when he leased the Exchange Hotel at Bloomsburg, buying the furniture. This house has sixty-five rooms, with all modern conveniences and heated throughout with steam (and all the improvements have been made by Mr. Tubbs), and was the first really first-class hotel established in Bloomsburg. Mr. Tubbs married in 1862, Margaret, a daughter of Samuel Harmon. The Harmon family is an old one in the history of Columbia County. Mrs. Tubbs' father resided many years at Mifflin, and was a thorough hotel man. The Exchange Hotel is fitted throughout in the most approved style. The kitchen is a model of cleanliness, the pastry room adjoins, while close by is a large refrigerator fitted with compartments or rooms like a house; the dining-room is large, light and pleasant, while the parlors and sample rooms on the first floor are commodious and well furnished. The upper floors are arranged in sleeping apartments and suites of rooms, with bath rooms adjoining. The hotel is one of the best conducted in the State and is deservedly popular with the traveling public.



REV. D. J. WALLER was born January 15, 1815, at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. His parents were Phineas, born at Wyoming in January, 1774; son of Nathan and Elizabeth (Weeks) Waller, and Elizabeth, born October 9, 1780, daughter of Dr. David H. and Patience (Bulkeley) Jewett, of New London, Conn. David Jewett, the father of David H., was born June 10, 1714, and was graduated from Harvard College in 1735. He was a chaplain in the British Army, and subsequently served in the same capacity in Washington's army. Nathan Waller was a soldier in the Revolution in the Continental service and was the first of the name to settle with his family at Wilkesbarre. The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood in his native town, pursuing his early education at the academy in Wilkesbarre until the age of fifteen, when he entered Williams College, from which he was graduated in 1834. In the fall of that year he entered Princeton Theological Seminary, from which he was graduated in 1837. In the following year he began his work in the ministry at Bloomsburg, assuming the pastorate of the church there and supplying all the English Presbyterian Churches between Danville and Wilkesbarre, as well as those in the valleys of Fishing creek. For thirty-three years he proved indefatigable in this work, eventually introducing four additional workers in the field to care for as many separate charges. In 1848 the present brick place of worship in Bloomsburg, built under his direction at a cost of \$3,100, was dedicated. In 1871, when the Bloomsburg Church had reached the point of self sustentation, Mr. Waller resigned his pastorate, but still occasionally preaches as his health will permit. It was with considerable reluctance that he laid down the active work of the ministry, but after the arduous labor of so many years, having achieved the object of his original mission, he felt that the demands of his growing family called upon him to devote his energies to their care and education. During the active part of his ministry Mr. Waller found ample scope for the employment of the energy and executive ability with which a Divine providence has blessed him. Notwithstanding the arduous character of his early missionary work, he interested himself and others in procuring advanced educational privileges for the community. He was chiefly instrumental in founding a classical school in Bloomsburg in 1839, securing his brother, C. P. Waller, as principal. This gentleman, subsequently president judge in Wayne and Pike Counties and now deceased, was admirably fitted for the work and laid a foundation on which the State normal school was subsequently erected. Mr. Waller's interest in the educational features of Bloomsburg have not languished since this initial effort, and in all the history of the growth of secondary instruction in the county seat is found his guiding and supporting influence. His contribution to this school reached \$3,500. But while thus engaged in fostering the educational and religious interests of the community with which he had cast his lot, he could truthfully appropriate the poet's lines, "*Homo sum; nil humani a me alienum puto.*" He came to Bloomsburg at the time when the movement for the removal of the county seat was at its ebb tide and the most sanguine of its supporters were about to despair. He espoused the sinking cause with undaunted courage, and with the co-operation of Dr. John Ramsay and William McKelvy succeeded in buoying the stranded movement to the deeper waters which led to eventual success. Since devoting his attention more exclusively to business matters his career has been remarkable in that, after devoting the active years of this life to the seclusion of the study, he has proved so eminently successful in ventures which have always taxed the abilities of those especially trained for the particular service. In all his enterprises Mr. Waller has evinced a public spirit which has accrued to the highest advantage of the town of his residence. On leaving the ministry he devoted his attention to farming with eminent success. He soon felt the difficulties which the community there labored under for the lack of transportation facilities, and discovered the latent possibilities for Bloomsburg which he determined to develop. In 1859 he bargained for ninety five acres that is all now included in the borough of Bloomsburg. This tract includes the plat of the borough bounded on the north by the alley between Fourth and Fifth Streets; on the east by a line a little east of Catherine Street; on the south by Canal Street and on the west by the Iron-dale Railroad; and now contains from 150 to 200 houses. It comprises the most substantial residences of the town, several of them erected by Mr. Waller, among which are the elegant residence he occupies, on the corner of Fifth and Market Streets, and the Sanitarium Buildings, costing upward of \$15,000. He owns 150 acres south of the canal adjoining this plat, which will doubtless some time be included within the corporate limits of the town. In these private ventures Mr. Waller has not been neglectful of public interests, and in spite of persistent opposition has secured to the town, at his own expense, a broad street, lined with attractive residences, which is the peculiar charm of the place. In 1861 he secured the location of the railroad depot at an accessible point, and in 1870 began to devise means to relieve the business interests of the burden which the railroad monopoly placed upon it. The result of his efforts in this direction was the construction of the North & West Branch Railroad, which he constructed by his own efforts and in spite of the most determined opposition of other corporations. Even his friends felt that it was a foolhardy undertaking and his success has won for him the well merited respect not only of his fellow-townsmen but of the railroad magnates who tried in vain to thwart him. His ambition is to make Bloomsburg a vigorous manufacturing center with railroad



facilities second to none in this section of the State, and if his life is spared and his efforts are crowned with their usual success, the near future will see this result obtained. Every public improvement receives his hearty co-operation, and when the public is slow to proceed his own judgment does not falter. The lot on which the new jail stands was donated by Mr. Waller as well as the land on which the flourishing woolen-mill stands. In 1876 he was nominated by the Republican party as a candidate for Congress for this district. The hopeless adverse majority gave little hope for his success, but he nevertheless ran 500 ahead of the Hayes electoral ticket. He was married in 1839 to Julia Ellmaker, of Philadelphia, a daughter of Levi and Hannah (Hopkins) Ellmaker of that city. Their children are Hannah Ellmaker, born August 30, 1840; Elizabeth, born May 14, 1842; Maria Louisa, born May 29, 1843, died February 8, 1844; Harriet, born November 16, 1844, died June 13, 1845; David Jewett, born June 17, 1846; William Patterson, born January 20, 1848, died April 22, same year; Levi Ellmaker, born July 16, 1851; George Phillips, born April 2, 1854; Julia, wife of Charles W. Hand, and Laura Pettit.

REV. DR. D. J. WALLER, JR., principal of the State normal school, at Bloomsburg, his native place, was born in 1846. He prepared for college at the Bloomsburg Literary Institute, and graduated from Lafayette College in 1870, where he was tutor one year. He resigned this office to enter Princeton Theological Seminary in 1871, and was graduated at Union Theological Seminary of New York City in 1874. During 1874 and 1875 he was pastor of the Logan Square Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia; then accepted the pastoral charge of the Presbyterian congregation at Orangeville, Rohrsburg and Raven Creek for one and a half years. Subsequently, in 1877, he was elected principal of the State normal school. Under his administration the affairs of that institution have had a constant, steady and prosperous growth. Dr. Waller justly holds an enviable reputation throughout the country as a thorough scholar, educator and Christian gentleman. He was married May 14, 1874, to Anna Appelman, a daughter of Matthias S. and Lydia (Billig) Appelman, and seven children blessed their union. The family attend the services of the Presbyterian Church. In politics Mr. Waller is a straight out Republican.

L. E. WALLER, attorney, Bloomsburg, was educated at Lafayette College, where he graduated in 1873. In 1874 he began reading law with Hon. C. R. Buckalew, the following year attended Columbia Law School and in 1876 was admitted to the bar. He began practice in 1877 and has served as solicitor for the town of Bloomsburg two years, and has been a member of the council two years. He married in 1881 Miss Alice M. Buckalew. Mr. Waller is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and politically a Republican.

HIESTER VANDERSLICE WHITE, attorney at law, of Bloomsburg, was born in Orange Township, June 27, 1858, a son of John M. and Tacy E. (Vanderslice) White. He obtained his literary education in the schools of his vicinity, the Orangeville Academy and at Bloomsburg Normal School. He registered as a law student September 2, 1879, with Col. J. C. Freeze, and was admitted to the bar December 6, 1881. January 1, 1881, he became a partner with Col. Freeze and M. F. Eyerly to continue three years under the firm name of Freeze, Eyerly & White. At that time Mr. White bought the valuable law library of Col. Freeze, and on the termination of the partnership continued in the practice of his profession. At the age of fifteen Mr. White began teaching school and followed the profession until he was admitted to the bar. He is the manager of the grain shipping business of H. V. White & Co., handling on an average 150,000 bushels of grain per annum, shipping mostly to the mills and mining sections. He married, January 4, 1884, Clara E., daughter of Levi Ackman, and of an old family of the county. Mr. White has been secretary three years of the Columbia County Agricultural, Horticultural and Mechanical Association, and is now trustee of the Pennsylvania State College in Centre County.

GEORGE E. WILBUR, professor of higher mathematics and history in the State Normal School, Bloomsburg, is a native of what is now Waverly, Lackawanna Co., Penn. His father, Rev. John F. Wilbur, is a minister of the Methodist denomination and resides at Peckville, Lackawanna County. Prof. Wilbur prepared for college at Wyoming Seminary, Kingston, and when nineteen years of age became a student at Dickinson College, where he took a classical, scientific and law course, graduating in 1873. At the age of twenty-five, in 1875, he came to Bloomsburg and held the position of principal of the public schools two years. He then filled the chair of ancient languages, history and civil government in the normal for seven years, when he was transferred to his present chair. The Professor married in October, 1874, Miss Fredericka, daughter of Rev. F. L. Hiller, then pastor of Central Methodist Episcopal Church at Wilkesbarre. Three children have been born to this union: Fred, born February 14, 1877; Harry, born December 19, 1881, and Elmer, born August 23, 1884.

ISAIAH W. WILLITS, M. D., Bloomsburg, was born at Catawissa, May 23, 1843, a son of George H. and Jane (Clark) Willits. He attended the schools of his native village until twelve years of age, followed by two years at the select school at Bloomsburg of Eaton & Wells. He then attended the seminary at Millville, one year, and completed his literary studies by a year at Wyoming Seminary, Kingston, Luzerne County. On leaving school he entered the general store of W. Bittenbender & Co., of which firm his

father was a silent partner, and there remained two years. In 1861 he was employed with D. G. Driesbach, of Beach Haven, with whom he remained until 1862. August 8, of that year, he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and on the organization of the company was elected orderly sergeant. December 9 he was promoted first lieutenant, and participated in the battles of Antietam and Fredericksburg (where he was severely wounded in the left knee by a piece of shell, disabling him for several months), and afterward at Chancellorsville. His term of nine months' enlistment having expired he returned home and raised a company, afterward known as Company E, Thirtieth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and on its muster, June 20, 1863, he was elected its captain. The regiment was assigned to the department of the Susquehanna under Gen. D. N. Couch, and during its term of enlistment, six months, was assigned principally to guard duty on the Cumberland Valley Railroad and other duty in Pennsylvania. On leaving the army in the fall of 1863 our subject began reading medicine with Dr. J. K. Robbins of Catawissa, and in 1864 became a student at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. In 1866 he began to practice at Centralia and in 1868 moved and practiced at Catawissa. In 1874 he took a third term at Jefferson Medical College, where he graduated in the spring of 1875. He returned to Catawissa and followed his profession there until August 1, 1883, when he removed to Roanoke, Va., and remained until March, 1885. He then came to Bloomsburg and opened an office, where he has established a successful practice. The Doctor has been twice married: first, March 29, 1866, to Marcella R. Reifsnnyder of Catawissa, who died November 2, 1877; secondly, to Mrs. K. P. Reifsnnyder, *nee* Scott, April 9, 1879. George H. Willits was a native of Catawissa; a tanner by trade, which he followed for a short time when young, but for many years was a contractor. He built a half-mile section of the Pennsylvania Canal, and was also largely interested in operating coal mines in Schuylkill County. Subsequently he discontinued the above interests and bought 300 acres of land opposite Catawissa, where he reared his family, but the last few years of his life he lived retired at Catawissa. He was an honored and respected citizen, a Republican, and served as associate judge of Columbia County five years, being the only Republican that ever held that office by the vote of the people. He also served his vicinity in various local offices, and died March 22, 1881. His widow died January 11, 1883, and both are buried in the Friend's burying-ground at Catawissa.

LYLOYD S. WINTERSTEEN, attorney, Bloomsburg, is a native of Mifflinville, born November 2, 1849. He obtained his literary education in the schools of his native place, and subsequently took a commercial course at Hazleton Commercial College, and in Hazleton was in the employ of A. Pardee & Co. as bookkeeper, and was from 1874 to 1877 superintendent of the colliery of C. Pardee & Co., at Hollywood, near Hazleton. In 1876 he began the study of law and in June, 1877, entered the law office of E. P. Kisner, Esq., of Wilkesbarre, Penn., as a student, and in July, 1877, he became a student in the office of Col. S. Knorr, and was admitted to the Columbia County bar in September, 1879. Soon after he was appointed deputy prothonotary, and served until March 2, 1880, when he formed a law partnership with Col. Knorr, which still continues. Mr. Wintersteen is a son of Joseph O. and Lydia (Wolfe) Wintersteen. His father is of Holland descent, born at Forty Fort, Luzerne County, and was for many years a blacksmith and auctioneer. Lydia Wolfe was a daughter of Christian Wolfe, an early settler of that section, and a prominent citizen and formerly county commissioner. Our subject was married April 16, 1885, to Miss Ada E., daughter of J. J. Brower. Politically, Mr. Wintersteen is a Republican. He served three years as a notary public from 1879 to 1882, and January 25, 1887, was re-appointed by Gov. Beaver. Mrs. Wintersteen is a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Wintersteen attends the same church but is not a member.

JOHN WOLF, dealer in agricultural implements, Bloomsburg, was born November 27, 1834, in Mifflin Township, this county, to Abraham and Catherine (Hill) Wolf, the parents of three children. John Wolf was educated in the common schools of his native township and was brought up in rural pursuits. At the early age of fourteen years the sole management of the "Old Homestead" of 150 acres devolved upon him, and success followed his industry and economy. In 1865 he engaged in mercantile business in Bloomsburg, which he continued for fifteen years with his usual success. In 1880 he began dealing in agricultural implements in Bloomsburg and has established a large trade. He has given his personal attention to the business and has made his patrons permanent ones. February 9, 1854, he was married to Mary P. Pohe, born June 9, 1837, daughter of Joseph Pohe, whose portrait appears in this volume. By this union he has three children, viz.: Mrs. Hudson J. Kase, Mrs. Henry G. Huppert, Mrs. Harry G. Eshleman. He was drafted but exempted from the late war, and has been a staunch advocate of the principles of the Republican party since its inception. Since locating in Bloomsburg he has been identified with the public improvements of the city and is an honest, upright citizen. He and family are strict adherents of the Lutheran Church.

ALFRED N. YOST, attorney at law, Bloomsburg, is a native of Fishingcreek Township, born in 1855, a son of David and Sarah C. (Creveling) Yost, for a long time residents of this county. His grandfather, Samuel Yost, settled in Fishingcreek this county,

about 1840. Our subject received his education in the schools of the vicinity and at the Orangeville Academy. He taught school for seven terms in Luzerne County, and while teaching he registered as a law student in 1880 with E. R. Ikeler, and was admitted to the bar at Bloomsburg in 1884. Since then he has practiced there.

B. FRANK ZARR, attorney, Bloomsburg, is a native of Catawissa, this country, born December 31, 1843, a son of Benjamin and Hannah (Reninger) Zarr, the former, of whom, born in Berks County in 1810, came with his parents, George and Catharine (Keifer) Zarr, to Catawissa, where they settled in 1811 on a farm on which the southern part of Catawissa now stands. Our subject was reared on a farm until eight years of age, and when a youth, began learning the paper-making business in the paper-mill at Catawissa. Unfortunately, while employed around the machinery, he became accidentally entangled with it, necessitating the amputation of the right arm at the shoulder. He was then but seventeen years of age, and was obliged on account of the accident to somewhat change the plan of his future life. He exerted himself to obtain a thorough education, and attended the Greenwood Seminary at Millville, and the Millersville State Normal School; subsequently he taught school in Columbia and Schuylkill Counties for seven years. In 1869 he began reading law with Col. J. G. Freeze of Bloomsburg, and was admitted to the bar in February, 1872. In 1869 Mr. Zarr was appointed deputy prothonotary of the county, under Gen. W. H. Ent, and served as such for twenty-three months. In December, 1872, he was elected prothonotary of the county, and re-elected in 1875, serving six years and one month. In 1879 he resumed the practice of his profession, which he has continued up to date. Mr. Zarr has also served in various local offices; is now president of the town council of Bloomsburg, and has taken a prominent and active part in the educational interests of the county, and in securing good school buildings to the place. He also served some eleven years as member of the school board of Bloomsburg. He was elected and served for some time as deputy superintendent of public schools, under C. G. Barkley, Esq. Mr. Zarr is also interested in agriculture, owning two farms near the village, one of which he personally superintends. He is a member of the Lutheran Church. In 1866 he married Fanny C. Person, and they have two sons and one daughter: Robert Rush, Josephine and Frank Person. Mr. Zarr has been an elder in his church for upward of seven years, Sunday-school superintendent for same length of time. He was the youngest man ever elected to the office of prothonotary in the county of Columbia. The Zarrs came from the eastern part of France, and settled in America at a very early date. The name was originally spelled Scar.

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T. C. HARTER, M.D., Bloomsburg, was born at Nescopeck, Luzerne Co., Penn., November 10, 1850. In 1872 he attended school at Dickinson Seminary, and afterward came to Bloomsburg where he studied medicine with Dr. B. F. Gardner. He graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., in 1880, after which he practiced medicine at Espy and Bloomsburg two years, and then at Nescopeck, Luzerne County, until August 26, 1886, when he sold out at the latter place, and at present is traveling. The Doctor expects to take a special course in New York on diseases of the throat, heart and lungs, after which he will settle at Bloomsburg, where he will follow his profession. The Doctor has already become noted for his successful treatment of diseases of the throat and lungs, especially diphtheria. He has shown much skill as a surgeon, and has bright promises for the near future in his chosen profession.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### BEAVER TOWNSHIP.

THE DAVIS FAMILY, postoffice Zion's Grove, Schuylkill County. David Davis, one of the early settlers of Columbia County, a native of Philadelphia, and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, came to this county in 1814. His father-in-law, Roberts, had taken up land in what is now Beaver Township, and David Davis took possession of same, where he lived a number of years and then removed to Roaringcreek Township where he died. His wife died several years prior and both were buried in the Michael Cemetery, Beaver Township. They were the parents of fourteen children, only two



of whom are now living, John, in Hastings, Adams Co., Neb., and William in Beaver Township. Isaac Davis, the second of their children, was born May 29, 1792, in Philadelphia. His father moved from there to Sunbury, Northumberland County, and there our subject remained until he was sixteen years of age; then removed with his father to Columbia County and remained with him until he was twenty years of age. He then bought a piece of land in Beaver Township and lived on it (with the exception of three years spent in Chester County) until his death. He married in Chester County in 1817 Miss Julianna Thomas, a native of that county, a daughter of Samuel and Esther Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Davis came to Columbia County and here resided until their death, he dying September 30, 1868, and his widow March 26, 1872; both are buried in the family cemetery on the old homestead. They were the parents of the following named children: those living—David, a resident of Greenfield, Hancock Co., Ind.; Julianna, widow of Robert C. Diehl, in Hopeville, Luzerne Co., Penn.; Maria, Anthony Wayne and Eliza Jane; those deceased—John Wesley, William A., Isaac Roberts, Esther Ann, wife of William Matthews, and Margaret Ann, wife of Henry F. Bird, who is also deceased. The Davis family are members of the Methodist Church. Politically Isaac Davis was a Republican. Five hundred and ninety-one acres of land belong to the heirs of Isaac Davis, deceased.

JAMES T. FOX, dentist and representative elect of Columbia County, Beaver Valley, was born in Greenwood Township, Columbia County, July 2, 1847, a son of Daniel and Jane (Morris) Fox. His grandfather, Jacob Fox, came from Berks County, Penn., settled in Catawissa Township and there lived until his death. His great-grandfathers came from England and Scotland, respectively. Our subject's father was a farmer and teacher, following the former occupation in summer and the latter in winter; he died in August, 1849, and his widow in March, 1878; the former is buried in Greenwood Township and the latter in Bloomsburg. Our subject lived in Greenwood Township until he was five years of age, when he removed with his mother to Hemlock Township, where they resided nearly two years, moving thence to Jerseytown and afterward to Millville. He attended school at Jerseytown, and on moving to Millville, completed a course at the Millville Seminary. On leaving school he commenced to study dentistry; then practiced dentistry in summer and taught school in winter until 1880, since which time he has turned his entire attention to dentistry. His practice extends over all the country on the south side of the river and into a portion of Luzerne and Schuylkill Counties, and he is considered master of his profession. He has been a member of the County Democratic Committee, and has served as tax collector, assessor, auditor, justice of the peace eight years and school director a number of times. He moved to Beaver Township in 1866 and has been a resident of the same since June, 1871. He received the nomination as representative of the Democratic party in the Legislature July 27, 1886, and was elected by 2,351 majority. Mr. Fox married in this county, June 10, 1871, Lydia Ann Fisher, a native of this county, a daughter of John and Sarah Fisher, former deceased, latter residing in Beaver Township. Mr. and Mrs. Fox are the parents of six children: Minnie Elmerta, Fannie Adora, John C., Sarah E., Mary R. and Elsie J. The family attend the services of the Reformed Lutheran Church.

J. F. HASSRICK, an employe of the Tide-water Pipe Line Company, Beaver Valley, was born at Schenectady, N. Y., June 24, 1857, a son of Julius and Catherine Hassrick, the former of whom is a farmer, residing in Montgomery, Lycoming Co., Penn.; the latter died at Gloucester, Atlantic Co., N. J., when our subject was but three years old. He was but one year old when his parents moved to Gloucester, N. J., and after residing there about nine years the father moved to Egg Harbor City, where he followed the butchering business. Later they moved to Allenwood, Lycoming Co., Penn., and here our subject followed railroading on the Catawissa Railroad (now the Philadelphia & Reading). He then went to Montgomery to learn the machinist business with Houston, Smith & Co., and was employed by them something over two years. He then engaged with the Tide-water Pipe Line Company as patrolman, walking the line from Williamsport to Sollidaysburg. He was thus engaged about two months when he went to Olmstead, Potter County, and was there employed at the Tide-water company's station as operator until August, 1882, when he was transferred to the company's station at Shuman's or Beaver Valley, where he was operator until December, 1885. He was then promoted to the position of assistant engineer of the station, and has been connected with the works longer than any one now at Shuman's Station. He married, July 2, 1884, Miss Mary Brown, a native of Roulette, Potter County, a daughter of Philip and Helen Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Hassrick are the parents of one child, Romain Calvin.

F. G. LAUER, superintendent of Tide-water Pipe Line Pumping Station, No. 5, Shuman's Station, was born at Phoenixville, Chester Co., Penn., February 10, 1854. His parents, Maurice and Catherine (Loeb) Lauer, natives of Berlin, Germany, came to this country when young, and were married in Philadelphia, moving thence to Chester County, Penn. The father was a chemist, having acquired his knowledge of the science in his native country, and followed it after removing to Chester County. In 1859 he and family moved to Laporte, Sullivan Co., Penn., where he kept hotel until his death, May 8, 1886. His widow still resides in Laporte and conducts the "Mountain House." Our sub-

ject commenced to learn the machinist trade at the age of sixteen years in Camden, N. J., at the National Armor Works, where he remained two years. He then went to Muncy, Lycoming Co., Penn., where he finished a five years' apprenticeship by serving three years with P. M. Trumbower & Co. After completely learning his trade he worked there about six weeks, and then went to the Dixon Manufacturing Company at Scranton, where he remained nearly two years, putting together the fine parts of locomotives, and some of his work was sent to the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia. He was then employed in the machinery department of the Reading Railroad Shops, at Catawissa. Returning to Muncy he had charge of the shops there about one year; was then employed by Waldron & Sproat, Muncy, about six months; then worked four weeks for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Renovo, and again returned to Muncy, remaining several months as assistant engineer for his present employers; thence he went to Williamsport, and after seven weeks came to Beaver Valley and took charge of the works of the company at this place. Mr. Lauer was married in Lycoming County December 20, 1876, to Miss Allie Lillie, and one child, Roy G., was born to them. Mr. Lauer is a member of the Masonic lodge at Catawissa. In politics he is a solid Republican. The family attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

DANIEL L. LINGLEY, merchant, Beaver Valley, was born in Beaver Township, Columbia Co., Penn., January 15, 1850, a son of Daniel and Mary (Lehr) Lingley. Jacob Lingley, grandfather of our subject, was born in Berks County, and from there after his marriage came to Columbia County and settled at what is now called Mifflin Cross-roads, in Beaver Township. He was a farmer by occupation, which he followed until his death in 1844, his widow surviving him until 1853; both are buried in St. Peter's churchyard in Beaver Township. The father of our subject was born and reared in this township, and has always followed farming. He married Miss Mary Lehr, a native of Columbia County, and a daughter of Henry and Catherine Lehr. Her parents, natives of this State are now deceased, and are buried in St. Peter's Church graveyard. Mr. and Mrs. Lingley were the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living, our subject being fourth. Both parents reside in Beaver Township. Our subject was reared to farm life, and remained with his parents until thirty-one years of age, when he commenced in mercantile business at his present location. He was married in Columbia County November 5, 1874, to Miss Catherine Bredbenner, a native of Columbia County, and a daughter of Nathan and Leah (Swank) Bredbenner. They were born in this county, but their parents came from Berks County, and are now deceased. Nathan Bredbenner died in March, 1881, and is buried in St. Peter's churchyard. His widow makes her home with Mr. Lingley. Our subject and wife were the parents of five children, of whom four are living: Nathan Tilman, William Lloyd, Ida Leah and Mary Alice. Mr. and Mrs. Lingley are members of the Lutheran Church. He has held the office of tax collector one term.

M. W. McHENRY, one of the proprietors of the Beaver Valley mill, was born in Fishingcreek Township, Columbia Co., Penn., June 4, 1826, a son of Daniel and Mary (Coleman) McHenry. His grandfather was one of the pioneer settlers of Stillwater, Fishingcreek Township, was a farmer by occupation and at one time the owner of immense tracts of land in the Fishing creek country. Daniel McHenry was born in Fishingcreek Township, followed farming and also had two or three saw-mills in the locality; he cut a great deal of lumber, and was a very active man, retaining his vigor to the last; it may be related of him that he was elected assessor at the age of seventy and went his rounds on foot; was also supervisor and held other local and township offices. He died in March, in the eightieth year of his age, his widow surviving him some three years; both are buried at Stillwater, Fishingcreek Township. They were the parents of eleven children, nine of whom are living: Benjamin, residing at Benton, this county; Mary, widow of Elisha Oiverson; William, in Sullivan County, Penn.; Adaline, wife of Thomas Peeler; Martha K., wife of Jacob Carey, residing in Cambria; M. W., our subject; U. P., residing at Millville; Joseph, at Stillwater; Elizabeth, wife of George Laubauch, who died at the age of about seventy; Charlotte, wife of George Laubauch, residing at Orangeville, this county, and Sarah, wife of James Edgar, who died at the age of about seventy. Our subject was reared in Fishingcreek Township and made his home with his parents until he had reached the age of about eighteen years, when he went to Huntington Township, Luzerne County, to learn the miller's trade at the Dodson mill. He remained there three years and after learning his trade moved to Greenwood Township, this county, and took charge of the Iola mills of that place, remaining one year. He was then employed at Jones' mill, Fishingcreek Township, over one year; Lingtrell's mill, Luzerne County, three years, and Dodson's mill, Luzerne County, over three years. He then bought a house and lot at Town Hill, Luzerne County, and lived there while he worked at different mills at Huntsville, Luzerne County, three years and six months. He then farmed for two years in Sugarloaf Township, Columbia County, but his house and barn were destroyed by fire, and he resumed the milling business at Swortnort's mill, Benton Township, where he remained seven years; worked at Franklin mill, Roaring creek, twelve years, the last two years and a half renting the mill; then at Eyer's Grove mill, Greenwood Township, six years. He then bought a lot



in that place and built on it, and for one year and a half engaged at Fowlersville mill. After that he went to Helm's mill, Benton Township, and was there engaged until coming to take charge of the mill of which he is now one of the partners. He was married in this county on the 18th of April, 1850, to Miss Sarah Ann Montgomery, a native of Washingtonville, now in Montour County, and daughter of Samuel and Mary Ann Montgomery. Her father was born at Lewisburg, Penn., and both her parents are buried at Beech Grove, Luzerne County. Mr. and Mrs. McHenry were the parents of ten children, seven of whom are living: Ruggles, in Franklin Township; Alice, wife of George Williams, in Catawissa; Margaret Adaline, wife of Charles Hazleton, in Dallas Township, Luzerne County; H. G., miller at Iola mills; Lizzie, wife of George J. Munson, merchant, at Beaver Valley; Blanche B., wife of Sherman Heller, her father's partner, and Charles W., miller at Miner's mill, Luzerne County; the deceased are Minnie, Annie and Nettie. Mr. McHenry has a house and a lot of six acres at Eyer's Grove. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church. Mr. McHenry has served as auditor; is a member of an old family of the county, and is a miller of wide practical experience, having followed the business for forty-four consecutive years. He is constantly improving and remodeling his present enterprise.

**JAMES B. MARTIN**, operator at Beaver Valley Pump Station, No. 5, Tide-water-Pipe Line Company, is a native of Ohio, born February 19, 1865. His parents, John W. and Sarah S. (Bell) Martin, were both born in Armstrong County, Penn., and were of Scotch-Irish descent. His grandfather, Dennis Martin, came from Scotland and settled at Oil City, Venango Co., Penn., where he remained until his death. His maternal grandfather came from Ireland and lived the remainder of his life in Armstrong County, Penn. The parents of our subject reside at Rixford, Penn., where the father is a machinist. They had twelve children, of whom nine are living; Frederick, Joseph, James B., John, Harvey, Mary, Belle, Frank and Charles. The deceased are Margaret, Nellie and an infant. Our subject at the age of seventeen years commenced to learn telegraphy, and served an apprenticeship of one year at Rixford. In 1884 he was employed by the Tide-water Pipe Line Company, and for the first four months was stationed at Allentown. He was then transferred to the office at County Line Station, where he remained until taking his present position, January 1, 1886. He is an accomplished operator and deservedly popular. In politics he is a Republican.

**LEVI MICHAEL**, merchant, Beaver Valley, was born in Berks County, Penn., March 5, 1833, a son of Manassah and Susannah (Hossler) Michael. Adam Michael, the grandfather, a native of Columbia County, was a farmer and kept hotel in the house now occupied by Charles Michael, near Singley's store, until his death in 1841. His widow died several years after, and both are buried in the family cemetery on the old homestead. Manassah Michael lived with his parents until arriving at manhood, when he removed to Berks County, where he married and followed boating on the Schuylkill, having his own boat. He was engaged in the coal-carrying trade from the vicinity of Pottsville to Philadelphia until his death in December, 1838. He is buried in Michael's Church Cemetery, Barn Township, Berks County. About 1850 his widow and family removed to Columbia County, and located in Beaver Township, where she died February 16, 1884, and is buried in St. Peter's churchyard, in Beaver Township. They were the parents of four children, of whom three are living: Levi, our subject; Angeline, wife of Judge F. L. Shuman, residing at Catawissa; Manassah, a hotel-keeper at Pottsville; (William is deceased). When Levi was eighteen years of age the family moved to Columbia County, and here he has since resided. He worked by the month until 1862, also farmed a piece of land which he had purchased. He then went into the service of his country, and after returning clerked in the store of Judge F. L. Shuman for twelve years, and in 1878 started in business for himself. He handles a general stock valued at \$1,500, besides plows, castings, etc., for farm use. He was married in this county, July 20, 1874, to Miss Emma Jane Gearhart, a native of this county and a daughter of Daniel and Eliza (Shuman) Gearhart, both members of early families and now residing at Shumantown. Mr. and Mrs. Michaels are the parents of five children: Harry Mannassah, Alfred Levi, George Walter, Gertie Enola and Lottie Ellen. Mr. and Mrs. Michael are members of the Lutheran Church. He has held the office of judge of elections and overseer of the poor. In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, Seventeenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, at Pottsville, and proceeded to Harrisburg, where he was mustered; his regiment was connected with Sheridan's cavalry and took part in the campaigns of those famous troopers until the close of the war. Mr. Michael was at Gettysburg, Spottsylvania Court House, all through the Wilderness, at Cold Harbor, Chancellorsville, and in fact in most of the heavy engagements of the war, and took part in the operations which resulted in the fall of Richmond and surrender of Lee. He was discharged in August, 1865, at Clark's mill, Virginia, and returned home.

**GEORGE J. MUNSON**, merchant, Beaver Valley, was born in Kingston Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., a son of David A. and Louisa (Johnson) Munson, natives of Luzerne County, and of German-English descent. His great-grandparents were among the pioneers of the Wyoming Valley, and were living there at the time of the massacre; there, also, the



first two generations of the family in this country resided. Our subject's father was born in Luzerne County, and there grew to manhood. He removed to Columbia County, in 1872, and is now living in Franklin Township, where he owns a fine farm, and is well respected. He is the father of five children: George J., Miner S., Mary E., Nelson J. and Walter S. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until twenty-four years of age, when he went into business for himself. In the spring of 1885 he bought the store of C. A. Shuman at Beaver Valley, which he now conducts. He carries a general stock of merchandise valued at \$3,500. He married, February 15, 1883, Miss Lizzie, daughter of Moses and Sarah McHenry. Mr. and Mrs. Munson are the parents of one child, Iva R.; they are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Munson enjoys a good business. His building is 30x50 feet, two stories high, with a large salesroom and a smaller storeroom. Mr. Munson is assistant postmaster of Beaver Valley.

SAMUEL NUNGESSER, retired farmer, P. O. Beaver Valley, was born in Mifflin Township, Columbia Co., Penn., January 25, 1818, a son of George and Barbara (Swank) Nungesser. His grandparents came from one of the lower counties to Columbia and here the grandfather purchased a piece of land along the Ten Mile Creek, erected a grist-mill and being a miller operated it until his death in the early part of the present century. He is buried at Mifflinville, where his widow, who died about 1830, is also buried. George Nungesser was born in this county, where he followed farming until a few years before his death, in 1851. His wife preceded him by about fifteen years and both are buried at Mifflinville. Our subject was reared in Mifflin Township, and on arriving at manhood went to learn the blacksmith's trade with Christian Lutz, of that township. He served two years and then worked at journey work for about eight years; then bought a lot in Mifflin Township; erected a blacksmith shop, which he conducted four or five years. He then went to Black Creek, Luzerne County, where he erected a large shop, which he operated about ten years; then bought a farm in Beaver Township, and carried it on until the spring of 1885, when he rented out his farm, bought a lot near McAuley's Station, and erected the house where he now resides. He married in Black Creek Township, Luzerne County, April 2, 1848, Miss Mary Tornbach, a native of Luzerne County, and daughter of Samuel and Mary (Hill) Tornbach. She died in 1858 and is buried in Black Creek Township. By their marriage there were two children: Frances, married to William E. Yaeger, and an infant who died at the age of four months. Mr. Nungesser married, May 3, 1860, his present wife, Lydia, daughter of Peter and Veronica (Schweppenheiser) Longenberger, both deceased, her father having died in the spring of 1876, and her mother in 1858; the former is buried at Ringtown Cemetery, and the latter at Mifflinville. Mr. and Mrs. Nungesser are the parents of one child, Henry William, a telegrapher, who acquired his knowledge of the art at McAuley's Station, P. & R. R. Mr. Nungesser is a member of the Reformed Church, and Mrs. Nungesser of the Lutheran; both are descended from well known pioneer families of the county. In politics he is a Democrat.

ALBERT PETIT, operator for the Tide-water Pipe Line Company, at Shuman's, was born in Pine Township, Lycoming Co., Penn., December 3, 1857. His grandfather Petit was a soldier under Bonaparte, in Russia. His parents, Francis and Virginia (Guillaume) Petit, were born in France near the Swiss border; when young, came to this country and were married in New York. Their first permanent settlement was in Cogan House Township, Lycoming County, where the father purchased a farm which he still owns and conducts. During his early life Francis Petit served an apprenticeship at the mason's trade, and also a term in the French army. To him and his wife were born seven children, five of whom are living: Augustus, Albert, Theodore, Clare and Florence. Our subject was reared on the farm and remained with his father until twenty-two years of age, when he went to Oberlin, Ohio, to learn telegraphy. In the spring of 1882 he entered the service of the Tide-water Pipe Line Company, and was located at Salladasburg. After one year he was transferred to Waterville; thence to Tamanend, and after fourteen months to County Line Station No. 3. Fifteen months later he came to his present location, and is still in the employ of the Tidewater Company. He was married May 27, 1886, to Miss Emma D. Bell. Both are members of the Catholic Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

ABRAHAM RICE, retired merchant and farmer, Beaver Valley, was born near Heidleberg, Baden, February 21, 1829, a son of Samuel and Bertha (Sterberg) Rice, natives of Baden, where the father was a drover and butcher. Our subject commenced life for himself as a clerk in his native country, and followed that occupation until 1848, when he took passage on a sailing vessel bound for America. After a voyage of over a month he landed at New York, where he remained about two months and then moved to Easton, Penn., where he engaged first at peddling and later at clerking. He remained at Easton about three years and then went to Ringtown, Schuylkill County, where he clerked for two years; thence moved to Port Carbon, where he clerked for the same firm as at Ringtown, Culp & Strauss, and remained three years. Desiring to start in business for himself, in April, 1859, he came to Numidia, Columbia County, bought a stock of goods and conducted a general mercantile business until 1868. He then purchased a store and property at Beaver Valley and carried on the mercantile trade until 1876, when he

retired. He married, at Port Carbon, Penn., August 9, 1856, Miss Sarah Parent, a native of Northumberland County, and a daughter of Ephraim and Anna Sophia Parent, both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Rice have six children: Clara, wife of Benjamin Michael, residing in Beaver Township; Paulina, wife of Davis Runyan, a telegraph operator at Beaver Valley station; Sophia, married to Frank A. Robins, residing in Shamokin, Northumberland County; Samuel P.; Emanuel, who married Miss Anna Reeder, and resides in Beaver Township, and Nathan. Mr. Rice has about 300 acres of land in Beaver Township and forty acres on Roaring creek, some of which he rents out and some he has farmed. He is a member of the following: A. F. & A. M., at Catawissa; the I. O. O. F., in which he has passed all the chairs; the K. of P., being one of the charter members and originators of Lynchburg Lodge at Beaver Valley (still retains the charter at his home). He was the representative to the State lodge as long as the local lodge was in existence, and was District Deputy of the lodge for seven years. He also belongs to the Free Sons of Israel, of Philadelphia. He was postmaster at Numidia from 1862 until the time he left that place, and retained his commission two years afterward. He was appointed postmaster of Beaver Valley after coming here, and held the office continuously until the coming in of the present administration. He was jury commissioner of Columbia County for the three-year term ending January 1, 1886. Mr. Rice has been a very active man, taking a live interest in public affairs, and is the present overseer of the poor of Beaver Township.

JESSE RITTENHOUSE, farmer, P. O. Mountain Grove, Luzerne County, was born in Black Creek Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., May 14, 1841, to Amos and Nancy (Wolf) Rittenhouse, both natives of the same township. The grandfather, Martin Rittenhouse, came from Germantown (now in Philadelphia) in an early day, followed farming and erected and operated a grist-mill until a few years before his death. Subject's father followed farming in his native county until the death of his father, Amos Rittenhouse, when he took charge of the mill and followed milling, also farming to some extent until his death. Subject's mother died in May 30, 1881, and November 11, 1882, his father died. Both are buried in Mountain Grove Cemetery. Our subject resided in Luzerne County until he was twenty-six years of age when he came to Beaver Township, Columbia County, and has since here resided. He bought his present tract of land, consisting of 158 acres, from his father. He was married in Luzerne County, March 22, 1866, to Miss Elmira Smith, a native of that county, a daughter of Abraham and Catherine Smith, former of whom is deceased, latter still resides in Black Creek Township, Luzerne County. By this union there were six children, five now living; Charles, Catherine, Thomas, Sallie and Robert; (Ida is deceased). Mrs. Rittenhouse died March 25, 1879, and is buried in Mountain Grove Cemetery. In 1881 our subject married for his second wife Miss Jane Catherine Johnson, a native of Stockton, Penn., and to this union were born four children, two now living: Abram and Grover Cleveland; the deceased two were named Bertie and Minnie. Mr. Rittenhouse is one of the school directors of Beaver Township. In politics he is a Democrat.

THOMAS J. SHUMAN, merchant, Beaver Valley, was born in Beaver Township, Columbia Co., Penn., March 6, 1842, a son of Christian and Elizabeth (Hendershot) Shuman, natives of this county, and of German descent, the great-grandfather of our subject having been of German birth. His grandfather was one of the early settlers of this county, locating near Catawissa, where he followed farming until the time of his death. Christian Shuman, father of our subject, was born in Columbia County in 1805, and learned the tanner's trade at Bethlehem. On starting out for himself he located at Beaver Valley, and built a tannery which he conducted for several years, also keeping a hotel. He owned a large farm as well, and besides hotel-keeping and tanning carried on agriculture. He was also engaged in mercantile business for a few years. His wife died in 1881, he August 14, 1885, and they are buried in Harriger's Church Cemetery. They were the parents of eleven children, eight living: Joseph, Elizabeth (wife of Daniel Gearhart), Frank L., Catherine (wife of Henry Croll), William, Johanna, Thomas J. and Charles. The father was quite a prominent man, well known, and has held the office of justice of the peace for over twenty years. Thomas J., our subject, was reared on a farm and remained at home until twenty-four years of age. He then engaged in railroading on the P. & R. Railroad and was in its employ about sixteen years. In the spring of 1885 he embarked in mercantile business at Beaver Valley, and so continues, carrying a general line of merchandise and owning the building which he occupies. He married, May 23, 1866, Miss Lucy Sont, and four children have been born to them: Harvey, Clark, Dora and Willie. Mr. and Mrs. Shuman are members of the Lutheran Church. He has held the office of supervisor two years.

JOHN P. SMITH, proprietor of "Shuman's Hotel," P. O. Beaver Valley, was born in Shamokin, in the Mahoning Valley, this county, April 2, 1854, a son of Aaron and Mary E. (Fry) Smith. John Smith, his grandfather, was born and reared near Trevorton, Northumberland County, this State, where he farmed, dying there in about 1882. Aaron Smith was born in Irish Valley, near Trevorton, and lived there until about 1832, following the trade of stone-cutter and stone-mason. In 1832 he removed to Shamokin, where he followed contracting on stone-cutting and mason work, and has erected most of the

large stone structures in that city for the last twelve years, among which may be mentioned the Polish Catholic Church. He followed business actively until the time of his death, December 12, 1883. His wife died in March, 1882, and both are buried in Irish Valley, Northumberland County. Our subject was reared in Shamokin, and at the age of sixteen commenced railroading on the Shamokin division of the Northern Central Railroad. He acted as brakeman on a freight train for about five years, and then went on the passenger train for about eighteen months; was then employed at flagging for about two years for the Pennsylvania Company, on the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Road. After that he was appointed to a freight conductorship on the Sunbury division, which he held until March, 1883, when he resigned on account of feeble health. Later he took charge of the hotel which he now controls, and bought in December, 1885, a piece of land in Beaver Township, consisting of about fifty acres, to which, in March, 1886, he added thirteen acres and twenty perches. He was married in Black Creek Township, Luzerne County, June 18, 1873, to Miss Mary C. Fry, a native of Columbia County, daughter of Henry and Catherine Fry. Her father was a soldier in the civil war; was captured by the rebels, and died during the latter part of the war in Andersonville Prison, where he had been confined some four weeks. Her mother resides at Brandonville, Schuylkill County, and is now the wife of Henry Croll. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of two children: Cora Belle and Gertrude. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Reformed Church. Mr. Smith is a member of Lodge No. 22, A. F. & A. M., at Sunbury.

C. W. STEAD, agent and operator on the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad at McAuley Station, was born in Bloomsburg, Columbia County, October 19, 1856, a son of Samuel and Mary (Long) Stead, the former a native of England. The parents reside near Muncy, Lycoming County. When our subject was ten or eleven years of age his parents moved to Lycoming County, Penn., and there he resided until coming to Columbia County to fill his present position. He entered the office of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad at Muncy, about 1876, and served an apprenticeship. He worked as extra operator at the different offices of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad between Lofty and Williamsport for over two years, and was assigned to his present position in April, 1882.

DANIEL E. TROY, farmer, P. O. Zion's Grove, Schuylkill County, was born in Beaver Township, Columbia County, July 22, 1843, a son of C. B. and Priscilla (Davis) Troy. The father was born in Allegheny County and moved thence to Columbia County, where he still resides in Beaver Township. Subject's maternal grandfather, David Davis, was born in Columbia County and followed farming until his death. Daniel E. was reared in Beaver Township and remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when he started out for himself, rented a piece of land in Beaver Township, and, after farming for two years, bought the farm consisting of 212 acres where he has since resided. Besides farming he carries on lumbering to some extent. He was married November 13, 1869, to Miss Nancy Jane Gearhart, a native of Columbia County, a granddaughter of Peter Gearhart, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and is buried in Millville Cemetery. Her parents were Henry and Catherine (Buck) Gearhart, both natives of this county, former of whom died in Carbon County, latter is still living and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Troy. Our subject and wife are the parents of six children; Charles Henry, Anthony Marshall, William Wesley, Elsie Iola, Daniel Garfield and George Russell. Mr. and Mrs. Troy are members of the Methodist Church.

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## CHAPTER XXV.

### BENTON TOWNSHIP.

ELIJAH P. ALBERTSON, liveryman, Benton, was born at Stillwater, Columbia County, October 23, 1857. In 1861 he removed with his parents to Sugarloaf Township and remained with his parents on the farm until 1876. He then took a trip west and was gone about three years. Returning home he farmed his father's place, and June 23, 1879, married Miss Ella, a daughter of Cyrus Larish of Sugarloaf Township. Four children have been born to them: E. Joe, Aita, Charley and Chancey. After his marriage Mr. Albertson continued to farm and in partnership with his father did some lumbering until 1884. He then received the contract to carry the mail between Benton and Bloomsburg. His commission will expire July 1, 1889. He continued to carry the mail and also drove stage between these places until the summer of 1886, when he hired



some one to attend to that business and devoted his time to the livery business in Benton. His father, Elijah J. Albertson, is a resident of Sugarloaf Township and was born in Greenwood Township, Columbia County, March 18, 1819, a son of John R. and Jane (Kitchen) Albertson. June 13, 1841, he married Sarah A., daughter of John and Martha (McHenry) Stiles. In 1865 he moved to the place he now occupies, purchasing eighty-seven acres of the Robert Moore property. This has been highly improved and is now one of the nicest places in the township. To him and his wife nine children were born: Melissa J., wife of A. Fullmer, of Millville; Alonzo B., Martha A., wife of William Kase; Clarence E., of Benton Township; Esther E., wife of William Keeler, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Mary E., wife of Christian Rantz, of Lycoming County; John W., Elijah P., Sarah A., wife of Samuel Pennington, of Catawissa. The parents are members of the Christian Church at Benton. Mr. Albertson has served in all the offices in the township.

HIRAM ASH, farmer, P. O. Benton, was born in Fishingcreek Township, November 22, 1828, a son of Christian and Magdalena (Osderday) Ash. October 22, 1852, he married Mary Davis, daughter of John H. Davis (deceased). Until his marriage he remained at home, but after that event he engaged in wagon-making, removing to Benton Village. After a time he bought the farm of ninety acres on which he now lives, where he has made most of the improvements, and has a pleasant home. Here he has reared his children, eight in all, as follows: Christian D. (deceased), Dora A. (deceased), Elizabeth E. (deceased), John B., Hiram Thomas, Hosa R., Mary C. (wife of R. L. Sigfried, of Benton Township) and Minnie. Mr. and Mrs. Ash and family are members of the Hamline Methodist Episcopal Church.

THOMAS BELLES, farmer, P. O. Benton, the eldest living representative of the Belles family, was born March 27, 1818, in Union Township, Benton Co., Penn. William Belles, grandfather of Thomas, was a native of New Jersey, and upon coming to Benton settled on what is known as the "old Belles farm," in 1820. He first settled in Shick-shinny, Luzerne County, in 1813, where he kept hotel until his removal in 1820. He and his wife, Catherine Belles, are buried in the cemetery devoted to the family use. They had a family of twelve children: Elias, Susan, Christena, Salloma, Catharine, Elizabeth, Mary, Anthony, Simon, Andrew, Adam and Peter. Elias Belles, father of our subject, had a family of seven children, as follows: Thomas, Elias, Lydia (died April 19, 1826), Susanna (died in 1883), Margaret (died August 4, 1834), William, John (died February 19, 1832). Thomas Belles removed to his present home April 2, 1844. He married in February, 1844, Susan Ann Krickbaum, and eleven children were born to them, Lydia E., Mary C., Frances L., William L., Elias S., Samuel B., Isaac P., John W., Cyrus L., Sydney E. and Thomas F. Mary C., Samuel B., Elias S., Sydney E. and William L. are dead and lie buried in the Hamline Cemetery. The farm consists of 130 acres, with about 100 acres under cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Belles are members of the Hamline Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Belles has been class steward for many years.

DR. T. S. CHAPIN, dentist, Benton, was born June 1, 1851, in Luzerne County, Penn., where his early life was spent, and where his father, William Chapin, still resides. Like most country boys he was obliged to work on the farm, attending school when he could be spared, but still received a good education. At the age of nineteen he commenced the study of dentistry, and coming to Benton was engaged for a short time in the office of Dr. Laubach. He then went to Bloomsburg, where for six months he was in the office of Dr. H. C. Hower, and also for a time clerked in a store and worked at other business. Having relatives in Michigan he went there in 1882 and worked in the city of Schoolcraft; thence to Howell, where he entered the office of Dr. Wing, a prominent dentist, and was under his instruction for about four months. He then returned to Schoolcraft, and in 1883 to Benton, where he has since remained and enjoys a large practice, extending through Columbia, Luzerne and Sullivan Counties. His wife is a Miss Savage, daughter of Rev. George Savage, now of Muhlenburg, Luzerne County, but then a resident of Benton.

EZEKIEL COLE was born where he now lives, son of Benjamin Cole, who came to the county in an early day. Our subject was married to Christena, daughter of Conrad Hess, and they then located east of Benton Village, coming in 1860 to their present place which comprises about 200 acres of well improved land. Mr. Cole has kept hotel since March, 1864, and since 1876 a general store. Mr. and Mrs. Cole have had a family of twenty children, thirteen now living: John, Lavina, Susanna, Clinton, William B., Alice, Christy Ann, Sarah L., Elmira, Mary E., Alfred, Delia and Charles W. Mr. Cole owns the saw-mill which was built in 1832.

CLINTON COLE, son of Ezekiel and Christena (Hess) Cole, was born July 8, 1842, near Benton, this county, on the old Cole farm. He was married January 10, 1869, to Miss Elma E., daughter of William Y. Hess, and they had four children, three now living: Ella B., Dora R. and Arden B. (Hurley R. is deceased). After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Cole lived on the old farm till the spring of 1875, when they moved to near Benton, remaining there one year, and then came to their farm of 122 acres, which is rented, near the Thomas mill. Our subject and wife attend the services of the Evangelical Church.

**NORMAN COLE**, farmer and merchant, P. O. Cole's Creek, was born near where his store now stands in this township, March 20, 1857, son of Alinas and Rhoda Ann (Kile) Cole, now of Greenwood Township, this county. He commenced business in November, 1882, buying out W. B. Cole's general stock, and his store is near the old Cole mill. Mr. Cole was married March 12, 1873, to Miss Kate M., daughter of George Steadman, of Sugarloaf, and by her has four children: Nina C., Atta Maud, Luella G. and Perry Reece. When first married our subject and wife moved to Raven Creek, and there remained one year; thence to Daniel Laubach's place, and from there to their present home in 1875. Mr. Cole operated the farm only till 1884, and is now engaged in farming, store-keeping, and huckstering to Nanticoke and Wilkesbarre.

**STOTT E. COLLEY**, farmer, P. O. Benton, is a son of Alexander Colley, Sr., of whom so many speak, and whose record in the county will be found elsewhere. He was born November 6, 1812, and December 28, 1838, married Miss Sarah Hess, and has continued to reside on the same place where he was married, and where he owns 142 acres of improved land. He and wife have eight children, four living: Melissa, wife of Benjamin Peterman; William, living in Jackson Township; Alexander A., at home, and Wesley S. in Benton Village, a blacksmith.

**THOMAS EDGAR**, farmer, P. O. Benton, was born in Sullivan County May 31, 1839, a son of Andrew Edgar, a native of Town Hill, Luzerne County. His mother died in 1878, but his father is still living. Thomas resided in Sullivan County until he enlisted in 1861, in Company B, Eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, third brigade, third corps, Army of the Potomac, and participated in the following battles: Bath (Va.), Hancock (Md.), Winchester (Va.), Port Republic, Slaughter Mountain, Rappahannock Station, Thoroughfare Gap, Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wapping Heights, Kelley's Ford, Mine Run (Va.), Wilderness, and was with Grant until discharged. December 18, 1864, front of Petersburg, he was wounded by being thrown from a mule and both ankles injured. He returned home after being mustered out and remained in Sullivan County about four years. February 4, 1866, he married Miss Rosanna M., of Sullivan County, daughter of C. B. Sperry. In 1869 Mr. Edgar came to Columbia County and bought forty-eight acres which he has since improved. Mr. Edgar is a member of the Grange, and politically a Republican.

**I. L. EDWARDS, M. D.**, Benton, is a native of Lime Ridge, Centre Township, Columbia County, born November 26, 1846, and is a son of William Edwards, who was born in Briar creek Township, and now resides in Berwick. At the age of eighteen he entered the academy at Orangeville, where he spent two terms, teaching a part of the time. In the spring of 1866 he entered Wyoming Seminary in Luzerne County, Penn., where two years later he graduated in the literary course. Previous to entering the seminary he had taught one term at Wilkesbarre, and on leaving that institution he again taught at the same place. He began to study medicine in 1868 under Dr. P. M. Senderling, of Berwick, and later entered Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, from which he graduated in 1871. He immediately commenced to practice at Orangeville, where he remained until 1873, when he came to Benton and remained two years. Thence he went to Berwick, remaining one year, when his attachment for Benton brought him back to the village, and here he has since resided. Dr. Edwards owns property beautifully located in the village, a nice residence, and also a farm near the village of seventy-two acres. He married, March 11, 1873, Sally, daughter of William Patterson, of Orange Township, and three children have been born to them: Myron P., Anna C. and Garrett. Dr. Edwards is a well posted gentleman, and is held in high favor in the village.

**HIRAM F. EVERITT**, lumber dealer, Benton, was born in Northampton County, Penn., a son of James and Mary Everitt. The parents were of German descent, and reared a family of ten boys and six girls and are both deceased. Hiram F. was reared on a farm, and resided near Orangeville until 1853. He learned the carpenter trade and followed it until 1859, when he went into the mercantile business, and later, in 1873, the lumber business, which he has since continued. He also keeps a store. He married in 1854 Miss Hannah Stiles, by whom he had seven children: Mary A., Elliott B., Anna R., Nora M., Jennie M., Lizzie G. and Hervey E., all living but the eldest two. Mrs. Everitt died July 26, 1872, and our subject married, May 1, 1877, Elmira, daughter of Benjamin McHenry, and one child blesses their union, Tressie E. Mr. Everitt owns a farm near the village, on which there are two dwelling-houses, and also owns a storehouse on said farm. During the late war he was drafted in the \$300 draft, and paid over his \$300 without complaint. He was arrested at his home on the night of August 24, 1864, and incarcerated in Bomb Proof No. 3, in Fort Mifflin, for four months, and was discharged the same manner he was arrested, without knowing any cause for arrest or discharge.

**JOHN HEACOCK**, merchant, Benton, was born in Greenwood Township, September 18, 1832, a son of Joseph and Margaret Heacock. His father was a mechanic and followed building and millwrighting, and with him John worked until he was twenty-two years old. In 1855 John came to Benton and began clerking in the store of his brother, Samuel, with whom he remained until 1860. In 1866 he purchased the cabinet and undertaking business of S. C. Krickbaum and conducted it until 1870. From 1876 to 1880 he was

assistant postmaster, his brother, Samuel, being the postmaster. Our subject became postmaster February 1, 1881, and served as such until the incoming of the present administration; although the people wished him retained, he was dismissed. He married, June 17, 1880, Miss Hannah, daughter of William W. E. and Mary (Hess) Roberts. Mr. Heacock has suffered many years with rheumatism, incapacitating him from manual labor. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

HIRAM HESS, proprietor of the Exchange Hotel at Benton, was born in Centre Township, Columbia Co., Penn., January 28, 1821, a son of John Hess, Jr., whose father was John Hess also. The latter with his family (of which John, Jr., was the eldest) came to Columbia County from the "Dry Lands" and settled in Centre Township. He died in Centre Township about 1851, between seventy and eighty years of age. John Hess, Jr., settled after his marriage in Centre Township, later moved to Wapwallopen, Luzerne County, but returned in 1831 to this county. His wife, Mary Hogenbach, came with her people from the "Dry Lands" and bore her husband eight children. Of these our subject is the eldest, and when a young man rented land from Elias McHenry. At the time of his marriage he lived in Centre Township on the farm of his grandfather. He married Olive, daughter of Elias McHenry, in October, 1849. That year he purchased a farm near Stillwater, of 108 acres, and in the fall of 1851 moved on it; it now consists of 130 acres under a splendid state of cultivation. Here they resided until 1872 when they came to Benton and began keeping hotel across the street from their present location, and in 1873 moved into their present commodious quarters. In 1864, in connection with E. J. McHenry, Mr. Hess purchased the flouring-mill at Stillwater; operated it there two years and then sold out. In 1878 he bought 165 acres two miles below Benton, on Fishing creek, and in 1880 twenty-two acres adjoining, but in Benton Township; on this farm in 1884 they erected the finest house and barn between Bloomsburg and the North Mountain, costing upward of \$5,000, and in securing so much valuable property Mrs. Hess has been a great aid. Two children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hess: Francis M., born January 29, 1850, married in 1871 Cymantha Thomas (they have four children: Cora, Charley W., Warren and Ray) and Wesley M., born July 3, 1855, married in 1881 Miss Allie, daughter of S. P. Krickbaum (they have one child, Ray,) and reside on the farm two miles south of Benton. The Exchange Hotel was built in 1872 by Hiram Hess. The main part is 20x40, three stories high and contains seventeen rooms, besides the public hall or ball room; another part, 20x35, two stories high, contains four rooms, three below and one above, besides a kitchen 14x18 as another addition. A barn 40x50 feet is also near, for the accommodation of horses. The hotel is situated on the corner overlooking the bridge roads and Fishing creek and is well known to the traveling public. Mrs. Hess is one of the best cooks in the State, and for forty miles around the people come to partake of her buckwheat cakes. No lady in the State knows better than she the wants of the traveling public, and the house is kept in perfect order. The bar is always supplied with the choicest wines and liquors.

WILLIAM HULME (deceased) was born December 9, 1812, in Jefferson Township, Morris Co., N. J., a son of William A. and Susan (Strait) Hulme. The former was born May 5, 1770, in Passaic County, N. J., and died in Jefferson Township, Morris County, same State, October 25, 1829. The paternal grandfather of our subject was William Augustus Hulme, a native of England, who upon coming to this country settled in New Jersey, where he pursued his trade, that of a miller. His maternal grandfather, Christopher Strait, removed to Columbus, Ohio, and there he and his wife are buried. William remained at home until the age of twenty-two, when he moved to Luzerne County, Penn., and remained two years, engaged in charcoal burning to which he had been reared. Later he came to Columbia County. March 10, 1836, he married Miss Mary, daughter of Jonas and Elizabeth (Shellhart) Buss. Mr. Hulme remained with his father-in-law until April 4, 1843, when he went to Salem, Luzerne County, and there tended locks in the canal until the fall of 1846. At that time he was engaged with William R. Maffet to superintend the work at the Blackman mines, and when the railway was built from Pitson to Hanley, forty-seven miles, he went to Greenville. At that time he formed a partnership with Hudson Owen, contracting and clearing \$2,500. In 1852 he was engaged on the railroad by Mr. Pardee for six months, and in 1853 went to Nescopeck and worked in the store of J. W. Fry. In 1855 he again engaged with Maffet a short time on the canal, and again went to Nescopeck. There he engaged in erecting some buildings, having by this time a goodly start in worldly affairs. His first wife having died April 1, 1855, he married, June 18, 1857, Phoebe E., daughter of John Stoker, and one child was born to their union, Hilbert Hudson, born August 14, 1860. Hilbert H. was educated at Lafayette College, Easton, Penn., entering that institution in September, 1880, and remaining until December, 1882. His intention was to complete a course in civil engineering and he has drawn several contour maps. He intends, however, to follow agriculture in which he is well posted, and is at present engaged in breeding Duroc-Jersey hogs from registered stock. To William Hulme's first marriage no children were born. His late residence in Benton dates from 1857; while passing through the beautiful valley he negotiated for the land at a good bargain and at once commenced improving it. The home place consists



of fifty-six acres of fine land, all under cultivation, and the air of neatness and thrift which pervades the surroundings causes the passer-by to remark: "This is one of the neatest places in the county." Mr. Hulme also owned the first mill up the creek from Benton, formerly known as Cole's mill, and valuable timber land. He started out a poor, friendless, uneducated boy, but by thrift, exertion and careful business transactions he made his mark in the world. William Hulme died February 14, 1887, at 9:37 A. M., and his remains were interred in Slaughter's Cemetery, near Nescopeck, Luzerne County.

WILLIAM IPHER, farmer, P. O. Cambra, Luzerne County, was born in Huntington Township, Luzerne County, March 10, 1836, where he lived a part of the time before his marriage, which occurred September 21, 1862. Mrs. Ipher was Sibyl, the only daughter of John C. Doty, and was born in Benton Township, Columbia County, July 6, 1839. Her mother was Martha Benedict, who died March 24, 1842, and her husband followed, June 7, 1872. They are both buried in the family cemetery. Joseph Doty, grandfather of John C., settled in New Jersey upon coming from the mother country. One of his children, David, married Sibyl Clark, and their family consisted of John C., Joseph, Jonas, Sarah, Anthony, Martha and Clarinda. Jonas Doty settled in Fishingcreek, and John C. in Benton in 1840. The latter settled in the southeast part of the township and took up fifty acres at first, subsequently adding until he owned about 300 acres, all of which fell to his daughter Sibyl. Some of this land was very rough, but the coal which was discovered on it made Mr. Doty quite wealthy. He was very strongly allied to Democratic principles of government, and was a good and kind neighbor. His only child, Sibyl, with her husband, Mr. Ipher, own 345 acres of land and have three children: John D., born April 25, 1869; Sarah A., born July 8, 1873, and James W., born November 19, 1877.

LAFAYETTE KEELER, farmer, P. O. Benton, son of George Keeler, was born near where he now lives October 20, 1849. His great-grandparents, John and Elizabeth (South) Keeler, were early settlers in this county. They came from Orange County, N. Y., and were born respectively December 11, 1764, and November 24, 1766. They were the parents of the following named children: Ebenezer, born November 16, 1788; Jane, August 12, 1790; James, November 10, 1791; Nancy, March 12, 1793; Mary, September 23, 1794; John, June 12, 1796; Elizabeth, March 28, 1798; Benjamin, December 20, 1797; Esther, August 3, 1802; Susanna, September 23, 1804; William, May 28, 1806; and Phebe, September 23, 1810. John Keeler married for his second wife Eleanor Wilson, who was born August 27, 1795, and bore him two children: Harriet E., born December 10, 1835, and Sarah Agnes, February 7, 1840. Ebenezer Keeler married a Miss Priest, and to them were born the following: Henry, born October 27, 1817; Jane, September 10, 1819; Elizabeth, May 24, 1822; John, August 2, 1824; George W. P., January 2, 1827; Dorothy, June 15, 1829; Levi, December 13, 1831; Elizabeth T., December 11, 1833; Magdalene, July 6, 1835. George W. P. was the second child born in Benton Township. He married Elizabeth, born September 29, 1830, a daughter of John Fritz. Their children were Lafayette (our subject); Levi F., born August 16, 1851; Daniel E., November 11, 1852; Harriet, May 14, 1854; Magdalena C., December 23, 1855; Leonard, February 18, 1857; Esther Jane, September 22, 1858; Clara, March 18, 1860; George B., January 20, 1862; John E., June 16, 1864; Thomas, June 21, 1866; Mary Ann, January 2, 1868; Dorothy E., November 5, 1869; Harry Bruce, July 29, 1872. Magdalena died January 22, 1870; John E. died September 4, 1868, and Thomas, April 2, 1870. Lafayette (subject) in early life learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until 1880. December 4, 1875, he married Miss Mary A., daughter of Thomas and Anna (Davis) Singfried, and three children have blessed their union: Anna E., born October 21, 1876; Clarinda A., August 25, 1881, and Malan A., March 11, 1882. Mr. Keeler is now engaged in the lumbering business and also in farming. Since 1876 he has been superintendent of the Maple Grove Sunday-school, in which he takes a great interest.

JOHN S. KLINE, farmer, P. O. Benton, was born in Luzerne County, Huntington Township, December 18, 1840, a son of A. J. Kline, of Fishingcreek. He married, February 1, 1870, Mary E. Appleman of Benton Township. She was born July 31, 1844, a daughter of Samuel Appleman. They were married in the house they now occupy, and the farm of 100 acres, which Mr. Kline owns, was a part of the old Appleman homestead. They have had four children: Rosa M., born September 24, 1871, and died January 6, 1872; Lillian M., born February 9, 1876; Samuel R., December 26, 1879, and Otis C., October, 8, 1884. Mr. Kline enlisted, January 1, 1862, in Battery F, Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery. One Hundred and Twelfth in the line; was mustered in Philadelphia as a private, and mustered out as first lieutenant, January 29, 1866, in City Point, Va. His company joined Grant's army at Cold Harbor, and operated with him until the close of the war, when he came home. He then traveled six months in the west, and on returning hired on his father's farm. Mr. Kline has also been engaged in teaching school; is a good penman, and favors the modern modes of education. He is an experienced business man and has been connected with many of the enterprises of the town, as will be noticed elsewhere.

ISAAC KINNEY KRICKBAUM, farmer, P. O. Cambria, Luzerne County, was born in Benton Township on the farm now occupied by him, February 23, 1825. His father, Philip K. Krickbaum, was born in Montgomery County, October 10, 1793, and was a son of Philip, who was born in the same county in 1759, and died in 1822. Philip K. passed his early life in Catawissa Township, and came to Benton Township in 1819, and in 1820 built a cabin near the creek, a little beyond the place where he last built. His sister kept house for him, and he cleared about twenty acres and built a house, which after two years was destroyed by fire, but on the site of which he built another. March 24, 1824, he married Anna, daughter of John Kinney, who settled in Bloom Township about 1800. Mrs. Krickbaum was reared on what is known as the "Waller Farm," and her people were from New Jersey. Our subject's father died November 10, 1856, of typhoid fever after an illness of a few days, and with his wife is buried in Benton Cemetery. Isaac Kinney Krickbaum married, February 22, 1866, Miss Susanna Drum, of Butler Township, Luzerne County, and a daughter of Philip Drum, deceased. Mr. Krickbaum is one of the prominent and prosperous men of the township; served as justice of the peace continuously from 1860 to 1877; was elected associate judge in 1877, and served five years, and has also held minor positions. His education has been acquired by his own efforts, first attending school at Cambria when he was ten years old. The advantages at Catawissa were very poor, and, moreover, he was the eldest of six children, as follows: Isaac K., Susan C., born September 30, 1826; Mary A., born in October, 1827, and died April 6, 1829; Samuel Powell, Margaret and Elmira. Both the last named are deceased. Our subject's farm consists of 196 acres, with about 140 under a high state of cultivation, and considering the stony nature of the country and the terrible task to clear and fence a farm, Mr. Krickbaum has succeeded admirably.

SAMUEL P. KRICKBAUM, farmer, P. O. Cambria, Luzerne County, was born April 6, 1829, and spent his early life on his father's homestead, which the latter had cleared and improved. February 26, 1857, he married Miss Margaret McBride, daughter of Hugh McBride, who now resides near Columbus. Mrs. Krickbaum was born near Berwick, Columbia County, where her father was a farmer. To Mr. and Mrs. Krickbaum have been born two children: Clara A., wife of Francis I. Shultz, of Raven Creek, and Mary R., at home. When the Krickbaum estate was divided, 186 acres were given to our subject, and at this time he has 100 acres under cultivation. On coming to the farm he built a plank house, which was very substantial, but when the country became improved was torn down, and the new white house erected in 1880. All the other improvements have also been made by Mr. Krickbaum. He is a popular citizen, and has held some minor offices, especially in his school district. He comes of a family whose members were always useful citizens, and foremost in lending a helping hand to worthy enterprises.

PETER LAUBACH, farmer, P. O. Raven Creek, was born April 15, 1825, in Sugar Loaf Township, on a part of the old Laubach homestead. At the age of eight years he moved with his parents to Benton Township, and lived on the old John Laubach farm, first settled by Benjamin Coleman. December 14, 1848, he married Miss Susan C., daughter of Philip Krickbaum. After his marriage he conducted a store in Benton about nine months, and in 1847 purchased 100 acres where he now resides. This he improved with buildings, etc., and moved on it in 1850. He now owns 440 acres and is considered one of the most substantial farmers in northern Columbia County. The following named children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Laubach: Isaac K. K., born October 28, 1849, married Anna, daughter of Thomas Gibbons, and resides in Benton Township; John C., born January 12, 1851, died September 17, 1854; Rhoda Ann and Margaret Ann (twins), born April 5, 1855—the former is the wife of Henry C. Learn and resides near Berwick, Margaret Ann is the wife of Frank P. Dildine, near Benton; Sarah E. B. and Freaace Brown (twins) born September 19, 1858; the latter died in infancy, the former is the wife of Alvin W. Dresher and resides in Benton Township; Winfield Scott, born April 26, 1861, conducts the home farm and married February 10, 1886, Elizabeth C., daughter of Samuel Roberts, and Susan Matilda, born November 25, 1868, died January 19, 1869. Mr. Laubach joined the Presbyterian Church in 1863 and has served as ruling elder, secretary of the session and treasurer of the church fund. He was postmaster at Raven Creek from November 11, 1872, to March 9, 1886. Politically he is a Republican; is a member of the Masonic fraternity, R. A. degree, charter member of Oriental Lodge, No. 460, at Orangeville. He was drafted twice, sent two substitutes to the civil war, one in the nine months' draft and the other in the last three years' draft service. John G. Laubach (great-grandfather of our subject), emigrated with his father from Holland and settled in Philadelphia in 1736. His children were Susan, John Michael, John, John Christian, Ann Mary, John Conrad (died young), John Conrad, Anna Margaret, Catharine, John George, Wilberg and Elizabeth. John Christian, the grandfather of our subject, was born June 30, 1764, in Bucks County, Penn., and married Anna Mary Frutchy, who was born February 3, 1773. She died July 8, 1823, and he March 15, 1825, and both are buried at St. Gabriel's Church. He was the first Laubach to settle in Columbia County in 1790, and came to Sugarloaf Township in 1793. There he took up a farm on what is now known as "Fritz Hill," a tract of about 400 acres. His family consisted of Susan, who married John Moore, to whom she bore eight children

and died in her ninety-first year; George married Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Coleman, one of the first settlers in Sugarloaf Township and now in his ninetieth year and lives in Michigan; Frederick, married Mary Larish, and their eight children are now all married and living; Peter, died in childhood; Hannah, resides in the Town of Bloomsburg, the widow of Thomas Connor, and has three sons and two daughters; Elizabeth, wife of William Cole and mother of nine children, eight now living; Anna Margaret, married William Ikeler, and died in Fishingcreek Township; Polly wife of John Ikeler, they reside in Michigan and have five children living; Catharine, is the widow of John R. Davis, and lives in Benton—she has nine children living; Christian, married Hannah Hefley and resides in Danville, Montour County; John (father of our subject), married Ann, daughter of Abraham Kline, Jr. The following are the names of their children: Abraham, in Washington Territory, a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church; Rhoda Ann, married J. H. Harrison and died January 29, 1884, in Union Township, Luzerne County; Isaac, married Sarah, daughter of Christian Ash, served in the civil war three years as volunteer and volunteered three more years, now resides in Iowa; Peter; George, married Charlotte McHenry, a daughter of Daniel McHenry, Jr.; George, enlisted in the One Hundred and Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers and served one year, receiving an honorable discharge; Christian, married Sarah Ann, daughter of Jonathan C. Pennington; John Frutchy, married Susan Taylor, and died October 24, 1863; Daniel S., married Elizabeth Young, served in the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth nine-months' draft men; David Kline, married Mary Pennington (he served in the One Hundred and Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry), and Frederick, married Lucy, daughter of Rev. M. H. Harrison; he enlisted in the Ninety-third Pennsylvania Volunteer three years, and enlisted three years more after the close of his first term, and died October 29, 1881.

DR. J. B. LAUBACH, dentist, Benton, was born in Sugarloaf Township, Columbia County, January 8, 1849, a son of Andrew and Nancy (Britton) Laubach, natives, respectively, of Columbia and Luzerne Counties, the former of whom is well known in this county. Tracing the ancestry, we find that Frederick Laubach, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Germany, of a very hardy stock, and whose descendants have all been strong, healthy men and women. Our subject remained on the farm until the age of twenty, when he went to Batavia, N. Y., and engaged for two years with Dr. J. Larish, and then moved to Muir, Mich., where he was with John Kuder for a time. In 1873 he came to Benton and remained until 1876; thence moved to Stanardsville, Va., where he remained two years. In 1878 he returned to Benton, where he has since been engaged in the practice of his profession, and is now the oldest dentist in the village. January 1, 1872, he married Miss Alvaretta McHenry, a daughter of Benjamin McHenry. She died December 10, 1881, and our subject married for his second wife Hattie Derr, of Hughesville, Lycoming County, and two children bless their union; Frank B. and Emma B. Dr. Laubach has a nice home in the village, where he has settled down, intending to serve the people to the best of his ability.

ELIAS McHENRY, insurance agent, Benton, the eldest son of Moses McHenry, was born March 25, 1817, in a log house which stood near the present residence of Daniel McHenry, in Stillwater, Fishingcreek Township. September 6, 1838, he married Sallie Ann, daughter of John Stoker of Fishingcreek, and shortly after the young couple removed to Jackson Township, where they resided until the fall of 1840. Mr. McHenry then purchased a farm in the southwest part of the township of Benton on which he remained until 1873. He then sold to his son and removed to Benton Village, where he clerked for his brother, and four years later began to solicit for insurance, in which business he has since been constantly engaged. He has resided on the same lot since coming to Benton, and a few years ago erected a comfortable home. To Mr. and Mrs. McHenry six children were born, as follows: Russell P., born in 1839, married to Sarah A. Appleman August 24, 1859, and resides near the village (they have had seven children, three of whom are living); John S., born December 28, 1841; Mary E., born May 27, 1843, wife of Ellis McHenry of Jackson Township; James A., born October 22, 1845, and died at the age of three months; Lyman P., born December 22, 1846, married Anna Appleman, and resides in Benton, and Myron T., born November 15, 1849. Mr. McHenry has served his district as school director and supervisor, and his fame as a fisherman extends throughout the entire county.

JAMES B. McHENRY, the genial host of the McHenry House, Benton, was born in Greenwood Township, February 8, 1851, a son of Benjamin McHenry. In 1863 he moved with his parents to Fishingcreek Township, where he remained three years. He then went to Cambria, Luzerne County, and began to learn the trade of blacksmithing, to which he applied himself for four years. In 1875 he came to Benton and followed his trade until 1886, when he assumed the control of the McHenry House. Mr. McHenry has been an active, industrious business man, and has made scores of friends. He married, February 8, 1871, Miss Maria, daughter of George Moore, of Sugarloaf Township. Mrs. McHenry was born November 2, 1849, and has borne her husband four children: Annetta, born August 26, 1872, in Cambria; Rebecca A., August 30, 1882, in Benton Village;



Lloyd C., born April 2, 1884, in Benton Village; F. H. McHenry, born October 30, 1886, in Benton Village.

JOHN J. McHENRY, merchant, Benton, was born April 3, 1824, at Stillwater, Columbia Co., Penn., and spent his early life at home. At the age of twenty-three he went to Rohrsburg, engaged as a clerk with Mills & Schuyler, and while thus employed married Miss Sarah, daughter of John Lundy, a merchant of Rohrsburg and Danville, the ceremony being performed at the latter place. After the marriage he remained four years in the store of Mr. Lundy, removing thence to Mifflinville, where he conducted a store for the same gentleman. He next removed to Berwick and remained six years; thence to Cambria, Luzerne County, and after seven years' residence at that place came to Benton. Here since 1865 he has been engaged in mercantile business, and since 1880 has also engaged in handling and cutting lumber at Benton and other points. He has a half interest in 100 acres of timber land in Sugarloaf Township. To Mr. McHenry and wife the following children were born: Anna M., Albert L., Harriett E. (wife of J. W. Hoyt), Hudson O. (married to Miss Anna Staddon, and engaged in the business with his father), Mary M. and Charles J.; the latter possesses fine musical talent and is engaged in teaching the art. Mr. McHenry is a good citizen and owns considerable property in the village; he comes of a hardy family, and looks and acts as young as most men of forty.

ALEXANDER McHENRY, farmer and teacher, P. O. Benton, was born near Stillwater, Columbia Co., Penn., March 26, 1828, the eldest child of James D. and Rachel (Colley) McHenry (both now deceased). He was educated in the common schools and at the age of eighteen began teaching at West Creek schoolhouse, and followed the profession for seventeen successive winters and still teaches, having taught eleven terms since the war, in the winter season. While teaching he enlisted, September 2, 1864, in Company D, Two Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania Infantry, at Troy, and was discharged May 27, 1865, at Annapolis, Md. He was taken prisoner at Five Forks March 28, 1865, and remained two days and then paroled. While in the service he acted as company clerk and corporal, and in this double capacity worked so hard that his health was severely affected. In 1867 he bought his present place of fifty acres two miles southwest of Benton. He married at Town Hill, January 1, 1852, Elizabeth, daughter of James Buckalew. Mrs. McHenry was born January 9, 1833, and died February 9, 1882, the mother of the following children: Lucretia A., born September 22, 1855, died November 28, 1876; Harriet Ida, born September 29, 1858, died March 21, 1875; Mary Mott, born July 5, 1861; Alice Maude (wife of A. C. Karnes of Benton); Franklin G., born May 8, 1867, died May 15, 1867.

THOMAS C. McHENRY, M. D., Benton, was born in Greenwood Township, Columbia Co., Penn., February 9, 1844, son of Benjamin and Lovina (Conner) McHenry. He spent his early life on a farm, and at the age of eighteen went to the academy at New Columbus, Luzerne County, where he remained two or three years. He then went to Lewisburg, where after two years he graduated in 1867. He then commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Bradley of Bloomsburg; then attended lectures at the University of Ann Arbor, Mich., where he graduated in 1870. That year he commenced to practice his profession in Benton, and now has a large patronage in Columbia, Luzerne and Lycoming Counties. In February, 1871, he married Susan Millord, who died within a year after marriage, and March 24, 1874, Dr. McHenry married Lizzie Ikeler. They have two children: Lula M., born February 25, 1875, and Benjamin J., born August 17, 1882. Benjamin McHenry, father of the above, was born in Stillwater, Columbia County, May 13, 1812, and is the eldest of the name living in the county. When about twenty-three years of age he left Stillwater and went to Greenwood Township, where he married Lavina Conner. She was born in Greenwood Township, April 13, 1814, died October 16, 1884, and is buried in Benton Cemetery. At the age of thirty-eight Mr. McHenry moved to Fishingcreek, where he remained about six years; thence to Mauch Chunk, Carbon County; later returned to Greenwood, Columbia County, and thence to Fishingcreek, where he conducted the hotel, "Cottage Inn," during the latter part of the war. He then resided in Greenwood until shortly after the death of his wife, since which event he makes his home with his sons in Benton and Cambria.

ISAAC E. PATTERSON, M. D., Benton, was born in Orange Township, Columbia Co., Penn., April 1, 1844, a son of William Patterson, who was born in Greenwood Township, this county, and died in Fishingcreek Township in 1852. After his father's death Isaac returned to Orange Township and remained under the care of an uncle, M. C. Vance, until eighteen years of age, attending school a portion of the time. From 1862 to 1864 he was a student in Orangeville Academy, and on September 2 of the latter year enlisted in Company D, Two Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in at Harrisburg. He served until May 30, 1865, and March 1 of that year was promoted quartermaster-sergeant. He participated in many of the hard-fought battles, among which may be mentioned Arlington Heights, before Petersburg, with the Army of the Potomac, Bellfield raid, Hatcher's Run, and in the destruction of the Weldon Railroad, Gravel Run and Appomattox, where the flag of truce was carried back through the lines of his company, and at the close of the war he participated in the

grand review at Washington. Returning to Orangeville he again entered school, and in the winter of 1865-66 was engaged as a teacher at Beach Haven, Luzerne County. The next summer he began the study of medicine under Drs. Rittenhouse and McKay, and the following winter (1866-67) again taught school, continuing through the summer also. He then entered Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, where he took his first course of lectures in the winter of 1867-68; attended the summer session and graduated in March, 1869. He commenced practice in Beach Haven, Luzerne County, where he intended locating, but moved to Laporte, Sullivan County, where he was employed by the tannery companies to practice among their people. He remained there until 1874, when he came to Benton and bought the real estate and practice of Dr. Chapin, who continued to "ride" with Dr. Patterson for one year. Our subject then formed a partnership with Dr. Edwards, which lasted four years, since which time he has been alone. The Doctor married, April 7, 1870, Miss Martha Seeley, a native of Salem, Luzerne County. Dr. Patterson owns a farm of sixty-five acres a short distance north of Benton and his residence in the village.

AARON SMITH (deceased) was born January 2, 1820, on the banks of the Susquehanna River, Hanover Township, Luzerne County, and was the eldest of ten children. His parents were of German descent and moved to Columbia County when he was fourteen years of age. He was reared on the farm and received a good common-school education. In 1843 he married Miss Charlotte A. Campbell, of Scotch descent. He was converted about 1842, joined the Methodist Episcopal Church and served as class leader about thirty-five years, or up to the time of his death. He contributed largely to church and church funds, and was a great pillar of support to the Hamline Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a member from the time of his conversion. After the death of his first wife he married Amanda L. Davis in the spring of 1884. He took a trip through the Western States and returned home in the summer of 1884 and died June 14, 1885, aged sixty-five years, five months and twelve days. He was buried in the Hamline Cemetery. There were born to the union of Aaron and Charlotte A. (Campbell) Smith, Firman S., born January 27, 1841; Richard T., July 4, 1845; William A. and Alice A. (twins), June 3, 1856, and died in infancy, and H. Wilber, February 26, 1860.

FIRMAN S. SMITH, P. O. Raven Creek, is a son of Aaron and Charlotte A. (Campbell) Smith, and was born in Benton Township, Columbia Co. He lived with his parents on the farm assisting his father in the summer and attending school in Benton District in winter until he was nineteen years of age. He then attended school for one year at New Columbus Academy, Luzerne County, after which he taught school during the winter of 1863-64 in Benton District. He enlisted at Troy, Bradford Co., Penn., March 31, 1864, for three years or during the war, and was in the following engagements: Wilderness, Mine Run, Spotsylvania Court House, Va., North Ann River, Cold Harbor, and the charge in front of Petersburg, June 17 and 18, 1864. His company was later detached from the regiment to serve in mortar battery, and engaged in all the artillery movements in front of Petersburg, throwing over 6,000 shells in the rebel works and blowing up three magazines. The company was relieved from the battery August 24, 1864, and ordered back to join the regiment. At Ream Station, Va., Mr. Smith was taken sick and sent to the division hospital in front of Petersburg; thence to City Point; thence to Fort Schuyler McDougall General Hospital, N. Y.; furloughed November 1, 1864, and remained at home sick eighty-four days. He returned to the hospital January 23, 1865, and served as ward master at general kitchen department until discharged June 17, 1865. During the winter of 1865-66 he taught school, and in 1866 married Miss Huldah R. Dodson, the daughter of George and Hannah (Seely) Dodson. In 1867 Mr. Smith attended Commercial College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and graduated August 15 of the same year. He engaged in mercantile business at Mahanoy City in 1868. Subsequently he returned to Benton Township, Columbia County, where he purchased and located on a farm, and has since been engaged in farming and teaching, having taught twenty-three terms. The following are the names of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith: Lenore Estelle, born March 5, 1867; Minnie Gertrude, born July 17, 1868; Aaron Raymond, born December 31, 1869; Fannie Evada, born August 16, 1871, died July 10, 1875; Jennie Adrielle, born May 6, 1874; Ada and Eva (twins) born and died March 20, 1873; Ninolia Theberne born May 18, 1876; Susie May, born May 1, 1879; Carrie Josephine, born March 28, 1881; Permillie born November 19, 1882, and Geraldine, born November 5, 1884. Mrs. Smith is of English descent on the paternal and German on the maternal side, and was born August 5, 1846.

RICHARD T. SMITH, farmer, P. O. Taurus, was born July 4, 1845, in Benton Township, and remained on the old homestead until 1872. In 1873 he worked on the N. W. R. R., and in 1875 located on a farm in Briarereck Township, this county, one year, removing thence to Nescopeck. He came to his present home in 1878, buying a farm of ninety-seven and a half acres. This was the George Dodson estate, is well cultivated and kept neat and tidy. Mr. Smith began teaching in 1869, and followed that profession for four successive winters, and again in 1875, since which time he has devoted his attention to farming, but still takes a great interest in educational matters, and likes to see all modern improvements in school work succeed. Besides teaching and farming he has en-

gaged in lumbering for three years at Nescopeck, his family residing on the farm. At present he is engaged in conjunction with C. A. Wesley in erecting a large planing-mill and sash and door factory at Benton this county. Mr. Smith married, February 5, 1870, Frances, daughter of George and Hannah (Seeley) Dodson, and the following children have been born to their union: Torrence C., born January 21, 1871; Anna C., May 24, 1872; Edna G., May 23, 1876; Verdie E., December 4, 1877; Atta M., May 5, 1879; Lane T., December 17, 1884, and Firman E., November 13, 1885. Mr. Smith is a member of the I. O. O. F., and keeps the Taurus postoffice. George Dodson, the father of Mrs. Smith, came to Benton Township in 1839 from Town Hill. He was born February 1, 1804, near Harveyville, Luzerne Co., Penn., and died January 20, 1885, at his home at R. T. Smith's in Benton Township, Columbia Co., Penn. Until his marriage he made his home at "Dodson's mill," on Pine Creek, in Huntington Township, Luzerne County. July 10, 1828, he married Hannah Seeley, who was born in Salem Township July 4, 1806. In 1839 Mr. Dodson and his wife came to Benton Township, this county, where he took up a tract of land, 450 acres in all, covered with timber, and began to make a home out of the wilderness. Until 1866 he lived in a small house, which was situated across the road from the present residence of our subject. Later he erected the house which still stands there, but which has been greatly repaired. Here a large family was reared as follows: Susan B., born May 28, 1829; Mary Ann, April 14, 1831; Elias E., February 2, 1833; Margaret S., December 5, 1834; James T., June 11, 1837; Charles M., June 17, 1839; Caroline B., December 13, 1840 (died April 11, 1876); Chester S., January 6, 1843; Hulda R., August 5, 1846, and Frances A., December 17, 1848. Mr. Dodson was a man universally esteemed in Benton Township, and his death was deeply regretted. He was true to his principles of right, very evenly dispositioned, and reared a family worthy of himself. His widow makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. R. T. Smith.

JOHN C. WENNER, farmer, P. O. Cambria, was born April 10, 1836, in Fishingcreek Township, near Bendertown, a son of Jacob and Leah (Kauff) Wenner. Our subject remained at home until his marriage, January 1, 1859, to Hannah, a daughter of William Savage and Mary (Clinerman) Savage of Fishingcreek Township. They were natives of Berks County, Penn., are both deceased and buried in Fishingcreek Township. Mr. and Mrs. Wenner lived about two years in Fishingcreek before removing to their present home in Benton in 1861. The farm consists of seventy acres and is well improved; the house is comparatively new, having been built by Mr. Wenner, and is nicely located, making quite a desirable home. There are three children in the family, as follows: Rebecca, born December 9, 1859; Frances A., born November 28, 1861, wife of J. F. Ashelman; Sallie C., born March 23, 1864, wife of William Ashelman, all living near him. Mr. Wenner was engaged in school-teaching a long time—from 1858 to 1882—and almost every winter found him in that capacity in Fishingcreek and Benton Townships. During the term of 1858-59, he taught the village school at Benton, but his health failing he abandoned the profession and engaged in farming. He is a correspondent to the Benton papers, and a friend of education. The family are identified with the Reformed church in Fishingcreek.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### BRIARCREEK TOWNSHIP AND BOROUGH OF BERWICK.

ENOS L. ADAMS, retired farmer, P. O. Berwick, was born in Briarcreek Township, July 28, 1824, a son of Samuel and Esther (Hill) Adams, natives of Columbia County and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany and located in Berks County, and over 130 years ago bought 900 acres where our subject now lives. The grandfather of Enos L. next took the homestead in this county, where he farmed all his life, and here also his son, subject's father, farmed. Enos L. is of the fourth generation now on this farm where he was born and reared. He owns 265 acres of land, beside three houses and lots in Berwick. He married in March, 1847, Margaret Kisner, a native of Luzerne County, and nine children blessed their union, eight of whom are living: Alice, wife of James Freas; Samuel, Kenny, Anna M., William, Elliott, Margaret and Fannie. Mr. and Mrs. Adams are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is a member of the Grange and has held the office of township assessor.

GEORGE WESLEY ASH, proprietor Briar Creek Excelsior Mills, P. O. Berwick. This mill was built in 1874, to take the place of one destroyed by fire, by Ruckle & Ash. The mill was owned by that firm up to 1880, when Charles Ash, father of George Wesley, bought the interest of Mr. Ruckle, and the plant is now owned by the Messrs.



Ash, Charles and George W. The building is 40x50 feet in ground area, and is three and one-half stories in height; is supplied with three run of buhrs; is run by water, and the power is supplied from a turbine wheel. They have a dam across Briar creek from which the water is supplied. George W. Ash is the managing miller. George Wesley Ash, operator of Briar Creek Excelsior Mills, was born in Fishingcreek Township, this county, October 15, 1850, son of Charles and Sarah (Ruckle) Ash. Christian Ash, grandfather of George W., came to this county in the early days from Northampton County, Penn., and bought a tract of land along Briar creek, now known as the "Bower place." There he resided a short time, and then moved up into what is now Fishingcreek Township, where he bought a tract of land now owned by William and Charles Ash, two of his sons, and here he lived until his death. He died about 1879, his wife having preceded him in death by a number of years. They are buried at Zion Church, Fishingcreek Township. Charles Ash, father of G. W., was born in Northampton County, Penn., and was but a boy seven years old when his parents removed to this county. He made his home with his parents until he married, and then bought a part of the old homestead of his father, in Fishingcreek Township, where he has resided ever since. He was married in this county to Miss Sarah Ruckle, and they were the parents of nine children, of whom eight are living: George Wesley, William S., who lives in Briarcreek Township, this county; Pierce Wilson, who lives in Fishingcreek Township, this county, farming his father's place; Harvey Reuben, who lives in Berwick, this county; Stewart Alexander, who works in the mill; Miles Wilbert, who lives on the old homestead, and with his brother, Pierce Wilson, farms the place; Thomas Elliott, who lives on the old homestead, and Amy Florentine. Alvin Willits is deceased. The father of this family still resides on the old homestead, which was bought by his father when he came to Fishingcreek Township. His wife died February 19, 1886, and is buried in Zion Church graveyard. George Wesley Ash, subject of this sketch, was reared in Fishingcreek Township, this county, and when he had reached the age of nearly twenty-two years he went to learn the milling trade in the mill which stood on the site of the one he at present operates. This mill was then owned by his father and Mr. Ruckle, and when it burned down and the new one was rebuilt he continued in the employ of the firm, and the second year after it was rebuilt he was the miller of the plant. The mill is now owned by Mr. Ash and his father. George Wesley and his brother, William, erected a distillery in 1883, and have operated it up to April 21, 1886, when Mr. Ash bought his brother William's share, and since that date has operated it himself. The capacity of this distillery is considerable. Mr. Ash and his father have an eight-acre lot in connection with the works, which he farms. He was married in this county February 22, 1880, to Miss Amelia Freas, a native of Columbia County, and daughter of William L. and Fannie (Rittenhouse) Freas. Mr. and Mrs. Ash are the parents of one child, Wilbert Charles. Our subject is at present one of the school directors of Briarcreek Township, having been elected in 1884.

DAVID BAUCHER, mason, Berwick, was born in Mahoning Township July 27, 1822, and is a son of Jacob and Zena (Zimmerman) Baucher, natives of Schuylkill County, Penn., and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany and located in Schuylkill County. His grandfather followed farming and died in that county. Jacob Baucher was reared in Schuylkill County and remained there until he was thirty-five years of age. He then moved to what is now Montour County and bought a farm in Mahoning Township, which he had operated by his sons. He was a millwright, which trade he followed nearly all his life. He died in 1827. He was the father of nine children, five of whom are living: Joseph, Nancy, Jacob, David and Thomas. Our subject was only seven years old when his father died, and he remained with his mother until he was twenty-one, in the meantime learning the mason's trade. In 1842 he came to Berwick and worked at his trade several years; then in partnership with Daniel Reedy he began contracting. After some years the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Baucher continued in business alone. In April, 1844, he married Rachel Sybert, a native of Luzerne County. They are the parents of eight children, five of whom are living: Fannie, wife of Frank Corkins; William E., Eliza, wife of Joseph G. Williamson; Lillie, wife of Sterling Dickson, and Gilbert. The deceased are Cordelia A., Jane R. and Janetta. Mr. and Mrs. Baucher are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church; he is a member of the I. O. O. F., in which he has passed all the chairs. He has been on the town council several terms, and school director; has also been constable. He is steward in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ISAIAH BOWER, merchant and real estate dealer, Berwick, was born in Briarcreek Township, Columbia Co., Penn., March 19, 1829, a son of George Michael and Mary (Zahner) Bower, natives of Columbia County and of German descent. His grandfather, George Michael Bower, was born in Germany; came to America when thirteen years of age and settled in Lehigh County along the Lehigh. He came to Columbia County in the latter part of the last century and settled in Briarcreek Township, at which time there was but one house in Berwick. He bought a large tract of land and there resided until his death. Both the grandfathers settled here. The grandfather, George Zahner, was a great hunter, and at the time of his coming, game was very plentiful. He first built a log cabin. The

nearest market was then at Philadelphia or Reading. George Michael Bower was a weaver by trade, also followed farming and taught a school at his own house. A prominent man in his day, he died in Briarcreek Township in December, 1863, in his eighty-third year. His wife died about six years prior. Isalah was reared on a farm and when eighteen years of age went to learn the carpenter's trade and the building of threshing machinery. He was thus employed until 1852 when he came to Berwick and worked for Jackson & Woodin two and a half years. He then rented their foundry and did all the manufacturing of plows, threshing machines, etc., for twelve years. In 1864 he engaged in mercantile business which he has since carried on, with the exception of two years he was engaged in running a foundry and manufacturing agricultural implements. He owns several small farms and a great deal of town property, also some in Nescopeck. In December, 1850, he married Hannah Hagenbuch. Mr. Bower has also been extensively engaged in the real estate business. He and his wife are members of the Evangelical Association, to which he has belonged for thirty-eight years.

EDMUND J. BOWMAN, Berwick, was born in Briarcreek Township, Columbia Co., Penn., December 21, 1835; a son of Jesse and Anna (Brown) Bowman. His grandfather, the Rev. Thomas Bowman, Sr., was born in Bucks County in 1760, and in 1782 married Mary Treas. of Northampton County. In April, 1793, he and his family left the old farm at Mount Bethel, traveling by wagon via Mauch Chunk, Nazareth and Lehigh, to make their new home in a wilderness country. They settled in Briarcreek Township, Columbia County, and occupied, temporarily, a log house near the site of the three-story Pilkington dwelling, situated upon the public road leading from Berwick to Orangeville. The grandfather was a Methodist preacher, whose talents were of a commanding order. Socially, he was very agreeable; humorous, apt at anecdote, keen in argument, ready of utterance and quick at repartee, and in a public address he was often powerful. Subject's father was the fourth son and child and was in his fifth year when his parents moved to Briarcreek. The next year he began to attend school and succeeded in acquiring a practical education. After his marriage he lived in Briarcreek eleven years, when he moved to Berwick Plains in 1820. Two years later the Rev. John Thomas, who was then preacher in charge of Northumberland Circuit, appointed him class leader of a little society composed of the pious neighbors who gathered on Sundays to hold prayer-meetings, Sunday-school and class meetings. In 1829 he was transferred to Berwick, where he continued his leadership until the close of his life, a period of almost fifty consecutive years. For fifteen years he had the chief management of the camp-meetings at a time when the ruder elements of society opposed Methodism in the spirit of hatred. He was held in high esteem by the entire community by whom he was called "Uncle Jesse." He was a director of a State bank at Danville for many years and also of the National Bank at Berwick, and through his personal efforts with the Legislature of Pennsylvania, a subsidy of \$10,000 was secured from the State for the building of the present bridge across the Susquehanna River, at Berwick. In 1821 he was appointed captain of the first company of the Second Brigade, Eighth Division of the State Militia. He was recognized as a pioneer in the matter of higher education, and was among the first in the community to give his children a classical education. He was a member of the board of trustees of Dickinson College about 1847. In 1849 he sold his farm and moved to Berwick, resolved to live retired. He died in 1880, his wife's death occurring four years prior. The Bowmans were among the early settlers of the county and have been a noted family in its history. Our subject's maternal grandfather Robert, with his brother, John Brown, were among the founders of Berwick, closely following Evan Owen. Robert had three children: John, who died young; Anna, who married Jesse Bowman, and Sarah, who became the wife of a Mr. Hicks and settled in Salem Township, Luzerne County. Edmund J. Bowman, our subject, is the youngest of his father's family and early evinced a taste for intellectual pursuits. He received liberal educational advantages, having attended Williamsport Dickinson Seminary; later graduated from Dickinson College, and at one time attained considerable local fame as a public speaker. In his public lectures his subjects were well chosen and evidenced broad reading. In a recent newspaper notice he is spoken of as "one of the finest lecturers in the State." He never chose a profession, but as his pen productions were of a high order, he figured somewhat as a contributor and correspondent of the public journals. For some years his occupation was that of a school-teacher, and he served his country as a soldier in the civil war. He owns 160 acres of land, also property in Kansas City, Mo. He is the only member of the family unmarried.

ROBERT S. BOWMAN, postmaster, Berwick, was born in Centre Township, Columbia Co., Penn., July 8, 1858, a son of D. A. and Jane S. (Clark) Bowman, natives of Pennsylvania. The latter, of Irish extraction, was a descendant of the Clarks of Revolutionary fame, her grandfather being a colonel during that struggle. Our subject's great-great-grandfather, who spelled his name Baumann, came to this country from Germany when thirteen years of age. The grandfather, Jesse Bowman, was born in Northampton County, but came to this county in the latter part of the last century, took a large tract of land, and was among the first settlers of the place. He followed farming, and died in 1828. Our subject's father was born in Columbia County in 1803; was reared on a farm,

and followed agricultural pursuits. He was twice married, and was the father of eight children, three by his first wife and five by his second. Six of the children still survive: Caroline, Sarah A. (wife of Thomas F. Schuyler), Charles S., George D. (married to Kate Kerns), John A. (married to Annie Large), Robert S. (married to Mary Isadore Gilroy). The deceased are Ezekiel and Jesse G. The father died in 1877, but the mother is still living, and resides in Millinville. Robert S., our subject, was reared on a farm until twelve years of age, when his parents moved to the town of Millinville. There he attended school until he was eighteen years of age, when he entered the *Republican* office at Bloomsburg. He served a three years' apprenticeship, and at the age of twenty-one, in 1879, came to Berwick and bought out the *Berwick Independent*. Mr. Bowman was appointed postmaster at Berwick, under Arthur's administration, and took charge of the office in that month. October 13, 1881, he married Mary Isadore Gilroy, a native of Berwick, and their union has been blessed with two children: Roy W. and Clark A. Mr. Bowman is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mrs. Bowman of the Baptist.

JONAS CRISMAN, miller, P. O. Berwick, was born in Warren County, N. J., March 4, 1831, a son of Jacob and Margaret (Hill) Crisman, natives of Warren County, N. J., and of English-German descent. His grandfather came from Germany, settled in New Jersey, built the first grist-mill in Warren County, and was extensively engaged in milling. He shipped flour to all parts of the country, but chiefly to Philadelphia. He was very wealthy, and at his death his property was divided among his ten children. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Gen. Hill, came from England and settled in New Jersey. He was obliged to flee from his native country on account of siding with the colonies, and, after arriving in America, served in the Revolution under Washington. After the close of that struggle he built a mill and followed milling. Our subject's father was born in Warren County, N. J., in 1795; was reared on a farm and engaged in milling, which he followed all his life. He served in the war of 1812, and while rejoicing over the election of President Harrison, in 1841, he was accidentally killed by the explosion of a cannon. He was the father of ten children, five of whom survive: three reside in New Jersey, one in California, and one in Pennsylvania. Jonas Crisman was reared to the miller's trade, which he followed in New Jersey until coming to this State. He owned two or three grist-mills in New Jersey, and followed milling extensively. In 1883 he sold out, came to Columbia County, and purchased the grist-mill which he is now operating. He also has the contract to run the stage from Berwick to Conyngham. In October, 1855, he married Ellen Gray, a native of New Jersey, and six children were born to them: Annie (wife of F. P. Freas), John (married to Mary Linaberry), Frederick, Frank, George and Virgil H. Mrs. Crisman is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Crisman is a F. & A. M.

B. F. CRISPIN, JR., teller of the First National Bank, Berwick, was born in Philadelphia July 21, 1847, a son of Benjamin F. and Elizabeth R. (Glenn) Crispin, natives of Philadelphia, and of English descent. His father was born August 1, 1824, and educated in Philadelphia, where he has always resided. Our subject was reared and educated in Philadelphia, and during the great excitement in oil circles, being then eighteen years old, he took charge of his father's business, while the latter was absent in the oil regions. He remained with his father until 1870, when he engaged as a partner in the firm of Longacre & Co., in the printing and lithographing business. Thus he remained until the spring of 1872, when he came to Berwick and was employed as secretary of the Berwick Rolling Mill Company; was later elected treasurer, and held both offices until the mill closed in January, 1873. He then entered the First National Bank as teller, and in 1880 was elected one of the directors. In the spring of that year he engaged in the iron business under the firm name of Jackson Bros. & Crispin, in the manufacture of charcoal, pig iron, etc., in which he is still interested, the business being now conducted under the firm name of Jackson Iron Co. Mr. Crispin married, in 1873, Maggie, daughter of M. W. and Margaret (Gearhart) Jackson. Mr. and Mrs. Crispin are the parents of three children: M. Jackson, Clarence G. and Helen. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Crispin is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

R. G. CRISPIN, merchant, Berwick, was born in Philadelphia, Penn., a son of B. F. and Elizabeth (Glenn) Crispin, both natives of Philadelphia, and of English-Welsh descent. His ancestors came over from England in 1652, with William Penn, and located in Philadelphia. The grandfather, Benjamin, was born in Philadelphia, and there learned the saddler's trade, which he followed in his youth. In the prime of life he became quite a politician; somewhere about 1840 was speaker of the Senate and also served as lieutenant-governor for some years. His latter years he spent in retirement, having amassed a fortune. Our subject's father was also born in Philadelphia, and there attended school. He served as public weigher in that city for many years, and still resides there. Our subject, the third of eight children, was reared in Philadelphia until twenty-one years of age, and there received his education. At the age of seventeen he engaged in the insurance business, which he followed until leaving the city. In 1870 he came to Berwick and engaged in mercantile business, which he has since followed. He carries a general stock of dry



goods, boots, shoes, groceries, etc., valued at \$7,000. In September, 1873, he married Fannie Bowman, a native of Columbia County.

EMMOR DIETTERICH, farmer, P. O. Berwick, was born in Centre Township July 7, 1821, a son of Lewis and Elizabeth (Hoofnagle) Dietterich, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany and settled in Northampton County, Penn., where he resided until his death. He was among the first settlers of that county. His son, Jacob, was a farmer and came to Columbia County in 1800, and settled in Centre Township. He owned a large tract of land, all timber, which required many years of labor to clear. He was a strong Democrat in politics, and was sixty-four years old at the time of his death. Subject's father was only ten years old when his parents came to this county, and he used to take the grain on horseback to the old Rittenhouse mill. He was a carpenter by trade, which he followed all his life as long as he was able to work. He was the father of five children: Emmor, Stephen and Sarah (wife of Andrew Terwilliger), living, and Phoebe and Elias, deceased (the latter served in the civil war and died a short time after his discharge). Our subject was reared on a farm, and has followed agricultural pursuits since he was seventeen years old. He farmed for his father until he was twenty-four years old, and then farmed on shares until he was twenty-eight. He bought the farm where he now resides in 1870, and owns seventy acres of good land in Briarcreek Township. He married, March 4, 1849, Mary Mosteller, and four children were born to them, two of whom are living: Edella and Dora, wife of Warren Terwilliger. The deceased are Clark and Lewis H. Mr. and Mrs. Dietterich are members of the Lutheran Church. He has served as school director, auditor, judge of elections and inspector, and was supervisor eleven terms.

B. F. DREISBACH, dealer in pianos, organs and sewing machines, Berwick, was born in Roaringcreek Township, Columbia Co., Penn., October 30, 1837, a son of Nathan and Sarah (Levan) Dreisbach, natives of Pennsylvania and of German-French descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany and settled first in Philadelphia, and after several years immigrated to Northampton County, where he died. Subject's maternal great-grandfather came from France and resided in the Wyoming Valley during the Indian massacre. Our subject's great-grandmother was captured by the Indians during the massacre and kept a prisoner eleven years. She had a little girl with her at the time, who was two years old. All the other children were burned to death by the Indians in the cabin. The great-grandmother was taken into Ohio and had tried to make her escape several times, but was always unsuccessful. She was compelled to marry the Indian chief, and bore him two sons. While the Indians were on a trading trip she made her escape. Yost Dreisbach, subject's grandfather, settled in Salem Township, Luzerne County, in 1800, and was a millwright, which trade he followed most of his life. He bought a large tract of land in Roaringcreek, about 1,000 acres, which he divided among his children. Nathan Dreisbach has followed millwrighting all his life, which was the occupation of his ancestors. He now resides in Jonestown, this county, and is now engaged in mercantile business. He reared a family of eight children, six living: Mrs. Forninger, Benjamin F., Mrs. Kunkel, Mrs. Hosler, Nathaniel and Albert. Our subject was reared on a farm until about two years of age, when he resided eight years in Kerntown, where his father was engaged in mercantile business. He then lived with his uncle, John P. Levan, four years, and later went to Ashland, Schuylkill County, where he clerked for fourteen years and had an interest in the business for two years. He was for three years in partnership with R. P. Bellman, and then sold out on account of ill health and moved to Conyngham, Luzerne County, where he engaged in mercantile business three years. He then moved to Fishingcreek, where he followed the same business two years. In the spring of 1877 he moved to Berwick, where he has since been engaged in his present business. He was employed as traveling salesman for a dry goods house in Philadelphia three years, and also dealt in musical instruments. He married January 7, 1867, Doretta Distelhurst, and they are both members of the Lutheran Church. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the G. A. R. In 1862 he enlisted in Company C, Sixth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served three months; then re-enlisted, this time in Company C, Fifty-first Regiment, and served one year. He was then drafted, but paid a substitute. He participated in the battles of Antietam, Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg and several skirmishes. He was postmaster at Conyngham, Luzerne County, three years.

J. W. EVANS, insurance agent, Berwick, was born July 7, 1845, at Evansville, this county, a son of George and Rebecca (Shellenbarger) Evans, natives of Columbia County, and of Welsh descent on the father's side and German on the mother's. The first of the family settled in Briarcreek Township the latter part of the last century, and his grandfather, James Evans, was the first millwright of the county. He built nearly all the old mills in this county, and also owned a large tract of land. Our subject's father learned the millwright's trade, which he followed a number of years, then learned the tanner's trade and built a tannery at Evansville, following the business until his death in 1870. His widow died in 1880. Our subject received a liberal education. At the breaking out of the Rebellion, when a mere lad, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth

Pennsylvania Volunteers, in Capt. J. M. Buckalew's (a brother of the Hon. Charles R. Buckalew of Bloomsburg) company. He rendered gallant service to his country in the ranks, where he served fourteen months, and was then honorably discharged. At the close of his soldier experience he went to Hazelton and entered the large mercantile house of William Kisner, remaining three years; then he went to Wyoming Seminary, at Kingston, taking a full three years' course of study. Upon his graduation from this excellent institution he received the appointment of teller of the First National Bank of Berwick, in which capacity he served seven years with distinction as a financier and accountant. In 1877 he established the now well known Berwick Insurance Agency, which, by the way, is the most reliable and largest agency in Columbia County. Only old and well established fire, marine and life insurance companies are represented by Mr. Evans. He has had quite a number of heavy losses in each of these departments of insurance, which have been promptly and satisfactorily adjusted. At present he offers perfect security in the following first-class companies: Ætna of Hartford, Liverpool and London and Globe, Commercial Union of London, Phoenix of Hartford, Fire Association of Philadelphia, Ætna Life of Hartford, Springfield of Missouri, Fire and Marine. Any information by mail or otherwise will receive prompt attention by addressing Mr. Evans. He also is largely interested in real estate transactions in this town. He has laid out and is offering for sale some very fine building lots at the upper end of Market Street, a suburb of Berwick. Mr. Evans is the president of the home Young Men's Christian Association, and a leading member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a gentleman of fine business and social qualities, having hosts of friends at home and abroad, won by a genial disposition and uniform courtesy which always mark the true gentleman. He married, November 15, 1871, Anna E., daughter of Rev. Jared H. and Sarah B. Young. Mr. and Mrs. Evans are the parents of five children, one living—John Harrison. The deceased are Daisy B., aged seven years; Sarah Y., aged five and a half years; Anna F., aged four and a half years, and an infant son. Mrs. Evans is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the I. O. O. F. Lodge, and has passed all the chairs.

CHARLES C. EVANS, attorney, Berwick, was born in Briarcreek Township Columbia Co., Penn., January 10, 1858, a son of Francis and Jane (Lamon) Evans, natives of Pennsylvania, and of Welsh and Irish descent. His great-grandfather came from Wales, and his grandfather, James Evans, was born in this county in 1799. The latter was a millwright by trade, which he followed most of his life, and built nearly all the grist-mills in the neighborhood, some of which are still standing. He also was interested in agriculture, but never followed it extensively. He built and owned an oil-mill near Evansville, and died in Luzerne County, in June, 1879, in the eighteenth year of his age. Our subject's father was reared on a farm and followed agricultural pursuits extensively until 1885, when he moved into Berwick, and is now leading a retired life. Charles C. was reared on the farm and attended the district school until 1874, when he attended the State normal school two years. In the winter of 1876-77 he taught school in the township of Briarcreek, and in the fall of 1877 went to Lafayette College, where he graduated in June, 1881. He then entered the office of the Hon. Simon P. Wolverton, of Sunbury, and read law under him for two years. July 14, 1883, he was admitted to practice in the several courts of Northumberland County, and was subsequently admitted to the bars of Columbia and Luzerne Counties. August 23, 1883, he opened a law office in Berwick, where he has since remained. Mr. Evans is a man of fine intellect and well fitted for the profession he has chosen. He is a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity and of the Presbyterian Church.

JOHN M. FAIRCHILD, farmer, P. O. Berwick, was born in Newport Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., October 6, 1852, a son of John and Martha (Line) Fairchild, natives of Luzerne County, and of German descent. His grandfather, Solomon Fairchild, came from Connecticut, and settled in Luzerne County, Penn., where he followed agriculture all his life. Our subject's father also followed farming, and the farm owned by him, on which he first settled in Luzerne County, is now cut up into town lots for part of Nanticoke. He was the father of six children, four of whom are living: Henry, Alfred, Martha (wife of O. F. Ferris) and John M. The last named was reared on a farm, and remained with his parents until their death. He then took the homestead and lived on it until the spring of 1886, when he moved to Columbia County. Here he bought 148 acres where he now resides, in Briarcreek Township, and which are well improved. He has been twice married: first, in 1878, to Nettie Curtis, who died April 7, 1882; second occasion, January 27, 1884, to Clara B. Wolfe, who has borne him two children: Willie J. and Wesley B. Mrs. Fairchild is a member of the Reformed Church.

OLAF F. FERRIS, farmer, was born in Mehoopany Township, Wyoming Co., Penn., March 21, 1848, a son of Simeon and Hiley (June) Ferris, natives, respectively, of Connecticut and New Jersey. The former moved to New Jersey, where he married and engaged in farming many years. He then immigrated to Wyoming County about 1820, bought a farm, and there resided until his death in 1875. He was the father of twelve children: Apollon, David L., Michael (deceased), Harriet (deceased), Jane, Henry (de-

ceased), Levi (deceased), Emily, Charles (deceased), Clarissa, Olaf F. and Simeon (deceased). Henry died in the service of his country, and Levi was killed at the battle of Fair Oaks, May 31, 1862. Charles also died in the army. Olaf F. was reared on a farm, and remained at home until twenty-one years of age. He then commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, and followed it in Luzerne County, having moved to Nanticoke in the spring of 1870. In March, 1885, he moved to Columbia County, and bought 150 acres of valuable land about one-half mile from Berwick. There he built a large two-story house about a year prior to moving into it, and also owns another house on his farm, which he rents. Since then he has bought an adjoining farm of 133 acres, with good buildings. He was engaged in mercantile business in Nanticoke for about four years, and still owns an interest in it. He married, in January, 1875, Martha L. Fairchild, who bore him four children: Ada A., John H., Martha E. and Olaf C. Mr. and Mrs. Ferris are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, K. T. and Grange. While living in Luzerne County he was a member of the town council. He has passed all the chairs in the Masonic lodge. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F., having passed all the chairs in the lodge. He has represented the Masonic lodge for two years in the Grand Lodge.

FREAS FOWLER, farmer, P. O. Berwick, was born in Briarcreek Township, May 25, 1830, a son of Gilbert and Sarah (Freas) Fowler, natives of the same township. His grandfather, Daniel ———, came from New York State and located in Briarcreek in 1775, and was among the early settlers of that place. He bought a large tract of land, most of which was in timber, and the place now occupied by our subject was all scrubby pine trees, but is now one of the best farms in the neighborhood. Gilbert Fowler was born in 1792, and always made Briarcreek Township his home. He followed farming, and owned at one time about 500 acres. He was the father of seven children, four of whom are now living: Andrew, Freas, Charles and Lyman. Gilbert died in January, 1885, and his wife in 1878. Freas Fowler was reared on the farm, and received his education in Berwick. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, when he went into business with his brother-in-law, keeping hotel at Berwick. He served as constable and collector of Berwick five years. In 1862 he took the homestead farm, and has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits, and in 1882 bought the farm, which consists of 129 acres of fine land. In 1858 Mr. Fowler married Sarah Hagenbuch, a native of this county, and one child blessed their union, Ida A. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler and daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1879 Mr. Freas Fowler was elected as one of the vice-presidents of the Columbia County Agricultural, Horticultural and Mechanical Association, in which he served four successive years, and in 1883 was elected as president of the same association, in which he served three years successively.

F. P. HILL, M. D., physician and surgeon, Berwick, was born in Centre Township, Columbia County, February 12, 1853, a son of John and Mercy (Hoffman) Hill, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather, Frederick Hill, settled in Centre Township the latter part of the last century. His grandfather Hoffman moved to Berwick, where he lived during the latter part of his life. Our subject's father followed farming in Centre Township until 1872, when he moved to Berwick, bought property and there has since resided. He was the father of eleven children, eight of whom are living: Sarah, wife of Wesley Fortner; William, Phoebe, Ezra B., Thomas G., Alice M., Hester A. and Frank B. Our subject was reared on a farm until sixteen years of age, and attended and taught school until he was twenty years of age. He took a course at Bloomsburg State Normal School and Williamsport Dickinson Seminary, where he graduated at the age of nineteen. He also took a course at the Wyoming Seminary, Kingston. In 1873 he came to Berwick and entered the office of Dr. R. H. Little as a student, and there remained until he completed his medical course in the spring of 1876. He graduated at Jefferson Medical College in 1876, after which he became a partner with his preceptor, Dr. R. H. Little, and continued practice with him until his death in January, 1885. Since then Dr. Hill has been alone and has a large and lucrative practice both as a surgeon and physician. He married in March, 1886, Hattie Wesley, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

M. L. HOUSKNECHT, farmer, was born in Columbia County, Penn., April 2, 1840, a son of Solomon and Mary (Miller) Housknecht, both natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather, Martin Housknecht, was born in Northampton County and moved to Luzerne County after his marriage, where he bought a farm near Butler and resided until his death. Our subject's father was born in Northampton County and has followed cabinet-making the most of his life. He resided in Bloomsburg about fourteen years and on the farm about six years. In 1875 he moved to Berwick, where he still resides, and is now in his seventy-first year. His wife is living also, in her seventieth year. They were the parents of three children; of these our subject is the only survivor. He was reared in Mifflinville and there received a part of his education. He entered a store as clerk when he was fourteen years of age, and remained until he was twenty-nine. He also attended school at Bloomsburg and Union Seminary, New Berlin. In 1869 he moved to where he now resides, purchased a farm, and has since followed agricultural pursuits. He married in November, 1862, Annie M. Hosler, and seven children



were born to them: Mary E., John S. (a bookkeeper in Philadelphia and a graduate of the College of Philadelphia), Fannie, Ezra, Addie, Freas B. and Charles C. Mr. and Mrs. Housknecht are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served as auditor and assessor.

M. W. JACKSON, proprietor of the rolling-mill, car shops, wheel foundry and manufacturer of castings, etc., Berwick, his native place, was born January 28, 1815, a son of J. C. and Elizabeth (Doane) Jackson. His father was a native of Goshen, N. Y., and his mother of Chester County, Penn., and of the Quaker faith. His grandfather, Benjamin Doane, was born in Chester County, and immigrated to Columbia County in the latter part of the last century, settled at Berwick and followed his trade, that of a tailor, until his death in 1845. Our subject's father came to this place in the early part of the present century, and here resided until his death, in 1850. Our subject was reared in Berwick and educated at such schools as the neighborhood afforded in his youth. He began life for himself without a dollar, acting as clerk in a store for about six years. While in this position he gained a little more knowledge of business ways and determined to embark in some business of his own. In 1840, in connection with George Mack, he started a foundry on a small scale for the manufacture of plows and plow castings, kettles and almost everything that farmers would want. The present site of his dwelling was at that time an orchard, and Berwick was very small. The partnership continued three years when Mr. Jackson bought out Mr. Mack and took in Robert McCurdy as a partner, and continued thus about three years. He then bought out Mr. McCurdy and continued the business alone up to 1849, when he took in W. H. Woodin as a partner, and the firm continued under the name of Jackson & Woodin up to 1872. The name was then changed to The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Company, and incorporated under the laws of the Legislature, with Clarence G. Jackson and C. R. Woodin as the active men, our subject and Mr. Woodin retiring from active business. Mr. Jackson's son died May 3, 1880, but the stock is still retained by the family. The company is now organized with C. R. Woodin, president; G. Mallory, vice-president; Charles H. Zehnder, secretary, and M. W. Jackson and W. H. Woodin, executive committee. The foundry was first started on a very small scale, doing a business for the first few years of about \$10,000 to \$20,000 per annum. In 1866 the buildings were all destroyed by fire but were immediately rebuilt. The firm worked night and day and their business increased very rapidly until now they do about \$1,500,000 per year, and give employment to about 1,200 men when running at full capacity. The firm also own and operate a large store and do a business from \$100,000 to \$125,000 per annum. The capacity of the rolling-mill is forty to fifty tons per day of finished iron or merchant bar iron. The car wheel factory manufactures from 150 to 200 wheels per day, and in connection with the wheel foundry they manufacture all kinds of castings. The pipe factory runs twenty-five to thirty tons per day, from three to twelve inches in diameter, used for water and gas. When the works are run under full capacity, 140 to 150 tons of pig iron per day are used. This gives some idea of the work done by them. The car shops have a capacity of twenty cars per day. Mr. Jackson has one of the finest residence properties in the borough, beautifully located, and by industry and economy he has amassed quite a fortune. He has been twice married; first in 1839, to Margaret Gearhart, granddaughter of Judge Gearhart, a native of Northumberland County, who bore him seven children, two living; Margaret Jackson (wife of B. F. Crispin, Jr.) and Frank R. (married to Miss Ammerman). Mrs. Jackson died in 1871, and our subject next married in 1877, Mrs. Mary (Shulze) Gotwalt, niece of Gov. J. Andrew Shulze, of Pennsylvania, who has borne him one child, Mary Woodin. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is president of the First National Bank, and owns about 1,200 acres of land, and is quite extensively engaged in farming. He is one of the most popular men in Berwick, standing very high in the estimation of all who have had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

COL. CLARENCE G. JACKSON, deceased, was born March 25, 1842, in Berwick, where he spent his early years. He was a son of M. W. and Margaret (Gearhart) Jackson. At the age of fourteen he entered Dickinson Seminary at Williamsport, where, two years later, he graduated with the highest honors of his class. He then entered Dickinson College, Carlisle, where, at the age of eighteen he graduated at the head of his class. After his college career he returned home, where he remained during the eventful period covering the beginning of the civil war. At the age of twenty years he felt that it was his duty to aid his country and entered the service, August 2, 1862, as second lieutenant of Company H, Eighty-fourth Regiment. January 2, of the following year, he was promoted first lieutenant, and passed safely through many sanguinary battles. At Chancellorsville he was captured by the enemy and taken to Libby Prison, where he remained many months, but not without making a daring attempt at escaping. He with his companions succeeded in getting away from the prison to the country, but was captured and brought back. Later he was exchanged and appointed to a captaincy, serving in that capacity until the close of the war. At the battle of the Wilderness he was wounded and again taken prisoner and returned to that prison from which he had been released but a short time before. His stay, however, was short, for he was included among 600 officers that

were taken to Charleston and placed under fire of the Federal cannon that thundered on them from Ft. Moultrie. From Charleston they were taken to Columbia and placed in a guarded field, with no roof to shelter them, and where they dug underground cells for themselves. Our subject was finally exchanged and returned home to engage in a more peaceful occupation. In 1870 he was appointed major on Gen. Osborne's staff and later promoted to colonel on Gov. Hartranft's staff. In 1879 he was honored by an appointment from Gov. Hoyt, making him quartermaster-general, which office he held at the time of his death. He was a delegate-elect to the convention at Chicago. Occasionally he appeared before the public as a lecturer, where he was always appreciated. At the time of his death he was vice-president of The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Company, president of the rolling-mill, a director of the First National Bank, and a member of the firms of Jackson, Woodin & Jackson, bankers, and Jackson Bros. & Crispin. He was a trustee of Dickinson College and of the State normal school at Bloomsburg, a director of the schools of Berwick, and a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, all of which positions he creditably filled. He was liberal in thought and deed and a liberal friend of the laboring class. He had just completed a fine residence at an enormous expense, in which he resided one year before his death. The firms with which he was connected have lost an able, active associate, the church a valuable and liberal supporter, the town a progressive citizen, and the county a loyal, patriotic and brave soldier. February 1, 1866, he married Elizabeth Sybert, by whom he had two children: Henrietta M. and Jane B. Mrs. Jackson is a liberal supporter of Christianity and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

FRANK R. JACKSON, director of The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Company, was born in Berwick, November 10, 1850, a son of M. W. and Margaret (Gearhart) Jackson, natives of Pennsylvania. He was reared in Berwick and remained at home until he became of age. He received his education at Berwick, Williamsport and Mechanicsburg. In 1870 he became interested in the firm of Jackson & Woodin, and still retains an interest in the same; in 1880 he bought a third interest in the Jackson Iron Company in Union County, and is also one of the directors of the National Bank. He is treasurer of the agricultural society and trustee of the Y. M. C. A. Mr. Jackson married, September 3, 1873, Alice Ammerman, a native of Danville. They are the parents of one child, Catherine E. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a gentleman of fine education, very enterprising and has a host of friends.

CHARLES N. KISNER, druggist, Berwick, was born in Luzerne County, Penn., May 26, 1859, a son of Reubert and Cordelia (Seybert) Kisner, natives of Luzerne County, and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany, and first settled in one of the lower counties. His grandfather lived in Luzerne County and there followed farming. Reuben Kisner was also a farmer, owned a farm in Luzerne County and died in 1882. His widow is yet living on the old homestead near Berwick, in Luzerne County. Charles N. Kisner was reared on a farm until eighteen years of age when he engaged in the drug business in Berwick, where he remained two years. He then attended lectures at the college of pharmacy, Philadelphia, Penn., two terms. He then returned to Berwick where he has since been engaged in the drug business. He carries a stock valued at \$3,500 and has a half interest in the business, his partner being I. E. Grove, who resides in Philadelphia.

LEVI KURTZ, or more properly spelt Kutz, was born in Fork Township, Northampton Co., Penn., March 30, 1825, a son of Henry and Charity (Snyder) Kutz, natives of Pennsylvania. He is of German extraction, his great-grandfather having emigrated from Germany and being one of the early settlers of Pennsylvania. The father of the subject of this sketch served with honor in the war of 1812; he died in 1830, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, in Northampton County, Penn. There were ten children in the family of whom Levi and five older than he—Henry, Millie (wife of Frederick Ulmer, residing in New Jersey), Jeremiah, William and Samuel—survived the father. In 1843, when nineteen years old, Levi came to Columbia County, then thinly settled, and began the world for himself. Having saved enough to buy a small farm, he followed the plow for twelve years. He traded the farm for a store in Foundryville, Columbia County, in 1858; but subsequently moved his store to Evansville, same county, where he remained until 1862, when he disposed of his store and removed to Berwick. In 1870 he established the Berwick Marble & Granite Works. In 1879 he took his son, Jennings U., into partnership and the firm is now known as L. Kurtz & Son. In April, 1844, Mr. Kurtz married Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel and Annie (Moore) Schlabach. Twelve children were born to their union, of whom six are living: C. Louisa, Jennings U., D. Morris, Annie S., Kittie E. and S. Burton.

GEORGE P. LEARN, retired farmer, was born in Luzerne County, February 7, 1819, a son of George and Mary Catherine Learn. His grandfather, Jacob Learn, was born in Northampton County, Penn., and lived and died in that county. He followed farming, and as the country was in a wild state, he had many difficulties to contend against. Indians were also numerous, and his wife and brother were killed by them. George Learn, our subject's father, was born in Northampton County in August, 1788, and resided there with his parents until he was twenty-six years of age. He then moved

to Luzerne County, where he engaged in farming until his death, at the age of sixty-two years. He married Mary Catherine Dreher, an aunt to Judge Dreher, of Monroe County. Our subject resided in Hanover, his native township, until he was forty-seven years of age, and then moved to Columbia County. March 21, 1850, he married Lenora Keller, who bore him five children: Henry Clinton, married Rhoda Laubach; John M., married Mary Jane Mower; Alexander Jameson, married Ida Hess; Mary S., wife of W. S. Ash, and Augustus Frederick, all of whom reside in Columbia County. Mr. Learn has served as overseer of the poor and school director. He and Mrs. Learn are members of the Reformed Church.

M. LEVY, clothing merchant, Berwick, was born in Alsace, France (now Germany), April 2, 1852, a son of Joseph and Mary (Woo) Levy, natives of France. His father is still living in his native country, engaged in the mercantile business, which he has followed since a boy, and is now sixty-eight years old. He is the father of seven children, five of whom are living: Emanuel, Marx, Caroline, Jeanette and Flora. The deceased are David and Elise. Marx, our subject, was engaged in the mercantile business with his father in France until 1872, when in the fall of that year he took passage on the steamer "Queen," and after a voyage of seventeen days landed in the City of New York. There he remained one year, engaged in mercantile business. He was then employed by a New York dry goods house and sent west to travel, his points being Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans, and all the large cities, and was thus engaged about five years. He then went to Philadelphia, where he was engaged about two years in mercantile business. In the fall of 1883 he came to Berwick and engaged in the clothing trade, which he still follows. He carries a general line of clothing, boots, shoes, hats, caps, trunks, etc., his stock being valued at about \$7,000, insured. In March, 1882, he married Rosa Dukes, a native of San Francisco, Cal. They are the parents of three children, two of whom are living: Mabel and Arthur. Mr. Levy is a member of the Free Sons, and he and wife are of the Jewish faith.

SHADRACK L. McBRIDE, Berwick, was born in Columbia County, January 29, 1825, a son of Hugh and Mary (Mack) McBride, natives of Pennsylvania, and of Irish descent on the paternal side. Hugh McBride was born near Danville; has always followed farming, and now resides in Luzerne County, retired from active life. He was the father of seven children, four of whom are living: S. L., Sallie, Roxana and Margaret. Our subject was reared on a farm and followed agricultural pursuits until 1861, when he came to Berwick, and has since been in the employ of The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Company for fifteen years. He married, in 1854, Caroline A. Taylor, and two children were born to their union: Fannie, wife of Thomas W. Sherwood, and Samuel H., married to Martha Henry. Mr. and Mrs. McBride are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

GARRICK MALLERY, vice-president of The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Company, Berwick, was born in Mechanicsburg, Cumberland Co., Penn. His father, Garrick V. Mallery, a native of Jefferson County, N. Y., resided in Cumberland County, Penn., at his death in 1864, and was a nephew of Judge Garrick Mallery, who lived for a time at Wilkesbarre; was afterward judge of Berks County, and for many years a resident of Philadelphia. Our subject was reared and educated in Mechanicsburg, and came to Berwick in July, 1864. He entered the store of The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Company as clerk, which position he held until January 5, 1865. He was then promoted book-keeper of the company, and retained that position until the reorganization of the firm in 1872. He was then made treasurer, which position he held until December, 1882, when he was made vice-president of the company, and has since served as such, giving entire satisfaction. He married in October, 1872, Helen A. Hoyt, a native of Columbia County, who has borne him three children, two living—Garrick, Jr., and Pauline; the deceased one was named Ernest. Mr. and Mrs. Mallery are members respectively of the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches.

W. ELLIS MICHAEL, dentist, Berwick, was born in Briarcreek Township, Columbia Co., Penn., August 20, 1857, a son of Stephen and Sarah A. (Gensel) Michael, natives of Columbia County and of German descent. His grandfather came from some of the lower counties and settled in this county in the latter part of the last century. Our subject's father was brought up on a farm and followed agricultural pursuits all his life. When he married he moved to his present place, where he has since remained; he bought 200 acres of land but has since divided it up, his sons purchasing a part of the homestead. Our subject was reared on a farm and attended school until sixteen years of age. In the spring of 1881 he entered the Philadelphia Dental College and graduated in the spring of 1883. In the spring of 1884 he located in Berwick, where he has since practiced. Prior to entering the dental college he attended and taught school. He married, February 14, 1884, Laura McHenry. Mr. Michael is an enterprising gentleman and he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

GEORGE W. MILLER, farmer, was born in Maine Township, Columbia Co., Penn., April 15, 1839, a son of David and Susanna (Eaton) Miller, natives of Mifflin Township and of German descent. His paternal grandfather came from New Jersey and settled in Mifflin Township in the latter part of the last century, where he bought a farm and re-



sided until his death. His father was born in 1812 and remained in Mifflin Township until 1851, when he moved to where George W. now resides, and died March 28, 1873. His widow is yet living in her seventy-fifth year. George W. was reared on a farm and remained with his parents until he was twenty-two years of age. He was engaged by Reuben Miller as a traveling salesman, with whom he remained two years. His farm where he has always resided, contains 216 acres. He married in 1860 Mary A. Sitrler, and seven children blessed their union, six of whom are living: Dora, Della P., Catharine A., Gertrude, Elizabeth and Robert C. Mrs. Miller is a member of the Evangelical Church.

HUDSON OWEN, superintendent of the Pennsylvania Canal of the Wyoming division, was born in Orange County, N. Y., January 25, 1811, a son of William and Nancy (McCord) Owen, the latter a native of Ireland. His father was a native of Orange County, N. Y., but of Welsh descent. He was a tanner by trade and followed the business during the early part of his life. He owned a tannery and property in Middletown, N. Y. In 1819 he sold out and moved to Wyoming County, where he bought a farm and resided until about three years before his death, when he went to live with his son, Hudson, at Berwick, where he died in 1855. His wife died in 1814. William Owen served in the war of 1812 and belonged to the Light Horse Company. He was a life-long Democrat and a man of prominence in his day. He had a family of four children by his first wife, only one of whom is living—Hudson, and by his last wife had five sons, three of whom are living: John, in Washington Territory; Shubel, in Wisconsin, and Boyd, in Dodge Centre, Minn. Our subject was only three years old when his mother died, and at the age of sixteen he was employed by the Delaware Canal Company at Port Jervis, N. Y., where he remained about one year. He was then employed on the Juniata Canal for one year. In January, 1829, he went to Danville, Penn., and was employed by the Pennsylvania Canal Company and helped build the canal. He became foreman of one division and remained in that position until 1858, when he was appointed superintendent of the Wyoming division and has since remained as such. In 1836 he removed to Berwick, where he has since resided. When he moved to Danville he was appointed under a Democratic governor and it was necessary that the canal men should support that ticket, but when a Republican was elected, Mr. Owen was still retained in his position. He began to work for the company as a laborer, and since 1829 has held nearly all the offices of the company. He married in July, 1837, Emily Jackson, a sister of M. W. Jackson. To them were born seven children, four living: Frances (deceased), who was married to Robert Gilroy, a resident of Shickshinny, Luzerne County; Harriet, wife of Jerome Welcott, in Cold Water, Mich.; Sarah, wife of Jeremiah S. McMurtrie; Augusta, wife of Abner Welch, and Ellen E., wife of H. D. Albright, in Union County. Mrs. Owen died in 1855, and in 1856 Mr. Owen married Elizabeth Jackson, a sister of his first wife, and five children were born to their union, four of whom are living: William, in Helena, Mont.; Kate, wife of Augustus Shuman, in Nescopeck; George and Annie. Mr. and Mrs. Owen are members of the church. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity and the I. O. O. F. He has been town councilman and school director for a number of terms and has been a life-long Democrat.

MATTHIAS H. PETTY, farmer, was born in Wilkesbarre, Luzerne Co., Penn., November 25, 1832, a son of William and Lydia (Stroh) Petty, natives, respectively, of Northampton and Berks Counties and of French descent. His grandfather, John Petty, came from Connecticut and settled in Northampton County, where he bought a farm and followed agriculture all his life. William Petty was born January 31, 1787, was reared on a farm and followed lumber dealing for eleven years in Northampton County, where he owned a tract of timber land. He immigrated to Luzerne County in 1827 and engaged in farming for about ten years for Judge Hollenbach; he then moved to Pittston and farmed five years; he then bought a tract of land in Hanover Township, Luzerne County, erected a grist-mill, which he operated until some time before his death, when he sold it and lived retired. He died in 1869 aged eighty-three years. His wife, who was born in 1797, died in 1883. Both were consistent members of the German Reformed Church. They had four children, three now living: Levi, in Colorado; Amie, wife of Peter Wagner, of Pittston, and Matthias H. (Peter is deceased). Our subject remained at home until twenty-three years of age, when he married. He farmed in Hanover Township, Luzerne County, fourteen years and then moved to Salem Township, same county. There he bought a farm and remained six years. In March, 1876, he moved to Columbia County and settled in Briarcreek Township, where he now resides. He bought a farm of sixty acres and has a fine residence, out-buildings, etc. He married December 28, 1854, Mary Pell, a native of Luzerne County, and ten children blessed their union: Hattie, wife of James E. Smith; Amy; Samuel; William, a graduate of Long Island Hospital Medical College, Brooklyn, N. Y., and now a practicing physician; Charles M., Maggie, Mary, Lulu, Edith and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Petty are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is a member of the Grange and is overseer of the poor. While residing in Luzerne County he was justice of the peace one term.

DANIEL REEDY, mason, was born in Columbia County, Penn., May 14, 1835, a son of Peter and Leah (Clause) Reedy, the former a native of Lehigh County, as was also his

mother, and both of French-German descent. His grandfather, Peter Reedy, came from France and settled in Lehigh County, Penn., where he resided for several years. He was a local evangelist and often preached away from home. He came to Columbia County, bought a farm near the Montour line, and there spent the remainder of his life. Peter Reedy was quite young when his parents moved to this county. He followed carpentering all his life, and was accidentally killed by a falling tree in 1842. His widow is yet living at the age of seventy-nine years. They were the parents of six children, five of whom are living: Eliza, wife of Hiram Kitchen, resides in this county; Daniel (subject); Jeremiah, residing in Michigan; Josiah, in Columbia County, and Peter, a resident of Berwick. The deceased one was named Mary. Mrs. Reedy is a member of the Lutheran Church, of which her husband was also a member. Our subject was only seven years old when his father died, and he was put out to work for his board and clothes until he was thirteen. He then worked for two years at the rate of \$3 per month, attending school in the winter. Until eighteen years old the highest wages he received was \$8 per month. He then drove a team two years, hauling iron ore to Danville, and at this earned enough to take care of his mother. In 1855 he came to Berwick and learned the mason's trade and worked as journeyman for about ten years. He then, in 1870, began taking contracts for building in partnership with David Baucher, and so continued until 1879, when the partnership was dissolved. Mr. Reedy now has a good business and is doing well; he owns a fine residence in Berwick and also some land. In 1880 he took a pleasure trip west and was absent about two months. September 17, 1856, he married Martha J. Heavner, a native of Luzerne County, Penn. Eight children were born to them, seven of whom are living: Alice, wife of John D. Creary; Lillie E., wife of S. A. Peck; John C., Harry R., William J., Sadie and Daniel. Jeremiah is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Reedy are members of the Methodist Church. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., of the Masonic fraternity and is a K. T. He has served as a member of the Berwick school board and borough council several years; has also been assessor, treasurer and collector, and is treasurer of the board of managers of the Berwick fair.

M. H. RITTENHOUSE, farmer, P. O. Berwick, was born in Briarcreek on the old homestead, December 25, 1836, a son of Henry and Rachel (Inlton) Rittenhouse, natives of Columbia County. His grandfather, William Rittenhouse, came from Philadelphia to Columbia County in 1794, and settled in what is now Millinville. He and John Kunckle laid out Millinville and there remained a few years. In 1798 he removed to what is now Briarcreek Township and bought two tracts of land, which were patented; both contained about 700 acres. In 1800 he erected a grist-mill on the forks of Briarcreek and operated it a number of years. He also built a woolen factory and saw-mill, which he conducted until his death. The factory was destroyed by fire, but the old mill frame is still standing. He always had his farming done for him; was very successful and had a host of friends. He reared a family of six children. Of these Henry, subject's father, was the youngest and inherited the homestead, where he resided until his death, engaged in farming. He was born September 7, 1792, and died April 2, 1873. His wife was born in October, 1793, and died August 17, 1872. They were the parents of twelve children, eleven of whom are now living: Sarah, wife of William Eddings; Mary, wife of John Rittenhouse; Enoch; Margaret, wife of Asa Hull; William; Uzilla, wife of John Mosteller; Elizabeth, wife of David Kline; Hannah, wife of Wesley Freas; Nehemiah; Fannie, wife of William L. Freas and Morris H. Ann died July 12, 1881. Our subject, Morris H., was reared on a farm and remained home until his marriage, after which he resided seven years on the old homestead. In 1869 he moved to and bought the farm which he now owns and on which he still resides. He married July 31, 1860, Effie A., daughter of W. A. J. and Mary A. (Craig) Brittain, who were both natives of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Rittenhouse are the parents of four children, three of whom survive: Henry, Gertrude and Mary. The deceased was named Hattie. Mrs. Rittenhouse's great-grandfather, Silas Engel, was among the early settlers of this county. He located in Briarcreek at a very early day and followed farming. He came here from Philadelphia, where he was educated for the legal profession, but which he never practiced, although he did a great deal of business for the people of his day.

THOMAS W. SHERWOOD, superintendent of rolling-mill, The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Co., Berwick, was born in Montour County, Penn., Feb. 3, 1856, a son of Eli and Ellen (Kemp) Sherwood, the latter a native of Pittsburgh and of English descent. His father was also a native of England and left his native country when he was twelve years of age. He settled with his parents near Danville when there were but a few houses in that place. He learned the puddler's trade in Danville and followed it until 1877, when he moved to Berwick, where he has since resided, and has charge of the puddling department when it is in operation. He is the father of eleven children, eight of whom are living: Thomas W., Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, Benjamin, Anna, Bertha and Sallie. At the age of ten years our subject went to work in the ore mines, and after remaining there eight months left and went to school three months. He then went to work in the mills at Danville, at the age of eleven, carrying water for the puddlers two weeks. He then ran iron from the squeezer to the rolls about one year, and worked around the rolls five



years in the same mill. He worked in Northumberland mills one year. In 1875 he came to Berwick and entered the employ of The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Company. He was first engaged to help the puddlers, then squeezing the iron, until he received injuries which necessitated his arm being amputated at the shoulder. As soon as he was able to resume work he was engaged in one of the offices, and there remained until the fall of 1878. He was then appointed superintendent of the rolling mill, which position he still fills. He married, in January, 1880, Fannie McBride, and one child has blessed their union, Mabel T. Mrs. Sherwood is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge, No. 240.

SAMUEL E. SMITH, farmer, P. O. Berwick, was born in Mifflin Township Feb. 9, 1828, a son of Samuel and Jane (Engle) Smith, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Mifflin Township. His great-grandfathers on both sides came from England and fought with Wolfe at the capture of Quebec. They afterward settled in New Jersey, purchased a farm and followed agriculture. The maternal grandfather, John Engle, came from New Jersey to this county in the latter part of the last century, while he was a young man, remained a short time, made a settlement, returned to New Jersey, where he married; then came back to this county and resided until his death. During the Revolution he drove four horses to an ambulance, and on one occasion the heads of the two leading animals were taken off by a cannon ball. He was among the early settlers of Mifflin Township, and used to farm the old Henry Rittenhouse farm, now owned by S. J. Conner. Samuel Smith was quite young when he came to this county. He followed farming and was accidentally killed by a train of cars. He reared a family of twelve children, nine of whom are still living. Samuel E. was reared in Mifflin Township, and there remained until the spring of 1865; in 1866 he moved to where he now resides and bought a farm of seventy-one acres, on which he has made all the improvements. Part of his land is in the borough of Berwick. In 1850 he married Esther A. Hull, and they are the parents of four children, two of whom are living; Boyd M. and Ida M. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served two terms as auditor, and has also served as supervisor and overseer of the poor. Our subject's maternal grandfather, while in the Revolution, was sent out to capture some cattle, which were in a field surrounded by a brush fence, and while thus engaged he received a buckshot wound. Mr. Smith's father owned the first iron plow in this county, which he ordered made when he first settled at Mifflin. His nearest market at that time was Easton; fifteen and twenty bushels of grain were counted a big load.

J. D. THOMPSON, retired farmer, P. O. Berwick, was born in Berwick, Nov. 7, 1820, a son of Hugh and Nancy (Dodson) Thompson, the former of Scotch-Irish descent. His grandfather came from Ireland to this State at a very early day, and located in Berwick when there were but a few houses in the town. Our subject's father was only fourteen years of age when his parents moved to this county. He learned the potter's trade, but also carried on farming, owning a farm near Berwick. He died at the age of eighty-eight years, and was the father of six children: Richard, Alexander (deceased), Susanna (wife of Oliver Ege), Jane (deceased), Joseph D. and Elizabeth. The last named was born and reared in Berwick, and remained with his parents until 1866, when he moved to the farm where he now resides. He owns sixty-five acres of good land, but originally owned a great deal more, which he has sold off as town lots. He has been twice married; first, in 1847, to Mary Bonam, who bore him one child, now deceased. His first wife died in 1854, and in 1858 Mr. Thompson married May Hull, who has borne him two children, Hugh and Anna. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served as town councilman for a number of years.

REV. E. H. YOCUM, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Berwick, was born in Columbia County, Penn., September 20, 1843, a son of Jesse and Martha (Mears) Yocum, natives of Pennsylvania and of German-Scotch descent. His ancestors, as far back as four or five generations, came from Germany, and first located in Berks County, but later moved to Columbia County during its early settlement, took up a large tract of land and carried on farming extensively. Jesse Yocum was born in 1807 and was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he followed in Columbia County until 1849. He then moved to Union County, where he purchased a farm and remained a few years. He then sold out and removed to what is now Snyder County, which was then being organized. He moved next to the borough of Selin's Grove, where he remained a short time; thence to Northumberland County, where he purchased a farm and resided until his death in 1872. His wife died in September, 1843. Our subject was but seven days old when his mother died. He remained at home until about seventeen years of age, when he began teaching school; taught two years and also attended school. In 1860 he entered the old Bank of Northumberland, afterward organized as the First National Bank of Sunbury. He served the bank as clerk until the fall of 1866, when he entered Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, where he graduated in the classical course in June, 1868. He returned to the bank at the solicitation of his former employers, and remained twelve months. In March, 1869, he became a member of the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was sent to the Muhlenburg Circuit, Luzerne County, as his first appointment, and spent



one year at this point; was next appointed to the Shickshinny station and served one year. In March, 1871, he was ordained a deacon, and at that conference was appointed to Hazelton, where he served as its pastor three years. His next appointment was at Newberry, or Seventh Ward, Williamsport, where he remained three years; thence went to Tyrone, Blair County, where he spent two years; thence to Bloomsburg, where he also remained two years. In March, 1881, he was appointed presiding elder of the Williamsport District, in which office he served four years. In 1885 he was appointed pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Berwick, which charge he still retains. March 21, 1871, our subject married Laura M. Caslow, a native of Harrisburg, Dauphin Co., Penn. They are the parents of four children, three living: George C., Lottie M. and John P. The deceased one was named Grace P. Mr. Yocum is a finely educated gentleman, and has made a host of friends.

CHARLES H. ZEHNDER, secretary and superintendent of The Jackson & Woodin Manufacturing Company, Berwick, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., April 16, 1856, of German descent. His grandfather came from Germany in the early part of the present century. He followed his trade, that of a miller, nearly all his life, and was for some years a resident at Rupert, this county. Subject's father has spent most of his life in Columbia and Montour Counties; is also a miller by trade, and a resident of Danville. In 1874 he was employed as clerk in the Danville National Bank, which position he held until October, 1878. He then went to Harrisburg where he was employed as assistant secretary of the Y. M. C. A., and remained as such three months; thence moved to Norristown, where he was general secretary of the association for four months. He then resigned on account of ill health, and in March, 1879, was employed as private secretary to Col. Jackson, and remained in that position until the latter's death. After that event he served in same position for C. R. Woodin for some time, when he was elected secretary of the company, and still retains that position, and in December, 1885, was also installed superintendent. He is one of the active members of the Y. M. C. A., having been president of the association, and was managing trustee during the erection of their building and is, at present, one of its managers.

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## CHAPTER XXVII.

### CATAWISSA TOWNSHIP.

STEPHEN BALDY, merchant, Catawissa, was born in Tamaqua, Penn., January 20, 1860, a son of Peter R. and Sarah (Horn) Baldy, natives of this State and of German descent. His grandfather, Stephen, engaged in mercantile business in Catawissa in the year 1817, followed it for a number of years, but retired when he was getting old, and the remainder of his days was spent in serving the public. He was associate judge and justice of the peace a great many years, and filled several minor offices. He was a faithful member of the Lutheran Church; politically a Democrat. Our subject's father, Peter, was born in Catawissa, and has been an employe of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company for a number of years, now holding the position of time clerk. Stephen Baldy came to Catawissa at the age of five years, and attended school until thirteen years of age, when he entered the store of W. P. Jones as clerk and remained four years. Since 1877 he has been engaged in mercantile business, having bought out I. John & Sons, and during eighteen months of that time was associated with H. C. John as partner. Mr. Baldy carries a general stock of groceries, dry goods, crockery, etc. He owns a house and lot where he resides. He was married October 20, 1880, to Hallie R., daughter of John and Caroline Chrisman, and three children have been born to them: Helen, Lucy and Sarah. Mrs. Baldy is a member of the Episcopal Church.

T. D. BERNINGER, painter, undertaker and dealer in furniture, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Columbia County, this State, January 21, 1842, a son of Aaron and Anna (Yost) Berninger, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather, who was born in Berks County, Penn., was a millwright and came to Columbia County, where he followed his trade until his death. Our subject's father was also born in Berks County, and is a millwright, but has followed the manufacture and repair of furniture for a number of years. He also carried on the furniture business in Maine Township for twenty years, and is now seventy years of age. He is the father of four sons. Our subject was reared near Catawissa, and when eighteen years of age served an apprenticeship at the chair and cabinet-maker's trades, and went to work in the Philadelphia & Reading shops at painting and car building, in which employ he spent twenty years. In

April, 1883, he bought out the stock of furniture of William Hartman, put in a new stock of furniture, and has since continued the business. The stock is valued at \$3,000 and is insured at almost its value. Mr. Berninger married in January, 1866, Margaret Bowdoin, who has borne him seven children: Anna M., William, Martha, Aaron, Maude, Susan and Tobias. Mr. and Mrs. Berninger and two elder daughters are members of the Lutheran Church. He is a member of the United American Mechanics' Organization. Mr. Berninger does house and sign painting and devotes his time almost entirely to his business, employing four steady hands.

**WILLIAM BERNINGER**, miller, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Maine Township, Columbia County, October 6, 1843, a son of Aaron and Phœbe A. (Yost) Berninger, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather, Henry, was born in Berks County, and was a miller, which trade he followed the greater part of his life. He moved to this county about 1825 and here remained until his death. Our subject's father was born in Berks County, Penn., and was ten years of age when his parents moved to this county. He is the father of four children; three of these reside in Catawissa and one in Mifflinville, Penn. Our subject was put to the miller's trade when about eighteen years old, and learned the same under Noah Crites in the same mill which he now operates. He worked for him eighteen months and then went to Franklin Township and worked in the Mendenhall mill for three years; thence to Roaringcreek, where he remained six years, and thence to Rupert, where he worked in the mill five years. In the spring of 1879 he bought his present mill from I. W. McKelvy, and has since operated it. The mill is in constant use except on Sunday. Mr. Berninger supplies the home trade and competes with some of the best mills in the State, both in price and quality. He has the combination process, three run of buhrs, one double roller-mill, one twenty-inch under-runner, regrinder, bolts, purifier, etc., Home & Ewell smutter, etc. The mill is run by water-power and is equipped with all the necessary machinery. Franklin, his brother, is an employe in the mill, and has been working here more or less since Mr. Berninger purchased it. Mr. Berninger married, November 14, 1867, Matilda, daughter of Michael and Margaret Mensch, and they are the parents of seven children, four living: Minnie B., Franklin, Lloyd P. and Vaughn. Mr. and Mrs. Berninger are members of the Lutheran Church. He owns eighteen acres of land south of Catawissa on which he has his mill and residence. He also farms to some extent.

**MATHEW A. BIBBY**, agent, D. L. & W. R. R., Catawissa, was born in Lakesville, Dorchester Co., Md., January 26, 1842, a son of Henry and Sarah (Graham) Bibby, and of Scotch-English descent. His father was born in Maryland and was a farmer, which occupation he followed near Lakesville, Md., until his death in 1860. Our subject was reared on a farm until he was fourteen years of age, when he entered D. W. Wells' store in Havre de Grace, Md., and remained seven years. In 1862 he went to Baltimore where he clerked in the store of George H. Edgar, until 1868, when he removed to Renovo, Penn., and entered the office of the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad as clerk. There he remained until the fall of 1871, when he came to Catawissa and here has since been employed by the D. L. & W. R. R., as station agent, express and freight agent, and operator of the road—and the positions he has filled with perfect satisfaction to the company by which he is employed. He married May 23, 1872, Julia, daughter of David W. and Elizabeth (Boon) Clark, and three sons were born to their union: David B., Frank and Robert. Mrs. Bibby is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**JOSEPH BREISCH**, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Catawissa Township, this county, August 15, 1822, and is a son of George and Rebecca (Wall) Breisch. His parents were natives of this State and of German descent. His grandfather, Jacob Breisch, was born in Germany and came to America at an early day. His grandfather, Wall, was sold on board of a vessel to pay his passage to America. Our subject's father was born in Montgomery County, this State, and came to Columbia County in 1802, locating where our subject now resides. He died on the place now owned by John T. Shuman, in 1870, and which he at that time owned. Joseph was reared on the farm and remained with his parents until 1852. In 1853 he married Harriet Miller, by whom he has five children: Emma J. (married to Chas. W. Newhouser) and John E. (twins), Rebecca, Harmon and Regina. In 1852 Mr. Breisch bought the farm where his son John now lives, consisting of 153 acres, moved on it in 1854 and there resided until 1864, when he came to his present place of 250 acres. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church.

**JOHN E. BREISCH**, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Catawissa Township, this county, November 3, 1854, a son of Joseph and Harriet (Miller) Breisch, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany at an early day and settled in Columbia County, where he owned a farm and followed agricultural pursuits all his life. Subject's father was born in this county; has been a farmer all his life, and is yet living on his farm. John E. was reared on the farm and remained at home until twenty-one years of age, when he married and moved to where he now resides and owns 155 acres of good land with about 100 acres under cultivation. He has been building during the last few years and now has one of the finest farm residences in this part of the county. He married, November 22, 1875, Lydia Fram, a native of

Schuylkill County, Penn. They are the parents of two children: Cora E., and Raymond E. Mr. and Mrs. Breisch are members of the Lutheran Church at Catawissa. He is a member of the Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. In 1885 Mr. Breisch started a dairy business at which he has since been engaged. He has a good trade and keeps fifteen head of fine cows.

CHRISTIAN E. CLEWELL, merchant, Catawissa, was born in Catawissa, July 12, 1840, a son of Jacob and Eliza (Brobst) Clewell natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather, Jacob, lived near Catawissa, was a farmer and owned two farms; he resided here until his death in 1862. Our subject's father came to Catawissa when a young man, also followed agriculture and lived on a farm adjoining the old homestead. He died in 1877 at his home. Our subject was reared on a farm, and remained with his parents until the war broke out. August 8, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served nine months under Capt. Brobst. He was in the battles of Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg, and after the expiration of nine months returned home, and until 1883 followed agriculture, which he was obliged to abandon on account of ill health. At the last mentioned date he moved to Catawissa, bought property, and engaged in mercantile business, which he has since followed. He carries a general line of groceries, flour and feed. He married, July 30, 1863, Amelia Martz, by whom he has had six children, five of whom are living: Sarah C. (wife of Porter S. Sook), John, Anna, Ella and George. Mr. and Mrs. Clewell are members of the German Reformed Church. Mr. Clewell has built up a good trade and is doing a thriving business.

JACOB H. CREASY, P. O. Catawissa, traveling salesman for the notion house of File, Derr, Hancy & Co., of Philadelphia, was born in Mifflin Township, this county, October 7, 1838. He is a son of Levi and Catherine (Hartsell) Creasy, natives of Columbia County, Penn., and of German descent. His grandfather, Adam Creasy, was born in this county in 1780, and his (Adam Creasy's) brother was a member of the Legislature in the early times. Our subject's father was reared in Mifflin Township, where he also followed farming. He was lieutenant of a military company during the war of 1812, owned about 200 acres of land, was a member of the Lutheran Church, and died September 15, 1876. Our subject was reared on a farm until about eighteen years of age when he worked at the carriage trade for about eighteen months. He was then employed as clerk with Swank & Grover, at Hobby, Luzerne County, for seven months; then moved to Berwick where he was engaged as clerk two years. In 1861 he engaged in mercantile business for himself in Catawissa Township for two years and nine months. He then formed a partnership with N. P. John, which continued until 1867, when the firm dissolved, and Mr. Creasy again conducted the business alone. In the spring of 1868 he sold out to I. John & Sons, and in 1869 moved to Mifflin where he engaged in mercantile business until the spring of 1872, when he again sold out. The same year he returned to Catawissa and bought a cigar and tobacco establishment at Berwick, which he conducted seven months, and again returned to Catawissa where he has since resided. In July, 1873, he was engaged by his present employers. He married January 23, 1866, Sarah E., daughter of Isaiah and Mary (Bitler) John, and they are the parents of four children, two living: Milton B. and Harry B. Mr. and Mrs. Creasy are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church; he has been a member of the I. O. O. F. and American Mechanics and of the K. of P., but lately has dropped out. He owns a lot in Catawissa and 618 acres of good land.

WILLIAM T. CREASY, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in this township, February 23, 1856, a son of Nathan and Susanna (Krickbaum) Creasy; the latter was a native of Catawissa Township and of German descent. The former's ancestors came from Germany and settled in New Jersey, whence they moved to this county about 100 years ago. Some settled about Mifflin Township, this county, where they farmed. Subject's grandfather William was one of the earlier settlers in Catawissa Valley, Schuylkill County. He was a farmer, which occupation he followed all his life, with the exception of the last few years, when he lived retired in Catawissa. He died in January, 1886, being in his seventy-ninth year. Our subject's father was born in Catawissa Valley, and was there reared. After his marriage he bought a farm where Henry L. now resides, and there remained until his death in 1881. He was a member of the Lutheran Church. His wife died in 1883. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained with his grandparents until twenty years of age. He graduated at Bloomsburg Normal School in 1875; began teaching when sixteen years old, and taught eleven terms. In 1876 he moved to where he now resides. He married, March 23, 1876, Sarah Jane Weaver, by whom he has three children: Charles, Katie and Sadie. Mr. and Mrs. Creasy are members of the Lutheran Church. He is a member of the Grange and is at present school director. He was one of the originators of the White Plymouth chicken, which breed now adorns his poultry yards. Mr. Creasy has three brothers and two sisters living, and two sisters dead.

HENRY L. CREASY, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Catawissa Township, September 12, 1861, a son of Nathan and Susanna (Krickbaum) Creasy, both of whom were born and reared on the farm where our subject now resides. They were of German descent, and were the parents of eight children, six now living: William T., Francis P., Elmira (wife of W. H. Hess), Henry L., Nathan and Dora. Our subject was born and



reared on the old homestead where he now resides, and owns 135 acres of good land, all under cultivation. This farm originally contained 300 acres, but has been divided into two farms. Mr. Creasy was married in 1884 to Anna Sweppenhiser, of Centre Township, this county, and one child has been born to them, Hiram W. Mr. and Mrs. Creasy are members of the old Lutheran Church. He is an intelligent and enterprising farmer; has just commenced in life for himself, but is gifted with that energy which is sure to succeed.

PETER B. ERVIN, harness-maker, Catawissa, was born August 21, 1864, in Catawissa, a son of John and Henrietta (Bodine) Ervin, natives of this county, and of German and English descent. His great-grandfathers came from the old country and settled in this county, near Catawissa, and Jonas Metz, a brother to his great-grandmother, was the first farmer in the vicinity of Catawissa, and lived and died here. The great-grandfather lived to be ninety-four years of age, and was a soldier in the Revolution. Our subject's maternal grandfather was a cabinet-maker but during the latter part of his life followed farming. His paternal grandfather, Isaac Ervin, is yet living at the age of eighty years; is stout and strong, and does a good deal of his farming. He owns a farm, a part of which lies in Locust Township and a part in Catawissa. He learned the mason's trade and worked at it in his younger days. He helped to build the furnace at Danville, and, while so engaged, he had three ribs broken and was otherwise injured. Our subject's father was born on the homestead in Locust Township, and learned the carpenter's trade. He served in the war of the Rebellion, and after marriage moved to Catawissa, where he since worked at his trade. He is now employed by the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad, as car builder. Our subject was reared in Catawissa, attended school until seventeen years of age, and later was employed by T. E. Harder. He then engaged for three years in the confectionery business. In October, 1885, he commenced to learn the harness-making trade, and has since been engaged in making and selling harness. He is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church; is also a member of the P. O. S. of A. In politics he is a Republican.

WILLIAM EYER, surveyor and draftsman of the Catawissa division of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad, P. O. Catawissa, was born in that place in 1844, and is a son of William J. and Charlotte (Havemeyer) Eyer, former a native of Pennsylvania, latter of the city of New York. His grandparents on both sides came from Germany at an early day, and located in New York City, where they engaged in the manufacture of sugar, in which the Havemeyer family are still engaged, and have one of the largest manufactories in New York. They have also a large sugar refinery in Philadelphia. His grandmother Havemeyer was about ninety-eight years of age when she died; his grandfather died at the age of eighty years. Our subject's father was born in Selin's Grove, Snyder Co., Penn., and was reared on a farm until about twenty-one years of age. He began educating himself when young, studied for the ministry, and was ordained a minister of the Lutheran denomination. He came to Catawissa, where he was engaged in the ministry until his death. He was a man of noble qualities and beloved by all who knew him. Our subject was brought up in Catawissa and attended school until twenty years of age, when he commenced work at surveying for the Catawissa Railroad, at Summit Station, and was employed there two years. He was then engaged as station agent at Catawissa for six years; then entered the office of W. G. Yetter, division engineer of Catawissa division, as surveyor and draftsman, which position he still holds. He was married, January 11, 1873, to Mary Ritter, a daughter of David and Eliza Ritter. Mr. and Mrs. Eyer are the parents of two children, John R. and Susan H. Mrs. Eyer is a member of the Lutheran Church.

LUTHER EYER, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born March 12, 1846, son of Rev. William J. Eyer (whose sketch and portrait appear elsewhere), and was educated principally at Millersville, Lancaster Co., Penn. During the years 1868-69 he was engaged with Havemeyers & Elder, New York, in a sugar refinery, and in 1870 resumed farming in Montour Township, this county. In 1873 he was married to Jane, a daughter of David Clark, son of Andrew Clark, one of the pioneers of Columbia County. By this union Mr. Eyer has been blessed with four children: William, David, Kate and George. After marriage he settled on his farm in Montour Township, where he remained until 1880, when he bought property in Catawissa where he now resides, but still attends to his farm. He took an active interest in helping to establish the present excellent school and building, of which institution he has served as school director. For ten years he has been a director of the Catawissa bank. In politics he is a Democrat.

WILLIAM L. EYERLY, attorney at law, Catawissa, was born in Bloomsburg, Penn., August 18, 1852, a son of Michael F. and Eliza T. (Kluge) Eyerly, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His maternal great-grandfather came from Germany. His grandfather, Jacob Eyerly, was appointed, by Gov. Wolf, prothonotary of Columbia County, which office he filled for about thirty-five years. He died in Bloomsburg. Our subject's father was born near Danville, this county, but later moved to Bloomsburg, where he was employed as clerk in the prothonotary's office for a number of years. He was then employed with W. F. Clark, attorney at law, as clerk, with whom he remained several years. He then formed a partnership with Col. John G. Freeze, attorney at law, and was with him several years, but is now leading a retired life. William L.

attended school at Bloomsburg until twenty years of age, when he graduated and entered Col. J. G. Freeze's law office in 1872 as a student. After two years of hard study he was admitted to the bar in September, 1874, and the same month located at Catawissa, where he has since been in practice, and is admitted to the supreme court. Mr. Eyerly was married, November 15, 1877, to Maggie M., daughter of John and Nancy Reifsnnyder, and they are the parents of one child, Paul R., born May 15, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Eyerly are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Eyerly owns a house and lot on North Third Street. He is a member of the College society, and is one of the prominent men of his profession, to which he is well adapted.

BENJAMIN P. FORTNER, of the town of Catawissa, was born in Locust Township, Columbia Co., Penn., October 31, 1811, a son of John and Sarah B. Fortner. Natives of Pennsylvania, the Fortner family are of Scotch descent, being the descendants of Lord Archibald Douglas, of Bothwell Castle, Scotland, whose only daughter, Isabella, having a desire to see this continent, prevailed upon her father to consent to her coming to America, in company with a lady friend, which they did, and while on their passage the vessel in which they were was seized by a piratical crew of Algiers and robbed of all their effects, and they were landed in New York destitute of friends or the wherewith to support themselves. It happened that a farmer from New Jersey met them, of whom they inquired what they should do, and he replied he would take them home with him, which he did. Isabella Douglas resided with his family and married a man by the name of Fortner, and resided in New Jersey until their death. They had twelve children, one of whom, Jonas, went to Canada during the Revolutionary war with England, as he was prejudiced against the war. The grandfather of Benjamin P. Fortner was born in New Jersey, and at the breaking out of the Revolutionary war he enlisted in the army and served nine campaigns in the army under Gen. Washington; was in the battle of Brandywine; was in camp in Valley Forge all winter, and marched with his regiment on foot from Philadelphia to Yorktown, and was there at the surrender of the British army. He moved to Columbia County near Millinville, Penn., and he had three sons and four daughters: George, Andrew, John, Anna, Naomi, Frances and Mercy. He died near Millinville, aged sixty-five years. His occupation was a farmer. Our subject's father, John, was born in Sussex County, N. J., and when about fifteen years of age moved with his father to Columbia County, Penn., and after marriage purchased a farm south of Catawissa, where he lived and died in his fifty-ninth year. He was the father of three children, two sons and one daughter, viz.: Benjamin P., Jonathan and Martha B., who died in 1837. Benjamin P. remained with his father until he was eighteen years old, when he engaged with Samuel D. Brobst, of Catawissa, as a salesman, with whom he remained until he was twenty-one years, when he was elected constable, and served in that office two years. On March 5, 1835, he married Mary Davis, daughter of John and Sarah Davis, near Catawissa. In 1836 he and his father-in-law purchased a hotel at that place, which they lived in and kept as a hotel until 1838, at which time they sold the hotel. He then bought and ran two boats on the Schuylkill Canal, hauling coal from Pottsville to Philadelphia. In consequence of the completion of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad boating became poor, and he sold out and bid for and was allotted work grading on the Tioga & Corning Railroad. After finishing, he, in 1840, got work on the Wisconsin Canal, and worked there until the work was abandoned, after which he bought a farm near Catawissa, which he resided on with his family until 1860 (which he yet owns), when he moved to Catawissa, having considerable property there, where he now lives a retired life. He was, while living on his farm, elected justice of the peace, and in 1849 he was elected a member of the Legislature from Columbia County, and served one term. At the commencement of the Rebellion he was appointed by President Lincoln internal revenue assessor for the Thirteenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, and served about two years, when he resigned and accepted the appointment of revenue collector for Columbia and Montour Counties, which he held for three years, after which he was re-elected justice of Catawissa, which office he still holds. His wife was the mother of ten children, five of whom are still living, viz.: Burton W., Alem B., Alice M., Millard, John W. and Sadie Myers. Four of her sons were in the army, either as volunteers or enlisted, one of whom died in the service in Camp Mary, near Washington, D. C., named Harrison Fortner. B. P. Fortner's father married Sarah Brooke, whose father lived in Columbia County, Penn.

CLARK F. HARDER, contractor and builder, Catawissa, was born in Columbia County, Penn., September 28, 1841, a son of Thomas and Catherine (Feister) Harder, natives of Pennsylvania. His grandparents were among the first settlers of Catawissa Township, being here before the massacre at Wyoming. His maternal grandfather came direct from Germany to this country, and his paternal grandparents from Switzerland. His grandfather Harder was a blacksmith, which trade he followed a number of years. His grandfather Feister kept a hotel for a number of years where the Catawissa House now stands. They both took quite an active part in politics, the former being a Democrat and the latter a Whig. Our subject's father was born in Catawissa Township, and when quite young learned the blacksmith's trade which he carried on a number of years and



also followed farming. He owned a farm in Catawissa Township. He was a Republican in politics. He died in 1860. Our subject was only fourteen years of age when his father died, and he then remained with his mother until her death in 1872. At sixteen years of age he began to learn the carpenter and cabinet-maker's trades, which he had just mastered when the war broke out. August 6, 1862, he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers in the nine months' service. He served eight months, participated in the battle of Antietam, and after that engagement was detailed to take care of the wounded, but was taken ill and removed to the convalescent camp in Virginia, where later on he was discharged on account of disability. After his discharge he went to Washington and wanted to join his regiment, but was refused. He arrived home one month before the return of his regiment and tried again to enlist, but would not be taken on account of disability. He then resumed his trade which he has since followed. In 1866 he built a planing-mill which he has since operated, and is doing a good business. He built seventeen houses in the summer of 1885, furnishing all his own materials and has erected more houses in Catawissa than any other man. He formerly owned seven houses and lots, but has sold off until he now owns but two, also a lot 100x80 feet on which his mill and wareroom (the latter 20x65 feet, two stories in height) stand. Mr. Harder married, March 11, 1868, Sarah Hayhurst, granddaughter of Stephen Baldy, and they are the parents of five children: Err, Edwin, Bessie, Jennie and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Harder are members of the Lutheran Church. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., No. 60, Catawissa, and G. A. R., No. 170. He has held all the offices in the Odd Fellows lodge, having passed all the chairs. Mr. Harder is Republican in political views.

THOMAS E. HARDER, proprietor of the mammoth furniture store, furnishing undertaker and embalmer, Catawissa, was born in Catawissa Township, this county, in December, 1843, a son of Washington and Mary (McAllister) Harder, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather Err was a blacksmith, and died in Catawissa. Our subject's father was born in Catawissa, this county, and was a wheelwright, which occupation he followed the most of his life. He died here in 1861. Our subject was brought up in Catawissa, where he attended school and learned the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed until going into business for himself. He started on a small scale, and his business grew to such an extent that in 1883 he built a large four-story stone building, with basement and attic, at a cost of about \$15,000. He manufactures furniture in the basement, and the balance of the building is stored with goods common to his line. His stock of furniture is valued at \$12,000. This building is a magnificent one, and the largest in this section of the country, which shows that Mr. Harder's business has been a success, and that he has won the confidence of the people by his honesty and low figures. He manufactures a great deal of his furniture, and does painting of all kinds. He is also engaged in the undertaking business. He married, in January, 1873, Clara Hamlin, by whom he has three children: Charles M., Guy W. and Pearl. Mr. Harder is a member of the Masonic fraternity, M. S. of A. and G. A. R., No. 170. In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, serving nine months; was in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and at the end of nine months entered the Thirtieth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry as second lieutenant; was detached as sergeant-major of his regiment, which commission he held about three months during an emergency. He then enlisted in Company D, Third Heavy Artillery, and served two years. He was on detached service as paymaster's clerk, but previous to getting that charge served in the front at Fort Spring Hill, and subsequently at Dutch Gap Canal, but no very heavy engagements occurred. Mr. Harder, during his campaign, marched through Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, and during the battle of Gettysburg his regiment was to the left at Carlyle, and no doubt Harrisburg would have been captured had it not been that his regiment aided to the success and headed the enemy off. Gen. Smith was the division general. Mr. Harder was a brave soldier, and never flinched where duty called. He is now one of the most successful business men in this vicinity, and one of the leading men of Columbia County. He takes no part in politics, but sides with the Republicans.

NELSON C. HARTMAN, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in this county December 8, 1845, a son of Moses and Rebecca (Clayton) Hartman, the parents of the latter being among the early settlers of this county. Her ancestors came from Scotland and her husband's from Germany. Our subject's grandfather, Casper, was born in this county, his father coming direct from Germany, and settling where Nelson C. now resides about 1760, and taking up a section of land. At the outbreak of the Revolution he was thought by many to have been a Tory; he was a man of few words, strong ideas, orthodox in religion, and strongly opposed to war, but when the crisis came and one side or the other had to be recognized, his sympathies were with the American colonies. He was a tanner by trade, tanned hides for the Indians, and prepared all kinds of furs. He lived here until his death, after which the estate was divided, and Casper, the grandfather of our subject, got a third of the homestead and lived on it until his death. One of his sons moved on the great-grandfather's place. Our subject's father was born on the homestead of his father and after years bought the place where our subject now lives. He resided there



about thirty years, but in his later days moved to Catawissa, where he died in 1871. He was the father of four children, three of whom are living: Harriet, wife of Nelson John, residing in Minnesota; Deborah, deceased; Nelson C., and Jane, wife of J. M. Smith, residing in Catawissa. Nelson C. was reared on a farm and remained at home until twenty years of age, when he went West through Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota and as far as the Rocky Mountains. After an absence of one year he returned home and was employed on the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad as fireman for four years. He abandoned that, however, and went on the farm, where he now lives. Here he owns about 200 acres of good land. February 16, 1870, he married Alice, daughter of Andrew and Anna (Boone) Clark, and they are the parents of two children, Andrew C. and Harry Garfield. Mrs. Hartman is a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Hartman has served as school director several years. He has one of the finest farms in this section and one of the best residences, with all the latest improvements.

REV. DAVID M. HENKEL, D. D., Catawissa, was born in Point Pleasant, Monas Co., W. Va., April 12, 1820, and is a son of Rev. Charles and Mary (Siegrist) Henkel, natives of West Virginia. The first of the family to come to this country was Gearhart Henkel, who came from Frankfort, Germany, and who served as chaplain under Duke — (not now known), and located at Germantown, Philadelphia, in 1735, where he resided until his death, which was occasioned by an accident. He was found by the roadside dead, and the supposition was that his horse had thrown him. He was a Lutheran minister. The generations back are Gearhart, Justice, Jacob, Paul, Charles and David M., the last being the sixth generation, and it may be stated that a number of the ancestors were Lutheran ministers. Paul, the grandfather, was the father of six sons, five of whom were ministers, and one a physician. The grandfather died in New Market, Shenandoah Co., Va., in 1825. Our subject's father was the first Lutheran minister in Columbus, Ohio. He moved from Columbus to Somerset, Ohio, where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1840. Our subject was still young when his parents moved to Columbus, Ohio, and was educated at the Capital University of that place, where he also received his theological training. He graduated in 1849 and was ordained a pastor of the Lutheran Church. His first charge was at Goshen, Ind., when it was yet in a wild state. He remained here only eighteen months, when he was forced to leave on account of sickness, and returned to the valley of Virginia until he had recuperated, when he took the charge at Stewartsville, N. J. In 1859 he was called to Danville, Montour County, there organized and built Trinity Lutheran Church and served as its pastor eight years. He was then called to Stroudsburg, Monroe Co., Penn., where he organized and built St. John's Church, in that county, and remained as its pastor four years. He was then sent to Richmond, Va., to build up an English church, but his health failing him he was unable to accomplish his undertaking. He then moved to Mount Pleasant, N. C.; thence to Nokomis, Ill., where he remained six years, and, failing in health, he in 1882 moved to Catawissa, where he has no regular charge, but still delivers sermons. Mr. Henkel is a very able speaker, and has been engaged in this good cause since 1848. He married first, in September, 1849, Heleah Henkel, who bore him six children: Mary, wife of Rev. C. W. Sifferd; Leah, wife of Rev. A. L. Yount; Charles, married to Miss Lease, of Nokomis, Ill.; Solon, William and Luther. Mrs. Henkel died in 1873, and he next married, in November, 1875, Susan C. Eyer, eldest daughter of Rev. W. J. Eyer, of Catawissa, who was born in 1803, and came to Catawissa in 1838. He served as minister in the Lutheran Church until his death in 1874. Mr. Eyer was a noted man, an able speaker, and his death was deeply felt by his friends and family. Mrs. Henkel's grandfather, Frederick C. Havemeyer, opened a sugar refinery in the city of New York in 1823, and made it one of the largest concerns in that city. It is still in the Havemeyer name, and the family is also connected with a sugar refinery in Philadelphia.

MINNER HILE, traveling salesman for A. A. Shumway & Co., of Philadelphia, Penn., was born in Northumberland County, Penn., January 23, 1834, and is a son of James and Hannah (Campbell) Hile, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His great-grandfather, Henry Hile, came from Germany and located near Sunbury, Northumberland Co., Penn., where he owned and cultivated two farms. He moved to Clearfield County and bought a farm where he resided until his death. Our subject's father, a native of Northumberland County, Penn., was a farmer, and resided near Sunbury for a number of years, when he moved to Clearfield County, where he followed farming until 1866 (previously he came to this county and bought a farm of 220 acres, in 1856, in Franklin Township, which he still carries on). He is seventy-seven years of age. Our subject was reared on a farm and at the age of twenty-four years, married and moved to Franklin Township, this county, where he engaged in farming for about four years. He then bought a farm in Catawissa Township, moved on it, farmed and operated a dairy. He was the first man to start a dairy in Catawissa, and continued it three years and two weeks. In 1869 he moved to Philadelphia, where he was employed by a wholesale tea firm for a short time. Then moved back to Catawissa, this county, and he and his brother, Amos, started a dry goods and grocery store in the place, which they conducted six years. He was engaged with a Reading boot and shoe house for about four years, as traveling salesman. In 1877 he was em-

ployed by A. A. Shumway & Co., boot and shoe dealers of Philadelphia, as traveling salesman, and is still in their employ. He married, April 22, 1859, Hannah Fox, who has borne him three children: Elizabeth (wife of E. G. Sanburn, Jersey City), Anna B., and Elmer, who carries on a boot and shoe store in Catawissa. Mr. and Mrs. Hile are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Democrat. Mr. Hile owns a house and lot in Catawissa.

ALFRED HOWER, teacher, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Numidia, Penn., November 10, 1851, a son of Michael and Catherine (Bachman) Hower, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His great-grandfather settled in Catawissa about the latter part of the eighteenth century and was one of the first settlers in this part of the country. He owned about 1,000 acres and lived and died here. Our subject's grandfather Sebastian was reared on the homestead, and while young learned the carpenter's trade, but later bought a farm near Slabtown in Locust Township, where he lived until his death which occurred in 1860. Our subject's father was reared near Slabtown, but had lived in the coal regions a part of his time. He moved to Numidia, where he lived until his death in 1882. He was a blacksmith, which trade he followed the most of his life; also carried on farming to some extent. At the age of eighteen our subject learned the carpenter's trade at Shamokin, Penn., where he worked about a year. Previous to learning this trade he had taught two terms of school, and after completing his apprenticeship, again taught in the winter and went to school in the summer. He attended Bloomsburg Normal School, Greenwood's Seminary and Lowell's Commercial College at Binghamton, and graduated in 1874. In the fall of 1877 he moved to Catawissa, and resided here four years, teaching school. In 1882 he moved to Orangeville where he lived two years, having the principalship of the graded school. In the spring of 1884 he moved back to Catawissa where he has since lived, engaged in teaching in the winter and working at this trade in the summer. He owns two houses and lots, and is at present engaged in building a two-story frame house. He married, December 4, 1877, Isabella, daughter of John T. and Catherine (Breisch) Shuman. Mr. and Mrs. Hower are the parents of four children: John S., Lillian C., Laura Jennie and Warren A. Mr. and Mrs. Hower are members of the Lutheran Church. One of Mr. Hower's relatives was buried in the cemetery here in 1802.

PETER KERN, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Warren County, N. J., November 17, 1817, a son of John and Gertrude (Ridgeway) Kern, both of whom were born in Warren County, N. J., and were of German descent. His grandparents on both sides came from Germany, emigrating direct to Pennsylvania, where, however, they remained but a short time, when they emigrated to New Jersey where they took up land and lived until their deaths. The grandfather died in his eighty-fifth year. He and his wife were highly educated in the old country. Our subject's father was born in Warren County, N. J., in 1809 and was in his sixty-eighth year when he died. He was reared to farming which he followed all his life. Peter was reared on the homestead in his native State, where he remained until married, when he and his father-in-law came to Pennsylvania and bought a tract of land where he now resides. This was in 1840. The tract was a very large one, and when it was sold Mr. Kern bought 120 acres of the estate on which he has since lived. He married, August 23, 1839, Jane Davison, a native of New Jersey, by whom he had seven children, five of whom are living: Emma, wife of George Teitsworth; Martha, widow of Hiram Cool (Mr. Cool was wounded in the service of his country at the battle of Antietam, a bullet entering under his eye and coming out at the back of his neck; he suffered from this for seven years, at times in intense pain, and died November 10, 1870. His widow and three children make their home with Mr. Kern—Albert L., married to Matilda Rue; Ida, married to Wm. B. Snyder, and Norman G., a graduate of Bloomsburg Normal School); Easie D., married to Loretta Reinbold; John B., married to Hannah Traub; Margaret, wife of Rev. John B. Bodine; Jane and Lemuel are deceased. Mrs. Kern died April 1, 1884, deeply lamented by her husband. He is a member of the church; in politics a Republican.

LUTHER B. KLINE, M. D., physician and surgeon, Catawissa, was born in Rush Township, Northumberland County, this State, December 24, 1842, and is a son of Harmon G. and Mary (Bassett) Kline, natives of Pennsylvania and of German-Scotch descent. His grandparents came from New Jersey to Northumberland County at an early day, and engaged in farming until their death. Harmon G. Kline is a farmer and resides in Northumberland County, near Sunbury, where he owns a farm. Luther B. was reared on a farm until about eighteen years of age, when he taught school several years, and also attended the Sunbury Academy. In the fall of 1865 he entered Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, from which he graduated in March, 1867. In April following he came to Catawissa, where he began his now extensive practice and has since resided. He married, September 14, 1870, Desda W., daughter of J. K. and Mary M. Sharpless. They are the parents of four children, two living: Charles S. and Grace E. Dr. and Mrs. Kline are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Lodge No. 349, Catawissa; has held the office of school director and is now serving his second term. Dr. Kline is a member of the State Medical Society and Incorporated County Medical Society.

WILLIAM J. MARTIN, farmer and brickmaker, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Saxony, Germany, April 24, 1825, a son of John and Catherine (Keel) Martin, natives of Germany, the former being a farmer. When fourteen years of age our subject left school and learned the cutler's trade, at which he worked until nineteen years of age. He and his brother, Charles, then took passage in a sailing vessel bound for America, and after a voyage of six weeks landed in New York. There they separated, Charles going to Delaware, while our subject remained in New York and worked at his trade for two years. He then went up the Hudson and engaged in the manufacture of hames, receiving \$1.50 per day, but after six months, not liking his associates, he returned to New York. There he again worked at his trade, receiving \$3 per week and his board. In 1856 he moved to Danville, Penn., and worked in a rolling-mill one year, then came to Columbia County and hired on the farm of Judge Baldy, which he now owns; then worked a year for A. Feterolf; then, March 4, 1860, he married Susan M., daughter of Judge Baldy, and here has since remained. Our subject and wife have four children: Sarah B., George B. (married to Rebecca Fetterman, and residing in Bloomsburg, this county), Stephen B. and Lizzie. Mr. and Mrs. Martin and family are members of the Lutheran Church. He owns 140 acres of cleared land and 100 acres of mountain land. In 1883 he commenced the manufacture of brick, which he has since carried on. Mr. Martin introduced the "Martin Amber Wheat," in 1878, and took it to the Philadelphia State fair, where he sold it for ten cents per grain. He has taken the first premium in wheat at every fair for the county and State.

REV. U. MYERS, P. O. Catawissa, was born near Easton, Northumberland Co., Penn., January 23, 1847, son of Abraham and Mary (Root) Myers, natives of Pennsylvania and of German-English descent. His great-grandfather on the maternal side came from Germany and located in Bucks County, where he followed farming, and his grandfather, Philip, was a cabinet-maker and also carried on farming until his death at an advanced age, in 1833, near Easton. Our subject's father was for a number of years a justice of the peace at Bethlehem, Penn., but is now living a retired life. During his early life, in the Mexican war, he organized a militia company of which he was captain, and waited for orders, but was never called out, although he stood ready. He was captain in the militia for a term of years, also assisted in drilling companies during the civil war. He is now about sixty-eight years of age. Our subject was brought up as a clerk until about sixteen years of age, when he entered upon and pursued a course of study for the ministry. He then taught a number of terms, holding a State professional certificate. He entered the work of the ministry as a home missionary in 1868, and after continuing in the good cause for one year was ordained a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1869, but continued in the mission work for eighteen months later. His first charge was organized by his efforts in Lycoming County, Penn., along the Allegheny Mountains. In 1870 he was called to a large field of labor at Turbotville, Northumberland Co., Penn., and there remained during a successful ministry of nine years. In 1880 he was called to Seneca County, N. Y., where he labored two and one-half years, when, suffering from an attack of pneumonia, he was compelled to rest, spending one year near Muncy, Penn. In May, 1883, he took charge of St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Catawissa, and has since been laboring here with acceptance and abundant success. He has taken a great interest, wherever he has labored, in the building of new churches, and since coming here the church has been rebuilt and nicely furnished, while the membership has been doubled. Rev. Mr. Myers was married October 11, 1870, to Sadie J., daughter of Isaac and Mary (Sechler) Beeber, of Muncy, Penn.

DAVID R. RANDALL was born August 21, 1818, in Cheshire County, N. H., and died August 31, 1875. His father, Joseph Randall, was a farmer, and moved to McDonough, Chenango Co., N. Y., when David was about six years of age. Some eight years later his father died, leaving him the eldest child and only son of a family of eight children, and but little property. Young Randall thus found himself, at the age of fifteen, the head of a family who looked to him for support, with nothing to assist him in the struggle of life but his own perseverance of character, guided by the counsel of a devoted mother and the kind hand of a beneficent Providence. Left thus with seven sisters, he struggled on to support the family and educate himself. Daylight found him at his work, night at his books by the light of pine faggots. In this way he educated himself and supported his mother and sisters till he arrived at the age and acquired the necessary education to enable him to become a teacher, having passed a most flattering graduation from Oxford Academy, Oxford, N. Y. As a teacher he labored with the same energy that had characterized him from boyhood, and at the age of twenty-six was elected superintendent of common schools for the county of Chenango. His labors in behalf of the common schools of Luzerne County, Penn., will ever be gratefully remembered by that people. Devoting his time and efforts to the cause of education in this capacity for two years, he then concluded to enter upon the study of law, and accordingly entered his name as a student in the office of Hon. Ransom Balcomb, now one of the judges of the supreme court of the State of New York. This was in 1843, and he continued to read law with Judge Balcomb until 1846, being obliged, however, to devote much time to teaching



to support his family. In 1846 Mr. Randall left his home and came to Hyde Park, Luzerne Co. (now Lackawanna County), commencing here to build up his fortune by teaching, and soon afterward entered his name as a law student with Charles H. Silkman, Esq., of Providence, now a portion of the city of Scranton. He was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County November 4, 1847, and opened an office at Providence, where soon his frank manners and ready business tact brought him clients, whose numbers increased up to the time of his sickness. Mr. Randall had all his life been a Democrat, and in the fall of 1860 he was nominated as a candidate for Congress by the Democracy of the Twelfth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, composed of the counties of Luzerne, Wyoming, Columbia and Montour. His opponent was Hon. George W. Scranton, the strongest man by all odds in his party, and who defeated Mr. Randall by a majority of 695 in the district where Col. Scranton had two years before received a majority of 3,980. Upon the death of Hon. E. B. Chase, the district attorney of Luzerne County, Mr. Randall was appointed February 18, 1864, by Judge Conyngham, district attorney of the county until the next election. Upon receiving this appointment he removed to Wilkesbarre, the county seat. When the Democratic convention met in the fall of the same year he was unanimously nominated as the candidate for district attorney. He received a majority of 2,235 in the county. This was the last time he suffered his name to go before the people as a candidate for office. Upon the incorporation of the city of Wilkesbarre in 1871, Mr. Randall was appointed chief assessor of the city by Hon. Garrick M. Harding, a Republican judge, upon the unanimous recommendation of the members of the city council and the commissioners of the county, serving until his death. Mr. Randall was twice married, August 25, 1849, to Mary Child, who bore him four children (none of whom are living), and died February 7, 1855. March 5, 1856, he married Miss Elizabeth S. Emerson, of McDonough, N. Y., who survives him. She bore him seven children, of whom two sons, Charles E. and David V., and two daughters, Nettie E. and Jennie M., survive him. The qualities of the deceased endeared him to his friends and commanded the respect of all who knew him. He was a true friend and generous foe. Bluff, hearty and outspoken in his dealings with his fellows, he was honored and beloved, and has now left to his children the priceless legacy of an unstained name. The grave, dark and silent, has shut up from sight his manly form. His firm step and cheerful voice will be heard no more in the haunts of men; but the memory of his generous deeds, his kindly ways, his warm friendship, his hearty humor, and his sturdy courage will be long remembered by those who knew him.—Extract from *Luzerne Legal Register*.

CHARLES E. RANDALL, of the firm of Randall & Yocum, editors and proprietors of the *Catawissa News Item*, Catawissa, was born in Providence, Luzerne Co., Penn., November 4, 1856, a son of David R. and Elizabeth (Emerson) Randall. (See sketch.) His maternal grandfather, Moses Emerson, a merchant and miller, was a native of New Hampshire. His paternal grandfather, Joseph Randall, was also a native of New Hampshire and was a farmer. Our subject received his education at Wilkesbarre and at the age of seventeen had finished his course in the high school at that place, and was given his choice of a profession or a trade. He chose the latter and entered the office of the *Luzerne Union*, under H. B. Beardslee, where he served an apprenticeship of four years, after which he worked at his trade in that place until 1879. His health failing he went to White Haven and worked at his trade two years. In the fall of 1881 he came to Catawissa and was employed as foreman of the *Catawissa News Item* until October, 1884. At that date he and John C. Yocum, Esq., purchased the office of G. E. Myers, and have since been the owners and proprietors of the *News Item*, Mr. Randall conducting the editorial department and office in general. The paper is a newsy sheet, 24x36, seven columns, and has a circulation of 1,500. The office is supplied with a three-horse power engine, and is the best equipped and only one operated by steam in the county. In September, 1880, Mr. Randall married Lizzie M., daughter of Elijah and Sarah Search, and one child has blessed their union, Eugene Y. Mr. Randall edits the paper independent in politics, is well adapted to his chosen profession and gives satisfaction to all his readers.

GEORGE W. REIFSNYDER, merchant, Catawissa, born in Schuylkill County, Penn., March 24, 1848, a son of George and Harriet (Sharpless) Reifsnyder, natives of Pennsylvania and of German-English descent. His grandfather came from England; was one of the settlers under William Penn. His grandfather, Benjamin Sharpless, came to Catawissa at an early day and was one of the founders of the paper-mill here, and also of the Quaker Church; he owned and operated the mill for a number of years and died at the age of ninety-four years. Our subject's father was born in Montgomery County, this State, in 1804, and lived there but a short time; thence moved to Perry County and thence to this county, where he engaged in mercantile business for several years. He then moved to Schuylkill County and located at New Castle, where he carried on mercantile business, and there resided until he reared his family, which consisted of twelve children, five of whom are living: Mrs. William Hartman, Mrs. E. S. Jackson, (a resident of Scranton), George W. (our subject), Mrs. Isaac Hartman (a resident of Ontario, Canada), and Mrs. Charles Pearson (a resident of Berlin, Ontario). The father died in 1856. Our subject was about nine years of age when he came to Catawissa where he received his edu-

cation. In 1874 he engaged in conducting the Susquehanna hotel which he continued proprietor of until 1882, when he embarked in mercantile business. He carries a general line of dry goods and groceries, his stock being valued at about \$5,000. He married in December, 1870, Anna Kostenbauder, by whom he has had five children, three living: Samnel, Leonard and Karl. Mr. and Mrs. Reifsnnyder are members of the Lutheran Church; he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the G. A. R. In 1862 he enlisted in the State militia, and in January, 1864, enlisted in the Third Pennsylvania Artillery, and served until 1865; was one year on picket duty continuously, and the rest of the time served on detached duty; he served two years in the militia and regular service. He owns several properties in Catawissa; he is the best pigeon shot in the county.

SOLOMON RIDER, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Montour County, Penn., in June, 1827, a son of John and Betsey (Berkhart) Rider, natives of Berks County, Penn., and of German descent. His father came here at an early day and settled in Montour County, where he lived several years and then moved to Lycoming County, where he bought a farm and resided until his death in his eighty-eighth year. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. Mrs. Betsey Rider died in her eighty-sixth year. She was the mother of fourteen children, twelve of whom are living: John; Katie (wife of Daniel Shuler); Samuel; Sarah (deceased); Peggy (wife of Daniel Miller, residing in Lycoming County, Penn.); Lawrence; Daniel (residing in Lycoming County); Rachel (wife of Cleaver Davis, residing in the West); Susan (wife of Jacob Hertman); Jacob (deceased); Solomon; Mary and Hannah, (twins). Our subject was only six years of age when his father moved to Lycoming County and when eighteen years of age he came to Schuylkill County, located at Ashland and remained there about ten years, being engaged as stable foreman. He then came to Columbia County and bought a farm where his son-in-law now lives, and there resided for three years, when he sold out and bought the farm of 112 acres adjoining; moved on it and there has since lived. He married, in October, 1848, Hannah Leiby, and nine children were born to them, two living; Mary J. (wife of William Davis) and Martin. Mrs. Rider is a member of the Presbyterian Church. In politics Mr. Rider is a Democrat.

WILLIAM H. ROBERTS, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Montour Township, this county, April 28, 1846, a son of Josiah A. and Anna M. (Clewell) Roberts, natives of Columbia County, and of Welsh-German descent. His grandfather, Edward, was reared near Philadelphia, and came to Columbia County at an early day, where he settled and cleared up a farm and resided until his death. He was found dead, after a storm, between Catawissa and his home, and the supposition is that he was killed by lightning. He started out to purchase a knife for his grandson (our subject) but never returned. Subject's father was also born in Montour Township and was reared a farmer. He is master of four trades, being a stone-mason, stone-cutter, plasterer and brick-layer. He owns a farm in Montour Township, and is the father of eleven children, nine of whom are living: William H., Harvey, Arthur, Sarah, Edward, David, Anna, Clarence and Joseph E. William H. was reared on the farm, and attended school until after he was twenty-one years of age. He worked for Sloan, in Bloomsburg, this county, a short time, and then started out for himself. After marriage he located near Danville, Montour Co., Penn., on a farm, where he lived one year. He was appointed keeper of the Columbia County poorhouse, but, finding it unsuitable to his taste, after one year moved back to the farm and remained three years. He then resided two years in Mechanicsville, Penn., and then moved on the Hollingshead farm where he remained for one year. In 1884 he bought the farm where he now resides, and which consists of 140 acres. This property is the old homestead of his mother. He married, in September, 1868, Ellen Barnd, a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Barnd. They are the parents of nine children: Charles, Josiah, Frank, Andrew, May, Elizabeth, Mattie, Lutora and Roy. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are members of the German Reformed Church; politically he is a Republican.

JOHN K. ROBINS, M. D., P. O. Catawissa, was born in Sunbury, Northumberland County, April 14, 1820. His parents, Aaron and Rebecca (Richardson) Robins, were natives of Pennsylvania and of English descent. His paternal ancestors came from England to this country with Wm. Penn. His paternal ancestors are traced to three brothers, who came to this country from England; two of them remained at Rhode Island, and the other came to Philadelphia, Penn. His grandfather, Joseph Richardson, went into the Revolutionary war when about eighteen years of age, was wounded at the battle of Brandywine and suffered from lameness the rest of his life. About the time of the Revolution he had begun the study of medicine; but after that struggle turned his attention to farming, and owned two farms near Danville. Our subject's father was a contractor and builder, which occupation he followed all his life. He built the abutments for the Sunbury dam, which was a noted piece of work. He owned 200 acres of land in Michigan, a farm near Sunbury, another at Union Corners, a number of town and city properties in different places, and was quite wealthy at his death, which occurred in Sunbury in 1843. John K. remained at home and attended the schools of his neighborhood. At the age of twenty years he commenced the study of medicine and graduated in the allopathic course at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1842. In April of the same year he went to Shamokin, Penn., where he soon had a good practice and remained three years.



In January, 1846, he removed to Catawissa, where he has since enjoyed a very large practice. In 1874 he took his son, William B., who is also a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, into partnership with him, and the firm has since been known as John K. Robins & Son. Dr. Robins married, in November, 1847, Jane, daughter of Joseph Brobst. Five children have been born to their union: Mary, wife of A. H. Sharpless; Ada; William B., married to Emma Cleaver; Joseph and Rebecca. Dr. Robins is a member of the Episcopal Church, and also of the Masonic fraternity, Lodge No. 349, Chapter 272. He has held nearly all the offices of the Blue Lodge and Chapter, and is a member of the Crusade Knight Templars at Danville.

CAPT. I. H. SEESHOLTZ, merchant, Catawissa, was born in Catawissa, Columbia Co., Penn., November 14, 1837, a son of Philip and Mary (Hull) Seesholtz. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of New Jersey, and both were of German descent. His paternal grandfather came from Germany and located in Northumberland County, near Sunbury, where he owned a farm and cultivated it until his death. Subject's father, a native of Northumberland County, Penn., was a potter, which trade he followed a number of years. He came to Columbia County about 1830 and located in Roaringcreek, where he resided several years, and then moved to Catawissa, bought property and followed his trade a few years. He then bought a couple of farms and turned his attention to agriculture, which he followed until his death in 1872. He lived in one house over fifty years; was a Republican in politics. He was the father of the following named children: Matilda, Phfaler, Jeremiah S., Christian B., James M., Edmund H., Isaac H., William (who was killed at the battle of the Wilderness), and Sarah C. Sharpless. Our subject attended school until 1859, when he read medicine and attended two courses of lectures at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. In April, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Sixth P. R. V. C., "Iron Guards," and served under Capt. Wallace Ricketts. He was appointed and served as second lieutenant six months; resigned and enlisted in Company H, Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was soon commissioned first lieutenant; in a short time he resigned and joined Company C, One Hundred and Eighteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and rose to the position of captain. In June, 1865, he was mustered out. He participated in nearly all of the battles of the Army of the Potomac; was wounded September 20, 1862, at Shepardstown, Va., by a gunshot, which disabled him from duty for three or four months. He was again wounded by a gunshot in 1863, at Peeble's farm. Capt. Seesholtz was a brave soldier, to which is due his promotion. At the close of the war he returned home and engaged in mercantile business, which he has since carried on. He keeps a general line of merchandise and fertilizers, and his stock is valued at \$5,000, insured. He owns four houses and four town lots and his store building. He married, in November, 1880, Martha Poland, and they have one child, Sarah P. Mr. and Mrs. Seesholtz are members of the church. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the G. A. R., Post 170; is serving as quartermaster, and has held most of the offices of the post. He is a member of the school board of which he was president in 1885, and is its present secretary. Politically he is a Republican.

GEORGE H. SHARPLESS, clerk, P. O. Catawissa, was born May 29, 1852, a son of John and Sarah Ann (Harder) Sharpless, natives of Catawissa. Benjamin Sharpless, grandfather of our subject, came to this county while a young man, and was one of the originators of the Catawissa Paper Company, with which he was connected until his death in 1855. At the time of his death he was ninety-three years old, and his wife had preceded him a number of years. They are buried in the Quaker Cemetery at Catawissa. Our subject's father was reared in Catawissa, and in early life was employed in the paper-mills. He erected the building which is now known as "the corner drug store," there kept a general stock of goods and operated the store until his death in 1868. He is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Catawissa. His wife died in 1852 and is buried in the Quaker Cemetery at Catawissa. Both were members of the Society of Friends. Our subject was reared in Catawissa and received his early education in the schools of that place. In 1861 he entered the Kingston Seminary where he spent two years, and in his nineteenth year became a student at the Westchester Classical Institute, where he also spent two years. He then returned to Columbia County and commenced business in a store, building on what was then known as "the Willetts farm," but now as "the Sharpless farm." He continued in this place doing business for three years, when he came to Catawissa and entered the employ of C. F. Harder, with whom he remained until taking his present position with A. S. Truckenmiller, in May, 1886. He was married at Catawissa November 23, 1873, to Miss Ella Schmick, a native of Norristown, Penn., and a daughter of Daniel and Catherine (Baldy) Schmick, natives of Catawissa, where the latter still resides, the former having died in Norristown, in 1855, where he was general manager of the canal. Mr. and Mrs. Sharpless have four children: John, Gilbert, Kate and Anna. The parents are members of the Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Republican-Democrat.

FRANKLIN L. SHUMAN, associate judge, Catawissa, was born in Beaver Valley, Penn., October 6, 1834, a son of Christian and Elizabeth (Hendershot) Shuman, both natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Ger-



many at an early day. His paternal grandfather, John, was one of the early settlers of Catawissa Township, and here purchased a farm where he lived until his death. He was a leading citizen and a substantial Democrat. Our subject's father, Christian, was born and reared in Catawissa, and when about eighteen years of age, moved to Northampton County, this State, where he learned the tanner's trade and worked at it some time. He then moved to Beaver Valley, this county, where he bought a mill property, which he operated several years, and also carried on tanning. In 1855 he entered mercantile business at the same place. He owned three farms, a grist-mill, tannery, store and hotel, all of which he had in operation at the same time. He at one period possessed considerable wealth, but owing to misfortunes it was very much reduced at the time of his death. As a Democrat he took a deep interest in politics, and, although never an aspirant for office, had a great influence over his Democratic friends. His death occurred in 1885. Our subject was reared in Beaver Valley, this county, where he attended school until he had reached the age of nineteen years. Being of a very ambitious character he longed for something higher and made up his mind to do something for himself. He commenced to work for his father at one thing or another on his farm, in the store and the mill, and so continued until he was married, when he engaged in the lumber business, keeping hotel at Beaver Valley, which industry he carried on until 1873. In the meantime he had owned a half dozen farms, but disposed of them, except twenty acres adjoining Catawissa, which he still retains. In 1870 he built a house in Catawissa into which he moved, but which was destroyed by fire June 7, 1885. He then erected a large two-story frame house, built on the same spot, in which he lives at present. He had only resided here a short time after his first move when sickness attacked his family, and he was compelled to abandon his home here and seek other quarters. However he was not long in making up his mind, so he moved back to his old home in Beaver Valley, and again embarked in mercantile business, to which he soon after added coal trade, also carrying on a number of trades while living here. He moved back to Catawissa in 1875 where he has since lived. In 1881 he bought the Zarr farm, which consisted of forty acres, adjoining Catawissa, and laid it out in town lots, which is known as "Shuman's addition," on which there have been erected over 100 houses within the last few years. The schoolhouse, one of the finest in the county, is also built on this addition. In 1884 he put in water-works in the town, which he and his sons control and are the individual owners of, although, under a chartered company, it is all in the Shuman family. In the fall of 1885 he laid out a new cemetery in Catawissa in the east end of Shuman's addition. In 1876 he was elected associate judge, and after serving his first term and performing his duty so manfully, he was re-elected in 1881, and is now serving his second term. He has also been justice of the peace several terms. He married, July 27, 1854, Angeline, daughter of Minnessa and Susanna (Hosler) Michael and to them have been born four children, only one of whom survives—Paris H., married to Ada Boyer. Mr. and Mrs. Shuman are members of St. John's Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Democrat. He has probably done more for Catawissa since living here in the way of building it up than any other man in the vicinity. In educational interests, public improvements and all that pertains to progress and advancement of the town, Mr. Shuman has taken an active and prominent part, and the record of his life will live, in the memory of those whose rugged ways he smoothed and softened, after he has passed away.

M. A. SWANK, merchant, Catawissa, was born in Catawissa Township, this county, May 6, 1845, a son of Jacob and Lydia (Waterhouse) Swank, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather, George, lived in Northumberland County, Penn., where he owned a farm and followed agricultural pursuits all his life. Our subject's father was born in Northumberland County, and was a brick-maker by trade, which he followed until coming to this county, in 1838, and for a number of years thereafter. He was then employed by the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad for about eleven years; then took up farming and gardening, which he has followed since. He resides about two miles east of Catawissa, where he owns a farm; is now in his seventieth year, but hale and stout. He was the father of nine children, six of whom are now living: Sarah Getchey, Martin A., Wellington, Elwood, Clara Irwine and Anna Getchey. Our subject was reared on the farm, but, being crippled, never worked much on it. He attended school until he was about eighteen years old, and remained at home until the spring of 1877, when he engaged in mercantile business in Catawissa, and here has since remained. He carries a general line of groceries and dry goods valued at \$5,000; has quite an extensive trade and is one of the leading merchants of the town. He married in 1881 Louisa Geist, by whom he had two children: George and Ethel. Mr. and Mrs. Swank attend the services of the Church.

E. M. TEWKSBURY, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Brooklyn, Susquehanna Co., Penn., September 10, 1837, a son of Reuben and Martha (Cory) Tewksbury, the former a native of Vermont, the latter of Rhode Island. The family is of pure English descent, dating back to the early history of England. Among the London merchants was John Tewksbury, one of the oldest friends of the Scriptures in England. As early as 1512 he had become the possessor of a manuscript copy of the Bible and had attentively

studied it. Being a man of understanding, clever in all he undertook, a ready and fluent speaker, and liking to get at the bottom of everything, Tewksbury, like Monmouth, became very influential in the city of London, and one of the most learned in the Scriptures of any of the evangelicals. Our subject's grandfather was born in Massachusetts. Reuben Tewksbury moved to Susquehanna County, Penn., with his father, Sergt. Tewksbury, in 1803, and there resided until his death in 1861. He was a farmer and owned a good farm. Our subject was reared on a farm, and remained with his parents until fifteen years of age, when he entered Harford University, Susquehanna County, Penn., from which he graduated after three years' hard study. His next pursuit was teaching school in Dauphin County, near Harrisburg, Penn., where he taught one term in the winter of 1855-56. In the summer of the latter year he came to this county and taught school in Catawissa Township. He was engaged in teaching school and farming up to 1869, when he bought the farm of 160 acres, where he has since remained. This farm was taken up in 1772 by David Shakespeare, who bought it from Thomas and John Penn, proprietors of Pennsylvania. They paid £10 18 shillings for the whole tract of 218 acres. It is one of the oldest farms in the section, and is known as "Shakespeare Springs," eighteen miles north of Ft. Augusta (Sunbury). This section was then in Northumberland County, and it is said to be the oldest title paper for many miles, having been patented during the reign of George III. The next deed was from David Shakespeare to Joseph McIntyre, recorded August 26, 1797, but was sold in 1796. The next transfer was a will and deed by Joseph McIntyre to his heirs and deed of heirs to William McIntyre, April 29, 1816. The first heirs were William McIntyre, Mary (wife of John Yocum), Rachel (wife of Jacob Fox), Patience, Sarah and Eleanor, and were the heirs among whom the estate was divided. The next deed is given by William McIntyre, April 9, 1840, to William H. Davison, from New Jersey, the father of E. M. Tewksbury's wife. This deed covers a tract of about 400 acres. The next title is by a will made in 1849 by William H. Davison to his wife during her lifetime. After her death the farm fell to Barnett D., Jane (wife of Peter Kern), Mary (wife of John Osburn), Elizabeth (wife of Lemuel Titsworth), Sarah C. (wife of Franklin Titsworth) and Ellen (wife of E. M. Tewksbury). This family were all born in New Jersey. The farm was divided among them in tracts by deed of above-named heirs of William H. Davison, deceased, to Edward M. Tewksbury, bearing date April 1, 1869, who retains the 160 acres. One part of the original tract is owned by Peter Kern; 120 acres and sixty-five acres were deeded to Billmeyer & Co. at the same date. Mr. Tewksbury was married July 3, 1858, by the Rev. D. J. Waller, to Ellen Davison, by whom he has two children: Martha D. and Eugene D. The family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Tewksbury is a prominent and successful citizen. He was run over by a team of horses and suffers from lameness. In addition to his other business he operates a dairy, and has been in that business for nine years. He is a member of the Grange, in politics a Democrat; and now (1887) a member of the board of county auditors, having been elected by a leading vote on the ticket.

WILLIAM H. TUTHILL, yard-foreman of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad, Catawissa, was born in Orange County, N. Y., November 2, 1833, and is a son of Harris and Mary (Duzenberry) Tuthill, natives of the State of New York and of French-German descent. His grandfather was born in the above named State and was a farmer, as is also Harris Tuthill, who is yet living in Orange County, N. Y. Our subject, at twenty-five years of age, went to Tioga County, N. Y., and engaged in farming five years. In the spring of 1864 he came to Catawissa and was employed by the Catawissa Railroad Company as a laborer with a gang of carpenters, building shops, and worked himself up to different positions until he was promoted yard-foreman, which office he has held for about seventeen years. He is one of the company's trustworthy men and an active railroad man. He was married in December, 1858, to A. E. Cornwall, a native of the State of New York, and they are the parents of one child, Mahala. They have an adopted daughter, Annie E. Mrs. Tuthill is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Tuthill politically is a Democrat. He owns two houses and lots in Catawissa.

JOHN WALTZ, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Schuylkill County, this State, September 21, 1830, a son of John and Magdalene (Schmidt) Waltz. His father was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and his mother of Alsace, France. The former left the old country about 1823, landed in Baltimore and then came to Chester County, this State, where he remained for some years; then moved to Schuylkill County, where he married and lived a number of years. He came to Columbia County, bought a lot in Maine Township, where he lived about fifteen years, when he moved to Mifflin Township, and there resided with his daughter until his death, at the age of eighty-three years. Our subject was reared in Schuylkill County until about five years of age, when he came to this county with his parents and remained with them until he was twenty-one. He was then employed on the Lehigh Valley Railroad for about fifteen years in Carbon County, this State. He then came to Catawissa and was employed by the Catawissa Railroad Company for about ten years. In 1871 he moved to where he now lives where he had previously bought a small farm. He at once commenced to improve the place and built a fine barn at a cost of \$1,100. He now owns seventy acres of good land on which



he does all kinds of trucking. Mr. Waltz has the name of being the best berry ("Big Bob" and "Sharpless") raiser in this country, making it a specialty. He ships berries as far as California, and has raised some of the finest in the country, eight making a quart. He was married in 1857 to Anna L. Shuman, who bore him two children, Creighton S. and Alfretta; H., and died in 1865. He next married, in 1869, Barbara Ritter. Mr. Waltz and wife are members of the Evangelical Church. He formerly was a member of the K. of P.

W. G. YETTER, division engineer of the Catawissa division of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad, Catawissa, was born in Columbia County, Penn., December 10, 1838, a son of Lewis and Harriet B. (Gearhart) Yetter, natives of Pennsylvania, and of German descent. His grandfather, John, a shoemaker by trade, lived in Catawissa, where he served as justice of the peace for a great many years. Our subject's great-grandfather, Samuel, came from Virginia and settled near Catawissa, where he followed farming until his death. He served as major under George Washington, and after the war located near Catawissa. Subject's father was born in 1811, and during his early life learned the trades of chairmaker and painter. He afterward took up surveying, which he followed about thirty-five years. He served for thirty-five years as justice of the peace, and as notary public for a long time, and had settled up some forty-five estates at the time of his death. He was a substantial Republican. He was the father of five children, three of whom are now living: William G., Albert and Mrs. Hannah A. Decker. He died January 24, 1880. Our subject was brought up in Catawissa, and attended school until about twenty years of age, when he took up surveying under his father, and followed it until September 20, 1862. He was employed by the Catawissa Railroad Company as rodman, which position he held until 1865, when, on June 10 of that year, he was appointed roadmaster of the Catawissa division, a responsibility he held until 1877, when he was promoted to engineer, which office he held until 1882, when the title was changed to "division roadmaster" until 1885, when he received the title of "division engineer." While serving as roadmaster he did a great deal of railroad building for the company, and in 1871 built the extension line from Milton to Williamsport, and also several short branches. He has been an active railroad man since in the employ of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company. He has an interest in the Catawissa Bridge Company, owns two houses and lots in Catawissa, and also two lots in the town. Mr. Yetter married, March 19, 1867, Diana, daughter of Seely and Sarah (Shoemaker) Swartwood. Mr. and Mrs. Yetter are the parents of two children: Harriet and Harry. Mrs. Yetter is a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Yetter is widely known all over the State, is connected with the signal service, is prominent in his county, and has hosts of friends.

W. A. YETTER, proprietor of the Susquehanna House, Catawissa, was born in Mainville, Penn., June 11, 1849, a son of Isaac and Mary (Kostenbender) Yetter, natives of the same State. His grandparents on both sides, farmers, came from Bucks County, Penn., to this county, where his paternal grandfather settled in Franklin Township and there died. Our subject's father first settled in Franklin Township, but later moved to Maine Township, where he still resides, and is now about eighty years of age; his wife died in November, 1885. They were parents of eleven children, of whom survive Elizabeth, wife of William Hawk; Esther, wife of William T. Shuman; Matilda, wife of John Stokes; Jacob B.; Alfred; Wright A. and Boyd. Our subject was reared on a farm, and at the age of eighteen learned telegraphy, and was given an office at Fairview on the Lehigh Valley Railroad. After a short time he was appointed telegraph operator and assistant freight agent on the Catawissa Railroad (now the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad), which position he held five months, when he was promoted to an agency at Ringtown, for the same company. He occupied that place about two years, when he accepted a position as operator on the Central Railroad of New Jersey, which, however, he resigned after a short time to accept a more remunerative one on the Lehigh & Susquehanna Railroad. With that company he remained five months, when he was appointed to a position with the Catawissa Railroad Company, and remained with them until 1872, when the road was changed to the Philadelphia & Reading. With the latter company he remained as station agent at Summit for about two years; then was transferred to Williamsport, where he acted as superintendent's clerk and car agent for three and a half years. He was then transferred to a better position and increased salary at Temple, Berks County, where he acted as station agent for four years and a half. In September, 1883, he took charge of the "Susquehanna House" at Catawissa, which hotel he has since conducted, and which is first-class in every respect. Mr. Yetter married, November 10, 1875, Harriet Reifsnnyder Keiler, and five children were born to this union: Robert E., Hobert R., Desdamona, Marshall and Isaac. Mr. Yetter is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Lodge No. 349. In politics he is a Republican.

JOHN C. YOCUM, attorney at law, Catawissa, was born in Roaringcreek Township, Columbia Co., Penn., April 23, 1854, a son of Elijah and Jane (Campbell) Yocum, natives of Pennsylvania and of German-Scotch descent. His grandfather, Capt. John Yocum, came from Germany to Amercia when quite young, and settled in Roaringcreek Township, this county, where he purchased a farm and followed agriculture all his life. He



was a good farmer and owned considerable land. He was a very large man and always took great delight in showing his strength, and it is thought his life was shortened by overdoing himself. He died at the age of fifty-two years, in the prime of life. He was a Democrat politically, which is rather remarkable, as all his children except the father of our subject, who was always a Democrat, are Republicans, and was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject's father was a farmer and also dealt in lumber. He owned three saw-mills in Locust Township, this county, and started in life with not money enough to buy a team of horses. At the time of his death he owned 1,500 acres of land. He died in 1882, in his sixty-ninth year. He had been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church until the war when, politics being introduced into the pulpit, he became disgusted and withdrew. Our subject was reared on a farm but was engaged in the lumber business with his father until seventeen years of age, when he entered Ebysburg Academy, which he attended four terms. He then entered Lebanon Valley College at Annville, Penn., where he graduated from the classical department in 1879. Previous to that, however, he had taught four terms of school at intervals during the college course. In 1880 he entered the office of the Hon. Charles R. Buckalew at Bloomsburg, with whom he read law two years, and was admitted to the bar in December, 1881. In April, 1882, he came to Catawissa, and has since been practicing law here. Mr. Yocum is a very able attorney. He married, October 28, 1885, Fannie C., daughter of Jacob S. and Louise Killinger, a native of Annville, Lebanon Co., Penn. Mr. Yocum is a member of the United Brethren Church, and Mrs. Yocum of the Reformed Church. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, No. 349, Catawissa Lodge; in politics a Democrat. Mr. Yocum is the owner of a tract of land in Locust Township in timber, and the house and lot where he resides. In October, 1884, he and C. E. Randall purchased the *Catawissa News Item*, which is a neat seven-column, four-page sheet, and has a circulation of 1,500.

DANIEL ZARR, Jr., farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Berks County, this State, March 17, 1835, a son of John and Catherine (Stine) Zarr, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His ancestors came from that country and settled in Berks County where they followed farming. His grandfather, George, lived in that county for a number of years, later moved to Columbia County nearly a century ago, bought a farm and built the stone house in the south end of Catawissa, which is now owned by Frank Shuman. There were but two or three houses in Catawissa when he moved here. Our subject's father was born in Northampton County, Penn., and came here when a boy, but remained only a short time; then he moved to Berks County, where he remained a few years and, about 1835, returned to Catawissa where he resided until his death which occurred in July, 1881, at the home of his son Daniel. He had been drafted in the service of his country, but the war closed before he was called to the field. He was the father of nine children, six of whom are living: David, John, Benjamin, Joel, Daniel and Jeremiah. Three daughters are dead. Daniel was only a babe when his parents moved here, and he remained at home until he was of age, attending school. He then worked for anybody and everybody in order to support his parents, whom he cared for till their death. In 1881 he bought a farm of eighty-three acres of good land, where he now resides. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, and is an intelligent and enterprising citizen.

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## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### CENTRE TOWNSHIP.

LEVI AIKMAN, farmer, P. O. Light Street, was born in what is now Centre Township, this county, on the farm on which he now resides, on March 4, 1816, son of Levi, Sr., and Margaret (Hutchison) Aikman, the latter of whom was born in Northampton County, Penn., her father being a farmer; she was reared in Northampton County, and, her parents dying when she was a child, she afterward came to this county. Her ancestors were of Scotch-Irish extraction. The Aikman family are also of Scotch-Irish extraction, Alexander Aikman having emigrated from the North of Ireland to this country. He came to this county from Morris County, N. J., during the progress of the Revolutionary war, about 1777 or 1778. He had been previously married in New Jersey to Miss Mary Lewis, and they came to this county with their children, among whom was Levi Aikman, Sr., father of the subject of this sketch. With him also came three brothers. He located on a tract of land which he purchased, the land on which Levi now resides

being part of his original purchase, although he himself located about a half mile east. There were but few settlers in this vicinity when he came, probably a couple of families, and he found his purchase, which is in the Briar creek valley, covered with a very heavy growth of timber. He commenced by cutting down trees enough to hew out the logs for a cabin in which he could domicile his family, and, this task accomplished, he set about clearing up a farm in the heart of the wilderness. Here there were bears and wolves in large numbers, and Levi Aikman, Sr., often related to his family in later days that when he came deer were more plentiful than are sheep at the present day. He became quite expert in deer hunting, and killed quite a number of bears during the time he lived in the county. When Alexander Aikman first came out he was accompanied only by his three sons, and after getting his 900 acres located, his cabin built and three acres of turnips planted, he and his sons went back to the neighborhood of Sunbury, Northumberland County, to bring out the remainder of the family who had been temporarily left there. While they were at that place making preparations to return to this locality, the Indian war broke out, rendering it unsafe to venture back to their then western home. So when Alexander Aikman received an offer from a man who wished to purchase a part of his land, he sold 600 acres. He afterward often related how the compensation he got for this large tract was realized from the sale of thirty yards of tow cloth, he having been obliged to take his pay in Continental money. They then returned to Morris County, N. J. After the Indian troubles, however, the family came out to this county, and here Alexander and his wife lived until their death. The former died in the latter part of the last century; the latter survived him some time. They are buried in Scott Township, but not in a regular cemetery, as there was none in the county at the time of their death. Of their seven children Levi, Sr., was the second in order of age. Born in New Jersey in 1766, he was but a boy when his parents came to this county, and as he grew up he also witnessed the gradual progress of what is now Columbia County. He made his home with his parents until he was married. He had received some educational instruction in New Jersey, but on coming to this locality the meager educational facilities of that day allowed him but a month or so more of schooling. He spent his boyhood days here at work on his father's farm, and when he was about thirty years of age he was married to Miss Margaret Hutchison. Before his marriage he had bought the land on which his son Levi now resides, and on which he had previously done some work, and after his marriage he and his wife settled on this land. Here he followed farming until about fifteen years before his death, after which time he lived a retired life. They were the parents of eight children, of whom two are living: Levi, subject of this sketch, and James Emmett, born April 19, 1819, and who makes his home with Levi. Those that died were Sarah, wife of George Hilday; Esther, wife of Abraham Willett; Elizabeth, died at the age of three or four years; Mary, wife of James Dewitt; John Wilson and Margaret. Levi Aikman, Sr., died in 1846, being preceded in death by his wife some six or eight years. They are buried at the Hilday Union Church. Levi Aikman, subject of this sketch, is next to the youngest of their eight children. He was born and reared on the tract of land where he now resides, has always made it his home, and has only removed once, and that time out of an old house into a new one. He was reared to farm life, and received the advantages of the schools of his day. He taught school three terms when a young man, but did not like the occupation, and afterward gave his attention to farming. He was married in Hemlock Township, this county, April 24, 1849, to Miss Elizabeth Ohl, a native of Hemlock Township, and daughter of John and Lena (Girton) Ohl, the former of whom came when a boy with his parents to this county from Montgomery County, Penn.; the latter was born in Hemlock Township, but her parents came from New Jersey. The Ohls were originally of German, the Girtons of English, lineage. Henry Ohl, grandfather of Mrs. Aikman, was a captain in the Revolutionary war. He died at the age of eighty-six years, and is buried in the Lutheran cemetery, in Bloomsburg, as is also his wife. The parents of Mrs. Aikman are both deceased, her father dying in 1855, at the age of sixty-three years, eleven months, and her mother in 1869, at the age of seventy years. They are buried in Rosemont Cemetery, Bloomsburg. Mr. and Mrs. Aikman are the parents of four children: John Hervey, a graduate of the State Normal School, Bloomsburg, Penn.; Lena Margaret, wife of Arthur C. Creasy of Centre Township, this county; Clara Elizabeth, wife of H. V. White, attorney and grain dealer, of Bloomsburg, Penn., and Mary Alvernon. Mr. and Mrs. Aikman are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Aikman was identified in times past with the Whig party, and cast his first vote for Henry Clay. He is now a Republican.

J. E. AIKMAN, retired farmer, P. O. Light Street, was born in what is now Centre Township, this county, April 28, 1819, son of Levi, Sr., and Margaret (Hutchison) Aikman, a full sketch of whom appears above. Our subject made his home with his parents until they died, following farming, and helping his father until twenty-one years of age, after which he worked on shares on the place. After the father's death J. E. and Levi, Jr., purchased the old homestead, J. E. buying about 137 acres. He now has 100 acres of fine farm land, among the finest in the valley, and also has thirty acres of timber land. He received his education in the subscription schools of his day, spending about three months in the year in school during the time of his attendance, and the remainder of the

year at work on the farm. He is a Republican politically. During the war he was a strong Union man, and contributed largely from his funds toward the Union cause. He is a member of the P. of H. and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

JACOB AUL, farmer, P. O. Lime Ridge, was born in New York City, March 30, 1847, son of Jacob and Catherine (Berger) Aul. Both parents were natives of Germany, but were married after coming to this country. When Jacob was an infant of four weeks his parents removed to this county and located at Bloomsburg, where the father worked at the Irondale furnace. Both parents died at Bloomsburg; the father in 1854, and the mother about 1877, and are buried in Rosemont Cemetery. Jacob was reared at Bloomsburg till reaching the age of eleven years, when he returned to New York City, and was engaged in different occupations, among which were driving express wagon and working in the market, etc. He remained there about six years, and then entered the service of his country, although hardly seventeen years of age. After coming out of the service he went back to New York, and was engaged in the market a short time, and then went to New Market, N. H., where he was engaged in the New Market Cotton Manufacturing Company's employ. He remained there one winter, then returned to New York and remained there about three months; then came back to Bloomsburg. Here he commenced the blacksmith trade with Maurice Sloan, and remained with him and Stephen Know, while learning his trade, about two years, one year with each. Having finished his apprenticeship he was employed in the tunnel at Oxford, N. J., on the D. L. & W. Ry., throughout its construction, and after that returned to the blacksmith trade at Bloomsburg. He remained there one summer and then again went to New York, where he enlisted in the regular army in Company A, Fourth United States Cavalry, and from there went to Carlisle, where he stayed two weeks; then to St. Louis; was there one year; then to Jacksboro, Tex., and was there six or eight months; thence marched to Fort Clark on the Rio Grande, where he remained about one year; thence to McKavitt, and there he was transferred to Company G; was there five or six months, then went to Curryville, Tex., and after a short time was ordered back to Fort Clark; and after a time marched to Texas and to the Cheyenne Agency, Indian Territory, at which place he was discharged. During the time of his service he was engaged in Indian fighting, and was in one regular engagement on Mexican soil. After his discharge he came back to Bloomsburg, and made that city his home until coming to his present location, which he bought and moved on in 1884. During his last residence in Bloomsburg, however, he traveled a great deal, "taking in," among other places, the Centennial at Philadelphia. He was married at Bloomsburg in September, 1877, to Miss Catherine Traub, a native of this county, and daughter of Jacob Traub. Her parents are both deceased and are buried at Numidia, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Aul are the parents of five children, of whom four are living: George E., Mabel Alice, Harry and Bruce Raymond. Mary is deceased. Mr. Aul is a Democrat, politically. As previously stated, he enlisted in the Union Army when not seventeen years of age. That was August 11, 1863, in Company H, Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers. He was in the Army of the Potomac under Butler, and was in engagements at Cold Harbor, and participated in the hot work and all the principal engagements in the vicinity of Petersburg and Richmond, and surrender of Lee. He remained in the service till the close of the war, was discharged at the Point of Rocks, and returned to New York.

H. C. BARTON, farmer, P. O. Lime Ridge, was born at Epsy, this county, January 10, 1832, son of Cyrus and Catherine (Brewer) Barton. Elisha Barton, grandfather of our subject, was born in Virginia, June 21, 1742, and was a son of Thomas Barton, a native of England. Elisha Barton came into Pennsylvania and located finally in what is now Hemlock Township, Columbia County, close to McKelvy's mill. He bought a very large tract of land which was of considerable width, and extended in length from Fishing creek to the vicinity of Buckhorn, a distance of between three and four miles. This land was, at the time he acquired possession, covered with a heavy growth of timber, and he set about clearing up a portion of it, and on this cleared land he carried on agriculture. The maiden name of his wife was Anna McCarter, born in New Jersey, March 20, 1754. They reared a large family, but none of their children now survive. On this land Elisha Barton and his wife lived until their death. They are buried in the old Episcopal graveyard at Bloomsburg. A portion of this large tract of land was afterward discovered to be very valuable ore land, and one of his sons, Caleb, afterward became wealthy from the proceeds of this land, having an income of between \$4,000 and \$5,000 per year from that source. Cyrus Barton, father of H. C., was born at the old homestead of his father, where he was reared. He made his home with his father until arriving at age, assisting his father a portion of the time on the farm. When he came to Bloomsburg there was but a cluster of houses there, none of its industries having been then developed, and he and his brother John entered mercantile business, being among the early merchants of the place. There they remained in business until about 1828 or 1829, when Cyrus removed to Epsy, and commenced keeping store in a building which had been put up by one Henry Edgar for a residence. In a portion of this Mr. Barton kept his store, and in the remainder he and his family lived. He was the first merchant in Epsy, and



he ranked among her business men until about 1860, when he sold out his stock and retired from active business. He died there about three years later and is buried at Afton. His widow still resides at Espy in the same house the family lived in so long. They were the parents of nine children, of whom seven are living: Anna Eliza, wife of Jacob Adams, a minister of the Methodist denomination at Delaware, Ohio; H. C.; John A., cashier of Pardee & Co., at Hazleton, Penn. (he has held that position for over twenty years); Mary Alice, who resides with her mother at Espy; William A., bookkeeper at Hazleton, Penn.; Charles Frank, residing at Buffalo, N. Y., where he is bookkeeper for a large milling concern; and Florence, wife of William Inglehart, an extensive miller, of Evansville, Ind. H. C. Barton, subject of this sketch, made his home with his parents until he was eighteen years of age, engaged principally in clerking in his father's store. He attended the schools of Espy, and when sufficiently advanced, went to the Wyoming Seminary, at Kingston, which he attended about one year. On arriving at the age of eighteen he went to Scranton, Penn., and sold goods for a merchant named Thompson for about six months; then engaged with the Scrantons, with whom he remained about two years selling goods. One year he sold \$50,000 worth of goods behind the retail counter, an extraordinary amount for one clerk. After leaving their employ he entered the service of Wells & Co., who were then engaged in an extensive contract on the construction of the Lackawanna Railroad. While with them he clerked in their store, assisting on their books, etc., and was in their employ one year. He then returned to this county. While with his last employers he was appointed postmaster at Stanhope, a position he held until returning to his native county. At this time he embarked in mercantile business at Lime Ridge, and so continued about one year. Then in 1856 he moved to Espy, where he spent a portion of the summer, and then went back to Scranton and engaged in mercantile business in partnership with one Hawley. This business continued until the spring of 1858, when our subject again entered, along with his brother-in-law, E. W. M. Low, into mercantile business. This partnership continued until the spring of 1860 when he removed onto the farm then belonging to the heirs of Isaac Low, his wife being one of the heirs. At a sale afterward he became the purchaser and owner. In 1866 he went to Williamsport, where he was engaged in contracting and building, and afterward in the manufacture of axes, continuing in that until the spring of 1871, when he moved back to their farm in Centre Township, on which he has since resided. He was married in the house in which he now resides while a resident of Scranton, May 8, 1856, to Miss Mary Frances Low, a native of what is now Centre Township, this county, born in the house where she now resides, and daughter of Isaac and Maria Low. Mr. and Mrs. Barton are the parents of two children: Laura and Edith, the latter a stenographer at Dansville, N. Y. Both were educated at the State Normal School at Bloomsburg. Mr. Barton is a member of Centre Grange, No. 56, P. of H. He was its first secretary, a position he held for about three years; has been Master of the Grange and is now filling the position of lecturer for the local Grange. He is a trustee of Lime Ridge Methodist Episcopal Church, of which denomination Mr. and Mrs. Barton are members.

N. L. CAMPBELL, retired farmer, P. O. Espy, was born in Warren County, N. J., March 10, 1825, son of Richard and Mary C. (Lanning) Campbell. Daniel Campbell, grandfather of our subject, was born in New Jersey, of Scotch descent, his parents having come directly from Scotland to New Jersey. He was married to Rachel Howe, in New Jersey, and in that State they remained until coming to Northumberland County, Penn., where they died. Daniel belonged to a uniformed company of light infantry in the Continental service, and served seven years in the colonial forces through the Revolutionary war immediately under Washington, and participated in the engagements at Bunker Hill and Brandywine; was also at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. Although he went through that terrible winter at Valley Forge, he came through his seven years of service without having been on the sick list a single day, and was never wounded, although his military hat, which was kept in the family for a number of years after independence was gained, showed seven bullet holes in it, as mementoes of the struggle. He was a man of iron constitution, and considerably above the average in height, standing six feet two inches in his stockings. When he came to Northumberland County he located in what is called the Irish Valley, and took 1,500 acres of land, several of his sons locating around him. These sons were John, Robert, William, Benjamin and Daniel. His sons, Elijah, Jarred and Theodore, also located there, but when Richard, the father of N. L., came to that locality, these three had removed to Ohio. George Campbell, another son, was the only one of the family who came immediately to what is now Columbia County. He located at Berwick when there was only a cluster of houses to mark the spot where that flourishing borough now stands. He lived there until he died, carrying on the tailoring business. Daniel Campbell, grandfather of N. L., died at his Northumberland County residence in 1834, at the age of ninety-six years. His wife had preceded him in death by a number of years. They are buried in the Warrior Run Cemetery. Part of the land which Daniel took up is now used by the Treverton Coal Company, which does an extensive mining business. Richard Campbell, father of N. L., was born in New Jersey, and there grew up and was married to Miss

Mary C. Lanning. Possessing the military spirit of his father he went out in the war of 1812, through which he served, and on returning he remained at home until 1817, when the Indian troubles breaking out afresh, he again offered his services, and remained out until quiet was restored. He traveled about considerably in his early life, and was thirty-seven years of age when he settled down and married. In 1832 he and his family removed to Northumberland County, and from there they came to Madison Township, this county, thence to Hemlock Township, and thence to Centre Township, where they died while making their home with their son, N. L. The mother died October 31, 1855, the father one month later. They are buried in Rosemont Cemetery at Bloomsburg. They were the parents of six children, of whom four are now living: Rachel, wife of Evanuel Houpt, in Johnson City, Tenn.; N. L.; James I., living near Orangeville, this county; Andrew Jackson, living at Danville, this county. The deceased are Mehitable Ann, wife of Joseph Hunter, died in Danville, and Sarah Elizabeth, who was unmarried. Our subject was seven years of age when his parents removed to Northumberland County, Penn., and two years later they came to this county, where he was reared to manhood. He made his home with his parents until he was married, and then located at his present residence in Centre Township. He was married, February 21, 1849, to Miss Sarah Webb, a daughter of Samuel and Mary Webb, both natives of this county, whose parents came here from one of the lower counties in Pennsylvania at a day when it was necessary to go to Northumberland County to mill. Both the parents and grandparents of Mrs. Campbell died in this county, and are all buried in Briarcreek Union Church Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell were the parents of three children: David W., married to Miss Martha Bittenbender (they live in this township); Elmira Jane, wife of C. W. Walker (they live at Atchison, Kas.), and an infant (deceased). Mrs. Campbell died in the latter part of December, 1854, and is buried in the Bloomsburg Cemetery. Mr. Campbell then married, in 1856, Miss Eleanor N. McVicker, a native of this county, and daughter of James and Sarah McVicker. She died in 1866. In 1868 Mr. Campbell was married to Isabella Robison, a native of this county, who died in 1872. By this marriage there were three children, of whom one is living—Ario Vistus. The deceased were infants unnamed. Mr. Campbell is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Bloomsburg. He has sixty-three acres of land in this township, and thirty-two in Hemlock Township, this county. Mr. Campbell has been connected with the schools of Centre Township as director. He is a member of the P. of H., and was the organizer of Centre Grange, No. 56, serving as Master of the Grange for three years, the first one to hold this position. He afterward served two terms as lecturer for the Grange. Mr. Campbell's last wife acted as volunteer nurse through the civil war in Mrs. Bigelow's corps. She was an eminently Christian woman, an affectionate wife, a kind mother and a warm friend until death. Her remains are buried in Rosemont Cemetery, at Bloomsburg. Our subject says he "was an active supporter of his Government during the late Rebellion; was twice summoned to Harrisburg as witness on the trial of one who was a reported leader of what was then called the Fishingcreek confederacy. The rebutting testimony on that trial, which is now a matter of history, is so wide of the truth and so improbable under the circumstances, the idea of an unarmed man going into a neighborhood—where it was reported and confidently believed at the time that there were 500 armed men to resist the draft and prohibit the enlisting of men for the service—and entering into a quarrel with a reputed leader, and in the presence of four bar-room loungers and communicating his business, is so highly improbable, that he never intended to treat the matter with any other than silent contempt, as no one but an idiot would ever believe the statement unless he believed he (our subject) possessed more courage than the combined Fishingcreek confederacy."

PHILIP CREASY, farmer, P. O. Lime Ridge, was born in Mifflin Township, this county, July 30, 1826; son of John and Margaret (Dietrich) Creasy. Philip Creasy, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in one of the lower counties of Pennsylvania, and from there came to what is now Columbia County, when a young man, and located in Mifflin Township, where Philip Creasy now resides. He was a farmer by occupation, but game being plentiful when he came, he indulged a great deal in hunting. He was married in this county to a Miss Bauman, and they lived on that place until their death. He cleared up the land on the place where he located, all of it being then covered with a heavy growth of timber. He and his wife are both buried on the old homestead. John Creasy, father of the subject of this sketch, was born and reared on the old homestead of his father, and worked with the latter until his marriage. He then bought land in the vicinity of his father's home, part of which had been previously cleared, and on which there were some building improvements. He afterward sold that place, about 1839, and bought a farm in what is now Centre Township, to which he removed. That tract is now the farms of Philip, Elias and Lafayette. He found about half of it cleared, and he and his boys cleared up the remainder. He died while living on this place. He was married in this county to Miss Margaret Dietrich. Her parents were also early settlers, having come from one of the lower counties. Mr. and Mrs. John Creasy were the parents of eleven children, of whom eight are now living; Elias, in Centre Township, this county; Eve, wife of Daniel Hess in Mifflin County; Jacob and Philip, twins, the former in Vir-

ginia; Lafayette, also in Centre Township; Caleb, in Mifflinville, this county; John, in Fishingcreek Township, this county, and Stephen in Garfield County, Iowa. John Creasy, father of the above, died in 1845; his widow survived him until 1872. The former is buried at Creasy Cemetery in Mifflin Township, the latter at the Brick Church, Briarcreek Township, this county. Philip Creasy, subject of this sketch, was but a boy when his parents removed to Centre Township, and here was reared to manhood. He made his home with his father until the latter's death, and continued to live on the homestead until he built his present large brick residence in 1872. He was married in this county about 1851, to Miss Mary Rachel Hagenbuch, a native of this township, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Hill) Hagenbuch. Mr. and Mrs. Creasy are the parents of seven children: Arthur Clarence, married to Miss Margaret Aikman (they reside in this township); John Daniel, married to Miss Alice Reedy (they live in Nescopeck, Penn.); Elizabeth, wife of T. D. Strauss (they live at Lime Ridge, Penn.); Verna, Charles, Wilson and Frank. Mr. and Mrs. Creasy are members of the New School Lutheran Church. He has held local township offices, having been school director, overseer of the poor, supervisor, etc. He is a member of the Grange Association. John Creasy, father of Philip, started west about two years before coming to Centre Township. Taking two horses and a truck wagon he and his wife teamed it through as far as Kalamazoo, Mich., through a country, much of which was then inhabited by Indians, camping out at night. He went out merely on a visit, and would probably have stayed if the locality had suited him. He could then have bought all the good land he wanted there for 10 shillings per acre, but it did not suit him, and he returned by the same means as he had gone.

SAMUEL CREVELING, farmer, P. O. Light Street, was born in what is now Centre Township, this county, September 30, 1830, a son of Alexander and Rebecca (Marr) Creveling. Andrew Creveling, grandfather of Samuel, came to what is now Columbia County from the State of New Jersey, and located near what is now Espytown, in Scott Township, where he bought land and made improvements after the fashion of that day. At that time, and for years, there were no milling facilities closer than Sunbury, and he used to send his boys down to Sunbury with wheat to be ground; they generally loaded about fifteen bushels of grain on a canoe, "poling" to Sunbury and return. He was married in New Jersey before coming to this county, and, on locating in what is now Scott Township, they made their home in that vicinity until they died. Of their children all are deceased. Alexander Creveling, son of the above, and father of Samuel, was born in what is now Columbia County, Penn., and was reared to farm life. This he followed alone until 1850, when he built the tannery now owned by Jacob Rink, in Centre Township. He had bought land, on part of which the tannery is located, in the early part of the present century, and after putting up the tannery, he managed that business and carried on farming until his death. He was married in this county to Miss Rebecca Marr, a native of this county and daughter of Lawrence Marr. Her parents came to this county from Scotland, located near Easton, Penn., and from there removed to this county, where both died and are buried in Hiday Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Creveling were the parents of sixteen children, of whom three are living: Cyrus, in Buffalo Valley, Union Co., Penn.; Samuel, and Franklin, in Centre Township, this county. Alexander Creveling died August 10, 1857; his wife in January, 1833. They are buried in Hiday Cemetery. At the time of his death Mr. Creveling was the owner of 187 acres of land and the tannery property. Samuel Creveling, subject of this sketch, was born and reared at the place where he now resides. When a boy he principally assisted his father in the farm work, but worked occasionally in the tannery, especially in winter, and in about 1849-50 he used to haul hides in the winter season from Scranton, Pittston, Wilkesbarre and other places to the tannery. Scranton at that time contained but a few houses, and depended entirely on one or two collieries. After his father's death, however, Samuel gave his attention entirely to farming. He was married in this county September 24, 1857, to Miss Mary Ann Lamon, a native of this county and daughter of James and Hannah (Spear) Lamon, natives of Ireland, who on coming to this country first located near Mauch Chunk; from there they removed to Briarcreek Township, this county, and there they lived until their death; the former died in 1872 and the latter in the fall of 1878, and are buried at Berwick, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Creveling were the parents of nine children, of whom six are living: Hiram Jasper, married to Miss Sarah Melick, living at Pittston, Penn.; Marietta, wife of Elmer Creveling, living near Espytown, this county; Ella, Willbert G., Clarence Alexander and Grace Edna. Annie Irene, Jennie Eudella and Charles Wesley are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Creveling are members of the Methodist Church. He has 177 acres of land. The place on which his home is located is a part of the first tract taken up between the mouths of Fishing creek and East Briar creek, the original grant, still in Mr. Creveling's possession, bearing the name and seal of William Penn, and bearing the date of 1769. The Creveling family were great hunters and rifle shots, and some of them were very expert at the latter act. The father of Samuel killed two bears in the vicinity of the latter's home. He, like the other men of the family, was a fine rifle shot.



JOHN C. CRYDER, farmer, P. O. Willow Spring, was born in Briarereek Township, this county, March 1, 1860, son of Isaac L. and Mary (Hicks) Cryder. Thomas S. Cryder, grandfather of John C., removed from Philadelphia to this county in the early part of the present century, coming with his mother and sisters. He had been a carpenter in Philadelphia, an occupation he followed to some extent after coming to this county. He died March 16, 1878, his wife having preceded him in death by a number of years, and was buried in Philadelphia. He (Thomas S. Cryder) was buried in Berwick, Penn. Isaac L. Cryder, father of John C., was born in Philadelphia in August, 1834, and was reared to farm life. He bought a farm of 100 acres in Briarereek Township, on which he located, and in November, 1867, removed to the Briarereek grocery, which he conducted for eighteen months. In 1869 he bought the farm where his son L. H. now resides in Centre Township, and there he lived and died. He was married in this county to Miss Mary Hicks, February 18, 1858, and they were the parents of three children, two of whom are living; John C. and Leoni H. Edwin A. is deceased. The father of the family died May 5, 1877, and is buried at Berwick, this county. His widow resides with her son, Leoni H. John C. Cryder, the subject of this sketch, was reared in Briarereek Township to farm life, attending the schools of Briarereek and Centre Townships, and the State normal at Bloomsburg, where he remained about two years taking the classical course. He was married in this county February 17, 1885, to Cora A. Creveling, a member of an early settler's family of the county, and they are the parents of one child, Harold Creveling Cryder. Mr. Cryder and his brother, Leoni H., have 142 acres of land in this township. Leoni H. Cryder was born in Briarereek Township, this county, August 5, 1865, and was reared in Briarereek and Centre Townships. He makes his home in Centre Township, he and his mother living together. He received his education in the schools of Centre Township, attending also two terms at the State normal at Bloomsburg.

Z. T. FOWLER, dealer in grain and coal, etc., Willow Springs, was born in what is now Centre Township, this county, September 30, 1848, son of Gilbert H. and Catherine (Smith) Fowler. Benjamin Fowler, grandfather of Z. T., came to what is now Columbia County from Reading, shortly after the close of the Revolutionary war. He was born in England, and when seventeen years of age came to America, and, being a Briton by birth, he naturally drifted into the British army, and was engaged in that war entirely through that struggle, participating in all of the battles in which his regiment was engaged, being with the army at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. After the war he went into the Wyoming Valley with a number of others, but those of the class to which he belonged did not affiliate in friendship with the Pennamites, or French and Indian classes, and the latter having the odds in numerical strength, Mr. Fowler and his friends, for their own safety, took their departure from the valley by way of New York State. From there they went to Reading, but being determined to locate farther up and along the Susquehanna River, he came to what is now Columbia County on a pack horse, and took up land—the home farm of Lafayette Creasy being part of the tract settled on. He found this land covered with scrub oak and hazel brush, and he settled about putting up a shanty for his own occupancy, but about the time he got started clearing up the place he was driven off by the Indians. He went back to Reading, and while there was married to Miss Catherine Fowler, who had previously lived in this vicinity. They packed provisions enough to last them a year, corn and rye being the principal staples, transporting them to their new home by packs. Arriving here they located on land which S. H. Swank now owns and lives on, and there Mr. Fowler built a log house. He had put out a small crop of corn and rye at his previous location, and when it was ripe he went up there and gathered the crops. There were two or three other families living within a radius of a few miles when they came, and when they found there was a new family among them, they being almost destitute, came and borrowed corn meal and other supplies which had been brought by Mr. Fowler, until nearly all his supplies were gone, and for four months, on account of their generosity, the only food they had besides wild game was dried apples and milk. At this location both Benjamin Fowler and his wife lived until they died. They are buried at the Stone Church, in Briarereek Township, this county. Gilbert H., the youngest of their nine children, was born in the log house erected by his father, and here he was reared to manhood. He lived on that place until his death. He and his brother William purchased their father's farm of about 100 acres during the hard times of 1836. Gilbert H. was twice married. His first wife was a Miss Mack, and by her he had ten children, the following named now living: M. P., at Shenandoah, Penn.; Charles S., at Scranton, Penn.; A. P., also at Scranton; John W., in Lehigh County, Penn.; Jane, wife of J. R. Millard, in Dunlap, Kan. The deceased are Sallie Ann, wife of Samuel Bittenbender (he now lives in Kansas); Lydia, wife of J. P. Conner (both were drowned in the canal April 8, 1878), and three who died in infancy. Mr. Fowler's second wife was a Miss Catherine Smith, born in Mifflin Township, this county, and by her he had four children, following named now living: S. S., living in Elizabeth City, N. C., where he is engaged in the dry goods and notion business, and also carries on the manufacture of cotton, he having established one of the first cotton factories in the South after the war; Elmira, wife of Samuel J. Conner, living in Briarereek Township, this county, and Z. T. Clemuel

L. died at the age of four years. Gilbert H. Fowler died March 24, 1873, at Elizabeth City, N. C., where he had been spending the winter on account of his health, and is buried in the Berwick Cemetery. Z. T. Fowler, subject of this sketch, received his early education in the common schools of his neighborhood, and afterward attended Williamsport Seminary. After returning from school he became engaged in general merchandising and farming in connection with his brother, S. S. After four years the latter went South, and Mr. Fowler's father took his interest; but after one year he retired from the farm, and Z. T. carried on the business for three years alone. He then sold out his store, and bought a farm of twelve acres and residence at Willow Grove Station, since which time, 1875, he has carried on the coal and grain business there. He also has charge of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R. office at this point. He was appointed postmaster there when he came, which position he has since held. He was married in this county November 17, 1868, to Miss Jennie S. Watts, a native of Luzerne County, Penn., and daughter of John W. and Julia Watts (both deceased), the former born in Juniata County, the latter near Plymouth, Luzerne Co., Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler are the parents of three children, two of whom died in their infancy. Dayton Watts is the name of their living child. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler are members of the Methodist Church. He is a Republican, politically. He was postmaster at Fowlerville for four years, succeeding his father, who had held the office from the time of Lincoln's first election.

WESLEY B. FREAS, farmer, P. O. Fowlersville, was born in Briar creek Township, this county, April 10, 1813, son of Philip and Sarah (Fowler) Freas. John Freas, grandfather of Wesley B., was born in Mount Bethel, Lehigh Co., Penn., and was there reared to farm life. He was there married to Miss Dorcas Hoffman, and they moved from Mount Bethel to what is now Columbia County, about 1795, and located on land which now belongs to Levi Ganett, in Briar creek Township. He bought a small piece of rather rough land there, which he found covered with a heavy growth of timber. They had come up by wagon, and while Mr. Freas was engaged in putting up his cabin, the family lived in their wagon. He cleared up a space sufficient to place his buildings on, and with the timber thus cut down, he put up his rude log cabin. At one end of his cabin he erected a shed, in which to keep his cow. After getting up his cabin he cleared up a small piece more, and put out a small crop of rye. Thus things went on until he had cleared up a good portion of this land, each year putting out a little larger crop. Game of all kinds was abundant. The Indians were yet numerous, and when trouble was expected, the family were in the habit of retiring to Fort Jenkins until such excitement would calm down. He lived at this place a number of years, and when he left it and moved to a farm he had bought in what is now Centre Township (now owned by M. W. Jackson) his family was all grown up. There he remained the remainder of his lifetime, and when he died at the age of eighty-four years, about 1839, he was quite well off. His widow survived him some five or six years. They are buried at the Stone Church, Briar creek Township, this county. Of their twelve children, Philip, father of our subject, was the second in order of birth. He was born in Mount Bethel, Penn., and when the family removed to what is now Columbia County, he was about ten years of age. He made his home with his parents until he was married, and after that removed to the place which his father had bought, now known as the M. W. Jackson farm. There he lived only about eight years, and then bought a farm which Jesse Freas now owns, also in Centre Township, and there he lived until his death. He was married to Miss Sarah Fowler, a native of this county and daughter of Benjamin Fowler, and they were the parents of eleven children, of whom six are living: Wesley B.; Rebecca, wife of Paul Zaner, living in this township; Martha, widow of Abraham Hartman; Minerva, wife of Stephen Hutten, living in Orangeville, this county; Jesse, also living in Orangeville; Berch, living in Bloomsburg, this county. The father of this family died in about 1865; his widow survived him by about six years. They are buried at the Stone Church, Briar creek Township, this county. Wesley B. Freas, subject of this sketch, was reared in this county, and made his home with his parents until he was married, when he removed to part of the land which he now owns, and lived there until removing to his present location, in 1869. He was married in this county on March 23, 1858, to Miss Hannah Rittenhouse, a native of this county, and daughter of Henry and Rachel (Hutten) Rittenhouse, both natives of this county, where they lived and died. Both are buried in the Berwick Cemetery. The Rittenhouse and Hutten families were both early settlers, and figured in many of the early events. Mr. and Mrs. Freas are the parents of one child—Bruce B., who was educated in the schools of his township and at Orangeville. Mrs. Freas and her son are members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Freas is a member of Briar creek Grange, P. of H., of which he has held the office of treasurer. He was commissioned by Gov. David R. Porter, May 15, 1839, second lieutenant of the Briar creek Riflemen, attached to the volunteer brigade of the Columbia Guards, in the Second Brigade of the Eighth Division, Pennsylvania Militia, composed of the counties of Northumberland, Union, Columbia, Luzerne, Susquehanna and Wayne, and held the position until 1842, when he was commissioned captain of the Briar creek Volunteer Rifles, Second Regiment, Second Brigade, Eighth Division Militia for the same counties, and served a term of four years. He is a Democrat politically. He owns altogether 185 acres of land in two farms.

FREDERICK HAGENBUCH, farmer, P. O. Espy, was born in Centre Township, this county, May 27, 1827, a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Hill) Hagenbuch. John Hagenbuch, grandfather of subject, was born in Northampton County, Penn., but when a young man his parents removed to this county and located where F. H. Hagenbuch now resides, just east of the Hidlay Church. There they lived all their lives, following farming. They are buried in the Hidlay Cemetery. John Hagenbuch was married white in Northampton County to a Miss Dreisbach, and they were the parents of eight sons, all of whom are deceased. Their names were Conrad, who resided where Mrs. Simon Fry now lives (he afterward moved to the West Branch, and there resided until his death); Simon lived near Summer Hill, in Centre Township; John lived where A. C. Hagenbuch now resides; Jacob lived adjoining, where J. S. Hagenbuch now resides; Michael lived where Joseph Hess now resides; Daniel, who lived where F. H. Hagenbuch now resides; Junius, who lived where Jacob Aul now resides, and Charles, a blacksmith by trade, who lived between the residences of Junius and Michael. John Hagenbuch, father of the foregoing family, bought 400 acres of land from a man named Smith, which he set about clearing, and as his boys grew to manhood and set up in business for themselves, he erected buildings for them on this tract. In this way Conrad set up in weaving after learning the trade, and had about thirty-five acres to start with; Simon engaged in farming and freighting to and from Philadelphia; he had sixty-three acres; John, also a farmer, began with fifty-seven acres and later bought out Conrad; Jacob, a wheelwright and colorer, started with about thirty acres; Michael, a wheelwright, had seventeen acres to begin life, also a timber lot; Daniel, a farmer, had sixty-three acres when he started, and afterward bought out Simon and Charles; Junius, a weaver, began with about twenty acres; Charles, a blacksmith, started with twenty acres, and afterward sold out to Daniel, moved to Northumberland County, and died near the Sinking Springs. John Hagenbuch followed farming until about twenty-five years before his death, when he led a retired life, and his place was farmed by Daniel and Jacob. John Hagenbuch died about 1845, his first wife, the mother of the sons mentioned above, having preceded him by a number of years. Daniel Hagenbuch, father of Frederick, and the sixth in order of age of John's eight sons, after his father had retired, still remained with him and divided the large farm among John's eight sons; built a little house on one part of the place near a flowing spring, and John lived there until his death, each one of his sons paying him a sort of dowry, or contributing to his support. So that, although the land that Daniel held was his own, it was still subject to this dower right, and Daniel contributed to his father's support. Daniel grew up and married Elizabeth Hill, a native of what is now Columbia County, and daughter of Frederick Hill. Her parents came to this county from Berks County, and here lived all their days. They are buried in the old Hill homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hagenbuch were the parents of seven children, of whom six are living: Frederick; Rachel, wife of Philip Creasy; Wilson, in Atlassa, Muscatine Co., Iowa; Sarah, wife of Manuel Kelchner, of Bloomsburg, this county; F. H., living on the old homestead of Daniel and John Hagenbuch, grandfather and father; Hester, wife of T. W. Hagenbuch, lives on the old Hill homestead; Josiah died at the age of thirty-three years, in April, 1861. Daniel Hagenbuch followed farming actively until the last few years of his life, after which he lived retired. He died in April, 1878; his wife died in May, 1867, and they are buried in Hidlay Cemetery. Frederick (our subject) lived with his parents until he was twenty-seven years of age, engaged in farming. He then married and rented land from his father-in-law for two years, when he purchased his present home farm in partnership with his father, locating on this place in 1855. He at once began to make improvements on the place, replacing the tumble down buildings by handsome and substantial ones. He also bought the place which he had first rented, and now owns 254 acres of farm land and sixteen acres of timber in Orange Township, this county. He married, February 22, 1853, Miss Margaret Hidlay, a native of Centre Township, this county, and daughter of George and Sarah (Aikman) Hidlay. Her parents came to this county from New Jersey and settled where Arthur Spear now resides, and there lived until their death. They are buried in Hidlay Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Hagenbuch are the parents of five children: George M., married to Mary Purcell, resides near his father; Oscar D. married Ella McHenry, and lives at Stillwater; Ida E., Clara E. and Sadie M. The family are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Hagenbuch has held the offices of school director and supervisor in the township. He is a member of Washington Lodge, A. F. & A. M., at Bloomsburg; is also a member of the Grange, and has held offices in both. Mr. and Mrs. Hagenbuch are both members of early families. The first grant to the home farm now owned by Mr. Hagenbuch was made to Henry Owen, who sold to John Bittenbender, and he to Enos Fowler and S. H. Fowler, and in 1855 Mr. Hagenbuch and his father bought it.

ELISHA HAGENBUCH, farmer, P. O. Light Street, was born in Centre Township, this county, June 7, 1838, son of Jeremiah and Sarah (Fulmer) Hagenbuch. Jacob Hagenbuch, grandfather of Elisha, was born in this county, his parents having come here at an early day. His father bought a tract of land near where Elisha now resides. He found the land he had purchased mostly covered with a heavy growth of timber, and he set



about clearing enough to put up log buildings, using the timber cut down in the construction of his cabin, etc. He followed farming until his death, which occurred about 1845. He and wife are buried in Hidlay Cemetery. Jacob Hagenbuch, grandfather of Elisha, was born and reared in this county, and learned the trade of wagon-making, and dyeing at different times. When he became of age his father gave him, as he did other members of the family, seventeen acres of land, and on this he cut logs and put up buildings for himself. Some idea of the density of the timber at that time may be gathered from the fact that he had to clear the land in order to dig a well. Although he had a very little land to start with, every time he got \$5 or \$10 ahead he would buy two or three acres of land to add to his farm, until he finally had 106 acres, and every time he added to his land he would increase the size of his barn, or put a shed on the edge of it, until these sheds entirely surrounded his barn, and he then tore down the whole building and erected a new one. He was married in this county to Miss Abalona Hayman, a native of this county, whose parents were also early settlers. He followed farming steadily until the last year or two of his life, when he gradually lessened his labors. He died about 1861, his wife having preceded him some five or six years. They are both buried in Hidlay Cemetery. They left one child, Jeremiah, who was reared while this vicinity was yet young, and amid the scenes generally attending the clearing up of a primitive country. He lived on his parents' place until both of them had been called away, and in the last years of his father's life he farmed the latter's place. He was married in this county to Miss Sarah Fulmer, a native of the county. Her parents were born in Columbia County, and removed to Clarion County, Penn., where they both died. Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Hagenbuch were the parents of six children of whom two died in infancy. Those living are Elisha, Margaret E. (wife of A. C. Hagenbuch); Jacob Sanderson, in this township, and F. P., who also lives in this township. Jeremiah Hagenbuch died February 20, 1883, and is buried in Hidlay Cemetery. His widow lives at the place where her husband resided at the time of his death. Elisha Hagenbuch, subject of this sketch, was reared in Centre Township, and made his home with his parents until he was married, which event took place in January, 1862. His wife's maiden name was Delila Creveling. She was born in Scott Township, this county, and is a daughter of Andrew and Anna Creveling. Her father died September 1, 1886, in the eighty-second year of his age, having been preceded by his wife by about twenty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Hagenbuch are the parents of two children: Anna B. and Sadie. Mr. and Mrs. Hagenbuch are members of the Lutheran Church. He was school director of Centre Township for nine years; also a member of the Grange. He has 127 acres of land in Centre Township. When Jeremiah Hagenbuch died he had not only the farm his father left him, but also two others, making in all 390 acres of first-class land, for some of which he paid as high as \$117 per acre.

F. P. HAGENBUCH, farmer, P. O. Light Street, was born in Centre Township, this county, December 11, 1852, son of Jeremiah and Sarah (Fulmer) Hagenbuch. Jacob Hagenbuch, grandfather of F. P., came to this county from one of the lower counties, and located where J. S. Hagenbuch now resides, in Centre Township, and bought a tract of land there. He came up alone and cleared up enough of the land on which to put up a cabin, using the timber cut down in the erection of a building. At that time the vicinity was very wild, and the land he bought was covered with a heavy growth of timber. In after years he often related how he could have just as well located on more open land up near Berwick, but instead, like most of the settlers of that day, he chose the heavy timber land, all of which had to be cut down and carried off before the land was fit for farming. He has also related how they used to put bells on their horses and turned them loose, and in the morning they would find them on Summer Hill or beyond. In early life he was a wagon-maker, which he afterward abandoned and gave his attention to farming. He was married in this county to Miss Abalona Hayman. Both are deceased and are buried in Hidlay Cemetery. Jeremiah Hagenbuch, father of F. P., was their only child. He made his home with his parents until death called both of them away, and after that lived on the old homestead until about 1875, when he removed onto another place which he had previously bought, and resided until his death. He was married in this county to Miss Sarah Fulmer, a native of Berks County, Penn. They were the parents of six children, two of whom died in infancy. Those living are Elisha, in Centre Township, this county; Margaret Alice, wife of A. C. Hagenbuch, also in Centre Township, and F. P., subject of this sketch. Jeremiah Hagenbuch died in 1884, and is buried in Hidlay Cemetery. Our subject was reared in this township, and made his home with his parents until his marriage, working with his father on the farm, and receiving his education in the Hidlay school in the neighborhood of his home. After his marriage he bought his present home and residence, consisting of 115 acres of land, and here he has since resided. He was married in June, 1878, to Miss Emma M. Miller, a native of this county, and daughter of George P. and Anna Miller, the former of whom is deceased and is buried in Hidlay Cemetery; the latter lives in Centre Township, this county. Mrs. Hagenbuch, mother of F. P., is still a resident of this township, living at the place where her husband died. Mrs. Hagenbuch is a member of the Lutheran Church.

JESSE HOFFMAN, farmer, P. O. Espy, was born in Centre Township, this county, January 1, 1830, son of William and Annie (Dietrich) Hoffman. Philip Hoffman,

great-grandfather of our subject, came to this county from the vicinity of Bethlehem, Penn., in the early days of the county, and located in what is now Centre Township, near Fowlersville. He was a farmer by occupation, and when he came here he found this country a wilderness, and had to clear up all the land he had for agricultural purposes. He was in the Revolutionary war. He and his wife both died in this county, and are buried in the cemetery near the old stone church, which is now used as the Grange Hall. John Hoffman, grandfather of Jesse, was either born in Columbia County or moved here when very young with his parents. He went from this county to the war of 1812. He had about 170 acres of land, most of which he cleared. He followed farming until about twenty years before his death, and after that lived a retired life. He resided in the county until his death, which occurred about 1849, when about seventy-five years of age, having been preceded by his wife, who died about 1840. (His second wife was Elizabeth Styer). They are buried in the cemetery at Berwick, this county. William Hoffman, father of Jesse, was the second in order of age of his parents' family of four children. He was reared in this township, and resided with his parents until he was of age. He married Miss Annie Dietrich, born in this county, but whose parents were from Germany. After his marriage he bought his father-in-law's farm, carried it on six years, and then moved back to the old homestead of his father. He followed agriculture until his death. They were the parents of six children, of whom three are living; Jesse; John, proprietor of mills at Light Street, and Sarah, wife of Mordecai Millard, in Centre Township, this county. Charles, William and Elizabeth are deceased. William Hoffman died July 4, 1858, and is buried in the same cemetery as his parents. His widow is now living with her daughter Sarah, at the age of eighty-six years. Jesse Hoffman, subject of this sketch, was reared in Centre Township, this county, and made his home with his parents until twenty-six years of age. His father was then proprietor of what is now Wolverton's mills, and when Jesse was a boy he used to help his father in the mill. He was engaged there altogether four or five years. On November 10, 1857, he was married to Miss Frances L. Millard, a native of this county, and daughter of Reese and Elizabeth Millard, both now deceased and buried at Berwick, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Hoffman are parents of five children: Charles (deceased in infancy); Cora (deceased when three years old); William, married to Sarah J. Miller, is an engineer at Creveling's Quarry, and was educated at the State normal, Bloomsburg, Penn., Reese and Ray attended the State normal school, Bloomsburg, Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Hoffman has 164 acres of land, well improved. Six generations of the Hoffman family may now be counted as having inhabited Columbia County in the various epochs of its history, and all six have been entirely identified with Centre Township.

GEORGE H. HENKELMANN, farmer, P. O. Lime Ridge, was born at Dornburg, Hesse-Cassel, Germany, June 17, 1833, son of Henry and Elizabeth (Carl) Henkelmann, the former of whom served for thirty-three years as a soldier, being in all the campaigns against the first Napoleon. When not in the army he followed the business of miner, and also did something at weaving. Mrs. Elizabeth Henklemann died June 17, 1833. Our subject lived with his father the remainder of his stay in the old country, learning the trade of butcher, and when he had reached the age of eighteen years, he and some friends decided to go to America to try their fortunes. Accordingly, taking a farewell leave of his friends and relatives at his native town, he went to Bremen, where he took passage on a sailing vessel bound for Baltimore, and after a somewhat stormy voyage of forty-one days, in which the ship collided with another one, they arrived at that city June 15, 1852. He started the next day for Philadelphia, and from there came to Hazleton, Luzerne County, where he engaged in the mines, and was thus employed about seven months. He then secured employment in the chemical works of Dornemann & Matener, the senior member of which firm was a relative of Mr. Henkelmann. In their employment he remained about one year and a half, and then went to work in the mines again, in which he was employed for several years; then went to Tamaqua, Schuylkill Co., Penn., and was employed in the mines there for several months; and then recommenced his trade of butcher in the shop of Thomas Brod. He worked for him about six or eight months, and in the latter part of March, 1856, he went to Buffalo, N. Y., and became employed as a freight handler for the Western Transportation Company, loading and unloading canal boats. He remained in the employ of this company during October, 1856; then went to Stockton, Luzerne County, where he worked at the butcher trade for William Dresaat, and afterward for the coal company, Packer, Carder & Lindemann. From there he returned to Tamaqua, and after working a short time in the mines, engaged again in butchering. He remained; there three years in the latter business, and then moved to Hazleton, where he engaged in the butcher business for himself, continuing about four years, and then went to Jeddo, Luzerne County, and opened a butcher shop, which he conducted sixteen years; then, October 14, 1882, located on the farm where he now resides, which he had bought in 1874, and where he has nearly seventy-two acres of land. He was married in Tamaqua, Schuylkill Co., Penn., October 4, 1857, to Miss Anne Elizabeth Stein, a native of Saxony, Germany, and daughter of Michael



Stein. When Mrs. Henkelmann was young her mother died, and her father died in 1883, near Wilkesbarre, Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Henkelmann were the parents of nine children, of whom seven are living: Anna S., wife of Adam Fernan (they live at Drifton, Luzerne Co., Penn.); George, married to Miss Heneretta Vendamard (they live in Wanamie, Luzerne Co., Penn.); Alice, married to George Weigand, January 25, 1887, and residing at Jeddo, Luzerne County; Matilda, Heneretta, Augusta and Clara. Cassie and Lizzie both died in March, 1886, twelve days apart. Mr. and Mrs. Henkelmann are attendants of the Lutheran and German Reformed Churches, Briarcreek Township. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Lodge No. 65, at Hazleton, and of German Lodge, No. 79, at Hazleton. He has passed all the chairs in the latter. Politically he is a Republican.

HENRY HESS, retired farmer, P. O. Lime Ridge, was born near Easton, Penn., December 12, 1808, son of Frederick and Catherine (Fleury) Hess. The grandparents of our subject came to this country from Germany, and located near Easton, where they lived all their days. Frederick Hess, father of Henry, was born and reared near Easton, Penn., and there learned the mason's trade, which he followed altogether until coming to what is now Columbia County, about 1812; he located just above where the canal lock is situated at Lime Ridge. He bought fifty acres of this land, then mostly covered with timber, and set about clearing up a portion of it. He was married twice before coming to this county, and after the death of his first wife he married Elizabeth Fleury, by whom he had four children, three now living: Henry; Susan, widow of Samuel Hagenbuch, and Rebecca, widow of David Coleman. Elizabeth, wife of Charles Hagenbuch, is deceased. After coming up here Frederick Hess ran the Stonytown ferry, followed his trade of mason and had his land cultivated. He died in 1820, and is buried at the Brick Church, Briarcreek Township, this county. His widow, Elizabeth, survived him a number of years, dying about 1847. She is buried in Hilday Cemetery. Henry Hess, subject of this sketch, was but a child when his parents moved from the neighborhood of Easton to what is now this county, and his father having died when he (Henry) was but twelve years of age, he was taken by his second cousin, John Hess, of Wapwallopen, Luzerne Co., Penn., and with him our subject worked on the farm until he was in his nineteenth year. He then came to what is now Centre Township, this county, and commenced to learn the wagon-making trade with Michael Hagenbuch, who had a shop on land now belonging to Joseph Hess, son of Henry, and adjoining Henry's land. Here he remained about three years, and after he had learned the trade he went down to Lime Ridge, and commenced tending lock on the canal there. He was in charge of that lock for ten years, and also worked at times at his trade, and farmed a little. After he had been there he was married March 25, 1832, to Miss Maria Hayman, a native of Berks County, Penn., and daughter of Peter and Sevilla Hayman, who removed from Berks County to this county when Mrs. Hess was about three years of age. They located about two miles from Orangeville on Fishing creek, and there lived the rest of their days, both dying in 1827, within four weeks of each other. They are buried in Hilday Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Hess, after their marriage, lived at Lime Ridge, and then they moved onto the farm in the neighborhood of where they now reside, and which farm Mr. Hess had previously purchased. He bought his present residence and lot in 1871, and since that they have lived retired from active labor. Mr. and Mrs. Hess were the parents of nine children, two of whom died in infancy. Those living are Sevilla, wife of Daniel Mourer, lives at Afton, this county; Levina, wife of Wesley Hess, lives in this township; Joseph A., married to Levina Coleman, also lives in Centre Township; William Henry, married to Sevilla Hayman, lives on the farm of his parents; Isaiah Jacob, married to Alice Hess, lives at Lime Ridge, this county; Emma Jane, wife of Lloyd Conner, live at Hazleton, Penn.; James Harvey, clerking at Berwick, this county. Mr. Hess is a member of the German Reformed Church, in which he has been deacon and elder, and Mrs. Hess of the Lutheran denomination. He has held the office of road supervisor in times past. Mr. Hess owns about ninety acres of land, and has yet in his possession the old deed of his farm, which shows the survey of the land to have been made in 1769. This deed is written in a good hand on sheepskin, and makes a very large document.

ISAAC LOW was born in Lycoming County, Penn., April 6, 1802, a son of John Low, who was a blanket weaver and carried on the manufacture of fancy bed spreads in Lycoming County on the Muncy Hills. He died in 1813, Isaac being but eleven years of age at the time. Isaac then went to live with his brother, Thomas, by whom he was reared to the age of eighteen years. He then went to work on a farm for Jesse Bowman, in Columbia County, and was thus engaged for two years. He and Mr. Bowman then bought a team and carried goods from New York and Philadelphia to supply the stores of this section, there being then no other freighting facilities, canals and railroads being then in the future. He was thus engaged for two or three years and then he and Mr. Bowman bought the farm of Abram Miller's heirs, in what is now Briarcreek Township, this county, and known as the old Clover mill property; the other farm was located at Lime Ridge, now in Centre Township. This property consists of 300 acres, which lie in the shape of an L around the point and rear of Lime Ridge. He then went to farming the Clover mill tract in Briarcreek Township, which was farmed about four years. John



and Jesse Bowman had previously been holding the Bowman interests in common, and at this period, wishing to make a change in their relations, offered Mr. Low his choice of the Briarcreek or Lime Ridge tracts, and he chose the latter; he then moved on it and went farming. He found the only improvements on the place to be log buildings of early construction, but afterward erected substantial improvements, which still remain. On this place he farmed until two years before his death, when he bought his residence property in Lime Ridge and there lived until his death. He married, in this county, in 1823, Miss Maria Miller, a native of this county and daughter of Abraham Miller. Her parents came from Chester County, Penn., to this county and lived in Briarcreek Township until their death. They are buried at Bloomsburg. Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Low were the parents of ten children, of whom three are now living: E. W. M., the subject of the following sketch; C. W., who resides at Orangeville, this county, and Frances, wife of H. C. Barton of Lime Ridge. The deceased are Thomas, Abraham, George L., Thomas B., Maria Emily, S. Alice and Elizabeth M. Isaac Low died May 27, 1847; his widow survived him until 1856. The latter was born May 10, 1802, and both are buried in Lime Ridge Cemetery. Dr. E. W. M. Low was the third in order of age of the family of ten children and is the eldest of the three now living, and made his home with his parents until the time of their death. He attended the schools of his neighborhood when a boy and then went to Williamsport, this county, where he attended the seminary for two years. He was engaged in the boating business during 1853-54-55. He then entered on the study of medicine with Dr. F. C. Harrison at Bloomsburg, Penn., and commenced attendance in the winter of 1855 at Castleton, Vt., and there took his first course. He then entered Pennsylvania Medical College at Philadelphia and graduated from that institution in March, 1857. He engaged at his profession, however, but little, as he devoted himself to the mercantile and limestone interests on the first of the following June, at Lime Ridge in company with C. W. & G. L. Low, under the firm name of Low Brothers; a few years later the firm changed to E. W. M. & G. L. Low, and this firm continued without any change until about 1870, when the style became Low Bros. & Co. Both firms are, however, doing business to-day. G. L. Low died in 1877 and on his death his son, Myron I., and his daughter have taken his interest. E. W. M. Low was married in this county, in 1860, to Miss Rebecca J. Hill, a native of this county and a daughter of Jacob and Anna Hill, the former of whom is deceased and is buried in the family graveyard on the farm near Lime Ridge. His widow resides with her children. Mr. and Mrs. Low are the parents of nine children, of whom eight are living: Elmer E., Helen May, Elizabeth A., Mary Rebecca, George L., Alice L., Thomas H. and John Vincent. Banks is deceased. Mr. Low is a Republican in politics. He was a member of the I. O. O. F. but withdrew, and is now a member of the A. F. & A. M. and A. A. & S. R. at Bloomsburg, in which he has had a number of offices. He is one of the directors of the First National Bank of Bloomsburg and general manager of the firms of E. W. M. & G. L. Low and Low Bros. & Co. Mr. and Mrs. Low are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

GEORGE L. LOW, late of Lime Ridge, Penn., the fifth child and son of Isaac and Maria (Miller) Low, and member of the firm of E. W. M. & G. L. Low and Low, Bro. & Co., was born February 25, 1834. The first eleven years of his life were passed with his parents on the farm, and, during the winter months, in the public school. The days of his youth were spent within a quarter of a mile of the old home. As manhood approached he went to Williamsport Seminary to complete his education. Returning home, teaching engaged his attention. He did credit to the profession, in not only inculcating "first principles," but in illustrating practically "birch" appliances, as even now some of his older pupils feelingly assert. Since teaching in the country was too periodical and the remuneration too small, some more permanent and lucrative employment must be found, and merchandising was decided upon. A partnership, under the firm of C. W. & G. L. Low, was created and subsequently a portion of the quarry now owned by Low, Bro. & Co. was purchased. The financial panic of 1857 came, and with it financial embarrassments to this firm, which were overcome soon after E. W. M. Low, M. D., became the third member, he changing his plans, which led him into a business life instead of a professional one. Later the firm of E. W. M. & G. L. Low was organized and its success assured financially, through the energy, sagacity and integrity of its organizers. In 1869 one portion of the firm of E. W. M. & G. L. Low was merged into Low, Bro. & Co., although both firms exist to-day. George Lane Low was married January 15, 1857, by Rev. Thomas Barnhart to Mary, daughter of Jacob and Rebecca (Webb) Garrison. The marriage was a happy one, as the domestic felicities of after years attested. In 1862 Mr. Low, in answer to the second emergency call, went out as a volunteer in the service for a short time in defense of the Union. He was commissioned second lieutenant of Company H, Thirty-fifth Regiment under Andrew G. Curtin, July 7, 1863; served as postmaster from 1864 until the time of his death, which occurred February 6, 1877. Mr. Low possessed remarkable business ability, sound judgment, unquestionable integrity and other personal qualities which not only won for him a fair name, but made many lasting friendships. His last illness was long, weary and trying—a great sufferer, afflicted, yet not a murmur of impatience fell from his lips. He accepted

the inevitable with a gentle resignation, realizing that the hand that afflicted, comforted. His death in the prime of manhood is universally deplored. To his memory is a granite monument erected in Lime Ridge Cemetery. The following we quote from a press obituary: "Take him all in all, George Lane Low was a model man. Quiet, modest and always moral, he only needed to be known to be appreciated. So unassuming was he, and so correct in his conversation and life, that many believed him, long before he made a profession, to be a religious man. Before his death, when told he 'had only a few hours to live' said: 'I have been expecting this; I am ready.'" Mrs. Mary (Garrison) Low died June 19, 1881, and is buried by the side of her husband. One son and one daughter survive, Myron I. and Annie B., who hold their father's interest in the two named firms, the business in relation to this interest being done by the former. Both were educated at the State normal school, Bloomsburg. Myron I. Low was born at Lime Ridge, March 11, 1858, and received his education first at the Lime Ridge schools and finally at the Bloomsburg Normal School, where he graduated in 1876. In church affiliation he is a Methodist, in which body he is a zealous Sunday-school worker; in education he is an ardent Chautauquan; in politics a consistent Republican.

MORDECAI MILLARD, farmer, P. O. Willow Spring, was born in Centre Township, this county, in the house he now lives in, April 7, 1831, son of Reese and Elizabeth Millard. Joseph Millard, his grandfather, was one of the old settlers, moving into the county some time before 1800. He bought a tract of land consisting of something over 500 acres. Joseph Millard was a Quaker and was regular in his attendance at meeting twice a week. He moved into this county from Berks County, Penn., settling upon land along the river now occupied by John C. Cryder, and within sight of where Mordecai now lives. Here he lived and died. Reese Millard, father of Mordecai, was born and reared in this county. He was twice married, first to Catherine Rittenhouse, and they were the parents of six children, four living; William, in Illinois; Joseph B., in Kalamazoo, Mich.; Rebecca, wife of Col. James Tubbs, in Shickshinny, Penn.; Catherine, widow of Isaiah Conner, in Orangeville, this county. The mother of this family died in about 1818, and is buried at Berwick, this county; and Mr. Millard afterward married Elizabeth Horton, by whom he had four children; Mary B., deceased wife of D. K. Sloan, of Orangeville, this county; Frances L., married to Jesse Hoffman, residing in this township; Mordecai; and Reese, who married Jane Fowler, now residing in Morris County, Kas. (He was captain in the One Hundred and Twelfth Artillery.) Reese Millard, father of the above, died in 1833, and his widow survived him until 1852. Mordecai Millard, subject of this sketch, in 1867 received the nomination of the Democratic party for the office of sheriff of Columbia County, and removed to Bloomsburg, to reside there during his term of office. After serving his term as sheriff he was appointed steward of the State Normal University at Bloomsburg, and served in that capacity one year. The office was then vacated for the time being. He received the appointment of doorkeeper of the State Senate for the session of 1871-72, and served in that position throughout that session. He resided in Bloomsburg until 1875, when he returned to his farm and has since conducted it. He was married in this county December 1, 1852, to Miss Sarah J. Hoffman, a native of this county, and daughter of William and Annie (Dietrich) Hoffman. Mr. and Mrs. Millard are the parents of nine children, of whom four are living; William H., Annie E., Mary I. and Ernest S.; the deceased are John L., Reese M., Fannie H., Charles B. and Hattie L. The family are members of the Methodist Church.

ELISHA RINGROSE, farmer, P. O. Fowlersville, was born at Schuylerville, Luzerne Co., Penn., September 13, 1845, son of Aaron and Catherine (Fowler) Ringrose. The father of our subject was born in Wellingboro, England, and there was reared and learned the butcher trade, an occupation he followed there until coming to America. On arriving in the United States he located in Luzerne County, Penn., followed droving and butchering, and there lived until he died, following those lines of business. He was married in Luzerne County to Miss Catherine Fowler, a native of this county, and daughter of William and Susannah (Rittenhouse) Fowler. She was a member of an early settler's family. Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Ringrose were the parents of eight children, of whom seven are living; Delias, wife of William Sterner, of Bloomsburg, this county; Mary; William, also a resident of Bloomsburg; Sarah, wife of William Stack, of Berwick, Penn.; Ellis, in this township; Elisha; J. W., in Mechanicsburg, Cumberland Co., Penn.; Henry, died in Briarcreek Township, this county. The father of this family died in about 1855. He is buried at Berwick. His widow now resides at Bloomsburg. Elisha Ringrose, subject of this sketch, went to live with Mr. and Mrs. Ashel Fowler, of Briarcreek Township, when he was but five years of age, and was by them reared to manhood, following farming. He then engaged in boating on the canal from Wilkesbarre to Baltimore for about four years, when he bought a boat and embarked in the canal carrying trade for his own account between the points mentioned. He continued in this for three years, and then boated two years more for Weaver & McKelvy, of Bloomsburg, Penn. He then went to Bloomsburg and commenced the blacksmith trade, but after six months he engaged in carpenter work for John Sterner, helping in the construction of the "Exchange Hotel" at Bloomsburg. He was employed at this trade about eighteen months,



and then ran the engine of the planing-mill company for about eighteen months; then removed to this township and commenced farming, erecting his present residence in the fall of 1876, into which he moved in the following year. He was married in this county February 22, 1872, to Miss Mary Hutten, a native of this county, and daughter of John and Catherine (Kaue) Hutton, the former of whom is deceased; the latter is a resident of Centre Township. Mrs. Ringrose is a member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Ringrose is now overseer of the poor of Centre Township.

GEORGE RUCKLE, farmer, P. O. Orangeville, was born in what is now Centre Township, this county, March 29, 1839, son of Joseph and Margaret (Whitmire) Ruckle. Jacob Ruckle, grandfather of our subject, came from Berks County, Penn., to this county in its early days, and located on the place now owned by Jacob Keller, where he had bought land, and there lived until his death. He and his wife both died at this place. Joseph Ruckle, father of George, was born and reared at the place where his father located when he came to this county. He was brought up to farm life, and made his home with his parents until his marriage, when he bought 110 acres of land in what is now Centre Township, where George now resides, at \$3.50 an acre. He found this land covered with a heavy growth of timber, and he set about clearing it up and building a cabin. Here he lived, gradually clearing off his land, until he had a good farm. He was married in this county to Miss Margaret Whitmire, a native of this county, and daughter of David Whitmire. Her parents came to this county from one of the lower counties; the father died in Snyder County, Penn., and the mother in this county. Before he removed to Snyder County Mr. Whitmire had owned three farms here, but he sold them to his sons, and moved down there. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ruckle were the parents of seven children, of whom six are living: Wesley, living in this county; Joseph, living in Bloomsburg; George; David, living in Danville, this county; Elizabeth, living in Light Street, this county; Hester, wife of Conrad Hippenshet, living in Scott Township, this county; Sarah, wife of Charles Ash, died February 1, 1886. The father of these children died about 1874, the mother in 1855. They are buried in Hilday Cemetery. George Ruckle, subject of this sketch, was reared in what is now Centre Township, this county, until he had reached the age of eighteen years, when he went to Espy to learn the miller's trade with his brother Wesley, who was then operating the mill. Here he remained about fourteen years, and then he and Charles Ash purchased a mill on Briar Creek. They bought in March and the mill burned down in December. They at once rebuilt it, and Mr. Ruckle retained his interest for eight years, when he went to Espy and remained there one year engaged in the grocery business; then removed to the place he now owns and resides on, which he had bought five years before. He was married in this county, December 30, 1875, to Miss Alvareta Kline, a native of Orange Township, this county, and daughter of Hiram and Emily Kline, the former of whom is deceased; he is buried at Orangeville, at which place his widow, now the wife of Jacob Snyder, resides. Mr. and Mrs. Ruckle are the parents of five children: Stanley, Maud, Clifton, George and Elsie. Mr. Ruckle is a member of the Reformed Church, Mrs. Ruckle of the Presbyterian Church. He is a Republican politically, and was elected justice of the peace for five years in Briar Creek, this county, but left the township before he had completed his term.

HENRY SHAFFER, retired farmer, P. O. Fowlersville, was born in what is now Centre Township, this county, December 8, 1818, son of John and Susan (Dietrich) Shaffer. Henry Shaffer, the grandfather of our subject, came to this county in its early days from Berks County, Penn., and located in Briar Creek Township on land now owned by Alfred Steiner. He bought two pieces of land, one of which contains about 160 and the other 25 acres, all covered with a heavy growth of timber; brought his family with him and set about clearing up a space sufficient to put up what buildings it was necessary to have. The log house which he erected contained a living room and a kitchen, and he also put up a log barn. At that time of course there were not many conveniences, and although there was plenty of meat to be obtained, they often had to stint themselves in other necessities of life, and sometimes had to cook their wheat bran for bread. He afterward put up a frame house, which is now occupied by Alfred Steiner. He died about 1843. His first wife, whom he married in Berks County, had preceded him in death by a number of years; his second wife survived him. He is buried at the Brick Church, of the Lutheran denomination, in Briar Creek Township. John Shaffer, father of the subject of this sketch, was born at the old homestead, in Briar Creek Township. He made his home with his father until he was married (although he worked out part of the time), and some time after that event he bought a tract of land adjoining where his son, Henry, now lives. From there he removed to where Henry resides, and here he lived and died. He had learned the carpenter trade with a man named Daniel Merkle, and this he followed, together with farming, until about two years before his death. He had been married in this county to Susan Dietrich, and they were the parents of seven children, of whom four are living: Henry; Angeline, wife of Levi Ganett (they live in Briar Creek Township); Susan, widow of Stephen Crawford (lives in this county), and Julia, wife of Jacob Slager (they live in Binghamton, N. Y.). The deceased are Phoebe; Elizabeth, wife of Peter Wenner, and Emily, wife of Mahlon Hicks. The father of this family died May 9, 1863;



the mother died September 12, 1861. They are buried at the Brick Church, in Briarcreek Township. Henry Shaffer, subject of this sketch, was born in the house where he now resides, and which was built by his grandfather, Jacob Dietrich. He was reared to farm life and has lived in this house and on this place where his father located when he first came to Centre Township, all his lifetime. He was married in this county, December 31, 1861, to Miss Mary Ann Creasy, a native of Mifflin Township, this county, and daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Nungesser) Creasy. Her father died in the spring of 1860, her mother about 1848. They are both buried in the Creasy family graveyard. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer are the parents of two children, one of whom died in infancy. Their living child is named Sarah Alice. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Shaffer has been connected with the schools of the township as director, and has been supervisor of the township. He is a Democrat politically; is a member of the Briarcreek Grange P. of H., and has held the office of steward in Centre Grange. He is the owner of 80 acres on his home tract, and 160 on another farm also in Centre Township.

WILLIAM SHAFFER, farmer, P. O. Lime Ridge, was born in Briarcreek Township, this county, December 30, 1821, a son of Francis and Nancy (Hetler) Shaffer. The Shaffer family is originally of German descent. Francis Shaffer was born in the vicinity of Bethlehem, Penn., where he was reared, but came to this county when a young man, and bought something over 300 acres of land in Briarcreek Township. He found this land covered with a heavy growth of timber, while wild game abounded. He commenced by clearing up enough space on which to erect his buildings, and when he had got enough land cleared for that purpose, he used the timber so cut down in the construction of his log cabin, etc. There he lived until his death. He was married in this county to Miss Nancy Hetler, a native of the county, born on the Mifflin Hills, and whose parents were early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer were the parents of five children, of whom four are living: William; Nathan, living in Jones County, Iowa; Catherine, wife of Samuel Dalius, living in Maine Township, this county; George Washington, living in Greene County, Iowa. Mary married Benjamin Miller, and both are deceased. The mother of these children died about 1831, and was buried in the Brick Church graveyard, in Briarcreek Township, this county. Francis Shaffer died in October, 1833, and is also buried in the Brick Church graveyard. By the early death of his parents, although he was the eldest of their children, William was left an orphan before he was eleven years of age, and he was reared by Philip Freas, for whom he worked for his food and clothes until he was sixteen years of age. He then worked for Mr. Freas by the month, and after one year he worked for Andrew Freas by the year for two years. He and Andrew Freas and William Hoffman then bought a canal boat, and James K. Polk then being in the zenith of his popularity, they gave it his name. They followed boating in the coal trade from Pittston to Columbia for one season, and then sold out the boat. Mr. Shaffer, taking sick the same fall, was unable to do anything the following winter. In the next spring he commenced farming on the old place of his father, and taking the farm at the appraisement he worked it a year and a half and then sold it. He then removed to Briarcreek, near Bowman's mill, farmed for Thomas Bowman, and hauled flour into the coal region for about eighteen months; then rented the Briarcreek grocery, where he carried on mercantile business for four years; then removed to the Rittenhouse mill, and was engaged in operating that mill and hauling flour, etc., to Hazleton, Beaver Meadows, and other places in the coal regions. He was here altogether four years, and then removed to another place, and was engaged for one year in bucksterng to Hazleton. He then bought the farm where he now resides, and moved to it the following spring. This was in 1856. Mr. Shaffer was married in Luzerne County, Penn., May 7, 1844, to Miss Sophia Mowery, a native of Mifflin Township, this county, and daughter of John and Catherine (Hetler) Mowery, the former of whom was born near Mauch Chunk, Penn., and the latter in Mifflin Township, this county. The father died in 1824, his widow surviving him until about 1871. They are both buried at Mifflinville, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer were the parents of seven children, of whom four are living: Winfield Scott, married to Miss Flora Mosteller (they live in Briarcreek Township, this county); Wesley, married to Miss Harriet Knoop (they also live in Briarcreek Township); Alfred C., married to Miss Rachael Freas (they live in this county), and William Madison, who lives with his parents. Fannie Dorcas, Sarah Jane and Mary Minerva are deceased. Mr. Shaffer has 237 acres, being one of the large land holders of Centre Township. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer are members of the Lutheran Church. He has held the office of county commissioner for three years, having been elected about 1871. He is a member of Centre Grange, No. 56, P. of H.

A. W. SPEAR, farmer, P. O. Light Street, was born in Wayne County, N. Y., November 4, 1848, son of Rev. N. and Diantha (Wells) Spear. The former was born in Ware, Mass., and was there reared until he was a young man. His parents died when he was young, and he went to Wayne County, N. Y., where he followed tailoring and kept a store and postoffice. He removed from there to Wayne County, Penn., and there became connected with the American Tract Society and the American Bible Society, in the interests of which he traveled a number of years. He then acquired a taste for the ministry and educated himself for it while connected with these societies. From Wayne County he re-

moved to Scranton, Penn., and after severing his connection with these causes, he removed to Orangeville, this county, where he became pastor of the Presbyterian Church. He preached at Orangeville, at Raven Creek Church, in Benton Township, at Rohrsburg and afterward at New Columbia, Hemlock Township. He also preached at Light Street. This and Hilday Church in Centre Township were his last charges. He retired from the ministry in 1882, and then bought property in Bloomsburg, where he has since resided. He is now the county agent of the American Bible Society. He has a farm of seventy-six acres in Centre Township. A. W. was ten years old when his family removed to Scranton and two years later moved to Orangeville, and lived with his parents, except seven years in Berwick and Wilkesbarre, Penn., working at the machinist's trade until he was married, when he located on his father's farm, where he now resides. He was married at New Columbia Church, this county, December 24, 1878, to Miss Anna M., a native of Montour County and daughter of Cornelius and Rosanna Steyer. Mr. and Mrs. Spear are the parents of two children; Eunice F. and Ruth W. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is an elder. He is secretary of the Columbia County Sunday-school Association; is also one of the county auditors, and is an auditor in the Briarcreek Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company.

JOHN M. WHITE, farmer, P. O. Light Street, was born in Orange Township, this county, December 30, 1833, son of William and Jane (McMurtrie) White. Peter White, grandfather of John M., a farmer, came to this county probably in the latter part of the last century. He located near Orangeville, where he lived until about 1806, when he removed to the vicinity of Light Street and bought a farm just on the edge of that village. This farm is now owned by Henry Hartman. Here he lived all his days, and his wife also died there. They are buried at Light Street. Of his family of ten children, William, father of our subject, was the fourth in order of age, born in what is now Orange Township, this county, in 1803. He lived with his parents until he was married, and then bought a farm about a mile north of Light Street. This farm was partly cleared, and had some improvements on it. There he lived for about twenty-five years; then bought another farm adjoining it, to which he removed and here erected new buildings. There he lived until he died. He was married in this county to Miss Jane McMurtrie, a native of Warren County, N. J., born near Belvidere, a daughter of Abraham McMurtrie, who was a farmer in New Jersey, but toward the latter part of his life kept hotel. Her parents both died in New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. William White were the parents of twelve children, of whom nine are living: Elizabeth M., wife of J. D. Melick, a traveling salesman residing at Muncy, Penn.; Mary, wife of George Conner, residing in Centre Township, this county; John M.; Abram M., in Wood County, Ohio; Isaiah S., in Orange Township, this county; Samantha A., wife of Peter Evans, living near Rupert, this county; W. Pierce, in Union County, Penn.; Anna Margaret, widow of Alem Van Liew, living in Light Street, this county, and M. Alvaretta, wife of A. P. Howell. Sarah Jane, wife of Howard Grimes, is deceased. The father of this family died February 18, 1879; the mother in 1871. Our subject was reared in this county, and made his home with his parents until he was over twenty-three years of age. After that he cultivated one of his father's four farms for several years, and bought the tract of land on which he now resides in 1868, and three years later moved on to it. When he first purchased it there was a tannery in operation on the place, but he rented that for several years and then sold it. He was married in this county February 10, 1857, to Miss Tacy E. Vanderslice, a native of this county, and a daughter of John Hiester and Catherine (Melick) Vanderslice. Her father was born in Chester County, Penn., and her mother in this county. The Melicks came to this county from New Jersey. Both parents are deceased and are buried in the Vanderslice graveyard in Hemlock Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. White are parents of five children: Hiester V. (an attorney at law and senior member of the firm of H. V. White & Co., dealers in grain, flour, feed, coal, etc., at Bloomsburg; he is married to Clara E. Aikman), William L., Clara, Hattie and John. William LeRoy White was born in Orange Township, this county, September 18, 1860, second son of John M. and Tacy E. (Vanderslice) White. After obtaining a liberal education in the schools of his vicinity and the Orangeville Academy, he commenced teaching in 1879, and in 1880 he went west, spending some time in the States of Michigan, Illinois and Iowa, teaching school and at times working on the farms. On his return he entered into the grain shipping business with his brother, and is still the junior member of the firm of H. V. White & Co. He resides in Bloomsburg, Penn., where he has general supervision of their business. The parents are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. White is a Democrat politically and has held local offices in the township.

PAUL ZANER, retired farmer, P. O. Fowlersville, was born in what is now Centre Township, this county, June 7, 1815, son of Daniel and Hannah (Adams) Zaner. The grandfather of Paul, on his father's side, came from Germany, and located in what was then a wilderness in the neighborhood of the present town of Tamaqua, Schuylkill Co., Penn., but then in Northampton. This country was then very wild, and bears, wolves, panthers, deer, etc., were about the only other living occupants of the surrounding forests. Fish of all kinds were abundant in the streams, and Mr. Zaner spent a great deal of his

time hunting and fishing. He and his wife died and are buried in that vicinity. They were the parents of ten children—eight boys and two girls. Of these, four came to this county: Adam, Abraham, and George came to what is now Columbia County in about 1800, and Abraham put up a distillery in Briarcreek Township. He carried on this business a few years only, but lived here until his death in 1833. He is buried at the Brick Church, Briarcreek Township. George is buried in the turnpike cemetery in Briarcreek Township. Adam moved out to Ohio. About eight or ten years after these three came out, their brother Daniel came and lived with his brothers a couple of years, then married and bought land, which J. L. Wolverton now owns and lives on. He had learned the milling trade in the mill of his brother in Schuylkill County, and when he located at the place mentioned here, he put up a grist-mill, the first one on the site of what is known as "Wolverton mill." That mill was put up in 1816, and he operated it, carrying on farming to some extent until 1851, when he sold the property and moved to where David Z. Remaley now lives, and there spent the remainder of his days. He was married in this county to Miss Hannah Adams, a daughter of Anthony Adams. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Zaner were the parents of six children, of whom five are living: Paul; John, living in Fishingcreek, this county; Julia Ann, wife of John Eckroth, Light Street, this county; Mary M., wife of Daniel W. Miller, living in Audubon County, Iowa; Levi, also in Audubon County, Iowa. Catherine, wife of Charles Werkheiser, of Mifflinville, this county, is deceased. The father of this family died January 24, 1856; the mother in September, 1870. They are buried at the Briarcreek Church, in Briarcreek Township. Paul Zaner, subject of this sketch, was born and reared in the house where J. L. Wolverton now resides, in this township. He made his home with his parents until he reached the age of twenty-one years; and up to that time had assisted his father in the mill. But this work not being beneficial to his health he, on arriving at age, went to learn the trade of mill-wrighting with Chamber Davis, of Bloomsburg, Penn. Mr. Davis went out of the business about eighteen months later, and then Mr. Zaner worked with another man about two months. In 1837 he went to work on the Berwick bridge, being employed all summer on its construction. He then followed all kinds of work in wood, and now has a shop at his place. He has worked on the construction of nearly all of the buildings in this vicinity since that time, and in the summer of 1885, at the age of over seventy years, he did nearly all the inside work on the house of Aaron Kelchner, making the doors and sashes himself. Mr. Zaner is known as a very skilled worker in wood. He bought his present place in 1854. He has twenty-five acres of land in his tract, and nine acres in another lot. He was married in this county January 24, 1841, to Miss Rebecca Freas, a native of this county, and a daughter of Philip Freas. Mr. and Mrs. Zaner were the parents of six children, of whom four are living: Charles W., married to Harriet Strow, living in Danville, Montour County; Alverna, wife of Addison Zimmerman, living in this township; Clemuel, at home; Alice, wife of Albert Kelchner, living in this township. The deceased are Mahala, who died about 1858, and an infant unnamed. Mr. Zaner is a Republican politically. He owns a much prized relic in the shape of a clock, about as old as himself, and which keeps excellent time, which Jacob Diefenbach, a Presbyterian minister of Bloomsburg, made for him.

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### CONYNGHAM TOWNSHIP AND BOROUGH OF CENTRALIA.

D. CHATLEY BLACK, merchant, Centralia, was born in County Donegal, Ireland, December 4, 1838, son of David and Martha (Chatley) Black. In 1845 the family came to America and located at Minersville, Schuylkill Co., Penn., where the father was engaged in coal mining, and where the mother died in 1852. In 1861 our subject and his father came to Centralia, and here the latter died June 3, 1873. Our subject then secured a position in the "Hazel Dell" colliery as engineer, which he held until 1870. He then opened a store which he still conducts, handling groceries, flour, feed, etc. He married in Union County, July 15, 1869, Miss Carrie E. Danowsky, a native of Allentown, Penn., daughter of Dr. W. F. Danowsky of that place, who died there in 1875, and where he held a high rank as a physician. Her mother's maiden name was Carrie Barrens. She also died at Allentown, in 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Black were the parents of seven children, of whom five are living: Carrie, Sallie, Jennie, Addie and Tillie; the deceased are Mattie



and Willie. Mr. Black owns besides his store building and stock, a one-sixth interest in the Centralia Water Company. He was one of the promoters and builders of the water system, and is justice of the peace of the borough of Centralia, having been elected in 1884. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Black's ancestors on both sides were of Scotch-Irish extraction, and were born in the town of Letterkenny, Ireland, in 1798. They were Presbyterians on both sides, to which church Mr. Black and his family belong.

GEORGE W. BILLMAN, proprietor of the Montana Hotel, Centralia, was born in Schuylkill County, Penn., October 8, 1851, son of Charles M. and Christina (Geist) Billman, natives of Barry Township, Schuylkill Co., Penn., where the former still re-ides; the latter died there about 1861, and is buried in the Lutheran Cemetery at Kimmels, Schuylkill County. George W. was reared in his native county, and there engaged in farming. In April, 1884, he came to Columbia County and purchased the Montana hotel, at Montana, Penn., which he still conducts. He married, in Schuylkill County, February 14, 1884, Miss Christina Miller, a native of New York City and daughter of Franklin and Catherine Miller, natives of Germany, former of whom died in New York, and the latter in Ashland, Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Billman have one child, Agnes Florence, born August 20, 1884. The parents are members of the Lutheran Church at Kimmels. In politics Mr. Billman is a Democrat. The above named house was built by a Mr. Roadenberger, in the year 1820; of stone, and was kept as a hotel by Mr. Roadenberger for a number of years; he was succeeded by a Mr. Joseph Miller, William Hughes, Joseph Zimmerman, Isaac Betz, Jacob Zimmerman, Adam Clayberger, John Jones, Peter Hower, Samuel Leiby, William Goodman, Samuel Leiby, Isaac Edwards, Daniel E. Kelnes, Jonathan Faust, George W. Billman.

W. BRYSON, attorney and representative in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, Centralia, was born at Minersville, Schuylkill Co., Penn., June 13, 1849, a son of Johu and Catherine (Gorrell) Bryson. They were both natives of Ireland, and, coming to this country, were married in Philadelphia, whence they removed to Minersville, Schuylkill County. The mother died at Harrison, that county, but the father still resides at Philadelphia. Our subject attended the public schools of Schuylkill County, and in 1867 entered the State normal school at Bloomsburg. He also attended Dickinson College at Williamsport, and is a graduate of Prof. A. Davis' Commercial College at the latter city. In July, 1863, he moved to Columbia County, located at Centralia and taught school in the adjoining townships. He was afterward employed as bookkeeper in the First National Bank at Ashland, which position he held three years. He then went to Bloomsburg, this county, and commenced reading law with C. R. Buckalew & Son, and was admitted to the bar at Bloomsburg in 1875. That year he opened an office in Centralia, where he still has his home. He was nominated by the Democratic party for representative in 1882, and elected to that position in the fall of that year. In the autumn of 1884 he was re-elected to represent the county in the Legislature, and is a member of the present House. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Bloomsburg.

DANIEL F. CURRY, postmaster, Centralia, was born in Schuylkill County, this State, August 15, 1843, a son of Thomas and Margaret (Moran) Curry. His father died in Schuylkill County, October 23, 1857. Daniel F. early engaged in mining and at the age of seventeen years was employed as superintendent of the colliery of Hennett & Oliver, Schuylkill County, which position he held until 1864, when he came to Centralia and became foreman of the Continental colliery, operated by Charles Goodrich & Co. He had charge both inside and out until 1870, when he retired from mining, and embarked in the wholesale liquor business at Centralia, which he carried on about three years, at the end of which time the block in which his store was situated was destroyed by fire. He then started in the hotel business, which he still conducts. He is a Democrat; was appointed postmaster of Centralia January 1, 1886, and has been a member of the borough council, also held other local positions. He was married November 1, 1865, to Miss Mary Farrell, daughter of Patrick and Elizabeth Farrell. Mr. and Mrs. Curry were the parents of ten children, of whom seven are living; Margaret, Annie, Thomas, Mollie, Elizabeth, Daniel and Gertrude. The deceased are Lizzie, Josephine and Michael. Mr. Curry enlisted in April, 1861, in company C, Fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, colonel McDowell. They were assigned to Gen. Heintzelman's corps, and were in Alexandria at the time of the shooting of Col. Ellsworth. Mr. Curry was mustered out with his regiment at Harrisburg at the expiration of the term of enlistment. At the time of the invasion of Gen. Lee he raised a company in Schuylkill County, and was commissioned first lieutenant by Gov. Curtin, his commission bearing date June 15, 1863. The company was mustered in Company K, Fifty-third Pennsylvania Regiment, and mustered out later in the year, there being no further need for the number raised at that time.

G. W. DAVIS, JR., druggist, P. O. Centralia, was born in Minersville, Schuylkill Co., Penn., September 5, 1855. His parents, George Wood and Mary E. (Edwards) Davis, were natives of Wales, and came to this country, the former in the early part of 1854, the latter arriving on the 7th of the following November, on which date they were married in New York. They then moved to Minersville, Schuylkill County, where the father engaged in mining. In 1860 he went to the big mine run, and engaged as con-

tractor in sinking a slope. He returned to Minersville, and later came to Centralia, and was one of the contractors for sinking the slope for J. M. Freck & Co., miners and shippers of coal. He continued to mine coal at that colliery until a spell of idleness, caused by the miners standing out for higher wages, compelled him to engage with R. Gorrell & Co. At the Continental colliery, with six others, he was employed on a slope at night, to avoid stopping the hoisting in the daytime. While returning from work about 1 A. M., they were shot at from an ambush while walking through a cut on the Lehigh Valley Railroad track, the lights on their heads making them easily discernible. Their assailants probably supposed that their victims had intended to take their places. Mr. Davis was shot through the lungs and so severely wounded that he never entirely recovered from the effects. Some time after he was engaged with J. P. Jones at the No. 5 tunnel, Lansford, where he remained about two years. An opening then offered to him at his home in Centralia, and he became foreman of the mine of G. M. Prevost, and after six months went to Bear Ridge colliery No. 1, Mahanoy Plain. From there, after three years, he went to Ashland and became foreman of the tunnel colliery, Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Company, and was thus engaged about two years, when he accepted a similar position at the Big Mine Run colliery, J. Taylor & Co. While thus engaged, passing through an entry November 7, 1885, a large piece of coal fell from the roof and so injured him that he was confined to bed for three months. He then resumed his duties, but a day's trial compelled him to return to bed, and he died May 31, 1886, and was buried in the Oddfellows cemetery, Centralia. His widow and eleven children still reside here. George W., Jr., commenced the drug business in 1869, and finished his apprenticeship in 1872. In 1874 his father, who was then appointed postmaster, bought a drug store in the postoffice building. George W., Jr., who had been an assistant in the postoffice since 1869, conducted the store and transacted the principal business of the postoffice. His father was postmaster until December, 1885. Our subject was a member of the borough school board for 1886 succeeding his father. The latter was a member of the I. O. O. F., and highly respected by all who knew him.

H. J. FERGUSON, railroad agent L. V. Railroad, Centralia, was born in Minersville, Schuylkill Co., Penn., January 1, 1852, to Thomas and Martha (Christopher) Ferguson, natives of Ireland, who came to America in 1842, and located at Pottsville, Penn. From Pottsville they removed to Branch Dale, thence to Minersville, thence to Shenandoah, where the father died in September, 1883, and where the mother still resides. Our subject was educated at Minersville, Fort Carbon and Boylestown, and on going to Shenandoah taught school in the vicinity and afterward in the borough. In 1870 he entered the office of the Lehigh Valley Railroad at Shenandoah, where he was assistant agent under his brother. There he remained about eight years, varying his occupation sometimes by teaching school. In October, 1878, he was appointed by the railroad management as agent at Centralia, which position he has held since that time. The business of the Centralia office, over which he has control, will amount to probably \$30,000 per year; this is exclusive of the coal trade, with which this office has nothing to do.

A. B. FORTNER, stoves and tinware, Centralia, was born in Catawissa, Columbia Co., Penn., July 28, 1843, son of B. P. and Mary (Davis) Fortner. They were both born in Columbia County, the former now living at Catawissa; the latter died there in April, 1884. Our subject was reared in Columbia County, and was employed on the Catawissa Railroad about nine months. In 1863 he was appointed assistant internal revenue assessor for the Thirteenth District. He was engaged in the Government service about one year, and then came to Centralia, and embarked in his present business which he has since followed. He married, at Catawissa, in November, 1865, Miss Mary N. Dean, a native of Columbia County, Penn., and a daughter of Thomas L. Dean. Her father now resides in Catawissa. Her mother is dead. Mr. and Mrs. Fortner are the parents of five children, three of whom are living: Elizabeth, Charles and Mary; the deceased are Harry and an infant. Mr. Fortner is a member of the K. of L. His father was a representative in the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania at the time of the division of the counties of Columbia and Montour, served one term and also held the position of general internal revenue assessor of the Thirteenth District for about three years.

WILLIAM GOODMAN, agent of mining companies, P. O. Centralia, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., August 14, 1825, a son of William and Sarah (Wetzel) Goodman, natives of Northumberland County where the former died about 1828. When William had reached the age of about five years he moved with his mother to Columbia County, where she died March 15, 1882. William was reared in that county and on the 23d of January, 1845, married Miss Rosanna Levan, a native of Columbia County, and a daughter of Daniel, Sr., and Elizabeth (Houck) Levan. Both died in this county, the former in 1863 and the latter about 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Goodman are the parents of nine children, seven of whom are living: Elizabeth, wife of Ira Roadermel, residing in Montana; Daniel, married to Harriet Person, also residing in Montana; Isaac, married to Amanda Moyer, residing at Girardville, Penn.; Benjamin, married to Mary Harris, residing in Conyngham Township; Christiana, wife of Jerry George, residing in Montana; Catherine, wife of Levi George, in Centralia, and Ira. The deceased are William and



Henry Clinton. In 1869 Mr. Goodman was given charge of the lands of the coal companies in Conyngham Township by the coal and mining companies, and in 1878 he was given charge of all repairs and buildings on the public roads. Mr. and Mrs. Goodman are members of the Presbyterian Church in Locust Township.

J. M. GWINNER, M. D., Centralia, was born at St. Clair, Schuylkill Co., Penn., October 25, 1858, a son of Jacob J. and Mary M. (Gross) Gwinner, former of whom, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, died in Schuylkill County, this State, where his widow still resides. Our subject commenced his education in the public schools of St. Clair, finishing at the Palatinate College, this State. After finishing at the Palatinate College, he entered the office of Dr. A. P. Carr, St. Clair, as a student and remained with him until his graduation in medicine. In the fall of 1879 he entered the Pennsylvania University, and graduated from that institution in March, 1881. After graduating he remained in the office of Dr. Carr until October, 1881, when he came to Centralia and entered upon the practice of medicine and surgery, and has since remained here. He was elected coroner of Columbia County at the fall election of 1885, his term commencing January 1, 1886. He has built up a good practice and made an enviable record since becoming a citizen of Centralia. Dr. Gwinner still retains his membership in the Schuylkill Medical Society.

THOMAS IRVIN, of the firm of Irvin Bros., Centralia, was born in Ireland, June 12, 1844, a son of William and Ann Jane Irvin. His father died in that country, and in 1861 the family removed to the United States, and located at Christian Hundred, Brandywine Banks, Del. There they resided until coming to Centralia, Penn., about 1863. Thomas worked on the repairs in the mines for about three years and then obtained the position of boss of the loading, at which he was employed a number of years. He then engaged as clerk in the coal company's store and was there employed until 1879, when he and his brother embarked in mercantile business under the firm name of Irvin Bros. They carry a general stock of clothing, dry goods, boots and shoes, groceries, flour and feed, and own the building in which the store is kept. Thomas married in 1866, Miss Mary, a native of Schuylkill County, Penn., and a daughter of John and Catherine Bryson. Mr. and Mrs. Irvin were the parents of nine children, six living; Robert, Catharine Ann, Thomas, Mary, Eva Lillian and William John. The deceased are John, Jennie and an infant unnamed. In 1861 Mr. Irvin enlisted in Company B, Fifth Delaware Infantry, Col. McComas, and was assigned to garrison duty at Fort Delaware. He remained in the service nine months and then returned home. Mr. Irvin is a member of the Joe Hooker Post, G. A. R., at Ashland, and, with his family, attends the Protestant Episcopal Church. John Irvin, brother of Thomas, was born in Ireland, March 8, 1858. He came with his family to Centralia; is a member of the I. O. O. F. at this place.

H. J. KELLY, foreman of the Logan colliery, Centralia, was born in Monmouthshire, South Wales, June 6, 1844, son of James C. and Elizabeth (Jones) Kelly. In 1863 the family came to America and located in St. Clair, Schuylkill Co., Penn., where our subject went to work in the mines. His father died at St. Clair, December 9, 1884; his mother still resides there. Our subject commenced work in the mines of his native country when he reached the age of eight years, and on arriving at St. Clair became engaged at the Mount Laffee colliery. There he worked until 1864, when he enlisted in Company H, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry; served in Virginia and Maryland, and at the close of the war was mustered out at Harrisburg in July, 1865. He then went back to St. Clair and to the mines, where he remained until 1872, when he went to Mahanoy City and there worked in several of the collieries. In April, 1875, he went to Ashland to take charge of the Bast colliery, Big Mine Run, for the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Company. He remained there until 1877, when he took charge of the Richardson colliery for the same company. He was thus engaged for nearly four years, and in 1881, on the opening of the Logan colliery, he came to Centralia to take charge of it, and has held that position since, having under him 400 men and boys. He was married at St. Clair July 30, 1867, to Miss Ann Jones, a native of St. Clair and a daughter of Evan and Celia Jones, both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Kelly are the parents of nine children, eight of whom are now living: Frank, Harry, Elizabeth, Rhoslyn, Ida and Edith (twins), Annie Logan and Celia; the deceased one was named Mary. Mr. Kelly is a member of Minersville Lodge, No. 222, A. F. & A. M.; is one of the directors of the poor of the Conyngham and Centralia District, having served as such since April, 1884.

JAMES McBREARTY, engineer, Centralia, was born in Carbon County, Penn., July 18, 1854, to Bernard and Mary (Martin) McBrearty, both natives of Donegal, Ireland, where they married, and, immigrating to America, settled in Carbon County, after a short stay in New York City. The former died in Boonesboro, Iowa, and the latter at Centralia. James came to Centralia with his parents when he had reached the age of eight years, in 1862, and here has since resided. When a boy he commenced work on a breaker, and afterward as a driver in the mines. He then served as fireman, and in 1871 was appointed engineer at the Centralia colliery. He remained there until 1875, and then engaged in the same capacity at the Continental colliery, where he was employed until 1883. He then obtained a similar position at the Hazel Dell colliery, which he still holds. He married at Centralia, March 28, 1872, Miss Sarah, a native of Schuylkill County, and



a daughter of James and Mary (McCarthy) Colihan, residents of Centralia. Mr. and Mrs. McBrearty are the parents of three children: Mary, John and Bernard. Mr. McBrearty retired from his position as engineer of the Hazel Dell colliery, and is now devoting himself to his business on Locust Avenue, Centralia, where he has a hotel.

CHARLES G. MURPHY, merchant, Centralia, was born in County Fermanagh, Ireland, January 18, 1844. He is the son of Charles Murphy and Mary (Corrigan) Murphy. The former was the youngest of four brothers and died in 1879 at the advanced age of eighty-two years. The latter is still living in her native country and is now about eighty years old. Early in 1862 our subject came to this country, and after trying various occupations with indifferent success, finally, in 1864, came to Centralia, Columbia Co., Penn., not knowing a person in the county, worked at the coal mines and labored on the then new branch of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, spending his spare time studying the American system of education. After successfully passing an examination he was appointed to a school in Centralia in January, 1865, which occupation he followed till 1874, when he embarked in mercantile business. This he has followed successfully since. He held a number of important positions, being treasurer of The Citizens Building and Loan Association since 1872; elected justice of the peace, he served for fifteen years, retiring of his own choice; has been school director and secretary of the board since 1876; was twice elected coroner of the county, and in 1886 was elected one of the associate judges of the Twenty-sixth Judicial District. Mr. Murphy was married to Maggie Curry in 1869, by whom ten children were born to him, four of whom are living: Mary, Maggie, Josephine and Susan. The family attend the Roman Catholic Church. In politics Mr. Murphy is a strong Democrat, and frequently represented his county in the State Convention.

EDWARD REESE, superintendent of the collieries of L. A. Riley & Co., Centralia, was born in South Wales, May 29, 1839, a son of Thomas and Hannah (Bull) Reese. There his father was engaged in mining, and there his mother died. Edward became engaged in the mining industry in his native country, and in 1863 came to America, and located at Wadesville, Penn., in the vicinity of which place, at Ball's Slope, Schuylkill County, he engaged in mining. He remained there but a short time, making his home, however, at Wadesville. After eighteen months he made a trip to Wales, returned in February, 1865, and went to Mount Laffee, Schuylkill Co., Penn., where he worked for three years as a miner. He was then appointed mining foreman and held that position three and one-half years, when he received the appointment of inside boss at Bear Ridge. After four months he returned to Mount Laffee, Beechwood colliery, as superintendent, which position he filled about three years, and then took the position of inside foreman at the tunnel colliery at Ashland, Schuylkill County. After two years he went to Mahanoy City, where he was engaged for six months sinking slopes etc., as inside foreman. He then went to Alaska to sink the Mount Carmel shaft in Northumberland County; thence to Ashland to accept the position of assistant mining superintendent of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Company. This position he held for about five years, when his abilities were recognized by his promotion to the position of assistant mining inspector by the same company. He had charge of 22 collieries, or all north of the Broad Mountain, and remained in that position until September, 1880, when he was offered and accepted the position of general superintendent of the collieries of L. A. Riley & Co., at and near Centralia, Columbia County. When it became known that Mr. Reese had severed his connection with the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Company, a grand reception was gotten up at the Odd Fellows Hall, Ashland, and there on the evening of September 25, 1880, about 400 of the leading people connected with the mining interests assembled to bid him farewell, and which was one of the greatest social gatherings known in the coal regions, on which occasion Mr. Reese was made the recipient of a splendid gold-headed cane. He had charge of the Centralia, Logan and Hazel Dell collieries, Columbia County, and in February, 1886, was made general superintendent of the Park No. 1, Park No. 2 and Park No. 3 collieries of Lentz, Lilly & Co., Schuylkill County. He now has general supervision over works employing 3,000 men and boys. He married in Wales in 1863, Miss Ann Lewis, and to them have been born the following named children: Thomas, Rachel, James, George, John, Daniel and Edward. Mr. Reese is a member of the Mineral Odd Fellows Lodge at St. Clair; of the Masonic Anthracite Lodge, A. F. & A. M. at St. Clair and Griscom Chapter, R. A. M. at Ashland. He has worked his way up from a poor boy to his present high position in the confidence of two of Pennsylvania's great coal mining and shipping firms. His father died at Ashland in 1880.

GEORGE TROUTMAN, coal operator, Centralia, was born in Schuylkill County, Penn., May 23, 1835, son of Jacob and Rosina (Gabelbecker) Troutman, both natives of Alsace (then in France, now in Germany). The father died in Schuylkill County, and the mother in Columbia County. Mr. Troutman first commenced work in a breaker, in what was then the New Philadelphia colliery, about six miles from Pottsville. He afterward went to work in the mines, and in 1861 was made inside foreman at the Stewartsville colliery, of which he remained in charge about three years, and then went to Girard colliery as foreman about five years, then went to Nevada to try his fortune in the gold fields. Not finding things to his liking there, in the fall of the same year he returned to

Pennsylvania and obtained the position of inside foreman in the Girard colliery, Girardville, where he remained for six years. He then came to Centralia and about twelve months was foreman at the "Continental" colliery. He then leased land west of Centralia, and commenced the mining business for himself on a small scale, taking out only the out-crop coal. He continued in this line of mining about three years, gradually increasing operations, and in 1880 formed a partnership with Isaac May, Harry Morgan and James May, under the firm name of Isaac May & Co. The firm then constructed a breaker and continued operations on an increased scale, in the slope which Mr. Troutman had commenced in 1879. They employ about 400 men and boys, and the out-put in 1885 was 102,000 tons, which was turned out, working on reduced time so that this amount does not represent the full capacity of the colliery. Their principal market is New York, and the works are on the line of the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Mr. Troutman was married in Schuylkill County, Penn., September 2, 1856, to Miss Mary Jane Quick, and they are the parents of twelve children, eleven of whom are living: Maria, Samuel J., Jennie, Laura, George F., Sallie, Edward J., Katie, Grayson, Lucretia and Eva; the deceased one was named Samuel. Mr. Troutman is a member of the A. F. & A. M. at Ashland, and of the I. O. O. F. at Girardville.

JOHN J. WILLIAMS, mining inspector of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, Centralia, was born in Merthyr Tydvil, South Wales, April 22, 1838, son of Jacob and Mary Williams. In 1841 they immigrated to America, landing in New York on the 4th of July; then came to Pennsylvania and located in the Schuylkill Valley, three or four miles above Fort Carbon, where the father of our subject engaged in the mines. There John J. was reared, and there, at St. Clair, Pottsville and Sanford, they remained until the fall of 1854. Our subject went to Jo Daviess County, Ill., with his parents, and there, in the spring of 1855, his mother died, and the father, who was then temporarily in Pennsylvania, went to Illinois, and, after the funeral of his wife, returned to Pennsylvania and died at Ashland in 1882. Our subject remained in Illinois until the spring of 1857 when he was engaged in farm work, but at the time mentioned he returned to Pennsylvania, and went to work in the Coaldale colliery, at Summit Hill. He was there employed until the winter of 1862-63, when they removed to Ashland, where and in the vicinity he followed mining, at Keystone, Locust Run, Continental, James R. Cleaver's, Preston No. 2 of Girardville, and Mahanoy Plain, in all thus engaged until 1873. He was then employed by the Reading Coal & Iron Company as mine inspector of the Ashland District, and remained in their employ until December, 1875, when he removed to Centralia and accepted the position of mining inspector for the Lehigh Valley Coal Company which he still holds. He was married at Mahanoy City May 27, 1879, to Mrs. Mary Williams, a native of Minersville, Penn., and a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Jones, who are both residents of Mahanoy City. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have two children: Arthur Lin and Clarence. Mrs. Williams had one son by her former marriage: Howard Williams. Mr. Williams is a member of the Ashland Locust Mountain Lodge, I. O. O. F., and of the Encampment at Ashland. He is also a member of the Ashland Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and a member of the Centralia Borough Council. In politics he is a Republican. The family attend the Presbyterian Church.

EDWARD WILLIAMS, Jr., foreman Centralia colliery, Centralia, was born in Cornwall, England, August 21, 1849, a son of Edward and Elizabeth (Daws) Williams. He commenced to work in the mines in England in an early day, and in 1870 came to America and located at Buffalo, N. Y. After six months he came to Centralia and worked at the Hazel Dell colliery. One year later he worked at the "Excelsior" colliery, Northumberland County, Penn., and after another year returned to Centralia and took charge of the "Continental" colliery, where he remained one and a half years, and in the fall of 1876 accepted a similar position at the Hazel Dell colliery. After eight months there he returned to the "Continental" colliery and remained until taking charge of the "Centralia" and Hazel Dell collieries in September, 1881. He now has charge of both these collieries, which employ about 300 men and boys inside. Mr. Williams was married at Oakland, now in the borough of Ashland, on the 19th of February, 1874, to Miss Martha D. Goldsworthy, a native of Devonshire, England, and daughter of James and Eliza Goldsworthy, both of whom died in Centralia. Mr. and Mrs. Williams were the parents of three children, of whom two are living: Martha G. and James G. Mr. Williams is a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge at Centralia, No. 586.

## CHAPTER XXX.

## FISHINGCREEK TOWNSHIP.

PHILIP APPLEMAN, Sr., farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, is a son of Matthias Appleman who came from New Jersey and settled in Montour Township, near Bloomsburg. After his marriage he bought a farm in Madison Township on which he erected a distillery, and many years after bought 300 acres in Benton on which he died at the age of seventy-five. His wife, *nee* Margaret Beers, died some years previous, aged sixty-four. Their children were Hannah, Elizabeth, Sarah, Matthias, George, Peter and Samuel, deceased; William, in Benton; Mary Ann, wife of Samuel Betts, of Ohio, and Philip, who is the eldest of the survivors. Matthias was a member of the Episcopal Church in Benton. Our subject was born February 17, 1808, and lived with his parents until the age of twenty-four. He then bought a farm of 240 acres where he now lives, and to which he added until he had 400 acres. He erected a water mill which he operated four years, and when that failed erected a steam mill which is yet running. In 1830 he married Mary Ann Davis, of Benton, who was born March 26, 1808. They have had six children: Matthias M., in Rohrsburg; Catherine M., wife of George W. Staten, in Illinois; Reuben D., in Iowa; Samuel, died aged one year; Mary E., died in 1870, aged twenty-eight years, and Philip D., who farms his father's place. Mr. Appleman has led an active life; he has cleared his farm, brought it to a high state of cultivation and engaged in lumbering. He has held township offices, but refused to be justice or constable. When supervisor he put the roads in good order for a smaller sum than was ever required. He has given all his children a good start in life. He and Mrs. Appleton are members of the Christian Church, and he is now one of the oldest residents in the township.

CHARLES ASH, farmer, P. O. Stillwater, is a native of Northampton County, Penn., born October 18, 1820, a son of Christian and Mary (Osterday) Ash, natives of the same county. They removed to Briarcreek Township, this county, when our subject was seven years old; there the father bought a small farm and remained seven years, when he sold out and bought the place where his son Charles now lives. There he moved and died in 1879. His wife died about nine years before. They had ten children, all living: Mary, widow of Russell Creveling, in Wisconsin; William, residing in the house where his father died on a part of the home farm; Sarah, in Iowa; Hiram, in Benton Township; Catherine, in Luzerne County; Delia Ann, in Briarcreek; Christian J., in this township; Elizabeth and Hester in Benton, and Charles. Our subject is the second child, and on his marriage took possession of the home farm, his father moving to another part of it. He married October 24, 1848, Sarah Ruckel, of Briarcreek, who died February 19, 1886. They had nine children, one of whom died in infancy; the others are George Wesley, husband of Amelia H. Freas, and William S., married to Hettie Learns, having one child named Clarence Reagan, both residing in Briarcreek; Pierce, married to Susan Werkheiser, having one child, named Trelle Clementine, living on his father's farm; Harvey R., married to Mary Hill, having one child, N. Ernest Augustus, and living in Berwick; Stewart A., married to Murtie D. Freas, having one child, named Roscoe Laine, and living in Briarcreek; Miles Wilbert, married to Clara Smith; Thomas Elliott and Amy Florentine, living with their father. Mr. Ash has served as supervisor, school director, overseer of the poor and collector. He was also engaged in huckstering eleven years, but his time has been principally given to his farm which is in an excellent condition, improved with fine brick residence and out-buildings. He is a member of the Columbia Grange, and has been a deacon in the Lutheran Church, this township, for years.

LEVI BEISHLINE, retired farmer, P. O. Van Camp, is a grandson of Michael Beishline, who came from Germany in the last century, settling in Luzerne County, Penn. His son, Henry, was the father of Levi and was born in that county. April 16, 1796, and lived there until his marriage. He then bought a farm in this township, near Van Camp, where he died in 1876 at the age of eighty years. He married, January 16, 1821, Elizabeth Yost, of Sugarloaf Township, Luzerne County, who was born September 28, 1800, and died in her seventy-seventh year. They had eleven children: John, who died in infancy; Michael resides in this township; Margaret Ann was wife of Sol Heller and died in Luzerne County; Susanna, wife of Andrew Wenner of Luzerne County, where she died; Lavina, wife of Anthony Lutz, died in Benton Township; Henry died unmarried; Jacob lives in Luzerne County; Solomon died when young; Sarah Ann is the wife of Andrew Stein of Benton Township; William lives in Greenwood Township. Levi is the third son and was born July 21, 1827, and in his youth, with his brothers, helped to clear the farm,



which was entirely in woods. A few months after his marriage he bought a lot at Bendor-town, this township, to which he added until he had a farm of eighty acres, on which he lived until 1884 when he retired. He also bought another farm near by, both of which he owns. In 1862 he was drafted and served nine months in the One Hundred and Eighty-seventh Pennsylvania, Company A. Dec. 19, 1847, he married Maria, daughter of Daniel Wenner, of Butler Township, Luzerne County, who was born August 31, 1827. They have had fourteen children: Catherine Ann, born February 8, 1849, died October 8, 1855; Daniel, born April 17, 1850, married Emma Coleman and resides in Nebraska; Henry J., born August 31, 1851, died December 6, 1858; Elias, born July 5, 1853, died September 27, 1855; Sarah, born January 9, 1855, died January 24, 1869; Susannah, born July 4, 1856, died February 26, 1870; Andrew, born in 1857, died at birth; Samuel, born November 8, 1858, lives in York County, Neb.; Mary, born November 8, 1858, died February 28, 1870; John F., born July 20, 1860, died March 3, 1870; Nathaniel, born November 2, 1861, and lives on the home farm of his father; Eliza, born May 20, 1864, lives with her parents; Amanda, born April 26, 1866, wife of Wallace W. Wenner (son of Michael Wenner), and lives near Bendor-town and Adaline, born June 20, 1867, living with her parents. Mr. Beishline has never held any office which he could avoid holding. He is now a school director and president of the board. He has accumulated what he has by hard work and is a self-made man. He and Mrs. Beishline are members of the Reformed Church at Van Camp, of which he has been deacon and of which he is now trustee. Politically he is a Democrat.

EVAN B. BEISHLINE, United States gauger, Stillwater, is a great-grandson of Michael Beishline, who came from Germany in the latter part of the last century. He settled in Butler Township, Luzerne County, and was a farmer. His son, John, was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and was born in that place in 1801, and died in Benton Township, this county, in February, 1877. When a young man he accumulated some money, bought a farm in Benton Township, on which he resided until his death. In 1830 he married Miss Elizabeth Pealer, who is still living near Orangeville, this county. They had ten children, of whom five are deceased, as follows: Samuel, who was drowned in a flood at Huntington Creek; Erastus, who died when young; Elias R. was a teacher and died at the age of about forty-four years; Susanna was the wife of P. Sittler, and John W., who was captain of a company in a Pennsylvania regiment during the civil war, and died about seven years ago. The living are Catherine, wife of Russell Shultz of Benton Township; Savilla, wife of Jacob Shultz, living in Orange Township; Gideon in Berwick, foreman in the car shop of Jackson & Woodin, and chief policeman of the borough; Frank H., unmarried and engineer on a railroad in Texas; and Jacob M., the father of Evan B. and the eldest survivor. Jacob M. was born July 28, 1831, in Benton Township, and lived on the home farm until his marriage at the age of twenty-two. His father then bought him a farm, to which he moved and which he has ever since made his home. In early life he joined the Reformed Church, in which he has been an elder for twenty-five years, and a greater part of the time has also been superintendent of the Sabbath-school. He is a consistent citizen and good Christian. June 14, 1854, he married Miss Mary M. Krickbaum of Benton Township, who was born in 1832. To their union eight children were born as follows: Mary E.; Oliver C., married Miss Kate Ruckle and lives in Benton Township; Eli A., single, living with his parents; Ida A., wife of Emanuel Wenner, of Benton Township; Charles N., died in childhood; Harvey W. and Susan I., both of whom reside with their parents, and Evan B. Our subject is the eldest of the family and was born April 25, 1855. He lived at home and worked on the farm until he was seventeen years of age. He then went to school, attending various academies and seminaries. In 1876 he began teaching, which profession he followed for eight winters. In 1881 he and his brother Eli A. engaged extensively in lumber operations, but on the night of May 8, 1884, their saw-mill, which was the largest in Columbia County, together with a large quantity of lumber, was destroyed by fire and was uninsured. Since then he has been employed at carpentering, and in August, 1866, he was appointed United States gauger. December 23, 1882, he married Frances I., daughter of Stephen Drescher of this township. She was born August 8, 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Beishline are prominent members of the Christian Church, in which he is an elder, and also superintendent of the Sabbath-school. He takes a warm interest in all religious matters, and has the respect of all who know him. Politically he is a Democrat.

ELIAS P. BENDER, farmer, P. O. Stillwater, is a grandson of Morton Bender, a farmer, who died in Mount Pleasant Township, near Orangeville. His children were Jacob and Thomas, who died in Iowa; David and George (twins), the former living in Nebraska and the latter in Sullivan County, Penn.; Polly, who died in Mount Pleasant; Catherine, in Greenwood; Lydia, in Orange; Mary, in Sullivan County, and Aaron, the father of our subject. Aaron was born in Reading, May 17, 1814, and on his marriage bought a farm near Bendor-town; in 1849 he bought another near the place where he now resides, and has always followed farming. His wife (Salome) daughter of John Pealer, of this township, bore him the following named children: George Washington, who died in infancy; Samuel, who married Elizabeth Wenner (resides at Berwick, where he has been boss of the planing-mill for twenty years); Enandus, a farmer, married to Catherine Wenner (re-

sides in this township); John M., lumberman, married to Mattie Derr (lives in Muncy, Lycoming County); Thomas, a farmer, married to Sallie Cramer, after whose decease he married Maggie Kline (lives in Benton Township); Frank P., a farmer, married to Eliza Pealer (lives in this township); Susanna, wife of Elias Wenner, of this township; Salome, unmarried, in this township, and Elias P. Our subject was born February 11, 1838, and lived with his father until he was twenty-five years of age. He then married and worked for a year at shoemaking, later buying a farm near Jonestown in this township. At the end of three years he sold out and bought another at Pealertown, which he sold after two years, and bought a farm in Greenwood Township, on which he resided three years. He then moved to Bendertown, where he built a store which he conducted for a year, going thence to Benton; then returned to Bendertown, and eight years later bought the farm on which he now resides near Stillwater. In October, 1862, he was drafted and entered the Union Army in the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Regiment, and served nine months. He then returned home, married, and in the fall of 1864 enlisted in the One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Regiment and served until the close of the war. He was severely wounded at Lee Farms, Va., where he received a bullet through his neck and a flesh wound in the arm, and was laid up in the hospital for three months. April 14, 1864, he married Rebecca, daughter of Jacob Markle, of this township. She was born March 25, 1843, and has borne her husband six children: Clara; Torrance, who is a clerk in Wilkesbarre; Lloyd; Sallie C.; Pearl; and Mary Agnes, who died December 19, 1877. Mr. Bender takes an active interest in political matters and has held many township offices. He is an active member of the G. A. R., and also a member of the German Reformed Church.

PERRY BUCKALEW, farmer, P. O. Fishingcreek, is a descendant of the Buckalew family mentioned in the succeeding sketch. He was born January 30, 1820, and in early life was engaged with his father farming and lumbering. After his marriage he farmed for his father, and in 1858 took the part of the farm which he afterward inherited and on which he has since resided. He is a man who has always lived a quiet life. In 1842 he married Sarah, daughter of William White, of Town Hill, Luzerne County, and who was born November 6, 1821. They have had eight children, one of whom died in infancy. The others were Maria, who died unmarried at the age of thirty years; Wadsworth, who entered the Union Army in his eighteenth year—served two years in the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and died a year after the close of the war, of disease contracted while in the service; Charles is unmarried and works on the farm; Alfred W. is married to Alice J. Kindig, and lives in the same house with his father, whom he assists on the farm; John M. is single, a painter by trade and sometimes works on the farm; Mary is the wife of Alfred Chapin, of Jonestown, and Rebecca is married to Chester Chapin, a farmer of Huntington Township, Luzerne County. Mr. Buckalew has been a hardworking man, and his property has been acquired by his industry and strict attention to business. He is of careful, correct habits, and like his brother, votes the Republican ticket.

JOHN M. BUCKALEW, lumberman, P. O. Fishingcreek, is descended from the Buccleuchs, who went from Scotland to France with Queen Mary, and becoming Protestants, two brothers, Francis and Gilbert, immigrated to Long Island about 1663, while it was in the possession of the Dutch. They were both married in this country, and in time their names became corrupted, Francis being called Buckalew, and Gilbert Boileau. Francis went to South Amboy, N. J. An old will, now in possession of our subject, made by Samuel Buckalew, dated 1782, devises to his son John a certain tract at the place mentioned, which it states was bequeathed to him by his father, Francis Buckalew. Family tradition has it that Francis lived to be one hundred and ten years old, and his son Samuel is known to have been ninety-six years old at his death in New Jersey in 1792. He was the great-grandfather of John M. His son John was born April 14, 1743, and in 1773 married Mary McKinney, who was born October 5, 1754. Shortly after the young couple immigrated to where the town of Muncy now stands, in Lycoming County. He was a millwright and miller, and it is supposed carried on the business there. The next we hear of him is that in 1776 he and Robert Robb were appointed a committee of safety for Turbot Township, Northumberland County, under Franklin's central committee, at Philadelphia. In 1778 they were obliged to leave in consequence of Indian troubles, which culminated with the death of "Capt. Jim Brady," who was a near neighbor, and with whom they fought the redskins. John Buckalew's father-in-law followed him into the wilderness and went to Harrisburg. John went to Maryland and rented a mill at Rock Run; there he ground grain for the army under contract with the Continental Congress, and an old unpaid account of nearly £700 is still in existence. At the close of the Revolution he returned to Northumberland County and settled on the Chillisquaque Creek, and there remained for a few years, thence going to Little Fishingcreek, and later came to this township, where he died July 3, 1833. His wife Mary died November 25, 1829. They had five sons and seven daughters. One of the sons, John M., was the father of our subject. He was born at Chillisquaque on December 17, 1786; learned his father's trade in Catawissa, and worked at it for a few years. In 1808, while still young,



he purchased and removed to the place now occupied by his sons, Perry and John M. He became a farmer and lumberman, and died November 15, 1859, aged seventy-three years. He married, in 1812, Martha Funston, who was born in 1789 and died in 1840, aged fifty-one years. They had nine children, four of whom died in childhood. Those who lived to maturity were William, who died on the homestead in 1864; Perry, who now owns a part of the farm; Charles R., of Bloomsburg, ex-United States senator; Mahala B., wife of Benjamin C. Hess, of this township, and John M., the youngest. Our subject was born October 17, 1826, in a house a short distance from the one he now occupies. He has always been engaged in lumbering and farming. In 1862 he enlisted a company at Harrisburg, which was assigned to the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania as Company A. He commanded the company until the expiration of his term of service. On his return he re-engaged at his former occupation, which he has since followed. In 1861 he was married to Miss Delilah K., daughter of Andrew and Theresa Creveling, of this township. She is a sister of Rev. S. A. Creveling, who is a pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, connected with the Central Pennsylvania Conference. Of unbounded energy and force of character, Mr. Buckalew is a man of mark, and exercises a wide influence in the community. In politics he is a Republican.

LEWIS M. CREVELING, farmer and insurance agent, P. O. Van Camp, is on the paternal side, descended from German ancestry. His great-grandfather, Andrew Creveling immigrated to this country with his wife and settled near Asbury, Warren Co., N. J., where he engaged in farming. At the outbreak of the Revolution he entered the Continental Army and served all through the war. He was in the battle of Monmouth June 28, 1778, and on that day his son, Samuel, the grandfather of our subject, was born. After the close of the war he removed with his family to Columbia County, Penn., where he died, and is buried with his wife in the Afton graveyard near Bloomsburg. Samuel Creveling became a farmer and after his marriage, in 1803, removed to the farm now occupied by our subject, which he had bought. This farm he cleared and erected a cabin, the site of which is not far from the place where Lewis now lives. His farm at that time comprised 350 acres. During the war of 1812 he was drafted, but several young men wanting to go in his stead, he selected one as a substitute, Mr. Creveling having a family of young children. He lived on his farm until his death, in 1859, at the age of eighty-one. His wife, Catherine Willets, of this county, died about five years before her husband. Both are buried in Zion graveyard, this county. They had the following named children: Andrew, Isaiah, Samuel, Russell and Rachel, all deceased. Peter, John and Sarah are living. Peter and John each live on a portion of the old homestead which they inherited; Sarah is the wife of Jacob Wenner, and resides at Benderstown, this township. Isaiah was the father of Lewis M. and was born May 29, 1810, on the part of the farm now occupied by our subject, on which he lived until his marriage, when he moved to Huntington Township, Luzerne County, where he remained a few years. He then bought a farm in Fairmount Township, that county, where he resided until his death. He never engaged in any occupation than farming. He took a somewhat prominent part in local political matters, holding many township offices. Twice he was elected justice of the peace and was noted for his talents as a peacemaker, having great influence among his neighbors, which he exerted for good and was also noted for his charitable disposition. As a hunter and a fisherman he excelled. He died December 29, 1864, aged nearly fifty-five years. In 1835 he married Catherine M., daughter of Andrus Fellows, a prominent citizen of Huntington Township, Luzerne County, and the first white child born in that township. Mr. Fellows was a wealthy and enterprising farmer, and resided sixty years on the place where he died and where he accumulated a large fortune. He was a plain, unassuming man and was known as a philanthropist. In middle life he took his rifle and traveled to Kalamazoo County, Mich., where he took up land, but later came back to Pennsylvania. Isaiah Creveling and wife had six children, two of whom died in infancy: Andrus F. (resides on part of his father's farm in Luzerne County), Samuel W. (on the old homestead with his mother), Rachel B. (wife of Zephariah L. Kile, a farmer of Sugarloaf Township), and Lewis M., who was the second child. Our subject was born September 2, 1838, in Luzerne County, and lived on the farm until the breaking out of the war. August 8, 1862, he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Forty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, the "second bucktails," in which he served until the close of the war. He was in the battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and twenty other engagements. He went out as a private, was promoted successively corporal, first sergeant and commissioned second lieutenant, which rank he held on his return. While sergeant he commanded the company all through the battles of the Wilderness and was fortunate to escape with only one wound all through the service. He was shot through the face at Spottsylvania Court House. On his return from the service he married and moved to the farm which he now owns and which was a part of the original tract, and has since been engaged in farming and lumbering. He is an incorporator in and director of the Fishingcreek Mutual Insurance Company, of which he is also an agent. September 11, 1865, he married Angeline Moss, daughter of Joseph and Emily (Trescott) Moss, of Fairmount, Luzerne County (and both are still living). Her father was born February 13, 1809, and Mrs. Moss April 6, 1809. He has been a farmer



and lumberman and for years operated a mill in that county. He is a prominent and active citizen and one of the oldest settlers in the township. He also takes a leading position in religious matters in his neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. Creveling have seven children living: Isaiah Osborne, Francis W., Eveline, Joseph C., Albert E., Andrus Fellows and Katie Emily. A son, Irvin, died in infancy. Mr. Creveling is a prominent man in the political affairs of his township, and has held several township offices. He is a thorough-going, active business man, and stands high in the community. Politically he is a Democrat.

CLINTON K. DEWITT, farmer, P. O. Stillwater, is the eldest son of Isaac DeWitt (see sketch of James M. DeWitt), and was born in Scott Township, June 25, 1837. In early life he began working on a farm and has always followed agricultural pursuits. He remained at home until his marriage, at the age of twenty-three, when he rented a farm in Greenwood Township, on which he resided for two years. He then moved to Centralia and followed the butchering business for three years. He then returned to Greenwood Township and for six years worked on farms, later renting a farm on which he resided three years. For the following six or seven years he followed huckstering and then removed to Fishingcreek Township, on the farm owned by his brother, James M., where he has since remained. January 5, 1860, he married Miss Emma J. Musgrave, who was born January 8, 1842, in Mount Pleasant Township, and died June 14, 1884, aged forty-two years, five months and six days. To this union ten children were born: Dorcas A., who keeps house for her father; William, who died when four years of age; Norman M., living with his father; Ida May, wife of Clarence Yost, a son of David Yost of Van Camp, Fishingcreek; Minnie P., Isaac M., Amanda M., Henry C., Hettie C. and Paul H., who make their home with their father. Mr. DeWitt is a hard-working man and gives his time and attention to his farm. He is not a politician, was once elected justice of the peace for five years, but resigned at the end of the year. Among his neighbors he bears the reputation of an honest, honorable and upright man in all his dealings.

JAMES M. DEWITT, farmer, butcher and lumberman, Stillwater, is a grandson of John DeWitt, who was a resident of New Jersey. John's children were James, who died in Greenwood Township, this county; Nellie, who was the wife of John Case, of Northumberland County, where she died; Sarah, wife of J. R. Patten, and died in Greenwood Township (her husband is now ninety years of age and resides in Light Street); Elizabeth, was the wife of Isaac Kline, and died in Augusta Township, and Isaac, who was the father of James M. Isaac was reared in Northumberland County, where he learned the trade of a wagon-maker, which he followed until a short time before his death in July, 1877. He lived in Scott, Orange and Greenwood Townships, this county, but died at Light Street while on a visit. He was an honest man and respected by all who knew him. For many years he was justice of the peace; he was also a tax collector, and had taken the census of the county. Late in life he became a member of the Presbyterian Church of which his wife had long been a member. He was twice married; his first wife, whose maiden name was Haughawant, died a few years after her marriage, leaving one child, John, who died at Light Street. His second wife was Nancy Stewart, the daughter of James Stewart, who then resided at Light Street. She died November 8, 1876, a few months before her husband. They had six children, viz.: Dorcas, died young; Amanda, was the wife of Jacob Terwilliger, of Light Street, where she died; Clinton K.; William, who died leaving two children; Joseph P., who lives in Rohrsburg; three who died in childhood, and James M., who is the second son. Our subject was born March 9, 1839, in Light Street. He lived with his parents until his marriage, and on attaining his majority, engaged in butchering and cattle dealing, and after his marriage moved to this township to the house in which he now lives, which has since been his home and which he bought thirteen years ago. He is still engaged to some extent in the lumber business. December 17, 1868, he married Esther V., daughter of Jacob B. Stoker of this township. She was born January 14, 1842, and died April 28, 1872, leaving one child, Elliot E., who was born November 6, 1871. November 28, 1874, Mr. DeWitt married Miss Phebe E., daughter of David Coleman, of Asbury, this township. She was born March 20, 1847, and has borne her husband three children: Clyde S., born September 13, 1875; Atta C., born December 27, 1877, and Gertie May, born May 23, 1884. Mr. DeWitt takes an active part in the political affairs of his town, but refuses to hold office. He belongs to the K. of P., and Columbia Grange. He is an active business man, and applies himself closely to his affairs, and never deserts a friend in need. Politically he is a Democrat.

JONAS DOTY, deceased, was descended from a Puritan of the same name. His grandparents, Joseph and Martha Doty, resided in New Providence Township, Essex Co., N. J., where they died. One of their sons, David Doty, was the father of Jonas. He married Sybil Clark and moved with his family to the Wyoming Valley, where he bought a farm on which he lived until 1850. He then removed to Luzerne County, near the Columbia County line, where he bought a farm, and where he and his wife both died. They are buried in a private burying-ground in this county. They had seven children, as follows: Joseph, on the home farm in Luzerne County; John lived and died in Benton Township, this county; Anthony died in Benton Township; Sarah died unmarried;

Martha was the wife of Thaddeus Newton, and died in Huntington Township, Luzerne County; Clarinda is the wife of William Belles, and lives in Huntington Township, Luzerne County, and Jonas. Our subject was born August 9, 1808, in New Jersey. He lived with his parents until his marriage, when he bought a place in the Wyoming Valley, on which he lived until 1849, when he sold out there and removed to this county, buying the farm on which he has since lived. The house to which he removed stood on the site of his present residence, and was destroyed by fire in 1868. Mr. Doty was engaged in both farming and carpentering, but a few years prior to his death retired, and his son, Israel, now conducts the farm. In 1838 he married Jennet Campbell, who was born June 30, 1816, and died in 1875. Mr. Doty next married, in 1880, Elizabeth Kennedy. By his first wife he had ten children: David, born March 20, 1840, married Elizabeth Pealer, and resides on part of his father's farm, which he now owns; Ira, born January 22, 1842, married Cordelia Rinard, and resided in Briarcreek Township; George, born October 31, 1843, married Alice Heath and resides in Huntington Township; Mary Margaret, born January 17, 1846, and died in childhood; Jeremiah O., born February 10, 1848, married Emma Moore, and lives on a farm adjoining his father's; Sarah Elizabeth, born March 5, 1850, wife of Lewis W. Rozelle, in Kansas; Eugene, born May 16, 1852, died in childhood; Martha A., born September 13, 1853, and lives with her parents; Israel, born April 4, 1856, married Alveretta Eveland, resides on his father's farm, and Luther B., born August 16, 1860, single and living with his mother. Mr. Doty was a Republican, never held office, but was the candidate of his party for associate judge and other offices. He was an honest, straightforward man, who worked hard for what he acquired, and was respected by his fellow citizens. He died August 28, 1886.

B. FRANK EDGAR, farmer, P. O. Stillwater, is a grandson of James Edgar, a native of the State of New York, who removed to Benton, Penn., thence to this township in the latter part of the last century and died in the State of Ohio, whither he had later removed. His children, all deceased, were John, married Hester Zimmerman, died in Indiana; Robert, married Susannah McHenry, died in Benton Township; Martha, wife of Moses McHenry, died in this township; Ellen, wife of Elias McHenry (brother of Moses), also died here; Elizabeth, wife of John Jackson, died in Indiana; Edward, married and died in Ohio; Teann, wife of Silas McHenry, died in Ohio. James, the youngest, was the father of our subject. James was born on the farm where his father resided, in this township, August 22, 1806, and died April 16, 1883, aged twenty-six years and seven months. He was a farmer and lumberman. He sold his place in Benton Township and moved here. He took an active part in public affairs, but never held any office except that of constable, which he filled several years. In 1828 he married Sarah, daughter of Daniel McHenry, a son of the pioneer of that name. She was born April 28, 1810, and died in this township September 10, 1882. To this union were born nine sons and one daughter, the latter dying at the age of three years. The sons, all now living, are as follows: Daniel, married to Louisa Stoker, lives in New Columbus, Luzerne County; Robert, unmarried, resides with his brother, T. Hardy (he was a soldier in the Union Army, in the Two Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, in which he served a year, until the close of the war, and received injuries which render him lame for life); Emanuel, married to Martha McHenry, and resides in Sonestown, Penn.; George W., married Nellie Smith, of Pittston, who died in Nebraska, where he resides and is married again; William E.; Hiram R., in Nebraska; James C., who married Rosa Smith, a sister of Nellie, and resides in this township; T. Hardy and B. Frank. The last named was born September 9, 1836, and remained with his parents until he was eighteen years of age, when he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for about twenty years. He also learned the distilling business, at which he worked in this township for eight years, and at which he acquired some means, which he invested in farm property, owning three farms in different parts of the township. He has since disposed of two of them, retaining only the one on which he now lives. Before coming to this place he lived on his farm, on the State road, ten years. In 1880 he moved to his present home, and in August, 1886, established a distillery on the place. Mr. Edgar has been twice married, first, June 30, 1864, to Susanna, daughter of Solomon Hartman, who was born June 4, 1843, and died May 4, 1874, the mother of the following named children: Warren, born December 8, 1864, now in the drug business in Nanticoke; Dora B., born February 1, 1866; Charles M., born March 22, 1869; Alfred H., born November 11, 1870; Hattie M., born December 16, 1872, and Thomas E., born August 16, 1867, who died when six years of age. April 18, 1879, Mr. Edgar married Martha Golder, born January 4, 1859, daughter of Abraham Golder, of Hemlock Township, and by her he has three children: Herald, born June 27, 1880; Almer, born April 8, 1882, and Madge, born April 1, 1884, all living with their parents. Mr. Edgar has held several responsible positions in the township: Constable, three years; auditor, two years; tax collector, three years; and in 1881 was elected county commissioner, which position he filled to the satisfaction of the citizens of the county for three years.

WILLIAM E. EDGAR, farmer, P. O. Van Camp, is the sixth son of James Edgar, and was born February 10, 1841. He remained at home until the age of sixteen years, when



he went to learn the trade of carpenter with Jackson Ale. This he followed twelve years, when he moved to the farm which he had previously purchased, on which he now lives, and has since made it his home. During the time spent at this trade he also lumbered on West Branch four years. On February 2, 1867, he married Sadie E., daughter of James Deimer McHenry; she was born September 14, 1846; educated at the seminary, Starkey, N. Y., and later taught school five years. One child has blessed this union—Gracie May, born August 30, 1875. Mr. Edgar has never held any public office, but contents himself in doing his duty as a citizen at the polls, and takes a warm interest in the Democratic party, with which he is identified.

T. HARDY EDGAR (brother of B. Frank), lumberman, Stillwater, was born February 15, 1845, in this township. He worked on the farm until he was eighteen years old, when he went to Cambra, where he learned the trade of cabinet-maker, which he followed in different places until 1867. He then resided two years in Rohrsburg; thence moved to Centralia, where he remained a year; thence to Mt. Carmell, Northumberland County, in both of which places he kept store. His store in the latter place being destroyed by fire he moved to Benton and worked in the planing-mill, the machinery of which he purchased and moved to North Mountain; thence, in 1877 he moved it to this township to the property which he owns, and where he now resides in a house near the mill. He married, December 26, 1867, Miss Cecelia Alice McHenry, born July 26, 1848, daughter of James Deimer McHenry, and she has borne her husband three children: Harry O., born April 16, 1869; Lelia I., born June 11, 1871, and Orvis Roy, born February 9, 1883. Mr. Edgar takes a warm interest in public affairs. He and Mrs. Edgar are members of the Christian Church.

BENJAMIN M. GOLDER, farmer, P. O. Stillwater, is a grandson of Abraham Golder, who came to this county from New Jersey. He settled in Jackson Township, where he took up 400 acres, on which he lived for thirty years. He then moved to Ohio where he died. His wife died in this county. They had a family of eight children, most of whom moved west, and none of whom are now living. Peter Golder, the father of our subject, was born in Jackson Township, September 7, 1808, and died May 31, 1878, in the seventieth year of his age. His wife, Martha McHenry, was a daughter of Benjamin McHenry, and was born April 16, 1810. She now resides with Benjamin M. To her and her husband eight children were born: Abraham, who married Mary Brosius (resides in Mordansville, Luzerne County); Elizabeth Jane, wife of Peter Evelard (in Light Street); Sarah, who died young; Daniel, married to Sarah Tucker (living in Minnesota); Cordelia, wife of Reason Conner (living in Nebraska); Mary Ellen, wife of Jos. Tucker, died at Stillwater; Hiram Francis, married to Samantha Brosius (lives in Nescopeck, Luzerne County), and Benjamin M. Our subject is the eldest of the family and was born January 23, 1828. He followed carpentering until 1862, making his home with his parents until he was seventeen years of age. He then lived in this township until 1853, when he bought the place where he now resides, and carried on his trade and farming. January 1, 1853, he married Rebecca Ann, daughter of Thomas Davis, of Benton Township, and who was born July 21, 1833. To this union seven children were born, two dying in infancy. The living are Joshua Deimer, married to Laura Dietrick, in Union County; Thomas Milard, married to Minnie Williams and lives with his father; Davis Lee, unmarried; Edith Lenora, and Sarah Ellen. When Mr. Golder bought this farm it was uncleared, and he has brought it to its present high state of cultivation. He and Mrs. Golder are members of the Christian Church at Stillwater.

SAMUEL J. HARRISON, farmer, P. O. Van Camp, was born in Wales, June 26, 1837. His father, Samuel, came to America from Wales in 1838, locating first in Pittsburgh and later in Pittston, where he followed the occupation of a mason for about twelve years. He then bought a farm in this township on the Mill road, near Bendertown, whither he removed in April, 1857, and there died November 25, 1884, aged seventy-three years. He was of a happy, genial disposition, and well liked throughout the country. His wife, Jane Price, whom he married in Wales, died three months after her husband, at the age of seventy-four. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for thirty years, and bore her husband nine children, eight of whom survive. Jane died in Wales. The living are Elizabeth, wife of George Johnson, living in Illinois; John, who married Hettie Jones of Wilkesbarre (she is deceased), and is now living at that place, a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church; Harriet, wife of Joseph Ireley, a car-builder in Berwick; Caroline, wife of J. E. Snyder, a jeweler of Berwick; Mary Jane lives with her brother in Wilkesbarre, taking care of his two orphan children; Thomas W., who married Lottie Schultz, lives on the old homestead; Hannah J., unmarried and residing at the homestead with her brother, and Samuel J. Our subject was but a year old when his parents came to this country. He worked on the farm until his marriage when he went to Pittston and engaged in coal mining. In 1864 he enlisted in the Fifty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Company G, in which he served until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. He was in the engagements in front of Petersburg, and took part in all the battles before that event until the surrender of Lee, and was mustered out June 2, 1865. On his return he followed coal mining for sixteen years, when he



worked two years as a breaker boss at Pittston, when, owing to failing health, he bought the farm on Fishing creek, where he now resides. November 7, 1861, he married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Dietrich. She was born in Briarcreek Township, this county, and bore her husband four children: William Bruce, born November 27, 1862, died June 13, 1867; John W., born September 30, 1864, married Eliza Thomas (whose father, Joseph, was killed at Hatcher's Run, in February, 1865, while a member of the One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers); Joseph Warren, born August 14, 1868, and James Garfield, born October 4, 1881, both of whom live with their parents. Mr. Harrison is a member of Thistle Lodge, No. 512, I. O. O. F., of Pittston, and in politics is independent.

AMOS HARTMAN, farmer, P. O. Van Camp, is a grandson of Frederick Hartman, who was born in Northumberland County, but who resided in this township most of his life. He was a farmer; lived within half a mile of where our subject now resides and died in 1871. His wife died in 1824 at the age of twenty-eight years. He was eighty years and eleven months old at the time of his death. They had six children who lived to maturity: Mary Ann was twice married, first to John Laubach of Fairmount Township, Luzerne County, after whose death she married William Blish of the same place, where both died; Catherine, a twin sister of Mary Ann, is the widow of Henderson Baker of the same place, where she resides; Jesse is married to Lydia Gearhart and lives in Sugarloaf Township; Eliza, widow of Thomas Lauderbauch, in Henry County, Ill.; Frederick is married to Eliza Kendig, and both reside in this township. The third of this family was Solomon, father of Amos, and was all his life engaged in farming in this township, where he owned a farm, on which he died shortly after purchasing it. He had worked in various places but always at farming, and was noted for his industry, in fact, his comparatively early death was due to excessive labor and to his anxiety to provide well for his family. He died at the age of forty-one years, and six months, a member of the Reformed Church at Van Camp. His wife was Henrietta Lauderbach, of this township, who, after the death of her first husband, was married to Samuel Yost of this township, where they live on a farm adjoining that of our subject. To Mr. Hartman she bore the following named children: Susanna, deceased wife of B. Frank Edgar; Amanda Ellen, wife of Wilber C. Pennington; Thomas L., and Sarah Catherine, widow of Eli Pealer, all of this township, and Amos. The last named is the second child, and was born April 5, 1848. He worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-five years of age, when he worked at carpentering and on various farms until 1874. He then went to Illinois, returning in 1875 to this township, where, for one year, he worked on the farm of B. C. Hess; a year later he drove a huckster wagon and another year worked at farming for B. F. Edgar. The year following he gave his time almost exclusively to his office of constable, which he refused to hold longer, returning to his trade for a year. He then began farming again at New Columbus, Luzerne County, and a year later rented the farm from his stepfather, Samuel Yost, where he has since resided. December 8, 1877, he married Miss Carrie Hartman, daughter of Frederick Hartman, and who was born in Huntington Township, Luzerne County, October 3, 1849. They have two children, Sarah Luella, born February 11, 1880, and Lillian May, born January 9, 1884. Mr. Hartman has held several township offices and is now town clerk. He belongs to the K. of P. and he and his wife are members of the St. James Reformed (German) Church at Van Camp, in which he is a deacon.

AARON HESS, farmer, P. O. Fishingcreek, is a grandson of John Hess, who came from Germany about the middle of the last century. He located in Wapwallopen, Luzerne County, where he owned a farm on which he died. He had a family of twelve children: John, Jacob, Charles, Thomas, Abraham, Isaac, Jeremiah, Aaron, Susannah, Mary, Hannah and Nancy. Of these Aaron is the only survivor; John was the father of our subject, and died in Centre Township about 1846. Mrs. Catherine (Knorr) Hess died about 1824, and after her death her husband married Catherine Conner, who also died, when he married Mary Fenstermacher, who died in Salem Township, Luzerne County, at the age of ninety-two years. Aaron (our subject) was born in Briarcreek August 8, 1813, and in his youth worked at wagon-making. He lived with his parents until his marriage, when for about seven years he worked on farms in summer and at his trade in winter. In 1840 he rented the farm on which he now lives, and seven years later bought it. At that time it contained 330 acres, forty of which were cleared. Later he sold off some acres, a part of which, however, he has since purchased back, and the remainder has been bought by his son, Benjamin, so that the farm is virtually in possession of the family. August 25, 1832, he married Judith Ann, daughter of John Sterner, of Briarcreek Township. She was born on the same day as her husband and twelve children were born to them: John, born December 12, 1834, works for his father on the home farm; Thomas J., born May 10, 1838, died when ten months old; Mary C., born February 15, 1840, wife of Abraham Kline, of Orange Township; Benjamin, born June 11, 1841, resides in this township; Peter, born August 13, 1843, lives with his parents; Francis, born April 2, 1848, died young; Ira D., born January 29, 1845, lives in Benton Township; Matilda, born December 13, 1847, wife of Joe Albertson, of Greenwood Township; Harrison, born May 27, 1849, lives on his father's farm; Aaron, born January 23, 1851; Ann Eliza, born March 29, 1853, wife of

Nathaniel Driesbach, near Jonestown; Julia Ann, born September 2, 1855, died June 19, 1868; Catherine Ann, born December 27, 1833, died in infancy, and two who died in infancy. Mr. Hess is one of the oldest citizens in the township.

GEORGE M. HOWELL, merchant and postmaster, Van Camp, is a grandson of Noah Howell, who was a cooper and lived in Lawrence, near Trenton, N. J., where he died. His great-great-grandfather on his mother's side was John Muirheid, who was born in Glasgow, Scotland, immigrated to this country, married on Long Island, November 22, 1706, Rebecca Bailey, and died in 1725. His son, Andrew, was born in 1717, and died in 1794 at the age of seventy-seven years. Andrew's son, George, was born September 25, 1760, and died April 6, 1851, aged ninety years, six months and eleven days. He was the maternal grandfather of Mr. Howell. Noah Howell was born in New Jersey, where he was married to Hannah Lawrence. They had four children who lived to maturity, all now deceased. Their names are Elizabeth, Sarah, Mary and Jesse who was the father of our subject and was born in New Jersey, August 8, 1789. When a boy of fifteen, Jesse, on the death of his father, came to Easton, Penn., where he worked for his uncle in mercantile business. After his marriage he engaged in merchandising on his own account. This he gave up later and was made bookkeeper in the old Easton bank, now the First National Bank of that place, which occupation he followed until his death. He was a pious, charitable man, and noted for his generosity; was a leading member of the Presbyterian Church of which he was an elder for many years and superintendent of the Sabbath-school for twenty-four years. He was twice married; first to Sarah Hunt, August 11, 1815, who bore him one child, Alfred, born January 11, 1816, and died at Cogan Station, Penn., May, 1886. His second marriage was with Deborah, daughter of George Muirheid, and their children were Mary Elizabeth, who was the wife of Dr. F. L. Crane and died at Easton in 1845; Sarah, widow of James Pollock, residing in Easton; Jesse Lawrence, who died May 4, 1875, in Minnesota; John Guild, who died in infancy; Ellen, wife of William Maxwell, of Easton, where she lives, and George Muirheid, the second child, who was born in Easton, September 2, 1822. Our subject attended school at that place until he was sixteen years of age, when he went to Philadelphia and clerked in a store until 1842. He then removed to Orangeville and learned the trade of cabinet-making at which he worked for five years, when he went back to clerking, and after his marriage went to Van Camp, where he worked at his trade. He then clerked in a store at New Columbus for three years. In 1851 he built the place he now occupies at Van Camp, and started a general store. There he has since carried on business and has been instrumental in getting a postoffice established at that point, of which he was appointed postmaster, October, 1857, and has served under various administrations. March 8, 1849, he married Margaret A., daughter of Samuel Yost, of this township, and who was born October 6, 1827. To their union seven children have been born, two of whom died at birth. The others were Charles M., born July 17, 1851 (is married to Frances E. McCollum, of Carbon County, Penn., and resides at Leisenring, same State); Henry Yost, born March 18, 1854 (died December 15, 1862); Edward W., born November 4, 1856 (died September 24, 1868); Alfred, born January 22, 1861 (died February 4, of the same year), and Deborah, born December 1, 1861 (is now the wife of Charles H. Moore, and resides with her parents at Van Camp). Mr. Howell takes no very active part in politics, but has served as county auditor. He and Mrs. Howell are members of the Reformed Church (St. James) of this place, in which he has been a deacon and is now trustee. The greater part of his life has been passed where he now resides, and among the people who have known him all that time he bears an unimpeachable reputation.

JAMES N. JONES, retired, Fishingcreek, is a grandson of Richard Brown, who, with his son-in-law, Benjamin Jones (father of our subject), came to this township in 1809, settling directly in the village of Jonestown. The old log house erected by them is still standing, but has been remodeled and weather-boarded and is now used as a store by Jones & Davis. About 1820 Richard Brown removed to Greenwood Township, but Benj. Jones and wife remained. In 1809 they built a saw-mill, and in 1811 a grist-mill, and after the departure of Mr. Brown, Mr. Jones conducted both mills until his death in 1849, at the age of seventy-four years. When the postoffice was established, about 1820, he was appointed postmaster and continued to hold that office until elected justice of the peace, when he resigned. He served in the latter office until a few years before his death. He was an active enterprising man, acquired good property by his industry, and stood high in the community. His wife, Nancy Brown, died in 1868, aged eighty-two years, and their children were Richard, James N., Mary Ann, Eliza E. and Matilda. The last named is the widow of Reuben Hess and resides near Van Camp. The only survivors are Mrs. Hess and the subject of this biography, who was born September 17, 1813, in the old log house mentioned. He learned the trade of a miller, at which he worked together with lumbering, sawing and farming for his father until the latter's death. Then he and his brother, Richard, inherited the farm, grist and saw-mills, which they conducted in partnership until 1857. They then divided the property, Richard taking the saw-mill and farm and James taking the grist-mill, which he rebuilt. This is the same mill now standing in Jonestown. In this he took into partnership his brother-in-law, John Merrill, who sold



out a few years after to William Mears, and this partnership continued until Mr. Jones sold his interest to Ira Thomas. Since then he had been living retired. December 1, 1846, he married Caroline Matilda Merrill, who was born in Hemlock Township, May 13, 1826, and is yet living in the old home. Two of their children died in infancy and four now survive: Henry C., born April 4, 1848, a bookkeeper in Kingston, married Merilda, daughter of William Buckalew, who died a few years after their marriage; Ashbel W., born March 31, 1857 (merchant in Jonestown, married March 4, 1882, Lizzie, daughter of Robert Maguire, a farmer in the vicinity of Jonestown); William W., born April 19, 1861 (married Ann Eliza Fahringer, and is a civil and mining engineer in Wilkesbarre) and Estella, born March 1, 1851, the wife of John Kimball, and resides in Vernon Center, Minn. As soon as he was of age James N. Jones was commissioned postmaster of Fishingcreek under Jackson's administration and held the office for forty years. Mr. Jones has taken a warm interest in politics; first a Henry Clay Whig; then a Republican, which party he still votes with.

FRANCIS W. JONES, miller, Fishingcreek, is a son of Richard B. Jones, a brother of James N. Jones, whose sketch appears above. Richard B. was born September 3, 1815, and died July 3, 1877, aged sixty-one years and ten months. He also learned the trade of milling and lumbering which he followed until he and his brother, James N., dissolved partnership, when he devoted himself exclusively to farming and lumbering until a few years before his death. He married, in 1840, Miss Sallie Ann, daughter of George Kline of Orange Township. She was born October 23, 1815, and died March 14, 1869, aged fifty-one years, four months and twenty-two days. They had five children, two of whom died young. The others were James E., a farmer, who died in 1886 in Asbury, was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, serving in the Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, from which he was discharged on account of sickness, and, on recovering his health he enlisted in the One Hundred and Ninety-Eighth Regiment and served until the close of the war; Rebecca M., wife of Park Eveland, living in Steuben County, N. Y., and Francis W. Our subject was born June 1, 1846, and in his youth worked for his father on the farm and at lumbering until 1864. He then enlisted in the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers and served 100 days; re-enlisted, this time in the Seventy-fourth and served until the close of the war, when, with his regiment, he was honorably discharged. On his return he taught school for four terms and worked at lumbering in summer. In 1868 he and his brother, James E., bought from Mears & Thomas the grist-mill originally built by his grandfather, which he is now conducting, besides being engaged in lumbering. On his marriage he removed to the house where his father lived and the latter resided with him until his death. Our subject then bought the property, and in the summer of last year built for himself a fine new residence a few rods from the old home, to which he removed. July 24, 1870, he married Monema, daughter of Jacob Gregory. She was born in Union, Luzerne County, January 9, 1849, and had been a teacher in that county for several years. To their union three children were born: George G., born December 5, 1872; Ellen, born August 26, 1877, and Fanny G., born March 25, 1881. Mr. Jones is a Republican.

JOHN J. KARNS, farmer, P. O. Stillwater, is a grandson, on the maternal side, of Moses McHenry, the son of the pioneer McHenry, under which name, in this township, will be found a full history of his ancestors. His paternal grandfather was John Karns, who was a farmer in Benton Township where he died. He was one of the early settlers of the county and cleared a farm there. He died at an advanced age in 1876, the father of seven children, none of whom now survive. Tunis was the father of our subject, and was born on the home farm in Benton Township, where he lived until his marriage. He then removed to a farm which he owned in the same township, now known as the Russel Karns farm, where he lived until his death in 1857. His wife was Isabella, daughter of Moses and Martha McHenry. To Mr. and Mrs. Karns six children were born: Lavina in Benton Township; Moses in Colorado; Mary, wife of Hiram Siegfried, in Iowa; Frank J., who married Lavina Kauf and both are now deceased; Cyrus H., who is living in this township, and John J., who is the youngest of the family. Our subject was born on the homestead in Benton Township, October 11, 1851. When less than four years old he was taken in charge by his uncle, Silas McHenry, and his father dying shortly after, he was reared by his uncle, with whom he remained until his marriage. He then went to farming on his own account until the death of his uncle, when he gave up the farm on which he then was, and moved back to the place which had always been his home and to which he was much attached. His uncle, in fact, had supplied the place of a father to him, and the widow was fortunate in having one who so loved her husband to take his place in operating the farm. In 1878 he married Miss Effie P. Burger, of South Danville, Steuben County, N. Y., daughter of William Burger. They have three children: William E., born July 3, 1880; Maud E., born December 15, 1882, and Hardy E., born August 21, 1886. After his marriage, Mr. Karns worked in the planing-mill of T. Hardy Edgar for two years in Stillwater, thence went to his uncle Silas' farm, which he now owns. Mr. Karns has never held any political office. He is a member of the K. of P.; belongs to the Christian Church, and is also connected with the Sabbath-school. He is a hard-working, industrious man and a good citizen.



DAVID M. KINTER, minister, P. O. Stillwater, is a native of Indiana County, Penn., and was born April 5, 1836. The first of his family to settle in that county was his grandfather, John Kinter, who went there from Centre County. At the time of his settlement the neighborhood was very wild and sparsely settled. He had but one neighbor, and his supplies had to be brought from Hollidaysburg, east of the Allegheny Mountains. He had a tract of 330 acres, which is now owned by the father of our subject. He died April 29, 1836, and his widow, whose maiden name was Isabella Finley, died some years later, aged eighty-eight years. They had nine children, all of whom are now deceased except one son, Isaac (father of our subject). The latter was born August 6, 1805, and was two years old when his parents moved to Indiana County. He was the youngest of the family; was brought up on the farm, on which his entire life, except one year, has been passed. He worked with his father, and when he became a man was the mainstay of his parents, who lived with him until their death. For some years, in addition to carrying on the farm, he kept a store, which he gave up about thirty years ago, and after the death of his wife resigned the active management of his farm to two of his sons, with one of whom he makes his home. In August, 1834, he married Miss Hannah Moyers, who was born August 3, 1812, and died July 2, 1868. They had eight children, viz.: Sarah Isabella, wife of James McLaughlin, resides on a farm adjoining the homestead; Peter Craig died in the service of his country early in the civil war; John was a captain in a Pennsylvania regiment, and now resides on the old homestead; Christiana was the wife of Peter W. Dilts, and after his death married George Gourley, and is now living in Jefferson County; Jacob Foster is living at Punxsutawney; Martha Jane died before reaching her majority; Isaac Newton is married, and resides on the old homestead, and with him his father makes his home, and David M. Our subject, is the eldest of the family. In early life he worked on the farm; helped in his father's store, and at the age of sixteen began teaching school. This profession he followed for seven winters, working on the farm or attending school in the intermediate seasons, and for two summers of that time clerked in the office of the register and recorder in the borough of Indiana. In 1859 he spent the winter in Louisiana and Mississippi, and in the spring of 1860 went to Adair County, Mo., where he was engaged on a farm for three months. He then obtained the position of teacher of the school in that place, and while there also united himself with the Christian Church; was baptized in February, and in March, 1861, was called to the ministry. He was then engaged in preaching and teaching until February, 1862, when he entered the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, in which he served as a private for nine months. The regiment was then consolidated with the Second Missouri Cavalry, in which he was commissioned second lieutenant, and five months later, in May, 1863, was promoted first lieutenant, and served until August of that year, when he resigned. He then returned to Kirksville, where he continued teaching and preaching until September, 1865, returning to his birthplace in Indiana County, and remaining until the spring of 1868, engaged in ministerial work. He then located in Johnstown as pastor of the Christian Church, remaining until 1870; thence went to Lock Haven, where he was pastor of a church until the spring of 1876. In that year he came to Stillwater, and has since served as pastor of that church, also of the churches at Benton, Jackson, Millville, Waller and Rohrsburg, this county, and at Cambra, Luzerne County. During that time he has organized three new congregations, built four meeting-houses, and repaired several others; married many couples, and baptized between 800 and 900 people. November 22, 1860, he married Miss Maggie P. Dabney, daughter of Thomas Jeff. Dabney, of Adair County, Mo. They had two children; the eldest died when five months old; the survivor is Minnie, now fifteen years of age. The religious bent of Mr. Kinter's life was primarily due to the teachings of a devout mother and grandmother, which bore fruit later in his joining the church, in which his labors have been arduous and successful. He has the respect and love of a large and growing circle of friends and parishioners.

DANIEL S. KITCHEN, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, is a grandson of Wheeler Kitchen, who was a resident of Greenwood Township, where he owned a farm on which he died. His children were Henry, Sarah, Margaret, Elsie, Jane, Ann and Daniel. The last named was the father of our subject and was born in Greenwood Township, in 1800, in the house now occupied by his son, Daniel S., and there died in 1872, in his seventy-third year. He was a farmer all his life and was highly esteemed. His wife, Elsie Smith, died shortly after they removed to this farm, in 1832. They had four children: Samuel, who died unmarried; A. Hickson, who resides in Orange Township; Sallie Ann, who died when quite young, and Daniel S., who was but four weeks old when his mother died. After his first wife's death, Mr. Kitchen married Mrs. Hannah McHenry, who died before her husband. Seven children were born to their union: Emily, Mary Ann, Angeline, Savilla, Matilda, Sylvester (who died young), and Nehemiah. Daniel S. was born on the farm where he now resides, March 7, 1832, and has spent most of his life in the same place. He lived with his father until he was of age, when he farmed the home place for a couple of years; he then rented a farm in Benton, on which he resided about four years, when he resided in Greenwood two years. He then lived on a farm on the State road and owned by his father, when he returned to the home place. Mr. Kitchen has been twice married; first

to Mary M., daughter of Daniel Roth, of Millville; she was born September 5, 1834, and died November 26, 1863, the mother of one child, Hannah Mary, who died in infancy, December 17, 1868, he married Mary M., daughter of Jacob Herring, of Orangeville. She was born August 15, 1843, and bore her husband three children: William M., born August 23, 1869; John, born December 5, 1873, and Clark, born October 27, 1877. Mr. Kitchen has never held any office, preferring to give his time to his farm.

ABRAHAM J. KLINE, retired farmer, Stillwater, is now the oldest resident of the township. His paternal grandfather, Abraham Kline, came from New Jersey to what is now Orange Township, where he took up a large tract of land, which was subsequently divided into several farms. When he first settled he had to cut a road through the forest which covered his land. He died there at an advanced age. His wife, Annie, survived him several years. Their children were Abraham, Matthias, George, Harmon, Isaac and Elizabeth, all now deceased. George was the father of our subject and was born in New Jersey. When a boy he came with his parents to this county, and on his marriage, his father gave him a farm on which he lived until his death, in 1853. His wife, Catherine Johnson, was also from New Jersey, and died in 1854. Their eight children were named as follows: Abraham J.; Mary, who died unmarried; Permelia, wife of Absalom McHenry, now deceased; George Lowry, served in the Union Army and died at Fortress Monroe after the war; Elizabeth Willett, died in infancy; Sally Ann, deceased wife of Richard Jones; Grazillai H., wife of George W. Jacoby, of Light Street, and Malvina Minerva, deceased wife of Jacob Melick. Our subject was born November 8, 1802, and lived with his parents until his marriage. He then resided three years on his grandfather's place, moving thence to Luzerne County. Twelve years later he moved to his father's farm, and in the spring of 1854 came to the place where he now resides, and which he had previously purchased. February 25, 1826, he married Mary, daughter of Thomas McHenry of Greenwood Township. She died May 30, 1886. They were parents of the following children: George Dunham married Sarah J. Richart, and resides in Dushore; Andrew Jackson died in infancy; Wesley Banghart, married to Margaret Dewitt, and living in Bradford County; Hiram W. is unmarried, and operates his father's farm; John S., married Elizabeth Appelman and lives in Benton, and Sarah A., wife of Francis I. Belles, of this township. While in Luzerne County Mr. Kline was captain of a militia company, and after coming to this county was, in 1858, elected justice of the peace, which office he filled for fifteen years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was for a long time class leader. He has always been a good neighbor and citizen. Jacob Johnson, father of Catherine Kline, was a native of Germany, and came to this country with the English army during the Revolutionary war. He deserted the English and espoused the American cause, enlisting in Washington's army; he was afterward taken prisoner, and to escape a prison life again enlisted in the English army; at the first opportunity he came into the American lines and once more joined the American army, serving until the close of the war.

HARMON C. KLINE, farmer, P. O. Fishingcreek, is a great-grandson of Harmon Kline, one of the first settlers of this county. His son, also named Harmon, was the grandfather of our subject; was twice married, and became the father of twenty-four children. His first wife, Susanna Gilbert, died about sixty years ago, the mother of twelve children. His second wife was Sally Fox, and died in 1848. Her husband died in 1852, aged seventy-five years. John, a son of the first wife, is the father of our subject, and was born in Mt. Pleasant Township, November 11, 1810, and after several changes bought a farm in this township, which he subsequently sold. He then bought a small place near Jonesboro, where he yet resides. He has been twice married; first in June, 1832, to Mary E. Crawford, who died in 1852, when he married Sophia Coker. His first wife bore him the following named children: Harmon C.; Joseph, residing in this township; Andrew, who died of disease contracted while in the Union army; Stephen, residing in the West; Elizabeth, deceased; Susan and Amanda, living in Luzerne County, Penn., and Mary Ann, deceased. His second wife is the mother of two children: Emanuel and Anna, living at home. Harmon C. was born November 11, 1832, and on coming of age, went west for a year. He then returned, married and settled on the farm of his father-in-law, in Huntington Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., residing there for eighteen years, when he bought the property where he resides. March 6, 1856, he married Elizabeth, daughter of William and Mary White, of Luzerne County. She was born August 19, 1828. Her father was an old resident of Huntington Township, having settled there when the place was a wilderness, and cleared up a farm. He died about seventeen years ago. His wife died five years prior. Mr. and Mrs. Kline have four children: John W., born February 11, 1857, married Emma Hayman, and farms in Mount Pleasant Township; Mary C., born June 6, 1859, wife of William Wilson, a farmer in this township; Sarah E., born October 2, 1862, wife of Dallas Emory, a farmer, of this township, and Susan A., born June 18, 1867, lives with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Kline are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at New Columbus, of which he has been trustee for several years. Mr. Kline, with the aid of his faithful wife, has accumulated a competence, which he is now enjoying in his comfortable home and pleasant surroundings. Politically he is a Democrat.



ELI MANDUS KUNKEL, blacksmith, Fishingcreek, is a son of D. and Lydia (Fahringer) Kunkel, residents of Roaringcreek Township, this county. They were married in this county, also, having come from Lehigh County when quite young, and settled with their parents in what is now Locust Township. After marriage the father of our subject bought a small farm in Roaringcreek, where he has since lived. He is a blacksmith by trade, and for years carried on that business beside working on his farm, and is now living, retired, enjoying the fruits of his active years. He and his wife have had eleven children; three died young, and Andrew, who was a soldier in the Union army, gave his life for his country on the historic field of Gettysburg. The other children are William, a blacksmith, in Roaringcreek; Charles, a carpenter, in Bloomsburg; Jeremiah, a blacksmith, in Roaringcreek; Mary E., wife of William Roup, in Kansas; Sarah, wife of Ed Strausser, of Allegheny County; Elizabeth, the wife of William Lawrence, a railroad engineer, in Catawissa, and Eli M., our subject. The last named was born August 15, 1846, in Roaringcreek, and when fourteen years of age began working on a farm at which he continued until sixteen. He then began to learn the blacksmith's trade, working in various townships in the county until the spring of 1870, when he built the shop in Jonestown where he now carries on his business, and a couple of years later bought the house in which he resides. December 24, 1871, he married Elizabeth Driesbach, daughter of Nathan Driesbach, a merchant of Jonestown. They have no children of their own, but have an adopted daughter, Mary Ada, born July 19, 1879. Mr. Kunkel has never held any township office, but is now postmaster of Fishingcreek. Mrs. Kunkel is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Kunkel of the Reformed Church. The people among whom the greater part of his mature years were passed give Mr. Kunkel a high reputation for integrity.

ELIAS M. LAUBACH, farmer and pump manufacturer, P. O. Forks, is a grandson of Peter Laubach, who resided near Easton, Northampton Co., Penn. He immigrated to Columbia County and settled near Light Street, in Scott Township, locating near what is known as Pealertown. He died in 1840, aged eighty-six years. His wife was Elizabeth Stetler, who died eight years after her husband. Peter Laubach was a cooper by trade, and in the latter part of his life devoted his time entirely to farming. He and his wife were consistent members of the Presbyterian Church, and the parents of five children: Jacob, Lydia and George, deceased, and one who died in infancy; John is the only one now living. George was the father of our subject and was born in Scott Township in 1804, and died March 24, 1852, aged forty-seven years and eleven months. He was a carpenter, and also owned a small farm in Fishingcreek, where he lived until his death. He was an esteemed citizen and took a deep interest in public affairs, and held nearly every township office. He was temperate and pious and a member of the Christian Church. His comparatively early death was mourned, not only by his family, but by the entire community. He married, in 1826, Miss Elizabeth McHenry, daughter of Daniel McHenry of this township. She died March 6, 1883, a consistent member of the Christian Church. Their children were Mary, wife of Geo. Gearhart, living in Huntington Township, Luzerne County; Sarah Ann, wife of A. W. Patterson, of Berwick; John C., married to Sarah Eveland, and living in Luzerne County; Anjaline, wife of W. W. Miller, of Shickshinny; Elias M., the eldest. Our subject was born November 14, 1828, in this township, and worked at the carpenter trade until 1857. He then gave it up to engage in pump-making, which he still follows, and also owned a farm, to which he added as opportunity offered. In 1883 he bought the farm of Ed. Hull, across Huntington Creek from Forks, which he has since made his home. May 27, 1852, he married Miss Savilla, daughter of Daniel and Catherine Pealer, both now deceased. She was born February 14, 1825, and bore her husband two children: Mary Catherine, born April 21, 1855, married May 23, 1883, to Nevin Ale, and resides on her father's farm at Pealertown, and Alice Elizabeth, born March 21, 1857, and married January 27, 1881, to William B. Pennington; they live with her parents. Mr. Laubach is held in high esteem by his neighbors, and he and wife are members of the Reformed Church.

ABIJAH LEWIS, farmer and merchant, P. O. Forks, is a son of Isaac Lewis, who was a farmer and lumberman in the State of Maine, where he was born. He followed these occupations in Maine and other eastern States many years, lumbering principally on the Penobscot, where he had a large hotel and farm. About 1848 he moved to Bethlehem, Penn., and engaged in lumbering on the Lehigh, near Stoddartsville, where he kept store and finally settled in Gouldsborough, Lackawanna County, where he still resides and is now about eighty-four years of age. He has been three times married; his second wife, Sarah Woodsome, was the mother of our subject. She was born in Maine and died at Stoddartsville, Penn., about thirty years ago, leaving three sons and three daughters, all of whom are still living, except Olive, who died young. The others are Christiana, wife of David Perkins, in Wyoming, Luzerne County; Elmira, wife of L. W. Holbrook, of Stroudsburg; Isaac, who lives in East Rockaway, N. Y.; Charles W., at Pittston, and Abijah, who is the eldest of the sons. He was born in Maine, on the Kennebec River, April 20, 1832, and was sixteen years of age when his parents came to this State. He remained with his father assisting him in his farming and lumbering until he was thirty



years of age. He then married, May 22, 1862, Miss Mary, daughter of Henry G. Dagers of Brooklyn, N. Y., where Mrs. Lewis was born March 20, 1840; he then went to work on Bloomsburg division of the D. L. & W. R. R., and was engaged with that company four years, and was also engaged during that time in buying and shipping produce. The latter business he later devoted himself to exclusively, resigning his position on the road, for eighteen years and for the last sixteen years has been engaged in Bloomsburg. At that time he bought the farm where he now resides and in the spring of 1886 opened the store at Peal-ertown, which he still conducts with the aid of his family. To Mr. and Mrs. Lewis three children were born: Charles H., the second child died when in his thirteenth month; William Edgar, born March 17, 1863, resides in Orangeville engaged in the bakery business, and Lizzie B., born September 17, 1870, at home with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church at Bloomsburg. He does not take much interest in politics but votes the Republican ticket.

GEORGE L. LINES, farmer, P. O. Fishingcreek, is a grandson of Coonrad Lines, who was a native of Connecticut, whence he emigrated to Pennsylvania after the Revolution, in which he had been a soldier. He took up a large tract of land in Luzerne County, including two islands in the Susquehanna below Shickshinny, called the Bald Eagle Islands, and 120 acres on the opposite side of the river in what is now Conynghan Township. On first coming to this part of the country he lived in Luzerne County and after buying the farm built a tannery, having learned the trade in his old home. He died at an advanced age. His wife was of German extraction, her name being Sarah Schlutte, a sister of the general of that name who fought in the war of 1812. She died about fifteen years after her husband. On his mother's side Mr. Lines is a grandson of Abraham and Sally Courtwright who were members of the Massachusetts family of that name, and this family are the legitimate heirs of the great English estate of that name which has been accumulating for a long period. Coonrad and his wife had a large family, all of whom are now deceased. Their names were as follows: John, Peter, James, Coonrad, Martin, Maria and Sarah. Martin was the father of our subject and was born on the farm in Luzerne County, where he lived until his death, in 1838, in the thirty-third year of his age. He learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked until after his marriage, but some years before his death he became a farmer. He had a genius for working in wood and in the possession of Mr. Lines is a small chair with turned legs and posts which he made when seventeen years of age. He married in 1827, Ellen Courtwright, a daughter of Abraham and Sallie Courtwright, and the following children blessed their union: Clara, the widow of Hiram Berlin, of Salem Township, Luzerne County; Sallie C., wife of John Davis of Wilkesbarre; Huldah, wife of William Wridall in Nebraska; Jane, wife of Miour D. Harrison, in Huntington Township, Luzerne County; and George L., who is the third child. After her husband's death Mrs. Lines married Jared Harrison of Huntington Township, and both are now deceased; they had one child, Adaline, who is the wife of Rush M. Fink, of Luzerne County. Our subject was born October 30, 1832, and when eighteen years of age learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed for fifteen years. He then began farming, and, in 1866, bought the place where he now resides, and to which he removed in November of that year. May 6, 1855, he married Ann Brittain, who was born May 11, 1828, and who died September 9, 1864. She had two children, Sarah Ellen, born February 20, 1858, died September 12, 1861, and Clara Josephine, born June 30, 1861, the wife of Charles Emory and resides in this township. December 19, 1872, Mr. Lines married Hannah A., daughter of Elias and Charlotte Wenner. She was born May 14, 1851, and is the mother of two children, Martin Elmer, born June 29, 1881, and Ada Maud, born October 13, 1884. Mr. Lines has held the office of school director for seven years. He is a member of Waterton Grange, and a straightforward, honorable man, whose neighbors speak in high terms of his honesty and integrity.

THE McHENRY FAMILY deserves a prominent place in the history of this part of Columbia County, of which they were truly the pioneers. The ancestors were of Scotch-Irish extraction and the first to settle here were Daniel and Mary. They possessed the characteristics of honesty, industry and thrift, which distinguished that people. They built their cabin on the site now occupied by their grandson, Daniel, and here took up a large tract of land which is yet in the possession of their descendants. Here they both died. Daniel is buried at St. Gabriel's Church in Sugarloaf, and Mary in the cemetery at Stillwater, which was just opened a short time before her death. Their children were Benjamin, a farmer and lumberman, who died of yellow fever while down the Susquehanna on a raft; Daniel, who resided all his life on a tract across the creek from Stillwater and was a strict religious man of retiring disposition; John was also a farmer and was known in this region as "the old hunter." (He was never known to fail when he started after a deer and record shows that he killed about 2,000 in his lifetime.) Uriah, the next son, a farmer and shoemaker, was an intelligent and well-read man. Moses was born in 1791 and died in 1855; was a farmer, a man of marked religious characteristics, and really the founder of the Christian Church in Stillwater, where he was the first person baptized by immersion; Elias was a farmer, being all his life occupied on the place where he was born; was also a colonel in the old State militia and a stirring

active man. All of the family were men of influence, who have transmitted to their descendants the characteristics inherited from their ancestors. Below will be found a record of the prominent members of the family now living in this township.

**DANIEL McHENRY**, farmer and lumberman, P. O. Stillwater, is now the representative head of the family. He is a son of Moses, whose wife was Martha, a daughter of James Edgar. They had eleven children, viz.: Cynthia, wife of Samuel McHenry of Benton Township; Isabella, deceased wife of Tunis Karns; Elias, living in Benton; Mary, widow of Samuel Ammerman, of Benton; James, living in Cambria, Luzerne County; John J., in Benton; Ellen, wife of John Evans of Madisonville, Luzerne County; Martha, widow of Hiram B. McHenry of this township; Cyrus B. (see sketch); Silas, who died in June, 1886, and Daniel. Our subject was born May 15, 1827, and when in his twentieth year, in company with his brother, James, opened the first store in Stillwater. At the end of five years he bought his brother's interest and conducted the store alone for fifteen years. During that time he bought a part of the farm of his uncle Elias, and some land adjoining from William Ikeler. Later he bought ninety acres more of his uncle's land and other additions give him a farm of over 200 acres besides 140 acres of woodland. He has been an active man, in addition to farming, engaging extensively in lumbering, and operating mills for more than twenty years. In partnership with his son, Orvis Dell, he is still engaged in that business. In 1854 he was appointed postmaster under President Pierce, and has since held that position. September 30, 1867, he was appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, Hugh McCulloch, assistant assessor for Division No. 5, of the Thirteenth Internal Revenue Collection District, and held that position until the district was consolidated. In 1862 he was elected county treasurer and served three years and has also held many minor positions. In 1876 he built a fine residence on the site of the original cabin, and in digging for foundations, found the remains of the old house, besides several relics of the past. November 17, 1859, Mr. McHenry married Mary A., daughter of James Deimer McHenry, and two children blessed their union: Orvis Dell, born November 17, 1861, is a graduate of Lafayette College, Easton, and his father's partner in business; is a young man of excellent repute; and May, born March 17, 1867, a graduate of the Moravian Seminary at Bethlehem. Mr. and Mrs. McHenry are members of the Christian Church. A man of mark in the community, thorough-going in business, he exercises a wide influence, and has the respect of all.

**CYRUS B. McHENRY**, farmer, P. O. Stillwater, is a brother of the above, and was born November 3, 1830, on the homestead, where he remained until his marriage. He then moved to the place where he now resides, which was a part of the original tract and on which he built a large and well constructed house, arranged with every convenience. In 1880 he built a barn which is a model of its kind and is probably the best in the valley, and is built in the most thorough manner. He has also added to his farm by buying the remaining twenty-seven acres belonging to his uncle, Elias, now all owned by himself and Daniel. He has also been engaged in lumbering and has been successful in both occupations. December 28, 1852, he married Priscilla, daughter of John Cowenhoven of Orangeville; she was born February 23, 1830, and to their union have been born the following named children: Oliver, born March 20, 1854, died August 4, 1873; Lilly B., born February 18, 1859, wife of H. B. Low of Orangeville, and William L., born February 18, 1864, is married and resides with his parents. Mr. McHenry takes much interest in politics, but rarely holds any except honorary positions. He is a man of unexceptionable manners and habits, and a leading member of the Christian Church, of which he has been an elder for twenty-five years.

**STOTT E. McHENRY**, farmer, Stillwater, is a grandson of Benjamin McHenry, who died of yellow fever, and of whom mention is made in the sketch of the McHenry family. His wife was named Elizabeth and they had six children, viz.: Daniel; James Deimer, now deceased; Martha, widow of Peter Golder of Columbia County; Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Davis of Greenwood Township; Maria, deceased wife of Isaac Kline; Sarah Ann was twice married, first to Mr. Wintersteen, after his death to Mr. Lyons, and died in Greenwood. James Deimer was the father of Stott E., and was born on the farm which is now owned by his son, November 30, 1803, and died July 19, 1883. His wife was Rachel, daughter of Alex. Culey. She was born May 19, 1811, and died May 9, 1885. Their children were Alexander, living in Benton, who married Elizabeth Buckalew, now deceased; Hiram married Martha McHenry and died suddenly; Mary Ann, wife of Daniel McHenry (see above); Elizabeth, wife of Moses McHenry (also noticed above); Benjamin Franklin married Maria Hays of Indiana, and is a professor in Merom College; Rebecca Margaret married Smith Kimbal and died in Williamsport; Emma, wife of John V. McHenry, of Stillwater; Almira, wife of Silas McHenry; Sarah Ellen, wife of William E. Edgar, of this township; Cecelia Alice, wife of T. Hardy Edgar, also of this township, and Stott E. Our subject is the third child and was born January 23, 1831, and has always resided at the place of his birth. Until his marriage he lived with his father and, on the latter's death, inherited the old homestead, where he now resides. November 26, 1868, he married Annie, daughter of Rev. E. B. and Lucinda Wilson, both of whom are now deceased. He was a minister of the Reformed Church of the Orangeville charge. Mrs. McHenry was born



August 12, 1848, in Washingtonville, Montour County. They have had six children, as follows: Miriam Rosalie, born June 18, 1871; Percy Marion, born November 23, 1875; Daisy Tessora, born September 26, 1881; Carroll Leon, born November 23, 1883, all living; Darcy Stuart, born January 16, 1877, died July 12, 1880; Arthur Wilson, born October 7, 1886. Mr. McHenry is a good farmer and a man of independent and straightforward character, commanding the respect of his neighbors. With a fine family growing up around him he is happy in his circumstances and looks carefully after their interests. Mrs. McHenry and children are members of the Reformed Church.

JOSEPH F. McHENRY, merchant, Stillwater, is a son of Daniel and Mary (Coleman) McHenry. His father was the second son of the founder of the family, and was born March 27, 1783, and died on the seventy-ninth anniversary of his birth. His wife was born in 1792 and died October 12, 1865. They had eleven children, as follows: Benjamin, in Benton Township; William, in Dushore; Moses, in Beaver Township; Uriah P., in Millville; Elizabeth was the wife of Geo. Laubach, and both are now deceased; Sarah married James Edgar, and both are now deceased; Mary, widow of Elisha Albatson, and resides in Greenwood Township; Adeline, wife of Thomas Pealer and resides in Renovo, Clinton County; Martha, wife of Jacob C. Carey, and lives in Cambria; Charlotte, wife of Geo. Laubach, of Orangeville, and Joseph F. Our subject is the youngest son and was born March 28, 1831, on the farm of his father, across the creek from Stillwater, on the place now owned by J. S. Woods. He worked on the farm until he was eighteen years of age, when he began learning the trade of a carpenter and served an apprenticeship of three years. May 4, 1869, he opened a store on the opposite side of the street to where he now keeps and there remained about six years. He then built the new store which he has since occupied. During that time he built several houses in the village of Stillwater. He also dealt largely in lumber in addition to his merchandising. He, for many years, when timber was plentiful, operated a mill, but now has his lumber sawed for him. November 7, 1853, he married Miss Ahnira Stucker, and three children blessed their union: Ella C., born April 2, 1856, now the wife of Oscar D. Hagenbuch, residing in one of her father's houses in Stillwater; Laura Delphine, who died when about eighteen months old, and Eva D., born December 12, 1868, resides with her parents. She has been attending the young ladies' seminary at Millville and also at Orangeville. Mr. McHenry has held several township offices and is now its treasurer. He owns several pieces of land and lots in Stillwater Village, but his time is mainly taken up with his store and lumber business. He built for himself a fine residence opposite his store and is very comfortably situated. He and Mrs. McHenry and all his family are members of the Christian Church, and he is looked on by his fellow men as a good citizen.

MOSES McHENRY, merchant, Stillwater, is a grandson of John, the "old hunter," and Helena Cutter, his wife, who had ten children, viz.: Jennie, who married Joseph Lemmons and after his death Amos Ellis; Elizabeth, wife of Lorenzo Mendenhall; Samuel, father of Moses; Stephen and Ephraim, all now deceased; the living are Matthew, in Jackson Township; John, Rhohr and Maria (widow of Thomas Hess). All live in Benton, and Sally (widow of Thomas Young) resides in Jackson Township. Samuel C., the father of Moses, was born in Benton in 1808, and on his marriage removed to Jackson; thence to Benton in 1842, to a farm which he received from his father, cutting down the woods to make room for his house. This farm he cleared and lived on until his death, January 19, 1880. He was an industrious man and also inherited his father's love for hunting. Notwithstanding that he paid a large sum of bail money for others, he accumulated a good property, leaving three farms paid for at his death. He was a plain man, a captain in the militia service and a member of the Christian Church. For a number of years after returning to Benton he kept a hotel, called the "Hunter's Home," which he gave up later in life. He married, in 1828, Miss Cynthia McHenry, who resides on the homestead in Benton. They had seven children: Eli, married Sarah Young, of Benton; John V., married first to Martha Stocker, and after her death to Emily McHenry; James M., now married to Catherine Hess, in Benton; Benjamin Franklin, who died when a child; Martha, also died young; Sarah is the wife of Theo. Lewis and resides in Benton, and Moses (subject), who is the second son and was born October 7, 1832, in Jackson Township. In 1854 he went to Stillwater and clerked for his uncle, Daniel, who then kept a store and a hotel in that place. After working for him for five years he became his partner in both hotel and store, which relationship continued some three years. They then dissolved, and until February, 1865, our subject worked for his uncle, when a partnership was again formed, which lasted until 1876, when he bought the real estate and divided the goods, gradually closing out. He remained out of business until 1878, when he built the store in which he has carried on the business since in partnership with his brother. June 14, 1866, he married Elizabeth McHenry, a distant cousin. They have two children: James Gaylor, now in his nineteenth year, who assists his father in the store, and Bertha Leah, now in her tenth year. In February, 1886, Mr. McHenry was for the third consecutive time elected justice of the peace, and has been acting postmaster for his uncle Daniel almost ever since he came to Stillwater. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and he has the reputation of being a careful and upright business man.



WILLIAM MEARS, retired, Fishingcreek, is a grandson of John Mears, who emigrated from England early in the last century, and during the Revolutionary war was a captain in the patriot army. After the war he located in Catawissa, and being a physician, engaged in the practice of his profession. He was among the first settlers of that part of the county, and died in 1818. His wife was a member of the Society of Friends. They had three sons and one daughter, all now deceased. The youngest son was Jesse, the father of our subject, and was born in Catawissa about the time of the Revolution and died about 1837. During the war of 1812 he was a soldier in the American Army. He was a cabinet-maker, but a few years before his death he gave up that trade and devoted himself to teaching school, being a well educated man. His wife, Leah Benn, was born in New Jersey and died in 1827, the mother of four children, all of whom attained maturity: Lydia, widow of Elijah Howe, died at Harrisburg; John, died at Milton; Maajerum, who was in the Mexican war and died in that country, and William, who is the sole survivor of the family. Our subject was born October 16, 1812, and when he was fifteen years old his mother died. He worked by the month until he was seventeen, when he learned the trade of a wagon-maker at Catawissa with Joseph Hayhurst, remaining there until he was twenty-one. He then started afoot to Ohio, working on the way, stopping at Little Sandusky; thence to Lower Sandusky, and thence to Perysburg, on the Maumee River. He returned as far as Cleveland, and thence to Euclid, where he obtained work; thence to Franklin, Penn., where he remained a week, and thence back to Catawissa. He was then employed on the Shamokin Railroad as overseer, but was taken sick and obliged to return home. Later he worked six months at Foundryville, and then with the engineer corps on the Catawissa Railroad for nearly three years, saving from his meager salary \$450, which he put out at interest, and which gave him a start in the world. Coming to Orangeville, he went into partnership with his brother in the harness-making business for three years, and then carried on that business alone for nineteen years, saving \$6,500. While thus engaged he also operated a tannery for seven years, using his own leather in harness. He then bought a farm of 220 acres, which he now owns, near Jonestown, and on which he resided nineteen years, engaged in farming and lumbering, having a saw-mill on his property. Later he bought another farm, on Chillisquaque creek, which he owned twelve years, selling it for \$6,558, and subsequently bought from John Merrill a half-interest in the grist-mill at Jonestown; later bought a quarter-interest and thus owned three-quarters until 1877, when he sold one-fourth. In 1882 he disposed of the rest and has since been retired. In the latter year he bought another farm, of eighty acres, which he still owns, together with the fine property in the village of Jonestown, where he resides. In 1838 he married Anna Matilda Kelchner, who died in 1857, leaving four children: Lydia, wife of Peter J. Weaver, of this township; Mary, wife of John Merrill, of Kansas; Leonora, wife of Jesse Runyan, of this township, and Camden, who resides in Bloomsburg. In 1858 Mr. Mears married Mrs. Mary Abbott, widow of William Abbott, and who was a daughter of Jacob Noggle, of Centre Township. She was born October 4, 1822, and by her first husband had six children, three of whom are now living: Margaret, wife of Wesley Eveland, of Jonestown; Jesse, married to Norah Mears, and Tilman Runyan, married to Ida Kingsbury, in this township. By his second marriage Mr. Mears had six children, three of whom are living: Matilda, wife of Jonathan Dodson, in Mansfield, Ohio; William, at home, and Valerie, wife of Losson McHenry, living on her father's farm. May 13, 1878, Mr. Mears started on a trip west, visiting points in Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska; also crossed over to Canada and visited Niagara Falls. Mr. Mears has never had a lawsuit or been on the stand as a witness, and has never held any office, except that of overseer of the poor. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Jonestown, of which he is one of the chief supporters, and in which he has served as elder, trustee and steward. Politically he is a Republican.

CHARLES H. MOORE, merchant, Van Camp, is a son of N. Patterson Moore, of Buckhorn, Hemlock Township, under whose name appears a history of the ancestor of the family. Charles H. was born February 15, 1861, in Benton Township. He remained at home until he was twenty years of age, working at wagon-making in summer and teaching school in winter. He then moved to Shickshinny, where he was principal of the schools of the borough, which position he held for a year. He then sold books for one summer, and the following fall went to Catawissa, where he taught one year. He then gave up the profession on account of failing health, and moving to Van Camp engaged in mercantile business in the store of George M. Howell. August 16, 1883, he married Miss Deborah, daughter of Geo. M. Howell, and two children have blessed their union: George Howell, born November 5, 1884, and Paul Willet, born November 23, 1886. Mr. Moore and wife are members of St. James Reformed Church at Van Camp. Mr. Moore is assistant superintendent of the Sabbath-school and also teacher of the Bible class; is treasurer of the school and leader of the church choir. He is a young man of correct habits and good character, and has the respect and esteem of all who know him. He is a graduate of the Sixth District Normal School, a member of the class of 1879.

SAMUEL J. PEALER, surveyor and engineer, P. O. Forks, is of German and English descent. His grandfather, Paul Pealer, lived in Berks County; was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, in the Continental army, and after the close of that struggle returned to Berks County, where he died. His son, Samuel, father of our subject, was born at Reading in 1787, and died in Iowa in 1854. He was a millwright, and in early life settled in this county, where he bought a large tract of land near Jonestown, on which he erected a mill. He also engaged in farming, but some years before his death gave his farm to his eldest son. He then bought a small place in this township on which his wife died, and while visiting his daughter in Iowa, he himself died. In politics he was first a Democrat, then a follower of Henry Clay, and later a Republican. To him and his wife, *nee* Mary Sheidly, of Luzerne County, Penn., were born the following named children: Paul, deceased (four of his sons entered the army in the war of the Rebellion; Isaac K., who enlisted in 1861 in the First New York Dragoons, was shot in the forehead at the battle of Cold Harbor, and died instantly; S. L., who also enlisted in 1861 in the First New York Dragoons, was shot dead through the temple at the engagement at Winchester; Frank A. enlisted in Company F, Two Hundred and Ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was shot through the thigh at Bermuda Hundred; S. F. was orderly sergeant of Company A, One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry); Peter, in this township (his son Oscar enlisted in the war of the rebellion in Company F, Two Hundred and Ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, was taken prisoner at Bermuda Hundred, and was starved to death in Salisbury prison, N. C.); David, in Wyoming, Iowa (was mustered into the United States service July 22, 1861, by Maj. Wood, United States Army, at Lafayette, Ind., in Company E, Twentieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the following engagements: Flood, Hatteras Inlet, November 2, 1861; fight between Monitor and Merrimac March 8 and 9, 1862; seven days' battles before Richmond; battle near Fair Oaks June 19, 1862; battle of Orchards June 25, 1862; Glendale June 30, 1862; Malvern Hill July 1, 1862; second battle of Bull Run August 29 and 30, 1862; Chantilly September 1, 1862; Fredericksburg December 11, 12, 13, 1862; Cedars May 1, 2, 1863; Gettysburg July 2, 3 and 4, 1863; Manassas Gap July 23, 1863, from which date he continued with the Army of the Potomac, same regiment, sharing in its arduous duties to the close of the war, having received during the time three light wounds. He participated in the battles of Petersburg, etc., up to the surrender of Lee's army, and was mustered out at Arlington Heights in June, 1865); Levi, in this township; George died young; Mary, widow of Jacob Bender, in Iowa; Catherine, wife of Robert McCalmont, in Iowa; Barbara, died in that State; Elizabeth, widow of Johu Beishline, in this township; Savilla, died unmarried; Margaret, deceased wife of Peter Evelard of this township, and Samuel J. The subject of this sketch was born January 18, 1833, and remained with his parents until his father's death, when he moved to Asbury and lived with his sister Margaret. He was educated at the common schools and at New Columbus and Lancaster, and at the age of sixteen became a teacher. Two years later he took up field work under the late William Buckalew, and was three years on government work in Minnesota. In July, 1863, he was commissioned second lieutenant of Capt. R. F. Clark's company of emergency men when the State was invaded. In 1864 he also did considerable special duty by and under orders of Maj.-Gens. Cadwallader and Couch, also by and under orders of Gen. Charles Albright. He enlisted in Company E, Two Hundred and Ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and shortly after was detailed as a recruiting officer, and served in the judge advocate's office with the rank of second lieutenant. He recruited three companies and was made captain of one, Company A, Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, which he joined at Spring Run, Va. He was later elected major, receiving twenty-four votes out of a possible twenty-seven. At the close of the war he returned to Asbury, taught school and engaged in surveying and civil engineering. He is now in the employ of the Pennsylvania Coal Company, and has done the chief work and mine engineering for the Salem Coal Company. January 18, 1862, he married Samantha C., daughter of Cornelius Coleman of Asbury, who was born March 19, 1838. They have eight children: Alice M., wife of Ezra A. Chapman, in Huntington Township, Luzerne County; Lizzie C., wife of George Vanliew; Stuart died at the age of two years; Woodin W.; Ella Eva; Robert Samuel; Charles Revere and Blanche Florence. Mr. Pealer takes a warm interest in politics and votes the Republican ticket. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Mountain Lodge, No. 164, Orangeville. He and Mrs. Pealer are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Asbury, and he is recording steward of the Orangeville church. For eight years he was superintendent of the Sabbath-school, which position he resigned, but is now assistant superintendent and teacher.

RUSSEL R. PEALER, circuit judge, Three Rivers, Mich., was born January 1, 1842, in Greenwood Township, Columbia County, a son of George and Rebecca (Hampton) Pealer (former now residing at Asbury, Columbia Co., Penn.; the latter deceased); was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools, the New Columbus Normal School and Orangeville Academy. He first left home to attend school in February, 1859, taking his provisions, bed and furniture on a sled to New Columbus, where he rented a room and boarded himself all through the school course, except when in good weather he would



walk to and from home a distance of about five miles, which he many times did, studying as he wended his way. He taught school at intervals in order to obtain money whereby to defray his expenses: the Asbury school two winters, and the Light Street High School in the summer of 1861; then returned to school at Orangeville, which he left the following fall to enter the army. While at his studies as a boy our subject was a close, hard-working scholar, conscientious and unceasing in his application to his books, and these characteristics he carried with him into early manhood, the traits of which he owes to a precious mother and a kind father. Judge Pealer enlisted during the war of the Rebellion on September 9, 1862, in Company E, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and during a period of three years was promoted from time to time to rank of non-commissioned officer of his company, and on September 21, 1864, an order, of which the following is a copy, was made:

*Special Order No. 61.*

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY, }  
September 21, 1864. }

II. Second Sergt. Russel R. Pealer, Company E, for meritorious conduct as a soldier and as acting sergeant-major, is promoted to sergeant-major Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and will be obeyed and respected as such. To date from September 1, 1864.

By command of

J. K. ROBISON,  
*Lieut.-Col. Sixteenth Penn. Cavalry,*  
*Commanding regiment.*

SAMUEL E. CORMANY,  
*Lieutenant and Acting Adjutant.*

After this he served as adjutant, and did considerable staff duty. November 30, 1864, he was commissioned second lieutenant of his company, and April 1, 1865, was promoted to first lieutenant, afterward commanding a company most of the time. July 24, 1865, he was assigned by a special order to the command of Companies E and I, which command he held until mustered out. The judge was in over thirty cavalry engagements, and was twice wounded in action while in command of a battalion at the battle of Hatcher's Run, Va., February 6, 1865. He was present at the battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Cold Harbor, and many of the engagements about Petersburg; was discharged with the regiment at Richmond, August 11, 1865; returned home and commenced reading law, September 3, 1865, with Robert F. Clark, then the leading lawyer of the county, and was admitted to the bar September 3, 1867. Judge Pealer soon after moved to Three Rivers, Mich., and there located November 12, 1867, and has since been engaged in the practice of his profession. He has held various municipal and local offices; twice circuit court commissioner; twice prosecuting attorney. In April, 1881, he was elected circuit judge of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Michigan for a term of six years, and is now on the bench. He is president of the First National Bank of Three Rivers. His parents being members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Judge early in life became a member of the same denomination. In politics he is a staunch Republican. The boy, student, teacher, soldier, attorney and judge has accumulated handsome and valuable properties in the town where he resides, together with excellent farms adjoining. The judge enjoys good health, although he suffers severely at times from a wound received in the leg while in action. He also has a distinct and vivid recollection of the real existence of the noted Fishingcreek confederacy, and says that his generous and able law preceptor, Robert F. Clark, took a very active part in summoning and hastening the "boys in blue" to the banks of the beautiful and famous trout stream, to suppress it (the Confederacy).

GEORGE H. PENNINGTON, blacksmith, Fishingcreek Township, P. O. Van Camp, was born June 30, 1854, and is great-grandson of Jesse Pennington, who was a native of New Jersey and later a resident of Sullivan County, Penn., where he died about twenty-six years ago. His wife, Rebecca, died about ten years since. Their sons were Jonathan, Jesse, Edmund, John, all of whom are living except Edmund. Jonathan is the grandfather of our subject, and was born in Sullivan County on the banks of Fishingcreek, on the farm which his father had cleared. He married, when about twenty-one years of age, and bought a farm at Fairmount, Luzerne County, which he cleared and where his family were reared. There he has since resided and is now eighty-four years old. His wife, Phæbe Tubbs, died in 1881, aged seventy-eight. They had five sons and three daughters: Nathan T., Jesse, James, John, Alexander R., Sallie, Mary and Lola. Nathan T. was the father of our subject and followed blacksmithing until 1864. He then enlisted in the Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry and was wounded at Five Forks, Va., after the surrender of Gen. Lee, and died at Carna Hospital, Washington, three weeks later. He was a partner in the store at Van Camp until his death. His body was interred at St. James' Reformed Church Cemetery at Van Camp. In 1849 he married Mary, daughter of Samuel Yost, and seven children blessed their union; Wilber C. and William R. (twins), both residing in this township; Samuel Yost, in Catawissa; Ellen, Jesse, and one who



died in infancy. George H. is the third son and lived with his mother until he was seventeen years of age, when he began to learn the blacksmith's trade with Wilson Myers, in Benton Township, serving an apprenticeship of four years. He has since worked at the trade in different places, but is now located at Bendertown, this township. May 1, 1877, he married Catherine M., daughter of J. D. McHenry, Jr. She was born October 17, 1856, in Benton, and has borne her husband two children: Mary D., born June 14, 1878, and Marvin Alfred, born March 19, 1883.

WILLIAM S. PENNYPACKER, miller, Fishingcreek, is a son of John B. Penny-packer, a farmer in East Coventry, Chester Co., Penn. The latter was reared in Montgomery County, and learned the trade of a blacksmith in Chester County, working at it until he was of middle age, when he gave it up and began farming a place he had bought in that county. A few years ago he sold his farm and retired to a small place which he owns, in East Coventry Township, Chester County. He was born March 31, 1821, and is an active and vigorous citizen. His wife, Mary A. Stetler, was born in Montgomery County, and is yet living. They have four children: Sylvester S., in Philadelphia, engaged in the milk business; John S., in a needle factory, in East Coventry; Sallie S., with her parents, and our subject. William S. Pennypacker was born August 6, 1850, and when twelve years old engaged as a clerk in a store at Earlville, remaining two years; thence moved to Pottstown, where he worked in a grocery a year. He then worked at the confectionery and bakery business for two years, going thence to learn the trade of milling, which he followed in various places for a couple of years. In 1875 he came to Jonestown, and worked in the grist-mill for five years, and then operated the mill on shares for a couple of years. He then went to Philadelphia to assist his brother in the milk business, but returned a year later, and again assumed control of the mill, and is now operating it for Messrs. Jones. November 23, 1876, he married Miss Mary A., daughter of Joseph Kline, of this township. She was born December 24, 1856, and has borne her husband five children: Sallie Blanche, born February 28, 1878; Laney Maud, February 26, 1880; John K., August 27, 1881; Charles Ray, April 5, 1882, and Mary Alverson, December 29, 1884. Mr. Pennypacker takes no active part in political matters, but is deeply interested in the Republican party.

HERMAN A. SEVISON, practical horseshoer, coachsmith and wagon-smith, Stillwater, is descended from a Holland ancestor, who came to America prior to the Revolution. One of his sons was the grandfather of our subject, and first lived in New Jersey; later came to this State, settling in Snyder County, where his son Michael, father of Herman A., was born. Michael learned the trade of a carpenter, at which he worked until a short time before his death. He was considerable of a traveler, having visited most parts of the United States both before and after his marriage. Seven years of his life were spent in the State of New York. He took contracts to erect buildings, and made considerable money, but his wife being accidentally drowned while he was yet a young man, he went away, and for a long time strove to forget his loss among new scenes. He finally settled in Appanoose County, Iowa, where he remained five years. He returned to Pennsylvania in 1868, and located in Delaware Township, Northumberland County, with his son, Thomas, with whom he remained five years. He then lived with the subject of this sketch until his death in 1875. His wife, Sarah Catherine Ire, was born in Selin's Grove, Snyder County, March 8, 1799, and was accidentally drowned November 16, 1847, in a new and unfinished well that had just been dug on the premises in Delaware Township, Northumberland County. It was supposed she slipped and fell off the planks which had been temporarily laid across the top. Mr. and Mrs. Sevison had twelve children, only two now living: our subject and his sister Lavina, wife of James Hollopeter, a coachsmith, living in Clearfield County, Penn. Six of the family died when quite young, and four when arrived at maturity, as follows: Sarah, who died in Iowa; Sophia, died in Delaware Township, Northumberland County; Thomas, in the same place, and Harrison, in Northumberland County. Herman A. was born August 22, 1841, in Lewis Township, Northumberland County, and his mother dying when he was not quite five years of age, he was taken by Cornelius Rynearson, who reared him. When he was sixteen years of age he went to live with John G. Oakes in Lycoming County for a year; then to Ohio and New York for a year, and in the spring of 1858 began to learn the blacksmith's trade with William Hood, at McEwensville, Northumberland County. There he remained three years. On the breaking out of the war he enlisted (the first volunteer from that place) in Company G, Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers; served three months, and the following year again enlisted for nine months, this time in Company B, One Hundred and Thirty-first Regiment. In 1864 he enlisted, determined to see the close of the war, in the Seventh Veteran Volunteer Cavalry, and has three honorable discharges, of which he may be justly proud. He was a brave soldier, and took part in five of the great battles of the war, besides skirmishes, especially while in the cavalry. After his second return from the service he married, in September, 1863, Miss Lucretia Van Dine, who died in 1879, the mother of four children, all living at the present time. viz.: Sarah C., wife of Mr. Kahler, of Bloomsburg; William A., who has learned his father's trade and works in his shops in Stillwater; Margaret L., who lives in Bloomsburg, and Elizabeth C., living near Millville,

Greenwood Township. August 3, 1882, Mr. Sevison married, as his second wife, Miss Emma, daughter of John Mull, who has borne him one child, John F. On his return from the war, Mr. Sevison was sought out by his old employer, William Hood, and given charge of the shop in which he had learned his trade, and there remained a year and a half; thence to Limestoneville, Montour County, where he was in business two years. After several changes he settled in Greenwood Township, and remained there eleven years; thence to Catawissa three years, and in December, 1885, came to Stillwater, where he bought a fine residence, and is doing a good business. Mr. Sevison has no time to give to politics, but his record as a soldier shows that he was not backward when his country needed his services.

BARTLEY E. SHANNON, miller, P. O. Stillwater, is a son of Richard Shannon, whose grandfather came from Ireland and settled on the west branch of the Susquehanna, where some of his descendants still reside. Richard Shannon was born in July, 1812, at White Deer, Union County, and is now seventy-five years of age, and has almost all his life been engaged in farming. He is now employed in the car shops of Jackson & Woodin, at Berwick, and is an active and hearty man. He married, in 1834, Miss Mary, daughter of Abraham Lewis, of Union County. She was born in 1818, and is yet living. Eight children were born to her and her husband, two of whom died in infancy. The living are William, married to Emma Boone, and living on Black creek, Conyngham Township; Isaiah, unmarried, in Berwick; Samuel, married to Sarah Hoofnagle, and died in Berwick; Wesley, married first Annie Linden, and, after her death, Alice Stevens, in Berwick; John, who resides in Berwick, and our subject, Bartley E., is the fourth son, and was born October 20, 1850, in Bloomsburg, where his parents then resided. In infancy he was brought to Centre Township, where his youth was passed. When quite young he began to farm and attended school in winter until he was sixteen years of age. He then began to learn the trade of a miller at Fullner's mill, in that township, where he remained ten years. Thence he went to Millin, where he had charge of the Yohe mill for two years; thence to Beach Haven, where he conducted a mill for D. G. Driesbach for four years; thence to Jonestown mill for a year, and in 1886 came to Stillwater to take charge of the mill at this place. June 12, 1873, he married Elvira, daughter of Samuel Zimmerman, of Orangeville, this county, who was born September 12, 1849, and had always lived with her parents until her marriage. They had six children, one of whom died in infancy. The living are Bruce E., Clark W., C. A., Howard L. and Mattie. Mr. Shannon is a young man of excellent reputation, and since he has lived in Stillwater has won the good will and respect of its people. He and wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Stillwater.

JACOB F. SHOEMAKER, farmer, P. O. Orangeville, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, February 17, 1821, and came to this country with his parents when he was thirteen years of age. They located first in New Brunswick, N. J., where his mother died eighteen days after arriving in this country. His father then moved to Easton, and six months later went to Hamilton, and later to Huntington Township, Luzerne County, at which time Jacob F. was fifteen years old. The latter worked on farms and also on the canal for nearly seven summers. In 1848 he bought a team and farmed on shares the farm of Bernard Tubbs, Town Hill, Luzerne County, and the next year farmed James Tubbs' place. He then rented the farm of Eliphalet Edson, on the other side of Town Hill, where he remained five years; then came to the farm of Samuel Creveling, in this township, near Van Camp. After residing there two years, he bought, in the spring of 1857, the farm in the southwest part of this township, which has since been his home. December 28, 1848, he married Miss Ellen, daughter of Henry Traxler, of Huntington Township, where Mrs. Shoemaker was born September 7, 1830. Mr. Shoemaker is a quiet man, who attends strictly to his own business. He and Mrs. Shoemaker are prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rohrsburg, of which he is steward and trustee, and has been for many years. For a long time also he was class leader, but increasing years have caused him to relinquish active work in the church, though not to cease his labors in its behalf. He is widely known as one of its most liberal members. He and Mrs. Shoemaker now enjoy the fruits of a well spent life.

ELLIS S. STOKER, farmer, P. O. Stillwater, was born May 17, 1842, in this township. His father, John Stoker, occupied the farm now owned by John Zaner until 1844, when he moved to a farm of 300 acres, which he had purchased across the creek, and which is now occupied by Ellis S. There he died in August, 1853, sixty-three years old. He was a man of great integrity and benevolence, and took deep interest in the Christian Church, of which he was a leading member. His wife, Esther Bright, died February 14, 1880, aged eighty-one years. Their children were as follows: Jacob, who died in this township; Sallie Ann, wife of Elias McHenry, of Benton; Russell, in Iowa; Phebe Ellen, wife of William Hulme, of Benton; Almira, wife of Jos. F. McHenry, of Stillwater; Louisa, wife of Daniel Edgar, of Luzerne County; James F., of Philadelphia; Martha, wife of John V. McHenry (she died in 1862); William M., of this township, and Ellis S., our subject, is the youngest of the family, and was but twelve years of age when his father died. He remained with his mother, working on the farm and in the saw-mill



until his marriage, when he moved to that part of the farm where he now resides, and which he received from the estate. Five or six years ago he erected a fine substantial house and out-buildings, to which he removed, and in August, 1886, bought back the old homestead and the part of the farm which had been sold to John Zaner, thus getting a farm of 170 acres and two sets of buildings. June 21, 1863, he married Miss Hannah A., daughter of Thomas Davis, of Benton Township. She was born May 22, 1838, and has borne her husband three children: Howard Dell, born in April, 1864, and died at the age of three weeks; Lewis A., born May 18, 1865, and Hilbert Stanley, born April 3, 1873, both of whom live with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Stoker are members of the Christian Church.

OLDEN STOKES, tanner, P. O. Forks, is a great-grandson of James Stokes who moved from Bucks County to the Bear Gap, Northumberland County (near the Montour County line), and where he owned all the property on what is now the grist-mill, and there died. His son, Joseph, came to Roaringcreek Township, this county, and was the first teacher and surveyor (making the original surveys) in that part of the county. He and wife, Mrs. Rebecca (Lee) Stokes, settled in that part of Roaringcreek which is now Locust Township. He died in Bucks County forty-five years ago, aged about seventy years. His wife died in Locust Township. He had a numerous family, and his descendants are still to be found in the county. His son, James, the father of Olden, was born in 1791 and died in 1860. He followed carpenter work and cabinet-making during the summer, and taught school in the winter seasons, but in his latter years devoted himself exclusively to teaching. He was a member of the Society of Friends and a leading member in meeting, of which he was for years clerk. His tastes were literary, and he contributed considerably to papers and periodicals, and was also a poet of no mean order. His wife, Deborah, daughter of Mahlon Hoar, was born about the same year as her husband and died in 1861. Their children were Hampton, who died when a young man; James, in Minnesota; John C., who died in Scranton, Penn., in 1885, and Olden, our subject, is the second child, and was born August 3, 1826. He received such an education as the times afforded, and in 1844 began to learn the tanner's trade, at which he worked many years in Catawissa; thence to Berwick, and later to Black Creek, Luzerne County, where he remained four years. He then spent three years in Hollenback Township, same county. He then bought a tannery at Foundryville, in Briarcreek, which he operated fourteen years; then sold out and bought a property at Martzville, near Berwick, where he resided two years, when he exchanged it for the property he owns in this township, on Huntington Creek, where he resumed the tanning business. July 1, 1866, he married Eliza, daughter of Michael Fort, of Lehigh County, where she was born in 1827. They had two children, one of whom died in infancy, and Hannah Janie, born January 7, 1868, who lives with her parents. Mr. Stokes was born and reared among the Society of Friends, but his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

WESLEY W. SUTLIFF, dentist, Runyan, is a grandson of Miles Sutliff, who, with his wife, came from Connecticut and settled in Huntington Township, Luzerne Co., Penn. There they had a farm and also a hotel, which was probably the first in the township, and there both died. They had eleven children: Bernard, Stiles, Daniel, Abel, Wells, Washington, Wesley, Miles, Hannah, Amelia and Roxana; two now survive: Daniel, in Huntington Township, and Hannah, widow of George Souder, in same township. Abel was the father of our subject and was born May 2, 1808, and died in the same township June 28, 1868. His wife, Lydia Brader, was born October 27, 1809, and is now living on the old home in Luzerne County. Abel was a large landholder, owning three farms; he was a member of the Baptist Church, and his wife is also a member. They had fourteen children: Miles M., in Shickshinny; Samuel B., a farmer; Rosanna E., unmarried, with her mother; Roxana, widow of Andrus Zimmerman; John W., a farmer; Amelia M., wife of John W. Kingsbury; Sterling D., a farmer; James M., a farmer, all in Huntington Township; Ross C., died in that township, leaving a wife and son to survive him; Bernard, died in infancy; Cornelia A., wife of John A. Fulkison; Emma T., wife of Bingly Franklin; an infant, who died unnamed, and Wesley W. The last named was the sixth child, born on the home farm September 30, 1838, and lived on the farm until he was twenty-one years old; then worked and earned enough to attend school three years. He graduated in 1863 at Crittenden Commercial College, Philadelphia. While attending the Orangeville Academy he was drafted, and after serving some months was discharged on account of disability. In July, 1863, he served in the emergency corps at Chambersburg. For a year after graduating he worked as clerk and agent, and August 27, 1864, enlisted for three years in Company B, One Hundred and Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, serving until the regiment was discharged. He was then transferred and made corporal to Company B, One Hundred and Eighty-eighth Pennsylvania, and served until December 14, 1865, when he was finally discharged at City Point, Va. Coming home he accepted an agency, at which he worked until 1873, when he began the study of dentistry in the State of New York, and has since followed that profession. In 1874 he built the residence in Asbury, this township, which he has since made his home. His practice covers a large territory, which he visits at regular intervals. When Dr. Sutliff built his



home he determined on making it a model one. This he has succeeded in doing, taking water from a spring fifty rods from his house. He has it conducted in underground pipes to his house and barn, in both of which he has an unfailling supply. In the house, by an ingeniously arranged system of pipes of his own invention, he runs a thirty-inch wheel from a huge tank, containing seventy-five barrels of water, in his cellar, which operates a churn in his buttery above, a gate, which is regulated in an instant, gauging the supply. This wheel also gives the power, by a connection below, to run an ice-cream freezer. When not in use the water can be shut off in a moment. The overflow from the tank runs through a large trough in the cellar, in which is kept butter, cream, etc. From there the waste water is conveyed through pipes into a large fish pond, in which are German and French carp. The apparatus, entirely of his own invention, is simple, practical and a great labor saver. November 9, 1871, Dr. Sutliff married Catherine, daughter of Peter Eveland, of Asbury. She was born December 24, 1838, and has borne her husband two children: Bruce E., born in Huntington Township October 4, 1873, and Myrtie M., born in Asbury, March 16, 1875, died February 20, 1880. The Doctor is a member of the Mountain Lodge, 264, I. O. O. F., of Orangeville, also of the K. of P., of the Grange, and of the Columbia County Agricultural Society. He is a member of the Baptist Church, of which he has been deacon, but Mrs. Sutliff is a member of the Methodist Episcopal denomination.

JOHN WENNER, farmer, P. O. Van Camp, was born in Butler Township, Luzerne County, October 2, 1816. His great-grandfather emigrated from Germany before the Revolution, and acquired quite a property which he sold, receiving payment in continental money, and, of course, lost all. His son, Christian, who was born in Snyder County, Penn., was a soldier in the Revolution, and after that struggle settled on his farm in his native county. Later he moved to Butler Township, Luzerne County, where he died. His family were Jacob, Andrew, Daniel, George, Christian, Leonard, Jonas, Catherine, Regina and Barbara, all of whom are deceased. Jacob was the father of John, and was born in Snyder County in April, 1786; died in September, 1865, aged seventy-nine years and five months. His wife was born in March, 1795, and died in March, 1865, within a few days of her seventieth year. Jacob Wenner was a soldier in the war of 1812, but the war closed before he saw active service. When he was sixteen years old he came to Butler Township, Luzerne County, with his parents. He was always a farmer, working for his father and others until he was twenty-seven years of age. He then married Elizabeth, daughter of Michael Beishline, of Butler Township. After his marriage he bought a farm in that county on which he resided five years. His father-in-law had bought a tract of 300 acres of land in this county and Jacob came here in 1817 and bought 100 acres of that land; later bought 118 acres more. Here he put up a house on the place where his son John now lives, and here he passed the remainder of his life. He was an honest, upright man, a member of the German Reformed Church in Van Camp, of which he had been for years a deacon and elder. His wife was also a member of the same church. They were the parents of the following named children: Jacob; Daniel, who lives in this township; Magdalena, deceased wife of Benjamin Hess; Susanna, deceased wife of Elias Pealer; Elizabeth and Sarah, both died young, and John. Of these John, our subject, is the second son and has passed his entire life within a mile of where he now resides, and has always followed farming. On his marriage he removed to a farm adjoining his father's, which he had purchased and there resided eleven years. He then purchased a farm on the other side of his father's to which he moved and on which he lived nine years. He then bought the home farm, which had been inherited by his brother Daniel, and there has since lived. August 10, 1838, he married Eve Cope, who died April 9, 1856, leaving eight children, one child, Matilda, had died prior. The survivors are Rachel, wife of Charles Kindig; Michael, married to Rosanna Hosler; Elias, married to Susanna Bender; Margaret, widow of Leonard Kline; Jacob, married to Elizabeth Robbins; Susanna, wife of J. Ogden Wilson; Sarah, wife of Wesley Eveland and resides in Huntington Township, Luzerne County, and Melinda, wife of Joseph Deitrich, all residing in this township except Sarah. June 13, 1858, Mr. Wenner married, as his second wife, Sarah, widow of William Kauff and daughter of Jacob Huntsinger, of Sullivan County, and who was born June 22, 1814. No children were born to this union, but Mrs. Wenner has two children by her first husband—Amelia Ann, wife of Simon Myers, residing in Williamsport, and David who married Charlotte Hartman and is a merchant at Bendertown. Mr. Wenner has always led a quiet and peaceable life. He has never identified himself with politics, but has been elected to many township offices. He is treasurer of the Fishing-creek Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of which he was one of the organizers. He and Mrs. Wenner are members of the German Reformed Church, of which for about forty years he was an elder and deacon. In the community in which his life has been passed Mr. Wenner bears the record of an upright and good citizen.

MICHAEL WENNER, farmer, P. O. Van Camp, is the eldest son of John Wenner, and was born September 25, 1841, on the old Wenner homestead where his father still resides. At the age of twenty-three he married and removed to Briarcreek Township where he farmed a year. He then came to this township and settled on the farm of his father ad-

joining the homestead, where he has since lived. This he rented and worked on shares until four years ago when he purchased it. December 22, 1864, he married Rosanna M daughter of D. R. Hosler, of Jonestown, this township, who was born November 2, 1846, and had always lived at home until her marriage. To this union nine children were born: William Wallace, born September 29, 1865, married Amanda, daughter of Levi Beishline, lives in this township and farms his grandfather's farm; Ellis Bruce, born April 21, 1867; Laura Roella, born December 9, 1869; Mary Alice, born June 13, 1871; Torrence Meldon, born October 9, 1873; Clement B., born September 20, 1875; Estella Eudora, born June 13, 1877; Emma Bernetta, born October 25, 1880, and Anna May, born January 17, 1884. Mr. Wenner has always followed agricultural pursuits, except one summer that he engaged at carpentering. He has never taken a very active part in politics, but has held several township offices. He and Mrs. Wenner are members of the German Reformed Church at Van Camp, in which he was a deacon for ten years; and also taught in the Sunday-school several years.

ELIAS WENNER, farmer, P. O. Van Camp, is a son of John Wenner and was born June 15, 1843, on his father's farm in this township. At the age of eighteen he went to Light Street, and later to Berwick, where he learned the trade of a blacksmith. On completing his apprenticeship he opened a shop in Bendertown, which he conducted eight years. He then abandoned the trade and removed to the farm about a mile west of Bendertown. This property he had previously purchased from Henry Schaeffer, and there has since resided, and where, in 1879, he built an elegant and commodious residence. January 1, 1867, he married Miss Susanna, daughter of Aaron Bender of this township. Mrs. Wenner was born April 30, 1844, within half a mile of where she now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Wenner have had six children: Forrester C., born October 26, 1867, died January 17, 1869; Herbie B., born January 16, 1869; Martha A., born July 18, 1871; John W., born October 14, 1874; Frank E., born March 12, 1877, and William Clarence, born May 15, 1881; all at home with their parents. Mr. Wenner is a reliable and upright gentleman and with his wife a member of the St. James Reformed Church at Van Camp.

BENJAMIN B. YOUNG, farmer, P. O. Van Camp, is a son of Jacob and Christian (Pegg) Young, who resided in Jackson Township, this county, where his grandparents also resided. Jacob was a farmer and lived to an advanced age, dying in 1884 in his ninetyeth year. He was a blacksmith and was three times married, the mother of Benjamin B. being his second wife. She had ten children, Sarah Ann, Jane, Daniel, Benjamin B., Jesse, William, Ellis, Mary, Samantha and Uzilla. All are now living except Jesse, who died in Iowa. Sarah Ann is the wife of Abraham Trevelpeace of Greenwood Township; Jane is the wife of Washington Eikher living near Cambria, Luzerne County; Daniel lives in Jackson Township; William resides in Berwick; Ellis in Greenwood Township; Mary is the widow of Philip Kanouse of Benton; Samantha is married to Samuel McKinney and resides in Espy; Uzilla is the wife of John Hess of Jackson Township. Benjamin B. is the second son and was born in Jackson Township, March 20, 1828, and reared to farming. He lived with Dr. G. W. Lott of Orangeville from the time he was seven years old until he was nineteen; then worked for twelve years for Andrus Fellows in Huntington Township, Luzerne County, and in 1868 bought the farm where he now resides. He married in 1860, Mrs. Huldah McCreaner, and Albert E. was their only child, and was born April 3, 1861, and died April 8, 1875, aged fourteen years and five days. Mrs. Young was the daughter of Andrus Fellows, one of the prominent men of Luzerne County and the first white child born in Huntington Township, of which his father was one of the early settlers. Mr. Fellows was a kind, charitable and thrifty farmer and left a name honored by his descendants. He accumulated a good property which he left to his children. Miss Fellows married first Thomas Bowman October 10, 1833, who died December 7, 1836. They had two children: Alfred B., who died in November, 1883 (his widow lives in Nevada, Mo.); the other child was Rosa, who is the wife of Myron W. Britton of Cambria, Luzerne County. May 9, 1857, Mrs. Bowman married Henry McCreaner of Mauch Chunk, who died January 1, 1859. He was a soldier in the Mexican war and died from the effects of a disease contracted in the army. He left no heirs. In 1878 Mr. and Mrs. Young erected the commodious and comfortable residence in which they live. It stands near the site of the house in which Samuel C. Creveling lived. Their farm was a part of that original tract and is 110 acres in extent. Mr. and Mrs. Young are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are highly respected by those who know them. Mr. Young has never aspired to political notoriety and has never held office.

DAVID YOST, farmer and justice of the peace, Van Camp, is of German extraction, his great-grandfather having emigrated from Germany and settled in Chester County, Penn., where his great-grandfather, John Yost, was born. The latter removed to Pottstown, Montgomery County, where he died. He was twice married: first to Mollie Krause, by whom he had the following named children: Henry, Philip, Samuel, Elizabeth and Mary. His second wife was a Miss Seivel, who bore him five children: John; Jacob S., a congressman, and State marshal under President Buchanan; Catherine, Rachel and Sarah, all now deceased. The grandfather of our subject was Henry. He was born in Chester County; went with his parents to Pottstown, and, after his marriage, re-



moved with his wife and child to Roaringcreek, in this county, where he erected a tannery. There he stayed seven years, when he sold his tannery and rented a farm at Catawissa, on which he lived four years, and in 1811 went to Sugar Loaf Township, Luzerne County, where he bought a tract of land, on which he lived until his death in 1862, at the age of eighty-seven years and nine months. His wife died six weeks prior, at the age of eighty-five years. Her maiden name was Margaret Rickert, and she bore her husband seven children, as follows: Susanna, widow of Joseph Minnich, resides in Luzerne County; Elizabeth; John; Solomon, and Henry (deceased); Mary, wife of William Woodworth, of Wilkesbarre, and Samuel, the father of our subject, who lives in this township. He was born June 13, 1805, in Roaringcreek, and when nineteen years of age, served an apprenticeship to the trade of carpenter, at which he worked until 1842. He then bought a farm in this township, and a few years later bought the place where he now resides, and erected the house thereon. Since 1866 he has lived retired. He married, in December, 1826, Esther Winters, who had four children: Margaret Ann, wife of George M. Howell, of Van Camp; Sarah and May (twins), the former the wife of William Lauderbach, and the latter of Nathan Driesbach, both of this township, and David (subject). His first wife dying, Samuel Yost married, in 1871, Henrietta, widow of Solomon Hartman, and by this union there are no children. He has been a prominent man in the public affairs of the township, and has been deacon and elder in the Reformed Church for many years. Our subject was born December 12, 1830, in Conyngham, Luzerne County, and after his marriage removed to a farm belonging to his father in this township, and eleven years later to his father's home farm, where he now resides. July 1, 1854, he married Sarah Catherine, daughter of John Creveling of this township. She was born December 18, 1836, and have had eight children: Alfred Nevin, born August 23, 1855, living in Bloomsburg; Mary Alice, September 17, 1857, wife of Noah W. Hess, of this township; Clarence Wilber, September 5, 1869, living on the farm of his grandfather Creveling; John Creveling, born February 18, 1862, died May 4, 1885; George D., August 14, 1864; Bruce C., June 30, 1867; Dora Esther, February 2, 1870, and Samuel, September 23, 1878; the last four reside with their parents. In September, 1884, Mr. Yost was appointed justice of the peace to fill a vacancy, and the following year was elected for a term of five years. He was the first superintendent of the Sabbath-school connected with the Reformed Church at Van Camp, holding the position twenty-five years, when he resigned. He was deacon about the same time, and is now elder of the church, and in 1887 represents it at the general synod in Akron, Ohio. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but attends the Reformed, of which all her children are members.

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## CHAPTER XXXI.

### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP.

CHRISTIAN L. ARTLEY, farmer, P. O. Pensyl, was born in Catawissa, this county, February 8, 1828, a son of Henry and Peggy (Loreman) Artley, natives respectively of Columbia and Berks Counties, Penn., and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany and settled in Windsor, Bucks Co., Penn., where he resided until his death. His grandfather, Christian Artley, was born in Bucks County and was a millwright, which trade he followed during his early life. He moved from Bucks County to Snyder County and thence to Columbia County, about 1780; settled in what is now Franklin Township, on the present site of Pensyl's mill; owned some 400 acres of land and operated a saw-mill. He died in 1847, and is buried in the Lutheran Cemetery at Catawissa, as is also his wife. Our subject's maternal grandfather, ——— Loreman, was born in Germany, and immigrated to Berks County, Penn., but later moved to Northumberland County, and resided in Shamokin Township, where he followed farming. Henry Artley was reared in Catawissa Township, and learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed most of his life. He died in 1873, his widow, February 12, 1880, and both are buried in Catawissa Cemetery. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, and were born in 1796 and 1806, respectively. Our subject was reared to the carpenter's trade, which he learned under his father. At the age of twenty-two he started out for himself, worked in Schuylkill and Northumberland Counties, erected quite a number of houses and employed twelve men. In 1860 he bought the farm where Ranslow George now resides, consisting of ninety-seven acres (no buildings), for which he paid \$1,200, and after erecting good buildings on the place sold it for \$2,400. In 1862 he bought a lot of thirty-two acres, where he now resides, and erected all the improvements, which are first-



class. He has owned several farms, but sold or traded them off again, and now owns sixty-four acres of good land. He followed his trade until 1874, when he turned his attention mostly to farming. In 1862, while erecting a house, he was drafted, but procured a substitute for which he paid \$600. He was married January 22, 1856, to Harriet, daughter of Samuel and Maria (Marsh) Raup. Mr. and Mrs. Artley are the parents of seven children, five of whom survive: Alfred, David, Ellis, Clara and Alice; the deceased are Sarah and Lizzie. Mr. and Mrs. Artley are members of the Presbyterian and Lutheran Churches, respectively; he is a member of the Fire Insurance Company.

FRANCIS E. ELY, farmer, P. O. Pensyl, was born in Mayberry Township, Montour County, this State, March 2, 1854, a son of James and Lydia E. (Hull) Ely, natives of Pennsylvania and of English descent, former of whom was born in 1821, died in 1855. His parental grandfather was a native of Pennsylvania, his maternal grandfather was a great hunter. James Ely was a farmer in Montour County; owned a tract of land where he resided until his death. His mother is yet living on the old homestead in Montour County. Subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until nineteen years of age, when he was married; he farmed the homestead until 1881, when he bought 162 acres of land where he now resides. He married in December, 1874, Margaret A. Woodruff, a native of Northumberland County, daughter of Isaac and Mary (Reeder) Woodruff, who were the parents of nine children, seven of whom are living: Joseph, Jacob, Hiram, Elias, Sarah, Elizabeth and Margaret A., wife of F. E. Ely. Mr. and Mrs. Ely are the parents of eight children (seven of whom are living): Lou M., Gilbert, Arthur, Elizabeth B., Harry, Mary (deceased), James and an infant son. Mr. and Mrs. Ely are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Ely is the present school director of his township, and served as tax collector one term. He is the Sunday-school superintendent of the Methodist Sunday-school; is one of the enterprising young men of his vicinity; takes a great interest in educational matters; is a Republican in politics. Two of the sons of James and Lydia E. Ely, William and Wesley, participated in the civil war; the former died of consumption, and was brought home from the service by his father. Wesley and Francis E. are the only survivors of the Ely family.

W. G. FISHER, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Rush Township, Northumberland Co., this State, May 6, 1834, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Scheffler) Fisher, natives of Pennsylvania and of German-English descent. His father located near Bear Gap, Columbia County; worked on a farm most of his life and died in Rush Township, Northumberland County, in 1842. Our subject was only eight years of age at the time of his father's death. He remained with his mother about one year, and then lived with his brother Joseph six years on the same place. He then worked four years for Jesse Mench on the same farm on which he was born; later for Jacob Shultz in Mayberry Township, Montour County, with whom he remained three years. He then moved to Danville and remained one year, when he married and settled about two miles from Danville on the Boyd farm east of the mill, and remained three years. In 1859 he bought a farm belonging to his father-in-law near Franklin Township, Columbia County, and lived there six years, when he sold out and moved to Danville, where he dealt in coal. He then resided two years on Boyer's big farm, and in 1867 moved to where he now lives and bought 143 acres of good land. He has made nearly all the improvements on the farm and has one of the best places in the township. He was married December 20, 1855, to Sarah A. Swayze, who has borne him two children: Charles J. and Lizzie C., the former of whom is a graduate of the Bloomsburg Normal School; has taught five years and is now the principal teacher of the Catawissa graded school, having been elected June 21, 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has been school director, supervisor and overseer of the poor.

JONATHAN H. FORTNER, retired farmer, was born in Maine Township, Columbia Co., Penn., March 4, 1813, a son of John and Sarah (Brooke) Fortner, natives of this State and of English descent. His grandfather came to this county from Sussex County, N. J., and located near Mifflin, where he lived until his death. He was a raftsman on the Delaware River. Our subject's great grandmother was a daughter of Lord Archibald Douglas, of Scotland, who had one son and one daughter; the son was drowned and the daughter left Scotland at sixteen years of age. She went out on a pleasure trip and was captured by Algerine pirates and sold on board a vessel to a man named Clark, who took her to Philadelphia. There she became acquainted with Mr. Fortner and they were married, and settled in New Jersey; lived there until their death. Our subject's father was reared to agriculture, which he always followed, and owned 133 acres at the time of his death, January 23, 1848. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until his father's death. The farm was willed to our subject by his mother, and he has been living on it for nearly three-quarters of a century, or seventy-three years. Mr. Fortner is now one of the oldest men living in this township. He owns two farms aggregating 267 acres. He was married May 4, 1848, to Mary A. Campbell, by whom he had two children, Dabney and Alfretha. Mrs. Fortner is a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Fortner is a Methodist.

JAMES HILE, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Rush Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., November 30, 1810, a son of Henry and Mary A. (Johnson) Hile, natives

of Sussex County, N. J. His grandfather, Henry, came from New Jersey and settled in Rush Township, Northumberland County, where he bought a large tract of land, which he cleared and where he remained, engaged in farming. He and a man named Beaty bought 400 acres of land and had to carry the money to make payments all the way to Philadelphia, as there were no mails, railroads or canals. Henry Hile was a farmer and lived in Northumberland County until he became old, when he moved to Clearfield County, Penn., where he bought 500 acres of land, and there lived until his death, which occurred April 8, 1833; his widow died in Missouri February 2, 1872. Our subject was reared on a farm, and when twenty-six years of age married and located near Sunbury, where he remained one year. He then moved to one of his father's farms, where he lived eleven years; thence to Clearfield County and bought 110 acres of land, where he remained until 1866, when he came to where he now resides and bought 222 acres. March 20, 1834, he married Hannah Campbell, who bore him twelve children, eight of whom are living: Minner; Henry; Amos; John; Elizabeth, wife of James C. Bloom, residing in Clearfield County; Mary A., wife of William Teple, in Franklin Township, Columbia County; Joanna, wife of Obadiah Yocum, in Locust Township, Columbia County; and Eliza J., wife of James P. Louis, residing in Wilkesbarre. Mrs. Hile died in 1873. While living in Clearfield County Mr. Hile held a number of township offices. In politics he is neutral.

JOHN C. HILE, farmer, P. O. Pensyl, was born in Clifton County, Penn., October 11, 1847, a son of James and Hannah (Campbell) Hile, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His father, who has always followed farming, resides in this township. Our subject was nineteen years of age when his parents came to this county, and he remained with them until he was twenty-two years of age. He then married and moved to Mayberry Township, Montour Co., Penn., where he remained one year, and in 1867 came to where he now lives. He owns 138 acres of land, well improved. January 28, 1868, he married Mary C., daughter of Valentine and Maria Vought. They are the parents of eleven children: Charles W., Harriet E., Cora J., James V., Bertha M., Jeremiah M., Mary E., Ulam H., Katie V., Rebecca E. and Ambrose S. Mr. Hile is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, his wife of the Lutheran, and the three eldest children of the Methodist Episcopal. He has been a member of the T. of H., but, it being too inconvenient for him to attend the lodge, has given it up. He has held the office of school director and several township offices.

MOSES HOWER, retired farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Mifflin Township, Columbia Co., Penn., March 8, 1820, a son of Daniel and Catherine (Kostenbender) Hower, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His ancestors on both sides came from Germany. His grandfather settled in what is now Franklin Township, on the farm adjoining that of Moses Hower, where he lived until his death. Our subject's father was reared a blacksmith, and settled in Mifflin Township, where he traded for some time, and finally traded for 212 acres of land in this township, moved on it and lived there until his death in 1871. He was the father of five children, three living: Moses, Daniel and Hiram Y. His father served in the Revolutionary war, holding a commission in the service. Our subject was reared on a farm, and remained with his parents until twenty-six years of age, when he married and remained with his parents about two years. In 1850 he moved to where he now lives and bought forty-seven acres of land, but has since added to it until he now has 100 acres. In 1846 he married Elizabeth Stocker. They are the parents of six children (five of whom are living): William E., Mary J., Sarah C., Hannah E., Maria E. (deceased) and Moses S. His wife died about 1858, and he next married Hannah Yetter, who died a few years after marriage. His present wife is Elizabeth Bittner, by whom he has three children: Laura A., Clark B. and Nimon W. Mr. and Mrs. Hower are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Hower has held the offices of school director, overseer of the poor, collector of county taxes, and has resided here nearly half a century. He owns 100 acres in the home tract and a stone quarry, which affords good building stone. He owns altogether over 300 acres and some lots in Riverside, also two lots in Catawissa. Some years ago, he, with three others, bought 3,000 acres of land in Lycoming County, but has since sold it. Mr. Hower has been one of the largest landholders in the county. During the war he followed the butchering business.

SYLVESTER HOWER, carpenter, P. O. Pensyl, was born in Columbia County, Penn., February 6, 1841, a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Hendershot) Hower, former of whom was born in Columbia County, Penn., of German descent. Our subject's grand father settled near Mifflin, Penn., where he followed his trade, that of a blacksmith, carrying on farming also. He moved to this township, where he died in 1866. Our subject's father is a shoemaker, but carries on farming in this township. He was the father of nine children, eight of whom are living: Sylvester; Catherine, wife of Elijah Fields, residing in Danville, Penn.; Lloyd W.; Isaiah J.; Hannah M.; Joshua M.; Sarah E. and Kersey C.; Elmira A. was killed at the battle of Petersburg on the first charge in front of Richmond. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until eighteen years of age, when he began the carpenter's trade and served an apprenticeship of three years. In the spring of 1861 he enlisted in Company A, Sixth Regiment Pennsylvania Reserves. The company



was raised and taken to Harrisburg for the purpose of being placed in the three months' service, but on arrival at that place it was discovered that the field was full of men enlisted for that period, so the whole regiment enlisted for three years, July 27, 1861. From Harrisburg they were taken to Greencastle, where they were kept about two weeks. They were taken to Washington; thence to Maryland, and December 20, 1861, fought their first battle at Dranesville. Mr. Hower also participated in the engagements of the regiment at Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg and Gettysburg. He was wounded at the battle of Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862, by a gunshot in the right hip, and was disabled for about three months. After the battle of Gettysburg he participated in the battles of Mine Run, Va., through the Wilderness to Cold Harbor, marching day and night and engaging in several battles. During the battle of Bull Run he had nothing to eat for three days and three nights. He was discharged June 11, 1864, and shortly afterward was employed by the Government building bridges for Sherman's army. In 1865 he bought the farm where he now lives, which was a dense forest, but having a willing mind and strong arms, set about clearing it off, and now has a good farm, having made all the improvements himself. In the spring of 1878 he moved to Seward City, Neb., where he remained two years, working at his trade. He married, July 4, 1865, Harriet Yeager, and they are the parents of five children: Henry C., Anna C., Mazey E., Daniel Y. and James Garfield. Mrs. Hower is a member of the Lutheran Church.

JOHN H. HOWER, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Girardville, Schuylkill Co., Penn., November 1, 1853, a son of John and Lucetta (Gable) Hower, natives of Pennsylvania, and of German descent. His grandfather was born in Columbia County, Penn.; was a carpenter by trade, and lived where Jeremiah Kostenbender now resides. Our subject's father was born in this county, and was brought up a farmer, but kept a hotel in Girardville for about twenty years, and was also engaged in the lumber business. He carried on both occupations up to the time of his death in December, 1883. He was the father of twelve children, eleven of whom are living: Harriet, wife of T. P. Churnington; Sarah, wife of Theodore Myers, residing in Michigan; Mary, wife of J. M. Glick, residing in Girardville; Emma, wife of G. W. Barnhardt, residing in Girardville; Elizabeth, wife of S. K. Cleaver, residing in Berks County; Clinton G., John H., William E., Albert L., Clara A. and Thomas C. His father owned 180 acres of land at the time of his death. Our subject was brought up in Girardville, where he received his education, and where he was employed as clerk until coming to this township. He came to Columbia County in 1879, and here has since resided. He married, June 2, 1875, Helen S. Achenbach, by whom he has four children: Curwin E., Clara E., Elsa E. and William J. Mrs. Hower is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Mr. Hower a member of the P. O. S. of A.

CHARLES HUGHES, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Kingston Township, Luzerne County, this State, October 28, 1821, a son of James and Hannah (Smetland) Hughes, former of Welsh descent, the latter a native of Connecticut. His great-grandfather came from Wales and located in Berks County, Penn. His grandfather, Hugh, married a lady named Hutton, a relative of the Huttons of the present day. His maternal grandfather was Joseph Smetland, who with his family fled from Wyoming Valley during the massacre of 1812. After the war closed he came back and remained until his death. His grandfather, Hughes, moved up to Rush Township, Northumberland County, in 1786, and there built one of the best stone houses in that county, the mechanical part of which was pronounced to be the best ever seen. The inside was as smooth as glass, with not a scratch on the wall. He also built the grist-mill near Danville, Penn., and lived there until his death. Our subject's father was only eight years of age when his parents moved to Northumberland County, and there he lived with them until 1812, when he moved into Wyoming Valley, where he purchased a farm and resided until his death. The farm he bought is a very valuable one on account of the vast amount of coal that it possesses, and is leased for twenty years, the six living children getting a royalty of \$1,000 a piece annually. His father was born in 1778, and was in his ninety-third year at the time of his death. He was the father of twelve children, three sons and three daughters of whom are surviving: James, Jr., Charles, Edward, Mary A., Ann M. and Margaret. He was a life-long Republican, and served as justice of the peace; was one of the early surveyors of the Wyoming Valley, and was often called on for explanations of surveys and drafts, and was also an excellent millwright. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained with his parents until he was twenty-nine years of age, when he married and remained one year at home. He then resided on one of his father's farms in the same township for five years; then moved on Rev. George Peck's farm, and resided four years; thence to Plymouth Township on a rented farm, where he remained eighteen years. In 1874 he bought the farm where he now lives, but did not move on it until 1881. His sons, George P. and Hugh, had charge of this farm for about six years before he moved here. He owns 139 acres of good land. He has been twice married: first, to Ester Pettiborn, who bore him eleven children, six living: George, Hugh, Mary, Gordou S., Charles and Isabel. His wife died February 20, 1874, and January 1, 1878, he married Mrs. Elizabeth (Suttliiff) Mellick, by whom he had five children, four living: Margaret D., Jennie D., Stephen and Stanley. Mrs. Hughes has also a child by her former marriage, Olena V. Mel-



lick. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes are members of the Church. His first wife experienced religion when thirteen years of age, and was taken into full membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which she was a faithful member during life. Mr. Hughes was twice elected a justice of the peace, but did not serve.

R. S. McHENRY, miller, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Hemlock Township, Columbia Co., Penn., April 1, 1851, a son of Moses W. and Sarah (Montgomery) McHenry of Scotch-Irish descent. His grandfather, Daniel, settled at Stillwater, where he operated a saw-mill. His grandfather, Samuel T. Montgomery, was a shoemaker; later entered the ministry and was the founder of the Plymouth Christian Church in Luzerne County. He died in West Rittstown in 1885, in his eightieth year. Our subject's father was born at Stillwater, is a miller by trade, and has been conducting mills since he was eighteen years of age. He now lives in Beaver Township where he operates a mill. He was drafted in the civil war, but paid \$700 for a substitute. He reared three sons and seven daughters (seven of whom are living); Ruggles S.; Alice, wife of George Williams; Addie, wife of Charles Hazletine; Elizabeth, wife of George Munson; Gaylard, a miller at Iola; Minnie (deceased); Blanche, wife of Sherman Heller; Charles, a miller in Luzerne County; Anna (deceased), and Nettie (deceased). Our subject commenced to learn his trade when fifteen years of age and worked eight years with his father. He then went to Paxinos, where he had charge of the mill for six years; then went to Eyer's Grove, and worked six months; thence to Mendenhall's mill, and worked two and one-half years; thence, to Eyer's Grove for another year. In the spring of 1883 he rented what is known as Parr's mill on Big Roaring creek, since which time he has operated the same. He was married in September, 1873, to Annie S. Yetter, and they are the parents of six children: Lillian, Nettie, Robert, Pearl, Freddie and Celia. Mr. and Mrs. McHenry are members of the Christian Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

DAVID A. MUNSON, farmer, P. O. Pennsyl, was born in Kingston Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., August 17, 1835, a son of Abel and Elizabeth (Atherholt) Munson, former a native of Connecticut, latter of Berks County, this State, but of German descent. His grandfather, Christian, was one of the first settlers in Kingston Township, Luzerne County, where he took up a large tract of land, lived and died. Our subject's father followed farming all his life in Luzerne County. He was the father of eight children, four of whom are living; Philip, Asa, George (a resident of Iowa) and David A. The father's death was caused by an accident. He was one night coming from market along the narrows of Tobey Creek, where there was room for only one vehicle. He was driving two horses, one of which was blind and got over the bank. The wagon was upset and Mr. Munson was found next morning with the wagon bed over him, his head out of the water and frozen to death. Both horses were drowned. He was buried in Dallas Township, Luzerne County. Our subject was only eighteen months old when this accident occurred, and he remained with his mother until he was of age when the estate was divided. He bought a farm adjoining the old homestead, and remained there until the spring of 1872, when he bought 136 acres in this township, where he has since resided. He has one of the best farms in the township, and also a fine residence and has made some of the improvements since coming here. He was married in December, 1859, to Elousi L. Johnson, a native of Luzerne County. They are the parents of five children: George J., a merchant in Beaver Valley; Miner S.; Mary E.; Nelson J. and Walter S. Mr. and Mrs. Munson are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Bethel. In 1876 Mr. Munson was elected justice of the peace, and is still holding that office. He is one of the prominent men of this county. Has been school director and has done more for the county in the way of building schoolhouses than any one who has held the office. His mother lives with him at the age of ninety years, and has never been confined to her bed by sickness for twenty-four hours, within the memory of our subject.

WASHINGTON PARR, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Columbia County, Penn., October 4, 1824, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Shuman) Parr, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather came from Germany at an early day and settled in Catawissa, where he bought a tract of land and resided until his death. Jacob Parr was born in this county, and was a blacksmith by trade, which he followed a number of years at Lime Ridge, this county. In 1834 he bought a farm in Catawissa Township, where he followed agricultural pursuits until his death in 1847; that of his widow occurred in 1870. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained with his parents until the death of his father, when he rented the homestead and farmed it nine years, when it was sold. He then moved on his father-in-law's farm in this township and farmed eight years. He was engaged in mercantile business from 1858 to 1867. In 1864 he bought fourteen acres of land, where he now lives, on which he erected nearly all the buildings, made improvements and has since resided. He now owns ninety acres of good land, also the Willow Grove grist-mill, better known as "Parr's mill." He also bought a saw-mill, which, however, he has since abandoned. The grist mill is almost in constant use with R. S. McHenry, miller. Mr. Parr married, in April, 1849, Maria, daughter of John and Christiana Mench. Mr. and Mrs. Parr are the parents of three children, two living: Alice, wife of Samuel Loreman, residing in York, Neb., and Sarah. Mr. and Mrs. Parr are members of

the Lutheran Church. Mr. Parr was elected county commissioner in 1884, and has since served the public with satisfaction; has also been overseer of the poor, school director and stands high in political affairs. In politics he is a Democrat.

JOHN W. RIDER, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Locust Township, this county, April 1, 1853, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Yetter) Rider. His father was a native of Berks County, Penn., and his mother of this township, both of German descent. His paternal grandfather came from Berks County to Columbia County in 1812, and settled in Mayberry Township, in what is now Montour County, where he lived several years. He then moved to Lycoming County and bought a farm where he lived until his death in 1868. Our subject's father was only four years of age when his parents came here, and when about the age of twenty-five he returned to this county and worked in this and Locust Townships. He bought the place where he now resides in 1862, built on it and made all the improvements. He was the father of seven children, of whom three sons and three daughters are now living: Lloyd, William, John W., Sarah (wife of Christian Artley), Mary (wife of Abram Stine) and Harriet (wife of Jerry John). Our subject has always lived on the homestead. In 1879 he went west and was absent about eight months stopping the most of his time in Lucas County, Iowa. He then returned and resumed farming, which he has since continued. He married, December 25, 1881, Emma, daughter of Henry and Betsey Yost. They are the parents of two children, Ira P. and Howard E. Mr. and Mrs. Rider are members of the United Brethren Church.

WILLIAM ROHRBACH, farmer, P. O. Pensyl, was born in Bethlehem, Lehigh County, this State, November 29, 1816, a son of Jacob and Mary (Fenstamecher) Rohrbach, natives of Berks County, Penn., and of German descent. His grandfather, Lorenzo, came from Germany when quite young with his parents and settled in Berks County. He was seventeen years of age when the Revolutionary war broke out; enlisted in the service. He lived in Berks County until his death, which occurred in his one-hundredth year. He worked in one of the many forges that were then in the county. His wife was in her ninety-eighth year when she died. Our subject's father was born in Berks County in 1781, and died in his seventy-fourth year. He came to this county in 1817, settled in Catawissa Township, near the old Catawissa furnace, in which he was founder several years. He moved thence to a farm on Roaring creek, where he lived about ten years; then moved to where James Hile now lives and resided there until his death. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until he was married. He followed his trade, that of a tailor, for seventeen years, having learned it at the age of fourteen. In 1853 he moved up the south branch of Roaring creek, built a saw-mill and followed lumbering until 1865. He cleared some land and farmed while living here. He bought some 400 acres off which he took the timber and sold it. In 1865 he moved to where he now resides and purchased 300 acres, but has sold off until he now owns 130 acres of good land on which he has all the improvements. He has cleared a good portion of the land himself. He married, in 1852, Levina Startzler, a native of this county, and they are the parents of eight children, five of whom are living: Margaret, wife of John Ashworth; Lorenzo D., married to Josephine Reigel; Lydia, wife of Ervin Vought; Harriet A., wife of Charles Reigel and Zenith S. Mrs. Rohrbach is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Rohrbach is one of the pioneers of this county. In politics he is a Democrat. In 1841 he moved to Sunbury and purchased an interest in a foundry, but, becoming dissatisfied, in 1842 moved back to this county and worked at his trade, doing a great deal of work for the furnace hands.

WILLIAM STOCKER, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., March 9, 1832, a son of Alexander and Jane (Shannon) Stocker, who were born near Belfast, Ireland. His grandfather, Samuel, came from Ireland at an early day, and settled in Northumberland County, this State. He first contracted on the canal, but soon adopted farming, which pursuit he followed during life. His parents were married on coming to America, and settled in Northumberland County. There his father contracted a few years on the canal, but in 1831 moved to Rush Township, where he followed farming. In 1833 he moved to Danville, where he farmed and did teaming. He lived here until 1840, when he moved to Columbia County and settled in Franklin Township, where he farmed until his death, which occurred April 8, 1868. Our subject was reared on a farm until twenty-five years of age, when he learned the carpenter's trade in 1847 in Schuylkill County, and followed it twenty-one years. In 1855 he bought the farm where he now lives, but remained on it only one year. In 1869 he moved on the farm now owned by Charles Hughes. Mr. Stocker now owns 247 acres of land, two first-class houses and three fine farms. He was married in May, 1850, to Christiana Yetter, and they have one daughter, Sarah J., wife of Washington F. Manhardt.

## CHAPTER XXXII.

## GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP.

SYLVESTER ALBERTSON, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born on the farm where he now resides November 16, 1833. John R. Albertson, father of our subject, was born in Tuscarora Valley, September 16, 1795, and was six years of age when he came to this township. His father, David, was born November 30, 1766, and was married February 26, 1788, to Charity Bellis, who bore him four sons and three daughters: Cornelius, William, John R., David C., Abigail, Sarah and Mary. John R. married, February 11, 1817, Jane Kitchen, a daughter of Samuel Kitchen, and after marriage he located on a part of the homestead and engaged in farming. He died in February, 1859; his widow survived him until October, 1876. They were the parents of seven children: Elijah, Samuel, David, Sylvester, Joel, Beulah and Elizabeth, all of whom married and reared families, except Elizabeth. Sylvester married, November 29, 1860, Mary, daughter of John and Elsie (Albertson) Richart, former a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Robbins) Richart. Mr. Albertson located on the farm after his marriage, and there has since resided. He has eighty-seven acres of land, having sold off fifty-two acres twenty years ago. To him and his wife were born four children: Narcissa B., Lorenzo D., Marshall B. and Florianus H. Mr. Albertson has followed farming and lumbering for several years. Politically he is a Republican. "On Saturday, August 29, 1885, a reunion of relatives was held at Sylvester Albertson's, in Greenwood Township, Columbia County, in memory of the old homestead of John R. Albertson, who had long since gone to a homestead not built with hands. Nearly 200 persons were present and mostly relatives, being from Columbia, Cameron, Montour, Lycoming and Sullivan Counties, Penn., also from Wilkesbarre, Bloomsburg and Danville, Penn.; Cincinnati, Ohio; Newark, N. J.; Bangor and Braganza, Ga. Speeches were made in the forenoon by Rev. Wm. R. Mather, and in the afternoon by Rev. J. W. Messenger, which were appropriate to the occasion and brought forth old memories anew that were long forgotten by the old and which will form a new history never to be forgotten by the young. Refreshments were given about 2 o'clock on tables suitable for the occasion, erected in the beautiful grove in front of Mr. Albertson's home, where all seemed to be happy and protected from the scorching rays of the sun. The music was well chosen, and brought tears to many eyes in thinking of the past. Instrumental was furnished by Miss Narcissa B., daughter of Sylvester Albertson, and vocal by four sisters, Misses Richart, of Rohrsburg. Stereoscopic and cabinet views were taken of the homestead and of the whole party in a consolidated group, by J. W. Knouse, of which nearly all families procured one or more copies as an emblem for the future. Those who had not seen the old homestead for many years past were more than pleased with the grand improvements made, and the pride Mr. Albertson has taken in making his home pleasant for all, and his taste in beautifying a home should be imitated by others. All parted for their homes in the eve, feeling that they had been welcome—some perhaps never to meet again until the grand reunion is permitted above, where all the faithful reunite never more to part."

MATTHIAS MILLER APPLEMAN, wagon-maker and proprietor of the planing-mill, Rohrsburg, was born October 21, 1831, in Sugarloaf Township, a grandson of Matthias Appleman, who was the first of the name to come to this county. His father, Philip Appleman, born February 17, 1808, in Hemlock Township, remained here some years, and with his father carried on a distillery for several years in Hemlock Township. On leaving there he located in Sugarloaf Township, where he married Mary, daughter of Reuben Davis. When very young our subject removed with his parents to Fishingcreek, where he was reared to maturity, remaining with them until he was twenty-three years of age; then came to Rohrsburg and not finding farming congenial to his tastes began wagon-making. He soon picked up the trade, and in addition to his wagon business added a planing-mill and saw-mill, also a blacksmithing shop and foundry, which give employment to several hands. May 4, 1854, he married Margaret Jane Barber, of Madison Township, a daughter of Wm. Barber, and seven children were born to them: Mary E., William H., Philip D., James C., George B., Phineas M. and Boyd W. Mary E. is the wife of Clark W. Albertson, and resides in Mississippi; William H. resides in Huntsville, Ala.; Philip D. is in the blacksmith business here; James Clyde is in Mississippi; the others are home. Mr. Appleman is a member of the Christian Church and has been officially connected with the same.



HENDRICK W. BANGS, farmer, P. O. Greenwood, was born October 7, 1823, in Plymouth Township, Luzerne County, son of Alba Bangs, a native of Massachusetts, who removed to Luzerne County when a young man, and there married Hannah, a daughter of Samuel Pringle, who bore her husband eight children, Hendrick W. being the youngest son and fifth in the family. Only four of the number are now living. When twenty-two years of age our subject came to this county, having learned blacksmithing in Plymouth before coming here, and for fourteen years he carried on his trade at Benton. In the spring of 1864 he came to this township, and purchased the Morris farm, consisting of ninety acres, which farm is of a century's settlement. November 29, 1849, he married Sarah Ann, daughter of Enos and Mary (Ogden) Heacock. Mr. and Mrs. Bangs have five children: Jacob E., Enos E., Samuel A., Jennie and William A. In 1862 Mr. Bangs went out with the militia to repel the rebel invasion, and subsequently enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Regiment, serving until August, 1863. He has three brothers living: Benjamin, Alva and Samuel. Mr. and Mrs. Bangs are members of the Christian Church.

BENJAMIN F. BATTIN, farmer, P. O. Greenwood, is descended from one of the prominent families of the county. John Battin, who was of English descent, married Susan McDermin, a native of Ireland, and at the time of the Revolutionary war they lived in Chester County, Penn., near where the battle of Brandywine was fought. They reared eight children: William, John, Henry, Marshall, Susan, Hannah, Mary and Martha. John Battin, Sr., moved with his family from Chester County to near Millville, this county, in about 1787. Of his children, William was a tailor by trade, and died near Reading; John married, and had one daughter, who married a Cornelison; Marshall was a blacksmith, and settled in Sullivan County; Henry, the father and grandfather of those living in Greenwood Township, married, February 24, 1791, Sarah, daughter of John and Edith Eves. They were Friends or Quakers, and had thirteen children, all deceased except Joseph (in Brooklyn), Mary (in New Haven, Conn.) and Rachel (in this township). The subject of this sketch was reared in this township, and located on the farm which he now owns, it being the place his grandfather bought. January 6, 1859, he married Elmira, daughter of Elijah and Eleanor (Parker) Lemon. They have four children: Ethelind F. (wife of William P. Robbins, of this township), Mary E., Sarah E. and Rachel B. (at home). Mr. Battin has an elder brother, Isaac, who has resided in Albany, N. Y., and since 1861 he has been superintendent of the gas works in that city.

JACOB K. BERLIN, shoemaker, Rohrsburg, was born May 9, 1826, near Berwick, a son of David and Susan (Kisner) Berlin; former, a native of Northampton County, followed blacksmithing near Berwick for several years; latter a daughter of Jacob and Margaret Kisner. Our subject, left home at the age of eighteen and went to Berwick, where he learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed as journeyman for some years. In 1850 he came to Rohrsburg, opened a shop and in the spring of 1853 purchased the property where he now resides, and by his industry has acquired a good home. He married in March, 1850, Minerva, daughter of John Chamberlain. She died of typhoid fever, December 24, 1868, the mother of three children, all now deceased: William W., died at the age of three years; Margaret J., at the age of nine years and Willson Boyd July 18, 1873, aged seventeen years. Mr. Berlin on January 11, 1872, married his second wife, Ruth Ann, daughter of Isaiah Kline, and she bore him one child, Hannah E., who died July 11, 1878, aged ten months and four days. Mr. Berlin is a member of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is an elder and clerk. Mr. Berlin was appointed postmaster at Rohrsburg in March, 1862, and held the office until January, 1874, then resigned.

JOHN BLACK, retired, Rohrsburg, one of the old time millers of the county, was born October 26, 1809, in Northumberland County. His father, Jeremiah Black, a native of Ireland, a Protestant, a miller and millwright by trade, immigrated to America in the early part of 1800. On coming to this country he located in Northumberland County, Penn., and shortly after moved to this county, where he followed his vocation to the time of his death. He was accidentally drowned December 7, 1827, below Bowman's mill, while crossing the creek, which was swollen. At this time our subject was a lad of sixteen, assisting his father in the mill, and had become pretty well versed in the business. For several years after his father's death he contributed largely to the support of the family. His mother died January 27, 1865. Mr. Black's first milling was done in the Huffman mill above Light Street, later at the Bowman mill, and subsequently had charge of different mills in this locality. On account of failing health he was obliged to abandon practical milling and then gave his attention to bulr dressing and the care of the mill-stones. Later he came to this township, and for several years engaged in mercantile business, also in the lumber and furniture trade. He also kept hotel some years and carried on farming, but during later years has retired from active life, only assisting his son Perry in the store. He married January 31, 1833, Ann, daughter of Jonathan Lemon. Seven children were born to them: Lemon J., Isaac F., Perry D., Mary C., Alfred B., William W. and Elizabeth. Alfred Bruce died February 22, 1866, of disease contracted while in the army. He volunteered in 1864 in Company D, Second Pennsylvania Cavalry, and served until the close of the war; William also served in the army and returned home unscathed. Mr. Black for

many years has been a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church. He takes little interest in political affairs.

JOHN BRUNER, farmer, P. O. Millville, was born July 5, 1830, in Franklin Township, Lyncoming County, the eldest child of Peter Bruner, who was a son of John Bruner, whose ancestors came from Germany. Peter Bruner married Hannah, daughter of John A. Hartman, and they had seven children: John, Margaret, William, Andrew J., Samuel, Lydia and Mary. John remained at home until of age, and soon after began for himself. He was married May 20, 1852, to Martha C., daughter of Robert and Edith (Battin) Fairman, and granddaughter of Henry Battin and Sarah, and William Fairman and his wife Mary. After his marriage our subject worked out for 50 cents per day, and about 1855 had saved some money and bought thirty acres of timber land near where he was born, and began clearing this up; he kept this land until 1857, when he sold it and came to this county and rented land in this township for seven years, then moved to Pine Township and bought 100 acres, 30 of which was partially cleared, and cleared about 90 acres; having bought other land he had in all 275 acres. He lived here until the spring of 1882, when he removed with his family to Millville, where, he lived until the spring of 1886, when he moved on the farm he now owns, known as the Henry Battin farm. Mr. and Mrs. Bruner have six living children: Mary I., Hannah E., Anna M., Sarah E., John W., Susan E.; William P. died in 1863, aged nearly four years; Henry J. Bruner died in 1881, aged twenty-three years and ten months. Mr. Bruner has been an active member in the church, and was the principal founder of the Pine Centre organization, in Pine Township. He has given his elder children good school advantages, some of them having taught school. As a business man he has made a success in life, and acquired a goodly competence. In politics he is a Prohibitionist.

ALINAS COLE, farmer and miller, P. O. Derrs, was born July 4, 1820, in Sugarloaf Township, on the farm that his grandfather, Ezekiel Cole, settled when he came from New Jersey. Ezekiel's last wife was Elizabeth Hess, by whom he had three sons and three daughters: Ezekiel, William, Isaiah, Rebecca, Lana and Adaline. Ezekiel, the father of Alinas, married Sarah, daughter of Silas Jackson. After marriage he settled on the homestead farm, and died here June, 1848, aged about forty, his widow surviving him until the fall of 1885. They reared four sons and one daughter: Alinas, Lana, John, Benjamin and Dennison. Alinas was born and reared on the homestead, and raised to farming and milling, and at twenty-three he began life for himself. He married Rhoda, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Fritz) Kile. Since 1848 he has been principally engaged in milling, yet has carried on farming and lumbering in the meantime. In April, 1876, he came to the place he now owns, formerly owned by Robbins, the mill seat being first built by Henry Fullmer about 1836. Mr. and Mrs. Cole have seven children: Albert and Norman, residing on the old homestead; Byron, in Tuscola County, Mich.; Arthur, at home; Howard, in Mifflin Township; Sarah E., wife of J. B. Ikeler, and Rose. Mr. Cole owns 400 acres in Greenwood Township, 160 acres in another tract, and 156 in Sugarloaf.

GEORGE W. DERR, farmer, P. O. Derrs, was born July 4, 1834, in Orangeville, this county, and lived under the parental roof until his first marriage, October 30, 1856, with Miss Lucinda, daughter of William Robbins, of Greenwood, this county. After marriage they lived at the saw-mill of Iram Derr till 1860, and in 1861 moved to present place of forty acres in Greenwood Township. They were the parents of three children: Emma J. and an infant son (deceased), and Leah C. Mr. Derr's second marriage was October 18, 1866, to Miss Elizabeth F., daughter of William G. Lawton, of Greenwood, this county, and to this union have been born two children: Sarah A. and Charlie F. The family attend the services of the Christian Church. In politics our subject is a Democrat, and was elected jury commissioner in 1882, which position he still holds.

ANDREW JACKSON DERR, merchant, P. O. Derrs, was born March 18, 1838, at Orangeville, this county, and remained at home until he was married, January 26, 1865, to Mary Jane Davis, daughter of Thomas Davis, of Greenwood Township, this county. His first occupation was in his father's mill in Jackson Township. This mill he operated from 1861 to 1874, in which latter year he came to Greenwood Township and opened a store, putting up the buildings. His stock consists of general merchandise, and he does a good business. Mr. and Mrs. Derr are members of the Christian Church. He is postmaster at Derrs, and in politics is a Democrat.

ISAAC A. DEWITT. The DeWitt family came originally from Holland, and was first represented in this country by two brothers, Isaac and Jacob, who immigrated prior to the Revolution. Isaac settled in New Jersey and Jacob in New York, on the Hudson River. Isaac, who served in the Revolution, had several sons: John, Jacob, Isaac and James. Isaac and John settled in Northumberland County, Jacob removed to Ohio, and James, it is supposed, remained in New Jersey. Isaac married Margaret Gardner, by whom he had two sons and four daughters: James, Isaac, Catherine, Nellie, Elizabeth and Sarah. Catherine married Isaac Demott and settled near Jerseytown; Nellie settled in Northumberland County, the wife of John Case; Elizabeth settled in the same county, the wife of Isaac Kline; Sarah married Joseph Patton and first settled in Northumberland County, and later removed to this township; James married Mary Aikman and had two



sons and one daughter: Isaac A., John W. and Margaret. John W. is a physician in Delaware; Margaret is the wife of Wesley B. Kline, of Bradford County, Penn. James, the father of our subject, was born in Northumberland County in 1801, and died in 1841. His wife was born in Briarcreck Township July 18, 1807, and died December 21, 1840. James was a tanner by trade, which he followed as long as he lived. He came to this township after his marriage. His successor is our subject, Isaac A., who is the only child now remaining in the county. He has been for many years engaged in teaching, and also learned surveying; he is a bachelor. John W. DeWitt served in the civil war as surgeon in the Army of the Potomac.

JOHN EVES, the ancestor of the Columbia County family of that name, was one of the earliest settlers in the valley of Fishing creek. He immigrated thither from Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle Co., Del., and located on a tract of 1,200 acres in the townships of Greenwood and Madison, including the site of Millville. This land was secured by deed dated November 29, 1774, the former owner having been Reuben Haines, a brewer, of Philadelphia. It would appear, however, that he had concluded the purchase and settled in this region some years previous to the time this title was acquired. As his settlement in this section marks an important period in its history, it is described at length in another part of this work.

But little is known regarding the personal history of John Eves. He was an Irish Friend, born in 1720, and removed to America about the year 1738. He was in good circumstances at Mill Creek Hundred, and held various offices involving a degree of responsibility. One of his experiences as constable reveals the resolute and determined character of the man. He was given a warrant for the arrest of a miscreant who defied the power of the law, and threatened to take the life of the officer as he approached. But the latter walked boldly forward and disarmed him without a struggle. The victory was not yet complete, however, as the obstinacy of the culprit was equal to his cowardice, and he refused to walk, whereupon the constable tied his prisoner to his horse, and they proceeded without further difficulty. Another trait of his character is illustrated by an occurrence during his residence here. While in Philadelphia on one occasion he advanced the passage money of Larry Flinn and his wife, two destitute Friends who had recently arrived from England. They would then have been obliged to remain in his service for several years, but he received them into his family and they never left it. In 1751 John Eves married Edith Yeatman, an English lady, said to have possessed great strength of character as well as personal beauty. They were the parents of seventeen children, fourteen of whom reared families. Their names with dates of birth are as follows: Sarah, 4th mo., 24th, 1753 (died in 1762); Thomas, 2d mo., 5th, 1755; John, 2d mo., 22d, 1757; Joseph, 10th mo., 30th, 1758; Mark, 7th mo., 16th, 1760 (died in 1762); William, 2d mo., 2d, 1762; Chandlee, 12th mo., 14th, 1763; Elizabeth, 12th mo., 30th, 1765; Sarah, 5th mo., 14th, 1767; Edith, 5th mo., 14th, 1767; Andrew, 6th mo., 4th, 1769; Mary, 11th mo., 24th, 1770; Priscilla, 11th mo., 3d, 1772; Mark, 4th mo., 8th, 1774; Ann, 4th mo., 21st, 1775; Samuel, 1st mo., 28th, 1778; Ezra, 6th mo., 28th, 1782. John Eves, Sr., died 7th mo., 1st, 1802; and Edith (Yeatman) Eves, 4th mo., 14th, 1818. The children of Thomas Eves and Rachel (Wilson) Eves were Edith, John W., Phebe (Mather) and Thomas; of John Eves and Lydia (Judge) Eves: Peter, Jesse, Nehemiah, John, James and Lydia; of Joseph Eves and Sarah (Parvin) Eves: Parvin, Ezra, Milton, Sarah (Shively), Asenath (Ashton), Francis, Elizabeth (Swisher) and Mary (Marten); of William Eves and Sarah (Philips) Eves: Mary (Brunn), Edith (Kitchen), Prudence (Staton), Ann (Clayton), John, William and Elijah; of Chandlee Eves and Rachel (Kertes) Eves: Annie (Eves), Elizabeth, Yeatman, John K., George F., Benjamin, Chandlee, Sarah (Wilson) and Rachel (Shively); Elizabeth Eves married Thomas Mather, and died without issue; Sarah Eves married Henry Battin and was the mother of thirteen children, viz.: Edith (Fairman), John, William, Chandlee, Isaac, Henry, Samuel, Susan (Kisner), Sarah, Joseph, Mary (Cox), Rachel and Enoch; the children of Isaac Philips and Edith (Eves) Philips were William, Samuel, Mary (Armitage), Ann (Armitage), and Sarah (Hughes); of Andrew Eves and Martha (Marten) Eves: David, James, Edith, Margaret (Fairman), Andrew, Joseph, Martha, Sarah and Yeatman; of Nehemiah Reece and Mary (Eves) Reece: William, Sarah, Edith (Kertz), Mary, Philip, John, Joseph, Nehemiah, Louisa (Eves), Sarah (Whitacre), Aaron, Mary and Hannah (McHenry); of William Mather and Priscilla (Eves) Mather: Mary and Elizabeth (Lemon); of John Watson and Ann (Eves) Watson: John, Sarah, Edith, Thomas, Mark and Dorcas; of Samuel Eves and Tamar (Kitchen) Eves: Priscilla (Watson), James, Thomas, Edith, Elizabeth, Reuben and John. In the above the line of descent has been traced to the second generation from the original progenitors of the family in this county. It is estimated that the descendants of this pioneer settler of the Little Fishing creek number at this time 1,000 souls; and many of those who bore his name have occupied positions of honor and respectability in the various walks of life.

GEORGE F. EVES (deceased) was born November 23, 1804, the third son of Chandlee Eves, who was a son of the pioneer. He married November 5, 1829, Louisa, daughter of Nehemiah and Mary Reece. Mrs. Eves was born December 10, 1808. After marriage



they moved to the homestead which was a part of the tract taken up by John Eves, the grandfather of our subject. There he remained until May, 1875, when he removed to Millville, and retired from active business. He died February 27, 1877. His wife died December 16, 1869. They had a family of ten children, eight of whom attained maturity: Elizabeth, Mary Ann, Philip, Emory S., Hannah, Sarah L., Priscilla M., Reuben, Milton and Chandlee R. Emily married David Rote; Hannah married J. H. Kitchen; Milton married Priscilla E. Lemou; Philip married Sarah A. Runyan; Chandlee married Sarah E. John, and resides on the old homestead in Madison Township; Elizabeth died in October, 1878; Milton's second marriage was to Emily Shultz; Sarah L. and Priscilla M. reside together in Millville; Reuben died March 16, 1855.

FRANCIS P. EVES, retired, Millville, is a great-grandson of John Eves, the pioneer, and was born January 29, 1820, in this township, the eldest son of Ezra and Susanna (Kester) Eves. They were the parents of the following named children: Francis P., Benjamin K., John R., Elizabeth, Lucretia M. and Joseph E. Francis P. was reared to farming and about the time he reached his twenty-sixth year, married Elizabeth, daughter of Francis and Mary (Welliver) Rote. Mrs. Eves was born in 1820, in this township and has borne her husband five children: Adra Anna, wife of J. Barton Eves; Warren Wilbur, engaged in farming in Lycoming County; E. Truman, residing on the homestead; M. Eva and Mary Bertha at home. After marriage Mr. Eves located on the homestead, where he remained until 1878, when he came to Millville and has here since resided.

WILSON M. EVES, merchant, Iola, was born near Millville Penn., December 2, 1829, the eldest son of John W. and Rebecca (Brown) Eves, the latter a daughter of Richard Brown. He was reared near the town of Millville, and learned the carpenter's trade with his father and made it his business for several years. In 1854 he came to Iola, purchased a saw-mill and engaged in the cabinet-making trade, which he conducted in connection with his carpenter business. In 1879 he engaged in merchandising, to which he has since given his attention. He married, April 15, 1851, Amelia, daughter of John and Mary (Woodard) Robins. They have five children: Clara S., John E., Rebecca A., Orpha L. and Aquila W. Rebecca is the wife of John C. Christian and resides in this county; Orpha is the wife of F. P. Masters. Mr. Eves, in 1865, under the administration of Lincoln, was elected justice of the peace and served continuously for twenty years. He served as postmaster prior to his election as justice. Mr. Eves' business is conducted under the firm name of Wilson M. Eves & Sons. They do a general merchandise trade and deal also in lumber, furniture, organs, etc. Mr. Eves is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of the Masonic fraternity.

JAMES WATSON EVES, retired, Millville, was born December 17, 1829, the second son of Milton and Mary (Mather) Eves. Milton was born in Madison Township, Columbia Co., Penn., August 12, 1797, and died October 1, 1831. His wife was born in Catawba June 7, 1797, and died October 28, 1868. To them were born six children: Lydia B., Sarah P., Thomas E., Asenath E., James W. and Mary M. Lydia B. married Chas. Kister, and after his death Joseph Van Horn, who is also deceased; Sarah P. became the wife of A. H. Phillips and died leaving three children (one of whom, Milton E., is now a professor in Simpson College at Indianola; the other two children are dead); Thomas E., died leaving three children: Francis resides in Michigan; Willis B. (Willis B. Eves is a son of a former wife of Thos. E. Eves the daughter of John H. Eves, her name was Rachel; and Henry W. in Millville); Asenath is the wife of F. E. Rote of Greenwood Township; Mary M., resides in Madison Township, Columbia County, wife of John P. Runyan. James Watson Eves was born in Madison Township on a part of the old Eves property, where he grew to manhood. He remained on the homestead until he was forty-eight years of age, when he came to this township and engaged in farming pursuits and the harness business until April, 1886, when he retired from active labor. He married, December 29, 1831, Elizabeth A., daughter of Isaac and Edith (Eves) Kitchen. She was born May 30, 1832, and died May 7, 1875, the mother of eleven children, five of whom survived her; Dilwin P., died in 1886, leaving one child; Clark H., died April 28, 1884; Wilmer W., Sherman and Loraine. After the death of his wife Mr. Eves resided with his son, Dilwin, and since his death with his sister, Mrs. Lydia B. Van Horn. He enlisted April 1, 1865, in Company I, Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and served until the close of the war. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., 809 Millville Lodge.

SHADRACH EVES, miller, P. O. Millville, was born August 16, 1829, in Madison Township, the fifth son of a family of thirteen children born to Parvin and Anna Eves. Parvin was born December 9, 1790, on the original plat of ground that his grandfather John located on. Anna Eves, mother of Shadrach, died in the fall of 1872, being about seventy-five at the time of her death. The children born to Parvin and Anna were Chand-lee, Joseph, Francis, George, Sarah, Rachel, Shadrach, Elizabeth, Parvin, Ezra, Chalk-ley, Susan, and Elijah. All lived to be grown except Elijah. Shadrach was reared in Madison Township, and when seventeen years of age he was hired out on a farm, his father having the benefit of his earnings until he became of age. After that he worked for his uncle Benjamin; at the age of twenty-four he married Sarah, daughter of Nehemiah Reece; she died in the spring of 1858, and by her he had one child that died when

three years old. His present wife was Rachel, daughter of Robert Mather, and they have five children: Preston, Adella, Robert, Phoebe and Eleanora, all living except Robert, who was drowned in the creek below the dam aged eight years. Subsequent to his marriage Mr. Eves bought a farm in Pine Township opposite Iola, and farmed here until 1873, when he came to Millville, where he has since resided. His father lives with him; he was aged ninety-six years, December 9, 1886. Shadrach is engaged in manufacturing; has a woolen-mill and does custom work for the farmers.

CHARLES W. EVES, farmer and merchant, Millville, was born June 30, 1831, in North Millville, Columbia County, the eldest son of Benjamin and Priscilla (Wilson) Eves. His father was born February 3, 1807, a son of Chandlee Eves. His mother was born February 23, 1810, the daughter of Thomas and Susanna Wilson. To Benjamin and his wife were born Charles W., Susan W., wife of Dr. Heller; Rachel S.; William C., in Marshall County, Kas.; John M., in Chicago, and Martha. In early life Benjamin Eves was engaged with his father, Chandlee, in conducting a factory here, which the latter had purchased from John Watson about 1828. They carried on carding, spinning, fulling, etc., until about 1852, when Benjamin, with our subject, carried on the business for about six years. Benjamin then retired and died December 23, 1876. His wife died February 27, 1869. After his death Charles W. continued the business and is also engaged in farming, merchandising, milling, lumbering, and has several farms. He married June 30, 1852, Sarah B., daughter of George and Margaret (Mathers) Masters. She was born in October, 1832, and bore her husband children as follows: Narcissa M., wife of Clemuel Henric; Morris E., in business with his father; Myra M. and Maggie, at home; Laura E., deceased wife of James O. Warner; Alfred H., Geo. M., Ben A., Cora P. and Mary A. all died young.

JOSEPH W. EVES, surveyor, Millville, was born December 7, 1838, on the homestead in this county. His father, John K. Eves, was born in 1802 and died December 27, 1868. He married Sarah, daughter of Joseph Whitacre, of Muncy Valley, a surveyor and farmer. John K. was a farmer and also followed surveying. He reared following named children: Rachel, Mary, Annie, Emily, Joseph W., Hannah M. and Eleanora, all of whom are married and have reared families except Emily. Rachel married Elwood Eves and died leaving one child; Mary married Thomas Wilson, of Montour County, and had four children; Annie married William M. Reece; Hannah M. married Morris Masters, and Eleanora married Joseph Eves. Joseph W., the fifth in order of birth, was reared on the homestead and engaged in farming and surveying until 1878, since which he has resided in Millville, but carries on his farm by renters. He married Sarah T., daughter of James and Julia A. (Jones) Warner, and one child has blessed their union. Mr. Eves is a member of the Society of Friends; is politically a Republican and very much in favor of Prohibition, and will leave the party unless it goes against the saloon and in favor of the home.

ELLIS EVES, merchant, Millville, was born January 16, 1834, the eldest son of Charles and Sarah (Kester) Eves. On arriving at manhood he succeeded his father in business in 1855, and subsequently associated with him his brothers, John, W. W. and J. B., in the manufacturing business. In 1870 he engaged in mercantile business with his brothers as partners, which association continued until 1875, when James B. took charge of the mill and hub factory, the others continuing as before until 1883, when John retired. Since then our subject has been associated with W. W. under the firm name of Ellis, Eves & Bro., dealing in dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes, hardware, notions, china, lumber, etc., doing a large trade. Mr. Eves has been twice married: first, to Mary Margaret, daughter of George Masters. They were married July 21, 1857, and November 12, 1870, Mrs. Eves died, leaving four children: Lois M., wife of Hiram J. Demotte, of this township; Charles M., in Nanticoke, in the grocery business; Paschall L. and Georgeanna. December 8, 1880, Mr. Eves married Elizabeth, daughter of David and Sarah Eves. In matters relating to the general interest of the community, Mr. Eves takes a prominent part. He is one of the principal officers in the local insurance company here, and is deeply interested in the railroad which is being built to this place.

JOHN EVES, manufacturer, Millville, was born in this town May 4, 1843, a son of Charles and Sarah (Kester) Eves. During his youth he worked for his brother Ellis, and on becoming of age associated with him in the business, and after several changes in the partnership he took the entire interest in the wagon manufactory, which includes the saw, bending and planing-mill, turning-lathe and hub factory, blacksmith and paint shops, and, in fact, all the necessary appliances for the successful manufacture of the excellent wagons turned out of the place. He employs regularly about fifteen workmen, and his business is constantly increasing. He has attained success by his strict attention to business and in the manufacture of a first-class article, which meets the requirements of his patrons. His wife is Susan, daughter of James Masters, and their children are Charles, Louisa, Rebecca, Mildred and Helen.

W. WEBSTER EVES, of the firm of Ellis Eves & Bro., Millville, was born July 12, 1848, in South Millville, the fifth son of Charles Eves and was raised to farming pursuits. In 1870 he associated with his brothers in the mercantile and manu-



facturing business, and so continued several years, when his brother John withdrew, and the firm is now Ellis Eves & Bro. They are engaged in mercantile, lumber and planing-mill business. Mr. Eves married Anna M., daughter of Joseph E. Sands. They have five children: Pliny, Edward R., Esther I., Winfred and Frank C. Mr. Eves is a member of the Society of Friends.

JOSEPH C. EVES, wheelwright, P. O. Millville, was born in Sereno, January 24, 1844, the second son and third child of Chandlee, who was a son of J. Parvin Eves. The mother of J. C. was Mary Reece, a descendant of one of the pioneer families of Columbia County. The father of our subject was a tanner by trade, and for some time was interested in the tannery at Sereno, and here died in the spring of 1846; his widow yet survives him. Three children lived to be grown, viz.: John P., Anna R. and Joseph C. John P. was a member of Company I, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He was severely wounded at the close of the battle of Fredericksburg, by a piece of shell in the arm, and died three days afterward. Joseph C. enlisted in Company H, in the 100-day's service, and upon his return drove team one year, and then learned the trade of wheelwright, which he has since followed. He was married, October 28, 1871, to Charlotte, daughter of Charles S. and Hannah W. (Watson) Heacock. They have three children: May B., Curtis C. and Charles S. Mr. Eves is a member of J. P. Eves Post, No. 536.

E. TRUMAN EVES, farmer, P. O. Millville, was born on the farm he now owns, August 24, 1848, first son of Francis P. and Elizabeth (Rote) Eves—this farm being the one his father had located on after his marriage, which tract is embraced in the original tract located by John Eves, the pioneer, previous to the Revolution. Truman was reared on this farm, and brought up to farming pursuits; he married, January 11, 1872, Alice, daughter of Jesse and Julia (Merrill) Mather. After his marriage he lived one year on the farm now owned by James O. Warner, which was formerly a portion of the original farm. The next year he located on the place where he now lives, and has since resided here, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has three children: J. Stanley, A. Mabel and Francis Henry. Marion E. died in July, 1876, aged three years.

VERNON P. EVES, furniture dealer, Millville, was born in this township April 21, 1852, the only son of Benjamin K. Eves. The latter was born in East Millville and also dealt in furniture. His wife was Mary, daughter of John and Jemima Eves. Vernon P. was reared in this township and learned the furniture business with his father, whom he succeeded. From 1873 to 1884 he conducted it alone, since then he has been associated with George W. Henrie, under the firm name of V. P. Eves & Henrie. They operate a furniture and undertaking establishment and also manufacture spring mattresses. Mr. Eves married Maggie E., daughter of George W. and Hannah (Heacock) Henrie and have two children: Clemuel La Rue and Bernice C. Mr. Eves was elected justice of the peace in 1885, and has since held the office.

WILLIAM EYER. The Eyers are of German stock. The name of the father of our subject was Ludwig Eyer, son of Martin Eyer, born about the year 1746, place not known, and located first at Upper Mount Bethel where several of his family were born; he married Catharine, daughter of Joseph Long. From Upper Mount Bethel he came to what is now Bloomsburg and laid out the town; he was a dyer by trade which business he followed here at Bloomsburg, and finally moved out on Black Run, in Madison Township, where he settled and built a saw-mill, farmed to some extent, and died here about the year 1816. He reared a family of ten children: Philip, Jacob, John, Adam, Sarah, Henry, Margaret, Anna, William and Mary. But two are now living, John and Margaret (now Mrs. Samuel Johnson). William Eyer, the subject of this sketch, was born April 25, 1811, in Bloomsburg, and removed with his parents to this township when a mere child; was reared to manhood in this locality. When in his teens he learned the shoemaker trade which he followed for fifteen years when he engaged in farming in Madison Township; finally he came to Greenwood and carried on his brother's farm for several years, then located permanently in what is now Eyer's Grove, laid out by and named for his brother, Jacob Eyer. He was married October 4, 1832, to Elizabeth, daughter of John and Sarah (Demott) Mannon. To them have been born eight children: Catharine (Mrs. John Dollman), Mary (Mrs. Jacob Hileman), Margaret (Mrs. Robert Beagle), Minerva (Mrs. William Hileman), John, Turner, William B. and Robert. Mr. Eyer is Democratic in politics, and cast his first vote for Gen. Jackson.

HUGH S. FAIRMAN, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born September 11, 1835, being the youngest son of Robert and Edith (Battin) Fairman. The paternal grandfather of Hugh was William Fairman, whose advent to this country was shortly after the Revolution. He married Mary Ewing, and by her had the following children: Robert, William, Thomas, Elizabeth and Margaret. Robert, the father of H. S., reared several children, viz.: Thomas, Reece, Henry, William, Sarah, Edith, Joseph, Martha, Hugh and Mary. Hugh left home at the age of twenty, when his father died, and for several years worked out by the month, and for six years was engaged in the lumber woods. In 1862 he married Christeen, daughter of Elijah and Margaret (Ikeler) Albertson, and for seven years lived on rented farms. In 1870 he located on the farm he now owns, which he cultivates suc-



cessfully. Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Fairman, Cora B., Elmerta J. and Clarence C. are living. In politics he is a Democrat.

JACOB GERARD, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born July 15, 1823, in Huntington County, N. J., a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Smith) Gerard, of French descent. Isaac was a son of Joseph and Mary (Robbins) Gerard, to whom were born six children: Amos, Isaac, Jonas, Hannah, Mary and Elizabeth, all of whom reared families. Isaac and wife reared a family of five children: Jacob, Catherine, Joseph, Isaac and Mary. Isaac was drowned, when a young man, in the Delaware River. Jacob left New Jersey in December 1841. He came to Columbia County, Penn., in 1842, and worked at the blacksmith's trade as a journeyman until 1843. He then set up in business for himself in Rohrsburg, at which he continued until 1860. He then moved to where he now resides and which place he had previously purchased, and which was known as the Pealer property. There were no buildings on the place and the land was overgrown with briars. Mr. Gerard has, by proper cultivation and care, made it into a good farm of 112 acres. He also owns a farm of 400 acres in York County, Va., and has acquired a competence for his declining years. He married, March 26, 1846, Rosieta, daughter of William and Catherine (Shoemaker) Girton. Eight children were born to their union: William, John, Stephen, Ulysses G., Catherine, Jane, Anna and Sarah. William died in 1876; John and Ulysses G. reside in Minneapolis, employed in the Washburn mills; Stephen is on the home farm; Catherine is the wife of Nelson Freece; Jane is the wife of James Patterson; Anna is the wife of Ellis Yokum, and Sarah is at home. Mr. and Mrs. Gerard are members of the Presbyterian Church. Politically he is a Republican; had been Master of the Grange for years, and is now Past Master.

WILLIAM B. GERMAN, blacksmith, P. O. Millville, was born September 9, 1853, and was reared in this county; son of John German and Elmira (Welliver) German, daughter of Samuel Welliver. William B. was left fatherless at an early age; his father was a volunteer in the late war, a member of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and lost his life in defense of his country; his widow still survives him and is now married again. When eighteen years of age our subject commenced learning the blacksmith trade with his uncle, Hiram R. Albertson, and after serving the usual apprenticeship, worked for five years in John Eves' wagon manufactory. In the fall of 1884 he came to Millville and purchased the property he now owns. He has a good business, which is largely on the increase, his mechanical skill being second to none in his line. He gives considerable attention to breeding fancy fowls, making a specialty of Plymouth Rocks, Brown Leghorns and Wyandotts. He was married September 1, 1881, to Della, daughter of William and Eleanor (Starr) Rich. They have no children. He is a member of the Christian Church.

GEORGE GREENLY, retired farmer, P. O. Sereno, was born November 22, 1824, in Hereford County, England, and emigrated in 1832 from England to this State, with his parents, Richard and Hannah (Bradford) Greenly. They made their first location at Pottsville, and then located in Pine Township, October, 1832; bought timber land, engaged in building and clearing land, and built a saw-mill on Wolfhouse Run, getting on pretty well till June 29, 1836, when a great storm came; thunder and hail and hurricane—wind blew nearly all the timber down; fields of grain were destroyed and covered with rails and trees and brush, and blew the barns down and spread them about the ground, and the flood washed the mill-dam partly down; house and family were in great danger; they fixed up as best they could and wintered over till spring; much discouraged, they moved, May 10, 1837, to Port Carbon, near Pottsville; George stayed to take care of some loose property; five weeks later his father came back and sold the land; got along well, but the man could not pay for the land and returned or threw the land on the parents in the winter of 1839. Through some panic, the parents moved back onto the same place in Pine Township in the last week of March, 1841; engaged again in building, clearing land, farming and lumbering, and prospered and lived there till they passed away from old age; the mother was eighty-one and the father eighty-eight years old: the mother died March 16, 1873, and the father died in November, 1875. George Greenly moved to his present location in Greenwood Township, March 20, 1855. In connection with his farming he has been engaged in lumbering to some extent, having a saw and shingle mill on his premises, where he manufactures shingles and does custom sawing. In 1858, in Pine Township, he married Melinda, a daughter of George Welliver, a descendant of one of the pioneer families of the county. Mr. Greenly has seven children living: Frank L., William, Emma, Howard, Charles, Anna M. and David. Frank L. is a resident of Sereno; William, one of the proprietors of a planing-mill in Millville; Emma, wife of Wilson Kinney. The remaining children are at home. Mr. Greenly has been for several years retired from active life, and is a man of conservative principles both politically and religiously.

ELISHA HAYMAN, retired, Iola, was born in Berks County, October 7, 1814, and removed to this county with his parents when he was but two years old. He was reared in Scott Township, and in youth learned the miller's trade and for a time worked as a journeyman. In 1851 he came to Iola (which place he named), situated about one and a quarter miles from Millville. Here he purchased a grist-mill, which he operated about

thirty years. He then sold out to U. P. McHenry and retired, but still conducts his farm. He has been twice married; first, in 1840, to Susan Evans, by whom he had four sons, William H., Theodore F., John N. and Robert B. (the last named died at the age of nineteen years). His second wife, Mary, daughter of Peter Applegate, bore him one daughter, Glara. William H. farms in Pine Township; Theodore is engaged in milling at Shamokin, and John N. is a bachelor at home. Mr. Hayman is an official member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a Republican. The Hayman family first came to this county about 1812. Peter Hayman removed here from Berks County; made a settlement in what is now Orange Township and there resided until his death in 1822, at the age of seventy-two years. His wife was Savilla Hall, and their children, John, Jonas, Joseph, Benjamin, Abigail, Mary, Maria, all of whom are married and settled in this county and reared families, except Joseph, who was accidentally killed when young. John married Margaret Overderf, and seven children were born to him: Elisha, Maria, Peter, Phebe, Sarah, John and Amanda. John resides in Michigan; the others settled in this county, and Elisha, John and Amanda are the only survivors. Amanda is the wife of C. Boone; Maria married Jeremiah Pursel; Phebe married Joseph Fry, and Sarah became the wife of J. D. Miller.

PETER HAYMAN, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born in Orange Township, December 20, 1836, the youngest of the sons born to Jonas and Mary (Miller) Hayman. Jonas was born in Berks County, Penn., about the year 1799, son of Peter Hayman. To Jonas and Mary were born eight children: Joseph, Benjamin, Jacob, Jesse, Albert, Peter, Esther and Mary, all now living. Jonas removed from Orange Township to Greenwood near Rohrsburg, and built the mill now owned by Johnson H. Ikeler, also made the improvements on the Ikeler farm; he owned the farm owned by John Black and built the improvements on the same. He operated a distillery for several years; after the distillery and mill burned down he rebuilt the mill, which he ran for several years, carried on farming, and died in 1867; his wife died several years previous. Peter remained at home until twenty-five years of age, when he embarked for himself. He was married, in 1862, to Ann, daughter of James Mather; Mrs. Hayman died in 1872, leaving one child, Anna, wife of William Kester, of Iowa. Mr. Hayman's second marriage was with Savilla, daughter of Daniel Kitchen, and by her he had six children: Minnie L., Norah M., Bruce, A., John W., Willie F. and Ila M.; Willie is deceased. After marriage he spent one year in Fishingcreek Township engaged in farming, then bought the farm he now owns, owned by Philip Reece, consisting of fifty acres. Mr. Hayman is a member of the P. of H., also of the Presbyterian Church. He was in the army one year, and served in the Two Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

ISAAC HEACOCK, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born in this township, on the Heacock homestead, June 20, 1824, eldest son of Enos and Mary (Ogden) Heacock; has always been a resident of the township, and been engaged in agricultural pursuits; also for many years been engaged in selling farm machinery and introducing fertilizers among the farmers. For several years he farmed the homestead, but, since 1858, has been a resident of his present farm consisting of eighty-three acres. He was married October 5, 1852, to Mary Jane, eldest daughter of Benjamin C. and Lydia (Lundy) Harvey, the latter a daughter of Stacy Lundy, one of the pioneers of the township. Of their four children reared to maturity (three are living): Harvey E. (married Alverna Kelchner, and has one son); Stacy L.; Charles C. and Anna S. Harvey E. and Charles C. are both commercial men and represent a woolen manufactory at Williamsport. Dr. Stacy L. died June 6, 1881; he had just graduated with honors, and received his diploma while on his death bed. He was a young man of rare promise, a thorough scholar, a Christian gentleman, esteemed by all who knew him.

ALFRED HEACOCK, farmer, P. O. Greenwood, was born December 20, 1837, on the farm he now owns, the second son of Enos and Mary (Ogden) Heacock. He grew to manhood on his present farm, which he took charge of in 1865 and came into possession of in 1876, and which consists of ninety-four acres. He has been twice married; first, February 22, 1865, to Martha J. Mather, who was born in Schuylkill County, Penn., the daughter of Jesse Mather. She died eight months after marriage. Mr. Heacock married, as his second wife, Mary E., daughter of John Ruckle. She was born in Mount Pleasant Township, this county, and to her and her husband have been born four children: Lizzie, Harry Grant, Enos Raymond and Lattimer. Politically Mr. Heacock is a Republican.

JOSIAH HEACOCK, miller, Millville, was born September 20, 1841, on the homestead in this township. The first of the name to settle here was Josiah, who came from Northampton County, Penn., but the family came originally from New Jersey. His wife, Abigail J. Green, bore him the following children: Joseph, Jeremiah, Amos, Jesse, Enos, Richard, Hannah, Rosanna, Lavina, Mary and Sallie. Josiah settled in the south part of the township on the farm now occupied by his grandson, Alfred Heacock. Enos married Mary Ogden, who bore him six children: Isaac, Sarah A., Rachel, Elizabeth, Alfred and Josiah, all of whom were born on the homestead, and still living in the township. Josiah remained on the homestead until his eighteenth year. He learned the milling business, and worked at it for some time in Luzerne County near Kingston. In 1864 he began on



his own account. In 1870 he associated with George Masters in operating the Millville mills, which partnership continued until in September, 1871, when Masters died. In 1882 Mr. Heacock bought out the entire interest, and took charge April 1, 1883, and has since been owner and proprietor of the same, and is doing an excellent business. He has been twice married; first to Mary E. Ikeler, a native of Fishingcreek, and a daughter of William Ikeler. She died in 1868, leaving one child—Minnie. His second wife was Hannah G. Lawton, daughter of William G. Lawton, and by her he had two children: Myra (living) and Sara (deceased). Mr. Heacock volunteered twice in the service of his country. Politically he is a Republican.

W. W. HEACOCK, merchant, P. O. Millville, was born in this township, April 16, 1853, the second son of C. S. and Hannah (Watson) Heacock. He was reared in this township. At an early age he entered the store of William Masters as clerk, and clerked for him about fourteen years, learned the business thoroughly, and in recognition of his services and ability he was taken as partner March 27, 1884, under the firm name of Masters & Co., which still exists. They are doing an excellent business, and are among the leading merchants in the county. He was married, May 4, 1876, to Sarah, eldest daughter of S. B. Kisner. To them have been born four children, three living: Lulu, Mellie and Lillian; deceased: Zella, aged four years.

ABIAH P. HELLER, M. D., Millville, was born in Hemlock Township, April 9, 1829, the only son of James and Hannah (Phillips) Heller. James was born February 20, 1801, in Lycoming County and died in this county at the age of seventy-four years. His father, Jacob, was from Lancaster, Penn., of Scotch ancestry. Dr. Heller's maternal grandparents were Abiah and Sarah (Guess) Phillips, to whom were born six children: George W., Hannah, Martha, David, Marian and Henry G. To James Heller and wife were born two children, Abiah and Margaret Ann; the latter married Samuel Harriman and located in Lycoming County; she is now deceased. Our subject was left motherless at the age of four years and was brought by his father to this township in 1839. When sixteen years of age he left home and obtained employment among the farmers in the summer season and attended school in the winter. At the age of nineteen he began teaching and his earnings he gave to his father to assist him in paying for his farm. When Abiah P. attained his majority and began for himself he had nothing, and was in debt for his suit of clothes. Shortly after he began the study of medicine with Dr. P. John of Millville, and pursued his studies until his graduation at the Pennsylvania Eclectic College, February 22, 1854. He located in Centre County, Penn., and began the practice of his profession. There he continued three years, when he returned to this county and succeeded his preceptor, Dr. P. John, who had removed to Bloomsburg. Here Dr. Heller has since remained, and has also, in addition to his practice, attended to his farm. November 23, 1854, he married Susan W., daughter of Benjamin and Priscilla Eves, by whom he has had three children. Benjamin, the eldest, died when five years old. The living are James Sherman and Frank Wellington.

JOHNSON H. IKELER, retired, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born February 5, 1813, in this township and is descended from one of the early settlers of this part of the county. William Ikeler, the first of the family to settle here, came from New Jersey and located on the farm now occupied by George Ikeler, about one century ago. He married a Miss Barnhart and by her had four children: Andrew, William, Elizabeth and Barnabas, all of whom settled in this township, except Barnabas. Andrew married Christian Ann, daughter of Isaac Johnson, who came from New Jersey. To Andrew and wife were born six children: Elizabeth, William J., Margaret, Isaac, Andrew J. and Johnson H., all of whom settled in this county. Andrew, the father of our subject, was born April 18, 1773, and died November 24, 1850; his wife was born in 1774 and died December 29, 1865. Mr. Ikeler was not a member of any church, but gave liberally to all Christian denominations. He was a Democrat and served as commissioner and supervisor, and also held other township offices. He was a colonel in the militia and was called out in the civil war, but after twelve days' service returned, as he was not required. Johnson H. began farming at the age of twenty-two years, when he took charge of the farm on which he lived until the spring of 1881. He then moved to Rohrsburg and has since led a retired life. He yet owns the homestead farm and another south of the town, and also a mill property, which he operates. He married, October 31, 1834, Maria, daughter of Jonathan Lemon, and they have reared six children: Christian Ann, Emeline, William P., Elmira, Iram B. and Elizabeth. Emeline married Reuben Appleman, and resides in Illinois; Christian Ann married Joseph Reece, and died in 1866; William resides in Greenwood; Elmira married Henry E. Mather; Iram B. resides on the homestead; Elizabeth is the wife of Dr. T. C. McHenry. Mr. Ikeler since Buchanan's time has been a Republican; has served twenty years as justice of the peace and deputy revenue assessor for six years; has also held other offices and been prominently identified with the interests of the township for many years. He was never defeated for any office. He is not a member of any church society but gives liberally to all charitable causes.

WILLIAM P. IKELER, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, is descended from one of the prominent families of Greenwood Township, where he was born December 22, 1838, on



the Ikeler homestead. He is the eldest son of Squire J. H. Ikeler and remained at home until he was twenty-four years of age. He then married Savella Goho, a native of Mifflin Township, and a daughter of Jacob and Anna (Hess) Goho. Three months after his marriage, Mr. Ikeler located where he now resides, and where he has since been engaged in farming. He owns 113 acres, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation. To him and Mrs. Ikeler six children were born: Milroy B., clerking at Millville; Raymond G., Vinnie W., Otto P., William H. and Clarence H. Politically Mr. Ikeler is a Republican, but gives little attention to politics, being engaged with his farming and stock raising.

IRAM BENTON IKELER, farmer, Millville, is descended from a prominent family of this township, and was born on the homestead, February 11, 1844. He is the youngest son of Johnson H. Ikeler, was reared to farming and has always resided on the homestead engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married January 10, 1877, Sallie, daughter of Alinas Cole, of this township. Mrs. Ikeler was born in Sugarloaf Township, and spent the early part of her life in school-teaching—the first term at the age of sixteen; she has borne her husband four children: Irma B., Jessie C., Jay Harold and Mattie Ellsworth. Mr. Ikeler is a member of the I. O. O. F., Mountain Lodge, No. 264, and of the P. of H., No. 52, Millville.

JAMES L. JOHN, merchant, Millville, was born May 17, 1852, in Mount Pleasant Township, son of James M. and Hannah (Kester) John. He was left fatherless while an infant and was reared under his mother's care until he arrived at manhood. At the age of eighteen he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, but later taught school and clerked for Ellis Eves & Bro. one year. He then taught and attended school, and in the spring of 1876 engaged in business with Isaac Underwood & Co. and remained about one year. In 1877 he went to Half Moon, Centre Co., Penn., and then embarked in business on his own account, in which he continued one year and nine months. He then went to Sereno, Columbia County, where for six months he conducted a store. In April, 1879, he went to Lairdsville, where he remained five and a half years. October 31, 1884, he came to Millville, erected a store and other improvements, and has since remained engaged in mercantile business. August 31, 1876, he married Edith, daughter of Jesse and Lydia (Parker) Heacock. They have four children: Watson I., Jesse M., Mary H. and Brand L. Mr. John has a livery in connection with his store and furnishes horses and conveyances at reasonable rates on short notice.

IRA JOHNSON, farmer, P. O. Millville, is descended from the Johnsons who were among the early settlers of Columbia County. John Jacob Johnson, his grandfather, was a native of Germany; was enrolled in the service of the British and brought to America to fight the colonists. Deeming their cause a just one, he watched his opportunity, joined the American forces and served as a cavalryman until the close of the war. He was wounded during his service in the cheek and leg and subsequently received a pension. Soon after the close of the Revolution he came to what is now Columbia County, and lived for several years at Orangeville. He was by trade a tailor, and married Mary Barnhart, who bore him six children: Barney, Jacob, William, Catherine (who married George Kline), Elizabeth (married Harmon Kline), and Sarah (who became the wife of George Snyder). William, the father of Ira, was born February 7, 1788, in New Jersey, and died January 24, 1877. He married Jerusha, a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Robbins) Richart. William was a tailor, and to him and wife were born six children: Wesley R., Sarah (wife of Demar Johnson), Minerva (wife of William McMichael); Phyllena L. (wife of Jackson Robbins), Arsintha (wife of James Manning) and Ira. The last-named was born May 21, 1822, one mile east of Millville, and when young worked with his father at the tailoring business, but later gave his attention to farming. He married Sarah, daughter of Michael and Catherine (Snyder) Thomas, and two sons blessed their union: Charles Britton and Arthur Wilson.

WILLIAM KARSCHNER, retired farmer, P. O. Iola, was born July 19, 1830, in Montour Township, near Danville, and moved to Pine Township (then Madison) with his parents, when nine years of age. His father, Michael, located on the farm now owned by William. There were only eight acres of improved land on the place when Mr. Karschner purchased, paying \$2 per acre; he died here August 25, 1853, aged fifty-four years. Subject's mother's maiden name was Dorothy Ann, daughter of George and Anna (Cox) Sechler. To Michael and Dorothy were born eight children who lived to be grown: John, Mary, William, Anna, Michael, Levi, Elizabeth and Elihu. William was reared on the farm, and took charge of it at his father's death; and has since owned and carried it on. He was married October 6, 1856, to Margaret, daughter of Philip and Charity (Dildine) Kline. Mr. Karschner located in Iola in the summer of 1885, and has since rented his farm. He has four children living: Loyd (a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church), Elmer, Alvaretta, and Riley H. Boyd, the second son, was accidentally killed at the saw-mill at Iola June 17, 1885, aged twenty-five years. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and esteemed for his many qualities. Mr. Karschner, wife and daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

AARON KESTER, butcher, Millville, was born in Mount Pleasant, Columbia Co., Penn., February 24, 1828, and, being the youngest of the family, he succeeded his father

on the homestead, where he remained until 1851. He then came to Millville, and for five years worked in Evess' wagon manufactory, after which he returned to Mount Pleasant and resumed farming, continuing until 1883. He then returned to Millville and again worked in the manufactory. He next began the butchering business with his son, S. W. Kester, which he still continues, meeting with great success. January 10, 1853, he married Esther, daughter of Richard and Esther (Caldwell) Pollock. Mr. and Mrs. Kester have three children: Alvina J., Richard C. (who resides on the homestead in Mount Pleasant, and married Clara E., daughter of Matthew Kindt), and Samuel W. (who married Pet Ikeler, daughter of A. J. Ikeler). The Kester family came to what is now Mount Pleasant Township about the year 1790. John Kester, the grandfather of Aaron, was born in New Jersey, July 31, 1744, and died in July, 1825. His wife, Hannah Webster, was born March 19, 1747, and was the daughter of Benjamin and Rachel Webster. Their children were Rachel, Ann, Samuel, Hannah, Mary, William, John, Benjamin, Ruth, Joseph and Aaron. The last named became the father of our subject, and was born August 25, 1787, in New Jersey. At the age of three years he came with his father to Mount Pleasant Township, Columbia County, Penn. He married Tamar, daughter of Amos and Mary Parker, and to them were born the following children, who arrived at maturity: Sarah, John, Hannah, Amos P., Anna, Jacob, Mary E., Aaron and Tamar J.

NICHOLAS KINDT, farmer, P. O. Greenwood, was born August 30, 1812, in Rhenish Prussia. When a young man he learned the blacksmith trade and left the land of his birth in 1831, arriving in New York in September of that year. Going to Erie, Penn., he worked three years at his trade for James Little, who was engaged on some public works at that place. In the spring of 1835 he left Erie, and after working a short time at different places between Erie and New York, he came to this county to visit his uncle, Frederick Rohr, of Rohrsburg. Liking the country, he concluded to remain, and worked that winter for John Richart. He next opened a shop for himself at Rohrsburg, and plied his trade continuously until 1863, when he located on the place which he now owns, and engaged in farming. November 23, 1837, he married Marion, daughter of George McMichael. Mrs. Kindt was born in this county, December 29, 1810, and has borne her husband the following children: George F.; Euphemia, deceased wife of John Kitchen; Elizabeth, died at the age of seventeen; Maria L. is the wife of Richard Kitchen. Mr. Kindt is still as vigorous of mind and body as a man of thirty: attends to the farm himself, and, though beginning poor, has secured for himself a competency. He and Mrs. Kindt are both members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he has been an elder for many years. He is a Democrat in sentiment, but the principles embodied in the platform of the Prohibition party meet his approval. Mr. Kindt's parents were John and Henrietta (Rohr) Kindt, who had a family of eight children: Adam, John, Peter, Nicholas, Anna, Beebe, Mary and Matthias, all of whom reared families except Anna. Four of the above came to this country: Adam settled in New Orleans; Mary married a Mr. Major who was murdered in California for his money (his widow now resides in Allegheny County, Penn.); Matthias located in Mount Pleasant Township.

SAMUEL B. KISNER, blacksmith, P. O. Millville, was born March 16, 1828, in Madison Township; eldest son of John and Susan (Battin) Kisner. John Kisner was born December 9, 1800, at Maiden creek, Berks County, at the foot of Blue Mountain. John was a son of Leonard Kisner, born at Maiden creek, Berks Co., Penn., and came to Spruce Run at an early day, and settled there in 1806; he married Elizabeth, daughter of John Buck. To Leonard and Elizabeth Kisner were born Jonas, Elizabeth, John, Jacob, Anna and David. All reared families except Anna, who died of small-pox. John was reared in Madison Township. He married Susan Battin December 30, 1824, and they had five children: Sarah, wife of J. P. Smith, in Rohrsburg; Elizabeth, married Phineas Welliver, in Madison Township; Samuel; Anna C., wife of James Welliver, in Greenwood; Henry, died aged twenty-four years. Samuel Kisner moved to this township in 1846, and learned the blacksmith trade. In 1849 he began business for himself, and in 1851 he came to Millville, and has since carried on his trade. In 1878 he took in his son Henry, and the firm is now S. B. & H. W. Kisner. Samuel Kisner was married, December 9, 1847, to Martha, daughter of Amos and Mary Parker. They have nine children: John, residing in this place; Elijah; Henry; Roy, a miller, residing at Iola; Sarah, wife of W. W. Heacock; Susan, at home; Mary, married G. McHenry, at Iola; Kate, died aged seventeen; Amos, died at the age of one year. In politics Mr. Kisner is a Republican.

RICHARD KITCHEN, Millville, was born in this town March 7, 1837, the eldest son of Henry Kitchen, who was born in this township February 26, 1801, on the farm now owned by G. W. Utt. September 17, 1829, Henry married Elizabeth Demott, who was born September 9, 1807, and died August 16, 1853. Henry died November 23, 1863. They had a family of seven children, all living: Mary J., who married Uriah R. Harrar and settled in Muncy; Richard; Harriet, wife of W. A. Thomas, of this township; Sarah, resides at Welliverville, the wife of Isaac Kline; John Amos, in Mount Pleasant Township, and McKelvy, in Washington County, Kas., engaged in farming. Richard was reared on the farm, and in 1862 enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Regiment, and served nine months. He returned home and the next year, Sep-



tember 20, 1864, married Maria, daughter of Nicholas and Maron (McMichael) Kindt. Mrs. Kitchen was born in this township February 21, 1847, and has borne her husband one child, Clinton A. The latter resides on the home place, and in 1886 married Agnes daughter of Jonas Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen are members of the Baptist Church.

NEHEMLAH KITCHEN, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born July 16, 1844, in Fishingcreek Township, to Daniel and Hannah (Shively) Kitchen. He was reared on the farm, and there remained until December, 1872, when he moved to this township and erected the buildings on the place now occupied by him, which is a part of the old homestead. He married, March 1, 1866, Margaret C. Lemmon, who was born in Greenwood, a daughter of Jonathan and Margaret (Lockard) Lemmon. They have two children living: Dora Jane and Elmer L. Harry D. died at the age of three months. Mr. Kitchen has eighty-six acres of valuable land under a fine state of cultivation. He is a Republican, and was elected justice of the peace in the spring of 1885. He is a member of the Grange.

ALEXANDER KRAMER, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born March 29, 1814, near Stillwater, Penn., and when two years of age was brought by his parents to Orange Township. Seven years later he was brought to Fishingcreek, where he remained until 1866. He then purchased property in Rohrsburg, and carried on mercantile business for about eight years. In 1873 he retired from that business, and the next year moved to one of his farms, where he has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits. Although he began poor he now owns three fine farms. He married, December 27, 1838, Sarah, daughter of Reuben and Catherine (Miller) Davis. Mr. and Mrs. Kramer had ten children, as follows: Matthias; infant (deceased); Mary Ellen (deceased); Elmira (deceased); Philip D. (deceased); an infant (deceased); Minerva Alice (deceased); an infant, deceased when born; Sarah E. and Alexander S. Sarah E. was the wife of Thomas J. Bender, and left two children, Bessie M. and Effie M. Matthias, the eldest son, has one child, Atta M.; Alexander S. married Anna Everett, of Benton. Mr. Kramer politically is a Greenbacker. The Kramer family came from New Jersey to this county, locating in Fishingcreek Township about 1798, when George Kramer came with the Kline family. George married Sophia Kline in New Jersey, and Abram Kline, a brother of Sophia, married a sister of George Kramer. George and Sophia Kramer had ten children: Matthias, Morris, Charles, William, Harmon, Samuel, Abram, George, Anna and Betsey. All reared families and settled first in the county, but later some of them moved west. Matthias was born in 1774, and married Mary Ann McCray, a daughter of Alexander McCray, a seaman who sailed the ocean for years. To Mr. and Mrs. Kramer the following named children were born: Sophia, William, Sarah, George, Mary, Alexander (whose name heads this sketch), Abram and Rebecca, all of whom settled in this locality except Rebecca.

MATTHIAS KRAMER, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, is one of the descendants of the early pioneers, and was born September 21, 1839, in Fishingcreek Township, eldest son of Alexander Kramer. He was reared in the township in which he was born, and remained here until his marriage, which event occurred in the fall of 1865, to Louisa, only daughter of Edward Albertson. Mr. Kramer has a snug farm one-half mile below Rohrsburg, and is a successful farmer. They have but one child, Atta M. Mr. Kramer, wife and daughter are members of the Christian Church.

WILLIAM G. LAWTON, retired farmer, P. O. Derr, was born February 22, 1814, in Yorkshire, England, a son of Benjamin and Anna (Goldthorpe) Lawton. The family embarked at Liverpool May 21, 1828, and landed at Philadelphia July 6, 1828, having been six weeks and four days on the voyage. They remained for a time in Schuylkill County, Penn., and in the fall of 1832 came to this county. William G. learned the builder's trade, which he followed several years, but subsequently gave his attention to farming. In 1839 he married Sarah A., daughter of Robert Fainman, and thirteen children blessed their union. Mr. Lawton came to the farm he now occupies in 1851, but is now living retired from active labor, spending the evening of his life in the quiet of his home. Politically he is a Democrat and has filled several offices of trust in the township, and in the fall of 1871 was elected commissioner of the county. He is a member of the Christian Church.

ELIJAH LEMON, retired, Greenwood, was born December 10, 1818, on the Lemon homestead, where he grew to manhood. John Lemon, a native of New Jersey, was a wagon-maker by trade and was employed during the Revolution repairing army wagons. After the close of that struggle he turned his attention toward seeking a location, and about 1790 came to Greenwood Township, Columbia County. Here he purchased 300 acres, out of which fine farms have since been made. That year he planted about two acres in wheat and erected a small cabin. In the fall he returned to New Jersey, and in the spring, coming again to this township, found that the deer had eaten his wheat. The Indians were hostile and he again returned to Jersey, but came again to his farm in the spring, bringing with him his sons, George and Joseph, and this time made a permanent location. By his wife, Elizabeth Titmon, he had a large family as follows: George, Joseph, Jacob, Balse, Jonathan, Jacob, Isaac, James, William, Michael, Betsey, Catherine



and Sally, all of whom settled here, except George, Jacob and Balse. William, the father of our subject, was born in New Jersey and came here with his father. John Lemon carved his name and the date of his coming upon the back of a turtle, which was seen about one score of years ago by his grandson, Elijah, and many times since and never over a hundred yards from the same place. William married Elizabeth Parker, daughter of John Parker, and by her had ten children: Sarah, George, Elijah, Elisha, Malinda, Samuel, Lucinda, Elizabeth, William and Frank, all of whom, except Elijah, moved west and settled in Illinois and Wisconsin. When he was sixteen years of age Elijah left home and bought his time from his father for \$8 per month until he attained his majority. He then began to learn the millwright's trade with Marshall Kinney, and after completing it, began on his own account, contracting, which he followed for over fifty years, retiring about 1884. He married in the fall of 1839, Eleanor, daughter of Amos Parker and a native of this township. To them were born the following children: Mary, Elmira, Harvey, William, Anna, Frances R. Mary is the wife of Wesley Morris; Elmira is the wife of B. F. Battin; Harvey resides in Muncey Valley, a millwright by trade; Anna is the wife of Bartley Heacock; Frances R. is the wife of Calvin Demott, and William died when a young man. Mrs. Lemon died in 1871. Mr. Lemon next married Elizabeth, daughter of Fred Derr. Mr. Lemon is a member of the Christian Church.

**JOHNATHAN LEMON** (deceased) was born in New Jersey about the year 1790, son of John Lemon. Jonathan married Margaret Lockard, and by her he had the following children: Eliza, deceased; Harriet, married Thomas Reece and resides in Cass County, Neb.; Sarah J., wife of Lorenzo Mendenhall, of Allen County, Kas.; Margaret, married M. Kitchen; John; Jacob, farming in Cass County, Neb., and Jonathan. Jonathan, Senr., settled in the township where the Lemon brothers resided one-half mile west of Rohrsburg, was engaged in the lumber business for many years and carried on the saw-mill, which he rebuilt, being first built by his father in 1802. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his widow survives him, drawing a pension. He died in 1852. John Lemon was born March 19, 1833, on the farm, and has always lived here. He was married to Mary, daughter of David Kitchen. They have no children. John Lemon has been engaged in operating a saw-mill and farming, and has recently sold out to his brother Jonathan.

**URIAH P. McHENRY**, retired, Millville, was born September 24, 1828, in Fishing-creek Township, the ninth in a family of eleven children. He remained at home on the farm until he was sixteen years of age, when he went to Stillwater and worked in Col. Kline's grist-mill. There he learned the miller's trade, and afterward worked at farming in different places. In 1847 he began for himself, worked in Cole's mill for a time, and in 1849 went to Danville, where he remained one year; then went to Huntingdon Creek and worked in Jones' mill for four years; thence to West Creek, where he remained about five years in the Heacock mill. This mill was then purchased by Mr. Kimball, and Mr. McHenry remained with him three years and operated the mill. He then conducted the Robbins mill in this township, but his health failing, he engaged at buhr dressing. He then returned to the mill at Stillwater, where he had learned his trade, and remained about two years. He then purchased a farm and carried on agricultural pursuits, also attending to the mill. While here he purchased a half interest in the mill, and continued there until the spring of 1874, when he came to Millville and purchased an interest in the Masters & Heacock mill. He then formed a partnership with Mr. Heacock, under the firm name of McHenry & Heacock, which lasted until the spring of 1883. Mr. McHenry then sold out his interest and purchased the Hayman mill at Iola, which he has since conducted, and hires a miller to attend to it, having retired from active labor. He married, July 4, 1855, Elizabeth, daughter of Enos Heacock. They have no children of their own, but a niece of Mrs. McHenry, daughter of Josiah Heacock, known as Minnie McHenry, given to them by her mother at her death, has since lived with them.

**H. GAIL McHENRY**, miller, P. O. Iola, comes of a family of millers; his father, Moses, is a miller, and his two brothers, Ruggles and Charles, are also millers. Gail was born December 7, 1856, in Huntsville, Luzerne County, and when one year old removed with his parents to Fishingcreek, where he lived seven years, then moved to Roaring-creek, where he commenced learning his trade at the Mendenhall mills, and when competent took charge of the mills. In December, 1880, he came to Eyer's Grove and had charge of the mill three years, and in the spring of 1883 he associated with U. P. McHenry in the Iola mills, and has since been in charge of the same. He was married in October, 1882, to Mary Kisner, daughter of Samuel Kisner. They have two children: Myrtle and Uriah. They are members of the Christian Church.

**JOHN McMICHAEL**, farmer, P. O. Millville, was born June 14, 1818, on the farm now owned by J. M. Demott, which was formerly a part of the old McMichael homestead. His father, George McMichael, was born in Scotland in 1772, and died May 29, 1860. He came to America and settled in Greenwood Township, Columbia Co., Penn., about 1801. He married Agnes, daughter of William and Elizabeth McMichael, a distant relative of the family. Mrs. McMichael was born in 1779 and died April 1, 1866. To her and her husband were born ten children, as follows: Jane, Verronica, Euphemia, James, Marian, Elizabeth, George, Agnes, John and William. Seven of these reared

families. Verronica married Ed. Henrie; Marian married Nicholas Kindt; Elizabeth became the wife of Robert Nixon, and Agnes married Samuel Stetler, all of whom settled in this section of country. Our subject married at Jerseytown, January 9, 1844, Sarah Ann, daughter of Henry Bombay. For several years after his marriage, Mr. McMichael worked at different places and at various vocations, but finally purchased the old homestead and located thereon, and has since engaged in farming. Mrs. McMichael was born December 30, 1822, in Roaringcreek Township, and has borne her husband three children: Mary E. (who resides in Delaware County, Penn., the wife of Joseph R. Kester, and has four children: Raymond, Stewart, Bertha and Clara); Rosetta, married Harmon Mordan, of Mount Pleasant (has two children—Myron and Erma,) and Benjamin F., who farms the homestead and married Mrs. Clara Kramer, the daughter of F. E. Rote. Mr. McMichael has for many years been a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church; has always been a Republican, but believes in the final triumph of the Prohibition party.

WILLIAM MASTERS, storekeeper, Millville, is descended from one of the prominent families of the township, and was born November 8, 1841, in Millville. His father, George, a son of David Masters, was born November 2, 1810, in Madison Township. David married Mary Eves, who bore him eight children, of whom George was the eldest. When the latter was fourteen years of age he came to this town and learned the miller's trade in his father's mill, with George Hepler, and was given entire charge when he was sixteen years of age. He then continued for nine years in charge of the mill until 1835 or 1836. In 1849 the mill was destroyed by fire, when George Masters and John Betz bought the site and built the mill that now stands in the town, and which they continued for several years. In 1835 George Masters engaged in merchandising with Samuel B. Mather, which partnership lasted about nine years, when Mr. Mather retired and Mr. Masters continued the business alone until 1857, when he disposed of a half interest to his son David, and in 1863 disposed of the remainder to William Masters, who continues the business. George remained half owner of the mill, however, up to the time of his death, September 14, 1871. His widow died September 16, 1886; she was born March 31, 1808. Mr. Masters was a prominent member of the Society of Friends. He left several pieces of real estate. David Masters, brother of William, went to Philadelphia in 1870, is successfully engaged in business on Market Street, and has a tasty home on Baring Street, West Philadelphia.

HENRY E. MATHER, farmer, P. O. Greenwood, was born August 27, 1842, in Pottsville, Penn., only son of Jesse and Julia A. (Merrill) Mather. His grandfather was Jesse Mather, who married Margaret Shively, by whom were born Henry, Sallie, Hannah, Betsey, Samuel, John, James and Jesse. Henry E. came to Greenwood when sixteen years of age and has since lived on the farm his grandfather Jesse settled on. Henry's father died in 1859, his widow surviving him one year. September 22, 1834, Henry E. married Almira M., daughter of Johnson H. Ikeler, of this township, and to them have been born three children; Bertha Z., Jesse and Truman. Mr. Mather is a Republican and a member of the P. of H., also of the I. O. F.

WESLEY MORRIS, farmer, P. O. Greenwood, was born in Mount Pleasant Township, Columbia County, in 1837, son of John Morris. June 4, 1863, he married Mary E. Lemon, daughter of Elijah and Eleanor (Parker) Lemon. Mrs. Morris was born in this township August 14, 1840, and she and her husband have four children living: Ella, John, Wilhelmina and Eckley E. William E. died at the age of eighteen months; Harry D. at the age of three weeks, and Francis J. at the age of five months. In the spring of 1876 Mr. Morris located on his present farm, which was a part of the original Lemon tract. It consists of sixty-seven acres, and here Mr. Morris is engaged in agricultural pursuits, but is a blacksmith by trade. Mr. Morris has been elected and has served as poor director of the district composed of Scott, Sugarloaf, Greenwood and Bloom; as assessor, as supervisor, as school director, and overseer of the poor, and has served as tax collector by appointment.

AARON MUSGRAVE, deceased, was born February 7, 1802, in this township, a son of Aaron and Sarah (Woodrow) Musgrave. Aaron, Sr., was born February 17, 1760, and became the father of the following children: Isaac; Ann, who became the wife of Daniel Smith and removed to Fishingcreek Township; Rachel, wife of Joseph Kester, of Mount Pleasant Township; Mary, married William Kester, and moved west; Isaac and James, settled in Mount Pleasant, and Aaron, settled in this township. September 18, 1823, our subject married Sarah, daughter of Daniel and Mary Force. She was born August 8, 1799, and bore her husband four children: Daniel, Mary Ann, Sarah W. and William McKelvy. Mr. Musgrave was an honored and respected member of the community among whom he had resided since his marriage. He was a consistent member of the Christian Church, and politically a Republican, though not a partisan. He died in November, 1871, his widow surviving him until August 14, 1877. Of their children, Mary A. died in 1862, the wife of Hiram Kester (left three children: Aaron M., Thomas C. and William Alpheus, all of whom removed west); Daniel resides in Mount Pleasant Township, and William McK., who took charge of the homestead farm in 1872 and conducted it until 1878. At that time the place was sold and he purchased the property where he now resides. He has acquired a competence and lives in comfortable circumstances with his sister, Sarah W., who keeps house for him.



DR. JOHN B. PATTON, Millville, was born April 9, 1832, in Rush Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., a son of Joseph R. Patton, who was born April 10, 1797, in Briarcreek Township, this county. Joseph R. was a son of John Patton, who came from New Jersey when a young man, married Mary Richart and located in Briarcreek Township, on the Susquehanna. He was a house carpenter and to him and his wife were born three sons and two daughters: Joseph R.; Catharine, who married Jacob DeMott and settled in Madison Township; Margaret also settled there, the wife of Jeremy Welliver; John settled in Danville and died there leaving four children; Samuel removed to Mason County, Ill., and is now deceased. Joseph R., the first named, married Sarah De Witt, daughter of Isaac De Witt. To them were born nine children: Oliver P., Margaret, William G., Louisa J., Isaac D. and Mary L. (twins), John B., Joseph M. and Sarah C. (twins), all of whom except Louisa J. reared families. Louisa married Squire Jacob Terwilliger and resides in Light Street. John B. was reared on the homestead and left home at the age of nineteen and attended school, first at Millville and later the Wyoming Academy. He then taught school some years to enable him to attend college, which he entered in 1854, and graduated in 1860 at Lafayette College. After graduating he taught for a time in Columbia Academy, and while there, in December, 1860, married Mary M., daughter of James Masters. In the spring of 1861 he went to Parkesburg and took charge of the Parkesburg Academy for one year, but the outbreak of the civil war took away many of the students and the school was temporarily closed. Dr. Patton then came to Millville and for eighteen months was associate principal of the Greenwood Seminary. In the spring of 1864 he took charge of a select school at Orangeville for one year. This school was broken up by an arbitrary act of the soldiers sent to put down the so-called Fishing Creek confederacy at the instigation of partisans of a rival school. In the spring of 1865 he went to Montana Territory, opened a school in Virginia City, and also engaged in mining for one year; then conducted a drug store at Bannock City for a time. In 1868 he returned to this county and completed his medical course. He began to practice at Sereno, but after six months, finding an opening in Sullivan County, Penn., went there and remained until 1872. He then came to Millville and has since remained practicing his profession. Dr. and Mrs. Patton have two children: James M., Francis J.

ALLEN H. PHILLIPS. Among the old time millers of Columbia County is Mr. Phillips, P. O. Eyer's Grove, who was born January 6, 1825, in Bucks County, Penn., the second son of Thomas Phillips, to whom were born Moses, Aaron, Robert, David, Thomas, Rachel, Mercy and Elizabeth. Thomas married Sarah Phillips, and by her had eight children that lived to be grown: Joseph, Allen H., Andrew J., Harrison, Almira, Rebecca, Eliza, and Jane. Allen H., when fifteen years of age, went with his uncle David to learn the miller's vocation at Perryville, in Northampton County, and since that time has been constantly engaged in that business, not having lost a year's time, principally in Columbia and Montour Counties. He was married in 1845, to Sarah E. Eves, daughter of Milton Eves; she died leaving three children: Milton, Thomas and Charles, none living but Milton, a teacher in Simpson College, Iowa. He married for his second wife Margaret Schuyler; she died leaving five children: Alfred C., now a physician in Booneville, Iowa; Thomas L., a farmer in Madison Township; Louis S., milling with his father at Eyer's Grove; Samuel, telegraph operator in Danville; Ada M., at home. His third wife was Rebecca, daughter of Isaac Welsh; by her he has one child, Isaac, on the farm. His present wife was Mrs. Runyon, daughter of Daniel Welliver. He came to Eyer's Grove the last time in 1883; and has since been a resident. He carries on a farm in Madison Township. In politics he is a Republican.

JOSEPH W. REECE, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born February 15, 1829, in this township. Nehemiah Reece was the pioneer of the family to settle in Greenwood Township, and from him are descended all of the name now here. He came from one of the lower counties and took up the land now owned by our subject, about the year 1800. He married Mary Eves who bore him a large family, nine of whom reared families: Edith, Philip, John, Hannah, Nehemiah, Sarah, Louisa, Aaron and Mary. John was born January 1, 1801, was reared to manhood in this township and became the father of Joseph W. He married Mary, daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Adams) Whitaker, and after his marriage located on this farm where he spent the remainder of his life. He died March 25, 1858, his widow surviving him until October 10, 1879. They reared to maturity five children: Joseph W., Nehemiah, Philip, Margaret C. and Benjamin. Philip was killed by a horse when sixteen years old; Nehemiah resides in Iowa; Margaret married Thomas Mather and reared four children. Joseph W. remained at home until attaining his majority, after which he worked for some years on a farm and clerked in store at Millville. January 23, 1858, he married Christiana, daughter of Squire J. H. Ikeler, and settled on the farm now owned by W. P. Ikeler, where he remained four years. He then located on the old Reece farm, where he has since resided. Mrs. Reece died October 12, 1866, the mother of three children: Gula E., Johnson H. and Benjamin. Mr. Reece next married Mrs. Elizabeth Parker, daughter of John and Mary Rantz. She died March 9, 1871, and by her had one child, John L. Mr. Reece then married his present wife, Deborah Warner, a native of Muncy and a daughter of James and Julia Ann (Jones) Warner. Mr.



Reece has made all the improvements on his place, which he owns and which consists of 120 acres. His house is the fourth one erected on the farm since Nehemiah Reece lived there.

DR. REUBEN L. RICH, Millville, was born September 19, 1832, on the farm which he now owns, a son of John G. and Lydia (Lundy) Rich, the latter a daughter of Reuben and Esther (Bunting) Lundy, who were the parents of eight children. John G. and Lydia Rich were the parents of ten children: Mary A., Sarah, Benjamin, William, Reuben L., Esther, I Lundy, Henry, Jane, and J. Gillingham. Reuben L. now resides on the Lundy farm, upon which his grandfather, Reuben Lundy, settled in 1792; the house now occupied by Dr. Rich was built in 1798, and a pear tree which still bears fruit was planted in the same year. Benjamin Rich, the paternal grandfather of the Doctor, married Sarah Gillingham, and to them were born four children: John G., Sarah, Ann and Benjamin. John G. was born about 1801 and came to this township when a young man. He was a tanner and later carried on tanning in the valley for years, and died in 1873. His wife died ten years prior. Reuben L. was reared in this township and began the practice of dentistry in 1855, but since 1869 has been also engaged in farming. He married, December 27, 1864, Elizabeth, second daughter of James Masters. They have three children living: Anna Watson, Mary L. and Bessie A. Willie died in 1881, aged nine years and six months; John and Harry died in infancy. Dr. Rich is a member of the A. Y. M. He and his wife belong to Valley Grange, P. of H., and the Society of Friends.

JACKSON ROBBINS. The Robbins family take rank among the early settled families in Greenwood Township. Joseph Robbins, grandfather of our subject, married Catharine Harris, by whom he had nine children—six sons and three daughters: William, Jerusha (married to William Snyder), Vincent, Hannah (married to William Eves), Joseph, John, Catharine (married to John Sibert), Robert and Jesse. John Robbins, father of our subject, was born on the homestead now owned by the latter, and married Mary, daughter of John Mannon, whose wife was a Demott. The children born to John and Mary Robbins were Jackson, Sarah (married to James Demott), Catharine (married to George B. Thomas), Charlotte (single) and Ira. Our subject was born on his farm in 1832, and with the exception of three years' residence in Fishingcreek Township, this county, has lived continuously on the farm where he was born. He has been twice married: first to Paulena L., daughter of William Johnson; at her decease she left four children: Robert, Elizabeth (married to B. Mannon, of Evers Grove), Harriet (married to John Barber, of Stillwater), and John. Robert and John reside in Greenwood. Mr. Robbins' second wife was Anna Beckford, by whom he has the following named children: Mary, Louis, Samantha, Effie, Orra and George.

VIRGIL D. ROBBINS, farmer, P. O. Greenwood, was born January 9, 1832, in Madison Township, on the old Barber farm. He is the eldest and only surviving son of William Robbins, who was born about 1784, being a son of Joseph Robbins, a native of New Jersey. Joseph reared a large family, as follows: Vincent, William, Hannah, Jerusha, Robert, John, Joseph, Jesse and Catherine, all of whom lived to rear families except Joseph and Robert. Vincent moved to Canada, Jerusha married William Snyder and moved to Indiana; Catherine married Samuel Seibert and settled in this township, as did the others. William, the father of Virgil D., was born in Greenwood Township about 1784, and married Sabrina Teeple; she was born September 30, 1805, in New Jersey. After his marriage William removed to Madison Township and engaged in farming until April, 1842, when he came to this township, and here died in 1871. His wife died in 1841. Of their seven children, but four lived to be grown: Sarah J., who married John Christian and located in this township, as did the others; Lucinda, who became the wife of George W. Derr, and William O. The only ones now living are Virgil D. and Sarah J. Our subject remained on the homestead until the spring of 1883, when he located on the farm which he now owns. He married, November 29, 1855, Mary Ann, daughter of John and Jane (Edgar) Staley. Mrs. Robbins was born September 19, 1833, in Pottsville, Penn., and has borne her husband five children: William P., married to Effie Battin, daughter of B. F. Battin; Emma Jane, wife of Thomas Smith, resides in Jackson Township; John C. married Emma Manning, daughter of William Manning; Diebald and Charles O. at home. Mr. and Mrs. Robbins are members of the Christian Church.

FRANCIS E. ROTE, farmer, P. O. Millville, was born on the border of Madison Township, near Millville, January 16, 1827. The Rote family came to this township prior to 1800. Francis, who was born October 5, 1775, was the pioneer of the name in this county, and was of German descent. He married Mary Welliver and had six children who grew to maturity: Charity, William, Margaret, Daniel, Abigail and Elizabeth, all of whom were born near Millville. His wife was born November 20, 1782, and died June 20, 1855. William, who married Elizabeth Eves, daughter of William Eves, became the father of Francis E. They reared but two children, our subject and Sarah, wife of E. B. Brower, of Bloomsburg. Francis E. was reared in this neighborhood and began to hold the plow when ten years of age. He married, March 11, 1852, Asenath, daughter of Milton and Mary Eves. After his marriage he located on the farm which he now owns, and where he has since resided. He has four

children living: Clara B., first married Philip Kramer, and after his death Ben McMichael, and resides in this township; Mary resides in Madison Township, the wife of R. L. De Mott; Henry is a farmer, at home, and William, unmarried. Izora, the daughter of Clara B. and her first husband, resides with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Rote.

JOHN B. SHULTZ, farmer and miller, Rohrsburg, is descended from one of the early families of this township. His grandfather, Daniel Shultz, settled here prior to 1800 and located three-quarters of a mile from Rohrsburg, when the place was a wilderness. He married Elizabeth White, who bore him Philip, James, Isaac, Samuel, John and Sarah. Daniel died April 30, 1852, aged eighty-three years, one month and twenty-eight days; his wife, Elizabeth, died March 24, 1853, aged eighty-eight years and three months. Subject's great-grandfather was Philip, whose ancestors came from Germany and settled in New Jersey and later removed to this locality, as mentioned before. Philip died April 5, 1816, aged seventy-five years; his wife, Barbara, died September 20, 1828, aged eighty-four years. James, the father of John B., married Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Stucker and Catherine (Peeler) Stucker. Four children were born to them: Ellen, John B., Catherine and Esther. Ellen resides in Orange Township, the wife of Daniel Kline; Catherine married John Moore and resides in this township; Esther married John H. Parker and settled in Greenwood Township. The father of this family was a farmer, which pursuit he followed until his death; he died May 23, 1826, aged twenty-six years, eight months, sixteen days; his widow, Elizabeth, died July 17, 1873, aged seventy-seven years, seven months, four days. John B. was born Aug. 17, 1821, on the homestead near Rohrsburg. He was reared a farmer and when of age turned his attention to the management of the mill, which he now owns and which he conducted up to 1884, when his son assumed charge of it. He married Hettie, a daughter of Jonas and Mary E. (Miller) Hayman. They have two children living, Jonas and Lestie. Jonas resides with his parents, married to Dora Henry. They have one child, Lelie Maude. Lestie is in Iowa, the wife of Clark Kline. Mr. Shultz is a Democrat and a member of the Grange.

TILLMAN STADLER, painter and trimmer, P. O. Millville, was born August 24, 1841, in Turbotville, Northumberland Co., Penn., eldest son of Isaac and Caroline (Keener) Stadler. August 23, 1850, his father dying, he was placed in the care of strangers, and was brought up by a strict Presbyterian, who gave him good school advantages and who had designed to fit his protegee for the ministry, while Tillman had aspired to become a physician. This conflicting of previously formed plans resulted in an estrangement between the two, and Tillman, having received the elements of a classical education, and being ready for the second year in college, now gave his attention to teaching, and continued until the breaking-out of the Rebellion, when he enlisted April 24, 1861, in Company G, Eleventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, for three months. After serving his time he returned home and was prostrated with camp fever for several weeks, but, after teaching one term of school, gained his health, and August 1, 1862, enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Thirty-first Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, for nine months, and was promoted to first sergeant. After serving out his time he went out with Company C, Two Hundred and First Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry (time of enlistment one year), as color corporal, and served until the close of the war, being for six months of the last enlistment on detached duty as chief clerk of court martial in Alexandria, Va. After returning from the service he went to Lewisburg, Penn., and worked under instructions as carriage painter and trimmer. After his graduation he worked in various localities in the State, and since the fall of 1868 he has been permanently located in Millville in charge of the painting and trimming department in the noted Millville Wagon Manufactory. He was married in 1867 to Elmira, daughter of Peter Fogleman. They have two children: Frank and Ada M. Mr. Stadler is a member of the Christian Church; of the A. Y. M., Bloom Lodge No. 264; of the I. O. O. F.; and the G. A. R., Bryson Post No. 225.

AUGUST STAUDER, tanner, Rohrsburg, was born September 17, 1837, in Reistenhausen, Prussia, a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Hoenig) Stauder. His parents had a family of five children, August, Caroline, Frederick, Rosa and Della, none of whom came to America except August. At the age of thirteen August began to learn the tanner's trade, serving five years' apprenticeship, after which he traveled for five years and worked in many places. In 1864 he landed in New York and worked in the Steinway Piano Manufactory for some months; then went to Elizabethtown, N. J., where he worked in a tannery, returning after a year to New York, where he worked at his trade. A year later he went to Scranton and worked for some months in Huntsdale and Wilkesbarre, Penn., and in the latter place was foreman in a large tannery. He then moved to Light Street, where he worked as foreman for a time; then moved to Briarcreek and for four years worked for Joseph Conner, and during the four years saved \$1,999, and with the money came to Rohrsburg and purchased the tannery of Perry Smith, and eighteen acres. Here he has since resided and has added to his land from time to time until now he has ninety-two acres. He has erected the principal buildings and operates the tannery. He married, September 22, 1874, Sarah E. Fry, who was born in this county, a daughter of Frederick Fry. Mr. and Mrs. Stauder have four children: Maggie, Rosa, Joseph and Bertha. Mr. Stauder is a member of Albright Church, and politically is a Democrat.



GEORGE W. UTT, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born in Northampton County, Penn., May 26, 1837, the fourth son of David and Mary (Evans) Utt. The former was born August 15, 1805, in Northampton County; the latter born June 27, 1801. When George W. was two and a half years old he came to this county with his parents and located in Greenwood Township one mile north of Rohrsburg, where he remained until he was of age. At the age of twelve years he began to work out and assist in the maintenance of the family. He received a good education, taught school several years, and in 1861 enlisted in Company F, Second Pennsylvania Artillery (112th in line). Shortly after he was made sergeant and promoted, May 4, 1863, to second lieutenant. Later he was commissioned first lieutenant and finally captain in Battery I, One Hundred and Eighty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was wounded in front of Petersburg and discharged on the expiration of his term of enlistment, receiving the following commendatory letter from his commander:

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL BRIGADE,  
DEFENCES OF BERMUDA HEAD, VA. }  
December 29, 1864. }

The bearer, George W. Utt, lieutenant Battery F, Second Pennsylvania Artillery, has this day been honorably discharged from the service of the United States by reason of expiration of his term. It affords me pleasure to state that during his connection with the regiment he has always performed his duties faithfully and efficiently. While in command of his company in the trenches on the Petersburg front, in July last, he was severely wounded by a fragment of one of the enemy's shells.

W. M. McCLURE,

*Colonel 2d Penn. Art. Comd'g.*

Upon his return home he farmed one year, and in 1866 purchased a farm. He has been twice married. His first wife, Mary E. Appleman, was born in Fishingcreek Township, a daughter of Philip Appleman. She bore him three children—Philip C., William Ernest and Mary A.—and died April 28, 1872. His second marriage was with Sarah A. Keller, also born in Fishingcreek Township, a daughter of John Keller. She died July 18, 1886, the mother of eight children: Laura M., Ella M., Susan J., Anna B., Grace E., Etta, James G. and George F. Politically Mr. Utt is a Democrat, and has served as school director two terms. He is a member of the Christian Church, in which he has been an elder since 1875.

J. CLYDE VAN HORN, farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born February 15, 1853, in this township, eldest son of James Van Horn, who was a son of James and Polly (Wilson) Van Horn, whose offspring were Betsey, Sallie, Ella, Nancy, Charity, James, Joseph and William. James Van Horn, father of J. C., was born May 8, 1819, in Orange Township, and died April 15, 1886; his wife was Margaret C., daughter of John and Letty (Miller) Wilson. Letty being a daughter of Joseph and Margaret Miller. Mrs. Van Horn survives her husband. Our subject resides on the homestead, engaged in farming. In 1878 he married Maria, daughter of William and Mary Ann (Hartman) Blish. They have one child, Elmer Doyle, born April 3, 1881. In politics Mr. Van Horn is a Democrat.

JAMES O. WARNER, farmer, P. O. Millville, was born February 23, 1857, the only son of James and Julia (Jones) Warner. James Warner was born in Lycoming County, Penn., in 1805, a son of Benjamin and Deborah (Kitley) Warner; Julia (Jones) Warner was born in 1814, in Lycoming County, Penn. James Warner was a farmer and also carried on mercantile business. He died in 1867, a member of the Society of Friends. To him and his wife were born six children: Mary, Deborah, Sarah, Susan, Elizabeth and James O. Mary is the wife of James Whipple, of De Kalb County, Ill.; Susan, wife of Edwin A. Whitacre, also of De Kalb County, Ill.; Deborah, wife of Joseph W. Reece, near Rohrsburg; Sarah, wife of Joseph W. Eves, of Millville; Elizabeth is the wife of Daniel Kitchen, of Bloomsburg. James O. is the only male representative of the name. When he was but ten years of age his father died and he remained with his mother. He came here in 1875, attended and taught school two terms and worked on the farm, and in 1879 purchased the farm he now owns, consisting of eighty acres on the edge of Millville. He was married August 26, 1884, to Laura E., daughter of Charles W. Eves. She died May 17, 1885, leaving no issue.

JACOB E. WELLIVER, merchant, Eyer's Grove, was born in Madison Township, August 1, 1836, son of John and Anna (Eyer) Welliver. John Welliver was born about the year 1801, son of William Welliver, who came from New Jersey and settled in Madison Township at an early day. Several children were born to William Welliver, among whom was John, the father of our subject, and who was reared in Madison Township; he married Anna, daughter of Ludwig Eyer, by whom he had seven children: James, Uriah, Catharine, Jacob E., Jeremiah, Elizabeth and John. Jacob E. was reared in Jerseytown, and when a young man clerked for several years in different localities, came to this place in 1874, and succeeded William Eyer in the merchandise business, and has since carried on a general store. He has had charge of the postoffice several years, and has been postmaster since 1881. He was married to Almira, daughter of Philip and Rachel (Dye) Cottner. They have five children: William, Loyd, Clyde, Irene and Jay. In politics he is a Democrat.

REUBEN WILSON, retired, Millville, was born February 12, 1806, in the old house



built by his grandfather, in Montour County, where the Wilsons were among the early settlers. John Wilson came from England prior to the Revolution, in which struggle he sided with the colonists. After the Revolution he taught school, and resided for a short time in Schuylkill County, Penn. He then came to what is now Montour County, Penn., settled about four miles north of Danville, where he opened a farm in the wilderness. He owned nearly 300 acres and resided there the remainder of his life. His wife Phoebe bore him the following children: Hannah, Thomas, Rachel, Sarah, Phoebe, John and Ann, all of whom reared families except Ann. Thomas married Susanna Russell, of Irish descent, and by her had nine children: William, John, Reuben, Elizabeth, Priscilla, Thomas, Mary, Rachel and Martha, all of whom except Thomas reared families. Elizabeth married John Willetts; Priscilla was the wife of Benjamin Eves; Mary married Isaac Pursell; Rachel became the wife of Francis Eves and Martha married Reuben Crossley, and all settled in what are now Montour and Columbia Counties. Reuben and Martha are the only ones now living. The former was born in Montour County and there grew to manhood. His health being poor, his parents feared that he was not strong enough to farm and they sent him to learn the tanner's trade, which he worked at in intervals with farming. He married January 27, 1831, Sarah, daughter of Chandlee Eves, and after marriage settled on a farm in Madison Township and engaged in farming forty-three years. In 1875 he came to Millville, and here has since resided. The following are the names of his children who grew to maturity: Harriet, wife of Reece M. Esk; Rachel, wife of A. P. Young; Elizabeth, wife of James Rote; Mary, wife of Levi Pilkington, in Iowa; Anna, wife of William Potts, in Chester County; Sarah is unmarried and resides with her sister Mary in Iowa; Thomas C. resides on the home farm in Madison Township. Reuben is the only one of the family who attained the age of seventy. He is now in his eighty-first year and is hale and well after an active business life, in which he has been successful. He is a prominent member of the Society of Friends, and Speaker in the same. Politically is a Republican, but was formerly a Whig; he has been devoted to Prohibition principles for over forty years, and looks for the final triumph of the Prohibition party. Mrs. Sarah E. Wilson died September 23, 1878.

THOMAS WILSON, farmer, P. O. Millville, was born September 19, 1830, in Valley Township, Montour County. His father, John Wilson, was also born there and married Frances H., daughter of Jacob W. Moss, whose wife was Sarah W. Simpson. To John Wilson and wife were born eleven children, nine of whom lived to be grown: Sarah (deceased), Thomas, John M., Susan W., Francis M., Elizabeth (deceased), Nancy, Robert M., Margaret, Mary L., Charles. The parents of Thomas died in Montour County, where they were born. Thomas remained on the home farm until he was twenty-seven years of age, at which time he married Mary Eves, daughter of John K. Eves. In 1857, the same spring of his marriage, he moved to the farm he now owns, which was a part of the John K. Eves farm. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have four children; John F., married Arabella Statton, has two daughters and resides in this township; Joseph M., residing in Iowa; Norris and Frances H., at home. Mr. Wilson owns two good farms. In politics he is a Republican.

A. PHILIP YOUNG, farmer, P. O. Millville, was born near Benton, Penn., November 17, 1835, the youngest of four children—that reached maturity—born to Abram and Ann (Peterman) Young. Abram was a native of New Jersey, and, removing to Columbia County, Penn., located near Benton, where he engaged in farming until his death in 1872, at the age of eighty-seven. He was for more than thirty years a justice of the peace and took an active part pertaining to the improvement of the section in which he lived. He was not sectarian but inclined to the Baptist faith. Politically he was a Democrat. Mrs. Young was born in Montgomery County, this State, of Revolutionary stock, and at this date, February, 1887, still lives with remarkable physical and mental powers, at the age of nearly ninety-six years. Of the four children that grew up, Mercey Ann, the eldest, became the wife of Mathias Roberts and died without issue; Aaron went to Illinois, Whiteside County, in 1851, married, engaged in farming and has several children; Sarah, married Eli McHenry and resides near Benton. A. P. was reared to farming and on attaining his majority came to Millville to attend school at the Greenwood Seminary; engaged in teaching in the public schools, and finally in the seminary, taking an active part in teachers' institute, educational meetings and all measures to advance the standard of intelligence. He then made a trip south and west, returning in the fall of 1860, and a year later purchased the farm which he now owns, on which he has made many valuable improvements, raising the land from a run down barrenness to one of fertility. The title "Old Briar farm" does not now apply to it. He married in 1861, Rachel, daughter of Reuben Wilson, one of the prominent representatives of the Society of Friends in this place. To Mr. and Mrs. Young were born four daughters: Alice, after graduating from the Bloomsburg Normal School and teaching two years, became the wife of Alfred H. Potts of Parkesburg, Chester County, where she now resides; Ella, also a graduate of the same school; Emma and Mary. Mr. Young takes great interest in improving the blooded stock of his neighborhood, and has a select herd of registered Jersey cattle. He is among the foremost men in the Grange organization, and has occupied the position of Deputy Master in his county for six years; has also been identified with the I. O. O. F.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

## HEMLOCK TOWNSHIP.

STINSON L. BROBST, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, is a grandson of Jacob Brobst, who was a resident of Northampton County, and later removed to what is now West Hemlock Township, in Montour County, where he died August 29, 1873, aged seventy-seven years and six months. His widow, Ellen Brobst, is still living in Bloomsburg. Their son, Daniel, who is the father of our subject, is the eldest child, and in early life learned the trade of shoemaking in Danville, at which he still works in winter. His home is in Valley Township, Montour County. His wife, Rebecca (Johnson) Brobst, was born in Northampton County, and became the mother of eight children, three of whom died young. The living are Edward D., Benjamin F., Martin L. (all living in this township), Marietta (single and living with her parents) and Stinson L. Mr. and Mrs. Brobst have for many years been members of the Lutheran Church in Valley Township, in which he has been elder for over ten years, and has the confidence and respect of all who know him. Stinson L. is the eldest of the family, and was born October 22, 1850. In early life he worked at farming, and when he was thirteen years old he moved with his parents to West Hemlock, where they remained. Their house was destroyed by fire three years later. The family then moved to Frosty Valley, where, until he was twenty years old, our subject worked in the mines in summer and on farms and attending school in winter. He completed his education in his twenty-first year, at Millville Seminary, Greenwood Township, this county, and then taught school in Jackson Township four months, and for three years, subsequently, worked in the mines. He then resumed teaching, which he followed four winter terms, returning to the mines for three or four years. At the end of that time, in company with his three brothers, he bought the farm on which he now resides, to which he moved a year later, and which has since been his home. November 15, 1879, he married Miss Emma J., daughter of John and Susan Hartzel, of Mahoning Township, Montour County. She had always lived with her parents until her marriage. To this union three children have been born: Mabel G., Charles E. and Lloyd H., who live with their parents. Mr. Brobst has been clerk of the school board for five years, and is an industrious young man who stands deservedly high in the community.

HENRY DEIGHMILLER, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn; a son of Henry Deighmiller, Sr., who came from Germany and settled in Bucks County, where he owned a farm, on which our subject was born. In 1848 he sold the farm there and removed to this county where he bought the farm on which his son now resides, and died in 1861. His widow, Anna Barbara, died in 1883. They had seven children, four of whom died young. Two daughters died after being married; Anna was the wife of Christopher Kuster, and Eliza was the wife of Augustus Rabb. Henry is the only survivor, was born August 10, 1843, in Bucks County, and was six years old when his parents came to this county. In 1865 he left home and worked on farms in this township for the following eight years, when he teamed and threshed for two years, and kept hotel at Light Street for one year. He then returned to Hemlock and remained a year, after which he farmed in Carbon County for two years; he then returned to the old homestead, on which he has since resided, farming it and threshing in fall and winters. May 5, 1864, he married Miss Margaret Carrol, daughter of Charles Carrol. She was born in this township, but lived until grown with her parents in Carbon County. Mr. and Mrs. Deighmiller have eleven children, all of whom are now living: Hannah, William, Ada, Charles, Minnie, Bertha, John, Sally, Maggie, and Ellie and Nellie (twins). They are all living with their parents.

THEODORE DENT, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, was born in Pine Grove, Schuylkill County, Penn., July 13, 1845. His father, William, was a native of England and owned a farm in Montour County, but spent most of his life in the ore mines. His wife was Susan Weldie, of New Jersey. He died in 1863, but his widow is still living, aged seventy-one years, and makes her home chiefly with her son, Theodore. They had twelve children, three of whom died young; one, Albert, was killed by an explosion in the ore mine where he was working, at White Oak Hollow, this township. The living are William, who is superintendent of the mines at Milnes, Page Co., Va.; Charles, who resides in Chulasky, Montour County, and is boss of the ore mines at that place; Weldie, who is a miner in this township; George Henry, a farmer in Hemlock Township; Franklin P., who resides in Buckhorn; Elizabeth, is wife of Job Coslett and resides in Kingston, Penn., and Jane, wife of Franklin P. Baum, who resides in Bloomsburg. Theodore is the third son, and remained at home until he was twenty-four years old. He married, November



28, 1868, Miss Cornelia, daughter of William Clinton, who was formerly a resident of Michigan, and is now living with Mr. Dent, and is eighty-eight years old. Mrs. Dent is thirty-five years of age and the mother of the following named children: Charles Albert, Robert Russell, Jennie, May, Bella and Mary, all living with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Dent are members of the Lutheran Church at Buckhorn, and he has been for three years superintendent of the Sunday-school connected with the church.

EDWIN JONES, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, is a native of the city of Bristol, England, and his recollections extend back to what is considered by Americans quite ancient history. He remembers the death of King George III, the accession and reign of George IV and William IV, and the coronation of Queen Victoria. In 1851 he left England with his family, landing in the city of New York in September of that year. While in England he followed the occupation of a miner, chiefly of iron ore, and also followed the same here until four years ago, when he abandoned it. The first place he worked in this country was in Danville, Montour County, where he was in the employ of the Montour Iron Company until 1859, when he removed to the farm where he now resides. This property he had purchased in December, 1857, and is a portion of the so-called "Old Judge Montgomery Tract," on which he subsequently erected a dwelling and suitable outbuildings. Shortly after coming to this county he began cleaning up his land, and two or three years later cultivating it. He built a house in 1859, for which, in 1875, he substituted his present dwelling. June 3, 1838, he married, in South Wales, Miss Martha Davis, who was born in Wales of English descent, and died May 24, 1883, aged sixty-seven years. They had four children born in Wales, three of whom are yet living; one died in Wales; another was born in this country but is also deceased. The living are Dorcas, wife of James Gulliver, a farmer of this township; Delilah, wife of William Somers, lives with her father, and Edwin, married to Martha Everett, and lives in Valley Township, Montour County, engaged in mining. Mr. Jones is a member of Frosty Valley Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been trustee and steward, and for some years a class leader. He has brought up his children to follow in his footsteps, and now, in the evening of his life, is awaiting, with the tranquility of a true Christian, his translation to a higher and better life.

N. PATTERSON MOORE, wagon-maker and justice of the peace, Buckhorn, is descended from an Englishman, who came to this country long before the Revolution, and settled in New Jersey near the Delaware River. On the outbreak of the Revolution he cast his lot with his adopted country, as did also his son, Samuel, the grandfather of our subject. Samuel was born in New Jersey in 1753; entered the army and served under Washington, with whom he wintered at Valley Forge and crossed the Delaware. After the war he moved to Northumberland County, where he remained until 1813, when he came to Madison Township, Columbia County, and lived until his death in 1840. He was a successful farmer, a man of fine business abilities and an elder in the Presbyterian Church at New Columbia. His wife was Sarah Farley, also a native of New Jersey, and they had a family of nine children: Abraham F., Caleb, George, John, Catherine, Nancy, Ellen, Phebe and Hester. John, the father of our subject, was born in Northumberland County in 1797, and died in West Hemlock Township, Montour County, in 1868, aged seventy years. When he was sixteen years of age his parents moved to Madison Township, this county, where he remained until he was twenty-six years old. He then moved to a farm in West Hemlock Township, Montour County, where he died. He was a farmer all his life and for about fourteen years conducted a distillery, also raised and dealt in fine horses. A few years before his death he was elected a commissioner of Montour County, but resigned on account of ill health. He married in 1821, Joanna, daughter of Matthias Appleman, then living in Montour County. She was born in November, 1803, on the farm, where she died in 1878, aged seventy-five years. Their children are N. P. (subject), Matthias A., Samuel C. L., Abraham Grier, William Boyd, John M., Sarah, Mary Ellen and Margaret, who died in infancy. Our subject was born on the farm in Madison Township, March 17, 1824, and was reared on the farm in West Hemlock Township until eighteen years of age. He then began to learn the wagon-maker's trade, which he has followed almost ever since. He established his shop in Benton in 1848 and there resided fourteen years; in 1862 removed to Buckhorn where he has since remained. In 1869 he was elected a justice of the peace, and is now serving his fourth consecutive term, and has also been mercantile appraiser for this county. June 6, 1848, he married Miss Araminta, daughter of Isaac Kline of Orange Township, who was born November 25, 1825, and six children have been born to their union: Mary Joanna, a teacher, residing with her parents; Elmira Ellen, died in infancy; John Willit, married to Miss Mary Penman, of Bloomsburg, and now lives in Topeka, Kas.; Isora Lavina, taught school three years and lives with her parents; Charles Herbert, who is now in a store in Fishingcreek Township, and Lizzie, who is teaching school in Buckhorn. As indicated by his repeated re-elections, Mr. Moore is held in considerable repute by his neighbors.

SAMUEL OHL, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, is a grandson of Henry Ohl, who came to this country from Germany many years ago and settled in Berks County, where his son, also named Henry, the father of Samuel, was born. Henry, with his brother, John,



bought a tract of 300 acres, a part of which is the farm now occupied by our subject. This land was then mostly in timber but he cleared the greater part of it, and it is now a fine farm. Henry married Catherine, daughter of Daniel Mericle of Madison Township, and eleven children were born to them, viz.: Elizabeth, widow of George Smith, now living in Bloomsburg with her son; Eli, married to Joanna Stouffer, and living on a part of the homestead; Henry, living in Michigan; Catherine, widow of Daniel Smith, living near Buckhorn; Mary, wife of Seth Shoemaker, living in Buckhorn; Sallie Ann, who was married to Esau Shoemaker of Buckhorn and died leaving two children; Jesse, who had resided in the West, came home on a visit and died at his brother's house; Rebecca, who was married to Geo. Hittle, and died near Buckhorn, leaving one child; an unnamed infant, and a son who died when a child. Samuel is the second child and was born January 29, 1820, in a house which stood near the site of his present residence. He has never lived off the farm on which he was born. He married, December 25, 1845, Maria B. Straub, daughter of Adam Straub of this township, who was born December 30, 1826. To this union eleven children have been born, three of whom died in infancy and Harriet L. when fourteen years old. The living are: Thomas J., who married Sarah, daughter of John Betz, of this township, and now residing in Pittsburgh; Eli J., who is married to Amanda Musgrave, of Greenwood Township, resides in this township; Margaret, wife of Hugh Appleman, living in Hemlock Township; Amos, single and living in Pittsburgh; Sarah S., single and living with her parents; Anna E., also living at home, and S. Howard, who is married to Miss Mary Yocum of this township, and works for his father. Mr. Ohl has applied himself closely to his farming pursuits, refusing to accept any office. He and family are members of the Grange; he is a member of Van Camp Lodge, No. 140 of Bloomsburg, and, with his wife and family, a member of the Lutheran Church, in which he has been an elder for several years.

ELI OHL, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, a brother of Samuel Ohl, whose sketch appears above, was born April 15, 1826, on the home farm. In his youth he worked at home until the age of twenty-one, when he began working on his own account, partly at home and for five years for Adam Straub, in this township. In 1856 he went with Mr. Straub to Michigan, where he remained until the fall of 1857 engaged in farming. Returning to this township he resumed work in this neighborhood, and bought a piece of land which belonged to his father's estate. On this he subsequently built the house in which he now lives, and which has since been his home. March 25, 1858, he married Miss Joanna, daughter of Samuel Stauffer, then of Madison Township. Mrs. Ohl's father died several years ago, but her mother is still living in that township, aged seventy-seven. Mr. and Mrs. Ohl have five children: Austin S., unmarried and a farmer in Michigan; William Clark, who makes his home with his parents and works at farming in this township; Franklin Leroy, also at home; Mary Emma, wife of Hiram Bogard, in Mount Pleasant Township, and Ada Lenora, who is living at home. Mr. Ohl is not an ardent politician, but votes with the Democratic party. He and his wife and some of his children are members of the Lutheran Church at Buckhorn.

SYLVESTER PURSEL, farmer, P. O. Bloomsburg, is a grandson of Jonathan Pursel, who emigrated from New Jersey in the latter part of the last century. He first located on the farm now owned by his grandson, James Depew Pursel. The farm on which Sylvester lives was owned by his maternal ancestor, whose name was Green, and who later sold it to his son-in-law, Daniel Pursel. Shortly after this he died, and the wife of Jonathan Pursel dying about this time also, the two old people married, and lived on the Depew Pursel farm. Jonathan's children were all by his first wife, Nancy, and none are now living. Daniel bought the place where Sylvester now lives, from his father, and in 1816 built the stone house in which he now resides. Sylvester was born in this house and has never had any other home. Daniel was a blacksmith by trade and also farmed. He started poor, but by industry and hard work, helped by an equally careful and industrious wife, amassed a competence, owning this farm and the one owned by Isaac G. Pursel, now living at Buckhorn. He was a strong man in many respects; a consistent member of and attendant at the Episcopal Church in Bloomsburg. He died about 1852, aged eighty-three years. His wife was Mary Green, who was also from New Jersey. She died during the civil war, aged ninety-one years and one month. (A year before, when ninety years of age, she knitted a large number of stockings and mittens for the soldiers.) They had twelve children, one dying in infancy. The others were John, who died at his son's, in Montour County, aged ninety-three years; Dennis, died three or four years ago, aged ninety-one years; Hester died in Lycoming County; Jonathan died in Canada; Robert lives in Michigan, aged eighty-eight; Daniel died several years ago; Annie lives in Ohio; William resides in Montour County; Abigail Maria died in Bloomsburg; Isaac G. resides in Buckhorn, and Sylvester. Our subject, who is the youngest of the family, was born October 11, 1818, and has always been a farmer, working on the home farm until his father's death, when he inherited it. Since then he has stuck closely to it until about five years ago, when he gave up the active work on it to his son, D. C. Pursel. June 4, 1840, he married Miss Mary Jane, daughter of Alexander Emmitt of this township, who was born May 11, 1820. They had seven children, four of whom died in infancy;

the others are Mary, born December 27, 1851, and is wife of Franklin D. Dentter, a shoe merchant, of Bloomsburg; Emily, the second daughter, was born April 27, 1854, and died August 6, 1856; the only surviving son is Daniel Clark Pursel, who was born June 19, 1857. He is married to Miss Mary Alice, daughter of Charles Dietrick, of Buckhorn. He now works his father's farm. Mr. and Mrs. Pursel are Episcopalians. He was for many years a member of the Odd Fellows fraternity, and has the record of an honest man and upright citizen.

GEORGE RUSSEL, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, was born December 1, 1817, in Northampton County, Penn. His father, Robert Russel, was formerly a resident of Northampton County, but moved to this county, locating first in Bloomsburg; later at the forks, and subsequently bought the place now owned by Reuben Guild, which he afterward sold to the Iron Company. He then bought the farm now occupied by his son George, in Hemlock Township, near Buckhorn. He died in February, 1882, aged eighty-eight years and nine months. His wife, Sarah Miller, died many years prior. He was a carpenter by trade, but after coming to this county gave most of his attention to farming. He was an active, upright man, a strict member of the Episcopal Church in Bloomsburg, and universally respected. He was the father of seven children, of whom two are now living. The deceased were named as follows: Sarah and Caroline, who both died in early life; Harriet was the wife of William Gillespie of this township, who is also deceased; Mary was the wife of William Clinton, who is living with his son-in-law, Theodore Dent; and Aaron, who died unmarried. The surviving are Elizabeth, wife of Reuben Foulk of Northumberland County, and George, the subject of this sketch. The latter was an infant when his parents came to this county, and he has all his life been a farmer. He worked for his father until he was forty years old, when he rented his farm and worked it until his father's death. He then inherited the new brick house which his father had built, and fifty acres of land, which, with fifty acres he had bought adjoining, gives him a fine farm. In October, 1878, he married Miss Mary, daughter of John Neihart of this township. They have no children. Mr. Russel is a member of the Grange, and he and Mrs. Russel are members of the Lutheran Church in Buckhorn. He takes but little part in politics and would not hold any office, preferring to give his time and attention to his farm.

AARON SMITH, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, was born in Frosty Valley, August 7, 1821, a son of David and Catherine (Heiner) Smith, who came to this county from New Jersey, and were among the earliest settlers of this part of the county. After living here awhile David Smith, who was born March 31, 1781, bought a farm near where his son now resides, and which is owned by Peter Werkheiser, the country at that time being a wilderness. After living on the place for some time he rented a farm in Frosty Valley, where he lived until 1840, when he moved to Briarcreek and resided two years; then moved to the farm where his son Aaron now lives, which he bought some years before, on which there had been a house. Here he resided the remainder of his life, dying October 23, 1856. His wife died about 1832, and later he married Annie Liedy, of this township, whose family were old settlers in this part of the county, but have now all emigrated west. By his first wife Mr. Smith had a large family, of whom the following are living: John, in Illinois; Samuel, in Michigan; Isabella, wife of Samuel Holder, resides in Milton, Northumberland County, and Aaron. Our subject worked on the farm until he was eighteen years old, when he learned the milling trade, which he followed eight years. He then resumed farming, which he has since followed. In the fall of 1858 he bought the home farm from the estate, and has since resided there. January 1, 1843, he married Rachel Fowler, daughter of William Fowler, of Nescopeck, Luzerne County, and the following named children were born to their union: Boann, born January 3, 1844; Sarah Alice, born April 26, 1845, wife of Charles Tittle, of Bloomsburg; Fanny Dianathy, born May 5, 1846, died September 14, 1857; Ella Udora, born September 26, 1854, wife of George Erwin, and resides in West Hemlock Township, Montour County; Emma Jane, born April 26, 1850, married William Gulliver, and died April 11, 1872, leaving one child; Hugh W., born February 9, 1857, married Mary Gillaspay, and died October 11, 1885, leaving one child; Clara Bell, born September 15, 1862, died March 23, 1863, and Norman Ellis, who was born June 11, 1847, and worked for his father until he was of age. March 3, 1870, he married Miss Mary, daughter of Levi Cox, of Bloomsburg, and who was born March 20, 1851. They have had five children: Lucius C., born May 14, died August 14, 1871; Edith Lavina, born August 15, 1872; Nellie Irene, born May 15, 1874; Hugh Otis, born August 19, 1877, and Lizzie Iri, born April 21, 1882. Mr. Smith has held several township offices, and was sheriff of the county one term. He is now warmly interested in the prohibition cause, and was a delegate to the State convention of the Prohibition party which was held at Harrisburg in August, 1886. He and Mrs. Smith are members of the Baptist Church in Madison Township, and he is spoken of by his neighbors as a straightforward, plain-spoken man, and one whose word can be relied upon. He has been superintendent of the Union Sunday-school at New Columbia for twenty years past. When David Smith first came here there was but one log cabin where Berwick now stands, and he often used to tell of



the difficulties and hardships he encountered in making a home, having no one to assist him.

EVAN THOMAS, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, was born in Mount Pleasant Township, this county, where his father and grandfather both resided. The latter, Thomas Thomas, a Revolutionary soldier, was crippled by having his fingers shot off in a fight with the English and Indians. He died about twenty years ago in his one-hundredth year, and his descendants yet repeat the stories he told them of the hardships he endured while fighting for freedom. His son, John C., the father of Evan, was born in the State of New York, and came to this county, settling in Mount Pleasant Township, where he was married, and where his children were born. He died four years ago, aged seventy-three years. His wife was Miss Eliza, daughter of Frederick Miller, of Mount Pleasant Township, and died in 1860, aged seventy-four years. Their children are Hiram, who resides in Mount Pleasant Township; Elizabeth, wife of George Keller, of Millersburg, Juniata County; Susanna, wife of William Beers, of Bloom Township; Catherine, married to Lawrence Hartman, of this township; Hester, wife of Lewis Girton, also of Hemlock; Sarah Margaret, who was the wife of Emanuel Wood (the latter was accidentally killed in a mine, and she is now married to William Weber, of Juniata County); William, who is unmarried, resides in Mount Pleasant Township; Frederick, who died young, and Evan (subject) who was born May 16, 1835. In early life our subject worked on a farm and also in the ore mines until 1870, when he rented a farm and cultivated it until 1880, when he bought the place on which he now resides. In 1860 he married Miss Mary, daughter of David B. Wagner, of this township. Eleven children were born to their union, one of whom died young. The living are John, William, Jacob, Lewis, Hiram Lester, Edward, Charles, Sarah, Hannah and Rosanna. Mr. Thomas is not a politician; has never held office, but has attended strictly to his own business, and votes the Democratic ticket regularly.

DAVID B. WAGNER, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, was born on the farm where he now resides, October 22, 1814. His grandfather came from Germany over a hundred years ago, and was one of the first settlers of Columbia County, taking up a tract of over 600 acres adjoining the present farm of David. This tract is now divided into nine farms. His son, Isaac, was the father of our subject, and was twenty-seven years old when his parents came to this county, and shortly after, in 1801, he married Elizabeth Betz, of Madison Township. He then bought 100 acres of land adjoining his father's, on which he resided until his death, in 1861, at the age of eighty-eight years. His wife died when her youngest child was ten years old, and Isaac then married Mrs. Sarah Leidy, who survived him three years. Mrs. Elizabeth Wagner had nine children who arrived at years of maturity, and several who died in infancy. The former were Abraham, now deceased; Isaac, a resident of Madison Township; Dinah Ann, deceased; Labright, also deceased; Margaret, residing in Indiana; Elias, deceased; Sallie Ann, widow of Benjamin Bomboy, and resides in Bloomsburg; Mary Elizabeth, widow of Jacob Latchaw, who was killed while in the Union Army, and David B. Our subject has been a farmer all his life, but the last year has retired, his son-in-law, Evan Thomas, carrying on the farm for him. In April, 1835, he married Mary, daughter of Michael Stecker, of this township. Four and a half years later she died, leaving one child, Henry William, now living in Schuylkill County, Penn. In 1840 Mr. Wagner married Sarah Ann, daughter of Jacob Girton, of Madison Township, and the following children were born to their union: Mary Elizabeth, wife of Evan Thomas; Catherine Matilda, wife of William Mericle, of Madison Township; Jacob L., married to Lucy, daughter of John Welsh, and resides in Northumberland County; Isaac, who died when eight years old, and Hannah, the youngest child, who lives with her father. Mr. Wagner has been supervisor of his township for six years, also school director; is a member of the Presbyterian Church at New Columbia, in which he has been elder thirty years.

MATHIAS WHITENIGHT, Sr., farmer, P. O. Mordansville, Penn., was born at Buckhorn, same State, August 16, 1811, and is one of a family of fourteen children, but two now living. His father was born near Easton, and came to this part of the State when a young man, settling at Buckhorn, where he married Rebecca Hoffman. Both have been dead many years. Their children now living are our subject and Catherine, wife of Aaron Miller, of Hemlock Township. Our subject was but five years of age when his father moved to the place where he now resides and which has since been his home, he inheriting it on the death of his father. He married, in 1838, Miss Mary Ann Kline, and for some time previous to that event, worked in the still house of William McKelvy in Bloom. To him and his wife fourteen children were born, ten of whom are living: Henry William, living in Michigan; George, in Madison Township, keeper of the poorhouse; Maria Catherine, wife of Amos Heller, of Madison Township; Rebecca Jane, who was married to George Beagle, and after his death to John Tanner, of West Hemlock, Montour County; Mathias, who owns a farm adjoining his father; Mary Ann, wife of John Howell, of this township; Susanna, wife of Henry G. Frane, of Mahanoy City; Mahala Elizabeth, wife of Charles Smith, of Catawissa; John Wesley, who is single and lives with his brother-in-law, John Howell, and Isaiah McClellan, who is married to Miss



Jennie Purcel and resides with his father. Mrs. Whitenight died July 25, 1879. Mr. Whitenight is a member of the German Reformed Church at Jerseytown.

DANIEL YOCUM, farmer, P. O. Bloomsburg, Penn., a son of John and Jane (Soper) Yocum, was born in 1830, in Shamokin Township, Northumberland County, where he resided until he was thirteen years old. He was reared on the farm and at the age of sixteen began to learn the blacksmith's trade with Samuel Shick, and after completing his apprenticeship worked as a journeyman until 1858. He then began for himself, and followed his business in this township for thirteen years. In 1871 he bought the Drinker farm, which he has greatly improved, and in farming and stock raising has been very successful. In 1858 he married Elsie, a daughter of Jacob Shoemaker, an old resident of the county. The children born to this marriage all died young. Mr. Yocum is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Bloomsburg, of which he is a trustee. He is also a member of the Grange. Politically he is a Democrat.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

IRAM DERR, farmer, P. O. Derrs, was born in Madison Township, Columbia Co., Penn., June 4, 1811, son of James and Nancy (Kitchen) Derr, former of whom, a native of Anthony Township, Montour County, died in Tennessee, latter a native of Madison Township, this county, and a daughter of William Kitchen, who was born in New Jersey. Judge Derr lived in Madison Township, this county, and there learned his trade (chair-maker), serving a five years' apprenticeship, and in 1831 went to Orangeville, where he bought a house and pursued his business till 1836; then was elected constable of Bloom Township, serving two years; then moved to Rohrsburg in the spring of 1838, where, till 1841, he kept hotel; thence came to Jackson Township, and located on Little Fishing creek. There he built a saw-mill, and in the fall of 1843 was elected sheriff of Columbia County, his residence being in Danville till 1848. He then returned to the saw-mill, and in 1853 moved to his present home, which was under improvement except buildings. In the meantime he was elected commissioner in 1853, serving till 1856; was also justice of the peace, and in 1866 was elected associate judge, being re-elected in 1871, since which time he has not been in public life. His home farm consists of 116 acres; he also owns 558 acres in Jackson Township, and 100 in Greenwood Township. Judge Derr's first wife was Leah, daughter of Joseph Welliver, whom he married October 26, 1831. She died February 16, 1874. The children born to this union were John F., George W., Nancy K., Andrew J., Frank, Mary W., Calvin, James D. and Effie. Our subject next married, August 29, 1876, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Watts *nee* Lunger. The family, excepting John F., are members of the Church of Christ, of which Mr. Derr has been a member since 1857. In politics he is a Democrat.

JOHN F. DERR, farmer, P. O. Derrs, was born September 22, 1832, son of Iram Derr. He attended the common schools and the academy at Bloomsburg, and in his nineteenth year commenced teaching and lumbering, former in winter, latter in summer. He was married in 1853, and continued lumbering till 1862, when he went to farming on the place where he now resides (adjoining his father's property), where he owns fifty-eight acres. After moving here he served two terms as school director, and eight years as justice of the peace, resigning July 15, 1885. He was then appointed storekeeper and gauger by the Government. During this time he has taught twenty-seven terms of school, teaching winters—sixteen terms in his own district. Mr. Derr was married to Rebecca, daughter of John Christian, of Pine Township, this county, and by her he has two children: Mary A. (wife of James S. Woods, in Schuylkill County, Penn.) and Ida F. (unmarried). Mr. Derr has been a member of the Baptist Church for twenty-five years. In politics he is a Democrat.

J. FRANK DERR was born January 2, 1840, at Rohrsburg, this county; was drafted in the service in 1862, and served in Company I, One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Regiment; was mustered in and out at Harrisburg; was married February 4, 1864, to Miss Julia A. Shultz; resided at Rohrsburg and followed millwrighting and carpentering until 1873; then moved to Jackson where he has been in the lumbering business. The children born to our subject and wife are Laura, Leah, May, Minnie, Earl and Fred. The family attend the services of the Christian Church. In politics Mr. Derr is a Democrat.

DANIEL L. EVERHART, farmer, P. O. Waller, was born in Northampton County, Penn., December 23, 1823, and came to this county in 1836, first locating in Orange Town-

ship. His parents were Jacob and Elizabeth (Anawalt) Everhart, former of whom, a son of Isaiah Everhart, was born in Lehigh County, Penn., and died in Orange Township, one mile and a half north of Light Street. They were members of the Lutheran Church and had a family of six children: Daniel L., Wilhelmina A., Augustus, Sarah K. Luther J. and Anna S. Of these only Daniel L. and Augustus live in Columbia County. Our subject lived at home until he was twenty-two years old, then moved to Berwick, this county, where he learned milling and worked about eighteen months; then went to Nescopeck, Penn., and worked six months; thence to Wapwallopen for three months; then for a time in an iron mine at Bloomsburg; and thence to Light Street where he worked in the mill with William Brown, whose daughter, Mary E., he married in May, 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Everhart resided nine years at Light Street before he opened a hotel at that place, which he kept nine years. Thence they came to his farm of 112 acres (the home farm) and 124 in woodland. Mr. and Mrs. Everhart have reared five children: Clara, wife of Z. A. Butt; Charlie, Alverda H., Abner C. and Alvaretta. The family attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Everhart is a Democrat, and held the office of supervisor for one year. He was also postmaster from 1866 to 1872 at Polkville, which is now called Waller (Columbia County). He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the Encampment, and is an A. F. & A. M. He served nine months in the army during the war of the Rebellion.

GEORGE HIRLEMAN, farmer, P. O. Waller, was born in France, near the German border, son of George and Dorothy (Wettling) Hirleman, former of whom had been a soldier under Napoleon Bonaparte during the war with Russia; he died in January, 1885, aged one hundred years and one month. Mrs. Dorothy Hirleman died in February, 1882, at Pottsville, Penn. Their family consisted of seven children: George, Henry, Philip, Magdalena, Sarah, Barbara, and Louisa, who died on the ocean. The family sailed for America from Havre de Grace, France, April 27, 1829, arriving at Philadelphia after a voyage of forty-two days, and a few days thereafter moved to Pottsville, Penn. Our subject came from there to Columbia County, January 26, 1846, and settled at what is now Waller. He purchased seventy-five acres of timber land which he improved, and now his farm of ninety-six acres is one of the best in Jackson Township. He married, at Sunbury, Penn., Barbara Fry, who was born near Mr. Hirleman's birthplace, and came to America at the same time as the Hiremans. To this union were born the following named children: Sarah, Louisa, Henry H., Emma, George, Jacob, Magdalena, Daniel, Samuel, Philip and Alice. Henry H. was born in Schuylkill County, Penn., and now lives in Waller. He was married January 13, 1870, to Elvira Hess, daughter of Joseph O. Hess of Sugarloaf Township, this county. He built his present dwelling in Waller in 1883, and kept store in the village for a considerable time, but on account of failing health had to sell out and take up farming and huckstering. The subject of this sketch commenced business for himself running from 1839 to 1845, a canal-boat in the coal trade, from Pottsville to Philadelphia, New York, Wilmington, Governor's Island and Long Island. He owned a deck boat of about seventy tons burden, valued at \$1,000. In 1845 he was employed by the Phoenix Company on the railroad driving a five-mule team, hauling coal from Broad Mountain to Schuylkill Haven. Removing to his farm in 1846 he commenced buying and driving stock to Schuylkill County; was also in the lumber, shingle and produce business. Mr. Hirleman has served his township eleven years as school director and treasurer; six years as supervisor, besides other minor offices. He is a member of the Lutheran Church. In politics is a Democrat.

JAMES W. KITCHEN, farmer, P. O. Guava, was born in Greenwood Township, Columbia Co., Penn., December 24, 1826, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Van Horn) Kitchen, who settled in the northwestern part of Sugarloaf Township in about 1849. Here Samuel bought 136 acres of land and died. His widow is living in Jackson Township with her son Calvin. They had seven children: Cyrus, in Crawford County, Penn.; James W., Isaiah, in Nebraska; William, in Putnam County, Ohio; Calvin, in this township; Mary J., wife of J. Lewis, in Crawford County, Penn.; Beulah, wife of G. H. Hess, in Crawford County. James W. was married April 12, 1849, to Catharine, daughter of William Stephens, and she died January 2, 1867, the mother of four children: Jasper, Elmira (deceased), Sevilla, wife of William Yorks, and Mary E., wife of William Hawthorne, of Crawford County, Penn. Our subject married on second occasion October 17, 1880, Mrs. Sarah C. Fritz, daughter of William Rhone. Mr. Kitchen came from Jackson Township in 1851, and settled where he now lives, about four miles northeast from Waller, and here owns seventy-eight acres of improved farm land. He was elected justice of the peace and served ten years; was school director eleven years, and filled other minor offices. In politics he is a Democrat.

JOHN RANTZ, retired farmer, P. O. Rohrsburg, one of the prominent men of Jackson Township, was born near Orangeville, this county, May 3, 1811, son of John, Sr. (a farmer) and Elizabeth (Hittle) Rantz, the latter of whom survived her husband and became the wife of Joseph H. Robbins. Shortly after the birth of our subject the family removed to Rohrsburg, thence came to Jackson Township, eventually locating on the place where John F. Derr now resides, and here the father died in March, 1822, the owner of

200 acres of land. Our subject lived till 1825 on the old place, but his mother, on marrying the second time, in 1823, moved to the place where John Rantz now lives. Joseph H. Robbins owned seventy-six acres, now the property of our subject, who has added thereto till he possesses 300 acres (at one time he owned about 400 acres). The Robbins family (including our subject) moved to Ohio in 1836, and there Mr. and Mrs. Robbins both died. In 1838 Mr. Rantz returned and built his house and barns. October 22, 1843, he married Mary, daughter of John Christian, and by her had four children: Elizabeth, married to John L. Parker, who was killed at Fort Gregg during the war of the Rebellion, leaving one child, Laura Mary, wife of Lee Belles (Mrs. Parker then married Joseph Reece, by whom she had one child, Lundy, and she died when the child was four days old); Jacob, a merchant in Rohrsburg, this county; Christian, in Lycoming County, Penn.; Rebecca, wife of Francis Albertson, of this township. Mr. Rantz has lived on his present place ever since his marriage. He learned his trade, that of stone-mason and plasterer, when nineteen years old, and followed this business until 1885, when he retired. He worked seven years on locks and bridges, and helped build a stone bridge across the Schuylkill at Black Rock Tunnel near Phoenixville, Penn. Both as a government contractor and an agriculturist Mr. Rantz has been very prosperous. He taught school five terms during his life. Our subject is a member of the Christian Church at Derrs. In politics he is a Republican.

GEORGE REMLEY, farmer, P. O. Waller, residing three miles north of Waller, is a son of Michael and Mary (Hartman) Remley, former of whom was born in 1802, and came to Jackson Township in 1840; he died at Stony Brook, near Light Street, this county, February 20, 1886 (his father, also named Michael, came from Northampton County to Centre Township, this county, three miles east of Orangeville, in 1800, and died near the Knob Mountain while residing with his sister Elizabeth, wife of George Sidler). Mrs. Mary Remley was a daughter of George Hartman, who died on the old homestead in Jackson Township in 1875 or 1876. When Mr. Remley came to this township in 1840, he bought 120 acres of land in the woods, and there reared a family of ten children: George; Anna, wife of Henry Getty; Sarah, wife of Henry Golder; Mary, wife of George Getty; Matilda, wife of Gotlieb Wagner; Susanna, wife of George Hess; Rebecca, wife of William Swyn; Daniel, who died in the army; Emanuel and Catharine. George married January 14, 1854, Catharine Schutz, who was born near Coblenz, Prussia, and they lived on their present place, part of the old homestead, where he has now 78 acres of well improved land. Mr. and Mrs. George Remley reared a family of ten children: Michael; John W.; Mary (deceased); Margaret; Rebecca; G. B. McClellan; Samuel; Hannah; Emma, and Stella (deceased). The family attend the services of the Evangelical Church. Mr. Remley is a member of Jackson Grange, No. 210; has filled several offices and is now serving his third term as supervisor. He was in the army during the war of the Rebellion, serving twice, first time nine months, and second eighteen months.

MICHAEL S. REMLEY, farmer, P. O. Waller, son of George Remley, was born December 7, 1854, on the old homestead where he now lives. He remained and worked at home until he was nearly twenty-one years old; then went to Bremer County, Iowa, where he remained five years. Returning in 1880 he married, April 9, 1881, Miss Mary M. Kline, who was born in Fishingcreek Township, this county, near Stillwater, only child of Charles and Lavina (Kline) Coleman, former now living at New Columbus, latter a daughter of Matthias Kline. In 1882 they came to their present location, where Mr. Remley bought fifty-three acres of land, and erected a good house. Our subject and wife have three children: Jay, Coy and Amy Grace. Mr. Remley is a member of Jackson Grange, No. 210.

JOHN YORKS, farmer, P. O. Waller, was born May 5, 1807, in New Jersey, son of William Yorks. He lived under the parental roof until he was twenty-one years of age, and then (1828) commenced working on the canal at Penn's Creek, below Selin's Grove, Penn., and in 1829 on the canal at Berwick, continuing to work on the railroad. He settled in 1839 on his present place, having bought fifty acres of land from Jake Keeler, all woodland, which he cleared up and improved. He now owns sixty acres. Mr. Yorks married Lucy, daughter of Daniel Ashelman, and by her has had twelve children, three of whom died in infancy. Those surviving are Martin, Wesley, Emanuel, Emeline, Eliza, Franklin, Sutton, Peter and Martha. Our subject's father, William Yorks, was of Low Dutch descent, and came from New Jersey, settling in Fishingcreek Township, this county, in 1791. His children were John, Samuel, Thomas, Joseph, Catharine, Mary, Hannah and Elizabeth. Benjamin was born in New Jersey, married a Miss Hall, and together they moved to Fishingcreek Township, where he rented a farm two years, then came to this township, and in 1820 settled where D. S. Everhart now lives. He bought 106 acres of land and died in Lycoming County, Penn., at the residence of Mrs. Eliza Clemmens. His wife died at the residence of her son Henry.

JOSEPH YORKS, farmer, P. O. Waller, son of Joseph Yorks, Sr., was born February 12, 1823, in Sugarloaf Township, this county. When only a month old he lost his father, and when about six years old he was put to live among strangers in Luzerne County, and came to Jackson Township when about eleven, and remained until he was sixteen



years old when he returned to Sugarloaf Township. In 1852 he married Hannah, daughter of Ephraim Parker, and they lived at the mill of William Yorks, in Sugarloaf Township, which mill he operated himself until coming to this township in 1860, though he continued carrying on the mill until 1867. Mr. Yorks bought the land he now lives on in 1851 or 1852, and improved the place with his own hands. He has here the nicest buildings in the township north of Waller. He also owned other lands in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Yorks are the parents of five children: William L.; Martha F., wife of William A. Fritz, in Sugarloaf Township; John L.; Henry E. and Joseph P. Our subject has filled several township offices such as supervisor, school director, etc. In politics he is a Democrat.

WILLIAM L. YORKS, son of Joseph Yorks, was born in Sugarloaf Township, June 4, 1853, and was educated in the schools of Jackson Township and at Millville Seminary. At the age of seventeen he commenced teaching school, and has taught every winter, excepting three, since 1870. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, December 24, 1874, with Miss Savilla, daughter of James W. Kitchen, and by this union there is one child, Leslie W., born July 4, 1875. In 1875 Mr. Yorks and his young wife came to their present home where he owns sixty-two acres of well improved land. He has filled various offices and is at present auditor.

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## CHAPTER XXXV.

### LOCUST TOWNSHIP.

JONATHAN BEAVER, farmer, P. O. Mill Grove, was born in what is now Locust Township, Columbia Co., Penn., October 24, 1838, to Daniel and Esther (Marts) Beaver, the former a native of Berks County, Penn., and the latter of this county. When Daniel Beaver was about six years of age he came to this county with his father, who was a tanner, which trade he followed while living in Berks County. On coming to this county the latter kept tavern in the same house where Jonathan now lives, which is a stone structure, built in 1806. He afterward turned his attention to farming and in his last years lived retired. He died at the age of eighty-six years. Daniel, the father of Jonathan, was a farmer; married and lived and died in this county. His death occurred June 22, 1871, in his sixty-fifth year, in the house where our subject now lives, and was buried in Numidia Cemetery. His widow resides in Roaringcreek Township, this county. Our subject was reared and spent his life on the old homestead where his grandfather settled. He worked with his father until 1867, when he bought the farm of fifty-two acres. He was married in Northumberland County, Penn., December 31, 1870, to Margaret Johnson, a native of Northumberland County, and a daughter of Samuel and Achsah Johnson; her parents are both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Beaver have no children of their own, but have an adopted son, Harvey, and a girl whom they have reared, Mary. Mr. Beaver and son, Harvey, are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and his wife of the Danville Baptist Church. Politically he is a Democrat.

SAMUEL CAMP, farmer, P. O. Numidia, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., December 15, 1828, a son of Benjamin and Mary (Henkel) Camp, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany and settled in Berks County, Penn., whence his grandfather emigrated to Northumberland County, and followed farming until his death. Our subject's father was born in Northumberland County and there remained engaged in farming and the carpenter trade. He moved to this county about 1836, settled in this township, and engaged in farming until his death in 1872. His wife died about four years prior; both were members of the Lutheran Church. Our subject was brought up to the carpenter's trade which he followed until about thirty-two years of age. He followed contracting about twenty-two years, taking contracts for building coal breakers, and erected two very large ones in Schuylkill County, containing over 600,000 feet of lumber, and also several smaller ones. He resided twenty-two years in Schuylkill County, a part of the time in Pottsville and a part in Ashland. In 1863 he enlisted in the militia, and was out two weeks, at the battle of Antietam. In the fall of 1865 he came to Columbia County, settled on the farm where he now resides, and built a fine two-story frame house, which is one of the best in the township, and the improvements on the place are all first-class. Mr. Camp owns 106 acres of good land. He married, in January, 1850, Harriet Henkel, who has borne him nine children, five of whom are living: Lucinda, wife of Edward Cleaver; John H., married Clara Cherington;

Andrew C., married Mary Balig; Lincoln and Elmira. Mr. and Mrs. Camp are members of the Lutheran Church. He served as auditor of this township nine years, and is one of the prominent men of the county.

ELIJAH C. CLEAVER, farmer, P. O. Roaring Creek, was born in Columbia County, Penn., March 18, 1853, a son of Joseph and Sarah (Case) Cleaver, natives of Penn., and of Scotch-(Holland) Dutch descent. His great-grandfather came from Scotland in 1786, and settled in New Jersey where he died. His maternal ancestors, six generations back, came from Holland in 1614 (the exact date taken from the old records) and settled in New Jersey. His ancestors on both sides came from that State to Columbia County, Penn., about 1806. The grandfather, David Cleaver, settled in Catawissa, where he engaged in mercantile business; was among the first merchants of that place and the only one at that time. He also owned several farms in Franklin Township—some 400 or 500 acres—which he rented out. He built the brick hotel in Catawissa known as the "Susquenanna House," but never conducted it, engaging in mercantile business all his life after coming to this county. He reared six children: Rebecca, Elizabeth, Elijah, Joseph, John and David, all of whom are now deceased. Subject's maternal grandfather, Adam Case, came about the same time and settled in Catawissa, where he bought a farm along the Catawissa Creek. He carried on farming all his life. He reared a family of thirteen children, as follows: Elizabeth, Hester, Sibilla, Jonathan, William, Jacob, Nathan, Malan, Christian, Milton, Sarah, Rebecca, Susanna. Four of these are yet living: Christian, at Havre de Grace, Md.; Jonathan, in Illinois, married a Miss Cox; Sibilla, widow of John Manley, in Danville, Penn., and Rebecca, wife of Richard Douty, in Shamokin, Penn. Adam Case died January 29, 1848. Joseph, the father of our subject, was born in Catawissa Township, and was brought up a farmer, and also did teaming. After his marriage he settled in what is now known as Franklin Township, and there followed farming all his life, owning a farm at the time of his death, February 22, 1834. His widow died January 27, 1856. They were the parents of five children: Eliza (deceased), Harriet (deceased), Matilda (wife of Allen John, in Mahaska County, Iowa), Elijah C. and Rebecca (deceased). Our subject was only eleven months old when his father died, and he remained with his mother until sixteen years of age, when he hired himself out for four years. In 1852 he commenced life for himself, and rented a farm in Roaringcreek Township, which he cultivated one year before his marriage, his sister, Matilda keeping house for him. After his marriage he remained on the same farm one year, and then moved into Catawissa Township, where he remained two years laboring. In the spring of 1857, he moved to where he now resides and purchased the farm consisting of 104 acres of land. He has made all the improvements on the place, all of which are first-class. He married, March 24, 1853, Martha A. Cool, daughter of Philip and Hannah (Smith) Cool. Mr. and Mrs. Cleaver are the parents of nine children (eight of whom are now living): Wesley M., Britton W. (married to Sarah Ernest), Charles L. (married to Mary J. Perry), Nelson E., Curtis (deceased), Clarence Grant, Joseph C., Rosie A. and Hannah L. Wesley M. is a graduate in both courses (degrees: B. E., M. E.; B. S., M. S.) of the Bloomsburg Normal School, and also a graduate from Amherst College, 1886, classical course; Nelson E. is a graduate of the collegiate preparatory course of Bloomsburg; he has attended, three years, Dickinson College, Carlisle, and will graduate in 1887. Mr. Cleaver has served as school director one term. He and his wife and five of their children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a member of the G. A. R. at Catawissa. During the civil war he served in Company I, Thirteenth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia, and was at Camp Biddle and Cold Springs, near Hagerstown during an emergency. In politics he is a Republican.

ELIAS EARNEST, farmer, P. O. Pensyl, was born in Columbia County, Penn., February 4, 1852, to John and Maria (George) Earnest. The father was a native of Carlisle, Columbia Co., Penn., and there learned the trade of a blacksmith. At the age of twenty-one he moved to Columbia County and built a blacksmith shop, in which he carried on his trade a number of years. He bought a farm during the latter part of his life and followed agricultural pursuits until his death, January 20, 1882. After coming to this county he was married to Maria George, who is yet living and makes her home with Elias. Her husband is buried in Numidia churchyard. Our subject was reared in Locust Township, where he has always resided on the old homestead. His father willed him the farm of eighty-three acres, to which he has since added, making in all ninety three acres at present. He has made farming his occupation.

OLIVER EVANS, farmer, P. O. Roaring Creek, was born in what is now Locust Township, this county, July 12, 1824; son of Evan and Sarah (Oliver) Evans. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of New Jersey. His paternal grandfather came from Wales and his grandmother from England. His grandfather settled in what is now Locust Township, in this county, on the farm adjoining where our subject now resides. He bought a tract of land about a century ago and followed farming until his death, December 15, 1831. Subject's father was born in 1785, married February 23, 1815, and settled on the farm now owned by his son. He was a prominent man in his day, and was often called upon to act as arbitrator, etc.; was well educated for his time; taught

school for a number of years, and was looked up to by his neighbors. Politically he was a Whig. His death occurred December 22, 1843. Sarah, his wife, died December 13, 1878, aged ninety years, two months and ten days; she had made her home in the house where Oliver resides from the time she began housekeeping until her death. She and her husband were the parents of ten children, nine of whom lived to manhood and womanhood (six are still living): Mehetabel, widow of George Hughes, of Catawissa; Jane, wife of Peter K. Mensch, in Roaringcreek; Harriet; Oliver; Lavinia, widow of Thomas Becker, in Plymouth, Penn.; and Mary, widow of Charles Dyer, in Roaringcreek. John died October 26, 1817; Ann, wife of Enoch Wolverton, died in April, 1860; James E. died in the service of his country, in the regular army, at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, Penn., November 21, 1862; Sarah, wife of Amos Strausser, died October 12, 1886, in Franklin County, Mo. Our subject was reared on the farm where he now resides and which has always been his home. It consists of fifty-eight acres of good land. He was married February 28, 1861, to Deborah A., daughter of John C. and Rachel (Hibbs) Myers, natives of Northumberland County, Penn., born before Columbia County was taken from Northumberland. Mr. Evans and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Evans has in his possession an old pocket-book that belonged to his grandfather Oliver. It is probably over one hundred years old and contains receipts dated 1772, and other papers dated more than one hundred years ago.

WILLIAM FETTERMAN, farmer, P. O. Numidia, was born in his present residence, Locust Township, January 16, 1842, a son of Jonas and Mary A. (Barringer) Fetterman, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather George came here from Berks County over a century ago, and settled on the place where our subject now lives. He took up about 1,000 acres of land and first built a little log cabin in which he lived a number of years. He also built the present residence of our subject about three-quarters of a century ago, and was among the first settlers of this county. He was a stone-mason by trade which he followed during the early part of his life, but later followed farming. He was the father of eleven children, five of whom survive, viz.: Elizabeth Fisher, Sally Yeager, Catharine Hamer, John and Joshua. The father of this family died in 1859, and is buried in the cemetery of the Evangelical Church, of which denomination he was a member. Jonas Fetterman was born on the farm where his son, our subject, now resides. He was a farmer and remained on the old homestead which he owned at the time of his death. After that event our subject bought the homestead, where he has always resided. This farm was taken up, cleared, etc., by the Fetterman family and is still owned by the name. In 1862 William Fetterman enlisted in company H, One-hundred and Thirty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served nine months. He participated in other engagements at Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, which were hard-fought battles. He married, October 21, 1873, Catharine Lewis, and they are the parents of three children: Lizzie, Nola and Hattie. Mr. and Mrs. Fetterman reared a family of seven children, of whom the following are still living: Catherine, wife of David S. Helwig; Rebecca, wife of William Stefnogh, residing at Berwick, this county; Charlotte, wife of Amandus Billeg; Henrietta, wife of Michael Fetterolf. Mr. Fetterman's farm now consists of 123 acres; his grandfather took up a large tract, but sold it all off with the exception of 200 acres at the time of his death.

DAVID HELWIG, farmer, P. O. Roaring Creek, was born in Columbia County, Penn., April 30, 1833, a son of Peter and Charity (Martz) Helwig, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany, and his grandfather, Frederick Helwig, came from Berks County to Columbia County about 1800, and settled near Catawissa, where he bought a large tract of land and lived until his death. He was quite an extensive farmer in his day, and very successful. In his political views he is a staunch Democrat. Our subject's father was born in 1801; was reared to the shoemaker's trade, which he followed off and on; also learned the mason's trade, at which he worked for several years. After his marriage he settled on the farm where Peter Helwig now lives, and there resided for a number of years, when he sold out and moved to Catawissa, and lived a retired life until his death in 1881. His wife died some years before. They were the parents of nine children, five of whom yet survive: David, William, Eliza, Peter and Mary (wife of Daniel Fenstermacher). Our subject was reared on a farm, and at the age of twenty-four married and commenced business for himself. He farmed until 1873, when he bought the farm of fifty acres where he now resides. A year later he moved on it and added to it, until now it consists of eighty acres of fine land. He erected a good residence and a fine barn at a cost of about \$3,000. He married, in May, 1867, Sarah, daughter of George Graig and Martha (Fox) and the following named children were born to them: Henry, wife of Ida Gaston; Joseph W., married to Sarah Wagner; Maria, wife of Galen Yeager; George B. McAmsey; Charles; Hannah (deceased), Susan, Maude and Edward. The parents are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Helwig has held the office of school director and tax collector.

C. HENRICKS, farmer, P. O. Numidia, was born in Prussia, Germany, February 6, 1847, a son of Joseph and Sophia (Drifts) Henricks, natives of Germany. His father followed farming in the old country, and in 1867 with his family took passage on a sail-



ing vessel at Hamburg, and landed in New York after a voyage of six weeks. They came direct from New York to Ashland, Schuylkill Co., Penn., where they settled, and there our subject and his father worked in the Big Mine Run mines for about three years. Our subject then learned the carpenter's trade, and followed it until moving to his present residence, with the exception of about two years, when he again worked in the mines. His father died in 1869 in Ashland, but his mother is still living and resides in Cook County, Ill. They were the parents of nine children, six of whom are still living: Charles; Rechor, wife of Joe Blanch; John; Caroline, wife of Charles Blanche; Mona and Sophia. In 1880 our subject bought the farm where he now lives, consisting of 108 acres. April 8, 1869, he married Minnie Hans, and the following children were born to them: Frederick, John (deceased), Charles, Hannah (deceased), William, Christian, August, Martyn and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Henricks are members of the Lutheran Church, and he is also a member of the Grange.

ROLANDUS HERBEIN, miller, P. O. Roaring Creek, was born in Locust Township, this county, August 12, 1841, a son of Peter K. and Catherine (Anins) Herbein, natives of Berks County and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Germany and settled in Berks County, whence his grandfather David came to this county about 1815, settled in Slabtown, bought a property and operated a grist-mill for a few years. He then bought a small farm, and a few years later a tract of land on which he lived until his death. Our subject's father was but a small boy when the family moved here. He learned the miller's trade, which he followed all his life, and died in 1869, the father of seven children: Rolandus, Albert, David, Susan, Peter, Mary A. (wife of George Stricker) and Sarah T. Our subject was reared to the miller's trade, and worked for his father until the outbreak of the Rebellion, when in August, 1861, he enlisted in the Catawissa Guards in the nine months' service. They went from Catawissa to Harrisburg; thence to Washington, D. C., and participated in their first battle at Antietam. After that engagement Mr. Herbein was seized with typhoid fever, and was taken to the field hospital at Harper's Ferry, and lay there some weeks when his father came and took him home. Shortly after his recovery he took a relapse and was moved to Harrisburg hospital, where he remained about a month; was then taken to Little York, where he remained until his regiment was discharged; then he returned home, and has since suffered from a nervous disease. After his return he engaged in milling until 1880, when he retired, being unable to work. Mr. Herbein has served as township auditor, judge of elections and school director several terms. In 1883 he was messenger in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg. He married, in November, 1866, Lucy A. Fetterman. Mrs. Herbein is a member of the German Reformed Church. Mr. Herbein is a member of the I. O. O. F., No. 310, Numidia. In politics he is a Democrat. He owns his lot and residence in Slabtown, and a small tract of woodland containing about eighteen acres.

SILAS H. JOHNSON (deceased) was born in Roaringcreek Township, this county, August 28, 1809, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Roberts) Johnson, natives of Bucks County, Penn., and of German descent. His great-grandfather came from Holland and his great-grandmother from Wales. His grandfather came from Bucks County to Columbia at an early day and settled in Mine Gap, where he built a small log cabin and there lived until his death, making baskets and brooms. Our subject's father came to Columbia County in 1806, and settled in Roaringcreek Township, where he bought a farm from Joseph Strahl and there resided a number of years. He was a stone-mason and followed the trade in early life. Later he moved to Locust Township, and there died in 1847. He was the father of fourteen children, four of whom survive: Levi, residing in Beaver Dam, Wis.; Martha, in Numidia, Columbia Co., Penn.; Silas H. and Susan, wife of Jonathan W. Black. Our subject was reared on a farm and learned the carpenter's trade which he followed for five or six years. He was then employed on public work for six or eight years, and saved up enough to buy a farm of twelve and one-half acres. This he found too small to plow and too big to hoe, so he sold it and bought thirty-five acres. With that purchase also he was displeased, and accordingly sold it, and paid what he received on the farm he now owns. He first bought ninety-three acres in a wild state, and at the time of his death owned 155 acres of good land. This farm was all timber and the consequence was that he had to begin in the woods. He cleared it all off and built a small house which is still standing and is over fifty years old. There is now the second set of buildings on the farm and all that he accumulated was the result of his own hard labor and economy. He married, in November, 1831, Eliza, daughter of Jacob and Barbara (Fisher) Runk. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living: Henry B., in Oliphant, Luzerne County; George W., in Minnesota; Lloyd W., in Mount Carmel, Iowa; Mary E., wife of Henry T. John, Mount Carmel; Jacob R. in Marshall County, Iowa; Lizzy and Isaac C., residing in this township. Mrs. Johnson died in 1876, a life-long member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is buried in the McIntyre Cemetery. Mr. Johnson served as justice of the peace a short time to fill a vacancy; was also supervisor of the township and served six years as school director. At the time of his death, which occurred February 12, 1887, Mr. Johnson was one of the old residents of Columbia County, having been identified with the interests of it for over three-quarters of a century. In politics he was a Republican.

**DANIEL LEIBY, SR.**, (deceased) was born in Northumberland County, Penn., in June, 1808, a son of Frederick and Catherine (Pensyl) Leiby, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather, Frederick, came from Germany when quite small with his parents, and settled in Shamokin, Northumberland Co., Penn. He was a cooper, a weaver, a farmer and a "Jack of all trades." He owned a farm and was quite extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits. He moved to this county about 1818 and settled where Joseph Carland now resides, and bought a large tract of land on which he made all the improvements, and the houses which are yet standing are built of brick. He served in the war of 1812. His wife used to load a couple of sacks of grain on her horse and take them to the mill at Hamburg, being three days on the round trip. Daniel, our subject, was about twelve years old when his parents moved to this county, and remained at home until he became of age. After his marriage he settled at Slabtown, where he lived two years. In 1847 he bought the place where Daniel, Jr., now resides, it all being timber. By hard labor for many years he accomplished a great deal, cleared it all off, built a house and barn and here lived until his death in December, 1882. He was twice married; first to Mary Yost, by whom he had five children, two living, Elias and Jeremiah. The deceased are Reuben, Catherine and George W. Mr. Leiby next married March 13, 1853, Susanna Dilleplaw, a native of Oley Township, Berks County, and of French descent. Her grandparents came from France and settled in Berks County, where they purchased farms and followed agricultural pursuits. Eight children were born to his second marriage, seven of whom survive: Daniel, Jr., Jackson, Mary E., Hannah, James M., Emma and Andrew. By a former marriage Mrs. Leiby was the mother of two children, Sarah and Margaret. Mr. Leiby was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he was deacon and elder for many years, and always took a deep interest in religious affairs. He had a host of friends, and was often called upon by his neighbors to "doctor" their horses and cattle, to cure snake bites, etc. He had held a number of township offices, and was looked up to as a thorough Christian man, honest in all his dealings, and was deeply mourned by his family and friends. Daniel, Jr., was born March 14, 1853, and remained at home until of age. He worked out a few years, and in the winter of 1885 bought the old homestead consisting of 140 acres. He was married March 25, 1875, to Rebecca Elizabeth Stine, and seven children were born to them, five of whom are living: Maggie S., Nettie V., James E., Susan M. and Grover Cleveland. The deceased were Nora A. and an infant. Mr. and Mrs. Leiby are members of the Presbyterian Church.

**DAVID LEIBY**, farmer, P. O. Pensyl, was born in Shamokin Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., December 22, 1822, a son of Frederick and Catherine (Pensyl) Leiby. His father was a native of Greenwich Township, Berks Co., Penn., and his mother of Shamokin Township, Northumberland County, and of German descent. His grandfather, Pensyl, was born in Reteberg, Germany, came to this country when ten years of age and settled with his parents in Northumberland County, where he followed farming all his life. His grandfather Leiby was born in Berks County, but moved to Northumberland County about 1775, where he followed farming all his life, and was among the first settlers of that county. Our subject's father was born in Berks County, and moved with his father to Northumberland County, where he lived until 1817, when he came to this county and settled near Numidia, in Locust Township, where he bought 150 acres of land which was patented. He lived on it nearly twenty years before paying for it, and never paid any rent. The land was nearly all timber, and he had a hard time clearing it off; bears and panthers at that time were also numerous. He died on this farm in 1863, and is buried in Numidia Cemetery. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, for which his widow drew a pension for a number of years. He was the father of the following children: Daniel (deceased), George (deceased), John, David, Samuel, Hannah (wife of Solomon Rider), Sarah (widow of Jacob Hoover), and Polly. David, our subject, was only five years of age when his father moved to this county, and remained with the latter until his death. In 1865 he bought the farm where he now lives, consisting of 150 acres of land, and has lived here since. When a boy he worked hard for his father, helping him to clear the land, and by his industry alone has acquired all that he now owns. He married, in February, 1850, Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Maria Raup, and to them were born eleven children, eight living: Caroline, wife of Michael Stine; Lloyd married Amanda Stine; William H. married Catherine Honerberger; Abram L. married Catherine Mowry; Mahala, Hannah, Ida I. and Minni A. Mr. Leiby and family are members of the Presbyterian Church. His ancestors figured prominently in Northumberland County, and his father was a prominent early settler of Columbia County, of which Mr. Leiby is a substantial citizen.

**SAMUEL P. LEVAN**, farmer, P. O. Newlin, was born in what is now Locust Township, this county, October 21, 1827, a son of Benjamin and Mary (Poe) Levan, natives of Pennsylvania, and of French descent. His great-grandfather, with three brothers, came from France, and settled in the lower counties of Pennsylvania, where they lived and died. His grandfather, a farmer, was born in Berks County, Penn., came to this county about a century ago, and bought a large tract of land on which he built and resided until his death. Benjamin Levan, subject's father, was a large land owner, and built the stone



residence now occupied by John Levan. This is now three-quarters of a century old, and was in its early days considered a very elegant home. Benjamin used to keep as many as six horses, employing a large number of hired hands, and was in his time the most extensive farmer in his neighborhood. He died about 1845, in Centre County, Penn., and his wife in the State of Illinois, where she is buried. They were the parents of eleven children, only three of whom are living: John, Samuel P. and Daniel. Our subject was reared on a farm, and remained at home until fourteen years of age, when he hired out on a farm. He burned charcoal one summer and chopped wood one winter, and worked at Michael Mowry's five years, until he became of age, when he got a suit of clothes and \$100 in money, and was sent to the ministry. He was connected with his brother in Numidia and Kerstown in mercantile business for three or four years, and also drove a huckster wagon over the county when it was still thinly settled. After his marriage he moved to where he now resides, and rented the place for twelve years, and at the end of that time bought the farm which he still owns, consisting of 127 acres. He was drafted October 16, 1861, in Company I, One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, served nine months, and paid \$100 for a substitute. He was married, in September, 1856, to Charlotte Fox, who bore him six children, four living: Wilson, Laura, Ruthana and Kimber, and died in July, 1883. Mr. Levan married, in March, 1885, Rosanna Gable, by whom he has one child—Frank T. Mr. and Mrs. Levan are members of the Methodist Church. He is also a member of the Grange; has been inspector of elections, and is one of the prominent and successful farmers of Locust Township.

DANIEL P. LEVAN, farmer, P. O. Numidia, was born in Roaringcreek Township, this county, May 21, 1831, a son of Benjamin and Mary (Poe) Levan, natives of Pennsylvania and of French descent. His great-grandfather and two brothers, who were all Huguenots, left France on account of religious persecution, and settled in Berks County, Penn. His grandfather, Daniel, was born in Berks County, and while young moved to Northumberland County, took up a tract of land, but did not remain, coming to Columbia County, and settling in Roaringcreek Township, where he owned a large tract of land. He lived here until his death, engaged in farming. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Poe, served in the Revolutionary war. Our subject's father was born in Berks County, and came with his parents to Columbia County, where he became a large landholder and an extensive farmer. He died in Centre County, Penn., in 1842, and his wife in Stephenson County, Ill., where she is buried near Frecport. (For further ancestral history, see sketch of S. P. Levan.) Our subject was reared on a farm, and at the age of eleven years went to live with his sister Mary, with whom he remained about five years. At the age of seventeen he commenced to learn the blacksmith's trade with Casper Shutt, at Slabtown, and served three years. He then followed his trade about twenty-four years, a part of which time was spent in Schuylkill County. In the fall of 1864 he moved to where he now resides, bought forty-two acres and put up all the improvements, which are first-class and extensive, and now owns ninety-five acres of good land. He gave up his trade in 1874, and has turned his attention since that time to farming, at which he is successful. He has been twice married; first in May, 1857, to Anna Stokes, who was accidentally killed in 1858 by being thrown from a wagon, her skull being fractured. In May, 1860, he married Sarah J. Christian, who bore him ten children: Anna (wife of Henry Perry), Rebecca (wife of Charles S. W. Fox), Flora A., Walter, Elmer, Amy S., D. Raymond, William C., Emma C. (deceased), and Benjamin F. (who was killed by lightning in 1878, when ten years of age). Mr. and Mrs. Levan are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is also a member of the Grange. His great-grandparents and his grandmother (then an infant) were captured by the Indians in Berks County, taken to Wyoming Valley, Luzerne Co., Penn., and kept a prisoner for seven years. The parents became separated and the mother had to marry a chief to save her life. When she and her child were aided in escaping, she returned to find her husband married again, he believing that she had been killed.

LEMUEL PARRY, farmer, P. O. Bear Gap, was born in the southern part of Wales, April 9, 1822, a son of Lemuel and Eleanor (Daws) Parry, also natives of that country, where the father lived and died. Prior to coming to America our subject worked on a farm and also in the iron works. In 1851 he left his native country, took passage in a sailing vessel at Liverpool, G. B., and after a voyage of five weeks and three days, arrived in New York. Thence he came to Pennsylvania and remained about a month at Tamaqua, after which he went to Minersville, Schuylkill County, and worked in the mines until 1866. In 1862 he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. Leib of Ashland, and served nine months, participating in the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. In the spring of 1866 he moved to where he now resides, and bought 135 acres, on which he has made nearly all the improvements, and has one of the nicest residences in the township. He married, December 24, 1854, Joann Powell, a native of Carmondale, whose parents were also natives of South Wales. To Mr. and Mrs. Parry eleven children were born, eight of whom are living: Lemuel, John, William, Mary E., David, Clara E., Even T. and Chester A. Mr. Parry commenced life in this country with very little capital, but by industry and hard labor has acquired a comfortable home.



THOMAS SEABORNE, merchant and farmer, P. O. Newlin, was born in the county of Hereford, England, November 8, 1842, a son of Philip and Catherine (Harper) Seaborne, (the latter of Welsh descent) and both natives of England. They were the parents of nine children: William, John, Catherine (deceased), Elizabeth (deceased), Margaret, Thomas, Mary, Anna, Jane (deceased). The father who was a farmer, died in June, 1886. Our subject was reared on a farm in his native country and also worked in the fireworks in Wales. At the age of twenty-four he took passage at Liverpool for America, and after a voyage of eleven days landed at New York, May 23, 1866. He intended making Chicago his destination, but finding his funds insufficient he stopped off at Minersville, Penn., and worked in the mines one year. He then farmed three years for a man who wanted an English farmer, after which he married and moved to Columbia County, where he rented a farm in Locust Township. After six months he moved to Centralia, and there engaged for six months in mercantile business until 1872, when he bought the property where he now resides. Here he engaged in mercantile business until 1874, when he sold out his stock to Lee & Rhodes, moved to Ashland, Penn., and again engaged in mercantile business until January, 1877. At that time he moved back to Newlin, where he has since been engaged in mercantile business, carrying a general stock. He was married, in November, 1869, to Margaret Bryant. Mr. and Mrs. Seaborne are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He owns forty-six acres of land and his store building and residence, and his way of doing business is sure to lead to success.

WILLIAM B. SNYDER, of the firm of Snyder Bros., merchants, Roaringville, was born in Locust Township, this county, June 29, 1858, a son of Mayberry and Margaret (Yeager) Snyder, natives of Pennsylvania and of English-German descent. His grandfather, John Snyder, came from New Jersey to this county at an early day and located in Milllin Township, where he bought a farm, and died in 1852. His maternal grandfather, Yeager, was a staunch Democrat, and took an active part in politics; served one term as commissioner of this county. Our subject's father was born in Milllin Township, this county; moved to Locust Township in 1847, and purchased a farm in 1866, where he has since resided and is still engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is the father of two children: William B. and John W. Our subject was reared on a farm and received a liberal education. In 1882-83 he was clerk in the postoffice and store of Jacob Yeager at Slabtown, and December 1, 1884, with his brother John, embarked in mercantile business, which he has since continued under the firm name of Snyder Bros. They started on a small scale, but their business soon increased, when they were obliged to seek more roomy quarters. They recently finished a fine two-story building, 26x32, with glass front in store-room, erected at an expense of \$2,000. The Messrs. Snyder are enterprising young men, and deserve great credit for their manner of conducting business. William B. was married to Ida J. Cool December 1, 1886.

SOLOMON STRAUSSER, farmer, P. O. Roaring Creek, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., August 15, 1825; a son of Peter and Mary (Adams) Strauser, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather, Casper Adams, came from Germany, settled in Northumberland County, where he bought a large tract of land, and followed farming all his life near Elysburg. Our subject's father was born in Berks County, Penn., and while young went to Northumberland County, where he followed farming a number of years. In 1834 he removed to where our subject now resides, bought 100 acres of land, to which he afterward added, and there lived until his death in 1856. He was the father of ten children, four of whom are living: Mary, Solomon, Levina and Peter. Our subject was reared on the farm; at the age of twenty-three married and moved to Slabtown, where he worked by the day for one year. After his father's death he bought the farm of 111 acres and moved on it, where he has since lived. He married, August 15, 1847, Louisa Helwig, who has borne him eleven children, seven of whom are living: David, John, Nathaniel, Sarah (wife of Richard Adams), Elias, Harney and Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Strauser are members of the church. He served as overseer of the poor and has been supervisor eight years.

ELIAS H. WHITNER, merchant, Newlin, was born in Roaringcreek Township, this county, March 28, 1853; a son of John and Catherine (Helwig) Whitner, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His great-grandfather, who was a minister of the gospel, came from Germany. His grandfather, Abraham, was born in Berks County and came to Columbia County about 1810. He was one of the earliest settlers in Roaringcreek Township, where he bought a tract of land and remained engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. He at one time was a large land-owner, having what now constitutes three farms. Our subject's father was born in Roaringcreek Township, in 1827, and was reared to farming. After the death of his father he came into possession of the old homestead, which he still retains. He is the father of three children: Mary, wife of Cornelius Felterman; Elias H., and Sarah, wife of John D. Reinbold. He and wife are members of the Reformed Church. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until sixteen years of age, after which he spent his time in teaching and attending school and various other avocations, until the spring of 1881. He then engaged in mercantile business at Millgrove, in partnership with O. W. Cherington, and thus continued until the spring of

1883, when Mr. Whitner sold his interest to his partner and started in mercantile business for himself at Newlin, which he has since followed. He carries a general stock valued at \$3,500, insured. He married, April 8, 1880, Flora E. Cherington, who has borne him four children, two of whom are living: Lulu and Claudia. Mr. and Mrs. Whitner are members of the Reformed and Methodist Episcopal Churches, respectively. He is postmaster at Newlin, having been appointed June 20, 1884, the office having been established July 12 of the same year. He owns the building in which he has his store and residence. It is a two-story structure, erected at a cost of \$2,000. Mr. Whitner is an enterprising gentleman, courteous and genial, and enjoys a good trade. In politics he is a Republican.

DR. J. C. WINTERSTEEN, physician and surgeon, Numidia, was born in Mifflinville, this county, May 8, 1862, a son of Joseph O. and Lydia (Wolf) Wintersteen, natives of Pennsylvania, and of Scotch-German descent. His grandfather, Robert, was born in Scotland, came to this county when a young man and settled in New Jersey, where he lived until his marriage. He then moved to Columbia County, Penn., and settled in Mifflin Township, where he resided until his death. He and his wife are both buried in Mifflinville Cemetery. Our subject's father learned blacksmithing when about fourteen years of age, and has since followed that trade. He built a shop and residence in Mifflinville, where he has lived for about sixty years. In connection with his trade he also attends to auctioneering. To him and his wife twelve children were born, nine now living: Dora, wife of Jeremiah Maury; Jordan; Laura; Lloyd, an attorney at Bloomsburg; Susan, wife of Dr. I. A. Fetherolf, residing in Mazeppa, Union County; Mattie C., wife of W. C. Hartsell; Rush G., husband of Nan Schweppenheiser; John C., married to Fannie A. Shuman, and Minnie A. The deceased are Fannie, William H. and Warren H. Our subject was reared in Mifflinville, where he attended the schools until nineteen years of age. He then read medicine under Dr. J. L. Shuman, of Wapwallopen, and after his death his preceptor was Dr. B. F. Gardner, of Bloomsburg. In the fall of 1884 he entered Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, and graduated in the spring of 1886. In April of the same year he bought the practice of G. V. Means of Numidia, and is just now establishing himself as a practicing physician and surgeon, for which profession he is well qualified. November 26, 1883, he was married to Fannie, daughter of George A. and Mary A. (Yost) Shuman. Dr. and Mrs. Wintersteen are parents of two children: Fred B. and George A. The Doctor is a member of the I. O. O. F. Mrs. Wintersteen is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

LIVINGSTON YEAGER, tanner, Slabtown, was born in Locust Township, this county, May 22, 1847, a son of John Yeager, who married a Miss Byerly, and both were natives of Pennsylvania, and of German descent. His grandfather, John, came from Berks County to Columbia County when quite young, settled in Slabtown, and built the first tanyard in this section of the county. He followed tanning several years, and then kept the first hotel in the village of Slabtown in a little log cabin. He was a shoemaker by trade, owned four or five farms, and resided here until his death. Our subject's father was born here, and reared to the tanning business, which he followed until his death in 1867. Livingston Yeager was reared in Slabtown, and when a boy learned the tanning business with his father. At the age of twenty-two he commenced for himself, and worked for his brother Millington in the upper tanyard for about four years. He worked at Elysburg, Light Street and Bloomsburg, and in the spring of 1881 took possession of his father's old tanyard, and has conducted it very successfully to the present time. In February, 1869, he married Joanna Laubach, and five children have been born to them: Kersey, Clarence, Ezra, Charles and Minnie. Mr. and Mrs. Yeager are members of the Presbyterian Church.

OBEDIAH YOCUM, farmer, P. O. Elysburgh, was born in Roaringcreek Township, this county, September 8, 1848, a son of Elijah and Jane (Campbell) Yocum, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. (For ancestral history see sketches of Elijah L. and E. Yocum.) At the age of twenty-one our subject married and settled where he now resides and where he has since remained, and owns 150 acres of land. He married Johanna, daughter of James and Hannah Hile. Mr. and Mrs. Yocum are the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are still living: Daisy E., John W., Ezra E., William Alven, Claude C., Raymond E. and Henry Hile. Mr. and Mrs. Yocum are members of the United Brethren Church; he has been a member of the school board one term, and was elected and served one term, in 1885, as constable. In politics he is a Democrat. Our subject is descended from an old and prominent family of the county.

EZARIAH YOCUM, farmer, P. O. Bear Gap, was born in Roaringcreek Township, this county, February 8, 1851, a son of Elijah and Jane (Campbell) Yocum, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. Elijah's maternal grandfather, McIntyre, first settled in what is now Catawissa Township, on the place now owned by E. M. Tewksbury, and known as the McIntyre farm. He was one of the first settlers of the county, the Indians being quite numerous at that time, and died in Roaringcreek Township. Elijah, subject's father, a farmer and lumberman, moved into Locust Township about 1855, and settled where his son, E. L., now resides, and owned over 1,000 acres, which he divid-



ed before his death. Mr. Yocum was a man of great business capacity, and died in 1881, the father of ten children, six living: Joanna, wife of Phineas Thomas; Sarah, wife of John Johnson; Obediah; Ezariah; John and Elijah L. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until twenty-two years of age when he married and settled down where he now resides. He owns 336 acres of land, of which about one-half is under cultivation. Mr. Yocum has made nearly all the improvements on his farm, and built a large two and one-half story frame house in 1876, which is one of the finest residences in the place. He married in 1873, Joanna Hummel, and four children were born to them: Samuel C., Ester J., Laura B. and Emma D. Mr. and Mrs. Yocum are members of St. Paul's United Brethren Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

ELIJAH L. YOCUM, farmer, P. O. Elysburgh, was born in Locust Township, this county, July 31, 1859, a son of Elijah and Jane (Campbell) Yocum, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His grandfather first settled in what is now Catawissa Township, this county, on what is known as the McIntyre farm, and was one of the first settlers of this section. Elijah, our subject's father, was at one time a large land owner, having about 1,500 acres of land. He was engaged in farming and lumbering and was one of the most successful men in the county in business affairs. He owned two saw-mills, and sometimes had steam saw-mills on his place. He died January 19, 1882, the father of ten children: Elizabeth (deceased), Johanna, Jesse (deceased), Caleb (deceased), Sarah, Obediah, Ezariah, John C., an infant unnamed (deceased) and Elijah L. The mother of this family is yet living and resides with her son, Elijah L. Our subject remained with his parents until his marriage, then resided with his mother until the death of his father, and now lives on the old homestead consisting of 175 acres. Mr. Yocum has a finely improved place and is an industrious citizen. He married, December 24, 1879, Sarah J. Yost, and one child has blessed their union, William E. Mrs. Yocum is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Yocum is a Democrat.

NICHOLAS A. YOCUM, of the firm of Yocum & Brother, merchants, P. O. Bear Gap, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., September 6, 1854, a son of Peter M. and Eliza G. (Gilger) Yocum, natives of Northumberland County, and of German descent. His grandfather, Gilger, a farmer, came from Germany and settled in Northumberland County. Our subject's father, Peter, was a farmer during the greater part of his life, and was also engaged in mercantile business a few years, but is now living a retired life. His wife died August 5, 1881. Our subject was reared on the farm on which he worked (except two years spent at painting) until 1881, when he engaged in mercantile business with H. M. Yocum, which partnership still continues. He married, February 4, 1882, Clarissa J. Thomas. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal and United Brethren Churches, respectively. In politics he is a Republican.

HENRY M. YOCUM, of the above named firm, was born in Northumberland County, Feb. 19, 1845, a son of Peter M. and Eliza G. (Gilger) Yocum. Our subject was reared on the farm, where he remained until eighteen years of age. In 1863 he enlisted in the State militia, and served about four months; in March, 1864, he enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war under Capt. A. B. Brown, of Danville. He participated in a number of battles, among them Cold Harbor and front of Petersburg, the most of his army life being passed in Virginia and West Virginia. At three miles west of Petersburg his company went in with fifty-six men and came out with twenty-two. He was mustered out July 9, 1865, returned home and remained on the farm about five years. In 1870 he began clerking for Peter Yocum, with whom he remained eight years. He then farmed two more years, and in 1881, in partnership with his brother, Nicholas, bought the store of Peter Yocum and engaged in mercantile business. They carry a general stock, valued at about \$2,800, and have a large and increasing trade. Our subject was married, December 25, 1865, to Mary A. Brofee, who has borne him six children: Elsie, Ida, Wesley, Kimber, Curtis and Bessie E. Mr. and Mrs. Yocum are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Republican; was elected justice of the peace in 1880, and held that office five years. The mother of Mrs. Yocum came from Philadelphia and her father from Ireland.

DANIEL YODER, farmer, P. O. Roaringcreek, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., July 12, 1847, a son of Abraham and Catherine (Troutman) Yoder, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His father's great-grandfather came from Germany and settled in Berks County, where he resided several years and then moved to Schuylkill County, bought a tract of land, farmed and kept the old tavern at Mount Pleasant, but later left the place and went to Delaware County, Ohio, where he died. He never received anything for the farm he left, which was afterward taken up by other parties who discovered coal on it, and it became a valuable property. Our subject's father was born in Berks County, but spent the greater part of his life in Schuylkill County. He owned several properties, and in early life followed lumbering and teaming. In 1867 he came to this county and settled in Locust Township near the foot of the Little Mountain, where he bought some mountain land, and resided until his death in July, 1880. He was the father of eleven children, eight living: Aaron, who served in the civil war and lost a limb; Daniel, Samuel, Hannah, Leah, Rachel, Elizabeth and Susan. Our



subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until twenty-two, when he went west, visiting Iowa and other Western States and was absent about six months. A year after his return he settled in Frackville, Schuylkill Co., Penn., on land belonging to him, where he resided about five years following the lumber business. In 1875 he bought the farm where he now resides, and which consists of 106 acres of good land. He has made a great many improvements and built a barn 35x75 feet. He was married, September 17, 1871, to Sarah A. Long, and they are the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living: Sylvester, Esther, Daniel L., Abraham, Joseph, Wellington and Rachel C. Mr. and Mrs. Yoder are members of the German Reformed Church as are also Sylvester and Esther. Our subject served two years as superintendent of the Lutheran Reformed Sunday-school—a union school. In politics he is a Republican.

DR. PIUS ZIMMERMAN, physician and surgeon, Numidia, was born in Mifflin Township, Columbia Co., Penn., November 9, 1854, a son of Jeremiah and Clarissa (Miller) Zimmerman, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. Before coming to this country his father traveled through France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany and Australia, working at his trade, and in 1850 took passage in a sailing vessel at Hanover, Germany, and came direct to New York, where he remained about one year, working at his trade. While there he met the lady who afterward became his wife, and who came to this country in 1851. He went from New York to Philadelphia, where he worked at his trade about one year and then took a trip to Mifflinville, and remained some time buying property and making arrangements to build. He then returned to New York, where he married, and with his wife came to Mifflinville, and here remained until the spring of 1867. They then moved to Ringtown, Schuylkill Co., Penn., where he now resides engaged in harness business. He was three times drafted during the civil war; the first time into the nine months' service, and had proceeded as far as Harrisburg, when he was taken ill and removed to his home, receiving a certificate from the physician. He lay about one year before recovering, and was again drafted, but paid his quota; the third time he prepared to leave for the field, but the war closed before he was called. Our subject was reared to the saddler's trade, and attended school during the winter until he was eighteen. He then taught seven winter and two summer terms. He read medicine about two years before he entered the medical college, his preceptor being Dr. H. D. Retchler. In the fall of 1880 he entered Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, and graduated April 2, 1883. The following October he established himself as a practicing physician and surgeon at Numidia, where he has since continued. He enjoys the confidence of the people and has a large practice. He is a pleasant, genial and courteous gentleman. He was married December 1, 1885, to Lillie, daughter of Wellington and Sarah (Hurst) Yeager. In politics the Doctor is a Democrat.

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## CHAPTER XXXVI.

### MADISON TOWNSHIP.

GEORGE BEAGLE, farmer, P. O. Mordansville, was born June 16, 1816, near Neustadt, on the river Aish, in Bavaria, and came to America with his brother in 1840. He had learned the miller's trade before leaving the old country, and when he came to this country he engaged at work in Boss Seibert's mill in Salem, Luzerne Co., Penn., where he worked nine months; he milled in several places, and for several years operated the Montgomery mill at Eyer's Grove; he then abandoned milling, and located on the farm he now owns in 1854, which he had purchased in 1850, and since that time he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was married in 1844 to Magdaline, a daughter of Jacob Copp, whose wife was a Heinbach. Mrs. Beagle died March 4, 1879. Of eight children born to them, five are now living: John H., in Iowa; Frederick, in Mt. Pleasant, Penn.; Robert, in Greenwood Township; Rebecca, wife of Henry Miller (deceased), and Almira, keeping house for her father. Mr. Beagle owns a three-fourths interest, in the Beagle mill located in Hemlock Township, also the hotel at Eyer's Grove, and several lots in the town. He spends his time on his farm in the culture of grapes, quinces and other small fruits, and is also successful with bees. He is a member of the German Reformed Church, and in politics a Democrat.

JOHN BILHIME, farmer, P. O. Mordansville. Michael Bilhime, grandfather of our subject, was born in Sussex County, N. J.; he was a soldier of the Revolution, was a bearer of dispatches for Gen. Washington, and in making his way across the mountains to Valley Forge was severely frozen, which incapacitated him for active duty, and he received an

honorable discharge. He married Elizabeth, sister of Daniel Welliver, came to what is now Milton, and located in the fall of 1776 on Muddy Run, where he made his settlement and was repeatedly driven off by the Indians, having to return to New Jersey for protection, but after the war he was unmolested. He had one son and one daughter. His son John married Mary, daughter of Valentine Christian, and of the eleven children born to them eight grew to maturity, viz.: Catherine, Jared, Elizabeth, Sarah, Michael, Christian, John and Rebecca. John, the subject of this sketch, was born on Spruce Run in December, 1819; here grew to manhood, and when twenty-eight years of age married Harriet, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Sechler) Morrison. After his marriage he engaged in farming on the homestead, subsequently moved to where his grandfather settled, then moved to Mahoning Township, (then in Columbia County) where he remained two years, and in 1857 he located on Black Run Junction, settled by Jacob Snyder in 1701, and has since resided here. He has four children: Franklin, Elizabeth, Clarence and Woodward B. Elizabeth married Judson Wintersteen, of Montour County; Franklin is a merchant tailor and resides in Turbotville; Woodward B. resides in Upper Hemlock, engaged in farming; Clarence is at home. Mr. Bilhime is one of the substantial citizens of Madison Township.

**JOHN CHRISTIAN**, stone-mason and farmer, P. O. Mordansville. Among the early settlers of Madison Township was the Christian family. The pioneer of the family was Valentine Christian, who was a fifer in the war of the Revolution; his people were in this county prior to the war, and were at one time driven out by the Indians. He married a Miss Robbins and reared several children. The father of our subject was John Christian, who married Frances, a daughter of Jacob Welliver, and to them were born four children: Mary, Rebecca, Jacob and John. John was born October 14, 1829, in this township, and moved to Pine Township with his parents when ten years of age, and when nineteen went to learn the trade of stone-mason with John Rantz; worked at the journey work several years, then moved back to this township in 1852, where he located. In 1855 he married Sarah, daughter of William and Sabrina (Teepie) Robbins. They have two children: Clark and Boyd, both at home. Clark married Hannah J., daughter of Nelson Kitchen, and they have two children. In politics Mr. Christian is a Republican.

**CYRUS DEMOTT**, farmer, P. O. Eyer's Grove. The pioneer of the DeMott family was Richard, who came from New Jersey to this county fully one century ago, and located on the farm now owned by John and David Shultz. Richard was born in 1755, and died May 26, 1827; his widow died August 5, 1849. They reared the following named children: Mary, Rosanna, John, Sarah, Rebecca, Isaac, Jacob, Abigail, Richard, David, William and Elizabeth. Jacob, father of our subject, was born September 9, 1792, in this township; he married Catharine, daughter of John Patton. After his marriage he settled on the farm now owned by Cyrus. He served as justice of the peace, and before the counties were divided was commissioner of the county, also supervisor of the poor; was a member of the Baptist Church for nearly sixty years, serving as deacon and elder. To Jacob DeMott and his wife the following named children were born: Mary, Margaret, John, Rosanna, Sarah, William, Cyrus, Samuel, Catharine, Harriet and George. The father died February 11, 1886, in his ninety-fourth year; his wife died in 1869. Cyrus was born in 1834, and was reared on the homestead. In early life he served an apprenticeship as carpenter, and followed the trade for fifteen years; then bought a farm in this township and farmed six years; then rented the farm for a time, and in 1876 purchased the home place, where he has since resided. In 1862 he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Seventy-first Regiment, and served nine months. He was married in 1868 to Annie L. Heller; she died in October, 1873, leaving no children. In 1880 he married his present wife, Antoinette B., daughter of George W. Suplee. Mr. DeMott is a member and clerk of the Baptist Church.

**FREDERICK DERR**, farmer, P. O. White Hall, was born October 12, 1804, on the farm he now owns, which was improved by his father, George Derr, who bought a tract of about 241 acres of the first occupants, the Sutfin brothers. The deed was executed in 1817, but George Derr had occupied it several years previous. George Derr was born in 1777, and married Mary, daughter of William Carnahan, by whom he had three children: Frederick, Margaret and Jane. George Derr, the father, spent his days on this farm and died at the advanced age of eighty-one years; his wife died several years previous. Frederick, the subject of this sketch, remained on the farm until he attained his twenty-eighth year, then went to Bay County, Mich., and worked at the carpenter's trade (which he had learned before leaving home) working at this vocation twenty-five years in that place; while here he married Elizabeth M. Clarke, a native of New Hampshire; she died in 1842, leaving no issue. He returned to this county in 1858, at the time of his father's death, located on the home farm, and has since been a constant resident of this farm. He was married, the second time, to Ellen, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Bogart) Welliver. Mr. Derr has no children.

**FRANCIS EVES** was born in Madison Township, Columbia County, about the year 1820, son of Parvin Eves. He was reared to manhood on the farm now owned by Wilson Eves, and here lived several years, then moved to Millville, where he died about 1884. He

married Rachel Wilson, who died the same year as her husband. They had five children: Matilda, Anna, Wilson, Martha, and Mary. Wilson was born October 25, 1850, and when in his "teens" moved with his parents to this township, and settled on the farm he now owns. He married Sarah J., daughter of Peter Wolf. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Eves have three children: Charles W., Howard C. and Fannie.

THOMAS H. GINGLES, farmer, P. O. Jerseytown. The Gingles family came to this county shortly after the Revolution. The name of the grandfather was James Gingles, a native of New Jersey; he purchased the property now owned by the family in Madison Township on September 15, 1795, of James Starr, the same being patented by him, Starr, on July 17, 1795. James Gingles married Martha Doak, by whom he had three sons and one daughter: Robert, Jane, John and James. John Gingles, father of our subject, was born August 17, 1793; he married Martha, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah Adams, who was born July 8, 1807; her parents came from Ireland in 1803; was married and settled on the present homestead in 1828. To John and Martha Gingles were born seven children, six living to be grown: Martha J., Sarah A., James, Mary, Thomas H. and William A. Thomas H. was born October 24, 1839, was reared on the farm and has always lived here. Thomas has never married.

ALBERT GIRTON, farmer, P. O. Jerseytown, is a son of John Wesley Girton, who was born March 31, 1821, on Dutch Hill, in Madison Township, Columbia Co., Penn. The great-great-grandfather of our subject was George Girton, who came from England, and settled in New Jersey. His son, John (great-great-grandfather of Albert), was the father of the following named children: Stephen, George, William, Jacob, Esau, John and Marshall. The last named was the great-grandfather of Albert, and came to this township at an early day, settling on Dutch Hill. He kept a hotel here several years, and married Miss Ellen Kinney, who bore him the following children: William, John, Catharine and Margaret. To William and his wife Elizabeth were born Andrew, Marshall, Ellen, John, Wesley, Euphemia, Elizabeth, Ira, Anna, William L. (who was a soldier in the civil war, and was killed in battle) and Shepherd (who was a soldier in the Mexican war, and died there). John Wesley Girton married Hannah Flick, daughter of Daniel and Catherine (Lilly) Flick, by whom he had three children, viz.: Albert, Mary F. and Charles. He settled on this farm in 1861, and remained here until his death, January 3, 1877; his widow yet survives him. For several years previous to his coming here he had been engaged in the carding and fulling business, and operated a factory in Montour County. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, and in politics was a Republican. Albert Girton, who resides on the home farm, was born in Montour County, July 24, 1846, and came with his parents to this township, where he has since resided. He married Gertrude, daughter of George W. Suplee, one of the well known residents of the county. They have one child, Raymond. Mr. Girton is a member of the Baptist Church, and politically a Republican. He takes an active interest in the affairs of the township, and is school director.

ELISHA BIGGS HARTMAN, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, was born August 7, 1827, in Hemlock Township, a son of George and Margaret (Fox) Hartman. John Hartman, his grandfather, immigrated to this place from Berks County, made his settlement in what is now Hemlock Township, and there reared a family whose descendants have grown up in the forks of the Susquehanna. Elisha grew to manhood in Hemlock, and remained with his parents until twenty-four years of age, when he married Mary E., daughter of Daniel Ernest. Mr. Hartman located in Madison Township in 1864, and purchased where he now resides, the place being known as the Ludwig Young farm; he has since purchased the J. Bechtel farm, and is a successful farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Hartman have two children: Anna U. and John H. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics a Democratic.

ERASTUS HENDERSHOT, farmer, P. O. Jerseytown, is a son of John Hendershot, a native of Madison Township, born March 18, 1802, who was the second son of William, who was a son of Michael Hendershot, whose children were Isaac, Jesse, William, John, Phoebe, Margaret and Sarah. To William Hendershot, grandfather of Erastus, were born George, John, William, Michael, Ralph, Henry, Robert, Erastus and Sarah. The wife of William was Mary, daughter of William Kitchen, who married a daughter of Col. Bodine of Revolutionary fame. John Hendershot, father of Erastus, married Mary, a daughter of William Welliver. John is yet living; his wife died April 25, 1834. The children born to them were Elizabeth, Sarah, Mary and Erastus. The latter was born in Jerseytown, July 16, 1832, and married Mary, a daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Eyer) Welliver. After his marriage he located on the farm he now owns. Mr. and Mrs. Hendershot have seven children: Gershom B., William B., Emma J., Charles H., John C., Ada L. and Anna C. In politics Mr. Hendershot is a Republican. He owns 115 acres of land.

AMOS P. KESTER, farmer and stock raiser, P. O. Mordansville, was born in Mount Pleasant Township, July 18, 1817, fourth child and second son of a family of ten children born to Aaron and Tamar (Parker) Kester. The subject of this sketch was brought up in Mount Pleasant Township, remaining at home until about twenty-four years of age, when



he went to Greenwood Township, and for twelve years lived with his brother-in-law, Charles Eves. Then he returned to Mount Pleasant and remained on the homestead about two years. In December, 1854, he married Anna W., daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Ogden) Kester; the following spring he located on this farm. He has 129 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Kester have had three children, two living: Alvaretta, wife of L. P. Kline, of Mount Pleasant; Moro, a student. Teresa (deceased) was the wife of L. P. Kline. Mr. Kester has achieved success, and secured for himself a competence and a good name.

CONRAD KREAMER, farmer and merchant, P. O. Jerseytown, was born November 28, 1824, in Philadelphia, the eldest of a family of seven sons born to Conrad and Catharine (Bowman) Kreamer. The Kreamer family are of German origin. Conrad, the father of our subject, came from Germany when a young man and located in Philadelphia, where he lived until the year 1832, when he removed to this county with his family, and located in this township on land which he purchased. He had ten children, six of whom reared families. Conrad was reared to maturity on the farm his father located upon, and after twenty-one years of age he worked out at \$8 per month during the summer, and \$5 for the winter months. He afterward secured a horse, and then another, and with a team he began farming, and from this small beginning he became wealthy, and now ranks among the well-to-do farmers in Columbia and Montour Counties. He came to Jerseytown about the year 1855 and located on this place; previous to this he was for twelve years engaged in the huckstering business, also bought and sold lumber. He began merchandising here at the time of his coming, which he has since carried on. He has about 1,500 acres of land divided into eight farms. He was married in 1856 to Mary, daughter of Ivan and Margaret (McBride) Hendershot. To them have been born ten children: Maggie J. (deceased), William E., Ida C., John J., George F., Charles A., Anna C., Evan H., Florence and Louis.

HUGH McCOLLUM, farmer, P. O. Jerseytown, was born June 8, 1817, one mile northwest of Jerseytown, the youngest son of Ephraim and Catherine (Seibring) McCollum. The grandfather of our subject, John McCollum, was a soldier in the Revolution, and his son Ephraim, father of Hugh, was a teamster during a portion of that struggle. To John McCollum and wife were born four children: Jacob, a physician, died unmarried; John and William (both went north and settled in New York State), and Ephraim, who came to this county about 1796, settled where J. M. Girton now resides, and here reared his family. He died December 12, 1830; his wife, Catherine, died August 27, 1841. Of the ten children born to them they reared eight: John, David, Jacob, Ann, Betsy, Ephraim, Margaret and Hugh. Hugh was born and reared in this locality, and when sixteen years of age learned the tanner's trade in the yard his son, Ephraim Warren, now owns. He was married March 2, 1841, to Mary C., daughter of Allen and Catherine (Fruit) Watson. They have had four children: Catherine, wife of James Beugler, in Williamsport; Margaret J., died aged seventeen; Sarah A., wife of Judson Axe, in this township, and Ephraim Warren. The last named is his father's successor in the tannery, and has owned and operated it since he was twenty-one years old. In 1882 he was burned out, but at once rebuilt and is now doing a good business. Mr. McCollum and entire family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

JOHN MOSER, farmer, P. O. White Hall, has been identified with the interests of the township for many years. He was born January 19, 1822, in Amity Township, Berks Co., Penn., son of Peter and Anna (Steinrock) Moser, to whom twelve children were born, ten of whom were reared. John was reared on a farm, and came to Derry Township with his father, when he was eighteen years of age, and remained with his father until he was twenty-nine. He located on the farm he now owns about the year 1856, and has since resided here. He married Margaret, daughter of Daniel Crumley, and by her he has had nine children, six living; Henry, residing at Turbotville; Daniel, in Montour County; John W. and Peter at home; Emma, wife of John Ellis, in Montour County, and William H. at home. Mr. Moser has three farms. He is prominent in church matters, and one of the liberal-minded citizens of the township.

J. L. MOSER, farmer, P. O. White Hall, was born June 18, 1828, in Amity Township, Berks Co., Penn., and was raised on a farm. After he attained his majority he went to Reading, and there learned the carpenter trade, which he followed until about 1855, when he came to Montour County, and for a time located near Washingtonville, where he followed his trade for a time, and then bought 700 acres in the north part of Madison Township, and built a small house on the same in 1856; in the spring of 1857 he moved on the place, and here he has since resided; has cleared 100 acres out of the same tract, and since sold off until he now has about 200 acres under good improvements, having excellent farm buildings. He was married September 4, 1851, to Anna M., daughter of George and Lydia (Kline) Smith. They have five children: George, Louisa, Emma, Levi and Sadie. George is fireman on the Erie Railroad; Louisa is wife of S. Gardener, in Lycoming County; Emma, wife of Levi Fortner; Levi and Sadie are at home. Mr. Moser is a member of the Lutheran Church at Washingtonville. He is a Republican in politics.

WILLIAM MASTELLER, farmer, P. O. Buckhorn, was born February 19, 1830, in Northumberland County, Penn., son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Shultz) Masteller, to whom

were born nine children: John, Mary, Rebecca, William, Margaret, Sarah E., Jane, Paul and Jacob. William came to this county in the spring of 1856, with his wife to whom he was married the year previous. Her maiden name was Sarah Ann Heller, daughter of John and Mary Ann (Richard) Heller. In 1856 William located on the farm where he now resides; he owns another farm in Hemlock Township. Mr. and Mrs. Masteller have six children living: Harvey, married and resides in Hemlock Township; George, a teacher and member of the Reformed Church, lives at home; Warren, Claudius, Eva and Mary, all at home.

**SAMUEL REICHARD** (deceased). Frederick Reichard, father of the above, was of German descent, came to what is now Madison Township, this county, and settled on the farm now owned by his grandson, John Reichard, married a Miss Gross and reared seven children to maturity, viz.: Samuel, Isaac, John, Hannah, Polly, Katie, Teney. Samuel was born on the farm about 1801, grew to manhood here, and was married to Christina Taylor, daughter of John and Barbara (Hittle) Taylor, who reared three children—one son and two daughters. After Mr. Reichard married he settled on the farm, and lived here until his decease which occurred in 1856; his widow yet survives him, residing on the home farm. There were eight children born to them: Simon, Ellen, Jacob, Elias, John, Harriet, Matilda and Amos; all married and reared families except John, who resides on the homestead farm with his mother, and is engaged in farming pursuits. Samuel Reichard was a consistent member of the Lutheran Church, and was a man highly esteemed in the community.

**JACOB SHOEMAKER**, contractor and farmer, P. O. Mordansville. The Shoemaker family was among the early settlers in this county. The pioneer was Abram Shoemaker, who came from Jersey and located in Columbia County. His wife was Margaret Mellick, by whom he had nine children: Mary, Andrew, Jacob, Kate, John, Isaac, Michael, Margaret and Abram. Jacob, the father of our subject, was born July 14, 1789, and married Martha Kinney, and to them were born ten children: James, Elsie, John, Abram, Philip, Jane, Margaret, Jacob, Elisha and Levi. Jacob, the subject of this sketch, was reared in Madison Township on a farm, and at twenty years of age began learning the carpenter trade, which he followed for six years; then engaged in farming, which he carried on continuously until about 1878, since when he has carried on his trade. In 1873 he located on the farm he now owns, which he has carried on since in connection with his trade. He married, August 13, 1857, Mary, daughter of Cornelius Vanhorn. Mrs. Shoemaker died March 11, 1886, of pneumonia. To this union were born seven children: Ida, Jane, Elnora, Townsend, John, Harriet and Warren. Mr. Shoemaker has been a member of the Methodist Church about thirty years. Mrs. Shoemaker was a member of the same. In 1884 Mr. Shoemaker was elected director of the poor.

**J. C. SHULTZ**, farmer, P. O. Jerseytown, was born in Montour County May 22, 1843, the eldest son of William and Eliza (Kinney) Shultz. William Shultz was born February 14, 1814. Eliza was a daughter of Rev. John Kinney, son of James Kinney, an old Revolutionary soldier. Peter Shultz, subject's grandfather, married Sallie Robbins, and they had the following children: William, Jonathan, Jacob, James, Henry, Dr. Benjamin F., Mary and Peter; all reared families. To William Shultz and his wife Eliza were born the following named children: John C., Dr. P. H. (deceased), David A., Sarah E. and Oliver P. John C. came to this township when eighteen years of age. At the age of twenty he began life for himself, farming the homestead farm. He was married May 25, 1865, to Mary J., daughter of William and Sallie (Kitchen) Johnson. They have four children: Harry E., Ada B., Beryl B. and Sadie F. Mr. Shultz has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for twenty years, and is trustee of the same.

**A. C. SMITH**, farmer, P. O. Jerseytown. John Smith, the great-grandfather of A. C., was born April 11, 1750. He married Nellie McFall, by whom he had the following children: Henry, Francis, John, Elizabeth, Margaret, Hugh, Elisha B., Anna and Alexander M. Henry was the grandfather of A. C., and by his wife, Mary Creveling, he had the following children: John, Henry, Jackson, Creveling, Margaret, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Delilah, Mary, Martha and Nancy, all of whom were reared to maturity. John, the father of A. C., was born in this township, and married Margaret Sheep, and to them were born Henry J., Mary J., John W., Andrew C., William E., Elizabeth E. and Thornton A. Andrew C. was born October 20, 1849, in this township, and February 17, 1870, married Mary, a daughter of J. M. and Susan (Brugler) Girtou. After marriage he settled in this township, where he has since resided, locating on the farm owned by Susan (Brugler) Girtou's heirs, consisting of 176 acres, known as the John Brugler farm. He has three children: Susan M., Lloyd G. and Emma M. He is a member and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**SILAS WELLIVER**, farmer, P. O. Jerseytown. The Wellivers rank among the pioneers of Madison Township. Daniel Welliver came here from New Jersey, and located on the farm now owned by his grandson Silas. His wife was a Robbins, and they reared a large family, whose names were William, John, Obadiah, Jemima, Rebecca, Sallie, Charity and Polly. Daniel, the father of Silas, married Sarah Eyer, who bore him eight children, viz.: Catharine, Silas, Phineas, Abigail, Lucinda, George W., Mary and Charity.

Silas, who resides on the homestead, was born October 27, 1821; he married Mary E. Fruit, who died November 31, 1871. Of the four children born to them there are now living: Miles, farming the homestead; Sallie, wife of Wilson Derr, in Lycoming County; and Robert, a druggist, recently graduated from the College of Pharmacy in Philadelphia.

THOMAS CHALKLEY WILSON, farmer, P. O. Millville, was born November 2, 1847, son of Reuben Wilson, one of the well known residents of this county. Thomas C. was reared on the farm he now owns, consisting of 123 acres, and has always resided here. He was married May 4, 1875, to Hannah, daughter of James and Mary (Roth) Mather. They have no children. In politics Mr. Wilson is a Prohibitionist and takes an active part in the cause.

## CHAPTER XXXVII.

### MAINE TOWNSHIP.

J. D. BODINE, justice of the peace, Mainville, was born in Catawissa Township, Columbia Co., Penn., November 26, 1849. His parents, Peter and Anna M. (Vought) Bodine, were natives of New Jersey, but removed with their parents to this county when young, and were married at Catawissa by Squire Baldy. The former died in 1865, but the latter is living at the age of seventy-eight years at Catawissa. Our subject, the youngest in a family of ten, was reared in Columbia County and has always made his home here, with the exception of a short time spent at Kingston, Luzerne Co., Penn. He received his education at the common schools of Catawissa, and at the age of fifteen years commenced clerking for the firm of J. K. Sharpless & Son, at Catawissa, with whom he remained three years. He then went to Kingston, Luzerne County, where he clerked for about six months, when he came to Centralia, this county, and clerked for William Torry about the same length of time. He then returned to Catawissa and again entered the employ of Sharpless & Son, with whom he remained three years. In 1875 he came to Mainville and engaged in mercantile business until the spring of 1884, when he sold out to W. M. Longenberger. Mr. Bodine was elected school director of Maine Township about 1880, and served for three years as secretary of the board. He was elected justice of the peace of Maine Township in 1880, served his full term, and in 1885 was again elected to the position. At his first election he succeeded W. T. Shuman, who had filled the position for twenty-five years. Mr. Bodine married at Renovo, Clinton County, this State, May 1, 1879, Miss Eliza Sharpless, a native of Columbia County and a daughter of J. K. and Mary M. (Harder) Sharpless. Both parents are living at Catawissa. Mr. and Mrs. Bodine are the parents of two children; both are living: Ray S. and Anna M. Squire Bodine is a member of the Sons of America, having joined in 1870. He was State Marshall in the State Camp of the order one year, and was first member initiated by the Catawissa Camp, and one of the charter members of Washington Camp, No. 258, at Mainville, in which camp he has filled all the chairs. He is a Democrat politically, and has several times been a delegate to the county conventions of that party. The family attend the services of the Methodist Church.

WILLIAM S. FISHER, farmer, P. O. Mainville, was born in what is now Maine Township, Columbia County, March 7, 1836. His parents, John and Judie (Kiefer) Fisher, were born in Berks County, where they were also married. They later removed to Columbia County where they passed the remainder of their lives. About 1851, while coming back from Mainville with a load of planks, etc., the father, while attempting to guide his four-horse team, was run over by a wheel of the wagon and killed. His widow died on the 15th of March, 1885, and both are buried in Fisher's Church Cemetery. William S. was reared in Columbia County and has always made it his home. He remained at work with his father until the latter's death, after which he remained at home one year. He then worked on the farm, etc., until arriving at the age of twenty-five, when he bought a piece of land and settled down to farming for himself. In the meantime he had commenced his education in the common school of his district; then attended Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, one term, and later one term at Millville Seminary. He then taught school five terms before commencing farming and after that two terms more. He married, in this county, in February, 1861, Miss Mary Margaret Breisch, a native of Columbia County and a daughter of George and Rebecca (Wahl) Breisch. Her father is dead and is buried at Catawissa, where her mother still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are the parents of ten children: George Alpheus (a teacher in the common schools for the past three years),



Horace M. (a stenographer and telegrapher in the employ of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, at Richmond, Va.), Fannie R. (wife of William C. Stevenson, who is engaged in manufacturing woolen goods at Nescopeck), John L., Sarah Margaret, Pearles J., Emerson T., Irene E., William Claude and Bertha Maude. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher and family are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Fisher now has 109 acres of land, of which about 100 are in cultivation. He has served as school and election officer, and has held other township offices. He is clerk of Union Immanuel Lutheran Church, and has been for over twenty years, having been appointed by Rev. W. J. Eyer, father of Mr. Eyer of Catawissa. Mr. Fisher's brother, Daniel, who lives at Limestone, was clerk of the church a number of years previous to that time.

F. P. GROVER, farmer P. O. Mainville, was born in Columbia County, Penn., September 10, 1852, a son of Michael and Catherine (Miller) Grover, both natives of Columbia County where they spent their lives. The father died April 2, 1876, and is buried in the Mifflin Cemetery. The mother now lives with our subject. The latter was reared in Columbia County, and has always made it his home. He married, in 1876, Miss Sarah Hartzell, a native of Columbia County, and a daughter of Henry and Sarah (Breisch) Hartzell, the latter of whom is dead; the former resides in Maine Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Grover were the parents of five children, of whom four are living: Blanche Victoria, Mazy Elmira, Harry Gilbert and Annie Florence. The deceased one was an infant. Mr. Grover has about 150 acres of land, of which about 120 are under cultivation. The Grover family were early settlers of Columbia County, having come here nearly three-quarters of a century ago.

JOSEPH HARTZEL, farmer, P. O. Mainville, was born May 9, 1823, a son of Michael and Elizabeth (Fisher) Hartzel, both natives of Berks County, this State. The father was a son of Peter Hartzel, a native of Germany. The mother was born in Berks County, Penn., and was a daughter of Peter and Sarah (Yocum) Fisher, the former a native of France and the latter of England. Michael Hartzel, and wife both came with their families to Columbia County in the early part of the present century, and here they married and spent their lives. The grandparents of Joseph are buried in St. John's Cemetery at Catawissa. His father died about 1855 and his mother in 1833. The former is buried in Fisher's Church Cemetery, and the latter at Catawissa. Our subject was reared to farm life, and has always made Columbia County his home, now owning and farming the place which his father cleared. Joseph married in Columbia County, November 20, 1845, Miss Matilda John, a native of Columbia County and a daughter of Hiram and Catherine John, both now deceased. Her great-grandfather settled in this county in 1770, being one of the first settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Hartzel are the parents of ten children, seven of whom are living: Martha Jane, wife of William Keiger, residing in Mainville, this county; Alvaretta, wife of Charles Phaler, of Catawissa, this county; Fannie, wife of John A. Shuman, residing in Maine Township; Margaret Ellen, wife of Anderson Shuman, residing in Maine Township; Joseph Albert, married to Jane Shuman, residing in Maine Township; Hettie and Charles Franklin. The deceased are Emma, Clara and Harvey. Mr. Hartzel has ninety-five acres in his home tract, and two other tracts of seventy-five and ten and one-half acres, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Hartzel and family are members of Union Immanuel Church. He has held local offices in his township, including that of supervisor, four or five terms.

MARTIN VAN BUREN KOSTENBAUDER, P. O. Mainville, was born in Mifflin Township, Columbia Co., Penn., August 30, 1839, a son of Henry and Sarah (Hartzell) Kostenbauder, both of whom died in this county—the former May 10, 1855, aged forty-five years; the latter, March 14, 1848, aged thirty-one years, and they are buried in Union Emanuel Churchyard, near Mainville. Martin V., the eldest of four children, was reared in Mifflin and Maine Township, this county, and has always made this county his home. He married April 27, 1876, Miss Susan L. Rhawn, a native of Catawissa Township, Columbia County, born April 11, 1839, a daughter of Casper and Catherine (Crook) Rhawn. Her father was born near Halifax, Penn., reared in Liverpool, same State; died March 4, 1883, and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Catawissa. Her mother was born in 1819, in Catawissa Township, where she now resides. Our subject and wife are the parents of two children: Catherine E., born October 27, 1878, and Jennie Robbins Kostenbauder, born April 6, 1882. Mr. Kostenbauder enlisted on the 13th of July, 1861, in Company A, Sixth Pennsylvania Reserves, and was assigned to the First Army Corps, Gen. George A. McCaull of Lancaster commanding, and served in the following engagements: Dranesville, Whitehouse Landing, Savage Station, Seven Pines, Chickahominy Swamps and Malvern Hill. After that came the evacuation of Harrison's Landing by McClellan's forces. Mr. Kostenbauder was discharged December 31, 1863, on account of disability, on papers issued by surgeon in charge, J. Simmons, of Davis Island Hospital. On account of the hardships endured in the defense of his country, Mr. Kostenbauder returned to his home greatly reduced in health, and is now totally blind, which is wholly due to the hardships he underwent while in the service. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Kostenbauder were born in Reading, Berks Co., Penn. Her grandparents were in this State when the Indians were still numerous, and witnessed many stirring events in its early history.

William L. Kostenbander, a brother of our subject, was drowned in Nescopeck Creek, Luzerne County, Penn., September 2, 1850, aged nine years. Our subject and wife are members of the German Reformed Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

NATHAN MILLER, farmer, P. O. Mainville, was born in what is now Maine Township, Columbia Co., Penn., December 18, 1832, to George and Eve (Cocher) Miller. The family were originally from Berks County, Penn., and the grandfather of Nathan conducted an apple distillery on his place in the early times. Both grandparents died in this county, the grandfather in the fall of 1863, the grandmother a number of years prior. Both are buried in the Union graveyard at Mifflinville, this county. The parents of Nathan died in this county, his father in Mifflinville about 1878, and his mother about 1863; they are buried in the Union Immanuel Churchyard in Maine Township. Our subject was reared in this township, and has always made Columbia County his home. He commenced working for his father when young, and remained with him until twenty-one years of age. After that he worked for his father one year for pay, that being his first work for compensation. After leaving his father's employ he rented land in Orange Township, this county, where he farmed a place for five years. He then went to Centre Township, but after he had been there three years, his mother dying, at the request of his father he returned and farmed the home place, where he has since resided. The first year he followed agriculture in Centre Township he raised 1,121 bushels of fine wheat on forty acres of land, for which he received from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bushel. When Mr. Miller moved to the place he found very little improvement, the residence at that time being the building which he now uses as a woodshed. He has eighty-two acres on his home place, nearly all which is highly cultivated, and he has put up good and substantial improvements. He also has two other places of 54 and 106 acres respectively. He married in this county, November 30, 1854, Miss Catherine A. Nuss, a native of Columbia County, and a daughter of Charles and Chanty (Miller) Nuss, both deceased, and buried in the Union Immanuel Churchyard. The former died in 1877, and his funeral sermon was the first one preached in the Union Immanuel Church. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were the parents of ten children, of whom eight are living: George A., married to Tenie Constable, residing in Ottawa County, Kas.; Harrison D., married to Mary Henry, residing in Mifflin Township, this county; Lewis H., married to Dell Steely, residing in Maine Township, this county; Oscar F., in Nescopeck, Luzerne Co., Penn., learning the tailoring business; Nathan B., learning telegraphy; David Montgomery; Ida Eudora and Ella Catherine; Charles and Alice are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the German Reformed Church, the Immanuel Union.

J. B. NUSS, of the firm of J. M. Nuss & Son, proprietors of the Mainville mills, P. O. Mainville, was born near Mainville, Columbia Co., Penn., October 28, 1850. His parents, John M. and Mary (Gearhart) Nuss, are also natives of this county and reside at Mainville. Our subject has made the county his home, with the exception of four years spent in Philadelphia. He received his education at the common schools of his township and Williamsport; also attended for one year Dickinson Seminary, and later the State Normal School at Bloomsburg for four years. He then taught for five winter and two summer terms in a select school. In 1872 he went to Philadelphia and engaged with John J. Lytle as accountant, and after that with Smedley Bros., with whom he remained until January, 1876, when he returned to Columbia County and became identified with the milling business, in which he is at present engaged. He married, January 12, 1881, Miss Ada A. Shuman, a native of Mifflinville, Columbia County, and a daughter of George Shuman; she died December 25, 1885. Three children were born to their union: Gerald Astor, who died at the age of seven months, and two who died in early infancy. Mr. Nuss attends the services of the Reformed Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

WILLIAM H. OTT, farmer, P. O. Mainville, was born near Williamsburg, Northampton County, May 10, 1833, a son of David and Mary (Evans) Ott. The parents were born in Northampton County, and when William H. had reached the age of about seven years they moved to Columbia County, locating in Greenwood Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The mother died February 17, 1866; the father July 2, 1886, and both are buried in Dewitt Cemetery, in Greenwood Township. William H. was reared in Columbia County, where in 1860 he married Miss Henrietta E. Brown, a native of this county and daughter of Jacob Brown. She died in 1868. By that marriage there were four children, of whom one is living, Mary Catherine. The deceased are Edwin Brown, Eleanor Fulton and Jacob Luther (twins). Mr. Ott married his present wife in March, 1870. Her maiden name was Susan Schell, and she was born in Columbia County, Penn., a daughter of Edmund and Esther Schell, both living at Beaver Valley, this county. Mr. Ott enlisted in the latter part of December, 1861, in Battery F, One Hundred and Twelfth P. V. I., Col. Angeroff, afterward under Col. Gibson. They were first assigned to the defenses of Washington; in the summer of 1864 they were sent to the front and detached to the Eighteenth Army Corps, Gen. Smith. Mr. Ott was with his command in a number of minor engagements, also at the blowing-up of Fort Hell at Petersburg. He was discharged in the winter of 1864-65 at Virginia, and then returned home after three years of service. Politically he is a Republican.



**WILLIAM K. SHUMAN**, farmer, P. O. Catawissa, was born in Columbia County, Penn., in 1849, son of John F. and Catherine (Breisch) Shuman, both natives of Columbia County and now residents of Catawissa Township. Our subject was reared in Columbia County and has always made it his home. He lived with his parents up to the time of his marriage, when he and his brother, J. C., bought a farm in Maine Township, which was conducted by J. C., while William K. remained on the home farm, which he bought in the spring of 1885, having sold out his interest in the other farm. William K. was married in this county April 18, 1871, to Miss Emma J. Hess, a native of Columbia County and a daughter of Philip and Catherine Hess. Her parents are residents of Espy, Columbia County. Mr. and Mrs. Shuman are the parents of two children, both living: Minnie Eudora and Charles S. Mr. Shuman has about 145 acres of land, of which between ninety and 100 are under cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Shuman are members of Immanuel Union Church. He has been supervisor of Maine Township for two terms and is a Democrat politically.

**J. A. SHUMAN**, farmer, P. O. Mainville, was born in what is now Maine Township, Columbia Co., Penn., October 31, 1854, a son of Rudolph and Susannah (Seidel) Shuman, both born in Columbia County, where they lived until their death, the former dying in October, 1881, the latter in August of the same year; both are buried in Immanuel Union Churchyard, in Maine Township. The father was a farmer in the latter part of his life, but previous to that was a merchant, an iron master, having for many years operated an iron furnace and forge near Mainville. Our subject was reared in Columbia County and has always made it his home. He commenced his education in the common schools of his district and finished in the normal school at Bloomsburg, where he attended eight terms. During the time of his attendance at the normal school he had taught two terms in Schuylkill County, North Union Township, and Maine Township, Columbia County, respectively. After finishing his schooling he taught three more successive terms in Maine, then one term in Beaver and two more in Maine. He was then married, March 19, 1878, to Miss Fannie Hartsel, a native of Columbia County and a daughter of Joseph and Matilda (John) Hartsel, members of early families, and now residing in this township (see page 507). Mr. and Mrs. Shuman have one child—Clyde. After marriage they located where they now reside, which is the old "Shuman homestead," and where our subject commenced farming. He is at present secretary of the school board of Maine Township, having been a member of the board and its secretary since 1884. Mr. Shuman has 156 acres of land, about 125 of which are under cultivation. He and his wife are members of Immanuel Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Democrat. The Shuman family were among the early settlers of this county, and the grandfather of our subject was, in the early times, owner of very large tracts of land in this vicinity, making his home where W. M. Longenberger now resides in Mainville.

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## CHAPTER XXXVIII.

### MIFFLIN TOWNSHIP.

**ELISHA B. BROWN** (deceased) was born near Mifflinville, Penn., May 13, 1819, the youngest child of Samuel and Dorothy Brown, and died September 23, 1885. His great-grandfather, James Brown, was born in England, November 12, 1716; coming to America, he settled on Long Island, but finally moved to Warren County, N. J., where he owned a large tract of land extending three miles along the Pawlins Kill from near Columbia to Hainesburg. His son, John, the grandfather of our subject, married Mary M. Brugler, and immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1795, and purchased 400 acres near Mifflinville, for which he paid about \$5,000. At the age of eighteen, Elisha B. Brown engaged in mercantile pursuits with Samuel Creasy and John Brown, the firm name being Browns & Creasy, and thus continued for forty-four years. The firm of Browns & Creasy was established in 1838. The business was purchased of Robert McCurdy for nearly \$8,000. Their patronage embraced a large extent of territory. Mr. John Brown died in 1856. He was succeeded by Mr. N. B. Creasy. "Creasys & Brown" appeared upon the new sign. It was a peculiarity of this firm to hold at all times a large cash surplus to be available in emergencies. Samuel Creasy died in 1873. In 1882 E. B. Brown retired. The business then passed under the exclusive control of N. B. Creasy. During the Presidency of Gen. Harrison, in 1840, our subject was appointed postmaster of Mifflinville, and with the exception of six months he held the office as principal or assistant until his death. As a business man he was eminently successful. He possessed a superior mind enriched by reading and obser-



vation; was positive, accurate and true, his judgment was held in high esteem, and his counsel was frequently sought. He never deserted a friend. He was a man of principle, honor and strict integrity, and lived and died an exemplary Christian. In 1845 he married Martha, daughter of John H. Bowman. Her mother dying when she was a child, she found a home with her grandfather, John Freas, near Briar creek, Columbia Co., Penn. Her father immigrated to Michigan in 1837, and became identified with the business interests of the territory, engaging in mercantile business and building several large flouring-mills; was one of the founders of the village of Colon and the town of Three Rivers, and became a member of the Legislature. Mrs. Brown, besides having the advantages of the schools of her neighborhood, attended an academy at Catawissa under the charge of a Mr. Bradley. She is a voluminous reader and preserves the vivacity of her youth in a way that is remarkable. The three children born to herself and husband are still living: J. Jordan, Dorothy N. and Martha B.

J. JORDAN BROWN was born March 31, 1848. He attended a select school taught by Hiram Hutchison, and afterward completed a course at Williamsport, Dickinson Seminary, graduating in 1867. He then attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and took the degree of M. D. in the spring of 1870, and since that time has been practicing his profession at Mifflinville. He has written some able articles for the medical press. While at college he took a special course in operative surgery under the personal supervision of Prof. William H. Pancoast, and has gratified his taste in this line by doing some work rarely performed in a country practice. We might mention among these operations, those of double hare-lip and cataract. In 1880 he married Miss Mary, daughter of David F. Brands, of Hackettstown, N. J. She attended Blair Academy and Schooley's Mountain Seminary; is talented with the brush and her works of art do her credit. Calm and self-possessed, she is the sunshine of her circle.

DOROTHY NICE, second child of Elisha B. and Martha (Bowman) Brown, is a namesake of her paternal grandmother, who was of a family of Nices living near the Delaware Water Gap. She is endowed with a delicate nervous organization rendering her very susceptible to æsthetics, but inherits her father's latent force. She spent two years at Wyoming Seminary, where her talent for music was developed and was rewarded by flattering commendations. She has the Brown characteristics of being strongly attached to place and friends.

MARTHA BOWMAN, the youngest child, of Elisha B. and Martha (Bowman) Brown, gave evidence in childhood of superior mental strength. She developed a taste for business, and upon the death of her father assumed a large share of the financial management of the family. She possesses many of the mental characteristics of her father. Her memory is seldom surpassed and she is a close observer of men and things. Her common sense and native vigor of mind avail her and more than compensate for the want of a collegiate education.

M. M. HARTZEL, farmer, P. O. Hetlerville, was born in Mifflin Township, Columbia Co., Penn., February 2, 1845, a son of Jonas and Mary Magdalena (Heller) Hartzel, both natives of this county. John Jacob Hartzel, grandfather of our subject, came from Northampton County, Penn., about 1813, and located in Roaringcreek; thence came to Mifflin Township, one year after. He was a cooper by trade but bought a farm in this township, on which he put up a cooper-shop and carried on coopering and farming for many years, but gave up the cooorage about thirty years before his death. He died about September, 1867, aged ninety years, ten months and four days, and is buried at Mifflinville. He was twice married; first to Miss Nuss, and second to Mrs. Harpster, but survived both. Jonas Hartzel, father of our subject, learned the cooper trade when a boy from his father, and followed it five or six years, when he gave it up and turned his entire attention to farming. He was actively engaged at farm labor until the time of his death; he died June 9, 1881, aged sixty-five years, seven months and seventeen days, and is buried at Mifflinville. His wife died November 13, 1879, aged sixty-one years, five months and ten days, and is buried by the side of her husband. Our subject was reared in Columbia County, and followed farming on the home place until he arrived at the age of twenty-two, when he went to Berwick and commenced to learn the carpenter's trade. He then worked at car building until 1868, when he went to Nanticoke and worked for two years on the construction of the breaker for the Susquehanna Coal Company. He then returned to Berwick, and was engaged at car building until the spring of 1881, when he bought eighty-five acres of land which had formerly belonged to his father, and this land he has since continued to farm. He married in Mifflin Township, in April, 1871, Miss Frances Ann Longenberger, a native of Butler Township, Luzerne County, and a daughter of Simon and Lucinda (Kikendall) Longenberger, both deceased and buried at Mifflinville. Mr. and Mrs. Hartzel were the parents of four children, three of whom are living: Lulu May, Minnie Florence and Clarence Bruce. The deceased one was named Wilson Montgomery. Mr. Hartzel is a member of the Grange, and has been a member of other organizations. He is also a member of the Old School Lutheran Church; his wife of the Baptist denomination. In politics he is a Democrat. He is serving at present as a school director.

MICHAEL HELLER, farmer, P. O. Hetlerville, was born in Mifflin Township, Columbia County, September 8, 1823, a son of Christopher and Susannah (Lantz) Heller. The former was a native of Hellertown, Northampton Co., Penn., and was there reared to farm life; was also married there and afterward removed to Columbia County, where he lived the remainder of his life. It was about 1816 when he came to this county. His father, Michael Heller, the grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Revolution and served under Washington. Christopher followed farming after coming to Columbia County, and put up a blacksmith shop, where he did his own smith work. He died about December 14, 1861, aged seventy-six years, and is buried in the Mifflinville Cemetery. His widow died May 4, 1872, aged eighty-four years, and is also buried at Mifflinville. Our subject was reared in Mifflin Township and has always lived on the place where he now resides, and which his father settled upon coming to this county. He farmed with his father until the retirement of the latter, when our subject took the entire charge of the farm. His father willed him eighty-five acres, and since that time he has added sixty-three acres more. Our subject married in Columbia County, March 13, 1847, Miss Mary Ann Hetler, a native of Columbia County, and a daughter of Michael Hetler. Her parents are both deceased and are buried at Mifflinville. Mrs. Heller died in 1863, and is buried at the same place. She bore her husband seven children, four of whom are living: Francis Whitney, married to Mary Elizabeth Heller (they reside at Wapwollopen); Hiram Wesley, a resident of Montrose, Susquehanna County, this State; Christopher Columbus married to Anna Dodson (they reside at Hazleton, Penn.), and Sarah Catherine. The deceased are John Madison, Harriet Alice and an infant. Mr. Heller's second marriage took place February 15, 1864, with Miss Elizabeth Smoyer, a native of Columbia County, and a daughter of Peter Smoyer. Her parents are both deceased. By this marriage the following children were born: Alfred Bartley, Amandus and Wilson Arnolphus, living. Rush Monroe, Martha Minerva, William Harvey and an infant unnamed are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Heller are members of the German Reformed Church, of which he was for many years deacon. He is now overseer of the poor and is serving his third year in that capacity. He is a Republican and was twice elected to the position notwithstanding the fact that the township is over ten to one Democratic, and although he made no effort to be elected. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Lodge No. 246, Berwick, and has passed all the chairs in the lodge.

AARON W. HESS, hotel-keeper, Mifflinville, was born in Luzerne County, Penn., November 30, 1827, a son of Jeremiah and Mary (Fenstamacher) Hess, the former a native of Wilhelm Township, Northampton Co., Penn., and the latter of Luzerne County, same State. The father came to Luzerne County with his parents when but eight years of age, learned the miller's trade and later erected a mill at Wapwollopen, Luzerne County. After operating the mill for a couple of years he traded the property for a farm on which he lived for the remainder of his life. He died in 1880 aged about eighty-five years, and during the last twenty-five years of his life had lived retired, attending to his farm. His wife died in 1860, and both are buried in Beach Haven Cemetery, Salem Township. They were both members of the Reformed Church, and were the parents of thirteen children, ten of whom are living, and of which Aaron W. is the seventh child and made his home with his parents and worked with his father until the age of twenty-one, and from that time until twenty-five worked at home in the winter and boated in the summer on the canal from Wilkesbarre to Baltimore and Philadelphia. He had a boat built, of which he was the owner, and with which he was engaged during the time mentioned in the coal and lumber carrying trade. He married, January 2, 1855, in Beaver Township this county, Miss Esther Bittenbenner, a native of Luzerne County, and daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Nuss) Bittenbenner, both deceased, her father being buried near Shamokin and her mother at Nescopeck, Luzerne County. For the first two years after his marriage Mr. Hess and his wife lived on his father's farm in Luzerne County. The year after marriage he discontinued business on the canal and sold his boat. On removing from Luzerne County he located in Mifflin Township, Columbia County, where he had purchased a farm of 113 acres. There he lived for eight years and then removed to Mainville and took charge of the hotel now conducted by Mr. Longenberger, which he had also purchased. The next spring he sold both the farm and hotel and came to Mifflinville where he bought the hotel property which he now owns and conducts. This was in the spring of 1867, and Mr. Hess has since continued at the same stand. He and his wife were the parents of six children, two of whom died in infancy. The living are Clara Adora, wife of A. W. Snyder, a merchant at Mifflinville; Harvey Wilbur, a traveling salesman for J. C. Bright & Co., shippers and dealers in oil—he also learned the jeweler's trade at Hazleton; Milton J., studying dentistry with Dr. Ervin of Catawissa, and George W., learning the jewelry business at Hazleton. Mrs. Hess is a member of the Lutheran Church, as are most of the family. Mr. Hess owns thirty-five acres outside the corporation besides ten or twelve acres in lots and residence property in Mifflinville, also a house and lot in Mountain Grove. He was overseer of the poor for two years. In politics he is a Democrat. About two years after our subject's mother died his father married Widow Ruckle, who died shortly after his death.



L. B. KOEHLER, farmer, P. O. Mifflinville, was born at Nescopeck, Luzerne Co., Penn., May 18, 1854, a son of John George and Catherine (Heller) Koehler. His father was a native of Saxe-Coburg, Germany, and his mother of Bethlehem, Penn. The former learned the trade of pump-making in his native country, and at the age of twenty-six took his departure for America, coming direct to Luzerne County, Penn. After remaining a year he sent for his family, and his father, mother, two brothers and sisters came over and settled in Luzerne County, where his parents died and also one of his brothers. He carried on pump-making and also owned his farm, which was conducted by his sons. He died in Luzerne County on the 2d of February, 1884, and is buried at Black Creek, Luzerne County. His widow died May 2, 1885, and is buried alongside her husband. Our subject was reared at Nescopeck and made it his home until coming to Columbia County in the spring of 1885. He farmed his father's place until 1882, when he purchased it and continued to farm until coming to his present location. He was married at Conyngham, Luzerne Co., Penn., June 12, 1874, to Miss Catherine Bittenbender, a native of Black Creek Township, Luzerne County, and a daughter of Jonas and Caroline (Lutz) Bittenbender, former a native of Luzerne County, latter of Columbia County, and are still residents of Black Creek Township. Mr. and Mrs. Koehler were the parents of six children, of whom four are living: Caroline, Jonas Marcellus, Adas and Cora May. The deceased are Clara Idella and an infant unnamed. Mr. Koehler has over seventy-two acres of land, of which about sixty-eight are cultivated. He and his wife are members of the Old School Lutheran Church, still retaining their membership at Black Creek Church, Luzerne County.

WILLIAM J. NUNGESSER, proprietor of the South Mifflin Mills, P. O. Mifflinville, was born in Mifflin Township, Columbia Co., Penn., January 23, 1851; a son of George and Phæbe (Eckroth) Nungesser, both natives of this county. The former followed farming until about 1881, when he sold the farm and mill to his son (our subject), with whom he remains retired from business. His wife died on the 1st of July, 1878, and is buried at Mifflinville. Our subject was reared on the farm where he now resides and which was settled by his grandfather over a century ago, which makes quite a record for one family on one piece of ground. Our subject spent his early life at farming his father's place, and about a year after the construction of the mill he commenced learning the milling business, after which he acted as the miller of the plant until 1881. He then bought eighty-six acres, and hiring a miller, devoted his attention to farming. In the spring of 1885 he resumed milling and now carries on both occupations. He was married in the county, December 25, 1874, to Miss Ellen Bredbenner, a native of Columbia County, and a daughter of Conrad and Hannah Bredbenner, residents of Beaver Township. Mr. and Mrs. Nungesser are the parents of three children: Martha E., George C. and James J. Mr. Nungesser is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and his wife of the Old Lutheran. In politics Mr. Nungesser is a Democrat.

J. N. PEIFER, merchant tailor, Mifflinville, was born in Georgetown, Northumberland Co., Penn., December 12, 1834; a son of Nicholas and Mary (Fetterhoff) Peifer, both natives of Lower Mahanoy Township, Northumberland Co., Penn. The former was a tailor, which trade he followed until his death; he is buried at Georgetown. The latter resides at Mahantondo Station, Dauphin County, this State. J. N. was reared in Georgetown, and at the age of twelve years commenced to learn the tailor's trade with his father, and worked with the latter until he had reached the age of eighteen years. He then started for himself, opening his first shop in the Mahantondo Valley, and conducted it about a year; thence went to Sacramento, Schuylkill County, where he worked at journey work until the following spring, when he worked on the canal and boated that summer. In the fall he took a trip to Stephenson County, Ill., and worked at farming and tailoring until 1855. He then went to the Madison County (Wis.) lumber regions, and was engaged in rafting on the river about seven months. In the fall he went to Rockwell, Ill., and worked at tailoring that winter, and in the spring worked in his cousin's brickyard in Monroe County, Wis. He returned to Pennsylvania in the fall of 1856, and worked with his father until 1857. February 19, of that year, he married Miss Catherine Shafer, a native of Northumberland County, Penn., and a daughter of George and Sarah (Ressler) Shafer. Her father was accidentally killed, but her mother is still living in Jackson Township, Northumberland County. After his marriage he started a shop for himself at Hickory Corners, same county, and continued it until the war, when he enlisted in Company B, Sixth Pennsylvania Reserves. He served with the regiment until April, 1862, when he was discharged, having participated in the battle of Dranesville. He then returned home, where he remained until March 12, 1864, when he again enlisted, this time in the Thirty-fourth Independent New York Light Infantry, field battery, captain, Jacob Roemer. They were assigned to the Army of the Potomac and served in the following engagements: Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, Salem Church, Gaines' Farm and Cold Harbor. They were before Petersburg from June 17 to August 19, and September 30, 1864, served in the defense of Petersburg and participated in the operations resulting in the fall of Richmond. Mr. Peifer was also present at the grand review at Washington, and was discharged June 26, 1865, and returned home. His first wife died May 6, 1865, the mother of three children: Jerome Wilson and Mary Ann, who conduct a shop at Nescopeck, Luzerne County, and



Catherine, deceased. Mr. Peifer removed to Mifflinville in the fall of 1865, and from 1867 to 1876 resided in Rockport, Carbon County. January 30, 1866, he married Mrs. Fry, daughter of George Miller, and by this marriage four children were born: Ulysses Grant, a cutter at Watsonstown; William Thomas, a tailor; Ella Matura Jane and John Jacob Astor. Mr. Peifer is a member of the C. G. Jackson Post, No. 159, at Berwick. He and family are members of the Lutheran Church.

ABRAHAM SCHWEPPEHEISER, farmer, P. O. Mifflinville, was born in Mifflin Township, Columbia Co., Penn., January 3, 1823, a son of John Jacob and Rebecca (Sutton) Schweppenheiser, the former a native of Columbia County, this State, and the latter of the State of New Jersey. They lived in this county until their death. John Schweppenheiser followed farming during life, and died February 20, 1866; his widow died in September, 1880, and both are buried in the Mifflin Cemetery. Abraham was reared in Mifflin Township, and has always made his residence at the old homestead, and farming his occupation. He married, in Lycoming County, on the 24th of May, 1847, Miss Elizabeth P. Clark. Her parents are both deceased, and are buried in Lycoming County. Mr. and Mrs. Schweppenheiser are the parents of seven children, of whom six are living: Catherine, wife of R. S. Henderson, in McDonough County, Ill.; Ella, wife of George Milton Lehman, in Mifflin Township, this county; Lydia Alice, wife of Aaron A. Bredbenner, also in Mifflin Township; Martha, wife of Jacob Knecht, resides in Berwick, this county; Miranda, wife of R. S. Wintersteen, Mifflinville, and Wilmina Jane. Mr. Schweppenheiser has ninety acres of land, all of which is under cultivation. He is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and his wife of the Methodist. He has served as supervisor two years and as school director of Mifflin Township eighteen years. In politics he is a Democrat.

JACOB YOHE (deceased) was born near Mifflinville, this county, October 13, 1810, to Peter and Nonie (Fortner) Yohe, the former a native of Berks County, Penn., and the latter of New Jersey. Both came to Columbia County when young; here they were married, lived and died, and both are buried in Mifflinville, the former died about 1855 and the latter about 1851. Jacob learned the milling trade when a boy at the Mifflinville mills, and when he had reached manhood and finished his trade his father built the Yohe or Mifflin mills, which Jacob conducted for his father until the latter's death. About two or three years after that event Jacob purchased the mill property, which he conducted until one year before his death. He was then elected county treasurer and served two years, after which he lived retired until his death. He married, October 18, 1836, Miss Rachel Brown, a native of Columbia County, born February 13, 1814, and a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Lunnenberry) Brown, both of whom were born in the State of New Jersey, and were there married before coming to Pennsylvania. The former was a farmer in New Jersey, and followed that occupation after coming to Columbia County. Besides Rachel, there were ten other children, of whom six are living, including Mrs. Yohe. Mr. Brown died in this county in February, 1863; his wife had died some years prior. Mr. and Mrs. Yohe were the parents of eight children, two of whom are living: Margaret, wife of Luther Hutchins (had ten children, four living), at Rock Glen, Luzerne Co., Penn., and Marshall, who resides with his mother. The deceased were named as follows: John Wesley, whose widow and two children survive him; Ezra; David Brown; Ashbol Gwynn, whose widow and two children survive him; Naomi Jane and Benjamin Fortner. Mr. Yohe died August 29, 1871, and is buried at Mifflinville. He was a man much esteemed, and enjoyed a large and favorable acquaintance throughout this section of country. He was a member of the Methodist Church; his widow is a member of the same at Mifflinville.

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## CHAPTER XXXIX.

### MONTOUR TOWNSHIP.

PETER A. EVANS, treasurer of Columbia County, P. O. Bloomsburg, was born in Montour Township, this county, January 15, 1846, a son of Issachar M. and Maria (Appelman) Evans. He was educated in Bloomsburg at the old seminary, and in 1865-66 completed his studies at Dickinson Seminary. He then returned to the old homestead in Montour Township, where he has been engaged in farming up to the present time. From the time of attaining his majority Mr. Evans has taken an active part in politics and has served his vicinity in many local offices. In 1880 he was appointed United States census enumerator for his district. In 1882 he served as a delegate in the State convention

which nominated Gov. Pattison. In 1884 he was nominated and elected treasurer, receiving the largest majority of any candidate on the ticket. In 1873 Mr. Evans married Samantha, daughter of William White, of Scott Township. He and family reside in Montour Township on the homestead, which was formerly owned by his grandfather, Peter Appelman. The Appelman family is one of the oldest in the county. The father of Peter was Matthias, who settled in Millwell shortly after the Revolution. He was born near Trenton, N. J. The great-grandfather, Mark Evans, was a native of Lancaster County, and came to this county in 1816, settled in Greenwood Township, and was a member of the Society of Friends; he was a carpenter, and also engaged in farming and lumbering. Jacob, his son, was also a carpenter until middle life, when he adopted farming. In 1856 he was elected associate judge and served one term, and also served in several local offices. He was a member of the Methodist Church fifty-five years, and a church officer many years, and ministers of that denomination made his home their stopping place. Our subject is a member of the Grange and of the I. O. O. F.

FRANK L. FAUST, operator of the White mill, Montour Township, P. O. Bloomsburg, is a native of Hemlock Township, this county, born in 1858, a son of John and Julia (Sheppard) Faust. In 1874 he began to learn the milling business in what is now called the Red mill, and after seven years' experience, in 1881, opened up in the same business on his own account at his present location, one mile from Bloomsburg, having leased the mill for a number of years. The White mill has four run of stone, one wheat, two choppers and one for grinding buckwheat. It is fitted up in the most modern style on the buhr system, and turns out the finest qualities of wheat and buckwheat flour. Mr. Faust does a custom business and sells to the home trade and the merchants in adjoining towns. In 1882 he married Hannah Allegar and three children have blessed their union: Wilbur, Edith and Arthur. Mr. and Mrs. Faust are members of the Lutheran Church, and he is a member of the American Mechanics Lodge at Bloomsburg.

GEORGE W. MEARS, D. L. & W. R. R. Agent, Rupert, was born January 3, 1843, a son of Alexander and Phoebe (Knouse) Mears. He was reared in Bloomsburg and vicinity and educated in the schools of the neighborhood. July 4, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Sixth Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserves, Volunteer Infantry, was mustered into service at Harrisburg and the United States service at Washington, D. C. July 27, 1861, he participated in the battles of Dranesville, Second Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg (where a bullet struck his belt plate, knocking him down, which caused him a severe bruise), Gettysburg (the last two days), Mine Run, where he was wounded by a piece of shell on the shoulder joint, necessitating the amputation of the left arm at the shoulder. He also participated in many other engagements throughout Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, and May 1, 1863, was promoted to the rank of sergeant. He was mustered out June 11, 1864, having served three years; on leaving the army he learned telegraphy and was employed five years in the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg Railroad office at Danville, and in 1871 was appointed agent at Rupert for the D. L. & W. R. R., and has also acted as telegraph operator and express agent. He married, in 1870, Mary A. Appelman, who bore him five children: Wellington E., died in infancy; Elmer A., Howard R., Ottilie and Ulysses G. The last four are living.

JOHN S. MENSCH, farmer, P. O. Bloomsburg, was born May 9, 1839, a son of Michael and Margaret (Shuman) Mensch. He was reared on the farm and received a good education. December 27, 1859, he married Matilda, daughter of Daniel and Hannah (Cleaver) Zarr, and born January 13, 1840. After marriage he engaged in farming and in October, 1881, bought his present place of 150 acres about two miles from Bloomsburg, in Montour Township. Mr. and Mrs. Mensch are members of the Episcopal Church at Bloomsburg. He is a Democrat and has served his township in various local offices; was school director of Catawissa three years; is interested in the Agricultural Society in which he served one year as a member of the executive committee. To him and wife were born thirteen children: Flora, born October 17, 1861; George, August 13, 1863; William, January 6, 1865; Clara, September 20, 1866; Daniel Z., August 19, 1868; John Harry, July 8, 1870; Margaret, February 17, 1872; Morris C. S., September 16, 1873; Charles, April 16, 1875; Ada, January 5, 1877; Frank, July 28, 1879; Guy, February 21, 1882, and Maybury Hughes, March 2, 1886. All are at home except George, who is a railroad engineer. The Mensch family is an old one in Columbia County. The great-grandfather of our subject was John Mensch, who settled near Catawissa with his family about 1800. His farm was situated at the mouth of Roaring creek and consisted of 400 acres, about 160 of which are still in the hands of his descendants. His son, John, lived on the old homestead, and eventually, partly by inheritance and partly by purchase owned the entire tract. He was an honored citizen, a member of the Lutheran Church, and died about 1873, aged eighty-four years.

WASHINGTON M. MONROE, manufacturer, Rupert, was born at Muncy, Penn., September 3, 1838, a son of Isaac S. and Elizabeth (Davis) Monroe, who settled in Catawissa in 1832. The father was foreman on the construction of the Pennsylvania Canal, and later was extensively engaged in the lumber business. He was an influential Democrat until 1861, when he became identified with the Republicans. He served as

associate judge of the county six years, and during the war was United States Assessor of Internal Revenue for three years. He attended the Friends' meeting, but was not a member of that society. He was born in Woodstock, N. H., but came to Pennsylvania when about twenty years of age, and thereafter made it his home. He married at Catawissa, and to him and wife seven children were born, only three of whom lived to maturity: Sarah J., wife of Peter R. Baldy, and now deceased; Mary E., wife of Austin H. Church, at Ashland, Penn., and Washington M. Our subject was reared at Catawissa, and obtained his education at Pottstown Hill school, taking a three years' course. In 1861, with his father, he established the business of manufacturing powder kegs at Rupert, and in 1866 was admitted as a partner. His father dying in 1879, our subject assumed full charge and has since conducted the business. Since its start the factory has turned out 90,000 twenty-five pound kegs annually, valued commercially at about \$20,000, giving employment to eleven men. Mr. Monroe married, in 1861, Ellen B. Leonard, who was born near Reading, Berks County. Four children blessed their union: Elizabeth, Mary C., Ellen and Irene, all living at home. Mr. and Mrs. Monroe are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He is agent for Dupont's Powder Company for the counties of Columbia, Montour, Snyder, Union and Northumberland.

LOYD PAXTON, farmer, P. O. Rupert. The Paxton family of Columbia County is descended from an English family of that name, who came from England with William Penn and settled in Buckingham, Bucks Co., Penn. The first of the family to come to Columbia County was Jonas Paxton, born June 25, 1735, and Mary (Broadhurst) Paxton, his wife, who was born December 31, 1754. They settled at Catawissa, where they both died, he in 1796 and she April 5, 1838. Their son, Joseph, was born in Bucks County February 3, 1786, and came to this county with his parents when he was quite young. He was a tanner and carried on that business for many years successfully at Catawissa. He was a leading man in his day and acted as general manager in business matters in his vicinity. He was also a private banker to some extent. Joseph Paxton was the principal originator and projector of the Catawissa Railroad (now the Philadelphia & Reading). He succeeded in interesting Nicholas Biddle, the president of the United States Bank at Philadelphia in the railroad, and under their joint efforts the road was built. He owned considerable land in the neighborhood of Catawissa, and took a deep interest in agriculture, owning a fertile farm in Bloom Township. He also introduced some of the first short-horn stock in the county. He was a regular attendant at the Friends' meeting at Catawissa and had charge of the settlement of many estates. He was a Whig politically, and a personal friend and correspondent of Henry Clay and Daniel Webster, autograph letters from both being found among his effects. He died at the beginning of the civil war, which filled him with regret, and was thought to some extent to have hastened his death, which occurred August 21, 1861. Joseph Paxton married Catherine Rupert April 24, 1809. She was a daughter of Leonard Rupert, and, on the death of her husband, moved to the old Rupert homestead, which had been purchased by her grandfather, Michael Bright, in 1784, in Rupert, Montour Township, where she has since resided. December 25, 1886, she was one hundred years old, and supposed to be the oldest living person in Columbia County. Lloyd Paxton, a grandson of Leonard Rupert, now owns the homestead tract at Rupert, which was bought by Michael Bright, his great-grandfather, in 1774.

SQUIRE JOHN G. QUICK, farmer, P. O. Rupert, was born in Rush Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., January 19, 1824. His ancestors were of German descent and settled in New Jersey long before the war of the Revolution. John Quick, his grandfather, was a soldier in that struggle, in which his maternal grandfather, Samuel Moore, was sergeant. John and Nancy (Hummill) Quick located in Rush Township, Northumberland County, soon after the close of the Revolution, and there died in February, 1831. His widow died at the home of her son, John H. Quick, in Rupert, in 1831. John H. Quick was born in Warren County, N. J., in 1789, and married Elizabeth Moore, who was born in 1791. They became the parents of our subject, and bought the farm now occupied by him, in 1829. There they passed the remainder of their lives. The father was a Democrat, and served his vicinity in various local offices, and in religious belief was a Presbyterian, as was also his wife. He died in 1852, and his wife in 1850, and both are buried in Rosemont Cemetery at Bloomsburg. The old homestead of 140 acres is still owned by their son, our subject, and is located just adjoining the village of Rupert. John G. Quick was reared to farm life and from the age of six or seven years has resided at his present home. He is a Democrat and has always been an active worker for the interests of his party; has served in all local offices, except those of supervisor and assessor; was for twelve successive years secretary and member of the school board and for twenty-five years has acted as justice of the peace. In that time he has tried upward of 500 cases, only two of which were ever appealed; in one of these his judgment was sustained in a higher court, the other was withdrawn. Squire Quick married, in 1853, Sarah Moyer, and one child, Minnie, has blessed their union. Mrs. Quick and daughter are members of the Episcopal Church. The Squire is a member of the F. & A. M., of Catawissa, and of the P. of H. and has been secretary of the Farmers Produce Exchange at Bloomsburg since its origin.



## CHAPTER XL.

## MOUNT PLEASANT TOWNSHIP.

SILAS CLARK BEAGLE, blacksmith, Mordansville, was born at Mordansville, Mount Pleasant Township, Columbia Co., Penn., April 8, 1863, son of Leonard and Margaret (Mordan) Beagle. Michael Beagle, grandfather of our subject, emigrated from Germany to this country after he had reared the most of his family, came directly to Columbia County and located about a quarter of a mile north of Mordansville, when the surrounding country was yet very wild. His wife's maiden name was Rebecca Margaret. When they located at the point mentioned they put up their improvements, consisting of a frame house and buildings, the house being now occupied by Hiram Bogart. Here Michael Beagle died about 1872, his wife having preceded him by one or two years. They are buried in Dutch Hill Cemetery. Leonard Beagle, brother of our subject, was born in Germany, and when he was fifteen years of age his family immigrated to the United States and located in Columbia County. He spent the remainder of his life in Mordansville and vicinity. He was married in this county to Margaret Mordan, by whom he had one child, Silas Clark. Leonard Beagle enlisted in the nine months' call, and, after serving his time out and coming home, he enlisted in Company H, Thirty-second Heavy Artillery, though they served as infantry. He was with his regiment until the time of his death, which occurred in camp from fever brought on by exposure. His remains were sent home to his family and buried in Dutch Hill Cemetery with the honors of war. His widow, now wife of Michael Hawk, resides at Eyer's Grove. Silas Clark Beagle was reared at Mordansville, and at the age of over seventeen years commenced to learn the trade of blacksmith at Harmon Severson's shop. He worked there between two and three years, then came to Mordansville and built his present shop, which he has conducted ever since. He does all kinds of blacksmith repair work, ironing of wood work, etc. He was married in this county November 23, 1882, to Miss Eva Jane Hippenstiel, a native of this county, and daughter of Peter and Sallie Hippenstiel, residents of Mount Pleasant Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Beagle are the parents of two children: Howard Ammerman and John Franklin. Mrs. Beagle is a member of the Lutheran Church.

SAMUEL HARTZEL, farmer, P. O. Light Street, was born in Mount Pleasant Township, this county, November 12, 1834, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (DeLong) Hartzel. Jacob Hartzel was born in Northampton County, Penn., was there reared, and thence came to this county when a young man, and shortly afterward bought land where Samuel now resides. He cleared up this land and farmed it, and also followed the trade of shoemaking (which he had learned in Northampton County) after coming here until his death. He was married in this county to Mrs. Elizabeth Stouffer, *nee* DeLong, widow of John Stouffer, and they were the parents of two children: Joshua, in Mount Pleasant Township, this county, and Samuel. The father of this family died in October, 1878, his wife in March, same year. They are buried in Canby Cemetery, Mount Pleasant Township, this county. Samuel was reared in Mount Pleasant Township, and has spent his lifetime of over half a century at the place where he now resides. He has always made farming his occupation, though he assisted his father to some extent shoemaking, and also occasionally followed the carpenter trade. He was married in this county in June, 1857, to Miss Christiann Straup, a native of this county, daughter of Jonathan and Catharine (Clauser) Straup, both deceased, latter buried at Canby, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Hartzel are the parents of four children, three now living: Jacob Harvey, married to Samantha Sitler (they live in Centre Township, this county); Anna Mary and Lucinda Rebecca. The one deceased was an infant unnamed. Mr. Hartzel has about 115 acres of land, all of which lies in Mount Pleasant Township. Mr. and Mrs. Hartzel attend the Lutheran Church, of which she is a member. He is a Democrat politically, and has held the office of school director and supervisor.

ELIAS HOWELL, retired, P. O. Light Street, was born in Limestone Township, Montour County, Penn., September 27, 1825, son of William and Anna (Titus) Howell, former of whom was born in New Jersey in 1802, and the latter dying during our subject's infancy, his uncle, Vinson Dye, took him to raise. In 1810, when William was but eight years of age, his uncle removed from New Jersey to what is now Limestone Township, Montour Co., Penn., and with him William lived, assisting on the farm until he had reached the age of eighteen years, when he went to learn the trade of stone-mason and plasterer, in the same neighborhood. While living there he was married to Miss Anna

Titus, and in 1836 they removed to Mount Pleasant Township, this county, where he bought 150 acres in the same neighborhood as the present farm of his son, Elias. He then devoted almost his entire attention to farming, doing only his own mason work, following agricultural pursuits until about ten years before his death, when he lived a retired life. Mr. and Mrs. William Howell were the parents of eight children, six now living: Mary Ellen, wife of William Hower, in Luzerne County, Penn.; William, in East Nanticoke, Penn.; Edith Ann, wife of William Bowman, in Carthage County, Mo.; Robert C., in Mount Pleasant Township, this county, John V., in Bloomsburg, Penn., and Elias. The father of this family died April 1, 1874. He and his wife are buried in the Bloomsburg Cemetery. Elias Howell, subject of this sketch, was ten or eleven years of age when the family removed from Montour County to what is now Mount Pleasant Township, this county. In the spring of 1843 he went to Bloomsburg to learn the blacksmith trade with William Sloan, and worked with him two years; then went to Montour County, where he resided two years; then returned to this county, and for some seven or eight years worked by the day for different farmers; then went into the mines in Bloom Township, this county, and was there engaged thirteen years at contract work. He then bought eighty-four acres of land in Mount Pleasant Township, this county, and commenced farming; also leased a limestone ridge near by, put up a kiln, and for six years was engaged at that business as well as farming. After that time he gave his entire attention to farming until the spring of 1881, since which time he has lived a retired life, renting his farm. He was married in this county in November, 1846, to Miss Emeline Andrews, a native of Columbia County. She died April 19, 1885, at the age of fifty-nine years, three months, nineteen days, and is buried in the Vanderslice graveyard, Hemlock Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Howell were the parents of eight children, four now living: William, married to Emily Laubach, in Hemlock Township, this county; John, married to Mary Whitenight, also in Hemlock Township; Anna Margaret, wife of Peter Melick, in Mount Pleasant Township, this county; Isaiah Willets, married to Catherine Wolf, on the home place. The deceased are Sylvester, Robert Francis, James Franklin and Clarence Lloyd. Mr. Howell is a member of the Methodist Church. His wife had also been a member of that church from her fourteenth year to the time of her death, forty-five years. He is at present collector of Mount Pleasant Township, which office he has held since 1880; has also been treasurer of the school board for six years. He has held the office of supervisor for three years, and overseer of the poor four years. He is a member of Light Street Grange, No. 31, P. of H.

THOMAS P. McBRIDE, Bloomsburg, steward of the Bloom Poor District, composed of townships of Bloom, Scott, Greenwood and Sugarloaf, was born in Berwick, this county, January 17, 1819, son of John and Edith (Gossner) McBride. Nathaniel McBride, grandfather of Thomas P., came to this county in the early days, and located in Hemlock Township, where he bought and cleared up land. John McBride, father of our subject, was born in this county and reared here to farm life. He afterward abandoned farming and gave his attention to the mason's trade, following that occupation principally at Bloomsburg. He was also engaged on the work of the Catawissa Railroad. He was married in Berwick to Edith Gossner, and they were the parents of thirteen children, of whom six are living: Thomas P.; Maria, widow of John Banghart (she lives in Lime Ridge, this county); Alexander, in Hughesville, Penn.; Elizabeth, wife of Solomon Smith (they live near Three Rivers, Mich.); Mary, widow of Henry Crum (she lives in Bloomsburg, this county), and Franklin P., also in Bloomsburg. The father of this family died in 1858, the mother in 1844, and both are buried in the Lutheran cemetery at Bloomsburg. Thomas P. McBride, subject of this sketch, was reared in this county, where he has always made his home. When he was nine years of age he went to work on the farm of Isaac Coon, where he was employed three years. He then began boating on the canal between Bloomsburg and Philadelphia, and for three years followed that occupation. He then commenced to learn the tailor trade with B. Rupert of Bloomsburg, with whom he was employed about eight years. He then bought a canal boat and engaged for himself in the coal carrying trade between Bloomsburg and Baltimore. He was thus employed about two years when he sold his boat and was engaged the next year in the store of L. B. Rupert, and for the next year boated with William Morril. He then went in partnership with Elias Mendenhall, and was engaged with him in boating for four years. He then removed to the lumber woods in the upper end of this county, where Mr. Mendenhall had purchased a tract of land and superintended the farming and lumbering at this place for fifteen years. Later he bought fifty acres of land near Rohrsburg to which he moved, and farmed it three years. March 28, 1876, he was appointed steward of the Bloom Poor District. He did not find the farm in very good condition when he took charge, but he has brought the place up to a high standard by constant improvements, and now it is a credit to the county. Since he has taken charge there have been four boards of overseers, and as Mr. McBride has retained his position all this time, it is ample evidence that his administration has been satisfactory. He was married in this county September 8, 1858, to Miss Amanda Robbins, a native of this county, daughter of Margaret Robbins, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. McBride are the parents of four children, of whom two are living: Urbanus,

married to Prebella McHenry, in Light Street, this county, and Margaret, wife of Jacob Hirlman, in Bloomsburg, this county. John and Mary are deceased. Mr. McBride is a Democrat politically.

CHARLES H. MASON, farmer, P. O. Canby, was born in the city of Philadelphia June 11, 1815, son of William and Parthena (Wetherill) Mason. There were three brothers in the Mason family who came over in the "Mayflower" and landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620. Capt. John Mason, who is so prominently spoken of in history, is the one of these brothers from whom Charles H. is descended. The great-grandfather of our subject was Ebenezer Mason. He had a son, also named Ebenezer, who was the grandfather of Charles H., and was born at Ashford, Conn., March 27, 1749; was married June 23, 1774, to Mary Hastings, who was also born at Ashford, Conn., December 17, 1752. They were the parents of eleven children, as follows: Rufus, born May 23, 1775, died July 29, 1776; Mehetabel, b. August 23, 1776, d. April 1, 1800; Rufus, b. May 3, 1778, d. September 10, 1812; Eliphalet, b. June 23, 1780, d. March 11, 1853; Ebenezer, b. October 2, 1782, d. May 10, 1873; David, b. July 27, 1784, d. August 29, 1848; Alva, b. August 9, 1786, d. April 21, 1863; William, b. February 17, 1788, d. February 28, 1844; Mary, b. May 26, 1790, d. December 14, 1866; Chester, b. June 10, 1793, d. November 29, 1845; Margaret, b. June 7, 1795, d. April 26, 1882. The father of this family died July 25, 1824, and was buried at Ashford, Conn. After his death his widow removed to Monroeton, Bradford County, where she died in September, 1834, and is buried there. William Mason, father of Charles H., was born and reared at Ashford, Conn., and on arriving at a suitable age, went to Hartford, where he learned the art of wood-engraving, and in 1810 removed to Philadelphia where he followed it, being the first in that line in the Quaker City. He followed this art a number of years and then commenced the manufacture of philosophical instruments, such as air-pumps, electrical machines, etc., including a telescope for himself. He conducted that business until seventeen years before his death, when he gave his attention to art, instructing in drawing and designing, and this he followed until his death. Among his designs was an ideal one, which he called the "inventor's head;" it is in the shape of a human head, formed entirely of mechanical appliances, and so constructed as to be a good likeness; although very minute in its detail, it was drawn with a lead pencil and shaded with India ink. Charles H. Mason has a photograph of the drawing in his possession. Among others who studied designing, etc., under William Mason were Thomas U. Walters, the designer of Girard College, and John Troutwine, a noted civil engineer. Mr. Mason was married in Philadelphia to Parthena Wetherill, a native of Salem, N. J., born January 3, 1793. They were the parents of seven children, of whom six are living: Samuel Rufus, in Dodge County, Neb.; Charles H. and Margaret Ann, wife of William H. Strickland, in Reading, Penn. (twins); Mary Delia, wife of Samuel C. Hays, in the stationery business in Philadelphia; Amanda Jane, widow of John Dainty (she lives at Beverly, N. J.); Catherine Wetherill, widow of Nathan Stern Beekley (she lives in Philadelphia); William Morrison (twin to Mrs. Beekley) is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. William Mason, parents of the above, are buried at Philadelphia. Charles H. Mason, subject of this sketch, was reared in Philadelphia and there educated. At the age of seventeen he went into the country in Bucks County, where he served an apprenticeship of five years on a farm. In 1836 he went to Monroeton, Bradford Co., Penn., and there worked at different employments, farming, rafting on the river, lumbering and teaching school, and in 1842 went to Hill's Grove, Lycoming Co., Penn., where he resided until 1846, moving thence to Shrewsbury, same county, where he lived until 1849. In that year he came to Mount Pleasant Township, and operated a saw-mill on Fishing creek for one year. From that time until 1852 he worked by the day. At the latter date he began to learn the carpenter and millwright trades, and on completing his instruction went into the millwrighting business as journeyman with Marshall G. Kinley of Bloomsburg, this county, and for seven years worked with him most of the time. After that he worked at carpenter work until 1880, when, his wrist being broken, he abandoned that work, and since then has done little else than attend to the farming of his lot. He married June 16, 1841, Miss Mary Tingley, a native of Hughsville, Lycoming Co., Penn., born March 30, 1821. She died March 8, 1876, and is buried in the Lutheran cemetery at Canby. By that marriage there were eight children, seven now living: William Chester, in Mount Pleasant Township, this county; Jeremiah M., in Wichita, Wichita Co., Tex.; Martha Jane Craven, wife of John McMullen, in Knoxville, N. Y.; Nelson Winfield, in Holland, Lucas Co., Ohio; Samuel Rufus, in Toledo, Ohio; Sarah Elizabeth, wife of William A. Wait, a druggist in Sugar Notch, Luzerne Co., Penn., and Isaiah Willett Hartman, a salesman in the carpet store of Hudson & Simington, Detroit, Mich. Amanda Melissa, the second born, is deceased. Mr. Mason was again married December 16, 1877, this time to Catherine Ann McCaslin, widow of Marvin McCaslin of Montoursville, Lycoming Co., Penn., and daughter of John and Jane Dudder, natives of this county. Her grandfather was from New Jersey. Her father died January 17, 1883, aged seventy years, ten months and three days, and was buried at Canby, this county. Her mother died February 22, 1837, aged twenty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Mason are members of the Lutheran Church. In politics he is a Republican.



PHILIP MILLER, farmer, P. O. Eyer's Grove, was born in what is now Madison Township, this county, September 24, 1824, son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Welliver) Miller. Daniel Miller, who at the time of his death was one of the oldest citizens of this county; was born June 10, 1784, in New Jersey, about twenty miles from Easton. He was reared to farm life and March 10, 1809, he was married to Betsey Welliver, who was four years his junior. He enlisted for two years in the war of 1812, but after being in the army little over a year, he grew tired of a soldier's life, and gave a man \$27 to serve his time out. In 1820 he with his wife and four children removed to Pennsylvania. They first lived on the farm now owned by John McMichael in Greenwood, this county, and afterward in several places in Greenwood, Madison and Mount Pleasant Townships. In September, 1864, he and his wife took a trip to New Jersey, their old home, but the latter taking sick, it was four months before she could return, and from this illness she never fully recovered. They were the parents of nine children of whom four are now living: Aaron, in Hemlock Township, this county; Sarah, widow of Martin Kilgess, in Lycoming County, Penn.; Henry A., in Mount Pleasant Township, this county; and Philip. Robert, Nancy, wife of Samuel Neyhart, Effie, wife of George Whitenight, John and Phoebe Ellen are deceased. The father of this family died in February, 1880; the mother died February 17, 1874. They are buried in Ikeler's graveyard, Mount Pleasant Township. Philip Miller, subject of this sketch, was reared in this county to farm life, and made his home with his parents until his marriage, after which event, his parents leaving that place, he farmed it for two years afterward. He first bought land in 1861, purchasing fifty acres where he now resides, to which he has since added about five acres more. He was married November 2, 1848, to Miss Ann Keller, who died on April 7, 1853. By this marriage there were two children: Wesley B., married to Miss Ida B. Shumaker (they reside in Madison Township, this county) and Francis B. (deceased). Mr. Miller again married December 12, 1861, Miss Elizabeth Keller, a native of this county, and daughter of Henry Keller. By this marriage there were four children, one now living, Jennie. The deceased are Rosa Clemintine, David Masters and Warren. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Miller has held the offices of school director and supervisor of Mount Pleasant Township.

JOSEPH E. SANDS (deceased) was born July 18, 1811, in Mifflin Township, Columbia Co., Penn. His ancestors came from England, the pioneer of the name being John Sands, who was obliged to leave his native country on account of religious persecution. He settled in Berks County, Penn., and from him are descended all of the name in this county. The father of our subject was John, son of Daniel, who was a son of the pioneer John. Joseph E. when a lad was brought by his parents to Briarcreek Township, Columbia County, and during his minority worked for Andrew Hunlock, who carried on a woolen-mill. While in his employ he learned the business thoroughly, and in 1835 came to Greenwood Township. That year he married Esther Lundy, and three years later came to what is now Mordansville, and built a woolen-mill, which is now operated by his son, C. L. He carried on that business up to the time of his death, which occurred February 24, 1881, of apoplexy, at Philadelphia. He had visited the above city with his son Charles to buy goods, and while there died very suddenly, while making his purchases. He was buried with Masonic honors, of which fraternity he was an honored member, and his remains now repose in Orange Township, in the McHenry Cemetery. In speaking of Mr. Sands he can well be called a representative man in Columbia County. In politics he was a Republican though not a partisan. He was appointed the first postmaster at this place, and in 1875 was elected county commissioner, and served with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He was generous and liberal, and his hand was ever ready to contribute to the wants of the needy. He was a successful business man, and was always in the front when the general interests of the people were at stake. He reared a family of seven sons and one daughter, all of whom married. Three of the sons served their country in the civil war, and Mr. Sands, himself, went out with the militia when the Southern forces invaded the State in 1863.

CHARLES L. SANDS, president of Mordansville woolen-mills, Mordansville, was born near Rohrsburg, this county, December 16, 1849; son of Joseph E. and Esther (Lundy) Sands. John Sands, grandfather of our subject, came to this county from Berks County, Penn., in the early part of the present century. He was born in Berks County, and there learned the miller's trade, and when he came to this county he went to Mifflin Township, where he was the miller of Brown's mill, near Mifflinville, for a number of years. From there he removed to near Orangeville, and operated the Bowman mill a number of years, and from there removed to Greenwood Township and ran the Fulmer (now the Alinas Cole) mill and while connected with this mill he fell dead from apoplexy while working in the orchard near by. His death occurred in June, 1856. He was married in this county to Miss Hannah Eck, of Briarcreek Township, also a member of an early settler's family. She survived her husband about seven years. They are buried in the McHenry graveyard, in Orange Township, this county. They were the parents of six children, four now living: Mary, in Greenwood Township, this county; Ann, wife of Baltis Girton, now living in Aledo, Ill.; Uzilla, widow of James Strong, who was in the service of the Union, and was killed at Fort Fisher—she lives at Dushore, Sullivan Co., Penn.;

Horace lives at Wyalusing, Bradford Co., Penn.; Emma and Joseph E. are deceased; Joseph E. Sands, father of Charles L., the second in order of age of these children, was born in Mifflin Township, while his father was the miller at Brown's mills. He made his home with his parents until he had reached the age of eighteen years, and then went to work to learn his trade in the woolen-mill of Andrew Hunlock, Briarcreek Township, this county. He learned the trade there, and when he had obtained a thorough knowledge of the business he erected a woolen-mill of his own, one mile north of Rohrsburg, on Green Creek. He worked that mill until 1856, but as the woods around became cleared up the creek began to fail, and finally he found it impossible to run the mill with the water of that stream. In 1856 he erected a mill on the banks of Little Fishing creek, in Mount Pleasant Township, which forms the nucleus of the present Mordansville woolen-mills. He operated this mill until about one week before his death, when he sold it to Charles L. Sands. He was married in this county to Miss Esther Lundy, a native of this county, and daughter of Henry Lundy, and they were the parents of ten children, seven now living: Henry H., in Hemlock Township, this county; William E., in Mount Pleasant Township, this county; Thomas E., also in Hemlock Township; Anna Margaret, wife of W. W. Eves, one of the firm of Ellis Eves & Brother, merchants at Millville, this county; Charles L.; Joseph H., in the hardware business in Bowling Green, Ohio (he is married to Mary Turner, a native of Wood County, Ohio), and James P. The deceased are Elijah and John (twins), and Susannah. The father of this family died February 24, 1881, while at Philadelphia on a business trip. He was a strong Union man during the war, and went out with the militia at the time of the invasion of the State by the Confederate forces. His widow died September 3, 1886. They are buried in the McHenry graveyard, Orange Township, this county. The mother was a member of the Christian Church; the father was a Friend by birthright. Mr. Sands had held the office of commissioner of Columbia County from 1876 to 1879. He was the first postmaster of Mordansville, which position he held until his election as commissioner. He was a well known man in Columbia County, and commanded the respect of even those who differed from him in his views. Of his children, three were in the service of the Union during the war. Henry H. was twice a volunteer, at first in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, and while in the regiment participated among others at the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. The second time he enlisted was in 1864, in Company D, Two Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania Infantry, and was in the battles of Hatcher's Run, Gravelly Run, Five Points, and the regiment participated in the movements about Petersburg which resulted in the fall of that stronghold and Richmond, and the surrender of Lee; also participated in the grand reunion of the victorious armies of the Union at the national capital at the close of the war. William E. was in the One Hundred and Third Pennsylvania Infantry. He served with his regiment from February, 1865, until the close of the war. Thomas E. was in the independent cavalry, and was engaged principally in the civil service department. Charles L. Sands, subject of this sketch, was reared in this county, and made his home with his parents until he was eighteen years of age, and then went to work at the carpenter's trade with Abraham Dildine, of Orange Township, this county, with whom he was engaged one year. He then returned to his father's home and lived there until 1871, when he began dealing in horses to some extent, and obtained the contract for building the stone work of the Wilson bridge across Little Fishing creek, which he constructed. He then rented a farm in Mount Pleasant Township, this county, which he carried on until 1875, when he removed to Millville and commenced in the livery business, and established the first stage line from Millville to Bloomsburg. It was thought at that time that this stage line would not pay, but he made the business remunerative, and it is so to this date. He closed out this business in the spring of 1880, selling out to Humphrey Parker, and then came to Mordansville and helped his father operate the mill until the following spring, when he bought the mill. He then added new machinery and in the spring of 1886 enlarged the mill by the erection of an addition. He carried on the business alone until 1883, when M. J. Elder obtained an interest in the operation of the mill, and the firm remained Sands & Elder until the spring of 1886, when William R. Hagenbuch obtained an interest, and the style of the firm is now C. L. Sands & Co. The capacity has been increased, since Mr. Sands bought the mill, from 6,000 to 25,000 pounds. Mr. Sands was married in this county May 13, 1871, to Miss Mary Zeigler, a native of the county and daughter of Daniel and Catherine Zeigler, both deceased and buried in the Canby graveyard, Mount Pleasant Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Sands are parents of three children: Elizabeth Maude, Maggie Alverda and Joseph E. Besides the woolen-mill interests, Mr. Sands is also engaged in farming, having land aggregating 162 acres in Mount Pleasant Township, on which he carries on farming. He is justice of the peace of Mount Pleasant Township, having been elected in the spring of 1884. He was one of the vice-presidents of the Columbia County Agricultural, Horticultural and Mechanical Association from the spring of 1881 to that of 1886.

JAMES P. SANDS, merchant and postmaster, Mordansville, was born in Greenwood Township, this county, October 24, 1854, and made his home with his parents until his



marriage, which took place December 20, 1877. He received his education in the public schools of Mount Pleasant Township and at the Greenwood Seminary, Millville. When a boy he assisted his father in the woolen-mill and store and learned the trade in the mill. In 1875 his father gave him an interest in the store and the firm was J. E. Sands & Son until November, 1879, when James P. bought the interest of his father and conducted the business alone until August 14, 1883, when he sold an interest to Howard E. Eves, and the firm was Sands & Eves until March 19, 1886, when Mr. Sands bought the holding of his partner and has since conducted the business alone. In September, 1886, he commenced the erection of a new building for a store and residence, 27x40 feet in ground area and two stories in height. He carries a complete line of general merchandise, his stock being valued at about \$4,000. He was commissioned postmaster at Mordansville by Marshall Jewell, postmaster, in December, 1875. He is at present connected with the schools of Mount Pleasant as director, and has also held the position as auditor of the Columbia County Agricultural, Horticultural and Mechanical Association. He was married in this county to Miss Susan A. Eves, a native of this county, daughter of Benjamin K. and Mary W. (Welliver) Eves, both natives of this county, former of whom died in this county in June, 1879, and is buried in the Friends burying-ground, at Millville; latter resides with a sister at Williamsport, Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Sands are the parents of four children, three now living: Justin Earl, George Eves and Mary Esther. Mildred Lucy is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Sands are members of the Society of Friends. He is a member of Oriental Lodge, No. 460, A. F. & A. M., at Orangeville, and has held the office of Junior Warden.

JOHN H. WOLF, farmer, P. O. Bloomsburg, was born in Bucheneu, Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, May 23, 1827, son of Henry and Magdalena (Schen) Wolf, former of whom followed farming in his native land until coming to this country. John H. was reared to farm life, and became agent for a wine house, in whose interest he traveled through a number of German States and into France. In 1851 some young friends of his came to America, and located at Hazleton, Penn., and as they wrote back favorable accounts of the country, our subject was induced to make up his mind to try his fortunes in the New World. He had received a good education at home in his native town, going as far as the course of the normal school in Bloomsburg. In 1853 he went to Bremen in company with friends and relatives, and there taking a farewell leave of those he had known during his youth, he took passage on a sailing vessel bound for New York, which he reached after a tedious voyage of fifty-eight days, there being little or no wind. Arriving at the Empire City, he went directly to Luzerne County, where he was engaged in the mines for six years, and then came to Montour County; here he bought a farm of forty acres in West Hemlock Township, where he remained, farming the place until 1871, when he moved to the old Paxton place of 148 acres in Mount Pleasant Township, which he bought in 1881, and here now resides. He was married at Hazleton, Luzerne County, in 1854, to Miss Louisa Heck, a native of Diedenshausyn, Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, and a daughter of Michael and Catherine Heck. She came to this country on the same ship with Mr. Wolf. Mr. and Mrs. Wolf are the parents of nine children: John J., married to Willetta Brumstetler, living in Mount Pleasant Township, this county (he is a graduate of the State Normal at Bloomsburg); Henry C., married to Mary Shive, in Bloomsburg; William; Otto; Frank; Kate, married to Isaiah Howell, in Mount Pleasant Township, this county; Mary; Lizzie and Lillie. Mr. and Mrs. Wolf are members of the Lutheran Church. He is supervisor of Mount Pleasant Township. He takes an active interest in public affairs, and has held some official position almost since coming to this country. He was seventeen years in the church council, and a short time after coming to this country was elected school director, to which he refused a re-election after holding the position eight years, and in 1885 was elected to his present position. He is a member of Light Street Grange, No. 31, P. of H. Mr. Wolf's mother died in the December following his departure for America, and in 1857 his father came to this country and located in Luzerne County. He died at Fillmore, Carbon County, in 1884.

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## CHAPTER XLI.

### ORANGE TOWNSHIP.

GEORGE W. APPLEMAN, farmer, P. O. Welliversville, was born on the farm where he now resides, November 10, 1840, a son of George and Rebecca (Kinney) Appleman, the former a native of Montour County, the latter of New Jersey. To George and



Rebecca were born six children that grew to maturity: Matthias, Isaac K., Amanda, David, George W. and Emanuel. Amanda is the wife of Hiram Bowman; David resides in Wisconsin; Isaac K. in Mount Pleasant; Matthias in Bloomsburg; the others in this township. George W. was reared on the farm. He taught school several years during the winters and remained with his parents as long as they lived. He married, in January, 1881, Elizabeth McHenry, a daughter of John and Sabina (Conner) McHenry. He has two children: Edith and Arthur R. Mr. Appleman owns 140 acres of land and is a member of the Grange.

EMANUEL L. APPLEMAN, farmer, P. O. Welliversville, was born on the homestead in Columbia County, June 2, 1848, the youngest son of George and Rebecca Appleman, and was reared to agricultural pursuits. February 6, 1872, he married Elizabeth J., daughter of Samuel Gillaspay. She was born near Rohrsburg, and to her and husband have been born four children: Fannie Udella, Lulla May, Charles Orval and Hubert Harold, the latter dying September 27, 1881, aged six months and six days. Mr. Appleman has a farm of 100 acres, which is highly improved and one of the best in the township. Both Mr. and Mrs. Appleman are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which they have been identified since about 1885. He is a member of the Grange. Mrs. Appleman was born September 14, 1850, in Greenwood Township, a daughter of Samuel and Charity (Van Horn) Gillaspay. She has five sisters and two brothers, all of whom are living in the county except Ida, the wife of Ellwood Kester, of Audubon County, Iowa, and James, in Montour County.

WESLEY BOWMAN, farmer, P. O. Orangeville, was born in Mifflin Township, this county, October 3, 1818. The Bowman family came originally from Switzerland, whence Wesley's great-grandfather came to this country and settled near Delaware Water Gap, Northampton Co., Penn., and died near Newberry in 1830. He had four sons: Jesse, John, Christopher and Thomas. Thomas was the father of Henry, Christopher, John, Jesse, Wesley, George, Sophia, Sarah and Susan. Of these, Henry was the father of our subject, and was born in Northampton County, Penn., about 1785. He removed with his father to Briarereek about 1800. His wife was Sarah, daughter of James Brown, and after marriage they moved to Mifflin Township, where he engaged in farming. There he also built a mill and passed the remainder of his life, dying in 1838. His widow survived until 1868. They were the parents of fifteen children, thirteen of whom lived to be grown: Samuel, Christopher F., Thomas, John, George L., Henry, Manassah, Wesley (subject), Mary, Peninah, Seth, Hiram, Lavinia, and all of these, save John, married and reared families. Wesley remained in Mifflin Township until he was fourteen years of age. Later he operated a mill for his uncle, and in November, 1839, married Mary Ann Williams, daughter of Samuel and Maria (White) Williams. In 1844 Mr. Bowman located where he now resides, on what was known as the Frutely tract, and in the fall of 1868 built Bowman's mill on Fishing creek. He has about seventy acres in the mill tract. He has had four sons and one daughter: Righter R., Henry C., Taylor Z., Millard F. and Anna M. Righter R. died in 1871. He and Henry C. served in the civil war, both in the Sixth Regiment Pennsylvania Reserves.

CAPT. HARRISON J. CONNER was born in Orange Township, Penn., December 9, 1841, the eldest son of Isaiah Conner, who was born in Centre Township in 1812, son of John Conner, a Pennsylvanian by birth. Subject's mother's maiden name was Catharine, daughter of Reece Millard. Three children were reared to maturity: Harrison J., Millard F. and William T. Isaiah Conner died in 1855; his widow is yet living. Harrison J. worked in the tannery with his father when young, and the war breaking out he enlisted as a private in Company A, Sixth Regiment of Pennsylvania Reserves, for three years, served out his time and filled every position up to second lieutenant in his company. After serving out his time he was commissioned first lieutenant, and was in Company G, Third Regiment United States Veteran Volunteers, Hancock's First Army Corps; served until the spring of 1866, coming out as captain. After his return home he visited the West; was elected justice of the peace, and is now serving his second term.

JOSEPH CRAWFORD, farmer, Orangeville, is descended from one of the early settlers of Columbia County, and was born in Mount Pleasant Township, September 25, 1818. His father, Joseph Crawford, was born in 1778, and was the second white child born in Northumberland County, in a fort. Joseph, Sr., was a son of Edward Crawford, of Scotch descent, whose ancestors came from Scotland and settled in the lower counties. Our subject's mother was Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew Mellick. Subject's father was reared to farming, and he and wife had eleven children, nine of whom were reared to maturity: Edward, Andrew, John, Joseph, Stephen, Mary, Catherine, Elizabeth, Sarah Ann. Our subject remained on the farm until he was twenty-seven years of age. In 1842 he married Catherine, daughter of Harmon and Anna (Evlund) Labour, and in 1846 located on his farm in Mount Pleasant, where he resided until 1877. He then located in Orange Township and there he has since remained. He has been successful; owns several farms, and has a competence for his declining years. To him and wife nine children were born, five of whom are living: Clinton, Harmon, William, Alfred and Anna. All reside in this county except Harmon, who is in Russell County, Kas. Another son, Joseph F., was killed in New Mexico in December, 1880, and three died of diphtheria in 1866.

WILLIAM DELONG, retired, Orangeville, was born March 3, 1813, in Orangeville, when there were but a few houses in the place. When eighteen years of age he began learning the shoemaker's trade, and followed it continuously until 1884, since which time he has lived retired. He began poor but by patient industry and economy acquired a competency for his declining years. He married in February, 1842, Rebecca Labenberg, born in Catawissa, daughter of Lewis Labenberg. Four children were born to this union: Perry, engaged in the harness business; Mary, wife of Sylvester Hutton; Jerome B. and Clement, in the tin and hardware business. Samuel Delong, father of our subject, was an early resident of Sunbury and a son of John Delong. Samuel married Elizabeth Plank and they became the parents of Edward, Henry, William, Jesse, Mary and Catherine. Edward and Catherine removed to Northampton County, where the former died; Jesse moved to Luzerne County, while William and Henry settled in Orange Township; Mary is the wife of Henry Faus, and resides in Ohio; Catherine never married. Our subject is a member of the Lutheran Church and has been since he was eighteen years of age. Politically he is a Greenbacker.

JOSEPH PATTON DEWITT, farmer and stock dealer, P. O. Rohrsburg, was born in Orange Township, this county, January 5, 1846, the youngest child of Isaac and Nancy B. (Stewart) DeWitt. Isaac was born in Rush Township, Montour County, was a wheelwright by trade and also followed farming. In 1851 he located one mile north of Rohrsburg. He reared a family of five children: Amanda, Clinton K., James M., William M. and Joseph. Amanda married Jacob Terwilliger, of Light Street; Clinton and James are farmers in Fishingcreek; William M. died in January, 1885. The father died July 9, 1875. Joseph P. remained at home until about the age of twenty-five. In 1875 he purchased the property where he now resides, and which has since been his home. He is engaged in farming and stock raising and also in huckstering. He married, in 1867, Susan A. Reece, daughter of T. J. and Mary (Reeder) Reece. Three children bless their union: Cora B., Thomas E. and Stella M. One died in infancy.

ALPHEUS MOORE DEWITT, merchant, Orangeville, was born at Light Street, Penn., February 12, 1851, a son of John H. and Caroline (Mears) DeWitt. John H. was born near Light Street in Orange Township, a son of Isaac and Mary (Haughaut) DeWitt, and two weeks after his birth was taken by his grandfather, Abram Moore. He lived with him until he was eighteen years of age, when he returned to Light Street to learn the trade of a wheelwright. He married in 1849 and died March 11, 1857; his widow survived him until 1881. To him and wife were born four children: Alpheus M., George B., Lillie M. and Hester A. Lillie M. died in childhood. Hester A. married Boyd Henry and located in Light Street; George B. married Jennie Lamont, located in Plymouth and died in February, 1881. Alpheus M. is now the only male representative of the family, and was but six years old when his father died. He was reared by Abram Moore in Greenwood until nineteen years of age. Later he attended the normal school at Bloomsburg during the summer, and taught school in the winter and farmed in Greenwood. From 1879 to 1881 he clerked in a store, and in May of the latter year set up in business for himself, in partnership with George S. Fleckenstine, under the firm name of Fleckenstine & DeWitt, which association continued until December, 1883. Mr. DeWitt then started on his own account in the building which he now occupies. He carries a general stock of merchandise, drugs, hardware, paints, oils, etc., and does a good business. He married in February, 1880, Mary S. Conner, who was born in this township, a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Achenbuch) Conner. They have one child living, Mary; Harold C. died at the age of four years. Mr. DeWitt is a member of the Reformed Church.

ABRAM B. DILDINE, farmer, P. O. Welliversville, is a son of Andrew Dildine, who was born near Bloomsburg, this county. Andrew was a son of John and married Ruth Bogart, daughter of Abram and Margaret (Creeger) Bogart. To them were born four sons and six daughters: Elizabeth Ann, Abram B., John O., Margaret, Jacob, Isaiah, Amanda, Sarah J., Mary E., Ruth. Abram B. was born May 27, 1816, on the Reichard farm, and lived here until he was thirteen years of age. When twenty-one years of age he began to learn the carpenter's trade, which he followed several years, and becoming a contractor did an extensive business. His first wife died April 26, 1878, quite suddenly of heart disease. After her death he abandoned contracting, returned to his children and engaged in farming. In June, 1883, he married Mrs. Eliza Freece, who was born in this county, a daughter of Henry Hoomel. By his first wife he had nine children: John A., Ruth C., Celestia A., Sarah M., George W., Dora J., Mary A., Joseph C. and Amanda A. His first wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he and his present wife are also members. Mr. Dildine is a member of the Grange; politically he is a Democrat.

ISAAC K. DILDINE, farmer, P. O. Welliversville, the youngest son of Andrew and Ruth (Bogart) Dildine, was born in this county June 3, 1826, and when six years of age came with his father to this township. He located on the farm now owned by Reece McHenry, a part of which tract is now owned by our subject. Isaac remained at home until twenty years of age and farmed for his father. He first married, December 6, 1853, Angelina B. Hughes, who was born June 26, 1829, in this county, a daughter of Charles and Mary (Rhodes) Hughes. After marriage he located on the farm he now owns. Mrs. Dil-



dine died March 20, 1863, the mother of three children: George H., Charles H., Anna E., and of these Charles H. is the only one now living. The other children died of diphtheria—George March 31, and Anna E. April 1, 1863—and were buried in one grave. December 6, 1868, Mr. Dildine married Mrs. Angeline Drake, a native of this county and a daughter of Peter Knorr. To this union one child, Cora B., was born, September 12, 1871, and died of diphtheria December 18, 1881. By her former husband, Col. Levi Drake, Mrs. Dildine had three children: Winfield Scott, McKindra L. and Laura M., in Ford County, Kas., the wife of Frank P. Vanderslice. Col. Drake was a soldier in the Forty-ninth Ohio Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Stone River, being in command of the regiment at the time of his death. He also served with distinction in the Mexican war. McKindra L. was killed August 9, 1877, in the Rocky Mountains, at the battle of Big Hole by the Nez Perces Indians. He was an orderly and a brave soldier. Winfield S. served during the civil war and returned home unscathed, and is a practicing physician in Erville, Muskingum Co., Ohio. Mr. Dildine is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mrs. Dildine of the Presbyterian Church, at Orangeville.

JAMES B. HARMAN, justice of the peace, Orangeville, was born in Orange Township, October 17, 1833, a son of George and Mary (Knorr) Harman. His father was a native of Northampton County, Penn., a son of Henry Harman, of German stock. James B. learned the cabinet-maker's trade, of which he was master at the age of twenty. He then bought out Alfred Howell, with whom he had learned the business, and has since conducted the same. He married Harriet, daughter of Judge Covanhoven. Mr. and Mrs. Harman are the parents of four children: Lawrence C. and William W. in Leavenworth, Kas., and George H. and Della. Mr. Harman was elected justice of the peace in 1862, and has since occupied that position, and has also held nearly all the other township offices. He is a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church, and a member of the A. F. & A. M., Lodge No. 460, also of the R. A. and Commandery.

GEORGE W. HESS, farmer, P. O. Orangeville, was born July 16, 1845, on the farm where he now resides, and which he owns. His father, Jeremiah Hess, was born in Salem, Luzerne County, and married Maria Poe. George W. was reared to agricultural pursuits and took charge of the farm in the spring of 1869. He married October 15, 1868, Sarah Smith, a native of Luzerne County, born in 1845, a daughter of Samuel Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Hess have five children: Maria C., Clarence M., Samuel S., Ernest E. and Joseph M. They are members of the Reformed Church. Mr. Hess is a Democrat in politics.

GEORGE LEONARD JOLLY, M. D., Orangeville, was born in Kingston District, Luzerne County, Penn., September 16, 1855. At the age of twelve he began his self-sustaining career. He received the advantages of the common schools and afterward attended the high school, and later took a full academic course in Beaumont, Wyoming County. He then came to Orangeville where he studied Latin and Greek under the instruction of Rev. Canfield, and finally nearly completed his course in Lafayette College, and soon expects his degree—A. M. He then returned to this place and taught in the academy for nearly five years, during which time he began reading medicine with Dr. O. A. Megargell, and afterward graduated with honors at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., in the spring of 1883, also receiving a duplicate from Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. He began to practice at Wapwallopen with Dr. Shuman, who shortly after went to Florida to recruit his health, leaving his practice to Dr. Jolly, who remained three years, coming in February, 1886, to Orangeville, where he purchased the residence and practice of Dr. C. W. Ammerman. Dr. Jolly is in every respect a self-made man, for which he deserves credit. He has now a large practice which is increasing rapidly. March 10, 1885, he married Miss Sadie J., a native of Luzerne County and a daughter of Thomas B. Case. The Doctor and Mrs. Jolly are Christian people.

A. H. KITCHEN, farmer, P. O. Orangeville. Amos Hickson Kitchen was born in Greenwood Township, September 22, 1826, the eldest son of Daniel and Allace (Smith) Kitchen. The grandparents were Wheeler and Sarah (Hickson) Kitchen, the former a native of New Jersey. Wheeler and his wife had nine children: Daniel, Henry, Samuel, Joseph, Sarah, Mary, Jane, Rachel and Anna. Daniel was twice married; first to Allace Smith, who bore him four children: Amos H., Sarah A., Daniel and Samuel. When he was quite young Amos H. removed with his father to Fishingcreek Township, where he remained until he was twenty-four years of age. August 7, 1849, he married Sarah McHenry, who was born in Fishingcreek Township June 14, 1827. After marriage Mr. Kitchen removed to Greenwood Township and located on a farm, remaining until April 3, 1873. He then removed to his present place, but still owns the homestead in Greenwood Township. He and Mrs. Kitchen are the parents of five children: Daniel Wheeler, Amos P., Clemuel B., Margaret J. and John V. Daniel W. resides in Bloomsburg, the manager of the Farmers' Exchange store; Clemuel is engaged in railroading, and Margaret is the wife of Howard Kline, and resides in Wood County, Ohio.

COL. HIRAM R. KLINE (deceased) was born in this township December 27, 1815, on the farm now occupied by A. H. Kitchen, and was a descendant of one of the representative families of Columbia County. His grandfather, Abram Kline, immigrated to



America from Germany prior to the Revolution, located in New Jersey and then moved westward to what is now Orange Township, Columbia Co., Penn., settling here when the county was a wilderness. His children were Harmon, Abram, George, Matthias, Isaac and Elizabeth. Isaac was the father of Hiram R. and married Mary, daughter of Abram Willett, and by her had ten children: Charity, Sarah, Abram, Elizabeth, Lavina, Hiram R., Peter, Almira, Arminia and Mary. Hiram R. married October 31, 1842, Rebecca, daughter of John and Mary E. (Fehr) Achenbach, who was born December 25, 1817, in Briar-creek Township. At the age of thirteen she moved with her parents to Orange Township. After marriage Mr. Kline moved to Raven creek and for five years was engaged in milling. He returned to Orange Township and engaged in farming until the spring of 1877, when he moved to Orangeville and led a retired life. He died suddenly of apoplexy May 29, 1881, while on a trip to the farm. He was a staunch Democrat, for years was weighmaster of the North Pennsylvania Canal, and in 1860 represented the county in the Legislature. He was an excellent singer and taught vocal music in his early manhood. He was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church and an esteemed citizen in the community in which he lived. He left a widow and four children: Mary E., wife of Joseph K. Moyer, resides in Centre County, Penn.; Sarah J., is the wife of Rev. A. Houtz; John Howard, married Maggie J., only daughter of A. H. Kitchen; Harriet A., married John F. Mengle.

JAMES M. LONG, hotel-keeper, Orangeville, was born October 12, 1847, in Huntington Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., a son of Joseph F. and Sallie (Shay) Long. The father was born April 7, 1810, in Luzerne County, a son of Abram Long. The mother was born June 29, 1824, in Seneca County, N. Y., a daughter of Samuel and Sallie (Fowler) Shay. The Shay family came originally from Ireland, and the maternal great-great-grandfather of our subject married a sister of Lord Fitzgerald, of Scotland. Joseph F. and Sallie Long had four children: Charles, James M., Abram and Harris, the last named being deceased. Charles served through the civil war as an artilleryman and is now a minister of the gospel of the Christian Church, and is stationed at Youngstown, Ohio; Abram resides in Espsytown. After his marriage Joseph F. located in Luzerne County and engaged in farming. In 1850 he removed to Greenwood and conducted a foundry there. He died May 25, 1879; his widow yet survives him. James M. was reared to farming and learned the molder's trade, at which he worked fourteen years. September 8, 1864, he enlisted in Company D, Two Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Second Division, Fifth Corps, and received an honorable discharge at the close of the war. He returned home and worked for three years in the lumber woods of Sullivan County. He then came to Benton and drove stage three years and afterward engaged in farming. In the spring of 1886 he came to Orangeville and took charge of the Hagenbuch Hotel property. In 1865 he married Arminia J., daughter of Daniel J. and Elizabeth (Taylor) Phillips. They have two children: Emma and Bert E.

CYRUS MCHENRY, farmer and surveyor, Orangeville, was born September 12, 1821, a son of Edward and Sarah (Cutter) McHenry. The former was born November 1, 1789, in Orange County, N. Y., a son of Thomas McHenry, who was a soldier in the Revolution, and whose ancestors came from Ireland. Our subject's mother was born in Northampton County, Penn., in 1791, a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Cole) Cutter. Thomas McHenry, the grandfather of Cyrus, came with his wife and family to Columbia County, in 1791, and located in Fishingcreek Township. The children of Edward and Sarah McHenry were Keturah, Samuel, Cyrus, Thomas, Mary, all of whom lived to be grown and all reared families, except Keturah. Cyrus was reared to farming and learned surveying from his father, with whom he remained until the latter's death. He resided on the old homestead until 1886, when he moved to town and has since lived retired. June 9, 1864, he married Mrs. Rebecca Hagenbach, who was born in Centre Township March 13, 1833, a daughter of Henry and Susanna DeLong. The former was born in Berks and the latter in this county. Mr. and Mrs. McHenry have three children: Edward, Sadie and Emma; Edward resides on the homestead; Sadie is a dressmaker in Bloomsburg, and Emma at home. Mr. McHenry still attends to special calls for surveying. Politically he is a Democrat. Mrs. McHenry's father was a son of Andrew DeLong, whose wife was a Metzler. Her mother was a daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth (Yoxstimer) Seibert. Henry DeLong and wife had four children that grew to maturity: Peter, Rebecca, John and Elizabeth.

O. A. MEGARGELL, M. D., P. O. Orangeville, was born May 18, 1836, in Wayne County, Penn., a son of Joseph Megargell, who was born near Philadelphia and who married Abigail Hewett. Our subject's paternal grandfather was also named Joseph and was twelve years old when the British occupied Philadelphia. His maternal great-great-grandfather was Capt. Dethic Hewett, who was killed at the massacre of Wyoming. The Megargells are of Scotch origin; the Hewetts of Welsh. John Hewett, son of Capt. Dethic, was the first sheriff of Luzerne County, Penn. Joseph Megargell, father of our subject, was born June 20, 1803, and died in 1876. His wife was born July 7, 1817. They became the parents of seven children: Orville Albinas (subject), Thomas J., Martha R., Alice L., Mary E. and Joseph H. living, and Dethic, now deceased, who served in the Sixth

Pennsylvania Reserves, Company A, in the civil war. Thomas J. is a merchant in Scranton, Penn., and Joseph is a merchant at Big Rapids, Mich.; Martha is in the millinery business at the same place, and Alice is the wife of Dr. Vance, of Rohrsburg, this county. The others are deceased. Orville A. was reared on the farm and came to this place with his uncle, John Megargell, with whom he remained until he was fifteen years of age. He then worked at home and at the age of seventeen began teaching school. He then took up the study of medicine in the spring of 1856 and continued in his studies until graduating in June, 1859, at Castleton, Vt. In July of that year he began practice in Luzerne County where he remained, until May, 1861; then he came to Orangeville, and there he has since remained. November 3, 1859, he married Rebecca, daughter of Samuel and Phoebe Achenbach. Dr. and Mrs. Megargell have three children: Lillie, Fannie and George M. The Doctor is a member of the A. F. & A. M. of the R. A. C., and of the Commandery at Bloomsburg.

JOHN NEYHARD, farmer, P. O. Orangeville, was born in September, 1817, in what is now Centre Township. His father, Christian Neyhard, was born near Allentown, Lehigh Co., Penn., and removed to this county about 1800. He settled in Centre Township and engaged in farming. His wife, Elizabeth Seager, bore him eight children: Solomon, Lydia, Mary, Freney, David, Daniel, Hannah and John; all of whom settled in this county except Lydia, who moved west. John was reared on a farm and has been twice married, first to Sally Ann Evans, a daughter of Benjamin Evans and a native of this county. Mrs. Neyhard died in September, 1842, leaving one child, Lavina, wife of O. B. Herring. His second wife was Esther V. Fleckenstine, a daughter of Jacob and Margaret Fleckenstine. To this union nine children were born: Francis, who was accidentally killed on the railroad, December 23, 1867; Margaret, Anna E., Mary, Isaiah, Amos, William H., Aggie and Esther C. Mr. Neyhard on coming to this county purchased eighty-five acres, which was a part of the Kline tract. He and Mrs. Neyhard are members of the Reformed Church; politically he is a Democrat.

AARON R. PATTERSON, farmer, P. O. Orangeville, a member of one of the representative families of this county, was born April 6, 1833, in Greenwood Township. His grandfather, Archibald Patterson, was a native of Scotland, and on immigrating to this country located in what is now Greenwood Township. He was twice married, but his first wife, Effie, from whom is descended this branch of the family, bore him the following children: Archibald, John, Aaron, William, George, Effie, Jane and Ann, all of whom reared families and settled in the county, except Jane who moved to Pottsville. William was the father of Aaron R., and was born in Greenwood Township, January 17, 1803. February 9, 1826, he married Charity Ann Kline, who was born October 9, 1804. William died July 26, 1852, and his widow August 4, 1883. Eight children were born to them, as follows: Abram W., Aaron R., Matthew B., Daniel M., Mary E., Isaac E., Sarah L. and Effie E. Aaron R. removed to this township with his parents during his minority, and for several years carried on milling for his father at Stillwater, Fishingcreek Township. After his father's death he returned to this county, and later, December 31, 1859, married Sarah E. Kline, who was born in Greenwood Township, January 29, 1831. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Patterson: Anna A., William H., Frank W., Charles E. and Lizzie. Mr. Patterson has resided on his present farm since 1857, engaged in agricultural pursuits, and is a ready worker in wood and iron. He and Mrs. Patterson are members of the Presbyterian Church at Orangeville.

M. B. PATTERSON, farmer, P. O. Orangeville, is the third son of William and Charity Ann Patterson, and was born June 4, 1835. He was reared in Orange Township to agricultural pursuits. December 27, 1860, he married Nancy C. Youngs, a native of the Dominion of Canada, and a daughter of Abraham and Susanna (Horton) Youngs. Mr. Patterson is engaged in farming, and having no children of his own has adopted two. He is public spirited and identified with the Presbyterian Church at Orangeville, in which he is a ruling elder and recording secretary.

GEORGE N. SMITH, tinner, Orangeville, was born in Luzerne County, Penn., in 1849, the third son of Conrad and Julia Ann (Watman) Smith. Conrad was a native of Bavaria, a blacksmith by trade, and emigrating to this country settled in Luzerne County, Penn., where he remained until 1868. He then came to this county and located in Orangeville, where he died in 1873; his widow in 1874. They had a family of four sons and four daughters. George N. began to learn the trade of tinner with his brother, and worked for the latter in this place for three years. In 1873 he bought his brother's interest, and has since continued in the business himself. He married, September 24, 1872, Blanche P., daughter of Jonas Kisner. Mr. Smith is a member of the I. O. O. F., No. 264, Mountain Lodge; is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has been identified with the business interests of Orangeville for eighteen years, and makes a specialty of iron tin roofing and spouting.

DR. A. P. STODDART, Orangeville, was born in the city of Philadelphia, June 25, 1857, a son of John A. and Mary C. (Kennard) Stoddart, the latter a daughter of Rev. Joseph H. Kennard, a prominent divine of that place. Our subject was educated in Philadelphia, commenced reading medicine in 1877, and graduated from the Hahnemann



Medical College March 10, 1880. He then began the practice of his profession in a hospital of his native city, where he remained a short time. He then moved to this county and engaged in the practice of his profession in this township, where he has an excellent patronage. He married in April, 1883, Lizzie B., daughter of Joseph Lilley, of Light Street. Dr. Stoddart is a zealous member of the Masonic order, Oriental Lodge, No. 460, A. Y. M.

MILES A. WILLIAMS, tanner, Orangeville, was born March 15, 1827, a son of Daniel R. and Elizabeth (Comstock) Williams. The father was a native of Sussex County, N. J., and a son of John Williams, of Scotch-Irish descent. His mother was a daughter of Zebulon Comstock, who was saved in the Wyoming massacre on account of his plump appearance as an infant. Miles A. was reared in Luzerne County up to 1846, when, in April of that year, he came to this county. In 1843 he commenced learning the tanner's trade in Luzerne County, and later commenced business for himself in this township and county, in partnership with Samuel Achenbach, which continued until 1853. He then superintended one year for Alexander Creveling, in Centre Township, this county. He then returned to Orangeville and worked one year for Isaiah Conner, when he erected a building and engaged in business for himself. His business has constantly increased since then, and he now tans about 700 or 800 hides a year. In November, 1853, he married Lavonia, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Green) Covanhoven. They have four children: Laura, Warren W., James L. and Edith. Harvey S. died May 22, 1885, aged eighteen years, six months and six days; Elizabeth died at the age of three years, and John H. died in infancy. Mrs. Williams died July 25, 1882, a Christian woman. Mr. Williams is a member of the F. & A. M. and has been the second master in Oriental Lodge, No. 460. Since 1856 he has been identified with the Republican party.

## CHAPTER XLII.

### PINE TOWNSHIP.

EMANUEL BOGART, farmer, P. O. Pine Summit, was born in Catawissa, this county, May 18, 1828, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Moyer) Bogart. The paternal grandfather of Emanuel, Nicholas Bogart, was of German descent, served as a captain in the war of the Revolution, was taken prisoner, imprisoned in a church, and died while a prisoner. To Jacob and Elizabeth Bogart eight children were born: Maria, Joshua, Emanuel, Israel, Noah, Harriet, Sarah and Margaret. Our subject when a boy came to Lycoming, here grew to manhood and for several years followed lumbering; also operated a saw-mill. In 1854 he went to Canada, returned the same year, still followed the lumbering business; but finally, in 1858, purchased the farm he now owns, of 100 acres, since adding until he has 136 acres. He was married in October, 1856, to Maria, daughter of Philip and Sarah (Albertson) Shoemaker. They have seven children: James B., David C., Cora J., Sarah E., Susan J., Clara B. and Eva Lena. They attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Bogart was member of Company A, Ninetieth New York Volunteer Regiment, First Brigade, First Division Nineteenth Army Corps, in the late war. Held the office of school director for twenty-one years; also several years as supervisor. In politics he is a Democrat.

JACOB CHRISTIAN, farmer and miller, P. O. Derrs, was born in Madison Township, June 12, 1825, the eldest son of John and Frances (Welliver) Christian. Jacob removed with his parents to this township when a boy, was reared to manhood on the farm, succeeded his father at his death, and has since resided here. He was married in September, 1848, to Martha, daughter of Chester and Rachel (Mellick) Smith; she died September 1, 1884. To Mr. and Mrs. Christian were born nine children: Theodore S., John C., Thomas H., J. Judson, Mary E., William B., Howard S., Justin L. and R. Euphemia. Mr. Christian has been for several years engaged in lumbering, operates a saw-mill, and has a chopping-mill in connection with the saw-mill. Of late years he has given more attention to farming. He and nearly all the family are members of the Baptist Church; he has been trustee and also held other offices; has served the township in official relations.

SAMUEL J. ECKMAN, farmer, P. O. Sereno, was born August 25, 1839, in Lancaster County, Penn., only son of Samuel and Barbara (Krug) Eckman. When twelve years of age, Samuel removed with his parents to Sullivan County, and was here reared to maturity and farming pursuits. Beginning at the age of eighteen he worked for two years in the lumber woods, and at the age of twenty he went to learn the carpenter's trade,



which he followed for twenty years. He came to this township and purchased the farm he now owns, having over 180 acres, which he has largely improved and brought to a good state of cultivation. He was married December 26, 1861, to Hannah Fought, daughter of Jacob and Julia (Kricher) Fought. To this union have been born eleven children: Charles, Julia, Mary, Jennie, Willie, Bessie, John, May, Pearl, Blanch and Ella, who died in her fourth year. In connection with his farming Mr. Eckman carries on a shingle-mill and manufactures birch oil. He and Mrs. Eckman are members of the Lutheran Church, with which he has been officially connected. Politically he is a Republican, and is secretary of the school board.

EZRA EVES, farmer, P. O. Sereno, was born in Madison Township, March 28, 1838, son of Parvin and Annie Eves. He was reared in Madison Township until he attained his majority, and then removed to Greenwood Township. When he was twenty-two years of age he was married to Phœbe, daughter of James and Mary A. (Rhodes) Mather. Two years later he removed to Lycoming County, remained here three years, and engaged in farming. In 1868 he returned to Greenwood Township, and located on the Patton farm where he lived five years. Then he moved to Pine Township, and for seven years lived on the Ashton farm, now owned by William Masters. In the spring of 1883 he located on the farm he now owns at Sereno, where he is engaged in farming. He has three children: Chalkley G., Lena and Louella. The eldest child, Willie A., died at the age of six and one-half years; the last four died in infancy.

THOMAS EVES (deceased) was born in Millville, February 1, 1804, and November 18, 1838, he married Esther, eldest of a family of fourteen children born to Joseph and Mary (Kline) Lemon. In the spring of 1842 Thomas and his wife came to Pine Township and purchased of James Leggott the farm now owned by J. L., which was settled and improved by Philip Yeager. Here he engaged in farming, and for several years operated a saw-mill and manufactured lumber. Here he died March 29, 1864; his widow, Esther, yet survives him. Three children were born to them: Simon (died July 17, 1861, aged twenty-one years, nine months, and fifteen days); Mary A., married to John V. Welliver; and Joseph L. Joseph L. was born October 8, 1853, and with the exception of two years, has always lived on the farm. He married Sarah, daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Applegate) Biddler. Mr. and Mrs. Eves have one son, Henry W., born August 27, 1885.

JOHN F. FOWLER, P. O. Pine Summit. The Fowler family are of English extraction, and were among the early settlers of Columbia County. Benjamin Fowler, the grandfather of John F., was a British subject, and when a boy came as a servant to one of the officers who came to America to fight the colonists. After the war was over he learned the blacksmith trade and settled above Espy, in this county, followed his trade and farmed also. He married Deborah, a daughter of David Fowler. To Benjamin and Deborah were born the following named children: James, David, Daniel, Benjamin, William, Gilbert, Sarah and Nancy. David, the father of John F., died in 1876, aged ninety-one years. He reared four children: Catharine, Sarah, John F. and Sophia. John F. was born in Centre Township, May 2, 1813, was reared to farming, and operated his father's farm until 1842, when he came to this township and purchased the farm now owned by N. L. Moser. He remained here until 1866, when he purchased the farm he now owns. May 29, 1836, Mr. Fowler married Julia A., daughter of John Fortner; she died January 29, 1866, leaving seven children: Dorcas F., Mary E., Alvin C., Sarah E., David, Jeremiah R. and William M. Mr. Fowler married for his second wife, January 10, 1867, Hannah M., daughter of Joseph and Mary (Sparks) Houghton. By this last union he has two children: Hervey O. and Mattie M.

J. R. FOWLER, farmer and distiller, was born in this township March 17, 1854, the sixth child and the third son of John F. and Julia (Fortner) Fowler. He was reared on the homestead farm, and remained under the parental roof until twelve years of age; his mother dying when he was young, he left home and learned the puddler's trade at Danville, and worked in the rolling-mill for several years. In 1875 he engaged in the lime business in Muncy Township, Lycoming County, remained here until the spring of 1880, when he came to this township but continued the lime business until 1881. In 1880 he started the distillery here at Pine Summit, which he conducted until 1883, when he located on the farm he now owns, which was purchased of Fowler Lyons, consisting of 250 acres and has since been engaged in farming. The place has been much improved by him, a new barn being built, one of the best in the township. He married Eliza Lathlean, born in Sourle, England, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Dunn) Lathlean. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have one child, Lillie Dunn. Mr. Fowler is a member of the I. O. O. F., Iola Lodge No. 711, and is secretary of the same.

JOHN GORDNER, retired farmer, P. O. Unityville, was born September 27, 1809, in Moreland Township, Lycoming County, son of Daniel and Catharine (Neufer) Gordner. The parental grandfather of John was Jacob Gordner, who came from Berks County soon after the Indian war, and located in Muncy Creek Township, Lycoming County, was shot and scalped by one of the Indians remaining after the war. He had five sons—Peter, John, Philip, Daniel, George—and several daughters. Daniel, the father of our subject, was five years of age when his father was killed by the Indians. He grew

to manhood on his father's farm and remained here for many years. He was twice married; first to Sarah Hill, by whom he had six children. His second wife, Catharine Neuffer, the mother of our subject, bore him seven children: John, Hannah, Katie, Henry, Jonathan, William and Esther. John, our subject, remained on the home farm until his marriage in the fall of 1832, when he came to his present residence; he first bought 200 acres which was covered with timber, afterward added 200, and kept on until he had 450 acres. The first year he lived here he brought his bread and meat from Lewisburg, and his feed from Limestoneville; he soon cleared land and had grain to sell. His wife, Catharine, bore him nine children: Hannah (wife of Jacob Chamberlain); Sarah (wife of James Budnan); Henry; Susan (Mrs. John Lore); Jacob (resides in Lycoming County); Daniel; Thomas; John; Margaret (wife of Britton Bartley, of Milton). Mrs. Gordner died of pneumonia, after four days' illness, April 13, 1884, and had been a member of the Lutheran Church about thirty-five years. Mr. Gordner has been a member of the same church over forty years, and has been deacon, elder, trustee, etc., since his first membership. All of the children are also members of the church. He has been successful in life, and has started all of his children in business; has been supervisor, overseer of the poor, school director, etc. In politics he is a Democrat.

THOMAS B. GORDNER, farmer, P. O. Unityville, was born March 6, 1848, on the homestead adjoining his own farm. He was the fourth son and seventh child born to John and Catharine (Stackhouse) Gordner. Our subject remained on the home farm until he became of age, then worked for his brothers about two years. His father then gave him ninety acres of land, all of which was covered with timber, which he began clearing. When he was twenty-four years of age he married Hannah C., daughter of John and Elizabeth (Poust) Berger; they lived one year with his father; in the meantime he built his house, and September 11, 1873, he occupied it, and has since resided there. He now owns 322 acres, having added 232 by his own exertions. Mr. and Mrs. Gordner have four children: John Oliver, Harriet Elizabeth, Charles Henry and Daniel Ezra. They are members of the Lutheran Church, he having been deacon of the same for several years; he is also a member of the P. O. of H.

WILLIAM GREENLY, superintendent and farmer, P. O. Sereno, was born in this township in 1839, a son of Richard (born in 1812) and Sarah (Chamberlin) (born in 1819) Greenly. Both parents are still living. William remained at home until twenty-two years of age, and was reared to farm pursuits. About 1873 he came to Sereno and learned the tanner's trade with Edward Richie; since 1881 he has been superintendent of the tannery, having the entire management. He was married in 1872, to Martha, daughter of George Welliver. Mr. and Mrs. Greenly have three children: Harrison W., Cora and Clara. He purchased a farm of 100 acres in 1886, and is now carrying on the same. In politics he is a Republican.

BENJAMIN H. LEE, farmer, P. O. Millville, was born in Scott Township, Columbia County, in 1838. He removed to Centre Township when a lad, and here grew to manhood, reared to farming pursuits. He is the eldest son of Charles and Mary (Zeigler) Lee, to whom were born a family of twelve children, all of whom lived to be grown. Our subject was married December 25, 1862, to Sarah J., daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Culp) Shaffer. After Mr. Lee was married he farmed the homestead one year; then moved to Orange Township and farmed one year; then farmed one year below Light Street, three years in Briarcreek, then returned to Orange Township, and here farmed eight years; came to Pine Township and farmed the Shadrach Eves farm three years, and in November, 1881, he moved to his present place consisting of 112 acres, having built the house and barn previous to his coming. Mr. Lee has greatly improved the farm, and now has a very desirable location, his residence overlooking the town of Millville and the valley below. To Mr. and Mrs. Lee have been born seven children: Samuel, Margaret, Charles, Fannie, John, Minta and Harry. In politics Mr. Lee is a Democrat.

BENJAMIN LORE, farmer and lumberer, P. O. Iola, was born in Jordan Township, Lycoming County, November 19, 1840, the fourth son and fifth child born to John and Mary Ann (Wilson) Lore. The paternal grandfather of our subject was William Lore, who came from New Jersey, located in Lycoming at an early day, and reared a family of seven children, of whom John was the father of our subject. To John and his wife were born seven children: George P., John, Mary, William, Benjamin, Sarah and Thomas. Our subject was left fatherless at the age of six years. His mother died in 1857. When twenty years of age he commenced learning the carpenter trade with his brother John, and this he followed for about seven years. He came to this county in 1861. He married Sarah J., only daughter of Catharine Chamberlain. He made his first purchase in 1867, and located on his present farm in 1882. He has six children: Emma E., wife of John F. Edgar; Henry H., Mary C., George B., Myra B. and Franklin B. Since the spring of 1886 he has been a partner with his brother John in the California mill property. They have a tract of about 400 acres, and manufacture their own lumber.

THE LYONS FAMILY came originally from New Jersey. The name of the pioneer was John Lyons, who came to this county about 1803. To John Lyons and his wife (who was a Wiley) were born Joseph, Mary, James, Robert, Edward, Eliza, Solomon, Paul,



Hannah, Esther and Isaac, all of whom reared families excepting Edward. The father died when these children were young, and his wife married Peter Moury and removed to New York with a portion of the children. The only ones that settled in this locality were Solomon and Joseph. Joseph was born December 15, 1795, in Sussex County, N. J., and was brought by his parents to this county when an infant, and for several years lived at Millville; then came to this township and here grew to manhood, and spent his entire life in this neighborhood. For seventy years he was an efficient member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was the principal founder of the church in his neighborhood. He was drafted in the war of 1812, but his services were never required. He accumulated quite a large property, but backing his immediate friends caused his estates to become greatly embarrassed before his death. His wife's maiden name was Paugh, and to them were born six sons: Robert J., Wesley, Isaac P., Ezra S., Joseph B. and Richard W. Joseph Lyons died September 15, 1886, after two days' illness, being ninety-one years old; his wife died at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Richard Watson, the youngest son, was born in 1832, and has always lived in this township. He clerked in a store some time, then engaged in farming and lumbering for several years. In 1866 he began merchandising at Pine Summit, and has since continued. He is also engaged in farming, and for some years carried on huckstering. He has been twice married, first to Phoebe Houghton; she died December 23, 1875. To them were born four children, three living: William, Park and Sallie. His second wife was Susanna, daughter of James and Margaret Fannsworth. He was drafted three times, and volunteered twice, but on account of legal technicalities was released on the two first drafts, and when the third draft came he was already in the service as a volunteer. He has served as deputy and postmaster (with the exception of one year, when he was justice of the peace) since the establishment of the office here, and has been township auditor. In politics he is a Republican.

JAMES MASTERS, farmer, P. O. Sereno, was born September 28, 1812, the second son of David Masters born in 1783, near Kennett Square, in Chester County. James Masters was the grandfather of our subject, and married Margaret Salkel by whom he had five children—three sons and two daughters, viz.: Isaac, Sarah, Martha, David and John. All lived to be grown and raised families. Sarah married Samuel Kester—they rode to Berks County on horseback to be married by the Friends' ceremony; Martha married Andrew Eves, son of John Eves, the pioneer; Isaac married Paul Kester's daughter, and subsequently moved to Ohio; John was a rambler, and never made a permanent settlement; David married Mary Eves, a granddaughter of the pioneer, and settled in Madison Township on Spruce Run, adjoining lands owned by the pioneer Eves, and the Demotts. (The place is now owned by Conrad Kramer.) This he settled in 1791, there being no improvements on the place. He here made his settlement and lived until he died in 1832, aged eighty-four years and some months. He built a saw-mill here, and his son David added to this a carding machine, subsequently a clover hulling machine, and finally his son Joseph converted the hulling-mill into a chopping-mill. David was eight years of age when he came with his father to that place; there he grew to manhood and married Mary Eves, daughter of Joseph, who was a son of John Eves, the pioneer. To David and Mary were born George, James, Sarah, Joseph, Margaret, Parvin, Mary, Elizabeth, all living to be grown. George married Margaret Mather, settled in Millville and had four children: Sarah, David, Mary M. and William. Sarah married Daniel Rote, and located near Millville; Joseph married Sarah Edwards, and subsequently moved to Muncy, Penn.; Margaret married Benjamin Warner, and located in Muncy Valley; Parvin resided in Philadelphia, was thrice married, rearing children from each wife; Mary married George D. Keller, settled near Watson farm, first in Light Street, Columbia County, and ran a blacksmith shop in Northumberland County, and afterward at Muncyborough; Elizabeth married Morris Ellis, a descendant of William Ellis, one of the early settlers of Muncy Valley; James married January 1, 1835, Abigail, born March 3, 1812, daughter of Francis and Mary Rote, the latter of whom was a daughter of Daniel Welliver, one of the early pioneers of Madison Township. After James was married he moved to below Eyer's Grove, and operated the old Dreiblebiss mill, owned then by Frick, Paxton & McKelvy; this he operated until 1837, when he moved to Millville and took charge of the grist and saw mill owned by his father; this mill he conducted until about 1841, when on account of failing health he then rented the mill, and for four years clerked for his brother George and his partner, Mather. Then on account of the mill losing trade by his absence in 1845, he again took charge, and gave it his personal attention until the spring of 1849; then the mill burning down, he quit the milling business and came to Sereno in December, 1849, embarked in the mercantile business, and carried this on until 1857, when he discontinued the store and engaged in farming. He purchased the farm, in 1850, in Greenwood Township of 107 acres, and in 1858 purchased the farm of 228 acres in Pine Township, where he now resides, and has since been engaged in farming pursuits, having about 240 acres, and has been successful in his business. He has six daughters and one son: Mary, Elizabeth, Francis, Catharine, Sarah E., Margaret A. and Susan. Mary is the wife of Dr. J. B. Patton; Elizabeth is the wife of R. L. Rich; Francis resides at home, and married Orpha, daughter of Wilson M. Eves of Iola, Penn. (he has two



children, Alfred and Marion); Catharine and Margaret are both single; Susan is the wife of John Eves, the wagon manufacturer.

NATHAN L. MOSER, farmer, P. O. Pine Summit, was born in Amity Township, Berks County, September 4, 1833, fourth son of George and Mary (Ludwig) Moser. Nathan was brought up on the farm of his father, reared to agricultural pursuits, and continued on the homestead several years after he attained his majority, having charge of the farm. His father died in March, 1862, and he was one of the executors of the estate, remained one year after and settled up the estate, then went to Mahanoy City, where he was engaged in merchandising about two years, and the business proving unsatisfactory on account of the stoppage of the coal works, he sold out and came to Columbia County and purchased the farm he now owns, consisting of 155 acres, well improved, having good farm buildings and pleasantly situated. He was married to Ellen, daughter of Joseph Nagle and Sarah (Keifer). Mr. and Mrs. Moser have five sons and three daughters: Mahlon K., Wellington, George, Albin, John, Olivia, Anna, Virdilla. Mr. Moser is a Republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran Church.

ROBERT POTTER, farmer, P. O. Sereno, was born in this township, April 19, 1838. Robert Potter, his father, came from England to this country about the year 1828; his wife was Jane Boot, and their family consisted of the following named children: Ann, William, Joseph, Thomas, John, Charles, Mary J., Fannie, Henry and Robert. Robert was the youngest of the family and remained on the homestead until twenty-five years of age, when he came to Sereno and learned the tanner's trade of Samuel Scattergood; was foreman and worked in the tannery for several years. He purchased the farm he now owns in 1876, and has since been engaged in farming pursuits, now owning a good property, which he has acquired through his diligence and economy. By his first wife, Mary E., daughter of John and Nancy (Welliver) Bennett, seven children were born: Elizabeth, Marietta, Charles, Susan, Edward, Clyde and Bertha. His present wife was Sarah, daughter of Asa and Elizabeth (Falls) Wetheral, and to this union have been born three children: Carrie, Frank and Reba. His eldest daughter, Elizabeth, married Henry Greenly, of Millville, and Marietta married Benjamin Drake, of Light Street. Charles removed to California.

DAVID ROTE, farmer, P. O. Sereno, was born September 13, 1832, in Madison Township, eldest son of Daniel and Sarah (Masters) Rote. He resided here until March, 1886, when he purchased the farm he now owns, known as the John Bruner farm. He married Mary, daughter of George Welliver; his wife Elsie was a daughter of Simon and Mary (Robbins) Kinney. The Kinneys were from New Jersey, and among the early settlers in Pine Township. Mr. and Mrs. Rote have two children: Sarah E. and Anna E.

HIRAM SCHULTZ, farmer, P. O. Iola, was born in Greenwood Township, July 25, 1816, eldest son of John Schultz. The latter was a tanner by trade, which he followed for several years. He bought 339 acres and settled on the farm now owned by Ezra Eves, near Sereno, and here he died. He reared six children: Hiram, Daniel, Lydia, Melinda, Harriet and Zebulon. Hiram was married first November 10, 1837, to Sarah Houghton, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Crysters) Houghton; she died leaving six children, five now living: Joseph, Mary J., John, Julia and Sarah E. He next married October 4, 1851, Harriet, daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca Watts. To this last union the following named children were born: Charles W. (in Trenton, N. J.), Clarence W. (residing in this township), Samantha (wife of Jeremiah Howard), Woodward, Emma (wife of William Greenlee, of Millville), Savilla (wife of John W. Cox, of Nebraska), and Lawson. Mr. Schultz settled here in 1837, when the land was covered with timber; this he cleared, and now has ninety-six acres in all. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for fifty years, and has held several official positions in the same. In politics he is a Democrat.

PHILIP WESLEY SONES, P. O. Sereno, sawyer and foreman of the Benfield Mills, was born May 20, 1832, in Moreland Township, Lycoming County, son of Peter and Savilla (Lowe) Sones. The paternal grandfather of P. W. was named Peter, as was also his great-grandfather, the latter of whom served through the Revolutionary war, and lived to the advanced age of ninety-eight years. Phillip W. was reared in Moreland Township until ten years of age, when he removed with his parents to Sullivan County; he learned the carpenter trade which he followed a few years, and about the year 1853 he located in this township, purchasing the farm he now owns, and has since engaged in lumbering; for several years he has been foreman and sawyer in the Benfield mills. In May, 1853, he married Mary Ann, daughter of Lewis and Catharine (Hunter) Chamberlain. They have five children: Calvin L., Sarah C., Susan E., Lewis E. and Mary E. Mr. Sones is a member of the Evangelical Association, also of the Iola Lodge, I. O. O. F.; has been school director for twenty years, and is overseer of the poor. In politics he is a Democrat.

ABRAHAM TITMAN, farmer, P. O. Iola, was born in Greenwood Township, March 1, 1843, the eldest son of Isaac and Beulah (Kline) Titman. The grandfather of our subject was Abraham Titman, whose wife was Jane Robbins, and to them were born three children. Abraham was among the early settlers and for several years kept a tavern on

the place now owned by Humphrey Parker, on the Greenwood road; he was a farmer, also operated a saw-mill and carried on lumbering. Our subject was reared in Greenwood Township, where he lived until he located on the farm which he now owns, consisting of 100 acres; he came here in 1865. He married Emma, daughter of Philip Shoemaker, and they have one son, Walter K., born March 26, 1868. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Iola.

PHINEAS WHITMOYER, farmer, P. O. Pine Summit, was born May 27, 1840, in Franklin Township, Lycoming County, son of Eli and Catharine (Reed) Whitmoyer, whose offspring were four sons and four daughters, viz.: Euphemia (now Mrs. J. T. Crist); Phineas; Lydia (Mrs. John Gardner); William, Emanuel, Rebecca, Isabella S. (now Mrs. Sylvester Hill), and Charles W., all of whom save Phineas settled in Lycoming County. Phineas left home at the age of twenty-one, and when twenty-five married Maggie, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah (Welliver) Wintersteen. After his marriage he lived for several years in Lycoming County engaged in farming, a portion of the time being on the homestead farm; subsequently removed to Pine Township and purchased the farm he now owns, which formerly belonged to his father-in-law, Mr. Wintersteen. He was for several years engaged in lumbering. Mr. and Mrs. Whitmoyer have two children: Benjamin and Nora.

R. F. WHITMOYER, farmer, P. O. Pine Summit, was born September 18, 1840, son of Simon and Sallie (Kisner) Whitmoyer. The father was a blacksmith and built the first shop that was erected in this region. He died here in 1849, aged forty-nine years, three months. His widow died at Charlevoix, Mich., in 1885, aged seventy-four years, four months and five days. She was a daughter of Michael Kisner, whose father, John, came from Germany. Simon was a son of Conrad Whitmoyer who settled here at an early day. Our subject's great-grandfather came from Germany, and had two sons; both settled at Berwick, Penn. Conrad had fifteen children: John, Joseph, Polly, Caty, Mary, David, Lyda, William, Betsy, Michael, Simon, Eli, Adam, Susan Hess, and Ephream. These children moved with their parents to Lycoming County at an early day, there settled and reared families. R. F. was left fatherless at an early age, but remained with his mother until the breaking out of the Rebellion, when he enlisted, September 12, 1861, in Company F, One Hundred and Sixth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, served three years, when he re-enlisted in the same company, remained until the close of the war, and was discharged as first sergeant. He was in about twenty-five general engagements; was captured January 22, 1864, at Petersburg, and was nearly six months in Andersonville, but was finally paroled in November, 1864. All of his brothers, five in number: Leonard, Michael, Clark, Galord, Amos and their sister Rebecca were in the war, and his brother-in-law, Thomas, was killed in the last battle of Petersburg. Richard returned from the war and bought the old homestead, where he has since lived. He was married September 28, 1865, to Elizabeth, daughter of Philip and Sallie (Albertson) Shoemaker. Mr. and Mrs. Whitmoyer have seven children living: Sallie, Frank G., Orpha R., Lynn S., Clay, Blanche, Sylva; Galena died aged eighteen months. He is a member of Bryan Post No. 439, located at Unityville, Lycoming Co., Penn., also of the P. of H. In politics he is a Republican.

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## CHAPTER XLIII.

### ROARINGCREEK TOWNSHIP.

DANIEL W. RARIG, farmer, P. O. Mill Grove, was born in Roaringcreek Township, Columbia Co., Penn., September 1, 1848, a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Whitner) Rarig, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. His paternal grandfather came from Germany and settled in Schuylkill County, where he remained engaged in manufacturing shingles and farming until his death. His maternal grandfather came to Columbia County in the early part of the present century, and settled in Roaringcreek Township. Catawissa was then the nearest market, and he used to ride thither on horseback, taking his produce with him, receiving six cents per pound for butter. He owned a large tract of land and followed farming all his life. Our subject's father was born in Schuylkill County. After his marriage he moved to Columbia County, and bought a farm in this township, where he lived until his death, in June, 1874; his widow died in June, 1886. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until he was married, when he worked one year at the carpenter's trade. In 1872 he moved to where he now resides and bought 100 acres, but now owns eighty-nine, having sold off the rest. He married, February 9, 1868,

Mary E. Hoffman, who has borne him eight children: Henry, Elizabeth, Ulysses, Oscar, Emma, John W. S., Effie and Daisy May. Mr. and Mrs. Rarig are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served as county and State tax collector for eight years, school director for eight years, and road supervisor. Mr. Rarig is one of the prominent men of the county, and has been in office ever since he has been old enough to vote, which shows that he gives satisfaction as an office holder. He is the agent of the Buffalo Phosphate Company.

## CHAPTER XLIV.

### SCOTT TOWNSHIP.

AARON BOONE, P. O. Espy, was born in Columbia County February 14, 1815, a son of Benjamin and Margaret (Creveling) Boone. His grandfather, Benjamin Boone, was a cousin of the renowned Daniel Boone, of Kentucky, and was the first of the family to settle in Columbia County, locating in Centre Township on 300 acres of land. This tract was bounded on one side by the Susquehanna River, and extended a mile back. He was reared in Berks County, near Reading, and was a prominent man in his day. He died at the age of eighty-one years. His son Benjamin, the father of our subject, was a farmer, and also carried on an extensive shad fishery, employing seven men from Easter until June. He inherited from his father 150 acres of the old homestead, and there died in 1851, at the age of sixty-three years. He and his wife are buried in Heidler's churchyard. At the age of twenty-three, Aaron Boone married Mary, a daughter of Samuel Webb, Sr., whose family was also among the pioneers of this county. Mrs. Boone died in 1849, leaving two children, Charles A. and Samuel W., who are still living. Mr. Boone's second marriage took place in 1850, with Hannah Wagner, who bore him five children: Shepperd R., Olin S., Paul Anthony, Jesse Edmund, and Mary K., all of whom are now living. Mr. Boone has been for over fifty years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has served for many years both as steward and class-leader. He remembers with distinctness the establishment of nearly every Methodist congregation in the section extending from Bloomsburg to Berwick, and has donated money for every Methodist Church building that has been erected in his lifetime within this vicinity. The house that his grandfather lived in, in Centre Township, was built in 1790, and is still standing; the barn was erected about the same time, and is also in a good state of preservation. He also recollects in 1822-23 when great numbers of the people were carried off by typhus fever. The canal at this point was begun in 1827 and finished in 1831, and our subject's father helped carry the line in surveying the county lines in this and other parts of the State. Bear, deer and wild fowl were very numerous at that time, and his father used to make a yearly hunt for the larger game, supplying his family with venison. The road where Afton now is was then known as "Webb's Lane," and was a famous place in early days for horse racing. In the ridge near by are beds of lead and zinc which were worked in an early day, some on our subject's land. Mr. Boone owns 160 acres north of Afton, also a fine residence and lot at Afton. For many years he was engaged in boating on the canal.

G. W. CREVELING, merchant at Afton, P. O. Espy, was born in the immediate neighborhood, December 19, 1833, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Ruckle) Creveling. His father died in September, 1835, while on a trip west, at or in the vicinity of South Bend, Ind. The mother died in 1856. G. W. lived on a farm close by Afton until he was about eleven years old; from that time in Espy until 1861, receiving his education, in the meantime, in the common schools of that place. At the age of thirteen years he engaged at boating as driver on the Pennsylvania Canal, afterward as bowsman, steersman, then captain; afterward, in 1853, he bought a half interest in a boat, then the whole of it, and in 1855 owned two boats and freighted between Pittston, Baltimore, Philadelphia and intermediate points. He continued thus until 1856, when he abandoned active boating, though still owning a boat and hiring a man to run it. Before the age of twenty-one he had accumulated about \$2,000. In the fall after closing boating, in 1856, he began to keep books in the office of Fowler & Creveling, with whom he remained four years. In April, 1857, he became part owner of the Limestone Ridge, near Espy, and has since been interested in shipping limestone. March 16, 1858, he married Frances M. Millard, a daughter of Joshua K. Millard, of Espy. In 1861 he personally assumed charge of shipping limestone at the Ridge, and in March, 1864, he and his brother, Alfred, established the present store at Afton. In 1867 he bought out his brother's interest and continued alone until 1873, when he took E. C. Tremblay as a partner, and continued until 1877, since which time he



has been alone. Mr. Creveling enlisted as an emergency man in 1863 for ninety days, and was in the United States service for about sixty days. He is a Republican and has served his vicinity in various public offices. Mr. and Mrs. Creveling have two children: Charles M., born August 24, 1859, an assistant in the store and limestone business, and Edna M., born July 5, 1875; another daughter died in 1865, aged three and a half years. Mr. Creveling is president of the Espy Lime & Cement Company, and was formerly its secretary and treasurer. He owns 110 acres of highly improved land in Centre Township, valued at \$140 per acre. He was the architect of his elegant residence at Afton. The following are the children of Thomas Creveling: Eli, who married Jane Heidley, and died in 1866; Isaac, married Rebecca Hogenbuch, and died in 1884; Eliza Ann, married to Henry Trembley, and died in 1879; Rebecca, died in infancy; Lavina, married H. L. Gearhart, and died in 1875; Thomas, Jr., died unmarried, in 1881; Alfred, married Mary M. Worman, and resides at Harrisburg, Penn.; George, W., resides at Afton, Penn., and John, died at the age of three years. George W. and Alfred are the only survivors. Now at the age of fifty-three years G. W. is about making arrangements to get out of active business with a sufficient competence, his health not being very good.

HERMAN G. CREVELING, Esq., Espy, was born May 19, 1826, one and a quarter miles north of Espy, and is a son of Andrew and Rebecca (Waters) Creveling. He was reared on a farm and educated at Espy. He has been three times married, first, in 1847, to Hester Willett, who died, the mother of two children, living: Rebecca R. and Ardelia E. His second wife was Louisa M. Kuhn, who left no children. His third marriage was with Mrs. Catherine Everts, *nee* Ruckel, by whom he has one child, Clinton R. During his early life Mr. Creveling was a farmer, but in 1856 or 1857 embarked in the mercantile business with E. F. Richart, and in 1858 and 1859 carried on the business alone. Subsequently he engaged in the limestone business for several years, and for the last twenty-five or twenty-six years has conducted a butcher business. In 1865 he was elected a justice of the peace and has since served in that office, making twenty-two years of service. The Squire is now secretary of the Susquehanna Manufacturing Company at Espy.

J. HARVEY CREVELING, lumber merchant, P. O. Bloomsburg, was born in Columbia County October 17, 1830. The first of his ancestors to settle in this county were John Creveling and Charity, his wife, who located in what is now Scott Township. John owned a farm just east of Bloomsburg. He was from New Jersey, and he and wife were members of the Society of Friends. The famous "Creveling grape," well known throughout this country, was propagated by Mrs. Creveling, the original vine being still in good bearing condition, running over a large pear tree near the residence. Mr. and Mrs. John Creveling are both buried in Creveling Cemetery. Their son, Andrew, inherited the old homestead and married Ann I. Henrie, a daughter of Archibald and Sarah Henrie. Andrew was born January 22, 1806. His wife died in 1863, leaving a large family, six of whom are now living. He subsequently married Mrs. Hikox, then Mrs. Harvey, and was then married to Mrs. Fine, and died September 1, 1886, and is buried by the side of his first wife in the Creveling Cemetery. He took an active part in public matters; was captain and later major of the militia, and was widely known as an enterprising and substantial citizen. He and his first wife belonged to the Episcopal Church. When his father retired from active business, J. Harvey bought the old homestead of 135 acres for \$22,000, including a one-half interest in a timber tract near New Philadelphia of 125 acres. He married, November 27, 1856, Susan A. Conner, and three boys and five girls blessed their union: Andrew, married Annetta Hartman, a daughter of Wellington Hartman; Sarah; I. Conner; Anna I.; Mary; Lulu; Susan A., and Harvey Scott, all living at home, the married son carrying on the old homestead farm. Mr. Creveling is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and has served his township as school director and in other local offices. He moved to Bloomsburg in 1886 and has partially retired. He has carried on the lumber business for fifteen years on West Creek, in Jackson and Sugarloaf Townships and still owns seven-twelfths of 372 acres of timber land there.

WILLIAM E. DIETTERICH, merchant, Espy, was born in Centre Township, Columbia Co., Penn., February 28, 1847; a son of John and Susannah (Schug) Dietterich. He was reared on a farm, received his early education at the schools of his vicinity and finished his studies at the normal school, taking a course of nine months. In 1871 he began business on his own account at Espy, in partnership with T. W. Hartman and Thomas Thompson, under the firm name of W. E. Dietterich & Company. They opened an ice-cream saloon with a capital of \$45. At the end of a month Mr. Hartman withdrew, receiving \$45 as his share. At the end of two months Mr. Dietterich bought out the remaining partner for \$118, and in the fall took his brother in as a partner, added groceries to the business, which was conducted under the firm name of W. E. Dietterich & Brother. At the end of nine months our subject bought his brother out, in 1873 added a general line of goods, and has since conducted a successful business. In 1882 he built his present fine store and residence at a cost of upward of \$3,000. The business is one of the best in Espy, and averages upward of \$5,000 per annum. Mr. Dietterich is a Democrat and has served his vicinity as school director for several years, and is also a member of the Lutheran Church. He married, May 30, 1872, Mary E., a daughter of David and Harriet

Whitmire, of Espy. Mrs. Dietterich was born October 24, 1850; she has borne her husband one child, Henry Clay, born July 2, 1881.

DAVID GEISINGER, postmaster, Espy, was born in Orange Township, in 1845, to Samuel and Elizabeth (Fleckenstine) Geisinger. When David was five years of age his father died, and he then went to live with Joseph Pohe, with whom he remained until the age of sixteen, attending the common schools. From that time he made his own way in the world, and when nineteen, in 1864, enlisted in Company E, Sixteenth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, and served in the Rebellion some ten or eleven months, or until the close of the war. He participated in the engagements at Stony Creek and Amelia Springs, where he was wounded in the left wrist by a gunshot and in the head by a saber cut. He remained disabled for some time and his wounds are often troublesome at this date. He was principally engaged in skirmishing and scout duty. Mr. Geisinger has been twice married; first, in 1868, to Elizabeth Bupp, who died the same year, and March 9, 1871, he married Mrs. Margaret Kisner, whose maiden name was Creveling, a daughter of H. G. and Margaret (Wellett) Creveling. They have had three children: William H., born December 4, 1873, died December 8, 1877; Harold D., born January 14, 1875, and Ardelia E., born March 29, 1877. Mr. Geisinger was appointed postmaster at Espy July 17, 1886, and is the present incumbent. Mrs. Geisinger is a member of the Lutheran Church, which the family attend. By her first husband Mrs. Geisinger had one child, Leroy Kisner, born November 5, 1868, died November 8, 1882, at the age of fourteen years. Mr. Geisinger is a Democrat, and has held several township offices.

PROF. FRANCIS HECK, P. O. Light Street, is a native of Monterey, Schuylkill Co., Penn., born in 1856, a son of John W. and Rebecca (Hartline) Heck, of that county. He received the advantages afforded by the schools of his vicinity until the age of fifteen, when he became a student at Freeburg Academy. After teaching one term at the age of seventeen, he continued his studies at the Freeburg Academy, preparatory to entering college. When nineteen (in 1875), he entered Lafayette College, and was graduated from that institution in June, 1879. On leaving college he engaged in teaching at Paxinos, Northumberland Co., Penn., as principal of the public schools. He there continued two years, and then came to Columbia County, in 1882, where he taught a select school for one year and acted as the principal of Orangeville Academy, for two years, which position he resigned in 1885. In the fall of that year he became identified with the *Democratic Sentinel*, having charge of the educational columns of that paper. Prof. Heck for the past year has taught a select school at Light Street.

SAMUEL McKAMEY, foreman of the Pennsylvania Canal Company's boat yards, Espy, was born in that place, October 16, 1830, a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Caldwell) McKamey. His parents were natives of Ireland, and coming to the United States, settled in Plymouth, Luzerne County. The father was a weaver by trade, and followed it all his life. He and wife were Episcopalians; he is buried in the Episcopal graveyard at Bloomsburg, and she in Espy Cemetery. At the age of eighteen, Samuel began to learn the carpenter's trade, which he followed two years. He then bought a boat and followed boating and freighting on the Pennsylvania Canal for eighteen years, over the whole length of the Pennsylvania & Erie Canals. In 1863 he enlisted as an emergency man, in Company I, Thirty-fifth P. V. I., and was in service six or seven weeks. After giving up the boating, Mr. McKamey worked at stair building for several years, and in 1873 was employed by the Pennsylvania Canal Company at Espy. In 1883 he was appointed foreman of their yards. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and has been twice married. His first wife, whom he married in 1856, was Martha B. Hicks, who died in 1875, leaving five children; his second marriage took place in 1876, with Mrs. Samantha Morgan. His children are as follows: Jennie, Anna, Sally, Blanche and Susan (the last named died at the age of five years). Mr. McKamey's brother, Alexander, served as lieutenant in the Mexican war, and was promoted to a captaincy. His uncle, James Caldwell, went out as captain of his company and was killed at the battle of the city of Mexico.

BENJAMIN MILLER, retired farmer, P. O. Espy, was born in Scott Township, this county, May 24, 1818, son of Philip and Mary (Seidle) Miller. Jacob Miller, grandfather of Benjamin, was born in Berks County, Penn., following farming, and lived there until his death. His father came from Berks County, and took up a good deal of land there, and also lived there the rest of his life. Philip Miller, father of Benjamin, was born and reared in Berks County to farm life. He was married in Berks County to Miss Mary Seidle, a native of Berks County, of German descent. They came to this county in 1812, bringing with them their family, which then consisted of one son and one daughter. They located at Espy, where Mr. Miller engaged in inn-keeping, which he abandoned and bought a farm in this township, which is now owned by Jesse Hoffman, and there located and followed farming until about ten years before his death, when he lived a retired life. He died January 1, 1872, at the age of eighty years, and is buried at Afton. His wife died May 8, 1852, and is buried in the Lutheran Reformed Church Cemetery, Bloomsburg. They were the parents of six children, of whom four are living: Benjamin; Mary, widow of Andrew Jingles, living in Maine Township, this county; Harriet, wife of Joseph



Breisch, living in Catawissa Township, this county; Regina, wife of Oscar Wolverton, living in Northumberland County, Penn. Benjamin was reared in Columbia County, where he has always had his home. He made his residence with his parents until he was married, and after that event moved into another house on the same farm, which he worked. He lived there until he bought his present farm of nineteen acres. He was married in this county February 19, 1857, to Miss Catherine Ale. They came to this county from New Jersey and settled in Greenwood Township, where they resided until their death. The father died November 1, 1880, and the mother March 1, of the same year. They are buried at Kitchen's Church, Mount Pleasant Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were the parents of one child, Jeanetta, who died when nine months old. They reared an adopted child, Sallie, now the wife of William Hoffman. They are also rearing another little adopted girl, named Mamie. Our subject and wife are members of the Lutheran Church. He is assistant superintendent of the Methodist Sabbath-school at Afton. In politics he is a Democrat.

JOHN MOUREY, hotel-keeper, Espy, was born April 11, 1841, in what is now Locust Township, but what was then a part of Roaringcreek, and was reared to farm life. His father died when he (subject) was but sixteen years of age and being the eldest of six brothers and one sister, he took charge of the farm and conducted it for his mother for two years. He then began to learn the shoemaker's trade with Hamilton Fisher at Slabtown, but did not complete the trade. He then was employed by his uncle, George Martz, at Light Street for nine months, after which he returned home and attended school. He then worked one season for Clint Mendenhall, and attended another term of school. January 1, 1861, he engaged with Solomon Artley, for one year, for \$108. January 2, 1862, he married Lavina, Mr. Artley's daughter, and then took the homestead and worked it for two years. From that time he began taking a prominent part in politics and then moving to Franklin Township, purchased a lot of thirty-four acres from Mr. Artley, and resided there two years. He then sold that place and bought sixty acres of the old homestead of his mother, on which he erected a house, barn, etc., and resided seven years. His mother-in-law dying, he moved to the Artley homestead (rented his own place and sold it a year later) and remained two years, when he purchased the Hipky mill in Roaringcreek, and still owns it and is interested in running it. He lived at the mill seven or eight years, and in 1882 was elected by a large majority, sheriff of Columbia County; entered the office the first Monday in January, 1883, and served until the first Monday in January, 1886. The first of the following April he moved to Espy, where he rents the hotel. He owns twenty-eight acres and the mill. Mr. and Mrs. Mourey have had six children, five of whom are living: Mary M., wife of J. M. Kunkle; Solomon; Clara, married to A. W. Long; Michael; Sarah E. and Lavina May (the latter died at the age of one year and three months). Mr. Mourey also owns 120 acres of timber land in Roaringcreek, and some ten lots at Montandon. He is engaged in attending the hotel, mill, and other property.

JOSEPH POHE (deceased) was born in Albany Township, Berks Co., Penn., September 19, 1790. His parents came to this county when he was but a boy. When he arrived at sixteen years of age he was apprenticed to Larry Ruck, in Bloomsburg, to learn the shoemaking trade. After finishing his trade he went to Mifflinville, borrowed \$10 to buy a kit of tools, and traveled about among different families, mending and making shoes. Mr. Pohe followed his trade until a few years ago. In 1831 he removed from Mifflinville to Centre Township, where he resided until his death (1880). His \$10 borrowed capital grew into seven farms, besides over \$30,000 which he lost by insolvents. He preserved a hammer handle which had been worn off by the use of his hands as he plied his trade. Mr. Pohe's father was a captain in the Revolutionary war. His mother and grandmother were captured by the Indians when the former was but seven weeks old, and remained captives for eleven years, until by the aid of a fur trader they made their escape. Two children are dead and six survive their aged father, and in this volume appears a portrait which was placed there by them. His wife, Mary (Wolf) Pohe, died in 1835. He was a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Pohe's successful life is a good illustration of what may be accomplished by a faithful pursuit of one's vocation. He passed peacefully away, thus removing another of the old "land marks" from his community.

STEPHEN POHE, farmer, P. O. Espy, was born in the town of Mifflin, September 6, 1825, a son of Joseph and Mary (Wolf) Pohe, both of Berks County. The father came to this county about 1800. He was a shoemaker by trade, but was an extensive landholder in Centre and Mifflin Townships, owning some 1,000 or 1,100 acres. He was born in 1790, died in 1880, a member of the Lutheran Church, and is buried in Mifflin graveyard; his wife, who died in 1835, is buried by his side. Stephen learned the shoemaker's trade, and at the age of twenty-one took charge of his father's farm. Later he engaged extensively in freighting on the canal, operating some eight or nine boats between all points for three years, and for the next nine or ten years carried on the boot and shoe business at Mifflin. In 1865 he enlisted in Company A, Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and participated in quite a number of skirmishes. He served in the Army of the Potomac, and was mustered out in October, 1865. He then began farming 145 acres in



Centre Township, which he still owns, and continued thus employed until 1886. He has always been interested in politics and has served his township in various local offices. In 1878 he was nominated by the Democratic party for county commissioner, and elected by a large majority. In 1884 he was re-elected, and is the present incumbent. He is a man of fearless convictions, and works for the best interest of the people. Mr. Pohe married, in 1856, Sarah H. Hess, who died in 1866, and five of her children are living: Francis L., Joseph R. and Charles L. (twins), and Alice Eudora and George McL.; Sally died at the age of one year. Mr. Pohe married, in 1867, Mary A. Hess, who has borne him two children: Seymour and Minnie G.

**FREDERICK W. REDEKER**, M. D., Espy, is a native of Strüken, Prussia, and was born November 12, 1853, to Henry William and Caroline (Reimer) Redeker. His parents came to the United States in 1854 and settled in Philadelphia, where the father is still engaged in the cabinet-making business. Frederick W. was educated in the schools of Philadelphia, and at the age of twenty-one years began reading medicine with Dr. G. W. Metzger, of Hughesville, Lycoming Co., Penn. In 1875 he became a student at the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, and graduated in 1878. He then began the practice of his profession at Exchange, Montour County, and in 1880 located at Espy, where he soon established a successful practice. Dr. Redeker married, in 1874, Louise Pfaff, a native of Philadelphia, and four children have blessed their union: Caroline, Lillian, Laura and Raymond C. Dr. and Mrs. Redeker are members of the Lutheran Church.

**WILLIAM C. ROBISON**, retired farmer, P. O. Espy, was born near his present residence January 23, 1836, a son of John and Margaret (Christman) Robison. The former was the first of the family to settle in Columbia County, locating in Bloomsburg, where he married, and in 1834 located in Espy. He was State supervisor of canals for four or five years and owned the farm of 140 acres just north of the present depot at Espy. He bought the place about 1834 and resided there the remainder of his life. During his early manhood he used to freight goods by team between Bloomsburg and the cities of New York and Philadelphia for the McKelvys and others; the trip, driving both ways, occupied three or four weeks. By trade he was a tanner and operated a tannery near where the Catholic Church now stands on Third Street, in Bloomsburg. He was successful in acquiring a competence; was an elder of the Presbyterian Church for many years, and an honored life member of the Board of Foreign Missions of that church. He was elected and served one term in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and always affiliated with the Democratic party. He died in 1871 at the age of eighty years, and his widow in January, 1885, aged eighty-four years. Both are buried in Rosemont Cemetery. They had a family of ten children, only five of whom are now living: Mary E., Huston, William C., Martha (wife of C. A. Moyer), and Lovilla (wife of H. W. Kitchen). The old homestead is owned by William C. and Huston. William C. has been twice married; first in 1868 to Mary, daughter of Philip Achenbach. She died in the spring of 1869, and in June, 1885, he married Laura, daughter of Dr. William Case, of Espy. Mr. Robison is a member of the Presbyterian Church; politically a Democrat, and has served his vicinity in the school board for several years. He enlisted in 1862 in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, took part in the battle of Antietam and served until the expiration of his term—nine months. He was mustered out at Harper's Ferry, Va., and during a part of his service was a corporal.

**ALEM BRITTON WHITE**, merchant, Light Street, is a native of Fishingcreek Tp., Columbia County, and was born on the old Buckalew homestead, May 9, 1833, to Joseph and Lydia A. (Robbins) White. His father was born in Light Street, March 25, 1800, and is a son of Peter and Elizabeth (Britton) White, who settled in this county some time previous to 1800. Peter owned a farm near Light Street; was a Presbyterian and probably of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He died in 1808 and is buried in the old Lutheran graveyard at Bloomsburg; his widow died some twenty years later and is buried by his side. Joseph White married Lydia A. Robbins, who was born December 6, 1813, at a place called Iola, in Greenwood Township. They were married April 15, 1830. Mrs. White was a daughter of John Robbins, a pioneer of Greenwood Township, where he was justice of the peace and surveyor for many years. John Robbins was a son of William Robbins, a native of New Jersey, and settled in Greenwood at a very early date. His wife was Mary Woodard, and both died in 1850, within six weeks of each other and are buried in the old Methodist burying-ground in Greenwood Township. Our subject's parents had eight children: Sarah C., Alem B., Melesa J., John A., Mary E., Anna A., Harriet M. and Eliza R. The mother of this family died December 7, 1851, and her husband then married Deborah Fowler, December 13, 1853, who bore him two children: Florence P. and Joseph E. The father died December 2, 1858, and is buried with his first wife in Greenwood Township. His widow lives with her son-in-law, H. N. White, at Afton. Alem B. obtained his education at Greenwood Seminary, and, when eighteen, began teaching school, which he followed until 1865, mostly in Bloom Academy and at Catawissa, also in Greenwood Seminary. In 1865 he became interested in mercantile business as clerk for J. J. Brower, Esq., and in 1866 opened a store at Ashland, Schuylkill County. This he conducted for two and a half years, and was afterward with Mr. Creary at Light Street,

two years. In 1871 he bought the general stock of Peter Ent, and subsequently bought the buildings and grounds. Mr. White in earlier life was a Democrat but since the war he became identified with the Republican party, but is now a Prohibitionist. He was appointed postmaster at Light Street under Gen. Grant's second administration, and resigned the office in 1883, having served over eight years. He is a member of thirty-seven years' standing of the Methodist Church, and has served as steward and trustee for upward of fifteen years. Alem B. White was married March 23, 1869, to Esther E. Geisinger, who was born September 24, 1843, a daughter of Samuel Geisinger of Orange Township.

## CHAPTER XLV.

### SUGARLOAF TOWNSHIP.

JOSHUA B. DAVIS, farmer, P. O. Cole's Creek, was born in Benton Township, this county, September 4, 1842, son of Thomas Davis, who was a son of Reuben Davis, who came to Columbia County, Penn., in an early day, locating at Catawissa, thence moved to Bloom Township and in 1815 settled on Raven Creek, Benton Township; he took a good farm there and cleared it up out of a wilderness, and died there July 3, 1858. His wife was Catherine Miller, and they had eight children: John, Mary, Thomas, Catherine, Ellen, Sarah, Elizabeth and Anna. Solomon and Richard Davis, brothers of Reuben, were also settlers in Columbia County. Our subject lived in Benton Township until his marriage, when he settled on Coles Creek. He married December 31, 1863, Harriet E., daughter of Jacob Harrington of Sugarloaf Township, this county, and they had eight children: Kate E., wife of Herbert Hess; John W., deceased; Thomas W., Ernest G., Walter B., Lena G., Emma B. and Alice P. Mr. Davis owns 250 acres of land in Upper Coles Creek, where he settled in 1867 and lumbered until 1880, since which time he has farmed almost exclusively, except in the season of manufacturing "oil of birch." In politics Mr. Davis is a Democrat.

THE FRITZ FAMILY. This highly respectable family, so well known, need more than a passing mention. "Fritz Hill" is known all over Columbia County. The first settler on this historic spot was Philip Fritz, who came from Philadelphia to this county in 1795; he settled on the east branch of Fishing Creek, near where Thomas Fritz now lives, in the vicinity of Central, and in 1797 he removed to the old homestead at present occupied by Jesse Fritz. This land was his wife's heirloom. She was Charlotte Deborgur, also a native of Philadelphia. Henry Deborgur and his wife Elizabeth had six children: Mary, Charlotte, Henry, Catherine, Esther and Jacob. The tract of land contained 400 acres and was divided among the six children, and Philip, of course, controlled the property left by his wife. On this farm they reared their children, in the woods, away from everything but "real nature," living in obscurity and without any advantages of schools. The children born to them were Henry H., Charles, Philip, Samuel, George, John, Ezekiel, Nancy, Betsey, and Maria; all of whom grew to maturity, each having a large family. The eldest of these children, Henry H., was born June 28, 1786, and in 1814 was married to Margaret Roberts, who was born October 18, 1794. Both lived to a good old age at the old Fritz settlement in what is now Sugarloaf Township. They were the parents of the following named children: John, born July 27, 1815; Charlotta, November 13, 1816; George, May 1, 1818; Jacob H., January 30, 1820; Josiah, February 2, 1822; William, August 30, 1823; Jesse, June 8, 1825; Martha, June 20, 1827; Sarah, May 21, 1829; Mary A., May 2, 1831; Elizabeth, January 25, 1833; Margaret, May 8, 1835; Rachel, April 15, 1839. All of these married except Sarah. George, the third in order of age of these thirteen children, was born at Fritz Hill, where he spent his early days. He was there married in November, 1841, to Elsie Hess, who was born November 19, 1820, daughter of Henry Hess. In the second year after their marriage they located at their present place of residence. They were the parents of the following named children: Euphemia, born November 9, 1842; Lydia A., August 20, 1844; William, March 29, 1846; Thomas B., October 5, 1849; George W., June 10, 1852; Joe W., October 28, 1854; Susan J., August 5, 1857; Alonzo P., July 20, 1860; Welbert E., September 15, 1864. Mr. and Mrs. George Fritz are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is a local preacher of that denomination. He is an active citizen and has been intrusted by his fellow citizens with a number of township offices. He is the owner of sixty-seven acres of land. Jacob H. is next in order of age to George. He was also born at the old homestead on Fritz Hill. On the 15th of February, 1846, he was united in



marriage with Amanda Laubach; they were the parents of the following children: William S., who is a dentist in Michigan; Rosella (Hess), lives in Michigan; LaFayette, who died in infancy; Amandus, married and now a resident of Sugarloaf Township; Theodore, a druggist in Michigan; Alice (Metzgar) lives at Millville; Erastus, a resident of Sugarloaf Township; Bedell, died at the age of sixteen years; J. A., a dentist and resident of Michigan; C. E., a photographer in Benton; Perry L., a druggist in Michigan; Flora A., a teacher, and John M., who resides with his parents. Jacob H. Fritz, who spent his whole life at farm work and in his early days used a flax broke, swingling knife, threshing club and other like primitive farming implements. For fifty-two years he swung the grain cradle. In his school days he trudged through snow two and a quarter miles to the log structure where school was held. He received little assistance from outside sources and had to hoe his own row from boyhood. At the age of twenty-one he received his first office and the voters of the township have never suffered him to be without official position since that time, every office in the township being entrusted to him except that of supervisor. He has also been coroner of Columbia County, and jury commissioner; also lieutenant in the militia. But the discharge of his official duties has not prevented him from bettering his condition in a financial way, and the poor boy of forty years ago is now the possessor of 300 acres of land and a comfortable home. For half a century he has been an active member of the Episcopal Church, and for thirty-five years of that period has guided the destinies of the church Sunday-school as its superintendent. He has also been vestryman, secretary and treasurer of the church, and St. Gabriel's Church owes to his efforts much of its present prosperity. The only living children of Philip Fritz, Sr., are Samuel and Ezekiel, who resides in Susquehanna County. He was married in 1824 to Sarah Spencer, now deceased. They were the parents of nine children: Maria, Nancy, Andrew J., Elias, Jefferson, Aaron R., Hiram, Gearhart and Cyrus. Aaron R., the sixth of these children in order of age, was born in Benton Township, this county, March 22, 1836. He was married May 29, 1873, to Miss Rebecca A., daughter of Hiram Baker, of Jackson Township. Mr. Fritz is a member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge, No. 746, at Benton. He is the possessor of 100 acres of land. He farms this land, but his principal occupation is and has been lumbering. For nearly a century the Fritz family has been identified with Columbia County and its history, and some of its members have witnessed almost its entire transformation from a primitive wilderness to its present prosperous condition.

JESSE FRITZ, farmer, P. O. Cole's Creek, was born June 8, 1825, and was married January 8, 1848, to Miss Sarah Dills, daughter of George Dills, Sugarloaf Township, this county, whose wife was Sophia Hess, and the following named children were born to them: John W., November 8, 1848, now in Jackson Township, this county; Andrew L., August 30, 1850, an attorney in Bloomsburg, Penn.; Alvaretta, November 25, 1853 (died November 3, 1857); Drusilla, November 2, 1856, wife of Jasper Lewis, on Cole's creek; Rachel E., February 5, 1859, wife of William Sutliff, of Luzerne County, Penn., and Sheridan S., August 9, 1865. Mrs. Fritz died March 5, 1881, and he then married, June 29, 1883, Mrs. Rosanna Girton, *nee* Rosanna Hess. Our subject lives on the old homestead, commonly known as "Fritz Hill," which has been his home since he was a boy. He owns eighty-nine acres of land. In 1880 Mr. Fritz was chosen justice of the peace, and has since served the township in that capacity. In politics he is a Democrat.

E. S. FRITZ, farmer, P. O. Cole's Creek, was born in Sugarloaf Township, Columbia Co., Penn., January 19, 1832, son of Samuel Fritz. He lived with his parents until 1858, in which year he was married to Miss C. J., daughter of William Seward. Our subject and wife, when first married, lived on Cole's creek, where they owned a farm; then moved to the saw-mill owned by Hughes, and there remained four years; then came to their present place of 107 acres, seven miles north of Benton. Mr. and Mrs. Fritz have two children: Americas S., a teacher by profession, born March 28, 1860, and Esther A., born March 14, 1866. Our subject is a member of Benton Lodge, No. 746, I. O. O. F. He is town clerk, which position he has held for years; also overseer of the poor, and for six years has been one of the school directors, having served as secretary of the board for three years.

JESSE HARTMAN, farmer, P. O. Cole's Creek, was born March 8, 1821, in Fishing-creek Township, this county, son of Frederick H. and Elizabeth (Best) Hartman; former was born in Northampton County, Penn., in 1792, latter died when our subject was two years old. He is of German descent. Jesse Hartman lived in Fishingcreek Township till he was twenty-one years old, then moved to Fairmount Springs, Luzerne County, where he followed shoemaking seven years; he then came to this township, settling on the farm of 100 acres he now occupies. This he has improved and built on, and now has about fifty acres under cultivation. Mr. Hartman married, March 7, 1844, Miss Lydia, daughter of George Gearhart of Fairmount Springs, and they have the following children: Minor, a shoemaker in Berwick, this county; Fletcher, at home; Rufus A., in Sugarloaf Township; Franklin P., in Cole's Creek, this county; William, in Sugarloaf Township; Alvira, wife of Matthew Phenix, in Cameron County, Penn.; Anna, wife of E. G. Russel, in Clearfield County, Penn.; Adelaide and Jeanette, at home. Mr. Hartman, in



1862, performed nine months' service in the Union Army. His son, Minor, was also a soldier of the late war, having served during the greater part of the struggle. Our subject has served the people of the township in the capacity of constable and supervisor. In politics he is a Democrat.

RUFUS A. HARTMAN, farmer, P. O. Fairmount Springs, was born August 13, 1851, a son of Jesse Hartman. He left home when eighteen years old and went up "West Branch," working a number of years lumbering. He has worked at Berwick, this county, several years in building cars, doing the wood work. He came to his present home in 1885. Mr. Hartman was married August 22, 1878, to Miss Ida, daughter of Eleazer Zaner, at Colley, Sullivan County, and they have two children: Arvilla G., born December 29, 1879, and Lewis M., born March 18, 1881. Mr. Hartman has invented a very useful piece of machinery, a railway gate, which is being tested at Berwick at present, and the future looks bright for the inventor.

ALVIN A. HARVEY, farmer, P. O. Fairmount Springs, Luzerne County, was born at Fairmount Springs, May 15, 1841, son of Alfred H. and Margaret (Steadman) Harvey, former of whom was a native of Huntington, Luzerne Co., Penn., born in 1812. Our subject married November 4, 1863, Sarah, daughter of Earl Boston of Benton Township, this county, and they lived in Fairmount, Luzerne County, two years after their marriage, and then they came to Sugarloaf Township and settled near the "Five Points," where he now lives. One feature worthy of mention is the good horses owned by our subject. His children are Bettie, Nora and Phebe D., the two oldest teachers, and were educated in New Columbus, Luzerne Co., Penn. In politics Mr. Harvey is a Republican.

JACOB W. HERRINGTON (deceased) was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., June 10, 1799; son of Jesse Herrington, a native of Massachusetts, and who came to Pine Creek, Huntington Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., in 1821. Our subject, in 1836, came to Upper Cole's creek, this township, where he had obtained a tract of 500 acres of land. Carried on the lumber business and manufacturing shingles by the "shaving" process until 1841, in which year he erected a saw-mill adjoining that of J. B. Davis, to whom he sold his mill in 1866. Mr. Herrington then remained retired the rest of his life, dying October 1, 1878. In 1827 he married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Baker, who was born at Kingston, in the Wyoming Valley, and at one time owned half of the Island there. Thomas was present at the massacre of Wyoming, and his father was killed in a battle with the Pennamites and Indians at Tillbury Creek, near Plymouth, during the Revolutionary war. The Baker family came to Huntington Township, and here Mrs. Herrington was born. She died June 16, 1833, the mother of the following children: Milton, born April 30, 1828; Mary M., May 11, 1830; Eltruda, June 28, 1832; Newton, August 5, 1834; John, January 7, 1837; Amanda R., May 7, 1843, and Harriet E., April 3, 1845. Newton was married October 26, 1856, to Miss Melissa Dildine, who was born September 27, 1838, and died July 14, 1885, and by her had the following named children: Herbert; Alice A.; Jacob W. died May 15, 1864; Frances E.; John E.

JOSHUA B. HESS, farmer, P. O. Central, was born November 4, 1835, on the farm known as the Henry Hess, Sr., place, and is a son of Henry Hess, Sr. April 1, 1869, he married Eda Amanda, daughter of Abram Sorber, of Union Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., and they lived on the old home farm till 1877, when they moved to their present place. Mr. Hess has seventy-five acres of the home farm and 125 of timber land. Our subject and wife have had the following six children: Jennie B. (deceased), Herdick B., Lizzie O., Ira T., Alic G. and Grover Cleveland. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. For fifteen years Mr. Hess was postmaster at Central.

HENRY C. HESS, P. O. Central. Charles Hess (deceased) a shoemaker by trade, was born in Northampton County, Penn., and came to this county, locating in Bloom Township, where he married Nancy Culp. He resided in the townships of Bloom, Hemlock and Mount Pleasant, and in 1833 moved to Espy, this county, where he died that same year, and was buried on the hill at Bloom, in the old cemetery laid out by Mr. Eyer. Mr. and Mrs. Hess had a family of eleven children, all living; Rachel, married to Fred Frutchie (they resided in Northampton County, Penn., where she is still living, at the age of seventy-five); Aaron, also in Northampton Township (was a member of the Legislature in 1862 and 1863), married Margaret Rundyo, of Northampton County; Elisha, in Ross Township, in Luzerne County, married Mary Scott, now deceased; Joseph, in Fishingcreek Township, this county; Elizabeth, in New Jersey; Catherine, wife of Abram Hess, in this township; Henry C.; Shadrach, residing in Benton Township, this county, with his daughter Adelia; Lenah, wife of Abram Nicholas, in Northampton County, Penn.; Charles, in Ross Township, Luzerne Co., Penn.; Margaret, wife of Mr. Broadt, in Michigan. Henry C. was born May 24, 1821, at Bloomsburg, and lived in the neighborhood of Bloom until he was thirteen years old, when he came to this township, where he commenced carpentering with Peter Hess, which trade he has since continued. He was married February 3, 1842, to Rhoda, daughter of Henry Hess, who gave him a lot on which he (Henry C.) built a house. They had one child, Elmira, born November 9, 1842, wife of David Kocher, and they have seven children: Mary E., Lenora M., Wellington E., Isabella, Grace, Malcolm O. and Warren. Mrs. Henry C.

Hess died September 10, 1885, and is buried at St Gabriel's Church. Mr. Hess has been a justice of the peace two terms. In politics he is a Democrat.

ANDREW LAUBACH, Guava, was born January 10, 1826, in Mount Pleasant Township, this county, son of Frederick and Mary (Lurish) Laubach. He was twice married, first time February 22, 1848, to Nancy Britton, of New Columbus, Luzerne Co., Penn., by whom he had the following named children: John Britton, born January 8, 1849, a dentist in Benton, this county; Mary E., born July 24, 1850, wife of G. L. Hess; Almira, born October 2, 1851, wife of Westbrook Howell, in Michigan; Clarence, born July 6, 1853, married to Martha Cole, who was born May 3, 1863 (they have the following children: Horton, William H., Glenn, Freeze and Emma); and Nancy, born March 10, 1856. Mrs. Laubach dying March 22, 1856, our subject married for his second wife, February 17, 1857, Emeline, daughter of William Stephens, and to this union five children were born: Benson, born April 27, 1858, in Lairdsville, Lycoming County, Penn.; Edwin F., born December 4, 1859, married to Mary E., daughter of William Belles, of New Columbus, Penn. (they have one child, Nora B.); Nora Catherine, born September 9, 1862; Sarah Eugenie, born May 12, 1865, died March 1, 1868, and William B., born April 15, 1870. E. F. Laubach after his marriage lived two years in New Columbus, Penn., and was in the hotel business during 1884 and 1885, coming to Guava April 1, 1886, where he has since remained. In politics Mr. Laubach is a Democrat.

JAMES N. PENNINGTON was born in Fairmount Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., December 20, 1834. Jesse Pennington, grandfather of James N., came to what is now Columbia County from Montgomery County, Penn., in 1801, after his marriage with Rebecca Colley, daughter of Jonathan Colley. Upon their arrival they settled in what is now Benton Township, south of Swartwout's mill, and while living at this location their son Jonathan, father of James N., was born August 21, 1804. Jonathan was married October 9, 1826, to Phoebe H. Tubbs. They were the parents of eight children: Nathan T., Jesse R., Sally Ann, James N., Mary E., John C., Alex R. and Lolie B. Of the five sons, four served their country in the war of the Rebellion; Nathan T. was a volunteer in the Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry; John C. enlisted August 13, 1862, in the One Hundred and Forty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry; Alex R. was a volunteer in the One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. James N. was married July 4, 1859, to Miss Eliza, daughter of John Laubach, who bore him the following children: Nathan W., Charles B., Winfred S., Phebe B., Mary C. and John N. Mrs. Pennington died in 1871, and in 1874 Mr. Pennington was married to Sarah C., daughter of J. C. Hess, and to the latter marriage have been born the following children: Harry E., Jared D., Lizzie P., Martha P., Chester A., J. Horton. In 1862 James N. was drafted into Company A, One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. At the close of his term of service he returned home, but in 1864 he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in at Philadelphia in September. He was mustered out June 4, 1865, at Arlington Heights. His first battle was at Lewis farm. He was wounded in the left thigh and hand at Five Forks. He served in the final campaign of Grant's army until Lee surrendered at Appomattox. Mr. Pennington is a member of Post No. 283, G. A. R., and of Fairmount Springs Grange and P. of H.

JOHN ROBERTS came to Benton Township, this county, from near Norristown, Penn., about the same time as the Coles and Hesses, settling near the Ira Thomas mill. He owned at one time a tract of 472 acres of land, but sold all except seventy-two acres. He died in November, 1834. He had two sons: John and William, and four daughters: Margaret, who married Henry J. Fritz; Catharine, who married A. A. Kline; Lillie, who married Mathias Rhone, and Nancy, who married George Kline, of Ohio. John went to Mercer County, Ohio, thence into the army where he died. William was born near Norristown, Penn., and came to the county when very young, and died on his farm February 25, 1854. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Matthias Rhone, and she died in 1876, the mother of the following named children: John, Matthias, George, Hannah, Susanna, Wilson W., Samuel, Sarah Jane, David and Lemuel. William Roberts purchased of his father about 400 acres of land, and built thereon a log house and a log barn. He cleared about 100 acres, and just before his death sold 173 acres. Samuel, his son and the subject proper of this sketch, was born November 18, 1834, where he now resides, and has always lived there. When a young man he learned the wheelwright trade, and this he followed until 1856, when he took up farming, which he has since made his chief occupation. In 1881 he commenced the manufacture of lumber, buying the timber, and this he still carries on. He bought 116 acres of the old homestead, and another 116 acres, part of the latter belonging to the old John Roberts property; also has a half interest in 102 acres in Pine Township, this county. He cultivates about 100 acres. On his farm Mr. Roberts has one of the best orchards in the county, situated above Orangeville, containing 1,000 trees, which in 1881 yielded 1,500 bushels of apples, being mostly late or winter apples of the best variety. He manufactures the apples into cider, and makes vinegar for the markets. Mr. Roberts was married October 15, 1856, to Rebecca, daughter of Philip Fritz, and by her he had ten children: Rhoda, wife of A. C. Hess, in Michigan; Charity,

wife of Philip Hirleman, in Jackson Township, this county; George W., who married Agina Runger; Elizabeth C., wife of Scott Laubachs; Charles W.; William F.; Rosa M.; Peter; Laura and Lillie. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts and four of their children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

JAMES M. SHULTZ, farmer, was born February 26, 1828, in Benton Township, this county, son of Samuel and Mary (McCarn) Shultz, latter born in Philadelphia. Daniel Shultz, the father of Samuel, came to Greenwood Township, this county, from Northumberland County, in 1808. Their children were Mary C. (deceased wife of James Kile), Hugh (deceased), Rebecca (widow of Peter Applegate), William (deceased), Eliza (wife of Ezra Stephens). The father died in October, 1827, and the mother in May, 1834. Our subject was reared in Fairmount Township, Luzerne Co., Penn., till he was seventeen years old, when he came to this township and learned the carpenter and millwright trade of Peter Hess, for whom he worked in all seven years. After this he followed lumbering four years; then again worked at his trade on his own account till 1870, in which year he again took up lumbering, which he followed till 1874, since when he has engaged exclusively in farming. He located on his farm in 1868, having bought 174 acres which he still owns. Mr. Shultz married, February 5, 1850, Elizabeth, daughter of George Mosteller, and they had eleven children: Charity, wife of William Clinger; Lany (deceased); Eliza, wife of Moses Savage; Samuel (deceased); Peter K.; Mary, wife of A. Cole; Richard; Henry Allen (deceased); Eldora; Rena M., and Philip. Mr. Shultz was elected supervisor in the spring of 1885, and has served as constable.

PETER K. SHULTZ, farmer, blacksmith, etc., P. O. Central, was born March 30, 1856, in this township, near Central. He lived under the paternal roof until 1878, on November 17, of which year, he was married to Miss Helen, daughter of Collins Sutliff, who settled in this township and died on the property where Conrad Hess lived. When of age our subject learned blacksmithing at Cole's Creek with B. F. Peterman, and after finishing his apprenticeship commenced his trade at Central, where he worked two years (till 1883), then moved to his present place, having bought seventy-four acres of land, the Sutliff property, at that time all woodland, and here he has now the finest place between Benton and the North Mountains, all the improvements having been made by his own exertions. He has about twenty acres cleared. Here he has also built a shop, in which he does blacksmithing and general woodwork repairing. Mr. and Mrs. Shultz have two children: Hurley G. and Marvay Dane. The family attend the services of the Methodist Protestant Church. In politics Mr. Shultz is a Democrat.

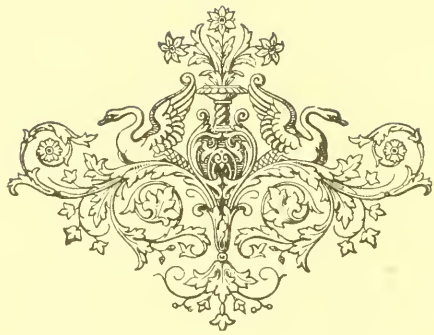
EZRA STEPHENS, farmer, P. O. Central, was born in Sugarloaf Township, Columbia Co., Penn., January 31, 1820. His father was a native of Connecticut, and descended from ancestors who came over in the Mayflower. The great-grandfather of Ezra in an early day moved from Massachusetts to Connecticut, where the grandfather died, and from which State the father of Ezra went to the State of New York when nine years of age; there he lived until the age of nineteen years, when he settled in Columbia County, Penn., where he remained until his death. His birth occurred in 1798. Ezra Stephens lives at present in Jackson Township, attending to the saw-mill of A. Stewart, located in the northwest corner of the township. His life has been spent in Sugarloaf Township (except during his term of service in the army), where he cleared up a large farm in his time, and now owns a good property. October 16, 1862, he was drafted in the United States service, and served until August 11, 1863, during which time he was at Fortress Monroe, Newport News, Yorktown and Whitehouse Landing. He was a preacher at one time in the Methodist Church, but has to some extent abandoned the calling. Mr. Stephens has reared a family of seven boys and two girls.



PART III.

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HISTORY OF MONTOUR COUNTY.









*Mr. A. Magill*







# HISTORY OF MONTOUR COUNTY.

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## CHAPTER I.

### INDIANS.

CIVILIZATION struck the native savages of this continent like a blight. The great and populous tribes and their strong bands of warriors and hunters, fiercer than any wild beast and as untamable as the eagle of the crags, have faded away, and the remnants of the once powerful and warlike nations are now huddled upon reservations, and in stupid squalor are the paupers of our nation, begging a pitiful crust of bread, or in cold and hunger awaiting the allowances doled out by the Government for their support. The swiftness with which they are approaching ultimate extinction, the stoicism with which they see and feel the inevitable darkness and destiny closing upon them and their fate is the most tragical epic in history. Soon their memory will be only a fading tradition. To real history they will give no completed chapter, because they did nothing and were nothing as factors in the grand march of civilizing forces. They gave the world no thought, no invention, no idea that will live or that deserves to be classed with the few things born of the human brain that live and go on forever. As a race they had no inherent powers of self-development or advancement. Like the wild animal they had reached the limits of their capacity, and had they been left here undisturbed by the white race, they would have gone on indefinitely in the same circle—savages breeding savages. Such are nature's resistless laws that the march of beneficent civilization is over a great highway paved with the bodies and broken bones of laggard nations—nations who pause within the boundary line separating the ignorant savage from intelligent progress. Nature tolerates none of this sentimental stuff of "Lo, the poor Indian." It wastes no time in futile tears over the sufferings of ignorance and filth, but "removes" them and lets the fittest survive, and to them belong the earth and the good things thereof. Ignorance is the worst of deformities, and it is sickness and premature death to any people or nation. Knowledge is simply the understanding of the physical and mental laws. In the briefest words, this is all there is of it. It is not in reading Latin or Greek, no more is it in metaphysical mathematics—the committing to memory of books or the other thousand and one things that were once so eagerly memorized and esteemed the perfect wisdom.

The one characteristic that will ever redeem the memory of the Indian race from contempt is his intense love for his wild liberty and his unconquerable resolution never to be enslaved—a manial drawing the wood and receiving the blows of the lash from a master's hand. He would sing his death song and die like the greatest of stoics, but he would not be yoked. When penned up

as a criminal, he beat against the iron bars like the caged eagle, and slowly perished, but died like an Indian brave, and rejoicing that thus he could escape the farther tortures that to him were far beyond death itself.

The treatment of the red men by the Government has not been wise and generally was not just. Often cruelly robbing them—not in the sense we took their lands, because their title of priority amounted generally to no more than did the possession of the nest of bumble bees, or the migrating birds and buffaloes—but Government traders swindled them of their pelts, furs and game, and gave them the worst evils of our civilization—whisky, powder, lying, deceit and hypocrisy. Government agents and missionaries preached and enjoined upon them our splendid Christian code of morals, and the busy traffickers robbed swindled and debauched and murdered them without hindrance or rebuke. Our National Indian Bureau has, from its foundation, been the failure of the age—a failure horribly expensive in our public treasury and the blood and lives of our people. Earnest and noble missionaries took their lives in their hands and went among them, carrying the Cross of our Lord and Master. Often entire tribes would in a day, after hearing the first time the story of Calvary and the Cross, profess religion, ask to be baptized, and in a body, because for the moment Christians. But they were Christians as they understood it, and when Joliet had thus converted a tribe, they adopted the flag of the Cross, and with this war banner, a talisman of victory and death to their enemies given to them by the great Manitou, they went gladly forth on their holy mission for scalps. This was but ignorance, the intense credulity of ignorance trying to cleanse the filthy body by putting on clean clothes, that only soiled the clothes and did not clean the body at all. It was an attempt to make these people moral and Christianize them by commencing the wrong way. The first thing to do was to give them comprehension, if possible, some rudiments of true knowledge—to see the difference between truth and error, and then better morals would of themselves inevitably follow. The Government made even a worse mistake in its use of them—treating with them as independent nations, and at the same time as national wards, to be fed, clothed and armed—independent people, public paupers, under distinct rules and laws of government; giving them lands and taking them from them at will; penning them up, like the great western cattle ranches, and sending them agents and traders to feed them on rotten food and cheat them; fill them with the fiery liquid of hell to stupefy and drive them to starvation and death. When this long and terrible tragedy has been played out to the end, the curtain rang down upon the last sad scene, then will not some philosopher rise up and tell the world how all this mistake could have been mostly spared us? On behalf of our people and Government the way was plain and simple, when the Anglo-Saxon placed his foot upon this continent never to take it up, had taken possession of it by right of discovery and purchase and organized his government, had he simply said to the Indian, as to his own people, you are one us—not a voter, but a citizen—and so far as liberty and property are concerned, you are under the same laws as the white man and none other; you must obey the law and be a good citizen, otherwise we will punish you as we do our own. Now live as you please, but you must support yourselves or starve. This rich world is before you, take care of yourselves and we will protect you as we protect ourselves, no more and no less. This plan, it seems, was too plain and simple for our fathers, or for us to adopt. Yet it is among the fundamental principles of all just and wise governments. A good government should be neither a hangman nor a great boarding-house keeper. It was not made to feed and clothe its people, nor anybody; nor is it an institution for the distribution of alms. A man is a dem-

agogue of fearful proportions, or one of amazing ignorance, who believes that it is the duty of the Government in the abstract, to tax one citizen in order to feed and clothe another citizen. Such fallacies are a monster perversion of all healthy ideas of the purposes for which governments were instituted among men. Infuse the people generally with such notions of the powers and duties of rulers, and dry rot, decay and dissolution await it.

In the disposition of this important question it seems that William Penn and Lord Baltimore were more than a century in advance of their age. Their treatment of the Indian is the fairest page of our two centuries and a half of contact with that people. In pity for the ignorance of these children of the forest, they leaned to error's side often in their great charity, justice and integrity in all transactions concerning them; paid them their prices for their possessions, respected every right of theirs and often, rather than reach a fatal disagreement, repaid them for what they had already purchased. If there was any advantage, they gave rather than took it; approached them with kindness and fatherly love rather than the rifle and the stake. In return for all this the people of Pennsylvania should have been spared the tomahawk and the murderous incursions upon their scattered and defenseless frontier settlements. But they were not. A savage knows little of gratitude. His ideas of commerce are simply to sell you anything you want, regardless of whether he owns it or not, and he tries to collect again and again every time he fancies he needs it, the price of the purchase.

In 1768, at Fort Stanwix, the Six Nations, in solemn treaty sold to the proprietaries what was then erected into Northumberland County, now embracing eleven rich and populous counties of this portion of the State. The whites took peaceable possession of their purchase, the Indians retiring to the hills, but for years many still remained within the boundaries of the "new purchase." A village of Delawares remained where Danville now stands, at the mouth of Mahoning Creek. It was a feeble and harmless remnant of a once powerful race, that had been conquered and nearly destroyed by their more powerful enemies of the five tribes. The terrible ordeal of the war of the Revolution was swiftly approaching and the Indians in the hills lent a willing ear to the emissaries of Great Britain, and the murderous raids down the beautiful valley of the Susquehanna, and the bloody massacre of the Wyoming are to us the sad memories of the Indians' treachery and shocking cruelties. In 1776-77 the raids and murderous forays of the painted savages caused such alarm and terror among the people of this wild region that all who could get away fled for their lives to the older settlements or to the stockades and forts nearest at hand. A chain of forts had been erected along the line of our northern border. One of these was at Washingtonville and the other was Fort Mead. At this long distance of time we can have but little appreciation of the dread apprehension that for these long years rested upon these hardy borderers, especially the women and children, like a hideous nightmare. The Indians continued these depredations and retreats to their mountain fastnesses until the expedition of Gen. Sullivan in 1779, which cleared this portion of the borders of both the British and Indians, driving them as far north as Ithaca, Newton and Painted Post, in the neighborhood of Elmira. Thus, in the year 1780 the settlers were enabled to return to their homes in Montour County and resume their peaceful avocations of subduing the forests and planting their virgin fields.

In May, 1780, Robert Curry and his wife were traveling on horseback on their way from Northumberland to the Mahoning settlement, and when near midway of the two places they were attacked by the savages. He was killed



and scalped, his skull being broken into fragments by blows with the tomahawk. She was taken prisoner. They greatly admired her jet black hair. They told her she was "heap pretty squaw," and promised they would not hurt her. When night overtook them and they went into camp, they tied her hands and feet with hickory bark. When the savages were sound asleep, she cut the bark from her wrists and ankles with a pair of scissors that she had concealed, and which the captors had failed to find in the search of her person. She then stole away and fled for life into the darkness. She had gone no great distance when she was missed, and they commenced a vigorous search with lighted torches. She saw she was pursued, and hastily concealed herself in the top of a fallen tree. They passed over the trunk of the tree, and as they did so kept crying out, "come out squaw, we see you." But she lay only the closer in her hiding-place, satisfied they had not seen her. After a long search they abandoned further efforts, and soon broke camp and continued their journey. When convinced they were well gone she ventured out and returned to the place where was her murdered husband. She had her husband's mangled body brought to Danville, and buried in the old, first cemetery, the third interment in this old graveyard. The Indians approached a cabin (the exact spot nor the name of the family cannot now be definitely known, but it is supposed it was near the north line of Montour County), they found there a mother and two daughters. They murdered the mother and took the daughters prisoners; they started to attack another settler's house, when the eldest girl prisoner told them not to go there as there was a number of white men assembled there for mutual defense. The Indians cautiously reconnoitered, and found this was true, and they seemed pleased at this caution given them, and concluded they would not murder the girl, but promised her protection. They were about to murder her young sister, however, who they said was too small to make the journey to Canada, where they were going. The older sister now begged and entreated to spare her little sister, promised that she would carry her in her arms when she could not keep up; that she should not delay the party in their travels. The Indians listened to her earnest pleadings, and spared the child on condition that she would carry her when she could not travel fast enough or gave out. One of the men cut off a portion of the eldest girl's dress, and made a band to put over her shoulders, in which the young one was placed. When they camped that night he made her a pair of moccasins, which were of great service in the toilsome journey. Many times the party attempted to steal horses on which they could expedite their journey, but without success. They were obliged to keep in the rear of the settlements on the way, and, as expert thieves as all Indians were, they suffered often seriously for food. Amid all these weary marches and sufferings the brave girl, without a complaint, bore the weight of her sister, and the party finally reached Montreal in safety. Here they remained a year when the elder sister was exchanged and returned to her home, but was obliged to leave her sister in captivity. One of the Indians claimed they could not part with the child, that his squaw had come to love her, and they must keep her. This was the last her friends ever heard of her. The returned captive afterward married Mr. Davis, of Limestone Township.

In 1782 three boys were passing along the road or trail, loitering and playing. When they turned and started home, one of them, named David Carr, loitered behind until the other two passed out of view, when he was pounced upon by the Indians from their hiding-place in the bushes close by, and carried off a captive. He remained a prisoner with the savages several years.

## MADAME MONTOUR.

A name destined to forever remain in America, not so much for who she was or what she did, but because her name has been given to this county, to Montour's Ridge, Montoursville, and many other places of historical interest, that will keep it ever green and fresh in the minds of all people. Already you may ask the average citizen here in Montour County, the young generation of course, and they can not tell you whence the name is derived. It is but little the historian now can tell you of Madame Montour. She was a white woman by birth, and an Indian by adoption and choice. What her maiden name was is not known. She had the name of Montour from her dusky husband, Roland Montour. As the name is clearly French, Roland must have been given a French name by the French settlers in Canada, and even his Indian name, if he had any, is as completely lost as is the Madame's. Her superior intelligence, it seems, manifested itself even to the dull brains of the savages, ere she had long made her home among them and become one of them, and they yielded much to her superior powers. That she never turned renegade to her own race is the one fact that has preserved her grateful memory, and is the sole cause of the name of Montour being now known to mankind at all. It is not known how long Roland lived after their marriage. It seems they had four children, one, a daughter, who married an Indian, and at one time lived near Shamokin. There were three sons. Some chroniclers have tried to identify Madame Montour to be that squaw, "the old fury Queen Esther," but this evidently was incorrect. The Madame was ever friendly to the whites, and had it in her power, especially in the meetings of the whites and Indians, in forming treaties. The esteem with which in her day she was regarded, may be somewhat inferred by the verbal message sent by Gov. Gordon by his deputies. He said: "Give kindest regards to Madame Montour and to her estimable husband, and speak to them to the same purpose. Count Zinzen-dorf speaks in terms of great praise of her in his account of the Indian troubles in the Wyoming. She took an active part in the treaty of Lancaster in July, 1774. This was a very important agreement with the Six Nations, and it is proper to concede more to Madame Montour in bringing the Indians to agree to it than to any one else.

She left two sons, one of whom lived to be a much respected man in his day, looking much more like a sun-tanned French officer of the army than a dirty Indian.

Where Madame Montour died and where she was buried is not now known, and probably never will be ascertained.

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CHAPTER II.

## SOME OF THE EARLY FAMILIES.

WE are in the dawn of the second century since the first settlers came to what is now Montour County. The only record these sturdy people had time to make of themselves, for the contemplation and pleasure of their posterity, was almost solely by the works of their hands amid trials and difficulties we can but poorly appreciate now. Without machinery, tools, money or the

rudest appliances of civilization, they had to carve out their way against appalling obstructions. That they did it, not only well, but at all, is one of the marvels in the history of the human race. The world's "seven wonders" that have passed down for the admiration of so many ages are, in the aggregate and abstract, but childish, simple nothings—floating bubbles—compared to that of the continental conquerors—these liberators of the human race, who builded, no doubt, wiser than they knew, but yet who built for all ages and for all mankind. The sublime story of these simple, grand men and women has never been properly told, is not understood by their descendants of to-day. Their memories have been grossly neglected and too often now their wonderful story has passed away forever with their decaying bones.

The few mentioned in this chapter include but a small portion of those whose family names should be indelibly stamped upon the pages of the history of Montour, yet these few names include about all, in connection with the accounts of many others in different parts of this work, of whom it is possible now to give any definite and reliable information.

To write the history of the early days of what now constitutes Montour County and to write the history of the Montgomery family would be mostly one and the same thing. Gen. Wm. Montgomery wrote this upon the blank leaf of an old family Bible: "August 3rd, 1809.—By the goodness of divine Providence, I have this day numbered seventy-three years," (not noticing the change of style) "and it is but right that I should leave a record of something of God's goodness to me in so long a life. I was the third son of Alexander and Mary Montgomery, who both died leaving me an orphan of ten or eleven years old."

From Mr. A. F. Russel it is learned that Alexander and Mary Montgomery had eight children—seven boys and one girl. William, Daniel and Margaret Montgomery emigrated to Northumberland County together from Chester County. William was born August 3, 1736, and died in May, 1816, at the green old age of eighty years. William had become a prominent man in his native county, Chester, before the Revolution. He was a member of the "Associators" and a delegate in a convention "of the people of the Province of Pennsylvania," assembled in Philadelphia, January 23, 1775. He was again a delegate of the convention that assembled in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, June, 1776. He was now "Colonel" Montgomery.

In June, 1776, Col. Montgomery's battalion, the Fourth Chester County Militia, 450 strong, was "serving its tour" in New Jersey, and it is supposed was in the battle of Long Island in August, 1776. Then his regiment became known as the "Flying Camp." In 1773 he came to Northumberland County, and November 26, 1774, is the date of the deed of J. Simpson to William Montgomery for "180 acres of land on Mahoning Creek, north side of the east branch of the Susquehanna, called "Karkaase." This is the land on which Danville was originally laid out. He removed his family to this place in 1776 or early in 1777. Here his youngest son, Alexander, was born October 8, 1777.

He was a fearless borderer of brawn and brain admirably suited to the turbulent times that were then upon the country, and that in consequence of Indian raids weighed so heavily upon the outer settlements. In 1779 he was a member of the Assembly from Northumberland County. In March, 1780, he voted for an act "for the gradual abolition of slavery." In 1784 he was elected by the Assembly a member of Congress; resigned February 7, 1785. In 1785 he was appointed president judge of the district composed of Northumberland and Luzerne Counties. In 1787 he was appointed a commissioner to execute the acts of the Assembly entitled "an act for ascertaining and confirming



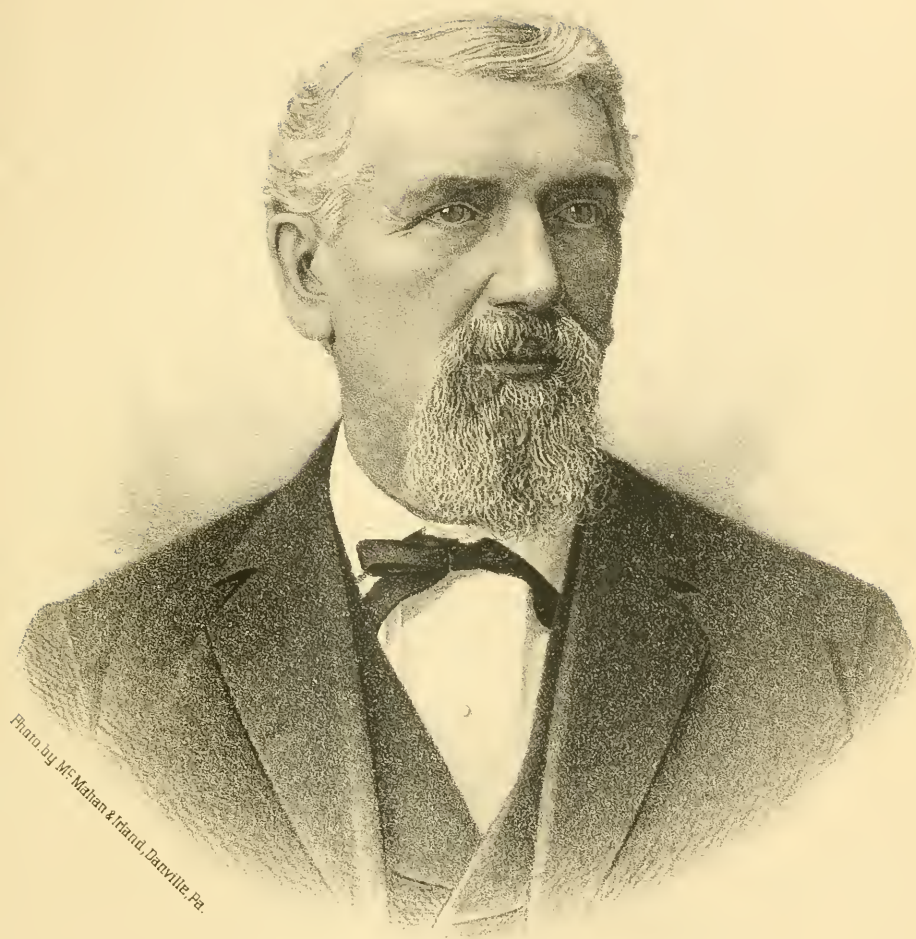


Photo by W.S. Mahan & Grand, Danville, Pa.

James D. Strawbridge



to certain persons called 'Connecticut Claimants' the lands by them claimed in the county of Luzerne, etc." In December, 1787, he was appointed deputy surveyor of Northumberland and Luzerne Counties; when he received this appointment he resigned his office of president judge of the courts. In 1791 he was induced to accept a commission of justice of the peace. These last two named acts are strong character marks of the man himself. In 1808 he was presidential elector, the vote of Northumberland County standing: William Montgomery, Republican-Democrat, 2,793, and for the Federal candidate, 220.

This is the briefest outline of his military and official life, but his permanent greatness and fame should rest chiefly upon his domestic, commercial and agricultural labors. To the little colony of settlers he was much like a careful and protecting father. He boldly ventured upon any scheme of merchandising or manufacturing that promised to yield good fruits to the people. In an address to his neighbors in the dawn of this century he told them that these hills were full of iron, and he believed there were those listening to him who would live to see here great iron factories, employing vast numbers of laborers and yielding boundless wealth to the country. His prophecy became entirely realized. He established here the first saw, grist and woolen-mills, the first store, and in fact the first of almost everything that gave such a powerful impulse to the building up of the town of Danville. We cannot better conclude this account than by completing the quotation from Gen. Montgomery's own words with which we commenced this sketch:

"I early married Margaret Nivin; she was all that could be expected in a woman; she was pious, sensible and affectionate; she lived with me about thirteen years and had issue, Mary, who died at twenty-three years of age; Alexander, who died in infancy; Margaret, who died in the same year with her sister; William, who is still alive and has a large family, is about forty-seven years old; John, who is about two years younger and has also a large family; Daniel, who is still two years younger than John and has a family; Alexander, who died about one year old.

"About twenty-two months after her decease I married Isabella Evans, a most distinguished and delightful woman, by whom I had issue, Robert, born in April, 1773; Hannah, born the 22d of January, 1775; Alexander, born October 8, 1777, and Margaret, born January 8, 1784. The three former are still living, but she died soon after her marriage with Thomas Woodside. Their mother was called away from me in August, 1791, and in April, 1793, I married a worthy and eminent woman; her maiden name was Boyd, and she was the widow of Col. Mathew Boyd, by whom she had issue, John, who died with the dysentery, aged about twenty-three years; also, Rebekah, who is married to Rev. John B. Patterson, lives happily and is raising a fine family. But I have had no issue by my present wife nor has any uneasiness arisen in consequence of it. Nor can it be said that any of my children have had step-mothers, being always treated with as much tenderness and respect as they could have expected from their own mothers. Another instance of my happiness and for which I ought to be very thankful is the untarnished morality of my children, and the peace and harmony that has always subsisted among them.

"Through all this long life I have been abundantly provided for, have enjoyed honor enough unsought by any other means than honestly endeavoring to do my duty to my God and my country—great health and much comfort, retaining my natural powers with little diminution until about five or six years past, since when I feel sensibly the advances of age. But I hope that goodness and mercy which, have followed me through life will not forsake me when gray hairs



appear, but continue to conduct me down to death, after which, through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ alone and the mercy of God our Savior, I hope to obtain eternal rest and happiness.

“WM. MONTGOMERY.

“Note this year the woolen factory at Danville established under my care.”

Gen. Daniel Montgomery was the third son of the above Gen. William Montgomery, and was fifteen years old when his father brought his family to Danville to reside. When only twenty-five years old Daniel opened, under the guidance and assistance of his father, the first store in Danville. Soon he was the trusted merchant and factor of a wide circle of patrons. This first store building was where the Montour House now stands. November 27, 1791, Daniel Montgomery married Miss Christiana Strawbridge. The next year he laid out the town of Danville—the part east of Mill Street. The new town received its baptismal name from abbreviating his Christian name through the partiality of his customers. From this time until his death he was the most prominent man in this part of the State; elected to the Legislature in 1800, at once taking his father's place as a trusted leader in public enterprises and politics of his district. By leading men throughout the State he was recognized as a man of great influence in wisely shaping public affairs. During his actual political life of many years he carried on his extensive mercantile establishment, purchased and owned large tracts of land. In 1805 he was lieutenant-colonel in the Eighty-first Pennsylvania Militia. He was appointed major-general of the Ninth Division, July 27, 1809. He was the chief promoter in the building of turnpike roads in this portion of the State. Elected to Congress in 1807 as a Democrat, he served out his term ably and acceptably and declined a re-election. He worked efficiently for the division of Northumberland County and the erection of Columbia and Union Counties; Danville was made the county seat of Columbia County and the father and son donated the land for the county buildings, and contributed largely in money toward their erection. In 1823, though strongly urged by prominent men all over the State, he declined to stand for the office of governor. In 1828 he was appointed one of the canal commissioners, and while in this office the great internal State improvements were inaugurated, and among others the North Branch Canal was located and well advanced toward completion. He was a large stockholder and a strong promoter of the Danville Bridge Company, completing the bridge in 1829. He originated the project of the Danville & Pottsville Railroad and was first president. Amid these varied positions of trust, great labor and responsibility he, like his father, was a noted farmer. Gen. Daniel Montgomery died at his residence in Danville, Friday, December 30, 1831, aged sixty-six years. The old family Bible bears the following record of his children: Margaret, born October 18, 1792, died April 1, 1845, unmarried; Isabella, born August 1, 1794, died October 11, 1813, unmarried; Mary, born July 26, 1796, died September 2, 1797; Thomas, born July 19, 1798, died February 22, 1800; Hannah, born October 16, 1800, married to J. C. Boyd, May 1820; William, born January 11, 1803, died January 23, 1873, aged seventy, bachelor; Polly, born February 6, 1805, married to Dr. W. H. Magill, May 1, 1828 (they have two sons and three daughters); Christina, born March 1, 1809, died May, 26, 1836, unmarried; Daniel Strawbridge, born July 2, 1811, died March 26, 1839.

Philip Maus was born in Prussia, 1731. In company with his parents he came to Philadelphia in 1741, being then ten years old. He attended school and soon he could speak and write both English and German fluently. In 1750 he was apprenticed to the trade of manufacturing stockings, a circumstance

that enabled him in the times of the Revolution to greatly aid and benefit the country. Within five years after he commenced to learn his trade he established himself in the business, conducting it with great success for the next twenty years, when the troubles with the mother country suspended operations. His brothers were Fredrick, Charles and Mathew. The latter became a prominent surgeon in the war and was with Gen. Montgomery in his expedition into Canada, and when Montgomery fell before Quebec he aided Col. Burr in carrying away his body. Dr. Maus served through the entire war of independence.

Phillip Maus married Frances Heap, a native of England, a most estimable wife, mother and friend. When his business furnished him the capital he invested it in the purchase of 600 acres of land. The patents from Thomas and John Penn are dated April 3, 1769, and are among the earliest in what is now Montour County. The proprietaries reserved a perpetual quit rent of two pence per acre, which was paid until the commonwealth compensated the Penns and became the proprietor of the lands. The tract of land lay in the rich and fertile valleys of Valley Township. At the time of the purchase it laid on the outer fringe of the settlements, and hence no improvements were made on the property until after the Revolution. But as soon as peace and safety permitted, Mr. Maus brought his family to this place and for more than thirty years it was his home. The children of this happy union were George, born 1759; Elizabeth, 1761; Phillip, 1763; Susan, 1765; Samuel, 1767; Lewis 1773; Charles, 1775; Joseph, 1777; Jacob, 1781. During the Revolution Mr. Maus was an active and earnest patriot. He formed the intimate acquaintance, which extended to the end of their days, of Benjamin Franklin and Robert Morris. Mr. Maus invested very largely of his ample fortune in furnishing clothing to the army, took his pay in continental money, and of this money, when it became valueless, he had several thousand dollars on hand. Baskets full of this old currency may yet be found in the possession of Phillip F. Maus. What would a modern army contractor think if he was to hear this story?

Here is a letter that now possesses a historical interest:

PHILADELPHIA, 9 Octo, 1776.

Mr. Samuel Updegraff, Sir:—By the bearer, Mr. Joseph Kerr, I send you the ballance of the price of 8 doz pairs of buckskin breeches I bought of you, having paid you £9 in advance, the ballance being £143 3s. which he will pay you on delivering him the goods. If you have any more to dispose of he will contract with you for them, and I shall be glad if you and him can agree. Your humble servant,  
PHILLIP MAUS.

Leather breeches, moccasins and hunting shirts of the same were the clothing of some of the grandfathers of many of our most aristocratic and exclusive people of fashion and wealth of the present day. Could the rehabilitated form of one of these appear in his buckskin jerkin well soiled in the service of camp and field and, unkempt and unwashed, appear in some of our modern parlors unannounced, would not the cooing Charles Augustus and Floritina faint dead away?

At the close of the war his fortune was so reduced, as he had expended his good gold for materials to manufacture clothing for the army and took his pay in what was in the end valueless Continental money, that he turned his attention to his land in this county, and came here in 1782. He found the infant settlement of Danville, which had then been founded by Daniel Montgomery and his brother William, consisting of a few log cabins and half a dozen families, nearly all from the southeastern portion of the State and the western part of New Jersey. His lands, when he then looked upon them, presented a mass of verdure and deep, tangled wild woods, stretching along the northern base of Montour's Ridge, with the Mahoning flowing through them. He brought

with him from Philadelphia two carpenters, and his son Phillip and his own willing hands were the means at hand to clear away the great forest and make his beautiful farm. He erected the first cabin in Valley Township. Its site was on the right bank of the stream nearly half a mile from the present stone mill. He contracted the clearing of other parts of his land, but then the Indian troubles commenced, and the people in these unprotected parts had to flee to Northumberland for safety. Before leaving the place everything they could not carry away, such as implements, tools, etc., was carefully buried and secreted from the Indians. The place was then rented to Peter Blue and James Sutphel, the bargain being that the lessees were to return and occupy the lands as soon as it would be safe to do so. Mr. Maus and family remained in Northumberland only a brief time and then proceeded to Lebanon, where he remained one year; then returned to Northumberland, remained three or four years, and then came back to the Mahoning settlement.

Phillip F. Maus, now living in Maudale, in this county, is the son of Joseph and Sally Montgomery Maus and is the grandson of Phillip Maus, one of the first settlers in what is now Valley Township and of whom there is an extended sketch in the chapter entitled "Some of the Early Families." The direct line of descent to young Phillip Eugene Maus, now of Maudale, is as follows: Phillip Maus, his son Joseph, then Joseph's son Phillip F. and then Phillip F.'s son Phillip E. Maus. Joseph Maus was born in Philadelphia, October, 1777, and came to this county with his parents when about eight years old. He married in 1808 Sallie, daughter of John Montgomery, of Paradise farm. The issue of this marriage were Phillip F., born September 27, 1810, and John M., born in 1812. Joseph Maus died July 26, 1867. Sallie Montgomery Maus died May 20, 1872. John M. married Rebecca Gray, who was born in 1812 and married in 1833. Phillip F. Maus married Sarah Gallaher, of Lycoming County, in May, 1838. Of this marriage there were six children—four boys and two girls—all of whom except Phillip E. died in infancy. Mrs. Sarah Gallaher Maus was a daughter of William and Margaret Gallaher, who were early settlers in what is now Lycoming County. They were of Scotch-Irish descent. The history of the Maus family elsewhere in this book is very nearly a complete history of the county from its first settlement to date.

John C. Gulics was born in Mahoning Township, December 1, 1807, the son of John and Mary (Gearhart) Gulics, natives of New Jersey. Grandfather Jacob Gearhart was a Revolutionary soldier, attaining the rank of captain, and was long in the service under Gen. Washington. John and Mary Gulics had five children, of whom one only is now living.

Nathaniel and Sarah (Bond) Wilson were of the early settlers in Columbia County, Liberty Township. They were natives of Pennsylvania, of Scotch-Irish descent. Nathaniel was a soldier in the war of 1812-15. Descendants of the Bonds and Wilsons are now citizens of Montour County. One grandson, James Wilson, is a clerk in a store in Danville.

Samuel Kirkham—how that name brings up the writer's school days and "parsing grammar." Pennsylvania must have bred great grammarians—Lindley Murray was a native of York County, and Mr. Kirkham was a teacher in the Danville school in 1819-21. It is said what little grammar Mr. Lincoln ever knew he got from Kirkham's grammar.

Daniel Frazer came here in 1790. He purchased a farm of John Frazer—100 acres. Here he resided thirty-eight years, or until his death. All the south part of his farm is now in the corporate limits of Danville. He was a most estimable farmer and his death was mourned by a wide circle of friends. In 1824 he built his stone residence which is still standing in good repair.



Ellis Hughes came here a school-teacher, and for some time taught in the schoolhouse a short distance from where the Montour House now stands. He was appointed register and recorder by the governor, and served to the public's entire satisfaction. He died in 1850.

William Hartman came to Danville in 1814, a chairmaker—at that time a very convenient kind of workman to have in a community where three legged stools were chiefly the seats of honor. He died in 1851.

November 24, 1784, is the date of the oldest record extant containing a partial list of those who were first here. It was a subscription paper, drawn by Gen. William Montgomery's hand, and entitled "Preaching Subscription." It was not especially sectarian and as all men in those days were deeply religious in faith and pined for the expounding of God's word, it is quite probable that the list contained nearly every head of a family then in the county, who was able to subscribe toward the desired fund. It is an interesting relic. To their descendants it is a kind of "Declaration of Independence signers," and it is due their memories that their histories, so far as can be now obtainable, be gathered up. The list is here given in full, and following it is such an account of their descendants as the writer has been enabled to gather from some of our oldest citizens.

Following is the document and the amount respectively subscribed:

We, the subscribers, promise to pay the several sums annexed to our names into the hands of such person as shall be named by a majority of us to receive and collect the same, to be set apart as a fund for the encouragement and promoting the preaching of the Gospel among us at the settlement of Mahoning.

Done this twenty-fourth day of November, 1784.

		£	s	d			£	s	d
Jno. Emmitt.....		7	6		Wm. Montgomery.....		3	0	0
Jas. Emmitt.....		7	6		John Ewart.....		1	0	0
Charlie McClahan.....		7	6		John Black.....		1	0	0
David Subingall.....	1	0	0		Daniel Kelly.....				15
Peter Blew.....		7	6		Peter Rambo.....		1	0	0
Jno. Wilson.....		7	6		John Emmet.....				15
Jos. Barry.....		7	6		John Clark.....		1	0	0
Jno. Irwin.....		15	0		Andrew Cochran.....				1
David Carr.....		7	6		Alex. McMullan.....				15
Jacob Carr.....		7	6		Thomas Giles.....				7
Gilbert Voorhes.....		7	6		Robert Giles.....				7
Wm. Montgomery, Jr.....		3	0	0	William Lemar.....				15
James Henry.....		15	0		William Moreland.....		1	2	6
William Gray.....		7	6		John Wheeler.....				15
Asahel Fowler.....		7	6		Levi Wheeler.....				7
Benjamin Fowler.....		17	6		Garret Vancamp.....				7
Robert Henry.....		1	2	6	John Ogdens.....				7
James Grimes.....		15	0		Lemuel Wheeler.....				10
Martin Todd.....		5	0		David Goodman.....		1	2	6
Peter Melick.....		7	6		Joseph Rosberry, Jr.....		1	10	0

In those days distance had but small control in determining where the good people would attend divine service. And it is highly probable that the subscribers above named included families from every settlement in the county.

Peter Blew (Blue) lived in Valley Township, a good man and a much esteemed neighbor among his farmer neighbors. One of his grandsons now resides in Campbelltown.

John Wilson, we are told, was a Quaker. John Thomas and William lived many years in Frosty Valley, on the Black road. One of the grandsons now lives there. John Wilson married John Maus' daughter.

David and Jacob Carr settled just across the river from Danville. One of Jacob's sons now resides there.

It is said that some of the descendants of Peter Melick live on Fishing Creek. John Evart lived in Frosty Valley. His son John lived and died on the old home place. There is one daughter surviving, living at Danville.

John Black lived in Derry Township, where he died many years ago.

John Emmet lived in Frosty Valley. He removed to Bloomsburg. It is told that he was one of the believers in the wild story that the Indians before they left these parts buried vast treasures of gold in this hill. There was a further wild superstition that those who attempted to dig and find the hidden treasure would be stricken by the spell of the dusky ghosts, and would flee away in terror and pine away and die. A man named Runyon, it was gravely related, went there to dig after Emmet had fled and left his digging implements. He too fled in terror before the spooks and went off and died.

William Clark, in company with his brother John, kept Clark's tavern, which stood where Brown's bookstore now is. The building was burned down in 1835 or 1836. Tom Clark, son of William, lived here, and died aged eighty years. Several of the grandchildren of William Clark are now here.

Andrew Cochran died many years ago. His son Preston was reared in this county and moved away and died.

William Crowle was a stone-mason and helped build the old still.

Thomas Gaskins and family were among the earliest settlers here. He had six children: John, Jonathan, Thomas, Mrs. Polly McMullin, Mrs. Betsy Forsyth and Rachel (unmarried). Of these John was born here in 1775 and died in 1856. His son, William G. Gaskins, was born in 1817, and is now a resident of Danville.

The property now belonging to the Danville Insane Asylum was the home of the Gulics family. There was a large family of children. Of these, Catharine Gulics married John Gaskins, whose descendants are now residents of Danville.

John Deen, Sr., the first of the name in the limits of this county, came here in 1790. He was born in Philadelphia December 22, 1783. When he was an infant his father was lost at sea—a seafaring man in command of a vessel. His mother, Eleanor (Frazier) Deen, was a native of Scotland. Some of the Fraziers were of the earliest settlers in this portion of the State. John came to this county with his uncle in his seventh year. The widow married John Wilson. She died in Danville, October 1, 1827, in her sixty-sixth year, and was buried in the old Presbyterian cemetery. Here John lived from the time he came, with his uncle, Daniel Frazier, whose log house was on the hill side a little east of Bloom Street, near the present site of the Reformed Church, his farm covering the ground that is now the Fourth Ward. Here, at the short-termed subscription schools, John acquired what education he possessed. In 1796 he was apprenticed to Mr. Hendrickson to learn blacksmithing. In 1809 he married Miss Mary Flack, daughter of Hugh and Susan Flack, who was born near Washingtonville in April, 1785. The Flacks were a large family, and their descendants are intermarried with many of the pioneer families. The father on the maternal side of the Flacks was McBride, another of the very early settlers in what is now Montour County. McBride settled on a farm at what is now White Hall.

In 1809 Mr. Deen and wife came to Danville. The town was then a mere hamlet of log buildings scattered over the territory west of what is now Church Street and south of the canal. He occupied the corner now occupied by G. M. Shoop, where he lived until 1814. Here he had his smithy-shop; here three of his children were born, viz.: Thomas, who died at the age of five years. John and Julia Ann. He then purchased ground on the opposite side of the

street of Daniel Montgomery. He here erected what is now the eastern end of the frame house now owned by his eldest daughter, Mrs. Julia Ann Bowyer. Here he lived the remainder of his life.

The work in a blacksmith shop in those days was very different from that of to-day—but very little machinery; everything had to be hammered out on the anvil, and charcoal was the only fuel used. Mr. Deen's account books are still in the possession of the family and here are recorded business transactions dating back to so long a period as now to possess much historical interest. As an instance, between 1820 and 1830 here are some of the prices for his work: "Setting pair horseshoes,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; pair steel-toed shoes, 58 cents; toeing old shoes,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; pair of shoes (not toed)  $46\frac{1}{2}$  cents; mending bridle-bit,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 12 screws, 59 cents; laying a hammer with steel (both ends)  $46\frac{1}{2}$  cents; ironing a two-horse wagon, \$15; laying an ax with cast steel, 70 cents." Bar iron at that time was worth \$100 to \$120 per ton. At this time buckwheat was selling at 30 cents to 35 cents a bushel. In 1824 wheat sold for \$1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 11 yards blankets, \$10.31; potatoes,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; muslin, 14 cents; a day's plowing, with two horses, \$1.40. Soon after making his residence here he obtained an interest in a fishery located above the mouth of Mahoning Creek, and also one in Culp's Eddy, above. The fish caught here at that time were many and of the best quality, shad weighing as high as seven pounds, and salmon weighing fifteen pounds and rock-fish thirty pounds. The best fish sold at 6 and 7 cents a pound. The women made the twine of which the nets were made, as they then also made the clothes worn by men and women. The spinning-wheel and the loom were then to be heard in almost every house. The first woolen factory was erected in Danville more than fifty years ago. It was on Mahoning Creek, at the Northumberland street crossing. This is wandering slightly from the subject of this sketch, but at the same time it is suggested by gleanings from Mr. Deen's old account book. His close industry and economy brought him prosperity, and in 1820 he purchased of Gen. Montgomery the land running eastward along the south side of Market Street, paying \$100 per acre for it. This was stony ground, not fit for cultivation. It was once a great place to pick blackberries. It has long been covered with the fine improvements we now see there. In 1826, in addition to his business of farming and his large blacksmith shop, he purchased of the patentee the right to manufacture threshing machines and opened a factory. These were evidently good machines and well made, as Mr. A. J. Still, grandson of Mr. Deen, informs the writer that he saw one of them in 1868 and it was still fit for service. Mr. Deen had contracts on the canal, then being constructed, as well as on the river bridge. When the canal was opened he owned and ran a boat thereon in the coal trade. At an age when ordinary men retire largely from active business life, he built a tannery on the river near Church Street. January 5, 1852, his faithful helpmeet departed this life. After a long and useful life, widely esteemed, and beloved by a great circle of family and friends, he breathed his last July 16, 1864, leaving behind seven children. His oldest son, John, married Jane Hutton and died in 1874; four of his children are still living. Julia Ann, aged seventy-three years, is the wife of John Bowyer. James married Margaret Sanders; Jane married Thomas Brandon; Hannah married Rev. Amos B. Still, and has but one son living, A. Judson; and Perry, the youngest son, married Mary Jane Ritchie; after her death he married Jane Fullmar. Susan, the youngest of the family, married Isaac Tyler; she died in 1865; three of her children are now living.

Frequent mention of the Frazers (sometimes spelled Frazier) occurs in other



parts of this work. Daniel Frazer was born May 2, 1755, and married Sarah Wilson in 1772. She died in 1775; he was again married. His second wife was Isabella Watson, whom he married on the sixth day of February, 1777. He died in Danville on March 26, 1828. His children were Charles, Emma, Margaret, James, Alexander, Sarah, Jane, William, Christiana M., Agnes, Daniel and Thomas, all of whom are dead, except Christiana, who married Enos Miller, who died in 1870. His descendants reside in Montour County, New York, and Michigan. He came to this place about 1790 and purchased of John Frazer 100 acres of land in the southwest part of his 284-acre tract. On this land he resided thirty-eight years, until his death in the seventy-third year of his age. He was an honest and industrious farmer, enjoying the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens. For a long time he resided at the base of the hill, near the site of an old Indian trading post, and a very short distance north of the spring. In 1824 he built the substantial stone residence which is still standing. All the southern portion of his farm is now within the corporate limits of Danville.

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## CHAPTER III.

### EARLY HISTORY—COUNTY ORGANIZATION—PUBLIC BUILDINGS, ETC.

**M**ONTOUR is among the youngest of the sisterhood of counties of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as well as being one of the smallest in territory, but with all this a rich and precious jewel in the cluster of sixty-seven counties of this Keystone State. It was named in honor of Madame Montour, of whom an account is given in the chapter entitled Indians.

On the fifth day of November, 1768, the provincial authorities purchased the Indian title to the district embraced in the present counties of Northumberland, Montour, Lackawanna, Wayne, Wyoming, Susquehanna, Bradford, Sullivan, Lycoming, Union and Centre, all of which were embraced in the county of Northumberland, erected in 1772. These eleven counties were of themselves a rich empire at the hands of the resolute Anglo-Saxons. The negotiations were conducted at Fort Stanwix. Immediately thereafter the first surveys were made by the proprietaries. On the third of April following the lands were opened to settlers; and so eager was the desire to secure possession in the new territory, that over two thousand applications were filed the first day. The first survey in what is now Montour County was made February 22, 1769. A part of this tract is where Danville now stands. On this spot, at the mouth of the Mahoning, there was a small village of Delaware Indians. Here, it is said, the venerable Tamanund dwelt. The Indians did not wholly abandon their village until about 1774. For at least fifteen years they remained in the hills hereabout—secure in their rocky fastnesses and sometimes descending in their murderous raids upon the settlements. Prior to this purchase the Indians permitted no invasion of their grounds by the whites, save as travelers, traders and trappers and hunters—with much jealousy and no great good will toward the latter. The whites looked upon this fair territory and they coveted it. A few daring adventurers had explored its grand old forests, its broad fer-



*Mr. Leaven*





tile valleys, its cool sweet waters, boiling from its many springs, forming the murmuring mountain streams and purling valley brooks, and its forests and streams filled with game and fish, and they told their neighbors and friends of the wonderful country that lay waste and waiting the pale faced *avant couriers* of civilization; and the story spread among the people and filled them with eager desire to visit and to own this beautiful and promised land. To this "new purchase," at once it was opened to the hardy settler, there was a rush of immigrants that to that time had hardly had an equal in suddenness and numbers. In four short years after the opening of the country the immigration was so large that the machinery of civilized government was an imperative necessity, and a nucleus of a town had been formed at Sunbury and this place was fixed upon as a county seat and home for courts and the paraphernalia of law and justice. This was done in 1776, or a little less than eight years after the people were permitted to come here. Circumstances fixed the abode of the new people along the banks of the Susquehanna River, following up from the bay the main stream and its two branches where it forks and spreads out in different courses. These streams were the only highways that the people could use to and from other settlements. This was the case for several years. They found here the few Indian trails, and in crossing the mountain ranges and the often precipitous foot hills, they were often guided by these in shaping their course over the country and across the streams.

In winter when the streams were frozen over, the necessities of the border settlers had cut out dim paths over which on caravans of pack-horses they transported articles of commerce to and from the settlements. This primitive style of transportation grew with the wants of the new country, and men engaged regularly in the business, employing sometimes extensive trains of horses. Two men would attend the train, one in front, a bell on the lead horse and the other man in the rear, keeping all in line and moving along in single file. Regular pack-saddles were provided and the average load for a horse was about 250 pounds. Thus with slow and toilsome step would the caravan wind its course across hill and dale, bearing its burdens braving the winter storms and the severest weather, and often the swollen streams with their raging, angry waters, and sometimes a sudden encounter with the red savages in ambush to loot the train and scalp the drivers. Following these pack-horse paths came the first rough roads over the rocky hills and unbridged streams, that were used during the long winter months for hauling sleds over. The ice then bridged the streams, and bore the heaviest loads in safety. This was a marked era of improvement in the great problem of transportation to be in turn improved and bettered by fairly laid out roads, bridged streams, and sometimes for short distances regular turnpike roads—all gradually developing toward the present grand system of canals and railroads that now fly like the wind over the country, across the continent, over and through the loftiest mountain—argosies laden with the wealth of the world's best civilization. Today we reap where one hundred years ago these hardy and adventurous pioneers sowed. Thus we can trace step by step how this wilderness was opened, and the grand improvements we now see were slowly and painfully wrought out.

In the summer season all merchandise was brought up the river, in what were called "Durham boats," and every inch of the way up the long and crooked stream was gained only by the hardest kind of manual labor. "Durham boats" were like a double end canal boat, or two boats lashed together, and were propelled up stream by men pushing by long socket poles, or by sail when it was possible to use it. By river or by trail over mountain and defile there were no public houses of entertainment by the way to shelter from the

“night and storm and darkness” these travelers, but in time there came the sparsely built cabins and here the traveler, where chance made it possible, could stretch himself upon the bare floor with feet to the open fire, and in security sleep out the night of storm and in the morning pay his reckoning with a sixpence. But few of them could have afforded to pay for a warm meal on the way to Reading and back. The average personal expenditure from the Susquehanna to Reading—the nearest trading mart—would be two or three shillings. It is well there were then no comfortable hostleries on the way offering their tempting retreat to the travelers, for such was their enforced economy that they could not have availed themselves of their benefits and they would have only increased the painful contrasts of their exposure.

March 22, 1813, Columbia County was created out of the territory of Northumberland County and the county seat was fixed at Danville. There was some contention about the location of the shiretown as Danville was said to be in an inconvenient place for the majority of the people of the new county, who lived in the north and northeast portions of the county. In order to more evenly adjust matters and remove their objections to Danville, in 1816 Columbia County was enlarged on the west by additional territory taken from Northumberland County, extending its lines to the west branch of the river. Again the county lines were readjusted in 1818 by taking off a small portion of its territory in the formation of Schuylkill County. It goes without the saying that the people of the county had the usual contention in regard to settling the permanent county seat. In such matters there are nearly always conflicting interests and clashing claims. Men build golden dreams as to the promised value of such town locations in increasing the value of their property, while the facts are in the end the location of the county seat has but a small influence in building up thrifty growing cities. It depends upon the surroundings and upon the enterprise and judgment of the first settlers as to where in the county is to be built the leading city. All over the country can be found deserted villages—places given over to the owls and bats and where waste and silence broods undisturbed, that were once county towns, over which men had wrangled in heated controversy.

By act of the Assembly, May 3, 1850, the county of Montour was formed. Section 2 provides as follows:

“That all that part of Columbia County included within the limits of the townships of Franklin, Mahoning, Valley, Liberty, Limestone, Derry, Anthony and the borough of Danville, together with all that portion of the township of Montour, Hemlock and Madison lying west of the following line, beginning at Leiby’s saw-mill on the bank of the Susquehanna; thence by the road leading to the Danville and Bloomsburg road, at or near Samuel Lazarus’ house; thence from the Danville and Bloomsburg road to the Rock Valley at the end of the lane leading from said road to Obed Everett’s house; thence by said lane to Obed Everett’s house; thence northward to the schoolhouse near David Smith’s in Hemlock Township; thence by the road leading from said schoolhouse to the State road at Robin’s mill to the end of the lane leading from said road to John Kinney’s house; thence by a straight line to John Townsend’s, near the German meeting-house; thence to Henry Johnson’s near Millville; thence by a straight line to a post in the Lycoming County line, near the road leading to Crawford’s mill, together with that part of Roaringcreek Township lying south and west of the line beginning at the southeastern corner of Franklin Township; thence eastward by the southern boundary line of Catawissa Township to a point directly north of John Yeager’s house; thence southward by a direct line, including John Yeager’s house, to the Schuylkill County line at the northeast corner of Barry Township.”

The act then proceeds to provide that never, no never shall any portion of Northumberland County be annexed to said county of Montour without the unanimous consent of all the voters of Northumberland. Then there occurs a clause fixing Danville as the county seat.

Section 3 provides that the people of Danville shall pay all the costs of the courthouse and jail. \* \* Annexed the county of Montour to the Eighth Judicial District of the commonwealth.

Section 14 provides that all that portion of Madison Township lying in the new county shall be erected into a new township called Madison. \* \* That the portion of Hemlock Township in the new county shall be erected into a new township called West Hemlock. \* \* All that portion of Montour Township in the new county shall be a new township called Cooper. \* \* That part of Roaringcreek Township in the new county shall be called Roaringcreek Township. These new townships were made election districts; elections to be held in Madison at the house of John Welliver; West Hemlock, Burtis Armine; Cooper, Jacob Rishels, Thomas Ritters; Roaringcreek, David Yeager.

The act appointed commissioners to locate the boundary line of the county as follows: Abraham Stroub, David Rockefeller and Isaiah B. Davis.

January 15, 1853, the Assembly passed an act to change the location of the line between the counties of Columbia and Montour. Section 1 provides as follows: That Roaringcreek Township, in Montour County, and such parts of the townships of Franklin, Madison, and West Hemlock, in said county, that lie east of the adjusted line of Columbia and Montour Counties shall be, and the same are hereby re-annexed to the county of Columbia as hereinafter prescribed and established, shall be re-annexed to the county of Columbia. The act, then described the new county line between the two counties as follows: Beginning at the Northumberland County line, at or near the house of Samuel Readen; thence a direct course to the center of Roaring creek, in Franklin Township, twenty rods above a point in said creek opposite the house of John Vought; thence down the middle of the stream of said creek to the Susquehanna River; thence to the middle of said river; thence up the center of the same to a point opposite where the present county line between Columbia and Montour strikes the north bank of the river; thence to the said north bank; thence by the present division line between said counties to the school-house near the residence of David Smith; thence to a point near the residence of David Smith; thence to the bridge over Deerlick run on the line between Derry and Madison Townships; thence by the line between said townships of Madison and Derry and Anthony to the line of Lycoming County. John Koons, Gilbert C. McWaine, of Luzerne County, and Bernard Reilly, of Schuylkill County, were appointed commissioners to run and locate the new line.

Section 4 changed the name of Franklin Township, in Montour County, and made it Mayberry.

Section 5 provides that so much of Madison Township as remains in Montour County shall hereafter compose a part of West Hemlock Township.

As stated above, the West Branch of the Susquehanna was the original western boundary line between Columbia and Northumberland Counties. This included Turbot and Chillisquaque Townships, and by putting these townships into the new county it made it possible to name Danville as the county seat with fairness as to the accessibility in the lay of the territory to the county town. Afterward, however, these two townships were re-annexed to Northumberland County [full particulars of this may be found in the preceding history of Columbia County] with this territory transferred back and the western line of Columbia County readjusted as it is now, the western line of Montour County. Danville was considerably to the west of center of the county, and then at once commenced the agitation by the people of the northern and eastern portion for the removal of the county seat from Danville to Bloomsburg. The large bulk of the voters lay in that part of the county. They could outrate the friends of Danville. They would regularly elect the county officers, running the elections almost solely on this issue. But Danville had able and astute managers—men of powerful influence, and so the contest went on until 1845 when the county seat was taken from Danville and Bloomsburg gained the coveted prize. This triumph of the friends of Bloomsburg was not without its effects upon Columbia County. The friends of Danville at once commenced the vigorous agitation of a new county to be taken from Columbia's territory, and in five short years complete success crowned their efforts and thus it came about that Montour County was formed and Danville by undisputed right again became a county seat.

Danville having triumphed over Bloomsburg and Milton in being designated as the county town, she found herself confronted with the rather difficult task of providing ways and means to erect the required county buildings—jail and



court-house. Her citizens, as well as all the people of this portion of the new county, were stirred to energetic action by the fact that they must not allow a loophole to the enemies of Danville, who were alert for any pretext on which to base a removal of the county seat. The new county made an appropriation toward the buildings of \$1,050. The other money was made up by private subscriptions. Three or four subscription papers were circulated early in 1814. Two of these are still extant. They were duplicates and read as follows:

We, the subscribers, promise to pay into Daniel Montgomery, James Maus and Alem Marr, for the purpose of erecting the public buildings in Danville, the county seat for the county of Columbia, the sums respectively annexed to our names; *nevertheless, in case the whole subscription be not appropriated for the purpose aforesaid*, the subscription of each subscriber shall be refunded in proportion to the sum subscribed.

Here was prudent forethought, indeed, on the part of those old fellows, characteristic of the time and the men that sounds curious to men of this age, when such a thing as expenditures falling short of appropriations are an undreamed of possibility, much less a probability. The principal names to this subscription paper are of sufficient interest to preserve to posterity: Daniel Montgomery, \$1,000; William Montgomery, \$1,000; Joseph Maus, \$100; Thomas Woodside, \$100; Phillip Goodman, \$100; Alexander Montgomery, \$100; James Loughhead, \$100; John Montgomery, \$75; Alem Marr, \$50; William Montgomery, \$50; David Petrikin, \$50; John Deen, \$35; Robert McWilliams, \$25; John Evans, \$25; Wm. Clark, \$25; William Mann, \$25; Peter Blue, \$20; Peter Baldy, \$12; David Williams, \$10; James Donalson, \$10; John Moore, \$10, and others \$22. A total of \$2,944.

This generous subscription was sufficient encouragement to commence the building of the court-house. Gen. D. Montgomery made an estimate of the cost, \$2,704.96. The committee to receive and disburse the money was Gen. Montgomery, Mr. Marr and Mr. Maus. Messrs. Montgomery and Marr were too deeply engaged in their own affairs to give the matter attention, we are told, so this duty devolved alone upon Mr. Maus. With his wonted energy he entered upon the task—employed workmen, opened stone quarries, brick kilns, purchased timbers, hardware, glass, paints and needed materials of all kinds. His only resource for boarding the workmen was to establish a boarding-house. In person he collected the subscriptions, superintended the work, paid all bills, and his unremitting energy and toil soon witnessed the triumph of his labors. Of those who worked upon the building the following names are all that can now be recalled: Daniel Cameron, a Scotchman, was a carpenter in charge of that part of the work; Tunis Gearhart, James and Joseph Crosley, stone-masons; William and Gilbert Giberson, brick-masons; chief plasterer was the jolly Hibernian, Michael Rafferty. His home was in Danville. Isaac Edgar, assisted by Asher Smith and John Cope, made the brick. The other employes on the building, their particular posts not being known, were John Bryson, John Stricker, Edwin Stocking, Alexander Johnson, Benj. Garretson, Nehemiah Hand, William Lunger, Peter Watts, Peter Snyder, Fredrick Harbolt, James Thomas, William Doak, D. Henderson, B. Long and T. Haller. The total cost of the building was \$3,980.80. It was commenced in April, 1815, and completed in September, 1816.

Looking over the old accounts there is one item, the bare mention of which is significant of the change in men's minds of then and now. It reads: "Sixty-four gallons of whiskey, \$64." One of the strong customs of the times is manifested in this expense item. Men then supposed that in order to work they had to have their liquor as regularly as their meals. All partook of their stimulants, laymen and ministers. It was the mark of hospitable friendship,

after the first comers had got fixed to really live in comfort, to offer all visitors the bottle and glass as a pledge of hearty welcome. And at one time it would have been a severe judgment, indeed, of one against his caller to have forgotten this friendly token. The farmer, as soon as possible, erected upon his farm a still, and of corn, rye and wheat he distilled a strong, rough, yet pure, whisky; and of his fruit, especially apples and peaches, he made apple-jack and brandies. These were a hardy race of nation builders—pious bigots, austere in their religious tenets and practices; severe of conscience and relentless in the pursuit of sin; and in order that no sin might escape, punishing the most innocent pleasures. Splendid types of the church militant, full of the fire of patriotism, devoted to the death to liberty, and as honest as they were fearless! They ate heavily of a diet that was mostly meat; they were rugged men and women, to whom life and their Christian duties were stern realities. They knew nothing of the refinements and effeminacy of modern times; had these been brought to them, they would have despised them. They had mostly fled from the dire religious persecutions of the old world; had felt the heaviest hand of persecution—the cold dungeon, the stake and the faggot. These they had left behind them, to brave the solitudes, the malaria, the wild beasts and vipers, and the yet more deadly tomahawk and scalping-knife of the cruel and pitiless wild savages of the forests. What a school in which to rear this new people of nation builders! Look out over the fair face of the earth to-day and behold what these simple children of destiny have given us—the magnificence and magnitude of their work and the poverty and paucity of their means at their command. No men the world ever possessed had more thoroughly the courage of their convictions. Their faults and frailties leaned to virtue's side. As severe as they were in their judgments, the same cast-iron grooves they gave to others they applied with even less charity to themselves. They came of a race of religious fanatics and martyrs, and the eldest of them were born in Europe when even the most highly civilized portions of the world were in the travail of the ages—the age of iron and blood. An age when shoemakers rose from their benches, tailors from their boards, and coopers dropped their hoops and staves and unfurled the banner of the Cross, gathered the *sans culottes* about them, seized the greatest empire in the world, and chopped off the king's head with no more awe than sticking a pig. An age when all men were intensely, savagely religious. Great wars had been fought for religion. Gunpowder had been invented with its civilizing explosive powers. Marching, fighting armies, when not fighting, held religious meetings, and illiterate corporals mounted the rude pulpits and launched their nasal thunders of God's wrath at the heads of their officers. Men knelt down in the streets and prayed and gathered crowds and preached their fiery sermons to eager listeners. The churches were filled three times a day on Sunday with earnest, solemn people, and prayers and singing of psalms were the only sounds to be heard in the towns or, for that matter, in the country. Nearly every man was a church policeman or a minister of God, his baton or license bearing no great red seal of state or church or institution; but, inspired of heaven, he became a flaming sword at the garden's gate against the entrance of all sin and all pleasure. In 1682 gin was invented, and how quickly men learned to make and use it! The fighters and meat eaters drank and gorged themselves with the fiery fluid. To their coarse, strong animal natures it was but a variety of their sulphurous sermons in liquid form. Gin shops were opened, and signs over the doors invited men to "come and get drunk for a penny; and very drunk, and free straw to sleep off the intoxication, for two pence." A part of the duties of those we now call bar-tenders was to seize those who fell in a

stupor and by the heels drag them to the straw, where they were laid by their sleeping companions. During the great London riots, when the mob held the city for three days and nights, rioting, murdering and burning, they would rifle stores and shops, roll the barrels of gin to the front doors, knock in the heads and pour the liquid contents into the street gutters, until these became running streams of gin but little less fiery and fatal than the hissing flames of fire above in the burning buildings. Women and toddling children gathered about these gutters of flowing gin and filth, and lying upon the ground drank, gorged and died, many of them just where they lay and drank, while many others staggered away a few feet, fell and were burned in the city's conflagration.

Of all this world's travail came fatalism—a fatalism simple, terrible and sublime. God was inappeasably angry at his children, not so much for their conduct as for their errors in their creeds. His infinite power was only paralleled by His infinite hate. But one in a thousand, ten thousand or a million was elected, and all else were damned before creation and to all eternity.

Such was the powerful alembic that so slowly through the ages and the generations distilled the blood that has lifted our civilization and placed it upon the high plane where it is to-day—that brought liberty and the freedom of the bodies and souls of men, that wrested this continent from the savage and the wild beast and erected the empire of thought over brutish force and cruel ignorance.

From this apparent digression, and it is only apparent, we return to the completion of this chapter with a brief account of the other and present county buildings that have been erected.

The present court-house was built in 1871. It occupies the grounds of the old building with the additional grounds where the building of the Friendship Fire Insurance Company stood. The total cost of ground and building was \$55,000. The contractor and architect was Mr. O'Malley; the brick work was done by B. K. Vastine, the stone work by F. Hawke & Co. It is a very substantial and commodious building, plain, strong and yet handsome in its outlines and finish. The first floor is occupied by the commissioner's rooms, the different clerks, recorder, sheriff and a grand jury room. The second floor is the main court room and jury rooms. The whole is well furnished, with all the modern conveniences and appliances for the carrying on of the county's legal affairs. The vaults for the records are large, comfortable rooms, and are ample enough to store away the record books for the next and most probably the following succeeding century.

The large and solid stone jail was built in 1817-18 by Charles Mann, contractor. It has two cells on the first story and two on the second; also a spacious and roomy residence under the same roof for the sheriff. Its solid appearance and high stone wall around the part running back from the residence portion ought to frighten all the daring of the jailbirds of the country; perhaps it does, yet like distress these unfortunates will be always with us, the one consolation being that Montour County can boast of a smaller per cent of these than almost any other community.

The Danville Hospital for the Insane is an imposing building located on what had been known as the "Pinneo farm," about one mile northeast of Danville. On the 13th of April, 1868, the Legislature passed an act for the establishment of the hospital, and appointed a locating commission, composed of J. A. Reed, Traill Green and John Curwen. After visiting various localities in the district, for which the proposed hospital was intended, it was finally decided that Danville was the most suitable in all respects. The Pinneo farm



of some 250 acres was accordingly purchased, the citizens of Danville contributing a *bonus* of \$16,000. On the 23d of April the commissioners had appointed John McArthur, Jr., architect, and soon after they chose Dr. S. S. Schultz, superintendent, a position he has filled ever since May, 1868, with great credit to himself and to the complete satisfaction of the public. The corner-stone of the hospital was laid by Gov. John W. Geary on the 26th of August, 1869. The building proper is 1,143 feet long. The center building is 202 feet deep. They range from three to five stories in height. The wings contain 350 rooms each. Altogether there are about 800 rooms. The chapel is a large and beautiful chamber and will seat 600. It is also the lecture-room and is furnished with a piano and an organ. The wing connections are enclosed with iron doors, and the building contains every department necessary to an institution where so many unfortunates find a home: offices, bath-rooms, dining-rooms, laundries, kitchen, storeroom and many others. Iron and slate are extensively used in the construction of the building, in order to strengthen it as well as to guard against the danger of fire. The stone in the exterior walls are from the well known quarry on the premises. The door and window sills and lintels, as also the carriage porch, are of the Goldsboro brown stone from York County. The brick in the partition walls were furnished by numerous makers of the neighborhood and were laid by Ammerman & Books. The roof, the kitchen floors and other apartments are of the best Peach Bottom slate. The water tables and quoins are a beautiful white stone from Luzerne County and contrast pleasantly with the darker material of the main wall. It is not the design here to enter into details beyond that which will give the reader a general idea of the complete and substantial character of the building, and its manifold appointments, necessary to serve the purpose for which it was erected. Its water and gas supply, its heating and ventilating apparatus, its sewerage and all similar improvements essential to the health and comfort of the inmates are excellent. Governed by a complete system of laws and regulations, this institution stands on the front line of modern improvements, dispensing in an eminent degree the blessings for which it was designed. In connection with the various appliances of convenience, comfort and economy the visitor will also note the beautiful buildings, fitted for their several purposes, that have sprung up around this main edifice, solid, artistic and presenting a miniature city of surpassing beauty and taste. The order or style of architecture is the Romanesque. The hospital was opened for the reception of patients by public announcement of Dr. Schultz, the superintendent, in October, 1872. The first patient was admitted on the 6th of November, following. From that period to the present time hundreds have been admitted and shared its benefits. Many have been discharged cured, many others have been improved, and others still continue to receive its scientific and humane ministrations. Dr. S. S. Schultz, who has managed the institution since its organization in 1868, still remains in his responsible position. He has manifested not only the skill to treat successfully all possible cases in the various forms of insanity arising from physical or mental causes, but in addition to the qualities of the physician he has manifested executive abilities of the highest order in the general management of the institution.

Dr. Schultz is general superintendent, assisted by Drs. Seip and Hugh Meredith.

March 5, 1881, a fire broke out in the building and destroyed all the female and one-fourth of the male wards and the center buildings. It originated on the second floor of the wards nearest the center, in a closet used for the storage of fire-hose and the stand-pipe connected with the general water

supply. Before effective connections with hose could be made with neighboring stand-pipes, the cornice and roof and timbers became involved and the fire for the time was inaccessible. Fortunately this section of wards was at that time not used by patients, being in the hands of the painters for repairs. There were 220 male patients at that time in the hospital. In the confusion nine of these escaped the care of their keepers, and some returned in a few days and others made their way to their homes. There were 172 women inmates. They were temporarily taken care of in the outbuildings until they were removed to Harrisburg or Warren Hospitals. No fatal exposures occurred to any of the patients. The sum of \$209,116.01 was realized from insurance companies, and at once the work of rebuilding was commenced, important improvements and changes being introduced. Among other changes were iron beams and brick arches, and the making the attic and other floors fire-proof; large bay windows were added to all the rebuilt wards. Thus the entire center building was made fire-proof—somewhat less in depth than the old building, and placing the kitchen in the rear of it, without any story over it; and reducing the central stories by about one-half in their dimensions; and putting up a suitable building for storage in the rear. These structural alterations were not expensive but greatly added to the good purposes of the building itself. The entire center building was rebuilt from the foundation and, as indicated above, greatly improved throughout, and was ready for occupancy early in 1884.

This great institution and its beneficent work are largely, and in many respects solely, the results of the ripe intelligence and eminent management of Dr. S. S. Schultz, who has had the exclusive control from the beginning to the present. A rich and prosperous government can only pour out its wealth in behalf of its poor, unfortunate insane and build a place of retreat and refuge for them. The value of the benefaction, however, at last depends upon those who manage and control the affairs of the institution and its pitiable inmates. Here are required rare executive qualities and irreproachable integrity, as well as the clearest understanding of "ministering to minds diseased." In these respects the Danville Insane Hospital may be the fitting and perpetual monument of Dr. Schultz, telling how truly and how well he performed life's greatest work—incomparably greater than if he had won great battles, dethroned kings or ruled empires.

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## CHAPTER IV.

### DESCRIPTION—TOPOGRAPHY—GEOLOGY—AGRICULTURE, ETC.

THE rich little county of Montour is of itself, just as it came from the hand of its Maker, an interesting and pleasant study—interesting to him who loves the swift-flowing crystal rivers, the babbling valley brooks, the mountain torrents of leaping crystal waters, the mirror-like lakelets, with their white, pebbly bottoms, the grand mountain ranges, their rounded hills sweeping away in endless forms and windings into the far distant, quiet, soft blue hills; fantastic, beetling, rocky and awe-inspiring sometimes, but mostly sloping from the valley at an even, gentle angle, and rising so gradually that as they pierce the low fog-clouds it seems as though the deep mists come down to rest upon their quiet, solid tops instead of the hills rising to them. Here and there the great rangé, with its granite ribs, has been cut in twain by the pent and maddened



*Philip F. Mauds*





waters, the Cyclopean work, as grand Dame Nature does everything, commencing in the long-ago geological æons, the waters slowly rising, slowly accumulating, imperceptibly mounting the sides of the opposing rocky barriers till at last a trickling little stream, with hardly force enough to move a straw apparently, starts over the top. It starts like a poor blind insect on its course, timid, meandering, stopping at every pebble or clod against which it blindly bumps its head; turning back, turning to pass around, momentarily hesitating, the silent forces behind it ever coming on, it breaks over or through the small obstruction and, with its gathered energy, rushes straight upon the next obstruction. The little dribble slowly and tortuously makes its way across the obstruction, the first scattered raindrops plunge over the opposite sides, then is commenced the Titanic struggle of the soft and foamy, volatile waters with the impregnable, hard mountain of solid granite. A God has set in battle the weakest against the strongest, and the waters tear the granite rocks into impalpable dust and scatter them in the world's bottomless seas; and now the battle is ended, and in its rocky, clean bed at the base of the mountain gently murmurs the sparkling stream, the laughing, sweet waters, with ever and anon along its course, quiet, deep pools, reflecting as the most polished mirror the trees, the vines, the mountain forest's foliage and the blue and boundless canopy of Heaven.

Bright little Montour County—beautiful, beautifully faced little Montour! We hail and crown thee Queen of the festival of the foliage. Look, behold! This is the 25th of October; any year, every year, it comes with the regularity of the seasons. The spring flowers have passed away, the golden harvests are gathered, plenteous, bounteous, luscious—the fruits of the flowers so fragrant, so life-giving to all animate nature; the summer's work is done, the hot, brassy heavens are softened with the autumnal haze and then most appropriately is the festival of the foliage—the grandest, most glorious of all the season's crownings. Sweeping away up the winding valley, crowning to the water's edge the streams and the lakes, clambering up the slopes of the hillside and the mountain's range, is the most entrancing panorama of the tinted foliage that human eyes ever beheld. Threading these hillsides, resting here and there and gazing out upon lovely nature and every angle your eye turns upon, it brings the awful impression that certainly all this has been just dropped from heaven. "The impressions wrought upon the observer," as the gifted Poe said of Arnheim, "were those of richness, warmth, color, quietude, softness, delicacy, daintiness, voluptuousness, that suggested dreams of a new race of fairies, laborious, tasteful, magnificent and fastidious; but as the eye traced upward the myriad-tinted slopes from its sharp junction with the water to its vague termination amid the folds of overhanging cloud, it became, indeed, difficult not to fancy it a panoramic cataract of rubies, sapphires, opals and golden onyxes, rolling silently out of the sky."

Describe it who can. Who ever will? So profuse, so massive, so boundless and so variegated this master work that the pen falls from the nerveless grasp while the soul is enraptured and enthralled in silent admiration. What but the poets dream of a new race of fairies could thus pencil and tint a world! Turn and look yonder at the western slope of the grand old ridge along the range of curving hills as they look toward the setting sun—great, rolling billows of smokeless flame, swelling, gently sweeping away, entrancing visions following each other like the swift rolling waves of the ocean, passing endlessly beyond the horizon line. Beautiful Queen of the autumn foliage, we hail and bless thee, peerless one!

While the external beauties of the fair face of the county are in some re-

spects not to be excelled, in the world hidden beneath this surface is wealth like unto the famed Golcondas—wealth in plant food for the farmer and in iron ores for the manufacturer. Montour Ridge passes through the entire county. From its base to the Susquehanna River is a broad and rich valley of agricultural lands. Passing to the north of the ridge is a broad belt of limestone land reaching to the Muncy hills ranging along the north line of the county. The whole is admirably drained by Mahoning and Chillisquaque Creeks and their tributaries.

Mr. Rodgers, esteemed the best authority on the subject, says of the iron ore in the county:

“From the Narrows to the gap of Mahoning Creek at Danville, the length of outcrop of the two ores on the south side of the mountain does not exceed about half a mile. That of the hard ore is considerably the longest, and as the iron sandstone containing it outcrops much higher on the ridge than the other ore, the quantity of this exposed above the water level exceeds that of the latter many times. In this part of the ridge, the average length of the slope or breast of the iron sandstone ore above the water level alone is probably more than 200 yards; that of the fossiliferous ore is materially less, while, for reasons already shown, the depth of breast of the soft and partially decomposed ore may not average more than 30 or 40 yards. The position of the hard ore, in the vicinity of the gorge of the Mahoning is shown in our transverse section of the ridge at that place. By inspecting the vertical section, which I have introduced of the iron sandstone formation analyzed in detail, the reader will perceive that while the red sandstone members include two or three excessively ponderous layers, rich enough in iron to be applicable as iron ores, the thickest of these—the only bed, indeed, which is of sufficient magnitude to be wrought at the present day—accompanies the lower bed of sandstone, and has dimensions varying from fourteen to eighteen inches. But there is another formation here developed, in which beds of iron ore are discoverable. This is the Surgent older or lower slate, this stratum possessing in Montour Ridge a thickness of about 700 feet. Its ore has the form of a very ferruginous sandstone in one or two thin and continuous layers, occupying a horizon, near the middle of the formation, between 350 and 400 feet below its superior limit. Scarcely any difference is perceptible either in aspect or composition between the ore now referred to and that of the iron sandstone. It is a sandstone with a large proportion of peroxide of iron diffused among the particles, and, like the other bed, includes numerous small flat fragments, or pebbles of greenish slate, which by their disintegration leave the surface of the blocks, wherever the weather has had access, pitted with little elongated holes, forming one of the most distinctive features of these two ores. This ore-bed of the lower slate outcrops near the summit of the ridge on the east side of the Mahoning Gap at Danville, arching the anticlinal axis at an elevation of about 300 feet above the bed of this transverse valley. Traced east and west from the Notch, the overlying slate saddles it, and conceals it from view wherever the mountain is low and narrow; but wherever the anticlinal rises—or wherever, in other words, the wave in the strata increases in breadth and height—the ore no longer closes over the axis, but forms two separate lines of outcrop, one on each gentle declivity between the summit and the shoulder, formed by the outcrop of the iron sandstone. In the vicinity of Danville, the thickness of this layer of ore is not such as to make it of much importance, so long as the thicker and therefore cheaper beds furnish an ample supply. Judging from the fragments at the point of outcrop I infer its size to be between six and eight inches. The facility and cost of mining it will of course depend upon



several conditions connected with the dip and depth of covering, and will vary with each locality.

“One section of the strata at the Mahoning Gap represents the entire mass of the mountain as consisting there of the two Surgent slates and their included iron sandstone, while the calcareous or ore shales, with their fossiliferous ore, rest low at the north and south base. The upper beds of the Levant white sandstone have not been lifted to the level of the bed of the Notch, though their depth beneath it cannot be considerable. This proves a sinking of the axis from opposite the Narrows to this point; but when the ridge is examined still farther east, it becomes apparent that between the Mahoning and Hemlock the anticlinal rises and swells again, causing the hard ore of the slate to diverge into two outcrops, and the belts of the iron sandstone to recede. About half way between those two streams is probably the neighborhood in which the section of the mountain has its greatest expansion, and the two belts of the iron sandstone are farthest asunder.

“Let us now, before advancing any further east, attempt an estimate of the quantity of iron ore above the water level within a given length—say one mile of outcrop—in the vicinity of Danville.

“I shall reject from my present calculation both the ore of the older slate and the compact unchanged fossiliferous ore; the former as being too thin and deeply covered to be profitably mined, and the latter as too poor in iron, and too calcareous, to be, under existing circumstances, adapted to the smelting furnace.

“If we assume the soft fossiliferous ore of this neighborhood to have an average thickness of from sixteen to eighteen inches, which is probably not far from the truth, we may consider each square yard of its surface to represent about one ton of weight of ore. Let us now adopt the estimate I have already given of the depth to which the ore stratum has been converted into this soft ore, and accept thirty yards as the limit. Each yard of length along the outcrop will then be equivalent to thirty tons of the ore, and one mile of outcrop should supply about 52,800 tons. This amount, it will be understood, is irrespective of elevation above the water level. Turning now to the hard or siliceous ore of the iron sandstone, we shall find one mile of the outcrop bed to offer a far more enormous quantity of available ore. It is obvious that the whole of the bed is convertible to use, since the composition of the ore is such as to make it fit for the furnace without it undergoing any solvent action, of which, indeed, it is scarcely susceptible. The only limit to the depth to which it may be profitably wrought, is the cost of mining it, and since this element is materially increased the moment we pass below the water level of the locality, it will be expedient to restrict our present estimate to the quantity of the ore above this natural line. It has been stated that in the vicinity of the Mahoning Gap, the average length of slope or breast belonging to the iron sandstone is about 200 yards; on the south side it is somewhat greater, while on the north side it is probably as much less. This is equivalent to 200 tons of ore to each yard of the outcrop, the ore bed being from fourteen to sixteen inches thick. One mile of length of outcrop will therefore yield 352,000 tons of the ore above the water level. All that portion which is in this position is therefore nearly seven times as great as the similar part of the soft fossiliferous ore. The two ore beds together represent more than 400,000 tons in a single mile of outcrop; but as, from the anticlinal form of the mountain, there is a double line of outcrop for each kind of ore, it is clear that one mile of length of ridge must contain, upon the supposition of no deep ravines or notches intervening, the amazing quantity of 800,000 tons of ore. It is to be remarked that in the fore-

going statement I exclude the consideration of the ravines, which interrupt at frequent intervals the general line of the outcrop of the strata, and reduce materially the amount of ore above the water level.

“An abatement of one-eighth from the quantity as above computed, on the supposition of a perfectly continuous outcrop, will probably more than compensate for the amount thus lost. With this reduction we shall still have, in one mile of the ridge, 700,000 tons of good ore.

“The ore estate attached to the Montour Iron Works of Danville, embraces, if I am correctly informed, a total length of outcrop of the iron sandstone ore of 2,200 yards, equivalent alone to 385,000 tons; the whole quantity of the soft fossiliferous ore I estimate at 45,000 tons, making the entire amount of ore available under existing circumstances 430,000 tons. Such is the apparently enormous extent of the mineral wealth of this favored locality.”

The rich mineral deposits are, then, in Montour's Ridge, and this ridge and the Muncy Hills constitute the elevated and broken lands in all that part of the county north of the river. As only Mayberry Township lies south of the river, its topography is given in the account of that township. Much of these hills is arable land. This was evidenced to the first settlers by the density of the vegetable growths covering them. But in many places the hillsides are too abrupt and others too stony for the labors of the husbandman. All surface soils are originally formed by the decay of the rocks, this first producing water plants and the short mosses, and these extract food from the pulverized rocks, the water and the air, and thus comes nature's laboratory that makes all the variety of soils in the world. Thus, in the long, inconceivably long ago geological ages, commenced the preparation for the farmer and the manufacturer that we now see here—those thrifty factors in the problem of life. Can you think a million, much less a billion, a trillion, or a quadrillion? You cannot, any more than you can think that the universe has bounds or is boundless. In extent of time, past or of space are things that are not thinkable. The results, not the time or the how, of these wonderful forces of nature are the practical questions that concern us all. Here is formed everything that develops or grows—the warmth of the sun, the air, the rocks and the soil, the water and the climate are the resistless and ever working forces, molding the round globe, the oceans, rivers, mountains and valleys, as well as the most delicate flower, the sweet laughter of childhood, the cyclone, the volcano or the earthquake.

The kind of cattle or horses you will raise, the kind of people that will grow in any particular place, what they will know and how they will think, the kind of houses, farms, schools, churches and in short the form and quality of their civilization, are all foretold by the rocks, the soil, the water, climate and the humidity of the air of that particular place.

The finest quality of limestone underlies all the arable portion of the level lands of the county. Here is quarried the limestone for the Danville iron mills, the Montour Iron Works having a railroad track to the A. F. Russell quarry, as well as a branch of this track extending to their ore beds.

When the pioneers came here, in addition to the many other obstructions that confronted them, they were ignorant of the nature of rocks and soils as applied to husbandry. Like the average man now their education in this important respect had been wholly neglected. They had what they now call educated men, a chance one, who could read Latin and Greek, but de'il the bit could he aid the farmer in telling him where or what to plant upon any given spot. He understood Took's mythology through and through—wonderfully educated!—but, except by painful experiments, the farmer had to go to the ignorant Indians for the slight information obtainable. He was left to commence

his experiments in the new world aided, often handicapped, by the recollection of how his father had done in the old world home. The first effort was pretty much chance work, but the penalties of ignorance were unerring and severe.

It is supposed that as early as 1787 some of the pioneers of Mahoning planted small orchards; at least a few seedling fruit trees from seeds they had thoughtfully brought with them. By the year 1812, it is asserted, by those who can go back that far in memory, that there were tolerably abundant crops of fruit raised to supply the home demand.

One of the first to plant an orchard was Gen. William Montgomery. This orchard was in the immediate vicinity of the old stone mansion-house, now northeast corner of Mill and Bloom Streets, and extended to Ferry Street or beyond it, and north beyond Centre Street. It was composed chiefly of apple trees, with a few peach, pear and cherry trees. At the corner of the orchard, near Ferry Street, stood a cider-mill and press, all of the olden style. The mill was composed of a wooden wheel, six feet in diameter and a foot thick, with a shaft through the center, the wheel revolving in a circular trough or groove. In this groove the apples were placed, and by applying horse-power to the shaft, passed the wheel over and crushed them to pomace; this was then placed in a press of rude and simple construction, and the cider was expressed from it. This was the first mill of the kind in the county. It continued in use until 1816 or later.

From the cider apple brandy was distilled. Cider-royal was made by adding a few gallons of whisky to a barrel of it. The cider-royal was a favorite liquor with the young who had not been educated up to the full appreciation of whisky. Cider, with the addition of apples, was boiled down to apple-butter. To make this, required constant boiling for about twenty-four hours. The services of a young lady and gentleman were usually called into requisition on such occasions, and they generally found stirring apple-butter to be no uncongential employment.

Another early orchard was that of Gen. Daniel Montgomery, on the eastern side of Mill Street, partly on the ground now occupied by the Montour House. The trees bearing the choicest fruit were plainly designated by the number of clubs lodged on their branches by trespassers who took delight in stolen fruit.

Mr. Phillip Maus had a large orchard on his farm on the northern slope of an eminence between his homestead and the forks of the road to Mausdale. It contained good but not the choicest fruit. It was one of the first planted in that vicinity. His son George devoted much attention to its care and culture, and by building fires at many places in the orchard at times of late frosts, supposed he several times saved the crop of fruit, or part of it from perishing with the cold.

Beyond this orchard, on the Mooresburg road, were the small orchards, of Justus Strawbridge, Lewis Maus and Colin Cameron, of young and vigorous trees.

The next in date, probably 1791, was that of Mr. John Fraser on the north side of the Bloomsburg road, and extending back beyond Pleasant Street, and between D and F Streets. In this extensive orchard there was much choice fruit, all grafted from the Burlington nurseries, then or subsequently famous under the management of William Coxe, the distinguished pomologist and author of "The Cultivation of Fruit Trees." It made a fine appearance, and was in full bearing in 1815. Several trees near the house were almost of forest size, and produced excellent crops. The Pennock was a large apple, with seven synonyms: the Newtown Pippin, a famous keeper; the large and rich Vandervere, a native of Wilmington, with its eighteen aliases; the luscious



Harvest apple, earliest of them all; the Rambo, a native of Delaware, a favorite, which around Trenton was popularly styled the bread-and-cheese apple; the Romanite, a small apple but a great keeper, of a dark cranberry color; the golden-hued Porter apple; the Maiden's Blush, a native of Jersey, the most beautiful of them all; the Winesap, the Greening, the Russet, the large and luscious Spitzenberg, the Pearmain, the Doctor apple, which originated in Germantown, and others. The Priestley apple had its origin in Northumberland, but was not very highly prized here.

On the eastern side of the orchard was a row of cherry trees, which bore profusely, and afforded a good supply of that fruit for the neighborhood. Near by there was also a number of peach trees, bearing fine crops of that luscious fruit.

Mr. Daniel Fraser had an orchard just east of his stone mansion; it was planted at a later period than the others; the trees were young and thrifty, and bore good fruit, and were in good bearing in 1820.

These were all Philadelphians, who had in that fine market acquired a just appreciation of good fruit, and made laudable efforts to procure it. Some of the trees were obtained in that city, some at Burlington and some at Northumberland. In the latter place several English emigrants had introduced many choice varieties of fruits, and devoted much care to their successful cultivation.

Mr. Paul Adams, a mile or two northeastwardly from Danville, had a small but prolific orchard, chiefly of winter apples.

Michael Blue had a noted peach orchard, it was between two and three miles out on the hills. He was a Jerseyman, who came from a land where they then understood much of the art of raising peaches.

*Agricultural Societies.*—A public meeting was called in the old court-house on the 18th of February, 1856, to organize the Montour County Agricultural Society. The following officers were elected: Thomas R. Hull, president. Vice-presidents, Phillip F. Maus, Valley; C. Garrettson, Danville; Robert Patterson, Liberty; P. Wagner, Limestone; D. Wilson, Anthony; E. Haas, Derry; J. Sheep, West Hemlock; G. Shick, Mayberry; William McNinch, Cooper; Jacob Sechler, Sr., Mahoning. Secretary, James McCormick; corresponding secretary, Dr. C. H. Frick; librarian, B. K. Rhodes, and treasurer, D. M. Boyd. The board of managers were John Best, George Smith, James G. McKee, James McMahan, Jr., A. B. Cummings, Jacob Sheep, A. F. Russel, Stephen Roberts, William Henry, William Yorks, Jacob Cornelison, Edward Morison, J. M. Best, Mayberry Gearhart, Joseph Levers, John Hibler, Samuel D. Alexander, Robert Blee, William Snyder; E. Wilson, secretary.

The fair in that year was held at the mouth of Mahoning Creek. The annual fair was subsequently held at Washingtonville. In the course of time, however, some difference arose between the town and a portion of the country. The result was a split and the organization of another society, known as the Northern Montour Agricultural Society. The headquarters of the latter is at Washingtonville, where the annual fairs are held. The Montour County Agricultural Society holds its meetings and fairs in Danville. This society purchased ground from Waterman & Beaver, on the Maudsley road. It has been fenced and a good track has been made.

The society lingered, sometimes doing fairly well and sometimes otherwise for some years. On May 8, 1872, a regular charter was procured, and this is the proper date from which is to be reckoned the present agricultural society at Danville. By the provision of the charter the following were the first officers: President, W. J. McKee; vice-presidents, William Yorks and Charles Fen-

stermacher; treasurer, Isaac Amerman; secretary, William K. Halloway; corresponding secretaries, Charles W. Eckman and Nathan Brittain. The executive committee consisted of John Derr, Sr., Alfred S. Sidel, David F. Gouger, William McNinch, H. W. Houpt, James N. Miller, Emanuel Sidler, Jeremiah Wintersteen, William Sechler, D. M. Shultz, Adam Geringer, M. D. L. Sechler, Bernard Dougherty, David Grove.

1872—President, W. S. McKee; vice-presidents, W. C. Yorks, Charles Fenstermacher; secretary, W. K. Halloway; treasurer, Isaac Amerman; recording secretaries, Nathaniel Brittain and Col. C. W. Eckman.

1873—President, William Yorks; vice-presidents, Charles Fenstermacher, William Angle; treasurer, W. R. Halloway; recording secretary, Wilson M. Gearhart; corresponding secretaries, E. G. Hoffman and James McCormick.

1874—President, D. F. Gouger; vice-presidents, Chris Ernest, Frank Sidler; corresponding secretaries, E. G. Hoffman and W. K. Halloway; secretary, W. M. Gearhart; treasurer, Isaac Amerman.

1875—President, M. D. L. Sechler; vice-president, Nathan Fenstermacher; treasurer, Isaac Amerman; corresponding secretaries, W. C. Johnston and Adam Geringer; recording secretary, Charles M. Zuber.

1876—President, Thomas Beaver; vice-presidents, M. D. L. Sechler, William Yorks; treasurer, Isaac Amerman; recording secretary, John Sweisfort.

1877—President, M. D. L. Sechler; vice-presidents, Emanuel Sidler, Fredrick Kuiss; corresponding secretaries, E. G. Hoffman, William Sidler; recording secretary, J. Sweisfort; treasurer, Nathan Fenstermacher.

1878—President, Peter Mowrer; vice-presidents, Caleb Appleman, William Mowrer; treasurer, Nathan Fenstermacher; corresponding secretaries, Daniel Leidecker and E. G. Hoffman; recording secretary, J. Sweisfort.

1879—President, William Bertz; vice-presidents, Caleb Appleman, William Mowrer; recording secretary, J. Sweisfort; treasurer, N. Fenstermacher; corresponding secretaries, M. D. L. Sechler, William Sidler.

1880—President, Emanuel Sidler; vice-presidents, John Moore, Jacob Sandal; treasurer, Nathan Fenstermacher; recording secretary, William L. Sidler; corresponding secretaries, Wilson M. Gearhart, J. Sweisfort; representative to the State Board of Agriculture, M. D. L. Sechler.

1881—President, Dr. S. Y. Thompson; vice-presidents, James Shultz, Thomas Cole; secretary, W. L. Sidler; corresponding secretaries, W. M. Gearhart, W. K. Halloway; treasurer, Jacob Sandal.

1882—President, S. Y. Thompson; vice-presidents, John Benfield, G. B. Runyan; treasurer, James McCormick; secretary, W. L. Sidler; corresponding secretaries, W. K. Halloway, W. M. Gearhart; representative to State Board, M. D. L. Sechler.

1883—President, Samuel Y. Thompson; vice-presidents, M. D. L. Sechler, Caleb Appleman; secretary, W. M. Gearhart; corresponding secretaries, W. K. Halloway, John K. Geringer; treasurer, Jesse C. Amerman.

1884—President, John Benfield; vice-presidents, S. Y. Thompson, M. D. L. Sechler; secretary, W. M. Gearhart; corresponding secretaries, W. B. Baldy, John C. Patterson; treasurer, Jesse C. Amerman.

1885—President, M. D. L. Sechler; vice-presidents, B. B. Antrim, Frank Sidler; secretary, W. M. Gearhart; corresponding secretaries, W. B. Baldy, Elias Knerr; treasurer, Jesse C. Amerman.

1886—President, Peter Mowrer; vice-presidents, David P. Diehl, Jacob Sandal; secretary, W. B. Baldy; corresponding secretaries, W. M. Gearhart, John Hendricks; treasurer, Jesse C. Amerman.

The Northern Montour Agricultural Society was organized in 1871, and is

located in Washingtonville, where the society is comfortably fixed with grounds, tracks and suitable buildings, in the heart of as fine an agricultural district as can be found in the State.

For several years meetings were held in various places. In 1879 it was removed to its present location on the farm of Gideon P. Dietrick, in Derry Township, where the society has leased thirteen acres of land, on which they have an exhibition hall 50x80 feet, erected in 1886, large sheds and other suitable buildings. They have a fine half-mile speed track and grounds for stock and horse exhibitions, etc. It is not at present a joint stock association, being owned entirely by the gentlemen who are its officers. They intend, however, to apply to the Legislature for a charter, and to make the company a regular stock association. The fairs have been uniformly successful and are yearly increasing in interest and in the number of exhibitors and attendance. Its officers are president, Peter Dietrick; secretary, Charles E. Shires; treasurer, David Smith.

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## CHAPTER V.

### INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

**A**MONG the many serious obstacles that confronted the early settlers was the want of feasible highways for travel and communication with the older settlements, means of transportation to supply the people until they could produce the necessaries to keep want and hunger from their cabin doors. The exuberant forest growth, the treacherous waters of the streams, the rugged, rocky hills made the country an unknown world to be explored only by the most adventurous backwoodsmen, the fearless nomadic trappers and hunters who could pilot their way by the north star, or, when the heavens were draped in heavy clouds, by the moss growing upon the trunks of trees. The people followed the streams into the dark unknown world, laboriously pushing their primitive water crafts against the stream. In the winter the streams were frozen over and then in the spring and summer came the great freshets and the droughts and low waters. The people had generally but small stores to bring with them, and such were their difficulties to overcome on the way that had they had great supplies they could not have transported them. The little stock of salt and corn or wheat for bread was often exhausted weeks or months before more was grown or could be procured. The men fished and hunted to supply meat, and many a pioneer family has been compelled to live for long and painful periods of time upon meat alone. The writer has heard experiences in this way, of how they would have lean turkey or venison and fat bear meat. The lean meat they would feign was bread, and the fat bear meat. But no imagination could be active enough to prolong this make-believe. And sometimes to the accumulated horrors of pioneer life came grim, gaunt famine. Then, indeed, the cup of bitter dregs was filled to overflowing. Here was the slow accumulation of horrors. What a brood of birds of evil omen spreading their wings over the land! When we add to this malaria, disease and death that have lurked in wait upon the occupants of all new countries, and that were ever ready to spring upon these intruders of the primeval wastes and blast them with its poisoned breath; the dense forests, the gnarled old oaks and the deep





Photo by McManis & Grand, Danville, Pa.

Joseph Hunter



rooted pines of the hills and the dense forest verdure and tangled growth of the valley, the tortuous streams and their angry, raging waters that flung their headlong course across the dim trails of the immigrant, and when once crossed threatened to ever fence him out from a return to friends and civilization; the soft footed beasts lying in ambush for prey, or whetting their sharp gleaming teeth, and shrieking and howling in famishing hunger that gave them dangerous courage; the impenetrable forest growth filled with animal life, the tops and branches of the trees crowned with birds of song and variegated plumage in happy content, carolling their songs of liberty to the skies; the bodies of the trees covered with countless and often poisonous insects, and upon the ground and on the branches of the trees the softly gliding reptiles spotted with deadly beauty. And now to crown all, and worse and more deadly than all these terrors that confronted the settlers, were the red devils in black paint, the cunning, stealthy, cowardly, pitiless murderers who slowly tortured their helpless victims, men, women and sucking babes with outrages, mutilation and the refinement of inflictions that must have always made death a most welcome and happy refuge to the poor victims. When all these terrible obstacles had been well mastered and the pioneer had cleared his little patch of ground, built his one-roomed log cabin and begun to feel the happy impulses of having a home—though never so humble yet the fruition of the day dreams of his life, it was his own, and it covered and protected his household goods—yet his victory was not complete and his happiness was not to be undisturbed. Then impended and sometimes came the more terrible enemy, gaunt famine, who sat at the rude board table and laid his long bony hand upon the curly headed darlings, blanched the cheek and dulled the eye of the loving wife and mother converting her cooing lullaby and the sweet, rippling laughter of childhood into a wail—a weak and dying cry for bread.

Where is there a more mournful chapter in all history than that of the terrible sufferings from famine of the colonists of Jamestown and Plymouth? In a somewhat milder form the sad story followed the advance settlers in the wilderness. The average pioneer would have his family usually, and but little else. And now, nearing the banks of the northern Mississippi, you can find in every county "old settlers" who can tell you of the pains of want and hunger that hemmed them about in the early days. How the little stores that they carried to their new homes were exhausted or destroyed in the storms or raging streams, and how the men would hunt for game, and the women and children would tend the little truck patch and watch the growing pumpkins or corn or other early vegetables, or hunt nuts, berries and roots, or anything to sustain life. A venerable old lady told the writer of her experience in childhood, one long summer, when herself and the other children often ate the pumpkins before the bloom had fallen entirely off; how the first ear of green corn came to them like a ray of joy and hope and was devoured raw, and what perfect happiness was in that family, grown gaunt and sickly for the want of healthy food, when the corn finally hardened enough for the tin grater that gave them truly the bread of life. In the long course of time and slow tortures the grain for bread would be grown, then the grater would give way to the mortar and pestle, and in time the far-away horse-mill or water-mill would be the Mecca for long and hard voyages with the grist to grind. To go to mill would be a week's hard labor, and then your own horse and hands would, after waiting sometimes a day or two for your turn, have to slowly grind your own grist. Food that now we would hardly feed our pigs on was then procured by the constant and active struggle of every chick and child of the household. Coarse and mean as the best food then was, it came to



these poor famishing children of the wilds like manna from heaven. What a grim vein of humor there was in the old pioneer's story of going to mill, as he related it at an "old settlers'" meeting a short time ago. It was in the winter, and he had to make the long journey with his grist, provender and food loaded into an ox cart. The outfit made a full load. After many days' travel, sleeping under his cart at night, facing the extremes of weather and winter storms, he eventually reached the little horse-mill. It was broken and could not grind. He took up his journey to the next nearest mill, which he finally found, and after waiting three days reached his turn, ground what he and his team had not eaten, and started home; then was delayed by swollen streams and blinding storms, until everything in his cart was devoured except an old horse blanket and some skins that were his bedding. And thus he drew the vivid picture of going to mill and starving on the way home—pioneer experiences!

But thus our nation was cradled.

The first dim and devious trails were as early as possible supplemented by "cut out" wagon roads, that were surely at first difficult enough to travel over with a team and an empty wagon. The people annually set apart several days to come together and work upon the roads, and then put up rough, poor bridges—these were generally washed away the first high water that came. But nothing daunted they would be rebuilt—the work done the best they could—and other betterments were made to the wagon roads. Slowly, indeed, did these essential improvements progress, but finally passable roads and bridges were constructed on the main lines of travel and transportation.

The organization to build the "Centre Turnpike," extending from Reading to the Susquehanna River opposite Northumberland, was perfected in 1808. One of the active promoters and managers of this daring and important enterprise was Gen. William Montgomery. The work was pushed with sleepless energy. It was a work in its day and times as great as was the building of the Union Pacific Railroad in these days.

In 1814 a turnpike road from Danville to Bear Gap, where it connected with the Centre Turnpike, was built. These were important and beneficent public works, gained only by the most heroic struggles. The promoters were the foremost men in the country—the great benefactors of their age.

In 1826 the great State internal improvement system was inaugurated. That year a citizen of Danville, Daniel Montgomery, was appointed one of the canal commissioners, of which he was elected president. He exercised much influence over the direction and building of the canals then constructed. While he was in this position the North Branch Canal was located. The survey was made in 1826–27, and the work contracted early in 1828. In 1832 the first water was turned in, and a boat that year was loaded with wheat in Danville and taken to the Sweetwater—the boat itself being built in Danville. The line of the canal as originally built was from Lackawanna Creek to Columbia, a distance of about 150 miles. There was only three feet tonnage at first, and by raising the "path" and by dredging the canal bottom the depth of water has been increased to the present gauge of between six and seven feet. It continued to be the property of the State until about 1854, when it was sold, and is now a part of the possessions of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The building of the canal was an important era in this part of the State. It invited men and capital to come and take advantage of what was going to be a rapid rise in values and more, what was going to be a day of swift development of public and private enterprises of all kinds. The canal, as all men could see, would let in here the light and sunshine of civilization. It would open a

cheap and easy highway of transportation. It would bring together the great and rich deposits of iron ore of this place and the fuel of other places for its manufacture. And responsive to this came here men and capital, operatives and laborers, and every day, almost every hour, visible signs of growth of the most substantial and cheering kind were to be seen on every hand. Such a thing as a monopoly was then mostly unknown and unseen in this country. The writer talking to a mechanic who had worked in Danville from the opening of the canal to the present, asked him what he then had to pay for coal, and was told that he bought coal then for \$1.50 a ton and now pays \$3.50. This at first view is unaccountable, especially when we remember that three railroads pass Danville in addition to the canal.

The Danville Bridge Company was chartered January 2, 1828, "to build a bridge across the Susquehanna at the town of Danville." The following was the company in its first organization. President, Daniel Montgomery; treasurer, James Loughhead; secretary, John Cooper; managers, John C. Boyd, William Colt, Peter Baldy, Sr., William Boyd, Andrew McReynolds and Robert C. Grier. On the 3d of March in the same year a contract was made for the construction of the bridge with John P. Schuyler and James Fletcher, who at once commenced the work, and in January, 1829, it was completed, being accepted by the company in February, as finished according to contract. The governor was notified of the fact, as the State originally held a small amount of stock in the bridge. Daniel Hoffman was elected the first toll collector at the annual salary of \$65. Previous to the 14th of March, 1846, eleven dividends had been declared; on that day the bridge was swept away by a flood in the river. Daniel Blizard was carried down on a fragment of the bridge and was rescued with great difficulty near the old stone house. Subsequent to that date no dividend was declared until 1863. After the loss of the bridge in the great freshet of March, 1846, a contract for its rebuilding was made with Chester Evans and David N. Kownover; but Evans disposed of his interest to Kownover and the latter alone carried on and finished the work. This second bridge stood the storms and floods until 1875 when it too was swept away by the high waters and the floating Catawissa bridge, that was washed against it with such force as to lift it up when the waters bore it away on the 17th of March in that year. The bridge was at once rebuilt in the ensuing season. H. F. Hawke & Co. did the stone work and the superstructure was erected by the Smith Bridge Company, of Ohio. The toll collectors from the first opening of the bridge to the present time were Daniel Hoffman, Rudolph Sechler, E. Mellon, Isaiah S. Thornton and Joseph Hunter. Mr. Joseph Hunter took charge in 1851.

The bridge is one-fourth of a mile in length, with a covered footway on each side, entirely shut out from the roadway.

The present officers are president, A. J. Frick; secretary and treasurer, J. C. Grove; managers, W. H. Magill, A. J. Frick, Isaac X. Grier, Wilson Metter, G. M. Shoop, B. R. Gearhart, Amos Vastine. Officers are elected annually.

The Catawissa Railroad, now the Catawissa division of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad, extends from Tamanend to Williamsport, passing through the mountainous and romantic portions of Schuylkill and Columbia Counties for a distance of about forty miles, until it reaches the village of Catawissa. Between Catawissa and Rupert it crosses the North Branch of the Susquehanna River, and at Rupert Station connection is made with the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad. Leaving the river at this point, the line takes a direct course across a beautiful farming country for a distance of seven miles

to Danville. From Danville to Milton, sixteen miles, the route lies through a fertile section devoted to agriculture. At Milton it connects with the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad; at Hall's Station it connects with the Muncy Creek Railroad.

The Danville, Hazleton & Wilkesbarre Railroad was commenced in 1868 and completed in 1871. The active promoter and organizer of this enterprise was S. P. Case, its first president. The line extends from Sunbury, where it connects with the Philadelphia & Erie, Northern Central, Lewistown & Sunbury & Shamokin division of the Northern Central Railroad, to Tomhicken, where it connects with the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Mr. Case encountered heavy opposition, when he commenced to build his road, from other interested corporations, but without money and with but small credit he overcame every obstacle. The road is now a part of the great Pennsylvania system, and is run and operated by this company.

The Montour Iron Works has a track passing up Mahoning Creek a short distance and then a branch leads off northeasterly to the company's ore beds; the other leads to the Russell rock quarry. These are private tracks for the purpose of the company that built them.

The Lackawanna, Williamsport & Western Railroad was built and long known as the Lackawanna & Bloomsburg road. It became a completed railroad in 1858 and is one of the most important and convenient lines of transportation that touches Montour County. Its termini are Scranton and Northumberland—distance eighty miles. It is leased and operated by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Company.

The Wilkesbarre and Western Railway is now in the course of construction across the county. The termini of this road are Watsonville and Shickshinny. Building was commenced in the spring of 1886, and the work progressed rapidly, passing through this county to Millville. This is an independent organization and is built in the interest solely of its projectors and owners. It passes near Washingtonville and will open up transportation facilities to the finest and richest portions of the county.

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## CHAPTER VI.

### BORDER WARS—WAR 1812-15—MEXICAN WAR—CIVIL WAR, ETC.

THE border troubles kept alive the military spirit of the pioneers until the angry disputes with England about the impressment of our sailors brought us into conflict with that power a second time. Then followed the Black Hawk war, the Florida war, the Mexican war, and more recently the most deplorable of all, the civil war. In all these conflicts the people of Montour County did not falter, they did their duty, they bore a fair and chivalrous part in them all. A number of military companies was organized at different periods and at an early day.

In 1814, when the British fleet lay off the coast threatening Baltimore, Gov. Snyder ordered the militia of Northumberland, Luzerne and Columbia Counties to rendezvous at Danville. About 1,000 men were soon collected, all under the command of Maj. Post, of Luzerne County. He appointed Joseph



Maus quartermaster. This young army was stationed in Danville about two weeks, when 500 of them were ordered to Northumberland County. When they were ready to go to Baltimore and were expecting orders to do so every hour, the good news came that the British had been defeated and had sailed with their fleet. The battle ground was thus transferred to New Orleans and "Johnny came marching home."

*The Danville Militia.*—This is the first company of which there is any record, and that is unsatisfactory. We only know that at the close of the last war with England it was flourishing and well organized. It then numbered 100 members rank and file and was commanded by Capt. Samuel Yorks, who had seen active service as lieutenant in the "Danville Blues." Thomas W. Bell was one of the subordinate officers of the company. Others are forgotten, a century having almost obliterated the recollection of those early citizen-soldiers.

*The Danville Blues.*—This was a rifle company commanded by Capt. Isaac Blue. The names of its members can only be recalled in part. The imperfection of the roll is a source of regret, as it would be a great satisfaction to all, and especially to their descendants, to know the names of those who so freely responded.

The following is a portion of the roll:

Isaac Blue, captain.	John Dugan.	Edward Morison.
Herbert W. Best.	John McCoy.	David Petrikin, surgeon.
Isaiah Blue.	John Mills.	—— Sanders.
Colin Cameron.	Abner Moore.	Jacob Sechler.
Daniel Cameron.	Asa Moore.	Samuel Yorks, lieutenant.
Alexander Campbell.		

This company was in active service on the frontier in 1813, and was stationed at Black Rock, where it suffered severely from the malignant fever, then known as the Black Rock fever. Some of the members died with the fever notwithstanding the skillful efforts of Dr. Petrikin in their behalf. One of the victims of the epidemic was Alexander Campbell.

*The Light Horse* was a company of light dragoons commanded by Capt. Clarke of Derry. This company of cavalry was a great favorite of the people in its palmy days. Many of the most enterprising young men of the county, who were the cavaliers of that day, were members of the "Light Horse." Well armed and equipped, their spirited and showy horses, their fine military dress and thorough drill, led by their gallant captain, with Trumpeter Sanders in his gay, scarlet uniform in the van, sounding his clarion notes to the great delight of juvenility, they made the day of parade one of the great gala days, ranking with Christmas and the Fourth of July. And right fortunate were the boys who were permitted to go to Washingtonville to witness the regimental parades in that ancient village.

The organization of the "Light Horse" dated back to 1810, and although not mustered into service during the war that followed, they had promptly volunteered, and were highly indignant when the Government refused to accept their services.

The members of this brilliant cavalry company have all passed away. Many of them attained a great age. The last survivor of the gallant chivalry who so gloriously rode their war horses through the streets of Danville has long since departed. He was almost ninety years of age when he gave the following particulars as his recollection of the roster:

Charles Clark, captain.	James Boyd.	James Donaldson.
John Blue.	Lucas Brass.	John Donaldson.
Elisha Barton.	Isaac Bear.	William De Pew.

Charles Evans.	— King.	Peter Pursel.
Charles M. Frazer.	William Kitchen.	William Sheriff.
Charles Frazer.	Daniel Montgomery.	James Stevenson.
John Gulicks.	Lewis Maus.	Henry Sanders.
John Gaskins.	Joseph Maus.	Daniel Woodside.
James Hamilton.	Robert Moore.	James Woodside.
— Kipp.	Thomas Moorhead.	Thomas Woodside.

*Columbia Guards.*—This company was organized in 1817, and was long the pride of the county. It embraced many of the enterprising and patriotic young men of the community. The muster roll at the organization of the company or very soon thereafter, has been preserved, and is as follows:

John Anthony.	Charles Goodman.	Hector McCallister.
William Barber.	William G. Hurley.	William S. Maus.
Samuel Baum.	Ellis Hughes.	Gideon Mellon.
Daniel Barber.	Jacob Hibler.	Matthew Patterson.
John Best.	Samuel Huntington.	George Potter, captain.
Anthony Boon.	Jared Irwin.	John Pervin.
Matthew Blackwell.	Adolphus Kent.	Orrin Sholes.
William Clark.	Amos E. Kitchen.	Jacob Sechler.
Thomas Clark.	John Lundy.	— Savage.
Thomas Colt.	Asher Lyon.	John M. Thiel.
William Colt.	Daniel W. Montgomery.	Casper Thiel.
James Colt.	John Montgomery.	Samuel Underwood.
William Cathcart.	Henry Marshall.	David Woodside.
Isaac Cornelison.	John Moore.	Robert Woodside.
James Carson, captain.	Charles Moore.	Jacob Wieman.
Alexander Donaldson.	Andrew Y. Moore.	Isaac Warner.
William Donaldson.	Burrows Moore.	Thomas Wiley.
William DePew.	Samuel Moore.	James Wilson.
Frederick Frick.	Thomas Moorhead.	Charles Wilson.
— Fisher.	Hugh McWilliams.	John Young.
Thomas Grier.		

The Columbia Guards, together with the Northumberland Artillerists, Capt. Priestly, the Warrior Run Infantry and others, constituted the Northumberland and Columbia battalion of volunteers, commanded by Maj. R. Coleman Hall. In the summer of 1823 there was a battalion parade in Danville, on the then open ground between Bloom and Center Streets. Dr. W. H. Magill, then a young man, was surgeon of the battalion. The parade is said to have been the grandest military display ever witnessed in Danville.

The Columbia Guards were first commanded by Capt. Potter, and subsequently by Capts. Carson, Colt, Best, Wilson and Frick, until 1846, stretching over a period of about thirty years. In that year the first call was made upon the citizen soldiery since the organization of the company. Prompted by a patriotic desire to serve their country in the Mexican war, their services were offered and accepted, and the Columbia Guards, under the command of Capt. Wilson, numbering ninety-four, rank and file, were mustered into the service of the United States on the 28th of December, 1846. Brown fell at Matamoras, like a hero in battle, and the banks of the Rio Grande had drunk the blood of a Ringgold, and they hastened to the defense of the "starry banner," many, alas! to return no more.

The first engagement of the Guards was at the storming of Vera Cruz, and there, at the opening of their brilliant campaign, the lamented Capt. Wilson died on the 10th of April, 1847. Capt. Wilson was a model officer. His remains were brought home and buried with due honors among his family and kindred. From Vera Cruz, the company, under the command of Dr. C. H. Frick, proceeded in the victorious march of Gen. Scott toward the city of Mexico. In the battle of Cerro Gordo they took a prominent part, and lost one of their number, John Smith, who was killed by a musket ball in storm-

ing the heights. At the bloody battle of Chapultepec they lost two more of their comrades—William Dietrich and John Snyder.

On approaching the capital of the enemy, the defense of San Angelos with all the military stores—a post of distinguishing honor and vast responsibility and of peculiar danger—was committed to the Columbia Guards, and on the 13th of September, 1847, they were among the first in Gen. Scott's triumphant march into the city of the Aztecs and the halls of the Montezumas.

After an absence of nearly two years, when Mexico was conquered, they returned to Danville on the 28th of July, 1849.

A little time developed the fact that most of those who returned had contracted the diseases of an uncongenial climate, and one by one they have passed away. Jesse G. Clarke, Ad. Ray and their lamented commander, the noble-hearted Dr. Clarence H. Frick, followed on that returnless march to the music of the tolling bells, beyond the reach of war's alarms.

A remnant only survive, but they, too, are treading the down-hill of life, and they, too, ere long will rally to the last "reveille," and form into line with the platoon already advanced beyond the river. When the company returned it was reorganized; captain, George W. Forrest.

After Capt. Forrest removed to Lewisburg, Oscar Ephlin was chosen captain. Under his command they entered the Union Army, where the brave recruits who filled the places of the veterans had a taste of actual service. After serving their time they were honorably discharged and disbanded as a company. The elder members in Mexico, and the younger in the war for the Union, have made for themselves a record that is alike honorable to themselves and to the county.

The flag of the Old Guards, riddled and torn in the Mexican campaign, is still displayed on public occasions, and always calls forth the warmest feelings of patriotism and local pride, as its tattered fragments proclaim the heroism of the brave men who followed it through the battle and the storm. On one occasion it caught the eye and was instantly recognized by Gov. Geary, while addressing a mass meeting; and none will ever forget his glowing tribute to the "Old Guards," which the sight of their well known flag inspired.

The following is the roll as mustered into the United States service for the Mexican war:

## CAPTAIN.

John S. Wilson.

## LIEUTENANTS.

Clarence H. Frick,  
Edward E. La Clerc,  
William Brindle,First lieutenant.  
Second lieutenant.  
Second lieutenant.

## SERGEANTS.

George S. Kline,  
James D. Slater,  
Robert Clark,  
Charles Evans,First sergeant.  
Second sergeant.  
Third sergeant.  
Fourth sergeant.

## CORPORALS.

John Adams,  
James Oliver,  
John Smith,  
Arthur Gearhart,First corporal.  
Second corporal.  
Third corporal.  
Fourth corporal.

## MUSICIANS.

Thomas Clark,  
Jesse G. Clark,Drummer.  
Fifer.



## PRIVATES.

Charles W. Adams.	Samuel Huntingdon.	Norman B. Mack.
Alvin M. Allen.	Adam Heisler.	William McDonald.
Jacob App.	Henry Herncastle.	Casper Oatenwelder.
George W. Armstrong.	Oliver Helme.	Daniel Poorman.
Frederick Brandt.	William S. Kertz.	Peter S. Reed.
Samuel Burns.	William King.	Philip Rake.
Elam B. Bonham.	Jerome Konkle.	James A. Stewart.
William Banghart.	Charles Lytle.	Peter M. Space.
John Birkenbine.	Ira Lownsberry.	Jonathan R. Sanders.
Samuel D. Baker.	Robert Lyon.	Oliver C. Stevens.
Francis Bower.	John A. Lowery.	Daniel Snyder.
Francis R. Best.	Benjamin Laform.	Edward Selser.
William Brunner.	Benjamin J. Martin.	Peter Seigfried.
William H. Birchfield.	Jasper Musselman.	John C. Snyder.
Randolph Ball.	Edward McGonnell.	John N. Scofield.
Peter Brobst.	George Miller.	William Swartz.
Abram B. Carley.	William Moser.	Joseph H. Stratton.
Michael Corrigan.	Archibald Mooney.	William H. Swaney.
William Dieterch.	Mahlon K. Manly.	John A. Sarvey.
William Erle.	John G. Mallon.	Benjamin Tumbleton.
Daniel S. Follmer.	Alexander McDonald.	Adam Wray.
Charles W. Fortner.	Daniel Martial.	William White.
Robert H. Forster.	Richard H. McKean.	George Wagner.
Sewell Gibbs.	Charles Moyntan.	Jacob Willet.
Edward Grove.	Robert McAlmont.	Jerome Walker.
George Garner.	Hugh McFadden.	George Wingar.
Thomas Graham.	James McClelland.	Peter W. Yarnell.
Shepherd W. Girton.		

In the war with Mexico the guards were Company C, in the Second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanded by Col. afterward Gov. John W. Geary.

*Montour Rifles.*—This company was organized in Danville on the 13th of July, 1855, under the command of Capt. J. J. Zuber. August Fogel was first lieutenant and M. Rosenstein was second lieutenant. In 1859 Capt. Zuber was promoted to a majorship, and some adverse influences caused the dissolution of the company. Most of its members entered the United States service; the greater portion enlisted in Company E, Sixth Regiment Reserves. The company was commanded by M. K. Manly. John Horn was one of the lieutenants of Company E.

*The First in War.*—The first military company that left Danville for the war was recruited and commanded by Capt. William M. McClure—100 men. They enlisted for three months and honorably served their time. They were in the battle of Falling Waters and had one member killed, whose name was Amos Zuppinger, one of the first soldiers killed in battle. Capt. McClure afterward commanded Company F, in the One Hundred and Twelfth Artillery, and for brave conduct was subsequently promoted to the position of colonel of the regiment.

*The Baldy Guards.*—This company was organized in Danville and mustered into the service of the United States on the 25th of September, 1861, under the command of Capt. Joseph F. Ramsey. The best elements of young and vigorous manhood in Danville were embodied in this company, nor did it disappoint the ardent hopes of the friends it left behind. The company was named for P. Baldy, Sr., an old citizen of Danville. They were attached to the Ninety-third Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and were designated as Company H of that regiment. Their first battle was on the Peninsula, at Williamsburg, and they subsequently were in all the sieges and battles of the Army of the Potomac until the closing scene at Appomatox. On the resignation of Capt. Ramsey in 1862, Charles W. Eckman became captain of the Baldy Guards on the 21st of October, that year.



*J. M. Boyd*





On the promotion of Capt. Eckman, Joseph H. Johnson was made captain, and served in command of the Baldy Guards to the close of the war.

The officers of the company, when mustered into the service September 25, 1861, were Joseph F. Ramsey, captain; Leffred H. Kase and Charles W. Eckman, lieutenants; James Auld, quartermaster.

*Second Artillery.*—Company F, One Hundred and Twelfth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, or Second Pennsylvania Artillery, was organized in Danville by Capt. William M. McClure. A large portion of its members was of Danville and vicinity. This regiment served with much distinction and did much hard service during the war.

*Danville Fencibles.*—This company was organized in Danville in 1862, under command of Capt. Joseph E. Shreeve. This company was in the bloody battle of Antietam and there it lost seven in killed, namely: J. M. Hassanplug, D. Van Ronk, Jacob Long, Daniel Klase, Samuel Hilner, Hiram Hummel and John Gibson. Eighteen were wounded. Among the latter were James Foster, John Leighow, George Lovett, Charles Flick and D. R. Shutt. The company was attached to the One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. Officers.—Joseph E. Shreeve, captain; George W. Vangilder, first lieutenant; Charles N. Norris, second lieutenant. After the battle of Antietam Capt. Shreeve was promoted to major of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment, and Charles N. Norris was made captain of the company.

*Company E, Sixth Pennsylvania Reserves,* was organized in Danville under command of Capt. M. K. Manly, one of the survivors of the Mexican campaign. Charles Richards and John Horn were the lieutenants. Richards subsequently became captain of the company. Among the privates in this company were William Keiner, who lost a leg; Nicholas Frazer, killed at Harrison's Landing; Jacob Miller, lost a foot; Ernest Aderhold, lost a leg.

When the rebels invaded the North there was an "emergency" call for troops, when every county and township in Pennsylvania quickly responded.

*The Thirteenth Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia* was speedily recruited, and advanced to the front to meet the invading foe. Montour County furnished two companies for this regiment as follows:

*Company A,* with following named officers: Captain, John A. Winner; first lieutenant, W. A. M. Grier; second lieutenant, John C. Perrin; first sergeant, John G. Hammer; second sergeant, Simon Lyon; third sergeant, Elias Knerr; fourth sergeant, T. C. Hulihan; fifth sergeant, William R. Pursell; first corporal, Robert Adams, Jr.; second corporal, William T. Ramsey; third corporal, John W. Thatcher; fourth corporal, Benj. W. Vastine; fifth corporal, Geo. Irwin; sixth corporal, Samuel Earp; seventh corporal, John Werkheiser; eighth corporal, Samuel Haman; quartermaster-sergeant, Reuben Riehl.

*Company K,* with following named officers: Captain, William Young; first lieutenant, Alfred Melon; second lieutenant, Alfred B. Patton; first sergeant, M. B. Munson; second sergeant, A. Jerome Harder; third sergeant, Geo. W. Ramsey; fourth sergeant, Alexander Hofner; first corporal, Alfred Yerrick; second corporal, Hugh P. Liphart; third corporal, Lewis Byerly; fourth corporal, William Miller.

The expedition went as far as Hagerstown, and were in the service two weeks when they returned to Danville and were mustered out.

*Company F, National Guards,* was organized in Danville in 1878; was first commanded by Capt. P. E. Maus, and was mustered as Company F of the Twelfth Regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania. Capt. Maus resigned in 1880, and J. Sweisfort was elected captain of the company.

## CHAPTER VII.

## SCHOOLS.

HERE we approach the subject of vital interest to every one. How best to rear our children, give them sound minds and bodies, fit them to live the best lives, and equip them for the struggle of life, is the one overshadowing problem of existence. A well-poised mind in a healthy body is the supremest thing to be looked upon in this world. For thousands of years the world has had its schools with but little variations in the fundamentals in all that time. For nearly eighteen hundred years the present system of pietistic schools has been carried on, with variations so slight in the material parts as hardly to be perceptible. A little more than one hundred years ago came the Swiss school-teacher, Pestalozzi, who alone to that time was great enough to question the old and supposed divine processes of education, and for himself think and act in behalf of mankind. Like every daring doubter and thinker he lived centuries in advance of his age, and the educators of to-day will sing their feeble pæons to the great Swiss and then drop into the most ancient ruts, only covering the ragged pits and yawning chasms of the highway with thinly spread varnish of supposed perfected improvements in the schools. Educators and school officers are always beset with the imminent danger of becoming mutual admiration societies, and when they reach this beatific state it is pure folly to expect any thus afflicted to attempt to venture into new highways or question the perfection of anything that has come to them from the fathers. Blunt and rugged old Thomas Carlyle said: "Nature gives healthy children much, how much! Wise education is a wise unfolding of this; often it unfolds itself better of its own accord." If the young mind ever does the "better unfold itself of its own accord," then the schools are neither infallible nor perfected institutions. Then great educators must bestir themselves—not in portraying the beauties of glittering superstructures built upon these ancient foundations, but in replacing what is rotten by sound timbers. The interest of every father and guardian of the young on the subject of education must be increased; the knowledge widened until they can make intelligent demands upon the educators, and then only will the real schools come. They are not perfect now. Grant all the most enthusiastic claim for them they are still very imperfect workers in the great cause of civilization. No comment can equal the recent startling questions that have been asked by a few of the world's real thinkers, such as "Does education educate?" "Do the schools increase insanity?" "Do they sometimes destroy health?" "Does the schoolroom ever overwork and break down the pupil?" "Does it really give knowledge?" "Should the public free school pass beyond the three rudimentary branches of education?" "Are strictly graded schools the crowning glory or evil of our system?" Here are great and important questions. They have not been asked by fools or the enemies of education. How does Nature proceed about the work of "wisely unfolding" the rich gifts of heaven to healthy children? Who can answer? Yet she knows best; she will not be thwarted. She is not a loving old fool that can be wheedled or cheated, cajoled or bribed out of pursuing her unalterable, inexorable course in everything—even the school and its master.

This will strike the reader as an unusual mode of introduction to a chapter giving some account of the schools in the county. They are not arguments nor assertions about the system of schools. They are a few of the many thousands of questions that should be fully considered on the subject, intended as mere hints to thoughts that the reader may arouse in his own mind and think out for himself. If in a single one they do arouse a healthy investigation in a mind energetic enough to pursue the subject to the end, impartially surveying it from all sides and in every light, tracing to their sources cause and effect, then this book will not have been printed in vain. Simple and crude as are these hints, they involve the whole science of biology, the most profound and intricate questions of life, and he who even tolerably well studies and unfolds them will take his place in history as the world's greatest philosopher.

The public free schools have been a gradual growth in this country. Our fathers were "born in the wildwood, rocked on the wave." At first they had neither schoolhouses nor teachers. The children of that age mostly were of necessity left to "unfold" for themselves their gifts of heaven. In time came the three months winter subscription school, taught by some stern old Scotch-Irish preacher in a floorless and windowless log cabin, where the youths came long distances along paths that crossed often streams that were bridged by a log felled across them. A dollar's worth of school books would then be a complete outfit for the highest-roomed pupil, and this kit passed down the line to younger brothers and sisters, till the entire family household had passed out the batten door of their school-day *alma mater*. Until the establishment of the public schools in 1834, the outfit of a pupil was a Webster's spelling-book, a Testament, a Dobold's arithmetic, a slate, a goose quill, and a few sheets of foolscap paper. Puncheon benches without backs, a log cut out and oil paper over it was the improved window. Ten long dreary hours were spent under the eye of the master, who at all events would compel the poor young martyrs to keep their books before their faces. But one general theory then prevailed in rearing children: task them to the utmost and "spare the rod and spoil the child" were the most elevated ideas of fathers and teachers. Life was then rough, rude, but earnest and solemn.

Of the early schools in Montour County Mr. William Henry, in his report to the State school superintendent among other things says there were no schools known prior to 1790. The first of which there is any account was built in 1793 by James Montgomery, father of Hugh R. Montgomery, assisted by the few scattered settlers then here; the building stood near the Milton & Danville road, and but a short distance from the present county line. James Montgomery was the first teacher, and this fixes the fact that he was the real "pioneer" teacher in what is now Montour County. How long this first building stood is not known. The supposition is there were no other teachers taught there except him. In 1797 a rude log house was built on the road leading from Danville to Bloomsburg, on the ground occupied by the late William Yorks. This building had neither floor nor chimney. The roof was rough beams covered with branches, leaves and earth. David Davis, of Valley Township, was an attendant here in 1800. Mr. Hewitt was then the teacher. The next building of which there is any account was built in 1806 in Washingtonville Borough, particulars of which are given in the chapter on Derry Township.

The recollections of J. Fraser, as published some years ago, differ from Mr. Henry's statement somewhat. He gives substantially this account of the first school and teachers and pupils. It is of sufficient interest to give the substance of it.



The old log schoolhouse was built about 1785. It was twenty feet square. The fire-place admitted wood ten feet long. Desks were made of a single board along the side of the room. There were about twenty pupils at most attending. The teachers "boarded around." Mr. Gibson, a settled inhabitant of Danville, taught among the first and longer than any other one. The following patrons are known of this earliest school: William and John Montgomery, John Sechler, John Fraser, Thomas Osborn, William Sheriff, Thomas Stevenson, John Gulic, Geo. McCulley, Edward Morrison, Murdo Morrison, John Simpson, Paul Adams, John Evans, Phillip Maus, Joshua Halleck, John and James Emmitt, Alexander Ewing, Dr. Forrest, John Hill and the Sanders, Blues, Moores, Woodsides, Cornelisons and Colts.

Three months in the year was the term of school. At different periods the names of the pupils that can now be recalled were John, Jacob, Samuel and Harmon Sechler; Archibald, John, James and Robert Woodsides; Jacob, Isaac, James, Ann and Mary Cornelison; Jesse Simpson, Mary, Margaret and Charles M. Fraser, and their cousin, Charles Fraser; Samuel and John Huntington; Isaac, Peter, Samuel and John Blue; Asa, Samuel and Charles Moore; Abbie, Josiah, Griffith and William Phillips; Joseph and Jacob W. Maus, Charles Evans, John McCoy, Jefferson and Robert Montgomery, the Sechlers, Frasers and Montgomerys were the only ones living near enough to the school to go home for the noon meal.

The fuel for the school was supplied by the windfalls on the school lot, and was cut by the boys at nooning. Often the boys were taken away before the term was out to help "sugar making."

In 1802 a new schoolhouse was erected on ground donated by Gen. Montgomery. Here Andrew Forsyth taught, also John Moore, who afterward became a Danville merchant, Thomas W. Bell and Col. Don Carlos Barret. The latter went to Texas, where he became an eminent lawyer and statesman, and with Houston was one of the Lone Star State's triumvirate.

The last survivor of Gibson's pupils, Jacob Sechler, died in Danville Christmas day, 1880.

In 1813 there were three schoolhouses between Danville and Milton, a distance of fifteen miles, and there were then not more than eight in what is now Montour County. Then all schoolhouses were built by the voluntary help of the inhabitants, whenever enough children were within reaching distance to justify the movement. On a certain day the inhabitants assembled, went to work, and in a few days the primitive schoolhouse of the olden time was in existence. Among the teachers who taught in the county prior to 1813 was Andrew Forsyth, a gentleman of an eminent Scotch family, a soldier of the war of the Revolution, and an intimate friend of Gen. Washington. He made great sacrifices for the cause of liberty. He had amassed considerable wealth when the war broke out, but placed everything upon the altar of his adopted country and lost it. When the war was over he came to Danville and taught school until his death in 1814. It is supposed, from certain papers found after his death, that he taught here about six years. The last school which he taught was at Mooresburg, where he engendered the disease that caused his death.

After the formation of Columbia County education received a fresh impetus, especially in Danville, the new county seat. Mahoning Township at this time had three schools, to wit: West Danville, East Danville and Mahoning. The ground for the West Danville school was given by Gen. Daniel Montgomery, the founder of the town; for East Danville and Mahoning schools the land was given by John Sechler, one of the oldest settlers in the county. These schools were under the supervision of six trustees, who had charge of the buildings.

The teachers were generally elected by the citizens, who came together at a call of the trustees. If a stranger wished to become an applicant, the trustees either examined him themselves or appointed some competent person to perform the duty. But little attention was paid to the schools when once they were opened, and three or four months' terms per year constituted the time of holding them.

In 1806 Mrs. Eleanor Best opened a subscription school, which she continued successfully until 1824. Some of her old subscription books are said to be still extant. Among others whose names appear in her list of pupils are Daniel Fraser, Daniel Montgomery, Samuel Yorks and Joseph Cornelison. She charged \$1.50 a quarter per pupil. She taught spelling, reading and writing. In this little primitive school were laid the foundations of men who have left their names indelibly impressed upon the history of the country. This little school performed one thing well; that was what it pretended, and all it claimed to teach the pupils was taught them in such a way that it was never forgotten.

After 1816 the following were some of the noted teachers up to the time of the establishment of the public schools: Thomas Belle, Don Carlos Barret, Samuel Kirkham, L. C. Judson, Abraham Lillie, Michael Sanders, Ellis Hughes, Michael Best, Isaac Mower.

When D. C. Barret taught in the West Danville school, it is reported that at one time he had one hundred pupils attending. Samuel Kirkham, assisted by Ellis Hughes, wrote his English grammar while teaching in the Danville school. Ellis Hughes was permanently settled here; his reputation was that of the best educated man ever in the county up to that time. He came from Catawissa in 1820; he was a good surveyor as well as a teacher; he was appointed register and recorder by the governor for the new county of Columbia. A schoolhouse that he taught in some years stood near the Montour House, nearly on the spot now occupied by the *Record* office. He did all his teaching prior to 1832, and for years examined for the different trustees all teachers who applied. He was deeply interested in his life work, educating the young, and he also took an active part in the State internal improvements. He filled with distinction many places of public trust during his life. He died in 1850. His descendants are some of the most respected citizens of Danville.

The schools of the rural districts were deprived, on account of the sparseness mostly of the settlers, of many of the advantages of the schools in the town, as primitive as were the best of the town schools at that day. The rural teachers were generally transient and migratory in their habits, and the ability of the people to pay often compelled them to work for wages that were very small indeed. In none of them were any attempts made to teach more than the true basis of an English education; spelling, reading, writing and ciphering "to the rule of three" was the boundary line of the most ambitious attempts—in the words of the ancient school philosopher and trustee, when he announced with impressive dignity that he required all applicants to be able to teach the "three r's"—"reading, riting and rithmetic."

"The Old Center Stone Schoolhouse" in Liberty Township was built in 1823, and stood a prominent school land mark in the county until 1872, when it was destroyed by an incendiary fire. The ground was given jointly by James Strawbridge, father of Dr. J. D. Strawbridge, and here the Doctor received the foundation of his education. James Aiken, at one time widely known as Pennsylvania's rural poet, was one of the principal teachers in this building. James Aiken was preceded by James Laferty, whose assistant was a polished Irishman named Duncan.

The first schoolhouse in Washingtonville Borough was built in 1806—a frame

building that is still standing and is now used as a residence. The first teacher in this building was Abraham Barry, followed by John Craven, John Moore, Mr. Allen, John Reilly and Mr. Hutchinson. The principal promoters of the school in Derry Township at this early day were Col. Thomas Moorehead, Thomas Robertson and Samuel Brittain.

Danville Academy was instituted in the year 1818; the ground was donated by Gen. Wm. Montgomery. A two-story brick building was erected under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church, which elects trustees for its supervision and the care of the property. It has been from its building a chief institution of learning in the county, and some of our best educators have been connected with it. The prominent ones of the early teachers were Mr. Painter, R. P. Catley, Isaac Grier, S. P. Johnson, John B. Patterson, A. Wood, Mr. Nelson, E. W. Conkling. In 1855 this first building was replaced by the present two-story brick structure, and new and better furniture supplied. Rev. J. E. Bradley, afterward one of the publishers of the *Montour American*, was the first principal of the school in the new building; succeeded by Joseph W. Weston, Mr. Marr, Mr. Wynn and the present teacher, John M. Kalso, who has been at the head of the institution since the year 1871.

Limestoneville Institute is a substantial brick edifice erected in 1862, under the control of an association of stockholders, for the purpose of establishing a classical high school to be called the "Limestoneville Institute." The first officers elected were, president, W. D. Weidenhauser; secretary, Rev. Lucien Cort; treasurer, A. S. Wagner; trustee, David Davis. The school opened with a goodly attendance of students under the tutorage of Rev. L. Cort; he was succeeded by Mr. Alden, Mr. Brown, of Gettysburg, William G. Ritter, Chas. S. Albert, J. E. Shadle, J. B. Bergner, and then Prof. Pullen and wife, of Philadelphia, were in charge.

This very short summary is about all that can now be gleaned by the chronicler of the schools down to the period of that great movement that resulted in establishing the free schools.

#### FREE SCHOOLS.

In 1830 the first steps were taken in what is now Montour County to secure a wider and better system of general education. The school laws then in force were very objectionable and defective. Complaints began to be expressed on all sides. All institutions of learning displayed activity in a sporadic way only, and these short efforts were generally followed by long spells of languor and languishing. These were some of the things that started first the project of free schools. Meetings were called where an interchange of ideas was had, and at these first meetings and discussions of the subject, as a matter of course the friends of free schools found themselves in the minority.

May 23, 1834, Isaiah Reed, then sheriff of Columbia County, including what is now Montour, issued his proclamation, with regard to the public school law, for the timely action of the county commissioners. On the 8th of June a meeting was held in the court-house in Danville relative to a general school system of education, by Nicholas Gouger, Andrew Ikeler and John Yeager, county commissioners, together with school commissioners from six township of the county, among whom were Hugh McWilliams, of Liberty Township, John Patton, of Mahoning, and William Carnahan, of Derry, now embraced in this county. A vote was taken with the following result: For schools, John Patton and William Carnahan. The report of the meeting says, "They agreed to levy a tax of two-thirds of that of the county tax for school purposes in Mahoning and Derry Townships." A majority of the delegates at this meeting were opposed to the measure.



The friends of the cause continued to agitate the question, accomplishing nothing definite until the year 1836. On May 2 of that year, the county commissioners and the school delegates from the several townships met at the court-house in Danville in conformity to the "act of Assembly prescribing a general system of education by common schools."

The meeting was called to order by Andrew Ikeler, and the roll call of the delegates was had to vote on this subject, with the following result: For schools, Fredrick Frick, Mahoning; William Dale, Liberty; James Johnston, Derry, and Samuel Oakes, Limestone. The county commissioners then voted; for schools, Andrew Ikeler and Iddings Barkley; against, John Yeager. A motion was then made to raise a tax equal to that of the county tax—Mahoning, Liberty, Derry and Limestone voting in the affirmative; this was reconsidered, and a motion to levy a tax equal to three-fourths of the county tax prevailed, Mahoning voting for the whole tax.

Saturday, May 21, 1836, a meeting of the taxable inhabitants of Mahoning Township was, in pursuance of public notice, held in the house of Thomas Clark in Danville for the purpose of ascertaining whether the inhabitants of the township were in favor of levying an additional tax for common-school purposes for the year 1836. Benjamin McMahan, president of the board, presided, and Fredrick Frick was secretary. The following resolution was after long discussion adopted.

*Resolved*, That the meeting be in favor of levying an additional tax for common school purposes for the year 1836 equal to one-fourth of the county tax assessed for said year; that the school directors be requested to have the same collected if necessary; and that the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the officers and published in the Danville *Intelligencer*.

In 1837 the State appropriation to the county amounted to \$659.16; distributed as follows: Derry Township, 350 taxables, received \$226.58; Liberty Township, 268 taxables, \$173.50; Limestone, 121 taxables, \$78.32, and Mahoning, 341 taxables, \$220.76.

The early school records of the districts are unfortunately lost or destroyed. From the best information to be had it is believed that the four townships (Derry, Liberty, Mahoning and Limestone) accepted the law about the same time, with the view of receiving the pecuniary aid of the State. After its establishment the organization of the schools depended mainly upon men who had but little experience in education; and the law was imperfectly understood by the officers who were to enforce it. Therefore the system was not generally looked upon as a success, and opposition was soon manifested, which continued until after the enactment of the law in 1854 creating a new school officer, and giving additional powers to the directors in enforcing the law.

In 1837 Samuel Bond, James McMahan and James Perry were members of the school board of Liberty District, and Ellis Hughes, Benjamin McMahan, John Patton, McDonald Campbell and Fredrick Frick, of Mahoning Township. There are at present 57 schoolhouses in the county, 24 brick and 33 wooden buildings, and are situated as follows: Anthony, 5 wooden and 3 brick; Cooper, 2 frame; Danville, 5 frame, 4 brick; Derry, 6 frame; Pine Grove (a small district taken off of Liberty), 1 frame; Liberty, 8 frame; Limestone, 1 frame, 5 brick; Mahoning, 4 frame, 1 brick; Mayberry, 2 frame; Valley, 6 frame; Washingtonville, 1 frame; West Hemlock, 3 frame.

Tabular statement for the year ending June 1, 1886, of the number of pupils in the districts, and the average cost for the same:

	No. Male Pupils.	No. of Female Pupils.	Whole No. Pupils.	Average No. Pupils.	Cost per Month.
Anthony.....	123	103	226	159	\$1.06
Cooper.....	49	36	85	59	71
Danville.....	722	780	1,502	1,008	76
Derry.....	115	93	208	142	93
Independent (Pine Grove).....	15	12	27	19	1.01
Liberty.....	147	134	281	178	81
Limestone.....	107	93	200	123	1.02
Mahoning.....	118	106	224	166	84
Mayberry.....	33	24	57	31	94
Valley.....	121	107	228	162	73
Washingtonville.....	23	15	38	28	1.01
West Hemlock.....	52	46	98	56	88
Total number of pupils, 3,174.					

The following are the teachers for 1885-86.

*Anthony*—Laura Sheep, Zella Moyer, Tillie Snyder, Hattie Grimm, Cora J. Biddle, Lizzie Wagner, Jennie Naylor and H. S. Schuyler.

*Cooper*—Ella Amerman, Lloyd F. Mawrey.

*Danville High School*—S. M. Gibbs, Hattie Alexander, William A. Sechler, Mame Hughes, Laura Kase.

In the grammar and other rooms are F. M. Galwols, S. C. Musselman, Annie Yerrick, Letta Eckman, Ida J. Coxey, Ella C. Wilson, Maggie S. Kramer, Mary E. Richardson, Aletta Gulic, Maggie F. Sober, M. C. Madden, C. A. Richardson, M. W. Hughes, Mrs. R. B. Maxwell, Ruth A. Weaver, A. M. Irvin, Jennie Lawrence, Chrissie C. Wise, Lizzie H. Antrim, M. L. Bloom, A. L. McDermott, Lizzie Hyatt, Mollie E. Tillson, R. A. Gallagher.

*Derry*—Charlotte Saul, I. Lizzie Wright, Maggie Gulick, Annie Lowrie, Clara Emons, D. W. Dieffenbach.

*Liberty*—Cassie L. Cunningham, Nellie H. Gregory, Lizzie E. Moore, Lizzie J. McGinnis, William B. Sheddan, S. P. Dietrich, C. C. Billmeyer, Susie Saul.

*Limestone*—Elmer B. Derr, E. S. Horner, John E. Krumm, William D. Steinbach, G. M. Billmeyer, Calvin R. Geiger.

*Mahoning*—F. C. Grau, Geo. D. Butler, J. P. Weaver, Ella B. Everitt, Lillie Divel, Ella E. Weaver.

*Mayberry*—Thomas Elmer, Jr., Emery S. Kinbel.

*Pine Grove*—James B. Pollock.

*Valley*—Rachael Goodall, Jennie B. McGinnis, Maggie Murray, Pauline Groff, George B. Kase, Isaac D. West.

*Washingtonville*—Margaret B. Silk.

*West Hemlock*—Phoebe J. Stine, Lizzie Richart, William Robinson.

The following are the names and terms of service of the persons who have filled the office of county superintendent of Montour County since 1854: Paul Leidy, from July 5, 1854, to January 1, 1855, deceased; E. W. Conkling, from January 1, 1855, to March 3, 1856, appointed; A. B. Putnam, from March 14, 1856, to December 20, 1859, appointed; Wm. Butler, from December 20, 1859, to June 4, 1866, appointed; Wm. Henry, from June 4, 1866, to January 3, 1878, deceased; J. D. Cook, from February 1, 1878, to June 6, 1878, appointed; M. C. Horine, from June 6, 1878, to September 1, 1881, elected; F. C. Derr, from September 1, 1881, to June 2, 1884, appointed; Frederick Ream, from June 2, 1884, present incumbent. Salary paid in 1854 was \$350, and the salary paid at the present time is (1886) is \$800.



L. S. Schultz.





## CHAPTER VIII.

## MEDICAL.

SICKNESS was here before the learned physician and his pill bags. Malaria seemed to rouse up from its lairs along the streams and valleys of the country, disturbed by the axe and the plow of industry, and it said to the pioneer, "shake." He fought it off as best he could with teas, dogwood, wild cherry and boneset, by prayers and penance, and no doubt often appealed to the horrid practices and swindling devices of mendicant quacks and their nostrums and charms—the negro voodoo, the Indian medicine man, the white quack.

The practice of medicine has greatly changed in the past century. People are stronger, healthier and longer lived now than they were a century ago. The life of a generation has been extended ten years. What one greater fact can be pointed to in the world's history? This, too, in the face of the fact that people now live less in the open air and sunshine than ever before. Great epidemics have been nearly mastered and this began to come about when our fathers ceased to rely upon prayers and penance, and fell upon the simple plan of cleanliness, better ventilation, better cooked food and better sewerage, healthful recreation and exercise.

It is said the first regular physician to locate in what is now Montour County, was Dr. Foster, the date of whose coming to Danville can not be positively fixed. Of his descendants, Mrs. Valentine Best, his granddaughter, is a citizen of Danville.

Dr. David Petrikin was born in Bellefonte. He came to Danville at an early day, studied medicine and here for many years practiced his profession. He was elected to Congress and served two terms, 1837-41. He died January 3, 1849.

Dr. Bohan R. Gearhart located in Danville to practice his profession in 1842. He first settled in Washingtonville, this county, and after remaining there a short time, came here. He graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1839 or 1840. He died in May, 1855.

Dr. Dowell and Dr. Magill were here at the same time, and, while not the first, were here very early.

Among the students of Dr. Petrikin, Danville's first young men to study their profession were Herman Gearhart and Alexander C. Donaldson.

James Dale Strawbridge, native of Montour County, residence, Danville, was in the continuous practice from 1847 to 1860; was then some years surgeon in the United States Volunteers and from 1867 to the present in the practice in Danville. He graduated in the University of Pennsylvania in 1847; received the degree of A. B. at Princeton College of New Jersey in 1844, and A. M., 1847.

Dr. Strawbridge has long been one of the most eminent surgeons and physicians in the county. He was a surgeon in the army during the war, was captured and held prisoner for some time in Richmond. In the army he soon reached the high position of surgeon of a corps. After the war he was elected to Congress where he served to the entire satisfaction of his constituency, 1873-75. His greatest reputation is as a surgeon, his eminence here winning him a name and fame co-extensive with the entire State.

William H. Magill located in Danville in 1818, where he was for many years one of the leading physicians in this portion of the country. He married, in 1828, a daughter of Gen. Daniel Montgomery.

R. S. Simington located in Danville in 1854, and here commenced his long and brilliant career. He was surgeon in the Fourteenth and Ninety-third Regiments of Pennsylvania Volunteers, and served with great distinction. At the close of service he resumed his practice in Danville. In 1866 he was elected ouergess of the borough, afterward associate judge in the Montour Court; after five years' service was re-elected.

Dr. Strawbridge tells us his recollection of the physicians who were practicing in this county when he came here in 1847 is as follows: Dr. W. H. Magill, Dr. John Murray (his widow is a resident of Danville), Dr. Bohan R. Gearhart (mentioned elsewhere), Dr. Wesley R. Gearhart (he was an uncle of Wilson M. Gearhart, the present prothonotary), Dr. Isaac Hughes (his widow a resident of Danville) and Dr. Clarence H. Frick, who is noted elsewhere more fully.

Physicians who have registered in the county since 1881, under the act requiring physicians to register:

Solomon S. Schultz, born in Berks County, Penn. He is one of the attending physicians in the Danville Insane Asylum. He has been in continuous practice nearly thirty years. He graduated in the University of Pennsylvania, March 29, 1856; also received degrees of A. B. in the college of New Jersey, Princeton, in 1852, and A. M. in 1855.

Alonzo Ammerman, a native of Danville, where he resided and practiced until his death, January 19, 1886; graduated from the University of Pennsylvania March 12, 1875; graduated from the "State Normal School," Mansfield, Ohio, in 1872.

Francis Eugene Harpel, born in Berks County, Penn., resides in Danville where he has been continuously fifteen years; practiced in Shamokin and Pennville before coming to Danville; graduated from Hahnemann Medical College in 1871.

James Ogelby, born in County Fermanagh, Ireland; residence, Danville, where he has been in the practice eighteen years; received his degree from Jefferson medical college March, 1868.

Robert S. Simington, born in Lycoming County; residence Danville; been in active practice thirty-three years; received degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1854.

George J. Grauel, a native of Prussia; residence, Danville.

James Dallas Mausteller, born in Montour County; residence to time of death, August 26, 1883, in Danville; graduate of University of Pennsylvania March, 1871.

Jacob H. Vastine, born in Northumberland County and located in Danville. In the practice twenty-eight years; graduate of Jefferson medical college 1858, and in New York Ophthalmic Hospital 1859-60; removed to Catawissa.

Isaac Pursell, native of Northampton County; residence Danville; in practice forty years; graduate of University of Pennsylvania.

Samuel Y. Thompson, born in Danville, where he resides; in the practice twenty years; student in Long Island Hospital, Brooklyn.

Jacob P. Hoffa, native of Northumberland County; resides in Washingtonville, where he entered the practice after his graduation at Jefferson Medical College, in March, 1876.

Montraville McHenry, a native of Columbia County; resides in Exchange, Montour County; graduated at Burlington, Vermont, 1878.

William E. Reed, native of Lycoming County; resided in White Hall; graduate of Jefferson Medical College, 1880; removed from the county.



Charles F. Evans, born in Pittston; resided in Danville; practiced his profession in McLeansboro, Ill., Peckville and Canaan, Penn.; graduate of American Medical College, St. Louis, Mo., 1876; left the county.

Hugh B. Meredith, born in Bucks County; residence Danville; graduate of University of Pennsylvania, 1877; first practiced in Doylestown and then came to Danville.

Philip C. Newbaker, born in Dauphin County; graduated from Jefferson Medical College, March 12, 1869; resides in Washingtonville.

Benjamin Franklin Shultz, a native of Columbia County; residence Danville; graduated from Jefferson Medical College, 1854.

Charles Delcamp, born in Schuylkill County; left the county.

John H. Sandel, native of Montour County; located in the practice in Danville; removed to Schuylkill County; graduate of Hahnemann Medical College, 1882.

Jeremiah K. Bowers; commenced practice, 1865; student of American Philadelphia University, Philadelphia; he has left the county, residence but temporary.

Mandeville O. Greenwald, a native of Allentown, Penn.; residence Mooresburg; graduate of University of Pennsylvania, 1872.

Boardman P. Backus, born in New York; was but temporarily in the county.

Francis H. Sinning, of Washington County; temporary.

J. Brooks Follmer, same.

Henry C. R. Morrow, born in Erie County, N. Y.; located in Exchange, Montour County; graduate of University of Buffalo; died in 1886.

John Montgomery Baldy, born in Danville; graduated University of Pennsylvania, 1884; removed to Philadelphia, where he is now in the practice.

Michael Servetus Seip, born in Easton; is attendant in Danville Insane Asylum; graduated from University of Pennsylvania, 1876; received degree of A. B. in Lafayette College.

William Elmer Ritter, a native of Lycoming County; resides in White Hall; graduated from Jefferson Medical College, 1885; was student in Williamsport Commercial College.

Eben True Aldrich, born in Lowell, Mass.; physician in Danville Insane Asylum; graduate of Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, 1880.

Nathaniel Whitaker Voorhees, Jr., born in Hunterton County, N. J.; residence Danville; graduate of University of Pennsylvania, 1883.

John R. Kimerer, nativity Nashville, Ohio; residence Danville; graduate at College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, 1885.

Daniel Edward Kiess, born in Lycoming County; residence Washingtonville; graduate of College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, 1886; his diploma endorsed by Chirurgical College, Philadelphia, and signed "Peter S. Keyser, Dean."

David E. Shoemaker, born in Butler County; resides in Washingtonville; graduated from Sunbury High School, 1881, and at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, 1886; endorsed by the Medico Chirurgical College by order of the faculty.

## CHAPTER IX.

## BENCH AND BAR.

THE first court in Danville was held in the second story of the log warehouse on the river bank, a few doors east of Mill Street, in 1814, Hon. Seth Chapman of Northumberland County, president judge, and Gen. William Montgomery and Hon. Leonard Rupert, associates. Primitive as were the surroundings, there were proper dignity and decorum about the courtroom, and upon the rude bench and at the bar were talents of not only respectable but a high order. Henry Alward of Milton was the first sheriff. The court, the members of the bar, the officers, the juries, and witnesses and parties to suits, so far as can now be ascertained, have all passed away. The first prothonotary was George A. Frick, who filled the place for many years, and then located as an attorney in Danville, where he long continued in successful practice.\* Of those who came to Danville to court in the practice of the law were Charles Hall, Charles Maus of Berlin, Hugh Bellas of Sunbury, Samuel Hepburn of Milton, Mr. Bradford and George M. Porter of Centre County, James Carson of Philadelphia, Ebenezer Greenough of Sunbury, one of the most eminent lawyers of his day. Judge Thomas Duncan and Judge Charles Huston came here to attend courts. They were from Centre County. Both were afterward members of the supreme court. William G. Herely of Bloomsburg, James Pleasants of Catawissa, Alexander Jordan and Charles G. Donnell of Sunbury, attended court in Danville regularly until they each went on the bench. This does not include all the visiting attorneys, but the list is as complete as we can now make it.

The first lawyer to locate in Danville was Alem Marr. He graduated at Princeton College in 1807, studied his profession and came to Danville in 1813. He was a fair lawyer, and noted for his industry. He represented this district in Congress, 1829-31. He retired from the practice and removed to his farm near Milton, where he died many years ago. His mind had entirely broken down some time before his death. The second lawyer to flaunt his sign to the gentle breezes here was Ebenezer Greenough, who came here from Sunbury. He was noted as a learned and able lawyer, a ripe scholar and great jurist. He removed to Sunbury, where he died. His son, William R. Greenough, is now practicing law in Sunbury. George A. Frick, who is mentioned above as the first prothonotary, was one among the first lawyers to locate in Danville. Of all his contemporaries he continued the longest in the practice. He reached the age of eighty-four years and died in 1872. Legrand Baneroft located here from one of the Eastern States. He was in active practice many years, and removed to Pottsville, and eventually went to some of the new Western States or Territories, but exactly where is not known. None of his posterity are here. James Pleasants was for years a familiar figure in our courtroom. He lived in Catawissa. Among the early and eminent Danville attorneys were Judge Cooper, the brother of Judge John Cooper. Judge Cooper, Sr., was in a large and successful practice here until his death. Attorney John G. Montgomery married Miss Cooper; Mr. E. H. Baldy

\*For most of these particulars and reminiscences we are indebted largely to the venerable Hon. Joshua W. Comly, and to ancient documents furnished by Mr. A. B. Still.

married a granddaughter. The great American jurist, Judge Robert C. Grier, was at one time a citizen of Danville. While here in practice he was appointed judge of the district court of Pennsylvania, at Pittsburgh, and in a few years thereafter appointed associate judge of the United States Supreme Court. He was a native of Cumberland County, Penn., born March 5, 1794; died in Philadelphia at the age of seventy-six years. He was graduated in Dickinson College in 1812, when he located in Northumberland County, and was admitted to the bar in 1817, and commenced the practice in Bloomsburg. After remaining there a year he removed to Danville, where he soon obtained a lucrative and extended practice. He was appointed judge in 1838, by the governor of the commonwealth over the Allegheny Court, and lived in Allegheny until 1848. President Polk appointed him to the United States Supreme Court in 1846. He was a great jurist, and in the highest sense of the term a patriot and Democrat. His brother, M. C. Grier, continued to reside in Danville to the time of his death.

In 1833 Judge Ellis Lewis was president judge of this, the Eighth Judicial District, and occupied the position with distinction eight years. He was succeeded by Hon. Charles Donnell, who served ten years when he died. Then Joseph B. Anthony became president judge. He died nine months before his ten years' term expired, and Judge James Pollock was appointed to fill out the unexpired term. At the next regular election Alexander Jordan was elected to the office; was re-elected and completed the two terms, or twenty years. In 1872 Judge William A. Rockafeller was elected to the office and continued in the presiding office as long as this was in the Eighth District. When this was changed to the Eleventh District Judge John M. Cunningham became president judge. Then again Alexander Jordan filled the office. In turn he was succeeded by Judge Rockafeller. Then Judge William Elwell, the present president judge was elected to the office. The county associate judges are Dr. R. S. Simington and John Benfield.

Joshua W. Comly, the eldest son of Charles Comly, merchant, was born in Philadelphia, November 16, 1810. Removed with his parents to Milton in 1820, where he was prepared for college in the academy of Rev. David Kilpatrick. After his graduation in 1827 he commenced the study of law in the office of Judge Samuel Hepburn, and was admitted as an attorney in the courts of Northumberland County, November 17, 1830, when he was twenty years and one day old. He was admitted to the practice in the supreme court of Pennsylvania in May, 1833, and located in Orwigsburg, Schuylkill County, in February, 1831. In the fall of 1834 he removed to Danville, where he has since resided. He retired from active practice in 1882.

Paul Leidy was one of the leading lawyers of Danville and held a high position in the respect and confidence of the community. He represented this district in the Thirty-fifth Congress of the United States. He had also served as prosecuting attorney of Montour, held many positions of trust, and died respected by his fellow citizens.

A. J. Frick, born in Danville, 1838, received his education in the schools here and in Westmoreland; studied law with William G. Hurley, and was admitted to practice in 1855; now retired.

Daniel W. Rank read law with Robert Hawley, in Muncy, and was admitted to practice April 21, 1859. He located in Millersburg until August, 1861; in 1872 removed to Scranton, where he remained ten years, and in 1882 came to his present residence in Limestoneville. He was elected district attorney in 1884.

W. C. Johnston was admitted to the practice of law in 1839, in Columbia.



County. He was located in Jerseytown about one year and then came to what is now Montour County. He has been recorder since the county was organized.

B. K. Rhodes was born near Catawissa; came with his father's family to Danville in 1825. Here he attended Mr. Hughes' school, read law with John Cooper and was licensed in 1842. When the county seat was taken to Bloomsburg he went there and remained until 1852, when he returned to Danville, where he has remained since.

Isaac X. Grier read law in the office of E. H. Baldy; was admitted in 1861, and located in Danville where he has been continually in the practice. He is now partially retired on account of his health.

H. M. Hinckley read law with I. X. Grier, entering his office as a student in 1872, and was licensed to practice in May, 1875, and at once formed a law partnership with his preceptor. Mr. Hinckley graduated in Princeton College in 1874.

Edward Sayre Gearhart, a native of this county, graduated in Wyoming Seminary in 1876, attended Princeton College in 1880, read law in the office of Grier & Hinckley and was admitted to practice in 1881.

James Scarlet and Frank C. Angle compose the law firm of Scarlet & Angle. This, while not among the oldest firms practicing law in Danville, is in the front rank in success and amount of business they have to look after.

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## CHAPTER X.

### NEWSPAPERS.

NO less than two dailies and four weekly papers, besides occasional short-lived publications, some weekly and some monthly, constitute the home literary, political and philosophical pabulum of the good people of the county. These are classed as two political organs and four independent. This strongly marks the recent tendency of that spirit of political independence that is the wholesome outgrowth of the last quarter of a century. But a few years ago all our daily and weekly publications were strictly organs merely of a political party, the best of them showing the strong bias of party faith, and telling always a one-sided story—scaling down the truth on one hand and highly coloring facts on the other hand. That day of vicious party publications has happily passed away. We have party organs yet, but the spirit of public independence has invaded their columns, and it is no uncommon thing to see even “organs” lashing with whips of scorpions the outrageous and flagrant doings even of their own party managers or public men. The humblest voter is beginning to sometimes dare to vote his free sentiments. Party lines are being broken up, and the shallowest-pated torchlight bearer and the loudest rallying shouter have begun to reflect “*cui bono?*” But as every rose must have its thorn—every sweet its bitter, we should be patient with the awful fact that we now hear much more of money in elections—buying voters, etc.—than was known to our forefathers.

The first paper published in Danville was the *Columbia Gazette*, started in 1813 by George Sweeny. A new county had just been formed, and Sweeny was the bold pioneer printer who ventured to complete the paraphernalia of

the new county by bringing here his printing office. We were not able to find even a stray copy of this first paper. It was doubtless a small and quiet affair, with a cramped and dingy office, its font of small pica type, distributed mostly in the "hell box," without a word of local news (at that time local news had not been invented), and for months and months not a line of general editorial, but made up of clippings from papers weeks and months old, dry sermons, and a few staggering, crazy "ads." of religious books and sermons were the general features of a newspaper of that day. They were curious affairs to look at now, and as an evidence of the prevalent idea of that time, the writer went patiently over the weekly files of a paper published in another county of this State during the war of 1812-15; and as the paper was Federalist in politics, and the people of its county took an active and patriotic part in the war, yet there was not a line in the three years' issue of the paper referring to the part enacted by the people of its county. But there were frequent allusions to that political monster, President Madison. And yet these old files possess a great interest to the compiler of history of this day. Their very advertisements are historical pictures of the people of that time. The tone of these, the subjects they treat of, as well as the character of the clippings republished, are all open windows through which you can look at that interesting people who have passed away. It is not known how long Mr. Sweeny published the *Gazette*, but it could not have been more than a year probably. In 1815 Jonathan Lodge established the *Express*. In a short time he associated with him Mr. Caruthers, and the firm of Lodge & Caruthers carried on the business. At one time they employed Judge Cooper as editor. In 1820 George Sweeny again entered the field of journalism and established the *Watchman*. His office was for some time on the corner of Ferry and Market Streets, now occupied by the residence of Dr. R. S. Simington. It seems that then there were two papers, and Judge Cooper edited one and Sweeny the other, and with savage goosequills they frequently "roasted" each other in a reckless manner, but in a Pickwickian sense.

The oldest of the papers now in the county is that stanch old Democratic organ, the *Danville Intelligencer*, founded by Valentine Best in 1828. Mr. Best has linked his name imperishably with that of the county. As told elsewhere he was the political and foster father of Montour County. His paper commenced as the Democratic local organ, and to this hour it has kept its faith, although its founder has long since been sleeping in the silent city. He fought manfully the Whigs until the party died; with an equally fearless courage he fought the Republicans until he himself died. He was a much abused man in his time, even sometimes persecuted by enemies and deserted by supposed friends. But through triumphs and defeats he possessed the courage of his convictions, and when aroused he asked for no quarter, but dealt his assailants many a vigorous and valiant blow in return. He died in 1858 in the editorial harness. His life work here was a great boon to the paper, and his memory will be long cherished and respected. After his death the paper was published for some time by Oscar Kepler in the interest of Mrs. Best. In September, 1858, the concern was purchased by a number of the leading Democrats, who bought shares, and placed J. S. Sanders in editorial charge. He was a good workman, and introduced many improvements in the mechanical department. He continued in control until 1862, when he resigned to go to Berwick to take the control of a paper in that place. He was succeeded by the present proprietor, Thomas Chalfant. The office became the individual property of Mr. Chalfant soon after he took control, and so continues to the present. The *Intelligencer* has been an able and consistent support of the Democratic

party since it was founded. The best evidence of its standing and influence is given in the fact that Mr. Chalfant was postmaster under the last Democratic administration which expired in March, 1861, and after Republican control of twenty-four years he was again at once appointed to the place with the advent to power of the Democrats in 1885.

*Daily Sun.*—A sprightly five-column folio; Volume I, No. 1, was published November 5, 1883, by Charles Chalfant and D. H. Shields; is issued from the *Intelligencer* office. When the paper was three months old Mr. Shields withdrew and the present editor and proprietor, Charles Chalfant, assumed entire charge. It is a morning paper, independent in politics, sprightly and breezy in its local and general editorial pages, and has a paying and liberal patronage in advertisements from our people. This is the second daily paper started in Danville, and already it is an assured success as a business venture, and one of the permanent concerns of the county.

*Danville Democrat.* This was established in August, 1840, by Charles Cook. Its original name was the rather top-heavy title of *Danville Democrat and Tariff Advocate*. A very elaborate name in a new paper always gives the appearance of being afflicted with hydrocephalus. Mr. Cook was a man of ability. When he quit Danville he entered the Government employ in Washington City, where he died in 1874. During the Presidential campaign of 1844, he also issued a German paper, called *Der Tariff Advokat*. Mr. Cook battled manfully for the Whig party and the tariff until 1864, when he sold his printing office to Joel S. Baily. Mr. Cook must have found many warm supporters, as is evidenced in a long career as publisher in a day when many pitfalls lay in the paths of newspaper men. In 1845, while in the Montgomery building, his office was destroyed by fire; the old hand press, as the building burned, fell through the floors to the cellar. It was recovered, rigged up in fair shape again, and for many years continued to do the press work as of old. Mr. Baily continued the paper some years when its lights were finally and forever extinguished. Possibly it heard so much of the cry of "Free trade and sailors' rights" that ran over the land, or that other slogan of the "competition of unpaid slave labor," or possibly it heard not well enough that other savory and toothsome watchword, "Two dollars a day and roast beef" to encourage it to, in the language of Mrs. Chick, "make an effort," and so it turned its face to the wall and died. At the same time Mr. Baily purchased the *Democrat* he bought the *American* and consolidated the two concerns. This brings us to the account of that paper.

*The Montour American* was founded December 11, 1855, by D. H. B. Brower, one of the strongly marked characters of the Danville press. At that time the Whig and Democratic parties each had their able organs; the veteran journalist for the Democrats was Hon. Valentine Best, and Charles Cook was ably battling under the colors of the Whig party. As independent journalism was yet unknown, we can readily see that Mr. Brower found it difficult to discover good standing room in any of the existing parties. But after it had been going a few months Fremont became the national standard bearer of the new Republican party, and here was the *American's* opportunity, which it eagerly embraced; its good fortune had come, and so completely did the *American* cover the entire ground of organ for the Republican party that it has held the undisputed place for thirty years, and still holds it, and promises by its vigor and ability to continue securely fortified in its position indefinitely. In 1859 Mr. Brower sold his office to George B. Ayers, of Harrisburg. He changed the name to *Montour Herald*. Mr. Ayers continued to publish it for a season and then closed the office and returned to his old home. Mr. Brower pur-





*D. C. Newbaker M.D.*



chased the material and again resumed the publication of the *American*. In the meantime its temporary decline and suspension had induced other parties to start another Republican organ. After a short time the two papers were consolidated under new proprietors. Mr. Brower sold the *American* to Joel S. Baily, and Charles Cook sold the *Democrat* to the same party. This transfer and consolidation took place in January, 1864. Mr. Baily in the same year sold to Mr. Brower, who continued in control until 1871, when the office was sold to W. H. Bradley and Lewis Gordon, and as an evidence of the growth in value of the concern, the price paid was \$5,000 cash, the original office being valued at \$600. In February, 1876, Mr. Gordon sold his interest to Joel E. Bradley, and in November of that year Mr. Bradley sold his interest to Edward C. Baldy. The paper was then published by Bradley & Baldy. In May, 1878, E. C. Baldy sold his interest to W. B. Baldy, and the new firm of Bradley and Baldy published the paper until April 1, 1883, when W. B. Baldy purchased Bradley's interest and became the sole editor and proprietor, as it is now published.

*The Montour American* is the able and reliable Republican organ of this county. In the days of the Whig party it was Whig, and at the birth of the Republican party, it was Republican. It has been ever true to the interests of its party, watchful, vigilant and fearless in its defense, yet, even in the times of our bitterest partisan conflicts, it has been courteous and dignified toward its political opponents.

*The Danville Record*.—Mr. Brower says that in 1876, A. P. Fowler having purchased the printing office of S. P. Kase, the Danville Printing Company was organized, and *The Danville Record* started, with Mr. Brower, editor, (the first number issued March 16, 1876), which position he filled for two years, when circumstances compelled the sale of the office, and the office passed into the hands of new owners.

*The National Weekly Record*.—James Foster, Harry Vincent and Victor A. Lotier having purchased the materials of the old *Danville Record*, commenced the publication of *The Weekly National Record*, April 1, 1878—a seven-column folio, independent in politics and as sprightly and vigorous a young paper as can be found anywhere. It was most cordially welcomed by the public. Foster and Vincent sold their interest to Victor A. Lotier, the present editor and proprietor, who had already given evidence that he was a born newspaper man. October 3, 1879, such was its patronage as to compel its enlargement, and it was made a nine-column folio, the columns 26 inches in length. It espoused the cause of the greenback party, and by the sheer force of its ability compelled the respect of its political foes and the warm admiration of its friends.

*The Daily Record*.—Such were the demands upon the weekly *Record* that Mr. Lotier felt called upon to again increase his facilities to accommodate his patrons, and May 23, 1881, he issued the first number of the *Daily Record*. It was a five-column folio, and was supposed by many to be a bold and daring venture. But the proprietor had carefully estimated its chances, it seems. The paper was a complete success from the day it was started, April 17, 1882; the press of business called for its enlargement to a six-column paper, its present size. The daily and weekly, under Mr. Lotier's able management, are independent in politics, saying their say in a manly fearless way, "with charity for all and malice toward none."

*The Medium*.—Mr. Brower after he sold out his interest in the *American* started the *Medium*, a semi-weekly paper. It struggled and buffeted the waves on the troubled sea of journalism for nearly a year and fell to sleep. The office was purchased by the Danville Printing Company and they started the *Independent*.



*The Independent.*—Mr. Brower was placed in the editorial chair. The Printing Company bought a lot of new materials, went in debt therefor, and in nine months after the *Independent* was started it was seized for debt and sold by the sheriff. The office then passed into the hands of S. P. Kase. The office was closed and remained idle for some time.

*The Mentor.*—In 1873 this paper was started by D. H. B. Brower, R. W. Eggert, John Leshner and William H. McCarty. They had leased the old *Independent* office. The paper was short lived and expired inside of a year.

*The Gem.*—Richard W. Eggert, sole editor and proprietor; was first issued November 30, 1885—a sprightly local paper, of five columns, folio, and independent. It is issued every Saturday, and in mechanical make-up is a model of taste and elegance.

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## CHAPTER XI.

### OFFICIALS AND STATISTICS.

FROM what is now Montour County, there have been seven members of Congress elected. Gen. William Montgomery was in the Third Congress, 1793-95; served one session and resigned. The next in succession was his son, Gen. Daniel Montgomery, elected in 1806 to the Tenth Congress, 1807-09. He served his term, but peremptorily declined a re-election. Alem Marr was elected in 1828 to the Twenty-first Congress, 1829-31. Then Dr. David Petrikin was elected and served two terms, the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Congress, 1837-41. John G. Montgomery was elected in 1856, Thirty-fifth Congress, and died just before taking his seat. He was a victim of the noted hotel poisoning at the National Hotel, in Washington, just before the inauguration of President James Buchanan. To fill the place made vacant by the death of Mr. Montgomery, Dr. Paul Leidy was elected. Dr. J. D. Strawbridge was elected in 1872, to the Forty-fifth Congress, 1873-75. He is now a resident of Danville, actively engaged in the practice of his chosen profession.

*State Senators.*—Valentine Best was elected State senator from Columbia and Luzerne Counties in 1850. To him is due, chiefly, the distinguished honor of the formation of Montour County. He was a newspaper publisher in Danville, and a warm partisan of the borough in all questions affecting the place as the county seat, and when Bloomsburg carried off the prize, he, among others, only redoubled exertions to score even with the people of the northern part of the county, who had carried the day in the long contest—triumphed and left Danville to weep over her departed official eminence. He was an out and out Democrat of the Jeffersonian kind. When he took his seat in the Senate—a position he had won on the county seat question, and by his own tireless energy and good judgment—he found that there was some fine work to be done in order to carry through the sole measure for which he had gone to the Senate—forming a new county. He perceived the relation of the two political parties was such that without his vote there was a tie. The Whigs were ready to vote for his new county, if they could gain any of their ends by such combination. He closed at once with them, and by their votes and his own, he was elected Speaker, and thus he was enabled to triumphantly push through the bill for the erection of Montour County.

Why didn't they call this Best County? Certainly, it would have been a name perpetuating the interesting story of how it came into existence, as well as the most suitable adjective in the world, descriptive of its territory.

1851-56, 1858, 1870-72—C. R. Buckalew, the present member elect of Congress from this district, was senator.

1857-59—George P. Steele. The district was then composed of Luzerne, Montour and Columbia.

1873-75—Thomas Chalfant.

1880—Elias T. McHenry. District—Lycoming, Montour, Sullivan and Columbia.

1882-86—William W. Hart.

1887—Vernus H. Metzger.

#### LOWER HOUSE.

1850—Benjamin P. Fortner, Columbia County.

1852—M. E. Jackson, Columbia and Montour.

1853-54, 1869-70—George Scott.

1855—J. G. Maxwell, Columbia and Montour.

1856—John G. Montgomery, Columbia and Montour.

1857, 1867-71—Thomas Chalfant.

1863-64—John C. Ellis.

1859-60—Samuel Oakes.

1872—Dennis Bright.

1873-74—Jesse Amerman.

1875-76—James Cruikshanks.

1877-78—James McCormick.

1879-82—P. C. Newbaker.

1883—James McCormick.

1884—Dr. J. P. Hoffa; re-elected November 2, 1886.

#### COUNTY OFFICERS.

Present county officers are, sheriff, James O. Frazier; prothonotary, Wilson M. Gearhart; register and recorder, William C. Johnston; treasurer, George W. Peifer; commissioners, Isaac Amerman, Frank G. Blee, George W. Askins; associate judges, Dr. Robert S. Simington, John Benfield; district attorney, Daniel W. Rank; surveyor, George W. West.

William C. Johnston, who has just been re-elected clerk and recorder, was the first person elected to that position when the county was formed in 1850, and has filled the office by re-election from that time to the present. When he fills out his present term he will have been in the office forty years.

The same may be said of G. W. West, the county surveyor. He too was elected to his office on the formation of the county; has just been re-elected and at the end of his present term will have been in the place forty years. Evidently these two men have been efficient in their positions and eminently satisfactory to the people.

*Commissioners.*—1850, Samuel Yorks, James McMahan, Samuel Shick; clerk T. J. Galbraith. In 1852 Galbraith resigned as clerk, and board appointed George W. West; 1851, David Yeager was elected commissioner; 1853, David Wilson; 1854, Jacob Sheep and William Snyder; 1856, Abraham Wagner; 1857, Robert Davison; 1858, William McNinch; 1859, Daniel Ramsey; 1860, William Sidel; 1861, Charles Fenstermacher; 1862, Isaac Amerman; 1863, John Moore; 1864, John Derr; 1865, Isaac Amerman; 1867, James Shultz; 1868, Andrew C. Russell; 1869, John Dildine; 1870, William Yorks; 1871, James Woodsides; 1872, Peter A. Mowrer; 1873, Frederick

Kniss; 1874, David Grove; 1875, William J. McKee; 1876, full board was W. J. McKee, J. Auld and George W. Derr; the clerk then was E. G. Hoffman; 1879, Isaac Amerman, Stephen Smith, Frank G. Blee; Clerk Lewis Rodenhoffer; 1880, George D. Butler was appointed clerk; 1882, Isaac Amerman, Frank G. Blee, George W. Askins; 1883, John C. Peiffer was appointed clerk. The last named commissioners and clerk are the board as constituted now.

*Treasurers.*—1850, first treasurer elected was George Mears; 1853, Joseph Dean; 1855, Daniel Reynolds; 1857, Frederick Blue; 1859, William G. Gaskins; 1861, Edward Morrison; 1863, Abraham Wagner; 1865, William McNinch; 1867, Jacob Sidel; 1869, Isaac Amerman; 1871, Emanuel Sidler; 1873, William Madden; 1875, Bernard Dougherty; 1878, Samuel Blue; 1881, George W. Peifer; 1884, James L. Brannen; 1887, George W. Peifer.

*Sheriffs.*—1850, first sheriff elected was Daniel Frazier, elected for the term of three years; 1854, Thomas Pollock; 1857, Edward Young; 1860, Frederick Blue; 1863, Edward Young; 1866, Jacob Shelhart; 1869, R. C. Russell—he died during his term, and W. C. Young appointed by the governor to fill the vacancy; 1871, Daniel Billmeyer; 1874, Edward Young; 1877, James M. Miller; 1880, Jacob Shelhart; 1883, Nathan Shugart; 1886, James O. Frazier.

*Prothonotaries.*—First elected, 1850, William S. Davis, elected for term of three years; 1854, Hiram A. Childs; 1857, George D. Butler, re-elected twice, serving nine years; 1866, William O. Butler, served until first Monday, January, 1876; 1876, William M. Gearhart was elected, and by re-election has continued to hold the office to the present time. His present term of office will expire in January, 1888.

#### STATISTICS.

By the last United States census the population of Montour County is given as follows: Total, 15,466. In detail it is as follows:

Anthony Township.....	1,042
Cooper Township.....	388
Danville Borough.....	8,346
Derry Township.....	841
Liberty, including Mooresburg Village.....	1,166
[Mooresburg Village].....	99
Limestone Township, including village.....	731
[Limestone Village].....	59
Mahoning Township.....	1,141
Mayberry Township.....	230
Valley Township.....	1,014
West Hemlock Township.....	395
Washingtonville Borough.....	203

Under the apportionment of the State of 1874 the county of Montour elects one member of the lower house of the Legislature. The county is in the Twenty-fourth Senatorial District, composed of the counties of Lycoming, Montour, Sullivan and Columbia. It is in the Eleventh Congressional District, composed as follows: Columbia, Montour, Carbon, Monroe and Pike Counties, and the townships of Nescopeck, Black Creek, Sugar Loaf, Butler, Hazel, Foster, Bear Creek, Roaring Brook, Salem, Hallenbeck, Huntington, Fairmount, Spring Brook, and that part of the city of Scranton south of Roaringcreek and east of the Lackawanna River, and the boroughs of Dunmore, New Columbus, Goldsboro, White Haven, Jeddo and Hazelton.



## CHAPTER XII.

## DANVILLE.

**N**ESTLING in the narrow yet rich valley of the Susquehanna is the borough of Danville, just now rounding out its first century. In its story is pretty much all that is of interest in our country since the establishment of our independence, that is, its growth and history are at least cotemporary with that of our present form of government. At the foot of the town flows the gentle blue Susquehanna, with picturesque Montour's Ridge winding by to the north; the stately and venerable Bald Top bracing its rocky supports up against the town itself, the Montour Iron Works crawling up partly on its feet, and sending its steam and smoke rolling gracefully up the hillside—Titan and Cyclops side by side. South of the river rises Blue Hill, and further along the river valley is Mahoning creek as it has cut its way through Montour Ridge, and empties itself in the river; and across the river to the east, the west, north and south, are as fine landscapes, as gentle, wild and varied scenery as the eye ever rested upon. Standing close up to the foot of Bald Top (the bare pinnacle can only be seen by ascending to it) it looks steep and rugged enough for a frowning fortress, grimly watching over the safety of its foster-child, Danville at its feet bustling with busy life and roaring and clanging its great machinery, while the beautiful valley, with its farms and groves and fruit and ornamental trees, stretches away in the distant quiet like a pastoral dream. Where, we know not, is there a spot that so combines the useful and the beautiful as this? Pass around to the southwest of Bald Top and you see the "Dark Ravine," and there is also the precipice that has been called the "Lover's Leap;" but as there are lovers' leaps elsewhere, and as lovers even of the pale face persuasion are now occasionally leaping for life in front of an irate boot or shot gun, the old stereotyped edition of the Indian legend is threadbare and tiresome.

The town was founded by Gen. Daniel Montgomery, and at first his store, his father's grist-mill, on Mahoning Creek, and the half dozen cabins about it were called Dan's town—it thus became eventually Danville proper. The land embraced in the original town plat was 120 acres, extending from Chestnut to Church Streets and from the river to the base of Montour's Ridge, and was surveyed by George Jewel, April 3, 1769. September 16 of the same year it was purchased of the provincial proprietaries by Turbut Francis. In May, 1782, he sold to John Simpson. April 15, 1783, John Simpson and wife (Ann Grimes) conveyed the tract to William Montgomery, consideration £600. The tract below Chestnut Street, including the mouth of Mahoning Creek, contained 180 acres and was a part of the proprietary manor (that is, lands reserved as private property by the Penns). This tract was conveyed to Rev. Richard Peters and John Lukens.

The Delaware Indians had long had a village at the mouth of Mahoning Creek. The Indian's instinct led him naturally to pitch his village of wigwams at what afterward was always an eligible town site for the whites. Nearly every great city on the continent was at one time a great Indian rendezvous, extending from New York to San Francisco and Vancouver's Island. An ancient and correct map of all the Indian places of great councils, dances

and gathering places, would show a wonderful coincidence in their locations and the present great cities of the country. The early Indians were migratory, simply following the buffaloes, and to one understanding the habits of these animals, as they would gather in immense herds and start on their long voyages, and their peculiar maneuvers when coming to a river of stopping here for some time and finally, driven by hunger, they would begin circling and bellowing at the water's edge, each time as they came opposite the water the inner ones pushing those on the outer line nearer and nearer the water until finally into it, when one would take the plunge and start for the opposite bank and all would follow; and thus it was that the buffaloes were the engineers to the Indians, and the Indians in turn performed a like office for the whites.

On the north of the tracts above indicated the land belonged to John Montgomery, and that on the northeast to Amos Wickersham. Afterward these tracts became the property of the Frazers and the Yorks. The lands on the southeast belonged to the Sechlers. These land titles fix pretty definitely the first owners of the lands now occupied by the borough, and also indicate some of whom were the first settlers.

Phillip Maus, who came just after the close of the Revolutionary war, has left on record his first impression of the place on seeing it. He thought there were then about half a dozen cabins at what was then called "Montgomery's Landing." Soon after this it came to be known as the "Mahoning Settlement," and by this name it continued to be called until after 1792, when Gen. Daniel Montgomery laid out the town. The territory embraced in his town plat was that now lying between Mill and Church Streets and from the river to the canal. In 1776 Gen. William Montgomery had built his log house that stood so long as the first notable building in the place. It stood near the large stone mansion he afterward built that is still standing. In this log house Alexander Montgomery was born in 1777, and by a singular coincidence, he died in 1848 in the room where he was born.

Jacob Gearhart had, at an early day, established a ferry across the river. The ferry house stood a little above Ferry Street. This pioneer ferry was the first step taken toward building the present splendid bridge that spans the river.

John Sechler, father of Jacob Sechler, next laid out that part of the town above Church Street. The next land added to the town was by William Montgomery, that part below Mill Street to Chestnut Street. It was of this addition he donated thirty lots for the purpose of an academy. He also donated the ground for the court-house. Gen. Daniel Montgomery donated the jail lot.

The town was laid out by Gen. Daniel Montgomery in 1792, as said above. The Montgomerys were the sole spirits of its first formation and growth, saving the natural accretions of population drawn to this portion of the new purchase after that was made in 1868. The coming here of the earliest strong and influential men was due mostly to the misfortunes that then overtook nearly all the prominent actors in the Revolution, the financial ruin by the depreciation of the Continental money. This ill luck was the good fortune of Danville and what is now Montour County. When Daniel Montgomery conceived the great idea of opening a store here in addition to his father's mill, there naturally opened to his mind the equally important proposition of laying off a town. He was then a very young man, but his vision was long ahead and clear. He could anticipate what was wanted, and set about supplying that want. A mill, a store, a place to buy and sell, a place to have bread ground without

going all the way to Philadelphia or Reading, a trip then more tedious and difficult by far to make than to cross the continent now, were strong inducements to settlers. Soon after the store and mill were established, their existence here and the fact that this was Dantown, had its influence in bringing Mr. Deen and his blacksmith shop—a convenience almost as great to the people as the mill and the store. Then the settlers north and south of the river began to make real wagon roads to reach the town with their wagons, whereas, before there was anything here to sell or any one to buy, they could make their rare trips to the place by means of the trails and paths along the devious way.

The mill, the store and the blacksmith shop continued so steadily to bring people into the wilderness that we find as early as 1806 the Government established here a postoffice. Then surely did the good people felicitate themselves—their lucky good fortune was about full and complete. Once a week, what a luxury, a pony mail passed to Sunbury and back to the old settlements and to Philadelphia and to all the world. The postage on a letter was then 25 cents. It took two weeks at the shortest to send a letter and get a return from Philadelphia or anywhere else, but what a vast improvement was that to these people hungry for news from friends, in the wilderness. Gen. William Montgomery was the first postmaster. The fame of the new town began to then spread abroad in the land. In Scott's geography of 1806, he makes mention of it in these words: "A small post-town on the east branch of the Susquehanna, at the mouth of Mahoning Creek. A store, a mill, a blacksmith shop and a postoffice! No pent up Utica could contract her power," and therefore in 1807 the patriots of Danville and vicinity held a great Fourth of July celebration, and unconsciously they were blessed by the absence of fire-crackers and brass bands. In that day it was only supposed that preachers could speak in public, or at least that they were the only men that knew anything to talk about. Hence these poor fellows usually had to do all the public speaking, preaching and burying, and take their pay in the general gratitude, with a trace of dried beans, hickory nuts and coon skins to make caps for the boys of the household. But to return to our subject of Danville's first Fourth of July celebration. But few particulars of the occasion can now be learned. There was no permanent record made of it, and those who were present are now all dead. Gen. Daniel Montgomery was president of the meeting; James Laird, vice-president, and Andrew Russell, secretary. The remembrance of but one of the toasts offered has come down to us. This is interesting as indicating something of the politics of the early day. Jefferson and Hamilton had then joined issue on very much the identical questions that have divided parties from that time to the present. The two political parties were the Federalists and Republicans or Republican-Democrats. In the year 1807 there was a slight defection, or a threatened split in the Democratic party in this State over the question of supporting Simon Snyder. Some favored Spoyd for the office and these were called in derision by the Regulars (now sometimes called Mossbacks or Stalwarts) "Quids." James Boyd offered the following toast: "The Quids—a jackass apiece to them, and a snail's horn for a spur, so that each mule may ride his own ass." (Great applause—all standing.) The sting of the sarcasm in this was no doubt fully understood by those who heard it read. But this is not what we quote it for. It is something of an index of the political feeling here at that time. The people were generally Democrats. That is, with Jefferson they believed in the divine right of the people to rule themselves. The Federalists on the other hand desired to copy more closely after the British form of government—in other words, more power in the government—



centralization. They believed that Jefferson was an irreligious and politically a bad man; they said he was fresh from France, where he had become imbued with the ideas of French revolutionists, infidels and all that was bad; that the government was at last the only safe power to trust, and that it was its province to regulate everything in politics, religion and social life. The Adamsons, of Massachusetts, and Jefferson, of Virginia, represented these conflicting political ideas. In communities where there was a division on these political questions, passions ran high. In an old file of a Pennsylvania paper of about 1815, the writer of these lines read a long and verbose communication, giving an account of the local preacher having read the Sunday previous the proclamation of Madison, announcing peace between this country and Great Britain. He charged that the divine had nailed the word of God to the desk and had lifted up that political monster, Madison; had preached politics; desecrated the sanctuary; in short, had committed the mortal sin.

These old fellows were a very religious, stern and dogmatic people. Their ancestors had been the victims of the most awful religious persecutions in the old world; they had been fugitives from the dungeons, the gibbets and the stake and faggot—ears cut off, tongues cut out, and branded as felons on the forehead—that is, those who had not been burned to ashes over slow fires. There was much iron in their blood, and almost any of them had been ever ready to die, without wincing, the most horrible death for opinion's sake. Their politics were but a second edition of their religion. And in either it was nearly impossible for them to tolerate any shadow of opposition to their cherished notions. Hence when political opinions were once formed they struck their roots deep in their strong natures. With an Eastern devotion they worshiped their political idols, and their hated enemies were little short of devils incarnate, and for them they seized the sword of Gideon and smote his majesty hip and thigh. But in all of them, thank God, was an intense and consuming hatred of tyranny. This had passed down in their blood from father to son through generations, ever growing in its intensity and added powers. Here happily for us, for all mankind, were the seeds bearing the fruits of our nation's liberties.

We have stated the era of the coming of the mill, the store, and the blacksmith shop in the proper order of time and importance to these pioneer people. In our chapter on schools it may be seen that the schoolmaster and the itinerant preacher preceded even these prime necessities. The little floorless, windowless, brush covered schoolhouse had been built, and here the master of the birch and ferule expounded the mysteries of the alphabet. The school-teacher was an awfully great man, but he stood second to the preacher, great as he was. The average person at that time was of those who supposed all perfect wisdom was lodged in the preacher. Such hallucinations passing through the ages had made preachers very dogmatic in expressing their judgments and men very credulous in accepting them. The good man stood between God's flaming sword and poor, trembling, frightened humanity. By night and by day, on the roadside and in the dark wilderness, at all times and everywhere, he pleaded with God to turn aside the cup of bitter dregs from the people, and in his sermons he would confess with tears in his eyes, and with choking sobs, that God was inappeasable—that the furies of hell had been unchained for a thousand years, and they stalked over the land gathering human fagots for the eternal fires. Mill and store and blacksmith shop and teacher and preacher were all and each important things in their day, filling imperative wants in their time. They would all be very insignificant affairs now, but in their day and time they well performed the great part given them to do. Bless their shades!

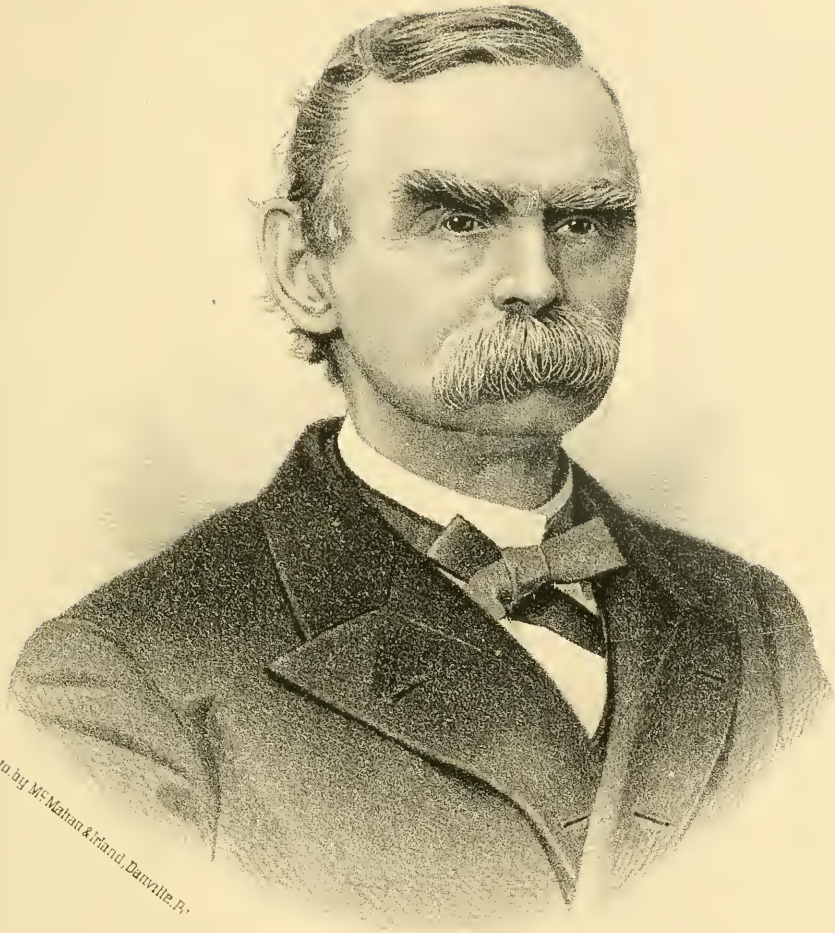


Photo by M. Mahan & Co., Danville, Va.

Thomas Chaffaw





Almost the first stroke of the woodman's ax disturbed the malaria of the valleys along the streams where it had brooded for perhaps ages, and sent it riding upon the wings of the wind carrying disease and death to the helpless people, making the doctor, his nauseous medicaments, his bleedings and hot-water, toast-water and elm-water a commanding necessity. Dr. Foster was the first, it seems, to heed the cry of these poor people, and came to Danville. Of his descendants are Mrs. Valentine Best, now of Danville. And side by side, even before the first days of the "post town," had been prepared a little plot of ground for "the silent city," then a goodly distance from the town, now apparently nearly in its very center. Here "the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep."

Before towns, mills, stores, blacksmith shops, schoolhouses or churches are provided, in all places in the world, wherever there is resident humanity, among the first is always the compulsory law of nature that compels a provision for a resting place for the dead. It is so written on the face of nature—the law of ceaseless change, from dust to life, from life to dust. Life, existence, death—change, change, change. The vast clock of God ticks off those inconceivable cycles of time, those immeasurable geological ages in one; the changes are the birth, the death, the decay—the smile of happiness, the sob of woe, but all is only change, eternal and ceaseless change; that is the economy, the very existence of nature, with the same laws everywhere in the universe, applicable to everything animate and inanimate. It is nature's way as well as all creation's highway. Nothing is more common than death; it reaches everything, and being so, it cannot be an evil. It is a base and bad education that imbues the mind with terrors of its approach, that points it as the king of terrors, that thinks of it with loathing and horror. Because it may be sweet to live, it does not perforce follow that it is the one supreme bitter to die. Nature did not so make it. Anything so common, so universal, could not be so made. To the tired and exhausted form, what is so sweet as the approach of sleep, and death is but the dreamless sleep that, undisturbed, goes on forever.

We communed with the early dead in the old Presbyterian Church Cemetery the other day, wandering between the little mounds and the white slabs of marble, here and there, where first began to gather the denizens of "the Silent City" in this, then far away, wilderness. It was then outside, away out from the haunts of the living; now the little three-acre plot of ground is nearly in the center of the city of the living. It is now fenced up with a low brick wall upon two sides, a barbed wire fence supplanting the brick wall that encloses two sides, and a high board wall on the other sides, and the gates are securely locked, and no more interments are to be made there. Already some of the sacred dust has been resurrected and removed to the newer place of burial, still away further upon the outside of the towns. Soon, no doubt, all will be removed.

Who was first buried here is not now known. It is said the third grave dug in the place was to receive the body of poor Curry, who was so brutally murdered by the Indians. The grounds have been well kept by the friends of the dead, but the first stones that marked the resting places are gone. The earliest legible stone now standing bears the date 1801. There are dates of earlier burials than this, but the stones were placed over them recently.

On many of the older stones the lettering is now very dim, and on some already illegible. So swiftly does time corrode and destroy the monuments builded by the hands. Nations, cities and bronze and granite monuments are but ephemeral things, and truly, as Lord Bacon has well said, the impressions of the types are the one enduring thing—they are like ships that sail between

the vast seas of time, making one nation partake of the thoughts and illuminations of another. The poems of Homer have come down to us through nearly 3,000 years without the loss of even a syllable. The printed sheets of paper, the frail records of papyrus outlast the adamant, and are capable of being ever renewed, and these alone are self-perpetuating. Frail, valueless sheet of white paper, blown about by the winds; a flash of flame, and it is gone like the snowflake on the river, yet touched with the type and you are the one human contrivance that may outlast all other work of the human hands. Thus how wisely it is ordered; the humblest may have to their memory monuments that will outlive the pyramids or the costliest mausoleums ever reared to potentate or king.

There were certainly burials here prior to 1784, and yet, as we have said above, there is no legible stone in it of an earlier date than 1801, and it is not absolutely certain this date can be correctly read. We could find the names of but three persons who were present at the Fourth of July celebration, 1807. In passing through this old, first graveyard, it was suggested to our minds in reading the inscriptions that here we could almost call the roll of that meeting, and we noted the following: John Sechler, died October 5, 1831, aged ninety-two years; Christina Sechler, born January 11, 1750, died October 5, 1825; John Sechler, Jr., died July 16, 1844, aged seventy-two years; Barbara, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Sechler, died January 6, 1807; mother Elizabeth Sechler died February 11, 1846; Sarah H. Sechler, died November 4, 1849; Herman Sechler, born October 4, 1793, died July 20, 1826; Jacob P. Sechler, died July 31, 1842; Hannah Sechler died January 7, 1829; Christina, wife of George Bert, died April 29, 1836, aged thirty-three years; Peter Kolb died January 5, 1845, aged seventy-four; Anna, wife of Thomas D. Siglar, died December 7, 1843; Rev. John Patterson, died May 8, 1843, aged seventy; his wife, Rebecca, died January 20, 1842, aged sixty; the son, John B. Patterson, died September 23, 1832, aged twenty one; John Boyd, died August 29, 1801, aged twenty-four (the "01" is so indistinct that this is not certain); Gen. William Montgomery died May 1, 1816, aged eighty; William Montgomery, Jr., born January 8, 1784, died at the age of twenty-two years; Gen. Daniel Montgomery died April 30, 1831, aged sixty-five; his widow, Christina, died November 15, 1848, aged seventy-seven; their daughter, Isabella, born August, 1794, died October, 1815; Daniel Strawbridge Montgomery died March 26, 1859, aged twenty-seven; Margaret (Montgomery) Woodside, born January 8, 1784, died aged twenty-two; Alexander Montgomery, born October 8, 1777, died May 29, 1848; Sarah Caldwell Watson, born May 13, 1815, died March 25, 1849; John Thomas, born May, 1802, died August 7, 1855; John Russell died June 6, 1851, aged seventy-three; his wife, Catharine F., died April 27, 1846, aged sixty-six; of their children, Robert died September 26, 1816; James F., died July 11, 1841; Daniel Cameron died March 16, 1831, aged fifty-five; Catharine Cameron died July 11, 1849, aged ninety-two; Mary (Childs) Cameron, relict of Daniel, born July 17, 1795, died July 14, 1873; John Gulic died November 2, 1837, aged sixty-six; Mary, his relict, died October 2, 1848, aged seventy-four; Isaac Gulic died April 29, 1862, aged sixty; Margaret, wife of John Gulic, born October 1, 1803, died October 20, 1855; Gilbert Voris died March, 1797; Jane Voris, October, 1816; James Childs, born June 16, 1793, died January 10, 1871; John Childs, born February 12, 1798, died December 12, 1867; Esther K. Childs died May 28, 1849, aged sixty-three; Margaret Childs died December 1, 1834, aged thirty-four; Mary Gragg, wife of John Childs, died July 31, 1846, aged eighty-five; Andrew Childs died May 7, 1864, aged seventy-four; Elizabeth, wife of James

Childs, born July 10, 1809, died October 11, 1875; James Kreaption, born 1796, died July 13, 1875; Thomas James died December 17, 1863, aged seventy-eight; his wife, Elizabeth, died October 12, 1865, aged seventy-two; James Everett died February 18, 1859, aged seventy-eight; his wife, Isabella, died January 19, 1849, aged seventy-one; their daughter, Fanny, died January, 1829; Obed Everett, born July 22, 1786, died March 30, 1852; Mary, born November 20, 1789, died April 14, 1852; Daniel Barton died April 27, 1808, aged seventy-one; his daughter, Emele, died November 5, 1819, aged thirteen; Thomas Cousart died August 29, 1853, aged fifty-nine; Robert Curry, born December 21, 1775, died December 14, 1857; his wife, Mary, died November 21, 1848, aged fifty-seven; William Curry, born June 16, 1778, died November 9, 1852; Jane Curry died April 21, 1825, aged seventy-five; Jane McWilliams died August 4, 1808, aged thirty; Elizabeth McWilliams died January 9, 1813, aged sixty-four; Mary, wife of William Caldwell, died December 15, 1853, aged seventy-seven; Andrew Clark, born in 1752, died in 1831; Mary, his wife, died August 3, 1806; their daughter, Florence, born May 19, 1792, died May 28, 1841; Catharine, consort of Orrin Sholes, died June 8, 1826, aged thirty-eight; Bridget, wife of Cyrus Sholes, died February 19, 1820, aged fifty-seven; Thomas Lemon died December 9, 1849, aged sixty-two; James Lemon died January 6, 1843, aged thirty-seven; James Lemon, Sr., died December 11, 1842, aged eighty-five; his wife, Rachel, died August 21, 1840, aged seventy-five; William Lemon died January 3, 1847, aged thirty-eight; Lucinda Lemon died September 3, 1849, aged twenty-two; John McCullough died November 15, 1832, aged fifty-two; Jane (Crawford) McCullough died September 12, 1853, aged sixty-six; George Miller died October 20, 1843, aged sixty-three; Edward Hathaway, born November, 1819, died December 8, 1875; Peter Blue died March 19, 1826, aged seventy-four; Mary (his wife) died September 28, 1838, aged seventy-nine; Hon. William Montgomery, son of Edward William, died January 8, 1846, aged seventy-three; his wife, Jane, died October 29, 1807; Daniel W. Montgomery, son of William, died August 28, 1830, aged thirty-nine; Capt. John S. Wilson died at Vera Cruz, April 12, 1847, aged thirty-five: he was captain of the Columbia guards; Joseph Cornelison, born May 17, 1789, died August 18, 1851; Lettia Cornelison, born July 7, 1778, died September 16, 1863; Sarah Cornelison, wife of E. Adams, died September 13, 1852, aged twenty-seven; on a broken stone that lies prone upon the ground is this: "Anna Grier departed this life September 10, 1828;" Robert C. McWilliams died March 4, 1832; Daniel Frazer died March 26, 1828, aged seventy-two; his wife, Isabella, died January 19, 1856, aged seventy-nine; Jane died January 2, 1828, aged twenty; Margaret died March 19, 1824, aged twenty-six; James died March 19, 1836, aged thirty six; Jacob Shultz died August 13, 1863, aged sixty-nine; his wife, Elizabeth, died August 26, 1858, aged fifty-five; Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Snyder, born May 19, 1827, died October 2, 1853; Hugh McWilliams, born 1799, died 1877; John Sundry, born July 22, 1799, died September 17, 1858; Stuart Cornelison, born May 12, 1831, died July 30, 1881; Benj. Gearhart died October 22, 1865, aged sixty-one; Mary Gearhart died November 12, 1867; Benjamin Gearhart died February 22, 1854, aged forty-four; Abner Pittner died October 21, 1867, aged fifty-three; Mary, his wife, died August 22, 1867, aged fifty-eight; John T. Nervine, born July 6, 1829, died November 13, 1872; Phoebe Agnes, wife of Isaiah Blue, died January 28, 1864, aged twenty-nine; Lucinda, daughter of John H. Russell, died April 14, 1851; Margaret, daughter of Alexander and Jane Montgomery, died March 18, 1876, aged fifty-eight; Jane Boyd, relict of Alexander Montgomery, died March 8, 1876, aged ninety-three;



John Best, born February 20, 1799, died December 19, 1870; Mary, relict of Andrew Russell, died November 11, 1866, aged eighty; Robert G. Russell, died August 15, 1872, aged fifty-three; Valentine Best, born March 8, 1801, died October 28, 1857; John C. Boyd died October 18, 1849, aged fifty-six; Hannah M. Boyd, his widow, died December 24, 1864, aged sixty-four; Charles R. Reynolds, born September 12, 1818, died May 7, 1842; Ann Maria Reynolds, born September 13, 1820, died January 2, 1839; Thomas Reynolds, born February 10, 1788, died August 8, 1880; Mary M., his wife, born May 20, 1791, died January 6, 1877; James N. Nolan, died March 31, 1857; Hannah Blue, born May 10, 1788, died April 6, 1870; John Blue, born March 7, 1788, died September 25, 1861; James Voris died May 24, 1866, aged seventy-eight; Anna Gray Voris died April 26, 1881, aged ninety-two; John Voris died April 5, 1848, aged thirty-five years, ten months; Elizabeth (Gulic) Wagner died October 27, 1842; Abraham Gulic died March 4, 1852; Priscilla Gulic died March 4, 1852, aged seventy-five; Daniel Cameron died March 16, 1834, aged fifty-five; Catharine Gulic died January, 1840, aged ninety-two; Robert Moore died March 20, 1871, aged sixty-six; Hugh McBride died December 2, 1808, aged sixty-eight; Mary McBride died December 3, 1818; Nathaniel McBride died June 30, 1821, aged fifty-seven; William Garrett, died September 20, 1842, aged fifty-nine; Sarah, his wife, died June 5, 1856, aged sixty-six; Elizabeth Ross, born April 11, 1761, died June 26, 1816; Jane Ross, died July 1, 1820; David Moore, born May 10, 1765, died March 12, 1829; Mary, born May 7, 1773, died August 16, 1825; M. C. Grier, died December 25, 1878, aged seventy; Isabella, J. M., died June 12, 1850, aged thirty-eight; John M. Mulfingher, born 1809, died May, 1869; Thomas Hays, died May 15, 1840, aged thirty-five; George Gearhart, son of George and Phœbe, died May 17, 1817, aged seventy-eight; Phœbe Gearhart, died June 21, 1845, aged fifty-two; Achsa Gearhart, died March 13, 1813, aged thirty-two; William C. Gearhart, died September 15, 1834, aged thirty-four; John Frazer, died August, 1821, aged seventy; Mary, his wife, died 1823; Eleanor, wife of George Wilson, died October 1, 1827, aged sixty-six; Rudolph Sechler, born February 22, 1773, died June 26, 1857; Susanah Sechler, died September 20, 1871, aged ninety years, nine months, two days.

The first rush of immigration to this portion of Pennsylvania had been effectually stopped by the incursions of hostile Indians. The Wyoming massacres are a shocking chapter in the history of that time. The first wave of pioneers had but touched this outer border when the mutterings of the swarming red devils from their hilly fastnesses sent the wildest alarms among the hapless and helpless settlers. Danville was perforce deserted, and the most of the people went to the forts for protection. This was a serious loss to the people; it was precious time to them gone in the clearing of their little truck patches, and preparing homes and providing food for their families. It must have taken some time to partially make amends for the sacrifices they made. This seriously retarded the early growth and building up of the town. Thus the eighteenth century passed and the present dawned, and six years of this century had come and gone before a postoffice was established in the place. Its growth was uncertain and slow until 1828. The produce of the farmer was at low prices and far from markets, with but the most primitive means of transportation over the most difficult highways. Gen. William Montgomery had had a grate made in his house after his own original idea, and was practically showing his neighbors that coal could be used as fuel. The avenues of commerce here had not then been opened. The people rafted lumber or rather logs down the river, and for some time this was practically the only real commerce

carried on. Early in the twenties the subject of a canal began to be talked about in a vague, indefinite way. The people had never heard of a railroad. They had only just heard of the steamboat, but their information and ideas of it were vague and nebulous. But the canal they understood and fully appreciated. It was the great and perfect highway to the markets of the world. The most daring thinkers of them no doubt anticipated the day when steamboats would ply the waters of the Susquehanna.\* But from these day dreams they would ever turn to the subject of a canal to Danville. This was the golden probability that argued itself into certainty at last. About the year 1820 the subject of a canal began to be seriously agitated. In 1826 the State entered upon a system of internal improvements. Gen. Daniel Montgomery, most fortunately, was that year appointed one of the canal commissioners, and became president of the board. In 1826-27 the canal was surveyed and located, and in 1832 the water was turned in—the canal was completed. And the great era in the history of the town then dawned—the year 1832.

## FIFTY-SIX YEARS AGO.

Mr. John Frazer removed from Danville in 1831, and on the fiftieth anniversary of his departure for "my own, my native land," he jotted down his recollections, and the picture he recalls of the people of that distant day is very interesting. The following is the substance of his recollections:

"The population of the village was then 740; the buildings numbered eighty; most of these were dwelling-houses on Water, Market and Mill Streets. They were bounded by the river, Church Street, Sechler's Run and Factory Street; these limits were very much less than the present area of the borough. They were chiefly frames, but many of the primitive log buildings yet remained. The brick buildings were the courthouse, Goodman's Tavern, Dr. Petrikin's and Mr. Frick's residences and Mr. Baldy's store. Subsequently many brick structures were erected, all, or nearly all of which remain.

"The pursuits of the citizens were confined to the ordinary mechanical trades, the professions, and, for so small a population, a large amount of merchandising. There was scarcely a germ of the manufacturing interest which has grown to be of such vast importance since that day. About 1817, on Market Street, near Pine, William Mann manufactured nails in a primitive way by hand. The bars or hoops of nail iron were cut by a machine worked by a treadle with the foot, and by a second operation the heads of the nails were formed by a blow or two with a hammer; by unremitting industry, I suppose a workman could produce as many nails in a month as one can now, by the aid of machinery, in a single day. And this simple, modest manufacture was the precursor of the immense iron manufactures of the present time, which has earned for the place a high reputation excelled by few in that industrial pursuit, and it has been the cause of the rapid increase of the population of the place, so that it now more than equals all the residue of the county.

"The nucleus of the settlement, around which the accretion of population was subsequently gathered, was American, originating during the last two decades of the last century by emigration from southeastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, Sunbury and Northumberland. To these were added, from time to time, European emigrants—chiefly German, British, Irish and Swiss, a few French and Dutch, possibly some Danes and Swedes. Of British

\*In 1824 the "Codorus," a little steamboat, actually arrived at Danville on an experimental trip up the Susquehanna. The town rejoiced, and a great holiday was had; the officers were fed and toasted at the old Cross Keys Hotel that stood on the bank of the river. Everybody attended, everybody rejoiced—the long night had broken away. The boat proceeded on her way to Berwick, and there exploded her boilers, killing some of the crew. The boat and the bright visions of navigating the river were gone, never to return.

emigrants up to that date I do not recollect a single Welshman, although they soon after became a most important element of population employed in the iron manufacture. These apparently discordant elements soon yielded to the potent attraction of association, so that early in the present century the homogeneity of the young and vigorous community was assured. Seldom did any people enjoy a more happy harmony. This uniformity extended both to religion and politics. They derived their revealed theology from the Bible, as expounded by the followers of Calvin and Knox; their moral theology from the Presbyterian pulpit, the Westminster catechism, and, to no inconsiderable extent, from Milton's 'Paradise Lost,' which was received as a commentary by some, as a supplement by others. With what awe they read:

Of Providence, foreknowledge, will, and fate;  
Fixed fate, free will, foreknowledge absolute.

" 'Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress' was also a work of great authority. The libraries were very limited; neither Aristotle, nor Pliny, nor Buffon were in demand; but 'Æsop's Fables,' 'Weem's Life of Washington,' 'Cook's Voyages,' and 'Riley's Narrative' were among the most popular books for miscellaneous reading. 'Shakespeare's Plays' were placed on the *index purgatorius* by some, and few advocated their general use. The venerable Dr. Nott, who was president of Union College for the unprecedented term of sixty-two years, used to say to the students: 'If you want to get a knowledge of the world and human nature, read the Bible; but if you will read any other books, read Homer and Shakspeare. They come nearer Moses and Paul than any others I am acquainted with.' 'Fox's Book of Martyrs' was esteemed a much more suitable book for youthful readers than the great English bard; they were also allowed that most captivating of boys' books, 'Robinson Crusoe.'

" All were not Calvinists; yet, under the wise and judicious pastorate of that good and faithful shepherd, Rev. John B. Patterson, ever honored for his blameless life and onostentatious piety, they were kept within one fold and one baptism until the close of his long ministry. He was occasionally aided by pastors from neighboring towns. I can now recall the names of Rev. Messrs. Dunham, William Smith, Nicholas Patterson, Isaac Grier, John Bryson, and Hood.

" The Rev. William B. Montgomery and his wife, *nee* Jane Robinson, of the Presbyterian Church, the devoted missionaries to the Osage Indians, had recently departed for Union Station, the scene of their labors, which then seemed to us tenfold more remote than Japan does now, and took a longer time in journeying thither. For more than thirty years they labored there, under great privations, until they both fell victims to epidemic cholera.

" For a number of years the followers of Wesley increased in number, and through the zeal and labors of William Woods, William Hartman, William Whitaker, of the village, Judge Jacob Gearhart, of Rush Township, and others, a church was established about 1815. It was supplied by itinerant preachers. Of these, I can now only recall the name of Rev. George Dawson. There was a local preacher, Simons by name, who occasionally exhorted and preached at his own house, on Market near Church Street. I well remember the appearance of these devoted itinerant preachers in their journeys around the circuit, with their jaded horses, their portmanteau and umbrella tied on behind their saddle, and hat covered with oil cloth to protect it from the storms, and their extremely plain garb, such as I saw Lorenzo Dow wear at a subsequent date.



“The Catholics, now so numerous, were scarcely known as sectaries, Michael Rafferty and Francis Trainor being the only two I can recollect. The Rev. Mr. Kay, a Socinian or Unitarian, preached at times, but without making proselytes. The Rev. Mr. Shepherd, a Baptist of the Campbellite portion of that sect, preached occasionally. He was an eloquent and popular divine. There were a number of Lutherans, to whom Rev. Mr. Kesler, from the vicinity of Bloomsburg, preached at long intervals. The Episcopalians were not numerous, and it was suggested that they and the Lutherans unite and form a union church; but this was impracticable, and the former erected, own, and occupy the church edifice on Market Street, on ground included in what at an early day was called Rudy's woods. These sectaries were all destitute of church buildings except the Grove Church. This was the spacious log church, built more than forty years before the time of which I write, in the form of a T, and was amply large for the congregation. Besides the sects named I can recall none others of that date. The old log church had recently been demolished and F. Birkenbine was building a brick church edifice under a contract with James Donaldson, Robert Curry, Robert C. Grier, Herman Sechler and John C. Boyd, the trustees, for the consideration of \$1,775.

“The social relations of the community were eminently pacific and cordial, doubtless promoted by the matrimonial unions between members of the several very large families of some of the early emigrants. The Montgomerys, of whom there were two brothers—Daniel Montgomery the elder, and his brother, Gen. William Montgomery, whose sons were Gen. Daniel, Col. John, and Alexander. The son of the senior Daniel Montgomery was Judge William Montgomery. The Woodside family was a large one, consisting of Thomas, Archibald, John, James, Daniel, William and Robert; of the Moores—Asa, John, Abner, Burrows, Samuel, Charles, Andrew Y., Edward S., and several daughters; of the Mouses—George, Elizabeth, Philip, Susan, Samuel, Lewis, Charles, Joseph and Jacob W.; of the Sechlers, I recollect Rudolph, George, John, Jacob, Samuel and Harmon. At a later date came Mrs. Cornelison and her children: Joseph, William, Jacob, Isaac, Cornelius, James, Ann and Mercy; of the Whitakers—John, Thomas, William H., Irwin, Jane, Elizabeth, Polly, Nancy, Fanny and Juliana; William Wilson, the long time justice of the peace, with a large family of eleven children and their descendants, now numbering about 100. There were also the Clarks, Gearharts, Gaskinses, Blues, Rishels, Phillipses, Diehls, Sanderses, Fousts, Frazers, Donaldsons, Willitses and Brewers.

“Many of the pioneer customs still prevailed. Manufactures of the most pressing necessity were found in almost every household: the spinning-wheel for tow and flax; the big wheel, as it was called, for woolen yarn. These were woven in the place, and made into clothing at home, and most of the villagers and their children were clad in these domestic suits. The tailor and shoemaker itinerated here and in the vicinity and were almost constantly employed. A dwelling without a detached bake-oven would have been deemed incomplete; there were no bakers by profession, and of necessity each housewife was her own baker. The Franklin stove and the six-plate stove were still in use; the ten-plate stoves had recently been introduced and were a great improvement on the former, as much so as the palace cook and heater are upon the latter. Our stoves were then manufactured by Mr. Hauck, and bore the legend, JOHN HAUCK, *Catawissa Furnace*; and it was one of the mysteries that troubled the brains of the boys, how it ever got there in iron letters, as much as did the effect of the music of Orpheus, which ‘drew iron tears down Pluto's cheek.’

“By industry and frugality the people lived in comparative comfort, paid their preacher and school-master promptly, and their printer as soon as convenient, thereby preserving a good conscience and securing peace of mind.

“The school-master was abroad. Thomas Grier taught a classical school and prepared boys for college. Stephen Half also taught a private school, and Rev. Mr. Painter was principal of the Danville Academy, then a new institution. The predecessors of these were Master Gibson, who taught in the old log schoolhouse near the first edifice of the Grove Church; Messrs. Andrew Forsythe, John Moore, Thomas W. Bell, Don Carlos Barret, an eminent teacher; John Richards; Samuel Kirkham, the distinguished grammarian, and Ellis Hughes, a most competent and successful educator, favorably remembered by many of his pupils still living.

“The houses were then chiefly on Water, Mill and Market Streets, and, with scarcely an exception, had gardens attached to them, with a portion of each allotted to flowers. The damascene rose, guelder rose, flowering almond, peony, narcissus, lilac, lily, pink, and other familiar floral productions were wont to ornament it and make it ‘unprofitably gay.’ The boys, after school hours, often reluctantly, tried their ‘prentice hands at horticulture, and the most onerous part of their labor was the removal of the water-worn stone, rounded by attrition in by-gone antediluvian ages, in oceanic currents. They abounded on Market Street lots and other elevated portions of the village. Doubtless by this time a succession of youthful gardeners have removed them all and made horticultural pursuits less laborious.

“Amongst other amusements the boys enjoyed skating, sledding, sleighing, nutting, trapping, fishing, playing ball, bathing in the river and in the Mahoning; in the latter, west of Factory Street, hard by a buttonwood or sycamore, was a famous bathing place. Flying kite and playing marbles in the spring, were not forgotten. All these afforded them the needed recreation from study and labor.

“But I must not omit the muster days of the military. The old Rifle Blues was one of the oldest, if not the oldest, volunteer military organization of the county. The Light Dragoons, Captain Clarke, were the admiration of all the boys of the place, and their parades were gala days. The Columbia Guards was a fine company of infantry, numbering over sixty, commanded by Captain James Carson. The train band, Captain Yorks, was also one of the institutions of that day. The regimental musters were generally held at Washingtonville, and drew together crowds of spectators to witness their grand maneuvers, discuss politics and tavern dinners.

“The *Watchman* was then the only newspaper. George Sweeny, the veteran editor, was its proprietor. He had published the *Columbian Gazette* in 1813, which was succeeded by the *Express*, by Jonathan Lodge in 1815, and afterward by Lodge & Caruthers. The *Watchman* was established in 1820. It was published on Market Street, east of Ferry, and had a sign in front of the office, upon which was painted the head of Franklin with the legend from Milton, ‘Where liberty dwells, there is my country.’ There were then few painted signs in the place, and this one was very conspicuous. Although the *Watchman* was not half the size of the *American* it was esteemed a grand journal, and had great influence in the politics of the county. It was made up chiefly by copy from other papers, and seldom contained editorial articles. Readers were not so exacting then as in these latter days.

“The politics of the village like those of the county, were largely Democratic. What Democratic principles were I had no very definite idea, but had a vague impression that they were just the reverse of Federal principles, and I suppose



*J. O. Van Alen*





that this negative definition quadrated with the ideas of the dominant party. State politics absorbed the attention of politicians and banished from their minds national politics to an extent that must have gladdened the hearts of those stolid politicians, the States' rights men. I remember how a villager pertinaciously urged the nomination of Gen. Jackson for governor, and he honestly believed that the gubernatorial honor was the highest that could be conferred upon the old hero.

"The members of the bar were few in number. Ebenezer Greenough had recently removed to Sunbury. Judge Grier, from his profound legal attainments and fine scholarship, stood at the head of his profession. Alem Marr, the pioneer lawyer, was a good classical scholar and a graduate of Princeton. He represented the district in Congress in 1829. LeGrand Bancroft was district attorney. The other members were George A. Frick, William G. Hurley, John Cooper, James Carson and Robert McP. McDowell. A short time subsequently John G. Montgomery, Paul Leidy and Joshua W. Comly were added to the number. All of them are deceased except the latter.

"The medical men were not numerous. The first in the place was Dr. Forrest, the grandfather of Mrs. Valentine Best; his successor, Dr. Barrett; his, Drs. Petrikin and Daniels. At the period of which I write there were also Drs. McDowell and Magill. The latter was then a young practitioner in the beginning of his long and successful career, and now remains, beyond the age of four-score years, the honored head of the profession, which has increased fourfold since he became a member of it. And now Danville began to rear medical men of her own. Herman Gearhart and Alexander C. Donaldson were initiated into the profession under the tuition of Dr. Petrikin. At the same time Samuel Montgomery and Matthew Patterson were divinity students. John Martin was a law student in Mr. Marr's office, and subsequently practiced in Clearfield County.

"Gen. Daniel Montgomery was the first merchant, but, having acquired a fortune, was now residing on his fine farm a mile or two above town. His cousin, Judge William Montgomery, an old citizen, was now the oldest merchant, with his store corner of Mill and Market Streets and his residence on the opposite corner. He bore his full share in the burden of improving and bettering the condition of his fellow-men; was one of the pillars of the church and founder of the first Sunday-school when many others, if not opposed to it, aided it only in a perfunctory way, and he lived to see it permanently established. Peter Baldy, though still a young merchant, was engaged in an extensive business and dealt largely in grain. He commenced in the old log building which had been occupied by King & Hamilton; from thence, he removed to his well known store on Mill Street where he continued his business for half a century, when he retired, having accumulated a fortune. The other merchants were John Moore, John Russell and William Colt, all old and esteemed citizens; and William Bickley, Boyd & Montgomery, John C. & Michael C. Grier, and Michael Ephlin who had more recently engaged in business. Mr. Loughhead had retired from business to devote his time to the post-office, and Jeremiah Evans had recently moved to Mercersburg.

"The old Cross-Keys tavern, kept by Mrs. Jemima Donaldson, was the best in the county and it is doubtful whether it has been surpassed to this day. The Union Hotel, the first three-story brick building and the best one in the place was built and kept by Philip Goodman. John Irwin kept a tavern corner of Market and Ferry Streets; and the most ancient hostelry of them all, the Rising Sun, the old red house at the foot of Mill Street with the walnut tree at the door, and its crowd of devotees of Bacchus who made it resound with

Midnight shout and revelry,  
Topsy dance and jollity.

“The Ferry tavern by George Barnhart, where I often hurried by, fearing the sound of the fiddle, judging that old Satan could not be far distant from the violin, thus condemning that first of musical instruments, from its association with much that is vile. Then there was the Jackson tavern, Mill Street near Mahoning, by William Clark, a soldier of the Revolution, with the likeness of Gen. Jackson painted on its sign, thus superseding that of Washington, as the latter in its day had replaced that of George III, *tempori parendum*. The taverns then had a monopoly of retailing intoxicating liquors, dealing them out by the gill; and rye whisky was the chief liquor used, and doubtless was less hurtful than the villainous compound now sold under that name. Some who then indulged in ‘potations pottle deep’ nevertheless attained a great age; when any one of them was warned against indulging too freely in it, as it was a slow poison, he replied that he was aware of that for he had been using it sixty years and it must be *very slow*. The coffee-houses, now destitute of coffee, the saloons, groceries and other refined modern drinking places were then unknown. In addition to these taverns Mrs. Spence kept a boarding-house, and had for her guests some of the most respectable people of the place.

“Amongst the active and industrious citizens were the blacksmiths. John Lunger was one of the earliest, and had a shop on Ferry Street. John Deen’s smithy was on Market near Ferry Street, where by many and well-directed blows he hammered out a fortune. Joseph Cornelison’s was on Mahoning near Mill Street.

“George McCulley was one of the pioneer carpenters and removed to Ohio, near Wooster, where some of his descendants still reside. Daniel Cameron, a worthy Scot and the great pedestrian who walked from Harrisburg to Danville in a day without deeming it any great exploit, was a skillful carpenter and builder. Adam Schuyler and George Lott were also engaged in that business.

“The chairmakers were William Hartman who was also a wheelwright, and the brothers Kirk. William Mann was also engaged in that calling for a year or two.

“Shoemakers—William Woods, Gideon Mellon, Henry Sanders, Thomas Wiley.

“Tailors—William M. Wiley, who removed to Harrisburg; William Whitaker, Amos E. Kitchen. William Ingold was a vagrant workman who plied his needle at the houses of his employers, and was noted for his quips and quirks and idle pranks, whereby he amused and often astonished the boys of the village.

“Honest John Reynolds, from Reading, was the veteran hatter, who for long years supplied men and boys with hats. Martin McCollister was a more recent and very skillful workman.

“Thomas Blackwell carried on the fulling-mill and saw-mill near what is now the junction of Mill and Bloom Streets.

“The first brewer was Richard Matchin. The citizens of that day were not, as we now phrase it, educated up to a due appreciation of that beverage, consequently it proved less profitable than brewing lager, weiss and buck beer at the present time.

“George Wilson was the first cabinet-maker, and some of his substantial old-style furniture has survived to the present day. Burrows Moore was long engaged in the same business.

“The Scotch weavers had been famous in the early days of the settlement. Of those who were engaged in the business fifty years since I can now only



recall the names of Christopher Smith and Peter Goodman. The latter was a most respectable and industrious German from the Fatherland.

"Coppersmiths and tanners—Alexander Wilson, James Wilson, John C. Theil.

"Watchmaker and jeweler, Samuel Maus.

"There were several saddlers—Alexander Best, Hugh Flack, Daniel Hoffman, and possibly others.

"Rifles were in demand, and had always been much used by the pioneers. These were supplied by Samuel Baum and George Miller; the son of the latter succeeded him and still continues the business.

"Of public functionaries, we had but few, and their removals were few and far between. In the language of an eminent statesman it might then have been truly said: "Few die and none resign." Judge Seth Chapman was long the presiding judge of our courts. He was a man of moderate legal attainments, yet he made a good presiding officer. He was assisted by his associates, Judges Montgomery and Rupert. George A. Frick was prothonotary, having been appointed to that office by Gov. Snyder in 1813.

"William Wilson, Rudolph Sechler and Joseph Prutzman were the justices of the peace; Andrew McReynolds, sheriff; Daniel Cameron, constable. Mr. Sechler was also register and recorder. James Loughead, a dignified yet popular gentleman of English origin, was postmaster, and held the office for the long term of fourteen years, twice as long as any other with one exception. The office was first established in 1806, Judge Montgomery being the first one appointed, and held his commission from President Jefferson, and filled the office for seven years. This just and pious man discharged this trust, as he did all others, to the entire satisfaction of the Government and the community. He was succeeded by that other faithful public servant, Rudolph Sechler, who held it for a like term of seven years, until Mr. Loughead's appointment. I never knew a more honest man than Mr. Sechler. With him it was innate. He could not be otherwise than honest. His countenance, his actions, his words, in short everything about him proclaimed his sterling integrity; and what gave a charm to it he was quite unconscious of his being more honest than other men. Of his large number of connections I never knew one whose integrity was called in question. It is highly gratifying to know that in the seventy years the office has been in existence, there has never been a defaulter to the National Government, and that all of the thirteen incumbents of the office have diligently and faithfully discharged the trust reposed in them.

"One of the eccentric characters of the vicinity was Mr. Finney, who died ten or twelve years subsequent to the period of which I write, almost a centenarian. He was a man of gallantry, a kind of Beau Nash of more than eighty, with a peculiar child-like tenor voice, who delighted to play the gallant with the young ladies of the village, and drive them around the place and vicinity in his old-style chaise. Robin Finney, as he was always called, from his great age and attention to the fair sex, was a great favorite with them, and was well known to the people of that day. His chaise and one owned by Gen. D. Montgomery and one by Judge Montgomery were the only pleasure carriages of that kind in the county. The old time carriage of Philip Maus, which attracted the attention and excited the wonder of the village urchins, and the more modern carriage of Gen. Montgomery were the only pleasure carriages of that style. Traveling on horseback was then the proper thing for both sexes, old and young, gentle and simple, and its general disuse is to be regretted.

“Abe Brown was an African, or an American of African descent, and the only one in the place. He had been a mariner, and after he came here, was a servant to Mr. Loughead. He immigrated to Mahoning County, Ohio, where by industry and frugality he acquired a competency and enjoys the respect of the community where he resides. Jack Harris was an octoroon, a fine looking lad, and so nearly white that he might pass for an Anglo-American. Though not darker than a brunette, the rude boys persisted in calling him Black Jack. These boys attended the schools and were treated with justice.

“The great flood of 1817, usually called the August flood, surrounded the place so that, for the time, it became insular. The only approach was by boats. I saw the bridge over the brook on the road, then an extension of Church Street, float away with a man on it who secured it before it reached the river.

“The inhabitants were supplied with flour from the mills of John and Alexander Montgomery and Joseph Maus, all propelled by the water of the Mahoning. Farmers in the vicinity took their grain in sacks to the mills; the miller ground it for a toll of one-tenth. Except for the Baltimore, Philadelphia, or Reading markets, it was seldom put up in barrels. Steam power had not been introduced in the place or neighborhood, except at Boyd’s mill, which was then a new one on the left bank of the river above town.

“Whisky was the Archimedean lever that moved the world. Contracts could not be made or performed without its potent aid. The merchant kept it on his counter, for his customers would not purchase goods without it. It was indispensable at musters and elections. The farmer’s fields could not be cultivated without its use as a motor. Mr. Robinson, in the vicinity, offered the laborers who were employed in his harvest fields extra pay if they would dispense with it, but they refused. The temperance cause was advocated by its friends, but its opponents, numerous, defiant and violent, determined that their liberties should not be subverted by a few fanatics who were worse than the Federals.

“The half century just closed has been an eventful, almost a marvelous one. In 1826 we had no railways, telegraphs, type-writers, gas, petroleum, no canals, iron furnaces, forges, rolling-mills; no bridge over the river, no fire engines of any kind, nor many other indispensable improvements, deprived of which we would speedily retrograde to what we were at that period. The population has increased more than tenfold, and Danville has kept pace with the rest of the world, and shown an energy and perseverance worthy of her, notwithstanding the many depressions and conflicts incident to her position as a great manufacturing center. Her numerous sons, dispersed throughout the great West, and in other portions of our vast republic, now in exile from her borders, look with pride upon her onward course in material prosperity, and her commendable progress in religion, morals, and science, the social virtues and the amenities of life, which they trust may continue, and enable her, for all future time, to maintain her elevated position in the good old commonwealth.

“There was an old tradition, or rather a prophecy, among the Indians that roamed about the Susquehanna, that great floods in this river occurred at regular intervals of fourteen years. The first great flood of which we have any account was in 1744; the second in 1758; the third in 1772, and that which is known as the great ‘pumpkin flood’ was in 1786—there being just fourteen years between each of these floods. The ‘pumpkin flood’ was in the month of October, and was so designated on account of the immense number of pumpkins that floated down the stream from the fields above. It began to

rain on the 5th of October, 1786, and rained incessantly for several days. The water rose rapidly and swept all before it. Several persons were drowned near the place now called Rupert, and at Sunbury houses were overflowed and many people were lost. Northumberland was also flooded and much damage was done. This flood was long remembered and known among the old settlers as 'the great pumpkin flood.' In the spring of 1800, just fourteen years after the 'pumpkin flood,' another great freshet occurred. It rained three days and three nights, carrying off a deep snow and doing much damage. In 1814 there was another destructive flood that caused much loss of life and property. Here the old Indian tradition that floods occurred every fourteen years failed; for the next was in 1817, after an interval of only three years. The next flood of note was in 1847. If there were any from 1817 to 1847 we have no record of them. Many will remember that of 1859, which also raised the water in the North Branch over eight feet above high water mark. Still more vividly do they remember the extraordinary flood of March, 1865. The exciting scenes in Danville on the 17th and 18th of that month will never be forgotten. The river began to rise on Friday, and on Saturday the water rose to four feet above the highest flood on record. A great portion of Danville was overflowed and many families were compelled to leave their homes in haste. Women and children were taken from their houses in boats. The whole district from Sageburg to Mill Street was covered with water reaching up Mulberry Street and to the scales in front of the Montgomery building. The low lands along the Mahoning were also under water. On Mulberry as well as on Mill Street boats and rafts were moving among the houses and gliding high over the gardens. The river bridge was much injured but withstood the onset. Many stables and other buildings floated about and found new and strange foundations as the water receded, without any regard to the side that was up or down. Only one man, Peter Green, was drowned at this place. He fell into the Mahoning from a small raft while attempting to supply his family with coal. His body was recovered and properly cared for. Another great flood in the North Branch in 1875 took the river bridge that had so long withstood the assaults of the angry torrent, but when the Catawissa bridge came down and struck it broadside it had to yield. It has since been rebuilt more substantially than before. There was another great freshet on the 12th of February, 1881.'

This account of fifty-six years ago rounds out the first half-century of Danville, completing the history to the second and important event in the town's history. The opening of the canal started the second era in the town's growth and its permanent and solid development. As soon as the building of a canal became an assured fact, men of enterprise and capital, anticipating the results to flow along with its completion, began to rapidly come to the place. Capital was attracted here, labor came where it was sure of ready employment at living wages. Iron ore was here in great abundance and the best quality, and the canal brought the coal fields almost to our door, and soon the movement was on foot that moved with mighty strides to the building of the great factories that have made the name of Danville familiar throughout the commercial world.

#### INCORPORATION AS A BOROUGH.

Danville became an incorporated borough in 1849. Its growth from its settlement until the building of the canal had been very slow, the improvements more than keeping pace with the additions to the population. In 1840 the population was 1,100. In the next decade, however, it was increased over 200 per cent and in the next half-decade, 1855, to 6,000 and in 1857 to 8,000.



In that day this was unprecedented. The present stationary condition of the town shows that the large part of this population was drawn here by the iron manufactories. In 1849 it was reaching rapidly its importance and growth as a manufacturing town. In the establishment of its manufactories, the public and private buildings, and its commerce and increase of capital in every line of industry, were then widely known and began to give the place an enviable reputation throughout the country.

When made a borough it was divided into two wards. Its official machinery was simple, economical and effective. The freshets in the river had suggested that the lower parts of the town must be raised to an established grade to prevent the injurious overflows. In 1852 Northumberland Street was filled up to grade. At different times fills had been made in the low parts of Mill and other streets in the near vicinity of the canal. The fills on these streets can be readily seen by their present elevation above the tow-path of the canal. This is not indicative of all the fill, because in deepening the canal, which was done at different times, this was effected by raising the sides or tow-path, and here there is nearly an average fill of three feet above the natural surface of the ground.

In 1855 the borough limits were enlarged and for the first time accurately defined as they exist now. These limits contain 996 acres, lying in greatest length along the river and extending back to Montour's Ridge. There were only two wards until 1867, when the divisions were made into four wards, and by this change twelve councilmen were provided for, or three from each ward. At the then following election three alderman were elected in each ward to serve respectively one, two and three years, and one to be elected at each succeeding annual election to serve three years.

In common with the entire country the business of the place suffered a check from the financial panic of 1857. This was especially felt in its large iron mills, but was only temporary. It had disappeared in 1859. In the latter part of 1860 the portentous war clouds were lowering upon the country, and in 1861 the storm broke and the Nation trembled in the throes of war. The imperative wants of the country had soon set to work the busy machinery of Danville, and again the tide ran high in all its lines of industry. The demand in the ranks of the army upon employers and laborers was great, but great as it was it was met with an enthusiastic rush, and in Danville as everywhere in all the land, men were going and coming, the prices of labor and commodities went up and up, wants increased, the flow of money from the government center was immense, which rapidly circulated among the people and they were exuberant and intoxicated with patriotism, and money getting, and this rapidly bred extravagant habits in the majority and colossal fortunes in the hands of many. The war over and people again settling down to the attempt to try the old fashioned anti-war simplicity and sobriety, that had unconsciously passed away and apparently never to return, and hence to many the times were out of joint, and others were at a loss to readjust themselves, or, to use the term that was then applied properly only to the revolted States, to put on and wear gracefully the new habiliments of reconstruction. The war left the country flooded with cheap money and flush times. Men no longer hesitated to go in debt, to pay the heaviest discounts upon the glittering but deceptive future. The thinkers of pessimistic tendency argued that the war closed, the debris cleared away, that the reaction would swiftly come that would engulf every daring adventurer. But the war closed in 1865, and a lustrum of years had come and gone and financial prosperity only swelled its daily great volume. The reaction had not come. The pessimist ceased to warn, the optimist confidently

told himself that the resistless stream of prosperity could not be stopped or changed in its onrushing course. Had not the northern patriots put down at incalculable sacrifices the monster rebellion? The South was crushed, pauperized and millions of slaves were freed, and no longer did northern labor have to contend against the unpaid slave labor of the country. Was not Providence justice? Was it a farthing more, indeed, but a pitiful recompense for our great sacrifices that this stream of financial and industrial prosperity should flow on forever?

To these golden dreams came the fatal year, 1873. The telegraph flashed the simple announcement, but really portentous news over the land, "Jay Cook's failure," and in a day the average business man of the country was in fact a bankrupt. The sad scenes around the bankrupt courts exceeded even those in England when the great South Sea Bubble burst. May a return of the like be ever spared our land! We had trampled upon every financial law of political economy, and we had to pay the most fearful penalties, compounding the interest to the most implacable Shylock that ever demanded the pound of flesh from nearest the human heart.

In this financial revolution, following upon the heels of the social and moral upheaval of the times, Danville, because of its distance from the great cities, probably suffered less severely than the majority of places of its size. But still it felt severely the shock. It to-day bears the marks of the wounds thus inflicted, although a decade of years have come and gone since the great panic passed away. The financial, commercial and industrial history of the town from the commencement of the war to the present is contained in the history of the country during that period—a history yet to be written, but a fruitful and instructive theme indeed, to the historian able to write it.

#### INDUSTRIES.

Some learned sociologist has concluded that the true measure of a people's degree of civilization is the amount of soap they use. The correctness of this depends. In many a pioneer settlement of 100 years ago so pinched were the people for every necessity of life, that the wild "bee trees" were hunted and the only make-shift possible for soap was to use honey; and the advance along the line of washing, not barring the pig-tailed Mr. Washee, is the use of gasoline now-a-days in washing the belle's kid gloves or her floating cloud-like snowy white or delicately tinted party dress. This honey at one end of the line, then the thousand substitutes in the middle and gasoline at the other extremity—there is no fair standard here to measure either our beauty, cleanliness or civilization. Then, too, where this soap philosopher expounded his discovery, the world was jogging contentedly along in much simplicity and dirt, and in total ignorance of what the near future had in store for their children's delectation and advancement. The little rill that is now the great swollen stream had just then started on its course too insignificant then to attract attention, while now in the language of the western poet when he, like De Soto, first stood upon the bank of the Mississippi River, and his muse fired by the grandeur of the view exclaimed: "Great Father of Waters, so wide that you cannot hear its roar!" This poetical paradox well expresses the growth and extent of modern inventions and improvements in all the arts—especially in the manufacture of iron, that now has reached that degree of perfection and magnitude that the soap sociologist, were he alive, would revise his philosophy and say that the true gauge is iron.

In Bucks County in this State those dear old Revolutionary fighting fathers got iron and made common balls to fire at the hated red coats. Perhaps just

a little previously, some ingenious Yankee-Deutcher had succeeded in making a heating stove, or at least a kind of iron box to put fire in, perhaps the primitive idea of the old foot stove only a little changed and enlarged; and thus, making stoves to warm ourselves and cannon balls to warm the Hessians, commenced in this country the little rill that is now the stream "so great that you cannot hear its roar." The camping hunter had not then discovered for us the fact that the "black rock" would burn, but the discovery of coal as a fuel quickly followed the making of the first stove and the casting of those holy cannon balls, and at that very hour Fulton was brewing in his great brain the steamboat that in 1809 made its immortal trial trip on the Hudson. Then, too, Benjamin Franklin was flying his kites, himself, as he says, "holding the end of one string and another goose holding by its neck the other string," when the lightning, realizing its great master had come, playfully and in "sportive twists" ran down the wrong string and "liked to have killed the wrong goose." Thus, link by link, the great chain was forged and welded from the outcropping iron ore that has made this the age of iron, the era of civilization—wonderful, incomparable! These are the true children of immortality. The thoughts and inventions of genius alone are immortal, they endure forever. Like the laws of nature their work goes on perpetually, ever increasing, ever growing, multiplying in compound ratio like the unseen drops of water and particles of gases in the bowels of the earth that ignite and produce the earthquake—self increasing, self perpetuating, casting their seeds in the minds of other men, encircling the globe, widening, deepening, strengthening forever. What are the stupid imaginings of the fabled gods? What the world's common accepted ideas of its great benefactors, great men, compared to these immortal inventors and thinkers? Place the fame and glory of Napoleon by the side of that nameless hunter who discovered the use of coal, then think of the agony, destruction and woe that came into this world with the great warrior, and remember what has come of the results of the simple hunter's observations about his lonely camp fire—how mean and horrible the one, how grand and great and good the other. The one only destroyed, the other created—the one was only evil, and like all evil things has passed away in its effects; the other was only good, and like all good, lives and grows through all time. When our schools and churches have time to look about them, to behold this vast sweep of growth of this century, it is to be hoped they will begin to impress upon the young and growing minds the heaven sent truth that generally the world's heroes and great men are but unspeakable shams and frauds—send them to the dust bins, spit upon them—the whole horde of humbugs and windbags! Away with them, with whips of scorpions pursue them and their miserable memories from the world!

The pioneer here in the production of iron was Mr. Bird Patterson. He built a charcoal furnace in 1838. It stood near where the Catawissa railroad now passes, just beyond the Mahoning steam mill. With the introduction of anthracite coal as a fuel in iron manufacture it was abandoned and eventually fell into ruin. This, in order to designate the different furnaces, was called "No. 1."

*Montour Iron and Steel Works.*—About 1840 Chambers & Biddle built Nos. 2 and 3—the twin furnaces, and these were the first in the country that used anthracite coal. It is said that Benjamin Perry was the leading spirit in the production of anthracite iron. Furnace No. 4 was built in 1845. These were the Montour Iron Company's works, for some time in their early history represented by the firm of Murdock, Leavitt & Co., the firm consisting of U. A. Murdock, Edward Leavitt, Jesse Oakley and David Wetmore. The superin-





Dennis Bright



tendent was Henry Brevoort. The rolling-mill was built in 1844. (A. G. Voris was a general agent and builder, who was for many years connected with the works, as builder, purchasing material, selling iron and having renting of the dwellings in charge.) T. O. Van Allen built the store-house, now known as the company store, in 1844, and conducted the store and the flouring-mill until about 1850 when he sold to Conely, Grove & Co. He was also resident agent for a time. The rolling-mill was completed in 1845 and here the first T rail was made. The U rail had been made before this date; but to Danville belongs the honor of having on the 8th of October, 1845, produced the first T rail that was ever made in this country—a rail that now connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and checkers with iron roadways every civilized country in the world. In 1843 the furnaces were leased to Benjamin Perry Alexander Garretson, Cornelius Garretson and William Jennison. Their contract was for two years. Harris was the manager at the rolling-mill in its first operation and was succeeded by M. S. Ridgeway, the manager at the present time. The foundry and machine shop was established by Heyward & Snyder in 1839, but they were purchased by the company in 1852. From 1847 to 1849 the rolling-mill was operated by Ridgeway, Van Allen, Heath and Stroh. The resident agent of the company at that time was Warren Murdock. He occupied the position until the advent of the Grove Bros., about 1850 or 1851. Peter and John Grove managed the works until 1857. During their *regime* the new mill was built, adding much to its extent and capacity, which is now 45,000 tons of iron rails per annum. In 1857 the entire works passed into the hands of I. S. Waterman, Thomas Beaver, William Neal and Washington Lee, as trustees for the creditors of the Montour Iron Company. They operated the works as trustees until 1859 when the entire interest in the whole concern was purchased by Waterman & Beaver. They also purchased the real estate with all the franchises of the company, and changed the name to the Pennsylvania Iron works. They operated the works with great success and general satisfaction. In 1868 Thomas Beaver, Dan Morgan, C. Mulligan, George F. Geisinger and Dan Edwards operated and shared the profits of the works. This combination was successful and continued until 1874. In 1876 Thomas Beaver sold his interest to I. S. Waterman, retaining by purchase the mansion house on the hill, with twenty acres of ground.

In 1880 Mr. Waterman sold the plant to the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company. The name of the works was then changed to Montour Iron and Steel Works, with W. E. C. Cox, president; E. P. Howe, manager, and S. W. Ingesall, treasurer. As some evidence of what the little first old charcoal furnace had grown into, it may be stated that the railroad paid \$450,000 in cash for the entire plant. In its line of manufacture this was the pioneer establishment east of the Alleghenies, producing a superior rail that supplied roads in all parts of the country, extending to the Pacific Ocean. The excellent quality of block iron mined here, from its hardness, made a top for the rail that was a valuable desideratum, and commanded sales of all the works could produce. The size of the main building, 343x290 feet; northeast wing, 116x89 feet; northwest wing, 116x60 feet; size of No. 2, 234x136 feet; wing, 28x67 feet; blacksmith-shop, 26x57 feet; brick-house, 39x31 feet; pump-house, 20x15 feet; oil-house, 32x32 feet. This structure contains 15 heating furnaces, 27 single puddling furnaces, 1 16-inch train of rolls and 2 trains of 20 inches. These rolls are driven by three large engines, combined, 700 horsepower. There is also a vertical engine which runs the squeezer, and one that runs the saws and machinery for punching and straightening the rails. A



powerful vertical engine drives the fans for blasts for the heating furnaces, and pumps water; another supplies the blast for the puddling-mill, and pumps water for the boilers in the puddling furnaces, and this drives the machinery for cutting old rails for the heating furnaces preparatory to re-rolling. Puddling mill No. 2 is similarly constructed and contains 14 double puddling furnaces, 2 squeezers, 1 rotary, 1 crocodile and 1 train of 20-inch rolls. The rolls are driven by a Corliss engine of 100 horse-power. There are other appliances for the successful operation of the mills. M. S. Ridgeway is the superintendent. These give employment to about 1,000 men when in full operation, and can turn out 4,000 tons of rails, and have made as high as 200 tons of finished rails in a day. The blast furnaces have a capacity of 24,000 tons of pig iron per year. The blast is supplied by two engines of 400 horse-power each, and employ 600 men in full operation. These are superintended by Daniel Morgan. The foundry and machine shops are superintended by F. H. Varmen. They consist of a building 40x75 feet, two stories, the upper floor occupied for pattern rooms. These are filled with all the machinery for making steam-engines, locomotives, etc., and give employment, when in full work, to seventy-five men. The foundry is 60x90 feet, and, provided with a cupola capable of making a casting weighing ten tons, also with air furnaces, core oven, cranes, etc. Here sixty-five men can be employed, and can turn out about 200 tons of castings per month. The boiler shop is 60x70 feet.

These are of the iron works proper and rank among the largest iron works in the world owned by private capital. The company owns extensive ore mines, 2,000 acres of land which are connected with the furnaces by a narrow gauge railroad about seven miles in length, equipped with engines and rolling stock, with a branch road to their limestone quarry. In the mining of their ore and quarrying rock they give employment to 150 men. The company put up about 300 dwellings, a large grist-mill and a general store. At Kingston, on the L. & B. Railroad, sixty miles from Danville, the company purchased a valuable coal property.

*Grove's Furnace.*—Among the best known of the furnaces in the State these have long ranked in the front. They are cold and idle now and have been for some years, standing there a mute monument to the skill and executive ability of the Grove Brothers, as among the early and successful manufacturers of pig-iron in Pennsylvania. These furnaces are on Mahoning Street, are solidly built and furnished with every modern appliance for the effective fulfillment of the purpose for which they were built. The first furnace was put up in 1840, and the additional stack was built in 1859-60. The blast for both furnaces is supplied by a 400-horse power engine. They gave employment to seventy-five men, and had a capacity of 12,000 tons per annum. The firm purchased coal mines above Pittston, on the Lackawanna & Baltimore Railroad; also ore lands about Danville, and in Huntingdon, Berks and Lancaster Counties in this State, and also in Virginia, Maryland and Canada.

The original brothers who came here and built up this great industry have passed away, leaving a large fortune to their heirs. Among other of the evidences of their great wealth is the extensive Grove's residence, one of the most expensive private residences at the time of its building in the State. The present owners of the property are apparently content with what they have and are not anxious to add to their great worldly possessions.

*The Co-operative Iron and Steel Works.*—This is a joint stock company, chartered December 31, 1870, whose stockholders are largely interested as workmen in its mill. It is thus far a successful experiment in co-operative industry and is being watched with great interest throughout the country as

an exponent of a principle somewhat novel, yet apparently founded on solid grounds of social economy. The company having purchased six acres of land adjoining the canal, and having \$75,000 capital distributed among forty stockholders, commenced the erection of their mill in April, 1871, and had it in operation by November 13 of the same year. The mill is constructed after the most approved plans, and its internal arrangements are very complete. It is 75x153 feet, and contains eight puddling furnaces—one train of eighteen inch rolls driven by an engine of 100 horse-power, one forty horse-power engine, "crocodile squeezer," etc. The company have a neat office building adjoining the works. The present officers are Perry Deen, president; L. K. Rishel, secretary and treasurer, and John Grove, W. M. Gearhart, Samuel Mills, D. L. Secher, A. J. Amerman, L. K. Rishel, Perry Deen, J. C. Rhodes, P. Baldy, Jr., D. M. Reese and E. J. Curtis, directors. The company at present manufacture pig iron into puddle bar at their own mill, and have it manufactured into rails from sixteen to fifty pounds per yard. The erection of a rail-mill is contemplated. Value of product, per year, about \$300,000. The company pay out as wages \$4,000 per month, in cash, making nearly \$50,000 per year put in circulation among the business men of Danville by their establishment alone.

*Enterprise Foundry and Machine Works.*—These works were established in 1873 by Messrs. Cruikshank, Moyer & Co. The firm is composed entirely of practical men, who give their personal attention to every branch of the business. The establishment consists of a machine-shop, 45x50 feet, stocked with lathes, planers, bolt-cutters, etc., of approved patterns; foundry, 45x50 feet, containing a cupola of seven tons capacity, and a large crane capable of hoisting ten tons—this foundry can turn out castings of any desired weight or pattern; pattern-shop, 45x40 feet. The machine-shop is under the direct supervision of J. W. Moyer and Thomas Curry, both members of the firm and practical machinists. The foundry is in charge of James Cruikshank, a practical molder, also one of the firm. The office and business department is presided over by R. Moore, the remaining partner. The firm manufacture steam engines, rolling-mill, blast furnace, saw and grist-mill machinery, railroad and bridge iron work of all kinds. The works are located on Ferry Street, near the L. & B. Railroad.

*Danville Iron Foundry.*—The foundry was established in 1872. It is located in East Danville, and is 56x84 feet, solidly constructed, with slate roof. It contains a cupola capable of melting seven tons at one heat; core-oven, crane, etc. There is also a blacksmith-shop and pattern-shop attached, the latter under the charge of E. E. Brown, an experienced pattern-maker. The foundry turns out stoves, plows, agricultural implements, corn-planters, etc. Daniel DeLong is the proprietor.

*National Iron Foundry.*—This foundry, near the Columbia furnaces, was originally built by Peter Baldy, Sr., about 1839, and was first operated by Belson, Williams & Gardley. For some cause they failed and it passed into the hands of O'Connor & Rice. They also failed, and R. C. Russel took charge of the work. After a brief period of time he sold to Hancock & Carr, who soon transferred it to John Hibler. The several parties named conducted the establishment for twenty-five years. In 1854 Samuel Huber, who had acted as foreman in the Eagle Foundry for a number of years, leased the National Iron Foundry and operated it until 1859, when it was totally destroyed by fire. In the spring of the same year he had taken Samuel Boudman into partnership, and who after the fire abandoned the enterprise. But Mr. S. Huber bought the ground of Mr. Baldy, rebuilt the foundry more complete than it had been

before, and again embarked in the business, successfully conducting it alone, until the 1st of April, 1868, when his son, J. S. Huber, became a partner under the firm of S. Huber & Son. They carried on the business with entire satisfaction until the 19th of January, 1877, when C. C. Huber, another son, was taken into the firm, and then it became S. Huber & Sons. Subsequently W. H. Huber, the third son, was also added to the firm, and so it remains to the present time.

Some years ago Mr. S. Huber, the senior member of the firm, turned his attention to the construction of an improved plow, in which he was completely successful. His invention was patented and the Huber plow, made at this foundry, is now a popular favorite over a wide region of country.

*Glendower Iron Works* occupies the ground of the old Rough and Ready Rolling-mill, and was originally built by Bird Patterson. In 1847 William Hancock and John Foley changed it into a rolling-mill for the manufacture of merchant-iron. In 1850 they converted it into a rail-mill, and then for the first time they met with great prosperity. After eight years of great success Mr. Foley retired, Mr. Hancock becoming sole proprietor in 1858. During the late war Mr. Foley re-entered the firm. In 1866 he again sold his interest to Mr. Hancock.

The first of the Danville furnaces was built in 1870 by Hancock & Creveling. The second and larger furnace was subsequently erected. These furnaces were superintended by George W. Miles. The capacity of the Danville furnaces is 15,000 tons per annum.

In 1867 the National Iron Company was formed, superseding the Rough and Ready. Of this company William Hancock was president at first and afterward William Painter; P. C. Brink, was vice-president and Benjamin G. Welch was secretary, treasurer and general manager.

This organization continued until 1871, when the Danville furnaces were purchased. The new rolling-mill had been erected in 1870. George W. Miles continued the superintendence of the furnaces under the National Iron Company. John G. Hiler was manager at the new rolling-mill, and Joseph H. Springer at the old Rough and Ready rail-mill. In 1873, owing to large expenditures and heavy losses, the company was compelled to go into bankruptcy. After the works had lain idle some time they were purchased by the heirs of William Hancock, deceased, in 1874, under a mortgage sale; upon which the Hancock Iron & Steel Company was organized. Dr. J. D. Gosh was chosen president and B. G. Welch, secretary, treasurer and general manager. This company existed only about six months, when the works were again idle until 1877, when they were leased by A. Creveling, who operated them until June, 1879, when A. Creveling and George W. Miles purchased the works—the old Rough and Ready property—John Roach purchasing the part lying north of the canal. A. Creveling and George W. Miles then organized the Glendower Iron Works, with A. Creveling, president; H. Levis, treasurer, and George W. Miles, secretary and general manager. The capacity of the works is 20,000 tons.

The works were kept in successful operation, but quit making rails, and were devoted entirely to making what is called scalp iron. In the early part of September, 1886, the men organized a strike and the mills are now closed with no immediate prospects of opening again.

*The Atlas Manufacturing Company* was chartered in 1881, and commenced business in Epsy, Penn. The first officers were James McCormick, president; W. J. McCormick, secretary and treasurer. In the spring of 1884 the works were brought to Danville, and the company leased Voris, Haigh & Gregg's planing-mill, going extensively into the manufacture of wood, household



novelties and making a specialty of the "Atlas Step-ladder." The latter is now exported in quantities to Europe and Australia. We are told that this is the largest factory for making this specialty in the world. The present officers are William Angle, president and manager, and F. C. Angle, secretary and treasurer.

*Danville Nail and Manufacturing Company.*—The works were erected and the machinery started in August, 1883. They are very complete in all their appointments for the purpose intended, namely the manufacture of muck bar nails and tack iron, with a capacity of 900 kegs of nails a day. When started there were fifteen nail machines; now there are eighty machines, run to their full capacity, and by January 1, 1887, they had 100 of these machines running. The nail plates are heated by gas for making nails. The first electric light plant ever put up in Danville was used for lighting the works in this mill, and was used for the first time on Saturday, November 6, 1886. The officers are D. M. Boyd, president; R. M. Grove, treasurer; W. C. Frick, secretary and manager.

*Chulasky Furnace.*—These works are on the dividing line between Northumberland and Montour Counties. The offices and residences of T. J. Miles & Co., lessees, are all in Danville. These works were erected in 1846, by Samuel Wood. There is one stack 42x11, with a capacity of 6,500 tons net per annum. They make soft gray forge pig iron. The works were started up after being some time idle, in November, 1886.

*Danville Stove Works* were chartered in 1882, and the works were in operation the same year. The organizers were the present officers: Henry Vincent, president; James Foster, secretary; W. J. Baldy, treasurer. At first the capacity of the works was eleven molders, and this was increased to a capacity of fifty-six molders. The company is now making preparations for a thirty-ton cupola and to double the present capacity. Forty-seven sizes and kinds of stoves are now made, and their trade is to all parts of the country.

#### CHURCHES.

*Grove Presbyterian Church*, once called the Mahoning Presbyterian Church, now the Grove Presbyterian Church, is the oldest religious organization in the county. It was built when this was called Mahoning settlement. The first preacher was Rev. John Bryson, preaching at first in the dwelling of Gen. Montgomery, and afterward, when the house was too small for the growing congregation, in the General's barn. The first log house church was built in 1778 or 1779. The logs were scored and hewn by George Maus, Isaac Boudman and Thomas Hughes. This building was used in 1826, when a brick building of larger dimensions was erected. The congregation was organized in 1785. The earliest church records are not now to be found, which is greatly to be regretted. But one single document has been preserved and that was a subscription paper; the names of the signers to this are given in Chapter II, this Part. In 1793 the salary of the preacher was fixed at £75, and the following parties signed a paper guaranteeing the sum to be paid. These names include the heads of certainly all the Presbyterians then here, and when we remember that at the first coming nearly every-one was a Calvinist, it may be assured that it was very nearly all then here: Joseph Biggers, Hugh Caldwell, Thomas Gaskins, James Stephenson, William Donaldson, John Emmett, Sr., Robert Donaldson, John Donaldson, Joseph Williams, John Woodside, George Caldwell, John Jones, William Colt, John Montgomery, Daniel Barton, Christian Campbell, Robert Williams, Alex. McMunigal, William Montgomery, Jr., John Moore, Daniel Montgen-

ery, Robert Montgomery, John Carr, James Loughhead, Robert Campbell, Thomas Best, James Consart, Gilbert Vorhees, James Curry, Peter Blue, Andrew Cochran, M. Gulick, Richard Robinson, Jacob Gearhart, Jr., Frederick Blue, John Emmett, Jr., John Young, Elias Harrison, Isaac Woodruff, Stephen Hunt, Albert Ammerman and Philip Young. This congregation, as stated, was organized in 1785. Gen. William Montgomery was chosen an elder at the same time, and continued an active and faithful officer until his death, which occurred in 1816.

The brick church built in 1826 was a neat and plain structure, presenting quite a picturesque appearance, embowered as it was in a grove of forest trees. The new church is a massive and handsome structure of artistic stone-work in the Gothic order of architecture, and was dedicated in 1875. It occupies the site of the old brick church on the Knoll, surrounded by the remaining forest trees and a grove of beautiful young maples that were planted to take place of the ancient oaks that are rapidly passing away. The building of this magnificent temple was superintended by Joseph Diehl, a master mechanic and builder, whose handiwork is seen on many a public and private building in this region. As previously stated, Rev. Bryson was the first pastor of Mahoning, now the Grove Presbyterian Church, and with the aid of the old pioneers he laid the foundation deep and strong for a lasting church, a religious home to bless the passing generations for centuries to come. Rev. Patterson was a worthy successor. His ministrations were long and abundantly blessed. Rev. Dunlap succeeded him in the pastorate of Mahoning Church, and he was followed by Rev. Halliday.

Then came Rev. Dr. Yeomans. He died in this place. During his pastorate, about 1849 or 1850, the question of a new church edifice was agitated. There was some division of sentiment in reference to its location. A portion favored the erection of the new church on the south side of the canal, and others adhered to the old site in the grove, now rendered doubly dear as the place where their fathers and mothers had worshiped. The former succeeded. A new church was built on Mahoning Street, and Rev. Dr. Yeomans continued his ministry in the new church. The adherents to the Grove were without a regular pastor, as the organization, with the pastor, had gone with the new church. In 1855, however, presbytery organized a new congregation in the old church, and called it "Mahoning Presbyterian Church North." But this title was considered too cumbersome, and through the efforts of Rev. C. J. Collins and others it was changed to the more convenient and more euphonious name of "The Grove Presbyterian Congregation." Rev. C. J. Collins was the first pastor. He remained some ten years and resigned. He was succeeded by Rev. Dr. J. Gordon Carnahan. He left this place to take charge of a congregation in Meadville, where he still remains. He was followed in the pastorate of the Grove Church, by Rev. Reuben H. Van Pelt. Rev. W. A. McAtee was next called to the charge of the Grove Church. After his resignation Rev. John B. Grier became the pastor, the youngest son of M. C. Grier, who was long an elder in that church, and lately deceased. Among the families connected with the old church, and whose descendants still worship in the Grove, mention is made of the Montgomerys, Maus, Currys, Yorks, Diehls, Griers, McMahans, Magills, Waltzes, Catchcarts, Boudmans, Moores, Gearharts, and Russels. The Grove Church contains a large organ. The present pastor is Rev. J. M. Simonton.

*The Mahoning Presbyterian Church* was built in 1853, on Mahoning and Ferry Streets, the congregation, as before stated, retaining the name and the organization of the original church. The building is handsome and well ar-

ranged. It is surmounted by a steeple containing a bell and a town clock. Some years ago a storm blew down the spire, which was never replaced. There is a fine memorial window in the rear of the pulpit, placed there by E. B. Reynolds, in memory of his mother, who had been a member of the congregation for many years. Rev. Dr. Yeomans, who was the pastor in the old church, continued his ministrations in the new for a number of years, and died greatly lamented by the community, as well as the members of his own religious household. His reputation extended all over the country and his ability was acknowledged by making him Moderator of the General Assembly.

Rev. Ijams succeeded to the pastorate of Mahoning Presbyterian Church after the death of Dr. Yeomans. He was eloquent, and, withal, rather dramatic. Rev. Ijams resigned, and Rev. A. B. Jack was called to the charge of Mahoning Presbyterian Church. After officiating for several years, he resigned. Rev. F. R. Beeber succeeded him. Rev. R. L. Stewart then entered upon his work in this place and is the present efficient pastor.

*Christ's Episcopal Church.*—The corner-stone of the Protestant Episcopal Church was laid October 28, 1828. A few members of that church had held occasional meetings in their private dwellings, and then they worshiped a short time in the court-house, under the ministrations of Rev. James Depew, of Bloomsburg, who became their regular pastor as soon as the church was built. The lot on which the church and parsonage were built is on Market Street, now occupied by the present elegant stone edifice. This first building was of brick, 45x60 feet, and cost about \$6,000. The following gentlemen composed the vestry at the period when the corner-stone was laid: Joseph Maus, John Reynolds, Jacob Swisher, Peter Baldy and Michael Sanders, George A. Frick and B. Appleman, not one of whom was a communicant of the Episcopal Church. Peter Baldy and Michael Sanders were members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church at that time. Mr. Sanders adhered to the Lutherans subsequently, but Mr. Baldy became an Episcopalian. Some of the founders proposed to devote the new church building to the use of both the Lutherans and Episcopalian; but they soon discovered its impracticability, and all finally agreed that the church should be devoted to the exclusive use of the Protestant Episcopal service. On the 25th of October, 1829, just one year after the corner-stone was laid, the first communicants of the church, ten in number, were confirmed by the Rt. Rev. Henry W. Onderdonk. Rev. James Depew labored faithfully among them, and under his pastoral charge the foundations of a permanent congregation were laid. He was last heard of in Nebraska. Rev. Mr. Drake, of Bloomsburg, supplied the pulpit occasionally after the departure of Rev. Mr. Depew. Rev. A. Lauderback was the next rector. He remained for about five years. He at the same time had charge of the church at Sunbury. He removed to Iowa. The next in order was Rev. R. M. Mitchison, who remained only about six months and was succeeded by Rev. Milton C. Lightner, who assumed the charge in 1842. He officiated in Christ's Church for about seven years. He removed to Manayunk, and Rev. Mr. Elsegood, formerly a minister in the Methodist denomination, took his place in Danville. At the end of two years Rev. Mr. Elsegood removed to Easton, and was succeeded here by Rev. Mr. Page, of New York, who also remained two years. In February, 1855, Rev. Edwin N. Lightner, brother to Rev. Milton C. Lightner, succeeded to the charge of Christ's Church, and continued its rector until May, 1870, when the loss of health compelled him to resign the charge. He ministered to the congregation about fifteen years. He resides in Riverside. In September, 1870, Rev. J. Milton Peck was called to the rectorship of Christ's Church. In 1845 some improvements were made in



the church buildings, and in 1856 the congregation spent nearly \$3,000 in improving and beautifying both the interior and the exterior of the building. Rev. Mr. Peck remained in charge until 1882, when he resigned and removed to Malden, Mass. His successor was Rev. George Breed, who ministered to the flock one year. He was succeeded by Rev. George C. Hall, who remained in charge from March, 1884, to January, 1886, when the present minister in charge, Rev. James L. Maxwell, came and commenced his work April 2, 1886. The chief support of the church during all these years was Peter Baldy, Sr., one of the founders, who at the time of his death, in 1880, left to the congregation \$50,000 to build a new church. The executor not only carried out the bequest, but gave such energy to the movement that the present splendid stone church was erected, costing about \$100,000, and is much the costliest church edifice in Danville. Spacious and solid, it looms up grandly—its exterior showing outlines of graceful elegance, its interior richly and ornately finished.

*Shiloh German Reformed Church.*—The German Reformed congregation was organized in 1858, under the pastoral charge of Rev. D. W. Wolf. Services had been held in the court-house for some time, and the young congregation, composed of twenty members, was organized. In 1859 a new church was built on Bloom Street, though it remained unfinished for some years and was not dedicated until December 20, 1862. Rev. D. W. Wolf resigned in 1861, and on the 1st of May, 1862, Rev. J. W. Steinmetz assumed the pastoral charge of the congregation. The church is of brick, 60x40 feet, with a pleasant basement. The congregation now numbers more than 200. Rev. J. W. Steinmetz resigned the charge. He was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Shaffer. The present pastor is Rev. J. A. Peters.

*St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church.*—The precise period when the first Methodist preacher arrived at this place is not now known; but they were the second religious body organized here. The first regular conference appointment for Danville was in 1791. This place was then included in Northumberland Circuit, which extended from Northumberland up the North Branch of the Susquehanna to Wyoming Valley, and up the West Branch to Great Island. The distance traveled by the circuit rider in making his round was 300 miles, which was accomplished in six weeks. This territory for many years was supplied by only two or three ministers, and it included present circuits and stations of Williamsport, Newbury, Muncy, Milton Circuit and Station, Northumberland, Mifflinburg, Lewisburg, Catawissa, Bloomsburg, Berwick, Bloomingdale, Orangeville, Sunbury and parts of Bellefonte District. Previous to 1804, Danville and the circuit in which it was located belonged to the Philadelphia Conference. In that year it was transferred to the Baltimore Conference. In 1807 it was returned to the Philadelphia Conference. In 1810 it was included in the new Genessee Conference, and in 1820 it was re-assigned to the Baltimore Conference, of which it still continues to be an appointment.

In 1791, of the first preachers to minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Danville were Revs. Richard Parrott and Lewis Browning.

Berwick Circuit was formed in 1831, but Danville was still in the Northumberland Circuit. Danville Circuit was formed in 1836 and embraced Montour, Bloomsburg and Orangeville Circuits.

In 1846 Danville was erected into a station, and then appointments were regularly made for this place as follows: 1846, John Guyer; 1847, Philip B. Reese; 1849, Thomas Mitchell; 1850, Joseph France; 1853, James Brads; 1855, Thomas M. Reese; 1856, J. Wilson; 1857-58, William Harden; 1859-60, B. B. Hamlin; 1861-63, J. H. C. Dosh; 1864-65, A. M. Barnitz;



Photo by J. S. Mahan & Richard Darvill, Pa.

*David Morgan*





1866-67, J. McK. Reiley; 1868-71, F. Hodgson; 1872-73, S. Creighton; 1874-75, F. B. Riddle; 1876-78, W. A. Hauck; 1879-80, J. Max Lantz. Rev. Richard Hinkle is the present pastor.

*Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church.*—This church was built north of the canal to accommodate that portion of the congregation which was becoming too large for the one church building. A lot was purchased on Centre and Ferry Streets, opposite the Catholic Church. Capt. Lovett and M. S. Ridgeway, though not members, were the most active and the largest contributors in erecting the building. Then Thomas Beaver contributed several thousand dollars. A building was put up costing about \$30,000. It was so deeply in debt that it was sold at sheriff's sale, and Mr. Beaver became the purchaser for \$8,000. Rev. I. H. Torrence purchased one-half of Thomas Beaver's interest for \$4,000. Mr. Beaver then donated his other half to the church; afterward it was sold again and Rev. Torrence, to protect himself, became the sole owner and continued to give the free use thereof to the congregation.

Rev. McCord was the first minister; succeeded by Rev. Van Fossen, who afterward studied law and became a practicing lawyer in Colorado. Rev. J. P. Moore was then in charge; he was succeeded by Rev. Stephenson and he by Rev. Strawinski. Then Rev. King ministered to the congregation. The present pastor is Rev. James Hunter.

*Primitive Methodist Episcopal Church.*—This is a substantial brick building; was erected in 1848; no stationed pastor at the present time.

*Baptist Church.*—The Baptist Church of Danville, was organized on the 13th of November, 1842. The meetings were held in the court-house for about a year subsequent to the organization, during which period a frame church was built on Pine Street, not far from the river. It was dedicated on the 5th of January, 1844. In 1863 it was removed to give place to the new brick church, which is a large and elegant building. As near as can be ascertained, the pastors in their regular order of service, were Revs. J. S. Miller, W. T. Bunker, John H. Worrall, A. D. Nichols, Ira Foster, O. L. Hall, A. B. Still, T. Jones, G. W. Scott, I. C. Winn, John S. Miller (the second time), J. John Mostyn, J. E. Bradley, — Sweet. The present pastor is Rev. Green Miles.

*Evangelical Lutheran Church.*—Their present brick building was erected in 1858, on Pine Street.

The oldest Lutheran Church organization in this portion of the State was in Mahoning Township; its home in that day was in what was called Ridgeville. A minister named Shellhart visited this place prior to 1800. The record of the organization is dated 1803 and the first regular pastor was Rev. Johann Paul Ferdinand Kramer. The record shows he was present two years. In 1810 Rev. J. F. Engel was in charge. He remained until April, 1816. Then there was no pastor until 1820. The next eight years Rev. Peter Kelsner was in charge. The Lutherans joined with the Episcopalians in building a church, but this joint ownership soon ceased and the congregation returned to their worship in the court-house. About 1830 Rev. Jeremiah Shindel preached. He remained five or six years. They were without a pastor until 1843, when Rev. Elias Schwartz assumed charge. At this time the membership was reduced to twenty. Mr. Schwartz pushed the work so vigorously that at a meeting he received into the church between forty and fifty new members. Soon thereafter they commenced to build a church. The first was built and dedicated in June, 1845, but this involved them in debt and Rev. Schwartz resigned. It was then attached to the Milton charge. Rev. M. J. Allen then became pastor and served until 1848; no pastor for the next two years, when

Rev. P. Willard, of Gettysburg, came. Number of members in 1850 was 142. A lot was this year purchased for a cemetery, and in 1853 a parsonage was purchased. In 1854 the church was too small and the subject of a new site roused up some warm contentions that ended by the German portion going to themselves, and Rev. P. Willard was dismissed. In 1856 Rev. J. M. Stover came. He threw oil on the waters, it seems, and the new church was finally built as above stated. He was succeeded by Rev. E. Hubert; he by P. P. Lane, who remained two years, when Rev. E. A. Sharetts assumed charge. The Rev. George M. Rhoads came and remained four years, and was followed by Rev. N. Graves, who stayed two years, when Rev. M. L. Shindel, the present pastor, took charge.

*Trinity Lutheran Church* was built in 1861, the congregation being formed from the old church. It is a large and elegant building, originally finished with a tall spire, which was blown down by a storm and never rebuilt. There are nearly 300 communicants. The first pastor was Rev. D. M. Henkel, succeeded by Rev. M. C. Horine; present pastor is Rev. C. K. Drumbeller.

*Congregation B' Nai Zion*, was chartered November 1, 1854. Their frame building on Front Street is 30x60 feet, and was built in 1871. Jacob Loeb, president; H. L. Gross, secretary; trustees, Jacob Mayer, Moses Block, A. Wermser. They have no resident rabbi.

*Emanuel Evangelical Church*.—A mission was established in Danville in 1860, by Rev. M. Stokes; he preached some time in Thompson's Hall. Afterward Rev. Davis succeeded to the charge. A congregation was organized and a frame church built in 1869. The two ministers succeeding Mr. Davis were Revs. Detwiler and Buck. Then came Rev. Radebaugh, then Rev. Orwig and again Mr. Radebaugh; then Rev. Hunter and finally Rev. Hornberger. The last named published the *Temperance Star*.

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church* is a German Lutheran Church on Market Street. It is a small brick structure, with a fair attendance of members, and a good Sunday-school. The present pastor is Rev. J. R. Groff.

*Welsh Churches*.—Congregational Church, Chambers Street, is a brick edifice built in 1835.

Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church, near Catawissa Railroad, was built in 1845.

Welsh Baptist Church, Spruce Street, was built in 1870; a frame building. None of these have a resident pastor.

*African Methodist Episcopal Church* on York's Hill has no pastor.

*Roman Catholic Churches*.—St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church is on corner of Centre and Ferry Streets. This church has sprung from a mission begun by the Rev. J. P. Hannigan, in 1847, when the frame church now used as a hall for church and church society meetings was built. In September, 1857, the lot upon which the present church is built was purchased, but the building was not commenced until 1866, and was finished in 1869. It is of brick, 61x117 feet, with tower 170 feet high, surmounted by a cross. The style of architecture is Romanesque. The number of communicants is 2,200. There is a Sunday-school with 400 scholars, superintended by the pastor. The value of church property is \$75,000. The pastors have been Revs. J. P. Hannigan, Joseph O'Keefe, Hugh P. Kenney, Michael Sheridan, Edward Murray, Arthur McGinnis (died while pastor), and Thomas McGovern, the present pastor.

St. Hubert's Catholic Church (German), Bloom Street, built in 1862, is a neat, brick edifice. Rev. F. X. Schmidt is the pastor; number of communicants, 700. The Sunday-school, superintended by the pastor, contains eighty scholars. Value of church property, \$10,000. Revs. Froesch, Koch and

Schmidt, the present pastor, constitute the pastoral succession of this church since its organization.

## SOCIETIES.

*Free and Accepted Masons.*—Danville Lodge, No. 224, chartered in 1847. The officers are T. E. Ellis, W. M.; Jared N. Diehl, S. W.; Francis M. Gotwold, J. W.; M. L. Fisher, Sec.; David Ruckle, Treas.

Mahoning Lodge, No. 516, chartered September, 1872. Officers: John W. Farnsworth, W. M.; George Maiers, S. W.; Samuel Russell, J. W.; N. Hofer, Treas.; Alexander J. Frick, Sec.

Danville Chapter, No. 239, R. A. M., organized in May, 1872. M. E. H. P., John W. Farnsworth; K., A. Steinbrenner; S., David Ruckel; Treas., David Clark; Sec., Alexander J. Frick.

Cavalry Commandery, No. 37, K. T.: E. C., John W. Farnsworth; G., David H. Getz; C. G., Elliott R. Morgan; Treas., D. S. Bloom; Rec., A. J. Frick. The commandery was removed from Catawissa to Danville in 1874.

*Independent Order Red Men.*—Mahoning Tribe, No. 77, was organized in 1867, with thirty-seven charter members. Officers: Sachem, Charles Chalfant; Senior Sagamore, Henry Snyder; Jr. S., John F. Gulic; Prophet, C. C. Herr; C. of R., Reece Evans; Treas., S. G. Thompson.

*Knights of Pythias.*—Blucher Lodge, No. 314, was organized September 1, 1872. The officers are George Hartlein, C. C.; A. Steinbrenner, K. of R. and S.; John Jacobs, Treas. There are thirty-three members in the order. The first officers of the organization were Nicholas Hofer, C. C.; A. Steinbrenner, K. of R. and S.; John Jacobs, Treas.

Beaver Lodge, No. 132, was organized in 1869. The officers are Charles J. Grove, P. C.; Samuel T. Jackson, C. C.; Evan Beaver, B. C.; W. Williams, P.; William Smith, M. at A.

*Independent Order of Odd Fellows.*—Montour Lodge, No. 109, organized April, 1845. Number of present membership is eighty-five. The officers are D. M. Shultz, N. G.; Charles C. Rauch, V. G.; J. Sweisfort, Sec.; Philip Welliver, Asst. Sec.; W. H. Ammerman, Treas.

Calumet Lodge, No. 279, number of members 106. E. Lewis, N. G.; Andrew Heath, V. G.; D. R. Williams, Sec.; Abram Larew, Asst. Sec.; Henry Earp, Treas.

Danville Lodge: Charles Chalfant, N. G.; Clarence Rank, V. G.; Reece Evans, Sec.; B. H. Harris, Asst. Sec.; Henry Herring, Treas.

Celestia Lodge, No. 67, D. of R., chartered September 5, 1872, fifty members: Henry Earp, N. G.; Mrs. Jacob Harris, V. G.; J. Sweisfort, Sec.; Mrs. Sarah Evans, Asst. Sec.; Mrs. J. P. Bare, Treas.

Myrtle Lodge, No. 858, Philip Smith, N. G.; David Chesnut, V. G.; M. W. Smith, Sec.; Mr. Swank, Asst. Sec.; George Miles, Treas.; J. W. Sweisfort, Dist. Deputy.

Menoloton Encampment, No. 40, chartered August 7, 1856, number of members thirty-seven. W. B. Baldy, C. P.; Charles Chalfant, H. P.; Angus Wright, S. W.; John Bugler, J. W.; J. A. Faux, S.; S. M. Trumbower, Treas.

[The I. O. O. F. Cemetery Company, of Danville, was chartered in 1873 and fully organized in January, 1874, the grounds secured at a cost of \$3,000 and at once put in good order. Nine trustees are elected every three years. Present ones are as follows: from Montour Lodge, D. L. Antrim, J. Sweisfort and S. M. Trumbower; from Calumet Lodge, Jacob Harris, George A. Brown and James Woodsides; from Danville Lodge, Reece Evans and J. P. Bare. The officers are President, G. A. Brown; V. P., J. P. Bare; Sec., J.



W. Swiesfort; Treas. D. L. Antrim. The first interment in this cemetery was William James, September 1, 1873. He was killed by an explosion in the Montour Iron Works.]

*Grand Army of the Republic.*—Goodrich Post, No. 22, of Danville, named in honor of Lieut. M. B. Goodrich, who died of wounds received in the battle of the Wilderness. As early as 1867 the returned soldiers formed themselves into a brotherly band called the Boys in Blue. In June, 1870, this organization became the Danville Grand Army of the Republic. This organization was kept effective until June, 1873, when it was disbanded. April 22, 1879, it was reorganized and its charter bears that date. The following were the officers elected at that time: Com., James M. Gibbs; Sr. V. C., A. B. Patton; Jr. V. C., Joseph H. Johnson; Sergt., Charles Wood; Officer of the Day, Benton B. Brown; Officer of Guard, George S. Tillson; Chaplain, Robert Miller; Q. M., W. C. Davis. Charter members: S. M. Wait, Samuel Herr, Robert G. Miller, Samuel R. Lunger, Joseph H. Johnson, Samuel C. Runyon, George Tillson, Alfred L. Gerrick, Jonas Foster, William Wyatt, J. M. Gibbs, A. B. Patton, W. L. Jones, Alex J. Rainer, W. C. Davis, Levi M. Miller, Lewis Byerly, W. H. Rook, P. H. Sheridan, Thomas M. Thomas, Peter Moyer, Jonathan Swiesfort, William Good, Alexander Wait, Joseph H. Ramsey, John W. W. Klase, Robert Fields, James Jones, John McElrath, Michael Shires, A. C. Angle, Benton B. Brown, H. C. Snyder, Jacob Slack, Thomas V. Pensyl, William Henry, John Moore, Samuel Thomas, Edward D. Smith, John A. Weimer, Michael Riley, John Riley, John Marshall, John Kime, Alex J. Hoffner, Charles Spicer, Charles Woods, Arthur W. Beaver, Samuel Bailey, H. F. Freeze, George C. Williams, William Earp, John Everett. Present officers: A. B. Patton, Com.; George Gardner, V. C.; R. W. Eggert, Jr. V. C.; Benton B. Brown, Adjt.; W. C. Davis, Q. M.; Robert G. Miller, Sergt.; Michael Shires, Chaplain; A. C. Angle, Officer of Day; F. E. Hilderbrandt, Officer of Guard; W. G. Kramer, Sergt. Maj.; W. T. Wyatt, Outside Guard; Samuel Lunger, Inside Guard; Lyman Milroy, Ord. Sergt. Present membership, 164; society in every way prosperous.

*B'Nai Berith.*—Herman Lodge, No. 32, I. O. B. B., organized in 1857; number of membership, twenty-nine. Gustave Weil, Pres.; Joseph Wermser, V. P.; A. Lang, Sec.; W. L. Gross, Treas.

*Young Men's Christian Association* was organized in the Mahoning Presbyterian Church on the 21st of June, 1872. The officers elected were President, S. G. Butler; vice-president, John Swiesfort; secretary, John R. Rote, and librarian, H. H. Yorgy. The managers first chosen were James M. Coulter, William McCormick, C. F. Lloyd, J. Swiesfort and C. P. Bradway. The organization at present is as follows: President, James M. Coulter; vice-president, J. S. Huber; secretary, George Swartz; treasurer, George M. Gearhart; general secretary, D. C. Hunt; financial secretary, H. H. Yorgy. The association numbers eighty-one members.

#### FREE LIBRARY.

*Thomas Beaver Free Library*, now (October, 1886) in the course of construction, is the contribution of its namesake, Thomas Beaver, and when completed and furnished will be the most attractive public building in the county. Its fronting is 48 feet on Market Street and 78 feet on Ferry Street, standing back from either street 10 feet, for lawn. The front recedes 5 feet from each side of the main entrance, the first floor elevated 4 feet above the pavement. The massive base and broken outline give its three tall stories an imposing appearance. The whole is of light gray stone, with granite trimmings, and

Scotch granite columns. Stone newels and marble tiling flooring is an index of the inside finish. The internal arrangements and rooms are spacious and arranged in perfect order for the intended purposes. In the rear of this, as an annex, is that portion of the building donated to the Young Men's Christian Association. This occupies 70 feet on Ferry Street; the main building to be 38 feet front on Ferry Street and 64 feet deep, all especially arranged and finished for the uses of this organization, the basement with bath rooms, lavatory, lockers, dressing rooms, boiler room and gymnasium. It has main entrance, vestibule hall, members' parlor, secretary and committee rooms, and instruction room and entrance to gymnasium, etc. The lecture room is to have a seating capacity of 400; the exterior to be the same stone and finish as the library. The total frontage on Ferry Street is 150 feet.

Mr. Beaver provides for the completion of the entire building, and for the endowment of the library, and furnishes a library costing \$10,000. The property is placed when completed in the hands of trustees, with perpetual succession, the first trustees, three of whom are named by Mr. Beaver and then one from each and every church organization (including the Synagogue) in Danville, to be selected and chosen by the different organizations.

The entire amount of money it will require to complete the donation can not be exactly told now, but Mr. Beaver supposes it will be about \$100,000.

#### WATER WORKS.

With the growth of the town and its factories came the important question of a supply of good water. The subject received general consideration as early as 1867 and the more it was discussed the more determined became those citizens of spirit and enterprise to devise some way to meet the long felt want. The water in the town wells, found at a depth of twenty to twenty-five feet, or at the strata of rock forming the river bed, which was never first rate, was growing positively bad. In 1871 the Danville Water Company was formed, but it seems it ceased to live after its formal organization. A committee was appointed in 1872 consisting of George W. Reay, J. W. Sweisfort, William Buckley, and M. D. L. Sechler, which visited several cities for the purpose of investigating fully the subject. Upon their recommendation the present place was adopted and the water works constructed, the Holly Company's system being deemed the best and cheapest. The works are located on the bank of the river just below the bridge, a filter is constructed some distance in the river and the water forced by powerful engines through the pipes to all parts of the city, there being nearly twelve miles of water mains, costing about \$100,000; the engines and pumps costing \$36,000. The works give entire satisfaction in their operation and such is their capacity and facilities that upon a few moments' notice they can increase the force of the water sufficiently to drown almost any conflagration that might occur.

#### POSTOFFICE.

The Danville postoffice was established in 1806, about a quarter of a century after people had settled here, and who could during all that time, only send or receive letters from friends or upon business as they were carried by the chance traveler from place to place. To us now it seems a long time between mails—twenty-five years—but these good people struggled along well content if heaven only spared their lives. When in a long time the mail did come, the postage on a letter was 25 cents, and very aged people can tell you of instances where a family would be notified there was a letter for them, and the postage not being paid, they were sorely troubled for many days to raise the money to secure it.

Gen. William Montgomery was the first postmaster in Danville. When he resigned, his son Daniel succeeded him. They together kept the office until 1813, when Rudolph Sechler was appointed April 3, of that year. The latter continued in office until James Loughead was appointed November 24, 1820, who held the office fourteen years, when David Petrikin was appointed February 1, 1834. He was succeeded by John Best, March 21, 1837, who served until the appointment of Sharpless Taylor March 25, 1841. The next was Alexander Best, appointed November 9, 1842. Gideon M. Shoop was appointed April 11, 1849, and served until November 26, 1852, when Thomas C. Ellis was appointed; he was succeeded September 1, 1853, by Thomas Chalfant. During his term in 1856 the Danville postoffice became a presidential office, and Mr. Chalfant was reappointed, February 21, 1856, and served until May 28, 1861, and was succeeded by Andrew F. Russell; the latter was reappointed July 14, 1865, and served until Ogden H. Ostrander was appointed April 16, 1867, who served two years. Charles W. Eckman was appointed April 5, 1869, and reappointed March 18, 1873, and again reappointed April 7, 1877. Mr. Eckman continued in office until a Democratic president, Cleveland, was inaugurated, when he resigned the place he had filled so long and so well and removed to Reading. He was succeeded by Thomas Chalfant, who it seems had simply stepped down and out during the Democratic interregnum, but who returned to office with his party to power, and is now filling the position to the entire satisfaction of the community.

#### BOROUGH OFFICIALS.

By an act of the Legislature Danville was organized as a borough on the 7th of February, 1849.

The first burgess was Dr. Wm. H. Magill. The first town council, composed of five members, as follows: George S. Sanders, George Bassett, Valentine Best, Frank E. Rouch and E. H. Baldy. The first council meeting was held in the office of E. H. Baldy, and the first business transacted was the election of him as clerk of the council. Edward Young was chosen street commissioner at a salary of \$20 a year; Thomas Jameson, constable. On the 22d of May, in that year, the first dog tax was levied in the borough of Danville. The Friendship Fire Company represented to the council that the hose was old and rotten, and requested 700 feet of new hose, which was ordered.

A contract was also made with James F. Deen for an engine capable of supplying the Friendship Hose Company. The price was to be \$800. It was constructed and ordered to be given in charge of the company. At this period the fire apparatus came under the general direction of the borough.

On the 24th of December, 1849, the council passed a resolution making application to the State Legislature for the erection of a new county, to be called Montour, with the county seat at Danville. It was also resolved to furnish the new county with necessary buildings.

On the 29th of March, 1850, a new council was organized. Dr. Wm. H. Magill was rechosen as burgess and Valentine Best as a member of the council. The new members were Dr. Isaac Hughes, George B. Brown, Thomas Woods and William Morgan. Valentine Best was chosen clerk, and M. C. Grier was elected treasurer.

Edward Young was the tax collector for 1850.

On the 4th of April, 1851, the council met for organization. At the previous March election Thomas Chalfant had been chosen burgess, and the following returned and took their seats as members of the council: James F. Deen,



John Rockafeller, J. C. Rhodes and A. F. Russel. William Clark was appointed high constable, and B. W. Wapples, street commissioner.

In the spring of 1852 Thomas Jameson was elected burgess, with the following council: George S. Sanders, John Deen, Jr., G. W. Boyer, and George W. Bryan. The latter was chosen clerk. In this year Sydney S. Easton filled up Northumberland Street.

In 1853 Joseph D. Hahn was elected burgess; council, Daniel Ramsey, P. Hofer, David Jones and James Gaskins; William G. Gaskins, clerk.

Robert Moore was chosen burgess in 1854; council, John Deen, Jr., John Turner, William Hancock, James G. Maxwell and Robert McCoy.

In 1855 William Henrie, burgess; council, Smith B. Thompson, David Jones, Isaiah S. Thornton, Frank E. Rouch, Isaac Ammerman. A census was also ordered by the council, under which the inhabitants were enumerated, and the same was reported at the close of the year: Population, 5,427.

1856—David Clark, burgess; council, Jacob Sechler, John Best, John Arms, William Mowrer and Paul Leidy, Esq.

1857—Jacob Seidel was chosen burgess; council, Jacob Sechler, Charles Leighow, Joseph R. Philips, Samuel Hamor and John Patton.

1858—Dr. Clarence H. Frick, burgess; council, William Mowrer, David Jones, Gideon Boyer, George S. Sanders and Frederick Lammers.

1859—Christian Laubach, burgess; council, D. N. Kownover, Joseph Diehl, B. K. Vastine, D. M. Boyd and William Cook.

1860—J. C. Rhodes, burgess; council, William Cook, W. G. Patton, B. K. Vastine, Emanuel Houpt and Michael C. Grier.

1861—E. C. Voris, burgess; council, Reuben Voris, David James, Joseph Flanagan, William Morgan and D. M. Boyd.

1862—Isaac Rank, burgess; council, Jacob Aten, William Mowrer, Charles W. Childs, David Grove and James L. Riehl.

1863—B. K. Vastine, burgess; council, James L. Riehl, William Twist, William Lewis, John G. Hiler and John Rockafeller.

1864—E. W. Conkling, burgess; council, James L. Riehl, John G. Hiler, Joseph Diehl, C. Laubach and William Lewis.

1865—John G. Thompson, burgess; council, Henry Harris, Dan Morgan, D. DeLong, William Henrie and Jacob Aten.

1866—Dr. R. S. Simington, burgess; council, Dan Morgan, Francis Naylor, D. DeLong, William Henrie and Charles H. Waters.

1867—George Bassett, burgess. [Previous to the election the borough had been divided into four wards, the First, Second, Third and Fourth. Before that time there had been two wards, the South and the North, with five members of council, each elected for one year. The change provided for four wards and twelve councilmen, three from each ward, one-third of them to serve one year, one-third two years and the other three years, and also providing for the election of one councilman each year from each ward]. Council, James Cornelison, John A. Winner, C. W. Childs, William Henrie, David Clark, James Kelly, Samuel Lewis, M. D. L. Sechler, Joseph Sechler, Thompson Foster, John G. Thompson and E. Thompson.

1868—Robert McCoy, burgess; new members of council, James L. Riehl, C. S. Books, George W. Reay and David Grove.

1869—A. J. Ammerman, burgess; new members of council, William Henrie, J. S. Vastine, John R. Lungler and Franklin Boyer.

1870—D. S. Bloom, burgess; council, William Buckley, Hickman Frame, M. D. L. Sechler and Samuel Lewis.

1871—Thomas Maxwell, burgess; with new councilmen, H. M. Schoch, G. W. Miles, George Lovett and Jacob Sweisfort.

1872—Oscar Ephlin, burgess; new members of council, George W. Reay, Henry Vincent, Jacob Schuster and J. L. Riehl.

1873—Edward Young, burgess; councilmen, William Buckley, N. Hofer, Joseph W. Keely and Thomas Coxe.

1874—J. R. Philips, burgess; new councilmen, James Vandling, James Auld, W. D. Williams and David Clark.

1875—Charles Kaufman, burgess; new members of council, M. D. L. Sechler, William T. Ramsey, J. R. Philips and J. W. Von Nieda.

1876—Henry M. Schoch was elected burgess; new councilmen, J. D. Williams, David Ruckle, Wm. K. Holloway and William R. Williams. Isaac Ammerman was elected at a special election to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of James Auld, who had been chosen county commissioner.

1877—William C. Walker, burgess; new councilmen, David Clark, C. A. Heath, A. B. Patton and John A. Wands.

1878—James Foster, burgess; new councilmen, J. W. Keely, Stephen Johnson, James Welsh and Thompson Foster.

1879—Jas. Foster, burgess; new councilmen, William Angle one year; P. Johnson three years, and S. Trumbower, Jacob Goldsmith, H. B. Strickland and Lewis Rodenhofer one year.

1880—Joseph Hunter, burgess; new councilmen, Wm. Angle, Wm. Keiner, Hugh Pursel, Nicholas Hofer.

1881—Joseph Hunter re-elected burgess; new councilmen, A. G. Voris, — P. Keefer, Henry L. Gross, Jas Welsh. William G. Gaskins was clerk of the council for twenty years and was succeeded by Capt. George Lovett in 1874. In 1879 J. Sweisfort was chosen clerk and he was succeeded by Charles M. Zuber. Among the street commissioners were Emanuel Peters, Daniel McCloy, William C. Walker, Oliver Lenhart and Mr. Faux. The street commissioner is also *ex officio* collector of the market tax, and presumedly a sort of inspector of that institution.

1882—Joseph Hunter, burgess; new councilmen, B. R. Gearhart, I. A. Yorks, D. B. Fetterman, F. C. Derr.

1883—S. G. Thompson, burgess; councilmen, J. K. Geringer, Hugh Pursel, Henry Divel, David Grove.

1884—S. G. Thompson, burgess; councilmen, H. M. Trumbower, J. H. Montague, W. K. Holloway, H. A. Kneibler.

1885—Joseph Hunter, burgess, councilmen, Jacob Moyer, George Edmonson, George Maiers, Edward Hofer.

1886—Joseph Hunter, burgess; councilmen, John W. Sheriff, W. C. Walker, Henry L. Gross, S. A. Yorks.

Clerk of the town council, Adolf Steinbrenner; attorney, James Scarlet; treasurer, Geo. P. Brown; surveyor, Geo. W. West; high constable, Dan Low; street commissioner, J. R. Philips; chief of fire department, W. W. Davis; chief police, W. S. Baker.

Officers of the water department are Swartz Miller, superintendent; receiver of rents, Adolf Steinbrenner; water commissioners, James Cruikshank, Joseph H. Barry, John W. Farnsworth.



Photo by McManan & Grand, Danville, Pa.

*Mr. S. Ridgeway*





## CHAPTER XIII.

## TOWNSHIPS.

MAHONING—ANTHONY—DERRY—LIMESTONE—LIBERTY—VALLEY—MAYBERRY—  
COOPER—WEST HEMLOCK.

A BRIEF record account of the townships of Montour County—that is, their origin, first names, and the changes and subdivisions, bringing them to the present time—is given here in this part of the chapter as a matter of economy in space and convenience in aiding the reader in tracing the account, without having to refer to the separate township headings.

All this part of the State, including what is now Montour and Columbia Counties, was erected in 1772 into Augusta and Wyoming Townships, this immediate portion of the State, that portion east of Fishing creek was Augusta Township. In 1784 what is now Montour County was made Turbut Township; in 1786 Derry and Mahoning were erected, and these included not only all of what is now Montour County but extended into the territory of Columbia and Northumberland Counties. What is now Liberty and parts of Valley and Limestone Townships were made Madison Township in the latter part of the last century.

The name Turbut comes from Turbut Francis, who according to the earliest records seems to have been the first party to purchase lands in what is now Montour County. He was a large land speculator and never lived in this part of the State.

All the townships now in the county were carved ultimately from Mahoning and Derry Townships. When the county was organized, in 1850, it contained Franklin, Mahoning, Valley, Liberty, Limestone, Derry, Anthony, Roaringcreek and a part of Montour, Hemlock and Madison. All that part of Madison in the new county was made a new township and called Madison, and that part of Hemlock and Montour was made Cooper Township. In 1853 the line of division of Montour and Columbia Counties was changed, and Roaringcreek, Franklin, Madison and Hemlock were transferred back to Columbia County; and the new township in Montour County became West Hemlock, taken from Hemlock Township, and that portion taken from Montour was made Cooper Township, and the part taken from Franklin became Mayberry Township. In other words, the final adjustment as we now have them, was fixed in 1853.

January 25, 1839, the people of Mahoning and Derry Townships prayed the county commissioners to lay off a new township, and on September 25 of that year Ezra Hayhurst, Benjamin Beaver, George Willet and Stephen Baldy were appointed to lay off a new township. Accordingly they proceeded to erect a new one and called it Baldy Township, now Valley Township, the name given it by the commissioners being retained only about eight years.

## MAHONING.\*

An old document, dated June, 1798, was made by Philip Maus, collector of the township, and contains a list of taxables in the township for that year.

\*For Borough of Danville, see page 75.

It is only a majority of them who were residents of what is now Mahoning Township, for the reason that now its territorial limits are much smaller than they were then. The list includes probably about all who were then residents of the entire county, and part of Columbia County, and is as follows: Paul Adam, James Burk, Robert Biggers, John Bugart, Daniel Barton, Elisha Barton, Cornelius Bogart, Abraham Bogart, Stephen Brown, Peter, Frederick and Michael Blue, Thomas Boyer, John Clark, James Conifran, Isaac Calden, Duncan Cameron, Widow Curry, Geo. Caldwell, John Caldwell, John and William Cox, William Cornelius, Widow Cameron (grandmother of Hon. Simon Cameron), Andrew Coughran, John and Thomas Davis, Samuel Erwin, John Enrit, Sr. and Jr., John and Daniel Frazer, Michael Hille, Hugh and Thomas Hughes, David Inawalt, James Getplin, James Kermer, David Kerr, John Moore, Philip Maus, John Miller, William Montgomery, Alex. McMillen, Benjamin Martin, William Martin, Aaron and Daniel Pew, Daniel Phillips, ——— Robinson, Leonard Rupert, James Rabe, John Stewart, James Sample, John Seigler, Michael Sundes, Jacob Vanderbilt, Gilbert Vorhigh, John Woodward, John Wilson, Joseph Williams, Thomas Willetts, John Young, Alexander Seliman, Harman Zulic. The list separates the young men from the married men, and the list of the young men is as follows: Geo. Maus, Isaac Budwan, Mike Saunders, John Cook, Samuel Enrit, Jacob Sechler, Alexander McGee, William Richard, David Steele, Jacob Groff, Widow Campbell (a young widow, it is supposed), Jonathan D. Sargeant, Michael Bright, William Clark, Widow Duncan, Daniel Heisher, Abel and Daniel Reese, Aaron Long, Geo. Miller, Evan Owen, David Phillips, Widow Zimes, Thomas Robinson, Alexander Berryhill, William Ross, Abner Wickersham, Dennis Leary, James Hunter, George Fant, John Buel, Cadwallader Zowns, Samuel Pleasants.

The Danville Insane Asylum is located in Mahoning Township; a full account will be found in Chapter III. The Danville and Mahoning Almshouse is also in this township. It is in the east part of the township, two miles from Danville—the Catawissa Railroad passing through a portion of the land. The land was purchased in October, 1854, of John Hartzell and wife, consideration \$7,000, and comprises 116 acres. It was built for the purpose of caring for the paupers of Danville and Mahoning Township, and is under the control of three directors. The present ones are Elijah C. Voris, John C. Roberts and James Woodsides; clerk, William M. Russell. At the present there are twenty-five inmates, eighteen males and seven females, all under the care of Elijah Sechler, steward, appointed annually by the directors.

#### ANTHONY.

This was formed in 1849 and named in honor of Judge Anthony, who was at that time president judge of the courts in the district. Prior to this it was a part of Derry Township. It is connected with the earliest history of Montour County chiefly through the fact that the old Derry Church, in the division of that old township, fell to the territory of Anthony, and is now within its territorial limits. The first church meetings held here in the past century were under two white oak trees, and which are still standing, and in some respects are now associated in the minds of the descendants of these pioneer Christian men and women, after the manner of the Charter Oak tree of this State. For some years church meetings were held under the spreading branches of these two oak trees. In 1802 a little log church was put up a short distance below the site of the present church building. It had only a dirt floor, was covered with branches of trees and grass and leaves, and on the



ground in the center of the structure was built a fire in extreme weather. This log house had a gallery (evidently a space-saving device) and the rough stairway to this was on the outside of the building. A high pulpit was on one side, and just below and in front of this was a boarded up box for the choir. Everything about it was of the olden time that has passed away. Its attendants were scattered over a wide extent of country. They came from not only the present county boundary limits, but from what is now Columbia County, and from Northumberland, Luzerne and Lycoming Counties.

Among the prominent organizers of this first church were William McVickar and Thomas Adams; both were the first elders. The first Presbyterian minister who preached under the trees was Father Dunham, as he was universally called. The first regular pastor was Rev. John B. Patterson, who filled the place of pastor, father and friend to the little flock for forty-one years. He died in 1843 and was buried in the Derry Cemetery. He was followed by Rev. John H. Rittenhouse, who came from his native county, near Milton, to take charge. He, soon after being installed, commenced the agitation of the subject of a new building. The building was erected to the great joy of the minister and people. In 1852 he dropped dead while standing in front of a new church that the people were then assembling to hear him dedicate in Washingtonville. He was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. John Thomas, and he in turn by Rev. John Johnson, and he by the present pastor, Rev. G. A. Marr, who resides in Northumberland County. These were all the regular pastors of this church, but there were a number of supplies, some of whom filled the pulpit for long periods. The present elders are Andrew Brittain, W. S. Pollock, J. W. Lowrey and W. C. McVickar; the trustees: D. M. Sheep, James Russell, A. C. Dildine. Present membership, seventy-five. W. C. McVickar is superintendent of the Sunday-school. The old historic church was torn down (which is now to be regretted) to be replaced by the present building, which was erected and dedicated in 1846.

Col. Robert Clark, the eminent patriot and soldier of the Revolutionary war, came to what is now this township and settled in 1792. He won and wore his eagles in the front ranks in the war for independence. He was born in Dauphin County and there grew to manhood. He was present at the signing of the Declaration of Independence. He purchased about 600 acres of land which is now the property of Charles Mowrey, just west of the McVickar farm. Col. Clark's wife was Sallie Hutchinson. They both lie buried in the Derry graveyard. Their children, of whom there were seven, are all dead. Their son Robert came to what is now Montour County, with his parents, when but fourteen years old, in the year 1778. He married Jane Wilson, born in 1780. They had eight children. He died in June, 1868, and she died in August, 1863. They were also buried in Derry Cemetery.

*White Hall.*—The first settler here was John Fruit. He settled here in the latter part of the last century—some believe that it was in the year 1800. He was a native of Ireland. He opened a store-room in his dwelling soon after he came, and afterward put up a store-room; this he built on property now belonging to Henry C. Monroe. It was a small frame structure, and in it he kept the usual variety to be found in a country store. He sold the store in 1810 to John Frederick Derr who carried it on alone until 1841, when he sold an interest to William McBride. Mr. Derr died in 1853, when Mr. McBride continued to conduct the establishment until 1866, assisted by his son, J. S. McBride, now the proprietor. The stock was removed to the present brick structure in 1864. Ely & Moyer were merchants in this place at an early day. In 1841 Neal McCoy started a store which he carried on about six years.

The place was called at that day "Fruitstown." The mail was carried by a circuitous route from Catawissa to this place. It was a pony mail, and the first mail boy on the route was Jacob Dyer. This postoffice was established in 1820. The postmaster succeeding Mr. Biddle was John F. Derr. He remained in the office until 1855, when William McBride became postmaster. The latter remained until 1862, and then John Crawford was installed. He was succeeded by his son, G. W. Crawford, and in turn he was succeeded by the present postmaster, J. S. McBride.

Daniel Dildine, an Irishman, opened the first blacksmith shop. He was one of the early settlers of the place. The first hotel or "entertainment for man and beast," was the Red House Hotel, by Andrew Schooley. It occupied the ground and house where the present brick store stands. The hotel was torn down to make room for the store building. David Ely succeeded Mr. Schooley in the hotel. The latter was succeeded by Ferdinand Ritter, a native of Berks County. Mr. Ritter built the present White Hall Hotel in 1818. It was rebuilt in 1849-50.

The White Hall Baptist Church was erected in 1858 at a cost of about \$1,500. The most active parties in raising the money for the church were William McBride, Effie Derr and A. Holden. But they were liberally aided by all the residents in that vicinity. Andrew F. Shanafelt was the first preacher. He made his residence in this vicinity. He removed from here to Old Chester where he died. The first officers of the church were William McBride and George W. Suplee, deacons, and Aid Holden and William McBride, trustees. The present officers are John Creamer and William McBride. The Sunday-school superintendent is John Creamer, and the attendance about fifty.

The first school here was taught in 1818 by John Rea in a frame building on the site of the present schoolhouse. The building was torn down in 1841. The present one is a brick building.

The old historic Derry Presbyterian Church is situated about one mile from White Hall. The first church building was of nicely hewn pine logs. It was torn down late in "the forties" and the present frame structure was put up.

There is a Baptist Church in the place. A frame building near the village is also the Primitive Methodist Episcopal Church.

Among the old families of this village are the Careys. John Carey, now residing there, was born in the place. He is over seventy-five years of age.

*Exchange.*—St. James Episcopal Church is located here. The first regular pastor was Rev. Milton Lightner. At first services were held in what was known as the Baptist schoolhouse. Mr. Lightner's first visit to the place was to preach at the funeral of Stephen Ellis—the first of that name to settle here and one of the early settlers in this township. The regular services began in 1843, and were held regularly. When Stephen Ellis died he left a verbal will giving \$200 toward the building of the church. "should there ever be a disposition to erect such a building." The erection of the church was commenced in 1848 on land purchased for that purpose. The corner-stone was laid by Bishop Alonzo Potter, and that year it was completed and dedicated by the same bishop, assisted by Rev. Milton Lightner and others. The prominent contributors were the estate of Stephen Ellis, William Ellis, Stephen Ellis (son of Stephen Ellis, deceased, and who now resides in Exchange), Catharine Ellis and Jane, William, Isabella, Ellen and John C. Ellis, and Milton Lightner and Amos Heacock.

Rev. Milton Lightner served the congregation about ten years, and was succeeded by Rev. Edwin Lightner, who served the congregation from Danville.

He was succeeded by Rev. Elsegood, and the ministers in charge in the order following were Revs. Fury, William Page, Albra Wadleigh, Rollin H. Brown, Abram P. Brush, Baldy Lightner (son of the first of that name), Frank Duncan Jadow, Frank Canfield, William Johnson, David L. Fleming, the present pastor, who is located in Muncy. The cost of the church building was over \$1,300. The first officers were William Ellis, Stephen Ellis, John C. Ellis and Amos Heacock, vestrymen; William Ellis and Amos Heacock, wardens. The present officers are Charles Reeder, William Ellis, John Caldwell, John D. Ellis, Robt. Caldwell and Stephen C. Ellis, vestrymen, and Charles Reeder, senior warden, and S. C. Ellis, junior.

The present Exchange Hall and school was built in 1874, and opened to the public and as a school that year. It was erected at a cost of \$1,300. The building committee was Stephen C. Ellis, Patrick Dennin and Dr. McHenry. The first school-teacher in the building was Augustus Truckmiller. This hall is occupied by the Odd Fellows and by the Patrons of Husbandry. The building is the property of twenty-eight stockholders, who joined together in its construction. The first school in Church Hill District, No. 6, was built in 1849. That building was torn down and the present house erected in 1870, in which Miss Stine is the teacher.

Walter Johnston, father of William C. Johnston, the clerk and recorder of the county, was the first hotel-keeper in Exchange—about 1839. He left there in 1840 and went to Jerseytown. Among the early settlers in this place was William Craig. The families of John and Alexander Craig are still in the place. James McKee was another early settler. John Bull kept a hotel on the top of the hill, but his family are gone years ago. The house where he kept his hotel is still standing, though it has been closed as a place of entertainment for years. One of the old families living above the hill was that of Patrick Montague. David Wilson is now a man over eighty years of age; was among the early settlers. Charles Clark (now a very old man) and family lived north of Exchange. His wife was a Derr. He opened the first store in Exchange, built his storeroom in 1838 and for a time boarded at Johnston's Hotel.

Exchange Lodge, No. 898, I. O. O. F., has a membership of thirty-eight. Exchange was named about 1840. The Crownover mill and a few clustering houses were then there. There was an ancient log schoolhouse across the creek from the place. The first brick house in the place, now owned by Patrick Dinnen, was built by John Caldwell. It is now a very old house. John Caldwell married a daughter of James Pollock, another family of the earliest settlers. The first postmaster in the village was Gersham Bidle.

#### DERRY TOWNSHIP AND BOROUGH OF WASHINGTONVILLE.

This is one of the oldest townships and settlements in the county. The earliest settler in what is now the territory of this township was a Mr. Brittain. One of his sons is Nathaniel Brittain, now aged eighty years, and is still living on the old family place. He has in his possession title papers and other evidences that establish this fact. Among other very early settlers was Jacob Shultz, who settled in what is now Limestoneville in 1790; after staying there one year he removed to Derry Township and settled on the place now occupied by his grandson, J. K. Shultz, where he died in 1804; he was buried in the Derry Church graveyard. In the year mentioned an epidemic of typhoid fever prevailed extensively and carried off a number of the people. Brady's Fort (generally printed in the State histories as "Boyle's Fort") was erected toward the latter part of the Revolutionary war. It was named after the two brothers



Col. Sam. and Hugh Brady, who were prominent soldiers in the war for independence. Mathew Calvin was an early settler in Washingtonville. The family and descendants are now gone. He built the old frame mill in the town. It was twice burned down and as often rebuilt and the last building is still standing. Joseph Hutchinson settled near Washingtonville at an early day.

William McCormick, father of Hon. James McCormick of Danville, and William Shaw and family were early settlers in Derry. Hon. James McCormick was born there in 1818. He married Margaret Shaw, daughter of the above named William Shaw.

John Steinman built a saw-mill in 1812, about half a mile above Mr. Billmeyer's. A turning-lathe is now on the property occupied by the mill.

John Auten built a saw-mill in 1812 and in 1814 he built a grist-mill and house. The grist-mill has long since been entirely gone—the saw-mill is still on the same spot. One of the earliest settlers near Mr. Billmeyer's was John Wilson. He was a prosperous farmer and died on the place where he had made his improvement. Stephen Ellis and his wife Mary (Cunningham) Ellis of Donegal, Ireland, were of the early settlers in this township. Their son Stephen was born in this county May 15, 1807.

Of the earliest ministers of the church was the famous pioneer preacher, Rev. J. B. Patterson of the Presbyterian Church. He was stationed at Washingtonville and had charge of the Derry Church and the Washingtonville Church, the latter being both the first log schoolhouse and church combined in this part of the county. Mr. Patterson died in Washingtonville, and so deeply had he impressed the purity and excellence of his character upon the people, that his memory now is warmly cherished and is yet "a name to conjure by" among the descendants of his old-time parishioners. His descendants are a son and daughter now living in the township where he died. The present Presbyterian brick church in Washingtonville is a modern building erected about twenty years ago, and is the successor in regular line of the primitive little log church, as that first building had succeeded the inviting widespread branches of "God's first temples."

*Washingtonville* and Danville constitute the two boroughs of Montour County, and they also mark the two oldest settlements in it. It was only incorporated into a borough April 28, 1870, the first officers being H. C. Snyder, burgess, and Joseph B. Seidel, Andrew C. Ellis, James A. Miller, councilmen. The present officers are Charles Mowery, burgess; Charles Shires, clerk; John Andy, A. C. Courson and J. B. Seidel, councilmen; J. D. Geiger, postmaster.

A settlement was made here just prior to the breaking out of the war for independence. The Bosley water grist and saw-mill had been built prior to 1788. It stood just opposite where the present mill stands. It was burned down in 1826. It was the circumstance of this mill and a few settlements about it, that created Brady's fort, or block-house with port holes and for a while a small howitzer cannon mounted on it, where the people fled at times from the threatened approach of roving savage bands. In the histories of the State this is spoken of as "Boyle's Fort." This is an evident mistake as it was built and named for the two Revolutionary heroes, Hugh and Sam. Brady, brothers. In 1788, as mentioned elsewhere, great suffering threatened the people in the way of famine. Philip Maus bought a quantity of grain at the time, of John Montgomery, of Paradise farm and delivered it at the mill. At this early day the place was called Washington. From old papers in the possession of Philip F. Maus, we learn that in 1788 Samuel Smith, Adam Hempleman, and Robert Rogers were some of the parties then living in the vicinity of the place, and that they got some of the

wheat he had bought from Paradise farm. Samuel Hutchinson purchased the mill of Bosley. He was a leading man of the early times, and was principal owner of the village. He was succeeded in the mill by his son-in-law, Mathew Calvin. He ran the mill successfully for a number of years, and at the same time owned and managed a large farm in the immediate vicinity. He was a strong, intelligent and well educated man; a free and independent thinker on all subjects, but more especially on religion. He donated, however, the ground for the frame Presbyterian Church built in 1832. His son Samuel taught school in Washingtonville at an early day; he removed to Huntington County, became a lawyer and was elected to Congress. Before going to Congress he had been elected and served as judge. Mathew Calvin was the first postmaster in Washingtonville. Dr. Newcombe was the first physician to locate in the village. Just before the Revolutionary war Mr. Allen had built and opened the first hotel in the place. Mr. Allen's successor in the hotel was Thomas Buskirk. The first blacksmith was Robert Walker. He was a good workman. He invented and made the once celebrated Walker plow. He was full of industry and enterprise and built finally a factory and foundry. In his old age he removed to Lancaster where he died.

Three churches were built in Washingtonville—the Presbyterian, Lutheran and Methodist. For many years the people worshiped at the old Derry Church, four and a half miles northeast of Washingtonville, where the celebrated Rev. John B. Patterson ministered for a long time, the particulars of whom are fully given elsewhere. He went from Danville to Washingtonville in 1798, purchased and settled upon the old homestead farm about a mile east of the village where his son and daughter now reside. The early members of this the oldest church in this part of the county were James Biggins, Col. Robert Clark, the eminent Revolutionary soldier, William McCormick, James Barber, Thomas Barber, Andrew Sheep, Samuel Brittain, Joseph Henderson, James Lowrie, Joseph Hendershot, Gersham Biddle, James Pollock, Thomas Morehead, John Carr, John Allen, James C. Sproul, Thomas Adam, James McVickar, John Russell, John Craig, William Pegg, Samuel Hutchinson, Charles McKee, James Simington, Robert Shearer, Thomas Foster, Thomas Robinson, John Blee, and Mr. McHord. These all worshiped at the old Derry Church until 1832, when a building was put up in Washingtonville.

The first store in the place was kept by Nathaniel Spence. His successor was William McCormick. The latter was one of the prominent men of his day, a native of Ireland.

There is some dispute now as to where the old fort or block-house stood. Some think it stood in the valley just across the creek from the borough, while others contend it stood just back of Front Street, between Church and Water Streets.

The first schoolhouse was built in the last century soon after the close of the war. It was a square pen of unhewn logs of uneven length, a log taken out of three sides for windows. It stood on the street opposite to where John Hedden resides. Early in this century Washingtonville was quite an important place; it was on the mail stage route through the county. In 1838 it had as many as four hotels and four stores. The leading business men at that time were James and David McCormick, sons of William McCormick; Neal McCoy, son of Robert, and the firm of Grim, Derr & Dye. Aaron Moser now keeps the hotel that is among the old improvements of the place.

Derry Lodge, No. 759, I. O. O. F., has a membership of twenty-eight.

## LIMESTONE.

This was one of the townships struck off from Derry in the latter part of "the forties." It is in the heart of the rich agricultural portion of the county. The oldest living resident of this township is Joseph Gibson; he is the great grandson of the noted early settler and surveyor, Henry Gibson. His father, Henry Gibson, died in November, 1860, aged eighty-two years and eight months. Through the three generations born and reared in this county, they have been of the most prominent people in this part of the State. The Valiet family can trace their lineage back to the Crusaders of the tenth century. The first immigrants to come to this country arrived in Allentown in 1749. The present representative of this family in Limestone Township is Stephen Valiet. Probably the next oldest families to come to this country were the Davises, now represented by Joshua Davis. They came to the country in 1754. Of the early settlers were the Gouger family. John William Gouger was long a representative pioneer settler and the family were among the most prominent and influential people in the county. Jacob Gouger came with his parents when a child. Jacob Shultz was a pioneer to this part of the State and a soldier in the war of 1812. He lived in the township until he died. James Shell married a daughter of his and is now residing on the Shultz farm. The Fulmers were early comers and a people much respected. One of them served some time as associate judge in this county.

*Limestoneville* was founded by Daniel Smack in 1835. He had settled here, and about that time erected dwelling and store, making a large establishment for that day, and one of the finest store-rooms in the county. He determined to make a town of the place and he allowed full swing to his spirit of enterprise. He built a blacksmith's shop and secured a smithy to run it; then a tailor and fixed him up in a shop, and then a shoemaker. But he did not stop with the temporal comforts and affairs of the people, but pushing ahead he built a Methodist Church and called able and earnest flock-tenders to wend their way to his moral green pastures. The church building is a frame, and is supplied regularly from Milton. A very nice brick schoolhouse was put up. Indeed Mr. Smack's ambition was fully consummated—a town had been built up, and the outlook was flattering for its continued prosperity. A hotel had been opened by a German. Balliet & McCormick had opened a store, and they bought out Smack's store and its belongings, which included the town itself, and they became not only the store-keepers but the town proprietors. They conducted the mercantile business with success until 1848, when they sold to Jacob Widenhower. There are now two stores in the place, many comfortable residences and the general surroundings that are important to the people in a small village. It is one of the nine places in the county that has a postoffice. Near Mr. Gouger's residence in this township is a place called California. It is merely a cluster of farm houses adjacent to each other, and in the settlement is a schoolhouse.

## LIBERTY.

Col. Thomas Strawbridge, of Chester County, Penn., was probably among the very first in what is now Liberty Township. He was a conspicuous Revolutionary soldier; a man of eminent patriotism as a citizen, and a Rupert in war. His coming to this part of the State was cotemporary with that of Gen. William Montgomery, whose sister, Margaret, he had married in Philadelphia. Col. Thomas Strawbridge and wife, Margaret, had four children. Their son James married Mary Dale, and of the issue of this marriage is Dr. James Dale Strawbridge, of Danville. For a full genealogy of this family see the biography of Dr. Strawbridge in this book. Col. Thomas Strawbridge and his





*H. V. Holloway*



brother-in-law, Gen. William Montgomery, were among the early settlers in this portion of the State and prominent and central figures. They established almost all the first commercial and manufacturing enterprises; they filled the prominent public offices, and yet were not politicians nor place seekers. If the necessities of their home people required their presence, they were ever ready to resign office and come home, as did Gen. Montgomery when in Congress. Col. Thomas Strawbridge was judge of the courts of Northumberland County in 1795. He established a tannery in Liberty Township, the first thing of the kind in this part of the State.

The McWilliamses were among the earliest families who settled in what is Liberty Township—Robert McWilliams his three sons, Hugh, John, Robert, and daughter, Jane, who had married Robert Curry in Ireland. The McWilliamses bought land in 1771, which was the family homestead, near Mooresburg. At the time they came there there was a family named Moore living where Mooresburg now stands. The sixth generation of the first Robert McWilliams who came here is now represented in the children of Dr. R. S. Simington of Danville, traced as follows: The eldest son of Robert McWilliams, Sr., was Hugh, whose son was Robert No. 2, and his son was Hugh No. 2, and the last named was the father of Mrs. Dr. Robert S. Simington, and hence her children: Gertrude, born November 13, 1855, and married Calvin Leinbach, January 15, 1885; Harriet Elizabeth, born October 11, 1857, and Anna Jean, born June 30, 1867, are the living sixth generation from the first Robert McWilliams. The wife of Robert McWilliams was Jean Orr. They were married in Scotland and removed to the North of Ireland prior to coming to this country. They stopped at first in Chester County, and the wife died a short time before they moved to this place. Hugh was killed by the Indians in 1775. His only son, named Robert, was six months old at his father's death. He was born in July, 1775.

Robert McWilliams' mother was Rebecca Dunwoody, who had married Hugh about the year 1774. Robert married his relative, Jane Curry, in May, 1798. She was a daughter of the Robert Curry who was massacred by the Indians. Her mother was Jean McWilliams Curry. Some of the children of this marriage were Hugh, born April 18, 1799, died in 1877, John, Mary and Jean. This Hugh McWilliams married Rebecca Lemon April 13, 1830. She was the daughter of James and Rachel Lemon, born in Point Township, Northumberland County. Their children were Harriet, born January 26, 1831, married to Gilbert Voris March 14, 1854; Regina Jane, born July 3, 1833, married Dr. Robert S. Simington December 28, 1854, both of Liberty Township, and Anna Rebecca who married January 23, 1861, F. K. Hain, general manager of the New York elevated railroads. Thus both sides of the house, the McWilliamses and Currys, had been sufferers from the murderous Indians. Jane Curry, who was born February 8, 1773, was the first white child born in this section of the country, between the north and west forks of the Susquehanna River.

Among the earliest records pertaining to this township is the deed from the Penns in 1795 of 329½ acres of land. Thomas J. Clark now resides on this land, northwest of Mooresburg. The title to this property remained in the church until 1806 and was then sold to Robert Finney, where he made his improvement and resided until his death in 1839. Finney was in his day a noted character and contributed his full quota to the people's enjoyment by his many eccentricities. He was a harmless old bachelor who lived by himself after the death of his mother and sisters, noted for his hard work, year in and year out, and his pinching economy. He was odd in everything, dress, man-



ners and habits. He purchased the farm and paid for it in threshing wheat with the old flail—a long hickory pole, cut and bent, with the heavy end so as to pound the sheaf of wheat and thus thresh it out. He lived in the old out-building on the place, and in the severest winter weather would take what little stock he had into the building with himself, and often in the dead of winter has he carried straw from Danville to his place to feed his kine.

Among the early settlers are the present descendants of the Billmeyers. This was a large and influential family noted for their frugality, prosperity and enterprise as farmers. John Steinman built a saw-mill about half a mile above Billmeyers, in 1812. There is now a turning-lathe on the old mill property. John Auten built a saw-mill also in 1812, and in 1814 he added to his saw-mill a grist-mill. The lumber for his house and grist-mill was cut at his own saw-mill, and these buildings were erected as soon as he could thus secure the lumber. The grist-mill was worn out and torn down. The saw-mill still stands in the shape of a modern built mill as a successor to the first one. These two saw-mills and the grist-mill were the only ones in this part of the county at that time, and here for many years the people in the vicinity had their grain ground and their lumber cut.

John Wilson purchased land adjoining the Billmeyer place. He improved about 175 acres and on this farm made his residence until he died. In the olden time every neighborhood imperatively needed a weaver to weave the cloth from wool and flax for wearing apparel for the people—the hatter, the weaver and the itinerant shoemaker were the only sources of supply for the average person's clothes of that day of rural simplicity and frugality. The entire scheme of social economy is now wholly changed—a change wrought mostly by the wonderful mechanical inventions and appliances of the American people. There are but few of the industries now carried on in which machinery has not been introduced whereby one man can do the work of from seven to ten men, and in no occupation has greater improvement been made than in that of weaving, and yet we note the singular fact that wearing apparel is much more expensive now than it was three-quarters of a century ago. The spinning jenny and the cotton-gins have taken away much the larger proportion of the time and toil upon each yard of cloth, as compared with half a century ago. These remarks are parenthetical to the fact that in the early times George Wagner, a weaver, located in the township. After working here some years he removed to Limestone, and stopping there some time he again removed, this time to Washingtonville, where he remained until he died about 1862. Of this family there were a number of children. James and John McMahan were of the first settlers. These two brothers were noted Revolutionary soldiers, as were the two Billmeyer brothers, George and Martin. The McMahans settled just west of Mooresburg. Another family that to this day are closely allied with the history of this part of the county, the Simingtons, sent John and Peter to the war of 1812-15. This particular family of the Billmeyers settled in the Chillisquaque. One of that name is now living in the house built by his great-grandfather.

The oldest church in the northwest part of the county is the Chillisquaque Church. It is still a church regularly offering its ministrations to the living and its hopes and consolations for the dead. Their present building was erected in the early "fifties." The minister in attendance is Rev. H. G. Finney, who also serves at Mooresburg. The church at the latter place was erected about forty years ago.

*Mooresburg* was laid out in 1806 by Stephen Moore, one of a noted family who came to Pennsylvania that year. The town plat originally embraced thir-

teen acres of ground, and the first house was erected as a residence by Mr. Moore. John, Joseph and Andrew Moore were three brothers who came to this county in the ship "Welcome" in company with William Penn in 1682. They were members of the society of Friends. Stephen Moore was a grandson of the John Moore mentioned above, whose family had settled near Penn-ington, N. J. Stephen was born in 1759 and died in Mooresburg, January 20, 1813. He had married Parthenia, daughter of Andrew Young. She was born in 1760 and died in 1830. Their issue were ten children, namely: Lydia, Abner, Asa, Samuel, John, Hannah, Burrows, Charles M., Andrew and Edward S. The brothers of Stephen Moore were Samuel and Edward, and his sister's name was Hannah. John Moore married Elizabeth Donaldson of Danville. The only descendants of Stephen Moore now here are Mrs. Anna A. (Moore) Biddle, the daughter of John Moore and granddaughter of Stephen, and the children of William Biddle, deceased. William Biddle and Miss Anna A. Moore were married December 6, 1860. Messrs. Moore and Biddle lived in Danville and started the first foundry in the town. This they carried on successfully for many years. Mr. Biddle was a relative of Nicholas Biddle on one side, and was told he was one of the heirs of the great Jennings estate that attracted such wide attention for many years.

The Catawissa Railroad passes directly by the village and has a depot for the convenience of the people.

#### VALLEY.

The first permanent settlement made in what is now Valley Township, it is supposed, was by Phillip (or Philip) Maus, the founder in this country of that large family, in each generation of which there has been a prominent one of that name. An extended sketch of Phillip Maus, the first, is given in the chapter entitled "Early Settlers," to which the attention of the reader is referred. It is there told that he purchased his land on the Mahoning Creek in May, 1769, as soon as it was possible to obtain title in the new Indian purchase, including all this portion of the State. As soon as the Revolutionary war was drawing to an end, he came with his son and two carpenters to build his house in the wilderness. He first visited his purchase in 1782; reported the little settlement at Danville had just been founded by the brothers Daniel and William Montgomery, and there were there "half a dozen families from the southeastern part of the State and from New Jersey." His recollection, which is the correct one, is that the Montgomerys had purchased the place of John Simpson, and also "purchased Simpson's saw and flouring mill." So it appears that the "saw and flouring mill" had really been built by Simpson. With the carpenters Mr. Maus brought with him, his own and his son's help, he erected the first cabin in Valley Township. Its site was a short distance from the right bank of the stream, nearly half a mile from the present stone mill. He contracted for clearing a small tract of land, but the Indians grew so threatening that he buried all the tools and other chattels he could, in order to keep them from the savages. From his recollections, as written by John Frazer, we extract the following account of the killing of Robert Curry. Of the many conflicting accounts this is probably the most reliable:

"Two years previously, in May, 1780, Robert Curry and his wife, traveling on horseback from Northumberland, on the way to their little farm on the Mahoning, when about midway between the two places, were attacked by the savages. He was killed and scalped and his skull broken to fragments with their tomahawks. She was taken prisoner. Her hair was long and jet black, which they greatly admired. They told her she was 'a much pretty squaw,'

and would not hurt her. They traveled until night when they encamped. They then tied her hands and feet with hickory bark. Soon they were in a profound sleep, when she cut the bark from her wrists and ankles. She had concealed a pair of scissors about her person which, fortunately for her, escaped their vigilant search when she was first made captive. She fled from their camp as fast as possible, but they soon missed her and, lighting torches, pursued her in all directions. She concealed herself in the top of a fallen tree. They passed over the trunk of the tree and, as they did so, cried out: 'Come out, squaw, we see you. Come out, pretty squaw, we see you.' After some time spent in fruitless search they abandoned it, broke up their camp before daylight and pursued their journey. She then returned to the remains of her murdered husband and gathering up the pieces of his skull in her apron, took them to her house which she reached the next day. The agony and deep distress of this poor woman may be conceived, but the pen utterly fails to describe them."

A fragment of a letter from Mrs. Maus dated "Northumberland, 1783," is so full of interest that we give all that part of it contained in the torn portion of the original letter, as follows:

\* \* \* \* \*

Your brother George likes this place very well. When you come, do not fail to bring 100 White Chapel needles and two or three ounces of thread suitable for sewing calico and home-spun linen. Give my love to your grandpa and grandma, and tell her I wish her to come with you and see us; we will arrange for her journey to Lebanon and back. You will see Rev. Stoy's palace. Tell her the Peninton's house up Race Street is nothing to compare to it and Dr. Stoy lives only seventy-five miles from us. \* \* \* Tell the girls that Susy and the young girls here take a canoe and go into the river fishing by themselves; the river is as clear as a spring and not half a yard deep. This is a most beautiful and picturesque place. We have the wild deer not half a mile from us, skipping about the hills where the boys go to fetch the cows.

(Signed.)

Your loving mother,

FRANCES MAUS.

Philip Maus built his mill in 1793, and here was cut the lumber for nearly every building erected for years in the surrounding country. The limestone found here was a valuable material in building what we may term the second crop of settlers' houses. It eventually became the great source of supply to the Danville iron furnaces. In the year 1800 he erected his flouring-mill. It was an imposing stone building for that day, and still is standing, as sound and durable, apparently, as when first built. His experience in digging his mill-race was varied, one portion being dug by the Catholics and the other by Protestants; and several times Mr. Maus had to take possession of the clubs and shillalabs of both parties to prevent their being worn out over bloody heads. This was called their amusement, and by way of explanation of these theological discussions it may be stated that these men consumed eleven barrels of whisky while at the work and play of digging the mill-race.

The experiences of the Maus family are a graphic illustration of what were the sources of past time and work of a respectable, intelligent and well reared people. How completely were they thrown upon their own resources. Only when they had raised their sheep could they clothe themselves in woolen goods in the winter. For summer they made linen goods of the flax they raised. Woolen or linen, the men wore "hunting shirts" much after the style to be seen in the pictures of Daniel Boone. The Maus family cultivated, early, two acres of flax. There was a Scotch family in the settlement that did the most of the weaving. Before the era of wool and flax they dressed deer skins and the hides of other wild animals, and of these made clothing. Rabbit-skin caps were quite an elegant luxury at one time. A young man



when he reached this high-water mark in dress was ready to go "sparking" at the bower of the belle of all the land. We are told that in the Maus home during the long winter evenings, by the light of lard oil iron lamps they read books of devotion, "Cook's Voyages," Weem's "Life of Washington," and then, oh, rare treat! they sometimes took turns and read Goldsmith's "Deserted Village," "Vicar of Wakefield," and even "Don Quixote." These were read aloud, and sometimes Mr. Maus would contribute immeasurably to the enjoyment by appropriating the *dramatis personæ* amongst them.

When the family reached the possession of an ample fortune a family carriage was purchased; it was of the style of Louis XIV. Nothing ever created a greater sensation in the valley than the arrival of this family carriage. It is said to be the first in what is now Montour County. The two Montgomerys had a gig each, and these three were the only pleasure carriages in the country for many miles around.

Samuel Music was one of the Maus family's early neighbors. Samuel was noted as a good man and excellent neighbor, but also for his moods of humor, and sometimes when in low spirits his gruffness was amusing. By those who knew him best he was best understood, and when in his grimmest moods his roughest speeches were only the sources of smiles among his friends.

The township poor farm is situated near the residence of Judge John Benfield. It was established about four years after the one of Danville and Mahoning. It was made almost compulsory in the township in self protection, after the one had been established, to establish the other.

Peter Blue, Fredrick Blue and James Stutfelt leased for a time the Maus farm, agreeing to take possession as soon as it would be possible from the Indian troubles. They came on according to contract and went vigorously to work. The arrangements for them to come here had been made in Northumberland, at the fort probably.

There are three churches in Valley Township. The Lutheran Church, a brick building in Frosty Valley, is the representative of the earliest church in the township. We found the oldest inhabitants unable to give us the date of its founding, but it was sometime in the latter part of the last century. It is served from Danville. The Hendricks Methodist Episcopal Church is at a place known as Cambellton Hill and the Maudale Church.

In addition to the Maus stone mill, Judge John Benfield has a mill on his place that is a valuable addition to that part of the county.

*Mausdale* is a small village not quite two miles from Danville. It was originally a mere cluster of settlers who were attracted there by the rich and beautiful valley and the Maus mill and improvements.

#### MAYBERRY.

This is one of the youngest townships in the county. It is cut off from the main body of the county by the Susquehanna River, including the only portion of the county's territory that runs across the river to the south. The river forms its north boundary line; the east line is the county line, and the south and west line is the dividing line between it and Northumberland County. The township was formed in 1850 of territory taken from Franklin Township in Columbia County, and was named "Mayberry" in honor of Mayberry Gearhart, a descendant of William Gearhart, one of the earliest settlers in this part of the county—then Northumberland.

It is broken and hilly, the level or valley land along the course of the streams being generally narrow. Mountainous elevations rise but a short dis-

tance from the Susquehanna River and extend south nearly the length of the township. What is called the Sharp Ridge rises on the eastern side of the township and passes southwesterly and south through nearly the center of its territory; the ascent of this ridge is gradual and the top is comparatively level and therefore along this ridge is the main road that in going from Danville passes across the north end along the river to Mr. Gearhart's place on Roaring creek, and then turns south and passes out at the southwest corner of the township. Another road that joins this at the Methodist Episcopal Church turns south at the North schoolhouse and goes directly south. This is a shorter route to the Lutheran Church and school, but the abruptness of the hills over which it passes makes it more difficult to travel. When the high plane is reached there is frequently level land and from this the timber has been cleared away and farms made. The productive qualities of these uplands are fair, but the natural washing of the soil requires careful and faithful husbandry. The streams all run north and to the northeast and northwest, the two Roaring creeks forming the east and west boundary lines and emptying into the Susquehanna. Then near the center between these two streams there is a stream heading up near the Sharp Ridge and passing north to the Susquehanna. The tributaries of Roaring creek are two, heading at Sharp Ridge and running northeast to the main stream. The tributaries of Little Roaring creek rise on the opposite side of the Sharp Ridge and run in a northwesterly direction.

The first settlements in this portion of what was then Northumberland County were made by Germans, and were on the east side of Roaring creek, opposite William Gearhart's first place of settlement, now owned and occupied by his son Mayberry. The moving spirit of this first German colony was John Mensch. Charles Boone, of Berks County, made the original improvement that is now the Mayberry Gearhart place. He lived here some years and then returned to his old home. Dr. William Boone lived half a mile up the creek. He lived here some years; then went to Ohio, where he was killed. The Voughts were of the first to locate in the township. J. Vought's improvement was about a mile still further up the creek. Among others to come at an early day was Peter Osman. He lived near the Methodist Episcopal Church in the north part of the township. The exact date when the Voughts came and made what it is now supposed was the first settlement in this township is not known. It is supposed it was about the end of the last century or the beginning of this. It was about 1820 when the Boones came, and it is now fifty-four years since William Gearhart made his settlement. The accessions to the first cluster of improvements along the Susquehanna River were slow in coming. There was then no bridge at Danville and but few and rough roads that furnished outlets to other points to the south. The census of 1880 showed a population in the township of only 230 souls. The township is divided into two school districts, the River District and the Centre District. The first schoolhouse, built many years ago, and used for church purposes also, stands near the road where it turns south, about half way between M. Shultz's and D. Shultz's farms. About three-quarters of a mile south of the schoolhouse is the first church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, built in the township, and here was the first cemetery. Then about the same distance south of this and on the same road is the Lutheran Church, school and cemetery. These were built about 1856. The churches now are and have been supplied from other points, holding meetings at stated times.

There is no village or town in its confines. A flag station is on the railroad near Roaring creek. The people are agricultural in their habits, contented as a rule to plod peacefully along in the footsteps of their ancestors.

The younger generation, not infrequently going out to larger places to attend school, catch the infection of the rushing, ambitious outside world and forsake the quiet, rural scenes of childhood, and take up their habitations in distant villages, towns and cities of the country.

## COOPER.

This is one of the small townships of the county. Its south base rests on the river, and its east line to its north limit follows up the line dividing the counties of Montour and Columbia. The entire township is rough and hilly, and but sparse agricultural spots in it. There are very few even narrow valleys, and yet there is some very good agricultural land. Its most valuable part is its mineral deposits. Here is much valuable iron ore yet to be dug, and its limestone is valuable. Just north of Grovania are the limestone kilns, started some years ago, and promised at one time to become extensive and valuable, but the stoppage of the Grove iron-mills at Danville caused a cessation of the lime kilns, and they have lain idle awaiting the revival of the iron manufactory, when they will become of great value and here will some time again be much activity. Two railroads pass from east to west through this township—the Catawissa and the D. L. & W. Roads.

*Grovania* is the only village or postoffice in the township—the village here consisting of the name, the store and residence. The place was made a station on the railroad soon after its completion, and designated as a postoffice. It was named in honor of the Grove Bros., of Danville. Near it is a Lutheran Church—St. James—and a cemetery. The church is sometimes supplied from Catawissa and sometimes from Danville. St. Peter's Union Church is on the opposite side of the township. This is also a Lutheran Church, and is supplied in the same manner as is St. James, named above. The place where this latter church is located is known as Ridgeville, situated on the old stage road, but whose hopes departed when the railroad was built south of it and superseded the old coach. It once had a tavern with "accommodations for man and beast." Our information is that the earliest settlers in what is now Cooper Township, were the Krums. There is yet a number of the descendants of this family still in the township. Some suppose, on what is apparently good authority, too, that the Fousts were the earlier comers to this part of the county. Here again we find the Cromleys, whose descendants are still living in the neighborhood, where they first settled.

## WEST HEMLOCK.

*New Columbia* was once a pretentious village, or rather one that looked forward to some future expectations. It was on the Bloomsburg stage route and at one time, no doubt, promised itself to have some day a postoffice. But relentless fate built the Catawissa Railroad, the stage and stage horn no more were on the road and the promised growth of the place departed—moved down, it is supposed, to Grovania. But St. Peter's Church and Cemetery, with a few residences, remain to the place yet. Its name is about all that is left except the few comfortable residences belonging to surrounding farmers.

The surface of the township is hilly and parts mountainous. The agricultural lands are limited, being confined to the few narrow valleys. The east branch of Mahoning creek passes through the north part of it.

Of the early settlers in this township was George Crossley and family. Their settlement was made about a mile south of where New Caledonia now is.



The descendants of this old family have now all left the neighborhood. The next family probably in the order of coming was that of Michael Sandel. This was a large family. There are now in the township Peter, Jacob and Nathan—the latter was never married; the others have families. Burtis Arnwine settled in the southern part of the township. This was at one time a numerous family, but now they are all gone from this part of the county. Daniel Cromley was one of the numerous Cromley family whose descendants are yet to be found scattered over the eastern part of the county. Daniel was among the early settlers in what is now West Hemlock. Two of the sons are still residing there; one is on the old homestead.



Photo by La Rue Lerner, Harrisburg, Pa.

J.P. Koffa





# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### DANVILLE.

ROBERT ADAMS, of the firm of Conkling & Co., dealers in all kinds of books and stationery, and agents for the Adams Express Company, Danville, was born in Farrandsville, Penn., May 23, 1838, a son of Robert and Hester (Jodon) Adams. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania and of Irish origin. The father was a boot and shoe manufacturer. Robert is the youngest in a family of five children, and grew to manhood in Danville; was educated at the Danville Academy and graduated in 1856. Except the time spent in school he has been with Mr. Conkling since he was eleven years of age, first being employed with him as a boy in the store, then as clerk, and later bought a partial interest in the business. In 1866 Mr. Conkling took him in as full partner, and their relationship has since existed without a word of discord. Mr. Adams has been connected with the Adams Express Company at Danville since 1854. The firm own their store room, and have fitted it up especially for their business, and also own the room for the express office. Mr. Adams is a Republican.

WILLIAM AMESBURY, coal merchant, Church Street, Danville, was born in England November 26, 1825, a son of Richard and Harriet (Pernell) Amesbury. He is the second in a family of seven children, and at the age of eight years ran away from home rather than attend school. He first obtained employment where a railroad was being built, making himself useful by carrying tools, etc., and was soon the pet of the workmen. He earned twenty-five cents a day, which gave him an ample supply of money for his wants, and thus employed remained until he was twelve years old. He then went to Scotland and worked with railroad men two years, at the end of which time he returned to England and began to work in the mines at Yorkshire. There he remained until the age of twenty-two, when he came to America; remained a short time in New York, and then came to Danville, where he was employed in the iron mines one year. He then went to St. Louis, Mo., where he engaged with a company to travel in search of lead and copper mines, which he made his employment for some time, and during which period made several important discoveries. He traveled extensively in that business, has been in all the States and Territories in South America, Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and has crossed the ocean from America to England three times. He carried on mining, employing from forty to fifty men, and, although his education is limited, he was his own book-keeper and kept all his accounts. He married, in 1854, Miss Maria, daughter of Richard Cook and of English origin. Five children blessed their union: William, Mary (wife of Thomas Cromwell), Adaline, Jennie and Arthur. Mr. and Mrs. Amesbury are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically he is independent.

W. H. AMMERMAN, insurance agent, Danville, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., November 19, 1834, a son of Robert S. (a farmer) and Margaret (Johnson) Ammerman, natives of Pennsylvania, and of Scotch descent, who had a family of seven children, W. H. being second. Our subject received his education in his native county, chose farming as his occupation, and followed it until the age of twenty-three. He then obtained a certificate, and taught school several years, after which he accepted a position as agent for The Farmer's Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Middle Pennsylvania, and was sent to Lycoming County, Penn., where he carried on the business for twelve years, and still represents it at Danville. The available collateral assets of this company, July 15, 1886, were \$269,128.48, and the company is now in a flourishing condition. During that time he had his home at Danville, and when, in 1871, the Danville Mutual Fire Insurance Company was organized, he was elected its secretary, which position he still holds. In 1867 he formed a partnership with Patterson Johnson, and the firm did

a general insurance business for eighteen years, until the death of Mr. Johnson in 1883. The latter had been secretary of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Middle Pennsylvania, and, upon his death, that company prevailed upon our subject to take the position and look after their interests until the election. When they met they elected Mr. Ammerman secretary, and he has since increased the capital stock of the company. He is also connected with the firm of W. H. Ammerman & Co., with which his eldest son was actively engaged for a time, and is associated with David R. Williams, of Danville, in the general fire insurance business. These gentlemen are careful business men and represent none but first-class companies, such as the following: Ætna of Hartford, Conn.; Fire Association of Philadelphia; Germania, of New York City; Girard, of Philadelphia; Imperial, of London, England; Lancashire, of Manchester, England; Phoenix, of Hartford, Conn.; Royal, of Liverpool, England. Mr. Ammerman has had a long experience in the insurance business, for which his qualifications eminently fit him, and to which the high rank he now occupies among leading insurance men is due. He has been twice married; first, November 26, 1864, to Mary J. Rogers, who bore him six children and died in 1875. She was a member of the Episcopal Church, and of English origin. His second marriage took place February 6, 1879, with Wilhamina Morgan. Mr. Ammerman has served as a member of the school board of Danville, is a member of the I. O. O. F., and also of the Masonic fraternity.

CALEB APPLEMAN, retired farmer, Danville, was born in Columbia County, Penn., April 12, 1812, a son of Boltis and Mary Melick Appleman, natives of Pennsylvania and of German and Dutch descent. He is the sixth in a family of eight children and was educated in Bloomsburg. He came to Montour County in 1832, where he followed farming which he made financially successful, and retired in 1885, making his residence in Danville. His grandfather, Peter Melick, was a soldier in the Revolution and his father was a soldier in the war of 1812. In 1831 Caleb married Mary M., a daughter of Henry Rishel, of German origin, and ten children were born to them, viz.: Elmira, deceased wife of John Carr; Sally Ann, wife of Charles A. Rentz; Agnes, wife of James M. Van Devender; Mary E., wife of John C. Patterson, of Danville; Margaret J., wife of Hon. Jesse C. Amerman, a prominent farmer; Amos B.; Harriet, wife of Peter E. Rentz; Eli, a farmer; Caroline, wife of George Gilmore, and Franklin Pierce. Mrs. Appleman united with the Lutheran Church at Milton when she was about nineteen years old. Mr. Appleman is a member of the Episcopal Church. He was a member of the building committee when the Methodist Church in Valley Township, Montour County, was erected and was Sabbath-school superintendent there for ten years. He was school director for six years. He is a Democrat and served twenty-seven years as constable. His son Amos was in the civil war, a member of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

GEORGE W. ASKINS, merchant, Danville, was born in Landisburg, Perry County, Penn., April 14, 1829, to Samuel (a shoemaker) and Susannah (Fitzcharles) Askins, natives also of Pennsylvania, and of Scotch-Irish descent, the former of whom died in Union County, Penn. Their family consisted of nine children, four of whom grew to adult age. Our subject, the eldest child, was reared and educated in his native county until sixteen years of age. He then went to Harrisburg where he learned the tinner's trade, serving a regular apprenticeship, and after completing his apprenticeship he obtained a situation at Selin's Grove, Snyder Co., Penn. There he worked at his trade and subsequently clerked in a general store until 1877, when he came Danville and superintended a stove and tinware store for the firm of Waterman & Beaver, where he was employed for seven years. At the expiration of that time he bought out the firm, and has since continued the business with marked success. He is now the owner of the store and business room, and also of a neat and substantial residence. He married in 1853, Elizabeth Monbeck, a lady of German origin, daughter of David Monbeck, a farmer of Union County, Penn. Mrs. Askins is the mother of seven children: Mary, wife of R. Pierce; William, in business with his father; Emma, at home; Charles; Harry, a tinner; Florence and Jessie. Mr. Askins is one of the commissioners of Montour County. He enlisted in the Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, served one year and was discharged at the close of the war. He is a member of the G. A. R. of Danville; in politics a Republican. Mrs. Askins is a member of the Lutheran Church.

WILLIAM B. BALDY, editor of the *Montour American*, Danville, was born in that place, August 5, 1853, a son of Charles C. and Mercy Jane (Brothwell) Baldy, whose ancestors were among the early German and Scotch settlers of Pennsylvania. His parents were born in that State, and his father was a carriage manufacturer in Danville in the early part of his life, but later carried on a hardware store in the same place. He was twice married and his family consisted of ten children, five of whom are now living. Our subject is the fifth child by the first wife. He attended the schools of Danville and Andalusia College, in Bucks County, Penn., and also Lehigh University, where he graduated in civil engineering, class of 1876. He then commenced to learn the printer's art in the office of the *Montour American*, and two years later bought one-half interest in the paper, the firm being Bradley & Baldy until April 1, 1883. Since that time Mr. Baldy has been

editor and proprietor of the *Montour American*, which is Republican in political sentiment, and has a good circulation. He is chairman of the Republican county committee; is an active member of Friendship Fire Company of Danville, and has been its secretary for eight years; is a member of the R. A. of Danville, and is its Regent; is Past Noble Grand of the I. O. O. F., and also a member of the encampment; and captain of Company F, Twelfth Regiment Pennsylvania National Guards. In 1881 Mr. Baldy married Ida B., daughter of William Waters, and a native of Pennsylvania of German origin. They have one child, Isabella May. He and his wife are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, of which he is a vestryman and treasurer of the board, also Sunday-school superintendent.

JONATHAN P. BARE, justice of the peace, Danville, was born in Montgomery County, September 8, 1841, a son of Frederick and Susan (Place) Bare, natives of Pennsylvania and of German and French origin, respectively. In early life the father was a shoemaker, later a farmer, and died in 1849. Jonathan P. is the eldest son in a family of five children, and was reared by A. Hendricks on a farm in Montgomery County until 1857, when he came to Montour County, which has since been his home, except the time he spent in the service of his country. He enlisted in 1861 in the artillery, One Hundred and Twelfth Regiment of the line, and was elected orderly sergeant of Company F, served three years and was in several battles. In 1864 he returned home and worked on the Catawissa Railroad, and subsequently farmed for a time. He again worked on the railroad as a bridge-builder until September 24, 1870, when he met with a sad accident which deprived him of both feet. Politically he is a Republican, and in 1879 was elected justice of the peace, which office he still holds, and is also treasurer of the board of directors of the poor of Danville and Mahoning Township. He is a member of the G. A. R. and of the I. O. O. F. also of the I. O. O. F. Encampment. His first wife died in 1867, and in 1870 he married his second wife, a lady of German origin, who has borne him three children: William A., Harry Clayton and Sarah Gertrude. Mr. and Mrs. Bare are members of the German Reformed Church.

JESSE BEAVER, retired merchant, Danville, was born in Lebanon County, Penn., March 8, 1811, a son of Peter (a tanner and Methodist minister) and Elizabeth (Gilbert) Beaver, whose ancestors were among the early settlers of Pennsylvania. (For further ancestral history see sketch of Thomas Beaver.) They were the parents of twelve children, ten of whom attained adult age. Jesse, who is the fifth child, received his education in a log schoolhouse in Perry County, Penn. Early in life he learned the printers' trade, but never worked at it after completing his apprenticeship. He clerked two years in a store in Union County, where his father had moved in 1828, and then returned to Perry County, and engaged in keeping a general store until 1857. He then sold out and bought a store in Union County, where he continued the business until 1863. In that year he came to Danville and engaged for some years in the coal trade, after which he retired. In 1833 he married Mary Ann, daughter of Dr. Christian Swartz, a native of Pennsylvania and of Pennsylvania-Dutch descent. Their union was blessed with five sons and five daughters, all of whom are living and married, except one. Mr. and Mrs. Beaver are members of the Methodist Church, of which he has been steward, trustee and class-leader. He has been a constant reader, and devotes much time to the study of the Scriptures, ancient and modern history, etc. In politics he was a Democrat until 1856, when he affiliated with the Republican party, to which he still adheres. He held several offices while a resident of Perry and Union Counties, such as school director and member of the town council, and served one term as auditor of Perry County. He was post-master at Millerstown, and was appointed collector of toll for the Pennsylvania Canal Company, but on finding that he was usurping another man's place he refused to accept the position. Mr. Beaver then purchased a store, which he conducted until coming to Danville in 1863. He was elected associate judge of Perry County in 1851, and served five years; also served one term as representative. In 1862 he was appointed United States revenue collector of Union County, serving until he came to Danville, when he resigned and embarked in the coal and lumber business.

THOMAS BEAVER came to Danville for his permanent home in 1857. To his hands, among others, had been entrusted the affairs of the Montour Iron and Steel Works, that had just previously suffered from the financial panic that at that time was passing over our country. Mr. Waterman, as co-trustee with Mr. Beaver, retained his residence in Philadelphia, hence the immediate responsibility rested mostly on Mr. Beaver. He soon had the entire works in successful operation, and in 1860 Messrs. Waterman and Beaver purchased the entire concern, which soon became one of the most extensive iron manufacturing plants in the country. In another chapter, to which the reader is referred, is given in full detail the history of this important enterprise. The account of it is to some extent the account of Mr. Beaver's enterprise and business sagacity. Thomas Beaver was born November 16, 1814, in Pfouty's Valley (now in Perry County), Penn., a son of Rev. Peter and Elizabeth (Gilbert) Beaver. His ancestors on the paternal side emigrated from Germany about the beginning of 1741, and settled in Chester County, Penn. The family name of his grandmother Beaver was Keifer, of whom there are now residents



in Franklin County, this State. This family immigrated to this country in 1755, and first settled in Lebanon County. The father of our subject, Rev. Peter Beaver, born December 25, 1782, in Franklin County, Penn., was ordained in 1809 at Elkton, Md., by Bishop Asbury, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was actively engaged in the ministry many years; he died in August, 1849. Thomas' mother died in 1818; she was Elizabeth (Gilbert) Beaver, the daughter of grandfather Gilbert, who was born in Germany, but was of English descent, his father having been a English soldier and one of Marlborough's men in the battle of Blenheim, and from that country immigrated to America. The Gilberts located in Lebanon County, where they resided many years, but later moved to Dauphin County. They are a large family and are farmers. The issue of the marriage of Rev. Peter and Elizabeth (Gilbert) Beaver is as follows: George, who married Catharine Long; Samuel, who married Maria Leman; Jacob, who married Ann Eliza Addams (one of whose children is a favorite son of Pennsylvania, Gen. James Addams Beaver, of Centre County, a gallant soldier and Christian gentleman); Jesse, who married Mary Ann Schwartz; Thomas, whose name heads this sketch; Peter, who married Eliza G. Siminton; Sarah, who married Aaron Nevius; Eliza; Catharine, who married Archibald Greenlee, and Mary, who married Henry Miller, now of Lewisburg. Thomas Beaver's educational advantages were rather meagre. He never attended school after his thirteenth year, but as he possessed an indomitable will and innate intellectual force, his after success was none the less positive because of the lack of scholastic education in early youth. In April, 1827, he left the parental roof in search of his fortune, and for a number of months worked on a farm at \$2.50 per month, and in the winter of that year entered the store of Beaver & Black (his brother Samuel and Judge Black), at Milford. The following spring the business was removed to Newport, Perry County, and there he continued one year. His father having in the meantime opened a store at New Berlin, Union County, Thomas put in a year's work there, and then returned to Newport to take charge of the business of Judge Black, who was a prominent politician and spent most of his time outside. Close application to business brought its frequent attendant, and illness compelled a climatic change, so through the friendly aid of Gen. Mitchell, chief of construction of the Pennsylvania Canal, on November 1, 1831, he went to Williamsport to fill an engagement in the general store of Rev. Jasper Bennett. His knowledge of goods and force of character were demonstrated at that early day, he being sent, when but eighteen years of age, to Philadelphia to purchase a stock of goods, making the tedious journey by stage-coach. In 1833 he formed a connection with Peter Nevius in general merchandising at Lewisburg, and remained until 1835, when he sold out his interest and assumed his brother Samuel's place at Millerstown, the firm then becoming J. & T. Beaver. Feeling a strong desire to learn of wider fields, he told his brother he would go to Philadelphia for such purpose, and carrying out such project in an intelligent manner, wrote to three of the largest firms there for their views and advice. Reed & Son, one of those selected, responded, attempting to dissuade the seeker after knowledge, while Bray & Barcroft wrote they would be glad to meet him and make his stay pleasant. Mr. Beaver accordingly went to Philadelphia in March, 1837, and made good use of his time, so that when he proposed to return he was met by Mr. Barcroft with "Thomas, you had better stay where you are;" and answered, "I cannot give up a business worth \$3,000 or \$4,000 per year for the sake of living in Philadelphia." Mr. Barcroft then said, "It does not suit us to make any change in our business until 1840. At that time we will give you an equal interest with ourselves in the business." Recognizing the value of such proposition from so strong a house, he acted upon it and returned to Philadelphia. An opportunity being offered to take hold of the affairs of the Montour Iron Company at this place, he came here in 1857. Not to particularize too closely, among his gifts to religious and educational causes may be mentioned \$30,000 to Dickinson College, Penn., and his recent most generous gift of \$100,000 to the Danville Public Library. January 23, 1838, Mr. Beaver was united to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Robert B. and Cassandra (Berryhill) Wilkins, of Harrisburg, Penn., who was born April 20, 1817. As a result of this alliance there were born seven children, two of whom died in infancy: Emily, born October 4, 1840, married William H. Chamberlin, of Lewisburg (since deceased), and bore him Jesse, William, Thomas, John, Elizabeth, Mary, Emily and Laura; Arthur, born September 17, 1842, married Alice Diehl (no issue); Alice, born Oct. 12, 1844, married William H. Browne, of Philadelphia, and has borne him Elizabeth, Charles and Thomas (twins); Laura, born Jan. 18, 1846, married Rev. John De Witt, professor of church history in Lane Seminary, Cincinnati (no issue); Elizabeth Stewart, born February 9, 1853, married Lemuel E. Wells, of New York, and has borne him Thomas, Christian and Lemuel Stewart. Into this happy home came the fell destroyer death at an all too early day, calling hence the faithful wife, tender mother and affectionate friend on December 27, 1884.

WILLIAM BIDDLE (deceased), for many years a prominent merchant and manufacturer, of Danville, was a man of more than ordinary intelligence and executive ability. He was born at White Hall, then in Columbia County, now in Montour, April 18, 1812. His parents, Gershom and Mary (Jennings) Biddle, had a family of six sons and four daughters, he being the youngest. They were charter members of the Old Derry Presbyterian

Church that was organized in 1798. Gershom Biddle was a prominent man of Derry Township, of Scotch-Irish descent; his ancestors were among the early pioneers of Pennsylvania, settling on a tract of land near Fishing creek, Northumberland County, surveyed on application to the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and purchased April 3, 1769. Mary (Jennings) Biddle, wife of Gershom, was a daughter of Hugh Jennings, who served in the Revolutionary war; he was of English descent; his ancestors settled in New Jersey near Morristown. William Biddle at the age of thirteen came to Danville, was employed as clerk by the late John Moore, merchant; subsequently became a partner; a few years later engaged with him and others in the foundry business. After many changes among the partners he became the owner of the Eagle Works, on Ferry Street, which for a number of years was one of the leading industries of Danville, and gave employment to over 100 men. Mr. Biddle always took an active interest in the welfare of those in his employ, and by his kindness and generosity gained their confidence and respect—a truly honest man. He was married twice; his first wife was Mary Jane Moore, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Donaldson) Moore; she died December 12, 1854, and was the mother of seven sons and two daughters, two sons living, viz.: Edward Moore Biddle, residing in Danville, and Walter Sterling Biddle, in Wilkesbarre, both married, each having one son, Edward Percy and Charles Hamrick. His second wife, Anne Alward Moore (sister of his former wife), he married December 6, 1860. The fruit of this union was three children: Grace Hunter, Harry Otis and Horace Moore, bookkeeper in the First National Bank, Danville. William Biddle was identified with Danville for sixty years, and died February 3, 1885, being one of the oldest citizens of Danville, and respected by all who knew him.

HORACE C. BLUE, dealer in groceries, tobaccos, cigars, flour and feed, Danville, was born in that place October 13, 1857, a son of Samuel (a painter) and Abigail (Hullighen) Blue, natives of Pennsylvania and of Scotch and Irish origin. They had a family of six children, five of whom grew to adult age. Our subject, the youngest of the family, was educated in the schools of his native town. At the age of twelve he began clerking in a store, and at seventeen embarked in business for himself, keeping a flour and feed store. He has been very successful and is now one of the representative business men of Danville, having become such by his own exertions. He is a Democrat, and takes a lively interest in politics. In 1884 he married Miss Stella Scott Beaver, daughter of Thomas W. Beaver, and of English origin. They have one child, Isabel. Mrs. Blue is a member of the Presbyterian Church of Danville.

DANIEL MONTGOMERY BOYD was born in Rush Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., within two miles of Danville on the "homestead farm." He is the son of John C. and Hannah M. Boyd. The former was a native of Chester County, Penn., and a son of Gen. John Boyd. He was a large owner of real estate, a prominent and active business man, and foremost in all the public enterprises of his day. His mother was a native of Danville, and daughter of Gen. Daniel Montgomery; both parents were of Scotch-Irish descent. Daniel Montgomery is the second in a family of eight children, seven of whom grew to maturity and attained prominence in business and social life of their native place. D. Montgomery Boyd acquired his education principally at the "Danville Academy," an institution founded and sustained largely by the liberality of Gen. William Montgomery (one of his ancestors) and which held a prominent position in the educational institutions of its day, being thoroughly equipped and conducted by the best teachers. After completing his education and spending a year or two at his home in the country, he went with his father and family to Pottsville, Penn., where he, for a short time, engaged in the purchase and sale of coal. Soon after he became identified with the development of the Shamokin coal basin, in opening mines and building railroads. Becoming interested personally in coal lands, he with a partner opened one of the finest veins of coal and built one of the first improved coal breakers in that country; afterward became interested in mining and selling the same. In 1862 he was induced to go to Havre-de-Grace, Md., for the purpose of selling and shipping coal by vessel south, but later extended his operations with others to shipment of coal to points south and west. He remained here until 1881, when ill health forced him to retire from active business. He returned to Danville, where he became interested in the leading enterprises of the place, being president of the First National Bank, Danville, Penn., president of the board of trustees of the State Insane Hospital, president of the Nail Manufacturing Company, and other interests. He has always been willing to assist with his labor, influence and money, every public enterprise of Danville, and is one of the few who enjoy the fruits of his labor. He married in 1869, Miss Caroline A. Bockins, of Germantown, Penn., who died in 1876. His second marriage took place in 1878, with Miss Ida Cottrell, of Columbia, Penn., who has borne him two children: Daniel Montgomery (deceased) and Elsie M. Mr. Boyd and family are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is a trustee. His politics are Republican.

HON. DENNIS BRIGHT was born at the homestead in Valley Township, Montour (then Columbia) Co., Penn., March 22, 1839, the third child of Peter and Mary Bright that grew to the age of maturity. His father, Peter Bright, was born in Reading in 1801; his father, David Bright, was born in Reading in 1771; his father Michae

Bright, was born in Lebanon County, and his grandfather, Michael Bright immigrated to this country from the Palatinate in 1736, being of French or German origin. At that time there were but three counties in the province of Pennsylvania—Philadelphia, Bucks and Chester. Schaefferstown was in Chester County, and one of the oldest towns in the State, and the elder Bright settled there when but twenty years of age. Our subject received an academic education, graduating from Pittsburgh Commercial College in 1856; he worked on his father's farm until the spring of 1861. He was in Indiana at the breaking out of the Rebellion, and on April 20, 1861, enlisted under the call for three months men; many more enlisted, however, than were needed to fill the Indiana quota, and his regiment was one of the number left out; they were, however, held in Indianapolis by Gov. Morton, in expectation of another call, and when the call for three years' men came, he was mustered into the United States service June 14, 1861, as first sergeant of Company A, Fifteenth Regiment Indiana Volunteers. The regiment, being already equipped and drilled, was immediately sent to the front, and took part in one of the first engagements of the war, fought at Rich Mountain, W. Va. After the retreat of the rebels the regiment was ordered in pursuit, and at a stand made by them at Elk Water, he was wounded by a musket-ball passing through his ankle, this preventing his doing active duty until the following spring, when he was ordered to join his command, with rank of captain, to serve on staff of Brig.-Gen. George D. Wagner, having been successively promoted from first sergeant. His brigade had been, transferred from Virginia to Kentucky to join the army of Gen. Buell, for the investment of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson. After participating in the capture of these forts the brigade joined the army of Gen. Grant, in Tennessee, and at the battle of Pittsburg Landing, Mr. Bright received injuries to his wounded ankle which incapacitated him from further active service; he was detailed on garrison and provost duty, and after having served for two years, was discharged. After his return from the army he was appointed by the Government an assessor of internal revenue, and by Gov. Geary was appointed lieutenant-colonel Eighth Division National Guard of Pennsylvania. He has re-sided in Danville since the war, engaged in various vocations and is now in the hardware trade. In 1872 he represented this county in the State Legislature, being the first Republican holding that office from Montour County. He was married in 1872 to Lucy M. Reay. She was a native of England and a resident of San Francisco, to which place she removed with her relatives in childhood. Mr. Bright's maternal ancestors were of Welsh origin, and settlers in Chester County, Penn., in 1730. Mr. and Mrs. Bright have no children.

G. B. BROWN, merchant, Danville, was born in Columbia (now Montour) County, Penn., September 13, 1816, a son of Samuel and Dorothy (Neice) Brown, natives, respectively of England and Holland. The father was brought to America when a small child, by his parents, who settled in Columbia (now Montour) County in 1736. Subject's father and grandfather were both farmers, and both died in Columbia County, Penn. The grandparent was a prominent man, and served as magistrate many years, and in those early times a magistrate was a man of no small amount of authority. George B. is the eighth of nine children (all of whom grew to maturity), and was nine years of age when his father died. He remained with his mother on the farm until he was fourteen, meanwhile attending the district school, and then worked out on the farm until he was seventeen years old. He then clerked in a store in Millinville, Columbia County, until 1834. In that year he came to Danville and clerked for two years in a dry goods store, and later purchased the store of S. M. Bowman & Co., and conducted it four years, when he was sold out by the sheriff. His failure seems to have given him renewed energy, for he embarked in everything in which he could see an honest dollar, and at one time was operating nine different enterprises in Danville. In this way he paid off all back debts. The man who, in order to show a clear record and enjoy a peaceful conscience, will honor claims for which he is no longer legally responsible, must surely be an "honest man." He first opened a boarding-house, to which he later added livery business; then studied dentistry, opened an office and practiced with success, and was among the most active business men of Danville. In 1856 he established his present business, dealing in books, stationery, artists' supplies, etc., and to him belongs the honor of circulating the first daily newspaper in Danville, a branch of his business which has steadily expanded. In 1837 he married Sarah A., daughter of John Gearhart, and of German origin. Four children have been born to them: Benton, Melissa D., John G. and Will G. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of the building committee, of which he was a member. He is Republican in politics; has served twenty-one years as treasurer of the school board of Danville, and has been a member of the town council and Burgess one term.

HON. THOMAS CHALFANT is descended on the paternal side from Robert Chalfant, a member of the Society of Friends, who emigrated with William Penn from Stoke Pogis, England, and settled on a patent of land at Doe Run, Chester Co., Penn., which land is still in the family name. On the maternal side his ancestor is John Peden, a Scotch-Irish Coveanter, who immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1732, and was one of the first to found a Covenanter Church in Philadelphia, on Spruce Street, above Third. The



subject of this sketch was born in Philadelphia, in the year 1819, and was brought up in that city. He learned the carpentering and pattern-making trades and worked thereat for some years. In 1847 he removed to Georgia, and was there engaged in the erection of sugar-mills, cotton-mills, and structures of a similar character. Subsequently he returned to the North and located at Danville, Penn., where he entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, Dr. Isaac Hughes, in the drug business. October 1, 1853, he was commissioned postmaster at Danville. He held this position until July 15, 1861, when he assumed charge of the Danville *Intelligencer*, which he has conducted from that time to the present. June 28, 1863, Mr. Chalfant entered the military service of the United States, and was commissioned captain of Company D, Fifty-third Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was mustered out on August 19, 1863. October 8, 1866, Mr. Chalfant was elected a member of the State Legislature, as representative from the counties of Columbia and Montour. He was re-elected in 1867. During his incumbency of that office he was an active and highly esteemed member of the General Assembly, and was largely instrumental in the passage of a bill appointing commissioners to select a site for and erect a State hospital for the insane. The selection of Danville as the site for the hospital was also largely due to his efforts. In 1883 Mr. Chalfant was appointed one of the trustees of the Danville Hospital, a position he yet holds through two subsequent re-appointments. In 1870 he was again chosen to represent Columbia and Montour Counties as State representative. In 1872 he was chosen State senator, representing the counties of Columbia, Montour, Lycoming and Sullivan in the State senate, and served three years in that capacity. In 1842 Mr. Chalfant was united in marriage with Eliza V. Hughes, daughter of Ellis Hughes, Esq., of Danville. The offspring of this marriage were two sons and two daughters, of whom none survive but the younger son, Charles, publisher of the Danville *Daily Sun*. In 1881 Mr. Chalfant was elected president of the Pennsylvania State Editorial Association. He is at present postmaster at Danville, a position to which he was commissioned by President Cleveland in 1885.

B. A. CHILDS, merchant, Danville, was born in Valley Township, Montour (then Columbia) County, Penn., November 21, 1829, a son of James and Rachel (Appleman) Childs, of German and Irish origin, respectively, whose ancestors were among the early settlers of Pennsylvania; the father, a farmer, was twice married. Our subject, the third of six children born to the first wife, was reared on the farm and attended school in his native township, and from his youth up was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1854. He then moved to Danville, and was employed in the rolling-mills until 1880, when he obtained work in a stove and tinware store, and was employed in the mechanical department until 1885, when he embarked in business of a similar character for himself, and has met with success. He married, in Montour County, in 1853, Sarah, daughter of Robert Richart, whose parents were natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and of English origin. Mr. and Mrs. Childs are the parents of two children: J. R. and Emily. Mr. and Mrs. Childs are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Danville.

DAVID CLARK, cashier of the Danville National Bank, was born in Pennsylvania, January 31, 1814, a son of John and Jane (Clark) Clark (no relation). Both his paternal and maternal ancestors were early settlers of Pennsylvania. His father was a saddler by trade, and his family consisted of seven children, of whom David is the youngest and the only one now living. He received his education in the common schools, and began life for himself by clerking in a store for a few years. He then embarked in the mercantile trade, keeping a general store until 1845, when he was elected justice of the peace. In 1850 he came to Danville, and clerked in the Danville bank, which institution he has served as cashier since 1864. He has been burgess of Danville; is a director of the nail works; politically he is a Republican. He has two children now living: Cordelia (wife of George M. Gearhart) and Mary (wife of William C. Frick).

JOSHUA WRIGHT COMLY, attorney at law, Danville, was born at Philadelphia, Penn., November 16, 1810, a son of Charles and Sarah (Wright) Comly. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, died January 9, 1840; the mother was born in New Jersey, and died March 4, 1879. They were married February 19, 1807, and eight children were born to them, six of whom arrived at maturity, but all are now deceased, except our subject and his brother. Joshua W. was reared in the Quaker faith, attended the schools of his neighborhood, and also Princeton College. In 1827 he began the study of law at Milton, Northumberland Co., Penn., in the office of Samuel Hepburn, Esq., and three years later, November 17, 1830, was admitted to the court of common pleas of Northumberland County. In 1833 he was admitted to the supreme court of Pennsylvania, and has made law the business of his life. He practiced in three counties for many years, traveled and did a large practice in several other counties. In 1851 he was the Whig candidate for judge of the supreme court, and in May, 1882, retired. He is a descendant of Henry and Joan Comly, who with their son, Henry, came to America with William Penn. They were members of the Society of Friends. Henry, was a weaver by trade, settled in Bucks County, Penn. Charles Comly (subject's father) is the son of Ezra Comly, formerly of Philadelphia, and Hannah Iredel, his wife. Ezra was a son of Robert Comly, late of Byberry,

Philadelphia, and Sarah Jones, his wife. Robert Comly was the son of Robert Comly, Sr., and Jane Cadwallader, his wife. Robert Comly, Sr., was the second son of Henry Comly of Bucks County, Penn., and Agnes Heston, his wife. Henry Comly was the son of Heary Comly, Sr., and Jane his wife, who came from England to Pennsylvania in 1682.

E. W. CONKLING, senior member of the firm of Conkling & Co., Danville, was born in New Jersey, August 2, 1819, a son of Isaac and Sarah (Hall) Conkling, natives of New Jersey and of English descent. The father was a manufacturer, and his family consisted of four children, three of whom grew to maturity. E. W., the eldest child, at the age of sixteen entered Princeton College, from which he graduated in 1838. His first business was teaching, which he followed for seven years mostly in Danville Academy. He then went to New Jersey and taught school for two years, and, subsequently returning to Danville, was appointed county superintendent of public schools of Montour County, which position he held until 1849. He then embarked in the book and stationery business, which he has since continued. Mr. Conkling has also been agent of the Howard Express and the Adams Express, the successor of the Howard, since 1843 continuously. Mr. Conkling married in 1843 Margaret E. Hibler, daughter of Jacob Hibler, and of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Conkling are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, politically a Republican.

HON. JAMES CRUIKSHANK, of the firm of Cruikshank & Co., Danville, was born in Berks County, Penn., September 18, 1836, a son of James and Margaret (McFarland) Cruikshank, natives of Scotland. His father was an iron molder and came from Scotland to Philadelphia in 1830, where he worked at his trade for a time. Our subject is the eldest of five children, and received his education in the common schools. In 1837 he was brought by his parents to Pottsville, where he was reared. In early life he learned the trade of iron molder, at which he worked until coming to Danville in 1873, and soon after embarked in his present business. The firm is among the most flourishing in Danville and its members are all energetic and enterprising. They divide the business and each is eminently fitted for the department under his care. Mr. Cruikshank may usually be found in the shop, where from forty to sixty men are employed. Politically Mr. Cruikshank is a Republican, and in 1875 and 1876 represented Montour County in the State Legislature; is now a member of the water committee of the borough of Danville. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the I. O. O. F. Encampment, also K. of P., and has served as Past Master in three secret societies. In 1856 he married Sarah J., daughter of Joseph Walton. She is of English descent; has borne her husband five children: Ida M., wife of John F. Miller; William; John C.; Emma F. and Charles W.

ROBERT CURRY (deceased) is numbered among the earliest settlers of this part of Pennsylvania. He was born in the North of Ireland, June 9, 1741; educated in the schools of his native country, where his father was a well-to-do linen manufacturer. He immigrated to America in 1772, settling on Mahoning Creek, in what is now Valley Township, Montour Co., Penn., and there followed farming. He was killed and scalped by the Indians June 9, 1780. He was a Presbyterian in religious belief and was one of the first to give his money and influence toward the propagation of the gospel in these parts, and was also trustee of his church. He married Miss Jane McWilliams in Belfast, Ireland, and four children were born to them: James, who was born in Ireland, grew to manhood and settled in Ohio; Robert, who settled on the north branch of the Susquehanna River; William, who settled on the home place in Valley Township, Columbia Co., Penn., and Jane, the first white child born between the north and west branches of the Susquehanna River, married to Robert McWilliams. The sons were well-to-do farmers, noted for their honesty and integrity.

THOMAS C. CURRY, of Cruikshank, Mayer & Co., owners and proprietors of the Enterprise Foundry and Machine Shops, Ferry Street, Danville, is a grandson of Robert Curry, whose sketch appears above. He and two sisters reside in Danville, Robert in an adjoining county, Hugh in Michigan, William in Kentucky.

JAMES F. DEEN, Danville, is a native of that place, born September 1, 1816, a son of John and Susan (McBride) Deen, natives of Pennsylvania. His father came to Danville in 1790, and was one of the first blacksmiths of the place. James F. is the fourth of eight children, was reared and educated in Danville, followed the blacksmith's trade with his father, and worked at the trade altogether for fifty-three years. April 3, 1839, he commenced the business of blacksmithing for himself, and on the 8th of August following moved to North Danville, occupying as a residence the first house built on the new town plat which he purchased of A. Montgomery, its builder, and on the same lot our subject erected a blacksmith shop in which he began work January 2, 1840. In the fall of 1846 he purchased and built on ground, adjoining, a machine shop and foundry with other necessary buildings, in which he operated until 1847, when he moved to East Boston, Mass., where he remained until January, 1849, doing all of the wrought iron work for a large rolling-mill. He then returned to his old business at Danville, and in May, 1856, moved to Selin's Grove, where he built a foundry, machine shop, etc., and followed the business until 1858, when he moved to Sunbury, and there for five years did the repairing for the North Central Railroad. In 1862 he returned to his native place, which has since been his

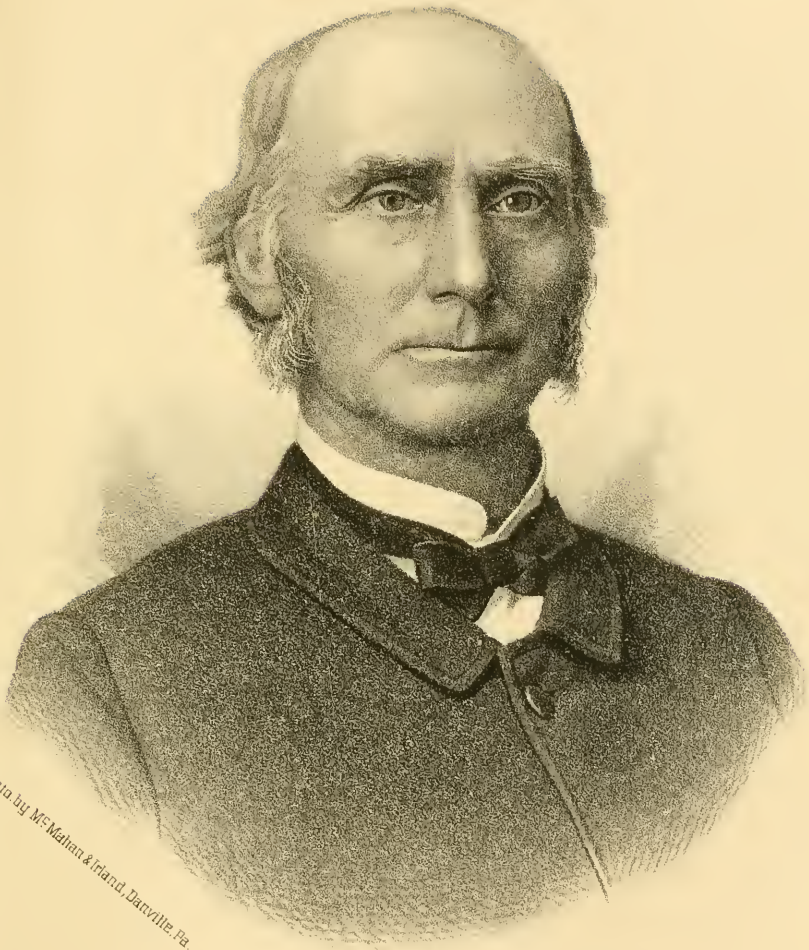
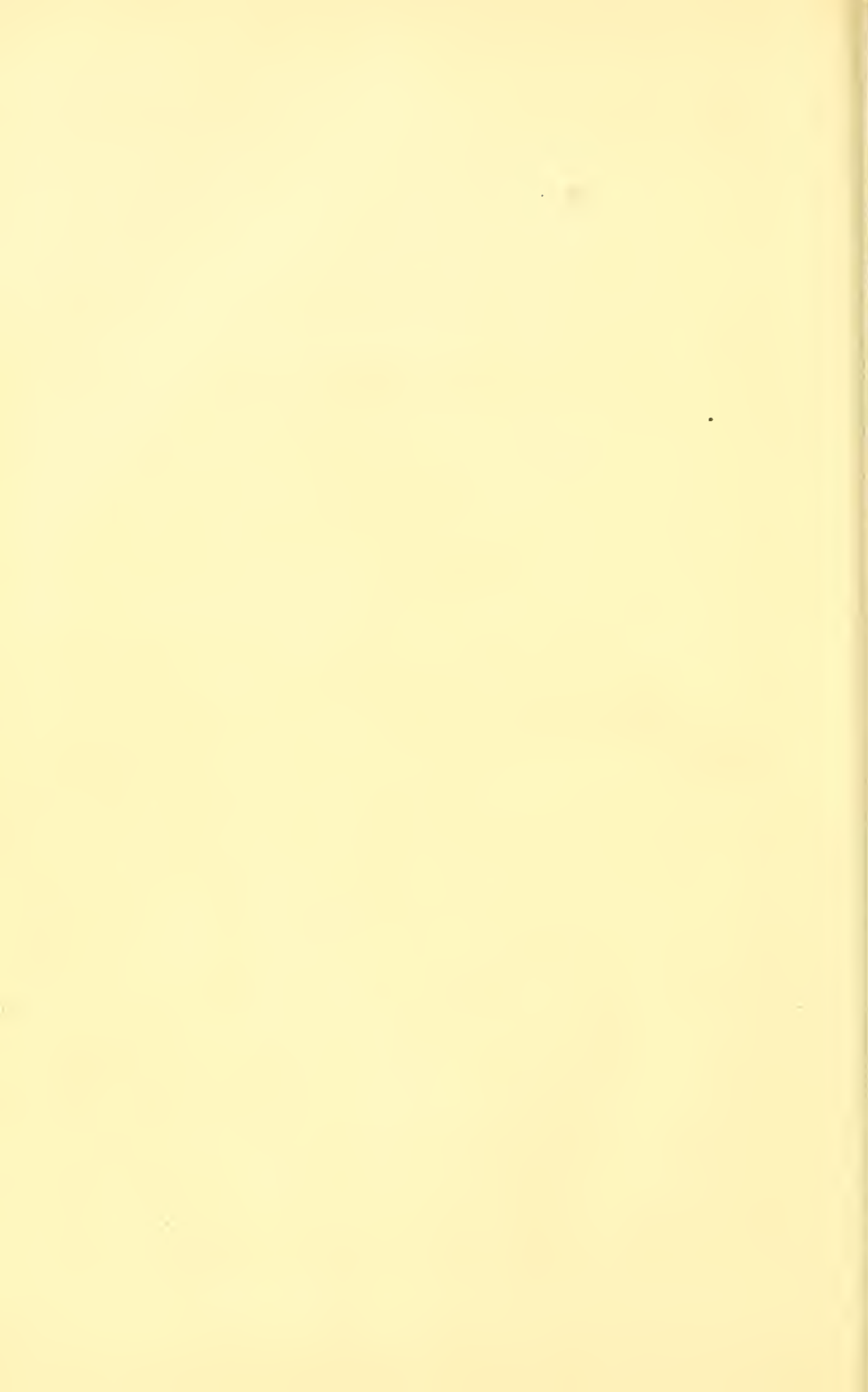


Photo by McMahon & Inland, Darbyville, Pa.

*H S Morrison*





home, being occupied at the smith business until 1886, since which time he has been engaged in farming. During his long and active business career Mr. Deen did much work in his line. To him is given the credit of doing the iron work in the first steam grist-mill built in Danville in 1839; did the smith work for large blast furnaces and much of the work for the large rolling-mill of the Montour Company. He owns valuable town property and a farm in Montour County, also a farm of 150 acres in Maury County, Tenn. He married, February 21, 1839, Margaret, daughter of Henry Saunders, a shoemaker by trade. Mrs. Deen was born July 31, 1820, is of German origin and the mother of eight children: John Henry, born January 2, 1840 (deceased); Martha Jane, born November 8, 1842 (deceased); Mary D., born November 9, 1844; John S., born in November, 1847; Alvaretta F., born March 23, 1850; Laura V., born July 31, 1853; Margaret E., born April 13, 1859; Elmer, born November 23, 1861, died September 26, 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Deen are members of the Presbyterian Church. Politically he is a Republican. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the Masonic fraternity, and served seven years as a member of a rifle company in the militia at Danville.

PERRY DEEN, dealer in iron, P. O. Danville, was born in Danville, Penn., July 26, 1836, son of John and Mary (Flack) Deen, who were natives of Pennsylvania. His father was of Scotch and his mother of Irish origin. John Deen was among the earliest black-smiths of Danville, but in later life was a farmer. His family consisted of eight children, seven of whom lived to be grown. Our subject was the seventh in the family, and learned the tanner's trade early in life, which he followed for thirteen years, when he commenced to deal in scrap iron. In 1871 at the time when the co-operative Iron Rolling Mill Company was organized he was elected its president, and as such served three years; he then engaged in the lumber business for a time, also dealt in scrap iron, in which latter business he has ever since continued. He has been twice married, first to Miss Mary J., daughter of Robert Richard; her parents were born in New Jersey and were of German origin. The children born to this union were John R. and Harriet. Mrs. Deen died in 1860, and March 28, 1865, Mr. Deen married Mary J., daughter of George and Elizabeth Fuller; she is of German descent. Their children are Helen E., Mary, Sarah W. and Thomas E. The family are members of the Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Deen is a Republican.

F. C. DERR, merchant, Danville, was born in Moreland, Lycoming Co., Penn., July 29, 1836. His parents, Christopher and Mary (Opp) Derr, were natives of the Keystone State and descendants of English and German ancestors. Mr. Derr is the ninth in a family of ten children. He spent his boyhood on a farm with his parents, and, in common with country boys of the time, his early educational advantages were limited to the district school. At the age of eighteen he entered the academy at McEwensville, Northumberland County. Later he became a student at Bucknell University, Lewisburg. He left this institution in his sophomore year and entered the University of Rochester, N. Y., where he graduated in 1860. In an academy near his *alma mater*, Mr. Derr entered upon his chosen profession. In 1862 he returned to his native State and accepted the position of the principal of the Danville High School. At the head of this institution he remained for twenty-one years. He soon popularized himself by elevating the high school to a degree of excellence seldom attained to in a country town. Possessing, in addition to a vast store of knowledge, the faculty of bringing himself into a happy fellowship with the young in their aims and aspirations, he at once endeared himself to his pupils and impressed them with his rare ability as a teacher. Mr. Derr now finds himself surrounded in all circles by those who were his pupils at one time or another during his long career as a teacher. It would be difficult, indeed, to limit the extent to which Danville is indebted to him for its mental culture. In 1881 he received the appointment as school superintendent of Montour County. His term of office was marked by a gradual improvement in the schools under his charge, besides the unusually pleasant relations existing between the teachers and superintendent. In 1882 he went into the boot and shoe business, in Danville, taking as a partner William Lunger. The confidence reposed in him as a teacher was now transferred to him as a merchant and at no time was the firm of Derr & Lunger without a liberal portion of the town's patronage. In 1887 he and Mr. Lunger dissolved partnership, Mr. Derr assuming the whole business and continuing on at the old stand. In 1872 he married Martha B. Bowyer, daughter of John Bowyer of Danville. This union has been blessed with one child, a son, named Clarence F. Mr. Derr is Knight Templar, a member of the Danville Lodge; No. 224, F. & A. M., and of the Holy Royal Arch Chapter, No. 239. He is a Republican in politics.

ALEXANDER M. DIEHL, grocer, Danville, was born December 11, 1848, in Danville, Penn., a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Voris) Diehl, natives of Pennsylvania. His paternal and maternal ancestors were among the earliest settlers of Pennsylvania and were of Scotch-Irish and German origin. His parents were among the early residents of Danville, and his father, who was a contractor and builder, was superintendent of the erection of the Grove Presbyterian Church. Alexander M. is the only son in a family of six children, five of whom grew to maturity. He was reared in Danville and educated at the Academy at that place. He first clerked in the office of Waterman & Beaver, extensive

iron manufacturers, with whom he remained eleven years. He then traveled two years for a grocery house in Philadelphia. In 1879 he established the New York Tea Store in Danville and subsequently added groceries to his stock. He is a liberal advertiser and has met with success in his enterprise. He acquired his business education at the Quaker City College, where he graduated in 1865. May 22, 1871, he married Jessie Krothe, of German origin, and a daughter of Querin and Susan (Latimer) Krothe. This union has been blessed with two children, Ralph Beaver and Estella B. (deceased). Mrs. Diehl is a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Diehl is a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the K. of P., in which he has been District Deputy. He does not affiliate with any political party.

HENRY EARP, coal dealer, Danville, was born in England, September 25, 1838, a son of William and Ann (Tandy) Earp, also natives of England, where the father was engaged in a rolling-mill for many years; later he immigrated to America, and in 1845 settled in Danville, where he commenced working at the same business, and helped to make the first railroad iron in Danville. He was born in 1806, and died at the age of seventy-two, in Danville, the father of six children. Our subject is the eldest son, and was reared in Danville, where he commenced work in the rolling-mills when quite young. He worked on contract, and by economy saved enough to enable him to embark in the coal business in 1882. He does a general retail business, bringing most of the coal by way of the canal, buying so as to sell at the lowest possible price. His gentlemanly deportment and accommodating disposition have brought him many customers, and he is meeting with success. He also, in connection with his coal business, represents the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company. He married, in 1861, Anna, daughter of Benjamin Alward. She is of English origin, and her grandfather, one of the early settlers in this county, was its first sheriff, and for years justice of the peace. Politically he was a Democrat, until the breaking out of the war. Mr. and Mrs. Earp are members of the Episcopal Church, in which he is warden and also choir master. He is a Republican in politics, has served as member of the election board, is a member of the Masonic fraternity, of the I. O. O. F., Calumet Lodge, No. 279, and also of the K. of L., of Danville.

RICHARD W. EGGERT, editor and proprietor of the *Gem*, was born in Danville, Penn., November 2, 1839, a son of Xavier and Mary Anna (Smith) Eggert. His father was born in Baden-Baden, Germany, and his mother in Ithaca, N. Y., of French, English and German origin. The former was a watchmaker, and also dealt, for many years in Danville, in watches and jewelry. Richard W. is the second of seven children; he was educated in Danville, and in early life learned the printer's trade, which he has made the business of his life. He learned the printing business in the office of the Hon. V. Best, who was United States senator, and has filled all the different positions from apprentice to editor and proprietor of a paper. He has published several papers in Danville, especially valuable for their local department, and is an excellent compositor. His latest journalistic venture, the *Gem*, has a larger circulation in Danville than any other paper published in Montour County. In 1863 he enlisted in Battery F, Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, or the One Hundred and Twelfth Regiment of Infantry, and served with honor until the close of the war. He is a member of the G. A. R., K. of P. and the M. B. of B. Politically he is independent.

JOSEPH FLANAGAN, brickmaker, Danville, was born in Snyder County, Penn., October 14, 1819, a son of James and Nancy (Srontz) Flanagan, of German and Irish origin, respectively. The father was also a brickmaker by occupation, and died in 1831. Joseph, the eldest of five children, was reared on the farm in Northumberland County, and learned his trade with his father. He opened a brickyard in Northumberland County over forty years ago, and has since made the manufacture of brick his main business, and followed it in Danville for over thirty years, meeting with success. He also dealt in merchandise, and owned a general store in Danville. In 1842 he married Catherine, daughter of Charles White. The latter was also a brickmaker, and of Irish origin. To Mr. and Mrs. Flanagan five children were born, two of whom are now living (three having died in infancy): Laura, wife of I. T. Patton, a merchant of Danville, who was born in that place June 5, 1843, to John and Nancy (Bassett) Patton, of English and Scotch origin. Mr. Patton enlisted, in 1864, in Company C, One Hundred and Eighty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and participated in several hard-fought battles. He is a graduate of the commercial college of Philadelphia, of the class of 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Patton have five children: Joseph F., Harry B., John, Florence, May and Maggie. Mr. and Mrs. Flanagan's second child is Gertrude, now the wife of Thomas Ellis, agent for the Catawissa Railroad at this place. Mr. Flanagan is a Republican; has been assessor, school director and member of the town council of Danville. He is Past Grand in the I. O. O. F.

JAMES FOSTER, secretary of the Danville Stove Works, was born in the North of Ireland, March 18, 1842. His father, Thompson Foster, who was a blacksmith, emigrated from Ireland to America in 1847, settling first in Pittsburgh, Penn., subsequently moving to Danville, where he resided about thirty years, and is now a resident of Philadelphia. James, the third of seven children, spent most of his life in Danville, where he received



his education, and learned the blacksmith's trade with his father. Later he commenced work in the rolling-mills, which was his chief employment for about twenty years. When the Danville Stove Works were organized, the company elected him its secretary and treasurer, and as such he still serves. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded in his first battle at Antietam. He remained with the regiment, however, and participated in the battles of Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg, and at the expiration of his term of service, re-enlisted, this time in the One Hundred and Ninety-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was elected first lieutenant, served his term, hundred days, and was discharged in 1865. In 1866 he enlisted in the Two Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, which was the last regiment discharged from Pennsylvania. Politically Mr. Foster is a Republican, and has served as chairman of the water-works, and chief Burgess of Danville. In 1864 he married Mary Gulick, a native of Danville, of English origin, and their children are John, Elizabeth, Jennie and Alexander. Mr. and Mrs. Foster are members of St. Paul Methodist Church, of which denomination he has been trustee. He has served four years as District Deputy of the I. O. O. F., Montour County Lodge, No. 279, and one term as commander of the G. A. R. Post at Danville.

JAMES O. FRAZIER, sheriff, Danville, was born in Danville, Montour Co., Penn., December 9, 1845; a son of Daniel Frazier, a farmer, who was elected sheriff in 1850, and was the first to be elected to that office in this county; he and his wife were natives, respectively, of Montour and Schuylkill Counties, Penn., and of Scotch-Irish and German origin. They were the parents of seven children, four now living. They moved to Washingtonville, this county, in 1858, where the father died in 1879. Our subject was reared at Washingtonville; attended the schools of Danville, and in early life followed farming until he was nominated on the Republican ticket and elected sheriff of Montour County in the fall of 1885, the only Republican ever elected to the office in Montour County. He married, in 1874, Mary, daughter of Jacob Martz, and of German origin. She is the mother of the following named children: Alice E., Daniel, Clarence W. and James O. Mrs. Frazier is a member of the Lutheran Church.

WILLIAM F. GEARHART, real estate agent and farmer, P. O. Riverside, Northumberland Co., Penn., was born August 17, 1824, to Herman and Abigail (Baylor) Gearhart, natives of Pennsylvania and early settlers of Rush Township. The grandfather, Jacob G., was a captain in the Revolutionary war and participated in the battle of Monmouth, where he was wounded; soon after that struggle he came to Northumberland County and entered land where the borough of Riverside is now located and where William F. resides. Herman Gearhart was a blacksmith and his brother, Jacob, was associate judge of Northumberland County. William F. is one of a family of twelve children, all of whom grew to maturity, and acquired his education in Danville and in early life clerked in a store in that place, and later went to California (in 1852), where he remained four years in the mining country. In the fall of 1856 he returned to Pennsylvania, spent the winter in Danville, and in the spring returned to the West, traveling through Utah, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California and Wyoming. In 1869 he returned to Danville and has since divided most of the old farm, on the Susquehanna River, opposite Danville, into town lots, which will in all probability be the residence part of Danville for the wealthier class. The lands lie high from the river, with an easy elevation, and command a fine view of Danville. Mr. Gearhart also offers good inducements to a manufacturing company who will start a manufactory on that side of the river. He was a member of the I. O. O. F., Past Grand; politically he is a Democrat.

B. R. GEARHART, cashier of the First National Bank, Danville, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., August 20, 1843, a son of B. R. and Elizabeth (Boyd) Gearhart, natives of Pennsylvania, the latter of Irish origin. The father, who was of German descent, was a physician, and for many years successfully practiced his profession in Danville, where he died at the age of forty-two, the father of nine children, six of whom are living. Our subject received a limited education in the common schools and at the age of ten years went to York County, Penn., where he clerked in a store at Wrightsville for four years. He was then sent to learn the carpenter's trade, but thinking that telegraphy would be more congenial to his tastes, he commenced the study of the latter with a determination to succeed, and soon became a proficient operator. He worked at that art five years in Danville, dividing his time between the Lackawanna and Catawissa Companies, and earned such a reputation for industry and promptness that the corporation of the First National Bank of Danville were induced to elect him teller in 1866. That position he held until 1870, when he was promoted cashier, which office he still fills. He married in 1872, Louise, daughter of Samuel York, and of English origin. Two children have been born to them; Anna and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Gearhart are members of Grove Presbyterian Church, of which he is a trustee, and has served as treasurer of the building committee. He is a Republican; has been a member of the town council of Danville. He is a Knight Templar. He enlisted in 1863 in Company D, under Col. Ramsey, and served his full term of enlistment.

WILSON M. GEARHART, prothonotary and clerk of courts, P. O. Danville, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., January 23, 1846, a son of John (a farmer) and

Martha (Martin) Gearheart. His parents were born in Pennsylvania, of German descent on his father's and of Irish on his mother's side; they reared two children, a son and a daughter. Of these, our subject is the younger. He grew to adult age on the farm in Northumberland County, obtained his early education with his parents on the farm, and subsequently attended the Danville Institute; also Dickinson Seminary at Williamsport, where he graduated in the classical course in 1865. He then engaged as a teacher for two years; and from 1868 to 1872, was employed as bookkeeper and timekeeper in one of the large manufacturing companies of Danville, which then employed 1,700 men. He then embarked in the machinery business, gas-fitting and plumbing, at which he was engaged until elected to his present position as prothonotary and clerk of the courts of Montour County, in 1875, and has since filled the office. He is a Republican, has served as a member of the school board eight years, and is the present chairman of the finance committee. He takes an active interest in the leading secret societies and has prominently identified himself with them; has taken nearly all the degrees in Masonry. Mr. Gearhart was married in Danville, in 1867, to Miss M. Jennie Beaver, daughter of Jesse Beaver, who is of German origin. Their children are J. Beaver, Lois M., Emeline S. Mr. and Mrs. Gearhart are members of the Methodist Church. He has been steward, trustee and Sabbath-school superintendent; is president of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle of the State of Pennsylvania; is also vice-president of the Mountain Grove Camp-meeting Association, and has the general charge of the railroad rates for the meeting. He enlisted in the Union Army in June, 1863; was assigned to duty in the provost marshal's department at Washington, D. C., and resigned the same year to complete his studies.

EDWARD SAYRE GEARHART, attorney, Danville, is a son of Mayberry and Mary Catharine Gearhart, the former of Quaker, and the latter of Puritan descent. He is one of seven children, as follows: William G. (deceased); Sophie R., wife of Col. Charles W. Eckman, of Reading, Penn.; Clarence F., of Cresswell, Neb.; Minnie, wife of Henry M. Hinckley, Esq., of Danville, Penn.; Boone, wife of William Vastine, and George S., of Catawissa, Penn. The subject of this sketch, the next to the youngest of the sons, was born at Roaringcreek, Montour Co., Penn., March 28, 1856. He lived at Roaringcreek, working on his father's farm in the summer and attending the neighboring public school in the winter until he was over fourteen years of age, when he went to Danville and entered the National Iron Company's machine shops at that place as an apprentice. After completing his full term of apprenticeship as a machinist, in the fall of 1875 he entered Wyoming Seminary at Kingston, Penn., as a student, and graduated the following year. In the fall of 1876 he entered Princeton College, New Jersey, as a student, and graduated in the class of 1880. While a student at Princeton he took an active part in the politics of that State and made political speeches in behalf of the Republican ticket. During the last years of his collegiate course he read law with the Hon. John F. Hageman, master in chancery for the State of New Jersey. After his graduation he returned to Danville, Penn., and entered as a student of law in the office of Messrs. Grier & Hinckley, and was admitted to the Montour County bar in 1881. In the presidential campaign of 1880 he stumped a portion of the State for Garfield, for whom he cast his first presidential vote, and in 1882 for the regular Republican nominee for governor. He was a delegate to the Republican State Convention which met at Harrisburg, Penn., in 1883. May 30, 1883, he delivered the memorial oration at Gettysburg, and on the same occasion, the year following, delivered the oration of the day at Antietam. He was also the orator of the day at Washington, D. C., at the memorial services in 1885, and has delivered many other orations of various kinds on numerous occasions. At the inauguration of the presidential campaign of 1884, at the personal request of Gen. John A. Logan, he was appointed a national Republican orator by the Republican National Committee, and under its direction he canvassed several States, principal of which were Ohio and Indiana, closing the campaign in Philadelphia. He has never sought nor held any public office, and no position of private trust, except as president of the Lochiel Iron and Steel Works at Harrisburg, Penn., which position he has held from the time of its incorporation. Since his admission to the bar in 1881, he has closely applied himself to the practice of his profession in his own and in various other counties of the State. On the 5th of May, 1886, he married Miss Ella R. Creveling, daughter of Alfred Creveling, general manager of the Lochiel Iron & Steel Works at Harrisburg, Penn.

GEORGE F. GEISINGER (deceased) was born in Massachusetts in 1821, a son of Commodore David Geisinger. At the age of sixteen years he left school in Boston for Baltimore, to take a situation in a mercantile house there. He accompanied his father to the Mediterranean in 1844 and returned to Baltimore in 1846. In 1847 he went to South America, where he remained until 1849, when he went to California. In 1851 he joined his father in Philadelphia, and from that time until 1854 was his secretary at the naval asylum. He came to Danville in June, 1855, and was employed as bookkeeper for Groves & Bro., iron manufacturers, and subsequently occupied the same position with Thomas Beaver & Co., also engaged in the iron business. Later he took an interest in the firm, which was very successful, and was bookkeeper in their office in all over twenty-four years. He made his own way in the world, and by energy and perseverance



succeeded in amassing a competency. His life is an illustration of what a man may accomplish in a few years. In 1866 he married Abigail A. Cornclison, who survives him. Mr. Geisinger died in 1883, a member of the Mahoning Presbyterian Church, of which he was trustee, and of which his widow is still a member. Politically, he was a Republican.

JOHN K. GERINGER, proprietor of the City Hotel, Danville, was born in Montour County, Penn., August 2, 1852, a son of Adam and Angeline (Smith) Geringer, natives of Pennsylvania, former (a miller by trade) of English origin, and latter of German. Adam Geringer commenced the hotel business in 1853, and in 1855 opened a hotel in Maudsdale, this county, which he conducted until 1870. He then came to Danville, bought the White Swan Hotel, and in 1872 moved it to the rear and erected the commodious brick structure now known as the City Hotel. This building is 41x80 feet, three stories high, and contains a large number of sleeping chambers, nicely furnished and well ventilated. The dining-room is eighty feet in length, with every modern convenience for the accommodation of a large number of guests. Mr. Adam Geringer died in 1881, and since that time the hotel has been conducted by his son, John K. The subject of this sketch is the third of seven children; was reared and educated in his native county, and spent the most of his life in hotels. October 24, 1874, he married, in Montour County, Laura J., daughter of John Dildine, of Montour County, and three children have been born to their union: Laura K., William and Nellie. Mrs. Geringer is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Geringer is a Democrat, and has been a delegate to the county and State conventions of his party; also served as a member of council of Danville. He is a Sir Knight Templar. The "City Hotel" is in the central part of the town, in the business portion, and presents many attractions to the public. It is well known and liberally patronized.

S. M. GIBBS, principal of the high school, Danville, was born in Lansing, Tompkins Co., N. Y., July 27, 1836, a son of William and Margaret (Minier) Gibbs, natives of New York and of Scotch-Irish and German origin. When S. M., the elder of two children, was twelve years old his father moved to Cameron, Steuben Co., N. Y. Our subject was educated at the Wesleyan Seminary, Lima, N. Y., and at Alfred University in the same State. He commenced teaching at fourteen years of age, which has been his principal occupation since, eight years of which time he taught at Danville. He has taught in several high schools and seminaries in New York and Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the service during the war, but was granted a special discharge on furnishing a substitute to complete his term of enlistment. He has a wife, Mary T. Gibbs, and four children. He and his wife are members of the Episcopal Church.

JOHN H. GOESER, wholesale dealer in cigars, tobacco and vinegar, and agent for ocean steamship lines, Danville, was born in that place June 1, 1852, a son of Anthony and Catherine (Shumacher) Goeser, natives of Prussia. His father was a hotel-keeper, but spent the most of his life in America, crossing the ocean five times. In 1842 he settled in Danville, where he followed hotel-keeping for many years and died in 1880. John H. is the only son, and was reared in Danville, where he was educated. In early life he embarked in the tobacco business, which has since grown to be quite extensive. In 1878 he married Miss Theresa, daughter of Joseph Liebner, of Pottsville. Mr. and Mrs. Goeser are members of the Catholic Church and the parents of one child, Coletta Emma. Politically Mr. Goeser is a Democrat.

GEORGE J. GRAUEL, M. D., Danville, was born in Fulda, Germany, May 26, 1825, came to America in 1853, and located in Danville in 1862.

I. X. GRIER, attorney, Danville, was born in that place December 27, 1835, a son of Michael and Isabella (Montgomery) Grier, the latter a daughter of Alexander Montgomery and granddaughter of Gen. William Montgomery, the founder of Danville. Michael Grier was a merchant in early life; later superintended the erection of telegraph lines, and died December 25, 1879. His family consisted of five children, who grew to adult age: W. A. M., a resident of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Rev. John B., a Presbyterian minister; H. J., the wife of John C. Youngman, a banker in Kansas; Mary G., wife of Edwin C. Ely, of Peoria, Ill., and I. X. Our subject was educated in the schools of Danville and also at Lafayette College, from which he graduated in 1858. Prior to entering college and after graduating he was connected with the Susquehanna River Telegraph Company, and at the time of its construction, opened a number of offices and instructed operators at the respective places. He later served as secretary and treasurer of the company until it was merged into the Western Union. He read law in the office of E. H. Baldy, Esq., and was admitted to the bar in 1861, practiced in the courts of Montour and adjoining counties, and in the United States courts until 1884, when failing health obliged him to relinquish his labors. He was notary public from 1862 until 1880, and was a member of the firm of Markle, Grier & Co., who for about two years conducted a railroad-iron mill at Danville. Mr. Grier is at present a director of the First National Bank of Danville, of the North Branch Steel Company, of the Danville Bridge Company and of the Mahoning Rolling Mill Company. He married in 1865 Emma W., daughter of Hon. James M. Porter, of Easton, Penn., and two children have been born to them: J. M. Porter and Isabella L. Hon. Mr. Porter was at one time Secretary of War; was president judge of Northampton County, and an eminent attorney.



R. M. GROVE, manufacturer, Danville, was born in Lebanon County, Penn., October 28, 1847, a son of Michael J. and Catherine (Houtz) Grove, natives of Pennsylvania, whose ancestors were among the early German settlers of the State. His father was an iron manufacturer, dealt largely in iron ore lands, and was among the first to foresee the possibilities of the iron industry at Danville. Here, for many years, he and his brother were extensive manufacturers and amassed a large fortune, consisting of iron and iron ore lands located in several States and Canada. They built a large furnace in Danville, and erected a mansion at a cost of \$200,000, which is still occupied by the family. Michael J. died in 1877, in Danville, where he had resided since 1851. His family consisted of two sons: John H., the elder, is a resident of Danville, and devotes his time to scientific investigations. Our subject, the youngest son, was reared in Danville, where he received his early education; later he entered Yale College, New Haven, Conn., from which he graduated in 1867. He then returned to Danville and entered the office of his father and uncle to learn the iron business, which at the death of his father was left to our subject and his brother, John H., who have since conducted it. Mr. Grove is a director of the First National Bank of Danville, and is also a director and treasurer of the Danville Nail & Manufacturing Company. In 1877 he married Margaret, daughter of Samuel Yorks, and two children have blessed their union: Mary Catherine and Margaret Louise. Mrs. Grove is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

CHARLES P. HANCOCK, merchant, Danville, of which place he is a native, was born February 5, 1860, a son of William and Mary (Reav) Hancock, former a native of England, latter of Maryland, both of English descent. Their family consisted of three children, of whom our subject is the eldest. His father was employed in iron works in his native country, and after his arrival in America engaged first in the Montour Iron Works. In 1874 he formed a partnership with John Foley, and established the "Rough and Ready Rolling Mill," and afterward became its owner. Subsequently a stock company was formed, and the name of the business was changed to the "National Iron Works," and Mr. Hancock was chosen president of the company. He was a successful business man, very popular with all those with whom he associated. He died in Danville, and will long be remembered by those who shared his friendship and enjoyed his favor. Our subject was reared in Danville, where he received his education, and where in early life he engaged for three years in the dry goods business as salesman. Later he was employed in a similar capacity at Scranton, and in this capacity has few equals in middle Pennsylvania. He inherits his father's gentlemanly demeanor and upright business habits, which naturally bring him a liberal patronage. His dry goods store, which is the largest in that line in Danville, is conducted on first-class principles, and affords employment to six clerks. Mr. Hancock opened his establishment in 1884, and has since built up a large trade. He is yet unmarried, is a member of the Heptasophs Society, and secretary of the Merchants Protective Society of Danville. Politically he is a Republican.

FREDERICK HELD, boot and shoe dealer, Danville, was born in Germany June 12, 1840, son of Peter and Catherine (Kopp) Held, natives of Germany, where the father was a laborer. Frederick is the eldest of four children and was reared by his parents in Germany, where he acquired his education. In 1864 he came to America and in 1865 to Danville, where he worked at boot and shoe-making which he still follows, having learned the trade in Germany. By economy and good management he has succeeded in acquiring a competency, owning two houses and lots and the storeroom in which he carries on his business. In 1863 he married Miss Minnie (daughter of John Adam Luckhardt), who bore him one son, Jacob, and who died in 1867. He married as his second wife Christina Kugler, of German origin, who has borne him the following named children: Amelia, Elizabeth, Anna and Peter Frederick. Mr. and Mrs. Held are consistent members of the Lutheran Church, in which he is elder.

WILLIAM HENRIE (deceased) was a native of New Jersey, born in 1799, of English origin. He grew to manhood in his native State where he received his education in the common schools, and afterward followed the milling business for several years. His family consisted of eight children, five of whom are now living. Mr. Henrie came to Danville, Penn., about 1833, and kept hotel until his death in 1876. He was a Democrat until 1856, after which he voted with the Republican party; served as a member of the town council, and also as burgess of Danville. Two of his daughters are now residents of Danville; one is the wife of J. C. Rhodes, and the other the wife of R. H. Woolley, a successful coal dealer.

H. M. HINCKLEY, attorney, Danville, was born in Harrisburg, Penn., June 2, 1850; a son of Joel and Theodosia (Graydon) Hinckley. His mother was also a native of the same State and of Scotch-Irish origin; his father, born in Vermont, of English origin, was a hardware merchant, engaged in mercantile business all his life. His family consisted of eight children, three of whom grew to maturity. Our subject, who is the only one now surviving, received the rudiments of his education in his native town, and subsequently attended Princeton College, where he graduated in the regular course in the class of 1874, and during his last years in college had found time to study law and also keep up

with his classes. In the year 1872 he took up the study of law in the office of his after partner in business, I. X. Grier, of Danville, and was admitted to practice in the courts of Montour County in 1875, and to the supreme court in 1878. He has since met with marked success and is numbered among the leading men of his profession in Montour County. He was united in marriage, in 1874, with Miss Amelia, daughter of Mayberry Gearheart. Her parents were members of the Society of Friends and of German descent. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Hinckley are Sarah G., John M., Eleanor G. and Edna. The parents are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Hinckley is elder and trustee, taking an active interest in the Sabbath-school, in which he has been superintendent for several years. He is a Republican, but takes no very active part in politics, preferring to devote his time to his profession.

NICHOLAS HOFER, retired carpenter, contractor, lumber dealer, etc., Danville, was born September 14, 1823, in Baden, Germany, where he received his education. He is the eldest of five children, and early in life served a regular apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, which he followed in his native country until 1852. He then took passage for America to seek his fortune, landing in New York City, where he worked for four weeks. Thence he went to Newark, N. J., where he first worked for 75 cents a day, then \$1 and later \$1.50. It was there he met Miss Clara Witz, whom he married in 1854, and who was also born in Baden, Germany. In 1855 they came to Danville, Penn., and on arriving, found their funds exhausted, and were \$5 in debt besides. Mr. Hofer soon found work at his trade, his diligence, industry and knowledge of his business soon bringing him custom. He first worked by the day; then contracted, erecting many of the residences of Danville, and carried on business successfully and extensively for years, and finally added the lumber trade. His only child, Edward, is at present a carpenter and contractor, having learned the trade with his father, and also owns and operates the lumber yard at Danville. Mr. Hofer has retired from active duties, having accumulated a goodly share of this world's goods, and whatever efforts he now makes are for the benefit of his only son, who resides near his parents and is doing well. Mr. Hofer is a Democrat, and has been a member of the town council of Danville; is a member of the K. of P. and I. O. O. F. societies, both of the encampment and subordinate lodges, and is a member also of the Masonic fraternity.

W. K. HOLLOWAY, superintendent of the store of the Montour Iron & Steel Company, Danville, was born in Berks County, Penn., January 1, 1835, a son of Samuel (a farmer) and Sarah (Kerling) Holloway, natives of Berks County, Penn., and of English origin. Our subject was reared on the farm, and attended the common schools of his native county. Not liking farming, he obtained, in his thirteenth year, a position as clerk in a store in Reading, Penn., where he remained one year; was then employed at other work until coming to Danville, in 1856, when he clerked another year, and was then promoted to time-keeper and superintendent of accounts. He was next promoted to cashier, which responsible position he filled for twelve years, and in 1878 was made general superintendent of the store. The importance of this trust can be better realized when it is considered that the annual sales of this business run as high as \$500,000, and its success is very largely due to Mr. Holloway's complete system and exact business management, he having been engaged in almost all the departments of the store for over thirty years. He married, in 1859, Ruth, daughter of Jacob Yeager, of Columbia County, Penn., and they have five children: Sally, Lizzie, William, Thomas Beaver and Mary. Mrs. Holloway and eldest daughter are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Holloway is a Republican, a member of the town council of Danville, and chairman of the water committee.

F. P. HOWE, president of the North Branch Steel Works, Danville, was born in Philadelphia, Penn., September 19, 1852, a son of Bishop Mark Anthony De Wolfe Howe and Elizabeth (Marshall) Howe, the former a native of Rhode Island, and the latter of Virginia, both of English origin. The father is the Episcopal bishop of the diocese of central Pennsylvania. F. P. is the fourth in a family of six children. Our subject attended school in his native city of Philadelphia until fifteen years of age, when he entered Brown University, Providence, R. I., where he graduated in the regular classical course with the degree of A. M. He was then engaged in the office of the rolling-mills of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company for three years, and at the expiration of that time entered Lehigh University, and took a full course in mining engineering, graduating in 1878. He was again employed by the Rolling Mill Company for a year, when he accepted a position as chemist for the Keystone Furnace Company, which he filled until 1880. In that year he came to Danville, and, on the organization of the Montour Iron & Steel Company, was made general superintendent, and operated the works for five years. He then resigned his position, having purchased a rolling-mill at Phillipsburg, N. J., but had hardly got it in operation before he was called to his present position. He married, in 1881, Katherine, daughter of W. J. Woodward, of Berks County, Penn. Her parents were of English descent, and her father, a Democrat, was elected supreme judge of Pennsylvania in 1874, serving with honor until his death.

DAVID C. HUNT, manufacturer of light wagons and carriages, Danville, was born in Bedford County, Penn., May 8, 1842, a son of G. W. and Hannah (Smith) Hunt, the



latter a Quaker of English origin. David C. is the eighth in a family of nine sons and three daughters, ten of whom grew to maturity. He was reared in Bedford County, and at the age of twelve years went to Urbana, Ohio, to learn the carriage-maker's trade (which was also his father's business), where he remained five years. In 1860 he came to Danville and, in partnership with his brothers, George E. and John H., embarked in the business of manufacturing and repairing carriages. The firm continued thus until 1865, when the partnership was dissolved, and the business continued until 1876 by G. E. Hunt. Since then David C. has conducted the business alone, and has been very successful. His experience, mechanical skill and attention to business have eminently fitted him for his vocation. In 1865 he married Kate Gulick, a daughter of Isaac Gulick. Her parents were among the early settlers of Montour County, and of German origin. Mrs. Hunt bore her husband two children, Horace and Edward, and died in 1873, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1876 Mr. Hunt married Kate, daughter of William Richard, of English origin, and three children have been born to the union: Montgomery, William and Ralph. Mr. Hunt served in the quartermaster's department of the Union army in 1864, and was stationed at Little Rock, Ark. Politically, he is a Democrat.

JOSEPH HUNTER, collector of bridge toll, Danville, was born in Montour (then Columbia) County, Penn., November 15, 1823, a son of Joseph and Martha (Hunter) Hunter, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Pennsylvania, of Irish origin. The father came to America before he attained his majority, and was employed on public works in Pennsylvania, and also took contracts and built canals and railroads. His early life was passed as a school-teacher; later as a contractor, but finally in the lumber business. His family consisted of ten children, Joseph being the fourth. Our subject was born in this county, but at the age of six years removed to Milton, where he received his education and served an apprenticeship at shoemaking. In 1844 he came to Danville and engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes until 1851, since which time he has occupied his present position. Politically, he is a Democrat; he has served six terms as Burgess of Danville, being elected the first time in 1879. In 1846 he married Mehetabel A. Campbell, a native of Pennsylvania and of Scotch descent. Their children are Henrietta M., Joseph C., James K. and William E., the last named deceased. Mrs. Hunter died in 1859, and in 1861 our subject married Miss Elizabeth H., daughter of John W. Miles. Mrs. Hunter is an active worker in the Sabbath-schools of Danville, and she and her husband are members of the First Baptist Church, with which he has been connected since 1845, and in which he has served as deacon for over thirty years. He has also taken an interest in the Odd Fellows and Masonic societies of Danville.

JAMES M. IRELAND, of McMahan & Ireland, leading photographers, Danville, was born on the old homestead farm in Turbot Township, Northumberland County, September 23, 1847. He is a son of John M. and Amanda M. (McMahan) Ireland, former of Northumberland County, latter of Montour, both members of the Presbyterian Church. Their ancestors, paternal and maternal, were Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, and among the earliest settlers of Pennsylvania. John and Amanda Ireland had a family of two sons and two daughters, James M. being the eldest. Our subject worked on the farm, attending school until in August, 1864, when he enlisted in Company E, Ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, and served until the close of the war. He was captured at Woodbury, Tenn., and paroled some three weeks later. At the close of the war he returned to Danville, where he has since resided. He married Miss Lucy F. Maxwell, of Carbondale, Lackawanna Co., Penn., daughter of Robert and Jean (Douglas) Maxwell, former a merchant at Carbondale. Mr. and Mrs. Ireland have four children living: Grace L., Robert D., Thomas C. and Helen C. Mr. Ireland is a member of the G. A. R., Goodrich Post, No. 22. In politics he is a Republican.

JOHN JACOBS, baker, and wholesale and retail dealer in confectionery, Mill Street, Danville, was born in Germany, September, 19, 1836, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Weber) Jacobs, who were also natives of Germany, where the father was a farmer. John is the sixth of eight children, was reared on the farm with his parents and was educated in the schools of his native country until his seventeenth year. In 1854 he came to America, first settling at Pottsville, Penn., where he learned to manufacture all kinds of candy, and worked at that business until 1859, when he came to Danville. In 1860 he established his present business, and has succeeded in building up a good trade. He married December 1, 1859, Charlotte, daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Dietrick) Frisch, natives of Germany. Mr. Frisch was a pattern-maker by trade, and worked at it in Danville for several years. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs: Frederick, Charles, George, Clara, Alfred, Maggie, John and Mary. The parents are members of the Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Jacobs was treasurer of the board of trustees for many years. Politically he is a Democrat, and has been assessor of Danville; is a member of the I. O. O. F., also of the K. of P., a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity and a Sir Knight Templar.

U. Y. JAMES, dealer in groceries, flour and feed, Danville, was born on Ferry Street of that city, June 3, 1858, a son of Josiah and Jane (Meredith) James, natives of Pennsylvania and of English origin. His father came to Danville in 1849, and worked in the ore-



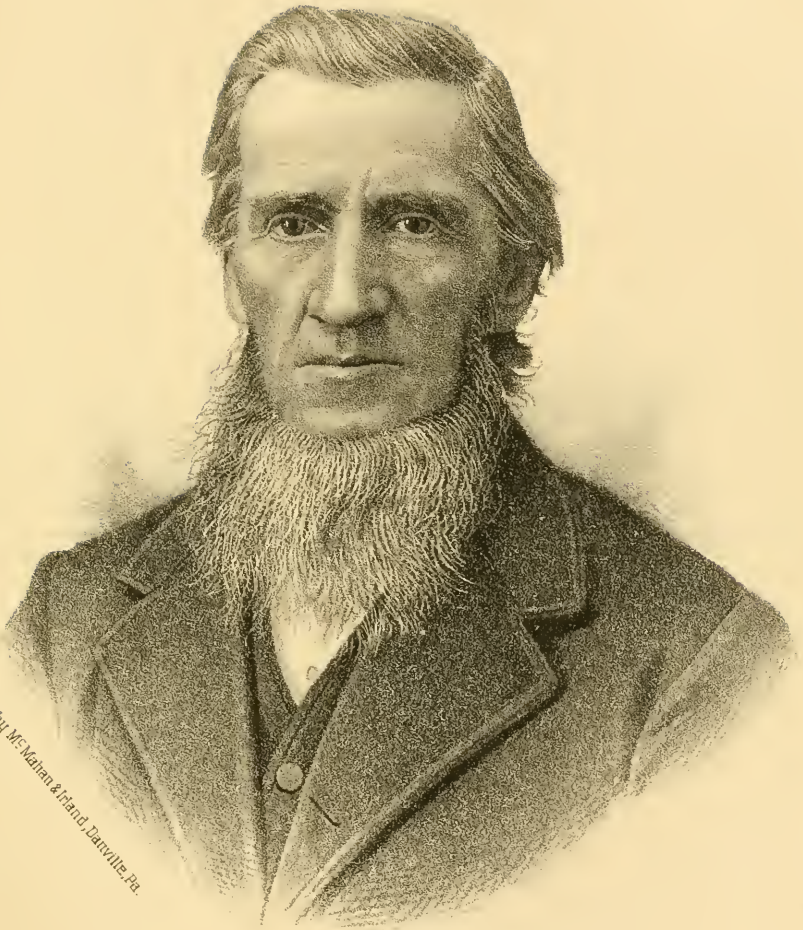


Photo by M. Mahan & Co., Danville, Pa.

Joseph Correll



mines, but subsequently followed the mercantile trade, and now leads a retired life in Danville. Our subject is the youngest of two children, and was reared in Danville, where he attended the public schools. Early in life he commenced to work in his father's store, and finding the mercantile trade congenial to his taste, embarked in the present business on Market Street in 1881, and has since been very successful. He is obliging to all, keeps a delivery wagon and attends closely to business. In 1882 he married Minerva, a native of Pennsylvania, of German origin, and the daughter of William Johnston. Mr. and Mrs. James have one child, May; they attend the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. James is a Republican, an active member of the K. of L. and of the I. O. O. F.

CAPT. JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, merchant, Danville, was born in Pottsville, Penn., March 18, 1840, the only child of Joseph and Nancy (Gedling) Johnson, natives of Durham, England. The parents were married in their native country in 1839, and on coming to America soon after, settled in Pottsville, Schuylkill County, where the father worked in mines. Subsequently he moved to Philadelphia where he died in 1843. Our subject attended school but nine months in all, and has passed the most of his life in Danville. He commenced to work in the "Rough and Ready Rolling Mill" at Danville, when only ten years old, and followed that business for twenty-four years, filling many positions from boy to superintendent. April 27, 1861, he enlisted in the service of his adopted country, in Company C, Fourteenth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, for three months; served his term of enlistment, and the same year re-enlisted, this time in Company H, Ninety-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, and participated in the following battles: Chantilly, Antietam, Mays Heights, Fredericksburg, Salem Heights, Gettysburg, Rappahannock, Mud Run, Williamsburg, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, first battle in front of Petersburg, Fort Stephens and Charleston, Va. He was in twenty-four engagements and was present at the surrender of Gen. Lee. He entered as private and returned home as captain, having acted as such the last year of the war. In 1875 he established Johnson's green grocery, at which business he is still actively engaged. He is a member of the G. A. R., and of the I. O. O. F., of which he is now Noble Grand, of Calumet Lodge, No. 279, of Danville. In politics he is a Republican. Capt. Johnson married in 1886, Elizabeth C., daughter of Urias Tillson, a native of Massachusetts, of English descent, and by trade a molder.

WILLIAM C. JOHNSTON, register and recorder, Danville, was born in Columbia County, Penn. (in what is now Derry Township, Montour County) February 14, 1818, a son of Walter (a farmer) and Elizabeth (Craig) Johnston, natives of Lancaster County, Penn., and of Scotch-Irish origin, and whose family consisted of four children, of whom William C. is the eldest. Our subject was reared on the farm and attended the common schools of Derry Township, and Danville, also those of Milton and Lewisburg. At the age of sixteen he obtained a certificate to teach school, and followed the profession for twelve years, a part of the time in Danville. He was elected register and recorder of Montour County in 1850, being the first to occupy that position in this county, and has held it ever since. He has also read law, but prefers his present business. He married, October 13, 1857, Amanda Blue, a daughter of Isaiah Blue, a farmer. She was of Scotch-Irish descent, died in Danville, April 13, 1886, and is buried in the new Presbyterian burying-ground, loved and respected by all who knew her. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnston were born the following named children: Agnes B., Elizabeth A., Sally C., Samuel and Mary Amanda. The family attend the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Johnston is a Democrat in politics, and served several terms as school director. He was formerly a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., and was Noble Grand of the subordinate lodge. He was among the first members of the Masonic fraternity of the first lodge organized in Danville.

HENRY KEARNS, tobacco and cigar dealer, Danville, was born in Manchester, England, July 23, 1828, a son of Henry and Sarah (Ward) Kearns, natives respectively of Ireland and England. The father was an overseer in a woolen factory for many years, but resigned his position, in 1862, to come to America. He settled in Philadelphia, where he died in 1864, at the age of seventy-five years. Henry was reared in England, where he was also educated, and in early life learned the trade of gas-fitting. In 1854 he came to America and worked in Philadelphia at the gas-fitting business for Morris & Decker, which he has followed in this county for thirty-two years. He has also traveled and worked to a considerable extent in large cities. In 1861 he enlisted at Chicago, Ill., in Battery D, of the First Artillery, and participated in several battles, including Atlanta, where the concussion of the guns caused him to lose his hearing. He served until the close of the war, and, in 1865, returned to Philadelphia. He then went to Ohio, where he engaged in the plumbing business for three years, when he returned to Philadelphia and served for a time as engineer at the Girard House. In 1874 he came to Danville and took charge of the machinery and gas-fitting in the asylum, and remained in charge until 1886, when he resigned. Since then he has been engaged in his present business. He married at Baltimore, Md., Miss Margaret Alice, daughter of John Smith, a mill owner, of English descent. One child, James W., blessed the union. Mr. Kearns is a member of the I. O. O. F., of



the K. of P., and also of the G. A. R. Mrs. Kearns is a member of the German Reformed Church.

SIMON KREBS, senior member of the firm of Krebs & Co., dealers in wines and liquors, Danville, is a native of Germany, born April 10, 1839, to John and Catherine (Scheids) Krebs, also natives of Germany. The father was a farmer, kept a vineyard and manufactured wine; immigrated to America in 1855, settling in Schuylkill County, Penn., where he spent the remainder of his life. He was born in 1809 and died in his seventy-third year. Simon is the youngest of three sons and two daughters, and was reared with his parents on the farm in Germany until he was fifteen years old. He came with his family to America, learned the carpenter's trade, and at the age of nineteen went to California, where he worked at his trade two years. In 1864 he returned to Pennsylvania, and in 1868 came to Danville. He took the contract and built the water-works at Danville in 1872 and 1873 at a cost of \$165,000, and it is often said to Mr. Krebs' credit, that the works are first-class in every respect. He is a member of the Democratic party, and takes a lively interest in politics, but has never held office, though frequently a delegate to the county conventions. In 1865 he married Harriet, daughter of Jacob Swartz, a prominent merchant at Tamaqua, and of German descent. To the union the following children have been born: Aada L., George J., Clara, Lewis J. and Leah. Mr. and Mrs. Krebs are members of the German Reformed Church. Mr. Krebs is the owner of iron mines in Snyder County, Penn., which he has been working since 1874, and each year has shipped on an average 4,000 tons of ore, which is known as the bird eye ore. Thirty-six men are employed in his mines.

CHRISTIAN LAUBACH, merchant, Danville, was born in Sugarloaf Township, Columbia Co., Penn., February 22, 1816; a son of Christian (a farmer) and Mary (Frutchy) Laubach, natives of Pennsylvania, and of German descent, former of whom died in Columbia County in 1825. Our subject, the youngest of eleven children, was only nine years of age when his parents died, and he then went to live with his brother. He acquired his education at the old log schoolhouse of his township, and when seventeen years of age resolved to enter mercantile business. He obtained a position as clerk in a general store in Orangeville, Columbia Co., Penn., and in 1845 went into business in Danville, having removed thither in 1837, he having been engaged as clerk during the intervening period. During that time he had saved enough, together with \$410 received from his father's estate, to enable him to open a mercantile establishment, and since then he has done a successful trade. He has increased his business from time to time and now also operates in separate stores, groceries and dry goods. By prudent management he has acquired a handsome fortune, and is now one of the oldest merchants in the place. He married, in 1842, Hannah, daughter of Jacob Hefler and of German descent. Six children were born to their union: Martha B., wife of S. T. Lees; Emma A., wife of Lewis E. Woods; Mary Ellen., widow of William Root; Sally; George, a salesman in the store, and Elizabeth. Mr and Mrs. Laubach are members of the Methodist Church, of which he has been trustee and steward. He is treasurer of the Danville Mutual Insurance Company, a member of the board of trustees of the First National Bank, and also served three years as president of the First National Bank of Danville. In politics he is a Republican.

VICTOR A. LOTIER, editor and proprietor of the *Daily and Weekly Record*, Danville, was born in the city of New York, December 15, 1843, a son of Benjamin and Anna (Ronk) Lotier; former, who died at the age of sixty-nine years, was a native of this country and of French origin; latter a native of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and of Dutch origin. Our subject received his early education in Philadelphia, where he remained until fourteen years old. He then came to Danville and worked in the rolling-mill until 1858 when he went to Rhode Island, and in 1862 enlisted in Company E, Third Regiment Rhode Island Cavalry. He was elected commissary sergeant, subsequently promoted to orderly sergeant and was honorably discharged in 1865 at New Orleans. He then went west, where he remained about a year, and, returning to Danville, again worked in the rolling-mills until 1871. At that time he purchased an interest in the Danville Marble Works, was a stockholder in the *Record* Publishing Company, and subsequently purchased the paper (the *Danville Record*), which he has since published. This paper is a daily and weekly, and, like its editor, independent in politics. In 1869 Mr. Lotier married Fannie Hughes, who has borne him two children: Homer H. and Walter M. Mrs. Lotier and her son, Walter M., are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She is a daughter of Peter Hughes, who was at one time associate judge of Montour County, and who established the Danville Marble Works and conducted the marble and stone cutting business in this place for many years. He died in October, 1872.

CAPT. GEORGE LOVETT, Danville, was born in Ireland July 28, 1838, to William and Jane (Johnson) Lovett, natives of Ireland where the father died. Their family consisted of eight children, and in 1852 the widow and four children immigrated to America, settling in Danville, our subject at that time being fourteen years old. He was educated in his native country and in America. He first worked in the rolling-mills at Danville, where he remained several years and served for a time as assistant superintendent. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer In-

fantry, was made quartermaster sergeant, and took part in the engagements at South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg. He was wounded at Antietam, but served his full term of enlistment and was discharged in 1863. One month after his return home, he enlisted in the First Battalion, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, was elected captain of Company D, and when the regiment was consolidated into the One Hundred and Eighty-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry, he was made captain of Company K, and entered the Army of the Potomac at Bowling Green. He was in the battle of Cold Harbor, the first engagement in front of Petersburg, and led his company when they charged on Fort Hell, where eight of his men were killed and many others wounded. In the next engagement, while on a skirmish line, he was severely wounded in the arm, and returning home on a furlough remained three months. At the end of that time he again joined his regiment and was discharged in 1865. After his return from the service he was employed in the rolling-mills, but since the organization of the Danville Stove Works, he has been engaged with that company. He has served two terms as a member of the school board, six years a member of the town council and four years as clerk of that body. Mr. Lovett is a member of the I. O. R. M., and has passed all the chairs; is also a member of the G. A. R. and has several times been a delegate to the county and State conventions of the Republican party. He married in 1878, Miss Kate Herr, a native of this county, and two children have been born to them: Walter Scott and Mary Jane. Mr. and Mrs. Lovett are members of the Methodist Trinity Church of Danville.

COL. JAMES McCORMICK, retired, Danville, owner and controller of the 'bus line, was born in Montour County, Penn., June 26, 1818, a son of William A. and Margaret (Shaw) McCormick. His father was born in Ireland of Scotch parents; his mother was a native of Dauphin County, Penn., and of Scotch-Irish origin, and both were Presbyterians. The father came to Pennsylvania when a mere lad, entered a store as clerk and very naturally took up the business of merchandising. He moved to Columbia County at an early day and settled at Washingtonville. He and his wife were the parents of three sons and one daughter: William A., a physician now in Virginia; second and third were twins; our subject and David M., who died in Harrisburg, Penn., in 1873, a successful business man, being worth about \$100,000. Our subject was reared in Montour County, Penn., receiving his education in the common schools of the county. In early life he clerked in various stores at Milton and Danville, and after a few years drifted into business himself. He opened a general store at Washingtonville, where, in company with his brother, he did a successful business. Later they sold out and bought a store at Limestoneville, this county, and engaged in business for four years, when they again sold out and moved to Schuylkill County. There they followed mining and shipping anthracite coal, which business they also sold. Our subject then came to Danville and embarked in mercantile business, also running the stage lines from Danville until the railroad was built. Since then he has conducted a 'bus line and has retired from all other business. He married in 1848, Agnes M., daughter of John Franciscus, and of German and French origin. They have three children: William J., a manufacturer in Philadelphia; Maggie and Katie. Mrs. McCormick and daughter are members of the Presbyterian Church. Col. McCormick is a Democrat and has served two terms in the Legislature, 1877-78 and 1883-84. He served as colonel of militia, from which he gets the title. Col. McCormick was collector on the North Branch Canal at Beach Haven, the last person so appointed by the State. At the last senatorial conference (1886), for the Twenty-fourth District, he was the nominee from the county convention of this county.

T. F. MCGINNES, general superintendent of the Montour Iron and Steel Works, Danville, was born in the city of Pottsville, Schuylkill Co., Penn., March 2, 1842, a son of E. W. and Eliza (Patton) McGinnes, natives of Pennsylvania and of Scotch origin. In early life the father was engaged in manufacturing, but later in the coal trade in which he dealt largely. Our subject is the fourth of eight children, and grew to manhood in his native city, where he attended the graded schools and also clerked for his father. With the latter he then engaged in the same business, which they conducted successfully for a time, when our subject abandoned the business to accept a clerkship in one of the large manufacturing establishments of the place. There he remained ten years, when he was appointed superintendent of an iron manufactory in Schuylkill County, where he served until 1880. He then came to Danville and was employed in the Montour Iron and Steel Works as inspector of iron rails until 1882, when he was appointed superintendent. In 1885 he was made treasurer and in 1886 general superintendent of the works. This extensive company often employ as many as 2,700 men; so that the position of general superintendent is one of great responsibility. Mr. McGinnes was married in 1863, to Kate, Berryman, a lady of English origin, daughter of Dr. Cecil Berryman, a prominent physician of Pottsville, Penn. She is the mother of one child, Jennie. Mr. and Mrs. McGinnes are members of the Episcopal Church, in which he takes a deep interest; has served as member of the vestry, and is now superintendent of the Mission Sunday-school in Danville. Politically he is a Republican, but has never held office.

THOMAS M. McMAHAN, photographer, Danville, was born in Montour County March 19, 1829, a son of James and Margaret (Murry) McMahan, natives of Pennsylvania



and of Scotch-Irish origin, the former a farmer. Thomas M. is the fourth in a family of five children, was reared on the farm in Liberty Township, educated in the common schools, and for several years followed agricultural pursuits. In 1853 he began to learn the art of photography, which has since occupied his attention. He worked at different places until 1865, when he settled in Danville, and since 1871 has been associated in the business with Mr. Ireland, under the firm name of McMahan & Ireland, and the success of the business is largely due to his exertions. In 1854 he married Caroline Reed, of Scotch-Irish origin, and two children have blessed the union: Clarence and Lillian E. Mr. and Mrs. McMahan are members of the Presbyterian Church, and politically he is a Democrat.

WILLIAM H. MAGILL, retired physician and surgeon, of Danville, is the oldest physician in this part of the State. He was born in Montgomery County, Penn., March 24, 1795, son of William and Mary (Dunlap) Magill. Their ancestors were among the early settlers of Pennsylvania. William Magill, Sr., father of our subject, was a tanner, and became a land owner and farmer; he was a Quaker, as was his wife, and his ancestors were Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. William and Mary Magill had six children; William H., our subject, was the third child. At the age of twelve years he entered the Doylestown Academy, in Bucks County, Penn., from there he went to Baltimore, Md., and read medicine with James Smith, M. D., four years, and graduated from the Medical University of Baltimore, in 1817. He then attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia until the spring of 1818, when he began the practice of medicine in Danville, opening an office in the same house where he now resides. This house is of brick, erected by his mother in 1814, the family having moved here in the spring of that year. When Dr. Magill began the practice of medicine Danville was a small place, and houses in this vicinity were few and far between. Dr. Magill was a man of more than ordinary ability and skill, and possessed wonderful powers of endurance. He rode on horseback over a large scope of country, day and night, enduring hardships, and surmounting difficulties that the doctors of this day know nothing of. He married, May 1, 1828, Miss Mary, daughter of Gen. Daniel Montgomery. This union has been blessed with eight children, viz.: Daniel, Elizabeth, William H., Hannah L., Robert D., Christiana M., Mary D. and James D., six of whom lived to be grown. Mrs. Magill died in 1892; she was an earnest Christian and a member of the Presbyterian Church; Dr. Magill is also a member of this church. He was the first burgess of Danville; in politics he was a Whig, but since the organization of the Republican party he has been one of its strong supporters. His name will be revered not only for his professional skill and honor, but for his deeds of charity and Christian example.

WILSON METTLER, retired farmer, Danville, was born in Rush Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., May 10, 1813, a son of Philip and Susanna (Carter) Mettler. His parents were natives of New Jersey, of English and German origin respectively. The father was a farmer, and died in Northumberland County in 1856. His family consisted of nine children, of whom Wilson was the fifth. He was reared on the farm and educated at the schools of Rush Township. From his youth until 1868 he had been engaged in agricultural pursuits, but at the last named date retired, and has since resided in Danville, but still owns the farm, which is well improved. He married, in 1834, Miss Ann, daughter of John Gearhart, of New Jersey and of German origin. This union has been blessed with four children: Sarah E., wife of E. G. Huffman; Susan, wife of Hugh Vastine; Spencer C. (deceased) and Anna. Mr. and Mrs. Mettler are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he has been elder. Politically he is a Democrat and has served in the capacity of school director of Rush Township.

JAMES N. MILLER, liveryman, Danville, was born in Columbia County, Penn., September 6, 1824, a son of Philip (a farmer) and Frances (Ready) Miller, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent, former of whom died in Columbia County, where he had resided many years and reared a family of seven children. Our subject was reared on the farm, attended the schools of his native place and early in life learned the tanner's trade, which he followed eight years. He then established himself in a general store at Jerseytown, was moderately successful and continued that business eleven years, having previously been engaged in the hotel business at Lewisburg and Jerseytown. In 1876 he was nominated and elected sheriff of Montour County on the Democratic ticket. He then moved to Danville where he has since resided, and, at the close of his term as sheriff, embarked in the livery business. Mr. Miller is a Democrat and always takes an active interest in everything pertaining to that party in Montour County. He has been twice married; first to Susannah, daughter of John Rishel. She was of German origin and died in 1852, the mother of one child, John, who is now married and a farmer. In 1855 our subject married Isabella, daughter of Samuel Hiltert, also of German descent, and a member of the Presbyterian Church. This union was blessed with one child, Sue F., who, since her mother's death, in 1873, has kept house for her father.

HENRY MOYER, dealer in clothing and gents' furnishing goods, was born in Germany, February 1, 1827, a son of Harmon and Barbara (Levi) Moyer, natives of Germany. The father was a drover and dealt extensively in stock in his native country, where he



spent his life. Henry is the ninth of twelve children, and was reared in Baden, where he received his education. In early life he learned the trade of a butcher, which he followed as a business until coming to America in 1852. He settled in Danville, Penn., and spent two years and a half in peddling and making himself familiar with the laws and customs of his adopted country. By close application he was able to start a general store in Danville in 1854, but in 1855 sold out and opened a butcher shop, and did a successful business for nine years. In 1864 he established his present business, at which he has been very successful. He married, in 1853, Sophia Myer, a native of Germany and who bore him three children: Fannie, Sarah and Harry, and died in 1860. Mr. Moyer then married Sarah Gross, a native of Germany, who bore him seven children: Miles, Barbara, Rebecca, Bessie, Maurice, Lewis and Julius. Mr. and Mrs. Moyer are of the Jewish faith.

JACOB W. MOYER, of the firm of Cruikshank, Moyer & Co., Danville, was born in Montour County, October 13, 1838, a son of Daniel and Susan (Cortner) Moyer, natives of Northumberland (now Montour) County, and whose ancestors were among the early German settlers of Pennsylvania. He is the eldest in a family of eight children and grew to manhood in his native county, coming to Danville with his parents, in 1844. Here he attended the common schools and in early life learned the machinist trade, at which he worked for a time, subsequently embarking in his present business. The firm do an extensive trade in their foundry and machine shops, Mr. Moyer doing the drafting, also the buying and selling. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served nine months. In 1864 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served on detached duty, being detailed to work on the calcium light, which was erected on the breastworks so as to throw the light on the enemy's camp, at least one-half mile distant, and, being a skillful mechanic, Mr. Moyer was of great use in putting up the lights, and was thus employed until the war closed. He participated in several engagements, among them Antietam, Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg. He is a member of the council of Danville, and has been school director. In 1864 he married Clara, daughter of John Doty, a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Moyer are the parents of six children: Cora, Maggie, Virgie, Horace, Ella and Walter. The parents are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Moyer is a member of the I. O. O. F. and G. A. R., and in politics is Democratic.

HON. PHILIP C. NEWBAKER, physician and surgeon, Danville, is a great-grandson of Martin Newbaker, who emigrated from Germany before the Revolution and settled at Powell's Creek, on the Susquehanna River, eighteen miles above Harrisburg. Martin Newbaker served as a soldier in the war for independence, and some of his descendants still reside near the old homestead where Dr. Newbaker was born, and from where his father and family removed to Northumberland County. He is a son of John B. and Caroline Elizabeth (Maize) Newbaker, who were natives of Dauphin County, Penn., of mixed German and English descent, and are still living. The former, John B. Newbaker, is a physician, and is practicing his profession at Trevorton, Northumberland Co., Penn. His family consisted of five children. Philip C., our subject, is the eldest; he was born August 13, 1843, near Halifax, Dauphin Co., Penn. He received a good academic education at the West Branch High School and the literary department of the Missionary Institute, Selin's Grove, Penn. He taught school a few years, and on the breaking out of the late civil war, enlisted as a private in Company F, Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, and served the full term of three months. He was at the battle of Hoke's Run or Falling Waters, in northern Virginia, one of the first engagements of the war. In August, 1862, he again enlisted in Company K, Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, at Philadelphia, for three years, which regiment was assigned to duty under Gen. Rosecrans in Tennessee, where from hardships and exposure in service, he contracted diseases which confined him to the hospital for several months. After partial recovery he was transferred to the Invalid or Veteran Reserve Corps and continued in it to the close of the war. He was honorably discharged from service July 5, 1865. From this it will be seen that he served in the army the greater part of the war. He then began the study of medicine with his father, and entered Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, where he graduated in the spring of 1869, and subsequently settled at Washingtonville, Montour County, where by skill in his profession, and integrity as a citizen, he gained a deserved popularity. On September 24, 1867, he married Miss Amelia A. Koons, of Weissport, Carbon Co., Penn. Dr. Newbaker and wife have five children: Winifred M., Charles A., Bertha A., Edward J. and Francis W. In politics the Doctor is a Democrat, and in 1878 was nominated and subsequently elected to represent Montour County in the State Legislature, and was re-elected in 1880. He is a member of the State and county medical societies, and of the American Medical Association and is secretary of the Board of United States Examining Surgeons at Danville. He is also a member of Goodrich Post, No. 22, G. A. R., of Danville. In the spring of 1886 Dr. Newbaker purchased the property in which he now resides, at No. 24, Mahoning Street, Danville, and has already acquired considerable practice.

JOHN C. PATTERSON, retired farmer, Danville, was born in Columbia County, Penn., in September, 1836, a son of John and Anna (Mather) Patterson, natives of

Columbia County, and whose ancestors were among the early Scotch-Irish settlers of that section. John C. is the youngest of a family of five children, four of whom grew to maturity. He was reared on the farm, educated at the district school, and followed farming until coming to Danville in 1866. September 3, 1864, he enlisted in the Two Hundred and Teath Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. January 1, 1866, he married Miss Mary E., daughter of Caleb Appleman, and their union has been blessed with two children, Ella and Mary V. Mrs. Patterson and children are members of the Presbyterian Church. She is engaged in the millinery business, at which she is very successful. Mr. Patterson is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

EMANUEL PETERS, wholesale dealer in ice and oysters, Danville, was born in Union County, Penn., March 3, 1826, a son of Michael and Martha (Miller) Peters, natives of Pennsylvania, of German origin, the former a tailor by trade. Emanuel was their only child, and was educated at the subscription schools of Union County. He came to Danville when seventeen years old, and has since made it his home, and in 1854 embarked in his present business, at which he has been successful. In 1854 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Gideon Mellon, and of English origin. Their children are Arthur M., who is with his father; Anna Mary, wife of S. W. Fisher; Clara M.; F. G.; Lucy M.; Saddle M. and Elmer E. Nearly all the family are members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Peters was a member of the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry during the civil war, having enlisted in 1862. He is independent in politics; a member of the I. O. O. F. and the I. O. of R. M.

J. R. PHILIPS, United States gauger, Danville, was born in Columbia County, Penn., August 24, 1828, a son of George W. and Rhoda Ann (Reese) Philips, natives of Pennsylvania, and of German and Welsh origin. The father was a chainmaker by trade, but made farming the occupation of his life, and now resides on a farm in Sullivan County, Penn., whither he removed in 1843. Our subject is the eldest in a family of eight sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to maturity, and was reared on the farm in Hemlock Township, Columbia County, receiving a common-school education. In early life he worked in the iron-ore mines, and in 1849 came to Danville and learned the puddler's trade in the iron works, serving a three years' apprenticeship, and when just completing his trade was appointed foreman in the Montour Iron & Rolling-mill Works, which position he occupied for twenty years. He served as justice of the peace for a like period and resigned in 1886. Since 1883 Mr. Philips has been tax collector, and also United States gauger and market master of Danville. He is secretary of the school board and a member of the I. O. O. F., both of the encampment and subordinate lodge. In politics he is a Democrat. In 1850 he married Mary, daughter of David Allegar, of German origin, and their children are George W., deceased; Amelia; Joseph W., a druggist, of Danville; Matilda, Margaret and Kate. Mrs. Philips is a member of the Presbyterian Church of Danville.

ISAAC RANCK was for more than half a century identified with the growth and development of Columbia and Montour Counties. He was much above the average of all that goes to make up a noble manhood, habits which bring no reproach and a character which shone brightly in the every day duties and vocations of life. His birth occurred May 19, 1811, in White Deer, Union Co., Penn. His parents, Isaac and Rebecca Ranck, were from Lancaster County, Penn., and were among the first settlers of Union County. He was the seventh in a family of thirteen children—ten sons and three daughters—all but one of whom arrived to the age of maturity. Seven survive the subject of this sketch in the full vigor of life. At the age of seventeen he was apprenticed to Messrs. Carr & Co., carriage builders of Milton, Penn., and, after serving four years, he moved, in the early spring of 1832, to the village of Danville, Columbia County, and established himself in business as a smith and carriage manufacturer, at the corner of Mill and Mahoning Streets, opposite the present opera house. He also engaged in the lumber and boating business but soon abandoned all but his shops. About 1834 he married Miss Catharine Heller, and three children blessed their union: Norman Leslie, Ellis Hughes, Mary Elizabeth, all living. In 1842 he became widower, and in 1844 he married Elizabeth Heller, who bore him four children: Anna Rebecca, David Hays, Catharine Frances and Henry Clay (the last two dying in infancy). David H. is the publisher of the *Millstone and Corn Miller*, Indianapolis, Ind., a representative monthly publication devoted to milling and mechanical interests. In 1872 death again entered his home and took away his wife. For eleven years he made his home with his son and daughter in Danville. On the 8th of March, 1883, Mr. Ranck passed away, dying in the faith of Christianity. All his life he adorned our common humanity with a character pure as light, with a reputation untarnished by worldly associations, by daily walk and conversation worthy of emulation, a legacy to his children more lasting than money. Mr. Ranck witnessed the growth of Danville from a small village of less than a thousand population to a city of 10,000 inhabitants. He was chief burgess of the city in 1860, and afterward served as councilman. He was also elected and served many years as justice of the peace. Columbia and Montour Counties can feel an honest pride in having had for more than fifty years a citizen who



embodied so much that was good and noble. In personal appearance Mr. Ranck was commanding, above average height and of rotundity of build, weighing over 200 pounds. Honesty, justice and truth were woven into the woof of his being. Strictly temperate in all his habits, he lived to be three score and twelve years and passed to his reward. He was interred March 11, 1883, in Mount Vernon Cemetery, Northumberland County, Penn. His family, consisting of five children, all of whom except David H., were born in Danville and vicinity, have all maintained the high integrity and honor of his name. Norman was born August 2, 1835; Ellis H., born August 10, 1837; Mary E., born June 21, 1841; Anna R., born February 23, 1844, and David H., born February 5, 1847.

FREDERICK REAM, teacher in and superintendent of the public schools of Montour County, Danville, was born in Lancaster County, Penn., July 20, 1851, a son of John and Anna (Westley) Ream, natives of Pennsylvania and of German origin, and whose ancestors were among the early residents of Pennsylvania. The father by trade is a coach-maker; also for a time followed farming, and now resides in Washingtonville, Montour County. Frederick is the fifth in a family of five sons and three daughters, and was reared in Montour County, where his parents have resided since 1860. He received his early education in the public schools of Montour County, and was also a student at the Bloomsburg Normal School and at academies at other places. At the age of fifteen he commenced teaching, which he followed for sixteen years, pursuing through this period a well directed course of self-education. During 1870-73 he was engaged in mercantile business at Washingtonville, and since 1873 has followed teaching. He taught in Schuylkill County and at Friesburg Academy for two years, and in the Danville High School three years, and was elected county superintendent of public schools in 1884. Since then he has been engaged in that capacity. He is a Past Grand of the I. O. O. F. and trustee of the I. O. O. F. cemetery at Danville. Mr. Ream married in 1873, Mary C., daughter of William Seidel and of German origin. Their children are Bertha A., Vinnie Olive and Carrie S. Mr. and Mrs. Ream are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Ream is politically a Democrat.

S. Y. RICHARDS, photographer and owner and proprietor of the Danville art gallery, was born three and a half miles south of Danville, August 31, 1836; a son of John and Rebecca (Clark) Richards, who were among the early German settlers of Pennsylvania. His grandfather kept a hotel in Danville in the early pioneer days; his father followed farming all his life and died in Lycoming County on the farm where he had resided since our subject was four years old. He had been twice married, and by his first marriage had seven children, of whom our subject is the youngest; he grew up on the farm, also helped in the saw-mill and was an expert at running a circular saw. When he reached his majority he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, and worked at it for ten years; later, studied the art of photography, in 1866, in Danville; but being desirous of obtaining the best knowledge of that business he went to New York, where he remained under the instruction of Prof. Hugh O'Neil, and obtained a thorough knowledge of the business. He then resided in Carbondale, Penn., for seven years, moving thence to Pittston, where he remained for seven years, and from 1884 to 1886 resided in Towanda. He then came to Danville and opened a large and well furnished art gallery, and is well worthy of the patronage he has received. June 7, 1861, he married Matilda A., daughter of David Kine, a native of Berks County, Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Richards are the parents of the following named children: Ella, wife of Charles C. Colburn; Hallie, deceased; Lizzie, wife of Walter Smith, and Mamie. The parents are members of the Methodist Church. While a resident of Towanda, Mr. Richards was a member of the board of stewards of the church. He is now a member of Saint Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church of Danville. Politically he is a Republican.

M. S. RIDGWAY, superintendent of the Montour Iron and Steel Works and Rolling Mills, Danville, was born at Milford Village, Pike Co., Penn., March 12, 1820, a son of Matthew and Elizabeth (Ludlow) Ridgway. The former was born on Long Island, N. Y., and was of English origin; the latter was born in New Jersey, and was of French descent; they were the parents of seven children. The father was an influential man, and at the time of his death, in 1820, was high sheriff of Pike County, N. Y.; he was a brave and successful officer. A prisoner in his charge, who was convicted of murder in 1814, escaped from jail and fled to Canada. Mr. Ridgway followed, and with the assistance of some Indians succeeded in locating the murderer, but while negotiating with parties to get the criminal across the line to the United States, was himself arrested by the English authorities as a spy. He was a Quaker, and having an uncle in Canada, he succeeded in obtaining his liberty and returned home through the wilderness to Pike County, and his prisoner with him. Mr. Ridgway was a Mason, a man of more than ordinary intelligence and will power. He was a son of Jacob Ridgway, also a Quaker. M. S. Ridgway, our subject, is the youngest of the family, and was born the year of his father's death. He attended the common schools until the age of eleven years, when he chose a guardian. At sixteen he began to learn the trade of a blacksmith, and served a regular apprenticeship; then worked as a journeyman four years, and in 1844 came to Danville to superintend the blacksmithing in the erection of the Montour Iron and Steel Works.



These works were completed in 1845, and shortly afterward Mr. Ridgway was appointed manager of the works, and has since remained in charge for a period of forty-three years. He has remained with the works through its adversity and prosperity, and although the business has changed hands six times, Mr. Ridgway has always been retained as the right man in the right place. He assisted in making the first "T" rail made in the United States. It was made by Murdock Levitt & Co., in Danville, Penn. This firm was succeeded by the Montour Iron Company. Mr. Ridgway married in 1840, in Norristown, N. J., Miss Rachel Whitehead. Her parents were English, but of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Ridgway have five children: Edwin O., married, and employed in the rolling-mills of Pueblo, Col.; Stephen, employed as shipping-clerk for a large manufactory in Ohio; Warren; Laura E. and Grant. In politics Mr. Ridgway is a Republican; he is a Knight Templar and has been a member of the Masonic order since 1846. Mrs. Ridgway is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

DANIEL J. ROTE, retired cattle drover, Danville, was born in Northampton County, Penn., October 16, 1812, a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Larch) Rote, natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer all his life, and his ancestors were among the early German settlers of Pennsylvania. David J. is one of a family of twelve children, eight of whom grew to maturity, and was reared in Northampton County, where he was also educated in the early German schools. His English education has been acquired by his own efforts. He chose farming as his occupation, but prior to that had been engaged in the blacksmithing trade. Later he engaged in the cattle droving business, which has mainly occupied his attention, and at which he has been very successful. He has been twice married; by his first wife, Rebecca Weaver, he had seven children. She died in 1845, and had been married in 1836. Twelve years after the death of his first wife he married Lucy A. Crosby, who bore him one child, and died February 25, 1881. Mr. Rote has retired from active business, and now resides in Danville. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, in which he has been a deacon, and takes an active interest in that denomination. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the I. O. O. F.; politically he is a Republican.

WELLINGTON ROTE, cattle dealer, Danville, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., a son of Daniel J. and Anna Rebecca (Weaver) Rote. He is the fourth child in order of birth, and was reared on the farm, attended the common schools, and also Dickinson Seminary, at Williamsport. He first clerked in the general store of Lewis Rote, at Maudsle, where he remained two years. In 1870 he embarked in general mercantile business at Maudsle, and also dealt in coal; he then sold out and taught school eight or ten terms, in which vocation he was successful. Since 1876 he has been engaged in the stock business. Politically he is a Republican, a member of the I. O. O. F., and of the Masonic fraternity.

DAVID RUCKEL, agent for the P. R. R. & W. S. Express Company, Danville, was born in Columbia County, Pennsylvania, November 21, 1841, a son of Joseph and Margaret (Whetmore) Ruckel, natives of Columbia County, this State, and of German descent. The father followed agricultural pursuits all his life. David is the youngest in a family of four sons and three daughters, and was reared on the farm, receiving his education in the common schools, never attending more than six months in his life, and is therefore self-educated. He remained with his parents on the farm until he was twenty years of age, when he went to Berwick, Columbia County, and learned the shoemaker's trade. In 1862 he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served nine months, the term for which he enlisted. He next enlisted in the One Hundred and Twelfth, Second Artillery, was promoted sergeant, and June 30, 1864, was taken prisoner in front of Petersburg. He was removed to Danville, Va., where he was kept a prisoner of war for eight months and nineteen days. He was then exchanged and, after the war, returned to the farm, where he remained until 1867, when he moved to Danville and worked in the rolling-mill until 1873. He was next employed with the railroad and express companies, and in 1882 was appointed to his present position. In 1867 he married Miss Lucinda Nuss, of German descent. Two children were born to them: Charles E., who is in the office with his father, and Ella L., deceased. Mrs. Ruckel is a member of the German Reformed Church, and her son of the Episcopal. Mr. Ruckel is a member of the Masonic fraternity, politically a Republican.

JAMES SCARLET, of the firm of Scarlet & Angle, attorneys, Danville, was born in Elizabeth, N. J., December 31, 1848, a son of George and Mary Scarlet. The former was of English origin, and for many years a sea captain; the latter was of Scotch-Irish descent. James is the eldest of a family of three sons and grew to manhood in Danville, attending the schools of that place, where he also learned the blacksmith's trade. He subsequently entered Princeton College and graduated in the regular classical course in 1874. He studied law in Danville in the office of Thomas Galbrith, Esq., was admitted to practice in the courts of Montour County in 1877, and in 1875 was admitted to the supreme court, and also the United States courts. He was elected to the office of district attorney for Montour County in 1882, and after serving his term was nominated by the Republican party for the Legislature in 1885, but was defeated with James G. Blaine.

THOMAS A. SCHOTT, coal merchant, Danville, was born in Rockland Township, Berks Co., Penn., October 7, 1836. a son of Anthony and Harriet (Roarback) Schott, natives of Pennsylvania and of German origin. In early life his father was a charcoal burner, later a furnace blower, which occupation he followed until his death in 1871. His family consisted of five children, four of whom grew to maturity. Thomas A. is the second child; he received his education in the common schools, and later learned the cigar-maker's trade, which he followed five years. Later he learned the painter and carpenter trades, the latter of which he followed eleven years. He then engaged in teaming, also sold sewing machines, and then traveled and sold reapers for three years. In 1879 he embarked in the coal business on a limited scale, which enterprise has proved a success. He now owns an acre of land on which he has a coal yard, and has built a railroad which runs into the yard, where the coal is dumped from the coal cars. He also owns his neat and substantial residence, and his financial success is due largely to his own exertions. Mr. Schott was married, November 29, 1862, to Elizabeth Hartman, a native of Germany, and to this union one child was born, Joseph A. Mrs. Schott died in 1869, and in 1872 our subject married Mollie Hartman, a sister of his first wife. Their children are George W., Mary E., Anthony W., Grace E., Harry A. and Thomas A. Mr. and Mrs. Schott are members of the German Catholic Church. Politically he is a Republican.

S. S. SCHULTZ, M. D., a native of Berks County, Penn., was born July 5, 1831, youngest son and child of Jeremiah and Mary Shultz, both of whom were natives of Berks County. The paternal ancestor who first came to this county was Christopher Schultz, the great-grandfather of our subject, who landed in the New World, September 22, 1734, then sixteen years old and a fugitive from religious persecution in Silesia. Young as he was, he was a fine scholar and became subsequently an able theologian, leader and organizer of men. Certainly, in all history there cannot be found an instance more completely verifying the phrase "born to command." He was the organizer and leader of the religious body to which he belonged, and that came to this country. He wrote a catechism, a constitution, a large compendium of their religious doctrines, and made the collection for their hymn-book used by the fugitives in the desert and the wilds. The theological works of this divine and temporal leader are yet, in much of their entirety, incorporated in the church formulas of his denomination to-day. On the maternal side the first immigrant to come to this country was George Schultz, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, who came to America in 1734, in the twenty-fourth year of his age. The parents of our subject were Jeremiah and Mary Schultz. The father was born June 7, 1797, and died February 3, 1874. The mother was born September 5, 1798, and died February 2, 1873. Their children, all living, are Henry, born June 16, 1821; Edward, born June 20, 1824; John, born September 6, 1828, and our subject. Dr. Schultz was reared and educated in his native county until he was fourteen years old, when he attended school at Washington Hall, Montgomery County. From there he went to school at the academy in Allentown, Penn., which has since become Muhlenburg College, where he remained one year; then a short time at Freeland Seminary, Montgomery County, and then entered Princeton College, New Jersey, where he graduated in 1852. After graduating he taught school for a short time, and then commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Daniel D. Detwiler, of Montgomery County. After a careful preparation he entered the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated in 1856. Immediately after leaving the university he opened an office for the practice of medicine in Allentown, where he met with flattering success. But soon an opportunity offered for him to pursue the natural bent of his mind, and he accepted a position in the State lunatic hospital at Harrisburg, as assistant physician. He remained here until 1861. He then made the tour of Europe, where he spent one year studying the hospitals and public institutions of Germany, England and France. In the meantime war was raging in his native land, and he hastened his return and entered the army as acting assistant surgeon, and as assistant surgeon and surgeon of Pennsylvania Volunteers, and assistant surgeon and surgeon of United States Volunteers; remained in service to the close of the war. He served with the Seventy-fifth and Twenty-third Pennsylvania Regiments, and as executive officer and surgeon in charge, successively, in general hospitals at Harrisburg, Penn., Covington, Ky., Madison, Ind., and Columbus, Ohio. Here he resigned as superintendent of hospitals at the close of the war in 1865. He then returned to Harrisburg, and was in active practice from 1865 to 1868 when he was appointed by the commissioners of the hospital to come to Danville and take control of the construction and the superintendency of the Danville Hospital, and from the commencement of the work on the building to the present time he has been its efficient and able superintendent, to the great advantage of the State in its vast expenditures here, and to the blessing of the poor unfortunates who have been dwellers in this benevolent home. The real professional career of Dr. Schultz commenced with his connection with his present office, and the history of the institution and the history of the Doctor, in his care of the insane, are practically one and the same, and the reader is referred to an account of the Danville Asylum in another column. Dr. Schultz and Miss Hannah L. Magill were married September 23, 1872; she is a daughter of William H. Magill and Mary (Montgomery) Magill, and a granddaughter of Gen. Daniel Montgomery.



Mrs. Magill was born May 6, 1805, and died January 7, 1882. Their issue are Edward Magill Schultz, born July 22, 1873, and William Magill Schultz, born February 15, 1878.

H. B. D. SECHLER, retired painter, Danville, was born on River Street, Danville, January 26, 1808, a son of Rudolph and Susanna (Douty) Sechler, natives of Pennsylvania. His parental and maternal ancestors were among the early German settlers of the State. His father was a blacksmith in early and middle life, later was register and recorder of Columbia County, serving several years. In 1821 he was appointed justice of the peace and served until 1845, when he retired, and died in 1857, at the age of eighty-five years. He reared a family of six children, all of whom became good citizens and four of whom still survive. Our subject is the eldest of the survivors, was reared in Danville and educated at the subscription schools. He learned the cabinet-maker's trade and followed it for many years, but since 1840 he has been engaged in house and ornamental sign painting. In 1830 he married Miss Jane Jamison of Mifflin County, Penn., who died in 1831. In 1835 he was married to Sarah, daughter of John Gearhart, and six children blessed their union, two of whom are living: Harriet, wife of Jonathan Waters, and Emma, wife of John Yorgy. Mr. and Mrs. Sechler are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he has been an elder, and also teacher and superintendent of the Sabbath-school. He takes an interest in all that pertains to the good of the community. Politically he is a Republican, formerly a Whig, was appointed justice of the peace in 1845, and served five years.

ABRAHAM SECHLER, musician, Danville, was born in that place April 13, 1814, a son of Jacob and Barbara (Reice) Sechler, the latter a native of Switzerland, born in 1790. The Sechler family came to Pennsylvania about 1775, four brothers settling on the site of Danville, about the close of the Revolution. They were farmers and took up about 500 acres of land, then a wilderness, a part of which is now the Thomas Beaver farm, near the State asylum at Danville. Jacob Sechler was the first male child born in Danville in 1790. The family were usually farmers. Abraham is the eldest son in a family of nine children, and is a natural musician. He organized the first band in Danville and as soon as his brothers became old enough they joined the band, and for several years six of them played in it. Abraham received but a limited education in the subscription schools of Danville, but has been a student all his life, and can now read and write English, French and German with ease. His first occupation was farming, which engaged his attention until he was nineteen years of age. He then operated a stationary engine for over forty years, and by economy and judicious investments has made money. During the war he invested his money in Government bonds, and now has a fine property where he resides and devotes his time to music, which he fully enjoys. In 1835 he married Lavinia, daughter of Asa Pancost, and of English descent. Of their five children three are now living: Mary Alice, wife of Henry Schick; Sarah Jane, wife of John Kenvin, and W. W., in Philadelphia. Mrs. Sechler died in 1864, and in 1869 our subject married Harriet, daughter of John Wurtman, and of English descent. Their only child is Martha, wife of Charles Robson. Mrs. Sechler is a member of the Lutheran Church, and Mr. Sechler of the Episcopal. He is a Democrat in politics, and has served as tax collector.

F. R. SECHLER, liveryman, Danville, was born in Mahoning Township, Montour County, March 22, 1826, a son of Jacob and Barbara Ann (Reise) Sechler. His father was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his grandfather, John Sechler, a soldier in the Revolution and one of the early settlers of Danville; both were farmers. F. R. is the seventh in a family of nine children, and was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he has followed most of his life, but now resides in Danville engaged in the livery business. He married, in 1850, Abigail, daughter of Herbert Best, a prominent farmer of English origin, and one of the early settlers of Danville, where he died in 1831. Mr. and Mrs. Sechler have two children now living: C. R. and Barbara Ann. Mr. Sechler is a member of the K. of P., politically an Independent, with Democratic proclivities.

JACOB SHELHART, retired, ex-sheriff of Montour County, Penn., was born in that county, August 14, 1825, a son of Jacob and Christine (Everett) Shelhart, natives of Lehigh County, Penn., both of German origin. His paternal and maternal ancestors were among the early German settlers of the State. His father was an early settler of Danville, lived to be eighty years old, and spent over seventy years of his life in this part of Pennsylvania. He grew to manhood in Cooper Township, now, Montour County, and in early life made farming his business, but later devoted his time to the manufacture of wooden plows, which he carried on for a time, also manufacturing wagons and wheelbarrows, when the canal was being made through Danville. Jacob is the sixth of eleven children, and his schooling was limited to about two months in a rude schoolhouse. He followed farming as a business until 1865, with success, and though not a believer in luck, does believe in pluck. Politically he is a Democrat, and in 1865 was elected sheriff of Montour County, serving three years. In 1879 he was again elected sheriff, and served three years; then spent some time traveling over the United States and Canada. He has been twice married; first to Maria, daughter of Joseph Foust, and of English and German origin. Mr. Shelhart has two children now living: Mary, wife of J. Andrew, and Hattie. Mr. Shelhart is a member of the Lutheran Church; has been a member of the school



board and overseer of the poor. He is at present making valuable improvements in Danville.

DAVID SHELHART, merchant tailor, Danville, was born in Franklin Township, Columbia Co., Penn., May 9, 1833, a son of Jacob and Christianna (Evert) Shelhart, natives of Pennsylvania and of German origin. His father was a farmer. David is the youngest of eleven children, and was reared on the farm until he was seventeen years old, receiving his education in the schools of Columbia County. He first clerked in the store of Christian Laubach, of Danville, where he remained six years, from 1850 to 1856. He then embarked in his present business, merchant tailor and dealer in gents' furnishing goods, and employs the best skilled workmen and cutter. In 1857 he married Malinda A., a daughter of Richard Demott. She is of German origin, and has borne her husband four children: Emma, wife of Warren McHenry; Kate D., wife of Harry Rhodes; Frank and Charles Richard. The family are all members of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Shelhart has been treasurer and superintendent of the Sabbath-school for fourteen consecutive years. He is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., and has been connected with the lodge twenty-one years, and has passed all the chairs. Politically he is a Republican.

JOHN W. SHERIFF, bookkeeper, Danville, was born in Erie County, Penn., September 12, 1832, a son of William and Margaret (Colt) Sheriff, natives of Ireland, but who came to this country in childhood. Our subject is the youngest of six children; was reared in Waterford, Erie County, where he received his education at the common schools and at the academy. In 1842 he came to Danville where he has since remained. On first coming here he clerked in a general store for fourteen years, and later ran a stage line from Danville to Pottsville, Northumberland to Wilkesbarre, and Danville to Williamsport and Blossburg, taking in all the villages on the route, carrying passengers and the United States mail. He had a partner in the business, and for several years they ran a packet boat on the canal until 1857, when the railroad was built. In 1860 he embarked in mercantile business which he continued with success until 1873, when he sold out and has since been employed as bookkeeper in the coal office of R. H. Woolley, sole agent for Conyngham & Co., of Danville. In 1849 Mr. Sheriff married Miss Martha Waters, of German origin, and five children were born to the union: Margaret, wife of A. G. Marr; William; Mary (deceased); Matilda, wife of H. J. Rupert, and Anna. Mr. Sheriff is a Democrat and has served as member of the town council of Danville.

GIDEON M. SHOOP, lumberman, P. O. Danville, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., June 23, 1821, a son of George and Elizabeth (Cockley) Shoop, natives respectively of Cumberland and Dauphin Counties, Penn. Our subject is the youngest of a family of seven children, and attended the common schools of his native county until he was thirteen years old. He then went to Franklin County and learned the art of manufacturing French buhr mill stones, at which he worked for two years. He then went to Cumberland County, where he carried on the same business. He continued to carry on his trade until he came to Danville, in 1841, as collecting agent for several stage lines, and also embarked in the lumber business, dealing in and manufacturing lumber quite extensively, and owning several saw-mills. In 1846 he rented the "Brady Hotel," repaired and improved it; added another story; changed the name to that of "Montour House," and conducted it for eighteen months. (The house is still the leading hotel in Danville.) Mr. Shoop's main business, however, is the lumber trade. He purchases large tracts of land in the south and elsewhere, from which he cuts the timber and manufactures it into lumber. His residence, among the most beautiful and attractive in Montour County, was erected at a cost of about \$24,000; he also owns four farms in Montour County, the half of one in Virginia, consisting of 367 acres, and half of one in Northumberland County of 180 acres. Mr. Shoop married December 2, 1846, Amelia D., daughter of William Gearhart. She is of English and German origin and the mother of four children, all deceased except one, William G., who is now engaged with his father in the lumber business. Mr. Shoop is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; is president of the board of trustees, a steward and a teacher in the Sabbath-school. In 1880 he was elected a lay delegate to the Central Pennsylvania Conference, and elected by that body a lay delegate to the general conference, which met in Cincinnati, Ohio, in May, 1880. Politically he is a Republican; is at present a member of the board of trustees of the Danville Insane Asylum; one of the directors of the Nail & Manufacturing Company; a director of the Bridge Company, and a director in the Danville National Bank, having served in that capacity longer than any other director, with a single exception.

B. F. SHULTZ, M. D., Danville, was born in Columbia County, Penn., March 19, 1828, a son of Peter and Sarah (Bobbins) Shultz, former of New Jersey, of German origin, and latter a native of Pennsylvania, of Scotch origin. They resided in Pennsylvania for many years, where they kept hotel, but in later life retired to the seclusion of farm life. They reared a family of nine children—eight sons and one daughter—and all maintained the honor of the family name. Our subject, the seventh in the family, obtained his early education in his native county, and subsequently attended the university at Philadelphia

for a time. He afterward took up the study of medicine in Danville, in the office of Dr. Strawbridge (the latter one of the leading surgeons in this part of the State), and also studied with Dr. Pancost, of Philadelphia. He then entered Jefferson Medical College at the latter city, where he graduated with the degree of M. D. Subsequently he commenced the practice of his profession at Danville, where he has since been actively engaged, and has secured for himself a well acknowledged prominence in his profession. Dr. Shultz has been twice married; first, in 1857, to Elizabeth, daughter of John Mowrer, and of German origin; she died in 1861, the mother of two children: Clarence (deceased) and Dora. Dr. Shultz's second marriage took place in 1870, with Mary, daughter of John Heckard, and also of German origin; she has borne her husband four children: William C., Florence, Debora and Armita. Politically the Doctor is a Republican. After the battle of Gettysburg he went to that place and volunteered his services as medical attendant. Mrs. Shultz was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Her death occurred December 19, 1886, in the forty-seventh year of her age.

ROBERT S. SIMINGTON, M. D., of Danville, was born and reared on a backwoods farm in Lycoming County, Penn., when deer and wolves were numerous. He attended the usual log-cabin school common to a new country, to which he walked two miles. The school, however, had excellent teachers, and young Simington began the study of mathematics and Latin before entering the academy. He assisted his father in opening up farms, making brick and lumbering, rafting logs down the river to Marietta, Harrisburg and Columbia, his father being an active business man and owning large tracts of land. Our subject continued his education at the academy at Milton, at McEwensville Academy, and at Lewisburg University, then studied medicine with Dr. James Dougal at Milton, Penn., and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1854. He at once began the practice of medicine in Danville. In the spring of 1861 he went into the army as surgeon of the Fourteenth P. V. I., and later was with the Ninety-third P. V. S.; he was principally with the Army of the Potomac; was wounded at Malvern Hill, and resigned in Aug., 1862, returned home and has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession. In 1873 he was elected associate judge for five years; was re-elected in 1878 and in 1883, and is still serving; was at one time elected Burgess of Danville. December 28, 1854, Dr. Simington was married to Miss Regina Jane, a daughter of Hugh and Rebecca (Lemon) McWilliams, who were born near Mooresburg, Liberty Township, Montour County. Hugh McWilliams was a large land owner and a prominent citizen; served as treasurer of Columbia (now Montour) County, and was also postmaster. He was the eldest son of Robert and Jane (Curry) McWilliams of the vicinity of Mooresburg, Penn. She was the first white child born (1773) in the forks of the Susquehanna. She and her husband had three sons and two daughters: Hugh, Robert, John, Mary and Jane. Robert McWilliams, their father, was a son of Lieut. Hugh McWilliams and Rebecca (Dunwoody) McWilliams, who were Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, and emigrated from County Armagh, Ireland, settling in Northumberland County, Penn., four miles below Danville. He was a lieutenant in the French and Indian war, and was killed by Indians in December, 1775. He and wife had one son, Robert, born in July, 1775, in Northumberland County; he married Jane Curry, and they settled in Liberty Township. His father, Hugh McWilliams, was a son of Robert and Jane (Orr) McWilliams, natives of Scotland, who emigrated to the North of Ireland, then to Montour County. They had three sons and one daughter: Hugh, who married Rebecca Dunwoody; John, died a bachelor; Robert, married Ellen Johnson, and Jane, married Robert Curry, who was killed by the Indians June 9, 1780, near Danville. Robert was in the war of the Revolution, and was killed at Valley Forge, December 25, 1777. Dr. and Mrs. Simington are members of the Mahoning Presbyterian Church, and have had three daughters: Gertrude, deceased wife of Calvin K. Leinbach; Miss Harriet Elizabeth, and Annie Jean. Dr. Simington is the eldest son of Benjamin and Ann (Ireland) Simington; the former was born in Liberty Township, Montour Co., Penn., in 1805, a son of Robert Simington, a native of Scotland, who immigrated to America in 1776, immediately joined the "Jersey Blues," and served with them through the war of the Revolution. He married Elizabeth Jacoby, of Northampton County, and came at once to Montour County, took up land, and died here at the ripe old age of eighty-four years. His children are John, Peter, Robert, Benjamin, James, Mary, Elizabeth, Margaret and Sarah, all born near Mooresburg, Penn. Dr. Simington's mother was a daughter of John Ireland, who was born near Milton in 1773; his father, David Ireland, came from Scotland in 1772, settling near Milton. David Ireland's children were Robert, David, John, William, Elizabeth and Anna. David Ireland died in 1827, aged ninety years; his sons, Robert, David and John, settled on farms adjoining the old homestead, and died of old age. William removed to New York and settled on a farm; he was in the war of 1812. Elizabeth married William Sanderson, of Milton, where she died; she reared a large family. Anna, unmarried, died of old age on the home farm. John married Margaret Latemer, of Northumberland County, and their issue were Ellen, born in 1801; James, born in 1803. Anna (the mother of Dr. Simington), born in 1805; Mary Ann, born in 1807; John, born in 1809; William, born in 1811; Thomas, born in 1813, and Margaret, born in 1815. Benjamin and Ann (Ireland) Simington were married January 28, 1829. Their children were Robert S., born May 10, 1831; Margaret Latemer, born May 16, 1836; Elizabeth



Ellen, born May 22, 1842, died March 25, 1875 (she married Rev. James W. Boal, leaving one child); Anna, born August 16, 1850. Margaret Latemer Simington married Ellis Gundy, of Union County, Penn.

ADOLF STEINBRENNER, insurance agent, Danville, was born in Germany, January 2, 1834, a son of Michael Steinbrenner, who was a school-teacher in Germany, where he spent his life. Adolf is the fourth in a family of six children, and was reared in Germany, where he received his education, graduating from the university at Heidelberg, in 1856. He obtained a position as bookkeeper and followed that vocation until coming to America in 1866. Arriving in this country he settled at Wilkesbarre, Penn., where he was employed as a bookkeeper for two years and a half, and subsequently came to Danville, where he embarked in the insurance business, which he still follows, representing the following companies: Liverpool, London and Globe, Commercial Union of London, Phoenix of London and many others, and is well fitted for the business. Politically he is a Republican, was a notary public from 1882 to 1885, and is now clerk of the town council. He is a member of the Episcopal Church in which he is organist, and a member of the various Masonic fraternities, the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P.

REV. A. B. STILL, Danville, was born October 15, 1823, near Chester Springs, Chester Co., Penn., to Charles and Catharine (Sheldrich) Still, natives of Pennsylvania and of hardy German ancestry, and both lived to obtain over four-score years. Rev. A. B. is the eleventh of twelve children (all of whom grew to maturity), and was reared on the farm, the pursuits of which his father followed. At the age of sixteen he was converted and united with the Vincent Baptist Church, of which his parents, brothers and sisters were members. At the age of seventeen he began to learn the miller's trade, having spent the previous years working on the farm in summer and attending the public schools in the winter seasons. After spending six years at the milling business he became fully convinced that it was his duty to become a preacher, and in October, 1846, left home to prepare himself for his life work. He entered the academic department of the Madison University of New York State, and there completed his academic studies; thence, in the fall of 1848, he went to the university at Lewisburg, Penn., entered the collegiate department, and graduated in 1852 with the second honors of his class. Soon after he took charge of the Logan Valley Baptist Church, in Blair County, Penn., where he had an opportunity to study theology, having the use of the library of the Rev. A. K. Bell. August 15, 1854, he married Miss Hannah, daughter of John Deen, Sr., of Danville, and shortly after accepted a call to the Huntington Baptist Church, and entered upon his labors in the autumn. There his duties were arduous, preaching three times on Sunday, and also through the week, and spent the greater part of the winter in laboring in protracted meetings in his own field, and assisting at meetings in neighboring churches. His labors were greatly blessed, and large numbers were converted and added to the church. He remained pastor for over four years, during which time he was instrumental in organizing the Spruce Creek Baptist Church. In the fall of 1858, at the earnest desire of the Centre Baptist Association, he entered upon the work of missionary, and spent over a year in earnest and self-denying labor with the feeble destitute churches and in destitute places. The calls for his labors were numerous and pressing, and were abundantly blessed in the salvation of many souls. He next accepted a call to the First Baptist Church at Danville, and entered upon his duties as pastor April 1, 1860. Here he remained for two years, amid the excitement of the civil war. He then became pastor of the Lawrenceville Baptist Church, in Chester County, in April, 1862, where he had a field of labor which taxed all his energies, and, at that time, though he never entered the army, took a deep interest in supporting the Government. Having spent two years there he accepted a call to the Pitt's Grove Baptist Church, Salem County, N. J., in the spring of 1864, where he reaped abundant harvests in the building up of the church and the salvation of sinners. In the spring of 1867 he returned to Danville that he might give some attention to his wife's estate, and spent the greater part of the following seven years in preaching for the destitute churches in the Northumberland association. During that time he was instrumental in reorganizing the Sunbury Baptist Church, and also of organizing the First Baptist Church of Shamokin Town. In the spring of 1874 he accepted a call, and became pastor of the Marlton Baptist Church, New Jersey, where he remained about four years, and in April, 1878, entered on his labors as pastor of the Bethlehem Baptist Church, Hunterdon County, N. J., where he continued for eight years. During that period he gave much time to Sunday-school and prohibition work. In the fall of 1885 he was chosen moderator of the Central New Jersey Baptist Association, at Baptist Town, and in the spring of 1886 closed his labors with the Bethlehem Church and returned to Danville. Here he now resides and intends to spend his time in missionary work in the country around. He had two sons. The elder is living and deeply interested in religious work, having been converted at the age of ten years.

JAMES D. STRAWBRIDGE, A. M., M. D., ex-member of Congress, Danville, a native of Montour County, Penn., born on the homestead farm of his father in Liberty Township, April 7, 1824, is the son of James and Mary Dale Strawbridge, the former born in Chester County and the latter in Union County. James Strawbridge came with his parents



when a child to Montour County just before the close of the Revolutionary war, and settled in what was then called Mahoning Township, Northumberland County, now Liberty Township, Montour County, where he married. A farmer and by trade a tanner, he owned and carried on for many years the first tannery between Harrisburg and the lakes. This tannery was built by his father, Col. Thomas Strawbridge, who was also born in Chester County, Penn., where he was reared. He was an ardent supporter of the struggle by the colonies for independence; was commissioned a captain by the committee of safety in May, 1776, and in September, 1776, was a member of the first constitutional convention; later became lieutenant-colonel, and subsequently colonel, and was detailed to procure and superintend the manufacture of arms during the later years of the war. Shortly before its close he moved to Northumberland County. In 1784 and 1785 he was judge of the courts, and was also a member of the first Legislature of Pennsylvania. He was married in Philadelphia to Margaret Montgomery, a sister of Gen. William Montgomery, of Danville. Col. Thomas Strawbridge and wife were among the original members and aided in organizing the old Chillislique Presbyterian Church. He died about 1814; his widow survived him a number of years, and died at the ripe old age of ninety-nine years and ten months, having never suffered a day's sickness from the time of her marriage to that of her death.

Col. Thomas Strawbridge had four children who lived to mature age: Christianna, who married Gen. Daniel Montgomery; Mary, married to Gen. Giffin; Alexander, who never married, and James (father of the subject of our sketch), who married Mary Dale, and had seven children, five of whom lived to maturity: Margaret M., married to James McCreight, of Union County; Ann D., married first to Samuel Shannon, of Northumberland, and afterward to William C. Lawson, of Milton, Penn.; Thomas, who married Mrs. Elizabeth Dale, *nee* Miss Bossler, and now resides at Lewisburg, Penn.; James D., the subject of this sketch, who married, in 1851, Emily F. (daughter of the late William Agnew, of Philadelphia), and she dying in 1853, he married, in 1872, Ellen V., daughter of Stuben Butler, of Wilkesbarre, Penn., and granddaughter of Col. Zebulon Butler, of the Continental army, who commanded the Wyoming settlers and troops at the massacre of Wyoming; and Samuel D., colonel of the Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery during the war of the Rebellion, and who now resides in Philadelphia.

Dr. Strawbridge received his preparatory education at the Danville Academy; entered Princeton College in 1841, and graduated in 1844. He commenced the study of medicine in Danville, with Dr. William H. Magill; afterward studied with Dr. Wm. Pepper, of Philadelphia, and entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania in the fall of the same year, graduating in the spring of 1847, when he at once commenced the practice of medicine in Danville, continuing in the same until 1860. In 1861 he entered the army as brigade surgeon, being first assigned to duty with the division of Gen. Joseph J. Reynolds, at Cheat Mountain in western Virginia. After the resignation of Gen. Reynolds he was for a short time at Wheeling with Gen. Rosecrans, and was there transferred by Gen. McClellan to the West. At St. Louis he was ordered by Gen. Halleck to join the army of the southwest as medical director on the staff of Gen. Curtis, and reached Cassville just after the battle of Pea Ridge. Here he concentrated all the sick and wounded, transporting them as rapidly as they became able to be moved to St. Louis. After completing the removal of over 2,500 sick and wounded a distance of over 300 miles, he reported to Gen. Halleck's adjutant-general in St. Louis, and was then ordered to join a portion of the army of the southwest then on the way to Corinth. Reaching the camp of the Army of the Mississippi at noon of the day on which the rebels evacuated Corinth, he reported first to Gen. Jefferson C. Davis, and was a few days later transferred to the staff of Gen. Rosecrans. In consequence of continued ill health, he tendered his resignation, which both Rosecrans and Halleck declined to approve; but to retain his services in the army an arrangement was made with Dr. Chas. McDougal, medical director on Gen. Halleck's staff, by which he was assigned to the organization of general hospitals at Jackson, Tenn. Under certain exceptional provisions, Dr. Strawbridge consented not to press his resignation, and August 1, 1863, entered upon his duties at Jackson, Tenn., under instructions to have nothing further to do with the district commander, Gen. John A. McClernand, than to report his orders and make requisitions on him for supplies, which arrangement soon after culminated in the removal of the latter from his command of the district. Notwithstanding the many difficulties in the way of the hospitals at Jackson, the Doctor took care of nearly all the sick and wounded from the battles of Hatcher, Bolivar, Iuka and Corinth. When the army began its movement toward Vicksburg, Dr. Strawbridge was instructed to procure trains and remove the patients to Columbus as fast as the hospital boats could transport them north, and while on this duty he was directed to look after the construction of the hospital boat "Nashville," then being rebuilt at Columbus for a receiving hospital, and was afterward assigned to the completion of the "Nashville," with directions to push the work as rapidly as possible and take the vessel down to Vicksburg. On the 1st of March he reached Young's Point, and on the 3d patients were received on board. By the 6th he had received and taken care of 1,900 sick men. A large convalescent hospital was

established at Milliken's Bend, to which a considerable portion of these men were transferred, and the "Nashville" moved up to that point. Here, the "Nashville," which had been designed only for a receiving hospital, became, against the protest of Dr. Strawbridge, a permanent general hospital and for three months contained an average of about 1,000 patients, most of them the most sick of the army. The assistant surgeon-general, Dr. R. C. Wood, on the hospital steamer, "City of Memphis," on his return from an inspection in the field, where he had gathered some 200 of all classes of patients, ordered 250 sick to be transferred from the "Nashville" to the "City of Memphis," and that none were to be sent who were likely to die on the passage. Dr. Strawbridge remonstrated against this, and urged the removal of the very sick. Eighteen deaths occurred on the passage up to Memphis, whether from those gathered up from the field or from those sent from the "Nashville," was not known, but for this Dr. Strawbridge received a severe reprimand together with a charge of having disobeyed orders. In answer to this the Doctor immediately sent in his resignation with a letter of reply. Dr. Mills and Gen. Grant on receiving the resignation determined to sustain Dr. Strawbridge against the assistant surgeon-general. Dr. Charles Sutherland, now senior surgeon on the active list of the United States Army, then assistant medical director, was sent to Dr. Strawbridge with a request from Gen. Grant that he would withdraw his resignation as a personal favor to himself, if not permanently, at least until after the termination of the siege of Vicksburg. This Dr. Strawbridge declined to do, and assured Gen. Grant that he did not desire to leave the service, but that he could, under no circumstances, serve longer under the assistant surgeon-general. The resignation was forwarded endorsed:

"Respectfully disapproved, as Surgeon Strawbridge's services cannot be spared from this army.

"MAD: MILLS, MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

"By order of U. S. Grant, major-general commanding."

As soon as this could be returned from the war department, Dr. Strawbridge was relieved from charge of the "Nashville," and ordered to report in person to U. S. Grant. While making up his accounts for transfer of property, etc., to his successor, Dr. Strawbridge was prostrated with congestive chills, and for a time his life was despaired of, but he finally rallied, and, as soon as able to travel, reported to Dr. Mills at Gen. Grant's headquarters. Still being too feeble for duty, however, he was directed to return to the river till convalescent. On July 7, Dr. Strawbridge was sent for by Gen. Grant, and assigned to examination of soldiers in hospitals, etc., for the purpose of discharge assignment to the invalid corps under the following order and verbal instructions:

"Surgeon Strawbridge is hereby directed to visit Young's Point, Millikensbend and elsewhere and discharge all such soldiers as in his judgment he may see fit."

The Doctor's health having again thoroughly broken down, Dr. Ormsby, with whom he had his quarters in Vicksburg, seeing that if he remained longer in Vicksburg, he could not recover, went to Gen. Grant on August 14, and obtained an order directing him to go on board the hospital steamer "R. C. Wood," which left Vicksburg that night, and report by letter to the war department from his home. This was very much against his own wishes; he had been offered the medical directorship on the dividing up of the army at Vicksburg, of any part he might desire. In October, he was ordered before a military commission in Washington, which recommended a longer furlough. In November he was sent before a military board at Annapolis, who disapproved his request to be ordered to duty and recommended his being sent to hospital for treatment. He then asked to be mustered out of the service; this was also disapproved by the board, and light duty recommended. He was then assigned to duty in the provost-marshal-general department, and sent by Gen. Frey to Philadelphia, and afterward to Harrisburg, to superintend the examination of recruits. In May, 1864, finding his health nearly restored, he again asked for duty in the field, and on the 18th of May, was ordered to report for duty to Gen. B. F. Butler, at Bermuda Hundred. Immediately after his arrival he was directed to follow up the Eighteenth Army Corps, then on the way up York River, to join the army under Grant, near White House. On his arrival at that place the battle of Cold Harbor had just been fought, in which the Eighteenth Army Corps bore the principal part and lost nearly 5,000 men. The base hospital for the corps was being organized, and, finding his services likely to be of more value there than at the front, remained there on duty as an operating surgeon for five days, during which time he was continuously employed from daylight until dark, performing many of the most important operations. On June 8, he reported to Gen. Baldy Smith, and was temporarily assigned to the second division under Gen. Martindale. The Eighteenth Corps was at that time withdrawing from the trenches, and, in the night following, marched back to White House, and were from there transferred by boats to the Appomattox River. Immediately after their arrival, the Eighteenth Corps commenced its advance on Petersburg. Dr. Strawbridge was here transferred to the medical directorship of the corps, relieving Dr. Suckley, who was transferred to the medical inspectorship of the Army of the James. Here Dr. Strawbridge reorganized the medical department and ambulance corps, and brought them into a thorough state of efficiency.



October 27, 1864, while the Eighteenth Corps was making a movement on the extreme right of the line in front of Richmond, Dr. Strawbridge was captured by rebel scouts, while on the flanks of the corps looking for a road by which he expected to send back his ambulance trains. He was retained a prisoner in Libby until paroled January 20, 1865. Returning to report at Annapolis, at the termination of his parole furlough, he was subpoenaed by the United States District Court, and had to return to Philadelphia, where he was temporarily assigned to duty as president of a medical examining board. Dr. John Campbell, medical director of the department of Pennsylvania, made application to the war department to have his assignment made permanent, but this was refused on the ground that application had previously been made by Gen. John Gibbon to have Dr. Strawbridge assigned to his staff, as medical director of the Eighteenth Army Corps, and by Gen. E. O. C. Ord, as medical director of the Army of the James. Dr. Strawbridge remained on duty in Philadelphia, on the board until his services were no longer required in that capacity; was breveted for meritorious services, and, September 4, was mustered out of the service of the United States.

In the fall of 1867 our subject again commenced the practice of medicine in Danville. In 1872 he was elected to the XLIII Congress of the United States, and on the day following the election he was married to Ellen V. Butler. After one term of Congress, the Doctor resumed his practice (which is almost exclusively confined to surgery) in Danville. The Doctor is a member of the State Medical Society, member of the American Medical Association, American Academy of Medicine, and of the section on Military Surgery of the International Medical Congress.

DAVID F. STROH, carpenter and millwright, was born in Livingston County, N. Y., March 1, 1830, a son of Jonathan (a farmer) and Elizabeth (Oberdorf) Stroh, natives of Pennsylvania, and of German origin, former of whom died in 1838. Our subject, the youngest of the family, was reared on the farm in Northumberland County, where he attended school. Later he began to learn the millwright's trade, a vocation he has followed in connection with carpenter work, which he has continued since 1847, meeting with success. He married, in 1850, Miss C. A. Voris, sister of E. C. Voris, and three children have blessed their union: Edwin, Charles and Rebecca. Mr. and Mrs. Stroh are members of the Lutheran Church at Danville, of which he is a trustee. Politically he is a Republican, and has served as judge of election. He is Past Grand of the I. O. O. F.

J. SWEISFORT, D. D. S., Danville, was born in Berks County, Penn., December 19, 1839, a son of Jonas and Maria (Whitman) Sweisfort, natives also of Pennsylvania and of German origin. The father was a hotel-keeper in early life, later a lumber dealer, was three times married, rearing four children. Our subject is the third child and grew to manhood in his native county where he received his education. Early in life he chose dentistry as his profession, but when the war broke out he enlisted in the Third Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry in Company C, and served as duty sergeant. He was a faithful soldier, and on his return home studied dentistry in the Pennsylvania Dental College at Philadelphia, where he graduated in 1866. The same year he came to Danville, where he has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession. He is a Democrat politically, a member of I. O. O. F., both of the subordinate lodge and the Encampment; is also a member of the G. A. R., and since 1879 has been a member of the National Guards. In that year he was elected first lieutenant of that body; in 1880 was elected captain; September 24, 1886, he was elected major and is still serving as such. In 1867 he married Hannah, daughter of John Everett, a native of Pennsylvania and of German origin. They have two children: Lucy E. and Gussie May. The Doctor and Mrs. Sweisfort are members of the Reformed Church, in which he has served as elder and deacon, also superintendent of the Sunday-school for three years.

WILLIAM TWIST (deceased) was born at Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, England, August 18, 1813, to Laurence (a farmer) and Elizabeth (Redell) Twist, natives also of England, former of whom died in England; their family consisted of seven children, six of whom grew to maturity. Our subject, the eldest son, was reared on a farm and attended the common schools of his native place. In 1845 he immigrated to America to engage in the rolling-mill business, at which he had worked in England, being a proficient workman. While still in his native country he was prevailed upon to come to Danville, Penn., and on his arrival at the latter place immediately commenced work, and helped to make the first "T" railroad iron in the United States, a rail that now connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Danville sometimes claims the honor of making the first railroad iron in the United States; however Mr. Twist made the first "T" railroad iron in this country, and has been engaged in the rolling-mill business for over half a century. He was superintendent of the old "Rough and Ready" Iron Works for seven years; also superintendent for a like period of the works which subsequently merged into the North Branch Steel Works, in which he was a stockholder, but after the failure of Mr. Peter Baldy, our subject was not connected with the firm in any way, save as inspector of railroad iron from the railroad companies. Mr. Twist married in 1849 Susan A. Gunton (a native of England, and a member of the Episcopal Church), by whom he had four children, all of whom survive him. Mr. Twist was a strict Republican politically,



and has served as a member of the town council; was also a member of the I. O. O. F., and a man of unimpeachable character.

T. O. VAN ALEN is one of the leading business men and manufacturers of Danville. He was born in Chatham Centre, Columbia Co., N. Y., August 19, 1819. His paternal great-grandfather emigrated from Holland to New York. His son, Gilbert Van Alen, was born in Columbia County, N. Y., and followed farming; married Miss Annis Moore, of Columbia County, and to them were born two children: Reuben and Catharine. Catharine married Mr. John J. Van Volkenburg, a farmer and merchant of Columbia County, N. Y. Reuben married Miss Mary, a daughter of Timothy and Sallie Oakley, and pursued farming and merchandising at Chatham Centre. They had three sons and one daughter: Gilbert R., Timothy O., Sallie O. and Lewis O. The daughter died aged thirteen years. Our subject, T. O. Van Alen, was eight years old when his parents moved to Salisbury Mills, Orange Co., N. Y. He attended the common schools until ten years old, when his father employed a private teacher. At twelve years of age Mr. Van Alen entered the academy at Kinderhook, Columbia Co., N. Y., remaining there two years, during which time he resided with the family of Dr. Henry Van Dyke. Subsequently he returned to Orange County and attended the school of Nathaniel Stark, at Goshen, one year. At fifteen he went to New York City and served an apprenticeship in a hardware store until 1839, when he returned home and engaged in the manufacture of paper and agricultural implements, and merchandising with his father, until 1844, when he came to Danville to represent the interests of Murdock, Leavitt & Co. in the Montour Iron Works, and act as the resident agent of the company. During this time he built what was known as the Company Store and in 1846 engaged in merchandising, associated with individual stockholders of the company under the firm name of T. O. Van Alen & Co. In 1866, in connection with Geo. M. Leslie and A. H. Voris, he built a nail factory in Northumberland, Northumberland County, and is, with his sons, still engaged in the manufacture of iron and nails. Mr. Van Alen has always taken an active interest in Danville, and ranks among her leading manufacturers. It is a fact worthy of mention that he has kept his mills running through all depressions. He gives steady employment to about 200 men. He was married in 1846 to Miss Ann Catharine, daughter of Cornelius Garretson, iron master. Mr. and Mrs. Van Alen are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he was president of the board of trustees for a number of years, and for many years a trustee of the Danville State Hospital for the insane, and director of First National Bank. They have had eight children, five living, viz.: Cornelius G., Gilbert R., A. Oakley, Edmond G. and George L., all active business men except George L., a Presbyterian clergyman. Mr. Van Alen's father came to Danville after retiring from business, and resided with his son, T. O. Van Alen, until his death, a man of more than ordinary ability and intelligence.

HENRY VINCENT, president of the Danville stove manufactory, was born in England, December 25, 1844, a son of Job and Lydia (Roberts) Vincent, natives of England. The father was a mason by trade; immigrated with his family to America in 1853; landed in the city of New York, and soon after settled in Montour County, Penn. Our subject is the eldest of seven children, and received a limited education in the common schools of his district. At the age of ten years he commenced work in the rolling-mills, which he followed as his principal business until he was thirty-two years of age. He worked on contract for several years, and during that time also found opportunity to study law, and took a course at Columbia College, New York, where he graduated in 1878. He was admitted to the bar of New York, and the same year to that of Montour County, Penn. Subsequently he commenced the practice of his profession at Danville in 1879, and entered into partnership with James Scarlet, which continued for two years. Mr. Vincent then conceived the idea of establishing the Danville stove manufactory, and on the organization of a stock company, was elected its president. This business has proved a success, for which it is largely indebted to the energy and determination of Mr. Vincent. In 1863 he married Sarah, daughter of William Taylor. She is also a native of England, born near the birthplace of her husband; is three months his junior; came to America the same year as Mr. Vincent, and both located at Danville the same year, where they met for the first time, and were afterward married. Eight children were born to their union, seven of whom now survive: Elizabeth, Thaddeus, Henry, Thomas, Victor, Robert and Walter. Mrs. Vincent is a member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Vincent has served as a member of the council of Danville. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-Second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and participated in several battles, among which were Antietam, South Mountain, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. He was never wounded or taken prisoner, but had many narrow escapes, five balls entering his clothing; at the battle of Antietam his coat sleeve was completely shot off, but his person was uninjured.

E. C. VORIS (not in business at present), Danville, was born in what is now Liberty Township, Montour (then Columbia) County, January 4, 1826, a son of James and Anna (Gray) Voris, the latter a native of Ireland and of Scotch-Irish origin. James Voris, a native of Pennsylvania and of Holland descent, was a carpenter and contractor, and carried on business in Liberty Township, this county, until fifty years of age, when he re-

moved to Danville and retired from active labor. Our subject is the eleventh in a family of fourteen children; was reared on the farm, and at the age of sixteen commenced to learn the carpenter's trade with Mr. Joseph Diehl, serving a regular apprenticeship, and continued with Mr. Diehl until engaging with the Montour Iron Company. Here he was employed in the Montour Iron Works for thirty-seven years, twelve years of which time he was superintendent of the machine shops. He superintended the erection of the machinery of the Danville Manufactory & Nail Works, of Danville, and is one of the stockholders of that company. He has been an active business man nearly all his life, but since 1884 has led a retired life. He married in 1855 Julia, daughter of Benjamin Troxell, of Northumberland County, Penn., a farmer and of German origin. Mr. and Mrs. Voris are the parents of the following named children: Charles E., a salesman in New York City; William A., a machinist in the employ of the Danville nail-mills; Frank L., a clerk in a store at Danville, and James H., attending school. Mr. and Mrs. Voris are members of the Presbyterian Church, of the board of trustees of which he is president. Mr. Voris was chief Burgess of Danville in 1861, has served several years as member of the school board of Danville, and is overseer of the poor of Mahoning Township. He is a Democrat.

W. H. N. WALKER, general merchant, Danville, was born in that place, October 17, 1854, a son of William C. and Christianna (Hileman) Walker, the latter a native of Pennsylvania and of German origin. The father was born in Ireland, came to America when eighteen years old, and has since lived at Danville, where he now resides at the advanced age of seventy-six years. Our subject is the second child and oldest son, and grew to manhood in Danville, where he was also educated. For a time he followed farming, which did not prove congenial, and then he engaged in work in a brick-yard for four years, and subsequently clerked for Mr. A. J. Ammerman in the same store which he (subject) at present occupies. There he remained four years, and in 1883 bought out the business and has since managed it. He employs two clerks, runs a delivery wagon, and does a thriving business. In 1876 he married Jennie, daughter of William S. Toland, and the children born to the union are Eva I., Frank J., Arthur P. and Harry T. Mrs. Walker is a member of the Lutheran Church at Danville. Politically Mr. Walker is a Democrat; is a member of the school board, a member of the K. of L. and of the Masonic fraternity.

W. R. WELLIVER, merchant, Danville, was born February 3, 1834, in Jerseytown, Columbia Co., Penn., to Abraham and Martha (Winder) Welliver, natives of Pennsylvania. His grandfather, a farmer, was an early settler of Columbia County, where his son (subject's father) was born, and where he followed shoemaking in early life, but later farming. Our subject, the eldest of nine children, was reared on the farm and attended the district school, and also the academy at Millville, Columbia County. He was a diligent student and early began to teach, which profession he followed in the winter, and farmed in the summer for eight years, mostly in the country, but also several terms in Washingtonville. In 1863 he came to Danville and commenced business as a dealer in books and stationery, and so continued until 1867. In that year he began his present business (general merchandising), in which he has a good patronage, and keeps a large supply of goods. Mr. Welliver has been twice married; first in 1858 to Miss Sue, daughter of Peter Wagner, and of German origin. She died in 1873, the mother of the following children: Lloyd, married, and a merchant in Exchange, Penn.; Hal C., also married, and a merchant in Mooresburg, Penn.; Stewart, a clerk in his father's store, and Charles, at school. In 1878 Mr. Welliver married Adelaide Condon, a native of Philadelphia, Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Welliver are members of the Baptist Church. He is a Democrat, but votes the Independent ticket.

S. J. WELLIVER, of the firm of Welliver & Cole, wholesale and retail hardware dealers, Danville, Penn., and East Main Street, Nanticoke, Penn., was born in Montour County, February 3, 1841. His parents, Abraham and Martha (Winder) Welliver, were natives of Pennsylvania, whose ancestors were among the early settlers of the State. His father, a shoemaker by trade, followed farming all his life, and reared a family of nine children, of whom S. J. is the sixth. Our subject attended the common schools and also Greenwood Seminary at Millville, Penn. His first occupation was teaching school, which profession he followed for six years. He then came to Danville and, in company with his brother, established a book and stationery store, and two years later merged their business into a general store. They carried on a successful general mercantile trade for several years, when Mr. Welliver sold his interest to his brother, and subsequently took charge of the hardware store of Charles H. Waters, until the latter's death. He then clerked in a hardware store one year when he embarked in business on his own account, and a year later formed a partnership with James McCormick, which continued for five years, when our subject bought out Mr. McCormick's interest. In 1885, the present firm of Welliver & Cole was established. Mr. Welliver married, in 1866, Elizabeth, daughter of Simeon Best, and of English origin. Mrs. Welliver has borne her husband eight children, seven of whom survive: Warren W. has charge of the branch store at Nanticoke; Mary Martha Carrie, Bertha, Clarence, Lulu, Harry, Jessie J. (deceased), and Frances. Mrs. Welliver is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Welliver of the Baptist. In 1865 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infan-



try, and served until the close of the war. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., of Danville. In politics he is a Democrat.

GEORGE W. WEST, surveyor and civil engineer, Danville, was born in Delaware County, N. Y., September 30, 1818, a son of William and Eliza (Rogers) West. His mother was a native of the same county, a daughter of Hobert Rogers, who was for many years a sea captain. William West was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., of English descent, a blacksmith by trade, and was twice married, having two children by his first wife. George W. is a child of the first wife and was educated in the common schools and seminary of his native county; subsequently attended Wyoming Seminary, being one of the first students at that institution, and while there studied surveying. His first employment was school-teaching, at which he remained six years. In 1845 he came to Montour County (then Columbia), and when Columbia County was organized he was appointed county surveyor. Since then he has served in that capacity and has been largely engaged in looking up original lines. He has been employed as surveyor in fifteen or twenty counties of Pennsylvania, and has run a great many lines in the coal regions to settle disputes. He served twenty-four years as clerk of the county commissioners, since he has been surveyor of Montour County. In 1854 he married Catherine Ann, daughter of John Kase, of German origin. To Mr. and Mrs. West eight children have been born, six of whom are now living: Charles, a resident of Chicago, Ill.; Nellie E., wife of Oliver Deihl; William K., attorney, Danville; Louise; George M., assistant city engineer at Chicago Ill., and Isaac Dewitt, a school-teacher. Mr. and Mrs. West are members of the Presbyterian Church. Politically he is a Democrat, and has been city engineer for Danville since 1851.

W. C. WILLIAMS, proprietor of the White Horse Hotel, Danville, was there born July 11, 1856, a son of William and Martha (Phillips) Williams, who were natives of England, and who settled in Danville in 1847. Mrs. Williams' father served in the battle of Trafalgar, under the command of Admiral Nelson, and lost a limb in that famous engagement; he and his wife were born the same year, lived to be ninety-nine years old, and died within a few months of each other. Our subject's father was a farmer in early life, but later kept a hotel in Danville, and at the time of his death, in 1882, was the oldest hotel-keeper in the place. He was attentive to business and succeeded in acquiring a goodly share of this world's goods. His widow and two children survive him. Of the latter W. C. is the younger and grew to manhood in Danville, where he was educated and very naturally drifted into the hotel business, and, since the death of his father, has conducted the "White Horse." In 1877 he married Clara, daughter of Joseph Shultz, who was born in Pennsylvania of German origin. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have one child, William J. Politically Mr. Williams is a Republican.

LEWIS E. WOODS, dealer in boots and shoes, Danville, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., August 27, 1844, to J. M. and Mary (Evans) Woods, natives of Pennsylvania, the latter of Welsh origin. The father, who was of Irish origin, was a dealer in boots and shoes, which business appears to have been followed by the family for many generations back. He embarked in business in 1857, at Danville, where he died November 30, 1878. He and his wife had a family of five sons and five daughters, and five children still survive. Our subject was educated in the common schools, and at the age of thirteen entered his father's store as clerk, where he remained until attaining his majority. He then went west and engaged as clerk in a dry goods store, until he succeeded in saving about \$200, when he returned to Danville and embarked in his present business, in which he has been very successful, being a first-class salesman. He has occupied the same store since 1869. February 23, 1869, he married Emma, daughter of Christian Laubach, one of the oldest and most prominent merchants of Danville. Their children are Nelson, Mattie, Howard and Clarence. Mr. and Mrs. Woods are members of the Methodist Church, of which he is a trustee, and is also a member of the K. of P. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Woods regards the year 1869 as the eventful one of his life; in February of that year he was married; in March he embarked in his present business, and in December his first child was born.

S. AUGUSTUS YORKS, assistant cashier of the First National Bank, Danville, was born in this place February 10, 1853, a son of Samuel and Mary Ann (West) Yorks, natives of Pennsylvania and of English origin. The grandfather, also named Samuel, was an early settler in this part of Pennsylvania and an officer in the war of 1812. Our subject's father was a prominent man, first a Whig and later a Republican, and the leading spirit in establishing the First National Bank of Danville. When the bank was organized he was elected a director and also president, which position he occupied until his death in 1878. Our subject is the fourth of five children; was reared in Danville, where he was educated in the public schools and the academy, and since he was seventeen years of age has been employed in the First National Bank. He is now assistant cashier. In December, 1875, he married Cornelia Page Hancock, daughter of William Hancock and of English origin. She has borne her husband two children: Samuel and Mary. Mr. Yorks is a member of the Presbyterian Church and secretary of the Sabbath school. He is a Republican, has served six years as a member of the town council of Danville and is treasurer of the R. A. in that place. Mrs. Yorks is a member of the Episcopal Church.



## CHAPTER XV.

## ANTHONY TOWNSHIP.

B. F. ADAMS, farmer, P. O. Exchange, was born April 14, 1842, son of Thomas and Mary (McGonigle) Adams, both now deceased. Thomas Adams, the paternal grandfather of our subject, came to this county early, and settled near Danville. Thomas Adams, father of our subject, came to this county with his parents, and after marriage removed to where B. F. now lives. His father owned a large tract of land containing between 300 and 400 acres, and he divided that among his three sons, Thomas, William and John, Thomas getting the farm where our subject now lives. Thomas and Mary Adams were the parents of eleven children: Margaret J., Hannah N., Samuel and B. F. in Anthony Township, Montour County; Mary E. Moyer, in Kylertown; John (deceased), Houtzdale, Clearfield County; Sarah Soseman (deceased), White Deer Mills, Union Co.; Capt. W. Y., at Lock Haven, Centre County; Susan A. Brittain, in Muncy, Lycoming County; Thomas and Daniel, in Mercer County, Ill. The father died November 26, 1846, and his widow survived him until June 18, 1874. They are buried in the old Derry Church graveyard. Our subject came into possession of his farm of 163 acres in 1875. He was married in 1868 to Miss Elizabeth Caroline, daughter of Barnard and Catharine (Focht) Renn, and a native of Lycoming County; her mother died July 10, 1883. When Mr. Adams was married he lived one year at his father-in-law's, teaching school one term at Vandine and one term at Ball's schoolhouse, and then removed to beyond Hughsville, Penn., where he lived one year, railroading on the P. & E. From there he removed to the other side of Hughsville, and there resided three years, farming for Peter Reader, and then removed to his present location. Mr. and Mrs. Adams are the parents of seven children: Ulysses Renn, John Brittain, Mary Catharine, Timothy Oliver, Daniel McGonigle, Estella Blanche and Ora Mabel. Mr. Adams and wife are members of Moreland Grange, No. 775, P. of H. He has held the position of tax collector for Anthony Township since the spring of 1886. In politics he is a Democrat.

JACOB ALBECK, farmer, P. O. Muncy, was born in the kingdom of Wurtemberg (now the empire of Germany), August 4, 1823, son of Michael and Rosanna (Hoss) Albeck, former of whom was a farmer in the old country. In 1830 they came to America in a sailing vessel, and after a voyage of forty-two days, landed at New York. They remained there long enough to buy a horse, and, with a wagon brought over from the old country, they started by wagon road, and eventually landed on the Muncy Hills, with their eight children. The names of these children are Gottlieb, in Anthony Township, this county; Michael, in Lycoming County, Penn.; George (deceased); John, in Danville, this county; Jacob; Rosanna (deceased); Catharine (deceased); Christianna, wife of Isaac Kisner, in Clarkestown, Lycoming Co., Penn. The father settled where Jacob now resides, and here lived until his death, which occurred December 23, 1862; his widow died November 11, 1866; they bought sixty-two acres of land when they came, and Jacob has since added to it until he has now 143 acres. There were five acres cleared when they came. Our subject was married in this county September 11, 1851, to Miss Mary Andy, a daughter of Daniel and Christiann (Carmlich) Andy, both of whom are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Albeck are the parents of six children, of whom five are living: William Henry; Daniel; Sarah, wife of Jacob Waller, in Anthony Township; Emma and Ellen. Christiana is deceased. Mr. Albeck and family are members of the Lutheran Church at Clarkestown, Lycoming County. He was tax collector for five years for Anthony Township, this county.

JACKSON BIDDLE, farmer, P. O. White Hall, was born April 15, 1829, son of Jacob and Esther (Ritter) Biddle. Gershom Biddle, grandfather of our subject, came to this county from New Jersey, probably about 1780, and located near White Hall. He was the father of five children: Gershom, William, John, Jacob, and Jane, all of whom are dead. William, who was uncle of our subject, was an eminent citizen of Danville, and is mentioned elsewhere in this book. The family records show that several of the ancestors of this family took a prominent part during the Revolutionary war and war of 1812. Jacob Biddle, father of our subject, owned five large farms in this section, and was noted for his benevolence and public spirit, being greatly instrumental in the building of the Derry Presbyterian Church, the first church built in this part of the country. He married Esther Ritter, and they were the parents of fifteen children, seven of whom are living: Jackson; Henry, in White Hall, this county; Amos, in Kansas; Jacob, in California;

James, in Anthony Township, this county; John, also in Anthony Township, and Mary, wife of Firman Farnsworth. Jackson Biddle, subject of this sketch, was reared on the farm where he now lives, and owns the old homestead of 125 acres, all under cultivation. This land was first improved by Israel Biddle, an uncle of his father. The homestead, where Jackson now resides, and the adjoining land owned by his brother James have been in the hands of the Biddle family since the earliest date of which there is any record. Our subject was first married March 22, 1860, to Miss Susan McKee, daughter of Robert McKee, one of the early settlers of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Biddle became the parents of three children: Cora, Jacob and Ella. Mr. Biddle married, the second time, September 18, 1886, Jane Smith, daughter of John Smith, of Columbia County, and niece of Creveling Smith, deceased, who was formerly a member of the State Legislature of Pennsylvania. Mr. Biddle has been connected with the schools of Anthony Township as director for twelve years. In politics he is a Democrat. The Biddle family were originally of Scotch descent on the father's side, but the mother of our subject came from Berks County, Penn., and her family were originally German. James Biddle, who in company with Amos Johnson owns a prosperous establishment for raising chickens adjoining our subject's land, has been one of the greatest travelers of the county, having visited Canada, Mexico, Central America, Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska and California; spent three years in the last named State.

CYRENUS BOMBOY, veterinary surgeon, P. O. Conly, was born in Rockland Township, Berks Co., Penn., January 21, 1817, son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Price) Bomboy, former of whom died in Berks County, and the latter in Newcastle, Penn. Our subject was married in Berks County, and there remained until 1837, when he came to Northumberland County, and after a residence of twenty years there, came to what is now Anthony Township, this county, and located where Jesse Hartman now resides, and in 1868 located where he now resides, purchasing at that time 226 acres of land. Here he has made his home since that time. He was married in September, 1837, to Miss Naomi Folk, a native of Berks County, Penn., daughter of Lewis and Elizabeth (Bomboy) Folk. Mr. and Mrs. Bomboy were the parents of several children, of whom nine are living: Mary Ann., wife of Simon Roan, in Northumberland County, Penn.; Daniel, married to Isabella Ellis, in Anthony Township, this county; Elizabeth, wife of John France, in Susquehanna County, Penn.; Eliza Ann, wife of George F. Varner, in Anthony Township, this county; Charles F., married to Dessie Sailor, also in Anthony Township; Levina, wife of Daniel Frye, in Lycoming County, Penn.; Katharine, wife of A. J. Runyon, in Northumberland County, Penn.; John, married to Ellen Robbins, in Anthony Township, this county; Susan Matilda, at home; Franklin, Benjamin, Emma and an infant are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Bomboy are members of the German Reformed Church at Turbotville, Northumberland Co., Penn. Mr. Bomboy has been a member of the Reformed Church for over half a century, and he was one of the leaders in building the Turbotville Church, was one of its first deacons, and is now a trustee of the church. He has held the office of constable for twenty-two years in Anthony Township. Mr. Bomboy has been for forty-nine years a veterinary surgeon, operating in Columbia, Northumberland, Lycoming and Montour Counties, and is often called to remote distances in different cases. Mr. Bomboy has altogether 282 acres of land. In politics he has been a Democrat all his life.

DANIEL BOMBOY, farmer, P. O. Exchange, was born in Delaware Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., October 21, 1840; son of Cyrenus and Emma (Fulk) Bomboy. Our subject removed with his parents to Montour County in 1860, and located near Exchange, Anthony Township, and has since resided here, with exception of the time he was in the army. He, being drafted, entered into the service of the Union army October, 1862, being mustered into the service at Danville in Company G, One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to the Fourth Army Corps. He was in engagements at Williamsburg, White House Landing and Richmond. He returned home from the service in 1863. He was married in Lycoming County, September 29, 1864, to Miss Isabella, daughter of Stephen Ellis, Sr., and Sarah (Bull) Ellis, former of whom resides at Exchange. Isabella was born February 15, 1841. Her father was born in this State May 1, 1807; her mother was born July 12, 1816, this State, and her grandfather, Stephen Ellis, was born in Ireland, and from there came to America, locating in Montour County, and lived here until his death, which occurred in 1845. His wife's maiden name was Eleanor Cunningham; they are buried at Exchange in the Episcopal graveyard. His father was a sea captain, and when he retired from sea life took up land near Baltimore, and finally went back to Donegal, Ireland, and there died. John Bull was born February 2, 1770; came from Derbyshire, England; died in 1855. His wife, Eleanor, came from Norfolk, England, to America, when she was twelve years of age; she died in 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Bomboy are the parents of one child, Sarah Catherine. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bomboy resided in Exchange two years, and then removed to the saw-mill one year, and then removed to Exchange, where they resided until 1880, since which time he has resided on his present farm, where he now has sixty-seven acres. He was in the tannery at Exchange for fourteen years. Mrs. Bomboy is a member of the Protestant Episcopal denomination, Mr. Bomboy of the German Reformed. In politics he is a Democrat.

JAMES BRANNEN, farmer, P. O. Exchange, was born in County Meath, Ireland, in 1803, son of John and Julia (McGuire) Brannen, both of whom died in that country. On arriving at the age of eighteen years, our subject took a sailing vessel from Liverpool for New York, where he arrived after a passage of eight weeks and three days. He had \$7.50 when he landed, and not a friend, relative or acquaintance on the continent. He came directly to Pennsylvania, and obtained employment on the canal at Nanticoke Falls, for the firm of Barnum & Brown, by which he was employed one year. From Nanticoke he went to Pottsville, and was employed on the construction of the Schuylkill Railroad. He was at Port Clinton when the engine used in the construction of this road arrived there, hauled by six horses from Philadelphia, and he was put on to fire this engine, thus has the honor of having been the first fireman on the first engine used in Pennsylvania. He was thus employed one year, and then went to work on the repairs of the railroad as section boss on three miles of the road. He next bought a canal boat and was for two years engaged in the coal-carrying trade from Port Clinton to Philadelphia, his boat being hired out, and he himself employed by the company. After two years he ran his own boat for two years more, and then bought another boat, and for twenty-one years he was in the carrying trade with them on the canal, he being one of the first to take a boat to New York. After leaving the canal he came to Anthony Township, this county, and bought 268 acres of land from the Glen property. To this he has added from time to time until he now has four farms, comprising about 700 acres, besides other property, and is the largest land-holding farmer in this township. His sons are farming his property for him. Our subject was married at Port Carbon in 1834, to Miss Hanorah Meehan, a native of Tipperary, Ireland, born December 25, 1808, and daughter of Patrick Meehan. She died October 4, 1867, and is buried in the Catholic cemetery at Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Brannen were the parents of eight children; Judith (deceased); Mary (deceased); Catharine (deceased); John, who farms one of his father's places; William, who also farms one of his father's places; Hannah; James L., and Patrick Francis. Mr. Brannen and family are members of the Catholic Church. Mr. Brannen has held the office of overseer of the poor for eight years. In politics he is a Democrat.

JAMES L. BRANNEN, late county treasurer, Exchange, was born in Anthony Township, Montour Co., Penn., July 22, 1853, son of James and Hanorah Brannen, and was reared to the age of twenty-three years on the farm. He married, at Milton, Penn., March 25, 1879, Miss Hannah M. Smith, daughter of Jonas and Mary (Bitler) Smith; she was born in Anthony Township, this county, and her parents are now residents of Hazleton, Barber Co., Kas., where her father is a cattle dealer and farmer. Mr. Brannen commenced his education in the common schools of the township, and from there went to the academy at Turbotville, Penn., and from that institution progressed to the State normal at Bloomsburg, where he attended thirty-two weeks. After that he taught in the public schools of Anthony Township two terms, and from there went to Binghamton, N. Y., to attend Lowell Business College, from which institution he graduated May 23, 1878. While there he studied telegraphy and took a complete commercial course. He then returned to Montour County, and going to Danville in 1879 commenced hotel-keeping, conducting the "Hudson River House" for four years. While there, in 1882, he was appointed chairman of the Democratic committee and held that position one year. In 1883 he came before the people as a candidate for the nomination for county treasurer, and at the convention received every vote cast. At the election he received a majority of 777, he and Dr. Simonson receiving the largest majorities at that election. He commenced hotel-keeping at Exchange in February, 1886. This hotel first opened as the "Columbia Exchange," by Joseph Levers, and he conducted it something over a year. It was never conducted as a hotel until it was again re-opened by Mr. Brannen.

JOHN C. CALDWELL (deceased). The Caldwell ancestors originally immigrated from the North of Ireland immediately after the close of the Revolution, arriving here about the year 1785. There were four brothers, all married, and who left a large circle of descendants. John, the father of John C. Caldwell, was married to Martha Calhoun about the year 1787, and settled on the farm near Exchange, by which marriage he had eight children consisting of five sons and three daughters. John C. Caldwell, the youngest of the family, married in 1852, Miss Elizabeth J. Pollok, and left one daughter, Miss Martha J., who resides on the homestead. Mr. Caldwell followed farming until he became too feeble. The farm upon which John C. was born remained in the hands of the heirs until 1866, when he moved to a farm adjoining, where he resided at the time of his death, and is still retained by his daughter, Martha J. John C. Caldwell died September 2, 1883, and Mrs. Caldwell died January 24, 1885. Both are interred in the Derry Church graveyard. Mrs. Caldwell was a member of Derry church. Mrs. John C. Caldwell was a daughter of James and Elizabeth Pollok, who came of the early Scotch-Irish element, who established a character of purity and uprightness, and the influence of which has its hold upon the descendants.

JAMES CAREY, retired, P. O. White Hall, was born August 1, 1822, in Anthony Township, Montour County, Penn., about one and a quarter miles from White Hall, son



of John and Hannah (Saylor) Carey, former of whom came to this country from Ireland and settled at Norristown where he was married, from there removing to the vicinity of Exchange, and from there to the place where our subject was born. Here he died, December 5, 1851, at the age of eighty years; his widow died March 27, 1857, aged seventy-six years. They are buried at the Derry Presbyterian Church. They were the parents of sixteen children, of whom eleven were reared, seven now living. James Carey, subject of this sketch, was reared in this county, and has spent his life in Anthony Township with the exception of from 1852 to 1867, when he was in Lycoming County, Penn. He was married in Montour County, May 7, 1847, to Rachel, daughter of Michael and Martha (Cornelius) Hendershott, former of whom died in 1870; latter is still living. After their marriage they lived in Danville one year, and then came to Anthony Township, this county, and after two years to the Muncy Hills; and then after fifteen years to his present location. He bought the White Hall Hotel in 1867 and has since made some improvements. Mr. and Mrs. Carey were the parents of nine children: Charles, born August 11, 1847, died May 4, 1850; Henry Clarence, born February 11, 1849, residing in Madison Township, Columbia County, Penn.; Anna Eliza, born February 8, 1851, wife of Henry Moser at Turbotville; Charles, born April 14, 1853, lives near Jerseytown in Madison Township; John Green, born November 27, 1855, now in Michigan; George, born January 27, 1858, at home; William Lloyd, born March 10, 1860, now in California; Emma Elizabeth, born April 10, 1862, and Thomas Benton, born April 29, 1864. Mr. Carey commenced to learn the trade of wagon-maker at the age of sixteen years with William Hendershott with whom he worked two years, and he followed that until 1861 when he commenced wheelwrighting. In fifteen years he accumulated \$6,000 by hard labor. In 1884 he retired from active labor, and now only attends to his property. He owns the White Hall Hotel property and has 113 acres of land in Anthony Township, this county. He has held the office of supervisor of the township, and while in Lycoming County he held the offices of tax collector, supervisor and other local offices.

OSCAR CRAIG, farmer, P. O. Washingtonville, Columbia County, was born in what is now Anthony Township, this county, near Exchange, July 19, 1829, son of Alexander and Elizabeth (Hendershott) Craig. John Craig, grandfather of our subject, was born in Lancaster County, but his parents came to this country from Scotland. When he came to what is now Montour County, John Craig located near Exchange, and there lived until he died. He and his wife are buried in the Derry graveyard. They were the parents of four children, all deceased: John J., Alexander, Jane and Margaret. Alexander Craig, father of our subject, was reared in this township, and bought 100 acres, or half of the old homestead. He was married to Elizabeth Hendershott, and they were the parents of seven children: Isaac, in La Grange County, Ind.; John, a Methodist minister in Webster County, Mo., died October 30, 1886; Robert, in this township; Oscar; Margaret Jane, deceased wife of John B. Levan; Oliver B., in Waldo, Webster Co., Mo.; and Samantha, who died at the age of three years. Oscar Craig, subject of this sketch, was married in Limestone Township, this county, December 8, 1853, to Miss Margaret J., daughter of Charles and Mary (Follmer) Levan, the former of whom is deceased, and after their marriage they lived with his parents for one year, and the succeeding sixteen years in Limestone Township, this county. Mr. Craig removed to his present location in 1871, and by different purchases has accumulated 134 acres of land. He built his present handsome barn in 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Craig were the parents of seven children, of whom four are living: Elizabeth, wife of W. L. Raup, in Milton, Penn. (she was educated at Williamsport Seminary); John E., who attended Bloomsburg Normal, several terms; Jennie S., who attended Williamsport Seminary; and Anna Margaret. Torrence O., Charles A. and William W. are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Craig attend the Methodist Church. He has held the position of auditor of Anthony Township; is a member of the I. O. F., Washingtonville Lodge, No. 759, and of Exchange Grange, No. 65, P. of H. Solomon Levan, grandfather of Mrs. Craig, was descendant of one of five brothers who came from France to America and located in Northampton Co. There all remained with the exception of Mrs. Craig's grandfather, who came to what is now Montour County, Penn., and here lived until he died near Limestoneville. He died in 1823. His wife's maiden name was Mary Balliet and she died about 1868. They are buried in the Paradise Church graveyard, Northumberland County, Penn. Charles Levan, father of Mrs. Craig, the oldest of his parents' sons, was born in 1800, in Northampton County, Penn., and from there removed to this county, where he married Mary Follmer. They were the parents of eight children, four now living: John, in Shelbyville, Shelby Co., Mo.; Margaret, wife of Oscar Craig; Daniel, residing below Limestoneville; and Susan, wife of Morgan Mourey, in Watson town, Penn. Jacob is deceased; Catharine is the deceased wife of George Price; Elizabeth, wife of Benjamin Hansel, died in Vicksburg while visiting her husband, who was serving in the Union army at that place. Henry died at the age of one year. Charles Levan, father of the above, died February 13, 1881, and is buried in the Paradise Church Cemetery. His widow resides at Watson town, Penn., with her daughter, Mrs. Mourey.

PATRICK DINENN, farmer, P. O. Exchange, was born in County Meath, Ireland, in 1824, son of Sylvester and Catharine Dinenn, former of whom was a farmer in Ireland.

When our subject reached the age of twenty-six years he emigrated to America, leaving Liverpool April 1, 1847, and arriving at New York on May 14, following. He remained on Long Island six months with a man named Benjamin Bent, an iron merchant of New York. He next lived about six months with Tiffany, Young & Ellis, of New York; thence came to Pennsylvania and worked six weeks in the mines at Pottsville. From there he went to the Central Railroad, and after six weeks came to Danville, and having quite a lot of horses took contracts for hauling ore from the mines, etc., being thus engaged about ten years, from October, 1848 to 1858. He then bought the old Glen farm of 112 acres in Anthony Township, this county, to which he has added from time to time, until he now has three fine farms, aggregating about 500 acres with homesteads and improvements. His home residence is supplied with all good, substantial and new improvements, made by Mr. Dinenn himself. To show the progress Mr. Dinenn has made, it may be said that when he came to Long Island he had two old country sovereigns, and when he came to Danville he worked for two years for 75 cents a day, and paid his own board. He was married in Danville, May 27, 1852 (Father Michael Sheridan performing the ceremony) to Miss Jane Lafferty, whose father, a native of County Antrim, Ireland, died in 1847. Mr. and Mrs. Dinenn were the parents of the following named children: Sylvester (deceased), Kate (deceased), Bryan, John, Mary, Ann, Sadie, Patrick, William, Sylvester, Thomas (deceased), and Annie (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Dinenn are members of the Catholic Church. Mr. Dinenn has been connected with the schools of the township as director for six years.

WILLIAM ELLIS, farmer, P. O. Exchange, was born and reared in Anthony Township, and has always made it his home; he is the son of Stephen and Sarah Ellis. His grandfather, Stephen Ellis, was born in Ireland, and from there came to America, locating at first permanently in Anthony Township, this county. His father was a sea captain, and when he retired from sea life took up land near Baltimore, and finally went back to Donegal, Ireland, and there died. Stephen Ellis, Sr., assisted his cousin at Juniata, Penn., in surveying, before coming to this county. He followed farming after coming here and lived here until his death, which occurred in 1845 at the age of eighty-two years. His widow, whose maiden name was Eleanor Cunningham, survived him a few years; they are buried at Exchange, in the Episcopál graveyard, they having been members of that church. John Bull, father of Sarah Ellis, was born in Derbyshire, England, on the 2d of February, 1770. He came to America in 1801, and located in Elkland Township, Lycoming County; he was married there, and moved to Anthony Township, Montour County, where he died on the 5th of November, 1855. His wife, Eleanor Bird, was born in Norfolk, England; she came to America with her parents when she was about twelve years of age. She died on the 13th of April, 1862. Stephen Ellis, father of William, John and James Ellis, was born in Anthony Township, Montour County, on the 1st of May, 1807, and lived here all his life, following farming which he carried on until about 1876, since which time he has lived retired from active labor, and now resides at Exchange. William Ellis, subject of this sketch was married in Lycoming County, September 12, 1880, to Miss Annie Shetler, a native of Columbia County, Penn., and daughter of John Shetler; her father now resides in Madison Township, Columbia Co., Penn.; her mother died in May, 1883. William and Annie Ellis are the parents of four children: Stephen, William, John and James. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis are both members of the Episcopal Church at Exchange. In politics he is a Democrat.

MAHLAN HAGERMAN, farmer, P. O. Comly, was born in Northampton County, May 22, 1813, son of Joshua and Susannah (Diltz) Hagerman, former of whom with two brothers came to Northampton County, Penn., from New Jersey. Joshua was the father of five children, of whom Mahlan is the fourth. Our subject was reared in Northampton County, Penn., and in 1841 removed to what is now Anthony Township, this county, and located where his son Joshua now resides; he has resided here ever since, and now has over 140 acres of land, and put up all his present improvements. He was married in Northampton County, October 22, 1838, to Miss Catharine, daughter of John and Hannah Weidman, former of whom died in 1840, latter about 1870, and they are buried in Northampton County. They were the parents of six children, five now living: Sarah Ann, wife of Charles Smith, in Limestone Township; Joshua, married to Sarah Albeck, in Anthony Township, this county; John, married to Amanda Snyder, in Northumberland County, Penn.; Susan Ellen, wife of William Weir, in Ohio; Harriet Catharine, wife of S. Ford, in Hancock County, Ohio; Jacob is deceased. Mr. Hagerman has been supervisor three terms, and overseer of the poor eight terms. He has altogether 364 acres of land.

B. F. JOHNSTON, farmer, P. O. White Hall, was born in Madison Township, Columbia Co., Penn., November 11, 1835, son of Jonathan and Charity Yeager Johnston, former of whom was born December 9, 1809, died April 1, 1880, and latter born February 7, 1811, died February 9, 1885. They are buried at Jerseytown, Penn. Robert Johnston, great-grandfather of our subject, came to Columbia County from New Jersey about 1796. His parents were of Scotch birth. He bought land in Madison Township, Columbia Co., and there he lived until his death. He had about 100 acres of land. His wife's maiden name was Kitchen. They are both buried in the Jerseytown Cemetery. John



Johnston, grandfather of B. F., was born in New Jersey and came to Columbia County with his parents. He was married to Mary Robbins. They both lived in Madison Township, Columbia County, until their death, and are buried at Jerseytown. They had seven children: Wesley, Jonathan, Robert, William, Eliza, Sarah and Nancy, all deceased except William who lives in Jerseytown. Jonathan Johnston, father of B. F., was born at Millville, Penn., and resided in Madison Township, Columbia County, all his life. He was married to Charity Yeager, and they were the parents of Henry James, B. F., Harriet, Robert, Eliza, Amos, Catharine, William, Sarah Florence, and one deceased named John. The subject of this sketch was reared in Columbia County, and educated in the common schools of his township at Millville, and at the State normal at Millersburg, and came to his present location in 1870, where he has 200 acres of land. He was married January 31, 1868, to Miss Susan J. Fruit, and they are the parents of four children: Nellie C., Lizzie R., Horace J. and George F. Mr. Johnston is a director of the schools of this township. He enlisted August 24, 1862, in Company E., One Hundred and Thirty-second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, serving in the Second Army Corps, and was in engagements at Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville. He served ten months, was discharged and returned home. He again enlisted March 20, 1865, and served at Camp Cadwallader until the close of the war. In politics he is a Republican.

JOHN KREAMER, farmer, P. O. White Hall, was born in Philadelphia, Penn., June 27, 1829, son of Conrad and Catharine (Bowman) Kreamer. Our subject was reared in Philadelphia to the age of four years, when his parents removed to the vicinity of White Hall, this county, but in Madison Township, Columbia County, and there and in Montour County he has spent the remainder of his lifetime, with the exception of two years in Illinois. He worked in the dam at Towanda two years, and lumbered in Centre County, Penn., one winter, which he also followed eight years while living in Madison Township, lumbering over the mountains from the North Mountain to Pottsville, Schuylkill County. During those eight years he only laid by one day on account of stormy weather. He was married March 5, 1857, to Martha J., a daughter of John Derr. She died in October, 1859, and is buried at West Paw Paw Grove, Lee Co., Ill., leaving one child; Effie Catharine, wife of David Cox, in Madison Township, Columbia Co., Penn., on the old homestead. Mr. Kreamer was next married in December, 1862, to Jane D., a daughter of Christopher and Mary (Upp) Derr, and by her has two children; Mary Margaret and Annie Phoebe. Mr. Kreamer bought his present farm in 1874, and moved to it in March, 1875. It consisted of eighty-three acres when he bought it, but he now has 105 acres. He has one of the finest farms in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Kreamer are members of the White Hall Baptist Church, as are also all the family. Mr. Kreamer is at present overseer of the poor, which office he previously held one term of four years.

JACOB KREAMER, farmer, P. O. White Hall, was born in Madison Township, Columbia Co., Penn., January 16, 1839, son of Conrad and Catharine (Bowman) Kreamer; the former, born in Germany in 1800, came to America and first settled at Philadelphia. Our subject spent his early life in Columbia County, Penn., and in 1850 went to Lock Haven, Penn., where he commenced lumbering. In 1865 he came to his present location in Anthony Township, bought 148 acres of land from George W. Suplee, now of Bloomsburg, Penn., and made all the improvements except building the house. He was married July 4, 1865, at Muncy, Penn., to Miss Mary McBride, daughter of William McBride, and they have seven children; William S., Thomas C., Charles, Frank L., Clyde, Roy and Clara. Mrs. Kreamer and eldest child are members of the Baptist Church. Mr. Kreamer is now connected with the lumber business, and has a saw-mill in Madison Township, Columbia County, in partnership with his brother-in-law, William Moore. They have 100 acres of timber land in Madison Township, Columbia County, and twenty-one in this township. In politics Mr. Kreamer is a Democrat.

WILLIAM McBRIDE, farmer, P. O. White Hall, was born in Derry Township, Montour Co., Penn., February 5, 1812, a son of James and Mary (Derr) McBride. James McBride was a young man when he came to Montour County. He was a carpenter, and when he arrived in the county, located at Fruitstown (now known as White Hall), and followed that trade here until his death. He was married in this county to Miss Mary Derr, a native of Montour County, and a member of an old settler's family. Mr. and Mrs. James McBride were the parents of seven children, of whom three are living: Eliza, widow of Thomas Chamberlain, in Lafayette County, Wis.; Margaret, widow of Evan Hendershott, in Lenawee County, Mich., and William. Mollie, Frederick, Hugh and Jane are deceased. The father died February 13, 1813; the mother survived him until 1849. They are buried in the Derry Presbyterian graveyard. William McBride, subject of this sketch, has resided all his life at the place of his birth. When he was fourteen years of age he commenced to clerk in the store of his uncle, John F. Derr, and remained with him in that capacity until 1841. He then entered into partnership with his uncle, and this business relationship continued until 1855, when, his uncle dying, Mr. McBride became exclusive proprietor of the store, and so remained about eleven years, when he took in his son, J. S., as partner. The firm was so continued until 1884, when the father retired from his interest in the store, and since that time the son has conducted the business.



alone. Mr. McBride married, in Lycoming County, Penn., April 1, 1841, Miss Mary Ann Smith, a native of Lycoming County, and daughter of Jonathan and Anna Smith. She died June 29, 1885, and is buried in the White Hall graveyard. By this marriage there were seven children, of whom six are living: J. S., married to Miss Abbie Carnahan, at White Hall; Mary, wife of Jacob Kreamer, in Anthony Township, this county; Sarah Ann, wife of William Moore, also in Anthony Township; Maggie; Emma, wife of David Harman, in Hazleton, Luzerne Co., Penn., and William. An infant unnamed is deceased. Mr. McBride is a member of the Baptist Church, as was also his wife.

JONATHAN S. McBRIDE was born July 2, 1842, in the village of White Hall, this county, son of William and Mary Ann (Smith) McBride. He has always lived in White Hall, and since a boy has been in the store of his father. In the spring of 1866 he formed a co-partnership with his father which continued until 1884, when he conducted the whole business and owns the stock himself. The store is the only one in White Hall at present. Mr. McBride married, December 6, 1864, Miss Abbie Carnahan, daughter of A. J. and Elizabeth Carnahan, now in Illinois, and they have four children: Elmer, Lizzie, Mary B. and Harry C. Mr. McBride is a member of the I. O. O. F., and is postmaster in White Hall. In politics he is a Democrat.

DR. MONTRAVILLE McHENRY, Exchange, was born near Rohrsburg, Columbia Co., Penn., January 13, 1836. He is the eldest son of Benjamin and Lavina (Coner) McHenry. The former resides in Benton, Columbia Co., Penn., and is of Irish descent; the latter died in 1884, and is buried in the Benton Cemetery. They were the parents of seven sons and two daughters. One daughter and six sons are living, prosperous and respected citizens of the communities in which they live. Our subject spent his early life on the farm, attending school during the winters, until he was twenty years of age. He afterward attended the Millville Seminary, and the academy at New Columbus several summers, teaching school during the winters. In 1864 he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Barrett, of Cambra, Luzerne Co., Penn. He took his first course of lectures at the Medical College of Burlington, Vt., a second at Ann Arbor University, Mich., and a part of a third at Burlington, where he graduated. He was soon afterward married to Mrs. Dorcas Freece Lyons, *nee* Fowler, of Pine Summit, Columbia Co., Penn. Dr. McHenry commenced the practice of medicine in Exchange, Montour County, in 1868. Not finding a house to rent and wishing to enjoy the comforts of a home, he immediately purchased two acres of land adjoining the village, and erected a good two-story house. He also built a barn and planted fruit and ornamental trees, making a pleasant and comfortable home. He attended closely to business and soon had plenty of patients. He was seldom absent more than a day at a time until 1876, when, with his wife, daughter and step-son he spent two weeks at the Centennial Exposition, at Philadelphia. In the spring of 1878, accompanied by his wife and daughter, Birdie, he started on a tour through the Eastern and Middle States, stopping at all the principal cities and summer resorts. They first went to Philadelphia, Long Branch and New York; thence up the Hudson to Troy; thence to Rutland and Burlington, Vt., where they remained several weeks, enjoying the beautiful scenery. The Doctor also attended lectures while in Burlington. They visited the White Mountains, Old Orchard Beach, Portland, Boston, Newport, New Haven, Saratoga, Ticonderoga, Niagara Falls, Canada, Rochester and Watkin's Glen; thence home by way of Elmira, Minnequa Spring and Williamsport, having made a pleasant trip through nine States. Thinking he could better his prospects by locating in Kansas or Missouri, in the fall of 1878 he sold his property in Exchange, and in the spring of 1879, accompanied by his family, he visited the West with the intention of locating if he could find a suitable place. To make the trip one of pleasure as well as business, they went by way of Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore, Washington, White Sulphur Springs, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Kansas City and Carthage City, Mo., traveling only by day and spending several days in places of interest. One of the most interesting places visited was the Osage Agency in the Indian Territory. The large swarthy Indians, with painted faces, ears slit and full of rings, door keys and other trinkets, heads partly shaven, no clothing but a breech cloth and a bright red and blue blanket, made a picture that will long be remembered, especially by Birdie, who was then nearly nine years old. The Doctor bought two white ponies from the Indians, giving one to his wife and the other to Birdie. These ponies are still the pets of the family. After traveling hundreds of miles over the prairie, and visiting many towns without finding a place they would like to make their home, they returned to Pennsylvania, stopping for a few days in Chicago, Cleveland and Erie, Penn. Dr. McHenry remained in Bloomsburg in the fall and winter, and in the spring returned to Exchange. He bought fifteen acres of land adjoining his former home, and erected a handsome structure with bay and dormer windows, verandas, gables and tower, from which can be seen many miles of the surrounding country; he built a good barn and planted over 100 evergreen trees on the lawn surrounding their home, which adds much to its beauty and comfort. Mrs. McHenry was the architect of their home, making plans of every part of the structure. In 1882 the Doctor accompanied Fowler Lyons and William Fowler to Texas, intending to assist them in purchasing stock to start a ranch. Not finding stock at prices to suit, the Doctor returned. The others went to

the Indian Territory, bought a car load of ponies, brought them to Pennsylvania, and sold them at a profit more than sufficient to pay all their traveling expenses. The Doctor did not fare quite so well, but had the satisfaction of seeing the Lone Star State, the old town of San Antonio and the Alamo. He also stopped at Fort Worth and other places of business interest. In 1884 he contracted with Dr. Morrow, of Buffalo, N. Y., to take charge of his practice for a few months, and formed a partnership with his brother, Dr. Thomas McHenry, of Benton, for the purpose of establishing a drug and hardware store in that place. They erected a large three-story building, using one-half of the lower story for a drug store and the remainder for hardware. They had succeeded in getting business in good shape when Dr. Morrow was taken seriously ill, and Dr. McHenry was compelled to return to Exchange to take charge of his practice and interests in that place. While in Benton his family spent part of the time with him, boarding at the hotel, but remained the greater part of the time at their home in Exchange. He has a large practice and rides many miles daily to attend to his patients. He is a Democrat, but pays little attention to politics. For several years he has been a member of Exchange Lodge, No. 898, I. O. O. F. Dr. and Mrs. McHenry have one daughter, Birdie, born in Exchange, October 22, 1870. She is an intelligent student, very fond of reading, and cares little for amusements or companions of her own age, preferring rather the companionship of books. Mrs. McHenry is the eldest daughter of John F. and Julia A. (Fortner) Fowler. The former is of English descent and the only son of David Fowler, Esq., formerly residing near Fowlersville, Columbia County. The latter died in 1866, and is buried in the Lyons Church Cemetery. She was a daughter of John Fortner of New Jersey, great-grandson of Lord Archibald Douglas, owner of Bothwell Castle, near Glasgow, Scotland. Lord Archibald at his death left several million dollars. This estate would have descended to his daughter, Lady Isabella Douglas Fortner, and her heirs had they presented their claims. Mrs. McHenry's grandfather had secured full power from the heirs to procure the fortune and had all proof and papers prepared intending to start to Scotland, when he was taken ill and died. The other heirs never claimed the estate, and it is now in the possession of John Douglas, a side heir, who came into possession through the lapse of time. Mrs. McHenry was born April 5, 1837, near Fowlersville, Columbia Co., Penn., receiving her education in the public schools and the Bloomsburg High School, and taught four terms of public school. She was married in her nineteenth year, to Robert J. Lyons, of Lycoming County, eldest son of Joseph and Sarah Lyons, now deceased. Mr. Lyons owned a large farm at Pine Summit, Columbia County, where they resided until 1865, when he joined the Union Army, in Company I, Seventy-seventh P. V. V., and died in the service at Victoria, Tex., October 21, 1865, and was buried in Victoria Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Lyons had one son living, Fowler Lyons, born January 17, 1861, at Pine Summit. After Mrs. Lyons' marriage to Dr. McHenry her son lived with them at Exchange. He attended the public schools, the normal school at Muncy, Penn., and Eastman College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He also studied medicine with the intention of engaging in pharmacy, but after assisting in a drug store for a time, and looking for a place to locate, he decided not to engage in the business. At the age of twenty-two he was married to Martha E., daughter of Hon. John C. Ellis, of Exchange, now deceased, and Jane, his wife. He then removed to the farm his father had left him at Pine Summit, purchased stock, hired help and went to farming in good spirit. But the farm was large, and had been rented for eighteen years, consequently it was not in the flourishing condition his father had left it, and he decided to sell it and try his fortune in the West. He sold his farm to his uncle, Jerry Fowler, his stock, farming implements, household goods, etc., at public sale, and went to Texas. After traveling over the greater part of the State he purchased property in Wichita Falls, Tex. A few months afterward his wife was taken very sick with fever, and the climate being so much warmer than she was accustomed to, her recovery was slow. Fearing she could not stand the heat another summer they returned to Pennsylvania, and after a few months went to Nebraska and settled in Dawes County, where Mr. Lyons owns 460 acres of land. This farm he is improving with the intention of making it a stock farm in the future. He retains his property in Wichita Falls, Tex., and expects it to become valuable in a few years, as it has every prospect of becoming a large and prosperous city.

JACKSON P. MCKEE, farmer, P. O. Comly, was born in the place where he now resides in Anthony Township, Montour Co., Penn., October 12, 1830, son of James and Harriet (Scout) McKee, the latter a native of this county. Robert McKee, grandfather of our subject, came to what is now Montour County in 1794, and located about a mile up the creek from Exchange, afterward moving to the place where Jackson P. now resides, and here lived until his death. He was married to Agnes Craig, and died in 1832, his widow surviving him about four years; they are buried at the Derry Presbyterian Church. They had four children of whom only one, James, was married. Robert McKee served in the Revolutionary war. James McKee, father of our subject, was born in Chester County, Penn., and was the third in order of age of the children of Robert McKee. He was eight years of age when the family came to this county, and when he grew up, his father, brothers and himself bought between 400 and 500 acres of land, of which J. P. now



owns 195 acres. They found this land covered with a heavy growth of oak timber, and they struck the first ax into the improvement of this land, and put up a log cabin on this place with the timber they had cut down in making the first clearing. James McKee died March 29, 1863, his wife having died in 1832. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom only two are living: James and Jackson P.; the latter being the only one in this county. Our subject was married February 2, 1863, to Margaret Ellen, daughter of David Wilson, also a member of an early settler family, and who is now living in Anthony Township, this county. Mr. McKee learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed one year. He was general agent for the Buckeye reaper when it first came out, and followed that business three or four years, having entire control of their agents during that time. He was in Kankakee County, Ill., fifteen months, and there owned land at that time. Mr. McKee's home is situated on Muncy Hill, and it presents the finest view in Pennsylvania, the valleys in Snyder, Union, Northumberland, Columbia, Lycoming, Sullivan and Montour Counties being visible from his place.

WILLIAM McVICKER, retired, P. O. White Hall, was born in what is now Anthony Township, Montour Co., Penn., April 21, 1814, son of James and Sarah (Miller) McVicker. William McVicker, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Ireland, immigrated to America, and located in Northampton County, Penn., whence he came to what is now Anthony Township, this county, and bought 120 acres of land, to which he afterward added more. He found two acres of this land, only, cleared. He lived on this place until he died. He was born April 3, 1733, and died in 1808; his wife, whose maiden name was Eleanor Nelson, had preceded him in death. They are buried in the Derry Presbyterian Church graveyard. He (the grandfather) was a shoemaker by occupation, and our subject has some of his tools in his possession. James McVicker, father of our subject was born in 1790, in Northampton County, Penn., and was but a child when his parents came to this county. He was married in this county to Miss Sarah Miller, and they were the parents of twelve children—six sons and six daughters—two surviving: Rebecca, wife of J. K. Shultz, in Derry Township, and William. The father died in March, 1869; his wife died in February, 1862. William McVicker, subject of this sketch, was married in this county, March 2, 1841, to Miss Mary Craig, daughter of Samuel and Jane (Miller) Craig, natives of Pennsylvania and early settlers in Montour County, whence they removed in 1820, to Clarke County, Ohio, were Mrs. McVicker was born. Both her parents died there and are buried in the Muddy Run Cemetery, in Clarke County. Mr. and Mrs. McVicker were the parents of six children, of whom four are living: Samuel Craig, at Watsontown, Penn.; Wilson C.; Sarah E., widow of James Schooley, in White Deer Valley, Northumberland Co., Penn.; John R., in Anthony Township, this county; Emma Jane and Mary Luella are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. McVicker are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. McVicker has sixty-five acres of land in Anthony Township.

WILSON C. McVICKER was born within one-half a mile of where he now resides, and has always made his home in this township. He bought his present farm of seventy-four acres in the spring of 1868. He also has a wood lot in Columbia County of fourteen and one-half acres. He was married in Montour County, February 4, 1868, to Miss Ada M., a native of Bradford County, and a daughter of James and Margaret Pickard; former deceased and buried in Bradford Cemetery; latter makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. McVicker. Mr. and Mrs. McVicker are the parents of one child, Laura Alice. They are members of Derry Presbyterian Church. Mr. McVicker is a member of Exchange Grange, No. 65, P. of H.

JOHN R. McVICKER, the youngest son of William and Mary (Craig) McVicker, was born in this township, September 25, 1851, and was reared in the township where he now resides. He was brought up to farm life, and makes his home with his brother, Wilson C.

WILLIAM S. POLLOCK, farmer, P. O. Exchange, was born in what is now Anthony Township, Montour County, July 8, 1823, a son of James and Elizabeth (Scout) Pollock. The paternal grandfather of our subject came to this country from the North of Ireland, and located in Pennsylvania, coming first to one of the lower counties, thence to Northumberland, now Montour County, locating near Exchange, his tract of 200 acres being now partly owned by Patrick Dinenn, and partly by William Pollock. Here he lived until he died. He and his wife are both buried at Derry Presbyterian Church. James Pollock, father of William S., was born in one of the lower counties of Pennsylvania, and came to this locality with his parents. He was married in this county to Miss Elizabeth Scout, and they at first lived on the part of the old homestead which is now owned by Patrick Dinenn. In 1823 he went to the vicinity of Muncy, Lycoming Co., Penn., and there resided until 1837, when he returned to what is now Montour County, and located on the old homestead which he had bought two years previously, and here he lived until his death, his wife having preceded him. They are buried at the Derry Church. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom four are living: Thomas, in Muncy Creek Township, Lycoming County, Penn.; William S., Jane Harriet, wife of Henry Biddle, in White Hall, this county, and Effie D. The subject of this sketch was born while the family lived on land belonging to Patrick Dinenn, and the next spring his parents removed to Muncy Creek, and after fifteen years returned to Montour County.



where he has lived ever since with the exception of eighteen months spent in the West. He was married December 25, 1855, to Miss Susan McKee, daughter of James McKee. After marriage they made their home for eighteen months at Kankakee and Freeport, Ill., and on returning to Montour County, located on the eastern part of the old homestead. Mrs. Pollock died May 16, 1861, and is buried in the Derry Churchyard. She was the mother of two children: James B., born in Freeport, Ill., now living below Washingtonville, in Liberty Township, this county; Bruce B., born in this township, where he now lives on his father's land on the eastern part of the old homestead. Mr. Pollock was next married March 14, 1873, by Rev. John Johnson, to Margaret Elizabeth, daughter of Col. John F. Derr, a colonel in the army that went to Black Rock in 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Pollock are members of the Presbyterian Church, the former joining about 1851, and the latter in 1862. Mr. Pollock has been for twenty-one years an elder in the church. He has been supervisor of the township, and has held the office of assessor, judge, etc. In politics he is a Prohibitionist; he has 100 acres of land. He is a full cousin to ex-Gov. Pollock.

DAVID SMITH, farmer and United States mail carrier, P. O. Exchange, was born in what is now Anthony Township, this county, where Samuel Smith now lives, September 10, 1842, son of John and Hannah (Stufflick) Smith. John Smith, father of David, came to this county from Lehigh and settled where Samuel now resides about 1835. He was married in Lehigh County, to Miss Hannah Stufflick, and when they came to Montour County he bought 200 acres, and to this he added until he had 400 acres at the time of his death, which occurred April 25, 1879; his widow survived him until October, 1882. They are buried in Turbotville German Reformed Cemetery. John Smith was always a farmer, and was a strict member of the church. Mr. and Mrs. John Smith were the parents of twelve children, of which David is eleventh. Our subject was reared at the place of his birth, and was married September 26, 1865, to Miss Ellen Dieffenbacher, a native of Derry Township, this county, and daughter of Benjamin and Sophia (Troxell) Dieffenbacher, former of whom was born in Derry Township, this county, May 11, 1812, and latter in Lehigh County, Penn., in 1823. She died July 31, 1876, and is buried at the Strawberry Ridge Church. Mr. Benjamin Dieffenbacher was one of the organizers of that church. He now makes his home with his three daughters: Mrs. William Berger, Mrs. Joel Bitler, and Mrs. David Smith. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. David Smith removed to their present location, and since that time they have made all the improvements on the place, with the exception of the barn. The house was built at a cost of between \$2,000 and \$2,500, besides the labor. They are the parents of eight children, of whom five are living: William Grant; Ella Minta May; Benjamin Franklin and John Edmund, twins; and David Alfred. Those that died were Mary Magdalena, the eldest child; Emma Elmira and Lillie Birdie. Mr. Smith received his commission to carry the mails daily between Danville and Exchange, from the United States Government in July, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members of the Strawberry Ridge Reformed Church, as is also their eldest son. Mr. Smith in politics is a Republican.

JACOB SNYDER, farmer, P. O. Exchange, was born November 12, 1842, son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Dewalt) Snyder, former of whom died June 30, 1886, latter still residing on the old homestead. Our subject was reared at the place of his birth, and made his home with his parents until his marriage, November 28, 1871, with Miss Elizabeth Eleanor Ellis, a daughter of Stephen Ellis, Sr., and Sarah Bull, who now resides at Exchange, and whose father and grandfather initiated the Episcopal Church at Exchange. One year after their marriage they removed to another farm in Limestone Township, this county, and after one year there, Mrs. Snyder's father bought their present farm of 157 acres for them. They found this place all covered with timber and brush, but they set to work and cleared up a good portion of it. It was splendid timberland covered with rock oak, chestnut, pine, etc. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder are the parents of five children: Sarah Isabella, Stephen Ellis, Annie Clara, James Jefferson and William Daniel. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder attend the services of the Episcopal Church, as do also all the Ellis family, and they do much to support the church at Exchange. Mr. Snyder was connected with the schools of the township as director one term. In politics he is a Democrat. Since coming to their present home, Mr. and Mrs. Snyder went back to Limestone Township, and there resided two years, returning to their present home in the spring of 1884.

JOHN WATSON, farmer, P. O. Washingtonville, Columbia County, was born in Madison Township, Columbia Co., Penn., May 15, 1830, son of Hugh and Sarah (Seidel) Watson. John Watson, grandfather of our subject, came to the neighborhood of Jerseytown, with his parents from the vicinity of Muncy Creek, and lived in the neighborhood of Jerseytown until their death. John Watson, grandfather of our subject, removed to what is now Anthony Township, this county, in the early part of the present century, and located where Samuel Watson now lives, and where he (John Watson) and his wife lived until their death. He died about 1837, his wife having preceded him by several years. They are buried in the Derry Church graveyard. Hugh Watson, father of our subject, some years after his marriage removed to this township, and afterward bought 200 acres of land which Mr. Gearhart, foundryman at McEwensville, now owns. From there he removed to

the vicinity of Muncy, in Muncy Creek Township, Lycoming Co., Penn., and there he bought land and lived the remainder of his days. He and his wife are buried in the Muncy Cemetery. They were the parents of seven children, of whom six are living: Eliza, John, Sarah, Jane, Margaret and Mollie. Allen is deceased. John Watson, subject of this sketch, made his home with his parents until twenty-three years of age, and then moved to Dewart, Penn., where he rented land, and taking also an interest in the building of the York & Erie Railroad, which was constructed through his farm. He bought a farm near Milton, in 1862, removed to it in 1863, and on this lived until 1869. The first piece of land he ever bought was that now occupied as the fair grounds at Turbotville, but he never moved to it. In 1869 he sold his farm near Milton, and bought his present one of 250 acres for \$20,000. He also owned at that time fifty acres of timber and pasture land in Anthony Township, which he afterward sold. He removed to his present farm the year after he bought it. He was married at Jerseytown, December 15, 1852, to Miss Louisa Catharine, daughter of John and Julia Ann (Levanna) Stiner; former died September 3, 1883, and is buried in the Turbotville Cemetery; latter resides at Turbotville. Mr. and Mrs. Watson are the parents of eight children: Kate, wife of Daniel Levanna, residing near Limestoneville; Harriet, Julia Ann, Mary Jane, Emma, Clara, Blanche and Hugh Allen. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is one of the progressive men of the township, and assisted a great deal in securing the location of the Watstown & North Mountain Railroad, which passes through his farm, and which has done so much to develop the country about.

DAVID WILSON, farmer, P. O. Comly, was born in what is now Anthony Township, Montour Co., Penn., January 20, 1806, son of Hugh and Ann (Crawford) Wilson. William Wilson, grandfather of our subject, was born in Dauphin County, Penn., near Sweet Arrow Creek, and from there came to what is now Montour County, and here lived until he died. He and his wife are buried in the Warrior Run Church graveyard. Hugh and Robert Wilson came to this county with their father. Hugh Wilson, father of our subject, was born and reared in Dauphin County, Penn., and was there married to Ann Crawford. They then came to this county and located land with his father, which was a tract of about 250 acres. Here Hugh and his wife lived until their death. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom the following are living: David; Nancy, residing with David; Eliza, widow of Robert Blaine, in Turbotville, Penn. The father died at the age of eighty years, and the mother at about the same age. Both are buried in the Warrior Run graveyard. David Wilson, subject of this sketch, lived on the old homestead until twenty-seven years of age, when he was married in April, 1833, to Mary, daughter of John and Eleanor (Jingles) Prince. Mrs. Wilson died in August, 1879, and is buried in the Derry Presbyterian Church graveyard. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were the parents of eight children: William Henry; Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Heater, in Waterloo, Iowa; Ellen, wife of Jackson P. McKee, in Muncy Hill, this county; Joseph (deceased); Alice, with her father; Ann, wife of Jeremiah Metzger, in Union County, Penn.; Jane, with her father, and Nancy (deceased). Mr. Wilson was three years commissioner of Montour County.

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## CHAPTER XVI.

### COOPER TOWNSHIP.

JESSE C. AMERMAN, merchant and farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., February 4, 1821, son of Henry and Susanna (Cook) Amerman, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Montgomery County, Penn. His great-great-grandfather came over with the Dutch colonists and settled in New York. His grandfather, Albert, came from New Jersey and settled in Northumberland County, Penn., in 1800, where he bought a tract of land and remained his lifetime, dying in 1821. He served in the war of the Revolution. He was a farmer previous to the war, in the interior of the State of New Jersey, and when the war broke out he gave up his horses and cattle and stock of all kinds, a sacrifice upon the altar of his country's liberty. He had his knee-cap taken off at the battle of Monmouth. Our subject's father, who was only a small boy when he came to Northumberland County with his parents, worked on the farm during his father's life, after which he learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed a number of years, but during the latter part of his life he followed farming exclusively. His sons, Jesse C. and Isaac, having purchased the old homestead. His father died in 1853.

and his mother in 1865. They were the parents of eleven children, five of whom survive: Isaac; Jesse C.; William, in Illinois; Harriet N., wife of Mr. Crowell, and Andrew J., a Baptist minister in Illinois. Our subject helped his father on the farm, going to school three months in the winter, till he was nineteen; then he began boating on the canal, a business he followed during the summer, while he taught school in the winter. The boating he continued fifteen years, but gave up school-teaching after about six years. During the latter part of his boating he and his brother Isaac engaged in merchandising and dealing in grain in Danville. They owned a boat, by which they carried grain, etc., to Philadelphia. This they kept up until 1853, when our subject bought the farm of sixty-eight acres where he now lives in Cooper Township, Montour County, and has since lived here. He is also engaged in merchandising, keeping store at his home. Our subject in 1863, when the Confederate Army under command of Gen. Lee invaded his State, volunteered and took up arms to resist the invasion. In 1873 he was elected a member of the Legislature, and re-elected in 1874, on the Democratic ticket, under the old constitution. He has held a number of township offices. Mr. Amerman was married December 2, 1845, to Caroline Stroh, by whom he had nine children, five of whom are yet living: Lemuel, an attorney in Scranton, Penn.; Alvaretta, wife of F. A. Beidleman; Caroline, wife of Jacob S. Coxey; Laura and Ella. Alonzo, who died in January, 1886, was a physician, having practiced ten years. Mrs. Amerman died April 19, 1869, and our subject then married, September 26, 1871, Margaret J. Appleman, by whom he has two children: Charles V. and Edwin C. His son Lemuel has been a member of the Legislature for two terms, having been elected on the Democratic ticket. He is now State reporter for the supreme court.

P. C. BLECHER, farmer, P. O. Grovania, was born in Cooper Township, this county, June 29, 1856, and is a son of Jackson and Mary A. (Foust) Blecher, natives of Montour County, Penn. His ancestors came from Berks County, Penn. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained under the paternal roof until 1876, until his marriage, when he moved to where he now lives. He cultivates 115 acres of land, all well improved. He was married July 1, 1876, to Alice Janett; they have two children: Mary A. and Viola. Mr. and Mrs. Blecher are members of the Reformed Church.

JACOB HARTMAN, farmer, P. O. Grovania, was born in Hemlock Township, Columbia Co., Penn., July 5, 1826, son of Jacob and Mary C. (Heinbald) Hartman, the former a native of Hemlock Township, Columbia County, and the latter of Cooper Township, this county, and of German descent. His grandfather, John Hartman, a native of Germany, immigrated to America about 1785, and first settled in Hemlock Township, Columbia County, where he took up a large tract of timber land, and there remained all his life and followed farming. He was in his eighty-fourth year at the time of his death. Our subject's father was reared on a farm, but during his early life he learned the blacksmith trade, which he followed about thirteen years, then abandoned it, bought a small farm and turned his attention to agriculture. He died in West Hemlock Township, this county, in 1863, a lifelong Democrat; his wife died about twelve years previous. They were the parents of five children, three now living: Susan Krum, Mary C. and Jacob. Our subject was reared on a farm and has always followed agriculture. He remained at home until twenty-one years of age, and then went to St. Joseph County, Mich., and was absent three years, working two years on a farm, and the remainder of his time in a steam saw-mill. In the spring of 1850 he bought a team, and followed teaming for five years, hauling ore, etc. He next rented a farm of Mr. Appleman, and carried on agriculture twenty-three years, then bought the place where he now resides. Mr. Hartman was married in 1852 to Lydia Krum, and they had five children, four of whom are living: Isaac, in Michigan; William, in Columbia County, Penn.; Wellington and Leander. Mrs. Hartman died July 8, 1884, and is buried in the Odd Fellows' cemetery, at Danville, Cooper Township, Montour County. Our subject's maternal grandfather served in the war of 1812. Mr. Hartman is a Democrat in politics, has held the offices of supervisor of the board of election, and auditor. He owns 368 acres of land and the fine residence he now lives in.

WILLIAM McNINCH, farmer and quarryman, P. O. Grovania, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., September 30, 1826, a son of James and Jane (McCord) McNinch, natives of Montour County, and of Scotch-Irish descent. His grandfather, James McNinch, came from Scotland and settled in this county in 1766, being among the very first settlers of this section. He took up a large tract of land, where he lived and farmed until his death. The land was all timber, and wild animals were still plenty. Their nearest market was Northumberland. Our subject's grandfather, Joseph McCord, also a farmer, came from Ireland and settled here about the same time. He served in the Revolutionary war, and was a man noted for his military ability. Our subject's father was reared on a farm, and moved to Cooper Township, this county, in 1845, where he bought the farm on which William now lives, and remained here until his death, which occurred in March, 1855. He was the father of nine children, four now living: Mary, in Catawissa, Columbia Co., Penn.; William; James, in Kansas; and Emily, also in Catawissa. James McNinch was a lifelong Democrat. Our subject was reared on a farm, and remained with his parents until their death, after which he took the home-



stead, which he has since farmed. In 1861 he opened a stone quarry, and built lime-kilns in Cooper Township, on the Bloomsburg road, and has had them in operation ever since, manufacturing a good quality of lime. He was married February 17, 1859, to Rachel Deitrich, and they are the parents of six children: Warren, in Helena, Mont.; Annetta; Hugh, at school in Lawrenceville, N. J.; Martha, Joseph and Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. McNinch are members of the Presbyterian Church at Bloomsburg. In 1858 he was elected county commissioner, serving one term of three years. In 1863 he was elected county treasurer, serving one term. He has been justice of the peace ten years, and has held nearly all of the township offices. In politics he is a Democrat.

AARON C. MAUSER, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born on the old homestead where he now lives, July 21, 1849, son of Jacob and Catharine (Krum) Mauser, both natives of Pennsylvania, and of German descent. His great-grandfather, Nicholas Mauser, settled in what is now Cooper Township, this county, in 1785, and bought a large tract of timber land. The deed is one hundred and twelve years old, and was bought from George Miller, who had just received it from William Penn. His grandfather, Christian Mauser, was fourteen years of age when his parents moved to this place, and he remained on this farm all his life; he died at the age of eighty-eight years. The "little old log cabin" that our subject's great-grandfather built, is yet standing, and Aaron C. can boast of having put a roof on the house that his great-grandfather built. He has a clock which was made in 1801, and also the old gun that his great-grandfather used in the Revolutionary war. Our subject's father was born on this farm, and remained here all his life. He died in his fiftieth year. Aaron C. is of the fourth generation that has lived on and owned this farm, one of the first settled in this county. He now owns 183 acres of land. He was married March 28, 1874, to Ellen Keiffer, and they are the parents of four children: Lydia, Edda, Lizzie and Ellen. Mr. and Mrs. Mauser are members of the old Lutheran Church and are also members of the Grange. He has held the offices of constable, auditor, assessor, supervisor and collector. In politics he is a full-blooded Democrat.

ANGUS MORRISON, deceased farmer, was born in Washington County, Me., September 21, 1834, son of Peter and Jane (McKaskell) Morrison, former born in Scotland, latter in North Carolina, of Scotch descent. His father died in 1880, in his eighty-seventh year; his mother died several years previous to his father. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained at home until twenty-one years of age. Then he moved to San Francisco, where he remained a short time; then located in Shasta County, Cal., where he bought a farm and remained six years. He then sold out and removed to Nevada in 1861, locating in Humboldt County, where he was engaged in quartz mining and milling for about twenty years. He remained in this county until the spring of 1881. He was a member of the Nevada Legislature for one session. In 1881 he moved to Idaho, where he remained until the fall of 1883, engaged in mercantile business. He came to Pennsylvania in the fall of 1883, and purchased a farm of 157 acres of good land. Mr. Morrison was married December 25, 1879, in San Francisco, to Laura Richardson Wells, and they are the parents of three children: Emily F., Catharine J. and Mary H. Mr. Morrison died January 12, 1887.

JOHN LYMAN RICHARDSON (deceased) was born in the State of Vermont, September 16, 1816, son of William P. and Laura (Lyman) Richardson, natives of Vermont and of English descent. Our subject came to Luzerne County, Penn., at the age of twenty-five years. He began life by teaching school, which he followed several years, and was superintendent of the public schools of Luzerne County for two terms. He was also connected with a Prohibition paper in Bloomsburg for a number of years. He was an Abolitionist until slavery was abolished, and then became a Prohibitionist, in which party he figured quite prominently until his death in March, 1885, at Mount Carmel, Penn. He dropped dead of heart disease, but no one ever knew that he was troubled with it. He was the father of nine children, eight of whom are now living: Mary, wife of Isaac P. Hand, in Wilkesbarre, Penn.; Laura, wife of Angus Morrison; Galitzin T., in Idaho; Florence D., wife of Willis Emmons, in Pomona, Cal.; Emily E., wife of Walter T. Hall, in Idaho; William P., in Jordan Valley, Ore.; John L., in New York City; Harriet H., in Bloomsburg. Catharine is deceased. The mother resides in Bloomsburg, Penn.

CHARLES EDWIN YORKS, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Cooper Township, this county, on the place where he now lives, August 3, 1853, son of William and Martha (Hull) Yorks; former a native of Montour County, Penn., and latter of Catawissa, Columbia Co., Penn., and of Scotch-German descent. His grandfather, Samuel Yorks, came from New Jersey and settled in what is now Montour County in about 1780, where he owned a large tract of land which he bought at a low figure. He owned another large tract of land in Columbia County. He served in the war of 1812. Our subject's father was a farmer and a lumber dealer; was also interested in the insurance business in Danville. He bought the old homestead and lived on the farm where our subject now resides, until his death, which occurred in August, 1877. He held the office of county commissioner for one term, and was justice of the peace of Cooper Township for about thirty years. He was the father of six children, three now living: Charles Edwin, Ida and Dr. John, who resides in Philadelphia. Our subject was reared on a farm and remained at home

until his father's death. He attended school at Mechanicsburg, Penn., two years, and Danville, this county, four years. He was married April 18, 1878, to Anna Bartholomew, a native of this county, and they are the parents of two children, one living, Florence. (Belle is deceased). The farm where our subject now lives comprises 156 acres of good land. The estate owns 400 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Yorks are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is a member of the P. of H. and is reporter for the Agricultural Bureau of this county.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### DERRY TOWNSHIP AND BOROUGH OF WASHINGTONVILLE.

ALEXANDER BILLMEYER, farmer and lumberman Washingtonville, Penn., is a grandson of Martin Billmeyer, who came to Liberty Township, this county, with his father, who took up a large tract of land on the Chillisquaque, on which he died. After his death the land was divided among his three sons, George, Martin and Andrew. They erected a saw-mill on the creek (the first in the township), which is still in use and is known as the Billmeyer saw-mill. Martin died there about thirty-six years ago. His widow, *nee* Margaret Himmelrigh, died several years after. They were the parents of six sons and six daughters: Daniel, Martin, Jacob, Mary, Catherine and Fannie, all deceased; Peter, an ex-sheriff, now living in Bloomsburg, Columbia Co.; John residing in Liberty Township; A. Jackson, in the same township; Sarah, wife of John Gonger; Margaret, wife of George Wagner, both of Limestone Township, and Harriet, wife of A. J. Maus, of Valley Township. Jacob was the father of our subject, and lived in Liberty Township until a year or two before his death. He was born October 17, 1808, and died May 30, 1881. He had been all his life a farmer and lumberman. His wife, Eliza Hower, was born in Northampton County, August 16, 1814, and died February 5, 1873. They had seven children, all now living: Henry, in Liberty Township; Sarah, wife of Martin Blue, of this township; Mary, wife of B. F. Umstead, of Anthony; Margaret, wife of David Springer, of Liberty Township; Jacob H., of Anthony; Daniel, living in Talbot County, Md., and Alexander, the eldest. Our subject was born January 7, 1841, and remained at home until the age of twenty-six years. After his marriage, he and his brother, Henry, bought out their father and farmed and lumbered for eight years, paying off all the debts which their father had incurred. They then dissolved, Alexander buying the lumber business, and his brother taking the homestead. They acquired a large amount of land, which Alexander now occupies (about 400 acres home farm), and erected the fine residence now occupied by him in 1876. In 1865 he married Miss Angeline, daughter of Daniel Blue, of Muncy, Lycoming County. She was born October 12, 1845. To their union five children have been born as follows: Ella, born February 2, 1866; Alice, born August 13, 1867; Hiram, April 16, 1870; Mary, July 17, 1874, and Florence, January 20, 1879, all living with their parents. Mr. Billmeyer is an energetic man of business, and at present is extensively engaged at lumbering, at White Oak, Talbot, Md., Elk County, Penn., and also on his farms in this county.

FRANK G. BLEE, farmer, Washingtonville, is a son of John Blee, who came from Ireland in 1795, when but twelve years old. He was born in 1783 and died in 1860, aged seventy-seven years. At Philadelphia he learned brickmaking, at which he subsequently worked in Norristown. Accumulating some money he bought land in Anthony Township, near the farm of Robert McKee. This he afterward sold and bought a property in Derry Township. Later he bought two other farms, and then the one where his son now resides, owning at one time four farms. By his first wife, Sarah McCord, he had ten children: Joseph, William, James, Robert, John, Joseph (second) and Sarah, all of whom are deceased; Mary, Margaret and Elizabeth are living in Illinois. His second wife was Hannah Gingles, whose mother was one of those who escaped at the Wyoming massacre. By this union Mr. Blee had five children: Sarah A., wife of Edward Morris of Washingtonville; Susan H., wife of John Butler of Danville; Savilla and Maria F. (twins) died in childhood, and Frank G. Our subject was born August 5, 1839, and when seventeen went to Illinois, where he remained until the spring of 1860. In 1861 he entered the army in the wagon train in the quartermaster's department, where he remained until the fall of 1862. August 9, of that year, he enlisted in the nine months' service in Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment, and participated in the battles of South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, seeing considerable service in a short

time. He was mustered out at Harrisburg, May 24, 1863, and returned to the farm, which he rented while lumbering in North Carolina. In 1872 he took possession of the place and there has since resided. September 24, 1863, he married Louisa A., daughter of Daniel Butler of this township, and six children were born to them: Robert E., Winifred and Frank G. are now living at home, and Harry W., died in 1868, Sallie M. died December 20, 1885, and Lizzie died July 26, 1877. In 1878 Mr. Blee was elected county commissioner and re-elected in 1881 and 1884, running ahead of his ticket each time, sufficient indication of the estimation in which he is held by his fellow citizens. He is a man of force and much influence in the community. Politically he is a Democrat. Mrs. Blee died January 21, 1878.

ANDREW BRITTAI, farmer, P. O. Washingtonville, was born in Derry Township, this county, five miles from his present residence, September 4, 1804. His parents were Samuel and Sarah Brittain, of whom mention is made in the sketch of Nathaniel Brittain. Our subject lived with his father until his marriage, when he moved to his present residence, which at that time was owned by his father; later our subject bought it from the estate and has since owned it. March 26, 1835, he married Mary, daughter of Andrew Sheep. Mrs. Brittain was born October 14, 1808, on the place where she has always lived, and which was formerly owned by her father. To their union three children have been born: James Barber, born March 15, 1836, died October 5, 1857; Elizabeth Ann, born August 11, 1837, resides with her parents, and Sarah E., born November 22, 1839, wife of William B. Low, of Anthony Township. Mr. Brittain has always been a farmer and has held several township offices. He and wife and family are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which for nearly thirty years he has been an elder. He has always been a hard-working industrious man, and has the respect of the people among whom his life has been passed, and is now one of the oldest residents of the township.

NATHANIEL BRITTAI, retired farmer, P. O. Danville, was born February 15, 1807, in the cabin which stood near his present home. His grandfather, Nathaniel Brittain, was a native of Northampton County, where he died in 1817; was a soldier in the Revolution and served in the war against the Indians on the frontier. His son, Samuel, subject's father, was born and reared in Northampton County, and immediately after his marriage, in 1796, came with his young wife to what was then the wilderness of Northumberland County, settled on the place now occupied by his son and built a log cabin. He was always a farmer, and cleared the tract of 300 acres which he had bought on what was known as the Montgomery Patent. He was born February 28, 1770, and died May 19, 1841, aged seventy-one years. His wife, Sarah Silliman, was born in Northampton County August 19, 1773, and died September 3, 1845. Their children were Jane, who died in 1863; Isaiah, died also in 1863, leaving four children; Samuel, who died in 1818, aged sixteen years; Andrew, residing in this township; Sarah died in 1846, and Nathaniel. Our subject has resided all his life, except seven years, on his present place, where he was born. Until his twenty-fourth year he worked on his father's farm, helping to clear and cultivate it. Then, in partnership with his brother, Andrew, he bought a farm in this township, to which they removed and resided seven years. His father dying, our subject returned home and cultivated the farm for his mother for three years, and on her death bought the farm on which he has since lived. About fourteen years ago he retired, and was never engaged in any occupation except farming. May 25, 1854, he married Rebecca, daughter of Andrew Sheep, who was a carpenter by trade and also owned a farm in this township. She was born April 8, 1813. They have no children, but have adopted Theresa, daughter of William Dildine of Columbia County, who is now the wife of Eli Appleman, and with her husband lives on her adopted father's farm. Mr. Brittain has served as administrator of six estates, thus showing the confidence in which he is held by the community. He has held all the important offices in his township, and was once elected justice of the peace, but refused to accept. For nine years he was a lieutenant in the old State militia, and in every station of life has discharged his duties with fidelity and honesty. To-day, one of the oldest men in the township, with all his faculties unimpaired, he is a good specimen of a self-made man, and his standing in the community is excelled by none.

HENRY COOPER, farmer and stockdealer, P. O. Washingtonville, is a grandson of Abraham Cooper, who came from Bucks County, near Philadelphia, in 1810; settled the farm now occupied by his grandson, buying it from his brother Daniel, who had purchased it from the Montgomery estate. His son Abraham was the father of Henry. The farm was bequeathed to his brother, Peter, from whom Abraham bought it four years later. He farmed it three or four years before his death, when he rented it to Henry. He was born in December, 1805, and died in November, 1871, a member of the German Reformed Church. His wife was Mary Catherine Dieffenbach, and their children were as follows: Elizabeth, wife of Reuben Lobach, a farmer in this township; Samuel, a farmer, who lives in Michigan; Susan, who was the wife of John Morris, and died in Michigan about twelve years ago; Aaron, unmarried, resides in Iowa, and our subject, the second child, who was born September 9, 1838, in Liberty Township. When he was less than three years of age his father bought the farm adjoining the homestead on which he lived



twelve years. He then bought the Daniel Carr property on the other side, which his son owns. In 1862 his father built the brick house in which our subject now resides, and the latter remained on the old place until after his father's death. A year after that event he took possession and now owns both, aggregating over 200 acres. Mr. Cooper also deals largely in stock, and is the heaviest feeder of stock on any one farm in Montour County. In 1884 he helped his half-brother, John, the sole issue of his father's second marriage, to buy the Frosty Valley mill, in Valley Township. A few days later it was destroyed by fire, and Mr. Cooper advanced the money to rebuild it and now does all the merchant work there, John doing the custom work. March 9, 1864, he married Mary, daughter of Vincent R. Shultz, of West Hemlock, and three children were born to this union: Lloyd Clarence, born January 31, 1867; Vincent Welington, born May 16, 1868 and Charles Calvin, born January 20, 1875, all living with their parents. Mr. Cooper takes considerable interest in politics but does not hold office. He is a member of the German Reformed Church, and his wife of the Methodist Episcopal. He is known as one of the most progressive and thorough-going farmers in the county.

GIDEON P. DIETRICH, retired, Washingtonville, is a grandson of Jacob Dietrich, who came from Germany and settled in Berks County, where he died. His son, John Jacob, was the father of Gideon P., and was born in Greenwich Township, Berks County, where he died at the age of eighty-four years. His widow, *nee* Christina Pfeiffer, survived him several years. They had eleven children—eight sons and three daughters—of whom three are deceased. The living are Samuel P., in Berks County on his father's farm; Solomon, a miller in Albany Township; Moses, in Greenwich Township; Charles, in Albany Township; Polly, wife of Charles Greenwalt, of Greenwich Township; Sallie, wife of Peter Kline, of Reading; Caroline, wife of Peter Krause, of Greenwich Township, all in Berks County, and Gideon P. The last named was born in Berks County, April 22, 1815; lived with his father until he was twenty-three years of age. He learned the trade of milling which he followed seventeen years, fourteen of which were passed in this part of the country. In 1854 he abandoned milling and bought his father-in-law's farm in this township, where he now resides. He also owns two other farms as well as house property in Danville. Since 1879, he has lived retired. In 1848 he married Susanna Moser, who was born October 6, 1819, and four children blessed their union: Peter M., married Annie Yoder, and resides on his father's farm; Mary Ann, wife of George W. Miller, of this township, residing on one of her father's farms; Sallie, wife of Daniel Wagner, of this township, residing on her father's farm, and Caroline, who died when seven years old. Mr. Dietrich has been overseer of the poor for sixteen years, and served as school director ten years. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, of which he was deacon for seventeen years, and elder for five years, when increasing infirmities compelled his resignation. Politically he is a Democrat. Since 1880, the Washingtonville and Northern Montour Agricultural Society has held its fair on Mr. Dietrich's old homestead.

DANIEL FRAZIER (deceased) was a native of Danville, of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His parents came to Danville, where the father died about sixty years ago, and the mother some thirty-five years later. Their children were James, William, Alexander, Thomas, Daniel, Christiana, Agnes and Sarah, and two who died in childhood. None of the family are now living; Daniel was born in 1815 and died March 28, 1879. He worked for his father until the latter's death, when he bought the home farm from the estate, and many years after sold it to the Reading Railroad Company, whose depot now stands upon it, as does also a large part of the newer portion of Danville. In 1852 he bought and moved to the farm in Derry Township where his widow now resides and where he died. He always followed farming and in 1841 was elected the first sheriff of Montour County after its separation from Columbia. From youth until his death he was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church and was a man much respected by all who knew him. December 27, 1840, he married Miss Ellen, daughter of Jacob Olwine of Schuylkill County, and born in Reading in 1816. Mrs. Frazier bore her husband seven children, two dying in infancy, a daughter, Alice, at the age of twenty-seven years and eight months. The living are James O., sheriff of the county; Mary Isabella, wife, of James E. Steaker, of Washingtonville; Hannah M., living with her mother; Edward D., married to Jane, daughter of Samuel Herr and resides in Valley Township. After her husband's death Mrs. Frazier sold part of the farm and removed to the other half, where she now resides in comfortable and pleasant circumstances.

JEREMIAH D. GEIGER, merchant, Washingtonville, is a grandson of Philip and Moriah Geiger, the former a resident of Berks County. Philip's son Henry was the father of our subject and was born in Berks County June 10, 1802, and died here May 31, 1877, aged seventy-four years, eleven months and twenty-one days. He married in Berks County and came to Limestone Township in 1843, and some years later bought a farm in the same township. In 1867 he gave up farming and removed to Washingtonville, where he lived retired. He was a prominent member of the Lutheran Church in that place, being at different times trustee, deacon and elder. He was prompt in his attendance at the church, and took great interest in everything pertaining to it. He was a kind hearted man and universally esteemed. His wife was Anna Derr, daughter of Samuel and Catherine

Derr, and a native of Berks County, born July 3, 1802, and died here March 20, 1875, aged seventy-two years, eight months and seventeen days; a member of the Lutheran Church, and was noted for her charitable acts. They had ten children, three of whom died in infancy, and a son, Samuel, who died August 9, 1858, unmarried, at the age of twenty-seven years and six months. The surviving children are as follows: Sarah, unmarried, and residing on the homestead in Washingtonville; William, married to Elsie Mosteller, and residing at Limestoneville; Henry, married to Anna Mauger, residing in Northumberland County; Levi, married to Anna Herr, lives in Limestone Township on the homestead; Catherine, wife of John Lydecker, of Riverside, Northumberland County, and J. D., the youngest son. Our subject was born April 4, 1840, in Berks County, ten miles from Reading. In his youth he learned shoemaking, at which he worked seven years. He then worked on the farm three years, and at the removal of his father, took it and worked it four years. He then engaged in mercantile business in Washingtonville until 1872, in partnership with F. W. Ream. After two years he bought his partner's interest and a year later went to Northumberland County. At Shamokin, six months later, he formed a partnership with Amos Ohl, and December 5, 1875, engaged in mercantile business until August, 1876. They then returned to Washingtonville, where Mr. Geiger has since the last of that year been engaged in business for himself. November 2, 1885, he was appointed postmaster at Washingtonville. He married, November 9, 1865, Miss Mary Ann, daughter of John Ream, of Limestone Township. She was born September 9, 1841, in Lancaster County, and has borne her husband four children: Calvin, born August 31, 1866; Ida May, born June 18, 1868, and Claude W., born November 4, 1879, all living with their parents, and Oscar Allen, born October 8, 1883, died March 3, 1885. Mr. Geiger has been treasurer of the borough for the last three years, has been school director for nine years, and he and Mrs. Geiger are members of the Lutheran Church. He is also secretary of the Sabbath-school and leader of the church choir. The following is a list of the relatives of Paul Geiger, great-grandfather of our subject: John Paul, ship "Samuel," from Rotterdam, August 30, 1737; Christian, "Charming Polly," Plymouth, October 8, 1737; \*Wilhelm, "Charming Polly," Plymouth, October, 1737; Hans, "Two Sisters," Rotterdam, September 9, 1738; Hans Jacob, "Betsy," Deal, August 27, 1739; Jacob, Sr., "Phoenix," Rotterdam, September 1, 1743; Jacob, Jr., "Phoenix," Rotterdam, September 1, 1743; Johan Frederick, "Paliena," Leith, October 25, 1748; Paul, "Fane," Cowes, October 17, 1749; †George, "Fane," Cowes, October 17, 1749; Johannes, "Anderson," Rotterdam, August 26, 1751; Tacitus, "Saint Andrew," Rotterdam, September 14, 1751; Jacob, "Duke," Portsmouth, September 14, 1751; Johan Michael, "Louisa," Rotterdam, November 8, 1752; Johan Adam, "Phoenix," Rotterdam, November 22, 1752; Joseph, "Louisa," Rotterdam, October 13, 1753; Johannes, "Halifax," Rotterdam, October 26, 1754; John George, "Richmond," Rotterdam, October 20, 1764; Jacob, "Crawford," Rotterdam, November 23, 1770.

JACOB P. HOFFA, physician, Washingtonville, Penn., is a grandson of Jacob and Rachel (Follmer) Hoffa, the latter's history dating back over a century, and whose family belonged to the pioneers of this country. The former was born May 20, 1800, in Reading, Berks Co., Penn., and descended from German lineage. He came to Northumberland County when quite a boy, and learned the carpenter trade under John Deeter, of Chillisquaque, and afterward became an extensive contractor. After his marriage with Rachel Follmer, who had inherited large landed estate from her father, he engaged extensively in farming; and having purchased large timber tracts in Clinton and Lycoming Counties he erected saw-mills and began the manufacture of lumber on a large scale, in which he continued for over twenty years. He amassed a considerable fortune, and died May 15, 1882. His wife died August 26, 1867. There are four sons and one daughter living: John Hoffa, Turbot Township, Northumberland County; Samuel F. Hoffa, Milton, same county; Sarah Ann, married to John Shalter, Limestoneville, Montour County; Cyrus Hoffa, Lewisburg, Union County, and Reuben Hoffa, Reading—all of the State of Pennsylvania.

John Hoffa, father of Jacob P. Hoffa, was born May 3, 1826, at the old homestead on which he now lives and inherited it from his grandfather, John Follmer, being one of the finest farms in central Pennsylvania, comprising a tract of 220 acres. John Hoffa has followed farming all his life, and is one of the most enterprising and progressive farmers of the age, keeping abreast with all the modern improvements pertaining to the art and science of farming, and at all times refusing offers of political preferment, has made farming a success. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, and takes great interest in its welfare and advancement. He is also an active member of the State Board of Agriculture, having been called upon at various times to write essays with respect to farming. His first wife, Sarah Ann Schaeffer, daughter of Peter Schaeffer, of Watsontown, Northumberland Co., Penn., died December 7, 1864. Three children of their union died in infancy. Those now living are Catharine Ann, wife of J. D. Smith, Kansas; Jacob P. Hoffa; Daniel H., in Kansas; John Follmer and William Francis (twins), in Lewisburg. His second

\*Was under sixteen years old.

†Fifty acres of land in Hanover Township, Penn.



wife was Catharine Litchard by whom he had two children: Cora M., wife of H. McGinnis, of Allenwood, Union Co., Penn., and Cyrus, living with his father. Mrs. Catharine Hoffa died September 24, 1878. Later he married Margaret Follmer, his present wife.

Dr. Jacob P. Hoffa was born June 26, 1852. After receiving a thorough common-school education he attended the academy at Limestoneville and completed his education at Selinsgrove Missionary Institute, after which he was in the mercantile business for his grandfather during the period of a year and a half, in Lycoming County. He then taught school four years. During the latter part of that time he began reading medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. U. Q. Davis, of Milton, Penn., and graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in March, 1876. In the same month he came to Washingtonville, and the following winter took a post-graduate course at the same college, thus qualifying himself thoroughly in his profession. Since then he has resided in Washingtonville, and has established a large and lucrative practice.

On January 8, 1878, he married Miss Clara A., daughter of William and Sarah Smith, of Limestone Township. She was born July 18, 1856, and two children have been born to their union: John Sidney, born July 23, 1879, and Willie Huber, born September 12, 1881.

Dr. Hoffa has been three times elected burgess of Washingtonville, first in 1879. He has been president of the Montour County Medical Society, is a member of the State Medical Society, and was elected to the State Legislature in 1884, and re-elected in 1886. He is now serving his second term, his constituents sending him back well pleased with the manner in which he represented them during his first term.

He is a member of Derry Lodge, No. 759, I. O. O. F., in which he has passed all the chairs. He and Mrs. Hoffa are members of the Lutheran Church. He is active in the Sabbath-school and is teacher of the senior Bible class. As a man and a physician he has the esteem and confidence of the people among whom he lives.

MARTIN KELLEY, farmer and lumberman, P. O. Washingtonville, is a son of Martin Kelley, who was a farmer and hotel-keeper of Liberty Township, where he died. The latter's wife, Catherine Billmeyer, was a native of Liberty Township and died in Danville a short time before her husband. Their children were John, who died in Northumberland County; Fannie died in Liberty Township; Jesse died near Milton; Andrew died in Liberty; Benjamin was hurt in a saw-mill which caused his death shortly after; Jacob died in Valley; George is a farmer in Liberty Township, and married to Annie Billmeyer. Martin is the only other survivor, and was born in Liberty Township, April 10, 1835, and was quite young when his parents died. He worked among relatives until the breaking out of the Rebellion, when he enlisted in Company C, Fourteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, the "Columbia Guards." The company served a month over its term. A year after his return Mr. Kelly married Mary A., daughter of Franklin Ryan, of Muncy. She was born June 4, 1845, and has borne her husband six children, the youngest of whom, Fannie M., born April 26, 1881, died February 7, 1882. The others, who live with their parents, are Ida E., Emma L., Bruce C., Jesse B. and Mamie V. Mr. Kelly has never held any public office but attends strictly to his own business. Politically he is a Democrat.

JAMES W. LOWRIE, farmer, P. O. Washingtonville, is a grandson of Samuel Lowrie, who with eight brothers and one sister immigrated to this country from Scotland, and settled in various parts of Pennsylvania. Samuel took up a tract where his grandson now resides. He had a family of two sons and three daughters. Samuel, the father of our subject, was born in 1800, where his son now resides, and died in 1857. He was a farmer, and an elder of the Presbyterian Church. His wife, Helen Cole, died in 1886, in her eightieth year. Their children were Elizabeth, Margaret, Rhoda, Newell S., Harriet, Emily, Mary, Agnes, Rebecca, Belle and James W. The last named was born April 16, 1841, in the house in which he now resides, but which he has remodeled since it became his property. He worked on the farm until the death of his father when he took charge of the homestead, and conducted it for his mother until 1865. He then bought it from the estate, and has since resided on it. The timber he sold on the ground, and his farm is now in a high state of cultivation. In 1868 he married Miss Priscilla, daughter of William Bryson, of Northumberland County. Mrs. Lowrie was born May 10, 1845, and graduated at Muncy Seminary. Eight children were born to their union as follows: Helen C., Ata, Saidie, Hattie B., Mary W., Blanche, Anna and Walter. Mr. Lowrie has held county and township offices, and in every relation of life has discharged his duties in a manner highly creditable. In 1862 he entered the army and served nine months in Company G, One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Regiment, in which he was color bearer, which dangerous service he accepted when a volunteer was called for. He was honorably discharged at the end of his term. Mr. and Mrs. Lowrie are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is an elder. Politically he is a Republican.

MATTHEW L. SHEEP, farmer, P. O. Jerseytown, is a grandson of Andrew Sheep, who immigrated from New Jersey and settled in this township, on a farm adjoining the one now occupied by our subject. He had eight children, only three of whom now survive, Mary, Rebecca and Elizabeth. James was the father of our subject, and was born on the



homestead, May 11, 1800. Some years after his marriage he inherited a portion of the farm where his son now resides, and there he died October 18, 1881, a prominent member of the Derry Presbyterian Church. His wife was Sarah P., a daughter of Samuel Lowrie, of this township. She was born May 3, 1797, and died in 1849. Their children were Andrew J. (deceased), who emigrated to Texas and there died; Samuel, died in his twentieth year, and Matthew L. The last named was born April 26, 1834, and lived with his father until the latter's death. Two years after his marriage he took possession of the home farm, having paid for the interest of the other heirs. March 29, 1855, he married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Robert McKee. She was born December 28, 1834, in Anthony Township, and before marriage taught school in Anthony and Derry Townships. To their union six children have been born: Lloyd S., holds the position of principal of a large academy in Elizabeth City, N. C., married Pauline Hinton of that place, where they reside; Jennie, at home; J. Willis, married Ida Smith, and resides on a part of his father's farm; S. Laura, a teacher, resides with her parents; Sarah L. and M. Clyde, at home. Mr. Sheep held several township offices and many positions of trust, such as guardianships, etc. He and Mrs. Sheep are members of the Derry Presbyterian Church, of which he is treasurer.

JOHN K. SHULTZ, farmer, P. O. Washingtonville, is a great grandson of Philip Shultz, who came from Germany and settled on a farm in New Jersey, where he died. His son, Jacob, grandfather of J. K., was born in New Jersey, and came to this county in 1790, settling first at Limestoneville. Later he came to the farm occupied by our subject. Here he lived until his death in 1804, when, with other old settlers, he was carried off by typhoid fever. He was the father of eight children, only one of whom survives—Elizabeth, widow of Daniel Mostellar, residing in West Hemlock Township, aged eighty-seven years. Peter was the father of John K., and was three years old when his parents came to this county. He was reared on the farm, and after his marriage moved to the farm adjoining, where he resided fifty years, dying July 11, 1862, aged seventy-five years. He was an elder in the old Derry Church for many years, and politically a Democrat. His wife was Sarah Robbins, of Columbia County, Penn., who died in 1872, aged eighty-one years, and their children were William, a resident of Columbia County; Jonathan P., who died in Northumberland County in 1886; Jacob and Vincent, living in West Hemlock Township; James, in Rush Township, Northumberland County; Benjamin F., a physician in Danville; Peter, in Anthony Township; Mary K., wife of Benjamin Crossley in Michigan, and John K. Our subject was born in the old house, March 5, 1825, and lived with his father until his marriage, when he moved to the adjoining farm in West Hemlock Township, which he still owns. There he lived for nineteen years, when, having previously bought the old homestead and erected a fine house, he removed to it in October, 1874. October 11, 1855, he married Rebecca, daughter of James McVicker, of Anthony Township. She was born June 6, 1826, and seven children have blessed their union, the eldest and youngest dying in infancy. The others are Charles W., married to Sarah J. Watt; Anna M., wife of William Robinson; Clarence J., Sarah C. and William Barber, at home with their parents. Mr. Shultz has held several township offices, and is now justice of the peace. He has always been a farmer, to which he has added cattle and horse dealing at times. He, Mrs. Shultz and three children are members of the Derry Presbyterian Church. Politically he is a Democrat.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

JOHN J. BIEBER, farmer, P. O. Pott's Grove, was born in the Muncy Valley, Lycoming Co., Penn., December 4, 1855, son of George and Charlotte (Shipman) Bieber. Nicholas Bieber, great-grandfather of our subject, came to America from Belgium, and located in Lycoming County, Penn. John Bieber, the grandfather, was also born in Belgium, and came with his father to the Muncy Valley. George Bieber, father of John, Jr., was born in Wolf Township, Lycoming Co., Penn., and was married in Moreland Township, same county, to Miss Charlotte Shipman, a native of Lycoming County, and daughter of Jacob and Catharine (Brittain) Shipman, natives of New Jersey, the former now living in Lycoming County at the age of eighty-nine years, the oldest inhabitant in his township; latter deceased. Mr. and Mrs. George Bieber were the parents of seven children, of whom John J. is the fourth in order of age. Our subject spent his early life in Wolf Township, Lycoming County, from there removed to Muncy Creek Township, Lycoming County, and in 1884 came to his present location in this township. His mother's great-grandfather, John

Malachi Shamp, a native of England, was stolen from his home in his boyhood days. The subject of this sketch was married in this county, February 13, 1883, to Miss Mary L. Murray, daughter of William and Jane Murray. Mr. and Mrs. Bieber are the parents of one child, Amy Shipman. Mr. Bieber is a member of the Lutheran Church, Mrs. Bieber of the Presbyterian Church. He has 120 acres of land being the old Murray farm. He taught school four terms in Lycoming County, and is now secretary of the school board of Liberty Township.

HENRY BILLMEYER, farmer, P. O. Pott's Grove, Northumberland County, was born in Liberty Township, Montour Co., Penn., on the old homestead where he now resides, October 17, 1842, son of Jacob and Eliza (Hower) Billmeyer. He was married in 1869 to Miss Hannah, daughter of James and Sarah (Smith) Flora, and a native of Anthony Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Billmeyer are the parents of three children: Sarah Ann, James Henry and Carrie Ellen. The parents are members of the Oak Grove Lutheran Church. Mr. Billmeyer owns the home farm of 111 acres, and nearly 200 acres in another farm in Liberty Township. He was in partnership with his brother Alexander in the lumber business in 1874, and then was engaged in the same line for himself at Mooresburg and Limestoneville. They commenced in an old water saw-mill, and the business has always been successful. The lumber was sold to the Lehigh Valley Company. Mr. Billmeyer has put up fine improvements, and has one of the very finest barns in the county.

SAMUEL BLUE, Pott's Grove, Northumberland County, was born in Liberty Township, Montour County, February 22, 1832, a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Himulrich) Blue. Samuel Blue, grandfather of our subject, and an early settler in this community, went to the war of 1812, and died at Black Rock. After his death his widow married a Mr. Bondeman. Frederick Blue, father of our subject, was born in what is now Montour County, Pennsylvania, and was here reared; he married Elizabeth Himulrich, born June 6, 1808, and they were the parents of the following named children: Samuel; Martin, living near Washingtonville, Derry Township; George (deceased), and William (deceased). The father died February 24, 1870. He was county treasurer and sheriff of Montour County. The mother died February 17, 1863. The subject of this sketch was reared in this township and made his home with his parents until his marriage, which occurred February 2, 1860, with Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Wolf. She died March 14, 1862, at the age of twenty-seven years, eleven months, twenty-four days, and is buried in the Billmeyer graveyard. She left one child, Charles W., born March 29, 1861. Mr. Blue then married, December 21, 1865, Miss Clarinda Murray, by whom he had the following named children: Carrie May, Wilfred Murray, Frank Howard, George Herbert, Edgar and Jennie Belle. Mr. Blue is a member of the Presbyterian Church, as is also his wife and some of the family. He bought his present farm of 150 acres in 1871. He also has 160 acres in Northumberland County, over half being timber land. His farm and improvements have cost him \$150 an acre. Mr. Blue was elected treasurer of Montour County in the fall of 1877, and served three years.

THOMAS J. CLARK, farmer, P. O. Mooresburg, was born July 13, 1837, son of John and Margaret (Maxwell) Clark. John Clark, Sr., grandfather of our subject, was born in Ireland, and from there came to Pennsylvania, locating about 1786 in what is now Liberty Township, Montour County, where Mrs. Dr. Weaver now resides, and there lived the rest of his days. He served in the Revolutionary war and had a finger shot off (his brother, Robert, was a colonel in the same war). He and his wife are both buried in the Derry Presbyterian Church graveyard. They had two children John and Ann (both deceased). John Clark, Jr., the father of our subject, was born in what is now Liberty Township, Montour Co., Penn., and was here reared. He was a soldier in the war of 1812; was married October 23, 1818, by Rev. John Patterson, to Margaret, daughter of William and Jane (Bolles) Maxwell, latter a daughter of Judge Bolles, of Bollesburg, and they were the parents of the following named children: Sarah, deceased wife of William McMahon; Robert Finney (deceased), was a prominent lawyer of Bloomsburg, Penn.; John (deceased); Alexander, in Illinois; Samuel, an architect in Washington, D. C.; James, in Geneseo, Ill.; William, in Dallas County, Iowa, and Thomas J. The father died in 1870; his widow resides with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Clark. The subject of this sketch was reared in Liberty Township, and was married October 25, 1864, to Miss Margaret Kyle, a native of Milton, Northumberland Co., Penn., and daughter of Samuel and Jane (Auten) Kyle, both deceased and buried at Milton, the former dying in 1878 and the latter in 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are the parents of nine children: Eleanor H., Margaret Maxwell, Anna Gertrude, William Lowenburg, Charles Wallace, Edith Moore, Martha Hurley, Sarah Finney and George Edward. The parents are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Clark has held the office of justice of the peace ten years, and has also been school director. In politics he is a Democrat. The farm on which he resides contains over 200 acres, and belongs to the heirs of John Clark, which land, originally granted to the Presbyterian Church, was sold to Robin Finney, and has passed down in the family ever since, without any sale having been made.

WILLIAM HENRY (deceased) was born November 20, 1831, in Liberty Township, Montour Co., Penn., son of John and Elizabeth (McClure) Henry, both of whom are deceased and are buried in the Centre graveyard, Liberty Township, this county. Our subject was reared in Montour County and always made it his home. He was twice married, his first wife having died sixteen months after their marriage. Our subject was married November 26, 1865, to Miss Mary Ellen McCracken, a native of this township and daughter of Abraham and Margaret (Vandling) McCracken, former of whom, a native of Northampton County, Penn., is buried in the Chillisquaque Cemetery, latter a native of Northumberland County, Penn., being now a resident of this township. Mr. and Mrs. Henry were the parents of five children, all living; Samuel Peter, Margaret Ann, Clarence Alfred, Hannah Elizabeth and Minna Gerda. The father died January 3, 1878, and is buried in the Chillisquaque Cemetery. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church; in politics a Democrat. He was for twelve years county superintendent of Montour, an office he held longer than any other man had held the same office in the county. He was engaged in educational work from his seventeenth year till the time of his death. Also held several other offices. Mrs. Henry taught school at Danville, this county, in 1864, and in Milton, Northumberland County, in 1865, teaching from her eighteenth year to her twenty-second.

WILLIAM V. KERR, P. O. Mooresburg, was born at the place where he now resides, February 14, 1851, and was here reared to manhood. He has spent his life on the farm, with exception of between the years 1872 and 1876, when he was in partnership with G. P. Reighard, at Mooresburg, this county. He was married November 2, 1876, to Alice, daughter of John B. and Sarah Smith, of Mifflinburg, Penn., and they are the parents of four children, two now living; Joseph H. and John R.; Mary Finney and Louise are deceased. Mr. Kerr has the old homestead of 100 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Kerr are members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he is a Republican.

WILLIAM McMAHON, P. O. Pott's Grove, Northumberland Co., Penn., was born on the farm where he now resides, March 22, 1832, son of John and Mary (Simington) McMahon. His great-grandfather was a native of the North of Ireland, immigrated to America, and settled in the valley of the Juniata River, Penn. John McMahon, grandfather of our subject, became an officer in the patriot army during the Revolution, serving through that struggle. After the war he came from the valley of the Juniata to what is now Montour County, Penn., and took up land around where William now resides. He and his wife are both deceased, and are buried in the Chillisquaque graveyard. John McMahon, father of our subject, was born in the latter part of the last century on the old homestead of his father, in what is now Montour County, and was here reared. He was married about 1826 to Mary Simington, and they were the parents of seven children: Robert, in Pott's Grove, Penn.; Jane, deceased wife of Alexander Clark; William; Elizabeth S., wife of John Durham, in Winona, Minn.; John S., in Wellington, Kas.; Sarah S., wife of Joseph K. Murray, in Liberty Township, this county, and Thomas, in Wellington, Kas. The father of the above died about 1852, and the mother about 1845. They are buried in the Chillisquaque Cemetery. The subject of this sketch was married January 20, 1862, to Miss Selina Mack, a native of Turbot Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., and daughter of Robert and Mary Ann (McFall) Mack, former of whom died September 28, 1884, and is buried in the Harmony Cemetery; latter now resides in Liberty Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. McMahon are the parents of six children: Anna Mary, Charles H., Elizabeth S., Robert Mack, Lucy H. and John Adams. The parents are members of the Chillisquaque Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. McMahon has been elder since about 1874. He has been connected with the schools of Liberty Township as director since 1877. He has 170 acres of land, being the entire old homestead, and also 160 acres on Montour Ridge.

JAMES C. McWILLIAMS, farmer, P. O. Mooresburg, was born in Liberty Township, Montour Co., Penn., May 9, 1841, son of John and Margaret (Caldwell) McWilliams. John McWilliams, father of our subject, was born October 7, 1807, in this township, and here reared to manhood. He was married in this county in March, 1835, to Miss Margaret Caldwell, born December 8, 1816, daughter of James and Mary (Woods) Caldwell, who were married June 12, 1810, the former of whom was born in Ireland, and when two years of age came to America, locating in Pennsylvania; the latter was of Scotch-Irish descent. Mr. and Mrs. James Caldwell were the parents of six children: Robert (deceased); John (deceased); Margaret; Samuel, in Watsontown, Penn.; James Rodgers, near Trenton, N. J. and Lazerus Finney (deceased). James Caldwell, father of the above, died June 9, 1866. His first wife, mother of the above named children, died December 25, 1826; his second wife, whose maiden name was Eleanor Woods, died June 4, 1865. They are buried in the McEwensville Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. John McWilliams are the parents of four children: Mary Ellen, deceased wife of H. B. Kimble, Newark, N. J., in business on Canal Street, New York; James C.; Robert Curry, in Northumberland County, Penn., (he has represented that county in the Pennsylvania General Assembly), and J. Woods, in New York, engaged with the Manhattan Railway. John McWilliams, father of the above, died August 7, 1876, and is buried in the Milton Cemetery. His widow resides at Milton, Penn. James C. McWilliams,



subject of this sketch, was reared in Liberty Township, which he has always made his home. He was married here January 26, 1871, to Miss Elizabeth J., daughter of Judge James and Christina (Yorks) Curry, of Valley Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. McWilliams are the parents of two children: John Curry and Mary Estella. All the family are members of the Presbyterian Church at Mooresburg, in the building of which they were instrumental. Mr. McWilliams is a member of Catawissa Lodge, No. 349, at Catawissa; a member of Bloomsburg Chapter. He has a farm of 230 acres adjoining the old homestead, which belongs to his mother, and which contains 260 acres.

DAN MORGAN, P. O. Pott's Grove, was born in Aberystwyth Parish, South Wales, March 5, 1824, a son of William and Jane (Seer) Morgan. The former was a skilled iron worker in the old country, overseeing a number of hands there. About 1839 or 1840 he came to America, and became engaged in the Mount Savage Iron Works, Maryland. The firm conducting these works soon failed, and he moved northward to Juniata, and there engaged in a tannery. While there he sent for his family who came out in 1844. He remained at Juniata until September 1845, and then engaged in the iron works of the Montour Iron Company, Danville, where he remained until his death, which occurred March 16, 1851; his widow survived him until January 10, 1856. They are buried in the Methodist Cemetery, Danville. They were the parents of the following named children: William; Mary Ann was the wife of James Williams; Thomas; Dan; Jane was the wife of Benjamin Harris; Esther was the wife of Michael Graham, and Gad, all deceased except Dan. The subject of this sketch remained with his parents until 1845, when he left the home at Juniata, and coming to Danville engaged in the Montour Iron Works. In 1851 he became superintendent of the blast furnace for this company, and held that position until 1883, and part of the time he was general superintendent of the entire plant, except the mines. In 1867 he entered the company as a member, and held an interest in the works until 1878, when he withdrew his membership, but still retained his position in the works as general superintendent. He then bought 287 acres of land in Liberty Township, this county, to which he has since added until he now has three farms containing 417 acres, all three places being supplied with the best of farm houses and buildings. In 1877 he came to his farm property and resided on it until 1879, when he went back to Danville, but after residing there until 1881, returned to the farm to make his permanent residence. Mr. Morgan was married December 16, 1849, to Mary Jane, daughter of William and Mary (Merrill) Ephlin, and a native of New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan were the parents of eight children, of whom five are living: William G., married to Ida A. Savage, August 16, 1871 (they have three children, Jennie, Dan and Joe—he was superintendent one year of the Waterman & Co. furnace in 1877); Joseph Henry, married to Bella James, April 12, 1885; John Peter, killed June 25, 1864, at the swing bridge, Danville; George Burlingame, married March 17, 1883, to Ella Gabriel (they have one child, Laura); Dan died April 2, 1861; Robert Seer; James D., died March 10, 1869; and John. Mr. Morgan is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having joined the Blue Lodge with 224 others at Danville.

JOSEPH K. MURRAY, farmer, P. O. Pott's Grove, Northumberland County, was born in Valley Township, Montour Co., Penn., February 5, 1839, son of William and Jane S. (Kerr) Murray. Col. James Murray, the grandfather of our subject, was of Scotch-Irish descent; was a colonel in the patriot army during the Revolutionary war, and after that struggle came to Northumberland County, Penn., where he lived until his death, which occurred in the vicinity of Watsonstown. He owned most of the land north of Pott's Grove, including the present town site. He was three times married, and by his first marriage there was one son. William Murray, father of our subject, was born to the third marriage, in Northumberland County, Penn., where he was reared. From there he removed to what is now Montour County, and taught school until he had completed sixteen years at that profession, part of the time in Northumberland County, part in Montour County. He was in partnership with Robert Kerr in mercantile business both at Mooresburg and Hartleton, Penn. He then went to Valley Township, Montour County; thence to where John Moore now resides in Liberty Township; thence to the south side of the limestone ridge, between Milton and Washingtonville, in Liberty Township, this county, where John Bieber now resides. In that immediate neighborhood he died, at the house of his son-in-law, Samuel Blue, where he had resided the last eight years of his life. He had 270 acres of land, but sold all except 120 acres some time previous to his death, which occurred August 4, 1883; his wife died in 1864, and they are buried in the Chillisquaque Cemetery. They were both members of the Presbyterian Church. William Murray had held the office of school director a great many years, as well as other township offices. Mr. and Mrs. William Murray were the parents of eight children: Margaret Ann, deceased; Clarinda K., wife of Samuel Blue; J. K.; James B.; Lizzie L. and Robert H., twins (Robert H. is deceased); Jennie S., wife of Thomas Bieber, in Pott's Grove, Penn.; Mary L., wife of John Bieber, in Liberty Township, this county. The subject of this sketch made his home with his parents, or on their land, until 1874, when he removed to his present location, and has here since resided. He was married December 21, 1865, to Miss Sarah S., daughter of John McMahon. Mr. and Mrs. Murray

were the parents of eleven children, of whom nine are living: William Edwin, Jennie Simington, Alice Foresman, Clyde Strawbridge, Robert Simington and Charles Howard (twins), Thomas Stewart, Edna Vansant and Mary Elizabeth. John McMahon and Elwood are deceased. The parents are members of the Chillisquaque Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Murray is a ruling elder. Mr. Murray enlisted in the nine months service in 1862, in Company G, One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, colonel, James Johnson. He was mustered in at Harrisburg; thence went to Washington, D. C.; thence to Newport News, on the James River; thence marched to Yorktown, where he lay six months; thence to Williamsburg; thence to White House Landing, on Pamunkey River; thence to Yorktown again, and from there to Washington; thence to Harrisburg, and thence home. He is a member of Grange No. 277, P. of H., Chillisquaque Township. In politics he is a Prohibitionist. He owns a fine farm, which he takes pains to till in the most practical manner, and takes a deep interest in all matters tending toward the elevation of his class.

JAMES B. MURRAY, farmer, P. O. Pott's Grove, Northumberland County, was born in Liberty Township, Montour Co., Penn., November 23, 1840, son of William and Jane (Kerr) Murray. He was reared in Liberty Township and has always made it his home, with the exception of three years, during which he was in the army. He was married December 18, 1875, to Miss Arabella Moore, a native of this county, and daughter of John and Catharine (Voris) Moore, who now reside in this township. Mr. and Mrs. Murray are the parents of two children: Gilbert Voris and Edwin Moore. The parents are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Murray enlisted December 10, 1862, in Company F, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. He was mustered into the service at Harrisburg, and from there went to the Shenandoah Valley to join what afterward became Sheridan's cavalry, and he participated in all the campaigns of those famous troopers from that time until the close of the war. Among others he was at the battle of the Wilderness, at Gettysburg, and all the others up to the last acts of the struggle; and participated in all the movements about the defenses of Petersburg, including the taking of that famous stronghold and Richmond, and the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. He was discharged at Lynchburg, Va., from there went to Washington, thence to Harrisburg, and then returned home. He became sick in the service, and was nearly two months in the hospital, and his health has never fully recovered from the effects of his campaigning. He was under Gen. Gregg, and in the company of Capt. Robinson (afterward Hilburn), in Col. Gregg's regiment. Mr. Murray owns about 120 acres of land.

JOHN K. SHEDDAN, farmer, P. O. Mooresburg, was born on the place he now resides on, in Liberty Township, Montour Co., Penn., May 16, 1828, son of William and Mary (Russell) Sheddán. James Sheddán, grandfather of our subject, was born in Ireland, August, 12, 1744; from there came to America and located in what is now Montour County, in 1774, taking up land, then all timber, where John K. now resides. The tract was then called "Seviceberry Grove, and then in Mahoning Township, Northumberland County. It contained 216 acres, thirty-four perches and allowances. Here he lived the remainder of his life. His wife was born in August, 1749, and they were married November 10, 1773. They were the parents of the following children: Sarah, Margaret, Agnes, William, Anne, Robert, Mary and Elizabeth, all deceased. The father died August 13, 1817; the mother April 17, 1813, and they are buried in the Chillisquaque graveyard. William Sheddán, father of our subject, was born June 2, 1785, at the place where the latter now resides, and here he was reared. He married December 25, 1807, Sarah M. Sharon, a native of Juniata County, Penn., who died April 15, 1813, and is buried in the Chillisquaque graveyard. They were the parents of two children: James and Samuel S. William Sheddán next married Mary Russell, on January 6, 1820, and by her had the following named children: Andrew R., Maria, Isabella, John K. and William B.; of these only John K. and Isabella are living. The father died January 19, 1839, the mother June 5, 1872, and they are both buried in Chillisquaque graveyard. The subject of this sketch was reared at the place of his birth. He was married June 14, 1866, to Miss Marietta, daughter of William and Eleanor (Blaine) Wilson, who was born in Lewis Township, Northumberland Co., Penn. Mr. and Mrs. Sheddán are the parents of one child, William Boyd, born April 8, 1867. He commenced his education in the common schools of his township, and from there went to the Potts Grove Academy, thence to the normal school at Muncy, where he graduated October 1, 1886, carrying off first honors in a class of twenty-four, and delivering the valedictory address. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church. James Sheddán, grandfather of our subject, was an elder in the first presbytery of this district, known as Northumberland Presbytery. William Sheddán was also an elder in the church. The subject of this sketch has been connected with the schools of the township as director, and has also been inspector of elections. He has fifty-five acres, and allowances of the old tract, which formerly consisted of 216 acres and allowances, the grant being given during the reign of George III. Samuel S. Sheddán, half brother of J. K., was a Presbyterian minister, having preached at Warrior Run, Muncy, all in Pennsylvania, and in Rahway, N. J., where he resided at his death in 1875.



ROBERT HENRY SIMINGTON, farmer, P. O. Mooresburg, was born February 2, 1843, on the old homestead where his mother now lives. He was married February 26, 1880, to Miss Anna B., daughter of Joseph H. and Jane M. (Voris) Kerr. Mrs. Simington is a granddaughter of Joseph Kerr, who came to what is now Liberty Township, Montour Co., Penn., from Bucks County, where he was born December 19, 1770, and located on the place William V. Kerr now owns, a portion of a tract which was taken up by Robin Finney, and which has never been sold, having been handed down in the family. There he lived, reared his family and died. He was married to Jane Hine, born March 21, 1775, and they were the parents of nine children: Robert H., Alexander H., Daniel T., Mary Finney, Margaret McFarland, Joseph (who died in infancy), Jane, Effie S. and Joseph H. Joseph Kerr, Sr., was the son of an officer in the Revolutionary war. He died in April, 1856; his wife died in February, 1853. They are buried in the Chillisquaque graveyard. Joseph H. Kerr, son of the above, was born on the old homestead August 24, 1815. He was married February 14, 1841, to Jane McLanathan Voris, and they were the parents of two children: William V., on the old homestead, and Anna B., wife of our subject, Joseph H. Kerr, father of the above, died December 30, 1876, and is buried at Milton, Penn. His widow makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Simington. Our subject and wife are the parents of four children, of whom three are living: Robert, William and Jerome. Hattie Jeanette was born February 20, 1881, died September 10, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Simington are members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he is a Prohibitionist.

BENJAMIN C. STARNER, farmer, P. O. Washingtonville, was born in Northumberland County, Penn., February 17, 1831, son of Solomon and Mary (Clark) Starnier, both of whom are deceased. Solomon Starnier, father of our subject, came to Montour County in 1843, and located at first in Derry Township, but in 1847 removed to what is now Liberty Township, and here resided until his death, which occurred about 1866; his widow survived him some three or four years. They are buried in the Washingtonville Cemetery. They were the parents of four children, all living: Benjamin C.; Louisa; Charles, in Watsonstown, Penn.; Mary, wife of Aaron Moser, in Washingtonville. The subject of this sketch was married November 13, 1856, to Miss Sarah A. Bogart, daughter of John and Mary (Ganmer) Bogart, and a native of Limestone Township, this county, but removed to Liberty Township, where the parents died, the father in 1873, the mother in about 1838. She is buried at Strawberry Ridge Church, and he at Washingtonville. Mr. and Mrs. Starnier are the parents of the following named children: Mary Alice; Rebecca Jane, wife of William A. Cornelison, in Liberty Township; Sarah Ellen, William Clark, and an infant deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Starnier and family are members of the Oak Grove Lutheran Church. Mr. Starnier has held the position of auditor of Liberty Township since 1877. In politics he is a Democrat. He owns the old homestead of his father consisting of 113 acres.

MOSES L. STECKER, farmer, P. O. Washingtonville, was born in Hemlock Township, Columbia Co., Penn., May 3, 1820, son of Michael and Margaret (Lottiz) Stecker, George Stecker, the paternal grandfather of our subject, settled in Dry Lands, Northampton Co., Penn., where he died when his son Michael was only thirteen years old. He was twice married, reared five children by his first wife and nine by his second. The children by his first wife were George, John, Rosette, Ann, Catharine; by his second wife: Elizabeth Welpser, Susan Reecer, Christian Reecer, Mariah Grotz, Sarah Grotz, Margaret Switzer, Henry (a preacher), Melchior and Michael (twins). Michael Stecker, the father of Moses L., was the only one who came to Columbia County, locating in Hemlock Township, and after making a deal in land, secured 100 acres. In 1826, becoming dissatisfied with this location, he moved to New York State; but two years later returned, and lived in Hemlock Township until his death which occurred about 1867. His wife had preceded him by several years. They are buried at New Columbia, Penn. They were the parents of twelve children; George (deceased); Mary (deceased); Moses L.; John, who was murdered in Minnesota, his body being found in a lake; Adaline; Gideon (deceased), Josiah, in Bloomsburg; Nathan, in San Francisco; Crissie; Clarissa Leviana and Charity (twins), and Abraham (deceased). Our subject was reared at the home of his parents until the age of eighteen years, when he came to Washingtonville, and worked for Neil McCoy as clerk; then with him removed to White Hall, and remained with him three years altogether. He afterward harvested, etc., until fall, and then went to Easton, Penn., where, in the following spring, he hired a boat and engaged in the carrying trade on the canal, but in the fall he again came to Milton, and taking another boat engaged in hauling commission goods until the fall, making two trips to Philadelphia and one to Baltimore. From Milton he came to his present location, and was married December 5, 1843, to Miss Sarah, daughter of John and Christianna (Stine) Stineman, both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Stecker are the parents of three children: Margaret S., wife of George W. Vandine, live on the Stecker farm, and have five children: Christiann, wife of James Madden (they had two children, she lives in Lititz, Lancaster Co., Penn.), and James E., in Washingtonville. Mr. and Mrs. Stecker are members of the Presbyterian Church. He has been connected with the schools of Liberty Township as presbyter, and has been tax collector. In politics he was a Democrat until the death of President Harrison, but has been a Republi-



can ever since. Mr. Stecker built a wood working shop in about 1856, and has since manufactured a good deal of furniture. Since 1876 he has been making a specialty of arm chairs. He has about ninety acres of land. Mr. Stecker's great-grandfather came from Germany.

GEORGE SURVER, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Upper Dublin Township, Montgomery Co., Penn., July 8, 1820. When four years of age he went to Lower Providence, same county, and there remained until he was twenty-seven years of age, thence removed to Worcester Township, and there was married (when twenty-eight years old) December 25, 1848, to Miss Sarah Highly, a native of Montgomery County, born and reared in Lower Providence Township. Mr. and Mrs. Surver were the parents of four children: Jesse C., married to Sarah Fulmer, in Milton, Penn.; George (deceased); Edwin (deceased); Sarah Jane, widow of Winfield Pennbecker, and Hannah M. Surver, married to James Wagner. Mrs. Surver died September 5, 1865, aged forty-seven years, eight months and twenty-three days, and is buried at Mausdale. Mr. Surver next married October 22, 1867, Sarah Catharine Hendrickson, who was born June 10, 1840, in Liberty Township, this county, daughter of John and Mary Ann (Davis) Hendrickson, both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Surver are the parents of the following named children: David D.; Bertha and Lloyd. Mr. Surver removed after his first marriage, in April, 1859, to Montour County, and bought 110 acres in Liberty Township, to which he has added thirty-five, until he now has 145 acres. He and his wife are members of the Mausdale Reformed Church. He has held several offices in the church, such as trustee, deacon, etc. He was a teacher in the Sunday-school and was a superintendent of the Sunday-school at Madden's Church four years. For fifteen years he was a school director, and was one year tax-collector. In politics he is a staunch Democrat.

THOMAS M. VANSANT, farmer, P. O. Pott's Grove, Northumberland County, was born in Bucks County, Penn., June 26, 1821, son of Amos and Margaret (McMahan) Vansant. Gabriel Vansant, grandfather of our subject, came to what is now Montour County from Bucks County, about 1800, and located where Samuel Manger now resides, near Mooresburg. Here he lived until his death, which occurred about 1808. He is buried at Danville, this county. His widow died about 1841, and is also buried at Danville. They were the parents of eight children. Amos Vansant, father of our subject, was born in Bucks County, Penn., and was reared in that county and Montour. He was married in this county, about 1809, to Margaret McMahan, and after his marriage went back to Bucks County. They were the parents of the following named children: John, Amos, James, Gabriel, all deceased, and Thomas M. The mother of this family died in 1825, and Mr. Vansant was married some two years later to a Miss Torbet, and they were the parents of the following named children: Anthony, Margaret, Simpson and Edward, latter deceased. The father died in 1860, and is buried in Bucks County, Penn. Thomas M. Vansant was brought back to Montour County, when he was but four years of age, by his uncle, Benjamin McMahan, by wagon, taking four days on the trip, and with his uncle, John McMahan, made his home until he was twenty-five years of age; then went west as far as Illinois, and after two years he came back to Montour County, and again made his home with his Uncle John until June 26, 1858, when he was married to Eliza A. Best, a native of Union County, and daughter of Peter and Henrietta (Mensch) Best; her mother resides at Winfield, Union County. After their marriage they removed to their present location, which Mr. Vansant had bought four or five years before, consisting of about sixty acres, to which he has added until he now has ninety acres. Mr. and Mrs. Vansant were the parents of five children, two of whom are living: Margaret Henrietta and Thomas; Arietta Fowler, William and Edgar Ivans are deceased. The parents are members of the Chillisquaque Presbyterian Church, in which he has been an elder since 1875. He has been township auditor most of the time since 1856, and has been connected with the schools of Liberty Township, as director, for a number of years. In politics he is a Democrat.

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## CHAPTER XIX.

### LIMESTONE TOWNSHIP.

JACOB S. BALLIET, merchant, P. O. Limestoneville, is a grandson of John Balliet, a former resident of Lehigh County, who with his family came to this part of the country in 1807, settling in what is now Limestoneville, buying the stone house built by Robert Caldwell in 1800. This house is now owned by William Balliet, a brother of Jacob S.,

and is occupied by J. C., a son of William, and is yet in a good state of repair. When John Balliet came here he took up a large tract of land, which he afterward divided between his two children, John and Mary, the latter being the wife of Solomon Levan. This land is now divided into five farms. The wife of the elder John Balliet was Catharine Mickle; they had but the two children named, both of whom were born and married in Lehigh County. Both of the elder Balliets died about fifty years ago. The father of our subject, also named John, was born March 14, 1784, and died February 1, 1854. His wife was Elizabeth Schreiber, who was born September 7, 1782, and died March 25, 1858. John Balliet was always a farmer, never engaging in any other occupation. He had a large farm, and when comparatively a young man, gave up labor, his sons carrying on the farm. He removed from the old homestead to a house which he had built, and which is now occupied by Jacob S. In this house both he and his wife died. He was a leading man in the Paradise German Reformed Church, of which he had been both deacon and elder for many years. He had six sons and two daughters, all but one of whom are now living: Nancy, wife of Abraham Stroub, who died over twenty years ago; John living near McEwensville, Penn., now eighty years of age; Stephen, seventy-eight years old, living on part of the old homestead in Northumberland County; Levi, a merchant in Milton, Penn.; Josiab, in Lockport, N. Y.; William, in Limestoneville; Mary, widow of John Clapp, in Milton, and Jacob S., the youngest but one of the family. He was born October 24, 1824, at Limestoneville, Penn., in same house where he now resides, and lived with his father until his marriage, after which he farmed a part of the home farm which he got from the estate after his father's death, and has ever since resided on. He has always been a farmer, but in 1880 bought the interest of a nephew in the store in Limestoneville, and in 1883 bought the entire concern, and now owns it alone. January 16, 1855, he was married to Catharine Lewars, of Lewis Township, Northumberland Co., Penn. To this union five children have been born: Ella M., James L., A. Elwood, Edward F., and Harry, all living at home. Mr. Balliet has never been an office holder, but does his duty as a citizen at the polls. He and his wife and all his children are members of Paradise Church. In politics Mr. Balliet is independent.

WILLIAM BALLIET, retired, P. O. Limestoneville, Penn., is a brother of Jacob S. Balliet, of this township, under whose name above is given a sketch of their ancestors. He was born March 8, 1821, and lived at home until his marriage, when he farmed for his father until the latter's death; then he bought the home farm, and, until 1882, lived in the house where he was born and reared. October 10, 1845, he was married to Rebecca, daughter of John Hague, who lived near Milton, Penn. They had eight children, two of whom died young. The survivors are Mary Elizabeth, born January 17, 1847, wife of William Royer, of Delaware Township, Northumberland County; John Calvin, born November 4, 1850, married to Frances Billmeyer, and living on his father's farm in the old home; Emma Louisa, born August 19, 1852, wife of Charles A. Linebach, living in Milton; Alcesta, born April 20, 1855, wife of I. Albert Eschbach; William J., born June 19, 1858, married to Elizabeth Shaeffer, and Clarence F., born October 10, 1860, and married to Mary Riddles, all living in Northumberland County. Mr. Balliet has, until his retirement, always been a farmer. He has never held public office. He and his wife are members of Paradise Reformed Church.

THOMAS L. CLAPP, farmer, P. O. Limestoneville, Penn., is a grandson of John Clapp, a resident of Berks County, Penn., whence he immigrated to Lewis Township, Northumberland Co., Penn., in 1818, where he lived until his death. His wife was a Miss Kline, who died several years after her husband. Their children were Samuel, who was accidentally killed by a horse near the home in Northumberland County, Penn.; John, father of our subject (both these were born in Berks County, the rest of the family being natives of Northumberland County); Adam, a retired farmer, who lives in Lycoming County, Penn.; Daniel (deceased), who was a merchant in Muncy, Penn.; Thomas, a retired merchant, now living in Muncy; Mary, deceased wife of John Roup, Sr., of Northumberland County, Penn.; Catharine, wife of Jonas Hoy, who died in Ohio; Mary (died in the State of New York, wife of John Linebaugh), and Sarah, who was wife of Philip Roup, and died in Northumberland County, Penn. The father of our subject was born September 1, 1811, and was seven years of age when his parents came to this part of the country. He worked for his father until the latter's death, at which time he took the old farm, and a year later was married. His father-in-law bought the farm, and gave it to his daughter on her marriage with Mr. Clapp. On this farm he lived and died in a house which he built on some land he had added to the original farm. His death took place December 6, 1879. Mr. Clapp was a man of note in the community. He took an especially warm interest in educational matters. In early life he became a member of the Reformed Church, and was for years deacon in Paradise Church, and, joining the new church erected at McEwensville, he became an elder, remaining as such for twenty years. As a man and citizen he stood high. In 1832 he was married to Maria Glaze, a native of Northumberland County, Penn., born in 1815, and died in 1850. After her death Mr. Clapp was married to Mary Truchenmiller, who died about ten years later. Mr. Clapp was again married, his third wife being Mrs. Mary McNinch *nee* Balliet, sister of the

brothers Jacob and William Balliet. His first wife had eleven children, of whom one died in infancy. They were William, living on part of the homestead; Thomas L.; John D., in Jefferson County, W. Va.; Mary Elizabeth, wife of A. E. Gonger, of Northumberland County, Penn.; Sarah Jane, wife of I. N. Kline, of Williamsport; Margaret, married to William Kerchner, of McEwensville; Susan, married to J. C. Wagner, of this township; Angelina, wife of J. W. Balliet, living in the house where her father died; Emeline, wife of William G. Marsh, M. D., of Watsonstown; Caroline, wife of O. E. Cotner, of Northumberland County, Penn. Our subject was born February 22, 1841, worked on the farm, and taught school until he was twenty-nine years of age, when he was married; then removed to the farm on which he now lives, and which his wife inherited from her father's estate. On January 14, 1869, he was married to Miss Susan, daughter of Samuel and Mary Lerch, of Lewis Township, Northumberland County. She was born February 21, 1842. To this union eight children have been born, one dying in infancy. The others are all living with their parents. They are Edmond L., Mary A., Olive F., Theophilus M., Jennie Ray, Paul and Elma Pearl. Mr. Clapp has always been a farmer, and deals considerably in stock. He has held nearly all the offices in the township, and is now school director and assessor. He and his wife are members of Paradise Reformed Church, of which he has been deacon, and was recently elected an elder. In politics he is Democratic, and takes an active part in the affairs of the township, county and State.

GEORGE WASHINGTON DERR, farmer, P. O. Limestoneville, was born in Moreland Township, Lycoming County, April 21, 1829, son of Christopher and Mary (Opp) Derr. He was reared in his native county, and was married January 28, 1858, to Miss Martha, daughter of Thomas and Margaret Hayes. Her father is deceased but her mother still resides near Danville. After their marriage they removed to where Mr. Derr now lives, and there his wife died June 27, 1859. They had one child, Martha, wife of S. F. Ricketts, of Danville. Mr. Derr was again married February 15, 1866, to Miss Rebecca L. Schuyler, widow of Dr. Wm. B. Schuyler, who had one son by her first marriage, Roscoe C. Mr. Derr is a member of the Turbotville Baptist Church; he has been county commissioner three years. He owns seventy-seven acres of land, and has made all his own improvements.

THOMAS M. DERR, farmer, P. O. Turbotville, was born in Moreland Township, Lycoming County, August 31, 1831, son of Christopher and Mary (Opp) Derr. Christopher Derr, father of Thomas M., was born in what is now Anthony Township, Columbia County, and his father died when Christopher was a boy. Christopher was married in Lycoming County to Mary Opp, and they were the parents of ten children: Hannah (deceased), Philip (deceased), John, Jane, Phoebe, George, Thomas M., Wilson, Franklin C. and Jacob. Christopher and wife are both deceased and are buried at Moreland. Thomas M. was reared in Moreland, followed lumbering until he was thirty-one years of age and then began farming for himself. In 1863 he came to his present location, where he bought 125 acres of land from Barton Runyon. He now has 115 acres of good farm land. Mr. Derr was married September 25, 1862, to Effie A., daughter of Lewis and Elizabeth (Brass) Schuyler. They are the parents of five children: Mary Elizabeth, Hannah D., Ida Estella, Lewis Christopher (deceased), and Effie (deceased).

JAMES WILSON DERR, farmer, P. O. Limestoneville, was born in Moreland Township, Lycoming County, August 16, 1834, son of Christopher and Mary (Opp) Derr. He was reared in his native township, and there resided until his twenty-fourth year. He spent his early life on a farm, and, when nineteen years of age, went to complete the trade of carpenter. In 1853 he paid his first visit to the locality where he now resides. He was married, December 30, 1858, to Miss Sarah Ann, daughter of John and Sophia Schuyler. After their marriage they resided for a time with their brother, living there eight years, working at his trade, which he followed until the fall of 1865. In 1861 he bought a lot of eleven acres, and to this he has since added, until he now has 230 acres of land, nearly all of which he has accumulated by his own efforts. He located on his present home place in 1866, in which year he put up his present substantial improvements, costing him over \$7,000. His farm is among the finest in this region of country. Mr. and Mrs. Derr are the parents of three children: Calvin W., born September 1, 1868, educated at Limestoneville Academy, teaching in Limestone Township; Eva J., born December 2, 1871; Schuyler C., born October 29, 1860, and died March 27, 1866. They have reared two girls: Mary E. Jarrett, married to William E. Derr, lived with them twenty-one years; Maggie C. Hayes lived with them sixteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Derr and children are members of the Baptist Church.

JOHN D. ELLIS, farmer, P. O. Turbotville, was born in what is now Anthony Township, Montour County, June 14, 1836, son of William and Sarah (Murray) Ellis. His grandfather, Stephen Ellis, immigrated from Londonderry, Ireland, in or about 1770, and settled with his wife, Mary Cunningham, in what is now Anthony Township, Montour County, and made farming his business. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis were parents of twelve children, and spent the remainder of their lives near where they first settled. They bequeathed some money toward founding the Episcopal Church at Exchange, at which place they were buried. William, their second son, was born May 8, 1800, and



in 1833 married Sarah Murrey of Lewis Township, Northumberland County, and they then bought and settled on a tract of land in what is now Madison Township, Columbia County, where Mr. Ellis cleared up the most of his farm, which was timber land, followed agricultural pursuits and became owner of several farms in the adjoining counties. He was a member of the Episcopal Church at Exchange, at which place he was buried; Mrs. Ellis yet survives. They were the parents of three children: Andrew, John D., and Stephen M. John D. was reared in his native township where he remained until he was thirty-six years of age, and in 1872 came to Limestone Township. He was married May 10, 1869, to Miss Uranna Lichard, born July 4, 1826, daughter of George and Rebecca (Dewalt) Lichard, both of whom resided in Lyeoming County, about two miles from Moreland Mills. For three years after their marriage they remained in Anthony Township, when they removed to their present location in Limestone Township, where he bought fifty-seven acres, being the old Abraham Walter place on the Wilkesbarre Railroad. He now has 312 acres of his own, and an interest with his brother, Stephen M., in some timber lands. He made his own improvements on the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis are the parents of four children: Ida, married to Edward Menges; Franklin, Ella May and Roscoe. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis are members of the Episcopal Church at Exchange. Mr. Ellis has for six years been director of schools at Limestone Township; he was elected justice of the peace in 1886. James Lichard, grandfather of Mrs. Uranna Ellis, was of English origin, and settled in Muncy Creek Township, Lyeoming County; he married Catharine Shires, and they were parents of nine children. George, their third son, was married to Miss Rebecca Dewalt; they were parents of six children.

DANIEL F. GOUGER, farmer, P. O. Washingtonville, was born in Limestone Township, Montour County, August 26, 1832, son of John and Mary (Bower) Gouger. John William Gouger, grandfather of Daniel F., was born in Berks County, Penn., and from there came to what is now Montour County about 1806. He was married before coming here to Miss Elizabeth Fulmer, and they settled near Limestoneville, near the Limestone Run schoolhouse. There they bought about 200 acres of land. Both died while living in this county and are buried at the Fulmer Church. Their children were as follows: George; William; Nicholas; Jacob; Benjamin; John, father of our subject, and Daniel. John Gouger was born in 1798, in Berks County, and was about fourteen years of age when his parents came to Montour County. He married Mary Bower, and died December 1, 1880; his widow survived him until August 14, 1882; they are buried at Fulmer Church. They were the parents of the following named children: Catharine, Elizabeth, William, Mary, Caroline, Susannah and Daniel F. Daniel F. Gouger, subject of this sketch, made his home with his parents for sixteen years after his marriage, and then removed to his present location. He was married October 3, 1855, to Miss Ursula, daughter of Col. Joseph and Adaline (Cole) Dean. The former was a native of Pennsylvania, and was the only son of Thomas Dean, who was born in Ireland. His mother was a member of the Cole family, who were early settlers in Sugarloaf Township, Columbia County. Mrs. Gouger's father died about 1869 at the age of about eighty years; her mother died on the 3d of July, 1845, at the age of forty-two; they are buried at the Dean family cemetery. Col. Dean was a colonel in the war of 1812 and engaged in the Black Rock campaign. Mr. Gouger is a member of the Lutheran Church, and Mrs. Gouger of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Gouger has held several local offices, but has not been a seeker for official position. In politics he is a Democrat. He has 113 acres in his home farm and sixty acres in another farm. He is engaged in farming and stock raising.

JOSEPH GIBSON, retired, P. O. Limestoneville, is, on his father's side, of Irish extraction, his great-grandfather having immigrated from Ireland. His grandfather, a surveyor, in an early day located in Philadelphia, afterward removing to Berks County, where he died, and where his son Henry, father of our subject, was born in April, 1778; he died in Liberty Township, this county, in November, 1860, aged eighty-two years and eight months. He learned the trade of shoemaking, but a few years after his marriage abandoned it, and bought the farm on which he died. He subsequently bought an adjoining farm in the same township, and owned both at the time of his death. He was three times married. His first wife, Catharine Burkey, mother of the subject of this sketch, who was her first child, died when he was a boy, leaving nine children, six now deceased, viz.: Henry, Catharine, Mary, John, William and David. Those surviving are Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Hopper, in Newark, N. J.; Jacob, in Milton, Penn., and Joseph, who was born in Berks County, on August 21, 1804. When seventeen years of age our subject began learning the trade of blacksmith in Milton, Penn., at which he worked until the time of his father's death; he then turned his attention to droving, which he some years after gave up, and retired. He is now living in Limestoneville, on a place which he owned before his father's death. November 25, 1830, he was married to Julia Ann Withington, who was born November 21, 1810. Their four children are all now living, viz.: Charles, in Liberty Township, this county; Theodore, in the State of Indiana; Caroline, with her parents, and Henry W. Gibson, who has a machine shop in Limestoneville, this county, is married to Jane Sheetz and has two children: Bertha and Joseph; at the breaking out of the late war he went to Philadelphia, where he worked at gun making for three

years, and then to several other places, and after an absence of over seven years, returned to Limestoneville, and bought the business he now conducts. Mr. Gibson is the oldest man in the township, and has held the office of justice of the peace in this township for twenty consecutive years, before that being constable for nine years. He and his wife are members of the Roman Catholic Church in Milton.

**WILLIAM GRITNER**, dealer in furniture and sewing machines, and undertaker, P. O. Turbotville, Northumberland County, was born in Lycoming County, Penn., March 6, 1858, son of Edward and Catharine (Kettenbach) Grittner. Edward Grittner, father of our subject, was a native of Prussia, came in 1852 to America and located at New York, where he followed the trade of cabinet-maker, which he had commenced learning in the old country at the age of fourteen years. He resided in New York about three years, thence removed to Lycoming County, where he lived until 1871, when he came to Limestone Township, this county, and here he now resides, and has a farm of fifty-six acres. He was married in New York to Miss Catharine Kettenbach, also a native of Prussia, who came to America on the same ship as Mr. Grittner. They were the parents of five children, of whom four are living: Anna Louisa, wife of Charles Vandine, live near Lairds-ville, Penn.; George William; Julia Ann, wife of J. W. Ervin, in Limestone Township, this county; and Hannah Bessie. The deceased was an infant. Our subject spent his early life with his father in the shop in which he made furniture by hand, and in 1876 commenced house painting, which he followed two years; then worked at home for a time, after which he made brushes, selling them on the road for about one year; worked also at McEwensville, and Watsonout at his trade. In the spring of 1881 he commenced his present business, with the exception of undertaking, which line he adopted in the following year, adding also the New Home sewing machine, in the spring of 1885. In May of that year he put up his present commodious building; he also owns a house and lot of two acres, situated close to his undertaking and furniture establishment, and for which he paid \$600. Mr. Grittner was married November 4, 1884, to Miss Anna C., daughter of Daniel and Sarah A. Bender Menges, both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Grittner are the parents of two children, Charles Oscar, born October 11, 1885, and Edward Lawrence, born December 9, 1886. They are members of the Zion Lutheran Church at Turbotville. Mr. Grittner is an auditor of Limestone Township.

**DANIEL W. RANK**, attorney, P. O. Limestoneville, is a descendant of Philip Rank, who was a resident of Earl Township, Lancaster Co., Penn., early in the last century, and whose parents came from Alsace in 1728. The next in line of descent was Philip Adam Rank, to whom, by an old writing, now in the possession of our subject, he sold some land in the same township in 1770. Philip Adam's son was Adam. In 1790 he removed to a farm which he bought in what is now Union County; here he died. His son Daniel was the grandfather of Daniel W. He was born and lived and died in Union County, Penn. He was born in 1789, and died in 1854. He was a farmer and blacksmith. His wife was Catharine Heckel, who died some years before her husband; he married again after her decease. The children, who were all of the first marriage, were, Daniel, who died in Union County, Penn.; Andrew H., living in Centreville, Ind.; Hiram, who died in infancy; Lambert, died at "White Deer Mill," Union Co., Penn., December, 1886; Mary, wife of William Chamberlain, and Catharine, wife of Martin Mackey, both of whom died in Union County, Penn.; the other child was Joseph S., who was the oldest of the family, and was born December 20, 1807. He is now living, and has always been a farmer. He was married, December 30, 1830, to Catharine McGinness, of Union County, Penn. In April, 1836, he removed to this township to a farm, on a part of which he now lives. His wife died December 31, 1879. They had six children, viz.: James C., a farmer, in Fillmore County, Minn.; John M., who died in Central City, Col.; Daniel W.; Hiram William, who died in infancy; Henry Clay, who died unmarried; Elizabeth Catharine, living at home. Our subject was born February 16, 1835, in Union County, Penn., and until 1855 he worked on the farm, and in that year began reading law in the office of Robert Hawley, in Muncy, Penn., and was admitted April 24, 1859, at Williamsport. From there he went to Millersburg, Dauphin Co., Penn., where he was again admitted and practiced there until August 31, 1861, when he enlisted in Company D, Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry; on October 9 he was made sergeant; on November 18 was promoted to sergeant-major, and on June 11, 1864, by order of Secretary of War was mustered back to July 1, 1863, as first lieutenant of Company M, same regiment. On August 31, 1864, he was made acting assistant adjutant-general for the detachment First Brigade, Second Cavalry Division, then at Columbia, Tenn., and was subsequently appointed to the command of the detachment to guard Sherman's line of transportation. He remained in this duty until December 16, 1864, when he was mustered out on account of ill health, not accepting a commission as captain which had been sent him. On his return he remained at home, unable to engage in any occupation until the beginning of 1872, when he went to Scranton, Penn., practicing there for ten years, during which time he was commissioned by Gov. Hartranft district attorney of the mayor's court, the only commission issued by a governor which had to be confirmed by the Senate. In 1882 he returned to his former home in Limestone, and in the fall of 1884 was elected district attorney of



Montour County for three years; he is also practicing law in Danville. On May 12, 1875, he was married to Mary Catharine, daughter of Robert H. McKunc, formerly mayor of Scranton, Penn. She was born January 11, 1846, and died July 18, 1881. To this union two children were born, both of whom died in infancy. Mr. Rank now divides his time between the practice of his profession, his duties as district attorney, and attending to his farm, where he makes his home for the sake of his health. He is a Republican.

LEWIS SCHUYLER, farmer, P. O. Turbotville, was born December 5, 1808, in Madison Township, Columbia County, son of Adam and Eve (Sanders) Schuyler. When a boy of seven years Lewis removed to Lewis Township, Northumberland County, where he was reared to manhood, and January 19, 1836, married Miss Elizabeth Brass, a native of Mahoning Township, Montour County, and daughter of Lucas and Elizabeth Brass, both deceased. The former is buried at Danville, the latter at Montoursville. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler lived in Northumberland County until the spring of 1854, when he bought 69 acres where he now resides; to this he has added until he now has 133 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler are the parents of six children: Mary, wife of Charles Romig, Dewart, Penn.; Effie Ann, wife of Thomas M. Derr, lives in Limestone Township; Lucas B., married to Ada S. Russell, Lock Haven; John S., married to Samantha Allen, lives in Lock Haven; Drucilla, wife of A. D. Hower, lawyer, lives in Muncy; William H., bookkeeper, married Clara Smith, lives at Hughesville. Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler are members of the Baptist Church, of which he has been deacon over thirty years; he has been overseer of the poor, judge and inspector of elections, etc. At the golden anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler, which occurred January 19, 1886, a great many people were present who were present at the wedding, and 181 sat down to dinner. For twenty-five years Mr. Schuyler worked at the carpenter trade; he put up his own house and all other improvements, and has erected a great many buildings throughout the surrounding country. His two oldest sons, Lucas B. and John S., served throughout the civil war in the Union Army, the former in the Seventy-fifth Illinois Infantry and the latter in the Seventh P. V. V. Cavalry. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Schuyler was the first man in Montour County to give the right of way for the Wilkesbarre & Western Railway that crosses his farm, which road was built in the year 1886. A station within a mile of his place is called "Schuyler."

THOMAS B. SCHUYLER was born in Lewis Township, Northumberland County, February 5, 1834, son of John and Sophia (Brass) Schuyler. Lewis Schuyler, great-grandfather of Thomas B., was born in Germany in 1748, and came to America in 1751 with his parents. They settled in Germantown, now West Philadelphia. His parents died when our subject was twelve years old, and he was bound out to John Fochner until he was eighteen years of age, and served an apprenticeship at the shoemaker trade. He married Keziah Horned in 1781, and lived in New Jersey until 1794. He then came to Pennsylvania and located south of Jerseytown, in what is now Columbia County, where he resided five years, then moved north of Jerseytown, where he resided until his death, October 1, 1837, at the age of eighty-nine years. He was the father of eleven children: Adam, William, John, Mary, Samuel, Hannah, Elizabeth, Lewis, Henry, Sarah and Jacob. Adam Schuyler, grandfather of Thomas B., was born in New Jersey, from there removed to what is now Columbia County, near Jerseytown, there was reared and married to Eve Sanders. He died in December, 1858; his widow survived him a number of years, having died about 1871. They are buried at Turbotville. They were the parents of ten children: Mary (deceased), John (deceased), Lewis, Jacob, William, Sarah Ann, Keziah, Effie, Adam, and Henry (deceased). John Schuyler, father of Thomas B., was born December 6, 1806, in Madison Township, Columbia County, and was married to Sophia Brass December 24, 1829. The former died April 5, 1885, his wife having preceded him in death, dying April 15, 1884. They are buried at Turbotville. They were the parents of ten children: Elizabeth, William, Thomas B., Sarah Ann, John, Jackson, Adam (died at Nashville while in the service), Lewis, Sophia and Eve C. Thomas B. Schuyler, subject of this sketch, spent his early life in his native township, and made his home with his parents until 1859, when he was married, December 29, to Sarah A., daughter of Peter and Catharine (Ernest) Leidy. The Leidy family were originally from New Jersey, but her parents were born and reared in Columbia County, near Buckhorn. Her father died October 30, 1878, at the age of seventy-six years; her mother died in July, 1865. They are buried at the Derry Presbyterian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler were the parents of three children: Flora (born January 10, 1860, died June 27, 1884), was the wife of Charles F. Fulmer, and they were the parents of one child, Lola; Ellsworth, born September 23, 1861, accidentally shot himself in January, 1883, and William, born June 4, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler are members of the Baptist Church at Turbotville. He has held the office of school director one term. The old Schuyler farm, consisting of 162 acres, lies in Limestone Township, Montour County, and in Lewis Township, Northumberland County. The house in which Mr. Schuyler lives was built in 1802 by Abraham Walter, who had bought the land on which it stands from Jacob Fulmer, who was one of the brothers who were early settlers here, and who located on the place in 1778. Mr. Schuyler is an undertaker as were also his father and grandfather; he has made that his business for many years; is a mem-



ber of the Undertakers' Association of Montour, Snyder and Northumberland Counties. He followed carpenter work in his early life, and only of late years has been a farmer. His father and grandfather were also carpenters.

JAMES K. SHELL, farmer, P. O. Limestoneville, is a great-grandson of Jacob Shell, who emigrated from Germany about the middle of the last century, and was one of the pioneers who located near Allentown, Penn., where his son Jacob, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born, and where he died at the age of nearly eighty years. His son John, father of James K., was born there in 1792, and died in 1864, aged seventy-two years. He was a farmer all his lifetime. In 1833 he bought a farm near Turbotville, Northumberland Co., Penn., on which he lived until his death, as stated above. He was a plain man of religious habits, never taking much part in politics. His wife was Elizabeth Kamerer; she died twelve years before her husband, aged about sixty years. They had twelve children, of whom four are deceased, viz.: Reuben and Amanda, who died in Lewis Township; Sarah, died at Watsonstown; and Charles, who went to Nebraska, where he died. The survivors are Jonas, in Delaware Township, Northumberland County; Mary, widow of Jacob Stahl (who was killed in the Union Army), living with her brother, James K.; Jacob, in Anthony Township; Lydia, widow of Enoch Bennett, of Turbotville; John, in Lewis Township, Northumberland County, on the old homestead; Nathan, in Turbotville, and James K., the fourth son. Our subject was born February 15, 1825, while his parents were living in Pennsboro, Montgomery Co., Penn.; he was eight years old when they came to Northumberland County, and lived with them until he was twenty-three. He then went to Centre County and worked at his trade of mason for three years, when in the fall of 1851 he removed to the farm where he now lives, which subsequently became his wife's. May 20, 1852, he was married to Mary Ellen Shurtz, who was born, lived and died on this place. (She died February 1, 1885; she was the daughter of Col. Jacob Shurtz, who had lived on the same farm since he was two years old. He was one of the best and most prominent citizens of the town, and had served in the war of 1812, commanding a company near Easton, and also served at Black Rock). They had two children: James S., living on a farm adjoining, owned by his father, and Mary M., who died in infancy. For about twenty years Mr. Shell has filled the offices of school director and overseer of the poor. He is a Democrat in politics.

WELLINGTON D. WEIDENHAMER, tanner and farmer, P. O. Limestoneville. The great-grandfather of our subject came from Germany many years ago and settled in Maiden Creek Township, Berks County, where his son, John Adam, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born, and where he died. His wife was Elizabeth Dunkel who died before her husband. This couple had eight children, all born in Maiden Creek Township, Berks Co., Penn. Their names are Maria, Susannah, George, John, Benjamin and Jacob, deceased, and Elizabeth and Anna, now living. The father of our subject, Jacob Weidenhamer, was born in 1797 and died in 1863. In 1837 he bought a farm in this township to which he moved and on which he lived until his death. He was a man of religious convictions, a member of the Lutheran Church, and was especially noted for his strict adherence to truth on all occasions. A good manager, he accumulated a fine property, and was well off at the time of his death. In 1825 he was married to Susannah Dreihelbis, of Berks County, Penn., who is now living in Derry Township, this county, and is in her eighty-fourth year. To this union six children were born: W. D.; William, near Milton, Penn.; Daniel, also in Milton; John A., living in Watsonstown, Penn.; Sarah A., deceased wife of Jacob Sheetz, of Snyder County, Penn., and Mary Elizabeth, wife of Emanuel Monser, of Derry Township, this county. Our subject was born September 3, 1826, and was ten years of age when his parents came to this county. Until he was about twenty-three he worked on the farm, and then he and his father together bought a mercantile business in Limestoneville, which they carried on for five years, when our subject left it and rented his father's farm for three years; then in 1857 he purchased the tannery which he has ever since conducted together with a small farm which he bought at the same time, to which he has added some of the old homestead adjoining. In 1851 he was married to Miss Susan A., daughter of John S. Follmer, of this township, and born September 4, 1830. They have had nine children: Henry Muhlenberg, George W. and Ella May, deceased, and Mary A., married to J. H. Cruzen, of Lancaster City; James B., married to Maggie A. Smith, in Hall's, Lycoming County; Jacob W., married to Lizzie E. Engle, in this township; and Annie S., Maggie L. and Sarah Caroline, who make their home with their parents. In 1856 Mr. Weidenhamer was elected justice of the peace, and, with the exception of one term, has held the position continuously ever since. During this time he has also been county auditor, besides holding many township offices. He has also been a surveyor at which he has worked considerably of late years. Mr. Weidenhamer and wife are members of the Lutheran Church in which for many years he has been a deacon. In politics he is a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school. He represented his district several times in the Democratic State Convention of his own State, and a number of times in the county convention of Montour County. He also served on several occasions as grand and petit jurymen in the United States District and Circuit Courts held at Williamsport, Penn.

## CHAPTER XX.

## MAHONING TOWNSHIP.

JACOB AND THOMAS COLE, owners of the iron ore mines, farmers and stock-growers, P. O. Danville, are descended from German and English ancestors, who came to America and settled in Pennsylvania in an early day. The mines are located in Mahoning Township on the farm owned by our subjects. Jacob was born in that township, September 13, 1819, and there also Thomas was born May 22, 1823. They are the sons of Thomas and Mary A. (Faust) Cole, were reared on the farm and made agriculture their business. In 1873 they opened the ore mines on the farm. Thomas has been director of the poor and school director of Mahoning Township. He started in life with 50 cents. The brothers are members of the German Reformed Church, and their success is due to their industry and strict attention to business.

DAVID P. DIEHL, farmer and fruit grower, residing near Danville, was born September 17, 1824, in Mahoning Township, Montour County, son of Christian and Magdalene Diehl, whose maiden name was Sechler, and who was a native of Mahoning Township, Montour County. Peter Diehl, the father of Christian, was born in Berks County, near Reading, Penn., and at the age of two and a half years was captured by the Indians and brought to their village, which he in after life located as the Indian village at the mouth of Mahoning Creek, where he suffered untold hardships for a time from his captor, who had firmly decided to punish him with the full measure of Indian torture, until death would end his miserable life, and at one time he seized him by the limbs to dash out his brains against a tree, when through the kindly intercession of an aged squaw he was redeemed in exchange for a small copper kettle. With this woman he afterward lived to the end of his captivity, and enjoyed life pleasantly, and so attached did he become to his dusky foster mother, that when he was returned after seven and a half years of captivity, it was almost an impossibility to restrain him from running away from his former home, where it took the constant care of his elder brother and sister to watch him from running away to rejoin his dusky friends, the Delawares. When ten years of age he again returned to the home of his birth, where he lived to the age of manhood, when he married an estimable woman by the name of Mollie Foust. He again sought the wilds of Mahoning Township, and located a place near his Indian home, on the place now occupied by his grandson, Peter Diehl. The subject of this historical sketch, D. P. Diehl, was reared upon the farm and was a faithful attendant of the county schools, and for a time of the Danville Academy, and of several other higher schools in the neighborhood. From straitened circumstances he learned a trade, which afforded him the means to obtain a reasonable education by working at the carpenter trade in the summer and attending school in the winter, received from the toils of his employment. In 1870 he bought a small place within sight of Danville, which was planted and furnished with good fruit of various kinds of apples, pears and peaches, and a variety of small fruit such as currants, grapes, raspberries and strawberries. His health, which had become impaired in the toils of the trade he followed, was again renewed in the healthful exercise which the pleasure and toils of the occupation afforded him

Where frequent vines, fine as could be  
 On stakes or trellis tall and free,  
 With bunches perfect, large and flush  
 Tinged with a fair and tender blush;  
 Grapes, dark and red and light they grew,  
 And childish steps their places knew,  
 And tender feet oft wandered there  
 Where bunches hung, full, large and fair.  
 And now and then a missing space  
 Showed from a full, now vacant place,  
 Yet childish voices silent hung  
 Where the thrush and robin sung  
 Joyful notes from the arboresc vine;  
 Here where the fruit was large and fine,  
 Where cherries by the wayside grew  
 And thievish birds their places knew.

Such was the experience of the subject at his first efforts at fruit growing. In 1881 Mr. Diehl bought the farm on which the Odd Fellows' cemetery is located, and for its

size, there may be but few better farms in Montour County. Here our subject devoted himself to beautifying his home in fruit growing, general farming, and raising some market gardening in which he delights and enjoys. Politically he is a Prohibitionist, and was once nominated by that party for the Legislature. On December 22, 1852, Mr. Diehl married Susan, daughter of Charles Gearhart, and who died in 1855; on January 8, 1858, he was married to his second wife, Mary C. Caldwell, who bore her husband two children: William E. and Benjamin. The second Mrs. Diehl died September 13, 1860, and our subject subsequently married Emily Runyan, and by her has two children: Herbert I. and Emma. Mr. Diehl, since he has become a farmer has taken an active part in everything which is intended to promote this industry, and from the interest and delight he takes in his present vocation it makes him not only a successful farmer, but one of the promoters of the cause of agriculture, and which now places him in prominent place in the history of the Montour County Agricultural Society; its waning star having almost set in the recollection of the past; but, through the writings and influence of a few, its prospect has become far more hopeful and encouraging. He is now filling one of the important offices in trust of the society in which much duty has devolved on him. Mr. Diehl has a taste inclined to the beautiful and attached fondness to his home which is described by him in the following poem:

I ask not for great riches,  
 But love a pleasant place  
 Where the broad landscape stretches  
 In undulating space.

Let this be a home for me  
 Where air is pure and sweet,  
 And the water's gushing free  
 Where rills together meet.

Why crave for silver or gold,  
 When from their hoard we see  
 Vile scenes of the darkest mold,  
 Where peace and joy should be.

Sweet home, that welcome domain,  
 Where happiness may dwell,  
 And true love and friendship reign  
 And tears their sorrows tell!

No glory from the battle-field,  
 Where hostile armies meet;  
 Where frail life to death must yield  
 In the red carnage heat.

But let peace unite each bond,  
 And join each sacred tie  
 With kind words and greetings fond,  
 Where true affections lie.

No praise from a nation's tongue  
 Can sound the name so well,  
 As when the first praises rung  
 Which the home voices swell.

Where love and kind wishes reigned,  
 And filled each childish breast  
 With more joy than treasure gained,  
 Or fading honors blest.

D. P. D.

SAMUEL MORRISON, retired farmer, Danville, was born November 3, 1821, a son of Edward and Elizabeth (Sechler) Morrison. He was born and reared on the farm where he now resides and which has been in the possession of the Sechler and Morrison families over 100 years. His father was a native of New Jersey, of Scotch origin (whose mother, Sarah Lucas, was a Quakeress of English origin), a farmer, and a soldier in the war of 1812. He died in 1868 aged seventy-six years, and had come to Montour County when twelve years old. His wife was a native of Mahoning Township and of German origin. Her father, Joseph Sechler was an early settler of Danville, having come here when it was only a small village and purchased 600 hundred acres east of Danville at two shillings and sixpence per acre. Samuel Morrison is the fifth in a family of nine children; was reared on the farm, and from his youth up engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was educated at home, his father paying a teacher for the purpose. His farm is a beautiful one, well improved, and most of his money has been made by dealing in stock and selling milk. In 1852 he married Hannah, daughter of Daniel Mourer, a farmer and of German origin.



Mrs. Morrison died in June, 1885, a member of the Lutheran Church and the mother of the following children: James, married; Anna, wife of Jonathan Rudy, and Woodward. Mr. Morrison is a member of the Episcopal Church; politically a Democrat, and has held several township offices.

HARMON S. MORRISON, farmer and stock grower, P. O. Danville, was born in Mahoning Township, September 12, 1827, a son of Edward and Elizabeth (Sechler) Morrison, the latter a native of Mahoning Township. His father, a native of New Jersey, was born September 19, 1791, and at the age of twelve years came to Mahoning Township, and by occupation was a farmer and cooper. He was a soldier of the war of 1812, and his death occurred in 1868. Harmon S. is the sixth in a family of nine children, was reared in his native township on the farm, and attended the common schools. At the age of eighteen he began to learn the mason's trade, at which he served a three years' apprenticeship, and made the trade his occupation for twenty years, engaging also in farming. In 1870 he was appointed foreman of the construction of the brick and stone works at the State asylum near Danville, which position he yet holds, and also superintends his farm which is situated near by. In 1850 he married Martha Ickes, of German-Irish origin, and a daughter of Michael Ickes, of Snyder County, Penn., and they became the parents of four children: Margaret, John, Eugene and William. John having lost his wife lives with his father with two children (twins): Walter and Harmon S. Mrs. Morrison's death occurred February 7, 1887, aged fifty-eight years. She was a Christian woman being a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Morrison and all the children are members of the Lutheran Church, in which he is an elder. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and a member of order of P. of H., and politically is a Republican. Edward Morrison, the grandfather of our subject, and Sarah Lucas, his wife (the latter a Quakeress), were born in the same year, 1753, were married in 1775 and lived in the State of New Jersey where all their children (three sons: William, John and Edward, and two daughters, Anna and Sarah) were born. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Joseph Sechler, and his wife, Elizabeth, whose maiden name was Stump, came from Montgomery County, Penn., over 100 years ago to the town of Northumberland. When Danville was yet a small village in Northumberland County they moved to the latter place and purchased 600 acres of land east of the town—Bloom road being the northern boundary of the place for two miles out of town—at two shillings and sixpence per acre. Their children have lived to see some of this original land sold at \$225 per acre. Mr. Morrison's farm is a part of this original purchase. Other small parts of it are yet in the hands of the great-grandchildren.

JACOB MOWERY, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Columbia County, Penn., October 18, 1816, a son of Christopher and Elizabeth (Smith) Mowery, natives of Berks Co. and of German origin. His father came to Columbia in an early day; settled in the woods, cleared a farm, and passed the remainder of his life there. Jacob is the youngest in a family of three children; was reared on the farm and attended the schools of Columbia County. He has made farming his principal occupation, and is one of the most successful agriculturists in the county where he has resided for many years. In early life he learned the shoemaker's trade, and worked at it for fourteen years. He married, in 1833, Mary E., daughter of John Richards. She is of German origin, and has borne her husband the following named children: Rebecca J. (deceased); Harvey S.; F. Adella, wife of John P. Weaver, a school-teacher, and John R., who was the eldest son, was a soldier in the late war, enlisting when only seventeen years of age, and was killed at the battle of Winchester. Mr. and Mrs. Mowery are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been a steward and class leader. Politically he is a Republican.

GEORGE W. RISHEL, farmer and stock grower, P. O. Danville, was born within half a mile of where he now resides, in Mahoning Township, July 24, 1825, a son of Solomon and Sarah (Harpine) Rishel. His mother was born in Berks County, Penn. His father was a native of Mahoning Township, born in 1799, a son of Martin Rishel, who was a soldier in the Revolution and came to this township soon after the close of that struggle. He took up Government land, about 200 acres, cleared a farm and here passed the remainder of his life. The farm is still in possession of the family, the deed for a part of it at present being the property of George W. The family have generally been farmers. George W. was reared on the farm and educated in the subscription schools in his native township. From his youth he has been successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits and owns two well improved farms in Montour County, and three houses and lots in town. He married, in 1847, Susannah, daughter of Hugh Cousart, of English and Irish origin. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Rishel are as follows: Peter, married and a farmer; Sarah J., wife of Alfred Topson, a farmer; James C., married and a house plasterer by trade; William E., married; Elizabeth A., wife of M. L. Leighow, railroad manager; H. C., a farmer and dairyman; George W., a farmer; Charles H.; Arthur F. and Ella Virginia (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Rishel are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been a class leader, steward, trustee and Sabbath-school superintendent. Mr. Rishel's maternal grandfather, David Harpine, was a colonel in the Revolution. Politically our subject is a Republican.

ANDREW P. ROTH, superintendent of the Dairy and State Asylum Farm, Danville, was born in Columbia County, Penn., August 21, 1841, a son of Lewis and Margaret (Palmer) Roth, natives of Northampton County, Penn. His father was a farmer and died March 30, 1883, having been a resident of Columbia County since 1839. Andrew P. was the second in a family of five children, was reared on the farm and educated in the common schools of Catawissa, and on arriving at manhood made the dairy business and farming his occupation. In 1866 he was appointed superintendent of the poorhouse of Mahoning and Danville, which position he held until 1872. He was then appointed superintendent of the farm and dairy of the State asylum, which position he still retains. In 1863 he married Hannah, a daughter of Charles Barnd, and of German origin. Their children are Lewis, Tamar, Margaret, Ellen, Hannah Elizabeth, William P. and Lulu. Mr. and Mrs. Roth are members of the Reformed Church, in which he is a deacon. In politics he is a Republican.

EDWARD WHITE, farmer and fruit grower, P. O. Danville, was born in Valley Township, Montour Co., Penn., March 16, 1825, a son of Hugh and Eleanore (Kelley) White, natives of Pennsylvania, and of English and Irish origin. His father was a natural mechanic, and for many years, worked on railroad and canal as contractor. Edward received a common-school education, and in early life learned the mason's trade, which he followed principally until 1850, when he embarked in farming, which he has since followed. He is the owner of a well improved farm, consisting of eighty acres, where he resides. In 1852 he married Magdalena, daughter of Christian Mouser. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and of German origin. To Mr. and Mrs. White were born the following children: Leslie H., Idella, Edward L. and John P. Mrs. White died in 1886, a consistent member of the German Lutheran Church. Mr. White is a Republican, but never held office. He has been school director for several terms, is inspector of elections and a member of the I. O. O. F.

JACOB WIREMAN, farmer and fruit grower, P. O. Danville, was born in Mahoning Township, Montour Co., Penn., in 1818, a son of Jacob and Mary (Gogler) Wireman, natives of Pennsylvania and of German and English origin. He is the youngest of a family of seven children and was reared in Snyder County, whither his parents had moved when he was a child. He attended the subscription schools, and, at an early age began to work in the Reading railroad shops, where he remained three years. Subsequently he came to Danville and began to work in the iron ore mines for Grove Brothers. He was soon appointed superintendent of the mines, which position he filled for twenty-five years. In 1863 he bought his present farm, which he has improved and has a fine country residence on the Bloomsburg road, Mahoning Township, where he and family reside. He married, in 1843, Regina, daughter of Jacob Rishel. Her paternal and maternal ancestors were among the early German settlers of Pennsylvania. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Wireman are Henry, who was a lieutenant in the light artillery in the late war; Mary, wife of James Hendrickson; Libbie, wife of James C. Rishel, and Fannie, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Wireman are members of the German Reformed Church, in which Mr. Wireman is an elder. He is a Republican, politically.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### MAYBERRY TOWNSHIP.

E. H. VOUGHT, farmer, P. O. Union Corner, Northumberland County, was born in Mayberry Township, this county, July 8, 1822, a son of John and Hannah (Metz) Vought, natives of New Jersey, and of German descent. His ancestors came from Germany and settled in New Jersey, where they lived until their death. His father came to Montour County in the early part of the present century, and settled where James, his son, now lives. He bought about 1,000 acres of rough land in Mayberry Township, which land is all in the Vought name yet. He lived and died on the place where he first located. He was the father of eight children, six of whom are yet living: Anna, Valentine, Elizabeth, Lena, E. H., and James. The father died in 1869, aged eighty-four years, and the mother in about 1875, aged eighty-eight years. Our subject was reared on the old homestead, and remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age, when he moved to where he now resides. He at once commenced to improve his place, which was all timber. He cleared nearly all of it, which required the labor of several years, and built a nice residence, good barn, and now has one of the best farms in Mayberry Township. He was married in 1841, to

Louisa, daughter of Samuel Groul, and by her had ten children, nine of whom are now living: Anna, Mary J.; Henrietta, wife of Adam Pensyl; Christian M.; Sariah E., wife of Arthur Long; Margaret S., wife of Harvey Hartman, in Plymouth, Penn.; Edward B.; Joseph H.; Alonzo C. Mr. and Mrs. Vought are members of the Lutheran Church. He has been justice of the peace, and held nearly all the township offices. In politics he is a Democrat.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### VALLEY TOWNSHIP.

JOHN BENFIELD, farmer and lumberman, P. O. Danville, was born in Columbia County, Penn., February 5, 1832, a son of Thomas and Catherine (Wertman) Benfield, natives of Pennsylvania, and of German origin. His father was engaged in several branches of business, among which were distilling, boating, milling and lumbering, and was very successful. John is the second of three children, and spent his earlier years with his parents on the farm in Valley Township. Here he was educated, and has been engaged in business, being a farmer, miller, dealer in and manufacturer of lumber, and has met with success in his ventures. He is the owner of 600 acres of land in different farms in Montour County, and 400 acres of woodland in Columbia County. He also owns the Benfield flour-mill in Valley Township. In 1855 he married Catherine, daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Everett) Cromley, and of German descent. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Benfield are Catherine (wife of Robert Crosley, a farmer), Emma Jane, John Clark and Thomas H. Mrs. Benfield is a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Benfield is a Democrat, and was recently elected associate judge of Montour County. The judge is a prominent citizen of Valley Township.

JOSEPH BRYANT, Danville, weigh-master for the Montour Iron & Steel Company, also farmer in Valley Township, Montour Co., Penn., was born May 6, 1833, son of Samuel and Hannah (Sperring) Bryant, natives of England. Samuel Bryant was a miner; he went from England to Wales, and in 1837 came to Pottsville, Penn., where he worked in the iron ore mines. Our subject attended school in Danville, Penn., and early in life was apprenticed to learn the puddler's trade in the rolling-mill in Danville, which occupation he followed until the breaking out of the Rebellion in 1861, when he enlisted in the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, in Company E, and was discharged in 1862 for disability. After returning home and regaining his health, he accepted his present position, and has since devoted most of his time to it. He was married, in 1856, to Lydia, daughter of Jacob Roup; she was born in Pennsylvania, and of German origin. They have five children now living: Charles M. (a miner), Henrietta, Alice, Martha, Sarah J. (deceased). In politics Mr. Bryant is a Republican.

D. R. P. CHILDS, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in the house where he now resides, in Valley Township, Montour Co., Penn., October 16, 1838, son of Andrew and Margaret (Arnwine) Childs. The former was born in Northumberland County, Penn., June 13, 1789, of parents John and Mary (Gregg) Childs, the former born in England and the latter in Ireland, and were married in Northumberland County, February 1, 1785. They were farmers and came to Valley Township in 1795 and commenced to improve the farm where Mr. Childs now resides. Mr. Child's father was a farmer, and spent nearly all his life here in that occupation. He reared a large family and died in 1864. The widow, who was born in New Jersey, November 17, 1798, a daughter of Jacob Arnwine, a farmer, is still living. Our subject's parents were married in Valley Township, October 24, 1815. This union was blessed with fifteen children, thirteen of them living to be grown, nine of whom were sons. Twelve of the family are now living (1886). D. R. P. Childs was the fourteenth in the family, was reared on the home farm, attending school in his native township, and has always followed farming. In 1862 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania Infantry, served nine months and was discharged in 1863 on account of ill health. In politics he is a Democrat.

JOHN A. COOPER, miller, P. O. Danville, was born near Washingtonville, Montour Co., Penn., August 15, 1859, son of Abraham and Jane (Laney) Cooper. They were natives of Pennsylvania and of Irish and German origin. Abraham Cooper was a farmer all his life; his family consisted of six children; he was twice married, J. A. being the only child by his second marriage. Our subject attended the schools of Washingtonville and remained on the farm with his parents until he went to learn the miller's trade, and in due time became a miller, which has since been his business. He has met with success,



and now owns the Frosty mills in Valley Township. His mills were destroyed by fire in 1883, and since then he has rebuilt them. He was married in 1884 to Miss Daisy, daughter of Lafayette Faust, a native of Pennsylvania. They have one child, Vergia May. Mr. Cooper is a Republican in politics.

JOSEPH CORELL, general merchant at Maudale, P. O. Danville, was born in Northampton County, Penn., August 12, 1818, a son of George and Susannah (Schoch) Corell, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. The grandfather came from Germany; settled in Northampton County, Penn., and followed farming, which was also the vocation of George Corell. Joseph is the fifth in a family of twelve children, and was reared on the farm. In 1849 he came to Columbia County and followed agricultural pursuits. He served a regular apprenticeship at millwrighting, and worked at it for six years, and again farmed for a time in Columbia County. In 1868 he embarked in the general mercantile business at Bloomsburg, and subsequently moved to Maudale, where he still continues in business. In 1843 he married Elizabeth Hesellett, who was of Scotch descent and died in 1870. Mr. Corell in 1884 married Rachel W. Mullin, daughter of John S. and Catherine M. (Plush) Mullin, the mother of German and the father of Irish-German origin. Mrs. Corell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but her husband affiliates with the Reformed Church at Maudale, in which he is an elder and was formerly superintendent of the Sabbath-school. Politically he is a Republican; is director of the poor and treasurer of the board, and one of the representative citizens of Maudale.

JAMES CURRY, deceased, was born in what is now Valley Township, about 1812, where he passed his life, dying in 1876, honored and respected by all who knew him. He was the eldest son of William and Jane (Moore) Curry; was educated in Montour County and made farming his business, and was the owner of 245 acres of well improved land at the time of his death. In politics he was a Democrat, and held most of the township offices in Valley Township, also served ten years as an associate judge of Montour County. February 2, 1841, he married Christiana, daughter of Samuel Yorks and granddaughter of William Yorks. The latter was an officer in the Revolution under Washington. Mrs. Curry's father was a lieutenant in the war of 1812, and died in Danville in 1868 at the age of seventy-nine years. When eight years of age he came to Columbia County, and grew up on the farm where the State asylum now stands, and became a successful business man. He reared a family of nine children, only two of whom now survive, Mrs. Thompson and the widow of our subject. To Judge and Mrs. Curry six children were born, all of whom are living; William; Elizabeth, wife of James McWilliams; Agnes; Mary Ella, wife of Dr. W. Faulds; Samuel and Stewart. Mrs. Curry is a member of the Presbyterian Church, of which denomination the Curry and York families have always been members.

WILLIAM CURRY, farmer and stock grower, P. O. Danville, was born in Valley Township, Montour County, November 23, 1842, a son of Hon. James and Christiana (Yorks) Curry, of Irish and German origin and whose ancestors were among the early settlers of Pennsylvania. William is the eldest in a family of six children and was reared on the farm in Valley Township. He was educated in the country schools, and academy at Danville, and adopted agriculture as his vocation. In 1873 he married Helen, daughter of Samuel Lowrie, of Scotch-Irish descent. Mr. and Mrs. Curry have five children: Eloise, James, Anna, Robert and Jean. The parents are members of the Grove Presbyterian Church of Danville. Mr. Curry has been school director. Politically he is a Democrat.

SAMUEL CURRY, farmer and stock grower, P. O. Mooresburg, was born on the farm where he now resides in Valley Township, Montour County, September 3, 1819, a son of William and Jane (Moore) Curry, natives of Pennsylvania and of Irish origin. The grandfather, Robert Curry, came from Ireland to America and settled in what is now Montour County, Penn., where he was killed by the Indians. William Curry was reared here and became a successful farmer, and was the father of the following children: James, who grew to manhood, married, engaged in farming and died in 1876; Margaret, who was married to Daniel Montgomery; Robert and Samuel. The last two farm the homestead and are the third generation on it, the deed to which has never been in any other name. They are partners and own 250 acres of land; are industrious and honest and enjoy the respect of all who know them. In politics the family have usually been Democrats. James, their elder brother, died in 1876, and had served as associate judge of Montour County.

JONATHAN DAVIS, farmer and stock grower, P. O. Danville, was born where he now resides in Valley Township, July 23, 1819, a son of Griffith J. and Phebe (Burry) Davis, natives of Pennsylvania and of Welsh descent. His father, a relative of the famous Jefferson Davis, ex-president of the Southern Confederacy, was engaged in farming all his life and died in 1874. Jonathan was educated at the schools of his native county, and from youth up has been engaged in agricultural pursuits, and has been very successful. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and a staunch Democrat politically.

DAVID DAVIS, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Valley Township, January 5, 1823, and is a brother of the preceding gentleman. He was educated in the common schools and engaged in farming. He and his brother, Jonathan, are partners and together

own the farm of 300 acres. Mr. Davis married in Northumberland County, Penn., Theodocia, daughter of Gen. William Case of the Pennsylvania militia. This union has been blessed by two children: Thomas Beaver and William. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are members of the Presbyterian Church. He generally refuses to accept office, but has served as assessor.

**JAMES FENSTERMACHER**, farmer and stock grower and owner of the Fenstermacher tannery in Valley Township, P. O. Danville, was born in Valley Township, April 4, 1849, a son of Charles and Catherine (Schumacher) Fenstermacher, natives of Lehigh County, Penn. His father came to Montour County about 1831, a tanner by trade, and about 1836 built the tannery, which he operated until his death in 1886. He served one term as one of the commissioners of Montour County. James is the only son in a family of three children; was reared in his native township, and educated at Danville and Mercersburg College, Franklin County. He engaged in farming and tanning, has met with success, and owns 200 acres of land on which he resides. He married, in 1872, Kate Kocher, a native of Pennsylvania, who has borne him four children, of whom Ida P., Charles N. and Laura May are living, one having died at the age of two and a half years. Mr. and Mrs. Fenstermacher are members of the Reformed Church, in which he is a deacon. His parents were also identified with that denomination, his father serving as a deacon and elder for many years.

**NATHAN FENSTERMACHER**, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Lehigh County, Penn., January 8, 1827, son of Abraham and Christianna (Wise) Fenstermacher, natives of Pennsylvania and of German origin. His paternal and maternal ancestors were among the early settlers of Pennsylvania. His father was a merchant miller by occupation, and settled in Valley Township in 1834 on the farm where Nathan now resides, and which he owns. Abraham erected a saw-mill in 1838, and helped to build the Fenstermacher tannery, and continued the saw-mill and tannery until his death in 1851. His family consisted of eight children, of whom Nathan was the fifth. He was reared in Valley Township on the farm, attended the district schools and chose farming as an occupation, in which he has met with success, and is the owner of 112 acres of land. He was married in 1854 to Margaret Snyder, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Sechler) Snyder, the father being a native of Valley Township, born March 3, 1810. The house in which he was born is still standing. Our subject and wife have two children: Minnie and Estella J. The family are members of the Reformed Church, in which he has been a deacon and of which he is now an elder, treasurer, and secretary and treasurer of the Sunday-school. In politics he is a Republican.

**JAMES FLORA**, retired hotel-keeper, P. O. Danville, was born in 1817 in Columbia County, Penn. He is the son of Joseph and Jane (Craig) Flora; Joseph Flora was a miller, and followed that as a business for many years. James, our subject, was his only child, and was reared in Montour County, attending the subscription schools. Jane Flora lived to the advanced age of ninety-eight; Joseph Flora died before our subject was born, therefore the latter's knowledge of his father is limited. They were of Scotch-Irish descent. Our subject has made farming his occupation, but kept the hotel for twenty-one years. He still owns the farm in Anthony Township, the hotel in Valley Township and other real estate. He was married, in 1841, to Sarah Ann, daughter of John Smith; she is of German origin. They have six children now living: Jane E. (wife of Samuel Beaver), Sally Ann (wife of Grier Acor), Mary C. (wife of Westley Perry), William, Hannah (wife of Henry Billinger) and Caroline (wife of Harry A. Greiner). The family are members of the Reformed Church, and in politics Mr. Flora is a Democrat.

**EDWARD FRAZIER**, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Danville, Penn., February 16, 1853, son of Daniel F. Frazier, who was the first sheriff of Montour County, of which the brother of Edward is the present sheriff. Edward is the youngest of a family of seven children, and was reared on the farm, receiving schooling in the district school. He chose farming as his occupation and has followed it until the present time, being owner of the farm where he now resides in Valley Township. He was married in 1881 to Sarah J. (of German origin), daughter of Samuel Herr. Their children are Samuel and Alice. Mr. Frazier is a member of the Lutheran Church, and in politics is a Republican.

**HARRY A. GREINER**, carriage-trimmer and musician, P. O. Danville, was born in Lehigh County, Penn., March 9, 1853, son of Christian and Tacy (Levan) Greiner. His father was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, his mother in Lehigh County, Penn., and of German origin. His father was a brewer in Germany, but after he came to America he followed the occupation and business of manufacturing carriages. His family consisted of nine children, of which H. A. is the sixth. He was reared in Snyder County, Penn., attending school at Selin's Grove. He excelled in penmanship and music. In 1873 he came to Montour County, and engaged in teaching music and carriage-trimming. He was married in 1874 to Caroline, daughter of James and Sarah A. (Smith) Flora. They have one child now living, William. Mr. and Mrs. Greiner are members of the Reformed Church. In politics he is a Democrat.

**JOHN HENDRICKS**, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Montgomery County, Penn., October 25, 1826, son of Abraham and Mary (Hunsicker) Hendricks. John Hun-



sicker, his grandfather, was a bishop in the Mennoite Church and served for twenty years in that capacity. Abraham Hendricks was a farmer and the father of six children, all living to be grown and married. Roger Hendricks, brother of our subject, is also a prominent farmer in Valley Township. At the age of seventeen John, our subject, commenced to teach school, and followed that until he was thirty-one years of age, and since then has devoted his time to farming. He came to Montour County, Penn., in 1858 and settled on the farm where he now resides. He was married in 1861 to Hannah, daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Roberts) Highley, who were of German and Welsh extraction. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hendricks has been blessed with three children: Joseph, who is a carpenter by trade; Frank, also a carpenter, and Sally at home. Mr. Hendricks is a Republican in politics, and at present is a justice of the peace. He has served as school director for twelve years.

W. S. LAWRENCE, superintendent of the Montour Iron and Steel Iron Mines, in Valley Township, Montour County, was born in Danville, Penn., December 20, 1842, son of William T. and Ann (Phillips) Lawrence. His parents were born in Monmouthshire, South Wales. William T. Lawrence, a miner by occupation, was married in Wales in 1839, came to America and settled in Montour County, Penn., where he worked in the iron mines. Of their ten children only two survive, W. S., and Sarah Ann, who is now the wife of Joseph Woodford, of Valley Township. Our subject was reared in Danville, attending the common schools, and at an early age went to work in the old Rough and Ready Mill of that place. At the age of fifteen he commenced to work in the mines, and when twenty-seven years old was appointed foreman. Since 1882 he has served as superintendent of the mines. He was married in 1863 to Rachel, daughter of William Churm, a native of England. This union has been blessed with nine children, eight of them now living—five sons and three daughters. The family have been members of the Baptist Church. In politics Mr. Lawrence is a Republican, and he has served nine years as school director in Valley Township. He is the owner of a farm, and all he has acquired has been by his own industry and exertion.

A. J. MAUS, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Montour County, Penn., September 15, 1831, a son of Lewis and Catherine (Baughman) Maus, whose paternal and maternal ancestors were among the earliest settlers of Pennsylvania. His maternal grandfather was a soldier in the Revolution, and the gun carried by him all through that struggle is in possession of our subject. His father, Lewis Maus, ran the first keel-bottom boat on the Susquehanna, and bought an extensive tract of land in Valley Township, which was then a wilderness. A. J. is the youngest in a family of ten children, nine of whom grew to maturity; was reared in Valley Township and has farmed most of his life. Since 1879 he has acted as agent for Walter A. Wood, of Hoosick Falls, N. Y., manufacturer of reapers and binders, and this is at present his principal business. In 1847 he married Harriet Billmeyer, a native of Pennsylvania, of German origin, and a daughter of Martin Billmeyer. Their children are Maggie, wife of Orin Kimerer; Matthew, in the employ of the Walter A. Wood Mowing & Reaping Machine Company, of New York, and at present in South America; Ida, wife of H. H. Southwick; Harry and Edna. Mr. and Mrs. Maus are members of the Episcopal Church.

PHILIP E. MAUS, bookkeeper and business manager for his father, Philip F. Maus, was born May 22, 1852, and is the only surviving member of the family. His mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Gallagher, was born in Lycoming County, Penn.; was of Scotch-Irish and German origin. His father was born in what is now Valley Township, made milling and farming his business, and succeeded in amassing a handsome fortune. His birth occurred in 1810, a son of Joseph Maus, who was a soldier in the Revolution, serving under Washington at Valley Forge. The great grandfather of our subject was Philip Maus, who was among the earliest German settlers here. Philip E. attended school in Danville, and also the Tuscarora Academy and Chambersburg Academy. He commenced business first as a lumber dealer, but, on account of his father's health, came home to assist the latter in his business. In 1878 he married Mary R. Leinbach, of German descent, and a daughter of John B., a farmer of Northumberland County. Politically Mr. Maus is a Republican.

WILLIAM PURSEL, SR., farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Hemlock Township, Columbia Co., Penn., April 9, 1808, son of Daniel and Mary (Green) Pursel, natives of New Jersey, and of Irish origin. Daniel Pursel was a blacksmith and farmer, and came to Columbia County with the early settlers; his family consisted of eight sons and three daughters. Our subject was the seventh child, and was reared on the farm, attending the subscription schools in the township; he chose farming as his occupation, but learned the tanner's trade and worked at it four years, when he again resumed farming, and made that his business until he retired from the active labors of life. In business he has met with success, and is the owner of the farm where he now resides. He was united in marriage in 1830, with Susan, daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Rupert) Farnwald; her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and of German origin. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Pursel has been blessed with seven children, (six now living): Charles, Daniel G., Sarah B. (now the wife of P. Moore), Peter, William F. (deceased), James, and Samuel who has charge



of the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Pursel are members of the Reformed Church in which he has been a deacon and elder. He has served as school director, supervisor, and overseer of the poor.

STEPHEN F. ROBERTS, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born in Mahoning Township, Montour Co., Penn., July 10, 1814, son of Edward and Rebecca (Phillips) Roberts, natives of Montgomery County, Penn., and of English and Welsh origin. Edward Roberts was a carpenter in early life, and finally settled on a farm in Montour County. His family consisted of ten children, all of whom were reared in Montour County. Our subject attended the common schools in Mahoning County, and remained on the farm with his parents until old enough to learn the tailor's trade, but, on account of ill health, he has devoted his time to farming. Since 1849 he has resided in Valley Township on the farm owned by A. F. Russel, and his heirs, of Danville. Mr. Roberts has farmed this property for thirty-three years. He was married, in 1847, to Miss Margaret M., daughter of Stephen George, of Irish origin. Their children now living are Eli W. and George E. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are members of the Grove Presbyterian Church. In politics he is a Republican, and has held nearly all of the offices in Valley Township; served three terms as justice of the peace, and three terms as director of the poor, also takes an interest in the schools, and has served as school director, supervisor and tax collector.

E. SIDLER, farmer and stock grower, P. O. Danville, was born on the farm where he now resides, March 26, 1829, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Benfield) Sidler, natives of Pennsylvania, the former of German origin. In early life he learned the carpenter's trade, but has made farming his chief occupation. Our subject is the fourth in a family of eight children, and was educated in the district school, and from his youth up has been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He now owns 100 acres of land where he resides, and where he has one of the most desirable country dwellings to be found in Valley Township. Mr. Sidler has been twice married; first, in 1853, to Rebecca, daughter of Abraham Fenstermacher. Mrs. Sidler died in 1872, the mother of the following children: Martha (wife of Calvin Schultz), Nathan Elmer (a farmer) and William H. In 1874 Mr. Sidler married Rebecca, daughter of Peter Bright, and a sister of Hon. Dennis Bright, of Danville. Her mother was of Welsh and her father of German descent. Mr. Sidler is a member of the Lutheran Church, in which he has been an elder and a deacon, and is now treasurer. He was director of the poor twelve years, and served one term as county treasurer, as school director six years, and supervisor two years. Politically he is a Democrat.

THOMAS T. YOUNG, farmer and stock grower, P. O. Danville, was born in England, December 8, 1838, a son of George and Louise (Purnell) Young, natives of England. His father was a prominent farmer in his native country, where he died when Thomas was only six years of age. Later his widow married Charles Harding, and in 1857, in company with his mother and step-father, our subject came to America and settled in Danville. Here Thomas first worked in the iron ore mines, and subsequently was appointed foreman of the Bradford County Mines, where he remained a short time. Since 1878 he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits, and is a successful farmer. He has been twice married. His first wife, whom he married in 1866, was Miss Jane Beddow, a native of Pennsylvania and of English origin. She died in 1874, the mother of five children, of whom Mary Louise is living. Mr. Young next married in Danville in 1875, Clara M., a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Jonathan Rudy, and one child, Viola, was born to the union. Mr. and Mrs. Young are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Danville, of which he is a trustee, and in which he has been a class leader and superintendent of the Sunday-school. In politics he is a Republican.

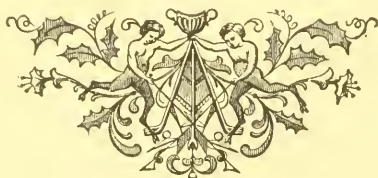
## CHAPTER XXIII.

### WEST HEMLOCK TOWNSHIP.

V. R. SHULTZ, farmer, P. O. Danville, was born January 13, 1820, in this township, fourth son of Peter Shultz. Jacob Shultz, grandfather of our subject, was a very early settler in this county, and was driven away from his home several times by the Indians, and forced to take refuge in the fort. To Jacob and his wife were born the following children: Peggy, Polly, Betsey, Peter, Jacob, Philip and John, all of whom reared families. Peter, the father of our subject, and a farmer by occupation, was born in 1789, and came to this county when a small boy. He married, Sarah, daughter of Vincent Robbins, and by her had eight sons and one daughter: William, Jonathan, Jacob, V. R., James B.,

John K., B. F., Peter R. and Mary. Vincent R. Shultz was born in what is now West Hemlock, Montour County, and was reared on the farm until he attained his majority, when he was married to Elizabeth, daughter of John and Mary (Long) Cox. After his marriage he located on the farm he now owns, which was covered with timber and which he has since cleared. Mr. and Mrs. Shultz have four children: Melinda M., wife of Henry Cooper, of Derry Township; Sarah C., wife of Hiram Turner in Madison Township; Jane, wife of John Johnson, of Jerseytown, and Lloyd C., of this county. Mr. Shultz has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for forty-five years; his wife since she was fourteen years of age; he has served as class leader. Politically Mr. Shultz is a Democrat. Has been justice of the peace for twenty-five consecutive years; and school director twenty-one years.

JEREMIAH WINTERSTEEN, farmer, P. O. Danville. The Wintersteen family came from Scotland and located in New Jersey about the year 1740. Philip Wintersteen, grandfather of our subject, came from New Jersey with his family and settled in what is now Columbia County, in Fishingcreek and Roaringcreek Townships, about the year 1798. His son, Philip, father of our subject, was born October 27, 1778, in New Jersey; when young he learned the miller's trade which he followed for several years, being for some time in the mill at Millville. He married Hannah Stiles, daughter of Benjamin Stiles, who fought seven years in the colonial war. They reared a family of twelve children: Jacob, Benjamin, William, Mahala, Sarah A., Hannah, Philip, Mary, Nancy, John, Jeremiah and Solvena. The father bought a farm at Warnerville, but after clearing it lost it through an imperfect title; he then moved to the place where Elias Watts now lives; buying this he cleared it up and here died in the fall of 1839, his widow surviving him until 1860. Jeremiah was born July 14, 1826, in Warnerville, now Sereno, Columbia County, and was reared in Pine Township, Columbia Co., Penn. At the age of eighteen years he began life for himself, and when about forty-four years of age he came to this locality, the year prior to the division of the county. He married Sarah, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Benfield) Stilleo, and a native of Valley Township, Montour Co., Penn. In 1855 he purchased the farm he now owns, which was settled about 100 years ago by James Wintersteen, his uncle. He now owns two farms. To Mr. and Mrs. Wintersteen were born twelve children, six living: Mary L., wife of John A. Shultz, of Madison Township, Columbia County; Elizabeth J., wife of William E. Knorr, of Bloomsburg; George B.; Hannah C.; Daniel A.; Thomas B. Politically Mr. Wintersteen is a Democrat; has been supervisor and school director of the township. He is a member of the Lutheran Church.











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Treatment Date:

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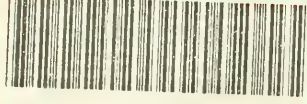
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