

REFERENCE




COLLECTIONS



S 9741.8

P 39611

V. 21



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from

This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries





INDEX. 21

A

Page

B

Page

B.

B

C

C

D

D

E

INDEX.

F	S	Page	S	Page	S	Page
---	---	------	---	------	---	------

H T

U V

W

W

W

X Y Z

HISTORICAL NOTES

Early Surveys in College and Benner Townships.

Biographical Sketches of Jacob Houser, Gen. Philip Benner, and the Important Part They Took in Settling the Territory in the Vicinity of Rock Forge.

[Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.]

The earliest survey near the west end of Nittany mountain was made June 3, 1767, in the warantee name of Joseph Hopkins, on an application dated December 22, 1766. It included the forks or mouth of the Slab cabin branch of Spring creek. Samuel Wallis patented it September, 4, 1767, and sold it to Reuben Haines September 29, 1768; and Reuben Haines made a deed for it to David Whitehill, which is dated April 6, 1789, the year David Whitehill came to that neighborhood.

No further official surveys were made north of the Joseph Hopkins until after the purchase of the 5th of November, 1768. According to Wm. Maclays' testimony, taken in 1800, in a suit between Abraham McKinney and Jacob Houser, "the end of the Nittany mountain was a land mark of the purchase of October 23, 1758, the line of that purchase proceeding west from the end of the mountain, and the Indians appeared to be content with that boundary." We may add, the proprietaries repeatedly refused to grant warrants of survey, on applications for land north of the end of the mountain.

The first survey, therefore, made north west and north of the Joseph Hopkins was made June 4, 1774, upon an application in the name of John Robinson, dated April 3, 1769. This survey belonged to Robert Moore, who lived upon it in 1775, as he swears in his testimony in the suit of Benner vs. Houser. The greater part of this survey is now the farm of William Thompson, adjoining Houserville. Robert Moore was an express rider during the Indian troubles in 1778, and carried the news, on the 9th of May of that year, to Arthur Buchanan, who lived where

Lewistown now stands, of the murder by the Indians of Jacob Standped and family, whose bodies are buried on Ephriam Keller's farm in Potter township, three miles west of the Old Fort.

Robert Moore's survey, the John Robinson, calls for a cherry tree about thirty perches east of Spring creek and perhaps 40 or 50 perches northerly of where Cedar run enters into Spring creek. A cherry tree at this point is called for by the Michael Troy, Ludwig Karracher, Isaac Catheral and Caleb Jones surveys, on their official returns.

Lewis Lewis seems to have been the first surveyor, officially, in the neighborhood, and he surveyed the John Hubley and Michael Hubley, both warrants of April 27, 1774, upon ground on which Waukins Boone laid the warrants on Banks, Lippencott and John Gill, in 1775. The Ludwig Karricher warrant is returned by Charles Lukens D. S., as surveyed Feb. 10, 1775, on Spring creek between the John Wabley and the cherry tree above referred to. He returns the Michael Troy as surveyed March 15, 1775, immediately on top of the Karricher, with nearly the same courses and distances, as the Matthew Troy as surveyed the same day, on top of the Michael Wabley. The Adam Guier, south of Karricher, is returned as surveyed on the 12th of February, 1775.

The next surveyor upon the premises is Waukins Boone, in October 1775, who came up with five warrants in the names of Christopher Banks, William Lippencott, Isaac Catherall, Caleb Jones and John Gill, the locations of which he sold Samuel Burris. They were all dated December 5th, 1774, and Boone laid them in a block from the cherry tree, Jones and Gill covering Guier and Wabley; Cockerall, in part, covering Banks, and Lippencott covering Karricher and John Hubley.

(To be continued.)

KEYSTONE GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1885.

The Late Mrs. Mann.

Mrs. Jane Fleming Mann, relict of the late Harvy Mann, Sr., died at

idence, at Boiling Springs, th
 anty, Wednesday morning, Oct. 7,
 aged 75 years. Mrs. Mann was the
 daughter of the Hon. Thomas Burnside,
 and a most estimable christian lady.
 She was greatly beloved and respected
 by all who knew her, and her funeral,
 Friday, October 9, was one of the
 largest known here for a long time.
 She was a member of the Presbyterian
 church and contributed largely of her
 means towards the support of religious
 and charitable institutions. The fol-
 lowing resolutions of respect were
 passed and explain themselves.

The officers, teachers and pupils of the Boiling
 Springs Union Sunday School, holding in grateful
 memory the constant interest manifested in their
 welfare by Mrs. Jane F. Mann; cherishing in
 their hearts the lasting teachings of her life, so
 likened to that of Christ, her Master, in deeds of
 kindness and love; feeling that from their midst
 and presence a light has gone out that was never
 hid, but constantly beamed forth the inspiring
 rays of the Gospel, and prompted all who beheld
 to newness of life in Him who is the way, and the
 truth, and the life, unitedly would join in this
 testimonial of all she was to them. A constant
 friend in ministering to their needs, a faithful
 teacher of divine truth, a consistent exemplar of
 Christian virtues; ever desirous that we may
 follow her footsteps even as she followed Christ's.

BOILING SPRINGS, } Samuel T. Brooks,
 Oct. 18, 1885, } Reuben M. Kaup,
 James E. Williams.

KEYSTONE GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1885.

HISTORICAL NOTES

**Early Surveys in College
 and Benner Townships.**

**Biographical Sketches of Jacob Hous-
 ser, Gen. Philip Benner, and the
 Important Part They Took in
 Settling the Territory in the
 Vicinity of Rock Forge.**

[Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.]

The deposition of one of his chain
 carriers is preserved, taken June 1, 1798,
 before William Murray, a justice of
 the peace of Dauphin County. Cor-
 nelius Atkinson, being sworn, says: "In
 the month of October 1774 (1775) he, the

said Atkinson, in company with Waukins
 Boone, William Hammond and Mans-
 field Koontz, went to Spring creek at
 the end of Nittany mountain, then in
 Northumberland, and hunted the land
 of Reuben Haines, (the Joseph Hop-
 kins and Samuel Bayliss Jr. survey.
 David Whitehill's land and the tract
 where Lemont now stands) from the
 draughts of the said Haines which we
 then had in possession, and started
 at the lower end of Haines' land
 (from near the cherry tree spoken of
 before) and ran along said land up
 toward Nittany mountain as far as our
 line run (a pine on Samuel Bayliss' Jr.,)
 and then we altered our course and
 run down the mountain (from the di-
 rection of the mountain) till we took
 in as much land as we thought would
 make twelve or fifteen hundred acres,
 then we altered our course toward
 Spring creek and crossed said creek,
 went up said creek and re-crossed said
 creek to the place of beginning; the
 deponent then being a chain carrier
 for Waukins Boone, and being a party
 concerned with said Boone. The depo-
 nant further saith that in running the
 lines of the said survey he saw no marks
 or any other signs of any other surveys.
 He knew said Boone had names along
 whereby he fixed his locations, but
 does not remember who they were, and
 that he knows nothing of a certain
 Lewis Lewis being a surveyor at that
 time or before in that county." The
 parts in brackets are interpolated by
 the author of these annotations by
 way of explanation, and any one who
 has ever been upon the ground will
 readily recognize the chain carriers de-
 scription as correct and graphic, and he
 might well say he saw no marks of
 Lewis Lewis' survey of the Hubley,
 because Lewis' axe marks were all
 within the Boone lines, except where, in
 two places, Boone crossed Lewis' line
 diagonally and therefore would not be
 likely to observe it.

Waukins Boone was commissioned
 Captain, Oct. 4th, 1776, in the 12th Pa.,
 and was killed near Fort Freeland
 (about a half mile from the Warrior
 Run church, on the public road leading
 from Milton to Muncy, in Northumber-
 land county) July 29, 1779, in an attempt
 to relieve that fort. Of the other mem-
 bers of this surveying party we have

no record.

Samuel Burris conveyed his interest in the five tracts Boone located to Josiah Matlack, of Philadelphia (house carpenter.) Burris had all the tracts patented in April 1776. Josiah Matlack and Elizabeth his wife, by deed dated 26th of December, 1789, conveyed the Isaac Catherall 374 acres and seventy-five perches to Jacob Houser, of the township of Paxtang and county of Dauphin. This is the survey on which Houserville in College township stands. The consideration money was £280.17.6, reduced to Pennsylvania currency \$750. In the same year, perhaps, (though the deed is dated March 2. 1795) Jacob Houser bought of Josiah Matlack the Caleb Jones survey, called Bastorgne, containing 377 acres and allowance, for £377, or \$1,005.

Charles Lukens, the deputy surveyor, did not return these surveys as Waukins Boone made them on the ground. According to the lines marked on the ground, Burris' five surveys contained 343 acres and 123 perches more than the returns called for, and Philip Benner (who purchased of Matlack also) and Jacob Houser had that much more land than was supposed when they purchased of Matlack.

The following depositions, still in existence, settle the fact that Jacob Houser came up to Spring creek in the year 1787, and built a cabin but did not move up with his family until the year 1788.

Robert Moore's deposition, taken before Richard Miles, at Bellefonte, Dec. 17, 1809; "question by Jacob Houser, "What year was it that I built my cabin near where the mill was since built?" Answer—"In the year 1787. The same year Nathaniel Adams cleared for said Houser 6 acres of land where the orchard, the old one, now is (1809) and fenced it in the next year. Houser empowered me to let the place to any person for eight years, which I did. Let to William Connel, who was to clear below Adams' clearing, and for every rod he cleared down on the creek he was to clear two rods into the barrens. Connel cleared about seven acres where Houser's house and barn now (1809) stand, in the year 1790. Frances Sanford's deposition, taken before William Petrikin, at Bellefonte, Feb. 10th, 1812, reads:

3

"Jacob Houser came up to Spring creek with his family, to reside on the place where the saw mill and fulling mill are now (1812) built, sometime in the fall of the year 1788, I think about the last of October or the first of November in that year. There was a cabin built, or partly built, before he and his family came but not covered. There was a piece of land cleared, by its appearance there might have been six acres of it. If I recollect right there was a fence about it. William Connel then lived about opposite where Jacob Houser now lives, and on the opposite side of the creek and a little below where Jacob Houser lived when he first settled there in 1788. I heard Jacob Houser and William Connel talk over, face to face, the terms upon which Connel held the part he lived on. Connel was to clear two rods back for every one he cleared upon the creek. I cannot say positively where Houser cleared the six acres, or rather the six acres he got a man by the name of Adams to clear, but I think it may be about where the old orchard is. The six acres were cleared before I saw the place at all. In 1792 I hewed logs for Jacob Houser's mill house. I observed to-day (10th of Feb., 1812) the stump of the tree which I then cut down for one of the girders of the mill house."

Accordingly, the place where Jacob Houser had a cabin built and six acres of land cleared by Nathaniel Adams in 1787, and the spot where he came with his family in October, 1788, was at the creek where Mrs. George Cronemiller's land adjoined the land of Martin Houser, as willed them by their father, Jacob Houser, in 1832. He reserved from the tract devised Mrs. Cronemiller the "old fulling mill and saw mill," and devised the latter, with a few acres of land, to Daniel Houser. This spot on which Jacob Houser first settled was within the lines of the Isaac Catherall, as that survey is returned into the land office. Then, in order to hold the land by improvement, which was outside of the returned survey, but within the lines Boone ran, he had William Connel clear, in 1790, farther down the creek, the place where he built his mansion house in 1804.

In Robert Moore's deposition, of Dec.

, 1809, Gen. Benner asked the questions: "Whether did you know or hear Houser tell or give any reason why he removed from the mill to where he now (1809) lives?" Answered: "Yes, I heard him say that he wished to hold the land that he had improved."

Philip Benner bought of Josiah Matlack, May 2, 1792, the three tracts known as Christopher Banks, William Lippencott and John Gill, and in the spring of 1793 moved up from Chester county and took possession of them.

Philip Benner, (son of Henry,) was born in the northern part of Chester county, May 19, 1762. Before he was of age he served in the Revolutionary war and after that manufactured iron at Coventry forge in Chester county. He there married Ruth Roberts, born March 9, 1765. Their daughters Hannah, afterwards wife of Thomas Waddle, and Peninah, who married Caleb Kepperd, were born in Chester county. Hannah was born on the 7th of October, 1787, and Peninah October 12, 1788. With these two children and his wife he left Chester county in April, 1793. He brought with him a number of persons, among them Thomas Waddle, afterwards his manager at Rock Works, Conrad Reemy, an old Revolutionary soldier, Mordecai Benner, Evan Williams, Thomas Evans and Isaac Jones.

A log cabin was erected within a day or two after the first band of men arrived with Gen. Benner, and two days after Mrs. Benner arrived with the children. The cabin stood on or very near the site of the present stone mansion at Upper Rock—this was in May, 1793—where a house and two cooper shops were erected forthwith. William Williams and Conrad Reemy proceeded immediately to clear up farms on the Banks tract, the first improvement being on the northern portion of that warrantee tract. A forge was commenced on the creek bank a little southwest of the present stone mansion, in 1793, and iron was manufactured there in 1794. Evan Williams, (father of Mark Williams, of Spring Twp.,) was the forge builder and millwright who erected a log grist mill and saw mill, the grist mill being close by the first forge.

On the 24th of June, 1794, Lower Rock place was taken up by warrant in

the name of Thomas Evans, surveyed 18th December, 1795.

(To be continued.)

HISTORICAL NOTES

Early Surveys in College and Benner Townships.

Lower Rock Place—General Benner's Improvements—Forensic Contests Between Jacob Houser and General Benner—General View of Surveys in Benner Township and Notices of Early Settlers.

III.

[Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.]

On June 24th, 1794, Lower Rock place was taken up on a warrant in the name of Thomas Evans, and was surveyed by James Harris, D. S., on the 18th of December, 1795. On Lower Rock (now owned by Major William F. Reynolds) General Benner built a slitting mill in 1799. He commenced building the lower forge in February 20th, 1800, and the rolling mill in 1803. Subsequently he erected a saw mill and stone grist mill (between the upper and lower forges) at the present site of William F. Reynolds' flouring mill.

The surveys heretofore alluded to embrace all the Benner and Houser lands, the title to which produced so much legal controversy and made their names familiar in the land law of our State. To clear up any misapprehension, and to clear up typographical errors in our former notes, it becomes necessary to repeat a few facts. Hawkins Boone, a surveyor, came up to Spring creek in October, 1775, and located five warrants: Christopher Binks; William Lippencott and John Gill, (purchased of Matlack by Philip Benner;) Caleb Jones and Isaac Catherall, purchased of Matlack by Jacob Houser.)

Boone located them for the most part on top of two surveys in the warrantee names of John Hubley and Michael Hubley, made in May, 1774, by Lewis Lewis, and on top of two surveys

in the names of Ludwig Karricher and Adam Guier, surveyed in February, 1775. The first legal controversy, therefore, that arose, was between the owners of these four older warrants and surveys, and Jacob Houser and General Benner, owners of the junior warrants and surveys; and in these battles, of course, Jacob Houser and General Benner stood together against the common enemy.

Next was the controversy between themselves for the over-plus three hundred and fifty acres of land, included by the exterior lines of their surveys as marked on the ground, which General Benner contended should be divided between them, but which Houser contended was included in his purchase from Matlack, because Matlack had designated a certain pine tree as Houser's northern boundary, while Houser was in possession and before he (Matlack) had sold to Benner.

Again, that portion of Lower Rock place (Thomas Evans' Warrant) through which the creek ran, and on which the later mills, forges, etc., were erected by General Benner, as mentioned above, was claimed by Colonel Samuel Miles as being included within the lines of surveys, on warrants in the names of James Grigson, Christopher Gettig and Richard Rundle, belonging to the large block of Miles and Patton land applied for in 1784, and surveyed in November of that year.

Lastly, Jacob Houser died February 14th, 1832, and General Benner followed him to the grave July 27th, 1832, whereupon General Benner, having purchased in his lifetime the John Hubley and Michael Hubley locations, to quiet his own title, the administrators of General Benner brought an ejectment against Houser's heirs in expectation of recovering that portion of the surplus above referred to, which fell within the lines of the Hubley survey.

This is a general statement of the forensic disputes which occupy so large a space on the records, first of Mifflin, then of Centre county, and does not include the many minor legal controversies with which Jacob Houser and General Benner amused themselves. For the tradition is, neither allowed himself to be annoyed or sold out for costs; but each was ready to

lend the other money upon such an emergency.

The early surveys in the present township of Benner were as follows: Commencing on the north, all the land on Muncy mountain and to its foot was taken up on applications in the names of the Kuhns—Joseph, Samuel, Simon, Paul, Richard Kuhn, &c. The warrants are dated December 24th, 1792, and the block was surveyed by William Wilson, an old surveyor, who lived on the Bald Eagle. These lands passed from the Kuhns to Jacob and Joseph Gratz, and the Gratz family sold out the remaining tracts and parts of tracts they had not disposed of, to William A. Thomas, in 1854. Resides

and others laid warrants on parts of these Kuhn's surveys and tried to claim by possession, but the Gratzs compelled a recognition of their titles, and the squatters had to buy their titles from the Gratzs.

From the Patton township line along Buffalo Run eastwardly, to what is known now as the Knox farm, on Buffalo Run, the land was taken up under applications of April 3d, 1769, in the names of Michael Greiter, Michael Shank, John Shank and George Gabriel, and surveyed in June and October, 1770, embracing over sixteen hundred acres, all of which was owned by General Benner at his death. The Kephart farms and village of Fillmore are on the Michael Greiter; the Isaac Gray and Ruth Armor farms are on the Michael Shank; Colonel Robert McFarlane owns all of the John Shank; the Armogast farms and Mrs. John B. Linn's farm, occupied by Benjamin Bodie, are upon the George Gabriel. On the George Gabriel survey is the "Buffalo Lick," from which the name of Buffalo Run became attached to the stream.

The Indian path to Frankstown from Bald Eagle's next (Milesburg) passes through the northern portion of the George Gabriel farm, and, as the woods remain intact, it can still be distinctly traced from the Knox place, north of the site of the old saw mill, to where it enters James Resides' cleared fields. After leaving the James Resides' survey, it passed along the southern boundary of the David Fulton survey, nearly on the site of the new road just being

e, and struck the path from
of Nittany mountain, which
over Muncy mountain, to Bald
Valley at Kepheart's Gap. The
application made April 3d, 1769, for the
George Gabriel calls for "the path to the
Bald Eagle's nest, including a place
known by the name of the old Buffalo
Lick."

Immediately east of the George
Gabriel tract the Hugh Mean's warrant
of December 7th, 1774, was surveyed
September 23d, 1788. This is the
Gabriel Knox place, still owned by his
descendants. East of the Hugh Mean's
was surveyed November 23d, 1788, the
John Hendricks' warrant of same day
and date as Hugh Mean's, embracing
farms of Isaac Gray, Tasker Knox, after-
wards Richard Conley, Esq. Next,
east of Hendricks', along Buffalo Run,
was located the Andrew Boggs' warrant
of March 24th, 1775, surveyed Novem-
ber 20th, 1793, embracing farms now
owned by James Henderson, A. J.
Shivery and others.

It was on the Andrew Boggs tract that
John Boggs, sheriff of Cumberland coun-
ty, in 1780-83, and a justice of the courts
of Franklin county, settled on in 1795, and
died there in 1796. His oldest son, An-
drew Boggs, was one of the early (1804)
resident lawyers of Bellefonte; a daugh-
ter Ann was the wife of John Mitchell,
member of Congress and Canal Commis-
sioner; another daughter of John
Boggs, Jane, married John Royer, a
prominent politician in olden times,
and their daughter is the wife of Judge
Cyrus L. Pershing, of Pottsville. The
place afterwards passed into the hands
of Henry Vandyke, by whose name
it was long known.

[With the article appearing in next
week's issue of the GAZETTE the descrip-
tion of Benner township surveys will
terminate. The following week will ap-
pear a graphic account of the legal
controversy between General Benner,
Jacob Houser and others.—Ed. GA-
ZETTE.]

HISTORICAL NOTES

Early Surveys in College
and Benner Townships.

Lower Rock Place—General Benner's Improve- ments—Forensic Contests Between Jacob Houser and General Benner—Gen- eral View of Surveys in Benner Township and Notices of Early Settlers.

IV.

[Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.]

East of the Andrew Boggs, a warrant
dated December 7th, 1774, in the name
of William Means, was surveyed
November 24th, 1789. This is mostly
owned by the Messrs. Brokerhoff. East
of the William Means, the Daniel Tur-
ner warrant of January 17th, 1793, and
the Oliver Montgomery warrant of
July 1, 1784, were surveyed on parts of
which Charles Witmer's farm is located.
East of the Daniel Turner the James
Harris warrant of January 28th, 1793,
was surveyed October 17th, 1796. On
the west half of this survey is the farm
occupied by W. H. Humes, and the
eastern portion is owned by William A.
Thomas' estate. The Benner township
line coming down southwardly from
the gap leading up to Dr. Perdue's old
place, divides the James Harris' survey,
the Thomas estate partly being in
Spring township. The township line
then passes down through the James
Sharron, surveyed upon an application
dated April 3d, 1769, then into the
William Sharron, Jr., application of
same date, crossing Spring creek and
the public road near the paper mill.

Roopsburg is situated on the west
end of the William Sharron, Jr., where it
adjoins the Daniel Turner warrant of
September 14th, 1787. On the latter
tract, Daniel Turner, in 1795, erected
works, consisting of a forge, grist and
saw mill. He called it "Spring Creek
Forge." Turner failed and the works
passed into the hands of Thomas Bil-
lington, who abandoned the forge part
of the enterprise in 1807. The Brock-
erhoff heirs own the mill site, where
the manufacture of flour is now car-
ried on to a large extent.

Immediately south of what we have
mentioned as surveys along Buffalo
Run, was located a large block of sur-
veys in two tiers extending eastwardly
across the township from the Patton
township line to the line between Ben-

ner and Spring, or very near it. Ore had been early discovered on this belt, and the warrants were purchased July 1st, 1784, by Benjamin Davis, for himself, Lawrence Keene and Joseph J. Wallis, who were to share in the enterprise. They were called "The Iron Company," and Joseph J. Wallis, who was deputy surveyor, himself directed the surveys and locations.

These surveys extended from the present western boundary of Patton clear through Patton and through Benner township, as stated above. They commenced with the Robert Gover, which was the extreme west survey, on which Scotia is now situated, and ran eastwardly to the Fishburn farm and J. J. Musser's, in that neighborhood. General John Patton, an officer of the Revolution, who erected Centre furnace in 1791, bought out Davis and Wallis; Colonel Samuel Miles acquired an interest, and the lands were held by General Patton and Colonel Miles, in connection with Centre furnace and Milesburg Iron Works. The title to the greater part of these tracts became vested finally in General James Irvin, Moses Thompson and William Thompson, who divided them into farms and disposed of many of them. The old Judge Marshall farm and the present farm of Joseph Marshall are on the Benjamin Davis survey of this block. Hon. Benjamin Hunter owns the John Davis, which lies west of the Benjamin Davis. Hon. James T. Hale owned at his death the Gettig, Grigson and January surveys of the southern tier of this block, which surveys adjoin the Rock Forge farms, formerly of General Benner.

West of Rock Forge lands lies a block the warrantee names of which are John Carson, William Carson, John Stuart, &c., all surveyed in June, 1794, on warrants dated January 24th, 1785. John Dale's place is on the John Carson.

East of General Benner's Rock Forge tracts lie the John Fries and Richard Wistar, surveyed on warrants of August 8th, 1774. Still, after the lapse of more than a century, (except the Christian Dale and George Dale farms, on the John Fries,) owned by the descendants of Richard Wistar, who patented them. Southeast of Rock lands, extending from near the end

of Nittany mountain, eastwardly to M. Bride's Gap, lies the Bartholomew Wistar warrant, of December 8th, and surveyed March 4th, 1789, now owned by John Shuey. Next, east is James Bartram's warrant of January 18th, 1773, surveyed October 20th, 1788; the western

end is occupied by farm of Robert Valentine; the eastern end is still owned by the Wistar heirs. Next, east of James Bartram, comes the Andrew Coon warrant, of January 18th, 1773, surveyed October 20th, 1788, the west end of which still belongs to the Wistar heirs, of Philadelphia; on the eastern end is the McBride farm, now owned by Harry Zimmerman. South of this last described tier and on Nittany mountain lies a block of surveys, the warrantee names of Ross Johnston, Eleanor, James and Thomas Johnston and John Smith, Jr., warrants of August 27th, 1794, surveyed in November, 1794. Ross Johnston's belongs to the estate of Christian Dale, lately deceased; the other Johnstons, to Robert Valentine; John Smith, Jr., to Robert Valentine and others. This last mentioned block covers Nittany mountain to the borders of Harris township.

This ends the description of Benner township surveys, and the author's next contribution will embrace an account of the legal controversy between General Benner, Jacob Houser and others.

(To be continued.)

HISTORICAL NOTES

Benner Township and Lower Rock Place.

Suit Between Colonel James Miles and General Benner—The Former Once Owned all of Brush Valley, and After Whom Miles Township Was Named—Counsel, Jurors' Names, &c.

v.

[Contributed by Hon. John E. Linn.]
The first ejectment General Benner had to defend was brought for Lower Rock place. The forge and slitting mill were on the Christopher Gettig survey; the coal house, Thomas Evans'

8

ing house, and other buildings, were on the Richard Rundle survey, both surveys belonging to the iron company's block, applications of July 1, 1784, returned as surveyed November 27, 1784.

When the ejectment was brought to No. 22 September term, 1803, General John Patton being dead, Colonel Samuel Miles was the owner of the Gettig and Rundle surveys. Colonel Samuel Miles never resided in Centre county, but his name is so much associated with the early history and improvements of Centre county, that a brief reference to his biography will not be improper.

He was born March 22, 1739, and when only sixteen years of age entered the colonial service as a private; was promoted a lieutenant at the age of eighteen, and served in the campaign against Fort Duquesne. He remained in the army until 1761, when he settled in Philadelphia and engaged in the dry goods business.

His first investments in lands now within the territory of Centre county were made in 1772, when he had applications made for all the valley lands in Brush Valley, from near where Reuben Stover now lives, at the entrance of Brush Valley narrows, west to the end of Brush mountain. In 1776 Colonel Miles was commissioned colonel of a Pennsylvania battalion of riflemen, but was captured in the unfortunate battle of Long Island, August 27, 1776; and remained a prisoner so long that his further service in the Revolutionary war in the field became impractical. In 1783 he was appointed one of the judges of the High Court of Errors of Pennsylvania. In 1790 he was elected mayor of Philadelphia; he was elected the second time but declined to serve, and in 1792 purchased a farm in Cheltenham township, Montgomery county, and there retired for awhile from public life.

In March, 1792, Colonel Miles purchased the Peter Graybill and Joseph Poultney tracts, on which Milesburg, Central City and some of the surrounding farms are now located. He directed a town to be called "Milesborough," to be laid out on the Peter Graybill tract, where once stood the Indian town, known as "Bald Eagle's Nest," which was done in 1793; and he established

his sons John and Joseph in the iron works now known as Linn & McCoy's, which were in operation in 1796 under the name of "Harmony Forge," Miles, Harris & Miles being the firm name.

Before the ejectment brought in 1803, Colonel Miles had filed a caveat in the land office, and the board of property had ordered a survey of the premises in dispute between Miles and General Benner. In pursuance of the order, James Harris, on the 7th of December, 1802, made a survey of the eastern and southeastern portion of the block of surveys of 1784, under which Colonel Miles claimed.

The northeastern survey of this big block was in the warrantee name of Thomas Moore. The Thomas Moore extended partly upon the William Sharron, Jr., and included Spring creek about Reopsburg, and the land for a mile south of Reopsburg. Mr. Harris commenced at a pine tree at the southwestern corner of the William Sharron, Jr., and running from there he found the eastern lines of the big survey marked. He says he blocked several trees, which showed those lines to have been marked about eighteen years before. He found no lines of the date of 1784 marked on the ground for the southern boundary of the block, and no division lines corresponding with the return of the big survey, though he says he searched for them carefully.

The trial of the big ejectment brought by Colonel Miles against General Benner took place May 17th, 1804, before a circuit court held by Hon. Thomas Smith and Hon. Hugh H. Brackenridge, two judges of the Supreme Court, at Bellefonte. Colonel Miles' attorneys were Dunlap, Miles, Huston and McKean; James Dunlap, Jr., and John Miles were resident attorneys in Bellefonte at that time; Charles Huston then resided at Willimsport, and Joseph B. McKean was from Philadelphia. General Benner's lawyers were Walker, Stewart, Watts and Hamilton. Jonathan Walker, afterwards president judge of this district, and who resided in Bellefonte from 1806-1818, in 1804 resided at Northumberland; Robert T. Stewart resided in Bellefonte, (father of Mrs. James H. Linn and Mrs. Dr. McCoy;) David Watts and Judge Ham-

ilton were prominent lawyers residing in Carlisle.

James Harris' testimony, no doubt, controlled the case, as with all that array of counsel only one day was occupied in the trial. The jury was what was called a "struck jury;" that is, a jury selected beforehand by the parties, from the jurors drawn from the wheel. This was done in the prothonotary's office, after a rule was granted for that purpose; and this practice was very generally resorted to in olden times in unimportant cases, and especially ejection cases.

HISTORICAL NOTES

Legal Controversies Between Early Settlers.

Suit Between Lauman's Executors and General Benner and Jacob Houser—Names of Judges, Counsel and Jurors—What the Author Has in Store for Our Readers Next Week.

VI.

(Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.)

As before stated, the lands of Philip Benner and Jacob Houser were covered to some extent by earlier warrants. The litigation about these commenced at August term, 1802, with an ejection brought by the executors of Ludwick Lauman, owner of the Michael Hubley and John Hubley surveys, against General Benner's tenant, Thomas Thomas.

The next year, to April term, 1803, the same plaintiffs brought ejections against Conrad Reemy and Lot Stratton, tenants of General Benner, and against Jacob Houser who had seated himself on the portion he claimed of the disputed part. The ejection against Jacob Houser never came to a trial; the records show that it was continued regularly until January term, 1830, and no disposition ever made of it.

Lauman vs. Thomas, the first of the suits against General Benner, came on for trial June 12, 1809. Henderson, Irvine, Allison, Huston, Hale, Watts and Biddle were the attorneys for Lauman's executors; Duncan, Stewart

and Burnside for Benner. It was tried at a circuit court held in Bellefonte by Jasper Yeates, one of the justices of the Supreme Court. The names of the jurors were: John Douglass, William McEwen, Samuel Herr, Michael Shaffer, Moses Williamson, David Barber, Joseph Williams, Anthony Wolf, John Watson, James Canan, John Askey and Alexander Reed. Judge Yeates charged the jury that the real question was whether the surveys were actually made upon the earlier warrants; if they were executed upon the lands in question, the plaintiff was entitled to recover.

The judge charged very strongly upon the question of actual survey in favor of plaintiff, but the jury nevertheless found for the defendant. The judge immediately granted a new trial, thereupon General Benner took an appeal to the Supreme Court, and the case will be found reported in 4th Binney, page 51. It was argued at Sunbury, June 11th, 1811, and Judge Yeates' decision was affirmed and a new trial was awarded.

The cause was continued from term to term until the 20th of June, 1815, when a special court was held by Hon. Seth Chapman. The jurors were: John Foster, Jr., Joseph Miles, John Shanefelt, David Mitchell, William Smyth, John F. McCormick, John Smith, William White, Philip Walker, James Brown, David Johnson and Eli Cadwalader. Huston and Watts tried the case for plaintiff; Duncan and Burnside for General Benner.

The testimony of the witnesses is interesting, as giving dates of settlement and improvements made by General Benner. William Williams, a witness for General Benner, says: "In May, 1793, the first improvement was made on the land in dispute. I lived upon it about seven years under Mr. Benner. We left the place in 1800. About 70 acres were cleared. A house and two cooper shops were erected in 1793. The forge was commenced the next year. One forge, a grist mill and saw mill were erected on the Christopher Binks (Upper Rock place,) and a number of dwellings. The forge made iron in 1794. Reemy and Stratton lived on the John Gill," (now farms of Michael Grove and others.)

Conrad Reemy testified that he "came up to Rock place in 1793, and cleared

of thirty acres where I lived
1802. There were fifteen acres
where Stratton lived, and up-
wards of thirty where Thomas lived.
I never saw any fine trees where we
cleared. Seen trees marked for paths.
I don't think I saw any but those that
were fresh leading to neighbors' houses."

The surveyors who gave testimony in
the case were Hugh McClure, James
Harris, Judge James Pötter and William
McEwen.

The jury upon this trial found for
plaintiffs and against General Benner.
The case was promptly taken to the
Supreme Court. Duncan and Burnside
were the attorneys for General Benner;
Watts and Huston for Lauman's execu-
tors. The judgment of the court below
was affirmed October 27th, 1817, and a
writ issued to put Lauman's repre-
sentatives into possession.

Meanwhile, the ejectment against
Reemy and Stratton was kept alive
until March 11th, 1822, when a jury was
called composed of Robert Pennington,
Jr., Thomas Hastings, Barnhart Hazel,
Jr., James McMasters, Abraham Lee,
John Zimmerman, Thomas McElvy,
George Lonaberger, John Way, Thomas
Vaughan, John Hayes and Peter Durst.
This case was also promptly taken to
the Supreme Court, but July 1st, 1823,
the judgment was affirmed. The John
and Michael Hubley surveys, therefore,
in the end held good, and in June, 1835,
Philip Benner and J. M. Benner, execu-
tors of General Philip Benner, pur-
chased from Emanuel C. Reigert, execu-
tor of Lauman, the two Hubley tracts,
paying therefor \$2,000.

Next week the author will give an ac-
count of the suits between General
Benner and Jacob Houser.

HISTORICAL NOTES

Legal Controversies Be-
tween Early Settlers.

Suit Brought by Jacob Houser Against General
Benner and Richardson Bowman—Jurors
and Counsel—Names of Judges.
Interesting Information Gath-
ered From Old Notes.

VII.

Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.]

Although the sword of litigation was
pending over their title in the suit
brought by Lauman's executors to April
term, 1803, as early as August term,
1803, Jacob Houser and General Benner
were in court in an action of trespass
brought by Jacob Houser against Gen-
eral Benner and Richardson Bowman,
which arose from contention about the
interior lines of the five surveys. In-
dictments for forcible entry and de-
tainer; assault and battery followed.

The same able counsel, spoken of be-
fore, appeared for their respective cli-
ents, and it was a war of giants resort-
ing to all the well known, and some
not so well known, legal tactics of at-
tack and defence. The trespass case
was tried February 1, 1811. The jurors
were: John Cramer, Ezekiel Zimmer-
man, Robert Beck, Matthew Leech,
Moses Felmsle, Samuel Everhart, Henry
Benn, Isaac McKinney, Philip Wolfort,
Thomas Moore, Hugh Jordan and
Joseph Williams. Their verdict was for
the plaintiff for \$68.62.

In order to settle properly the ques-
tion as to how much of the over-plus
land he was entitled to, General Benner
brought ejectments in 1805 against Ja-
cob Houser, Joseph Eckly and David
Parker; the two latter were Mr. Houser's
tenants. The case came on for trial at
a circuit court held by Hon. Thomas
Smith, a Judge of the Supreme Court,
at Bellefonte, May 13, 1807. Stewart
and Riddle were the attorneys for
General Benner; Boggs and Huston
for Jacob Houser.

A "struck jury" was empaneled, con-
sisting of William Smith, John McCal-
mont, David Lamb, James Kelly,
Thomas Hicks, Samuel Porter, Matthew
Woods, John Wilson, William Pettit,
Matthew Leech, Francis Boyce and
Robert Gordon; the jury found for
the defendants. Charles Huston,
(afterwards Justice of the Supreme
Court of Pennsylvania,) kept notes
of this trial which are still in existence,
and from them we glean some inter-
esting facts.

General Benner bought his three
tracts from Josiah Matlack, May 2, 1792,
for £1162, 10s., or about \$3,100. William
McClure, the surveyor, was the first
witness called for Houser. Then came
Robert Moore, who states that, "by the

orders of Jacob Houser, he leased the land included in the Caleb Jones survey to William Connel, who lived on it in 1792 and until 1796, and cleared up a farm. I know a pine corner on Matlack's tract; I showed it to Matlack and he set his compass by it; I left him standing by it. I understood from Matlack that it was a corner of Caleb Jones' tract. He said he supposed it would answer the purpose. I showed the stump to Eli Eckley; the tree was cut and carried away. I lived there in 1775."

David Whitehill, Esq., was the next witness. He says: "In 1789 I came to Spring Creek. Connel was living and clearing there."

Henry Getz testified: "Fourteen years ago this fall Dennis Kennedy lived where Eckley now (1807) lives. I hauled the logs to build the house and helped to raise it. He lived under Jacob Houser."

Joshua Dale testified: "In 1794 a man lived there, who moved off, and old Eckley and Eli Eckley came in and live there yet. I had contracted with Jacob Houser for a piece of land below Eckley's, on the other side of the creek. No person told me I was not on Houser's land. Benner told me when the line was run, as I might be on his, and he would as leave as not. I lived where Hildebrand now lives."

An old draft, apparently used on this trial, has Hildebrand's house marked as standing near the creek, on the west side of it, about two hundred and fifty rods (in a direct line) south of General Benner's mansion, and up the creek. A draft, apparently used on the trials in 1823-24, has the Dale and Hildebrand houses marked as occupied by the Widow Evans. The old draft locates Houser's clearing as up the creek, south of Hildebrand's house; Eli Eckley's house is located about one hundred and twenty rods up the creek from Hildebrand's house, and on the east side of the creek, which apparently bends sharply west at that point; David Parker's house is located about one hundred rods west of Eli Eckley, on the south side of the creek, and the Jacob Houser house is located on the north side of the creek nearly opposite the Parker house.

The drafts used in 1823-24, show the Widow Evans' house about forty rods south of an elm which stood on General Benner's line, (as settled by the Supreme Court.) This elm is noted on a draft made September 19th, 1822, by John Mitchell, entitled "Benner and Houser's five surveys, plotted from the original notes of Charles Lukens." Between (about half way) Widow Evans' house and Jacob Houser, Sr., on the west side of the creek, J. Wortz's house is noted; the Parker house is marked Jacob Houser, Jr.; and east of Jacob Houser, Jr.'s house, about one hundred and fifty rods, and near the north and south line of Benner and Houser, established by the Supreme Court, Daniel Houser's house is marked; the Eli Eckley house, first occupied by Dennis Kennedy, is not marked on these latter drafts, probably torn down in the meantime, after 1807.

The outside lines of all the five tracts were run by Charles Lukens, or his assistant rather, Hawkins Boone, in October, 1775. The subsequent surveyors found them marked upon the ground. All within the exterior lines of the block belonged to Benner and Houser. According to John Mitchell's calculation, there were 2,276 acres and 145 perches within the lines marked on the ground, while the amount returned as within the lines was only 1,751 acres and 142 perches, an over-plus of 525 acres. General Benner claimed his share of the over-plus. Nearly the whole of the over-plus was within the Isaac Catherall and Caleb Jones' tracts; that is their exterior lines. The interior or division lines of the five surveys were never run, only plotted by the original surveyor.

As stated, Jacob Houser, when he came up in 1788, settled within the lines of the Catherall tract, as returned, but occupied by his tenants, William Connel, Hildebrand, Eli Eckley and David Parker, and the surplus portion, and afterwards built his own mansion house upon it. There being no interior lines run, and Houser, having purchased his tracts first and occupied the surplus, the corner pine tree testified to by Robert Moore confined General Benner to the land north of a line running due east from it, for the south line of Christopher Binks.

Jacob Houser's two surveys were supposed to contain, when he purchased them of Matlack, 751 acres and 74 perches; according to John Mitchell's calculation they contained 1,127 acres and 155 perches. He therefore gained 476 acres and 81 perches. There is a diagram of the division of his land among his heirs, attached to the last will and testament of Jacob Houser, dated August 14th, 1830, made from actual survey by William Kerr, Esq., of the Cathedral and Jones tract, which shows that Jacob Houser held at his death and devised his heirs 1,108 acres and 53 perches, evidencing the substantial accuracy of John Mitchell's calculation, made in 1822.

(To be continued.)

HISTORICAL NOTES

Haines Township Surveys of 1766.

The Names of Those Who Now Own the Lands
Surveyed One Hundred and Twenty Years
Ago for Reuben Haines, After
Whom the Township
Is Named.

x.

[Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.]

The earliest surveys made within the present territory of Haines township were made in October, 1766, for Reuben Haines; they were in what is called a block of surveys. The first survey of the block was the Benjamin Davies, surveyed October 3. This tract is on Pine creek, and is now owned by Jacob Bower; west of it was surveyed, on the same day, the John Price tract, 239 5-10 acres, now owned by Henry Fiedler and others; and west of the John Price, on the same day, according to the return, the Daniel Topham tract of 244 acres, was surveyed.

The Daniel Topham tract is now owned by John Young, Michael Stover and Jacob Reed. North of the three surveys made, as stated, October 3, were five long surveys extending to the foot of Brush mountain, as made on the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th of October. The east line of the five was George Chandler's

tract of 225 acres; the east line of the George Chandler tract ran due north from a Spanish oak corner on Pine creek six hundred and five perches, or nearly two miles; next west was the Christopher Henney survey of 351 acres; the Ohrendorff, Samuel Motz, Jacob Neidig and Eby places are on these two surveys.

West of the Christopher Henney came the Jonathan Price survey of 230 acres; next the Samuel Williams tract of 301 acres, and the John Fox tract of 273 acres. These surveys are now occupied by farms of Michael Hess, J. C. Stover, George Wolf, Charles Smith, Lydia Detwiler, Samuel Kremer, Cornelius Bower, J. Bowersox, H. Fiedler, E. Wetzel and others. These lands were all patented to Reuben Haines in July, 1767.

West of the Daniel Topham survey on Pine creek was laid the William and Mordecai Matlack tract of 225 acres, owned now by Jacob Reed and others. Immediately north of Matlack's the Thomas Poe applications was surveyed October 10, 1766; this tract was patented to Thomas McKean, August 10, 1767. McKean sold it May 20, 1787, to Philip Musser. The tract contained 272 acres, and is still owned by his descendants, Philip and Michael Musser. North of the Poe tract was surveyed the John Thompson tract of 246 acres September 20, 1766. This tract belonged to Captain Potter (afterwards General Potter,) and was patented to him in November, 1767. The John Ziegler farm is on this tract.

North and west of the Thompson tract the James White application was surveyed October 6, 1766. The old parsonage and school house are on this tract; also the farms of D. Wolf and John Homan.

In the eastern portion of the present township, the John Chandler tract of 268 acres was surveyed October 10, 1766. This is the tract John Motz bought April 20, 1785, from Jacob Stover, Sr., and where Motz subsequently erected his mills: north of the John Chandler tract, the Sebastian Bartles tract of 186 acres was surveyed also October 10, and patented to Reuben Haines. Henry Stover and others own this now. North of the Bartles tract was the Peter Clyne tract, also returned

as surveyed October 10, 1766. This land is owned in part by the Ebys.

No more surveys were made in the east end of the township until eight years afterward; in June, 1774, the same surveyor, Samuel Maelay, came back to Pine creek, and on June 8th surveyed the William Cooper tract of 314 acres. The south line of the William Cooper tract runs through the pleasant village of Woodward, and the town lies upon it and the Shirk and Witmer warrants of November 7, 1792. East of the William Cooper tract the John Cooper warrant was surveyed at the same time; this is now owned by D. Voneida and Peter Voneida. North of the two Cooper tracts the Ebenezer Hopkins tract was surveyed at the same time, now owned by Henry Voneida, the Orndorffs, Hostermans and others. These latter tracts adjoin the west side of the Eplers, Snyder and Kremer block, which was not surveyed until July 4, 1795.

In the southwestern part of the township, and on Pine creek between Elk creek and the William and Mordecai Matlack tracts, the Thomas Afflick and George Shoemaker applications of the 19th of August, 1766, were returned as surveyed in August, 1773, by William Maelay. The Thomas Afflick tract contained 344 acres, and was bounded

on the west by Elk creek and south by Pine creek. This tract, partly in Penn township, was owned by Martin Miller, Daniel Miller and George Moore, as early as 1792. Philip Dinges owned part of it as early as 1807.

East of the Afflick tract the George Shoemaker tract was surveyed August 18, 1773. This was patented to Moore, Miller and others, and is now owned by George Bower and others. Next, east of the George Shoemaker tract was the Terringham Palmer tract, surveyed August 8, 1773. This tract, containing 376 acres, Reuben Haines sold to Henry Miller June 4, 1700. Adam Winklepleek, Kremer's estate, Joseph Jordan and other farms are on this survey.

(To be continued.)

REMARKABLE ACTIVITY.

The Lock Haven correspondent to the *Renovo Record* gives a most interesting sketch of a man well and favorably known all through Centre

county. The correspondent writes as follows:

Mr. John DeLong, who is probably one of the oldest men in the county, was a guest at the Irvin House on Friday. He was introduced to us as 'one of Sugar Valley's oldest citizens.' We were asked to guess his age. glancing carefully at our new-found friend we guessed it as 65 years. He is a slim bony man, rather under the medium height. His hair and whiskers is as white as snow. His step is quick and his voice strong and clear. He speaks without the least nervousness. We frequently met men under the age of 65 that looked much older than Mr. DeLong. He smiled at our answer, said our figures were too low, but that we guessed as correctly as did many others not acquainted with him. 'Now,' said Mr. DeLong, 'I will tell you my age. I was born in Northampton county, this State, on the 17th of August, 1792, and if I live till my next birthday I will be 94 years of age. My father was a Frenchman. He was born in France, and emigrated to this country about the Revolutionary period.

'When did you locate in this county?' We inquired.

'Over forty years ago,' replied Mr. DeLong. 'After I grew to manhood,' he continued, 'I spent most of my time traveling in the western and other states. I returned to my native state in 1844 or 45, married a lady 30 years younger than myself, with whom I had six children—three boys and three girls, all of whom are living. My youngest daughter, Jessie, is 23 years old. She married recently. I am still living on the same tract of land that I settled upon over forty years ago. I bought 150 acres for \$150. I built the first cabin in that portion of Sugar Valley. I taught school in this and Centre counties for many years. I have never been sick a day in my life. My only trouble is failing eyesight.'"

HISTORICAL NOTES

What was Meant by Term "Great Plains."

When and How the First Effort was Made to Obtain a Public Road into Penns Valley. Suit Between General Miles and Colonel Potter's Heirs—Paths of Early Settlers and Where They Were Located.

[Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.]

As heretofore stated, when Northumberland county, was divided, April, 9, 1772, into townships all the present territory of Haines was in Buffalo township. There was then not a single settler within its bounds. The assessment books of Buffalo township, prior to 1775 were lost at the time of the great runaway in 1778, and therefore we have no means of ascertaining whether any improvements were made before that time within the present township. In 1772 Captain, afterwards General, Potter, was one of the presiding justices of the county, but he lived then on the West Branch, about one mile above New Columbia, in what is now White Deer township, in Union county.

In 1771 or 1772, Reuben Haines, who was an extensive land-owner and brewer in Philadelphia, had a bridle road made to reach his lands. The road is alluded to on the returns of surveys, and "the four mile tree on Reuben Haines' road in the Narrows," is mentioned when the boundary of Potter township is described in May, 1774. George McCormick speaks of Gen. Potter surveying a road "from Haines' road to the Fort where Gen. Potter lived in 1775." Haines' road left the river at a gap in the hill just below where the Northumberland bridge now stands, passed through what is now Limestone township, in Union county, and by way Hartleton, now known as Philip Col place, between the narrows. This four mile-tree at the middle of the narrows, just by where the present line between Centre and Union counties crosses the turnpike, was a prominent land-mark for many years, and was still standing and was pointed out to me when

a small boy by my father.

The first effort to obtain a public road into Penns Valley from the east was a petition of the inhabitants of Bald Eagle township, at August session 1773, on which viewers were appointed to lay out a road from the east end of the great plains to Sunbury. By the great plains was then understood that part of Penns Valley south and east of the "Old Fort." The viewers were James Potter, John Thompson, John McMullen, William Livingston and John Wilcot. The three last named were settlers of Penns Valley at that time. These viewers reported a road in February, 1775. At the same time other viewers reported a road from the fording between Ludig Derr (Lewisburg now) and John Aurand's mill, which was on Turtle Creek (below Lewisburg) through Buffalo Valley to the narrows. At November session, 1786, viewers were appointed "to lay out a road from the upper part of Penns Valley to Jenkins' mill and Sunbury, to take the place of the old road whose badness is well known" as the petition reads.

From the testimony of George McCormick, who settled at Spring Mills and built the first mill there, we get a glimpse of Penns Valley in 1773, and the names in part of its earliest settlers. George McCormick's great grand son, William M. Allison, Esq., resides adjoining Spring Mills, where his ancestors first settled.

In 1810 there was a suit between Col. Samuel Miles' heirs and Genl. Potter's heirs, for the land lately known as the George Woods and the John Barber farms on Sinking Creek, about two miles west of Spring Mills. Col. Miles had taken out a warrant for the land embracing those farms as early as October 22, 1772, and Capt. James Potter had it surveyed for himself and his application described it as "including the forks of the road in Bald Eagle township."

George McCormick's testimony read "I was first in Penns Valley in 1774 and lived here in 1774. I know the land upon which Mr. Barber lives. (in 1810) I lived about two miles from it. The forks of the road were on the tract in dispute and there are no forks from the Bald Eagle road but the one. George

Woods came in in 1775 and his house was two or three hundred yards below the forks. He purchased of Potter that year and had twenty acres cleared before driven off by the Indians. One road went up and down the valley and one to McGrew's Mills. McGrew's Mill was on the site of what is known as the "Red Mill" in Potter township, now owned by George M. Horter. A path came over at Logan Gap, (lately known as Hecla Gap.) I cannot say whether there was a path into the head of Brush Valley or not. There was a path around the head of Nittany mountain, and one went to Jenkins' cabin and over to

overriding all special orders.

Mr. Slicehan moved to lay the ninth joint rule on the table, for the purpose of taking up the special order. He hoped the house would keep faith with itself. The motion to lay the ninth joint rule on the table was lost by a party vote. Ayes 46, nays 53.

On motion of Mr. Erwin the bill to permit women to vote at municipal elections was ordered to a third reading. It will be made a special order for the 11th inst.

Mr. Curtis offered a resolution, which was adopted, that sessions be held Tuesday evening, from 8 to 10 o'clock, for consideration of general orders.

The house then went into the order of the third reading of bills.

Among the bills passed were the following:

Mr. Berry's bill for the care and support of the poor of Washington county.

The bill incorporating the fire department of the north shore of Staten Island.

The bill authorizing the Standard Gaslight company to lay pipes

KEYSTONE GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1886.

HISTORICAL NOTES

General Potter Is Fatally Injured Oct. 1789.

Went all the Way to Franklin County for Medical Treatment.—Exact Date of His Death Not Known for Many Years.—His Burial Place Remaining Unmarked to This Day.

xv.

[Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.]

The exact date of the death of General James Potter, who was a prominent officer in the Revolutionary war, could not heretofore be ascertained after diligent inquiry. He was injured at the

raising of a barn on one of his farms in Penn's Valley in the autumn of 1789, and on the 27th of October, 1789, no doubt soon after the accident, executed his will. Soon after he was taken in a bed on a wagon to Franklin county for medical treatment, and died at the residence of his son-in-law, Captain James Poe, near the present village of Marion. He was buried in Brown's Mill graveyard, near by, in Antrim township, Franklin county, and no head or foot stone marks his grave. A number of receipts have turned up lately, but the only one indicating the proximate date of his death, is one signed by Patrick Campbell, as follows:

November 28, 1789.

Captain Woods bought of Patrick Campbell,
 36 sq's of mourning goods, 3s,£5, 2s,
 8 " red cloth, 3s, 9d1.10s,
 18 pounds of cheese, 7s,10s,

£7, 2s, 6d

This bill is receipted to Captain James Poe "being for funeral expenses for General James Potter, deceased"—Patrick Campbell was a Chambersburg merchant (McCauley's Hist., page 76.)

Another receipt for five pounds, eight shillings and two pence, "for General Potter's funeral expenses," is signed by Samnel Purviance who, according to Mr. McCauley, was a merchant in Chambersburg as early as 1776. A receipt for "the sum of two pounds, five shillings, it being for making a coffin for the corpse of James Potter, deceased," is signed by Alexander Dunlap and Joseph Keys—Reduced to Pennsylvania currency this would be six dollars. Another receipt for one pound, eight shillings and ten pence, "funeral charges for James Potter, dec'd," is signed by Robert McCulloh.

Five physicians attended General Potter in his last illness. Of the reputation and eminence of four of them, history and tradition has preserved a record. The fifth, whose bill is made out in elegant script, I have never heard of—"General James Potter to Richard Pindell. To medicine, consultation and attendance £8. 12s. 9d. Errors excepted. R. PINDELL.

To this bill, which would be in the currency of Penna. \$23, is appended a receipt signed by Dr. Robert Johnston, which would indicate that Dr. Pindell was not a resident of the neighborhood.

There was a prominent Virginia family of that name, and Dr. Pindell may have been a Hagerstown or Maryland physician.

Dr. William Magaw's bill reads: Nov. 1789. To a visit, 10 shillings; 2oz extract Saturn, 4 shillings — 14 shillings. This prescription being two ounces of lead water, discloses the nature of Gen. Potter's ailment—a sprain—which corresponds with the traditional accounts of his injury. Dr. William Magaw was a Surgeon of the 1st Penna. Regiment (Col. James Chambers) of the continental line. When Gen. Lafayette was wounded in the Battle of Brandywine Sept. 11th, 1777) Dr. Magaw dressed his leg. At the time of Gen. Potter's death, Dr. Magaw resided at Mercersburg. He built and resided in the large stone mansion in Mercersburg, which, when I was at College there, in 1846-8, was owned and occupied by the late Dr. McDowell. Dr. Magaw had a son, Colonel William Magaw, mentioned by the late Mr. McCauley in his history of Franklin county, page 97, as the inventor of straw paper. Col. Wm. Magaw went to Meadville, Pa., in the employ of his uncle Samuel B. Magaw, as early as 1808, and from thence was transferred to Detroit where he volunteered in the ranks at the time of Hull's surrender, August 16, 1812; but returned to Meadville where he established manufactories of potash, &c.

The old surgeon went from Mercersburg to Meadville to spend the remainder of his days with his son. In the latter part of May, 1825, Gen. Lafayette, when making his famous tour through the United States, passed through Meadville. Dr. Magaw, who was then in his 81st year, called upon the General and taking him by the hand, said: "General, do you know me?" "I cannot recall your name," said Lafayette, "but you are the Surgeon who dressed my wound at the battle of Brandywine." The old surgeon felt very happy over the recognition. Dr. Magaw died at Meadville, May 21, 1829, aged 85 years. Another son, Dr. Jesse Magaw, married a sister of President James Buchanan. Dr. Jesse Magaw was a graduate of

Dickinson College, and died young. I once came across his tombstone in some graveyard near Mercersburg. Col. Wm. Magaw has two sons and a daughter

still living at Meadville. To the eldest, Leon C. Magaw, I am indebted for information in relation to his father and grandfather.

Another physician who attended General Potter was Dr. Robert Johnston. Mr. McCauley gives a short notice of him on page 121; too short for that of so remarkable a man. He served as a Surgeon and Surgeon in chief all through the Revolutionary war, from the St. Lawrence river to Savannah, Georgia. It was he who volunteered and was sent in by Gen. Wm. Irvine's papers some time since, I Green to the suffering American prisoners at Charleston. In examining Gen. Johnston's papers, I noticed that when war with the French Directory became imminent in 1798, and Gen. Irvine was selected to command the Pennsylvania quota, he chose Dr. Robert Johnston for his Surgeon General. Dr. Johnston was Major General of the 7th Division of Pennsylvania Militia in 1807, and died Nov. 28th, 1808, and is buried in the Johnston graveyard on the Witmer farm near Greencastle.

Dr. J. McClellen's bill for medical attendance on Gen. Potter was £9. Dr. McClellen's reputation was very great, and the tradition in the Potter family in Centre county is that Gen. Potter went to Franklin county especially to secure Dr. McClellen's services. Dr. McClellen was the father of the late Wm. McClellen, Esq., of Chambersburg.

Dr. William Crawford charges Nov. 12th, 1789, to a visit £1.15s. "Consultation on your case with Dr. Pindell and Magaw £1.15s. Total £3.10s. Dr. Crawford lived on Marsh creek, Adams county, and was a member of Congress from 1809 to 1817, and died in 1823. Poore's Congressional Directory has a short biographical sketch of Dr. Crawford.

(To be continued.)

HISTORICAL NOTES

Rev. Fithian's Visit to
Penns Valley in 1773.

A Dog makes his bed on the Preacher's Clean
Shirt. — He is the Second Preacher in the Valley,
He Having Followed Dr. William Linn.
What They Thought of Penns Creek.

xvi.
[Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.]

Rev. Fithian's journal continues: "Thursday, Aug. 3, 1775.—It is forty-two miles to Northumberland and Sunbury, eight miles to the nearest place where Penns creek is navigable with canocs; almost surrounded with hills and mountains; only a few temporary springs. The low bottoms now have scarce water sufficient to moisten a hog, which in winter are continually flooded. Capt. Potter has tasted, in times past, some streams of the Pierian Spring. He has here a number of books, Justice Blackstone's celebrated Commentaries, Pope's writings, Hervey's Meditations, many theological tracts, etc.

Friday, August 4.—Perhaps the weather makes me dull; it is now, and has been for some time past, cloudy; augueish or melancholy, or want of company; not a house is there within* three miles.

A large field of oats is ripe; some flax too, ripe, and not yet pulled, but it is difficult to be nice in so rough a country.

Sunday, August 6.—I rise early, before any of the family except a negro girl. Just at my bed-head a window, under which stands a table. Here I had laid my clean linen, finished last night by Mrs. Potter. The night had been stormy. When I awoke I found a large dog had jumped in through an open light of the window, and had softly bedded himself, dripping with water and mud, among my clean-washed cloths. At first I felt enraged. I bore it, however, with a Sabbath day's moderation. We have, this morning, a most violent storm. At 1 I began service in Capt. Potter's house. Only eight men and not one woman beside our family present. I preached two sermons with only ten minutes intermission. The most conflicting, burthen-some Sabbath I have had since I began to preach; troubled with a bad cold. I hope my words were not wholly without effect. My little audience heard

*General Potter lived, probably, on the Foreman farm, about one mile east of the "Old Fort." His nearest neighbor would then be John Wilcot, on the site of Earley's town, a place which has disappeared from the county map of late years.

me with eagerness. Captain Potter tells me there are now only twenty-eight families in the valley. Of these twenty-two are subscribers, and they have raised £40 on subscription, as a fund to

pay supplies. I am the second preacher who has been in the valley.† Mr. Linn was here two Sabbaths past, first of all, and I, by regular appointment, next. It rained without intermission all day. Monday, August 7.—Miss Potter, the Captain's sister, invited me to ride; after breakfast we rode down the valley to one Mr. McCormick's, (George McCormick's, Spring Mills now.) I like this part of the valley better; there is a brisk creek and good bottoms. It is encompassed with mountains. One of the people, while we were there, brought in a fine deer. They have plenty of venison. I see no other meat. I write these lines, sitting on a log, on the back of my pocket book, and it upon my knee, under a large spruce tree, upon the banks of Penn's creek, which runs on the north side and at the foot of Egg hill, which appears to me to be a tall, pine-covered mountain. The creek runs foaming by me, enlarged yesterday's great flood. Near Mr. McCormick's is a fine spring. It is bottomless. It rises about fifteen square from under a great hill in large body, I think full sufficient in steady course to turn a grist mill. "No, madam; I must dry the butter first." Mrs. Potter's girl was bringing in a plate of butter yesterday from the spring house. It rained and butter will retain the drops on its surface. Innocent Miss, therefore, with great care of neatness, was holding the butter close to a large fire. "What are you at there?" says Mrs. Potter to Peggy. "I am drying the butter, madam." In this valley are large, open plains, cleared either by the Indians or accidental fires. Hundreds of acres covered with fine grass, mixed with small weeds and a great variety of flowers. Some conjecture that hot, blasting fumes, which rise

†This was Rev. William Linn, of Lurgan township, the neighboring township of Antrim, (then Cumberland, now Franklin county,) from which Capt. Potter came. He was a classmate of Mr. Fithian's at Princeton, in 1772. Rev. William Linn was an uncle of my father, late James P. Linn, Esq., of Lewisburg. Rev. John Linn, (father of James Linn, D. D., so many years pastor at Bellefonte, father of Rev. Samuel Linn,) was not licensed until the year 1772.

(to be continued.)

ley," (the old fort on General Taylor's place:) "Our savage enemy continues to murder, scalp and capture. We have two forts in this valley, and are determined to stand as long as we are supported." The lower fort stood on the present Michael Stover place, on or near Hubler's run.

July 7. The "great runaway," which was started by the stragging bands of Indians that distressed the frontiers prior to the massacre at Wyoming, (which occurred July 3, 1778,) drove many of the inhabitants of Potter township over the mountains to Cumberland county. But they for the most part soon returned, and contemporary documents, such as the following, show they maintained their settlements during the winter of 1778:

PENNSVALLEY, Dec. 24, 1778.

One red steer, white on his belly, appraised by us at twenty-two pounds, two shillings, and one white steer strea, (stray,) appraised at fifteen pounds. Both of these steers at James Potter's and appraised by us.

JOHN LIVINGSTON,
JAMES ADAMS.

Gen. Potter writes to President Reed, May 19, 1779: "Capt. Carberry, of Hartley Regiment, (Hartley Regiment having taken the place of Broadhead's, at Muncy, Aug. 3, 1778,) left last Sabbath with ten of his horsemen, leaving his lieutenant and seven horsemen. He is gone to Buffalo valley. There are no inhabitants but in Pennsvalley, and they in forts." The departure of Hartley's regiment, or command rather, from Muncy about the 20th of June, 1779, to join Gen. Sullivan's expedition against the Indians, was succeeded by ravages of stragging bands of savages in the west branch valley. Sterrett's mill and all the principal houses in Muncy township were burned about July 17, as were Smith's mills at the mouth of White Deer creek, etc.

This state of alarm caused the second "runaway" from Pennsvalley in July. Gen. Potter retired to his farm on Middle creek, now Snyder county, and the seven mountains became the frontier line. A letter from William Brown, Esq., of (near Redsville, Mifflin county,) Armagh, in April, 1782, proves the fact that Armagh was still the frontier at that date, and the assessment

books show that no inhabitants were taxed in Potter that year. According to the testimony of George McCormick, Pennsvalley was entirely abandoned in the hard winter of 1779-80, and its subsequent history is therefore a blank until 1784.

Through information kindly furnished by C. M. Bower, Esq., of Bellefonte, who is a descendent of some of the earliest settlers, I am enabled to locate the settlers in Haines prior to the "runaway."

Jacob Hubler, the pioneer settler, as the assessments show him to have been, located, (on lands belonging to Reuben Haines,) on the east branch of Hubler's Run, south of the present turnpike on the place now owned by Samuel Kramer.

Adam Harper, Sr., settled upon the place now owned by Mrs. J. G. Meyer.

Jacob Stover, Sr., settled upon the place now owned by Benjamin B. Stover, one-quarter of a mile north of the turnpike on the north fork of Hubler Run. There is where his daughter Barbara, afterwards Barbara Miller, planted the apple tree which she carried through the Narrows. It became a thrifty tree, and was still standing not long since. Mrs. Miller used to relate of the "runaway" that they fled in the early spring; that they overturned their sugar kettles, leaving them in the woods.

Adam Stover settled on what is now the Michael Stover place, where the old fort called the lower fort stood, on a little spring run which empties into Hubler run on the Michael Stover place.

Jacob Stover, Jr., settled a mile or a little more north-eastward of Aaronsburg, north of the John Geistaite place. He conveyed his land to Adam Stover, Jr., and Adam Weaver in 1803. It is hard to keep the families distinct with our present information, but Jacob Stover, Senior's, wife's name was Eve Catherine and Jacob Stover, Junior's, wife's name was Eve. Jacob Jr., was not a son of Jacob, Sr., because Jacob, son of Jacob, Sr., died without issue May 6, 1817.

The Stovers came probably from Oley township, Berks county, as the name of Jacob Stover appears on a list

of taxables of that township in 1757. Adam Harper from east end of Hanover township, Lebanon county now, as his name appears on a list of taxables in the year 1750. Jacob Hubler was probably from Bethel township, (now Lebanon county,) as the name appears on a list of taxables there as early as 1751.

(To be continued.)

HISTORICAL NOTES.

Deed of Aaron Levy to Early Settlers.

Aaronsburg Town One Hundred Years Old, Monday, October 4th.—List of Lanes, Streets and Alleys.—The Wide Streets so Designated by the Donator.—Old Line Families.

XIX. 19

Contributed by Hon. John B. Linn.)

Definite articles of peace between Great Britain and the United States were signed on the 3rd day of Sept. 1783. These articles were ratified by our congress Oct. 14, 1784, and our State authorities proclaimed them on the 22d of January, 1784. The settlers in Penns Valley who had entirely fled commenced returning in the spring of 1784. No assessments were made, however, until 1786. In that year the following names appear as taxables: Valentine Ertle, George Geistweit, Adam Harper, Adam Henney, Christopher Henney, Hieronymus Henney, Matthias Hess, Jacob Hubler, John Hubler, Henry Miller, John Motz, Michael Motz, Adam Stover, Frederick Stover, Jacob Stover, John Stover and George Wolfe. These all resided then within the present territory of Haines.

Jacob Hubler and his family certainly returned in 1784, as he is taxed with a grist and saw mill, which it would take a year or more to build after their return. These mills were on Hubler's run and the first erected in Haines township as now bounded. Jacob Hubler, Adam Harper, Jacob Stover, Sr., and Jacob Stover, Jr., when they came up before the war no doubt had leases with Reuben Haines, owner of all the lands, for their respective tracts or an agreement of sale. On the 24th of Oct. 1786. Reuben Haines conveyed to Jacob

Stover, Sr., and Jacob Hubler three thousand and thirty-nine acres and fifty-two perches, (3039a. 52p.) This included all the land from Woodward up to the Reed, Musser and old George Wolf places, which bounded the big tract on the west, Brush mountain and Penns creek bounding it on the north and south. It embraced the land along the Mercut turnpike, north-west from Woodward for three miles, up to and including the 30-acre parsonage lot. Either they, or Haines before this, had the lands run off in tracts containing about 200 acres, disregarding the interior lines of the big block of Haines' original surveys as made by William Moday.

On the 20th of April, 1785, Jacob Stover, Sr., made an agreement with John Motz, of Penn township, Northumberland county, [now Snyder,] to sell him 200 acres off the east end of this big tract for £300. John Motz came up in 1786. His land cost him in Pennsylvania currency four dollars per acre. He proceeded to erect a grist and saw mill, probably in 1787 or 1788, as they appear on the tax duplicate 1791.

Jacob Hubler retained the 200 acres on which he settled northwest of Motz's, and died there in 1822, surviving his children Adam and John. Adam was dead in 1822, leaving eleven children; John also, who left eight children. The pioneer's, Jacob Hubler's surviving children were Henry, George, Thomas, Jacob, Eve, (married George Stover, both dead in 1822), Susan, who married Jacob Johnsonbaugh, Catherine, who married Jacob E. Stover, and Barbara, who married John Heiner.

Matthias Hess probably came from Penn township, Northumberland county, (now Snyder), as his name appears upon an assessment of that date. He was no doubt connected with Stover and Hubler in the purchase of the large tract from Haines, as his deed bears each date with the others, Nov. 17, 1787. He took the 200 acre tract just north of Jacob Hubler's. Matthias Hess divided his tract between his two sons, Michael and Jacob, Aug. 29, 1807. Michael got the eastern portion and died in 1844, leaving sons John, Henry, Samuel and Benjamin, a daughter, Elizabeth, married Jacob Motz's Catherine, married William Musser's

Anna, married Samuel Kreamer, Margaret, married William Harter.

Adam Harper's deed for 200 acres northwest of the Jacob Hubler, is dated Nov. 12, 1787. Adam Harper was commissioned Associate Judge of Centre county Dec. 1, 1800, and died Nov. 22 1827. He left children, Adam, (whose son Michael still resides at Harrisburg), John, who died in 1835, (whose daughter Rachel married George Motz), Catharine, who married Anthony Wolf, Margaret, married — Meyers, Maria, married John Hosterman, Elizabeth, married Jacob Hosterman, and Sarah, who married George Weaver.

Jacob Stover senior died in Nov., 1811, leaving a widow, Eve Catharine, and the following children: Michael, Christina, married — Neidigh, Margaret, married — Meyer, Barbara, married Miller, Catharine, married Oswald, Eve, married Bower, Jacob, who died in 1817 unmarried, Adam, John, Valentine and Anna, married Nathan-

iel Weaver.

John Stover died in 1827. His children were Thomas, Jacob, Henry, Catharine, married to Adam Harper, George and Eve E., married George Bright.

The public event in 1786 which attracts the local historian's attention is the laying out of

AARONSBURG, OCTOBER 4. 1786,

By Aaron Levy. His deed of dedication is as follows:

To all persons to whom these presents shall come: I, Aaron Levy, of the Town of Northumberland and County of Northumberland, and the State of Pennsylvania, merchant, send greeting. Whereas, by virtue of sundry good conveyances and assurances in law duly had and executed, I, the said Aaron Levy, became seized in fee simple of, in and to a certain tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Potters township and the county aforesaid, adjoining David Duncan, David Walls, Shakespeare and others, part of which said tract of land hath been laid out in small lots for a town by me, Aaron Levy, and called in the general plan of said town "Aaronsburg," and in consequence thereto later granted lots of ground to sundry persons adventurers of said town under certain reservations in the said conveyances mentioned.

Now, know ye that I, Aaron Levy, at the request of several adventurers of the said town, do hereby acknowledge, confess and declare that the several lanes, streets and alleys of the said town of Aaronsburg, called Aaron's square, Plum street, Vine street, North street, White Thorn, West street, Pine street, Rachel's way, Chestnut street, and East street, shall be hereafter forever open public roads or highways for all persons making use of the same, and that the several lanes and alleys of the said town, to wit: Blackberry alley, Cherry alley, Strawberry alley, Apple-tree alley, Mulberry alley, Gooseberry alley, Walnut alley, Spruce alley, Union alley and Liberty alley, shall likewise remain open and be for the use and benefit of the owners of the lots of ground bounded on and adjoining the same; and I do further declare this plan of the said town of Aaronsburg to be an accurate plan, and that the several ways, streets, lanes and alleys therein delineated shall be and remain firmly fixed to all intents, constructions and purposes whatsoever. But be it remembered that the said Aaron Levy hath excepted and reserved, and doth hereby except and reserve, ninety feet in breadth, and from East street to West in length, in Aaron's Square in said town, allowing at the same time thirty feet fronting the buildings on each side of said streets for public uses.

But he the said Aaron Levy doth confess and declare for himself, his heirs and assigns to surrender and deliver up the said ninety feet above reserved to the public as soon as he or his heirs shall see the said town of Aaronsburg settling and improving, and that there is an absolute want of said ground so reserved for public uses and buildings.

But the said Aaron doth further confess and declare, from the date of these presents, the reserve of ninety feet in the centre of Aaron's Square as aforesaid described, shall not be obstructed by him, the said Aaron Levy, or his heirs or assigns, but shall lay and remain free, clear and unobstructed for the public uses of the town of Aaronsburg. In testimony whereof I, the said Aaron Levy, have hereunto set my hand and seal the fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thou-

sand seven hundred and eighty-six.

AARON LEVY, [SEAL.]

Sealed and delivered in the presence
of us.

JOHN AURAND,

CHRISTIAN GETTIG.

HISTORICAL NOTES.

Our Historian On Hand
With More "Long Ago."

Mifflin County Formed in 1789. Lutheran Church
Organized in Aaronsburg the same Year.
Jacob Stover Donates Seven Acres of Land
for School Purposes. Merchant Duncan.

XX.

In 1786, just a century ago, there resided in Haines township the following named persons: Henry Conser, Valentine Ertle, George Geisweit, Adam Harper, Adam Henney, Christopher Henney, Hieronymus Henney, Matthias Hess, Jacob Hubler, Jno. Hubler, Henry Miller, John Motz, Michael Motz, Geo. Reinhart, Joseph Reinhart, Adam Stover, Frederick Stover, Jacob Stover, John Stover, Philip Shenkle, Jacob Ulse, David Weaver and George Wolf. Jacob Hubler is taxed with a grist and saw mill, and the next year, 1787, Henry Miller is taxed with a grist and saw mill. Hubler's mills were on Hubler's Run, and Henry Miller's on Pine Creek, about two miles south of Aaronsburg. Abraham Ream came in in 1787. In 1789, the next assessment I have access to, appear the names of Adam Beamer, John Conrad, Adam Epler, Nicholas Gast, John Geisweit, Barnet Hazel, Jacob Hazel, Baltser Hetzler, David, Daniel, Joseph, Henry, Jr., Jacob, John and Martin Miller, Nicholas Moechell. John Motz is assessed with a saw and grist mill this year, probably erected in 1788. Those who came in 1789 were Peter and Philip Nees, Adam Neidigh, Henry Ohrendorf and George Weiss.

The Millers came from Penn township, (now Snyder,) where they resided as early as 1776. The Motz's also came from the same township; their names appearing on the assessment list of Penn township in 1776. Christopher Henney,

Sr., came from Buffalo Valley, now Union county. He was a soldier in the revolution, and was in the same company with David Weaver, the company was commanded by Capt. John Clarke. Nicholas Moechell was from Penn township. Valentine Epler is assessed in Bern township as early as 1752. The name of Hieronymus Henney occurs on an assessment list of Bern township, Berks county, in 1752. Adam Beamer's name occurs on a list for Brecknoch township, Berks county, among the first settlers there. The Neidighs were originally from the last mentioned township, being among the first settlers there.

THE NAME OF POTTER CHANGED TO HAINES.

Mifflin county was created March 19, 1789. That part of Potter east of Spring Mills, however, remained in Northumberland county. At February sessions of 1790, Abraham Piatt presented a petition to the Court at Sunbury, and the Court decreed, "with the consent of the inhabitants of that part of Potter twp. remaining in Northumberland Co., that the name of Potter, heretofore given to the division remaining in Northumberland county, should be abolished, and the township shall hereafter be known by the name of "Haines." This was out of compliment to Reuben Haines, a rich brewer of Philadelphia, who had owned large bodies of land in the territory and who made the first road into it from Buffalo Valley.

On the 16th of November, 1789, Aaron Levy conveyed to Jacob Stover and Michael Motz as trustees, lot No. 167, in Aaronsburg for the use of the members in connection with the church called Lutheran, for a school, church and burying-ground, an agreement was made between the Lutherans and Reformed people, who built a church upon it. This agreement is still in the possession of Mr. Deininger, of the "Millheim Journal." The agreement is written in German and is mutilated by use. The names of Jacob Stover, Abraham Ream, Adam Harper and Jacob Stover, Jr., are attached to the paper.

This arrangement was not probably carried out. In 1793 Rev. Christian Esch, of Sunbury, visited Penns Valley and the Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized. The cornerstone was laid May 1, 1794. The first

officers of the church were: Elders, Jacob Stover and George Wolf, Sr.; Deacons, Nicholas Schneider and Adam Stover; Building Committee, William Sauerwine, John Shuck, Jacob Stover and George Troutner. The constitution is dated Feb. 8, 1791 and is signed by Jacob Harter, David Weaver, Sr., George Hess, George Stover, Peter Stem, Samuel Schruffler, David Weaver and Adam Bower. Rev. Christian Espieh performed pastoral duties in the congregation until 1800, when Rev. L. A. W. Ilgen became the regular pastor and continued as such until his death, which occurred Aug. 20, 1823.

Going back to the year 1789, we find the old settlers of Haines township were anxious about the education of their children and neighbors. On the 15th of December, 1789, Jacob Stover, "for and in consideration of promoting

literature and learning," donated seven acres of land for the use of a school and a master thereof.

Very few details of the earliest inhabitants of Aaronsburg are accessible. In 1790, James Dunean came there and established a store where he conducted a successful business for fifty years, retiring in 1840. Adam Neidigh located in Haines township in 1791. He was, for many years, a prominent citizen. In 1793, some additional names appear on the assessment list of Haines, as follows: Henry and John Apple, Anthony Bierly, Henry Bollander, John Brown, Nicholas Emerick, Daniel and Philip Ertle, Philip Frank, Lawrence Grenoble, Jacob Hosterman, John Kryder, Daniel Musser, Sebastian Mosser, Solomon Neidigh, Joseph Richards, Jr., Michael Rhone, (grandfather of Dr. J. W. and Leonard Rhone,) he, however, removed to Potter township in 1794. Philip Voneida, John Wise, Henry Working, Matthias Kern, Thos. Pauly, Adam, Ludwig and Martin Rishel.

John Ohrendorf came in about the year 1790. The same year Christopher Henney, the elder, died. His children were Hieronymous, Christopher,—one of the first county commissioners in 1802,—Adam, John, Eve, Elizabeth and Frederick.

The earliest election return that we can discover is that of October 19, 1794.

The township then embraced Miles, rently

Penn, and a small portion of the eastern end of Gregg, and up to Spring Mills as the old county line of Mifflin ran through the old McCormick mill at Spring Mills. Samuel Maclay, Democratic candidate for Congress, received 157 votes; John A. Hanna, Federalist, 17; for Assembly, Flavel Roan has 66 votes; Col. Wm. Cooke had 55. The increase of the latter over Hanna's vote is, perhaps, to be attributed to the fact that James Cooke, Esq., a very prominent man, had moved to the neighborhood of Spring Mills in 1791 or '2.

KEYSTONE GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1886.

D. G. BUSH, ESQ.

One of the Foremost Citizens Gone.

Three Successive Strokes of Paralysis Cause the Flight of His Life.—A Remarkable Career, and How He Emerged from Poverty to One of the Wealthiest Men in this Place.

"Another good man gone," was the general feeling and expression of all, Wednesday morning, when the news spread that D. G. Bush, Esq. had expired at 2 o'clock, a. m., that day. The immediate cause of Mr. Bush's death, his physician says, was effusion of the brain. About six months ago he had a slight paralytic attack, and which was the beginning of the end. He had recovered somewhat from that, only to suffer other slight attacks which brought on the brain trouble.

From Hon. John B. Linn's history of Centre county it is learned that deceased was born in Granville township, Bradford county, Pa., March 28, 1826, making him some months past 60 years of age at the time of his death. He was left an orphan at the early age of sixteen years without means, his father, having exhausted his estate in some unfortunate investments, and in giving security for neighbors, a kindness which in those early days of our State brought so many people into trouble

and broke up many happy homes. Mr. Bush's father was no exception, and his children were separated, Daniel going to work upon a farm at six dollars a month for nine months of the year, and attending the public schools in the winter in an endeavor to better the most limited education of his boyhood. Mr. Bush soon rose from being scholar to the post of teacher, and having determined upon the law as a profession, in 1846, at the age of 20 years, entered his name as a student in the office of Ulysses Mercur, Esq., later judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

He pursued his studies and taught his first school during the winter of that year in New Albany, Bradford county, at \$10 per month, "boarding around." He was not satisfied, however, with his attainments in the preparatory studies, and the following spring (1847) determined to enter Whitestown Academy, near Utica, N. Y.

The story of D. G. Bush's adventures at Whitestown in search of an education is well worthy note of, by way of illustration of his stern firmness which afterwards raised him to such high rank as a business man, as well as an incentive to others encumbered in early life by like difficulties.

NO MONEY IN THE TREASURY.

Having finished his winter term (1846-47), he received a school order for his pay, but on applying to the district treasurer for his money he was told that there was no money in the treasury, which might be in three months or not for a year. This was a damper on his aspirations, but he was not to be overcome by that difficulty. Scraping together what little money he could collect of other dues, six dollars in all, in opposition to the advice of his friends, and with a promise that the money due from the directors should be sent him, he put his effects into an old valise, swung it upon his shoulder, and with staff in hand started for the Mohawk river.

He traveled up the Chenango Valley by Binghamton, a distance of two hundred miles, in fact to Whitestown. He arrived about the 1st of April, 1847, and stopped at a hotel in the suburbs of the town. One of the proprietors, Maj. Schofield, was then assisting in enlisting a company for the war against

Mexico. Mr. Bush applied at the school, and found that although the rooms were furnished to some extent, his first purchase would have to be a bed to sleep upon. Here was a dilemma: out of his six dollars he had but \$3.50 left, and for the first time he felt discouraged. He made up his mind to abandon his design to better his mental training, and concluded he would enlist in the company and join the martial host bound for the halls of the Montezumas. He accordingly opened his mind to Maj. Schofield, but the latter, after hearing a statement of the difficulties Mr. Bush had overcome thus far, and being delighted with his pluck, told him by no means to give up his intention to obtain an education, and advised him to let others go to the war.

BOUGHT A BED-TICK.

Maj. Schofield told him to get a bed-tick, fill it with straw, and he would lend him a pillow and hap, adding some good advice which helped shape Mr. Bush's subsequent career. After paying his bill at the hotel our adventurer had but twenty-five cents left. He engaged board in the academy hall at one dollar per week, and commenced school. The mornings were cold, and upon applying at the wood-yard for a dollar's worth of wood on credit it was refused. He thereupon, with his 25 cents, bought *five sticks*, borrowed a wheelbarrow and

axe, and by economy made the wood last through the session. Having no money to buy candles, he went in the evening to the rooms of other students, pleading lonesomeness as an excuse to study by their light.

In the course of time, after repeated inquiry at the post-office, the postmaster one day told him there were three letters in the office for him. There was, however, fifteen cents postage due upon them. He told the postmaster he had no money, and would have to come the next day for them. The postmaster, however, allowed him to take them along upon a promise that he would pay for them the next day. Seizing the letters with bright hopes, Bush rushed to his room and opened them, expecting a remittance at least in one of them. But instead there were excuses and censures of what they called his "mulish propen-

sity" for an education.

KEPT HIS WORD WITH THE POSTMASTER.

Here was a real quandry: his word pledged for fifteen cents, and not an acquaintanee in school or anybody he knew to borrow from. Heaven favors those who help themselves, and hearing that Mr. Williams, who lived just beyond the school grounds, was employing help to dig his garden, Mr. Bush went directly to him, informed him that four hours were allowed for exercise and he would like to employ them profitably. Mr. Williams offered six and one-fourth cents compensation for every hour Mr. Bush should work for him. The latter put in two hours that night and two the next morning, and made enough to keep his word good with the postmaster.

It may be added that Mr. Bush had employment at the garden until it was planted, and employed every Saturday working for farmers at the rate of 50 cents a day, yet the close of the term found him in debt for his board and tuition. Not discouraged, he worked during the whole vacation for Mr. Metcalfe for twenty dollars a month, doing it so satisfactorily that his employer added \$5 to his wages, saying that he richly deserved it. This, with two weeks in the harvest field, brought around the time of opening of his second term at the academy. Mr. Bush decided he must have cheaper board than one dollar per week. He accordingly bought a yard of muslin, made a meal-bag, and with a peck of corn meal and a quart of molasses commenced boarding himself, which he actually accomplished while he continued at school, at the incredibly low price of thirty-one cents a week. The following winter he taught school near Owego, N. Y., and in the spring of 1849 came to Pennsylvania, where he taught one year in White Deer Valley, Lycoming county. Here, becoming acquainted with the method of teaching geography from

PELTON'S OUTLINE MAPS

it occurred to him to go to Philadelphia to see the author with a view to become an agent for the sale of the maps.

He entered into an agreement with Mr. Pelton to sell maps, and it wasn't

long until he was made general agent for the State of Pennsylvania, which position he held until 1856, when he settled in Bellefonte to finish reading at the bar.

Meanwhile what money he saved he placed in the hands of a cousin, D. B. Colton, Athens, Pa., as his partner in investments in building and lots in that town. His first sight into law practice was looking up the affairs of his own, which he found utterly insolvent under Colton's management, his earnings, three thousand dollars, gone, and a firm debt of \$200 to pay, leaving him after eight years struggles where he started in life, without a dollar.

After reading the prescribed period Mr. Bush was admitted to the Bellefonte bar, April 29, 1856, and commenced practice, giving to his profession his unbounded energy, stimulated by enforced poverty. A Democrat in politics, he had taken a very active part in the campaign of 1856 and in 1857, he was appointed mercantile appraiser by the commissioners of the county. Far-sighted as a business man, coupled with a daring disposition, he turned naturally into the real estate business, in which he has made a record as a solid business man, and forgotten almost that he ever was poor.

ENTERED INTO MARRIAGE.

December 14, 1858, he was married to Miss Louisa Tomb, daughter of the late George Tomb, Esq., Jersey Shore, and located permanently at Bellefonte. In 1862 he took the late George M. Yocum, Esq., into his office as a law partner, delining himself the active practice of law, having enough business interests of his own to occupy his whole time. As a politician Mr. Bush has been prominent as an energetic worker without regard to party reward. Twice, in 1868 and 1876, he was nominated for Congress by the Democracy of Centre county, but both times declined in favor of Hon. L. A. Mackey, of Lock Ha-

ven. To Mr. Bush the borough of Bellefonte is indebted for its most valuable improvements. In 1865 he commenced the erection of his elegant private residence on Spring street, and in which he has lived ever since. In the following year he erected what is known as "Bush Arcade," a portion of which the GAZETTE is occupying. It is a large

brick block, corner of High and Spring streets, one hundred and twenty-seven feet long and some sixty feet deep, three stories high. In 1867 Mr. Bush put up six dwellings, and the next year added the most beautiful and valuable improvement in Bellefonte, the Bush House, which Col. William R. Teller is now so successfully conducting, and which has such a favorable reputation throughout the State. In 1868-69 Mr. Bush also built the fine brick block opposite the Bush House, and added to the dwellings of the town some fourteen buildings. In 1869 he erected a block of three dwellings on Spring street, in all twenty-seven. He is absolutely without a rival in adding to the material interests of Bellefonte and Centre county.

PUBLIC DINNER IN HIS HONOR.

In order to show their appreciation of Mr. Bush's public spirit, all the leading citizens of Bellefonte on the 4th of May, 1869, joined in a letter of thanks to him and the tender of a public dinner at the Bush House which Mr. Bush accepted, and designated June, 1 for the occasion, and it proved an affair of great *eclat*.

In 1873 Mr. Bush went to Elizabeth City, North Carolina, and there, with T. Conrow, of Philadelphia, made large purchases of city and country property. This partnership became dissolved by the death of Mr. Conrow in 1882. The remaining partner then formed an organization for the purpose of building a railroad from Norfolk, but failing to get Northern capital interested, he resigned the presidency in 1875. In 1879 he succeeded in forming a syndicate in New York, which built the road, and it was opened through in 1881. Since the completion of this road there is great demand for property and the investments have proved quite fortunate. In 1881 he built fourteen houses in Elizabeth City, N. C., and twelve in Bellefonte. He was also interested in the establishment of the Bellefonte car works, and also joined General James A. Beaver and others, in the erection of the Nail Works which to-day is the principal manufacturing institution of Bellefonte.

The past year deceased devoted a good portion of his time to settling up his

business affairs, and they are to-day in a condition in strict keeping with his excellent business capacities. He leaves a wife and three children to mourn his sad death. The children respectively are: Lizzie, married to Charles Calloway, and living at home, and George and Harry, two promising young men.

The funeral takes place from the residence of deceased, Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and that it will be one of the most largely attended funerals held in Bellefonte for many years goes without saying.

"Another good and true man gone" was never truer than in this instance. Bellefonte owes much to his memory.

Keystone Gazette.

ROBERT A. CASSIDY, } PROPRIETORS.
JAMES A. FIEDLER, }

BELLEFONTE, PA.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1887.

PRESBYTERIANISM.

EARLY HISTORICAL NOTES THAT WILL INTEREST ALL.

The "Gazette" Historian Engages in a Brief Church History Which Will Subsequently be Put in Memorial Book Form.

The territory comprising the frontier churches of Carlisle Presbytery in 1786 is now embraced within the counties of Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Huntingdon, Juniata and Mifflin, now in the Presbytery of Huntingdon; and Clinton, Lycoming, Northumberland and Union now within the limits of the Northumberland Presbytery, and the earliest light that gleams upon the history of these frontier churches is from the journals of the heralds of the Cross.

The Rev. Charles Beatty was appointed May 29, 1766, by the Synod of New York and Philadelphia (printed minutes, page 362) with Rev. George Duffield to preach at least two months in those parts, and do what else is best for the advancement of religion. Mr. Beatty's journal they left Carlisle Monday, August 29, 1766, crossed the North Mountain, James after traveling four miles into St. 2 1774 Valley came to Thomas Ross's

ross was an elder in Centre church and sided on the farm now owned by Col. Graham in Tyrone township, near Andisburg in Perry county. On the day they rode four or five miles to a place in the woods designed for building a house of worship, and preached to a small audience—notice of their preaching not having been sufficiently spread.

Their preaching place was undoubtedly the site of Centre church* The ground upon which it stands was appropriated by an order of Survey dated September 9, 1766, in the names of Thomas Ross, John Byers, Edward Allet, John Hamilton and Hugh Alexander, in trust for the congregation in Tyrone township. The tract containing some seven acres, is in Madison township, Perry county, and was covered by a grove of majestic oaks, many of which are still standing. The graveyard occupies several acres and was used as such as early as 1766. The first church was built in 1767 of logs. Their first regular pastor was Rev. John Linn, father of the venerable James Linn, D. D., who died February 23, 1868, at Bellefonte, after serving as pastor there fifty-eight years. Rev. John Linn graduated at Princeton in 1773, and was called to Centre church October 15, 1777, installed in June 1778, and continued pastor until his death in 1820, a period of forty-four years. The present Centre church built in 1850 stands almost upon the site of the original log church.

On Wednesday August 20, 1766, Messrs. Beatty and Duffield crossed Tuscarora Mountain into Tuscarora Valley and on Thursday the 21st, came to a place where the people had begun to build a house for worship before the late war, but by accident it had been burned. The location of this preaching station is at present the lower Tuscarora church, at Academia, Beale township, Juniata county. Of this church A. L. Guss in the history before quoted, page 788, says the second church was built soon after Mr. Beatly's visit, of round logs, covered with clapboards without a floor, with a fire-place in one end. The ground on which the church was situated was surveyed under a warrant to John Lyon, William Graham, Robert Henston and Joseph McCoy, in trust for the Presbyterian Society or congregation in Milford township, Tuscarora Valley. The old

Have place in 1790 to the one of Mr. F... ps, and

down logs. In 1816 the fourth building was erected. It was built of stone and still stands at the forks of the road and is now used as a school building. The present church was built under the pastorate of the late Rev. G. W. Thompson, D. D., in 1849; it is of brick and cost \$6,500. The first regular pastor at Academia was Rev. Hugh Magill, who came there in 1776. He was installed as the first pastor of Lower Tuscarora and Cedar Spring churches on the 4th Wednesday in November, 1779. He continued pastor at Academia until 1796.

Mr. Beatly says: "Here Mr. Duffield preached to a number of people who had convened," and adds, "there are about eighty-four families living in this valley; they appear very desirous to have the gospel settled among them, and are willing to exert themselves to the utmost for that purpose, and they desire to purchase a plantation for a parsonage."

The journal continues, "Friday 22d, preached in the woods, as we have done mostly hitherto, two miles on the North-side of the Juniata. Here the people some years ago began to build a house for worship, but did not finish it, but expect soon to do so. This congregation extends about twenty miles along the river and its breadth from the Juniata is about ten miles." The site of this old church known then as the Cedar Spring Church, according to Mr. Guss, is in Walker township, Juniata county, near the house of David Diven. The first church was commenced at Cedar Spring in 1763. The settlement having been broken up by the Indian war, the building of the church was suspended and not resumed until the year 1767 when it being found that the old logs were rotten; they were rejected and a new church built within about four rods of the site of the old foundation. On March 30, 1767, a location was entered for 200 acres in the names of James Patterson and James Purdy in trust for a Presbyterian Meeting House and graveyard. About 1774 a parsonage was built

and occupied by Rev. Samuel Kennedy.

The first official notice of Cedar Spring congregation is found in the records of Donegal Presbytery October 1, 1768, when the congregation made application for supplies. In the year 1771 Rev. Samuel Kennedy came within the bounds of the congregation. He was an irregular and

caused a great deal of trouble ; refusing to put himself under the care of Donegal Presbytery. Finally he was ordered to desist from preaching (minutes of Synod under date of May 18, 1774). Rev. Hugh Magill became pastor in 1779, as before stated in connection with Lower Tuscarora—or Academia now—and took up his residence in the parsonage on the glebe lands of the Cedar Spring congregation.

The log church was occupied regularly until about the year 1800, and occasionally for a few years afterward, when the name "Cedar Spring" disappears altogether from the records, and is succeeded by that of Mifflintown and Lost Creek. The glebe lands were sold and the proceeds divided between the Mifflintown and Lost Creek congregations. The graveyard fenced in marks the site of the church whose generations of worshippers have long since broken and disappeared upon the shores of the eternal world.

* History of Juniata and Susquehanna Valley, Vol. 2, page 1026.

PRESBYTERIANISM.

EARLY HISTORICAL NOTES THAT WILL INTEREST ALL.

The "Gazette" Historian Engages in a Brief Church History Which Will Subsequently be Put in Memorial Book Form.

BY HON. JOHN B. LINN.

III.

Nearly nine years after Rev's. Charles Beatty and George Duffield, visited the frontier churches, Rev. Philip V. Fithian of Greenwich, N. J., was appointed by the Presbytery of Donegal, as a supply. His journal is still extant. June 20, 1775 he says "crossed the Potomac then through a small blind road to Mr. King's meeting house of upper West Connechoague, * where the Prysbytery of Donegal met. Mr. Black gave the sermon. Present, Messrs. Cooper, Thompson, Hoge, McFarquhar. Candidates, Black, Keith, McConnel, Hunter and myself. Students, Wilson, Linn, Waugh and Bard. At Mr. Black's he lives west under the North Mountain. He has a sweet pleasant wife and child. Mr. Black played for our diversion and amusement many airs on the German flute, we recalled and chatted over our peregrinations since we parted.

Wednesday June 21. By nine at Presbytery ; many *pros* and *cess.* repartees and break-jaw compl. A passed

Nothing was done for us and we passed the day in dullness and then a ramble among the trees. Evening we returned with friendly Mr. Black, * and passed it in music and friendship.

Thursday June 22. At Presbytery by nine, we got our appointments, Mr. Keith over the Allegheny. I have the following, next Sabbath at Cedar Springs. First Sabbath in July, at Northumberland, second at Buffalo Valley, third at Warrior Run, fourth at Bald Eagle. fifth in Chillisquaque, first in August, in Pennsvalley, second West Kiscoquillas, third East Kiscoquillas, fourth Shirley, a vast stoney round. Atelevau left the Presbytery and rode to Mr. King's, within a mile of Fort Loudon Mr. Keith along. We rode North into Path Valley, Mr. Keith left me at twelve miles on his way to Bedford.

I rode on to one Elliott's (Francis) he keeps a genteel house with good accommodations. I saw a young woman a daughter of his, who has never been over the South Mountain as elegant in her manner and as neat in her dress as most in the city.

Friday June 23, passed by the narrows into Tuscarora valley, a rainy dripping day most uncomfortable for riding among leaves. On the way all day usually a small path, and covered with sharp stones. Arrived about five in the evening, although besoaked, at one James Grays * in a little hamlet in the woods. He was kind and received me civilly ; he had a good pasture for my horse, and his good wife prepared me a warm and suitable supper.

Saturday June 24. "Before breakfast came a Scotch matron with her rock and spindel, twisting away at the flax. I rode on after breakfast to Mr. Sa. Lyon's twelve miles yet in Tuscarora. He lives neat, has glass windows, apparently a good farm. Here I met Mr. Slemons, * on his way down from Mr. Lyons, I rode to the Juniata three miles and stopped just on the other side at John Harris, Esq. He lives elegantly in the parlor where I am sitting, three windows each with twenty four lights of glass."

[John Harris was a native of Donegal, Ireland, born in 1723, and emigrated with his wife Jane and older brother James. He purchased by deed dated Sept. 2 1774 the ground on which Mifflintown "

stands, and laid out that place in 1791, and died in 1794. He was the father of James Harris Esq., who with Col. James Dunlop laid out the town of Bellefonte, in 1795, and ancestor of many of the prominent presbyterian families in Bellefonte. James Harris' great-grandson, Rev. J. Harris Orbison, M. D., in 1886 was ordained by the Presbytery of Huntingdon, and went as a Missionary to India.]

Sunday June 25, Cedar Springs. A large and genteel society, but in a great and furious turmoil.

About one Mr. Kennedy (Rev. James Kennedy an irregular before referred to) who was once their preacher. Poor I was frightened one of the society when he was asked to set up the tune answered: "That he knew not whether I was a Papiast or a Methodist, or a Baptist or a Seeder. I made him soon acquainted with my authority.

Monday June 26, I rose early with the purpose of setting off for Sunbury, after breakfast I rode to one Mr. Boyles a well disposed, civil and sensible man (Joseph Boyles who lived on the site of McAllisterville.) He entertained me kindly and acquainted me largely with the disturbance with Mr. Kennedy.

June 27, forded the river to Sunbury. It is yet a small village but seems to be growing rapidly then I rode one half a mile to one Hunters * within the walls of Fort Augusta.

On Sunday July 2, Mr. Fithian, preached at Laughlan McCarthney's house in

* This church edifice is now gone but the grave yard still marks the place two miles north westerly from Mercersburg, Penna. According to late Rev. Dr. Creigh, this part of the country began to be settled in the year of the purchase 1736, and a congregation was formed in 1738, Rev. John King, was the first settled pastor installed August 30, 1769, he discharged pastoral duties over forty years. He died in 1813. There were one hundred and thirty families in the settlement at the commencement of Mr. Kings ministry.

* James Gray, lived in what is now Spruce Hill township, Juniata county. These minute details will be interesting to the many presbyterian decendants of Mr. Fithian's entertainers.

* James Lyon, lived on the John Kelley, place now Milford, township, Juniata county.

* Rev. John Slemons, was a graduate of Princeton of the class of 1762, and was ordained A. D. 1766, and belonged to the Presbytery, of Baltimore in 1786.

* Col. Samuel Hunter, owned the site of Fort Augusta, and land adjoining Sunbury, which was laid out in 1770. This part of the county was settled promptly after the purchase 1763, and a congregation organized as Augusta congregation as early as 1768 when it received supplies from the Synod.

* Probably Reid. John Black Princeton class of 1771, who died 1802.

Northumberland, a sermon at eleven o'clock and after an hour and half intermission another service. He mentions among his auditors Sheriff Wm. Cooke, Robert Markin, John Barker, Esq., William Scull, Mrs. Hunter, Mr. McCartney, paid him 1 £, 5 s, 6 d, for the supply and he adds that Mr. Haines the proprietor of the town took him to see a lot, he was about to give to the Presbyterian society

"a fine high spot on the Northway street and near the river.

On Thursday July 6, he arrived at Capt. William Gray's in Buffalo Valley, (Capt. Gray lived half a mile north of the present site of Lewisburg,) Sunday the 9, he preached at Buffalo X Road, (now Union county,) where he says the people are building a big meeting house. Here he says is a numerous society. "I will also call this the silk gowned congregation."

I saw here the greatest number and the greatest variety of silk gowns among the ladies.

That I have yet seen in my course. He speaks of meeting here Dr. William Plunket, (ancestor of the Madley family of Mifflin county,) Henry Van Dyke, Robert Fruit, Samnel Allen, Walter Clarke, John Linn, almost all of whose descendants are still connected with the Presbyterian church, though now widely distributed over Western Pennsylvania and the Western States. The church at Buffalo X Roads was organized in 1773, and is still in existence. In 1786 at the time of the organization of Castle Presbytery it had one hundred and one families, of adherents. In connection with the congregations of Sunbury and Northumberland, Buffalo congregation in May 1787 gave a call to Rev. Hugh Morrison, and he assumed the pastorate in October 1787. Buffalo congregation agreed to pay him 75 £ per year. Mr. Morrison came from the Presbytery of Root in Ireland and was received by the Presbytery of Donegal early in 1786. He died September 13, 1805, at Sunbury, aged forty-eight years. Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, New Berlin, Hartleton. Washington congregations are offshoots of old Buffalo, of which Mr. Morrison was the first settled pastor.

The present brick edifice stands within a few rods of the site of the church they were building when Mr. Fithian visited Buffalo church, and is the third building

erected there in the course of the century after that visit. Buffalo congregation Rev. W. K. Foster, had in 1886, one hundred and forty members, of its offshoots, in 1886, Washington had 180 members, Lewisburg 256, Mifflinburg 140, New Berlin 26, Mifflinburg 2d, 52, Hartleton 79. Total 839.

Keystone Gazette.

ROBERT A. CASSIDY, { PROPRIETORS.
JAMES A. FIEDLER. }

BELLEFONTE, PA.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 1887.

SAMUEL ACHENBACH.



BELLEFONTE IRON & NAIL CO. LOSES ITS SUPERINTENDENT.

A Practical and Highly Successful Business Man Passes Away.—A Man of Noble Impulse Although Reserved in his Manner.—Dies Suddenly at Reading.

Samuel Achenbach, since its first inception superintendent and general manager for the Bellefonte Iron and Nail Company, died suddenly Monday morning last at Reading, while visiting with his brother-in-law, N. M. Hauk, at that place, on his way home to Bellefonte from a business trip to New York City. The sad news was immediately dispatched to Bellefonte, and not for some time has a business man of this place died which resulted in such a shock.

Mr. Achenbach was well known here

in business and social circles. He never sick a day in his life and last went away in his usual health. While transacting some business at the wholesale hardware house of Samuel A. Haines, in New York, Saturday, Mr. Achenbach began to complain of internal pain and was advised to visit a neighboring drug store. He left New York that day and came as far as Reading, Pa., where he stopped over Sunday as the guest of his mother and brother-in-law, Mr. Hauk. Sunday he felt some better but that night was taken with severe cramp and Monday morning early, life fled out of as noble a body as ever was laid beneath the sod.

His son-in-law, Jeweler Charles C. Mussina, Williamsport, was also notified and he proceeded at once to Reading and brought the remains to Williamsport, where the funeral took place yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock.

Besides a devoted wife he leaves behind him one son, William, and one step-daughter, Mrs. Charles C. Mussina, of Williamsport. Deceased was, as near as can be learned, about fifty years of age.

He was greatly beloved by the men at the Nail Works, as well as everybody who knew him. He was a friend of trades assemblies and urged strongly that the iron workers of Bellefonte should organize into one assembly, which they did, and to show the high esteem in which the members of that assembly, many of whom were under him, held him, the GAZETTE publishes the following resolutions passed by Iron Workers' Assembly No. 9203, K. of L., in memory of deceased.

RESOLUTIONS OF REGRET.

The undersigned, a committee appointed by the matter workman of The Bellefonte Iron Workers' Assembly, No. 9203, Knights of Labor, composed principally of the Bellefonte Iron and Nail Company Limited, employes, to prepare preambles and resolutions expressive of sorrow and regret that Samuel Achenbach, Esq., our late superintendent is no more, we offer the following as the sentiments of our assembly:

We can scarcely realize that our late superintendent, Samuel Achenbach, Esq., will not again appear in our midst, moving among us quietly, friendly, encouragingly with a good word here and there as seem to him fit, nevertheless it appears to be so, that he has been suddenly called from the scenes of this life to take part, we have every reason to believe, in those of a far better, purer, holier world, where troubles come not and all is happiness, peace and joy forever.

Resolved, That it is with the most sincere feeling of unfeigned sorrow we have heard

of the death of our worthy superintendent, who was highly respected by us individually and was esteemed for his many good qualities of mind and heart.

Resolved, That his death makes a vacancy in the firm of The Bellefonte Iron and Nail Co., Limited., that will with difficulty be filled so satisfactorily to their employes.

Resolved, That we have indeed lost a friend, one in whom there was no guile, to whom we could go for consultation or favor in confidence, may he rest in peace.

Resolved, That we do most heartily offer to the members of his bereaved family our condolence and sympathy in this the time of their distress.

Resolved, That the secretary be directed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased at Williamsport, Pa.

Resolved, That a copy be sent to the *Gazette and Bulletin* at Williamsport, Pa., and our county papers with a request for publication. All of which is respectfully submitted

- GEORGE ROWAN,
 - GEORGE KASE,
 - DAVID HAINES,
 - JOHN FEASTER,
 - MARSHALL DERR,
- } Committee.

THOMAS R. BENNER, Secretary.

THE LATE SAMUEL ACHENBACH.

In the death of Samuel Achenbach, superintendent and one of the main founders of the Bellefonte Iron and Nail Company of this place, the world loses one of its brightest examples of genuine manhood. It will be seen elsewhere in this issue, Mr. Achenbach expired suddenly at Reading, Monday morning last while visiting at the residence of his brother-in-law, N. M. Hauk, where he had been visiting over Sunday on his way home from New York. Deceased was a man of reserved disposition but most noble in all the qualities which go to make up a *man*, in all that word implies. Around the works which he successfully superintended, Mr. Achenbach was held in the highest esteem. He was exceedingly kind in his disposition to all those employes who tried and did their duty in the several capacities placed; but when men under him showed a disposition not to do what was justice to themselves and their employers, Mr. Achenbach was not slow in pointing out the fact. He was a man who positively and strictly, and at all times, attended to his business. He was a man of deep convictions and refined sensibilities. All his associations with people were of an elevating character, and in a matter of enterprise he could not be outdone by any one with equal means.

He was a practical mechanic and could take a trip through the nail works and tell at a single glance whether things were going as they should, and the Belle-

fonte Iron and Nail Company will find it one of the most difficult tasks it ever undertook to get a man who will in every respect fill Mr. Achenbach's place.

His family loses a kind husband and father, Bellefonte one of its brightest and most successful business men, and Home claims one more of its own.

In this connection it may be stated that Mr. Achenbach was one of the originators of the Bellefonte Nail Works. The late D. G. Bush one day went north on the North Central railway from Williamsport to Elmira, and on the train he and Mr. Achenbach met, and engaged in conversation. The latter was then on his way to Crescent, along the above mentioned railroad, in Lycoming county, where he was then superintendent of those extensive nail works. In parting, Mr. Bush remarked: "Achenbach, why don't you come to Bellefonte and establish nail works?" "You people build the works and I will come and superintend them," replied Mr. Achenbach. "All right," continued Bush, "and you may hear from me."

Mr. Achenbach went about his work and in time almost forgot the incident, when one day he received a letter from Mr. Bush asking him to come to Bellefonte on a certain date. He did so and was ushered into a board of trade meeting in General Beaver's law office. Mr. Achenbach was introduced by Mr. Bush as a gentleman from Williamsport who had come here looking for a location to build nail works. Those members of the board of trade present at that meeting doubtless remember what was said and done, but at all events before Mr. Achenbach left Bellefonte, and before the people knew what was going on there was enough capital subscribed by Beaver, Bush and others and enough represented by Mr. Achenbach to build and start the nail works and so they did. And now within five years both Mr. Bush and Mr. Achenbach are numbered with those who have passed beyond.

A large number of citizens from this place attended the funeral, among whom were John C. Miller, John Conner, J. P. Gephart, Isaac Longacre, George Rowan, Miss Libbis Humes, Miss Mary Ann McGill, Mrs. J. D. Whitman, James Harris, William Fitzgerald, George Kase, Jacob Hinkleman, Charles Kase, J. G. Heilman, James Stott, Sr., and Albert Stott.

CENTRE COUNTY METHODISM.

Centenary Marked by M. E. Conference,
March 10-15, 1887.

[Hon. John B. Linn in *Historical Journal*.]

The centenary of the Methodist Church in Centre county was marked by the assembling of the Central Pennsylvania Conference in Bellefonte, March 10-15, 1887. No allusion was made to the fact in any of the proceedings of Conference; nevertheless, the first Methodist society was formed in Bald Eagle, at the house of Philip Antes, (now Curtin's Eagle Iron Works, in Boggs township,) in 1787. His daughter Polly, born June 3, 1787, was just four weeks old when Philip Antes, (grandfather of General John Patton, our Congressman-elect,) moved up to the Bald Eagle from Nippenose, and made a home and preaching place for the pioneer circuit riders of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

It antedates the first society in Lycoming county, formed, as stated by Captain A. H. McHenry, of Jersey Shore, Pa., at the home of Ared Sutton on Lycoming creek, in 1791. The names of the first members of the Bald Eagle society that have come down to us are Philip Antes and wife, Christopher Helford, Philip Barnhart, Jacob Lee, Lawrence Bathurst and their respective families.

Philip Antes died in Clearfield county, August 14, 1831. He was a son of Henry Antes, sheriff of Northumberland county in 1782, and grandson of Rev. Henry Antes. Philip was born at Falkner Swamp (now New Hanover township,) Montgomery county, August 26, 1759, moved to what is now Dauphin county, where he married Susanna Williams and removed to Nippenose. After he sold out to Roland Curtin he removed to Clearfield county. His wife died in Clearfield county May 2, 1826. Their daughter Susan married John Patton, Sr., and is only lately deceased at the age of 93 or 94. She was born at the old mill in Boggs township, May 10, 1791.

Lawrence Bathurst was an old Revolutionary soldier and died in 1848, near Curtin's works, aged 94, upon the farm that had been his home during his entire life in the Bald Eagle Valley. Philip Barnhart's descendants are well-known Methodists to this day.

In this connection the following post-script to an old letter I found not long since will be interesting. The letter is

from Roland Curtin, father of ex-Governor A. G. Curtin, to Judge James Potter, who had a distillery over in Penn's Valley. It is dated March 7, 1803:

"P.S.—The major part of Dunlop's hands are becoming Methodists, which prevents the rapid sale of whiskey I have had in November and December. However, I empty the barrels tolerably fast, and I send a few to Chicklekamouch and Moshannon."

By Dunlop's hands he means the puddlers at Colonel James and John Dunlop's forges, adjoining Bellefonte.

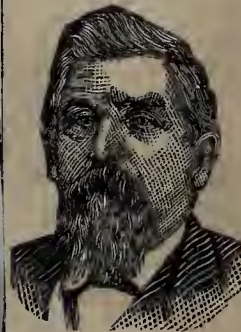
Keystone Gazette.

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1887.

JUDGE SMITH DEAD.

A VACANCY IN THE CENTRE COUNTY JUDICIARY.

The Respected Gentleman Dies at His Home, Pine Grove Mills, July 4.—A Brief Sketch of a Good Life and the Children Who Survive Him.—A Busy Life.



At ten o'clock on the morning of the Fourth of July, inst., Hon. James R. Smith, died at his home in Pine Grove Mills, aged sixty-five years, one month and fifteen days.

Judge Smith was born near Lewistown, Mifflin county, on the 19th day of May, 1822. In early life he worked at the business of a tanner, but not liking the trade he abandoned the business, and, after obtaining as good an education as the meagre facilities of the country afforded, he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. J. B. Ard the father of George Ard, now of Pine Grove. After spending some time in the study of medicine at the office of his preceptor, to complete his medical studies he took the regular course in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. After he had completed his medical education, he practiced medicine at Newton Hamilton, Mifflin county, from there he moved to and followed the practice of his profession at Hartleton, Union county, and from there he moved to Pine Grove Mills,

32

where he practiced his profession for nearly forty years. During this long period he faithfully and diligently followed the practice of medicine, and in doing so he traveled over an immense territory. His trips in visiting the sick and administering to the suffering extended all over Furgeson township, up to Pennsylvania Furnace and over the mountains far into Stone Valley, Huntingdon county. In him was largely developed the humane principles that so justly characterized so many of the old physicians of our county, a trait, now indeed, rarely met with. To administer to the sick and relieve the suffering seemed to be his sole object and aim. Pay for service rendered was to him the last thing thought of. Through rain and storm, day or night, he obeyed the call and never once stopped to inquire when or how he would be paid or whether he would receive anything.

It is not to be wondered at that he left a small estate. His whole object seemed to be to serve humanity let results be what they might

As a physician he possessed the faculty of clearly and accurately determining the cause and effect of disease and the remedies to be applied. These very necessary equipments gave him great success in the practice of medicine. He was possessed of a clear judgment, a strong and vigorous mind and fine physique.

In politics Dr. Smith was a life long active Democrat. He never sought nor asked office until after the death of Judge Runkle in 1883. He then became a candidate for the office of Associate Judge. Age, hard work and much exposure in the early part of his professional life, had in a measure broken him down so that it was almost impossible for him to longer follow the practice of medicine. His strength and popularity as a party man was fully demonstrated in the fact that he was nominated by a large majority, over all competitors, on the first ballot and of course was elected by a good large majority. He was no less successful as a judge than a physician. Good, common sense, the strong hold of all lay judges, he possessed in a large degree. It was his earnest purpose and desire to honestly and faithfully discharge the duties of his office,

and in this he succeeded to the great satisfaction of the public. It is not out of place to say that at the time he was a candidate the temperance people of our county were somewhat distrustful as to what might be his course on the license question. His action on this question must have met their hearty approval, for wherever he thought a public house not an absolute necessity, he aided in cutting down the number of licensed places, and to him as much as to any other is due the fact that we now have so few licensed houses in the county.

Judge Smith was twice married. The first time to Elizabeth Jane Coulter, of Lewistown, who died September 18th, 1848. The second time to Miss Catharine Fredrick, of Hartleton, Union county. By this last union they had twelve children, nine of whom, with the mother, survive to mourn the loss of a kind father and a considerate and indulgent husband.

Of the nine surviving children the oldest, Martha P., is the wife of Adam Murphy, and lives at Pennfield, Clearfield county. Wm. H. is married to Clara A., a daughter of the late Wm. Bloom, and lives on a farm about one and one-half miles east of Pine Grove. James R. is married to Clara M., daughter of the late George Musser, lives in Pine Grove. Oscar, married to Miss Lizzie Steffy, is a cabinet maker by trade and lives in Pine Grove. Charles H., married to Miss Sallie Linthurst of Altoona, is a blacksmith and is now living in Pine Grove. George is single and at present is working in the car shops at Altoona. Effie, is married to Frank Stover and lives in Altoona. Frank and Mary, the two youngest, re-

main at home with their mother.

On the 6th of July the remains of Judge Smith were buried at Pine Grove, the service being held in the Presbyterian church and conducted by the pastor, Rev. Elliott, assisted by the Revs. Kelly and Goheen.

ADJUTANT GENERAL HASTINGS.

Brief Sketch of One of Bellefonte's Most Distinguished Citizens. 1888

It is with pleasure the GAZETTE this week presents an excellent wood-cut sketch of our townsman and Adjutant General D. H. Hastings, who so honorably distinguished himself and his

33

resident county in the Republican National Convention which closed at Chicago Monday of this week.

General Hastings was born at Salona, Clinton county, February 26, 1849. He received a common school education in his native county. He afterwards came to Bellefonte and graduated in the public schools of this place. He was for several years principal of the schools of Bellefonte, and also served several terms as Chief Burgess of the municipality. He also did some local and editorial work on our esteemed contemporary, the *Bellefonte Republican*.

During all this time he was reading law and was admitted to the legal bar of Centre county, in 1875, which profession he has since practiced with great success and ability. General Hastings is a trustee of the Pennsylvania State College. He was Assistant Adjutant General to General (now Governor) Beaver. He was also commander of the Second Brigade, N. G. P. At the inauguration of the present administration, Governor Beaver recognized his signal ability and appointed him Adjutant General of Pennsylvania, which office he is now filling with great credit to himself, the administration and the State at large.

As a political leader General Hastings is rapidly forging his way to the front. He is not a boss but strictly a leader. He doesn't say "Boys, you must do so and so," but does his work by conference and says, "Boys, how would so and so suit you?" and he ever abides by the opinion of the majority. This is the true method for a successful political leader.

At the Republican State Convention of the party at Harrisburg in 1886, General Hastings in a most eloquent speech nominated Governor Beaver for the position he now occupies. In 1887 Mr. Hastings with supreme equanimity and great ability, presided over the Republican State Convention. At the same party State Convention in 1888 he was unanimously elected one of the four delegates-at-large from Pennsylvania to the Republican Convention at Chicago, where he placed in nomination for President the name of Senator John Sherman, of Ohio, in the best speech delivered throughout the entire Convention, which will be found elsewhere in this issue of

the GAZETTE. Besides this able speech, which thoroughly aroused the convention, General Hastings at all times commanded the closest attention, and when the "policeman could not induce the guests to take their seats, he requested "the policemen to take the seats themselves." He also presided over the Chicago Convention during the balloting for Vice President, which resulted in the selection of Levi P. Morton, of New York.

General Hastings arrived at Bellefonte from Chicago on the 9 o'clock train Wednesday evening, and his many friends here, irrespective of political belief, met him at the train with the popular Bellefonte cornet band and escorted him to his home, corner of Allegheny and Lamb streets. He returned the kindest thanks for the unexpected, non-political ovation in a neat address, which was heartily cheered.

Thus in brief is a short sketch of one who started at the bottom round of the ladder of fame, which he is ascending with considerable rapidity.

WHAT CHICAGO PAPERS SAY.

Giving General Hastings Very Complimentary Notices on His Speech.

The Chicago *Herald* says: "Sherman was best put into the field. The Pennsylvania man who lives at the little mountain town of Bellefonte, where Governors Curtin and Beaver live, made the best speech which has been heard at this display. It was worthy of being the party platform. Hastings, who made it, they say, will possibly turn up in the Senate some day or run for Governor. His allusion to Blaine was in thorough good feeling and dignity, being merely incidental in speaking of the fidelity of Pennsylvania to her beloved son. After the contentions and disappointments of many years, Blaine might well wipe his eyes upon that phrase of affection and consult the peace that passes politics.

In speaking of him and his effort in naming Senator Sherman in the recent Chicago convention, the *Inter-Ocean*, of that city says:—

"He is a man of commanding presence and one who would command attention anywhere. He is fully six feet, proportioned, has a magnificent presence and fine voice. He has a dignified, military bearing which would make him a natural leader of men. He wore a suit

34
clothes, Prince Albert cut, and with his first sentences took the attention of the vast audience and held it to the close. It was by far the most remarkable speech of the convention. It was a speech which covered the whole field of National politics, and which had the nomination of John Sherman for its climax. It was a speech of high literary merit, and had some sentences in it which should serve as models in American oratory for all time, and withal delivered in so graceful and impressive a manner that they seemed to have come from the lips of the speaker without premeditation."

GEN. HASTINGS' SPEECH.

That Grand Effort of His at the Recent Chicago Convention.

Pennsylvania is opposed to Grover Cleveland, and to a continuance of his administration. Her electoral vote will be cast for the nominee of this convention. Pennsylvania has never faltered in her devotion to Republican principles and will not falter now. Her metropolis was the cradle of American liberty and the Republican party's birth and baptism were both on Pennsylvania soil. With her the fundamental and elementary principles of Republicanism have always been held sacred as the charter of her liberties and the memory of her dead soldiers. Of this her majorities are proof—majorities unequalled in the sisterhood of states—east for Lincoln, for Grant, for Hayes, for Garfield, and for her beloved son, James G. Blaine.

Pennsylvania comes to this convention, in great unanimity asks you to name and bearer who will represent the state, the traditions and the brightest aspirations of the Republican party whose name will stand for its inalienable doctrines and its matchless history—who will execute the laws and will vindicate the honor of the nation, whose every personality will be "a sword in the hands of honest freemen wherewith to drive in place and power" a party which holds the reins of national government by fortuitous circumstances and against the true interest and honest desire of a majority of the nation's sovereigns.

This convention recognizes that the campaign before us finds the common enemy entrenched in the seat of national power with the prestige of a victory, the support of a solid South, the influence of public patronage and an increasing appetite for office to give it encouragement. But the country is tired of shams, double-dealing and mediocrity. We have seen a chief executive who proclaimed his belief that the presidential office should be limited to a single term eagerly clutching at the nomination for a second. His promised reforms of the civil service have resulted in the prostitution of his great office for the narrowest partisan purposes.

Professing sympathy for the welfare of wage earners and established industries, he has forced upon his party a policy which, if successful, would be ruinous alike to both. Forbidding political activity in his subordinates, he has allowed them everywhere to use the public service for the advancement of his own political fortunes. He has inaugurated and fostered a diplomatic policy hostile to the interests and dignity of the American people.

INTRODUCING SHERMAN'S NAME.

He whom I shall nominate to you needs no introduction. His career, his character, his manhood and his illustrious achievements are a part of the nation's history. The people know him by heart. They whom I represent and who ask his nomination at your

ands, point you to a grand career beginning with those patriots who rocked the cradle of Republicanism; to a man who has been in the forefront of every battle for his party; who has been its counsel, its champion, its strong right arm; whose name is a tower of strength, and who was never defeated for any office for which he was nominated.

Those who believe that he who has rendered the most and the best public service is entitled to consideration, who believe that experience in statesmanship is prerequisite to high public preferment, that it is not a disqualification to have actively and honorably participated in a generation of thrilling and stupendous events—events more vital to humanity and liberty than were ever crowded into an equal period of the world's history; who have seen the danger and folly of placing inexperience and mediocrity in high places, have made him their choice. The freedmen waiting for the welcome day when there will be no longer a Solid South, the true soldiers of both sides who bravely and loyally accepted the result of war; they who are waiting for the dawn of that new day when the right of suffrage dare not be denied to any man, white or black; when honest elections shall triumph over intimidation and tissue ballots; and purified franchise shall "preserve the jewel of liberty in the household of its friends;" they who are still waiting until the true gospel of protection to man and to the fruits of his toil shall be preached in myriad schoolhouses South of that political equator called Mason and Dixon's line; waiting for the infusion of that thrift which brings from mountain and valley the blessings of comfort, refinement and patriotism; that industry which opens new and profitable channels of trade and commerce; which builds railroads running North to South, as well as East and West; which recognizes political meridians of longitude as well as parallels of latitude, they who believe with him that honest and intelligent emigration should be welcomed but that impassable barriers should be erected on the Pacific coast against the influx of heathen hordes of Mongolian barbarity—all these have found in him the consistent friend and steadfast champion.

The grand army of men who followed Grant and Sherman and Sheridan, the widows and orphans of their comrades, and thousands who believe a soldier's honorable discharge is no disqualification in civil life and thousands more who love their country, who believe the English language so copious that 100 pension vetoes might be written without insulting patriotism and loyalty, will rally to his standard. He was the soldier's friend in war, and he has been their constant friend in peace. He stood by the side of Lincoln and the army from the first days of Sumpter until another Sherman marched from Atlanta to the sea and peace came on golden wings. War and finance comprise much of the history of nations. A people who gave a million soldiers to the Republic found the man to sustain them and their country's credit in the darkest hour. Our financial policy was as victorious as our armies. Inspiration responding to every need of war, proved equal to every demand of patriotism until at last hand-in-hand peace and prosperity, twin children of liberty, gladdened the hearts of a reunited people. The statesmanship of resumption, his crowning success unequalled in any time or country, has placed his name upon the lips of gratitude throughout the land.

THE OHIO MAN'S RECORD.

Do you want his record? Read the history and the statutes of the country for the last thirty years. A broken union restored and made stronger; a race of men emancipated; a system of free public schools extended to every state; a bonded debt—the price of a nation's life—reduced from \$2,200,000,000 to less than \$1,100,000,000; the annual burden of interest reduced from \$150,000,000 to less than \$50,000,000; a public credit made firm as the everlasting hills; a system of protection to American industries embedded in legislation and consistently supported as a wise policy—these are a few of the great achievements of the Republican party, and while every other candidate before this

4th of July
at of an orator

contributed a full share of
notic and meritorious service
come of the whole splendid
inseparable part than he whom

FACTORY
Samuel
We
bet
pubs

men, the central issue of the
an American policy for the
can people at home and abroad,
else sinks into insignificance.
With our system of currency be the
world, it is an achievement of Re-
publican. What though secession and
be gone forever, they were washed
Union blood. What if questions of
duction of national credit and public
have been resolved in favor of the right
stars in the party's crown. What
an increasing pensions may gladden
grateful hearts and smooth the pathways of
the nation's brave defenders, every dollar of
it bears the stamp of Republican approval.
What, though Republican honesty and fore-
sight swell the Federal treasury, wherewith
to liquidate a nation's debt, no question of
surplus should arise until that debt be paid.
But it is of supremest moment that the mil-
lions, the bone and sinew of the land shall
not be shuffling cant or sentimental fallacy
be made victims of that false system of po-
litical economy which tends to beggary. We
welcome the issue, protection or free trade.
Let the sovereign freeman on the next elec-
tion say whether the only republic founded
on the rock of freedom, blessed with every
gift of nature, crowned with imperial power,
enriched by the willing hands of honest toil,
shall be dethroned, degraded, pauperized by
a party and a policy at war with the very
genius of our national existence.

"With malice toward none, with charity for
all," let the battle-lines which once ran East
and West be now formed from North to
South, advancing to the seaboard, there to
protect the homes and fire-sides, the peace
and prosperity of the nation; and let him
who has served so long, so ably and so faith-
fully be placed in command of the victorious
column.

Make him our standard-bearer and every
principle for which the party has battled,
every triumph which it has achieved, will
be represented in our leader. Nominate him
and there will be no sophistry, no fallacy so
plausible as to divert the intelligence and
commonsense of the people from the vital
issue. Nominate him, and a sense of na-
tional security, safety and of confidence in
the future will crystalize into triumph and
victory.

I nominate the patriot, the statesman, the
honest man, John Sherman.

The Keystone Gazette.

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1883.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS

POTTERS MILLS CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY.

Addresses Made by Hon. John E. Linn, Col.
James Gilliland, Hon. H. J. Cubertson—
Vast Amount of Interesting History
Connected with the Place—Etc.

The Potters Mills centennial celebra-
tion on July 4th was a delightful occa-
sion to all who were so fortunate as to
be there. The streets of the village were
adorned with arches of green boughs,
and the grove selected for the exercises
was beautiful for location with a fine
view of the valley, where, under the

shade of massive chestnut trees, was a
decorated stand for the speakers, seats
for the visitors and all conveniences for
the comfort of the assemblage.

The committee in charge deserves
great credit, and the patriotism and zeal
of the people of the village in turning out
to work and make everything attractive
and pleasant for their guests is worthy
of public acknowledgment. It was evi-
dent that it took great industry and con-
siderable expense to make the celebra-
tion the success it was.

The Lemont and Tusseyville bands
and the Potters Mills drum corps fur-
nished most excellent music; a dancing
platform gave the young ladies and gen-
tlemen range for festivity in that direc-
tion, and the unstinted hospitality of the
citizens, at their own homes and with
their pic-nic dinners on the grounds will
long be remembered by all the friends
whom they treated so handsomely: It
was a scene of happy faces and pleasant
greetings which will not soon fade from
memory.

OLD RESIDENTS PRESENT.

Of old residents of the place, Col.
James Gilliland, of Washington city, and
H. P. Cadwalader, of Harrisburg, came
from their homes to be present on the
occasion. There were many others
whose early homes had been in the vil-
lage who came to look upon its familiar
scenes again, among them Mrs. Governor
Curtin, Charles P. Hewes, Esq., and sis-
ter, of Bellefonte, Mrs. Todd, of Lewis-
town, etc. Alexander Kerr, Esq., and Col.
Samuel Gilliland, two of the oldest resi-
dents of the township, were there. The
venerable Joseph Palmer was not able to
be present.

The happy day was commenced with a
parade of some forty young people,
whose fantastic dress and representa-
tions of wierd characters brought smiles
upon every face as they led the way up
to the pic-nic grounds.

W. J. Thompson called the assemblage
to order and presented Rev. Thomas S.
Land, of the Reformed church of Centre
Hall, who invoked the Divine blessing in
language peculiarly appropriate to the
centennial occasion and the day purpos-
ed to be celebrated, after which Mr.
Thompson adjourned the meeting for
dinner.

At the main stand and were addressed by Hon. John B. Linn, of Bellefonte. His local references were: That the first house in the village was erected by General James Potter, and as located by late William Allison, Esq., and Joseph Palmer, stood in front of Alexander McCoy's house, where a hand-board now marks the spot. The next was a large house built of hewn logs and was long used as a tavern. It, too, has long since disappeared, but its site could be readily found in Mr. Allison's field. It was commenced in 1788; who the mason was he could not tell, but John Barber, afterwards known as 'Squire Barber, and one of the first associate judges of Centre county in 1800, was the carpenter, and the bill for his work is dated August 6, 1788; the amount of it £53, or \$141 in Pennsylvania currency at that time.

General Potter commenced erecting the first grist and saw mills in the same year; these gave name to the place. Jacob Houser, who settled on the site of the village of Houserville, in 1788, was the millwright, and John Barber the carpenter. Thomas Mayes was one of the workmen at the mill. The mills, however, were not completed until after the death of General Potter, in 1789.

In November, 1790, his son, afterwards known as Judge James Potter (as he was one of the first associate judges of Centre county, in 1800) opened the first store. His clerks were Robert McKim and W. A. Patterson, and for fifty-eight years the village was widely known throughout our commonwealth by the profuse hospitality of the Potters, and was as important, on account of its business relations, as any village of Centre county.

The first tavern keeper who kept in the log building was John Wagner, grandfather of John T. Johnston, of Bellefonte. He was also the first miller of Potters Mills. In 1813 the large stone grist mill was built by Judge Potter. It was destroyed by fire some years ago and has not been rebuilt.

In 1823 the Centre & Kishocoquillas turnpike reached Potters Mills, and thereupon J. and J. Potter erected the brick hotel, still standing. In 1824 John C. Coverly moved into it and made it a house famous for its good cheer all the way east to Philadelphia and west to Pittsburgh. He situated his first year

in the hotel by getting up celebration, and for the v made the address himself.

ERECTION OF THE WOODS
In 1833 J. and J. Potter

cal
A
for
store

Potter erected the first large woolen factory. A small log factory house existed previous to that time, carried on by Azariah Evans, using dye stuff extracted from walnut and butternut hulls gathered in the vicinity for coloring. Judge James Patton died November 2, 1818, at the age of 51 years. His sons, J. and J. Potter, succeeded him and carried on an extensive business for thirty years. On their failure in December, 1847, Wm. M. Allison purchased their hotel, factory and real estate at Potters Mills and removed to the place into the old residence of James Potter. Mr. Allison died Sept. 11, 1877, and his widow and children have preserved and kept in repair the mansion house and premises, where an elegant hospitality was dispensed on centennial day worthy of the old time reputation of the village.

COL. JAMES GILLILAND'S ADDRESS.

Historian Linn was followed by Col. James Gilliland, who in an hour of familiar talk related many interesting reminiscences of the village, its inhabitants, its school teachers and of the notable people of the township. He referred to Mr. Coverly's address on the 4th of July 1824, and said the new hotel was to have been completed in time for it, but it was not, and the celebration took place in the old tavern house. But Mr. Coverly had written out his speech beforehand, and did not alter it, which explains the misplaced reference to the "stupendous mansion," which occurred in the beginning of Mr. Coverly's oration, which Col. Gilliland's great memory enabled him to repeat sixty-four years after it was delivered. Col. Gilliland said Mr. Coverly opened his address as follows:

"At the base of Tussey mountain whose brave and majestic summit over shadows the stupendous mansion in which we are now assembled to celebrate the forty-eighth anniversary of American independence, every heart dilates with joy and every eye beams with extatic pleasure at once more beholding the light of the sun of another of our days our glorious independence."

HON. H. J. CULBERTSON,

Chawinstown succeeded Mr. Gilliland

interesting address in an eloquent oration delivered with great force and animation. After referring to the propriety and interest of the centennial, he discussed the transcendent and far-reaching worldly consequences of that grand event of American history, the declaration of independence, and dilated upon the patriotism of the actors in the grand drama of the American Revolution, in which many of them shed their blood to establish the principles of the declaration of independence.

With Mr. Culbertson's oration the public exercises closed and people fell to talking over the interesting associations connected with the village, dear to the memory of many who were gathered to the spot to commemorate its centennial, all these tender, joyful and mournful reminiscences are too sacred for the public ear and must be left to float on in undisturbed silence in the hearts of those who cherish them.

Your correspondent would like to credit every one publicly with their part in making the day agreeable to the visitors. Among them are: Mrs. William Allison, her sons and her daughters; Alexander McCoy, John McCoy, Mrs. John McCoy, W. J. Thompson, Samuel Kelly, David M. Henney, David McClintick, Davis Evans, Henry McCloskey, Edward Allison, W. M. Allison and wife came under our particular notice. The day was one which will long be remembered, and too much praise cannot be given those who had the affair in hand, and those who so liberally contributed their means time and energy to the occasion.

The Keystone Gazette.

FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1888.

A GRAND GALA DAY

OVER 5000 STRANGERS IN MILLHEIM
WEDNESDAY LAST.

The Penns Valley Town Covers Itself With
Glory.—Grand Parade, Exquisite Fire-
Works, and an Occasion to be Re-
membered by the Many Concerned.

More than 5,000 people attended and participated in the exercises and demonstrations of the notable centennial anniversary, of Millheim, which took place

Wednesday of this week, July 25, 1888.

To say that the whole affair was a grand success is expressing it but faintly, as every one will say who was at the beautiful Penns Valley town on this occasion. Early in the morning the day's demonstrations began by the blowing of steam whistles, the firing of guns and the ringing of bells.



MRS. KREAMER.

The evening before a jubilee and praise service was conducted in the orchard on the Gephart farm, which is really right in the centre of the borough and was the site where some of the earliest settlers had once lived. This service was conducted principally by ministers of the town and valley, and an address was made by R. A. Cassidy, of the **KEYSTONE GAZETTE**.

Wednesday morning the people began to arise bright and early. The greater portion of Peuns, Brush and other adjoining valleys were depopulated, the people all attending the centennial at Millheim. Bellefonte sent a goodly number, six coaches leaving here at 6 o'clock in the morning and by the time the train reached Coburn it was packed full. Others had gone down the day before, and many left here on the 2:30 Wednesday. A special train left Coburn for Bellefonte at 12 o'clock Wednesday night. A large representation on was present from Nittany valley, and also from Bald Eagle, especially from un-
Lock Haven.

Speaking of the parade, it may be said right here, that the same would have done credit to a much larger town or even a city. It began to form shortly after 9 o'clock and but little delay was occasioned in the perfect formation of it. Capt. O. W. Vanvalin was chief marshall and he had a lot of able assistants in the persons of S. D. of Musser, George Ulrich, D. S. Kauffman, Charles Musser, Milton Musser, Charles Weiser, Clymer Musser, Robert Crawford and Samuel Ulrich. The procession was headed by the originator of this centennial, the venerable Adolph Miller, in a carriage, accompanied by Dr. Geo. S. Frank and Cashier A. Walter as

mitteemen. Next came twelve pioneers equipped with axes, followed by the excellent Millheim band in Washington dress, and the wagon load of captured Indians immediately followed. Wm. Smith and family in an old fashioned wagon represented a family of first settlers with their antique household goods, corn cob smoke pipe in full blast included. The venerable and distinguished Capt. John Miller, so well known as "California" Miller, on account of his visit to the Pacific slope state in the very earliest gold excitement in that region, true to life represented George Washington. He had his military staff with him and they were all on horseback. He was followed by the Washington guard with drum and fife. They were all dressed in Continental soldier style and carried the musket. Capt Henry Miller, a son of the George Washington of the occasion, was the captain. He was a brave soldier during the Rebellion and served three years. The second division was marshaled by Charles Musser and he did it in truly military style. Our popular Bellefonte band, which was at the head of this division, had the honor of being the special escort of President Grover Cleveland, *alias* ex-Deputy County Treasurer Pierce Musser, drawn by two spanking horses in a carriage. The President was accompanied by his private secretary Dan. Lamont, *alias* ex-District Attorney William C. Heinle. Then came thirteen young ladies dressed very prettily and occupying a very gaily decorated wagon, representing the thirteen original states. This was followed by a canopy covered vehicle bearing the Goddess of Liberty, most elegantly represented by Mrs. Jasper Stover. She was accompanied by four young ladies as escorts. The Goddess was followed by a monster wagon, drawn by six powerful horses, conveying 38 young ladies all dressed in white, representing the 38 states of the Union to-day. This was an especially pretty feature. The Millheim Hook and Ladder Company with its elegant truck followed.

The third division was made up almost entirely of industrial displays which were indeed a great credit to the originators. Among the merchants and business men in line with their wagons tastily

ly arranged were such as J. C. Smith, the hardware dealer; Youngman & Howell, general merchants; Musser & Son boots and shoes; S. K. Fanst, the carriage manufacturer; Campbell & Co. furniture; *Millheim Journal*, with a job press on a wagon and printing dodger which were scattered all along the route of the procession; J. W. Woomey, harness manufacturer, Claire Gephart, pianos, organs and sewing machines, and others. This display was one of the finest the writer ever saw. The Messrs. Crawford, of the Millheim knitting factory, were without a doubt one of the best in line. They not only had a good display of goods on the same, but also had one or more of their knitting machines on the wagon, knitting stockings, mittens and other wares along the route. These gentlemen are wide-awake business men and form a great help to Millheim's general prosperity. Just at the present they need additional help in the factory, and any one desiring a steady job might with profit apply in good time.

LINE OF MARCH.

The parade was formed on south Penn street, marched up that street to Main, out this street to a field east of town, countermarched back to Penn, north as far as the flouring mill near the toll gate, back to Main and west as far as the U. B. church, back to Penn and south to place of forming where, it was disbanded and all hands turned in for dinner. Taken in all, those in the parade the whole time, marched about five miles and were pretty tired when through, especially this the case with the bands, of which there were seven in all, as follows: Millheim, Mifflinburg, Bellefonte, Rebersburg, Logansville, Spring Mills and Centre Hall, and the same number of better bands never assembled on a similar occasion at a similar place. They kept the air filled with music from morning until late at night, and it was the very best of music too. The Bellefonte band was the youngest organization and by the way it received some of the most flattering compliments from some able judges of good band music. The boys really broke their best record on this occasion.

THE AFTERNOON'S ADDRESSES.

At about 2 o'clock in the afternoon

C. K. Sober, the best crack shot of Central Pennsylvania, delighted a large and enthusiastic crowd near the creek, in a fine exhibition of glass ball shooting. This was a really interesting feature of the day's festivities. At three o'clock the Bellefonte and other bands repaired to Gephart's orchard where an immense throng of people had gathered to listen to the addresses of the day. Hon. W. K. Alexander was by unanimous consent elected chairman of the meeting and he made a good one. After a number of selections by the several bands on the ground, Chairman Alexander made a forcible introductory speech and introduced Hon. J. Blair Linn, of Bellefonte, the historian orator of the day. Mr. Linn was enthusiastically applauded before he began his excellent address, which is printed in full elsewhere in this issue, and will be retained by many as one of the most valuable historical addresses ever delivered in Centre county. Bellefonte's Chief Burgess, J. L. Spangler, Esq., was also present and called upon to speak. He struck a happy chord from the first sentence, and allowed that he was the only survivor of Millheim's halcyon days of a hundred and more years ago. He recalled the incidents of how and when he and old "Bill" Alexander and old "Bill" Tobias, both long gone to their reward, had erected the first log cabin in Millheim just one hundred years ago; the many hardships, trials and tribulations through which he and the other pioneers of the place had to pass. Having the vast audience in excellent humor, the speaker with great adroitness, launched into the serious and spoke at some length of the real meaning and the untold benefits derived from such a centennial occasion. "Jack," as the writer takes liberty to call him, never fails in making an audience feel that his remarks are of genuine value. The humorous with the serious make up a combination such as but very few orators are able to successfully handle. R. A. Cassidy, of Canton, Ohio, was on the grounds and called upon to address the audience. He responded and did his full duty to the occasion.

Mrs. Kramer, of Milesburg, the aged lady whose portrait appears elsewhere in this issue, was on the speakers stand

during these exercises, and she repeatedly burst out in tears as the old scenes and incidents of the place were so tragically portrayed in words by the different speakers. She is the oldest person living that was born in Millheim, being in her 94th year, and born but six years after the first settlement was made in the place. This is indeed a rare instance, and it assisted largely in making the occasion one of especially valuable and interesting moment.

FIRE WORKS AND TORCH LIGHTS.

In the evening a torch light procession was indulged in, after which took place the display of fire works from a neighboring hill, where it could be viewed from many parts of the town and by the thousands present from all sections. Of these fire works too much complimentary can not be said. They were simply grand and way beyond anything that ever took place in this county. Several balloons, with fire works attached, were sent off successfully, and the general display would have been a credit to any large city, at least in variety if not in quantity.

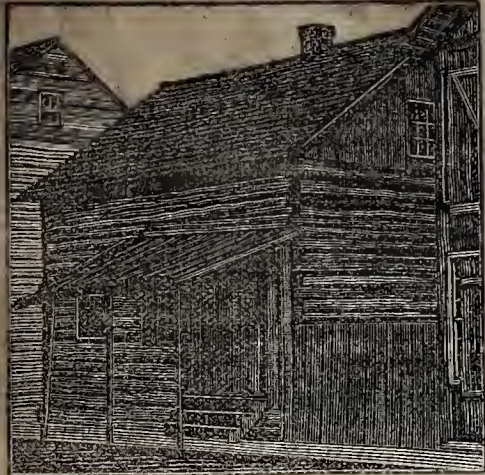
This ended the gala day for Millheim. More visitors were within the limits of the borough than there ever were before in a single day, and the order was perfect. No drunken men, no disturbance, no disappointment, and perfect contentment everywhere.

ONE OF THE OLDEST.

House Now Owned and Occupied by Mrs. Albright Formerly a School House.

The old log building, with the shed roof over the sidewalk, standing on Main street next to Albright's carriage manufactory, is one of the oldest unremodeled buildings in the town. A wood cut of the same will be found elsewhere in this issue. The building is a present occupied as a dwelling house by Mrs. Albright. She bought it some years ago of John Dankerman, who purchased it long ago of William Wandith, a Philadelphia attorney, for \$300. The building in the early history of Millheim stood on Main street, top of the hill, near where the U. B. church now stands, and was used and known as the English schoolhouse. When it was abandoned for school purposes, it was moved to where it now stands and has been used for various purposes ever since.

has been used for a clothing store, a grocery and is at present a dwelling:



There are doubtless older buildings, or rather parts of older buildings, in this town, but they are remodeled and their original identity destroyed. There was no one to be found who can tell when the building was erected, but everybody agrees that it is "one of the oldest in the town" so the GAZETTE produces a cut of it for the purpose of linking the misty past with the present and future.

MRS. CATHERINE KREAMER.

The Oldest Person Living that Was Born in Millheim.

Mrs. Catherine Kreamer, who now makes her home among her children in Milesburg, is without a doubt the oldest person living to-day that was born in Millheim. A GAZETTE reporter the other day visited Mrs. Kreamer at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Sarah McKinley, at Milesburg, and gathered the following stated facts from the lady now almost one hundred years old: She was born in a little old log house near the creek, April 5, 1795, so that if she lives until April 5, next she will be 94 years old, she says when she was less than two years old her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Shaffer, moved into what they called the "new house," a part of which is supposed to be still contained in the old Musser & Smith hardware building. She was married to Andrew Kreamer and they continued to live at Millheim until the subject of this sketch was 50 years old, when they moved to Milesburg, where she has resided ever since. Mrs. Kramer is a remarkable woman in many respects. Notwithstanding her extreme

old age, her mental faculties are in quite good condition. Her memory is far better than that of the average person of her age; so is also her eyesight. Although quite feeble in her limbs, she is yet able to get around quite well, and was delight-

ed to visit Millheim on this centennial occasion. Her husband died some year ago. Three sons and three daughters survive with her. The sons are Andrew and Perry, living at Milesburg; Edward, living at Johnstown, Pa. The daughters are Mrs. William Roush, at Petersburg, Huntingdon county; Mrs. John Tonner, at Canton, Ohio, and Mrs. Sarah McKinley, at Milesburg. These children are all grown, and prove most excellent citizens. Mrs. Kramer remembered quite a number of people still residing in Millheim, among them being the older Musser, the Gepharts, the Eisenluths, the Harters, the Sankeys and others. She says that after she was married to Mr. Kramer they moved into a little red house that stood on the site or near by where the late Rev. C. F. Deininger's residence stands, on the north side of Main street, near the top of the hill. They lived there for a number of years and then moved to Milesburg, where Mr. Kramer died.

THE LATE D. A. MUSSER.

The Irreparable Loss Millheim Sustained in His Death.

Daniel A. Musser was born in Gregg township, June 28, 1822, on the farm now known as the Coburn farm, at present being the property of Col. James P. Coburn, of Aaronsburg. Mr. Musser was the son of Philip B. and Elizabeth Musser. He moved to and located at Millheim, June 21, 1846. He was married to Lydia A. Schreffler, June 29, 18



and this devoted wife and the mother of his children survives him. The issue of their union was seven children, two preceding their father to their reward. Of the surviving children three are married, being Mrs.

Walter, wife of Cashier A. Walter, of the Millheim Banking Company; Mrs. Stamm, who lives with her husband in Iowa; Pierce, who manages the brick

flouring mill at Millheim. Clymer and Milton are both single.

Mr. Musser was deputy sheriff during the time his brother, W. L. Musser, held the position of high sheriff of Centre county. He was also lieutenant of light infantry during the old times militia service of this county. In 1875 he was elected treasurer of Centre county with an increased Democratic majority, and his son Pierce filled the office by appointment from his father. Mr. Musser also filled many township offices during his life, and at the time of his death was president of Millheim borough council, and that body loses a valuable member, same as does the M. E. church and Sunday school, to which he always contributed liberally, and of which he was a consistent member since 1860.

He was an extremely busy man, his large business interests and connections with the commercial world at large demanding about all his time, yet he found leisure to lead a very pleasant life with his family at his own hearth and fireside. Since locating in Millheim he amassed quite a large competency and at the time of his death owned two large flouring mills, several farms, an elegant home, a sketch of which appears elsewhere in this issue, and other large real-estate interests in and around Millheim. He also was largely interested in the Millheim Banking Company.

Mr. Musser was also an enthusiastic admirer of the sports connected with hunting and killing deer, and would annually find sufficient time to spend several weeks in the mountains in quest of deer and other game.

As our readers remember, the subject of this sketch died suddenly on Saturday, June 30, last, and his death will prove a heavy loss to Millheim and its business interests at large. He was much interested in the success of this centennial celebration, and had he lived he would have been a great help in making the occasion the grand affair which it turned out to be. Mr. Musser was a business man, a citizen and Christian, after whom every young man can safely follow and feel assured that success will be attained.

MUSSER & SMITH'S BLOCK.

Enterprising and Successful Business Men.
Mr. Smith the Postmaster.

What is decidedly the handsomest and

most valuable business block in Millheim to-day, is the one erected and owned by Samuel D. Musser and James C. Smith, for many years known as the firm of Musser & Smith, the popular hardware dealers and postmasters. The block stands on the corner of Main and Penn streets. The location was formerly known as the "Alexander Corner." The building standing on this site was destroyed by fire May 15, 1885. Musser & Smith then purchased the lot and

erected thereon the elegant brick block, a cut of which appears in this issue. They moved their hardware store and the post office from the old building directly across the street into the new structure. Some months ago Musser & Smith dissolved partnership in the hardware business, Mr. Musser retiring and Mr. Smith purchasing his interest, so that now the business is owned and conducted by James C. Smith, dealer in hardware of every description, including saddlery and carriage oils, paints, glass, stoves, etc. He also manufactures spouting, tinware and stovepipe. He sells his



goods at a very close margin and every purchaser gets the worth of his money.

Mr. Musser remains half owner of the brick block, which contains three store rooms, two besides the one used as a hardware store and post office. One of the other rooms is occupied by Stamm & Gingerich, general merchants, and the third fronts on Penn street. The second floor is neatly fitted up into rooms, one of which is occupied and elegantly furnished by Post, G. A. R. Besides four other rooms on the second floor, at the rear over the hardware store is found the tin shop connected with Mr. Smith's extensive hardware business. This

lit to the town.

incident on the post office may be mentioned in this connection. Musser & Smith were partners for many years. The latter is a true Democrat and Mr. Musser as firmly holds the Protection party. Previous to the present National administration Musser held the post office under his party's supremacy. No sooner had Cleveland been elected than the Republican postmaster resigned in favor of his Democratic partner, and the latter was forthwith appointed by the late President Arthur, so that notwithstanding the change of administration the post office still remained in the hands of Musser & Smith. The GAZETTE would urge Mr. Smith to hurry up and take in a Republican business partner, for by all appearances there will be another political change before long and doubtless Millheim wants a Republican postmaster and Mr. Smith has made such a faithful and obliging officer, the people would doubtless desire to see him at least assistant postmaster.

HISTORIAN LINN'S ABLE ADDRESS.

Invaluable History Which will be Read with Great Interest by Everybody.

The GAZETTE, through the kindness of the author, is here enabled to publish in full Hon. John Blair Linn's able historical address delivered on this notable centennial occasion. Mr. Linn is without a doubt the best historical writer in Central Pennsylvania. His efforts in that direction, whether written for newspaper columns or delivered orally on special occasions, are always received with the greatest interest by the populace, and retained with the best of care for future reference and use. Mr. Linn, on this centennial occasion really excelled himself, if such were possible, and his address was received with great enthusiasm. It is as follows:

In the years 1784 and 1785, the people who during the Revolutionary War had entirely deserted Penns Valley, began to return and to occupy their homes. Aaronsburg was laid out by Aaron Levy October 4, 1786, and one hundred years ago a settlement was made on the present site of Millheim borough.

Joseph Reichart, Jr., then lived in a house now within the borough, where Jacob Gephart's dwelling now stands, and his daughter Catherine, wife of the

late Philip Musser and grandmother of P. T. Musser, M. D., of Aaronsburg, was born in that house Feb. 28, 1789. She died in the year 1879, in the 90th year of her age.

The land upon which the northern portion of Millheim was located, the John Cash warrant, was surveyed on the 18th of June, 1774, and belonged to Col. Samuel Miles and Reuben Haines. Joseph Reichart, Sr., purchased the tract from them in 1775, but did not remove at that time to it. He conveyed it to his son Joseph Reichart, Jr., in 1794. That Joseph Reichart, Jr., was a proper man to found a new settlement is shown conclusively by the fact that he was the father

of thirteen children, of whom Dr. Musser's grandmother was the eldest, and of whom Mrs. Ann Fiedler, of Madisonburg, grandmother of J. A. Fiedler, of the KEYSTONE GAZETTE, of Bellefonte, survives at a very advanced age.

The same year (1788) Jacob Hubler erected his first mills on the eastern side of Elk creek, near the house of late D. A. Musser; that circumstance gave the name to the settlement Millheim—mill home.

Jacob Hubler was one of the first settlers in Penns Valley. George McCormick, one of the ancestors of the Allison family, the first settler at Spring Mills, in 1774, in a deposition taken in a land case many years ago, said Jacob Hubler was one of the four settlers in the valley before him. Jacob Hubler was a very enterprising man and built a small mill on his place a mile or two west of Woodward, on the north fork of Hubler's run, and I have the authority of D. A. Musser for stating that he built his mill on Elk creek about the period this centennial commemorates. The mills remained in the Hubler family until the year 1846, when D. A. Musser's father purchased the premises from Col. George Hubler.

The period is one of the most noted in the annals of our country and of our State. On the 11th of September, 1786, commissioners from five of the old thirteen states met at Annapolis, Maryland, and recommended a meeting of commissioners to take into consideration the situation of the United States. This recommendation, endorsed by congress Feb. 21, 1787, brought together, May 1787, at Philadelphia, the convention which blotted out the codes of the e

ern hemispheres, reeking with blood and stained with pillage, and established in their stead the Constitution of the United States.

The Constitution of the United States was ratified by the convention of delegates of the people of Pennsylvania, December 12, 1787, and September 2, 1790, a new Constitution was adopted for the State of Pennsylvania, by the convention called together by the resolution of General Assembly, passed March 24, 1789; a State constitution deservedly considered an admirable model for a representative State; securing force to her government and freedom to her people.

In January, 1785, the purchase of the whole north-western portion of our State from the Indians was ratified by the Wyandots and Delawares at Fort McIntosh, where the town of Beaver now stands; thus happily finishing the transaction of a century upon that subject. The land office was opened for applications for land within the new purchase May 1, 1785, and in 1786 and 1787 the great westward march of home-makers began, and the tramp of the emigrant was heard followed by the ring of the woodman's axe.

The year 1788 is notable for settlements where villages afterward sprang up within our county. Jacob Houser settled and commenced improving where the hamlet of Houserville, in College township, now stands; and Gen. James Potter built the first house and commenced the erection of the first mills, at Potters Mills, in the year 1788.

In that year there were only about ninety-two taxables in all Penns Valley, indicating a population of men, women and children of perhaps three hundred people. The great body of these inhabitants were in Harris, Gregg and Potter townships, as now constituted. Penn and Haines had very few settlers. Among the latter were the Hublers, Stovers, Harpers, Henneys, Motzs, Wolfs, John Hall, George Pontius, Abraham Piatt, Matthias Hess, George Geiswite, Ertles, Consers, and Michael Shaeffer, grandfather of A. S. Creamer, of Milesburg, and father of Andrew Creamer, whose widow, aged 94 years, is present on this occasion.

As to access to the valley, as early as 1771-2 Reuben Haines, who owned the larger portion of the valley from Wood-

ward to Spring Mills, had a bridle-road cut to reach his lands, and in 1775 Gen. Potter surveyed a road from Haines' road to the "Old Fort," where Gen. Potter lived in 1775, and in November, 1786, a public road was laid out from the upper part of Penns Valley to Sunbury. The creeks Elk and Pine had their names prior to 1766, and are so called on returns of surveys made by Samuel Maclay in that year.

The generations that settled about Millheim have long since broken and have disappeared upon the shores of the eternal world, and it is hard at this late date to get facts and incidents of the early history of the village. Daniel Creamer came about the year 1790; his son Daniel lived to be over ninety years of age and left a large family. Then there was Francis Smith, who was a

tenant of James Duncan, and father of Hon. John Smith, who was a member of the legislature in 1857. George Swartz, who erected a saw mill at an early date on Elk creek, William Krape and Jacob Fiedler. The old stock of inhabitants the Stovers, Harpers, Hublers, etc., came from Oley, Berks county, and Hanover township, now Lebanon county, and thus gave the neighborhood a distinctly German element, which has ever since maintained to a very large extent its honest, though conservative, influence upon the town and surrounding community.

The most prominent of neighboring settlers was Hon. Jacob Kryder, who was a member of the legislature from Centre county from 1815-1819, Associate Judge in 1827. He was prominent in the church and a member of the Centre County Bible Society from its organization. He was a close observer of men and occurrences, clear-headed, and had a well balanced mind. He talked fluently and well and always to the point. He lived to a great age and died on the Amos Alexander farm, a mile and one-half south-west of the village.

The original plot of the town of Millheim only embraced eight acres and twenty-three perches. It is on the Frederick Uberlin warrant and survey, which Michael Gunkle bought of David Shakespeare Dec. 3, 1794, and which his son, Philip Gunkle, settled upon. Philip Gunkle bought the eight acres and twenty-three perches of his father in November, 1811 and laid out the first street and

Reichart, Jr., stood at
looking at the surveyor, and
s window sill in German: *neue
ne net fehl, neue stadt seh dich vor
new town, never much, look out
yourself."*

Philip Gunkle then proceeded to build
a grist mill and saw mill and distillery.
February 21, 1800, he bought of Adam
Kreamer twenty-eight acres and 115
perches of the John Harris survey to ex-
tend his town upon. Adam Kreamer
purchased the John Harris survey in
December, 1789, which probably was the
date he came there. Philip Gunkle, on
the 3rd of May, 1804, sold his mills to
James Duncan, and from that time his
name disappears for a while from the
history of the village. The mills remain-
ed in the possession of the Duneau fam-
ily until 1870, when they passed into the
possession of the late D. A. Musser. The
land east of Elk creek, included in the
borough in 1870, was surveyed on a war-
rant to David Duncan, father of James
Duncan, as early as the 18th of June,
1774, from whom a portion of it passed
into the hands of Jacob Hubler. Mill-
heim is situated therefore upon four dif-
ferent and distinct surveys—John Cash,
John Harris, Frederick Uberlin and Da-
vid Duncan—all one hundred and fifteen
years old; all duly patented; its founda-
tion therefore beyond dispute.

As Joseph Reichart said: "It was a
new town and not much of it," and it
does not emerge from tradition into his-
tory until 1801, when its inhabitants
were Michael Bressler, tailor; Adam
Coufer; John Crotzer, Sr., tauuer; John
Crotzer, Jr.; Peter Denniker; Philip
Gunkle, grist and saw mill; Samuel
Hess; Adam Hubler, grist and saw mill;
Jacob Killinger; George Loyer; Jacob
Shaeffer, wagon maker; Michael Shaeffer;
Leonard Stephens; Adam Smith;
Charles Smith, and Charles Shreffler,
blue dyer. In 1810 there were the fol-
lowing additional taxables: Paul Baugh-
man, shoemaker; John Betz, joiner;
widow Bobb; Jacob Breyfogle; Andrew
Filler, tailor; Benjamin Goodwin, tav-
ern; Michael Gephart, tanner; John
Jones, tauuer; Michael Kreamer, sad-
dler; Christian Mcese; Frederick Straw,
joiner, Henry Shaffer, cooper; John
Hroutman; Absolom Vear; George Wea-
ver, Jr.; John Wentzell and William West-
ver, physician.

The village in 1788 was within Potter
township, Northumberland county, and
its market place Derrstown or Lewis-
burg, to which products were carried in
winter in wagons by the great road
through the narrows to Buffalo Valley
and in the spring by arks down Penns
creek to Selinsgrove, loading at the
Forks where Coburn now stands.

According to the recollection of Mrs.
Andrew Kreamer, Sr., the first house
built in Millheim (if we except the house
built by Joseph Reichart, the first set-
tler) was erected by Charles Shreffler,
the dyer, just east of the old Bollinger
corner, near where the Millheim Bank-
ing Company building now stands. The
next was a log building on the site of the
Kreamer hotel, and the next was built
by her father, Michael Shaffer, for a tav-
ern, on the spot where the Musser hotel
now stands. Michael Shaffer lived first
in a round log shanty, of about 12x16
feet, a sort of a hunting shanty, which
stood on the north side of the street on
the west bank of Elk creek, in which
Mrs. Kreamer was born, in April, 1794.
From this shanty Mr. Shaffer moved
into the house built on the site of the
old Kreamer hotel, where he entertained
strangers and travelers until he had com-
pleted his tavern on the Musser hotel
site, into which he then moved and kept
the first regular hotel ever opened in the
place. John Betz was the carpenter of
the day and as such did the work upon
the house built by Michael Shaffer. Mr.
Shaffer removed from the village in 1815
John Goldman kept hotel after Mr.
Shaffer, and after him Frederick Mockly
and then Jacob Wertman, in 1844. In

1856 W. L. Musser became the landlord,
and has been succeeded by his son Wil-
liam. The house on the site of the
Kreamer hotel was also occupied as a
tavern. It was burned, and after some
time John Lash bought the lot and built
a commodious home. W. C. Duncan
purchased it and made a private resi-
dence of it; afterwards it was again
turned into a hotel by Tobias Wetzel.

In March 1789 Penns Valley west of
Spring Mills was included in the new
county of Mifflin, and in February 1790
that part of Potter township remaining
in Northumberland county had the name
of Haines township assigned to by order
of court, and all legal business requiring
court oversight was transacted at Sun-

bury.

James Duncan commenced store keeping at Aaronsburg in 1790 and his store seemed to supply the valley, and we find no early record of stores or storekeepers at Millheim. Benjamin and Henry Lee, Keen and Mussina had stores at a pretty early date. Jacob Bollinger also kept a store, in the old hardware store building opposite J. W. Snook's. He was the first post master and a surveyor of great accuracy. James James was also one of the early store keepers and among the succeeding merchants were William Roush, Peter Fisher, George Roush, Wm. C. Duncan, now of Lewisburg.

Upon the authority of my friend Hon. Henry Meyer, former county superintendent of public schools I state that at Millheim English and German schools were opened as early as the year 1797, probably before that time. The first school house was located on the lot occupied by Jacob W. Snook's store building. The name of the first school teacher that has come down to us was Geiswite, the grandfather of John Geiswite, Levi Stover and Thomas Stover. He left quite a reputation as a teacher. In 1820 a lot was donated for school purposes by James Duncan on which a log school house was erected. Rules and regulations for an English day school, in John Tonner's handwriting, dated April 12, 1836, and signed by some twenty-six subscribers, citizens of Millheim, are still in the possession of Jacob Eisenhuth, Esq. This was held in the school on site where the United Brethren church now stands. In 1857 the town hall was erected by subscription upon this lot.

The first cut nails made at Millheim were made by George Weaver; he was succeeded by David Albright, in a building standing near the bridge over Elk creek. Samuel Weiser, (who was a great-grandson of Conrad Weiser the celebrated Indian interpreter, and resided at Millheim) used to say he was a poor nailer who could not make a nail in three cuts. And I may add, as an interesting circumstance, we have with us to-day, Mrs. John Wager, of Bellefonte, a sister of Samuel Weiser, and a great-grand child of Conrad Weiser. She has come to take part in the festivities of his centennial, as an old resident of Millheim.

The earliest resident physician in Millheim, was William Westover. He resided on a lot adjoining the Musser hotel on the west. His connection with a body stealing case gave him a great notoriety in the county and beyond it. In 1810 one John Newby, who came from Chester county and who had been educated for the ministry, came to Spring Mills and stopped with Mr. Gilliland whom he had known in that county. He had been wealthy but misfortunes overtook him and a love for drink got the better of him and he died at Mr. Gilleland's. Dr. Westover attended him and had for some reason a desire to make a post mortem examination and engaged a couple of men to steal the body of Newby. After removing the body they failed to fill up the grave properly, and the robbery of the tomb was discovered. The grave was in the old East Presbyterian church near Penn Hall and Dr. Westover was arrested for the offense and at August term 1810 pleaded guilty and was fined one dollar with costs and imprisoned in the county jail for forty-eight hours. The excitement became so great that the Dr. had to vacate Millheim, and he removed to Kishacoquillas Valley. Dr. Israel Biglow succeeded him and practiced in Millheim until 1837 when he removed to Pnxsutawney. After him came Dr. R. A. VanValzah, who was succeeded by Dr. P. T. Musser the latter by Dr. J. P. Kryder, then Dr. Stam and Dr. D. G. Mingle, etc.

In 1817 Millheim and vicinity showed great patriotic spirit, a rifle company was organized in Millheim and its neighborhood. Philip Gunkle was elected captain but declined and Captain Joseph Kleckner took his place. John Jones was lieutenant and Jacob Lutz ensign. Among those who went from the village were Joseph Reichart, Charles Schreffler, John Shaw, Charles Frier, the latter said to have been the last survivor, died in 1879. Their dress was blue coat with red trimmings, buff vests, high boots and they wore cockades in their hats. Early in September they marched to Black Rock. They were unfortunately attached to General Smyth's brigade, who failed as an officer, and the period of their service was very short. Robert Aiken, John Snavely, Martin Cronemiller and

George Cronemiller went on board Perry's fleet on Lake Erie and received medals for meritorious conduct in the battle. It is related of George Cronemiller, when the English cried for "quar-

ters" he replied, we have not time to quarter you but we will halve you. (have)

In 1812 the assessments show there were twenty-three houses in Millheim. In that year Jacob and John Harter of Lebanon county located in the town as they told Mr. Maynard who wrote up the industries of Centre county in 1877. They told him of a tavern said to have been the first frame building erected in the place and then kept (1812) by Jacob Brosins. The building was there (in 1877) still standing owned then by Samuel Behm and occupied by Henry Weiser—that Benjamin Lees and Henry Lees had a store in a building on the site now owned and occupied by Elisha Campbell. A blacksmith shop stood on the ground now occupied by the shop of William Weiser and a wagon shop stood where the plastered house of Mr. Foote now stands. Among the dwellings were one on the site of Jacob Gephart's residence, the small red building owned by the heirs of Daniel Reichart, then (1877) occupied by the post office and the house then owned by John Kcen. A school house for a German school stood where J. W. Snook's store now stands, and one for English where the United Brethren church is situated, there being no church buildings, religious services were held in the school houses. Mrs. Andrew Creamer, Sr., says the first sermon preached in this place was delivered by a minister who stood upon a stump in front of the old shanty on the bank of Elk creek where her father then lived.

As stated there were no church buildings in the place at a very early period; the few people of the village worshipped at the Lutheran and Reformed congregations of the neighborhood. The Evangelical association was the first to occupy the immediate ground, a class was formed as early as 1806, Paul Haghman the shoemaker, with some neighboring farmers Abraham, Piatt, Marks and George Schwartz composed the first class. Services were conducted in private houses and the old

school house, until 1841 when the church was built upon ground donated by James Duncan. The name of the Rev. Timothy Lee, occurs to me as early associated with the religious history of Millheim. Eighty years ago, he was one of the Methodist circuit riders of the valley. Rev. Alem Brittain told me the following interesting incident. Passing through Millheim on his way to Northumberland, Mr. Lee saw a large stump on a vacant lot. He inquired of the first man he met "who owns that lot?" The man answered "I do." Will you let me stand on that stump, said Mr. Lee, and preach a sermon to the people of your town, "you may if you wish," was the reply. Notice was given and about a dozen people assembled, but remained in silence.

He mounted the stump and commenced singing a hymn. His stentorian voice reached the ears of the dwellers and others came to see what was going on. Mr. Lee invited them to come near, that he would not hurt them. At the close of the sermon he said, as he passed through their town every four or five weeks, if a house could be had he would stop regularly and preach to them. A widow invited him to come to her house, but she soon afterward informed him that her neighbors were so bitterly opposed that she was afraid to allow him to continue. At this someone said, "I have a right to use my own house as I please; come to my house." (would that the name of this moral hero had been preserved) Prejudice was, however so great that it was a long time before Methodism gained a permanent abiding place in Millheim. The first Methodist society formed at Millheim must have been before 1840, as the records show quite a number of members that year.

James Johnston was the first class leader. In the year 1841 a great revival occurred under the preaching of Rev. Daniel Hartman, his congregation holding their services in the old school house on Penn street, and for some years afterwards in the Evangelical church by agreement with the trustees of that church, and in 1857, the Methodists commenced the erection of a church edifice of their own. In 1886 this church was remodeled, roof raised and a handsome tower erected. The class and Sunday

school rooms refitted costing about \$2,500.

The church of the United Brethren was built in 1863. St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church was organized in 1877, the charter granted in 1877. In 1881 a plot of ground was donated by J. H. Musser, J. W. Snook, B. O. Denninger and J. H. Reifsnnyder and a very handsome church edifice with a Sunday school room has been erected since.

At quite an early period Joseph Reichart set apart a small plot of land for a burial place used at first as a family burial place, but by his permission it soon came into general, and the remains of many of the old settlers including the Reicharts rest there, and it was not until April 24, 1857, the Millheim cemetery association was organized and on the 1st of May in that year its location was purchased.

As early as March 19, 1810, turnpike improvement was agitated and the Buffalo and Penns Valley Turnpike Road Company was then incorporated. Nothing however was done under this charter. Fifteen years afterwards, April 11, 1825, the Bellefonte, Aaronsburg and Youngmanstown Turn-

pike Road Company was incorporated and the work was immediately commenced and was so far completed in the fall of 1826 that when Michael Gephart moved his family from Buffalo Valley to occupy the Reichart farm and residence. About this time it was ready for the gravel at Millheim. Michael Gephart, of Union county, father of J. P. Gephart, bought the Joseph Reichart place in 1826, and his family has been largely identified with this place and its vicinity ever since. Of Michael Gephart, tanner, who was an early settler in this town, I have no information farther than that Mrs. Kreamer says he had no children; he lived on the Sankey place, across the race, on Penn street, and was a quiet, pleasant old gentleman. The Bald Eagle, Nittany and Brush Valley Turnpike Company was incorporated as early as April 13, 1834, but was not completed until fifteen or twenty years afterward. The Lewisburg, Centre & Spruce Creek railroad was completed to Coburn in 1877, and in 1879 the Millheim Turnpike Company was chartered and immediately constructed its turnpike two and one-half

miles in length to Coburn station; thus connecting the business of the village with the great railroads of the State, and affording facilities for prosperity, of which the enterprising citizens of Millheim have taken advantage.

It would be invidious perhaps to name any of the living, but in this connection I cannot help alluding to the prominent member of this community whose death has occurred so lately and whose feelings would have been so much gratified by the celebration of to-day. I speak of D. A. Musser whose business interests and enterprise was of such great value to Millheim and its neighborhood.



D. A. MUSSER RESIDENCE.

In 1871 the printing materials of *Der Centre Berichter* which was established in Aaronsburg in July 1827 by Adam Gentzel, were removed to Millheim by Philip D. Stover. He sold out to Geo. W. Foote in April 1873 and in May 1876 Mr. Foote sold to Messrs. Walter and Deininger, who changed the name to *Millheim Journal*.

The year after the news paper came to the village the Millheim Banking Company was established by John C. Motz, John Keen and Elias Kreamer March 15, 1872. December 1, 1874, the Millheim Building and Loan association was incorporated with a capital of \$12,400. Providence grange, Patrons of Husbandry organized here April 14, 1874; Millheim lodge independent order of Odd Fellows March 26, 1878 and some two years ago a Post of the Grand Army of the Republic was located here.

In 1878 application was made for a borough charter; it was approved by the Grand Jury November 27, 1878, and in January, 1879, the charter was granted

first burgess was D.

in conclusion I add the Garland to her centennial history on this day of Grace, July 25, 1888. There is not and has not been for two years past within the Borough of Millheim or within two miles of its limits, a house of any kind authorized to sell intoxicating drinks. And allow me to recommend you citizens of Millheim to signalize the opening year of another century, by erecting water works and supplying your flourishing village with pure water from the base of yonder mountain.

CENTENNIAL NOTES.

Miscellaneous Historical Facts Gathered and Arranged for Ready Reading.

The Musser House, so successfully conducted by W. S. Musser, was established in 1794 and is therefore almost a hundred years old. It was rebuilt and thoroughly modernized in 1885, by the present proprietor, and is to-day one of the most comfortable hotels to be found anywhere.

The house now occupied by Andrew Walizer is also "one of the oldest." It was built by Daniel Shreffler, father of Mrs. D. A. Musser.

One of the well known hotels in the early days of Millheim was what was called "The Black Hotel," which stood where the National Hotel now stands. The Black Hotel burned to the ground in 1840. The story is that Monks, who was afterwards hung in Bellefonte, spent a night at this old hostelry a day or so after he had killed Reuben Giles on the Alleghenies, and before he was arrested on the charge of committing one of the foulest crimes ever recorded on the criminal records of Centre county.

The house where Mrs. Jonathan Kreamer now lives was built in 1794. It was an old log house but is entirely remodeled and no trace of its early appearance can be seen.

Mrs. D. A. Musser's parents used to live in the house now owned and occupied by Joseph Stover. It has been remodeled and doesn't look as though it had

stood the storms of almost a hundred years. At or near the house now occupied by Mrs. Jonathan Kreamer is a well with a little history. Mrs. Musser,

grandmother of the late D. A. Musser, at one time ran away from her parents, who were living on the farm west of Millheim, and came to Millheim in the night. They tracked her to this well and thought she had drowned herself in it, but upon more vigilant inquiry found that the parents of Mrs. Catharine Kreamer, the old lady, referred to elsewhere, had taken the Musser women in and kept her until her friends should come.

A distillery, doing a big business in its time, formerly stood where ex-Sheriff W. L. Musser's palatial residence now stands. It was run by Joshua Potts. The farmers for miles around used to bring in their apples by the wagon-load and have them made into the delicious apple-jack, so popular in those times. This distillery afterwards was torn down and a school house built on its site. That was in 1832, and such men as Jacob Sankey, of Millheim, and Reuben Shaffer, now keeping the Forks House at Coburn, were among the first who attended school in this building.

The old Evangelical church, torn down to make room for the handsome new brick edifice now occupying the site, was built in 1841, and was the first church built in Millheim.

Adolf Miller, the originator of this remarkable success, deserves the thanks of every citizen in Centre county for his untiring efforts. He spent his entire time for the last three months in making it up, and has reasons to feel gratified at the result.

The citizens nobly cared for the thousands of strangers present.

There was no occasion for the special police to put any one in the cooler as no one became unruly.

A little more sprinkling of streets would have considerably contributed towards the pleasure and comfort of the throng, during the day.

The haeks running between Millheim and Coburn did a thriving business and proved a great convenience to the people coming by rail.

Andrew Ruhl and wife were among the Union county visitors present. Mr. Ruhl spent Tuesday night in Bellefonte.

Ex-Member of the Legislature from Centre county, J. P. Gephart, of Bellefonte, rendered valuable assistance in making the affair a success. He w

born and raised in that town and therefore has more than ordinary interest in it.

The two hotels in the place did noble service in caring for the throng.

The Bellefonte band boys, it was remarked, made about the best appearance and played equal to the best.

J. G. Royer and wife, Samuel Decker and wife, Irvin Wise, Albert Shaffer, John Royer and son Harvey, were among the Zion people present.

Among those from Lock Haven in attendance were Mr. and Mrs. John George and daughter Bertha.

Ex-Senator S. R. Peale, of Lock Haven, was booked for one of the addresses but he failed to make his appearance.

A CLOUD BURST.

The Water to a Height of 27 Feet.

AN UNPUBLISHED ACCOUNT BELONGING TO THE CENTRE COUNTY FLOODS.

The flood which destroyed Johnstown and the flood which did so much damage at Millheim and along Elk creek in our county, were caused by the bursting of dams overtaxed by an extraordinary volume of water from excessive rains, in which the destruction of life and property caused thereby would not have occurred had these dams been able to withstand the strains, and their accumulated waters been held within their basins.

In one of the mountain districts of our county there was an actual cloud burst at the time of the flood of which no account has yet been published, which we proceed now to do, having visited the locality and seen its marks and effects.

In the mountains opposite Paddy Mountain station are three gorges. The first of these is coursed by Poe creek; the next, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile farther east, is quite a narrow gorge, coursed by a mere rivulet, years ago called Kryder run, now named Panther run; a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of the mouth of this is Swift (Roush) run. These three streams empty into Penns creek, within a distance of one mile.

Poe run is a good sized stream and drains Poe valley. Swift run is one-half as large and drains a long but narrow gorge. There were no dams on either Swift run or Panther run, the breaking of which would cause a sudden rise of either of these creeks. Yet on Saturday morning of the flood a wave came down Panther run and Swift run gaps which left marks that show 27 feet of water. On the petty Panther run rivulet a steam sawmill and several houses were swept off, with teams, stables and

all, leaving nothing but deep washouts and clean cut banks behind.

On Swift run the watery element showed more terrible violence. The stream had a rock lined bed and sides, with an almost impassable thicket of trees along its shores, and had numerous windings. Down the course of this run came a flood of water, which at some points shows a height of 27 feet; its banks have been cut away leaving perpendicular walls 20 feet high and over, and in one of its most crooked sections, where it took nearly a mile to its mouth, it cut a perfectly straight channel and makes the distance within less than a half mile, with a clean and clear cut bed 60 feet wide in place of the old which was from 6 to 10 feet in width, telling the terrific force and power of the wave. In the upper part of this gap heavy tramways were carried off like boards, and went thundering down the gap on the wings of the irresistible waters, pell-mell into Penns creek to join the flood from Millheim, which about that hour made its appearance at Paddy mountain, and with the roar of a dozen thunder gusts came along with its wreckage of houses, horses, stables, fences, bridges, etc., from Penn and Brush vallies. Here the flood caused by a cloud burst in the mountain, joined in maddened glee with the fierce flood from the vallies.

In these mountain gaps, far up from the mouths of the streams, the mountain sides as well as the flats show large holes and gullies from the action of a sudden outpour of water from the clouds off from the course of the runs.

That this was a tremendous cloudburst is unmistakable; the absence of dams, the sudden rise and great height of the flood prove it in the Panther run and Swift run territory, while Poe creek, within a half mile of its sisters, showed no unusual rise above what a heavy rain would cause, no washing away of buildings, or cutting away of its embankments such as can be seen for all time hereafter along the courses of the other two streams.

Here we have proof of an actual cloud burst, which, had it occurred in some thickly settled section would have caused terrible havoc with lives and property as these phenomena occur without warning.

This cloudburst, it will be understood, took place in the watersheds of Swift and Panther runs, while that closely adjoining on Poe creek was not affected.

THE CENTRE REPORTER

FRED KURTZ, -- EDITOR

The management of affairs at Johnstown was mainly in the hands of men from our county and we are proud of it

well done. Gen. Hastings's general supervisor; Col. J. L. Spangler was at the head of the commissary department with Maj. Aust. Curtin as his chief supervisor. Gen. Hastings has received deserved praise from all over the state for efficiency in directing affairs for the comfort of the unfortunates in that unparalleled disaster. He acted with wisdom and discretion. Col. Spangler managed his department with skill and a single view to the welfare of those who were destitute of clothing and food. Maj. Curtin, as general supervisor of the commissaries, was always on duty to see that there was no want and no hitch at any of the stations.

These gentlemen having completed their work have turned their places over to local authorities for what further attention the flooded district may yet require.

We congratulate them upon perfect success with which they cared for the unfortunate people of Johnstown, backed by the liberality of the outside world.

From, *New Era*

Jan. 1st 1892.

Date, *Dec. 19th 1892.*

OUR STATE COLLEGE.

CROWN OF FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

An Institution of Learning in Central Pennsylvania of Which Too Little is Known.

Grand Educational Plant—Free State

University—"Come and See."

The top and crown of the Pennsylvania system of public instruction, towards which students from her High Schools and Normal Schools will one day look as affording ample facilities for the broadest scientific and literary culture, will be the Pennsylvania State University, located in the central part of the central county of the Commonwealth. This institution, which has of late years been rapidly developing on strong lines, is at present known as the Pennsylvania State College, and the thriving village below, which has grown up under its shadow, has taken its name from the school. But this name may with propriety be changed to the more euphonious University Place, when, as seems inevitable, the college shall have attained to such full organization and

equipment as will justify its taking on the higher title.

Does it seem visionary, a wild dream of the fancy, to think of plans already entered upon here as being so far developed that before many years, under the fostering care of the State, a thousand students shall crowd these halls and others that must be opened to receive and welcome them? The time is coming when this great campus of fifty acres and more—which can readily be extended to twice or thrice this area—will be dotted all over with buildings of imposing architectural design for its numerous special departments of University work, with its homes of professors and students, its ladies' cottages, its fraternity houses, its libraries, its lecture halls; when along with its fine gymnasium and armory, already a prominent feature of the campus, its grand conservatory of music will also challenge attention. Here will be a University town among the hills in the

Geographical Centre of Pennsylvania,

far removed from the disturbing attractions and allurements of the city; living its own higher life, breathing its own purer air, dwarfed by nothing nor by anything compelled to take a second place—not even by the charm of its own natural surroundings.

The State should year by year erect its buildings, provide for their more thorough equipment, and gradually accumulate a larger and larger endowment fund, until private beneficence, as in the case of other leading institutions of the country, shall supplement its bounty by still more generous gifts. Why should not wealthy public-spirited men in Pennsylvania erect and endow here buildings and departments like the Sheffield School of Science, the Whitworth School of Mechanic Arts, the Worden School of Electrical Engineering, the Dixon School of Mines, the Sedgwick School of History, Law, and Philosophy, the Newcomb Observatory, the Kingsley Memorial Chapel, and others? Within the past year Yale has had more than two millions added to her endowment fund; while those of Princeton, Harvard, the University of Pennsylvania, have been increased very largely. Great gifts go, as a rule, to great schools. "To him that hath shall be given, and he shall have more abundantly." But nearly every great school has known its day of "small things." The Pennsylvania State College is passing slowly through this stage of its experience, while before it opens the promise of a grand future of distinction and usefulness.

The strange feature of the situation here is that there should be so great a school!—with plan so comprehensive, foundation so substantial, future so promising—all its dormitories and fraternity houses filled with students, some two hundred and fifty being now in attendance, with a teaching force of high grade professors and their assistants, thirty in number, and yet so little thought of or said of it among the teachers, directors and

superintendents of the State at large. A Pennsylvania institution of learning of so great merit and usefulness

Comparatively Unknown in Pennsylvania:

True, we have a big State, and in it a big thing may readily be lost sight of; but this thing is too big to be thus ignored. When a stranger expresses surprise at what is seen here, some one may laugh and say, as did Prof. Sparks, principal of the Preparatory Department, "Yes, nearly everybody that comes this way feels a little like Columbus."

Perhaps not one in twenty of our Township, Borough, City or County Superintendents has ever visited this institution or known much about it; not one in five of our Normal School principals; not one in twenty of our College presidents and professors; not one in fifty of our High School principals; and almost none of the forty thousand teachers and school directors of the State. And this, despite the fact that it is really a Public School like the rest, with this difference, that it seems gradually preparing to take its proper place as the head of the entire system. The district schools, the high schools, the Normal Schools, and the Free State University are integral parts of an ideal system of public instruction. We have them all in Pennsylvania, and all of them doing good work. We need but to bring them into closer organic relation that their possibilities for usefulness may be realized in yet greater degree.

Tens of thousands of graduates, learned, useful and noble men and women in all parts of the State and beyond its borders, will one day hail this school with grateful pride as their Alma Mater. And as the crowning feature of our system of free public instruction, which to-day gathers nearly a million of pupils into the schools, Pennsylvania, in that coming day, will be full as proud of her Free State University as is Connecticut of Yale or Massachusetts of Harvard.

A week ago we would have heard or read such line of remark as the above with some surprise, for we had but little accurate knowledge of the present status of the State College. It came upon us somewhat as did its vigorous foot ball team into the arena of the State League, "conquering and to conquer;" which team, by the way, we heard welcomed home with hearty cheers from the victory at Harrisburg on "Thanksgiving" day that gave them second place in the foot ball field and encouraged their challenge to the college holding first place for a final trial of strength and skill. "What is the Pennsylvania State College?" "Where is it?" were questions often heard during the foot ball seasons of the past two years, as her boys

Stubbornly Contested the Field.

So Philip came down from the hills of Macedon, and they knew more of Macedon afterwards in Athens and throughout Greece. A foot ball team may be a good thing, though not a few college presidents and professors do question its

right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

"Come and see us," is the confident invitation of everybody connected with the College; and nobody who accepts the invitation seems to go away disappointed. "I hope you may have half as good a time as I had," was the parting wish of a lady, alert, active and intelligent, who had made a visit to the place but a few weeks before. We think she might have doubled her good wishes and had them realized, perhaps better than that.

A son recently in from the alkali plains, detailed by the authorities at Washington for duty as instructor in military tactics, etc., desired us to spend "Thanksgiving" with him in a sort of family reunion. Accordingly, with other good friends, at high noon on Wednesday, we reached his beautiful home—one of a group of three attractive cottages on the College campus—with its superb outlook to the near and distant ranges of lofty hills or low-lying mountains, a light snow upon the ground, giving to everything the appearance of a charming winter scene.

In the afternoon we attended a recitation by the Sophomore class in the Chemical department, upon qualitative analysis, under Prof. Pond, an admirable teacher and a chemist of reputation, who especially impressed us with his West Point snap and directness, and

His Rigid Requirement of Results.

The class passed from the recitation room into the large, well-lighted and thoroughly-equipped laboratory, there to verify by experiment, under the eye of the professor, each of the dozen or more condensed statements of the text-book, this to be followed by a written statement from each student of all that had been done.

Then to the College proper, a massive stone building, five stories in height, from the roof of which in all directions is had what is said to be one of the broadest and finest views in Pennsylvania. This building is two hundred and forty feet front and nearly a hundred feet from front to rear. It contains chapel, library, museums, society halls, class rooms, offices, and a large number of dormitories. It is heated throughout with steam, is lighted by electricity, and is furnished on every story with pure water from an artesian well several hundred feet in depth, which is also the source of supply to other buildings everywhere upon the campus.

At four o'clock to the Armory building. Military instruction is given here in accordance with the United States law. The battalion at present numbers nearly two hundred students, organized into four companies, each with its full list of officers. The students wear a neat military uniform, drill at stated times, look well, are held firmly to their work, and get good out of it in health, physique and personal bearing. The United States Navy is also well represented here in person of a skillful naval engineer,

50

John Pemberton, of the Mechanical Engineering Department of the College. The new drill hall is a building in the Gothic style, probably 120x90 feet in its floor space, the smooth floor as solid as a pavement. It is also used as a Gymnasium, being provided with movable gymnastic apparatus.

The students' ball, the local attraction for Thanksgiving evening, was held in this building. It was a brilliant scene, and a grand ball-room. Draped with the national flag and the college colors, in the bright electric light, a good orchestra on the platform in the centre of the floor space, the entire effect was excellent. Ladies and gentlemen were present from Bellefont, Tyrone, Williamsport, and other neighboring towns. A number of persons came from Pittsburg; and Capt. Chas. W. Roberts, of the Board of Trustees, with his family and a party of friends came all the way from West Chester. Everybody seemed in the best of humor and to enter heartily into the enjoyment of the occasion.

During a Pleasant Stay of Three Days

It was our privilege to visit the different departments of the college, and to meet a number of the men and women who are carrying forward this great work. The President, Dr. Atherton, was absent in attendance upon a meeting of the Association of College Presidents and Professors then in session at Swarthmore, where he had a paper upon the relation of the High Schools of the State to the Collegiate institutions. It was a disappointment not to see him. But what was better still, we saw everywhere evidence of his devotion to the interests of the college, everywhere the master hand in the work that has been done and is doing under his administration. We heard also on every hand admiration of his good judgment, broad plan, executive ability, tireless energy, and unlimited capacity for work. Dr. Atherton, we may add, is a soldier as well as scholar, holding one of the honor medals awarded by Congress during the late war, for gallantry in action.

Nothing impressed us more with the wise forecast shown in the management of this great educational plant than the fact that a resident architect, Mr. Olds, a master of his art, is permanently employed by the college authorities. We had wondered at the distribution of the buildings upon the large campus, at the well-chosen sites which they occupy, at the varied and attractive styles of architecture of those more recently erected, as well as the modern character and completeness of their interior plan and arrangement. But in the presence of the Resident Architect at Work Upon the Campus, and upon a plan that will not be filled out in all its detail within the next half century or longer, these things were made more clear. He is now directing the construction of the large and substantial building for the Civil, Mechanical and Mining Engineering departments of the college, within and near the entrance to

the grounds. So conveniently located is this building that a siding from the tracks of the Bellefonte railroad runs into it.

Within the past few years the College has been greatly strengthened by the erection and equipment of new buildings for the Botanical department, under Prof. Buckhout; the Chemical department, under Prof. Pond; the department of Physics and Electrical Engineering, under Prof. Osmond; the Military department, under Lieutenant McCaskey; and the Agricultural Experiment Station, under Prof. Armsby.

The Ladies' Cottage, also recently erected, which is in charge of Miss McElwain, lady principal and professor of history in the College, occupies a commanding position upon the grounds. It is attractive without and commodious and beautiful within. Co-education being approved here, young women are admitted to all classes in all the courses of study on the same terms as young men. Those not living at their own homes or at the homes of family friends reside in the Cottage which has been erected for their use. The atmosphere of culture and refinement in their cottage home should be one of the best influences of the place upon these girl students; while those of them who love music, we should think from what we saw and heard of Miss Willard, will all their lives bless the happy fortune that made them her pupils. She plays with rare refinement of taste and expression, and her pupils speak of her with enthusiasm. Some things are so good that they can be paid for only in kind; money can never make adequate return; and life-long gratitude is therefore all that is possible for beneficence received. So it seems the gifted and grateful student of music should regard the teacher who led him or her into the wondrous secret of Harmony, and imparted skill to call it forth with the touch of talent or of genius trained to mastery.

During the past third of a century this institution of learning has had a varied

Experience of Hope and Disappointment, failure and success. The present site was made over by deed, in 1837, from Gen. James Irwin to the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania, two hundred acres being donated and two hundred sold to the Board of Trustees, making in all a valuable farm of four hundred acres.

By act of the Legislature the State Agricultural Society was authorized to give \$10,000 towards founding the new school. The Board having obtained subscriptions and donations, in addition to the land, amounting to \$25,000, the Legislature voted an equal sum; another \$25,000 was voted on like conditions; and the trustees received from the State Treasurer the sum of \$50,000 thus appropriated. With these sums in hand the work was begun, and one wing of the main building was completed and opened for the admission of students in 1859. Owing to the great and rapid increase of prices in 1861, contracts made for the completion of the building could not be enforced, and

the trustees were compelled to finish it at much greater cost than had been estimated. The Legislature made an additional appropriation of \$49,900 to meet the increased outlay.

In 1862 the United States Congress donated to the several States public lands equal to 30,000 acres for each Senator and Representative from each State under the census of 1860. Only such land as was liable to private entry at \$1.25 per acre was included in this donation. The act provided that all moneys derived from the sale of this land, or land scrip, should be securely invested in stocks of the United States or of the States, or other safe stocks, yielding not less than five per cent. upon their par value; and that the money so invested shall constitute a perpetual fund, "the capital of which shall remain forever undiminished, and the interest of which shall be inviolably appropriated by each State which may claim the benefit of the act, to the endowment, support and maintenance of at least one college, where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such manner as the Legislature of the State may prescribe, *in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of life.*"

Under the census of 1860 Pennsylvania had twenty-four representatives and two senators in Congress, and received land scrip

Representing 780,000 Acres of Land.

The sale of this land was not well managed, and the total proceeds of the scrip were only \$439,186.80. In New York, the late Ezra Cornell bought the entire land scrip from the State, paying the market price for it at the time, and agreeing to locate and hold it, and to give Cornell University the benefit of its advance in price. The result is that all the lands sold have brought high figures, some being yet held in trust, and the endowment of the University from that source alone will be from \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000. Pennsylvania might have done nearly as well with a philanthropic citizen like Ezra Cornell to look after this public interest. Cornell University has now an annual income of more than \$100,000 from her land scrip endowment, against \$30,000 to Pennsylvania State College from the like source—the Legislature having added enough to make the endowment fund \$500,000, upon which interest is paid semi-annually from the State Treasury at the rate of six per cent.

The name of the "Farmers' High School" was changed to the "Agricultural College of Pennsylvania" in 1862, and in 1874 to the "Pennsylvania State College." In 1878 there was an appropriation of \$80,000 to the College, since which time there have been additional appropriations of \$126,000 and \$150,000 by recent Legislatures for the erection of

needed buildings. So that the State has during the past thirty-five years or longer expended here something over \$550,000, an average amount of about fifteen thousand dollars per annum; and for the uses for which it is designed there can be no doubt that the property is worth

Dollar for Dollar Upon the Investment.

So many things attract attention here that might be spoken of at length, but which must be passed with brief mention: The campus where landscape gardening shows itself a fine art, with trees and shrubbery, the foliage plants and flowers, walks and drives, green grass, and hint of virgin forest; the botanical and zoological and geological collections; the botanical, chemical, physical and electrical laboratories; the college and experiment station farms, with nearly thirty acres of orchard and a vineyard with choice varieties of grapes; greenhouses; creamery where the cream is separated from the milk within ten minutes of milking-time, and butter made within thirty minutes; the barns, the live stock, laboratories for agricultural work with their appliances for analysis of grains, grasses, and fertilizers; the Experiment Station under the joint auspices of the State and the United States, where every facility is afforded for work in this direction; the mechanical work shops for practical work by the students, in wood and iron; the college library of eight thousand volumes or more, etc., etc. And in the social and student life of the place, reading clubs, glee clubs, college orchestra, instrumental quartettes, college societies, a flourishing branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, etc. We name these things hastily, because they belong to the life of the place which we would fairly picture to the reader. If further information be desired send for the annual catalogue to Dr. Geo. W. Atherton, State College, Pa.

This institution of learning therefore gives promise of being

The Great State School of the Future in Pennsylvania. Like our Normal Schools, it belongs to the Common School System. Pennsylvania appropriates annually \$5,000,000 for her public schools. Let her State College be fostered in like generous spirit and with the same far-seeing wisdom. The paramount interest of the Commonwealth is the education of her citizens; and for this she can afford the largest expenditure upon all grades of schools, from the primary school to the university.

But the name that was in our thought oftenest, as we looked about over the place where he came to do his last work, and where, in 1871, he died after serving but a year in his new field of labor, was that of the man whose life-like portrait has for many years hung over the platform which we occupy almost daily in the Lancaster High School, that of our venerated friend, Dr. Thomas H. Burrows. From our early boyhood we had known him; and for three or four years before he accepted the Presidency of the

Agricultural College, as it was then called, we had been associated with him upon *The Journal* in the relation almost as a son to a father. So that this strange place, this house indeed where he had lived and died, seemed somehow familiar on account of the old days. There was about it an old-time attraction, even after the lapse of twenty years or more. His presence seemed to

Brood Over the Place Like a Benediction.

No other man in the history of Pennsylvania has touched our common school system so nearly, so powerfully, or throughout its whole range to such a degree, as Dr. Burrowes. He put the system into working force in 1835-8; he established *The Pennsylvania School Journal* in 1852, and was its editor for eighteen years; he was the first President of the Pennsylvania State Teachers' Association, and the first President of the Lancaster County Teachers' Institute, called to both positions by unanimous choice as the leading spirit among the advocates of general education by the State and of an improved common school system; he wrote the "Pennsylvania State Book," which we recall as a reader in a country school, in 1847, before he knew anything of its author; he wrote the "Pennsylvania School Architecture" which, being supplied to all the school districts, did much to improve the plans of school buildings and their surroundings in 1856 and thereafter; he wrote the Normal School Law at the request of Hon. H. C. Hickok; he was called by Gov. Curtin, who originated this most worthy public charity, to organize the system of Soldiers' Orphan Schools, which was done with his customary energy and strong practical sense; and he died, after thirty-five years of almost continuous effort in behalf of general education, at the head of the school that, we believe, is destined soon to be recognized as the last essential feature which rounds out into satisfactory completeness our Pennsylvania system of Public Instruction.

J. P. McCASKEY.

From, *Democrat*

Bellefonte Pa.

Date, *July 20th 1893,*

A BIT OF HISTORY.

FOUNDERS OF A PROSPEROUS TOWN.

The Early Settlers of Phillipsburg—Who they Were and Where they Came from—The Great Change.

Strange as it may seem few persons know anything definite about the early history of Phillipsburg. The best informed even find themselves embarrassed by conflicting statements. It is well settled, however, that Henry and James Philips and a man named Baker owned a large body of wild lands on the western slope of the Allegheny mountains, including the Moshannon basin, and covering part of the present counties of Centre, Clearfield and Cambria, and probably extending into Indiana and Blair. In 1794 two agents, Behee and Treziyulney, were sent by the Philipses to lay out a town, and selected as a site a tract of land on Moshannon creek and called it Moshannontown. As an inducement for persons to settle in the new place a town lot and a four-acre outlot was offered to each of the first twelve who would come. Those who responded were: Dr. George Bergman, from Upper Saxony; Jacob Dimeling, Wirtemberg; Klumbach, Germany; Learey, Ireland; Liepoldt, Germany; Reese, Hesseassel; Schilloh, Germany; John Henry Simler, Saxe-Coburg; John Shultz, Lower Saxony; Joseph Barth, Starsburg; McAuly, Scotland; Jacob Meyer, Germany.

It is a fact worth of note that these persons were all foreigners. When they arrived they found nothing but a dense wilderness, occupied by different kinds of wild animals. In a short time most of these men left. Reese, Simler and Shultz alone remained. The latter built the first house in town. It was located on the southeast corner of Presqueisle and Second streets. Simler built a log house on the corner of Laurel and Second, where Haupt's bakery now stands. Some of the Cornplanter tribe of indians were still here, but they were peaceable and harmless.

Inasmuch as settlers did not come in as speedily as was expected the Philipses offered a premium, like that mentioned, to the next twelve, provided, however, that each one was to build a log house on the donated lot. Samuel Turner is known to have obtained his lot on these terms. Jacob Wise was an early settler, followed by Carothers, Feters, Dillman, Joseph Earls and Peter Young, Valentine Flegal purchased the land now owned by the Steiner heirs, and John Coulter bought a piece at what is now known as Troy

bridge and erected a house on it. In 1796 the old State road was opened through this region, and in 1797 Henry and James Philips came to the town with some men whom they set to work buying land and making improvements. They built a log house on Front and Pine streets and put up a "big barn" near where the Pennsylvania railroad freight house now is, and also built a grist and large sawmill on Cold stream. Nat Philips came here about that time. A few years after all three of the Philipses left Moshannontown and their business was carried on by two agents named Barlow and Feltwell until 1809, when Hardman Philips arrived in the place and changed its name to Philipsburg in honor of his brothers who proceeded him. In 1817 Hardman Philips built a forge on Cold Stream, and in 1821 he built his screw factory at Point Lookout—the first screw factory erected in the United States. The building of a railroad across the mountains to connect with the canal at Huntingdan was a favorite project of Mr. Philips, and he had a corps of engineers survey the route, but in that attempt and several others he failed, simply because he was half a century ahead of the age in which he lived. In December, 1863, he could have seen his hopes realized, for at that time the first railway train made its appearance in Philipsburg.

The first tavern in Moshannontown was opened by John G. Shultz, soon after his settlement here, and not long after John Henry Simler also engaged in the same business. At a late period an Englishman named Wrigley purchased the land around Front and Presqueisle street, built a large house on the northwest corner and likewise opened a tavern there—nobody thought of calling them hotels in those early days. In the spring of 1816 Jacob Test and James McGirk purchased the Wrigley property, set up a hotel, and later on erected a tannery, the business of which they carried on for several years. Mr. Treziyulney kept the first store—Mr. Wrigley came next and he gave away to John Loraine, who was also the first justice of the peace.

Philipsburg was incorporated as a borough in January 1865. The burgess

James C. Williams. In 1870 the population was about 1,100. In 1890 it was 3,400. On the 30th of June, 1876, the big fire occurred, destroying two squares of buildings, which having since been replaced by much better ones. If the Philips brothers could resume their mortality and take a look at the Moshannon valley, with its numerous towns, manufacturing establishments, large business blocks, churches, opera houses and hotels, its railroads and immense output of coal, as well as the disappearance of the great pine trees which in their day covered its hills in every direction, they would doubtless not only be surprised but be ready to declare that their wildest expectations were more than realized.

From, *Journal*
Philipsburg Pa.
 Date, *Nov. 22nd 1893.*

WILDERNESS TOWN

Philipsburg's Early Days as Recalled in History.

THE OLD SCREW FACTORY

Stumps Were as Thick as Hairs on a Dog's Back.

In an old "History of Northumberland, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Centre, Union, Clinton, Juniata and Columbia Counties," printed in 1846, we find the following sketch in reference to Philipsburg, which will be perused with interest by our readers:

"Philipsburg, on the Mushannon creek, at the western side of the county, twenty-five miles west of Bellefonte, on the highlands behind the Allegheny mountains, where the Bellefonte and Meadville turnpike road crosses the Mushannon creek. The town is named after Henry and James Philips, two enterprising and intelligent Englishmen, who laid out the town in 1797. The first house erected in the "wilderness town" was built by John Henry Simler.

536

ough the town contains now between 40 and 50 buildings, and a very neat church, erected by the liberality of Mr. Philips—it was studded with stumps not more than 15 years ago. The following extract, from 'notes of a traveller,' who visited here in 1830, will show what it was then—"We proceeded over an excellent turnpike to Philipsburg, which may emphatically be called a town of stumps. Hairs never stood more plenteously on a dog's back than the stumps in Philipsburg, yet it is a stirring place, and much indebted to the public spirit and enterprise of Dr. Philips, the proprietor. Among other manufactories, there is one for the manufacture of 'screws,' which is among the most singular of modern inventions."

"The following account is given of Mr. Simler, who is mentioned in the preceding page:

"Mr. Simler enlisted in 1780, in France, as a private, and served as a dragoon in Capt. Bart's corps of the first troop of Light Dragoons, Free Legion, under the command of Col. Armand. He arrived at Boston, and proceeded thence with his troop to Yorktown, Va., at which memorable siege he was present, and assisted in the capture of it by the united forces of America and France. He was wounded in the forehead and eye by a sabre, and retained the scar until his death. He remained in the service until regularly discharged at Philadelphia, although the greater part of his troop was discharged immediately after the surrender of Yorktown. On the termination of the war, he married and settled at Philadelphia, where he remained for about 15 years. In 1793 he lost his wife by the yellow fever; he then married a second time, and in 1797 removed to Philipsburg, in Centre county, Pa.—a perfect wilderness at the time. He built the first house in the place, where he resided until he lost his second wife, in the year 1822. In the year 1829 he removed to Philadelphia, where he died the same year."

"Hardman Philips had erected the screw factory and other extensive iron works, which are now in operation. There is a most valuable mineral district around this place, abounding in coal, iron, limestone, and fire clay; and forest timber almost without limit."

From, *Gazette*

Bellefonte Pa.

Date, *Feb. 9th 1894.*

THE CONRAD HOUSE BLOCK.

Workmen Now Engaged in Teating Down
Remains of the Old Building.

Workmen are now engaged in rizing to the ground the well known Conrad House block. An entirely new structure will adorn the same place. Architectual designs are now being furnished and among them there are none to excel the one handed in by Robert Cole & Co. The front wall will be entirely removed, and a new front put in its place. The plan is for three store rooms on a level with the street, and a hallway between the first and second rooms from the alley between this block and the Lyon block. The building will be three stories high, stone front and of specially attractive architectural design in every detail. It will prove an ornament to the town and a great credit to the Brookerhoff estate as well as those who have its erection in charge

From, *Republican*

Clearfield Pa.

Date, *May 2nd 1894.*

A BIT OF HISTORY.

The Early Settlers of Philipsburg--Who they Were and Where they Came From--The Great Change.

Strange as it may seem, few persons know anything definite about the early history of Philipsburg. The best informed even find themselves embarrassed by conflicting statements. It is well settled, however, that Henry and James Philips and a man named Baker owned a large body of wild lands on the western slope of the Allegheny mountains, including the Moshannon basin, and covering part of the present counties of Centre, Clearfield and Cambria, and probably extending into Indiana and Blair. In 1794 two agents, Behee and Trczylny, were sent by the Philipses to lay out a town, and selected as a site a tract of land on Moshannon creek and called it Moshannotown. As an inducement for persons to settle in the new place a town lot and a four-acre ontlot was offered to each of the first twelve who

would come. Those who responded were: Dr. George Bergman, from Upper Saxony; Jacob Dimeling, Wirtemberg; Klumbach, Germany; Learey, Ireland; Liepoldt, Germany; Reese, Hesseassel; Schilloh, Germany; John Henry Simler, Saxe-Coburg; John Shultz, Lower Saxony; Joseph Barth, Strasburg; McAuley, Scotland; Jacob Meyer, Germany.

It is a fact worthy of note that these persons were all foreigners. When they arrived they found nothing but a dense wilderness, occupied by different kinds of wild animals. In a short time most of these men left Reese, Simler and Shultz alone remained. The latter built the first house in town. It was located on the southeast corner of Presqueisle and Second streets. Simler built a log house on the corner of Laurel and Second, where Hanpt's bakery now stands. Some of the Cornplanter tribe of Indians were still here but they were peaceable and harmless.

Inasmuch as settlers did not come in as speedily as was expected the Philipases offered a premium, like that mentioned, to the next twelve, provided, however, that each one was to build a log house on the donated lot. Samuel Turner is known to have obtained his lot on these terms. Jacob Wise was an early settler, followed by Carouthers, Fetters, Dillman, Joseph Earls and Peter Young. Valentine Fiegall purchased the land now owned by the Steiner heirs, and John Cauter bought a piece at what is now known as Troy bridge and erected a house on it. In 1796 the old State road was opened through this region, and in 1797 Henry and James Philips came to the town with some men whom they set to work clearing land and making improvements. They built a log house on Front and Pine streets and put up a "big barn" near where the Pennsylvania railroad freight house now is, and also built a grist and large sawmill on Cold Stream. Nat Philips came here about that time. A few years after all three of the Philipases left Moshannontown and their business was carried on by two agents named Barlow and Feltwell until 1809, when Hardman Philips arrived in the place and changed its name to Philipsburg in honor of his brothers who preceded him. In 1817 Hardman Philips built a forge on Cold Stream, and in 1821 he built his screw factory at Point Lookout—the first screw factory erected in the United States. The building of a railroad across the mountains to connect with the canal at Huntingdon was a favorite project of Mr. Philips, and he had a corps of engineers survey the route, but in that attempt and several others he failed, simply because he was half a century ahead of the age in which he lived. In December, 1863, he could have seen his hopes realized, for at that time the first railway train made its appearance in Philipsburg.

The first tavern in Moshannontown was opened by John G. Shultz, soon after his settlement here, and not long after John Henry Simler also engaged in the same business. At a late period an Englishman named Wrigley purchased the land around Front and Presqueisle streets, built a large house on the northwest corner and likewise opened a tavern there—nobody thought of calling

them hotels in those early days. In the Spring of 1816 Jacob Test and James McGirk purchased the Wrigley property, set up a hotel, and later on erected a tannery, the business of which they carried on for several years. Mr. Treziulny kept the first store—Mr. Wrigley came next and he gave way to John Loraine, who was also the first Justice of the Peace.

Philipsburg was incorporated as a borough in December, 1865. The Burgess was James C. Williams. In 1870 the population was about 1,100. In 1890 it was 3,400. On the 30th of June, 1876, the big fire occurred, destroying two squares of buildings, which having since been replaced by much better ones. If the Philips brothers could resume their mortality and take a look at the Moshannon valley, with its numerous towns, manufacturing establishments, large business blocks, churches, opera houses and hotels, its railroads and immense output of coal, as well as the disappearance of the great pine trees which in their day covered its hills in every direction, they would doubtless not only be surprised but be ready to declare that their wildest expectations were more than realized.

—Centre Democrat.

From, *Reporter*

Centre Hall Pa.

Date, *May 31 1894.*

DISCOVERY OF PENNS VALLEY.

Capt. James Potter, the First White Man to Enter Within its Borders.

Capt. James Potter, in the summer of 1764, was the first white man to enter Penns Valley, as per Linn's notes. He was then an officer in the British Provincial army. Having obtained a leave of absence, he set off with one attendant in the summer of 1764. Passing up the West Branch, he reached the mouth of Spring Creek, then took to the mountains, and having reached the top of Nittany mountain, Capt. Potter seeing the prairies and noble forest beneath him, cried to the attendant,

"By heavens, Thompson, I have discovered an empire!"

Immediately descending into the plain they came to a spring, at what is now the Old Fort, one mile from Centre Hall.

Here, the notes say, the adventurers found themselves out of provisions, and for two days and as many nights, the flesh scraped from dried beaver skins was their only subsistence. He took his departure from here for Fort

Augusta, near Sunbury, and happened on a creek, which was named "John Penn's Creek." This bit of history is worthy of remembrance by the REPOK-TER readers.

From,

Sum
Williamsport Pa

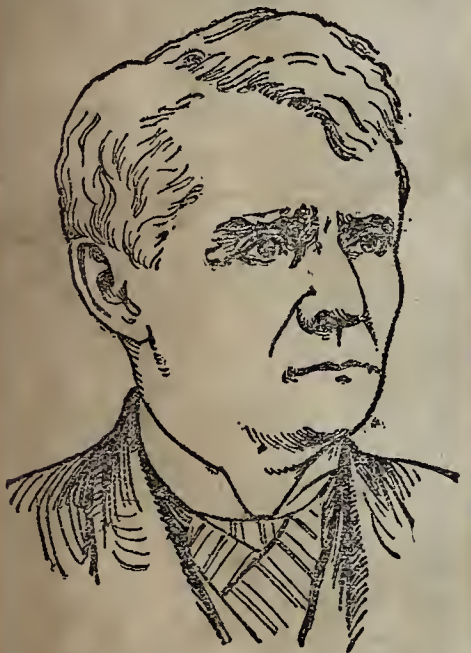
Date,

June 12th 1894.

GOVERNOR CURTIN.

Sketch of the Old War Governor and His Eventful Career.

The venerable War Governor of Pennsylvania, Andrew G. Curtin, and his devoted wife, Tuesday, May 29, celebrated their golden wedding at their palatial stone mansion in Bellefonte. Without the least question of doubt, Governor Curtin today is one of the most conspicuous and noteworthy personages connecting a past and a present generation. He was born in Bellefonte, April 23, 1819, making him now in the 76th year of his age, or five years beyond the scriptural allowance usually quoted. And when the life of great political activity and



EX-GOV. A. G. CURTIN.

consequent mental strain through which he has passed is taken into consideration, his present good health, cheerful disposition and sound mental qualifications are a matter worthy of special comment.

He was admitted to the bar of Centre county before he was of age. His entry to the political arena occurred in 1840, when he took an active part in the Harrison presidential campaign. In 1844 he canvassed Pennsylvania for Henry Clay for president. In 1848 and 1852 he was on the state ticket of presidential electors. The next step in political advancement was January 17, 1854, when Governor Pollock selected and commissioned him secretary of the common-

wealth. At that time this position also included the state superintendency of public schools, the office now so ably filled by Dr. C. N. Schaeffer.

Through his foresight, Mr. Curtin was the original advocate in the establishment of normal schools. It was directly due to him, through his recommendations and annual reports that May 20, 1857, the state legislature passed the act "to provide for the due training of teachers for the common schools of the state." It is just about one year ago that he addressed the alumni and a large number of admirers of the normal school at Lock Haven. He recalled the antagonisms and obstacles against which the early promoters of these particular institutions of learning had to contend, but that they won the fight and a grand victory it was in every respect.

In 1860 the Republican party, which was then a new political organization, nominated Mr. Curtin for governor of Pennsylvania, and elected him by 32,107 of a majority over Henry D. Foster. The war soon broke out, and it was by the excellent management of gubernatorial affairs during that crisis that he was prevailed upon for a renomination for a second term of the same office. President Lincoln had offered him a foreign mission which, on account of shattered health from four years of arduous service to his state and country, he preferred to the governorship. But the people would not listen to it, and he was re-elected. In 1869 he accepted the distinguished office of minister to Russia, offered by President Grant. He resigned and returned to his native country in 1872, and the following year was a member of the convention which framed the present constitution of Pennsylvania. Subsequently he served several terms in congress as a Democrat, and he did it with marked distinction.

Ex-Governor Curtin is today one of the very few, if not the only, surviving war governors of the union. Pennsylvania, on the call of the president, contributed for a time more volunteer regiments than were really needed, but Governor Curtin refused to disband any, as was suggested. He made prompt application to the legislature for authority to organize them into a corps. The request was granted and the new organization resulted in what was afterwards known as the famous "Pennsylvania Reserves." It was these boys in blue who saved the national government imperilled by the disaster at Bull Run. But one of the brightest stars in the venerable ex-governor's statesmanship crown was won by the establishment of soldiers' orphans' schools. The vast amount of good these institutions wrought in their time is incomparable.

During recent years Mr. Curtin has led a quiet, retired life with his excellent family at his pleasant home in Bellefonte, and with his many admiring friends of that delightful borough among the hills. In the early part of this year he accidentally slipped on an icy pavement and fell, sustaining quite serious injuries, which for some time compelled him to remain indoors. He has, however, recovered from that trouble and is today as bright and active, both mentally and physically, as many a score of years his junior.

As a popular speaker the distinguished war governor had no superiors in his time, and as an official thoroughly versed in the political history and legislative needs of the state and nation he had but very few if any equals.

He ranks as one of the foremost statesmen of the nation, and most eminently he deserves that distinction. Twenty-five

years old when he married Miss Catharine I. Wilson, who has shared the honors as well as the trials with him for fifty years, it was but proper that the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage should be fittingly observed, as it was Tuesday evening, May 29, 1894, although in a quiet manner, owing to the recent death of a married daughter.

Their numerous devoted friends wish them many years of happiness to come.

Bellefonte today has the honor of being the home of the only two surviving ex-governors of Pennsylvania, viz: Hon. Andrew G. Curtin and General James A. Beaver. Adding to these it has the Republican nominee of 1894 in General D. H. Hastings. Surely the political atmosphere of that section of the state must be productive of distinguished gubernatorial timber.

From, *Reporter*
Centre State Pa.

Date, *July 19th 1894.*

HISTORICAL NOTES.

Incidents and Interesting Occurrences Way Back in Time.

Potter township, when erected in 1774, was part of Northumberland county, and "included Brush valley and Penns valley as far west as Lemont, and a portion of Hartley township, in Union county." That year the assessment showed 17 horses and 20 cattle, a grist mill, and one negro. It is a notable fact that Potter township, taking in the above territory, never had more than two or three colored persons at any time. The grist mill was erected by Joseph McGrew, on the site of the present Red mill, and had a saw mill connected with it. George M. Harter now owns the Red mill site.

Rev. Christian Newcomer, was the earliest traveling minister of the United Brethren in Christ, who came into this county. Preaching at a number of places in the vicinity of Bellefonte, he came to Mr. Kremer's in Penns valley. In his journal, May 31, 1803, he says, "Today I preached in Aaronsburg; the work of grace appeared to be a strange doctrine in this place. May God grant this people knowledge."

If the Gospel was a stranger to Aaronsburg's people in 1803, we hardly know how to account for the darkness; but light broke in surely afterwards, for the place has half a dozen fine

churches now, and if brother Newcomer towards Bishop Newcomer, could return he would find his prayer answered, and that God did grant this people knowledge.

Aaronsburg in 1803 had three applicants for license, namely, Obadiah Allen, Christian Ulrich and Philip Dewald. Now there is no licensed house in the town.

In 1833 Peter Homan reported raising 52 bushels and 1 peck of wheat off an acre of his farm in eastern Penns valley. Mr. Homan was a good farmer, whom many of the REPORTER readers will remember, but rarely can our best farmers do half as well at this day.

In 1842 an anti-swearing society was started at Julian Furnace, a large number signing the pledge to abstain from profane swearing. But there is still swearing up at Julian's.

In 1845, Centre county had a hot summer. In July the thermometer ranged from 98 to 100, and there was a great drouth.

The first ark launched successfully on Penns Creek was built by Thomas Treaster in 1807, at Spring Mills, everybody in the neighborhood was there to see it off.

The first road from the east into Centre county, was an individual enterprise, by Reuben Haines, who in 1771 cut a road from opposite Northumberland through the Penns valley narrows. Mr. Haines owned all the valley from Spring Mills to Woodward.

In 1791 viewers were appointed to lay out a road from Spring Mills through Georges valley to Potters Mills, thence to the Cedar Spring meeting house.

The road through Linden Hall, Centre Hall to Madisonburg was laid out in 1794.

The Bellefonte, Aaronsburg and Youngmanstown Turnpike Company was chartered in 1825—work on it began in 1826.

From, *Reporter*
Centre Hall, Pa.
 Date, *Aug. 16" 1894,*

BELLEFONTE'S 100 YEARS.

Since the Building of the First House in
 That Town.

Bellefonte in 1895 can celebrate the centennial of the building of the first house in that town, in 1795, by Col. Dunlap and James Harris. Part of the house is still standing, and occupied by Jacob Valentine a few years ago. In it the first courts were held in 1801.

Now suppose our neighbors across the mountain have a grand centennial, and call in all the outside world to celebrate with them the one hundredth anniversary of the town. Begin now to lay out a programme, and let it be a day long to be remembered. Bellefonte knows how to get up a big thing—has had big jollifications and celebrations before—but let this be the biggest of 'em all, and we will all be there.

From, *Reporter*
Centre Hall, Pa.
 Date, *Aug. 16" 1894*

120 YEARS AGO

A HOMESTEAD MANY YEARS IN
 THE FAMILY.

The Woods Farm in Gregg Township Long
 Settled Upon.—The Shook Homestead
 Over a Century Old.

A few weeks ago we gave a list of homesteads in this valley that remained in the same family over one hundred years, citing some that ran up to 109 years.

Further search brings us to the well-known Woods homestead, in Gregg township, three miles east of Centre Hall, on the L. & T. Railroad. In 1774 George Woods settled near the

foot of Egg Hill, and the property continues in the possession of great-grand-children of George Woods, running over a period of 120 years, ten years longer than any of those named in the REPORTER a few weeks ago. He died August 14, 1819, aged 73 years.

If there is an older family homestead, it would be interesting to have it noted, and we shall be pleased to hear from any of our readers.

The Shook farm, in Gregg township, is also one of those that has remained in the same family over one hundred years, and is now occupied by the fourth generation. John Shook was a settler about the year 1789. After him his grandson Shook, who died some eight or ten years ago, continued on the place, and now it is farmed by a son of Philip. The house originally built by John Shook is; still occupied as the farm house. John Shook, the great-grandfather of the Shook boys still living in and near Spring Mills, was killed in 1799, by a falling tree which he was felling for the building of a barn on his tract.

From, *Con Gazette*
Pittsburgh Pa.
 Date, *June 4 1895*

104 YEARS OLD.

A Pen Picture of a Remarkable
 Woman of Bellefonte.

Bellefonte, Pa., June 3.—Located in a most historic part of the Bald Eagle valley, just five miles northeast of Bellefonte, in Center county, stands a quaint-looking little log house. How long ago it was built no one of the many old residents in the village of which it is a part is able to tell. But the length of time the house has been standing is of far less interest than the two old folks who occupy it.

Centenarians are not met with often, nor are women who depend on the labors of a 79-year-old son for a livelihood. "Grandma" Barger, as she is called by everyone at Curtin's works, is one of the few. It is she and her eldest son, a bachelor, who call this quaint little house home, and subsist on the produce that a forty-acre farm turns out under what tilling an ancient-looking mule and its

ancient owner can give it. The history of this remarkable old woman is fraught with many interesting incidents, since most of her life has been spent in a community in which many of the state's most prominent men find ancestral distinction.

Nancy Barger was born on Middle Ridge, in Cumberland county, a short distance below Harrisburg, on September 17, 1791. Her father and mother, William and Rebecca Tate, were among the first settlers of the community in which she lived, and, after having cleared a small farm, prospered, as early-day agriculturists were wont to do. Nancy was the fourth born in a family of ten, having had five sisters and four brothers. All of them are dead, the last to die being Elizabeth, who resided in Carlisle, Pa., and who died five years ago. At the age of 20 Nancy fell in love with George Barger, who was a forgerman by trade, and, after he had returned from service in the war of 1812 she ran off to the home of her sister, who lived in Perry county, where she married him. This union proved distasteful to her parents, and two years later the young couple decided to emigrate to Center county, where the Valentines, who had come up from Chester county to embark in the iron business, had built a forge and held out inducements for good workmen.

With Samuel, then a babe in arms, and her husband, she started overland in a wagon for Bellefonte. When the family reached this place, three weeks later, they found a settlement of only a dozen or more houses grouped about the first iron furnace built in the place, and the ruins of which are still to be seen a short distance south of the principal business street. Two stores flourished in this village then, and it boasted the seat of government of a county just 15 years old. George found employment in the Valentine forge, and stayed about Bellefonte until 1820, when Roland Curtin, father of the famous war governor, Andrew G. Curtin, hired him to work at the new Eagle forge, which had just been built near the site of the present plant at Curtin's works. During the time they lived in Bellefonte Mrs. Barger saw many a pack train start to Pittsburgh with its load of iron and the product was disposed of in that market for nearly as much per hundred weight as a ton commands nowadays. It was shipped in arks down Spring creek to the Bald Eagle, thence to the Susquehanna river and Havre de Grace. She was at the old Washington furnace the day James Monks, the second murderer to be convicted in the county, was hung, and remembers well the excitement of that day in Bellefonte as told her by her husband.

After moving to Curtin's works they removed to Mill Hall, and then back to Curtin's again in 1832. From that time until the present day she has been the occupant of the little house. In 1852 her husband died, leaving her with a grown-up family of seven children, all of whom are living except two. William resides in Clearfield county, and with his twin brothers, James and Constance, who live at Curtin's now, served his country all through the rebellion. Of the four sons she sent at her country's call all returned but John. Samuel, the eldest, was enrolled four times, but, never being drafted, he remained at home to care for his mother and two children.

During a visit to old Mrs. Barger she was found seated by a fire that was crackling away in a steaming kitchen stove. She is about medium height, remarkably active and is in full possession of all her faculties, although her hearing has been slightly impaired since an attack of grip last fall. Within the last month she has been compelled to resort to the uses of glasses in order to read, but these seem the only failings she has thus

far experienced, since she walked about and primped for her picture with almost as much interest as a young girl. She does a little household work, but takes most pleasure in the garden that stretches from the house to the banks of the Bald Eagle creek. It was a sore disappointment that her early plants had all been nipped by the frost.

Aside from the withered, slightly emaciated form she would pass for one far younger in years. Her voice is full and clear, and the vitality of this remarkable woman is appreciated best in the firm clasp of her hand when she bade good-bye.

About the time Samuel, her bachelor boy (?), put in an appearance. He had been hauling wood, and just stopped for dinner. When he stated that he was 79 years old on the 17th of last September, it needed another look at the antiquated mule and driver to convince one that the experience was not all a dream. Samuel had never had his picture taken, but faced the camera like a light-hearted schoolboy. The ancient relic declared that he had never smoked, nor played cards in his life, but when asked if his abstinence included rum, he wined the tobacco juice off his chin, winked his off eye, and said:

"No, I ain't used any rum, either, but I ain't got no objection to whisky 'n beer."

At the 100th anniversary of Mrs. Barger's birth, four years ago, the George L. Potter post, G. A. R. of Milesburg presented her with the chair in which she sat for her picture.

There is everything to indicate that Nancy Barger will live for some time yet in her pleasant little home at Curtin's, which is within a stone's throw of the homestead property of the late Judge Charles Huston, father of the Pennsylvania land laws and judge of the supreme court, by appointment of Gov. Shulze in 1826. In connection with this, it can be said that she was well acquainted with the eminent jurist, and recalled his vivid description of the excitement he experienced after joining Gen. Washington's expedition that passed through Carlisle to suppress the whisky insurrection that arose when he was a tutor at Dickinson college in 1794.

From, Democrat
Bellefonte Pa
Date, June 6 1895

VALUABLE DOCUMENTS.

THE ORIGINAL PLAN OF BELLEFONTE,

As Made by James Harris and James Dunlop, in an Excellent State of Preservation—Sales of the First Town Lots and Prices Paid—Interesting Extracts.

Previous sketches published in the DEMOCRAT, extracts from Hon. John B. Linn's History of Centre county, we gave an outline of the founding of Bellefonte Borough in 1795 by Messrs. James Dunlop and James Harris. This week it was our privilege to see the original documents, the plan of the



boro, also the record of sale of the lots, price, etc., all of which are in an excellent state of preservation and over 100 years old. These valuable papers are now in the possession of J. D. Shugert, cashier of Centre Countys Banking Company.

James Dunlop was a great-grand father of Mr. Shugert, and these papers have been preserved with jealous care by this family, which took such a prominent part in the early affairs of our town and who has been conspicuously identified with prominent business interests ever since.

By way of introduction, it is in order to mention that Wm. Dunlop, who was a ruling elder in the Presbytery of Tyrone, in Ireland, as early as 1712, came to this country in 1762 and located at Shippensburg, Pa. His son, James Dunlop, who came with him, was born in 1727. In the revolutionary struggles of 1776 James Dunlop took an active part. On Jan. 4, 1776, he enlisted to H. a battallion authorized by congress.

Jan 10, of the same year, he was commissioned major-general. In that year he took an active part in the campaign and expedition to Canada. October 25 he was promoted to colonel of the 10th Penna. Regiment; Oct. 2, 1779, appointed Lieutenant of Cumberland county; Oct. 28, 1784, was commissioned a justice of the common pleas of that district. In 1794, accompanied by James Harris, his son-in-law, they came to Centre county, and in 1795 they laid out the original plot of Bellefonte Borough upon the Griffith Gibbon warrantee. From this brief sketch it will be inferred that James Dunlop was a man of considerable ability and force of character. He was of the famous Scotch-Irish extraction and a consistent Presbyterian, which people were the early founders and settlers of this boro and to this day are among the prominent, active business men of the town.

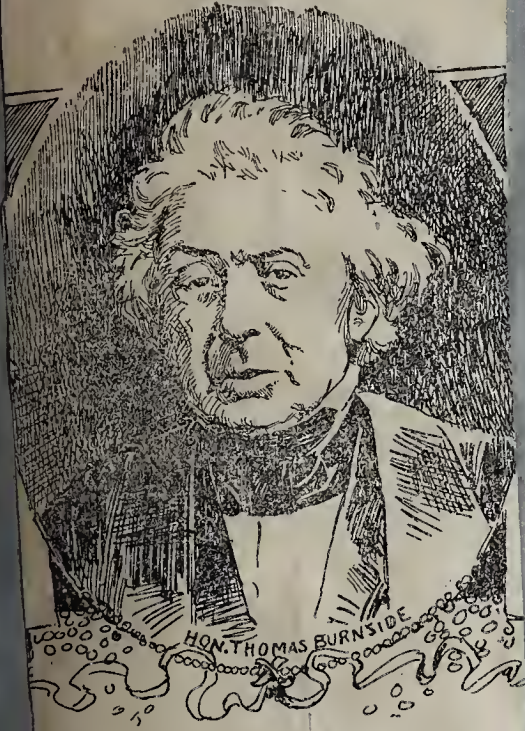
Nearly all the deeds, patents for land and transfers of property, on which Bellefonte is located, are now in the possession of Mr. Shugert.

The original plot of Bellefonte is in an excellent state of preservation. Dunlop and Harris were competent surveyors and their draft or plot of Bellefonte is a splendid piece of pen work in India ink, clean, clear and as distinct as when made. It was from this plot, made in 1795, that the boro was laid out, lots numbered and sold.

Another very interesting document was shown. It is a duplicate record or account book, corresponding with this draft. It is covered with parchment and exceedingly well preserved. It is carefully arranged in tabulated form, is a complete record of the sale of each lot—the amount paid, the original purchaser, date of sale and how the funds were distributed. When the town lots were sold the proprietors agreed to appropriate one-fourth of the gross receipts to the erection of county buildings, one-fourth to be appropriated for the benefit of the Bellefonte Academy, which at that time was the only school in the town. The remaining funds were kept by the proprietors, Dunlop & Harris. Thus we see that these men were firm believers in the importance of educating their children by making this wise provision.

By the act of March, 1814, Bellefonte

was incorporated. And in this same account book, at the end, we saw the receipt of the county commissioners, Joseph B. Shugert and John Benner, for \$2,717.04, the balance due the county on sale of lots at their final settlement. From this record it is learned that Dunlop and Harris donated the following property for public purposes. Court house and jail plot and cemetery. The lot known as the John Potter residence, High street, north of the court house, was given for a prison house; the Presbyterian church; also lot on Spring street for a Presbyterian parsonage was presented to Rev. Henry Wil-



son, the first pastor in Bellefonte. John Dunlop also presented the lot, extending from D. Garman's corner residence on High street to Spring street, to Mr. Petriken, who named a son John Dunlop Petriken.

To show what the original prices were paid for town lots, the following extracts are made:

Centre County Bank corner lot, sold in 1796 to Mr. Petriken for \$35:

On the opposite corner James Dunlop built the first house in Bellefonte, on lot No. 33, now occupied by Jacob Valentine as a residence. The first courts were held in this house in 1801. An addition on the west side has been added, but the original portion of the building

is still in a good state of preservation.

The Reynolds lot, across the street, was sold to Geo. McKee, who conveyed the same to his brother, Adam McKee, in 1796; consideration, \$48. An abatement of \$20 was made on account of immediate improvements—the erection of a stone building, used as a hotel. This building was torn away about twenty-five years ago, and in the gable

was a dressed stone plainly marked 1797, the date of erection.

The Gov. Curtin residence lot was sold to James Hutchinson June, 1799, for \$48.

The Benner lot, on the Diamond, sold to Geo. Williams for \$120.

The lot on which the Brockenhoff House now stands was sold in 1796 to Wm. McClure for \$40.

Reynolds' Bank and Temple Court, one lot, sold to Philip Benner and Robt. T. Stewart, in 1801, for \$100.

Crider's Exchange and First National Bank lot, sold to Benjamin Patton for \$40.

Curtin Property, opposite side of the street, sold to James Ferguson, 1798, for \$40. Conveyed in 1806 to Roland Curtin.

Lots No. 4 and 5 on Spring street were sold to Jonathan Walker, a distinguished citizen.

Gen. Hastings property, sold to Jessie Cookson, four lots, at \$65 each in 1807. This property at one time was well known as the Red Lion Hotel, and for many years was kept by Major Armor, a man of military fame.

Thus we could go over the entire town and cite the prices and purchasers and early settlers from this old document in Mr. Shugert's possession. Mr. Shugert has an excellent pen and ink sketch of James Dunlop, which represents him as a man of commanding appearance, with intelligent face and strong expression of character.

They also have many handsome relics used by James Dunlop's family that are over 100 years old. Among these are some very fine china ware, heavy silver candelabra that were used to entertain Lafayette and other dignitaries,

an old oak rocking chair and other articles that have historical value.

RELIC EXHIBIT.



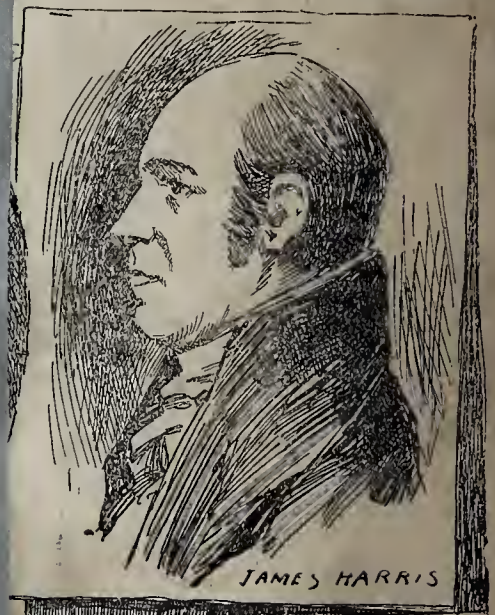
Jacob Valentine Residence, High street, first house in Bellefonte, still standing.

One of the most interesting features of Bellefonte's Centennial Anniversary is the Relic Exhibition in the Stone School-House building, on Allegheny street. The ladies in charge of this department have been busy for the past month gathering up all forms of articles of historical interest and that are appropriate for an exhibit on such an occasion.

The efforts of the ladies have been crowned with success. On Tuesday the writer paid a visit to the school building and a surprise was in store. At least a dozen ladies were busily engaged receiving and marking relics of all descriptions imaginable.

At this writing over seven hundred contributions have been made, many of which are very costly in themselves, while others are of rare historical value. The entire first floor of the school building, four large rooms, are crowded with relics.

The portrait gallery, in which there are over one hundred portraits of prominent citizens, is worthy of special mention. Many of them are costly oil paintings, and some executed by famous artists. There are good like-



W. KANLES

nesses of all the prominent early settlers; also several goods views of Old Bellefonte, when there were but a few buildings in the town.

A British battle flag, captured at the battle of Monmouth, deserves especial

mention. The Misses Benners have contributed many interesting relics, pieces of household furniture used by their ancestors more than a hundred years ago. There are many old letters, commissions and other articles of interest connected with the early history of the town to be found in the east room of the building. There are collections of rare china, pottery, clocks, furniture, screens, needle work, jewelry, tapestry, old books, bridal costumes, account books and many other articles that are worthy of especial mention.

This relic exhibition is alone worth a trip to Bellefonte and everybody should make it a point to see the same. An admission fee of ten cents will be charged, which is intended to defray the necessary expense incurred in arranging this affair.

HON. THOMAS BURNSIDE.

Hon. Thos. Burnside was one of Bellefontes illustrious citizens. In February 1804 he came to Bellefonte as a young attorney. From the start he was a leader. He became prominent in politics, and soon was elected to the State Senate, then was sent to Congress. In 1823 he was chosen speaker of State Senate. January 1st, 1840, was commissioned Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, an office he filled with honor up to the date of his death.

From, *Republican*

Bellefonte Pa

Date, *June 6/95*

BELLEFONTE IN THE PAST.

A Brief Review of Bellefonte from Its Foundation.

It was in the summer of 1795 that Messers. Dunlop and Harris, in company with the latter's wife, laid out the then boundaries and streets which afterwards became the borough of Bellefonte, the name being suggested by Mrs. Harris, on account of the 'clearsprings' being within the boundary of the embryo town, the name being French for "clear fountain," which

name harmonized with the name of the locality. The streets were laid out as near north and south and east and west as the topography of the land would permit.

The first lot owners were Colonel Dunlop and James Harris. William Petrikin and Adam McKee purchased two lots in 1796. Alexander Diyan and John Hall purchased one lot each in 1797, which made just six lot owners at that date. The slow sale of lots did not discourage the proprietors but on the contrary gave them renewed energy in inducing settlers to locate in their new town.

James Harris was born in Lancaster county in 1775. His father emigrated from Donegal, Ireland, and laid out the town of Mifflin in 1790. James Harris was a surveyor, and married, June 15, to Ann, the daughter of Colonel Dunlop. In 1795 he with his father-in-law settled in Spring Creek township, and became the first post master of Bellefonte. He died Dec. 2, aged 71 years. Many of his descendants still reside in Bellefonte.

The first dwelling house in the place was erected by Col. Dunlop on the corner of spring and High streets, the same year the town was laid out. It was built of stone and wood and is now occupied by Jacob Valentine. It was in that house the first district court was held in 1802.

In 1801 there were 19 residents in the town, not counting the women and children; two lawyers, one cabinet maker, one hatter, one tavern keeper, one weaver, one mason, one tanner, one shoe maker, the others gentlemen, and the proprietors.

Bellefonte was made the county seat by strategic means that at this day would not be considered any too honorable. But after the county seat was located at Bellefonte the place commenced to settle up much faster, and has continued to increase in population from that time to the present.

The borough was incorporated by act of legislature approved March 28, 1806. It was subject to the conditions of the "act creating the borough of Williamsport, Lycoming county, Pa."

When Colonel Dunlop and James Harris laid out the town they reserved for public use the land now partly occupied by the Union cemetery, on Howard street, and set it apart "to be used as a public burial place forever." In that cemetery repose the ashes of some of the greatest

statesmen, judges and lawyers country ever produced. In 1808, the borough contained 57 persons subject to taxation. Of these nine were gentlemen, 5 store keepers, 6 tavern keepers, 3 lawyers, 2 shoe makers, 2 mas- sons, 1 sheriff, 1 silversmith, 2 females, 3 blacksmiths, 2 wagon makers, 4 tailors, 2 carpenters, 1 prothonotary, 2 mill wrights 1 foreman, 1 preacher and 2 hatters.

Wm. Alexander kept a tavern on the lot now occupied by the residence of the late A. G. Curtin, in 1809. Walker took the hotel where the Garman house now stands.

March 18, 1814, a legislative act incor- porated "Smithfield and Bellefonte into one borough. Smithfield was a settlement on the west side of Spring creek which is now embraced in the west ward, and was named after the owner of the land, who was the first husband of Mrs. Simpson.

The water works were in existence, in a rude form as early as 1808. Wooden pipes were first laid in the streets, and it was many years before they were replaced by iron ones. The first reservoir was placed on the academy hill, under what is now the north end of the academy building. Ever since 1807 the water works have been owned and controlled by the borough and have been, and are now, a great source of revenue to the corporation. The spring discharges each minute 14,600 gal- lons of water, and has never varied from that quantity. The temperature of the water never varies more than two degrees from 52 to 50. The daily consumption of water in the borough at the present time and during the summer months is 300,000 gallons.

James Duncan was the first Sheriff of Centre county, elected Oct. 28, 1800, and Roland Curtin, father of the late ex-Gov- ernor A. G. Curtin, was the second sheriff, being elected in October, 1806.

The first fire organization dates back to May 23, 1814, when council passed an or- dinance for the furnishing of two leather fire buckets to the owners of dwelling houses in the borough. In 1816 a tax of \$700 was laid for the purchase of a fire

engine, hose and necessary material, and in 1831 the engine was purchased, and in Feb. 16, 1831, the Bellefonte fire company was organized of which Judge Thomas Burnside was made president. Not one of the members of that fire company is living to-day. E. C. Humes, who died re-

cently, being the last one.

Logan hose was organized in 1868, with 53 charter members; Undine fire com- pany No. 2 was organized in 1871 and now has over 50 active members. In 1868 the Logan fire company was reorganized with 94 charter members. Both fire companies now possess large steam engines.

There is no record when the first court house was built, but it was a log building on the lot now occupied by the Centre county bank, probably in 1802 or 1804. Neither is there any record when the sec- ond court house was erected, but it was a stone one and stood on the site of the present one. In 1850 the old court house was torn down, except the front pillars, and the present one erected in its place. That was 45 years ago. The business of the county has outgrown the capacity of the present building, and a new one must soon be built adequate for the transaction of the public business and the proper pres- ervation of the official records.

Such is a brief of Bellefonte's past. Look what we are at present. Now a borough with almost five thousand popu- lation, representing taxable property to the value of over three million dollars. With more great men to the square inch than any other town can boast of to the square mile. A town not surpassed by beauty and health in the whole world. The finest of buildings of all kinds. A place where abject poverty is unknown; in brief, a worthy temple built on the foundation laid out by the founders one hundred years ago.

From, *Press*
Philadelphia Pa
Date, *June 8/95*

BELLEFONTE'S FETE IS ENDED.

A Great Military and Civic Parade Marks the Close of the Centennial.

GENERAL BEAVER SPEAKS.

An Interesting Exhibit of Relics of the Early Settlers—Portraits of the Prominent Men in the History of the Town and State.

Special Despatch to "The Press."
Bellefonte, June 7.—The celebration of the Centennial of Bellefonte, the county seat of a county that has the record of having furnished five Governors to Pennsylvania and four to other States, closed to-day.

The transition from the first to the second century was marked to-day by a magnificent pageant, a mile and a half in length, the finest ever seen in central Pennsylvania. There were military and civic organizations in line, followed by a grand industrial display,



Mrs. George W. Jackson, Chairman of the Relic Committee.

showing the progressive stages in different lines of industry.

FEATURES OF THE PARADE.

Another interesting feature of the parade was the battalion of K. G. E. cadets, organized and drilled especially for this occasion by Lieutenant H. S. Taylor and dressed in fancy uniform of red, white and blue and equipped with guns. The humorous feature of the parade was the fantastic corps, representing every conceivable character,

from the aborigines to the heathen Chinese. Twenty-five thousand people were in town, all Center County apparently having turned out to join in the gala

day of the county seat. The procession moved at 11 o'clock, as follows: Association of Wheelmen, Bellefonte; Chief Marshal Dr. H. K. Hoy; aides, Colonel Amos Mullen, John Shugert, William Thompson, Jr. First Division—Marshal, Joseph Montgomery; aides, T. K. Morris, H. C. Val-



Mrs. Nancy Barger, aged 104, Bellefonte's Oldest Inhabitant.

entine; Company B, Fifth Regiment; post of G. A. R., General John I. Curtin commanding.

Second Division—Marshal, J. C. Meyer; aides, Hard P. Harris, J. Will Conley; mounted escort to the military branch Knights of the Golden Eagle; Commanderies of the Military Branch, K. G. E.; K. G. E. Cadets; Bellefonte Commandery, No. 89, Bellefonte; castles of the Knights of the Golden Eagle, lodges of Independent Order of Odd Fellows, camps of the Patriotic Order Sons of



N. E. Gray, Burgess of Bellefonte.

u-
ies
ce.
vas
'91,
ed
are
of
the
o-
t
an
at
to
rass

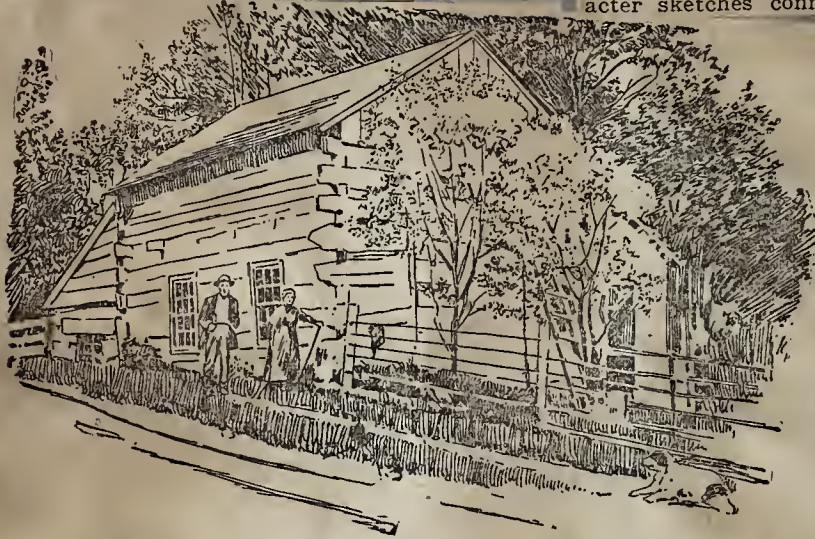
...ica, Order United American Mechanic.

Third Division—Marshal, Robert Hunter; aides, Charles R. Kurts, John N. Lane; "March of Progress" by all nations and conditions of men; historical display; the Mayor and speakers of the day in carriages; Bellefonte Council in carriages; Center County officials in carriages; members of the press in carriages; industrial display.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon at the Court House the centennial address was made by General Beaver. The speaker referred to the early history of the founding of the State, showing how the

a solid silver sugar bowl belonging to Robert E. Lee, captured at Appomattox at the time of his surrender by a Centre County soldier, of the Fifty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers; a flag captured at the battle of Monmouth and presented by Captain Wilson, the captor, to General LaFayette, and returned to the family of the donor, in whose possession it now is; a parole of Colonel Samuel Miles, given to Lord Howe, and a Bible 122 years old, which belonged to the first Mayor of Philadelphia, Samuel Miles. Many other articles, once possessed by the Indians, inhabitants of the county, give variety to the exhibit.

The exhibition will continue to-morrow. The fireworks to-night representing character sketches connected with the his-



HOME OF MRS. BARGER AND HER SON SAM, AGED 79 YEARS.

land titles were secured by William Penn from Charles II, and again from the Indians. He told how the early founders made themselves noted by their self-sacrifice, and how they laid a basis for the education of their posterity. The General paid a glowing tribute to those men now dead who immortalized themselves by their noble deeds.

AN INTERESTING EXHIBIT.

An interesting feature of the centennial has been the relic exhibition in the north Ward School Building. The credit for the work belongs to Mrs. George W. Jackson and her aides, Mrs. John Kurtz, Miss Bessie Muffly, Mrs. T. Hamilton, Mrs. S. T. Shugert and Miss Sara Benner.

The portraits of hundreds of the early settlers are displayed and one wall was entirely devoted to the late ex-Governor Curtin and family, a life-size picture of the ex-Governor being draped with the old flag that waved over the Gubernatorial mansion during the war. Beneath this picture in a time-worn paper is printed the following: "Married—At Powers Mills, on Thursday morning, the 30th, by Rev. Mr. Adams, Andrew G. Curtin, Esq., attorney at law, of this borough, to Miss Catharine, daughter of Dr. W. I. Wilson, of the former place."

Among the relics on exhibition attracting the most attention are a deed owned by George III given in 1774; water color pictures of Joseph taking leave of his brethren over 200 years old; a cradle carved with a pen-knife, in which seven generations were rocked; a photograph of the first white child born in Bellefonte; a quilt under which Martha Washington slept; a table once owned by William Penn; chairs that were owned by LaFayette and Lucretia Mott; newspapers containing accounts of General Washington's death and funeral obsequies;



Dr. H. K. Hoy, Marshal of the Parade.

tory of the town and county were much admired and the centennial fete concluded.

From, *Reporter*

Centre Hall pa

Date, *June 13/95*

EARLY HISTORY

THE FIRST SETTLEMENTS IN CENTRE COUNTY.

Its Early History.—The First Settlers.—
The Indians and Incidents Generations Past.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain when the first actual settlement was made in what is now Centre county. It is known, however, that it was previous to the Revolutionary war, for "in 1776," according to Linn, "Penn's Valley was pretty numerously settled;" and Sherman Day says, in alluding to the Fort Stanwix Treaty in 1768, "about that time, or as some say, a year or two previous, Andrew Boggs, father of the late distinguished Judge Boggs, erected his cabin on the left bank of Bald Eagle Creek, opposite to an old Indian village on the flats near where Milesburg is now situated. Daniel and Jonas Davis, Low Dutchmen, settled a few years after Mr. Boggs, a little further down the creek. There was a block-house at Davis' place, at which a garrison was stationed for awhile in 1777. Not long after Mr. Boggs, Mr. William Lamb settled on Spring Creek; about a mile below Bellefonte, just above the gap in the mountains. Richard Malone was also an early settler in the valley. A Mr. Culbertson, who was killed by the Indians, appears also to have settled somewhere in the valley during the Revolution. Soon after the treaty of 1768, James Potter, afterward a Brigadier General under Washington, came up the West Branch and Bald Eagle Creek, to seek for choice lands. He crossed the Nittany mountain at Logan's Gap, and for the first time

set his eyes upon lovely Penn's Valley, afterward his happy home.—After reconnoitering the valley he descended Penn's Creek in a canoe; but soon returned again, took up a large body of land, made a settlement there, and erected a stockade fort." Other pre-revolutionary settlers of the valley were John Livingston, Maurice Davis and John Hall.

In common with many others, General Potter was driven from his home by the Indians at the opening of the Revolution. He entered the service of his country, and was with Washington at Valley Forge, Brandywine, Germantown and in New Jersey. It is evident, from letters, orders and other papers now in possession of his descendants, that he had the entire confidence of his superior officer. One letter in particular, giving instructions and explicit directions in regard to the details of a certain important expedition to be conducted by General Potter, is in the hands of Dr. Potter, of Bellefonte, great-grandson of the General.

At the close of the war, General Potter returned to his possessions in Penn's Valley, and subsequently became deputy-surveyor for the Sixth district. He died in Franklin county, Pa., in the fall of 1788, from the effects of an injury received while assisting at some work upon his property. He had gone to Franklin county for the purpose of getting medical assistance, and soon died at the residence of his daughter.

General Philip Benner was one of the early and prominent citizens of the county. In 1792 he located in Spring township, where he died in 1833. He was a native of Chester county. When quite young he took up arms against the British, under General Wayne, who was a relative. After the war, he became a successful manufacturer of iron, at Coventry forge in Chester county. About the year 1790, he purchased the property in Centre county known as "Rock Furnace," and soon after erected a forge, one of the first in the county, to which he subsequently added another forge, a furnace and a rolling mill. The rising importance of the west impressed him with the idea of opening

communication with Pittsburg, as a market for his iron and nails. He succeeded, and for many years enjoyed, without competition, the trade in what he called "Juniata iron," for the western country. He held the rank of Major-General of militia, and was twice a Presidential elector.

Andrew Gregg was another prominent citizen in the early days of Centre county. He was born at Carlisle, Pa., on June 10th, 1755. He received a classical education, and was engaged for some years as a tutor in the University of Pennsylvania. In 1783 he commenced the business of store-keeper in Middletown, Dauphin county. Four years later he married a daughter of Gen. Potter, and in the following year moved to Penn's Valley, where he settled down in the woods and commenced the business of farming, about two miles from Potter's old fort. He remained on his farm until 1814, when he removed to Bellefonte for the purpose of educating his children, several of whom were still young. In 1790 he was elected a member of Congress, and re-elected several times, serving in all sixteen successive years, and during the session of 1806-7 was chosen a member of the United States Senate. In 1820 he was called to the position of Secretary of the Commonwealth by Gov. Hiester. "As a public man, as well as in private life, he was remarkable for a sound and discriminating mind, agreeable and dignified manners, and unbending and unyielding honesty."

Col. John Patton, who built the first furnace in the territory of Centre county, was a Major in Col. Samuel Miles' regiment, appointed March 13th, 1776. He participated in the battle of Long Island, was appointed Major of the Ninth Pennsylvania regiment, October 25, 1776, and after the organization of the Pennsylvania Line in 1777 commanded one of the additional regiments. He and his old friend, Col. Miles, became associated in the iron business in Centre county, and together owned vast tracts of land. He died in 1802.

Col. Samuel Miles, the founder of Milesburg, took a very active part in the Revolutionary war, was in active service a long time, and performed

most important duties. While yet an Ensign in Col. Clapham's regiment, he participated in the building of Fort Augusta, now Sunbury, in 1756. In his journal he gives the following brief account of his experience at that time and for a year or two after: "We marched up the west side of the Susquehanna until we came opposite where the town of Sunbury now stands where we crossed in bateaux, and I had the honor of being the first man who put his foot on shore at landing. In building the fort, Captain Levi Trump and myself had charge of the workmen; and after it was finished, our battallion remained there in garrison till 1758. In the summer of 1757, I was nearly taken prisoner by the Indians. At about one-half mile distant from the fort stood a large tree that bore excellent plums, on an open piece of ground, near what is now called the Bloody Spring. Lieut. Samuel Atlee and myself took a walk to this tree to gather plums. While we were there a party of Indians lay a short distance from us, concealed in the thicket, and had nearly got between us and the fort when a soldier belonging to the bullock guard, not far from us, came to the spring to drink. The Indians were thereby in danger of being discovered; and in consequence fired at and killed the soldier, by which means we got off, and returned to the fort in much less time than we were in coming out."

After returning to civil life, Col. Miles engaged extensively in business pursuits, and became owner of valuable property. During the latter part of his life he was largely interested in the manufacture of iron, and built works for that purpose on Spring Creek, between Milesburg and Bellefonte. They are now owned by McCoy & Linn. He not only laid out Milesburg, but did more to advance its growth and prosperity than any other individual. He died about the year 1805.

The Potter family seems to have been one of the most prominent in this section of the state. Two, at least of the General's sons occupied positions before the public in various official capacities. One of them became General, and another, James Jr., suc

ceeded his father as deputy-surveyor

In addition to the pioneers already mentioned, Col. John Holt, a Revolutionary soldier, settled in Bald Eagle valley in 1782, near where Curtin's iron works now stand. He was grandfather of J. H. and Wm. Holt, well-known citizens of Centre county, and among the very first settlers of the north-western portion of the county. Holt's brother-in-law, John Harbison, settled about the same time near the site of Milesburg. McGee and Tipton, also his brothers-in-law, located near where the village of Howard is now situated. So did Capt. John Askey, another soldier of the Revolution.

The first settlers of the county were, as a general thing, persons of education and ability, some of them ranking as scholars; which accounts, to a great extent, for the intelligence now displayed among its people. Bellefonte, the county seat, has probably more well-informed men and women than any other town of its size in the state.

THE INDIANS.

Many instances have been related of the cruel treatment received by the early settlers of Bald Eagle and Penns valleys at the hands of the Indians. Often they were surprised at night, their houses plundered, and their cattle and other live stock driven off. Their lives were frequently endangered, and in many instances taken. Captivity, with the most barbarous treatment, often fell to their lot.

For many years after the county was settled the inhabitants lived in almost continual fear of their savage foes. At times the danger was so imminent that the people had to appeal to the general authorities for protection. The following extracts from letters written in 1778 will give the reader an idea of the condition of affairs, and of the consternation that must have prevailed at that time. In a letter dated Lancaster, May 16, 1778, and directed to the Board of War at Yorktown, by the Vice President of the Supreme Executive Council, it is stated that "it appears that several persons have been killed by the Indians, very lately, on the Bald Eagle creek and in

Penns Valley, and the people on the frontiers are in great distress for want of arms and ammunition." Col. Potter, in writing to Maj. Gen. Armstrong from "Upper Fort, Penn's Valley, May 17, 1778," says: "Our savage enemies continue to murder and scalp and capture. We have two forts in this valley and are determined to stand as long as we are supported, but if we have not men sent to assist us we are too few to make a stand. The circumstances of this country are truly lamentable. I want for words to describe it to you. The people are very poor, and bread at such a high price; God knows what the consequences will be." Again on the 25th of July he writes; "Yesterday two men of Captain Finley's company, Col. Brodhead's regiment, went out from this place in the plains a little below my fields, and met a party of Indians, five in number, whom they engaged. One of the soldiers, Thomas Van Doran, was shot dead; the other Jacob Shedacre, ran about four hundred yards and was pursued by one of the Indians. They attacked each other with their knives, and one excellent soldier killed his antagonist. His fate was hard for another Indian came up and shot him." It is said that many years after the occurrence, "a rusted hunting knife was found near the scene of the encounter."

"On the 8th of May, 1778, the Indians killed one man on the Bald Eagle settlement—Simon Vaugh, a private of Captain Bell's company. He was killed at the house of Jonas Davis, who lived a short distance below Andrew Boggs, opposite Milesburg. Robert Moore, the express rider, who took the news, stopped at the house of Jacob Standiford to feed his horse, where he found Standiford dead, who, with his wife and daughter were killed and scalped, and his son, a lad ten or eleven years of age missing. Standiford was killed on what was lately Ephraim Keller's farm, three miles west of Potter's Fort. Henry Dale, father of Christian Dale, who helped bury them, said that Standiford and four of his family were killed. They were buried in a corner of one of the fields on the place, where their graves may still be seen."—Linn.

Many other instances of Indian outrage might be related, but sufficient has been told to show what the pioneers of the county had to contend with and endure.

From, *Deacons*

Bellefonte Pa

Date, *July 11/96*

MENNONITE CHURCH AT HOWARD.

One of the Oldest Buildings in
our County.

WHO WERE THE FOUNDERS?

A Once Flourishing Congregation that has Disappeared.—Several of the Surviving Members—The Building now used as a Dwelling House.

The Mennonite congregation of Howard township, this county, was one of the first, if not the very first, religious societies organized in Centre county, having been organized about the year 1795.

In 1786 Daniel Kunes and some German families from Lancaster county settled in Howard township. Several other families followed the early pioneers, nearly all being members of the Mennonite society. Feeling the need of spiritual friendship Daniel Kunes and Samuel Pletcher organized the first congregation, consisting of themselves, Frederick Schenck, Anne Pletcher, Frederick Pletcher and their families. In 1812 the log meeting house was erected on land owned by Jacob and Anna Pletcher, and in 1821 was deeded to Frederick Schenck, as trustee for the congregation.

The members of this congregation were noted for their hospitality and benevolence, always ready to assist the afflicted and needy. Their religious teachings inculcated industry, peace piety and virtue. Most of the first mem-

bers of the society lived to very old age, some to 92 years.

The ministers of the denomination were selected from members of the society by lot, and received no pay for their religious teachings. Samuel Pletcher was the first minister selected and since that time the following have been selected and officiated: Daniel Kune, Michael Schenck, Frederick Pletcher, John Pletcher and Henry Holter, the latter dying in 1857, since which time there has been no regular service held. For some years the membership averaged about 50, but as the children grew up and married into other denominations the membership decreased. The meeting house was sold in 1893 to Rudolph Pletcher, who now occupies it as a dwelling, and the congregation has ceased to exist, there being left but four surviving members, Mrs. Baiser Weber, Jacob Holter Mary Daghenaugh and Sarah Pletcher.

The early members by industry accumulated considerable property in the land and money, and it is a remarkable fact that but few of the descendants are now in possession of what their ancestors left them, which might emphasize the fact that the religion of the parents is the best for their children.—Grit.

From, *Reporter*

Centre Hall Pa

Date, *Aug 8/95*

ROAD HISTORY.

FIRST MEANS OF ACCESS TO
THE VALLEY.

The Road Thro Brushvalley—Names Connected With It, and Incidents.
—Other Early Roads.

In the History of Centre County one of the oldest roads on this side of the county we find is the one thro the Brush valley Narrows and running in

15

a direct line midway thro Miles township.

The old road from West Buffalo township, Union county, thro Brush Valley Narrows to Elk Creek, thence thro the entire length of Brush valley from east to west, was cut out by Col. Samuel Miles for the convenience of settlers, and tradition says, as one of the conditions of his sale of land. Some person had contracted with Miles to open the road, and it seems, made a poor job of it, for some time after its completion the proprietor came over it in some kind of a conveyance, and was very much displeased with its bad condition. The length of the road was over 30 miles, beginning at what is now Heberling's mill, Union county, and terminating at the west end of Brush valley. Half of this distance is taken up by the Narrows,—continuous mountains for 15 miles. The road must have been opened prior to 1791, for in the spring of that year Anthony Bierly came over it when moving his family into the valley. He was the first man who drove thro with a wagon. On account of the poor condition of the road it was slow driving, and they were obliged to camp over night in the mountains. The situation was not pleasant; mountains and deep forests for many miles in every direction, and wolves howling around the frightened family all night. The road thro the valley keeps near the centre, and is nearly straight, turning neither to the right nor the left, but takes the weary traveler over the summits of the highest hills. Its unbending directness suggests the stern, uncompromising character of the people who first used it. Changes in the route of the old Narrows road were made at different times, but it remained steep in many places and difficult to travel, and much of the heavy teaming was done thro Penn's Valley Narrows until the present road was made. In reference to the latter, the following is copied from Linn's Annals of Buffalo Valley: (May 26, 1840), "the commissioners, Anthony Wolf, of Centre County, Henry Noll, of Union County, and Jacob Stitzel, of Northumberland County, commenced locating the State road from Heberling's mill, West Buffalo township, to Elk

Creek in Miles township, Centre county, thro Brush Valley Narrows. Jas. F. Linn was the surveyor; David Wolf and Henry Peters, chain-carriers; and Col. Samuel Reber, axeman." Altho the road was located in 1840, it was not opened until 1846 and 1847; the intervening time was spent in wrangling with the Union County folks to compel them to make their portion of it. Miles township was defeated for want of proper legislation granting the road. James Burnside, Esq., who was representing Centre County in the Legislature, was then intrusted with the matter of securing the passage of an act sufficiently potent, and he managed it so adroitly that the member from Union County, and some other individual whom Hartley township had stationed at Harrisburg all winter to watch for any attempt that might be made to pass an act, never suspected anything until the work was accomplished. Miles township raised by subscription nearly a thousand dollars, which was paid over to Hartley township as a bonus for the building of the road thro the latter.

The road from Aaronsburg across the mountains, and entering Brush valley thro Kleckner's Gap, was confirmed in 1802. But it must have been open for travel before that time. A number of the settlers came into the valley by this road. It used to be traveled very much, but it is now abandoned.

The old road between Spring Bank and Millheim, which is still visible in many places, was made in 1811. The pike along the present route was opened in 1842. It was incorporated in 1834, under the title "Bald Eagle, Nittany and Brush Valley Pike."

The road across from Wolf's Store to Woodward was granted Aug. 31, 1815. It and the old Indian path thro Minieh's Gap cross the second or "Big Mountain," at nearly the same place.

Brungart's road to Sugar valley was granted by court in 1806. People may have crossed there earlier, tho at that date there was not much use for a road to Sugar Valley, for Mr. George Brungart, who came into Brush valley 1802, used to remark that "they started in the morning, visited

inhabitants of Sugar valley, and returned in the evening."

The old roads which are seen on the mountains between Rebersburg and Tylersville, Sugar valley, were traveled at an early date. The oldest, granted by court was in 1806. The second was opened about 1811, and the present one in 1851. Here the first settlers of Sugar valley crossed over, and it is said they frequently hired extra horses from the farmers in the vicinity to drag their wagons up the steep side of the mountains.

There are several old roads from Madisonburg to Nittany valley, the first of which was granted in 1814, the second in 1830.

The road from the east end of the valley from Stover's to Sugar valley was opened in 1855.

PENN TOWNSHIP.

EARLY SETTLERS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

Interesting Facts from Away Back—Incidents, Names, &c., of Early Residents in Penn Township.

Samuel Hoy was one of the earliest settlers in the territory of Penn, as we glean from Linn's History, and is said to have cleared up the place now (1883) occupied by P. Breon. Hoy's name occurs in the assessment list prior to the Revolution. John Hall was also an early settler of the territory. He represented Potter township upon the Committee of Safety in 1776. The Kerr and Rankin families are connected with him either by marriage or descent. John Livingston, a settler before the Revolution, came from New Jersey, and was a relative of Governor Livingstone, of that province.

After the Revolution came in the Millers,—Martin, Henry Jacob, John,—locating at the mouth of Elk Creek. Daniel Kreamer came in about 1790, and located upon a tract of land adjoining Hoy's on the east. Daniel Kreamer, the second, is now (1883) 91 years of age. The latter had a family of eight children,—John, Daniel, William, Elias, Henry, Jonathan, Jacob

and Elizabeth. Henry and Jonathan resided in Millheim, Elias in Union County, and Elizabeth married William Gutelius, of Mifflinburg. This Kreamer family is remarkable physically for size and weight.

Jacob Evert came from Lehigh County, and located first in Brush valley and then upon the land now later occupied by Andrew Harter, and finally upon the property recently owned by his son Michael. Of his children, Michael married Amanda Walters; Jacob married Mary Dennis; Samuel, Sarah Kerstetter; Susan, Daniel Eishenthuth; and Lydia, Francis Long.

Peter and Philip Neese settled in Penn. Peter's place was afterwards occupied by his grandchildren,—William and David. Peter's children were David, Peter, William, Jacob, Elizabeth, Polly, Catherine, and Lydia. Philip Neese's eldest daughter married Sebastian Musser.

George Swartz erected one of the first saw-mills on Elk Creek, still standing. He was a leading member of the Evangelical Church, and it was upon his place the early camp-meetings of that denomination were held. His children were David, Michael, George, Andrew, Henry, Jacob, John, William, Sarah, and Catherine, Mrs. Dormeyer, of Cambria County, and Mrs. Moore, of Ohio. S. M. Swartz, of Tusseyville, merchant, and G. M. Swartz, dentist, are sons of George Swartz, (2d).

William Krape settled upon the land later occupied by his grandson, Samuel Krape. William Krape's descendants were Adam, William, Jacob, Abraham, and three daughters. Adam married Margaret Fisher, William married Susan Gramly, Abraham married Polly Neese. The daughters married Adam Gramly, Jacob Bear and Mr. Long.

Jacob Fiedler settled on Penn's Creek, upon the place now occupied by Jacob Kerstetter. Adam Zerby, a weaver, settled near where his son Andrew lives, and operated also a saw-mill erected by Jacob Neidigh. John Detweiler settled upon the place afterwards occupied by Jacob Detweiler, now by Reed Alexander.

The most prominent of the early cit-

izens of Penn township was Hon. Jacob Kryder. He was a member of the Legislature 1815-19; associate judge, 1827. He belonged to the Lutheran Church, and was a member of the Centre County Bible Society from its organization. He was clear-headed and had a well-balanced mind, candid, conscientious, and honest, traits in which many would-be prominent men of this day are lacking.

Judge Kryder died May, 1852, on the farm lately owned by Amos Alexander, a mile and one-half southwest of Millheim. He had a large family, of whom were Catharine, married to John Sankey; Elizabeth, married to George M. Wasson; Rebecca, married James G. Evans, of near Spring Mills; John; Samuel, resided near Cedar Springs; Daniel; Susan, married Daniel Kurtz; Mary, married to Michael Eilert; Sarah, to John Stout; and Mrs. Godfrey Lowrey.

Judge Kryder has two grandsons who are ministers of the German Reformed Church,—Rev. L. Kryder Evans, of Pottstown, and Rev. John M. Evans, of Clarion County, Pa.; J. Wells Evans, another grandson, farms the old place of his grandfather, Lott Evans, in Gregg township.

Penn township was organized in 1844. The court appointed as commissioners Samuel Pettit, Michael Shaeffer, and William Smyth, Jr., whose report in favor of the new township of Penn was confirmed by court, November 30, 1844.

MILES TOWNSHIP.

INTERESTING CHAPTER OF LOCAL HISTORY.

of Early Surveys, Organization, Trials and Hardships of the Pioneers.—A Noted Indian Path.

The arable portion of Miles township as gathered from Linn's History, was taken up by Samuel Miles on warrants dated in 1772 and 1773, and surveyed in 1773 and 1774.

It is about 16 miles long and one to two miles wide.

The principal stream is Elk Creek. All of this stream sinks, except during high water, on the farms of N. Meyer and William Walker, and rises again in the mill-dam of J. R. Meyers, Cen-

tre Mills. From this fact the valley had probably received its original name, "Sinking Spring Valley," as designated in old deeds of 1772. Its present name was derived later from the character of its vegetation, which was a dense brushwood of crab-apple, thorn, and hazel. Hence the name "Brush Valley." The name of Elk creek came from the noble elk once so numerous, as shown by the many antlers found in the valley.

Miles township is so named in honor of Col. Samuel Miles, who at one time owned all the valley land from Brush Valley Narrows to the head of Penn's Creek. This tract was surveyed in 1773, conveying what became subsequently the Brungart tract to Samuel Miles, in these words: "Which the Honorable, the Proprietaries of said Province, by their Commissioner of Property, John Penn, Esq., by Warrant dated the 24th day November, 1773, have authorized, to be Surveyed, to the said Frederick Hailer," &c.

The whole valley was then laid out into separate tracts varying in area from 275 to 350 acres and extending from the foot of Nittany mountain on the north to the foot of Brush mountain on the south, many of these tracts are designated in old deeds and patents by very peculiar names, such as "Shinkleton," "Riga," "Plains of Abraham," "Straits of Magella,"

A search among piles of old documents has revealed the fact that copies of the old leases are exceedingly scarce. One was found, however, which was taken out by Anthony Bierly in 1791, for the Bierly tract, containing then 300 acres. Its principal conditions are here presented as being perhaps of some interest; it is likely that all the other leases were similar in their provisions. Mr. Bierly was required to pay all taxes or assessments that might be made; to plant within four years from the date of the lease an orchard of apple-trees containing at least 100 trees of a reasonable size; to "clear and put into good English grass seven acres of ground at least for meadow," and to put in good fence all the improved part. It was further stipulated that Mr. Bierly should purchase the tract during the term of his lease,

(7 years.)

To state definitely when and where the first settlement in Brush valley was made is now impossible. The oldest inhabitants know not, and records of this event there are none.

The first settlers were Pennsylvania Germans with the exception of a few Scotch-Irish and English, who, tradition says, preceded the former.

The lower end of Penn's valley, which was first entered by the Stovers, Hublers, Harpers, and Hesses, some time prior to the "Great Runaway" of 1778, supported quite a numerous population before any emigrations were made into Brush valley. The territory of the latter used to be well stocked with deer and was a favorite hunting ground of the Nimrods from the other valley, who had a camp on Elk Creek, a few miles west of site of Henry Meyer's present home. It occupied the site of an old Indian camp, as is shown at this day by the large quantity of half-finished arrow heads and flint spawls from the manufacture of their hunting implements. It is related that on a certain occasion two hunters were camping here, and separating one evening to hunt awhile before retiring for the night, one of them never came back. Many years after a skeleton of a man was found at the foot of a tree a mile west of Rebersburg; a rusty gun was standing against the tree, and the end of the barrel had worn a deep groove into its trunk. It is supposed the remains were those of the last hunter, who, unable to find his way back, sat down and froze to death.

The first inhabitants of Penn's and Brush valleys were more closely united by ties of friendship than seems now the case. Brush mountain was at that time no barrier to social intercourse between the two sections. Several of the pioneer settlers came from Penn's valley, where they had sojourned for a few years on their exodus westward from the eastern counties.

The early settlers of Brush valley did not suffer from depredations of hostile Indians, yet some of them had a taste of Indian warfare while still residing in the lower counties. There are evidences that the Indians fre-

quently visited these grounds at a period before settlements were made. The site of one of their camps has been alluded to, and it may be worthy of notice that there was an Indian path across the valley, parts of which are visible this day, and were seen by the writer. This path began somewhere along the Juniata river, coming through the Seven mountains across Penns valley, entering Brush valley through Minnich's Gap southeast of Wolf's Store, thence crossing the valley obliquely in the direction of the point where Brungart's road crosses into Sugar valley. No attempt has been made to trace its course farther, but it is known to have terminated at a point opposite the mouth of Pine Creek, on the West Branch, where there used to be an Indian graveyard. At the foot of Nittany mountain north of George Brungart's farm, there was fitted through a small tree a polished stone eighteen or twenty inches long and about three inches in diameter. It probably served as a "guideboard" to the path. Mr. Oswald Dubbs, who owned the land on which the tree stood, cut out the stone, and it is still a carefully preserved relic in the family. On the top of Nittany mountain the figure of a turkey was carved upon a tree near the path, and various marks on trees and rocks were still to be seen a few years ago. The path was deeply worn in some places, which shows that it was used frequently. It is said that another path united with the one described somewhere at the foot of Nittany mountain. This entered the valley through Daughenbach's Gap east of Minich's Gap. Another path came up through Brush Valley Narrows. Could the rocks and trees along these paths speak, no doubt they could tell many a horrible tale of painted savages bedecked with bloody scalps passing by and leading groaning prisoners reserved for the stake and the faggot.

HARRIS TWP.

A CHAPTER FROM LINNS' HISTORY
OF CENTRE CO.

Early Settlers—Surveys—Interesting Incidents, and Historical Data of this District.

The arable portion of Harris township was taken up principally by warrants belonging to Reuben Haines surveyed in 1767, running from Gen. Potter's land west of the manor of Nottingham, as per Linn's History. The major part of the early settlements were made in that part of the original township constituting the township of College. The erection of the latter in 1875 curtailed Harris of considerable territory. One of the earliest settlers and one of the most distinguished, as well as self-sacrificing to the interests of his fellow-creatures, was the Rev. William Stuart. He was a native of Ireland born in a small village near Londonberry, on the 18 of July, 1759. At the age of 17 he emigrated to the United States, and settled in Delaware and engaged in school-teaching. The feelings which he experienced relative to the spiritual welfare of his fellow-beings induced him to turn his attention to the ministry.

In 1801 he visited the precincts of the Huntingdon Presbytery as a candidate, and preached to the congregations of the East Penn's valley, Sinking Creek, and Spring Creek churches. He accepted their call, and was ordained as pastor Oct. 6, 1801. The following year, concluding to take up his residence in Harris township, he purchased of Henry Falls 145 acres of land where John Leech lived in later years. In 1804 he severed his connection with the East Penn's valley congregation, and divided his time equally with the Spring Creek and Sinking Creek congregations. He continued to serve the latter charges for a consecutive period of 33 years. By a kick from a horse he sustained a broken leg, which incapacitated him from all further pastoral duties. He died March 30, 1848, in the 89th year of his age.

His family consisted of two children, David and Isabella. His widow died June 4, 1848.

Jacob Jack died in Harris township, then Potter, in 1812. He was the father of Michael Jack and Mrs. Eve McFadden.

Michael Jack came up with his brother-in-law, Alexander Dunlap, from Lancaster county, about the year 1789, and purchased of Reuben Haines the lands afterwards owned by William McFarlane, B. Stem, and George Jack, esq. He served a short time in the revolutionary war. In 1791 he built a grist mill a mile of Boalsburg, near what was McFarlane's mill. He also carried on a distillery. He had twelve children, his youngest, George, died at Boalsburg. Michael Jack died in the fall of 1829.

James Watson also settled in Harris, (then Potter) as early as 1789; died in the spring of 1822; he had 13 children.

The land owned in later years by the venerable Robert Galbraith was a great many years ago known as the "Banks of Jordan," deriving its name from Benjamin and John Potter Jordan, who in 1787 owned that tract, containing 165 acres. In the latter part of the same year they disposed of it to William Young for the sum of ninety pounds. During the thirteen years following it increased wonderfully in value. On the 16 day of May, 1800, Young sold it to James Galbraith for 620 pounds, who settled upon it the same year. He had a family of nine children, six sons and three daughters, one of the sons was Bertram, at Bellefonte.

Robert, who resided upon the old place, was married to Rebecca Hershberger.

James McFarlane came from Mifflin county about 1818, and settled on the Slab Cabin Branch, where later W. H. Miller lived. His father was a revolutionary soldier, and at one time was taken prisoner by the Hessians, at Fort Washington, and, being a blacksmith, was obliged to manufacture axes for the British. Shortly before the close of the war he was released, and afterwards rose to the rank of colonel of militia. He had two sons, James and Robert, both died only a few years ago.

James Larimer, of Bucks county, settled in what is now Harris township. On the state road, known as the Lancaster and Pittsburg road, Hugh Conley had the previous year put up a tavern at what was known as Logan's camp. He was the father of

J. and A. V. Larimer.

Barnabas Hasson, in 1800 settled on Cedar Creek. One of his sons, John, in after-years attained a prominent position in public affairs, as a legislator and associate judge.

Other old settlers were Isaac Temple who lived where B. F. Brown lived later; David Barr, who a short time after the revolution settled upon lands one mile west of Boalsburg; Adam Miller, father of William H. Miller; Daniel Moser, who first located near Shingletown; Jacob Sparr, who died at the age of 93 years; Fergus Potter, who came with the Rev. William Stuart, and settled upon the farm adjoining.

Henry Meyer's ancestors were natives of Germany. He was born in Lebanon county and in 1820 came to Harris township.

Linden Hall was founded by Daniel Hess, retired merchant and still living.

Boalsburg was known as Springfield up to 1820, when it was named Boalsburg, in honor of David Boal, esq.

PENNS VALLEY

WHEN THIS VALLEY WAS FIRST
DISCOVERED.

Linn's History Describes the Occasion
When a White Man First Sets Eyes
on this Beautiful District.

Among the Potter papers I found, Oct. 8, 1882, a paper in the handwriting of Wm. H. Patterson, without the date, but from its reference to Chief Justice Tilghman, must have been written prior to 1826, which gives the then tradition of the first entry of the white man into Penn's valley. W. H. Patterson was one of Judge Potter's first clerks at Potter's Mills.

Alluding to a notice which Mr. Chief Justice Tilghman, as president of the Agricultural Society takes of the valley, and prefacing the remark that a narrative of the events which led to the discovery of Penns valley would be interesting, he says, "Capt. James Potter was a man of strong and penetrating mind, and one to whom habits rendered a life of peri-

toil, and enterprise familiar. Nature had given him a powerful and athletic frame of body, with a mind which might well give tone to an herculean frame. As an officer of the British Provincial army, engaged in the defense of the frontier, he conceived the natural idea that, inclosed by the range of mountains which on every side met his view on his return from Kittanning, there must be a fine country. After being ordered to Fort Augusta, his idea of a fine country to be discovered again returned to him. Having obtained leave of absence, he set off with one attendant in the summer of the year 1794. Passing up the West Branch, he reached the mouth of Bald Eagle Creek, a distance of seventy-five miles. Then passing up Bald Eagle Creek to the place where Spring Creek enters it, a distance of thirty miles, they took to the mountains, and having reached the top of Nittany mountain, Capt. Potter, seeing the prairies and noble forest beneath him, cried out to his attendant, "By heavens, Thompson, I have discovered an empire!" Immediately descending into the plain they came to a spring, at a place which was in after-days of some distinction, now known by the appellation of 'Old Fort,' owned by Capt. Potter's grandson.

"Here the adventurers found themselves out of provisions, and for two days and as many nights the flesh scraped from a dried Beaver's skin was their only subsistence. With starvation staring them in the face, Capt. Potter determined on striking through the mountains for Fort Augusta, and by good fortune happened on a creek, to which they gave the name of John Penn's Creek, little dreaming it was the same creek which entered the Susquehanna at the Isle of Que, known as Penn's Creek. Pursuing the stream, they arrived where provisions could be had, and finally reached Fort Augusta. Capt. Potter and his companion communicated their discovery, and it so happened that an Indian, Job Chilloway, was at the fort on their arrival. Learning that they had been in the valley, and determining that if it must be lost to the Indians he at least would profit by their loss, he

goes to Col. Hunter and sells to him the right of discovery. Col. Hunter makes speed to Philadelphia and sells his right to Reuben Haines. In the mean time Capt. Potter hurries to Philadelphia to make application and procure warrants."

On this we remark that it is true that Capt. Potter was on the 2d of Oct. 1754, in command of three companies on the northern frontiers, and possibly Thompson was the Thomas Thompson alluded to in Fithian's Journal page 17, post. But we are satisfied the discovery was in 1759, just after the purchase of 1758, when Potter was at Bedford and had been just promoted captain of Wm. Thompson's company, Capt. Thompson having resigned, and that Capt. Thompson was his companion. The tradition is that Haines and Potter compromised, Haines taking the eastern end of Penn's valley up to Spring Mills, and Potter from there up. Certain it is that one of Potter's first warrants of Aug. 1, 1766, was laid on the farm late Gen. George Buchanan's just south of Penn Hall.

That the discovery was made in 1759, or at least before 1764, is decided by the fact that the warrant of reservation of the manor of Nottingham, west of the fort is dated Dec. 16, 1763, and is accurately described as near the Indian path from the head of Penn's creek to old Frankstown.

All of Penn's valley was within the purchase line of 1758, but it was not until after Col. Henry Bouquet had dictated his own terms of peace to the subdued Delawares and Shawanese, on the banks of the Muskingum, on the 14th of Nov. 1764, and Lieutenant Governor John Penn's proclamation

thereof, Dec. 5, 1764, that settlements and improvements were resumed west of the Susquehanna.

On the 5th of Aug. 1765, the land-office was opened for settled lands only on the west side of the river, and on the 5th of Aug. 1766, it was opened for lands on the west side, on the same terms as for those on the east side. No more than three hundred acres could be applied for by any one without a special order, but this restriction was evaded by applications in the names of friends or employees, who by deed-poli

subsequently conveyed their right to the person paying the purchase money. Baynton, Wharton, and Morris, for instance, used the names of their sailors, stevedores, and clerks.

Their instructions required the deputy surveyors to survey for the use of the honorable the proprietaries one tenth of all the land surveyed, or five hundred out of every five thousand acres. These proprietary lands were selected and surveyed first. Accordingly the first legal survey in Penn's valley was the "Manor of Succoth," made under the direction of Wm. Maclay, deputy surveyor, on the 22d day of September, 1766, described as on the head of Penn's creek, above the great spring and northwest thereof.

MANOR OF SUCCOTH.—This survey calls for an elm which stood N. 37 degrees w. 50 perches from the mouth of Sinking creek; thence N. 70 E. 97 perches to W. O.; thence N. 53 E. 369 perches to B. O.; thence S. 59 W. 672 perches to a poplar; thence S. 48 E. 230 perches to a W. O.; thence N. 53 E. 168 perches to a walnut; thence S. 37 E. 82 perches to a W. O.; thence N. 53 E. 115 perches to the elm and contained eight hundred and twenty acres and allowance. The Penns, of whom John lived until Feb. 9, 1795, when he died at the country seat of Andrew Allen, in Berks county, held the manor until in January, 1791, when they had it divided into three purparts. No. 1, the western purpart, they sold to George Riddles, Gen. Potter's son-in-law, and George Woods. It contained two hundred and nine acres et al. No. 2, adjoining No. 1, they sold May 18, 1791, to John Harper. No. 3 was sold by the Penns to Archibald Allison, and embraced the property still owned by his descendants.

MANOR OF NOTTINGHAM.—This was surveyed under Mr. Maclay's directions, Sept 23 and 24, 1766, for the proprietaries. He began at a white oak which stood on the west line of what is now Samuel Vantries' farm, 1881, and ran south 41 east 254 perches to a white oak, along Vantries and Gingerich farms; thence north 49 east 851 perches to a white oak, about 200 perches easterly of Old Fort hotel, 1881; thence north 41 west 158; thence south 55

est 857 perches back to the beginning. This manor contained 1035 acres, and was held by the Penns until 1794, when they divided it into three parts, marked a white oak for northwest corner and odd purpart; No. 1 on the west, next Vantries and Gingerich's, June 24, 1794, to Jacob Straub, 340 acres 64 perches; No. 2, Feb. 7, 1794, to Michael Jack and Wm. Young, 344 acres 148 perches; and No. 3, next to Odenkirk's, 1881, April 16, 1794, to Gerardus Wyncoop. In 1794 the Sunbury road to Huntingdon ran along the southern boundary of the manor. The manor in 1766 is described as being "near the Indian path leading from the head of Penn's creek to Frankstown." This manor is wholly within Potter township, commencing near the school house west of the Fort hotel, bounded on the south by the public road to Boalsburg, and embraces Dr. W. I. Wilson's second farm, Maj. Wm. F. Reynolds, and all the farms thence up to and including George Boal's, Leonard Rhone's and E. Keller's. The southwest white oak is still standing.

The last survey made under the purchase of 1754, confirmed in 1658, was the "Matthew Troy," surveyed Sept. 28, 1768, by Samuel Maclay, patented March 9, 1793, to Henry Falls and Fergus Potter, embracing now the Joshua Potter farm, Leech's etc., and Harris township.

FIRST EMIGRANT

ANDREW BOGGS TAKES UP LAND
IN 1769.

He Applies for a Land Grant of a Tract
North of Bald Eagle Creek.—The
Family Still Prominent.

The first emigrant to Centre county was Andrew Boggs. His settlement was upon the Joseph Poultney warrantee. Poultney, in his application, No. 29, April 3, 1769, describes the land he applies for as on the north side of Bald Eagle Creek, near the fording, including his improvement, marked on a white oak "J. P." Poultney's improve-

ment amounted to nothing more than marking his claim, and he sold his right to Matthias Slough, a land speculator of Lancaster.

Andrew Boggs settled upon that part of the Poultney now owned by John M. Wagoner, and his house stood on the creek bank just east of the road where it turns northerly, where remains of it are visible. The present old log house west of the road is not the original Andrew Boggs house. The site is in the neighborhood of a hundred rods from the mouth of Spring Creek, on the north side of Bald Eagle.

The deposition of Margery Boggs, widow of Andrew Boggs, was taken Nov. 15, 1806, before Wm. Petrikin, esq., at the late dwelling house of Robert Boggs, esq., deceased, in the presence of James Harris and John Dunlap, who were present for Wallis' heirs and John Holt, in an ejectionment to April term, 1800, in Mifflin county, between Wallis' heirs and John Holt.

Mrs. Boggs states they came the year the office was opened: "I believe it was in 1769." She was asked whether she ever noticed a tree on this place where you now live marked "J. P." She answered, "No I never saw the tree; but Joseph Poultney told me that he had drawn this place at the lottery, and that he had put his name on a tree, pointing there with his finger to where the tree stood, and where there was then a hog pen, but the tree was cut down. He told me at the same time if he could be of any use to me in helping me to the place he would do it."

She then goes on to state her knowledge of Christopher Cottenton, who, she says, lived on the same tract "where John Holt now lives," but in a house above his, towards Milesburg. "I was many a time at Cottenton's house; his wife died there, and I was there often during her sickness, when she died, and when she was buried. I do not know how much clear land he had, but myself and two or three neighbor women went there one day and asked his wife where he was; she said he was down on the bottom clearing some land. The bottom lies below where John Holt now lives. On the island he had cleared land and raised

hemp, the largest stock I ever saw, and had it snugly put up when we were driven away. He was a very industrious man, in good circumstances, and had a parcel of good working boys. He remained until he was driven away by the Indians; he went away before us, but they were all gone away before us except three families. He told my husband often he was to buy the land of Wallis. He had horses, cows, and oxen, farming utensils. He lived on the place three years or more, and, as I heard, died on the road. John Kerr lived near Cottenton's. I cannot recollect when Cottenton and Kerr came, or which was first, but Kerr was gone before Cottenton was driven away. None of Cottenton's heirs ever returned to look after the place. John Kerr had no character for sobriety, industry, or anything, I have seen him walk arm in arm with the Indians, drunk frequently; he was always with the Indians if they had any liquor among them. He had neither horse nor cow nor anything I recollect of but his wife and children; his wife was a smart, active woman. He went off, I guess of his own accord; there was nobody driven off by the Indians for a great while after that. Kerr went to the Big Island, and lived on Capt. Parr's land there; after he was there awhile he enlisted and went off, and I believe he never came back again.

"John Turner came to Cottenton's place after the war. John Turner had lived before the war, and before he was driven away by the Indians, where Joe Boggs lives, on top of the hill on the tract Richard Malone bought of Samuel Wallis."

Cross-examined by John Holt.

Do you remember to see my father and Capt. Callender out here?

I remember to see Capt. Callender here and several men with him, but do not know whether your father was one or not: I remember to see your father here with yourself; you were then a little boy.

Do you remember that I came out here after the war and shot a turkey?

I do; you came out on the 27th of March, the year after Turner came.

Was it the same house Cottenton lived in before the war that I came to

when I moved up after the war?

It was the very same house that Turner lived in; but you never lived in that house, except a little while before your wife came out; there was no other house then in the place but one.

The following is from a letter of Jno. O. Henning, of Hudson, Wis., dated Feb. 25, 1880.

"I have it by tradition that my great-grandfather, Boggs, settled in the Bald Eagle valley previous to the Revolution. My grandfather, Robert Roggs, was born a short distance below Milesburg, and my mother and myself were born on the same farm. There was an old hollow buttonwood tree near the Bald Eagle Creek, on the Boggs farm, called the Eagle's Nest, from the fact that the old Indian chief Bald Eagle, had occupied it for his wigwam. The story of my grandfather shooting an Indian who attempted to decoy him into ambush, by imitating a wild turkey, may still be remembered by some of your oldest citizens."

Rev. John Harris Boggs, of Boone, Boone county, Iowa, says his grandfather, Andrew Boggs, and the first settlers crossed Muncy, Nittany, and the Seven mountains to a mill on the Juniata for flour, and carried their wheat to market at Northumberland in canoes, returning home with their year's supply of necessaries, encamping on the bank of the river or creek every night.

The Indian Logan lived at Hecla Gap, and my grandfather had gone to Philadelphia to recruit his stock of goods, and my grandmother was alone with the children. Logan's wife took a sack of corn on her pony to the mill on the Juniata, had it ground, and on her return, thinking that Mrs. Boggs might possibly be out of meal, instead of going home came around by the end of the mountain (Lemont,) crossed it to Bald Eagle valley and down to Boggs', and, not finding her at home, told her little girl to get something to put some meal in, and thereupon emptied out about one-half the meal for them, threw the sack upon the pony, recrossed Muncy mountain to her home. This is the woman who was afterwards so cruelly murdered, in April, 1774, near the mouth of Big Yel-

creek, not far from Wheeling, W. Va., by Greathouse and his party.

Jonas Davis settled near to Andrew Boggs. He was a quiet, orderly man, and his wife a religious woman. But he had a brother who was a ruffian, strong, very quarrelsome, and abusive, so much so that other settlers were under the necessity of carrying arms to protect themselves from his abuse. He would visit his brother on Sunday, and in order to vex Jonas' wife, would compel him to take his axe and fell trees. When Andrew Boggs, who was a powerful man, would get out of patience, he caught Davis and gave him a flogging, which would keep him in order for some time, and when necessary would repeat the operation.

From,

Inquirer

Phila Pa

Date,

Aug 16/96

CENTRE county has long been noted for her extensive iron ore fields, large blast furnaces and rolling mills. Within the limits of her boundaries the manufacture of iron in its every stage has been going steadily on for more than a century. Before even her county lines were established the working of iron was the chief occupation of the majority of the settlers who inhabited this section of the country. Some of the old sites erected at that time still stand and in a fairly good state of preservation. It was in Centre county that many of Pennsylvania's largest charcoal iron furnaces were built. They are almost forgotten now, and with one exception are no longer operated. They have succumbed to the modern cold-blast furnaces of wonderful productive powers, and especially in the Northern States are rarely to be found. So superior is charcoal iron to all others that in many cases, where an exceptionally tough iron is required, no substitute has as yet been found to satisfactorily take its place. It is, therefore, only a matter of time until the manufacture of charcoal iron will be as active in this section of the State as it was fifty years ago. It was in Centre county that one of the first charcoal iron furnaces in the State was built. After that they were numerous, and were the only means of converting the

raw ore into iron and steel. Where there were thirty of these furnaces fifty years ago there is now but one. In their place have been erected large 100-ton cold-blast furnaces of the modern style. Although the mining of the raw material has been going on steadily for more than a hundred years, yet the supply remains the same and bids fair to continue so for another century to come.

* * *

As early as the year 1769 the desire for new and choice lands had led a band of hardy pioneers and land-hunters to push up the Bald Eagle Creek into what was then an almost unbroken wilderness inhabited by Indians, wolves, panthers and rattlesnakes, and which is now the rich, fertile and beautiful county of Centre. These early explorers made their way through the gaps of the Muncy and Nittany Mountains into Penn's Valley, where they erected a rude stockade fort as a defense against the Indians, and named it Potter's Fort, after General Potter, the leader of the first expedition. These settlers about the beginning of the Revolutionary War were driven from their settlements by incursions of hostile savages. Little progress was made in the settlement of the county until the war was over. When peace was restored renewed activity was manifested, and by the aid of capital, obtained in Philadelphia and other Eastern cities, nearly all the land in what is now Centre county was surveyed and purchased from the State. This was accomplished between the years 1780 and 1796. Here and there, where a huge forest tree had been blown down and the ground torn up to the depth of a few feet, or where in some early clearing the plow had pierced the soil, the sharp eyes of those early explorers discerned the croppings of dark red ores of iron, which were in time to come to prove a source of wealth to generations yet unborn.

* * *

About the year 1792, Colonel John Patton an officer of the Revolutionary war, erected on Spring Creek, about eight miles from Bellefonte, the first iron furnace in the county. It was called Centre Furnace. The year after General Phillip Benner put into operation Rock Forge, on the same stream; and afterward built a furnace and mill near the Forge. In 1796 Miles, Dunlop & Co. started Harmony Forge. The next was Logan Furnace, built by Boggs and Royer on Logan's branch of Spring Creek in 1800. This furnace was afterwards carried on by John Dunlop, who also connected with it a furnace and forge on the same stream, about one-fourth of a mile from Bellefonte.

* * *

An important fact that is not generally known is, that one of the first charcoal iron furnaces ever operated in Pennsylvania was built by Roland Curtin, Sr., the third Sheriff of Centre county, and the father of the late Governor Andrew Gregg Curtin. Roland Curtin, Sr., was born in Ireland and educated in Paris, where he nar-

rowly escaped the guillotine during the Reign of Terror. He came first to Phillipsburg, Centre county, after which he started a store in Milesburg as early as 1797, and was a resident of Bellefonte in 1800, where he married, on November 25, of the same year, Margary Gregg, daughter of John Gregg, of Cumberland county. About that time, in connection with Moses Boggs, he erected the forge at Eagle Iron Works, and soon after became sole owner. His sons were also engaged with him in the business, even before they attained their majorities.

At this time there was no way of shipping iron except by arks on the river or on wagons. Before there was even a good wagon road across the mountains to Pittsburg, young Roland, as he was then called, transported many a wagon load of iron from this county to that city. When prices were good in the East, he took charge of the shipping by arks via the Susquehanna to market. The manufacture of iron seemed to be born in him, and he followed it throughout his life. For over fifty years he was actively engaged as a manager of iron works, the greater part of the time at the well-known Eagle Iron Works, at what is now called Curtin's Station. This old founder has long since passed away, but his original plant still remains.

* * *

There is now only one charcoal iron furnace in operation in Centre county and probably the only one in the State. It is owned by the firm of McCoy & Linn, and is located about a mile north of Bellefonte, on the old Milesburg plke, beside what was once a canal extending to Philadelphia and other Eastern points, but of which there is now nothing to remember it by but the old and long unused towpath and dry channel bed. This furnace has been running actively for ninety-six years. The charcoal pits from which it obtains its supply of fuel are located many miles away in the mountains. While there are many old deserted pits in the county denoting the fact that at one time that was a flourishing business, there are but one or two that are any longer used, and they are not at full time. Burning charcoal in central Pennsylvania is almost a lost art, and there are but few engaged in it at the present time.

These pioneer establishments were soon followed by others. Hardman Phillips, a wealthy Englishman, whose ideas were far in advance of his age, built a forge and a screw factory at Phillipsburg, beyond the Allegheny Mountains. As early as 1836 there were in operation in Centre county Hannah Furnace, owned by G. W. McCulloch and Lyon, Shorb & Co.; Martha Furnace, owned by the Curtins; Julian Furnace, owned by John Adams; Centre Furnace and the Milesburg forges and rolling mills, owned by General James Irwin; Eagle Furnace, forge and rolling mill, owned by Roland Curtin and his sons; Logan Furnace, forge, rolling mill and nail factory, owned by the firm of Valentines & Thomas; Rock Furnace

and forge, owned by the new General Benner; the Hecla and M. Furnaces, owned by John Mite. Co.; Howard Furnace, owned by Joseph Harris & Co., and Washington Furnace, owned by A. Henderson. The last-named works are now in Clinton county.

* * *

The aggregate production of these works was, at the period referred to, about 12,000 tons of pig metal, 4500 tons of blooms and 2500 tons of bar and rod iron and nails. In these, our days of railways and telegraphs, it is hard to realize the obstacles which the earlier workers of iron were obliged to overcome. Coming into an almost untrodden wilderness, with the nearest settlements far down the Susquehanna, or over steep and rugged mountains on the Juniata River, where roads were yet unthought of, everything they required had to be transported either in flatboats pushed up the Bald Eagle Creek or in wagons, and at first on pack horses over blind mountain paths. Roads had to be cut through the forests, dams built upon the streams and water wheels and blowing machinery for the furnaces and forges had to be constructed and put in motion before even a beginning could be made. Then came the hauling and mining of the ore, wood had to be chopped through the winter, and all through the summertime converted into charcoal, of which a stock sufficient to last until the ensuing spring had to be transported to the furnace. At last when all this had been accomplished and the molten metal gushed from the furnace hearth and was converted in the forge into wrought iron and drawn under the hammers into bars ready for the smith, then came the question of finding a market and the transportation of the iron.

* * *

While the rich limestone valleys of Centre county were being slowly occupied by a sparse and scanty population. Pittsburg was growing into a city, and the region west of the Allegheny Mountains was producing a surplus of grain, beef and pork, but as yet no iron had been manufactured in that section of the country. For this most indispensable of the metals, therefore, the population were dependent upon the forges and furnaces of Centre and Huntingdon counties, or, as it was then called, the Juniata region. At that time the only road over the mountains was that which had been made by General Braddock for his disastrous expedition against the French and Indians at Fort Duquesne. Under these conditions the only resource of the Centre county iron men was transportation on pack horses over the Indian paths.

Tradition relates that General Philip Benner used this method for several years in carrying his iron bars from the Rock Iron Works to the Western markets. Later, after the great turnpike road was made, the iron was hauled on sleds and wagons to the head waters of the Conemaugh, and thence floated on arks or flat boats far down the Ohio River, till it met a profitable market at Louisville, Ken-

lucky. Most of the iron made in Centre county was floated in rude arks down the Bald Eagle Creek, and so by the west branch of the Susquehanna to Port Deposit, where, reloaded upon sloops or other sailing vessels, it reached at last the warehouses of Philadelphia or Baltimore. This mode of transportation, as may well be imagined, was neither safe nor certain, and many an ark laden with iron went to the bottom of the rocky river; sometimes to be recovered at low water, and sometimes a total loss. Then came the slow, but sure, canal, by which a cartload of iron could be carried to Philadelphia in about twice as many days as would now be required to deliver it on the wharves of Liverpool, England. But now, in this day of progress and steam, the iron product is loaded in cars at the doors of the mills and in a few days may be in the hands of the consumer a thousand miles away.

* * *

The charcoal used for fuel at the old furnaces was secured mostly from the Allegheny and Nittany Mountains. These regions were especially adapted for this purpose as there could be found the best of woods necessary for burning first-class charcoal. When the timber was all cleared and burned from within a certain radius one section of the pits would be removed to new ground, the work would be again started up, and the burners would stay there until the woodland was cleared off and then move on to another spot. In this way they were able to produce a continuous supply at a not very great cost.

* * *

The mines which supplied the charcoal furnaces a century ago are still worked and furnish the ore for the large cold blast furnaces which have been erected nearby. In these mines several hundred men are constantly employed. The ore is first mined and afterwards flint picked and washed before sending it to the furnace. The total daily output is over two hundred tons, but it is nevertheless made use of.

* * *

The ores from which Centre county iron is manufactured are principally hematites; chemically, hydrated sesqui oxides of iron yielding on an average from fifty-six to sixty per cent. of metallic iron, by analysis, and practically, in the blast furnace, about one ton of pig metal to a fraction over two tons of clean ore. The only impurities contained are a slight percentage of silica and phosphorus, and sometimes a trace of manganese. The larger proportion of these ores are found in "pockets" rather than in regular veins, and are often so mixed with the limestone clays as to necessitate their separation from them before they are ready for the furnace. In former years the method generally pursued for this separation was that of dry screening. The ore, mined principally in open cuts, was taken out mixed with the earth and spread upon levels or floors, over which, when dry, heavy cast iron breakers were dragged by horse power, thus breaking up and pulverizing the lumps of clay; it was then shaken up by hand in

screens suspended between upright posts, thus separating the dust from the ores. This plan, however, was very slow and tedious, and could only be pursued in favorable weather. About thirty-five years since a washing machine was introduced, which consisted of a shaft upon which were fastened cast iron flat teeth, placed at intervals, and acting as a screw when the machine was in operation. This shaft was made to revolve horizontally in a trough or fore-bay, kept constantly full of water, so that the ore to be cleaned, being thrown in at one end of the trough, was kept constantly stirred through the water by the teeth of the machine, and at the same time made to move gradually toward the opposite end of the trough, where it was finally discharged clean and ready for use. This machine was first in operation at the works of Valentines & Thomas. Owing to the fact that in the limestone valleys, whence the ores were principally obtained, no springs or running springs of water were to be found, the washing machines were generally placed at the iron works, whither the unwashed ores had to be hauled, thus entailing upon the manufacturer a heavy cost for transportation of useless clay. This difficulty was obviated to some extent by the erection at the mines, of machines propelled by horse power, and dependent for a supply of water upon the rains filling up ponds and old excavations. This method was, however, uncertain; the supply of water so obtained being scanty and soon exhausted. Many places where the ore was formerly mined in large quantities, and which were still rich in iron, were abandoned on account of the difficulty in

cleaning the ore, and it began to appear doubtful whether a sufficient supply of ore could be procured to keep all the furnaces in operation.

* * *

At this time the great oil discoveries in Western Pennsylvania, suggested the idea of an artesian well. This idea was soon acted upon; water was obtained in abundance wherever it was needed, and now all over Nittany Valley, tall derricks may be seen, where powerful steam washing machines are turning out thousands of tons of clean ore of the finest quality of iron from mines long since abandoned by the predecessors of the present operators. Whilst in the anthracite and bituminous coal regions the manufacture of iron with mineral coal has grown so vast as to rival the world's production, Centre county seeking rather to excel in quality than in the quantity of iron produced, has gone on in the same old track, working her ores with charcoal throughout; and though Pittsburg, once dependent upon this district for most of her iron, has now become a great centre of iron manufacture, the old Juniata iron of Centre county still crosses the mountains as of yore, and finds almost as ready a sale for special purposes, as it used to seventy years ago.

* * *

The charcoal furnaces of Centre county were, in comparison with the

great anthracite and coke furnaces, very small affairs. They were generally built from thirty-two to forty feet in height and from eight to nine feet wide at the hoshes. They produced from fifty to seventy-five tons of pig metal per week and consumed on an average from two to two and one-half tons of ore and from one hundred and ten to one hundred and fifty bushels of charcoal to the ton of pig metal. In the early days of iron manufacture, when nearly the whole county was covered with virgin forest, it was an easy matter to procure charcoal for all the iron establishments; but as time went on and the forests fell before the ax, it had to be brought from greater and greater distances, until at the present day the one furnace is supplied from timber regions twenty or thirty miles away. Though the process of manufacturing iron with charcoal, as pursued in this county, is older than history, yet down to the present time no other method has been devised that will produce an article possessing the special qualities which distinguish this kind of iron from that made by other and cheaper processes. For purposes where charcoal iron is best adapted Centre county iron has no competitor in the market, except the high-priced and excellent article manufactured in Sweden and Norway, from the rich, pure ores for which those countries have a world-wide reputation. Hence for nearly ninety years, through all the vicissitudes of business, this manufacture has steadily held its own.

* * *

The smelting process or conversion of the ore into what is known as cast iron, or pig metal, during these early periods is truly an interesting feature. The blast furnace being filled from the hearth to the top, or tunnel head, with alternate layers of charcoal and ore, the charcoal is ignited and a powerful blast applied. The combustion of the charcoal produces a carbonic oxide gas, being a combination of carbon and oxygen in equal proportions. This gas is forced by the blast up through the mass of charcoal and ore, till, coming in contact with the air at the top of the furnace, it takes fire and passes off in a continuous flame. The carbon of this gas, acting upon the ore (which in the upper part of the furnace has become heated to a temperature at which it is most readily decomposed), combines with the oxygen contained in the ore, thus reducing it to the condition of impure or unwrought iron. Nearly at the same time the iron in this condition takes up and combines with a certain proportion of carbon, which replaces the oxygen it had lost, and is converted into what is called, in the language of the chemist, a carbonate of iron, and technically known as cast iron or pig metal. In this state it is easily fused, and, passing downward till it meets the blast at the tuyeres, it melts and falls down as a fluid to the bottom of the hearth, or crucible, of the furnace, where it continually accumulates. When the crucible becomes filled with fluid metal an open-

ing called the notch, which is stopped with fire clay while the hearth is filling, is pierced with a sharp iron bar and the molten metal flows out into moulds or channels made in a bed of sand or ore dust prepared for its reception. Meanwhile the furnace is kept filled or charged with ore and coal thrown in the tunnel head, and so the operation went on, day and night, for years.

* * *

The next step in the manufacture was to convert the carbonate of iron into what is generally called wrought or bar iron, which is iron that, separated from carbon and some other impurities, can no longer be readily reduced to a fluid condition, but when raised to a red or white heat, may be hammered, rolled or welded, and so wrought into any shape desired. This conversion from pig metal into wrought iron is effected in a quadrangular hearth formed of cast iron plates and operated by one or two tuyeres or blow pipes. The tuyere plates of this hearth are slightly inclined inward, and the back plate outward, while the front is vertical. The bottom of the hearth being covered with charcoal, above it is piled a charge of pig metal varying in weight from 250 to 280 pounds. When the charcoal has been fired, a blast at a pressure of about one and a half pounds to the square inch is applied, producing a heat sufficient to melt the charge of metal, which flows down through the charcoal to the bottom of the fire. As the molten metal flows past the blast it is partially oxidized, and the oxide thus formed, together with the melted slag or oxide remaining from previous operations, assists in decarbonizing the metal. The workman now raises the partially refined iron from the bottom, bringing it repeatedly in contact with the blast at the tuyeres, until the oxygen of the air, combining with the carbon of the pig metal, carries it off as carbonic oxide, at the same time leaving in the slag or cinder, which at a certain stage of the process is tapped and drawn off from the hearth, most of the silica, phosphorus and other impurities that are generally combined with the iron ore. By this operation the "charge," or quantity under treatment is brought to a tough malleable mass of wrought iron, as it is called by the workmen, "natured" iron. Finally this mass of natured iron is a second time raised and brought repeatedly in contact with the blast. The oxygen then commences to combine with, or, in other words, burn up a portion of this mass of iron, producing more oxide or slag, and in so combining gives out a heat so great as to bring the iron into a semi-fluid condition, in which it drops down somewhat like melted sealing wax, cementing into a lump or mass in the bottom of the fire. This is the last operation, and this cemented mass or "loup," as it is called, is taken to the hammer and reduced to a shape suitable for being rolled in the rolling mill, into bars, rods, plates, or whatever shape may be desired. During this cementation, or "sinking" process (as it is commonly called), the iron has recombined with a minute portion of

son, and has undergone certain molecular changes from a fibrous to a crystalline structure, having in fact become essentially a low steel. In this particular it differs materially from iron made by the puddling process with mineral coals, which, though well adapted for general use, is unfit for many special purposes which require iron made with charcoal by the process described.

* * *

In striking contrast to the furnaces used in the manufacture of iron a century ago, are the large furnaces of the Valentine Iron Company, located about one mile south of Bellefonte. The name Valentine is synonymous with the earliest history of Centre county, especially in the making of iron from its earliest days up to the present time.

It was built in 1860 by Andrew Boggs and John Dunlop, and was operated for a number of years, when in order to secure better manufacturing facilities it was moved near to the present site. In 1815, Messrs. Jacob Samuel, George, Abram, Reuben and Bond Valentine came to Bellefonte from Chester county where they had been engaged in the iron business. Since their advent into the county, this large plant has been in their hands, and although two generations of the family have passed away, the greater part of the interests of these works are still in their possession. For almost sixty years this was a charcoal furnace, but owing to the supply from the ore fields being so far beyond the capacity of the furnace, it was decided to change it into a cold blast furnace which was finally done. The plant was enlarged in 1843, and again in 1846, when what is now the present structure was erected.

CHAS. EDWIN DORWORTH.

From,

Jones

Philas & Co

Date,

Aug 30 '96

of any and all strangers who would be on their initial visit to the famous Penn Cave, located in the eastern part of Centre county, in what is known as Penn Valley, so called after the illustrious founder of the great Keystone State. Penn's Cave is famous only in the knowledge of Centre countians, among whom it is known for what it is, but its renown is not sufficiently widespread to give it a reputation at all national, let alone State. And yet the seeker after natural beauty, or natural scenery, would make many a day's travel ere he would look on the like to be found in the underground cavern across the Nittany Mountain from this home of Governors. In all the States bordering on the Atlantic, or what can be termed as located in the eastern slope, beauty of scenery unadorned has not yet been discovered to be its equal, while in the longer-discovered and better-known wonders of the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky, and the Luray Caverns, of Virginia, there is nothing to surpass the inward grandeur of Penn Cave, is the universal verdict of those who have seen both.

Situated in the eastern portion of Penn's Valley, Penn Cave is located on an eminence, one of the highest points in the county aside from the mountains, the altitude being a little more than one thousand feet above sea level. As stated above it is within three miles of Rising Springs, on the line of the Lewisburg and Tyrone Railroad, which is reached from the east by way of Montandou, or from the west via Bellefonte. However, the great majority of visitors to the Cave drive there from this place, a distance of fourteen miles. The drive is mainly over a good road, and through scenery very delightful and picturesque. The proprietors of the Cave several years ago erected a large and commodious hotel, with the intention of continuing with such improvements as would make the place a summer resort, but their intentions were arrested before the hotel was fully completed and now it serves more as a landmark for the Cave than anything else, although it is possible to get accommodations there for a limited number.

Penn Cave House is located close to the public highway from Spring Mills to Madisonburg and on arrival there the visitor surveys the surrounding landscape to see the cave, or at least some sign of its location,

but all in vain. Nothing but broad fields enclosed by high mountain ranges meet the gaze, with the single exception that to the west of the hotel in the midst of a ten-acre field stands a large clump of trees, primeval of the virgin forest, and closely intertwined with a heavy undergrowth of brush and wild vines. The visitor is invariably met at the hotel veranda by Jesse Long, one of the proprietors, who is arrayed more like a com-

WONDERS OF PENN CAVE

THERE IS A DEEP LAKE AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS STRANGE CAVERN OVER WHICH VISITORS GLIDE IN VIEWING THE WONDERFUL SIGHTS.

From a Correspondent of THE TIMES.

BELLEFONTE, Pa., August 29.

"But where is the cave?" is possibly the first question that would arise in the minds.

mon farm laborer than the proprietor of the Cave. Mr. Long himself invariably conducts all visitors through the underground cavern.



ENTRANCE TO THE PENN CAVE

He does this to prevent the mutilation which otherwise would be made by curious hunters. On expressing a desire to visit the cave Mr. Long secures a huge can of gasoline from some one of the dark recesses of the hotel, and, leading the way, heads directly for the clump of trees in the middle of the field above mentioned.

The first sensation that comes over the visitor in making the descent is the marked change in the atmosphere. The temperature may be ninety degrees above zero in the shade at the top; as one goes down the air becomes cooler and the atmosphere more bracing until once at the entrance to the cave it seems so cold as to actually make one shiver, and an overcoat is a real luxury. The temperature at the entrance is about the same as it is in the cave, where it varies from 40 to 45 degrees above zero all the year through, being warmer in winter time. Once standing on the large platform at the entrance to the cave, there is always an impressionable longing to enter. The scene is grand beyond description.

Seventy-five feet above, up a perpendicular

wall of rocks on one side and slanting through a maze of vines on the other, the sun shines with magnificent splendor, while directly before you is a cavernous opening in the rocks, fully twenty-five feet high and forty or more feet in width. In this vast cavern peacefully slumbers a lake of cool, sparkling water, invariably as clear as crystal, and extending as far into the black depths as the eye can see.

While the visitor is taking in all the surroundings Mr. Long is busying himself in preparing the boat and the lights, the former a huge flat-bottomed thing, and the latter a double gasoline lamp which is attached to the prow of the boat while the voyage is made through the cave. Everything in readiness Mr. Long gives the word, the boat is entered, and with an unusually large paddle the proprietor shoves off and the voyage of sight-seeing in the cave begins. From the entrance of the cave to its terminus, over three thousand feet under the rocks, the journey is made entirely in the boat, on a lake of water which maintains a mean depth of from ten to twelve feet the whole length of the cave, until within one hundred feet of the end, where there is a depth of fifty

feet and over. The width of the cave varies from twenty to sixty feet in the clear, with numerous huge chambers branching away up on the rocks on either side. In height there is a variation of from twelve to seventy-five feet.

If the beauty at the entrance impresses the visitor to Penn Cave, he cannot help but gaze in awe at the wonders of nature displayed so lavishly on every side as the boat glides noiselessly over the placid waters. The light from the double gasoline lamp casts a weird, ghostly radiance on all the surroundings, and the whole seems a perfect maze of fantastic shapes and figures. Long rows and large clusters of stalactites depend from the roof and overhanging rocks in every imaginable form, while up from the projecting walls and from the stone floors of the innumerable chambers have grown just as curious an array of stalagmites. Tracing in fretwork, representations of animals, snakes, the arts and human beings adorn the walls on every side, the whole presenting the effect of some vast painting or museum of ancient art work.

Penn Cave is divided into two chambers, the first extending to a depth of possibly one thousand feet, where there is a narrow channel, scarcely six feet in width and about twenty-five feet long, which in turn is followed by the rear chamber. In traversing the course, which is winding throughout, the first thing which attracts the eye of the visitor is a huge stalactite, or rather a group of stalactites, which are a perfect resemblance of bunches of bananas. A little further on stands a beautiful specimen of the "Goddess of Liberty," in her pose, "enlightening the world," the representation being perfect even to the reflected rays of light from the taper in the uplifted hand. Groups of stalagmites are scattered hither and yon in exact reproduction of an array of Egyptian mummies, and one is led to wonder if it is possible that at some early day the ancestors of a hitherto undiscovered race were being disposed of after death by being embalmed and arranged in silent sentinel-like rows in this cave.

Large strings of fish, enormous hauls of eels, the tiger heads, elephant tusks, deer, white rabbits, a ramoceros, the horse, dog, cow and sheep, and almost every kind of representation in the animal kingdom, are here to be seen. Horticultural designs are also displayed in great profusion, such as a sheaf of wheat, a field of growing grain, tobacco in the plant and after it has been cut and hung up to dry; flowers, more apparently natural than the artificial wax plant of to-day, all are most faithfully portrayed.

The arts, too, are not omitted, as the numerous models of various kinds of sculpture are flashed on the gaze at every turn in the retreat. At one side will be the image of a tall building, surrounded with innumerable statuesque figures arrayed with apparently the most elegant taste. These beauties are scattered everywhere throughout the entire length and breadth of the cave, as if some master hand and hand had designed and placed the whole array to please and entertain even the most fastidious. Truly must one be impressed, on a visit to Penn Cave, that the hand of the Creator has fashioned nature more wondrously beautiful than even the most renowned artist or sculptor ever dreamed of. Another marvelous thing must not be omitted mention. It is a cluster of stalactites, very closely resembling the pipe organ, depending from the vaulted roof by

a single stem. By striking any one of the many distinct pipes even a light blow with the open hand a very musical sound is produced which is not unlike that of the flute; as every branch, or pipe, gives forth a different sound, it is highly probable that a master hand could produce some very pleasing music from this natural pipe organ of rocks.

The accompanying illustration of the interior of the cave was taken by flash light, and fails to do the interior full justice. Only a voyage through the cavern will serve to give one a clear conception of what lies beneath the surface. While the beauty of the rocky sides and chambers, the lofty domes, pits and spires, the stalactites and stalagmites is of such a nature as to draw forth the most extravagant eulogiums from all visitors, the lake in itself is such a wonder that it is hard to view it without picturing some immense hidden fountain away down in the howels of the earth, from which it draws its constant supply. The water never falls below a certain level, no difference how dry the season, and always maintains the same sparkling, cool temperature. Very hard rains will effect it a little, and during the flood of 1889 the water rose in the cave some three feet. This is caused, however, by surface drainage, as at such time there is a slight murky color and other indications of surface water.

The lake abounds with hundreds of lake and mountain trout, and on a clear day it is possible to see them sporting themselves through this vast body of water. Some very fine specimens have been seen by visitors, and Mr. Long informed the writer that there are many trout in the lake fully two feet in length. Contrary to the general rule that fish in underground waters are necessarily blind, the trout in this lake are not so, a fact that is easily accounted for in the general supposition that the cave is not their permanent abiding place, but that they go back and forth from the cave to Penn creek, as the water course through the rocks is amply large enough to admit of their passage. However, blind or not blind, and plenty as they are, the angler finds dull sport fishing for these trout, as they will not bite.

Aside from its natural beauties, Penn Cave is a remarkable study for any student of nature, and especially the geologist. The rock which forms the boundaries of this vast cavern is composed of what is known as the calcareous limestone, with a slight mixture of silica. They are always in a humid condition, the fluid water and limestone dropping from the vaulted roof to the lake below all the time, and yet so slowly as to cause no inconvenience nor interference with the pleasure of anyone going through the cave. As is a well-known fact, stalactites are formed by the trickling of water from the roof, in which there is a goodly per cent. of limestone in the liquid form; and stalagmites are formed in the same way, only that the liquid drops to the ground or floor before it solidifies. Knowing this, and also that only about .001 per cent. of a drop of this liquid is limestone, or in other words, will solidify, the remainder being simply water, what a nice problem to compute the age of Penn Cave?

From,

Press

phila

pa

Date,

Sep 11. 1891.

SCHENCK FAMILY REUNION.

Special Despatch to "The Press."

Bellefonte, Sept. 10 (Special).—Fifteen hundred descendants celebrated to-day in grand style the advent into Centre County of Rev. Michael Schenck 100 years ago.

The descendants are scattered in thirteen different States, but all were present at to-day's centennial. They comprise three families—the Schencks, Holters and Pletchers—and, besides being the most extensive family connection in the State, they are all Republicans.

The ceremonies were attended by fully 2000 people and were presided over by Rev. Nathan Schenck, of Lock Haven, who addressed the descendants on the genealogy of the family. Colonel W. F. Reeder was the principal speaker of the day.

The history of the Schenck family extends back to the earliest settlements in Central Pennsylvania. Rev. Michael Schenck came from Lancaster County and was an old-time Mennonite preacher. He was the grandfather of Jonathan Schenck, the oldest living descendant at the present time. The father of Jonathan Schenck died April 29, 1830, aged 93 years. He was 12 years old when he accompanied his father into the wilds of Centre County.

Jonathan Schenck was a son of Dank Schenck and was born in 1813. On November 25, 1841, he married Miss Townsend Heverley and they were the parents of twelve children, eight of whom are living. Jonathan Schenck has thirty-three grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

From,

Ledger

Philipaburg

pa

Date,

Apr 24 '97

Something of that spirit of independence that possessed those brave pilgrims of an earlier century, who had fearlessly come to our, then, untried shores, must

have actuated the little band of twelve original settlers who, about the year 1795, entered the wilderness of the Moshannon creek region, erected a few huts for temporary shelter, and then a little log meeting house, thereby recognizing their dependence upon Divine Providence.

They blazed a tree here and there as a landmark and finally set themselves to hardy toil to break "the stubborn glebe," that nature might supply at least sufficient nourishment to sustain the little band. When we, who live in more favored times, an age of enlightened civilization, an era of progress in arts, science and literature, with all its large and varied business interests established, and life is more than mere toil for existence, contemplate all this, the beneficent outgrowth, the early struggles of these pioneers, we can but recognize and appreciate the sturdy nature, the indomitable will to surmount all obstacles, the spirit of development, the unity of purpose and action, *pro bona publico*, that characterized our forefathers, and whose perseverance, as well as fortitude, throughout the early years, made possible to their descendants and to us, the favorable and growing conditions of to-day.

Since most of the facts relating to the establishment and early development of our town are well known, we shall here make in chronological order a rapid review of historical events, prefacing only with the statement that when the twelve pioneers arrived they found the whole region a vast, unbroken forest, abounding with wild animals of almost every description, and presenting no indication of human habitation save in the remains of an abandoned Indian camp.

The first house was built by John G. Shultz, of round logs, and was located on the southeast corner of Presqueisle and Second streets.

John Henry Simler built the next house, of hewn logs, on the northeast corner of Front and Laurel streets, where the attractive and valuable residence of Mrs. R. L. Pierce now stands.

In the year 1796 the State road was opened. Previous to this there was but a foot path leading from Bellefonte.

In 1797 Heny and James Philips, the

projectors of Moshannon town, came from England, bringing with them a number of men to assist in clearing land and making other improvements. They built a grist mill and saw mill on Cold Stream and a huge barn of hewn logs on the west side of North Front street. The Phillips brothers were sportsmen by inclination and we may well envy them the glorious opportunities afforded for indulging in hunting and fishing in this wild region, then, as yet, probably untrodden by the foot of civilized man.

Hardman Phillips, who came here in 1809, the accredited founder and benefactor of Philipsburg, then so named, devoted his time to the improvement and extension of the town and vicinity. Settlements were made at Cold Stream Mills, others bought and cleared farms beyond the Moshannon creek on the old State road, one at Troy's bridge and several others at intervals stretching from what is now Chester Hill to Osceola. The family names of Kyler, Shimmel, Goss, Flegal and Kephart are still familiar throughout this region, for their descendants are legion.

In 1817 Hardman Phillips built his then celebrated forge, on Cold Stream, near the old mill, and employed a number of men.

In 1820 a turnpike was made to Curwensville; in 1821 the bridge cross Moshannon was completed; a turnpike was made from Philipsburg to Bellefonte, and a stage line was established between Philadelphia and Erie, the route of which led directly through Philipsburg.

About this time Hardman Phillips built the first screw factory in the United States. It was located at what is now called Point Lookout. These added facilities materially increased the population and considerably extended the social, religious and business development of the town during the next sixteen years.

In 1844 Hardman Phillips sold his manufacturing and landed interests to a New York firm who, owing to the depression produced by the repeal of the tariff laws, abandoned the manufacture of iron entirely about 1846, which action unfortunately, and under the poor trade conditions continuing, resulted in a business standstill for several years ensuing, attention being de-

voted mostly, during this period, 1846-1857, to farming and stock raising.

Dr. John Plumb was associated with Hardman Phillips from 1820 to 1836 in agricultural pursuits and stock raising. Plumb lived in the house latterly occupied by O. P. Jones, Esq., and Phillips built and lived in the house known as the Hale mansion.

The writer recently had a most interesting interview with the brothers, F. W. A. and C. C. Shultz, and their sister, who live together in a roony old mansion on the hill above Derby branch just beyond the town proper. The thousands of readers of this special edition of the LEDGER may be interested in knowing our impressions of the life and character of these worthy people, whose grandfather, John G. Shultz, was a notable figure among the twelve pioneers who made the history of Philipsburg, the only one in fact who remained here until his death, and whose descendants in direct line have continued their estimable citizenship to this day. The family is one of more than ordinary intelligence, having a remarkable library, at least of a character and extent not commonly found in this community, consisting of about twelve hundred volumes, of ancient and modern history, biography, complete files of the American magazines, and entire works of many authors of the best fiction. Contact with such a library has contributed much to its owners' extensive knowledge of men and events without affecting those characteristics of unassuming manner and speech which, while possibly old fashioned, is yet too rarely found in our day.

Mr. F. W. A. Shultz spoke of the odd coincidence in connection with the casting of the first Presidential ballot by his grandfather, his father and himself; the first having been for Washington, the next for Jackson, and his own for Lincoln, so marking three distinct and important epochs in our history.

Speaking of the old log Union Church still standing in the original cemetery on Presqueisle street, he said that about 1824, Joseph Hervery Hull, an authority in that day on the principles of English grammar, had delivered there a series of lectures on that theme which attracted much attention at the time. He also

showed us a quaint little book in rough binding which set forth those principles.

John H. Simler, original pioneer and great-grandfather of our present townsman of that name, came with Armand's Corps from France in 1780 and fought for American Independence, came to Philipsburg in 1797, and helped make its history for twenty-eight years of his life.

Dr. Bergman, another notable figure, came from upper Saxony, and practiced in this country for a number of years.

Philipsburg's first store keeper was one Treziyulny.

John Loraine was the first justice and of the peace and the first postmaster of the village, then receiving mail once a week from Bellefonte by stage. The borough of Philipsburg was incorporated November 29th, 1864, and the first election was held in the public school house the third Friday in February, 1865.

LATER DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH.

The inception of Hoover, Hughes & Company's extensive saw and planing mill industries dates from 1870.

Those of Murray, Jones & Co. date from 1873.

The Elk Tanning Company was founded in 1876, where a small industry of a similar kind had been four years previously.

The Philipsburg Fire Brick Works is a large industry and the Company are also extensive miners and shippers of bituminous coals.

The Philipsburg Furniture Company, Williams Bros., managers, is a notable concern, now doing an increased amount of fine work.

The Welivar Manufacturing Company are producers of high grade wood working machinery.

Gowland Manufacturing Company, foundry for castings, and builders of mine cars, etc.

Gray & Guelich, carriage manufacturers, have an extensive and well equipped plant.

Copelin & Galbraith, steam roller milis of improved equipment for furnishing the finest brands of flour, etc.

William Wolf's flour and feed mill with first-class facilities for good work.

Philipsburg Shovel Factory, operated by T. Norris, manufactures shovels of all kinds and employs from eight to ten men.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

The Electric Light Plant, the second of its class in the State, is effectively managed by Mr. J. N. Casanova.

The Steam Heat Plant, the third of its kind in the United States, is satisfactorily managed by O. Perry Jones.

The Philipsburg Water Company furnishes an ample supply of best quality water from its fine reservoir at Cold Stream dam. Messrs. Casanova, Potter and Jones are its principal officers.

The Telephone Exchange is efficiently directed by J. H. Eskridge.

The Steam Laundry, capably conducted by G. Creighton Showalter, finishes its work promptly and properly.

Fire Companies, Reliance and Hope, are *semper paratus*, earnest and effective, and are evidently guided by the motto, "When duty calls, 'tis ours to obey."

Railroads consist of the Tyrone and Clearfield branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Beech Creek Railroad system and the Altoona and Philipsburg Connecting Railway.

The Electric Railway, projected by the Clearfield Traction Company, though temporarily suspended in construction, has had its charter extended, and as the citizens are interested in it, will doubtless be completed as soon as practicable.

Philipsburg Postoffice, J. Albert Walton postmaster, directs the business of this office politely and efficiently, in a manner according with our excellent postal system.

Board of Trade, chartered April 30th, 1894, an organization which, in a brief time, has effected many improvements in the town, in street paving, new building operations, added railroad facilities, and in the creation of public interest in further improvement.

The city officers are: Burgess, Geo. B. Simler, Jr.; Town Council, J. W. Stein, Wm. H. Denlinger, W. M. Mellick, Henry Southard, George Lucas, G. C. Parker, C. H. Guelich, Frank Gowland, S. S. Crissman; Clerk, A. B. Herd; Treasurer, T. J. Lee; Chief of Police, Jere Funk; Assistant, A. J. Gor-

ton; Tax Collector, J. N. Schoonover. The various functions of government are exercised by these officers and municipal body, convenient and suitable quarters being found in the Public Building, a large parti-colored brick structure, occupying a spacious corner lot, finely located on Presqueisle street opposite the square.

Opera House, owned and managed by Mrs. R. L. Pierce, is a fine and commodious structure, affording ample opportunity for public entertainment.

Newspapers—three in number—THE LEDGER, Journal and Bituminous Record, amply covering the fields of local, general and foreign news, literature, and business movements, and having semi-weekly, daily and weekly issues.

The Village Improvement Society is an organization of enterprising citizens, whose purpose is not only to stimulate a general sentiment in favor of desirable enterprises and the public welfare, but to voice that sentiment potently, by conference and co-operation with the Board of Trade, to the accomplishment of those objects. Evidence of the successful operation of the society in connection with the Board of Trade and the Town Council, was recently afforded in the announcement that an organization had been perfected and capital subscribed for a second National Bank, in addition to the substantial and well managed First National Bank now doing business, and that another company had guaranteed increased light, heat and water facilities.

Verily, "the world moves," and Philipsburg means to have place in the movement. Nearly all our merchants, and many other citizens, are enterprising and energetic, looking to the religious, social and commercial development of the town. Eastern business methods and influences pervade this community; hence capital is ever willing to listen to any reasonably promising proposition coming from this section. Lumbering and coal mining, foundry, factory and milling operations, with ample carrying facilities, and Philipsburg as a center, have made this an important point. Its success and permanent prosperity is assured, for although trade conditions for sometime past, here as elsewhere, have not been

most favorable, the pulse of Philipsburg now feels renewed life and proposes to be its own "advance agent" without waiting longer, and will furthermore see to it that its "show" of late enterprises, new industries having many novel "working" features with the latest effects in all staple lines, and the whole arrayed in the most attractive paraphernalia and gorgeous gilding of confidence and sound money, shall not be far behind but follow closely on.

OUR CHURCHES.

Among the church buildings of Philipsburg, six in number, the central figure, the one to which the greatest interest attaches, is the quaint old Gothic structure on East Presqueisle street, known to us all as the Old Union Church. This tiny house of worship, nestled among the sheltering pines, casting long shadows on the graves clustered about its yellow walls, is unmistakable evidence of the desire felt by the founders of the town to honor God. Built on ground donated by the founder of the town, Hardiman Philips, for a graveyard, the original intention of making it a church home for the members of the Church of England was abandoned when Mr. Phillips came to dedicate the beautiful little church, which had been built partially upon the foundation of a log building in the graveyard, which had been erected there by the people and himself, and used as a school and meeting house. The consecration of the new church, Trinity, as it was called, brought out the fact that Mr. Phillips having conveyed the land to the town, it was therefore out of his control, and the building was consequently forfeited. From that date every weak church body has worshipped within its walls until able to build for themselves. Seated in the shade of the group of lofty pines keeping guard over the dust of the early settlers, it is a treasured possession of the town and, thanks to the Village Improvement Society, is in fairly good repair.

The Methodist Church is the largest and strongest in the town. Pre-eminently a pioneer, the Church of Wesley early in the century began holding services here and the vantage thus early gained has been steadily maintained

and the primitive log structure erected by them on North Front street in 1835 was succeeded by a frame building, the immediate predecessor of the spacious two-story brick building of to-day, which holds a membership of over 600. The mineral wealth of the region has enriched many of those whom the Church early gathered to itself and helped to make it a great power in the community. Rev. Theophilus Tompkinson is the present pastor.

Mrs. Hardman Phillips was a devout Episcopalian, and in her home here in the wilderness labored zealously for the honor and upbuilding of the denomination to which she belonged, and largely through her efforts Trinity Parish was incorporated in 1834. Services were held in the disputed chapel and at the Phillips mansion during its occupancy by that family, until 1870, when the present pretty little building was erected at the corner of Presqueisle and Fourth streets, on ground given for the purpose by Mrs. R. C. Hale, the owner of the Phillips residence. The name of the parish was previously changed to St. Paul's. Dr. Francis J. Clerc, who has been the devoted priest in charge for almost twenty years, is known and honored by the entire community for his piety, benevolence and good works. A fine large parish house in the same grounds is used for Sunday School and church society purposes.

The Baptist Church was organized in 1868 and two years later built a substantial two-story structure at the corner of Centre and Beaver streets, one of the best locations in town. The church has recently been repaired and is very attractive within and without. At present the church is without a pastor, the most recent incumbent being Rev. W. H. Van Toor, who resigned in December, '96.

Sts. Peter and Paul's Roman Catholic Church was founded in 1868 and a small frame church was erected on Second street in the same year. Under the efficient leadership of Father Louis Kumerant the church has prospered greatly and a handsome brick Church building, nearing completion, has replaced the old one. This church won the \$3,000 prize offered by the Pittsburg Times last year.

The Presbyterians, as early as 1845, organized in the town, but thrived but poorly for many years, worshiping, as did the others, in the Union Church until 1878, when they erected a very comfortable church on Second street, which is still in use, although the size of the present congregation indicates the need of a larger building in the near future. Rev. H. F. Means, the pastor in charge, has built up the church greatly.

The Lutherans were said to have held services here in the last century, but failed to gain a foothold and it was not until 1882 that an organization was effected. Five years later the commodious brick church at the intersection of Centre and Laurel streets was built. A large audience room with Sunday School room adjoining, adapts it to the large audiences attracted there by Rev. Geo. S. Bright, the pastor.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

From the present prosperous condition of our schools it is evident that our citizens take a lively interest in the advancement of the means and opportunities for proper education. From a log structure, with one teacher, to school property valued at \$50,000 and presided over by sixteen efficient instructors, is the progress our schools have made within three-fourths of a century.

The present building is a brick one and was built in 1887 at a cost of \$29,000.

The first Principal of the Schools was W. H. Sheeder.

The present Superintendent is Prof. A. F. Stauffer, a graduate of Lock Haven State Normal School and of Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.

Prof. W. A. Ackerman is Principal and is also a graduate of Lafayette College.

Among the teachers are eight Normal School graduates, representing Lock Haven, Edinboro and Indiana State Normal Schools. All the other teachers, with the exception of a very few, hold either permanent or professional certificates. Thus it will be seen that the best talent is employed, which in a large measure accounts for the present prosperous and advanced condition of our schools.

Mrs. McCloskey, grandmother of Robert Loyd, was Phillipsburg's first school teacher. The school house wa

a log dwelling house and stood where the residence of Mrs. Jones now stands. At the same time, night school was taught by Henry Simler in his house.

The first school house proper, was the Union Church, erected on a lot donated by Hardman Phillips.

July 13th, 1866, the schools were divided into two grades and a tax levied for building purposes.

In November, 1868, the borough purchased a lot for one thousand dollars and erected a two-story frame school building at a cost of three thousand, seven hundred dollars.

On June 19th, 1887, the contract was awarded for erecting a building to cost, when completed, \$29,000. It was dedicated Tuesday, September 13th, 1888, with appropriate exercises. The building is a handsome one, set in spacious grounds containing many beautiful shrubs and flowers and surrounded by a border of stately shade trees. For beauty and convenience the building and surroundings will compare favorably to any in the State, and thus the eight hundred pupils of Philipsburg schools are afforded advantages of environment which lends zeal to their efforts.

The School directors of Philipsburg held their first meeting June 12, 1865. The board consisted of Owen Hancock, President; Oscar Adams, Secretary; C. R. Foster, Treasurer; L. G. Kessler, G. H. Steiner and W. H. Jones. Mr. Kessler was appointed teacher of the first school, and Miss L. Harris the second.

The present School Board is as follows: J. H. Turnbach, President; William E. Irwin, Secretary; H. O. Hoffer, Treasurer; J. C. Bradin, J. A. Hawkins and C. E. Murray.

At this, the close of the seventh month, there are 772 pupils enrolled, with an average attendance of 675.

Vocal music is taught the first six years. Drawing in all branches to the High School, and during the Spring botany is taught in all grades.

The graduating class of the present term, eight in number, are already preparing for their graduation.

MEN AND WOMEN OF PHILIPSBURG.

At this important period of our town's growth, let us review a few lessons from our ancestors. True, we are greatly

more enlightened than they were, we have a thousand advantages they did not possess and a thousand opportunities they never realized; but though this is true, yet if we will be guided by the impulses and controlled by the principles that actuated them in their early struggles for development, we may profit something for ourselves and perhaps contribute more to the interests and well being of those who are to follow us. Are we not losing sight of the character of the pioneers, and so of the moral, social and business force of their example? Are we not more selfish and sordid than they, and are we not perhaps a little too proud of our accomplishments?

"I know not that the men of old
Were better than men now;
Of heart more kind, or hand more bold,
Or more ingenious brow,"

yet, looking backward with the mind's eye

"On all that humble happiness
The world has since foregone—
The daylight of contentedness
That on those faces shone;
Their rights, tho' not too closely scanned,
Enjoyed as far as known,
Their will, by no reverse unmanned,
Their pulse of even tone—"

may teach us, though we live in an age largely of individual effort and strife, that our duty is to each other as well as to ourselves and to the community in which we live and move. Further, it will serve to remind us that ostentation is not a proper substitute for happiness, nor profession for friendship, nor formality for religion; pedantry will not pass for learning nor buffoonry for wit, and that artifice is not nature. Philosophy finds, and history proves, that when such conditions prevail, national decay begins. Let us emulate the sturdy and unselfish earnestness of the fathers—"Grow great by their example and put on the dauntless spirit of Revolution," and then by the application of our superior knowledge and resources we shall not only be enabled to leave a more important heritage to those who follow, but an added force in the record of generous and kindly lives. Then, when later with the fathers,

"We all within our graves do sleep,
A hundred years to come—
And other hands our lands do till,
And other men our places fill,"

we, with them, will doubtless enjoy a consciousness of service well performed—but we no more than they—for both will have done their duty as each saw it in his day. After all, it remains to be said that the pioneers had this advantage of us, as a people; they learned by actual experience that

“’Tis hardship, toil, and never-resting days;
 ’Tis danger, ’tis appointed Death and changing
 Fortune
 That rear the mind to Glory, that inspire
 The noblest virtues and the gentlest manners.”

From, *Journal*
Philipsburg Pa
 Date, *May 28. 1897*

EARLY HISTORY.

Some Interesting Sketches of the First Bituminous Coal Operations in This Part of the State.

In the year 1859, S. B. Row, now a resident of Philipsburg, prepared and printed in the Raftsman's Journal, of which he then was editor, a series of articles on the history of Clearfield county, which contain probably the most accurate and reliable data relative to the early settlers and settlements of that part of the state, which have yet been published. In these sketches can be found a reference to the first bituminous coal operations, and as everything concerning this kind of business is likely to prove interesting to our readers, we have compiled some of the facts given in them.

In the month of May, 1811, G. Philip Guelich, the grandfather of our townsman, Charles Guelich, arrived in New York, after a tedious and quite eventful journey from his native city of Hamburg, in Germany. He stopped with Frederick W. Geisenheiner, an eminent and talented Lutheran divine, who, for the purpose of diverting his mind from heavy family afflictions, had turned his attention to other pursuits and was the principal agent, as well as one of the

managers, of the Allegheny Coal company, of New York city. Another manager of the same company was Charles Loss who, in 1811, made a trip with Mr. Guelich to what is now Clearfield county, and having discovered the existence of coal, gave such flattering accounts of the same as induced the company to purchase the Ringold tract on Clearfield creek, and about 4,000 acres on the Moshannon in which was embraced the present site of Karthaus.

In the fall of 1813, Mr. Guelich was persuaded by Mr. Geisenheiner to visit the coal lands on the Moshannon, and he and Joseph Ritchie attempted to ascend the Susquehanna, but the snow and ice compelled them finally to abandon their trip at Birch Island. The following spring, Mr. Guelich, accompanied by James Frazer and John Bowman, again started in two boats and, after a fatiguing journey, reached the Moshannon on the 8th of April, 1814. They at once put up a cabin, and the next six weeks were passed in clearing lands for the erection of houses for those who were to be engaged in the future operations of the company at Karthaus, which was named after Peter A. Karthaus, of Baltimore, who was also largely identified with the development of that region of country.

At the time the Karthaus settlement was being made, the existence of the vast and almost inexhaustible anthracite coal measures were practically unknown. It is true that anthracite coal had been discovered and a load hauled to Philadelphia where it had lain for some years in a cellar entirely neglected, its value unascertained, its qualities untested, and none dreaming that it would soon form a valuable and indispensable article of trade, or that the business could ever gain its present gigantic proportions. Bituminous coal was then largely used, and with a view of supplying the rapidly increasing demand, the Karthaus mines were opened and operated, and this in turn originated the first trade of any extent in this line of product. The only way, however to get it to market was to transport it down the river in arks, especially constructed for that purpose. About 1,800 bushels were generally

ded in an ark, and, after a perilous trip, a ready market was found for the "dusky diamonds" in Columbia at 37½ cents per bushel—the purchaser of the cargo paying in addition about \$20 for the ark in which it had been transported to that place. This trade engaged nearly all of the male population, brought money into circulation, enabled settlers to meet their engagements, and furthered the rapid settlement of the country.

At this early date, coal was not mined, it was dug out of the hills. The veins were stripped of all the earth and other overlapping substances, and after the top had all been removed, the coal was dug. It was Mr. Loss, the resident agent of the Allegheny Coal company, who introduced into this region the regular and scientific mining process, and for a comparatively brief period of time inspired in the projectors of the Karthaus enterprise the most encouraging hopes of large and profitable returns on their investment in that section of country. But the discovery of the superior qualities of anthracite coal for fuel, especially for domestic purposes, and the risks and expense our people were put to by the erection of the great dams on the Susquehanna river, soon destroyed the trade and caused our valuable beds of bituminous coal to be almost entirely neglected until the construction of the Tyrone and Clearfield railroad gave new impulse to the business.

It will not be amiss to state that shortly after the commencement of Karthaus settlement, bog ore was discovered several miles below, at the head of Buttermilk Falls. Mr. Geisenheiner and Mr. J. F. W. Schnarrs were authorized to purchase 3 tracts of land belonging to Judge Boudinot, of Burlington, N. J., and they were by agreement conveyed to Peter A. Karthaus. During the year 1817, Geisenheiner and Karthaus erected a furnace on the banks of the Moshannon, and the ore from Buttermilk Falls was brought up the river in canoes and flatboats to supply the furnace. A foundry was also put up, and hollow ware, stoves, and other articles for domestic use were manufactured there. The finding of bog ore in the neighborhood gave new impulse to the business, the stack was

enlarged and was frequently in blast, but want of a market and the great expense of sending iron products from a new country having few and uncertain modes of transportation, brought the enterprise to an untimely close. An English moulder, who came to work in the foundry, had seen small wheels for cars on tramways cast in London. He was induced to cast several sets in the Karthaus foundry, and these were fitted to wagon beds to carry coal from the mine to the ark-landing on a wooden track, which is claimed to be the first railway track put down in the United States. It was built prior to that from the Quincy quarries in Massachusetts, which was finished in 1826. The late James B. Graham, of Clearfield, was engineer, conductor and brakeman, and he related with much satisfaction that he was enabled to haul more coal to the landing with one horse over this road than could be hauled by six 2-horse teams on the ordinary road when it was in good condition.

THE STATE'S OLD FORTS

Block Houses Built When Indians
Roamed Pennsylvania.

A BIT OF COLONIAL HISTORY

Daughters of the Revolution to
Beautify the Site of the First
Settlement in Centre
County.

Centre Hall, Pa., Nov. 20.—Pioneers of Pennsylvania who went beyond the limits of the country when peace was established by William Penn's treaties with the Indians and undertook the cultivation of fertile lands in other parts of the State, found it necessary to have in every community some substantial place of refuge in time of attack by hostile savages. Wherever there was a settlement of white men there was a fort, or block house, usually built of heavy planks and stout logs, and in most cases inclosing a spring and one or more houses.

Over 200 such primitive forts were built in Pennsylvania prior to the year 1783. Some of them, besides furnishing shelter for the settlers from attack by the Indians, were used at times by the provincial soldiers. The names of a

few are recorded in history, but most of them had only local fame and long ago passed almost completely out of memory. Few traces of any of them remain and all means of identifying their locations and the part each played in the early history of Pennsylvania might soon have been lost but for the thoughtfulness of some member of the Legislature of 1893, who secured the passage of an act requiring the Governor to appoint a commission to make an inquiry into the location and history of these facts and report upon the advisability of marking the site of each with a suitable tablet or monument.

This commission was appointed by Governor Pattison and did its laborious work well. The State was divided into five sections, each of which was assigned to one member of the commission, and the combined reports of the commissioners are published in two handsome volumes, entitled "Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania," a valuable addition to the historical archives of the State. The descriptions of the two hundred odd forts are necessarily brief, but the main facts in regard to each are plainly given.

Nothing as yet has been done toward the erection of the tablets suggested by the act of 1893, but in some instances this important work is receiving the attention of the Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. This is the case in regard to Potter's Fort, in Centre County, a good type of the pioneer forts. Here the work of permanently marking the site of the fort and preserving its history has been undertaken by the Bellefonte branch of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of which Mrs. A. O. Furst is president and many other prominent ladies are members. These patriotic ladies have purchased the several acres of lands on which the fort stood, which they will have enclosed and beautified, and will erect within the enclosure a large tablet of native stone.

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT IN CENTRE COUNTY.

Potter's Fort marked the place of the first settlement in Centre County—the very spot, in fact, where the discoverer of the beautiful Penn's Valley first rested. It stood on a hill commanding a good view of the surrounding country, and from which approaching Indians could readily be seen, about a mile from the foot of the Nittany Mountain. It was built of logs, with a substantial foundation of stone. The walls disappeared years ago, but parts of the foundation can still be seen, and the "Old Fort Hotel," a stone building erected near-by in 1825, and still used as a public house, preserves the name.

This fort was named after James Potter, the discoverer of Penn's Valley and the first white settler in Centre County. Potter was a hardy Irishman, born in the old country, in County Tyrone. He was a captain in the British provincial army when he set out to discover new and fertile lands, and there is a tradition in Centre County that when he came to the top of the Nittany Mountain and looked down upon the magnificent valley stretching five miles or more across the Seven Mountains and far to the East and West he exclaimed to his companion: "By heavens, Thompson, I have discovered an empire!"

THE FORMER OUTPOSTS OF CIVILIZATION.

Descending into the valley, Potter and his companion proceeded to the hill before referred to, where they found an excellent spring, beside which they camped for several days, reconnoitering the surrounding country. Then they pushed their way back to Fort Augusta, the site of the town of Sunbury, at that time one of the outposts of civilization. From there Potter hastened to Philadelphia, where he obtained a grant for most of the land in the valley he had discovered.

That was about the year 1770. Potter did not return to Penn's Valley until 1774, when he took with him a party of pioneers. Potter built a house on the hill where he had first rested, near the spring, his companions scattering in the neighborhood. When the fort was built it inclosed both Potter's house and the spring. The fort sheltered the settlers in many times of danger, and at times was occupied by soldiers. Captain Finley's company, of Colonel Brodhead's command, was stationed there in 1778, and two of the soldiers were killed by Indians.

SOME BLOODY ENCOUNTERS.

Many traditions of bloody encounters about the fort are related by old people of the neighborhood. One of the best authenticated of these is the story of a white man and an Indian, who, with knife and tomahawk, fought around and around a big tree near the fort, hacking each other until both fell and perished. Their bodies were found at the foot of the tree, and were buried in one grave, which, marked with rude stones, is pointed out to curious visitors to the site of the fort.

Captain Potter, the discoverer of the valley, did not give much time to the cultivation of the land. When the war of the Revolution broke out he joined the patriot army, and gained much fame and the rank of a brigadier general under Washington. He visited the valley from time to time, however, and received a fatal injury while assisting in building a barn near Potter's Mills. He journeyed to Franklin County to secure medical aid, and died there in 1789. His body was buried at Carlisle. The land remained in the possession of his family for several generations, but was gradually divided, and now has all passed into the hands of strangers. The name of the discoverer, however, is indissolubly connected with the township and with localities in the valley, and the name and site of the fort—the chief point of historic interest in Centre County—will be preserved by the patriotic ladies of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Nearly all of the frontier forts briefly described in the recent State publication are of equal or greater historic interest, and it is probable that if the work of marking their sites is not carried out by the State the example of the ladies of Bellefonte will be followed in other counties.

From, *Journal*

Philipsburg Pa

Date, *July 22nd 1898*

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF PHILIPS- BURG.

Who Its Founders Were--Its First Settlers--First Screw Factory in the United States--Early Attempt to Build a Railroad Across the Alleghenies.

WRITTEN BY S. B. ROW.

On the extreme western border of Centre county, where a stream with an aboriginal name, separates it from the county of Clearfield, snugly nestles the town of Philipsburg. It is in a limited sense an old place, for its inception dates back into the past century, and some of the leading events in its history are neither ordinary nor uninteresting.

In the years 1795-6, Henry Philips, a member of the firm of John Leigh Philips & Brothers, of Manchester, England, purchased on account of his house, from Robert Morris, Chancellor Wharton, Thomas Billington and others, for the sum of \$173,000, a large body of unimproved lands on the western slope of the Allegheny Mountain, covering parts of the present counties of Centre, Clearfield, Cambria and Indiana. The region was then a dense wilderness, the habitation of deer, bears, wolves and other wild animals, and with the exception of the State Road, which had been opened about that time, the county could only be traversed through the narrow paths that were used by a few of the Cornplanter tribe of Indians, who still lingered on their hunting grounds in this vicinity, but were peaceable and inoffensive.

Immediately after acquiring these lands, the purchasers instructed their surveyors, Behe and Treziyulney (pronounced Tre-yul-ney) to look up a suitable location for a town. A site was selected on a piece of rising ground lying on the eastern side of the Moshannon creek, and the name of Moshan-

nontown bestowed upon it. Henry and James Philips arrived here in 1797, and their brother Nat. came out a little later. The Philipses put up a small building for their own use and shelter, and also set about bettering the condition of the roads. As an inducement for settlers to come with them, they had offered a town lot, and likewise a four-acre outlot, free of charge, to each one of the first twelve men who would accompany them hither. Those who accepted this offer were Dr. Konrad Bergman, a native of Upper Saxony; Jacob Dimeling, of Wurtemberg; John G. Shultz, from Magdeburg, in Lower Saxony; John Henry Simler, of Saxe-Coburg; Joseph Barth, of Strasburg, celebrated for its great cathedral; Christian Ries, of Hesse-Cassel; Jacob Meyer, — Klumbach, — Schilloh, and a Lutheran minister named Lepoldt, from Germany; — Leary, from Ireland, and McAuley, from Scotland. Neither the baptismal names of the last five, nor the provinces from which they had emigrated, could be ascertained.

These men, all of whom it may be observed were Europeans, had been induced to come to the backwoods by alluring inducements, and with the brightest anticipations. They plodded the greater part of the way on foot, a distance of over two hundred miles from Philadelphia, conveying their effects on a few pack horses, and some of it on their own shoulders. Instead of the sloop masts they had expected to see on a navigable river, they saw only tall pine trees on the banks of a small and shallow stream—in place of neat and cozy abodes, there was nothing but a dense and cheerless forest. It is true, wild game was abundant in the woods, and the limited waters were fairly alive with beautiful trout, but of ordinary edibles there were none but what they had brought with them, and these had to be prepared with their own hands. Though grievously disappointed, they went to work with seemingly good will, to cut down the giant trees and put up temporary abodes, but tiring of discomforts and deprivations that were unavoidable, they gradually took their departure and went elsewhere.

Joseph Barth was the first one to quit Moshannontown. He and his sisters Rosalie and Mariana left their native city during the French Revolution

which disturbed the peace of Europe near the close of the last century. After descending the Rhine, they proceeded to Amsterdam, Holland, from thence sailed to Philadelphia, and eventually came with others to the new town of which they had heard flattering accounts. Rosalie Barth married Jacob Dimeling. They had one child, which was also named Jacob, and the latter in turn became the father of the present Jacob Dimeling, of Blue Ball. Several months after the birth of their baby, the elder Dimeling returned to Philadelphia to settle up some business in that city. While on the way back he was taken dangerously ill, and stopped at Pottsgrove, Northumberland county. His wife was sent for and arrived barely in time to see him die. So she returned a widow. Jacob Meyer had married her sister Mariana Barth. Soon after that event, this couple removed to Centre Furnace, on the east side of the mountain. Leary and McAuley also left, but it is not known where either of them went. Dr. Konrad Bergman had meanwhile sought a location more congenial to his tastes in Huntingdon county, and there "lived long and prospered." Christian Ries removed to Elder's Mills, and when Simler, as will appear further on, left the town, the pioneers were all gone but Schultz. He was the only one who stayed here until the day of his death.

The first dwelling house in the town was built by Mr. Schultz on the southeast corner of Presqueisle and Second street. John Henry Simler had also commenced one on the northeast corner of Laurel and Second streets, but being constructed of hewed logs more time was required to build and complete it. Simler had been a Revolutionary soldier, fought under Lafayette at Jamestown Island, and was at Yorktown when Lord Cornwallis surrendered in 1781. He was discharged at Philadelphia in 1783, married and settled there; lost his wife in 1793; married again; in 1797 came here with the other pioneers, remained until 1826, then returned to Philadelphia and died there in 1829. His grandson, George B. Simler, Sr., one of our most reputable citizens, preserves as an invaluable relic an old sabre, with the English coat-of-arms on both sides of the blade, which was

taken from a British soldier who wounded his grandsire on the foreleg during the engagement at Yorktown, but lost his own life in the encounter.

John G. Schultz, before coming to this country, led an adventurous life. It appears that when Frederick the Great succeeded his father, he kept in force an edict of "Old Fritz" which declared that the second son of every man in the realm, rich or poor, "belonged to the State," and compelled him to enter the service of the King as soon as he was old enough to handle arms properly. It was for this reason that young Schultz had to abandon the paternal shelter and put himself at the disposal of that illustrious warrior whose fame had spread through the whole civilized world. Availing himself of a privilege that was extended to all, Schultz chose the life of a sailor rather than that of a soldier, and commenced his career by making voyages to Copenhagen, Stockholm, St. Petersburg and other large cities along the Baltic Coast. He frequently went to London and Liverpool, the West Indies and Philadelphia. He also sailed up the Mediterranean into European, African and Asiatic ports, and on one occasion witnessed at night an eruption of Mt. Aetna, which he described as a most splendid and magnificent sight. Shortly after the termination of the Revolutionary War in America, he "cast anchor" for the last time at Philadelphia, quit the seafaring life and engaged in mercantile pursuits. The restraints of business soon became irksome and this, with the promptings of his roving and venturesome disposition, probably induced him to make the toilsome journey to a place which he and his companions had been led to believe possessed advantages that would inevitably bring ease and plenty. He was no laggard, and instead of brooding over the disappointment which all felt, promptly commenced improving the lots which were assigned him. He built, as has already been stated, his house, and cleared a portion of the outlot. After a while, Dimeling died. As time passed on, Schultz evidently concluded that it was not "good for man to be alone," and so he made overtures to the young widow and married her. This must have been not later than in 1803, for John, the eldest son, was born in 1804. Next came George, in 1806,

and Frederick, in 1811.
 last named died young.

Schultz, in addition to having erected the first house in Moshannontown, enjoyed the distinction of opening the first tavern, which he did immediately after his marriage. He named it "The Seven Stars," and painted that number of astral figures on a sign about two feet square. In the centre of the panel was one large star, and this was surrounded by six smaller ones. There was a wooden bowl on the top, and at the two ends it had turned ornaments that were possibly intended to represent bottles and goblets. As a whole, it was quite a unique and artistic piece of handiwork, and the frame of it is yet in the possession of his grandsons, Christopher C. and Frederick A. W., who, with their sister Sarah, reside on "the old homestead," from which a fine view of Philipsburg and the surrounding country is obtainable. During the prevalence of a severe storm that occurred a few months after Mr. Schultz had opened his tavern, a large tree was blown across the building, crushing in the roof, and doing other damage. This accident, together with the fact that John Henry Simler had started another tavern, influenced him in quitting the business, believing that the town could not support more than one public house. An Englishman named Wrigley, who had purchased two squares of lots between Front street and the creek, entertained a different opinion on the subject and hence also opened a tavern (they were not then called hotels) in a large house which he had built on one of his most eligible lots. In 1816, "the year without a summer," so designated because there was frost in every month, Wrigley sold his house, with all his other property, to Jacob Test and James McGirk, who continued the business, and likewise erected a tannery on the ground opposite Swift & Co.'s large meat establishment. The Hale building, Adam Mayer's house, Dr. Potter's block, Platt, Barber & Co.'s wholesale stores, the P. R. R. passenger station, and the buildings of Hon. C. A. Faulkner, Amos Harper and Robert Hudson, are all on the Wrigley lots.

The departure at an early date of several of the first settlers must have been

rather discouraging to the emigrants, and as others were slow at coming to take their places, they offered a town lot, but no outlot, to the next twelve, coupled; however, with the condition that each one who accepted was to build a hewed log house, in a reasonable time, on ^{the} donated ground. Samuel Turner ^{was} one who availed himself of this proposition, and it is fair to infer that enough others to make up a dozen, obtained lots on the same terms. Several persons also secured locations on closely adjacent lands. In 1801, Jacob Weis, a native of Berks county, settled quite near the town, on what was subsequently called "the old Hawkins' place." During the same year, Robert Anderson, an Irishman, and a man named Potter, commenced improvements a short distance beyond, and they were followed by—Carothers, — Fetters, — Dillman, Peter Young and Joseph Earls. In 1803, Valentine Flegal purchased from James Philips the land now owned by the Steiner heirs, directly opposite the town, and John Coulter began clearing a piece at Weis' bridge, afterwards called Benton's and now Troy's bridge. The Kylers, Schimmel, Schmehl, Weiser and others purchased and settled on lands along the State road, which had been located through this section of country in 1796.

Henry, James and Nat. Philips, after staying here a few years, returned to the east and left their business in charge of two agents named Barlow and Feltwell. Henry Philips died in 1800, and was succeeded by James, "who prosecuted the attempt to settle the estate until 1809," when he also died. During the latter year, Hardman Philips arrived in Moshannontown, and one of his first acts was to change its name to that of Philipsburg, in commemoration of the brothers who had preceded him. By a family arrangement made in 1811, he became the owner of the estate and devoted his time as well as large sums of money to its development. According to his own statement he expended on these lands, in various ways, £27,000 sterling equal to about \$131,000 of our money, during the ensuing twenty-five years. In 1817, he built a forge on the banks of Cold Stream, alongside of the dam from which the town is now supplied with some of the purest

water that ever "trickled through crevic'd rock," or flowed from mountain springs. The pig iron used in it was hauled across the Alleghenies in wagons, from Julian and other furnaces in Bald Eagle Valley. About that period, Mr. Philips brought William Bagshaw from England and constituted him general manager of his business, a position for which he was well qualified and held for many years. In 1818, Jacob Ayres, accompanied by his son Daniel, came here from Reading and bought the land which of late years has been called the Shaw farm. William Ayres, Sophia Ayres, Mrs. Mary E. Ryman and Mrs. Rebecca Nelson, four of Daniel's children, are residents of Philipsburg at the present time.

TO BE CONTINUED.

ERRATA.—In Saturday's article, the word "county" six lines from the end of the second paragraph, ought to be "country." Near the middle of the fourth paragraph, "limited waters" should be "limpid waters."

It is an especially noteworthy fact, known to comparatively few persons, that the first screw mill in the United States was erected in 1821 by Mr. Philips in this little mountain village, hundreds of miles distant from any of the great marts of the country. The necessary buildings were put up near the Moshannon creek, in a suburb of the town that is now called Point Lookout, and the foundry and grist mill were subsequently removed from the neighborhood of the forge to this locality also. The capacity of the factory was 1,500 gross per week, but the largest quantity produced during the time it was in operation was 1,000 gross per week, the material for which was prepared from the blooms by rolling and wire drawing machinery operated by steam and water power. The nearest and best market was at Pittsburg, and the products of the forge and screw mill had to be hauled at no inconsiderable expense to the waters of the Allegheny River in wagons, and thence transported in arks to their destination.

In addition to the improvements already mentioned, Mr. Philips erected a powerful saw mill, a large and commodious brick hotel, a mansion house for himself, which is now owned by

Mrs. Lania Mull; a large residence that was occupied by Richard Plumbe, but is now the property of Mr. O. P. Jones, cashier of the First National Bank, and likewise started an excellent stock farm, which embraced the great stretch of "Beaver Meadows," on the west side of the Moshannon, through which wide ditches were dug for drainage purposes. The manager of this farm was John Matley, some of whose children are yet living in the town and vicinity. Dr. John Plumbe, who was connected with Mr. Philips in some of his business enterprises, was sent to England in 1820 and brought hither a number of persons, most of whom were to be employed in the different works and others on the stock farm.

Though a little out of chronological order, it may as well be stated here that at a later date, probably in 1828, Dr. Plumbe built a forge on Six-mile Run, a short distance north of the Philipsburg and Unionville pike, at a point where water was abundant and wood, without hauling, could be run on slides down the face of the steep hills, nearly to the forge itself. The pig iron used in it was procured at Julian, Martha and Hannah furnaces in Bald Eagle Valley, and the forged iron was hauled to Alexandria and Petersburg, in Huntingdon county, to be shipped elsewhere on the canal. In 1832, the property was purchased by David Adams, the father of our townsman, Oscar Adams, and of John M. Adams, of Clearfield. After conducting the business seven years, Mr. Adams sold a half interest to Dr. Ingalls, and for three years longer the forge was run under the management of the new firm. Dr. Plumbe went west in 1834, and located at Dubuque, Iowa, where, through his own agency, it is said, he brought his eventful life to a lamentable end, in the year 1857. Among the men who accompanied him from England in 1820, was Thomas Lever, for whom the stone house, since transformed into the Schoonover block, was built. When the screw factory was put in operation he was made its overseer. He later on married a daughter of John Loraine, Esq., who had been induced to come here from Philadelphia by another son-in-law, Dr. Wm. P. Dewees.

It appears that Dr. Dewees had made

...effort to secure the chair of one of the Professors in the University of Pennsylvania, which had become vacant during the war period of 1812. Chagrined at his failure, he came to Philipsburg, presumably in 1813, and invested largely in the Philips enterprises. He remained here six or seven years, during which time he extended his practice to Clearfield, or Oldtown, as it was more generally called in those days. Business affairs did not, however, prosper as he had anticipated, and when his means were exhausted, he disposed of his interest at a sacrifice, and returned to Philadelphia a poor man. Encouraged by Dr. Chapman and other old friends, he soon gained a competency, eventually succeeded in getting the coveted professorship, and through his superior ability and contributions to medical literature, placed himself at the head of his profession in this country. After his departure, Dr. Ingalls, of Half Moon, and physicians from Bellefonte, attended to the ailments of people in this neighborhood until 1822, when Mr. Philips made arrangement with Dr. Alex McLeod, of Philadelphia, to come here. The latter remained until 1830, when he removed to Lewistown, from thence to Pittsburg and subsequently to Meadville. The loss of his wife and most of his children, changed the current of his thoughts and induced him to prepare for the ministry. In 1845 he took orders in the Episcopal Church, wended his way to Mississippi and Louisiana, followed his new calling there until 1849, returned to Pennsylvania, and a few years later became the rector of St. Andrew's church in Clearfield. He was an able and zealous minister, held in the highest esteem by all who knew him, and died greatly deplored by the community in which he spent his last days. In 1830 Dr. Frederick Horner was engaged by Mr. Philips, but left at the end of two years, when a French doctor, named Rodrigue, took his place. His stay was also short, and he was followed in 1834 by Dr. Henry Loraine, who remained until 1837. Dr. Loraine was a little eccentric, but plain in dress and manners, a skillful, prudent and attentive physician, and when he died at Clearfield in 1859, left a large estate to be divided among his children. Some of his grandchildren still live here. Since

time there has been no lack of physicians to minister to the sick of the town, but it would require too much space to make such mention of them as they deserve and ought to receive.

The completion of the Pennsylvania canal, in 1831, nearly destroyed the iron business of Mr. Philips. Up to that date he had been able to compete with the manufacturers in Huntingdon county, and derive some profit from the trade, but once the canal was opened those having works along its line enjoyed such advantage over him that he felt constrained to abandon distant markets, and make only what iron was needed to supply the screw factory and an inconsiderable local demand. This had a depressing effect on his business generally, and doubtless influenced to a greater or less extent all his subsequent movements.

It has already been stated that Valentine Flegal in 1803 purchased the land now belonging to the Steiner estate. While it does not strictly belong to the history of Philipsburg, it will not be amiss to mention that, about the same time, Nicholas Kephart, Henry Kephart, David Flegal, Absalom Pierce and John Gearhart improved lands within a few miles of this place, and Abraham Goss, a revolutionary soldier, moved into and began the well known "Goss settlement." Leonard, eldest son of Conrad Kyler, in 1805 commenced clearing the "Hard Scrabble" property, adjoining that of his father, but nearer the creek.

From, *Republican*
Bellefonte Pa
 Date, *April 21 1898*

DAUGHTERS OF REVOLUTION.

Will Place A Marker at Old Fort Potter.

In Centre county there was erected in 1777 a fort in Penns valley known as Potters fort, because it was built by Gen. John Potter, famed for his

Revolutionary war services, as well as for his sagacity as an Indian fighter, and whose descendants are quite numerous in this place. At that time this was the only fort within a radius of 75 miles and on various occasions was the refuge of early settlers when the Delaware and Shawnee Indians went on the warpath. The fort was a rude but unusually solid structure of logs and stone, and withstood the most prolonged attack of the redskins. Though the fort and stockade with which it was enclosed have long ago crumbled to dust, there is a fairly well identified spot as its location, which was on a slight elevation, north of where the Old Fort hotel now stands, and adjoining a clear spring of water, from which the inmates of the fort obtained their supply of water while cooped up to escape the deadly arrows and scalping knife of the Indians. History records but little regarding this fort, but from data in the possession of the descendants of the pioneers of the valley it is gathered that it was one of the most important forts in the State at that early day. For this reason Bellefonte chapter, Daughters of American Revolution, has determined to erect a marker at its own expense. Several acres of ground surrounding the site of the fort have been secured and will be enclosed and beautified with trees, shrubbery and flowers. The work is now so far progressed that it is certain of an early completion. At the last meeting of the chapter a committee consisting of Mrs. Isaac Mitchell, Mrs. Frank McCoy, Mrs. Archibald Allison and Mrs. Ellis Orvis was appointed to select and have erected a stone marker. This committee has already ordered the stone, which will be of gray marble, chipped on three sides, with a finish-

ed face for a suitable inscription. It is two feet square by four feet six inches high. It is expected that the stone will be here, inscribed and ready for erection by the middle of May, at which time it will be dedicated with all due formality. The promptness with which the ladies of the Bellefonte chapter have gone about the work will entitle them to the honor of erecting the first colonial fort marker in the State, and will give to other chapters an example worthy of emulation. Although not as large as some others, Bellefonte chapter, D. A. R., is one of the most flourishing in the State. Its membership numbers between 35 and 40, and includes many of the most prominent ladies in the town. The present officers are: Regent, Mrs. A. O. Furst; secretary, Miss Caroline Orvis; treasurer, Mrs. F. W. Crider; historian, Miss Jennie Shugart. It is also a noteworthy fact that a number of the members are descendants of the man who erected the fort whose site is to be marked. The ladies have been assiduous in their work and sparing neither in labor nor cash.







