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INDEX.

15

A

Page

B

Page

B

B

C

C

D

D

E

INDEX.

F

Page

G

Page

H

Pa

H

I

J

K

L

L

INDEX.

M

Page

M

Page

M

N

O

P

Q

R

R

INDEX.

S	Page	S	Page	S	Page
---	------	---	------	---	------

T

U V

W

W

W

X Y Z



HON. HENRY A. TYSON,

Seventeenth Mayor of Reading, Born 1832, Elected 1879, Served One Term.

THE SEVENTEENTH MAYOR.

Hon. Henry A. Tyson, Elected Chief Magistrate of Reading in 1879, by the Largest Majority in the History of the City-- Sketch of the Useful Career of an Honored Official. 1888.

READING, Feb. 4.—Hon. Henry A. Tyson, Reading's seventeenth mayor, is of English descent. Early in the eighteenth century his ancestors, who were members of the Society of Friends, came to this country, and the family with very few exceptions are to this day confined to the city of Brotherly Love and the counties of Bucks, Chester, Montgomery, Berks and Schuylkill in Pennsylvania, and to Baltimore in Maryland. This family has occupied a prominent place wherever located, furnishing a noted Arctic explorer, in the person of Captain Tyson; an eminent practitioner in the world of medicine, in the person of Dr. James Tyson, a professor in the University of Pennsylvania; while the mercantile and shipping interests of America find in Robert and Jesse Tyson, of Baltimore, men who have made their names famous in that direction. In 1798, Joseph Tyson, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, located in Reading, where he engaged extensively in the tanning business and became wealthy. His business was carried on at the head of Franklin street, and he was the owner of a great deal of real estate in that vicinity. He retired from business in 1826 and died in 1842. John W. Tyson, father of the subject of our sketch, and fourth child and only son of Joseph Tyson, was born in Reading July 3, 1801. He learned his father's business and trade, but afterwards discontinued it and became a clerk in Eckert's store, at Fourth and Penn streets, where for many years he also carried on the business of gauger, being the only one in Reading who understood the business at that time. In 1844 he was elected county recorder on an independent ticket and served for three years to the great satisfaction of the people of the county. The mother of the gentleman who was honored with the mayoralty of this city was Mary Fasig, daughter of William Fasig, of

Reading.

Henry A. Tyson was born December 14, 1832, near his present residence on Franklin street, this city, and has resided in the immediate vicinity all his life. His education was gained in the public schools, and when but fifteen years of age he went to live with his uncle, John Brown, of Reading, from whom he learned the trade of a chairmaker, and remained with him until 1860. He afterwards worked at his trade with Jacob R. Ritter and Sohl, Seidel & Co., of this city, until 1876 when a vacancy occurring in the office of city controller he was elected on the Democratic ticket to fill the vacancy. So well did he execute his trust that in 1877 he was nominated and elected for a full term of two years. He served the term with acknowledged ability and to the entire satisfaction of the people.

In 1879 the National Greenback party, which at that time numbered about 600 votes, put Mr. Tyson forward as their candidate for mayor of the city. The Democratic party subsequently chose him as their candidate, while the Republican party renominated Hon. Charles F. Evans, who had already served three consecutive terms in that capacity. By reason of a singular combination of circumstances and the fact that Mr. Tyson was a man of recognized ability and honor, he had the honor of being elected to the mayoralty by the largest majority ever given to any candidate for that office in the history of the city, viz: eleven hundred and eighty-one:

	1879.	
Henry A. Tyson, Dem.....	4114	
Charles F. Evans, Rep.....	2933	

Majority for Tyson..... 1181

During his term many important ordinances were passed by the city councils, new regulations instituted, and the government was administered in such a way as to be a credit to him, and conducive to the best interests of the city. Mr. Tyson, during his term of office, approved the ordinance granting the right to erect a soldiers' monument in Penn square. During his official career the Antietam reservoir was enlarged, and in a special message he urged public action towards securing the erection of a public building in this city by the National government. Since that time particular efforts have been made in that direction and with such success that the foundations for a splendid building, one that will be a credit to the state and nation, are already nearly completed.

The mayor in a speech welcoming the firemen of the state to Reading, at the time of the state firemen's convention held in this city Dec. 17, 1880, coupled together the names of the different volunteer companies belonging to the Reading fire department in the following language:

"It is the wish of the JUNIOR fire company to which I belong that the bright rays of the RAINBOW should ever shine upon you; and it is my desire that while you are in this city of READING, the third city of the KEYSTONE state, you will enjoy that FRIENDSHIP and LIBERTY which was handed down by WASHINGTON and that you will NEVER-SINK until long after the waters of the springs of HAMPDEN have run dry."

In 1881 the Democrats again placed Mr. Tyson in nomination for the mayoralty of the city. The result of this election was the defeat of the gentleman for the office as per the following from Montgomery's valuable hand-book:

	1881.	
William G. Rowe, Rep.....	3368	
Henry A. Tyson, Dem.....	3331	

Majority for Rowe..... 37
Mr. Tyson never was, is not now and it is not likely he ever will be, a politician in the sense that he is on the hunt after office. He prefers business life to the vicissitudes always attendant upon political life, and upon his retirement

When he became interested in securing and introducing the present satisfactory system of lighting the streets by electricity. He was secretary and treasurer of the company for a time and all the original stock was subscribed through his solicitation.

He is now connected with his son, A. Harvey Tyson, esq., in conducting as a specialty the "Reading Investment company," and is also the trusted collector for the Pennsylvania railroad in this city. Mr. Tyson was married Dec. 23, 1855, to Miss Anna Shultz, of this city, and three children—A. Harvey Tyson, esq., Charles H. Tyson, esq., and Estelle Tyson—the result of the union, are now living. He has always been an earnest advocator of everything tending to the material prosperity of his native place, and is honored for the conscientious administration of his trust while holding office.

The portrait from which the excellent likeness accompanying this sketch was made was taken during the time he was mayor. He does not look much older now than then, and the wish of the TELEGRAM that he may long live to enjoy life and the society of his friends bids fair to be realized.

AN EDUCATED PET DOG.

Called "Friskie" and Owned by Morton L. Montgomery, Esq.—What He Can Do.

A little dog resides at the head of Penn street, and though still young, has already developed a large circle of friends through uniform gentleness of manner, a kindly and playful disposition and



by general intelligence and tractability. The cut appearing at the head of this article is a correct likeness of the dog in an attitude similar to that frequently noticed at the large window of 1104 Penn street, taking observations of matters and things going on before the house. This dog is a female silver skye-terrier, a native of Reading, aged nearly two years, and is known by the name of "Friskie." The owner is Morton L. Montgomery. The other day "Friskie" accompanied her master to the TELE-

GRAM office, and, whilst paying her respects, performed a number of interesting acts, with the TELEGRAM staff as her audience. Her conduct was so matter of fact, obedient, prompt and sensible as to attract attraction; and believing that the many readers of the TELEGRAM on this Sunday morning would be pleased to know something about her, some of the numerous tricks which she is capable of performing are here described.

Upon greeting all with her method of saying "good morning," her master looked around, and addressing "Friskie" said, "Speak to the editor also." She replied promptly by uttering a "bow-wow," just as if she too said good-morning." She was then asked to sit up and speak, when she responded by sitting up gracefully and saying, not by barking, but by a peculiar dog speech, "bow-wow-wow," with a curious toss of the head, just as if she were nodding recognition. Mr. Montgomery then directed her to jump on the chair near the reporters' table, sit up and speak; stand up; sit down, etc., all of which she did. He then asked her to walk to the other end of the room, sit up, stand up, and walk to him (on her hind legs), all of which she recognized by prompt obedience. He then gave her a silver dollar and asked her to carry it to the editor, and she deposited the dollar squarely in his hand in such a business-like way that it created a laugh, and she was patted on her silvery-haired head, in appreciation of her kindness and unqualified confidence in newspaper integrity. After fingering the coin somewhat she was told to take it back to her master, when she took the dollar piece gently in her mouth and walked straight to Mr. Montgomery, who then threw the dollar piece across the room onto a long table covered with the files of the TELEGRAM, and Friskie went for it as quick as a flash, bounding over five feet through the air, found the dollar and carried it to him. This is the first time, within the TELEGRAM's knowledge, that a canine had the courage to jump on a newspaper in its own establishment, and so Friskie and her master entertained the TELEGRAM staff quite a little while, passing from one trick to another without the least confusion and without a single error.

One of the most remarkable feats was in jumping without a run after a dollar held five feet overhead and taking it with ease, though five times her own height. If the reader will try a similar act he will find that he cannot jump as high as his knee. In conclusion Mr. Montgomery said in a pleasant manner—"Friskie, go to the captain, sit up and shake a good-bye," and Friskie did. This little terrier can perform altogether about twenty-five tricks, and has been so thoroughly drilled that she knows one from the other, just as well as a little school girl knows the letters of the

alphabet. Mr. Montgomery taught her all these tricks, and he says that his success was in gentle treatment and perseverance.

RESEMBLANCES.

Many Likenesses Observed in One Person.

A READING LAWYER.

April 27 — 1890

Morton L. Montgomery, Esq., Taken For a Number of Prominent Men of the Country Among Them President Harrison, Jay Gould, General Grant, Thomas Edison, U. S. Senator Sherman and Carl Schurz.

A reporter of the TELEGRAM stopped Morton L. Montgomery, esq., author of the History of Berks County, yesterday and asked him for some historical information of the county, and whilst talking with him a gentleman, who was passing, turned to Mr. Montgomery and in a most cordial manner said: "How are you, cousin, I am very glad to see you!" Mr. Montgomery looked at him somewhat surprised, and in a smiling, easy manner said: "Excuse me, but I fear you are mistaken, for I don't know that I am your cousin." "What!" said he, "I thought you were Mr. —," and apologizing he turned and went his way.

This led the reporter and Mr. Montgomery to talk about the resemblances of men, and how some men are frequently taken for others. Mr. Montgomery described a number of instances of his own experience in the last ten years and to show how some people have been mistaken in recognizing him for somebody else we give the following:

General Grant.

In the spring of 1882 Mr. Montgomery was riding on a Reading R. R. train to Philadelphia. Below Phoenixville, just as he had laid aside a newspaper, a middle-aged man walked up to him from the front end of the car and said to him in an earnest manner, grasping him at the same time by the hand: "How are you, George, I am delighted to see you; you are looking well!" Mr. Montgomery did not respond in a style as was expected and said: "Excuse me, sir, I am not George. My name is Mr. Montgomery, from Reading." The stranger turned somewhat pale with surprise and said: "I beg your pardon, but this is the greatest mistake of my life in taking one person for another. You resemble Prof. —, of Lancaster, so much that I cannot tell the difference." Having read of Mr. Montgomery's literary productions he made kind mention of them and then took a seat by his side. After talking together for a while, a fine looking man with a long beard, apparently a

Grand Army man, leaned forward in the seat immediately behind and interrupted their conversation by saying: "Excuse me, gentlemen, but overhearing your conversation, I want to say that I too have been much mistaken this evening, for I took Mr. Montgomery to be General Grant. I have sat here behind him all the way from Reading and was convinced that I was riding next to General Grant—indeed, several times I was about to introduce myself as an army officer of the Civil War, but I would have made the same mistake that was made by you," (alluding to the stranger).

Treasurer John Sherman.

About that same period, a certain Reading lawyer returned from Washington where he had spent several days and meeting Mr. Montgomery on Sixth street near the court house, said to him in a most polite way: "Good morning, Mr. Treasurer, I hope you are well. The people of Reading are to be congratulated upon your distinguished presence." Mr. Montgomery looked at him in a surprised and laughing manner and replied: "Excuse me, but I cannot understand what you mean. I see that you are awake and that I am not dreaming." He then said: "Well, you are the exact picture of John Sherman. The only difference that I notice is that you are not so tall and your hair is not sprinkled with gray." For some years afterward as these two passed each other on the street the one lawyer said to his younger professional brother, "Mr. Treasurer, good morning," or something of the same nature.

Jay Gould.

And a third incident occurred in New York city whilst Mr. Montgomery was stopping at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. He was conversing with a railroad contractor, and another contractor was talking to a friend some distance away. Suddenly, as the contractor last named turned around he said to his friend, "Look yonder, there stands Jay Gould. When did he get here? I did not see him enter and we just left friend — (the other contractor)." "Why, no," said the friend, "that's not Gould, that's Montgomery who came here with us." With this they stepped up to Montgomery and passed some pleasant remarks about the strange resemblance and then insisted upon breaking a bottle of champagne over the unusual occurrence. Lately Gould's picture was in a New York pictorial and at a certain club room in Reading one of the members held up the paper before the others present and said, "There's the likeness of Judge Montgomery." And another incident showing the resemblance of the same character is this: Lehr & Clark manufactured a brand of fine cigars which they named "King of the Wabash," and they decorated the interior of the box lid with a likeness of Jay Gould stationed in the centre of the railroad and

steamboat lines controlled by him. One day Mr. Clark laid open a box of this brand before Mr. Montgomery and said, "There you are." For some time afterward Mr. Montgomery was addressed as "King of the Wabash" on account of the striking resemblance, and as a consequence a box lid with the picture exposed was tacked up against the wall in Mr. Montgomery's law office, where it remained for several years.

Edison and Harrison.

Several weeks ago as Mr. Montgomery was passing the corner of Sixth and Washington streets a Reading attorney and several strangers were talking together on the opposite corner. Suddenly one of the strangers interrupted the conversation by saying: "Over there's Edison; I wonder what he is doing at Reading." The attorney looked up and said, "Where?" The stranger said, "Why, over there, don't you see him?" The attorney said, "No, my friend, you are mistaken, that is Mr. Montgomery, an attorney of Reading." "Well," said the stranger, "he is the exact picture of Edison." And shortly after that occurrence Mr. Montgomery was taken for President Harrison in this manner. He entered the Orphans' court office one day whilst the clerks and several attorneys were talking together excitedly on the mayoralty question. One of the clerks looked up somewhat startled by his sudden appearance and interrupted the discussion, saying: "Well, if I didn't think Montgomery was Harrison. This idea never occurred to me before, but he bears the most striking resemblance to President Harrison of any person I know of in this part of the country." The others looked around and said in a laughing way, "That's so judging from the pictures we have seen." For some time afterward one or the other of them (who were all Democrats) would say to Mr. Montgomery: "How are you Mr. President, I hope you are well today." "Excuse me, Mr. President, I have been looking for my commission for the Reading post office."

Carl Schurz.

In 1876 Hon. Carl Schurz visited Reading during the presidential campaign and spoke to one of the largest public meetings ever assembled in Penn square. His beard was rather bushy and he wore spectacles. Several years afterwards Mr. Montgomery was sitting in the law library one day at the east end of the

long table in the room looking up a legal question. His beard then was quite bushy, parted at the chin, and he wore a pair of gold rimmed spectacles. A certain lawyer entered the library suddenly from the court room looking for another lawyer. As he passed the doorway Mr. Montgomery raised his face to see who it was, and the entering attorney stopped short as if startled by an apparition that rose before him. He stood there several moments, then walked straight to Mr.

Montgomery and in an undertone said: "Is that you, Montgomery?" Upon being assured that it was, he added in a nervous manner: "Well, I took you to be Carl Schurz and I was so surprised at his appearance here that I caught my breath." Mr. Montgomery laughed at the strange mistake and thereafter ceased to use spectacles.

Of course all these resemblances were made more marked by the wearing of a different style of hat and the manner in which he wore his beard.

THE WAR RECORD OF BERKS COUNTY

LATEST HISTORICAL WORK OF MORTON L. MONTGOMERY, ESQ.

THERE WERE OVER 9800 VOLUNTEERS

Ten Per Cent. of the Population Enlisted and Took Up Arms in the Great Struggle of 27 Years Ago—The Individual Records.

Morton L. Montgomery, Esq., of this city, who has won an enviable reputation as Berks county's historian, is engaged upon a new work that will be of great interest and value to every soldier from this section of the state. He was seen in his office yesterday by a MORNING HERALD representative, and the following facts and figures show the result of the interview. The first is a table to show the patriotism of Berks county during the civil war, and is the result of many years of hard and conscientious work that were required to gather the data and complete the columns:

	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	Time Unknown	Total.
A.....	75	79	41	58	16	2	271
B.....	329	294	149	210	61	5	1048
C.....	111	77	32	62	32	1	315
D.....	117	127	61	71	20	5	391
E.....	89	96	54	54	10	1	304
F.....	135	123	54	73	27	.	432
G.....	143	167	85	107	39	3	544
H.....	286	316	152	160	62	5	981
I.....	9	5	7	10	5	.	36
J.....	30	22	24	23	2	.	101
K.....	146	192	89	122	34	6	689
L.....	122	136	73	77	23	7	498
M.....	247	240	130	179	44	14	854
N.....	41	35	18	21	12	.	130
O.....	19	35	12	10	7	.	83
P.....	69	60	34	54	12	1	230
Q.....	6	2	2	5	.	.	15
R.....	267	236	105	145	31	2	726
S.....	394	359	165	222	59	19	1218
T.....	45	49	23	32	13	.	167
U.....	14	9	4	9	4	.	40
V.....	17	6	9	6	2	.	40
W.....	183	169	101	129	50	2	634
X.....
Y.....	31	51	18	31	8	.	140
Z.....	10	29	17	15	6	1	79
Total.....	2879	2929	1454	1891	679	74	9806

THE TABLE EXPLAINED.

The first column represents the alphabet, each letter standing for the first letter of the name of the person enlisted; the succeeding columns (excepting the last) the time of enlistment; and the last column the total enlistment during the war. Thus in 1861 75 men enlisted whose names begin with A; 329 with B; 217 with M, and 394 with S, and the total enlistment for 1861 was 2879.

The first line (A) represents the number of men whose names begin with A, enlisted during the four years of the war, or a total of 271; names with B, 1048; with M, 854, and with S, 1218; and the total estimate for the entire period of the war, 9806. Mr. Montgomery did not pretend that this was the exact number of men who were enlisted from Berks county in the great struggle; for the accomplishment of such a task, twenty-five years afterward, he regarded as impossible. He has been engaged in the work of collecting the names of the soldiers for over ten years, and is still adding new ones as they come to his knowledge.

THE ONLY COMPLETE RECORD.

There is no record anywhere, whether county, state or national, that shows this information. Bates' history of Pennsylvania Volunteers shows the enlistments accredited by the national government to the State of Pennsylvania, but it does not pretend to show how many men from the several counties of the state were enlisted in, and credited to other counties or states. Mr. Montgomery has laboriously attempted to get this information relating to Berks county from many sources with great success, and he regards the total number thus far ascertained, 9806, as rather under the real mark than above it.

RECORDS OF INDIVIDUALS.

After the reporter had studied the above table for some time, Mr. Montgomery said to him: "You doubtless wonder where I obtained the names and figures out of which to construct this table. Well, when I show you hundreds of pages of manuscript, arranged in alphabetical folios, you will admit that it is reliable, at least as much so as it can now be made."

Mr. Montgomery then pulled a drawer out of his table and produced a pile of folios nearly a foot high. The first folio was "A," and therein the reporter read all the names of Berks county volunteers that begin with this letter; and the record of each man extended across two pages, showing name, residence, regiment, company, rank, term of service, when mustered in and mustered out, whether killed, wounded or imprisoned, when died, and where buried. The pile included twenty-five folios altogether, one for each letter of the alphabet excepting X. Some of the folios had only a few pages, but others had many, as B 36, and S 42. It is an admirable and unique arrangement, and when completed (if it should ever become so) the name and military record of every man who went from Berks county into the great civil war can be found almost instantly.

The Grand Army posts of Reading have been getting up a similar record gradually since their organization, but it is designed to include only their members. The rolls do not number a thousand names, and yet the undertaking has been found most difficult, being still incomplete.

COMMENDABLE PATRIOTISM.

The population of Berks county in 1860 was 93,818. Accordingly, ten per cent. of the people were enlisted in the army. The voters of the county during that period numbered less than 23,000, and the total enrollment of men who were liable to be called into service in 1861 was 17,809, an exhibition of patriotism which is truly commendable. Making a liberal allowance for the young men under age who were in the military service, and also for re-enlistments, it can safely be asserted that one out of every four men in the county went to the war, were altogether ninety-four companies, commanded by one hundred and thirty captains, all from Berks county.

The general estimate of the number of men from Berks county has not exceeded 7000, or not eight per cent. of the population. Mr. Montgomery therefore deserves great praise for discovering that the proportion was at least ten per cent. over one-half of the number of men who were subject to military duty, and the whole community are greatly indebted to him for bestowing so much time and persistent labor in bringing to light such an important fact in their history.

ANOTHER PRIZE ESSAY.

Herbert R. Brunner's Interesting Description of the Oldest Township in Berks County.

The following is the essay of Herbert R. Brunner, of Amity township, which took the first prize of \$10 offered by the MORNING HERALD for the best description written by a pupil of the schools of Berks county of the township in which his or her school was located. The publication of the essay was hitherto delayed for various causes.

Amity township was one of the famous dwelling places of the Indians, and was called by them Menbaltanink, afterwards changed to Manatawny, which in their language signified "where we drank liquors." The English, when they took possession, changed the name to Amity, which means friendship; and Manatawny was applied to the stream that drains the eastern part of the township.

The first settlements in the county were made in the locality of Douglassville by Swedes. In 1701 Andrew Rudman, clerk in behalf of himself and the Swedes, received authority to own and possess 10,000 acres of land, which formed the greater part of the township. He then paralleled out this tract to his fellow Swedes. As the Swedes desired to live along the Schuylkill, the tract was divided into small strips running north from the Schuylkill. After they had affected per-

ment settlements on their land they felt in need of roads, and a petition was presented to the court at Philadelphia which was granted. The roads running north from the Schuylkill passed between these divisions, so that every farmer could go to any place on his land without any inconvenience. These roads are at an average distance of about a mile apart. Amity was erected into a township in 1799 and is the oldest township in Berks county.

Amity lies in the southeastern part of Berks. It is bounded on the north by Oley and Earl, on the east by Douglass, on the south by Union, and on the west by Exeter township. It has an area of 17 square miles.

The surface is generally undulating, rising nowhere to a great height excepting an abrupt elevation in the southern part known as Mt. Monocacy, which rises to a height of about 800 feet. This mountain is covered with immense rocks and excellent timber. It is a noted hunting ground and is visited during the summer by many persons from various parts of the county. The scenery is beautiful and the view from the summit is one of the finest in the county.

Eagle's island, in the Manatawny creek, about a mile east of Amityville, is a noted picnic ground.

The western part of the township is drained by the Monocacy creek. This stream is fed at various points by large brooks. At Monocacy station its waters join those of the picturesque Schuylkill, which forms the southern boundary of the township. Monocacy is an Indian name, meaning a stream with large beds. It was originally spelled Menakesse.

The soil is fertile and easily cultivated. It is well watered by small streams, which flow through most of the large farms. The climate is mild and healthy.

The principal products are Indian corn, rye, wheat, oats, hay and fruit. Berries are very abundant around the foot of Mt. Monocacy. Amity contains no minerals, but is noted for the peculiarity of its rocks. The western part is underlaid with the red shale, the center and eastern part is underlaid with conglomerates and Mt. Monocacy is partly covered with the gneiss. The domestic animals are well selected; and the people take a great interest in improving them. Many varieties of birds and the smaller quadrupeds abound.

The population numbers 1552 by the census of 1890.

The inhabitants are politically divided into the two great parties—Democratic and Republican—of which the Democratic party has a ruling majority. The chief occupations are agriculture and the various trades and professions necessary to build up a community.

The water power of the township has been well utilized. On the Monocacy near the Exeter line is a grist mill owned by George Brown. There are four grist mills on the Manatawny, owned by James High, Levi Heist, Mahlon Weidner and Mayberry Rhoads,

The Monocacy Valley creamery was built by stockholders and is carried on by the association, under the superintendency of Jacob F. Guldin. The rolling mill at Douglassville is owned by the Douglassville Iron company.

Amityville is a beautifully located village, on the Amity turnpike, leading to the Yellow House. It contains two churches, two hotels, store and several mechanic shops. It was formerly called New Storeville, but was changed to Amityville in 1853. The post office was established in 1885.

The public library at Amityville is owned by the Amity Library association. It is the only one in the township. The library contains 500 volumes of standard books and about 200 volumes of public documents.

Yellow House is a similar village at the northern border of the township. It derived its name from the country tavern at this place, which is painted yellow. The post office was established in 1866.

Douglassville is a station on the Philadelphia & Reading and Pennsylvania railroads. The village contains the handsome St. Gabriel's church, a rolling mill, store and hotel. The post office was established in 1829. The village was so named in honor of George Douglass.

Monocacy station, on the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, is a small village in the southern part of the township. It contains a hotel, store, and a few small residences. The postoffice was established in 1872. It derives its name from Mt. Monocacy, in that locality.

Weavertown is the oldest business place in the township. Half a century ago it was more important than at present. It was so named in honor of Jacob Weaver, who owned the land on which it was laid out. It contains at present a general store. The postoffice was established in 1828. The religious sects are Lutheran, Reformed, Episcopal and Methodist.

The Lutheran and Reformed are the most numerous. They worship in St. Paul's church at Amityville. The Lutheran pastor is Rev. U. P. Heilman, and the Reformed pastor is Rev. J. Heister Leinbach. The members of these two congregations number about 900. The Episcopal congregation worships in St. Gabriel's church, at Douglassville. This congregation is not so large. Their pastor is Rev. DuHamel.

The Methodists worship at Amityville. They are few in number and have no regular services.

There are three Sunday schools in the township with a membership of about 300.

Education is in a very prosperous condition. The township is divided into ten school districts. Each has a school house neatly built and furnished.

HEBERT R. BRUNNER,
Brumfieldville, Berks Co., Pa.

From *Tablet*.....
Millville Pa......
 Date..... *Feb 10/92*

Jones's Mines, perhaps the oldest iron mines in Pennsylvania, are to be abandoned. They received their name from David Jones, a Welsh ironmaster, who purchased in 1735 about one thousand acres of land in Carnarvon Township, Berks County, upon a part of which tract the mines were worked. Jones made a fortune out of them for himself and his descendants. Two miles from Morgantown there still stands the fine old family mansion, which was built by Jonathan Jones (a son of David), who was a colonel in the Revolutionary Army. Until recently a large force of men were employed at the mines, but the expense of following the iron ore is considered too great in the present condition of the iron trade, and the pumps and other machinery are to be withdrawn and the shafts allowed to fill with water.

From Eagle
Reading Pa.
 Date. *Mar 20/92*

A HOTEL STAND 140 YEARS AGO.

CONDUCTED BY PETER WEISER--THEN THE "GOLDEN SWAN." NOW THE "AMERICAN HOUSE."

The Landlords and Owners of the Property at the Southwest Corner of 4th and Penn--Its Appearance 75 Years Ago.



This cut represents the southwest corner of 4th and Penn as it appeared 75 years ago, one year after Anthony Bickel became the owner of the property. The front building was originally a one-

story brick house and the building was enlarged by putting a frame story on top. Mr. Bickel, who was a blacksmith by trade, bought the property in 1816 and erected a brick back building.

He leased the property successively to different persons who conducted an inn there.

The main building was 32 by 26 feet and the back building 20 by 40 feet. The first story of the main building was divided into 2 rooms and "a small place as a bar," and the second story was divided into 3 rooms. In the back building were a room and a kitchen on the first floor and 2 apartments on the second. The stable, 26 by 53 feet, was attached to the back building. The first story was of stone and the second of frame, having a tile roof. A 2-story brick building, 18 by 34 feet, was erected in 1822 on the western part of the lot fronting on Penn., which was rented by Daniel Graeff & Co., who conducted a general store, including dry goods and groceries, flax, gun powder, hardware, &c. There was an alley 8¼ feet wide between the store and the hotel for teams to drive through.

The "American house" property is one of the oldest hotel stands in Reading, if not the oldest. When the first town lots of Reading were sold at public sale, June 15, 1749, in Penn square Conrad Weiser bought the lot. In 1752—140 years ago—Conrad Weiser sold the lot to Peter Weiser, who conducted an "inn" there, and he was for many years a well-known hotel keeper. He owned the property 22 years and then, in 1774, sold it to Christopher Witman, who was as early as 1762 on the list of Reading inn-keepers.

Christopher Witman devised the property to his son, John, in 1778, who sold it to Peter Feather in 1787, and in 1805 it went into the possession of his son, Peter, who the same year sold it to Peter Aurand. Mr. Aurand was coroner in 1800-2 and sheriff in 1815-17. He held the property 2 years, when he sold it to John Klopp, of Heidelberg, who in 1810 conveyed it to William Jones, a tanner by trade, for £2,000. Mr. Jones, in 1816, sold the property to Anthony Bickel, for \$6,500.

Mr. Bickel owned the property 29 years, and let it successively to different landlords. Henry Bowman never owned the property, but was the landlord for many years previously to his election to the office of sheriff in 1833. George Germand also conducted the inn for some years previous to his becoming sheriff in 1844.

Mr. Bickel sold the property April 1, 1845, to Daniel Housum, a miller, of Exeter, for \$14,000. Mr. Housum conducted the hotel 20 years, until his death, in 1865, and March 28, 1867, his widow conveyed the property to William H. Parvin and Charles S. Birch for \$35,000. Mr. Birch bought the half interest of Mr. Parvin in 1874, paying him \$28,750, and has been the sole owner ever since.

Mr. Housum tore down the old buildings in 1857, which had been greatly altered from those as represented in the cut, and erected a large 4-story building in its place, which has been enlarged and greatly improved since then. Charles S. Birch, the present owner, having spent nearly \$20,000 in improvements. He raised the back building to 4 stories, lengthened the store, now occupied by D.P. Schaeffer & Co., and erected a new stable. The hotel is fitted up in an elegant manner and has been heated by steam for many years. Charles S. Birch and Manoa S. Weiler were in partnership in the

hotel business there 4 years, 1868-72. William Behm and Harry Weaver were the landlords from 1872 to 1876, and since then Charles S. Birch has been the sole proprietor. The "town lots" were all originally 60 feet wide, and the American house property is one of the few lots that has remained undivided to the present time. It is still 60 by 270 feet.

There was in olden times on a post in front of the hotel the sign of the "Golden Swan," there being a "White Swan" hotel at the foot of Penn st., north side. When Mr. Birch became the owner of the property he cut down the sign post and named the inn "American House." John N. Shearer has been clerk at the American House the past 16 years.

The German Centennial Jubilee.

AN IMPOSING DEMONSTRATION—ORATION BY HON. DANIEL ERMENTROUT.

The Jubilee on Monday, in this city, was participated in by a great number of societies, firemen, the Reading Rifles, and many teams of business establishments, &c., all gaily decorated, and the city was in a blaze of flags and decorations.

The parade commenced in the morning at ten and reached the Park shortly before 12. Mayor Evans made a few remarks to welcome the people, and Hon. Daniel Ermentrout delivered the following oration:

Our People in American History.

On the 27th day of August, 1739, nearly 137 years ago, the good ship Sammel brought to the shores of Pennsylvania 340 German immigrants. Among them were three individuals, of the father, son and grandson. They came to the territory now embraced within the county of Berks, here settled, begat children, and here they and their posterity have continued to live to the present time. The individual who stands before you now bears, the name and blood of those three humble men, and he is proud here, upon his native soil in this glorious year, after the lapse of all this time, to tell to those ancestors' countrymen, among them some perhaps whose eyes first saw the light of day in the village they were born, who rambled among the fields where their infant feet trod, who worshipped at the same altar at which they were baptized—as best he can, the story of what the German race has done to transform the howling wilderness of that date into broad and fertile acres, populous valleys and magnificent cities. What hardships from exposure, what dangers from wild beasts, and cruelties they suffered from the lurking and merciless savage; what they did to wrest this land from kingly rule, and what they have contributed towards the triumphs of peace—all combining to the building up of the vast and mighty empire now known as the United States of North America, the hundredth year of whose freedom the German societies of this section are to-day celebrating. The heart swells and the lip trembles at the contemplation of the theme. It is a subject worthy to be treated by an abler tongue. But to no one, so far as sympathy and inclination are concerned, more pleasing.

To every American of German descent it should be an especial pleasure, as well as duty, to portray in fitting terms the deeds of his ancestors, because from a variety of causes, the historian has never done them the justice to which they are entitled. A studious effort was also made in the earlier history of this State to deprive them of the credit that was their due, and to impair their influence in its political affairs. Nor have they fared any better from the pencil of the painter.

HISTORICAL PICTURES.

Go to the Memorial Hall at Philadelphia, and you will there see two pictures; one by Puebla, portraying the landing

of Columbus. The central figure is the great Colon himself, kneeling, dressed in the gorgeous scarlet costume of his country, surrounded by armed cavaliers in the same position; and standing erect with crucifix uplifted, a representative of the most powerful Church the world has ever seen; above him floats the standard of the nation upon whose vast dominions the sun never rose nor set, the Kingdom then ruled by Ferdinand and Isabella; while in the bushes, peering in wonder and amazement at the scene, stand the awe-struck savages. The other, by the pencil of Gisbert, represents the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers. You recognize, in the central figure, the pious pastor standing on the rock, with elevated hands and devout aspect, the beautified features of women in neat attire grace the scene, and in the background appear the masts of the May-Flower.

These pictures have immortalized the "Discovery" and the "Landing."
 POETRY, RELIGION, ELOQUENCE AND ART, all have combined to impress these facts upon history with a grandeur and an emphasis, and surround them with a halo which have fallen rarely to the lot of human occurrences. These people were masters of their own movements, and behind the one stood the power of Spain and behind the other that of the English government, each speaking the language respectively of their colonists. Each taking an interest and a pride in their success. The one spurred on by the pride of conquest, the other inspired by the ties of sympathy.

So, too, who has not seen the prostrate form of Smith, protected from the cinb of Powhatan by Pocahontas, and Penn's treaty with the Indians, glowing on the canvass. In vain do we look for the pencilled story of the homeless, houseless, wandering exiles from Germany; their cruel voyage across the sea; their arrival among a people who understood not their language; their lonely, dangerous and difficult journey through the wilderness towards the Blue Mountains. Nor do we anywhere find pictured their evening or morning worship in the primeval forest before extending themselves around the camp fire by night, or preparing for the journey of the day. No government speaking their language, protecting them. Regarded as dangerous by the Proprietary Governor of Pennsylvania as early as 1717, they were hurried to the sections now comprised within the territory of Lancaster, Berks, Northampton and Schuylkill counties—then frontiers, and frontiers up to 1768—far remote in the Indian ranges and hunting grounds, to form a cordon or defensive barrier against Indian enterprises.

THE PORTRAITS IN THE STATE CAPITOL.

Visit your State Capitol. The faces that adorn the walls of your public buildings there during the proprietary era rest on shoulders coated with mail. We fared no better in this respect during the Revolutionary period. In 1717 a great fear of German immigration disturbed the proprietary Governors. This fear continued up to 1729, as the letters of James Logan, the communications of Governors Keith and Gordon to the Council and Assembly, during which period various devices were resorted to to obstruct immigration, culminating finally in a head tax. In 1730 the law was modified to apply only to vagrants, but the prejudices sown in the preceding years remained. Our ancestors did not see why, after paying for their lands and being assured by the Proprietary Government that the Indian title—the source of much of their difficulty—should be quieted, that they should be taxed by the Proprietors to protect the untaxed Proprietary property. They rebelled, and when they came down to Philadelphia to vote for members of Assembly, they voted against the wishes of the Proprietary Government, and Feb. 25th, 1750, Thomas Penn writes to Gov. Hamilton: "I

am greatly alarmed, the Germans behave so insolently at the elections; they must no doubt do so from the numbers given them at the back counties. The taking of counties from Bucks and Philadelphia (Northampton and Berks) will take off their settlements and leave them only two members of eight, and prevent them for many years from having a majority." There can be no doubt that

WE HAVE SUFFERED MUCH

from these prejudices. The silence of history concerning the achievements of our race has also by the great American Historian, Bancroft, been attributed to the modesty of our ancestors. He says: "Neither they nor their descendants have laid claim to all the praise that was their due." But the hour has struck when the children of the great Arminius, whether foreigner or native born, and of all creeds now in this land, and especially in this State, should diligently search the records of the past and let their children know and let the world know the achievements of the race here in this Western Continent. Without malice or undue partiality spread them in such form upon the pages of history that their virtues may be perpetuated, a source of pride to all their blood and an example worthy to be emulated by all to the last syllable of recorded time.

It will be impossible with a due regard for your comfort, nor do I possess the ability to lay before you all that should be said, and for both reasons I shall be compelled to confine myself mainly to our own locality in the historical portions of my discourse.

EARLY SETTLEMENT AND INDIAN WARFARE.

When Penn came here in 1681 he found colonies already planted by the Teuton blood in the persons of Swedes and Dutch, dating back to 1633. Philadelphia he settled in 1681—1682. It will be remembered in this connection that Wm. Penn himself was half Dutch by his mother. Prior to his settlement here he had made three journeys through Germany as a Quaker preacher. After Wm. Penn became the proprietor of the country named in honor of his father, he, in 1681 published the paper setting forth the advantages and conditions of settlement in Pennsylvania. It was immediately translated. Germany was full of all manner of intensive religionists, among whom the Quaker preachers had obtained a foothold. These then began to become enthusiastic to lead a religious life in Pennsylvania. In 1682 a company was formed at Frankfort, called the Frankfort Company, for the purpose of furthering emigration to Pennsylvania and opening trade. Francis Daniel Pastorius was their agent, and he in the year 1683, with some thirteen families, came to Philadelphia and laid the foundation for the first settlement the German emigrants established in this country. The Frankfort Company in 1686, Nov. 24th, held by their Germantown patent 5,350 acres, and by the Manatawny patent 22,377 acres. In this latter patent were included lands on the Manatawny Creek, and now partly belonging to the County of Berks. From this it would appear that the country along the Manatawny in Berks was included in the first settlement after Philadelphia. Germantown remained for over one hundred years a German-town. It had for a portion of this time its Burgomaster, Clerk, &c. The Seal of the Corporation was a Clover leaf, with the figures of the Vine, Hemp Flower and Weaver's Spool on the three leaves, and the legend Vinum, Linum et Texturinum. Wein Lein und Webeschrein, Types in the language of the Historian of the German society, of the mission of the Germans in the New World. Husbandry, industry and contented enjoyment of life. Here in 1738, was the first German printing press; here appeared the first German newspaper,

and in 1743 the German quarto Bible—the first Bible printed on this continent in an European language. The emigration up to 1702 was small, not exceeding 200 families. But when at the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th centuries, the besom of war and destruction swept over the Palatinate, and Western Germany immigration received a powerful impetus. The records of no age show the perpetration of more dreadful barbarities than those committed by the robber bauds of Louis XIV. Cupidity, political ambition and religious hatred have all combined to make these years of European history as dark, bloody and cruel as those that have stained any similar period of the world's history. It seemed as if the devil had been let loose and the world given over to his evil devices. In Southern Germany, where German princes sought to ape the Court of Louis XIV and French manners, it was no better.

POVERTY, OPPRESSION AND SUFFERING WERE UNIVERSAL.

If these be glory, if people deserve immortality for these, there is no page in the history of nations too bright for the German emigrants, who were by these driven from the land of their birth at the beginning of the 18th century, to find a home and an asylum here. This emigration continued up to 1720. Subsequently a desire to better their temporal concerns, brought emigration

hither, and from 1725 to 1744 it began to include all sorts of religions—German Reformed, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Moravians, Schwenkfelders, &c. The earliest German Catholic settlement was that of Cuzanhoppen in 1741. This extended into that part of Berks county known as Washington township. Its first pastor was Father Schneider, who at that early period travelled from Philadelphia through Bucks, Chester, Berks and Northampton counties, frequently on foot, in the discharge of his pastoral duties. The chapel built by him in that year has by constant additions become a very large building, with a numerous congregation. In the church now repose the bones of Father Schneider. Before 1733 a respectable number of Schwenkfelders also settled in parts of what is now Berks county, where many of their descendants have continued ever since. As early as 1723 Tulpehocken was settled by Germans who left Schoharie on account of the unjust manner in which they were treated by the Governor of New York. They had come to New York in 1710 and settled at Schoharie in 1713. From the beauty of the country through which the Tulpehocken flowed they called the settlement Heidelberg. So it is to this day, surrounded by lovely hills, Heidelberg in the county of Berks. To this day the descendants of those settlers in that region are known by their names. May 18th, 1729, a letter was written to Schoharie inviting the famous Conrad Weiser to come and settle among them for their protection against the Indians, from whom difficulties were apprehended, and with whom Weiser had great influence at that date. He came and settled near Wmelsdorf. This Conrad Weiser was a remarkable man: His fame soon reached the ears of the Government at Philadelphia; he was sent for, made Indian agent, and from the time of his coming to Berks county, to the time of his death in 1770—a period of 31 years—he was the protecting genius of the Pennsylvania settlements. It is not necessary for me to tell this audience that the hardware store, North-east corner of Penn and Fifth Sts., is the site of the building occupied by him for trading and other purposes. There the savages would come from many miles around to see the great Pale-face medicine man, dance their wild dances, perform their savage ceremonies and smoke the pipe

of peace. He died July 13th, 1760, and is buried on the farm where he dwelt when alive. On Nov. 13th, 1793, General Washington, accompanied by Gen. Joseph Hiester and other distinguished persons, stood at the grave of the German man, Conrad Weiser, and said, "This departed man, in a most difficult period, rendered many services to his country, posterity will not forget him." He was born in Alstätt, Württemberg. His descendant, Dr. C. Z. Weiser, of the Reformed Church, is now preparing his biography, a matter too long neglected.

THE TULPEHOCKEN SETTLEMENT, after Braddock's defeat in 1755, was the scene of the most frightful Indian massacres. History tells us that in one week in Tulpehocken district, at the foot of the Blue Mountains, 32 men, 21 women and 17 children, 70 souls, were murdered in the most frightful manner; 24 houses and barns burned, the cattle destroyed or carried off. Under the energetic action of Conrad Weiser and his friend Captain Spyker, the settlers armed and the Indians driven back. The like barbarities were perpetrated in Northampton county, hundreds of the inhabitants were killed and their buildings destroyed. In Feb. 1766, they murdered, killed and burned in Albany township. Early in March they inflicted similar cruelties at a place called Conrad's Mills, in Berks county. March 24th the house of Peter Kluck, 14 miles from Reading, was set on fire, and the family, five in number, murdered. Later in 1763 in September, about 24 miles from Reading, the settlements beyond Blue Mountains were attacked, and men, women and children killed, some scalped alive and others carried off. A few days after the home of Frantz Hubler, in Bern township, 18 miles from Reading, was attacked. He was wounded, his wife and several children carried off and three others scalped alive. There were about 200 miles of an extended frontier so exposed to the invasion of the Indians that no man could go to sleep within 10 or 15 miles of the border without the fear of having his house burned and himself and family led into captivity before the next morning. No man could tell where the Indians would strike the next blow. These are a specimen of the

DANGERS AND HARDSHIPS

to which the German settlers of this section of the State were subjected. Yet history, while detailing barbarities inflicted by the merciless savages in other sections, has been so written that the children of Eastern Pennsylvania never knew of any other Indians than King Philip, Pontiac and Black Hawk. They never hear of

LIEUT. COL. WEISER,

and it is by merest accident that they learn that among the German settlers were any who ever killed or were killed by Indians. Yet here were our ancestors within the boundaries of this very county, exiles from their native land, in hourly and nightly peril of their lives. Liable at any moment to be shot in the field, their wives and children liable to be shot down or carried off while visiting their neighbors, liable to be awakened in the dead hour of night by savage yells, only to behold the devouring flames rolling over their barns and houses, with death from an Indian tomahawk or rifle certain to meet them at the door should they attempt to escape. And with all this they conquered, and their descendants are here to-day, many of them owning and tilling the land their ancestors fought to wrest from the Indians. Among the persons whose names have come down to us with Conrad Weiser's sons, as powerful against the Indians and Capt. Spyker already mentioned, were DIEDRICH SCHNEIDER AND JOSEPH HIESTER, the latter born in German Switzerland. He, with his two brothers, settled Bernville. In

9

their many encounters with the Indians they were victorious, and impressed them with such a wholesome fear that the savages avoided the neighborhood of Bernville for a long time. Before leaving this branch of my subject it is proper to state that in 1711, 1000 Germans were engaged in the Expedition to Quebec. That with reference to Braddock's expedition he himself writes, May 24th, 1755, in a letter to Gov. Morris, of New York, complaining of his disappointment. "In short in every instance, but in my contract for Pennsylvania wagons, I have been deceived and met with nothing but lies and villainy." There were few wagons in Pennsylvania owned by any but our people.

THE REVOLUTION.

We now approach the period of the revolution, a chapter in our history to which Germans of all creeds, whether foreign or native born, can point with pride. Our ancestors—your countrymen—knew what tyranny and oppression were. They had been driven or fled from a country whither they had been the victims and sport either of the foreign invaders or of their own rulers. They had already faced many dangers, and in spite of all, with no aid from their own country, with little, if any, from the proprietary government, they had maintained themselves and made the wilderness to bloom and blossom as the rose. Their moral life previously had been unexceptional. In 1780, 8th month, 14th, Rev. Jed. Andrews writes of us: "They are diligent, sober, frugal people, rarely charged with any misdemeanors. Many of them live yet in the county, have farms, and by their industry and frugal way of living grow rich. They have the best lands in the Province." In 1738 Gov. Thomas said of them: "I believe it may be truthfully said that the present flourishing condition of it (the Province) is in a great measure owing to the industry of these people; it is not altogether the fertility of the soil, but the number and industry of the people that makes a country flourish." With it all they manifested a spirit of intelligent independence second to that of no race in the world's history. In 1723, rather than suffer the oppressive exactions of the Governor of New York, they had settled in Tulpehocken. As early as 1750, according to Thos. Penn's letter, they had learned to vote in a way that he denominated "insolent." He writes the wrong word. It was independent. In 1755, 400 Germans marched in an orderly and peaceable manner to Philadelphia and, in person, petitioned for the passage of just laws for protection from Indians. The Governor of the Province was then endeavoring to pass laws for raising money by a system of taxation which did not embrace the large quantities of lands then held by the proprietaries to which they were justly opposed. The same year at an election in Reading for Sheriff, Jonas Seely, a candidate for the office, at the opening of Poll had all voices in his favor, but it being reported that he was of the Governor's Party, "the Germans" left him to a man and he was defeated. In 1757, June 30th, Gov. Denny writes to the Proprietaries—"that th Berks County Militia refuse to serve undereany but their own officers."

One of the reasons why

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

was not settled as the East was, by our ancestors, was that those lands being claimed by Virginia, a parish tax was exacted for support of English Establishment in that state. Several Germans proposed to the Ohio Company, in whose charge they were, to take and settle with 200 families, 50,000 acres of these lands, if they could be exempt from this tax. To this, though favored by Laurence Washington, the State of Virginia would not agree and thus this section lost the

advantages of the German emigration. Later still in 1764 we find them memorializing the Governor and Assembly among other grievances on the inequality of representation of the counties of Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Berks and Northampton, they altogether having but 10 members, Philadelphia, Chester and Bucks sending 26. It will thus be perceived that the spirit that makes freemen burned brightly in the German's breast when occasion required. Bancroft says, "at the commencement of the revolution we hear little of them, not from their want of zeal in the good cause, but from their modesty." In the occurrences that led to the revolutionary war the student will always find the German name. In 1765, after the passage of the obnoxious Stamp Act, to the compact agreeing to import no British goods, are found the names of the German merchants of Philadelphia, Heinrich Keppele, Sr., Heinrich Keppele, Jr., Johann Steinmetz, David Deschler, Daniel Wister, Johann Wister and others, and Christopher Sauer's German paper did not conceal its disgust. "If we do hear little of them," as Bancroft says, "we hear from them, there are their names." Bancroft further says, in the same book, "They kept themselves purposely in the background, leaving it to those of English origin to discuss the violation of English liberty, and to decide whether the time for giving battle had come." We think this is a grave mistake. Reasoning from the spirit they showed in the causes of emigration, their contests with the proprietaries and their action during the Indian struggles, the Germans needed no man to tell them what was a violation of liberty. The English nation owed its existence to the Teuton race, its liberty to that blood, to the Saxon, the Germanic race. It was Hengist and Horsa, the Saxons, saved them from the Picts and Scots in the 5th century. They and their Saxons founded the jury system. To say therefore that they left others to discuss violations of English liberty or any liberty is contrary to their previous history and is to charge our people with stupidity and ignorance of what was transpiring under their very eyes. The record is the other way. Mr. Bancroft is not to be charged with intentional injustice toward us, for he does say in the article from which we have quoted "But when the resolution was taken no part of the country was more determined in its patriotism than the German counties of Pennsylvania and Virginia. The question is did they help to take the resolution? "The Americans of that day who were of

GERMAN BIRTH

or descent formed a large part of the population of the United States; not less than a twelfth of the whole, and perhaps formed even a larger portion of the insurgent people." In 1747 they were already three-fifths of the whole population of the State—the whole population being then 200,000. Emigration continued up to 1776. Pennsylvania was the most flourishing of the colonies. We believe that this estimate is below the actual figures. But at all events the great majority of the citizens of Pennsylvania were, at the outbreak of the Revolution, Germans by birth or descent. They had their own newspapers. They had their churches and school houses, learned and independent ministers, and at Philadelphia a German society or gesellschaft. To ask the world, in view of their antecedents, to believe that this majority, with these means of information, with their intelligence and character, could so restrain the impulses of their race and blood as to "purposely stand in the background, and be floated by the minority, without materially helping to take the resolution to fight," is putting an unreasonable burden on our credulity. Then we must remember that in addition to having smelled

gunpowder among the Indians, there were many who were old soldiers or the descendants of soldiers, who, like Christopher Ludwig, believed "Ohne Schwefel und Salpeter keine Freiheit."

WITHOUT SULPHUR AND SALTPETRE NO FREEDOM.

The record is right on this point. In the Provincial Convention of 1774 and 1775 appear names like Schiesser, Ludwig, Christopher, Schulz, Baltzer, Gehr—the two latter from Berks county. In the Committee of Correspondence such names as Hillegas, Engel and others. In 1774 the large meeting was held at Reading in which the people declared themselves for liberty.

The names of Germans are found in abundance in all the Vigilance Committees established at that time. A pamphlet, which was printed in German in Philadelphia in 1775, is a most important piece of evidence. It is entitled, "Message of the Evangelical Lutheran and Reformed Church Consistory and of the officers of the German Association in Philadelphia, to the German Inhabitants of the Provinces of New York and North Carolina." It demonstrates that the Germans had arrayed themselves already on the side of freedom and needed no instructions on that point. It says, "we have from time to time daily with our eyes seen, that the people of Pennsylvania generally, rich and poor, approve of the conclusions of Congress: especially have the Germans of Pennsylvania near and far from us distinguished themselves, and not only established their militia, but have formed picked corps of rangers, who are ready to march wherever it may be required," and those among the Germans, who cannot serve personally, are throughout willing to contribute according to their means to the common good." The pamphlet was one of 40 pages and is an exhaustive statement of the question. It ends with this significant sentence, "By order of the assembled members of the Evangelical, Lutheran and Reformed Church Consistory and of the authorities of the German Society." It is signed Ludwig Wels, who was then President of the Society. Here then was the expressed thought of organized Societies, the month pieces of the Germans, as early as August 1775, which could not have been the growth of a few months. Why did the Continental Congress so soon and so unhesitatingly seek to utilize the Germans? Why was it so easy to obtain soldiers in the German Counties, if the Germans had not thought of the issue and helped to make it before the call came? May 25th, 1776, Congress resolved to create a

GERMAN REGIMENT,

4 Companies from Maryland and 4 from Penna. By July 17th, Penna. had raised her four and an additional one, which was commanded by Geo. Woepper, an old German soldier, who had served under Washington in numerous campaigns. Washington most urgently recommended him to Congress as a reliable man. Among the officers appear such names as Hansagger, Burckhard, Rollwagen, Lora, Hubley, Boyer, Schaeffer, Kotz, Weiser, Bower, Yeiser. On July 4th, 1776, the day the Declaration was proclaimed, a meeting was held of the officers and privates of 53 Battalions of Associators of the Colony of Pennsylvania at Lancaster—Berks, Bucks, Lancaster, York and Northampton Co's. were represented by Germans. Here they are from Berks — Lavan, Hiester (of these there were three, Joseph, John and Daniel, who were an enduring name in the Revolution), Lindermath, Loeffler, Kremer, Lutz, Muller, Keim, Hartman, Filbert, Wenrich, Spohn, Moser, Seltzer and the like. Berks county had seven battalions in the war. Our people were at Trenton, Princeton, Long Island, Brandywine and Germantown. There

can be no question that throughout the war the German emigrant and his descendants gave abundant proof that the blood which centuries before had, under the great Herrman, in the forests of Germany, before the birth of Christ, broken the mighty power of Rome; which in later years built up the powerful German empire, afterwards disrupted, but the fragments of which we now in our day, after one of the greatest wars of modern times, after the lapse of ages, have seen gathered together under one banner and one sovereign—still flowed in their veins. On every hillside they drew their swords in defence of liberty, under the ensign of the young Republic. On every battle field they baptised their devotion in their own blood with a patriotism surpassed by soldiers of no race. They toiled and suffered on the march, on the field, in the roar of battle—they died that the nation might live. I cannot close this part of my discourse without making again green with grateful tribute the graves of the

GALLANT STEUBEN AND DE KALE,

and endeavoring this day to raise in your hearts new monuments to their memory. The one had learned the art of War under Frederick the Great, the other under Marshall Saxe. To them we owe much. The latter, after years of the most useful and tiresome service, fell on the bloody field of Camden pierced with eleven wounds, regretted by friend and foe, who watched with tenderest concern by his bedside till life had fled. Soldier to the last, his thoughts were of his brave comrades, and before expiring he charged his adjutant to give them "thanks for their valor, and bid them an affectionate farewell." Native born citizens of America, you who at times have suffered yourselves to be banded together oath bound, in imitation of the British tyrants of colonial times, to obstruct and hinder those political rights of aliens which you have now guaranteed by law to the negro, what had this gallant German to gain by coming to the winds of America? He left position, promise of preferment, everything that could dazzle the mind of a soldier, or gratify an honorable ambition. He left the society of a charming and lovely wife to whom he was devoted, the quiet of a home he yearned for, and met death at the hands of an enemy with whom he had no quarrel, that you and I and our descendants forever might be free in our civil rights, our political rights and that we might without prejudice to either, worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience. Gabriel's trump alone can summon the unknown and forgotten Germans, who in that eventful period died martyrs to the sacred cause of freedom, whom some of you would again crucify in their countrymen. And what was the spirit of Steuben? Listen to his letter to Congress, Dec. 1777: "HONORABLE GENTLEMEN:—The honor of seeing a nation engaged in the noble enterprise of defending its right and liberties was the motive that brought me to this continent. I ask neither riches nor titles. I am come here from the remotest end of Germany at my own expense. I should willingly purchase at the expense of my blood the honor of having my name enrolled among those of the defenders of your liberty." To Gen. Washington he says, "I shall only add that the object of my greatest ambition is to render your country all the services in my power, and to deserve the title of a citizen of America by fighting for the cause of your liberty." Well did he fulfil his pledge. He brought order out of chaos. He created our Regular Army. He taught them manoeuvres. He introduced into the Army such a system of drills, inspections and reports as enabled our raw militia to combat successfully with the British Regulars, and saved the treasury \$600,000. He made the American infantry equal to the best troops of the time. The

system he laid down continued to be the only one known to the American army for a long time, with such modifications as the great wars of the French revolution introduced. Unlike DeKalb, he lived to see the struggling colonies become free and independent States. He himself became an honored citizen of New York, living upon a tract of land in Oneida county near the present Utica. In 1794, full of years and honors, he died and was laid to rest under a hemlock tree near his residence. On the very spot a public road was afterward laid out and the old warrior's cotin was exposed. By the hands of some affectionate friends it was removed to a neighboring hillside and covered by a simple slab, upon which appears the name "Steuben." Underneath rests all that is mortal of that brave German man who, having served abroad in seven campaigns for two and twenty years, gave his mature experience to the cause of American liberty. He ranked next to Washington and Greene, the great Generals of the Revolution.

But it was not only in warlike services that our people distinguished themselves. They

ENJOYED WASHINGTON'S CONFIDENCE to a marked degree. He was never deceived by them, and he knew that his appeals for aid were never in vain. The granaries and wagons and storehouses of the German farmers of Pennsylvania could not be supplied from any other source; they were indispensable to the cause. Roading was headquarters for military stores. The log house, southeast corner of Sixth and Franklin, was an old granary. But it did not stop there. The gold and silver which these frugal people had gathered by years of previous industry, was cheerfully yielded up for public use. At Washington's request nine citizens of Pennsylvania gave their personal bonds to pay in gold and silver £21,000, or over \$100,000, for provisions to supply the Army of Liberty. I give you their names—Michael Hillegas, John Steinmetz, Abraham Bickley, Joseph Bleivor, Henry Keppel, Fred. C. Hassencler, Isaac Melcher, John Schaeffer, Andrew Doz. Is there any doubt of their ancestry? During the whole period of the war Michael Hillegas was the Treasurer of the United States. I must not forget in this connection Washington's "honest friend," Christopher Ludwig. He spent of his time and money. In the convention at which Gov. Mifflin proposed a subscription for purchase of arms, when discouraging voices were heard the old soldier arose and said, "Mr. President, I am only a

POOR GINGERBREAD BAKER, but write down for me £200." This closed the debates. He was a man of immense influence, he always could rally the Germans and always did so. He also believed that "a false weight was an abomination to the Lord," for when Washington told him that he simply wished to have a pound of bread for a pound of flour, the old man said, "no, you shall have 135 lbs." Christopher Ludwig should be canonized and made the Patron Saint of the bakers of the land. These are a sample of the deeds of the Germans in the Revolution; and the records and traditions of the times, scattered throughout Eastern Pennsylvania and the valley of Virginia, abound with similar examples; so that it cannot be truthfully denied that in everything that contributed to the independence of America the German men stood second to none! Truthfully indeed has Bancroft said: "Neither they nor their descendants have laid claim to all the praise that was their due."

The second war of the Revolution, that of 1812, is so recent that there are so many persons still living who can bear testimony to the patriotism of the citizens of Eastern Pennsylvania, that it is a waste of time to dwell upon it. Suffice it to say that when it occurred

Simon Snyder, a Pennsylvania German, occupied the gubernatorial chair of this State.

THE CIVIL WAR.

In the civil war that burst upon the land in 1861, on both sides of the controversy, foreign Germans and descendants of Germans of every creed, ably maintained the reputation of German valor. 80,000 Germans fought on the Union side. How many on that of the Confederate side we have not had time to ascertain. On the Union side we have such names, foreign and native, as Schimmelpennig, Siegle, Rosecrans, and a host of others. To detail them, rank and file, is to write a large page of your country's glory. Amongst the confederates we recognize such names as Zolllooffer, Imboden, Deshler, Yeager and others. If their names were written, out many books would not contain them, and looking over the roll we would be very forcibly reminded of Rupp's 30,000 names of German Immigrants to Pennsylvania. We have yet to learn that the laurels their countrymen and ancestors had won in many a well contested field in Europe, in the Indian wars, the Revolution, 1812, and Mexico suffered through them. So far as money was concerned the German counties of Pennsylvania did their full share; but here the subject becomes too extensive, nor is it necessary to dwell upon it in view of the fact that thousands of the survivors of that war are to be found in every part of the land. We must also bear this in mind—that the Eastern counties of Pennsylvania have been a hive from which, since the Revolution, year after year swarms of Pennsylvania Germans with plow, and axe, and wagon have penetrated into every county of Pennsylvania, in some instances actually captivating by arts of peace as Hengist and Horsa their Saxon ancestors did by arms from the Britons, the lands from the descendants of the original settlers; for instance, Franklin county, settled, we believe, by Scotch-Irish. They have migrated East, West, North and South; so that it is not possible for one to go to any section of the country, even to the remotest, that you are not certain to find a Pennsylvania German or his descendants; so too with the countrymen of his ancestors, so that, were we to undertake to write or speak all that might be said, we would be writing the greater part of our country's prosperity and history.

THEIR INFLUENCE ON POLITICS, TRADE, COMMERCE AND ARTS OF LIFE.

Their influence on politics, commerce, trade and American civilization is beyond the power of any one man fully to comprehend or portray. If you will examine the Roll of Constitutional Conventions held in this State, beginning with that of 1776 down you everywhere find the German name. If you will look into the Records of Political Conventions of both parties, national or otherwise, there they are again. Take up the roll of your National Congress at this day, there you will find them. The records of your own State Legislature, you will find them there. And in all these bodies, past and present, you will in vain look for minds more able, counsellors more active or sagacious, hearts more upright, and records freer from taint even in this day and generation, when investigations are so rife, and when there has been such wide-spread demoralization in every branch of the public service. And to look back to past administrations in this State, is to look upon green spots in its history. Nowhere do we find any more creditable than those of Snyder, Hlester, Shulze, Wolf, Ritner or Shunk. Well have they guarded the honor, the dignity and the treasury of the State, and indubly have they left their mark upon her institutions. It was under George Wolf, the son of a plain German emigrant, and mainly by his untiring efforts

and perseverance that the free school system was finally established in this State. Politicians, to subserve miserable party purposes, and to open an avenue to gorge themselves with public plunder, have lately gotten into the habit of clamoring for more guarantees for its safety. Absurd assumption, that sees danger where none is menaced! They call it the bulwark of the American Republic. Let these tricksters remember that the son of a German emigrant stood upon the outermost citadel. Let them remember that its safety is better guaranteed by German integrity, German intellect and German firmness, than by their windy resolutions. We wish also to remind you that it was nothing but the treachery of his supporters that interfered with putting at the head of the Presidential ticket of one of the great parties of the country the name of a German, the gentleman who so quietly and unostentatiously administers the office of Governor of this Commonwealth.

Take up the

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT,

your Colleges and Universities in this State. You there find the German coming up to the full measure of his well established fame. In the pulpit of every religious denomination for which Germans have any attachment their priests and pastors are as liberal, pious and learned as any that can be found. At the bar and on the bench and rostrum you will find them by scores, honored able and diligent. Frederick Smith, a native of this county, attained to the dignity of the Supreme bench in our State. He was a grandson of one of the first pastors of the Lutheran church, corner of 6th and Washington streets, and father of Hon. Henry W. Smith. It is a notable fact that on our own bench two law judges are pure German origin—Judges Hagenman and Sassaman—are flanked on either side by two Associate Judges

BUSKIRK AND BRUCKMAN

in whose veins flows the blood of the Netherlands. Their names will be found in the records of the Thirty Years War. Your Congressmen and Senators, with very few exceptions have been of the same stock, Hiesters, Snyders, Ritters, Keim, Muhlenberg, Getz, and have held up their heads with the best, they were descendants of the very earliest settlers distinguished in the Indian and revolutionary wars. Your present Congressman has the blood of the old Indian fighters of Beruville. So too with your State Legislature, your banking institutions—everywhere you will find them. Indeed the names of those who occupy the leading places in society, places of trust and business, if collected, would read like the muster roll of a German regiment of Frederick the Great, the Emperor William, or any other German King, with here and there a foreign name which would represent the soldiers of fortune whom we find in the ranks of every great army.

If we cast our eyes in the direction of

GREAT COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES,

we will find the German blood asserting its equality with the best. John W. Garret, the great railroad man of the Baltimore and Ohio, Frank Gowen of the Philadelphia & Reading, have in them the blood of Germans from Eastern Pennsylvania—two railroad presidents whose names have never been connected with improper practices in legislation. But David Deshler, bearing a name frequently occurring in the earliest records of Eastern Pennsylvania, from whence he emigrated to the State of Georgia, was the only man of whom we know, that ever owned a whole railroad, lock, stock and barrel. If our recollection serves us right it was the road between Mobile and Atlanta. He paid for it too. His blood relative are numerous in the south and in Eastern Pennsylvania,

mainly in Lehigh county. In this connection we must not omit the name of

JACOB YODER, OF READING,

who was the first white man to float a flat boat down the Mississippi. This was in 1732. He died at Louisville, Kentucky, and is there buried.

Fred Grafi, a descendant of one of the earliest settlers, constructed the Fairmount water works. The public buildings of Eastern Pennsylvania, outside of Philadelphia, we are speaking of now; her churches, her court houses, her school houses and their appointments are the first in the State, and in point of size, architectural and decorative beauty, those built by the German stock surpasses by far those of other races. It is not necessary for me to speak of the advance of the race in agriculture here in the centre of the garden spot of Pennsylvania. What God and German industry have done for the country in this respect, neither the pen of the poet, the pencil of the painter, nor the tongue of the orator can portray.

We must not forget also to pay a just tribute to working men of German blood in this land. Their humble, continuous, productive industry under free institutions, like the streams in the bowels of the earth flowing silently on till they mingle together a mighty ocean, upon which the world's rich argosies sail, have contributed to place the country's prosperity upon an enduring basis. In their case, as it ever must, frugality, good habits, energy and prudence have met their usual reward in a greater self-respect, comfort, independence and the confidence and respect of the community. May the day not long be delayed when God will grant the country wisdom to found such a policy as will entirely restore the industries of the country, and may the day never dawn when oppression and unjust laws will deprive labor of its just reward.

THE CENTENNIAL.

Thus have I, the American descendant of a German emigrant, as best I could out of the mass of materials collected by myself, aided by some friends, endeavored to tell the story of the German in this land. I know there are many omissions, the future and others must supply them. I have sought to describe no race. With feelings of honest pride and profound pleasure have I endeavored to set before his descendants and his countrymen, in such a way as to deserve willing recognition, the great and useful services that it has rendered since 1684, towards making the Grand Exhibition now open at Philadelphia possible. You, gentlemen of the societies, under whose auspices this celebration has been held, find ample reasons in the pure records of our race for a German celebration of the Centennial anniversary. This county of Berks, teeming with memories of the dangers, trials, hardships, sufferings, lives and deaths of the German settlers, is a most fitting place for the celebration. I cannot refrain here from pointing to the fact that the first township in the State to fill the quota called for by the Centennial managers was that of Heidelberg, the region of country first settled by Germans near the grave of Conrad Weiser.

The record proves that wherever placed we are abreast of any race in history. That

THE GERMAN HAS DONE HIS FULL SHARE and as much as any other race towards the greatness, wealth, prosperity and everything else that goes to the building up of the State. Because that record is right I desire to rebuke those persons who, by changing their names, have sought to conceal their origin, or who from any other motive deny their German ancestry. They are

WORSE THAN BARBARIANS.

A German name here is a mark of nobility—a title of honor.

2. I desire to draw attention to those vir-

ness of moderation, frugality and industry that made your State so prosperous, and to tell my fellow citizens that if we would restore and maintain the individual and solid prosperity of former days we must progress backward from this cursed modern extravagance, and undue desire to grow rich and live without working to German house-keeping.

That if we wish to preserve the commercial credit of the people, the honor and dignity of the State, and remove grievous burdens from the back of the tax-payer, we must progress backward to German integrity and the purity of the early German administrations of the State.

I desire to encourage among children and young men a feeling of pride in their German ancestry, a desire to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with their history to the end, that they may be inspired like to virtuous and the good of their fellowmen and the State. Like Alexander there are

WORLD'S YET FOR GERMAN BLOOD
and brain, and energy, and valor to conquer. There are heights yet on which we must plant the German banner. Honors in every walk in life to which we must attach the German name. We must yield to no race under the sun. To this end we must become imbued with that deep respect for religion that is so characteristic of our German ancestry of every denomination or creed; we must cultivate their virtues, we must study the language and institutions and respect the laws of the country. If the laws are not right we must change them. With liberty for our watchword we must give notice to the world that the German race here on this Western Continent will not permit or countenance any measures that interfere with a man's rights of conscience, that every man shall have the right to pursue any honorable calling and to worship God in any form of religion without prejudice to his civil or political rights. In other words let the world know that the blood of the German race is to-day what it was in the forests of Germany before Europe knew what liberty was—free—that they are now in favor of

CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY,
and are determined that this shall be in deed the land of freedom restrained only by law. May we not then hope that the career now opening upon the German race at home and abroad will be the page in the World's History, and that their descendants for untold cycles will meet century after century as we do this day, to celebrate deeds of German liberty, German valor, German patriotism, German virtue in American History.

Times and Dispatch

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1892.

THE MODERN NEWSPAPER.

ADDRESS BEFORE THE PRESS CLUB AND ITS GUESTS AT KLAPPERTHAL.

The Modern Newspaper the Vanguard of Civilization—The Strong Right Arm of the Judiciary—The Twin-Brother of the Pulpit.

Mr. Thomas C. Zimmerman, editor of the TIMES, in response to a call from the Reading Press Club at their entertainment at the Klapperthal Pavilion yesterday, spoke as follows on "The Modern

Newspaper." The speaker was frequently and loudly applauded throughout the delivery of his address. He said:

It has been claimed that, but for Homer and the Greek dramatists and poets, Greece, with all its wealth of associations, would to-day be unknown; that but for them Byron would have had no interest in an enslaved country, and that where

"The mountains look on Marathon
And Marathon looks on the sea,"

there would be a land of no associations to fire heart and courage. If this be true, what, then, would be known of this busy world—"its fluctuations and its vast concerns"—were there no papers to chronicle its daily happenings?

Chauncey Depew once said that two events happened within two years of each other in the sixteenth century which had greater influence upon human rights and liberties than anything which has occurred during the Christian era. These were the landing of the Pilgrims upon Plymouth Rock and the founding of the first newspaper in the English language.

The first American newspaper, said he, was founded over two hundred years ago, but, following the traditions of the past, the royal authority instantly suppressed it. The second effort of the censor to prohibit the criticism of officials and the discussion of current questions created Benjamin Franklin and lighted the fires of the American Revolution.

Continuing, Mr. Depew said: "When royal governors no longer dared to seize and subservient legislatures to enact statutes to destroy the press, that cunning fiction of the law, the greater the truth the greater the libel, became a deadly instrument for vengeance and punishment in the hands of unscrupulous and arbitrary authorities. But the facts and fictions, the laws and precedents of other and older civilizations were swept away by the rising tide and resistless current of the new democracy.

History informs us, in the case of that sturdy old editor, John Peter Zenger, who in the city of New York gave expression to the popular discontent and exposed the iniquities and assailed the tyrannical acts of the Government, that the Governor ordered the Mayor and Council to attend the burning of his paper by the hangman, but they refused.

After nine months' imprisonment he was finally brought to trial. Against the wishes of the Governor and the instructions of the Judge, the jury considered the truth of the alleged libel a justification for its publication, and acquitted him. The bonfires and the illuminations, the universal popular rejoicing and applause which greeted the verdict were the public manifestations that the people had found and freed their tribune.

Ever since those memorable days when the enfranchisement and pervading force of the press was made possible by the charter of equality of all men before the law, which was framed in the cabin of

er, the newspaper has been a
y increasing power until to-day
s to have almost reached the pin-
e of a rich, ripe maturity. However
me people may decry it, and affect to
minimize its influence for good upon the
generations that are growing up around
it, the race is being more and more en-
lightened and ennobled through its
agency. A greater truth was, perhaps,
never uttered than that "Providence
never imparted to man a more effectual
means for the emancipation of mind and
the overthrow of tyranny than the press."

The modern newspaper is like the
sensitive plate of the photographer, and
records the story of the lightning as
it flashes its symbols across continents and
under the sea with an almost divine in-
telligence. The entire globe is its field
of operations, and every nook and corner
of the earth is made to yield its tribute
to the sleepless energy of its searching
vision. Pacifists and his slow-going
compeers have no abiding-place in the
sanctum of such a busy workshop, where
nimble fingers, as if directed by some
wizard of the mind, are transforming
bits of metal into serried hosts of thought
that need but the endless web gliding
through the grasp of the cylinders to
vitalize the leaden mass, and imbue it
with a life that is well-nigh deathless.

So intelligent an observer as Justice
Harlan, of the Supreme Court of the
United States, recently expressed it as
his belief that the country is largely in-
debted for its protection from political
corruption, jobbery and extravagance to
the vigilance and public spirit of the
press. True, the work done by news-
papers, in exposing, dragging into the
fierce light of public opinion, public
wrongs and abuses, is not appreciated at
its real value. Yet the fact remains that
such wrongs and abuses, held up to the
scorn and hatred of the moral sense of
the public, have been fatally assailed and
their long-continued survival is impossi-
ble. It is only the wrongs which lurk
unperceived in obscure places, that are
hidden by darkness and silence, which
live and flourish in pernicious activity.

The press is the vanguard of civilization.
It never sleeps. No interval of even
comparative repose is allowed to stand
in the way of its duty to the public. The
demands upon it are inexorable. But it
honors them all with a swiftness that is
born of the lightning. It is, too, the
strong right arm of the judiciary. It
throws light upon judicial proceedings.
It discusses, it criticises, judges and
sometimes even condemns. It is, more-
over, a twin-brother of the pulpit, and
the mutual good fellowship, born of truth
and intensified by an enthusiastic devo-
tion to duty, is all-potential in the lift-
ing up of man and in steadily advancing
the standard of civilization.

There are those who habitually decry
the newspapers and who depreciate the
magnitude of their work and the full
measure of their influence. They are of

a class who, notwithstanding they are
daily fed by these papers with the pabu-
lum which keeps their dull senses alive,
and supplies them with the very conver-
sation they retail, are doing what they
can in their feeble way to prejudice the
public against them. They are the
stumbling-blocks that the newspaper re-
porter encounters in his daily walks.
They are the people who meet the most po-
lite approach as if it were an insolent in-
trusion, and resent inquiries for intelli-
gence which are entirely legitimate with
rude rebuffs that cost them far more time
and breath than would be needed for a
brief statement of the information that is
sought.

Said Rev. George S. Horro, an eminent
clergyman of Boston recently at a public
dinner in response to a toast:

"People are very apt to blame editors
for the scandalous matter that is found
in newspapers, and yet if they could for
a little while step inside of the editorial
office and see how much salacious matter
is suppressed, how editors have put
within their hands weapons to strike
down reputations and characters, and see
how that matter is put into the waste
basket, I think, instead of so much pro-
miscuous condemnation of the press, you
would wonder that the press of the coun-
try, take it all through, is as good as it
is. It is a testimonial not only to the
morality and high principle of editors,
but to the moral tone of the community,
which is constantly demanding that
newspapers shall not be salacious and
scandalous."

While all this is to the credit of jour-
nalism, it is true that after a certain
fashion, men and women can live with-
out reading newspapers or advertising in
them. Robinson Crusoe did neither of
these things. But no one can examine
the lives of these men and women with-
out being struck with the dwarfing and
deforming effects of such unwholesome
abstention from the natural food of the
human family. It is a little like the
anecdote concerning a new theory of the
Exodus once elaborated by a negro
preacher who told his congregation that
the Red Sea was frozen over, and so
afforded the Israelites a safe passage, but
when Pharaoh with his heavy iron
chariots attempted to cross he broke
through and was drowned. A brother
arose and asked an explanation of that
"p'int." Said he, "I's been studyin'
g'ography, and de g'ography say dat am
de place whar de tropics am, and de
tropics am too hot for freezin': de p'int
to be 'splained is 'bout breakin' through
de ice." The preacher straightened him-
self up and said, "Brudder, glad you
axed dat question, for it gives me 'casion
to 'plain it. You see, dat war a great
while ago, befo' dey had any g'ographies,
and befo' dere war any trepics," and (he
might have added) befo' dere war any
newspapers.

And, now, before taking leave, I can-
not refrain from saying a word or two in

commendation of the spirit which, fevery
 low and then, takes us away from the
 rudgery of life and sets us down amid
 beautiful scenes like this—where the
 sympathetic soul may go out for relief
 and comfort, and where there is no
 sound abroad save those tuneful har-
 monies which come from wood and field
 or from the flowing stream, or from the
 droning, buzzing insect world. Taking
 a day out in the leafy month of June, is
 like entering some golden portal that
 leads into a world of bloom and beauty—
 a world where there are songs which no
 nice-fingered art can emulate, where love
 breathes out a sweet contagion, and
 where there are delights like green is-
 lands of eternal youth and never-ending
 joy.

"I never hear" says Burns in one of his
 letters, "the low solitary whistle of the
 curlew in a summer noon, or the wild
 mixed cadence of a troop of gray plovers
 in an autumnal morning, without feel-
 ing an elevation of soul like the euth-
 niasm of devotion or poetry."

Let any but a civilized brute go into
 the country when the apple-blossoms,
 "like foam-wreaths from the eternal
 sea," have burst into bloom, and take a
 peep into their dewy hearts, and inhale
 their odorons qualities, and see how he
 will be lifted up as with an all-perva-
 ding sense of spotless purity and long-
 sustained sweetness. Nor is this a mod-
 icum of the joy which the observer feels
 in this close communion with nature.

Thanks, therefore, to the enterprise
 which, through a liberal expenditure of
 money, has made these lofty environ-
 ments of ours so easily accessible to all.
 There is something positively inspiring
 in the perpetual presence of mountains,
 which of all natural objects are confess-
 edly "the finest symbols of generous at-
 tainment." Some one has said—and he
 had the mountains in his mind when he
 wrote it—that "what is noblest and best
 is placed over us. Excellence is a height;
 greatness is an elevation; virtues are
 lofty. Prayer goes up. We improve as
 we ascend. Heaven is arched over our
 heads. Heroic souls scale the mount of
 God." In a word, both those divinest
 motions of our spirits, aspiration and
 veneration, are upward-looking. Those
 objects, therefore, that most impel one to
 look away from earth, above, beyond it,
 are obviously the highest incentives to
 high endeavor and all generous attain-
 ment.

*From Eagle
 Reading Pa.
 Date May 28/92*

old log house at the corner of Highland
 and Front sts., recalls the murder of John
 Witman 35 years ago. In 1827, before
 Womelsdorf was incorporated into a bor-
 ough, Abraham Gulden kept a hotel in
 this house, where old-time frolics were
 often held. It was in April of that year dur-
 ing moving that John Witman and Jos.
 Angstadt had a quarrel which ended in a
 fist encounter. Witman, however, had
 the best of it, and Angstadt, it is said,
 vowed that he would get even. In the
 evening a frolic was held at the Gulden
 house. Witman was playing the violin.
 Angstadt was there, bought a pie and
 said he would prefer a sharp butcher
 knife with which to eat the pie. Ap-
 proaching Witman, who was playing the
 violin while Jacob Bender was dancing a
 jig, he struck him a blow, the knife pene-
 trating the head above the left eye and the
 point protruding on the opposite side kill-
 ing him instantly. Angstadt, in making his
 escape, yelled at the top of his voice: "I
 have murdered a man in the first degree,"
 but he was soon apprehended and put un-
 der arrest. Strange to say, it was seen
 that he struck the blow, but not that he
 had the knife in his hand. He was, how-
 ever, found guilty of manslaughter, and
 served a term in the penitentiary. Ang-
 stadt was a traveling cigarmaker, and
 was employed by Wm. McConnell, who
 carried on the trade here at that time,
 and grandfather of William McConnell,
 living on North 2d st. Charles Phillips,
 veterinary surgeon, of this place, aged 79
 years, was an eye witness to the affray,
 and stood within a few feet to Witman
 when he fell. He says that the crowd
 was dissuaded from lynching Angstadt
 with great difficulty.

*Arrow, Press
 Phila Pa,
 Date May 29/92*

**THE ROMANCE
 OF READING.**

How Conrad Weiser's Sons Carried
 the News of Massacre.

**THE HISTORICAL
 HERO OF BERKS.**

A Town on the Frontier and How
 It Was Planned by the Penns.

AN OLD LANDMARK GONE.
 Scene of a Famous Murder—Death of John
 Rauch—Candidate for Poor Director.
 WOMELSDORF: The tearing down of the

12
10

T FIRST AUCTION
OF CITY LOTS.

Reading as It Is To-Day—The City at
the Junction of the Valleys and Its
Future—One Hundred and
Forty Years of History.

By a Staff Correspondent of THE PRESS.



READING, May 27.—
The blue haze on the Kittatinny foot-hills was deepening into the purple and gray twilight of an October Sunday evening in 1755, as two young men rode eastward down the heavy road that led out of the forest near the present site of Wommelsdorf in Berks County. Without looking to the right or left, or pausing to note that the last rays of the sinking sun were falling in broad bands of sunset glory across their pathway, tinting the treetops with highlights of splendor and staining the gamboge and crimson of dead oak leaves a deeper dye, they rode straight across the wide clearing toward a substantial log farm house which was the one conspicuous object in the foreground of the landscape.

They were sturdy young fellows, with a determined air which sat not lightly upon them and displayed itself in the constant frown which gathered above their eyes. The elder of the two was above 26 years of age; his companion, and brother, was a couple of years his junior. They were roughly clad in homespun, splashed now with dark clayey spots and filled with hurrs and hits of dead forest leaves. The horses which they bestrode with easy grace were flecked with foam on flank and shoulder, and the labored breathing of the brutes as they pounded along at a weary gallop in the fading light told how mercilessly they had been ridden for many hours previous.

THE COMING OF THE MESSENGERS.

As they reached a slight knoll and were for an instant outlined in dusky silhouette against the background of forest and foot-hill, a faint shout reached their ears and the next instant they saw a little group of people gather hurriedly about the doorway of the farmhouse with the commanding figure of an elderly bareheaded man in their midst. There was no answering shout from the rough-riding, stern-looking pair, but in the same dogged, weary gallop, with the frown deepening about their eyes, they drew rein over their jaded horses only when the eager hands of the farm laborers clutched the bridles and the riders flung themselves from the high wooden saddles, and, with a brief but affectionate greeting to the elderly master, strode across the threshold of the homestead with the eager group at their heels.

A sudden bush seemed to have fallen

with the night upon the farm-house. With in, in the faint yellow light of four tallow dips, a half dozen men, and three or four women, stood in a circle with eager, anxious faces listening to the recital of the pair as, directing their conversation to their father, who sat hending forward slightly in absorbed attention, they told the story of murder and arson and outrage which was traveling like wild fire by the lips of other horder messengers along the haiks of the Susquehanna and across the Kittatinny Mountains.

THE STORY OF WAR.

It was a pitiful recital, truly, which Conrad Weiser heard from the lips of his two rough-riding sturdy sons Frederick and Peter, as he sat there with his farm hands and family around him in the light of the farm tallow dips that Sunday night, October 26, 1755. The French with their blood-thirsty Indian allies, were coming toward Tulpehocken, and Heidelberg and Reading; killing and burning as they marched; blazing a pathway to the settlements of Berks in blood and ashes, and strewing it with the unhuried bodies of men and babes. Already had they crossed the Susquehanna and tomahawking and scalping, pillaging and burning, they had desolated every plantation from Thomas McKee's to Hunter's Mill, on either side of the broad river.

Late into that night Conrad Weiser, the historical hero of Reading, and Berks, sat in his farm house writing letters, while his servants and elder sons on fresh horses were riding through the darkness rousing the scattered inhabitants and sending the story of massacre and death throughout all the townships of that portion of the proprietaries' domain.

"Bring guns, swords, pitchforks, and axes with three days' rations, and meet Conrad Weiser at Benjamin Spicker's in Tulpehocken at 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon. The Indians are coming."

This was the tocsin that sounded at every door between sunset and dawn on that eventful night in old Berks. And wherever the news was carried; wherever the hoarse shouts of the messengers rang out of the darkness, and the dull hoof-heats of their horses in the turf died away as they

galloped off to other homes, lights flashed in solitary farm houses and sturdy yeomen waited, not for the coming dawn to clean old flintlocks and cast bullets while wives and daughters prepared the rations for those who were to go forth with Conrad Weiser and his sons.

THE MEETING AT SPICKER'S.

And early into the morning Conrad Weiser, the one time tar burner of Livingston Manor, wrote the story of the threatened peril while Sammy—his son—sat waiting with his horse ready saddled to carry the message to Reading town, where James Reed would spread the alarm among its people.

It was 2 o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, October 27, that Conrad Weiser rode up to Benjamin Spicker's, in Tulpehocken six miles from his Heidelberg home, and found a motley company of 200 yeomen gathered there. Their armament was non-descript, and consisted of flintlock muskets, rifles, swords, pitchforks, axes and hatchets. There was an earnest conference

under the big oak tree in the meadow, which Conrad Weiser, the leading man in the country, declared his intention of going with his neighbor as a common soldier. It was characteristic of the man, but it



FAMILIAR POINTS IN READING.

173, now the Farmers' National Bank. 2.—New fountain in the Park. 3.—House at
 gton Streets. 4.—Penn Square. 5.—A residence on Perkiomen Avenue near the Park. 6.—

T jail, 1770.
 and the sprinkling of Eng-
 and Welsh farmers objected, and their
 and there he was elected to the command.
 In his letter to Governor Morris describ-
 ing the organization of this Indian expedi-
 tion, "to kill and scalp a few Indians," as
 one chronicler of the olden time has put
 it, Conrad Weiser says:—

HE PRAYED ABOVE THE GUNS.

"I made the necessary disposition, and
 the people were divided into companies of
 thirty men in each company, and they
 chose their own officers; that is a captain
 over each company and three inferior offi-
 cers under each, to take care of ten men,
 and lead them on or fire as the captain
 should direct.

"I sent privately for Mr. Kurtz, the Lu-
 threan minister, who lived about a mile
 off, who came and gave an exhortation to the
 men and made a prayer suitable to the
 time. Then we marched toward Susque-
 hanna."

Nothing more strangely picturesque than
 this episode at Benjamin Spickers' farm-
 house can be found in all the subsequent
 history of the province of William Penn.
 The yeomen of Berks County; the Dutch
 of Heidelberg and Tulpehocken; the Welsh
 of Cumen, and the scattered English from
 the banks of the Schuylkill gathered on that
 crisp October afternoon prepared to march
 against the common enemy beyond the
 mountains. The embattled farmers of New
 England, or the raged Continentals encamped
 in the snows around the Valley Forge in
 after years presented in all their grotesque-
 ness of habilament no such outlandish
 armament as distinguished these Minute
 Men of Berks. The best equipped recruit
 in all the little army carried a flintlock
 over his shoulder, while his companion in
 arms, who rode by his side, poised a shin-
 ing pitchfork on his stirrup with all the
 grace of a knight errant of King Arthur's
 round table, while to add effectiveness to
 his outfit a keen edged ax hung by a leather
 thong to his side.

It is the record of history that the de-
 fenders of Berks were lacking in arms and
 ammunition. The letters of Conrad Weiser
 to the Governor are full of appeals
 for this sort of aid and it is not a matter
 of wonder that in defending their homes
 the early settlers of this region resorted to
 every means of defense, and every arm that
 human ingenuity could suggest.

But it is about Conrad Weiser that these
 events and all previous history of Reading
 and the adjacent townships center. In the
 annals of the fourth county of the Com-
 monwealth his name stands side by side
 with the Penns, and the Biddles, the Reads
 and the Levans. He is best known by his
 most recent office before his death, that
 of the first President Judge of Berks
 County.

And who was Conrad Weiser, the histor-
 ical hero of Berks?

WHO WAS CONRAD WEISER?

An exile from the Palatinate; A tar-
 burner of Livingston manor; an Indian in-
 terpreter, an evangelist, a warrior, a judge.
 Every land purchase from the Indians by
 the Penns during the period from 1729 to
 1750 was conducted by him as interpreter,
 and it is the proudest boast of his descend-
 ants that never a complaint as to his justice
 and fairness was ever uttered by either
 party to the transaction.

The story of Conrad Weiser's life is one
 long romance. He was born in a small

village in the county of
 Lemburg, Germany, November . . . He
 was reared in the Lutheran faith, but the
 subsequent persecutions which were visited
 upon the Protestants in the palatinate led
 his father to emigrate with his wife and
 eight children to the New World. Conrad
 was 14 years of age when he landed with
 his parents in New York in 1710. The
 party were classed among the "redemp-
 tionists," those who had been cared for by
 the good Queen Anne and assisted on their
 way to their new homes. Without the
 means to pay their way, with the fires of
 persecution blazing behind them and the
 wide ocean rolling between them and lib-
 erty, the Queen furnished several thousands
 of them with the means to reach America
 on condition that they would repay her
 by giving a certain number of years to her
 service in the colonies.

The "redemptionists" usually pledged the
 labor of their children during their minor-
 ity as a recompense for their passage, and
 thus it was that the family of the Weisers
 removed to Livingston Manor, in New
 York, where for three years they burned
 tar and cultivated hemp in the service of
 the Queen. But their labor soon began to
 assume a form of bondage under the com-
 missioners of the Governor of New York,
 and a protest brought them relief.

RELEASED FROM BONDAGE.

One hundred and fifty families, among
 them the Weisers, removed to Schoharie,
 forty miles west of New York, and here
 the romance proper of Conrad's life began.
 One of the frequent visitors to the frontier
 home of the Weisers was an Indian chief
 of the Mohawk tribe, and in 1713 this chief
 persuaded Conrad to return with him to his
 tribe and learn their language. His father
 agreed to the proposition, and the youth,
 then 18 years of age, accompanied his Indian
 friend. His experiences among the Mo-
 hawks were of the most dramatic nature.
 He was frequently compelled to go for days
 without food; had scarcely clothing during
 the inclement Winter weather to cover his
 nakedness, and to add to the severity of
 his condition he was often forced to fly be-
 fore the tomahawks of some of the drunken
 tribesmen and remain in concealment until
 their anger at the pale-faced visitor had
 abated. He was practically a captive dur-
 ing this period. But he acquired a com-
 mand of the Mohawk tongue, and when he
 returned to his father the following year he
 was able to act as interpreter between the
 Indians and the German settlers in that
 portion of New York.

After nearly ten years of life on this
 frontier the inhabitants were disturbed in
 their possessions and a new migration was
 the result. With a number of others the
 Weiser family removed to Berks County,
 where they settled at Tulpehocken, leaving
 Conrad and his wife—he had married in
 1720—at Schoharie. Six years after his
 family's departure Conrad, with his wife,
 two sons and three daughters followed, and
 located about half a mile east of the present
 village of Womelsdorf.

The Penns very shortly discovered that a
 valuable addition had been made to the set-
 tlement in Tulpehocken. Conrad Weiser's
 familiarity with the Indian language, his
 unerring judgment, his integrity and his
 strong religious convictions singled him
 out from the other thousands of settlers
 in the Schuylkill and Lebanon Valleys.
 His first service for the Penns was in 1831,



PENN STREET LOOKING EAST.

and for nearly thirty years he continued in their service as interpreter and agent, and in the negotiation of treaties. Weiser was among the first to agitate the erection of the county of Berks, and for fourteen years he was unremitting in his efforts in this direction, until his labors were crowned with success in 1852, when he was appointed one of the Judges, having served in the capacity of justice for a number of years previous.

The incident which has been described above was only one of the man thrilling episodes in his life. It is unnecessary to follow him through the French and Indian war. Subsequent to the meeting at Spicker's farm house, he was a lieutenant colonel in the Provincial army and commanded the Second Battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment. He began his life as a warrior by requesting the Lutheran clergyman to bless the nondescript brigade who were going out to "scalp a few Indians;" he closed it with honor to himself and his adopted home.

When the two sons of Conrad rode across the Kittatinny Mountains and through the forests on the foot-hills as messengers of war, Reading was a frontier village of 1000 inhabitants. Its establishment was in this wise.

In their desire to sell all the lands in the province to settlers, the descendants of William Penn in 1733 disposed of that lying east of the Schuylkill near the "Ford," 300 acres in all, where the highway from Tulpehocken to Philadelphia crossed the Schuylkill, to Thomas Lawrence. Eleven hundred acres were set apart about the same time for Richard Hockley for the use of the Penns, this tract extending northwardly along the river. In the same year John and Samuel Finney took out a warrant for 450 acres of land on each side of what is now Penn Street in the city of Reading.

A BIT OF STRATEGY.

Strange as it may appear, the Penns subsequently desired to repurchase this land with a view to establishing a city at this point on the Schuylkill. But neither Lawrence nor the Finneys were willing to sell. Then the quiet Quakers resorted to a bit of strategy which won for them the day. They directed Nicholas Scull to survey the Hockley land, which had been reserved for them, into town lots. Thomas Penn

took such a personal interest in this strategic movement that he was present in person when the lines were run for the proposed city. But water was hard to obtain in the Hockley plan, while it was abundant on the Lawrence property, which had been increased in 1738 by the purchase by Lawrence of 137 1-2 acres additional in the rear of his first tract, and in every way the latter was most desirable. But Thomas Penn, although a non-combatant, was a peaceful strategist.

The movement toward a town upon the Hockley land, and the fact that he would be left out in the suburbs, brought the recalcitrant Lawrence to terms; he finally surrendered and conveyed both his tracts to Thomas Jenkins on the 30th of December, 1745, and four days later Jenkins conveyed the property to Richard Hockley and Richard Peters, who were interested in the reconveyance of the same to the Penns. On the 6th of March, 1748, these gentlemen turned the property over to Thomas and Richard Penn, and, having accomplished their purpose, the scheme for a city on the Hockley site was abandoned. The Finneys also surrendered to the Penns in the same way.

MEN OF IDEAS.

Within six months after the final transfer the city of Reading was laid out in lots of sixty feet front and on the 15th of June, 1749, the sale took place.

In all the light of our nineteenth century progress we are apt to regard certain real estate movements in various parts of the country as phenomenal. The planting of towns in Southern wildernesses, such as New England City and Anniston and Jeanette in our own Westmoreland, where out of a luxuriant wheat field there sprang into full and vigorous life within one year a city of 5000 people, is looked upon as little less than miraculous. But the quiet Quakers of the eighteenth century were far and away ahead of the modern idea. The great United States has overlooked the fact that Thomas and Richard Penn established a city in the Pennsylvania wilderness; plotted it and held an auction sale, a vigorous prototype of what followed in other States 130 years later, and within four years saw a frontier municipality of 1000 souls blossom like the one upon what had been

110
a semi-wilderness on the outskirts of civilization.

Oh, Chicago may bluster, and New York grin, and Boston wag its gray head and the new cities of the new South and the woolly West and Puget Sound point the finger of derision at Philadelphia, the city of the Penns, and one and all tilt the nose of suggestive contempt at the quiet figures in broad-brimmed hats which hold for all time the most conspicuous place in Pennsylvania's splendid history; but just the same, gentlemen all and ladies fair of these closing decades of the nineteenth century, you are "not in it" with the dear quiet old Quakers of 1750. They were eighteenth century men with nineteenth century ideas, and you must fish out of dusty library shelves the yellow-leaved colonial records to find out how antiquated some of your so-called "modern" ideas are.

When Chicago was a frog pond, unblessed by the sight of the first explorer's face: when Birmingham, Ala., was a hunting ground, and the tall pines waved over the untrodden wilderness where Seattle and Tacoma now lift their heads, Reading was a city after the modern plan. And it is here yet, with its scores of factories and thousands of homes; the roar of its furnaces and the rush of its hundreds of daily trains. The blaze of its electric lights in the valley by night and its pillar of smoke by day are the fire and cloud of prosperity and industry which lead it on to a great destiny.

To understand the causes which led the Penns to locate a city in this portion of their province, it is necessary to recall to the reader's attention the fact that there were but two towns which served as centers of business for the residents of Berks



Keuchler of "Keuchler's Roost."

County, which was not known, however, as a county until 1752, three years after its county seat had been selected. These were Lebanon, twenty-eight miles to the west and Philadelphia to the South. The people residing on the west bank of the Schuylkill regarded Lebanon as their county seat and center of trade, while those on the east side went to Philadelphia. The extent of Berks County, it must be understood, was limited only by the ability of the proprietaries to travel through the wilderness and claim the land. In the sweep of country to the north and northwest there were, it is estimated, at least 10,000 people; but outside of Lebanon there was not a town or even a village in all its extent. The necessity for a center of life and traffic for this community was apparent to the Penns, and so the future city was laid out. It was named Read-

ing, after the county town of Berkshire, England—just as later the county was named Berks after the Penns' native shire—and the announcement of the sale of lots was made.

There was a great crowd of people gathered in Penn Square on the 15th of June, 1749. They came on foot and on horse from Oley and Tulpehocken and Heidelberg and banks of the Schuylkill and Manatawney Creek. There were one or two from Philadelphia and quite a little crowd from Lebanon and Lancaster. It was a homely concourse in homespun garments, leather leggins, and wide, straight rimmed hats, for the most part. The site of the city of Reading never looked handsomer than it did on that morning, with the trees in all the splendor of their livery of green, the birds warbling, and the sun shining like silver on the shallows down by the "ford."

THE AUCTION OF READING LOTS.

Then Conrad Weiser—whose statue should, but does not, be lifted high on Penn Square just where he stood that June morning and spoke the words that brought a city into being—stood up among the assembled people and in a clear high voice read the announcement of the appointment of commission to treat with all the good people who should apply for lots in the town. The Penns had appointed to this office the three most prominent men in the neighboring settlements, viz., Conrad Weiser, Francis Parvin, and William Hartley. But the purchasers were compelled to submit to certain conditions and these were read out by Conrad Weiser in the same loud, high pitched voice as follows:—

1. Every whole lot of sixty feet to be subject to a ground rent of 7 shillings payable to the proprietaries; to begin on March 1, 1750.
2. Lots on the great square to be built with brick or stone in one year from March 1, 1750.
3. Lots on the main street, not on the square, to be built upon in two years.
4. Other lots within blocks adjoining the main street to be built upon in three years.
5. Lots in blocks remote from main street to be built upon in five years.
6. A sixty-foot lot, if too large, should be divided and ground rent apportioned.
7. All who should take lots before March 1, 1750, were licensed to take stones for building purposes from any land of the proprietaries, assigned by Hartley.
8. Title to be made upon erection of building; no assignment to be made before erection of building.
9. Privilege of ground rent at 7 shillings to continue only to March 1, 1750.
10. Houses to be built according to the location of the streets
11. Persons hereafter (after the sale) to apply to the commissioners named in reference to lots.
12. Two whole lots to be allotted in some convenient place for building houses of religious worship.
13. Persons who intend taking lots to send in with their names the time in which they can build, but they are not to build sooner than they really can, otherwise they may obstruct the progress and success of the town.

Such were the conditions to which the first purchasers of lots in Reading were compelled to submit; and that they were common sense and very wise regulations no one will deny.



THE COUNTY PRISON.

As to the success of that first auction sale little is known, but judging from subsequent results it must have been a very large and successful affair. In compliance with the first condition it is found that by the year 1751 the following lot owners had erected buildings: Conrad Weiser, Justice of the Peace; Daniel Steiner, merchant of Philadelphia; Isaac Levans, of Exeter, yeoman; Adam Whitman, shop and inn keeper. In the second year following the sale the record shows that 133 lots had dwellings, stores or inns erected upon them, most of the builders being farmers from the adjacent country.

THE FIRST MEN OF READING.

Among those who erected buildings and presumably conducted the business of their occupation during the year 1752 were the following: Daniel Hester, Montgomery County, farmer; Francis Parvin, tanner; William Reeser and C. Witman, cordwainers; Henry Wolf and George Daum, cordwainers; Peter Schneider, blacksmith; Benjamin Lightfoot, shopkeeper; Abraham Brosius, tailor; William Hottenstein, potter; Philip J. Moyer, baker; Nicholas Kennell, beer brewer; Michael Zuster, George Douglass,

saddlers; Benjamin Pearson, joiner; George Hitner, Philadelphia merchant; Henry Reuthmeyer, wheelwright; Ernest Kurtz, tobacconist; Kraft Huner, baker; Paul Derst, Jacob Morgan, Peter Hows, Peter Feder, John Nicholas Yost, inn keepers; John Early, joiner; John Wilson, miller; Henry Ilahn, blacksmith; Evan Popkins, cooper; George Michael Kreter, slaughterer; Paul Parlet, carpenter; Peter Rapp, butcher; Peter Conrad, of Virginia, smith; Peter Baum, turner; George Yoh, potter; Jacob Libroch, baker, and Henry Grau, Green Tavern.

Among the other industries which figure to a very limited extent on the tax lists in the second year of Reading's life were those represented by Tobias Waggoner, clerk; Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg, minister; Adam S. Kuhn, Lancaster esquire, and Jacob Kern, gent. The third year, 1753, saw eighty-three patents taken out for lots in the city and the following occupations which were before without representation in the town appeared on the list to wit: James Biddle, lawyer; Everhart Martin, soap boiler; Philip Jacob Erpf, mason; Conrad Stichter, weaver, and Jacob Rappolt,

tiler.

In the first four years after the half century patents were issued for 241 lots in the town of Reading. Morton L. Montgomery, the historian, says of the city and its population at this time:—

"If the conditions of the sales were fulfilled there would appear to have been at least 200 dwellings in the town in 1755 and 1000 inhabitants. It is possible that not all the lots and patents were included in the statements of these years. The estimated buildings and inhabitants are, therefore, rather below than above the correct numbers. Nearly all the patentees named were resident at Reading. The growth of the town was certainly wonderful."

THE QUIT-RENT EXCITEMENT.

That all of the conditions of that first sale were not fulfilled was shown seventy years later, and long after the last one of the first purchasers had gone down to his grave. It was the provision concerning the annual payment of a ground or quit-rent of seven shillings. Many of the lot holders persistently neglected this, and the years and decades rolled away until at last the quitrent provision became a dream, a thing that only occasionally came to the attention of the legal gentlemen who pored over the county records in search of titles.

But in 1815 there appeared upon the scene an attorney of the Penn heirs, who came to collect the long overdue ground rents. Then began an agitation which ran through five or six years. In 1815, and three years later, in 1818, public notice was served upon all delinquents that unless the accrued payments of sixty-five years, or less, were promptly forthcoming, the lots charged with them would be sold. Such a hunting up of titles and patents and musty receipts was never known before or since in the history of Reading town.

The consternation of the first announcement grew into a settled anxiety, and this in turn gave way to indignation. The agent of the Penns must have led a most unhappy existence during these years which culminated finally in a public announcement in 1822 that on and after Oc-

of that year he would discontinue his agency for the Penns.

Fearful that their titles might be clouded—despite the fact that by an act of November 27, 1799, the estates of the proprietaries of Pennsylvania were declared vested in the State and quit-rents abolished—large numbers of lot holders compromised with the attorney of the Penns, obtained releases of the ground rents and had these recorded in Reading.

THE TITLES PERFECT.

But the matter did not rest here. Long years after—a half century nearly—when Granville Penn visited the province of his ancestors, he was waited upon and asked if he or other heirs of the Penns contemplated the reopening of the question of ground rents in Reading. He replied in the negative. The issue had been permitted to lapse, he said, and it would never be reopened by the descendants of the Penns.

"No title of property in Reading is clouded by the failure to have on record a release for the original quit-rent," said a venerable and leading member of the Berks County bar, in discussing this question.

"There are not a great many of the original lots against which a claim for the Penn quit-rents could stand, but if any of the Penn heirs of the present day were to urge such a claim I have no doubt that the lower courts, and the Supreme Court also, would not hesitate to decide against the claim. Technically, the claim still holds, but there is a principle of equity in the question which, I think, would influence any Judge or jury."

The growth of Reading, considering the time, was marvelous, and from the beginning its inhabitants manifested a public spirit that has its counterpart to-day in many of the cities of the West. Along in 1764 the people began to feel their importance to an extent that they demanded a public mart for the transaction of business, a homely rural bourse, as it were. Previous to this—and it served as an impetus to the petition to the Governor—the district and township of Reading had been erected in 1761. In 1764 a request for the privilege of holding fairs and markets was presented to the Governors in which it was "most humbly stated."

THE PETITION FOR A FAIR.

"That, your Petitioners and Tenants under such Grants, and having been at very considerable Expences in Erecting Houses and making other Valuable Improvements in the said Town, But humbly conceive that could we be favour'd with a Charter of Incorporation, granting Liberty to hold and keep Public Markets weekly and Fairs twice in the Year on certain Days, it would greatly tend to advance the Value of Lots, Lett and to be Lett, encourage many others to come and Settle among Us, Increase our number of Inhabitants, bring More Wealth and render the Town of Reading More bappy and abundantly more flourishing.

"Wherefore your petitioners pray your Honor to take the Premises in Your Consideration, and Promote and forward the Prosperity, Happiness and Increase of one of the Proprietaries Towns by Incorporating and Granting them the Privilege of Fairs and Markets as aforesaid."

Grandiloquent enough in phraseology and humble enough in its expression to have been a petition for a cessation of war against defeated people, much less a prayer for the privilege of exhibiting the products of the farm and dairy, and the trafficking

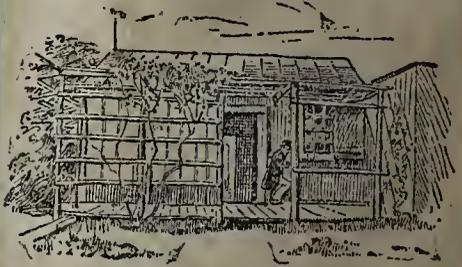
in beets and onions and the multitudinous truck of kitchen gardens! But the speed of independence was growing, though the progress was advanced only a little way. It must be remembered that absolute and almost slavish subjection to their masters in Governmental affairs was the rule which had held sway among this people not only in their own lives, but through long generations of their ancestors in the feudal States of Europe and under the rigorous reign of English sovereigns. That strain in the blood of our ancestors is manifested to-day when we wind up our requests to the men whom we have elevated to office, in legislative and executive positions, with the words, "and your petitioners will ever humbly pray, etc., etc." It is a survival of the old feudal days; when men regarded lords paramount and Kings little short of divine.

THE PROPRIETARIES REPLY.

But take note of the reply; its gracious condescension, its lofty dignity as becometh the owners of a future State in the American Union.

"WHEREAS: It hath been represented to Us, that the inhabitants of the Town of Reading, in the County of Berks, in the said Province, are in great want of a Market, for buying and selling Provisions, and of Fairs for buying and selling Goods, Wares, Merchandise and Cattle.

Now Know ye that We, favoring the reasonable request of the said Inhabitants, and considering the flourishing State to which the said Town hath arrived through their Industry, have, of Our free will, granted, and do by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant to the present and succeeding Inhabitants of the said Town that they shall and may forever hereafter have and keep within the said Town, two fairs yearly and every year, that is to say, the first to begin on the 27th day of October next, to be held in Penn Street and to continue that day and the Day next following, and the other of the said Fairs, to begin on the 4th day of June, to be held in Penn Street, aforesaid, and to continue that Day and the Day following. But in case of either of those Days shall happen to fall on Sunday then the said Fairs to be held the



Keuchler's Roost.

succeeding day or two days following, and no longer, with all the Liberties and Customs to such Fairs belonging or Incident.

And We do also hereby grant to the Present and succeeding Inhabitants of the Town of Reading that they shall and may hold and keep within the said Town, in Penn Street Square, between Queen Street and Prince Street, two Markets in each Week, that is to say, one market on Wednesday and one market on Saturday in every Week of the year forever.

And We do also hereby grant and ordain that there shall be a Clerk of

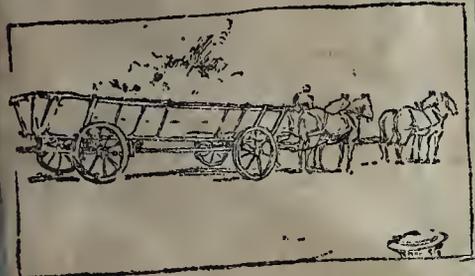
Market, for the said Town who shall have the Assize of Bread, Wine, Beer and all other provisions brought for the use of the said Inhabitants who shall and may perform all things belonging to the office of a Clerk of the Market within the said Town, etc., etc."

Through all the changes in 120 years the privileges granted by the above were observed, but the growing tendencies of the present generation for new methods of amusement, more advanced schemes of business, have relegated the customs of the olden days to a place with the stage coach and the Conestoga wagon. Here and there a white haired old survivor of the past in Reading looms up to bewail the decadence of the tavern dance, the country cock fight, the fox chase and the horse races.

READING'S SUBSEQUENT HISTORY.

The story of the subsequent years in Reading's history is that of every other prosperous city within the domain of William Penn. The French and Indian campaign which swept the western and northern borders of the province left Reading untouched although the fire-brand and seeping knife wrought their deadly work almost upon her threshold. Later, when the first mutterings of the coming storm were gathering over the head of the royal figurehead on the throne of England, the people of Reading were slow to enter the scheme of altering the form of government. Loyalty to established principles had always characterized them, and it was this which caused them to take cool and deliberate judgment upon the question before they joined the cry for separation.

They gave up their blood and their treasure in that crucial struggle for the right of self government. No better testimony of their loyalty could be given than the incident of the English refugees. A number of Tory English families, compelled to leave their homes in Philadelphia, took refuge in Reading and various portions of Berks County. When the news of the investiture of Philadelphia by Howe's troops reached



A Berks County Hay Wagon.

Reading, the refugees, relying on the quiet attitude of its people, organized a dance and celebration. It was at its height when a combined assault was made upon the building by the patriotic and outraged inhabitants. The men who organized the Tory Jubilee were driven out of the community, though the women and children were offered and accepted the shelter of some magnanimous citizens.

Just as Conrade Weiser—who had long years before that day been laid to rest in the little graveyard near Womelsdorf—had been looked up to in 1755, so the people saw in Edward Biddle their leader in the Revolutionary days. The sturdy, strong-armed sons of Berks since that day have found honored graves on nearly every battlefield of every war. The names of Bid-

dle, Head, Trodhead, Heister, Nagle, Jones, and Morgan are familiar ones in the chronicles from 1748 to 1783. Berks County's monthly contribution of 600 barrels of flour and 600 bushels of forage, and the shot and shell from her furnaces were so many proofs to hold up the bands of the struggling cause.

THE READING OF TO-DAY.

The Reading of to-day needs no extended introduction to the millions of Pennsylvania. It stands unsurpassed in its situation and commercial advantages, by any of its sister cities of the Commonwealth. Nestling in the lovely valley whose expansive sweep will yet shelter a great metropolis and whose name is synonymous with boundless wealth and unchecked progress, this city is steadily extending its boundaries, constantly increasing the magnitude of its industries, ever adding to its multitude of peaceful, prosperous homes. In every department of municipal life it is in the van; its financial institutions, its manufactories, and its mercantile establishments, its charities and its churches, its newspapers and its railways are the monuments which it has set up with credit to itself, with honor to the State. The relics of the past are rapidly disappearing. The landmarks of one hundred years ago are falling before the march of progress. Those that remain only serve to emphasize the contrast between the past and present. The old jail, Judge Bruckman's dwelling, the little building at the southwest corner of Sixth and Washington Streets, and several others alone remain. The Farmers' Bank building is a hallowed place to the older generation because it was here, when the gray stone structure was known in post-colonial days as "Wood's Hotel," that tradition points out George Washington rested over eight on his only visit to the town. Columns might be written in praise of the beauty of this city's homes and parks and public buildings. Its park, on the sloping foot of old Mount Denn, is a monument to the unwavering pertinacity of purpose on the part of a newspaper which fought prejudice and opposition in its columns and in the courts until its unselfish efforts were crowned with success.

AND "KUECHLER'S ROOST."

No city in all the State is blessed with such an environment as this. Miles of electric railways lead out to the most romantic retreats. The unsurpassed beauties of Mineral Park and the glories of Never-sink and Mount Penn Heights need only be hinted at. In the way of humbler and more material enjoyments there is no end. Who that ever visited Reading, or surveyed the panoramic beauty of the valley and the city in its midst, has not heard of "Kuechler's Roost," the lonely home of the venerable and hospitable German, the product of whose little mountain vineyard has made

glad the hearts of thousands, and whose "Waldmeister" and æolian harp and homely fare have had their praises sung throughout the valley.

But the story of this city for the present is told. The sweep of time between that auction on a June morning in 1749 and this May afternoon of 1892 embraces material for volumes concerning this city at the gateway of two valleys. The romance of Reading is a memory of the past; its reality is a crowning triumph of the present.

From Spectator
Franklin Pa.
Date June 9/92

—A. K. S. , proprietor of the Washington House, Alsace, Berks county, a few days ago demolished an historic bake oven that stood on his premises. It had been built in Revolutionary days, and there is a well-grounded tradition which says that part of the flour contributed to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge by Robert Morris, the Philadelphia philanthropist, was baked into bread for the soldiers at that old oven.

From Eagle
Reading Pa.
Date June 20/92

A House Built in 1791.

CACOOING : On the farm of Jacob Van Reed, tenanted by Urias S. Hornberger stands a house bearing the inscription on one of the corner stones, "T. J., 1791." The property was formerly owned by the Jones' family, who settled in this vicinity about 1780. The house is still in a good state of preservation, and is at present occupied by William Hartman and family.—Henry Stricker and family, of Rehrersburg, visited Jacob R. Wanner, father-in-law of Mr. Stricker.—Miss Jennie Weidman, who was very low with diphtheria, is convalescing.—A surprise party was held at the house of Adam Lash. A pleasant evening was spent.—Jacob Snyder purchased a new farm wagon from Jonathan Reber, of Centreport.—The walk from the turnpike to the Sinking Spring railroad station is in bad condition and should be repaired.

From Herald
Reading Pa.
Date July 5/92

"PAPER COLLAR REGIMENT"

The Title Conferred Upon Company C, 42d Regiment, P. V. Militia.

Of the 101 Original Members 67 are Still Living—Some of the Most Prominent Men in This City Among the Number—Full Roster of the Company.

One of the many companies that went out from Reading during the civil war was Company C, 42d Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia. The company was organized in honor of Captain John E. Arthur and was known as the "Muhlenberg Guards." It originally numbered 101 men and was mustered in, when Pennsylvania was threatened with invasion by Lee, on June 30, 1863, for three months, and on July 1 was ordered to Hagerstown, Md., and was on its way there when the battle of Gettysburg was fought. It was mustered out of service on Aug. 13, 1863. The original officers were: Captain, John E. Arthur; first lieutenant, Francis R. Schmucker, and second lieutenant, Darius G. Rhoads, but at the regimental formation Captain Arthur was made lieutenant colonel and F. R. Schmucker, adjutant, and, by promotion, the permanent officers of the company were chosen and placed on the roster.

As many of the men were not fully equipped, some of them wearing paper collars, this won for them the sobriquet, "The Paper Collar Regiment. The complete roster was as follows:

Captain, Darius G. Rhoads; 1st lieutenant, *Allen Kutz; 2d lieutenant, George J. Eckert.

1st sergeant, *Jacob K. Sterrett; 2d sergeant, Edward Scull; 3d sergeant, John Rick; 4th sergeant, *Henry Van Reed; 5th sergeant, John R. Kaucher; 1st corporal, Joseph W. Richards; 2d corporal, George E. Haak; 3d corporal, *Hiester H. Muhlenberg; 4th corporal, Joseph T. Valentine; 5th corporal, Thomas O. Zimmerman; 6th corporal, Mahlon Shaaber; 7th corporal, *Jacob Knabb; 8th corporal, Samuel Adler.

Musicians, Wm. H. Raser and Elhannan Z. Schmucker.

Wagoner, *Charles Palm.

Privates, Wellington Addams, *Charles B. Ansart, *John W. Auchenbach, Francis M. Banks, Adam Bard, John L. Barnes, Wm. H. Bartlette, Jerome L. Boyer, Edward Brobst, T. Yardley Brown, John E. Bupp, Franklin C. Butz, Thomas Deam, *Wm. P. Dickinson, Albert R. Durham, C. Wheeler Durham, Henry S. Eckert, Harrison K. Epler, Samuel C. Ermentrout, Chas. H. Fehr, *John Foes, Frederick A. Fox, Wm. J. Frame, Wm. E. German, Henry A. Getz, Wm. E. Good, *Enoch E. Griesemer, Samuel A. Groff, *James P. Hale, *John Harbster, *Francis A. Harner, *Henry Hartman, Oliver Hause, John S. Hiester, *George Hollenbach, *George W. Hughes, *D. Young Jones, J. Evans Jones, Henry C. Jones, *Jonathan Jones, Elijah F. Keever, Michael Kegrize, Amos K. Kline, *Theodore A. Lambert, *Charles A. Leopold, *William S. Madeira, *Levi Maltzberger, *John A. Marquette, James P. Matthews, John McGee, Samuel C. Mayer, John Miltimore, Franklin D. Nagle, *James Nicholson, Benjamin F. Owen, George Rank, John H. Rankin, *George E. Reeser, William D. Reeser, Louis Richards, *Charles A. Ringel, *Henry Rorick, Charles H. Schaeffer, *Isaac Schrader, *John S. Schroeder, *William Schroeder, Andrew Shaaber, *Edwin Shalter, *Henry W. Shingle, Llewellyn Spohn, William H. Spang, Abner K. Stauffer, Jones O. Thomas, J. Warren Tryon, *Julius Von Bonhorst, George F. Wells, William M. Wells, Edward Wilkinson, Howard Witman, Charles H. Zieber, George P. Zieher. *Deceased.

From (Press

Phila. Pub.

Date, Nov. 24/92

GUNMAKERS OF THE WYOMISSING VALLEY.

During the Revolution It Was an
Important Industry in Old Berks.

THE ORIGINAL MANUFACTURER.

Daniel Pennypacker Erects His Little Shop in 1772 Near the Head of the Stream in Cumru Township.

Special Correspondence of THE PRESS.

READING, Nov. 22.—There is a small factory near this city on the Wyomissing Creek that is now the only survival of a once flourishing industry that had its center in this county, and was chiefly carried on along the banks of the Wyomissing. The gunmakers of the Wyomissing were once widely known throughout the country, but now there is but a single factory, that of Franklin K. Schnader, and it is no longer numbered among the important industries of this region.

The history of this industry which once flourished, not only along the Wyomissing, but in several other parts of the county, is a very interesting one. It was founded in the year 1772 by a young German gunmaker named Daniel Pennypacker, who came to Cumru Township in that year and, recognizing the advantages of the water power of the Wyomissing, built a small gunshop near the head of the stream in which was erected by him a rude trip-hammer for the forging of gun barrels. He first worked alone, making the guns complete. At that time the country around here abounded in bear, deer and wolves and all sorts of game and it was highly necessary to have one or more guns in every family. It was soon known that Mr. Pennypacker was supplying a good article at a price cheaper than those brought from abroad, and his trade consequently rapidly increased, so that he was obliged to employ assistants as the fame of the Pennypacker gun spread. By 1776, at the breaking out of the Revolutionary War, he was employing five men. At that time he received a large order from the Con-

tinental Congress and from then on until 1780 he was engaged entirely in making rifles and muskets for the Patriot army, and during that time three gunmaking establishments were started along the Wyomissing on land sold to the owners by Mr. Pennypacker.

THE TRADE'S GROWTH.

In 1800 there were several large factories, for that time, scattered along the stream, and factories were built in other parts of the country, the trade extending to all parts of the country. As late as 1852 eleven of these factories were still in operation, but about the year 1858 the business began to decline, owing to the low-priced guns made by machinery crowding the hand-made article out of the market. At that time William Pennypacker, a descendant of the original founder of the business, was still carrying on the original factory.

At the time of the breaking out of the war of the rebellion there were still a large number of men in the Wyomissing Valley who were skilled in the forging of gun barrels, and nearly all of them were employed by the Government in foundries that were established elsewhere for the manufacture of rifles and muskets for the army. Many of them are still so employed, but scarcely any since the war have been engaged in that business, which has now been transferred elsewhere and is carried on by different methods. At the Schnader factory, which is still in operation, a great many musket barrels were made for the Government during the war, and orders are received for several thousand at a time, keeping the factory working at its full capacity day and night for months at a time.

The gun barrels made along the Wyomissing were all forged by hand from a piece of skelp iron which was welded a little at a time around a small cylinder of steel. Afterward this was bored out on a lathe and then straightened by hand. The latter operation required great skill, and only those who had served a long apprenticeship in the business were capable of doing it with sufficient rapidity to make it profitable. The unskilled workman in attempting to straighten a barrel would produce two irregularities to where he straightened one.

FAMED FOR MILES AROUND.

Franklin Schnader, the proprietor of the surviving gun factory, who is a very old man, has many interesting reminiscences of the business which was so flourishing 100 years ago. He says he had often heard tell of people going fifty to 100 miles to the Wyomissing for guns and after they had them they regarded them as among their most precious possessions. Many Wyomissing guns and rifles were carried by settlers and pioneers to the West where they were used by hunters and employed in fighting with Indians. In those days they received about \$40 for a single barrel flint lock musket or rifle including bullet molds, flint and everything belonging to the weapon. There are very few of them extant now and those that still remain are treasured as precious relics.

In the old days when the gun making industry was at its height, the people of the Wyomissing Valley were known everywhere among the Pennsylvania Germans by the nick name "schmutz dich," which signified sneaky face, and was given to

them on account of the greasy clothes they wore on week days.

Mr. Schnader says that the business no longer pays and that if he was not running a farm in connection with his shop he could not make a living. One reason he says why there is so little money in the business is because guns are sent to America from Belgium and other foreign countries at lower prices than they can be produced here. If there were a higher tariff on guns he thinks the industry would again revive; as it is, no money has been made since the war.

From, *Herald*
Reading Pa.
Date, Nov. 4th - 92

A Relic of the Revolution.

A reporter of the MORNING HERALD saw some very interesting relics last night at the office of Thomas B. O'Brien, on Court street. He has a sword of ordinary size, with heavy brass handle, and a heavy leather scabbard. This sword was captured by his great-great-grandfather, Jas. O'Brien, in 1783. Capt. James O'Brien captured the British man-of-war "Snow Heberman" during the revolution, with all on board, together with this sword from the captain of that vessel. This enraged the British so much that they sent a war vessel, the "Margaretta," with orders to capture O'Brien, and return him to England, dead or alive. When this vessel reached this country, Capt. O'Brien, with his men, also captured her and all on board. For these deeds John Hancock, who was then the provincial president, presented Capt. O'Brien with the man-of-war "Heberman" as a prize, together with a certificate of the gift. This certificate is signed by John Hancock, and is now in the possession of one of Capt. James O'Brien's descendants, Thos. B. O'Brien, of this city. There were six brothers of the O'Briens, all sea captains in the Revolutionary war. A note is made on the certificate that "the first blow struck on the sea for American independence was given by Jeremiah O'Brien," one of the six brothers named above.

From, *Evening News*
Washington Pa.
Date, Jan. 5, 1893

SCIENCE REWARDED.

Another Decoration Added to Dr. Hoffman's Testimonials of Foreign Appreciation.

ORDER OF THE ZAEHRINGEN

Distinguished Career of a Young Physician Connected with the Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. W. J. Hoffman, the distinguished ethnologist of the Smithsonian Institution, has received another evidence of the high appreciation in which he is held abroad and has added another decoration to those he is already entitled to wear. This latest expression of admiration for his contributions was sent to him by the Grand Duke of Baden, and confers the title of knight of the first class. It is the "Order of the Lion of Zaehringen."

It consists of a gold-enameled cross, the spaces between green enameled arms being filled with exquisite gold work of heavily chiseled ornamentation.

The center of the obverse of the medal represents the ruins of the original Castle of Zaehringen, while the reverse bears in a central disk of red enamel a golden lion rampant. The decoration is suspended from a watered-green silk ribbon with orange borders.

Dr. Hoffman was born in Pennsylvania in 1846. He was educated at Freeland and Reading, and was graduated in medicine at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, before he was twenty years old. He practiced his profession in Reading until the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war in 1870, when he received a commission as surgeon in the Prussian Army, and was detailed to the Seventh Army Corps for duty. For distinguished service during the war he received from Emperor William I the steel military medal of honor. Returning to America he was appointed acting assistant surgeon in the Army, and joined Wheeler's exploring expedition, where he also served as mineralogist and naturalist.

He was ordered to Grand River, Dak., in 1872, and in the spring of 1873 was detailed to accompany the Yellowstone expedition under Gen. Stanley, being specially detailed to the Seventh Cavalry, under Gen. Custer. Since 1877 Dr. Hoffman has been directly connected with the Smithsonian, and his services to science have been widely recognized by foreign nations.

Among the decorations he has received are the Order of the Crown, from Germany; Order of St. James, from Portugal; Order of Bolivar, from Venezuela; Nichau-Iftikhar (Order of Glory) from Tunis; Crown of Steel, from Araucania; Order of Melusine, from Prince Lusignan, the legitimate heir to the Crown of Jerusalem; the royal Ludwig medal of merit, from Bavaria; the great gold medal for art and science, from Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria; the Norwegian gold medal of merit, with crown, from King Oscar, and too many diplomas to enumerate. He is affiliated with many American and foreign scientific bodies, and has received a number of gold medals from these organizations as well.

Dr. Hoffman is widely known and universally esteemed in Washington, and he is anything but the severe and wrinkled individual which a scientist is popularly supposed to be. He is a gentleman of particularly pleasant address, full to overflowing with humor and a genial companion.

From, Telegram
Reading Pa.
Date, Mar. 29th 1893.

EDUCATION IN BERKS.

Introductory Part of Lecture on Conrad Weiser by Morton L. Montgomery.

For the past several years Morton L. Montgomery, esq., has lectured on the life of Conrad Weiser in different sections of the county, and in this way has revived a general interest in this noteworthy man. The repeated requests to hear him on this topic is evidence of his success as a lecturer and his efforts towards popularizing this local representative character is worthy of encouragement. The introductory part of the lecture relates to the course of education in Berks county before and since 1854.

The general education of the people of Berks county, says Mr. Montgomery, has been going on continuously from the time of the first settlement until now. Starting at a time when a considerable population was settled in all sections of the county, say in 1752 when it was erected as a political organization in the state, and extending over a period embracing a century, the education of the people through the instrumentality of schools was confined to the rudiments, that is, the ordinary accomplishments which enabled them to carry on industrial and social affairs in a successful manner. It was rather of a practical nature, and therefore more inclined to the useful than the ornamental. A common education consisted of a general ability to read, write and cipher, and to talk in the English language reasonably well, and this was regarded as sufficient for the ordinary demands of life.

In 1752 schools were scattered in all the sections of the county. There were several in a township, and the scholars farthest distant were about five miles off. There was no taxation for school purposes. Each scholar paid two or more cents a day, according to studies, and the teacher earned about a dollar a day. The buildings were ordinary structures, built mostly of stone or log. The money expended was made to reach as far as possible. The education obtained was necessarily of a simple nature, so as to be easily acquired. Everything connected with it was expressive of economy. This idea stood out very

prominently, and it had a good effect upon the manners and habits of the people. The perceptive faculties were more active than the imaginative. Labor was king, not education. Labor was regarded as the foundation of everything, and education only as a means for facilitating its intelligent direction. Everybody labored—men and boys at farming and industrial pursuits, women and girls in household affairs. It was labor that produced and improved, and economy that multiplied results. Hence the county grew rapidly. There was little or no waste. Notions and practices of this kind prevailed in a general way until about 1854.

Then a uniform system of education was established by the state government and this has prevailed since. It has been encouraged by increasing annual appropriations for school purposes. The enormous amount for the year 1893, (\$6,000,000), shows the people's extraordinary spirit of liberality towards general education. In the interior districts the school buildings have not advanced much beyond the buildings of 1854, but those of the cities, even of some of the towns, show a remarkable growth in size and appearance. By comparison of general results, it will be found that the system of 1854 has inclined in this time more towards the ornamental than the useful. The scholars are led to devote too much time and energy to information that they do not use, and are not expected to use in the ordinary associations of life; also to matters and things that are too much disposed to develop the imaginative faculties rather than the perceptive.

EDUCATION AGAINST LABOR.

In this way the love of labor has come to lose its hold upon a large proportion of the people, and consequently labor is no longer king. The spirit of education has grown so much that it is of more consequence than the spirit of labor. Through it the school children are getting to be more and more inclined to settle in employments that are designed to produce or serve things for ornament rather than use, and they are running more towards clerking, soliciting, negotiating and kindred employments which require earnest action of the mind rather than of the body far beyond the natural and equitable demands of society. And the sustenance of this increasing number with their numerous magnified wants is obtained at the expense of the physical exertions of a large proportion of the people. This has been stimulated to such a degree that it has become burdensome in a very appreciable manner.

A growing inequality in various ways is more and more apparent, especially in respect to property, money and income, and the influences which they exert; and as this inequality grows on the one hand, extravagance manifests itself on the other, indeed, to such an extent that it is commonly regarded as necessary to social existence. A prominent desire, flowing from this inequality, is to profit by the labor of

ers without mental or physical exertions; and though this is admittedly a great disadvantage against the industrious element of any community it is justified and encouraged without the slightest compunction. A desire growing entirely too common is to fill an office, exercise municipal power and dispose of public funds, all of which lead the mind and conscience away from a just conception of industry and from the real value of money. And another injurious desire, not only in Berks county but elsewhere, is the migration of many industrious people from country districts to populous places where equality, comfort and contentment are not half of what they formerly enjoyed. Decrease of population in townships and increase of it in the cities is a bad indication for the general welfare. Evidently some evil influence is at work that produces such a result in social affairs.

TENDENCY MUST BE CHANGED.

This general tendency must be changed. It must be guided into the channel that was occupied naturally before 1854. Labor must be restored to its position as the recognized king. The practical must be studied and encouraged in preference to the ornamental; and the development of the perceptive faculties must receive a larger share of consideration than the imaginative. Each one of us should be so taught as to obtain a proper idea of industry and to feel the absolute necessity of contributing his share of useful labor in the production of things of real, not speculative value. And industrial affairs should be so conducted, or rather they should be permitted to so regulate themselves without legislation or other interference that the small communities shall have equal opportunities with populous cities in the race of progress. The question may well be asked: Can this be accomplished? If so, how is it to be done?

CO-OPERATION.

I would answer through our schools by teaching branches of knowledge that can be utilized by the scholars when they come to act for themselves and that will fit them for the stations which they may be expected to occupy; through a proper conception of the importance of labor and of local rights, and a uniform desire to co-operate in the several affairs of life: and also through lecturing on the character of men and women who have been useful, just and honorable to the communities in which they lived. In this behalf I have selected Conrad Weiser as a proper subject for our consideration. By studying his career we will find for our guidance the useful things of life rather than the ornamental. The former constitute the basis of general association and incline us to co-operate with one another in individual and social affairs; but the latter create a spirit of rivalry and incline us to strike out for ourselves regardless of consequences to others.

Ornamental education has been to us for some years a proud and presumptuous mistress, but we have come to find at last

that she has misdirected our efforts and generosity and misled many of us away from the stations for which we were adapted by nature and associations. Through her a great many persons have drifted into unproductiveness, idleness, or restlessness to such a degree that it behooves us to stop and see if we cannot find what steps must be taken to restore useful industry and produce general contentment. Investigation and reflection will lead us to conclude that labor must be substituted as master in the place of education as mistress. In this way only can we come to adopt and hold on to the useful and practical, and to transmit our individuality to future generations.

From, Eagle
Reading Pa.
 Date, April 23, 1893,

CENTENNIAL CHURCHES.

EDIFICES IN BERKS WHICH ARE NOW
BEING REPAIRED.

A Sinking Spring Church Which is Nearing
the 100-Year Mark.

The cornerstone of Zion's Lutheran and Reformed church at Womelsdorf was laid June 30, 1792. The building was completed some years afterwards. In reference to the erection of this church, an act was passed February 1, 1805, and Nicholas Eckert, Henry Hirsh, Geo. Ege, jr., Conrad Stouch, John Keiser, John Weisser and Daniel Graeff were appointed commissioners "to raise \$1,500 by lottery to be applied in defraying expenses of erecting Zion church and two school houses at Womelsdorf." Originally the building had a floor of brick. In 1867 it was re-built. Among the persons interred in the adjoining graveyard, is Rev. Wm. Hendel, who died in 1846, aged 78, after having been the Reformed pastor 50 years. This edifice is now being remodeled on an extensive scale, and preparations are being made to observe its centennial.

St. John's church (Lutheran and Reformed), is a plain, old-fashioned stone edifice, a short distance below Gibraltar. The ground on which it stands, including about half of the present graveyard, was sold by Elias Retge (Redcay) to Valentine Geiger and Herman Umstead for the use of such Christian congregations as should contribute to the maintenance of the graveyard and the church to be erected thereon. The deed for this land was dated April 29, 1791, and states that this place has been used for divers years past by the above-named Valentine Geiger, Herman Umstead and other inhabitants of Robeson township and parts adjacent. The present edifice was not built until 18 years thereafter, or 1809. The charter of incorporation granted on April 9, 1851, vests the ownership of the property entirely in the Lutheran and Re-

formed congregations. Contractor Mohr is now changing this edifice to a modern style church.

St. John's Lutheran and Reformed church at Sinking Spring is another edifice which is nearing its centennial anniversary. It stands on a tract of land of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres, devised to the society by Christian Ruth, Oct. 30, 1793. The corner-stone was laid May 3, 1794. It was a plain brick building, 48x56 feet, 2 stories high and without a steeple. It was dedicated as the Evangelical Presbyterian Reformed church, but in 1812 the Lutherans obtained a common interest. Later the edifice received many improvements, including a tower 151 feet high.

The North Kill Lutheran and Reformed church, at Bernville, is another 100-year-old edifice which celebrated its anniversary several years ago. It is essentially the same as when put up, some few modifications having been made in the inside of the building.

From, *Eagle*
Reading Pa.
Date, *April 29, 1893,*

Death of an Old War Horse.

HAMBERG: The old war horse belonging to John Sunday, of South Main st., died, after having attained the remarkable age of nearly 38 years. "Billy" was purchased by Mr. Sunday at the close of the war, at which time he was sick and worn out and not expected to recover, having served during the entire rebellion. After careful treatment the horse fully recovered his old-time spirit and has been in excellent health during the 27 years in which he was the property of Mr. Sunday. Three hundred dollars were tendered for only the use of the horse for exhibition at the World's fair, but the owner would not part with him. "Billy" was a dark bay, but lately his head was much sprinkled with gray. The animal participated in the celebration of Memorial day during the past 10 or 12 years and was always a most conspicuous figure.

From, *Inquirer*
Philad. Pa.
Date, *May 28, 1893,*

OLDEST PRINTED
BOOK IN AMERICA

It Is in the Private Collection of
a Well-Known Reading
Lawyer.

Some Other Bibliomaniacs' Prizes Which
Keep It Company.

An Interesting File of the "Pennsylvania Packet" for 1788—Books Which Date Back to the Time When the United States Were Young—Curious Indian Relics and Historical Reminders.



THAT is believed to be the oldest printed book in existence in America is in the private collection of Samuel L. Young, a well-known and old-time lawyer of Reading. The precious volume bears the date of 1473, nineteen years previous

to the discovery of America, and only seventeen years after the first printed book known in history had been struck off in the city of Mayence, Germany; so that this book is not only probably the oldest in America, but is undoubtedly one of the first products of the art of printing.

The work is in Latin, and its title in full is as follows:

"Incipit summula confessionis utilisima in qua agitur quomodus se habere debeat confessor ergo penitentium in confessionibus audiendis quam editit reverendissimus vir ac in Christo Pater. D. Frater Antoninus Archiepiscopus Florentinus ordinis fratrum predicatorum." The date is placed at the end in this way: "MCCCCLXXIII. Nicholas Truno Duce Venetiarum regnante impressum fuit hoc opus foeliciter."

The book is in an excellent state of preservation and the type is as clear and beautiful as that of many of the high class typographical productions of today. It is a confessional for use in the Roman Church, and its authorship is attributed to Saint Antoninus, the famous old Bishop of Florence. One interesting feature of this copy common in those days is that all the initial letters throughout the book are illuminated in red, this work being done by hand, probably by some patient old monk in his quiet cell, and the color is as fresh and bright today as it was in the days it was laid on, even when Christopher Columbus was still a young man and the continent of America undreamed of. The volume is probably very valuable, but it was picked up for a mere song by Mr. Young more than thirty years ago at an old book stand on Sanson street, in this city.

A NOTABLE COLLECTION.

Mr. Young has spent half a cent

in gathering together old books and relics, and his collection is, without a doubt, one of the most valuable, as it is the most interesting, in the State outside of Philadelphia. Among the other works particularly notable for their antiquity are some books brought from Germany by Mr. Young's grandfather, who emigrated to the United States in



1785. These include "Der Wahre Weg Zum Christenthum," or "True Road to Christianity," printed in Luneberg in 1636; a treatise on arithmetic in the German language, printed at Hamburg in 1686, intended especially for merchants, with curious examples of exchange in vogue between different countries in the seventeenth century; the poems of John Christian Guenther, printed at Leipsig in 1742. Another interesting old volume and one which is familiar, by title at least, to every lawyer, is a well-preserved copy of West's "Symbolography," bearing date of London, 1682, the year that William Penn established the colony of Pennsylvania. It contains all the legal forms in use at that time, printed in both English and Latin, the former in old black-letter type and the latter in Roman characters. Still another rare legal relic is a copy of Brooks' "Abridgment," dated 1576, printed in the quaint old Norman French language, in a beautiful, clear black-letter type.

BELONGED TO GENERAL MUHLENBERG.

Probably one of the most curious and interesting of the books in Mr. Young's collection, so far, at least, as the actual contents are concerned, is "Gespraech in dem Reiche der Todten," or "Conversations in the Kingdom of the Dead," printed at Leipsig, in seven volumes, bound in old yellow parchment, the first volume dated 1723 and the last 1740. Each volume has inside the cover the autograph of General Peter Muhlenberg, of Revolutionary fame. Mr. Young secured these volumes at the executors' sale of the property of Dr. Isaac Heister, of Reading, who was a son-in-law of General Muhlenberg. The volumes consist of a number of quaint and curious talks supposed to be carried on between the spirits of departed kings, philosophers and other worthies, both ancient and modern, and it seems quite likely that this old book exerted some influence upon the production of Landor's famous "Imaginary Conversations," which is based upon the same general plan and idea.

A rare publication is "The Antiquity of Nations," translated from the French of M. Pezron, in London, 1706. Still another is "The Penal Code of the Chinese," translated from the original by Sir George Thomas Staunton, and published in London in 1810, with the title miste in Chinese.

EARLY PHILADELPHIA WORKS.

The collection embraces some books which are of special local interest, as having been published in Philadelphia in the last century or early in the present one, and which are now rarely to be met with outside of a few private collections. One of the rarest and most valuable of these, although by no means the oldest, is a set of "Waldie's Select Circulating Library," in fourteen volumes, published by Adam Waldie in 1834, a work which was a familiar household word among Philadelphians of the last generation.

Another rare work is "The Colonial History of the United States," by John Grahame, published in Philadelphia in 1846. An early local publication, which unfortunately bears no date, however, is the "Travels in the South," by William Bartram, which is dedicated to "Thomas Mifflin, President of Pennsylvania."

A book that is highly regarded by bibliophiles is "The Constitution of Government," by John Adams, treating of all known republics, and published by Budd & Bartram, Philadelphia, 1797.

Then there is "The Countryman's Lawyer," a German work consisting of extracts from the laws of Pennsylvania and of England, published by Heinrich Miller, in Second street, Philadelphia, in 1761. Another German publication is "A History of the Martyrdom of Early Christians," printed and sold by Anthony Armbruster, Third street, Philadelphia, in 1753.

A very rare and interesting work is a "Journal of the Lewis and Clarke Expedition" to the Columbia River, written by Patriek Gass, a member of the expedition, and printed by Zadok Cramer, in Pittsburg, in 1807.

A rare historical document is Thomas Jefferson's "Notes on the State of Virginia," originally prepared by the great statesman as an article for the French Academy's encyclopædia, and afterwards expanded and published by W. Pichin, in Baltimore, in 1800. Likewise of interest to American historians are the "Letters of Pacificus and Helvidæus," written by Alexander Hamilton and James Madison when war was imminent between France and England in 1793, and published at Washington in 1845.

A NEWSPAPER RELIC.

The gem of Mr. Young's collection from the point of view of local interest, is a bound file of the "Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser" for the year 1788. It consisted of four ~~pages~~ about the size of half a page of THE INQUIRER, with four columns to the page, and was sold at four pence or eight cents per copy. A line of type at the bottom of the last page gives the information that the paper was "Printed and sold by John Dunlap and David C. Claypoole on the south side of Market street, the third house east of Second street." Judging from this latter very definite direction it is to be presumed that the houses along Market street were not numbered at that period.

The paper for July 10, 1788, devotes nearly three out of its four pages to a long and elaborate report of the Fourth of July celebration held in the city the preceding week. A meeting and grand

procession were held, the occasion being rendered of unusual importance by the fact that the Constitution of the United States had then been ratified by ten States. The oration, which was delivered by James Wilson, Esq., is reported in full. The parade consisted of the different professions and trades, represented by persons whose names are given, and also military organizations, with the foreign consuls, among whom were Barbe Marbais, of France. The account winds up with the announcement that it is published "by order of Francis Hopkinson, chairman of the Committee of Arrangements."

The advertisements of the paper reveal many interesting points regarding life in this city while General Washington was still President of the United States. There is an announcement of "The Opera House, Southwark," with a triple bill, made up of three comedies unknown to latter-day play-goers. Robberies are advertised in lull, with lists of all the stolen property, and "ads" of this character are so frequent as to afford a poor commentary upon the police arrangements of those days. One interesting advertisement reads as follows:

To BE SOLD—A negro man about 30 years of age, registered agreeable to law; has served as a house servant and to attend horses. Enquire of Keede & Forde.

A STAUNCH PATRIOT.

Hanging in the upper hall-way of Mr. Young's residence in Reading is a full-length portrait of Daniel Udree, who was a famous iron master in Berks county in pre-Revolutionary times, was twice a member of the Continental Congress, and was in General Washington's army, having been engaged in the Battle of Brandywine, where he had a horse shot under him. In Mr. Young's library is a rare book treating of the evolutions of the Prussian army, illustrated with plates, and upon one of the plates is the inscription in Udree's handwriting, "Dam the Tories." This book probably had considerable influence upon Udree's work in the training and drilling of troops in the Continental army, as the Prussian evolutions were, at that time, considered the finest in the world.

Among the many interesting relics in Mr. Young's possession is a letter written by General Santa Anna from Mexico, in 1840, which document was captured by William A. Diehl, of Reading, who was in the Mexican war with the Second Pennsylvania Regiment. Another interesting relic is a collection of old-time portraits of the Indians who visited Washington in 1837. There are a number of Indian implements, including two pipes, one in the form of an iron hatchet, which was found in Berks county. Mr. Young also has one of the largest stone hatchets ever found, which was turned up near Douglassville, Berks county, and which weighs several pounds.

From, *Simes*

Reading Pa.

Date, *Sept. 11* 1893.

A STIEGEL RELIC.

A Stove Plate Bearing the Founder's Name to be Presented to the Manheim Museum.

About five years ago a large iron stove plate, used in antique fire places, was unearthed in the yard in the rear of Sol. Weil's clothing house, 521 Penn street. The plate is three feet square and the face of it bears the inscription, "H. Wilhelm Stiegel, Compagni for Elizabeth, 1758." It was made by Baron Stiegel, the founder of the borough of Manheim, who was a large iron manufacturer, and presented to his granddaughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Old, who resided at the corner of Fifth and Court streets, on the site of the Reading Trust Company and Hoff & Millholland bank buildings, and whose garden extended back to Sixth street. The plate weighs about seventy-five pounds and is adorned with the crest and coat of arms of the baron. After it had been unearthed it was obtained by Dr. J. C. Sanderson, a direct descendant of the baron, in whose possession it has been ever since and who will to day present it to the Baron Stiegel museum connected with Zion's Lutheran church at Manheim, the ground upon which the church is built having been presented to the congregation by the baron.

Baron Henry William Stiegel came to America from Manheim, Germany, in 1750. In the year 1762 he founded and laid out the town of Manheim, Lancaster county, in which town he built the first successful glass factory in America. The walls of his residence, built of imported brick, now support one of Manheim's largest business houses, while his office still stands intact. He was one of the pioneer iron masters of America and manufactured stoves at Elizabeth furnace, Lancaster county. Owing as he did, the land comprised in the borough of Manheim, he deeded a lot to the Lutheran congregation in consideration of the payment of one red rose yearly forever on the first day of June, whenever the same shall be lawfully demanded. The red rose was only twice demanded and twice paid. This noble-hearted German, who founded a beautiful town in the wilderness, and who, in advance of his time, sowed the seeds of the magnificent glass industry on American soil, failed in the panic of 1774, died poor, and sleeps in an unknown grave, unmarked perhaps by even one red rose. The museum in which the plate will be placed contains nothing but relics of the baron, which are carefully treasured.

From, *Examined*

Lancaster Pa.

Date, *Sept. 13" 1893.*

WILL SELL A WHOLE TOWN.

Lobachsville, Berks County, Will Enjoy
This Remarkable Distinction.

IT IS THE HOME OF 200 PEOPLE.

Lands, Houses, Hotels, Post Office, Facto-
ries, Everything to be Disposed of at the
Auction Block—History of a Little
Principality in the Hills of Berks.

A whole town for sale, lands, houses, hotels, post office, factories, everything to be disposed of at the auction block! That is the remarkable distinction now enjoyed by Lobachsville, a town of 200 inhabitants, that nestles among the hills of Berks county, twelve miles from Reading. The last member of the Lobach family, which has owned the place for 150 years, has died, and to settle the estate the wide domains will be sold next Saturday.

In 1745 Peter Lobach purchased forty-nine acres of land where is now the thrifty town that bears his name. This tract was bought from William Pott, and a woolen mill was built by the creek that flows down the valley. This pioneer was succeeded by his sons, William and Samuel, who not only did a paying business with the woolen mill, but projected a saw mill and a chair factory. These industries attracted settlers to that fertile valley, and soon along both sides of the highway houses sprung up. These residences were all built by the Lobachs. That family had purchased hundreds of acres of land in that neighborhood. The homes were rented to tenants who were employed in the Lobach mills. Stores were founded, blacksmith shops, wagon works, and other industries were multiplied as the years went by and as the good wives of the sturdy Lobachs did their duty in strictly obeying a certain Scriptural mandate.

THE LOBACH PRINCIPALITY.

The family of Lobach grew and prospered, and their town grew and prospered with them. In 1835 a post office was established in Samuel Lobach's store. Samuel was postmaster for years, and the mail was carried there then, as it is now, by stage

coach. William Lobach at the time the post office was founded kept a tavern across the street.

Both the post office and the tavern which is now a well-kept hotel, occupy large, well-made stone buildings. Of course, the Lobachs were considered rich and were influential. They were at the head of everything that happened in the town, for they literally owned the town. But a strange fate came upon the distinguished house of Lobach. Like an ancient tree it began to decay. It ceased to increase, and hence soon began to diminish. The little principality was held intact, however, and all the property was continually coming into a fewer number of hands.

THE LAST LOBACH DIES.

The last male member of the family S. David Lobach, died six years ago. He was survived by two sisters, Anna Lobach and Mrs. Sarah Wily. They both expired last spring. Each was about 70 years old. Neither is survived by any children. Several distant relations, bearing names other than Lobach, reside in Reading. Seth A. Brown is administrator of Anna Lobach who made no will. He is also executor of the Sarah Wily estate.

Brown, through his attorneys, Russer & Schaeffer, offers the whole town for sale.

From, *Eagle*

Reading Pa.

Date, *Sept. 19" 1893.*

ANCIENT BURIAL GROUND.

History of an Interesting Place—Eastern Berks News.

BOYERTOWN: The interment of the remains of Mrs. Sarah Yorgey, widow of George Yorgey, in Fritz's burial ground Upper Pottsgrove township, a short distance south-west of Burdan's blacksmith shop, was probably the last interment that will take place at that place, as all those who had an interest in it have gone to their last resting place. This family graveyard must be considerably over 100 years old, for a deed is in the possession of George R. Yorgey, of Morysville, for a road leading to the burial ground, dated Dec. 17, 1790. The land was originally set apart for a graveyard by Jacob Barand (probably Barndt). The farms where the graveyard is located were afterwards owned by Peter and Barnard Hornetter, who by their indention bearing date March 11, 1802, conveyed two contiguous tracts of land, containing 85½ perches of land to Martin Fritz, Christian Yerge, John Nagle and Valentine Fisher, the consideration being six pence, for the use of the Lutheran and Calvinists for a burial ground or place to inter their dead. The road leading to the graveyard was deeded

by John Keely to Henry Yorgey, sr., Jacob Keely, sr., Peter Bruner and John Nagle, Dec. 17, 1790, the consideration being 6 pence. Quite a number of aged people lie buried in this burial ground. For instance Valentine Kiele, born July 16th, 1716, died in 1784 (109 years ago); Barnard Fegley died at the age of 87; Samuel Reifsnyder, 88 years, 1 month and 8 days; Maria Ann Reifsnyder, 79 years, 7 months and 24 days; John Christian Yorgey died in 1834, aged 70 years; Magdalena Yorgey was 84 years of age when she died; Peter Hornetter, 70 years; Jacob Heppenheimer, aged 92 years; Elizabeth Heppenheimer, aged 71 years; Christian Romich, aged 78 years; Catharine Romich, aged 77 years, and others equally as old.

Many of the oldest interred have no tombstones at all. On some sandstone which mark the place of the dead the lettering is almost obliterated by the hand of time. The burial ground is in a great state of neglect, as is usually the case with the old family burial grounds so common throughout this section of Penn'a 100 years ago.

From, *Eagle*
 Reading Pa.
 Date, *Nov. 20* 1893.

"DIE BERG MARIA."

A WOMAN WHO LIVED AS A RECLUSE IN PIKE TOWNSHIP FOR 30 YEARS.

Her Parents and Her Brother Died During the Voyage to America.

There lived alone in a small log cabin away upon the mountain side near the summit, in Pike, Berks county, a woman who became widely known by the name of "Die Berg Maria"—The Mountain Maria. She was a recluse there during a period of 30 years—from 1789 until her death, in 1819—but was visited by strangers from every direction, some coming several hundred miles, who never failed to depart without the highest opinion of her meekness, piety and benevolence. She prepared from leeches gathered in the woods remedies which were regarded as specifics for different ailments. She was referred to in romance and in poetry, in newspapers and histories. Jan. 1, 1820, a Reading newspaper published the following inscription copied from the tombstone placed over the grave of "Die Berg Marie" by a "lady of Phila.," who had often visited her:

"Here underneath this mountain stone
 Lies Maria Young, who lived alone,
 High on the lofty mountain side,
 Belov'd and honor'd till she died;
 Lov'd and honor'd by the few,
 Who give to virtue, virtue's due.

"Stranger, she that's buried here,
 Was humble, pious and sincere;
 The even tenor of her days,
 She pass'd in grateful pray'r and praise;
 Her heart was like the gentle dove
 That came from heaven with promis'd love.

"Her heart, her hands, her cottage door,
 Were open to the rich and poor.
 Her faith confirmed, her will resigned,
 So sweetly calm, so pure her mind,
 The God of mercy from His throne
 Look'd down and claimed her as His own."

In 1844 I. Daniel Rupp published in his "History of Berks county" a beautiful German poem respecting Maria, composed by "A gentleman of Oley." In 1880 the late L. A. Wollenweber published in a small volume an interesting romance about the recluse and Theodore Benz, a young man who came to America on the same ship with her, loved and married her, entered the Revolutionary army, was wounded and captured by the British and was never heard from thereafter, and she then led the life of a recluse.

Maria was born in the village of Feuerbach, near Stuttgart, Germany, in 1749, and was the daughter of Jacob and Maria Young. There were 3 children, Jacob, John and Maria. The parents were very pious people and gave the children careful religious instruction. The father was a farmer, and his tract included a vineyard. Owing to high taxes and poor crops and the danger of gradually losing his entire estate, he sold out, and with his family sailed from Amsterdam for Phila. to seek a home in America. The ship was overcrowded with passengers, and infectious diseases broke out among them, there was indescribable distress and many of the passengers died, among whom were the parents and their 2 sons, leaving only Maria as the surviving member of the family.

Maria, alone among strangers, and going to a strange country, was entirely disheartened and wept day and night. Her only solace was in prayer. While sitting on the deck weeping a well-dressed young man accosted her and endeavored to comfort her. His name was Theodore Benz, the son of a farmer living in Lahr, Baden, and he was on his way to America to seek his fortune. He was to pay for his passage by being hired out work for farmers in this country.

Maria and Theodore fell in love with each other and were loth to part upon their arrival at Phila. Having the money that had belonged to her parents, she paid his passage, 150 florins.

Rev. Henry Meichior Muhlenberg boarded the vessel upon its arrival at Phila. to look after the immigrants, and directed a man to take the young people—Theodore and Maria—to the Golden Swan hotel, on Race street, kept by a widow, Mrs. Kreuderin, where Maria helped in the kitchen and dining room until she became a domestic in Rev. Muhlenberg's family.

Frederick Leinbach, a farmer of Oley, from whom Mrs. Kreuderin purchased butter and eggs and other produce, took Theodore along to his home in Berks, the young man agreeing to work on his farm for a certain sum and board and clothing.

After working faithfully about 2 years, during which he occasionally visited Marja at the Muhlenberg home, in Phila., Frederick Leinbach presented a tract of 175 acres near Motz's mill, in Pike township, to Theodore as a birthday gift, and arrangements were made for the wedding of the young people and their settlement on the tract. In the meantime, however, the revolution occurred, and through the influence of a

3.
 of Isaac Levan, of Alsace, and others. Theodore enlisted in Capt. Joseph Hiester's company in Reading, and in passing through Phila. on the way to Long Island to join other volunteers of Washington's army. Theodore and Maria were married in St. Michael's church by Rev. Muhlenberg, after which a reception was held at the Golden Swan hotel. During a battle in New Jersey, Capt. Hiester and a number of the members of his company, including Theodore, who was wounded, were captured and imprisoned, and he was never heard from after that. It was supposed he died from his wounds in prison. After the death of Mrs. Muhlenberg and Mrs. Kreuderin, Maria went to live in the family of Frederick Leinbach, Oley, where she remained several years until, at her request, a small log house was built on the mountain side on the land presented to Theodore, and there she lived as a recluse for 30 years, until her death, Nov. 17, 1819. Large chestnut trees overshadowed the cabin. Rev. Muhlenberg had presented her with a copy of "Every Man His Own Physician," and she gathered herbs and made medicine according to the formulas in the book. To the poor she always gave the medicines free.

From, *Ledger*
Pottstown Pa.
 Date, *Dec. 19" 1893.*

A Famous Old Tree.

An old and historic chestnut tree on the farm of John Bechtel, at Gablesville, Berks county, was blown down by a recent wind storm. The tree measured 26 feet and 9 inches in circumference. The great tree marked the spot where Popendicken, chief of the Minsi, or Wolf tribe, a clan of the Delaware Indians, was buried. The field in which this tree stands was cultivated by the Indians, and here they raised their corn, squashes, etc. The oldest people in that neighborhood still recalled when they forefathers told them that they remembered when the Indians lived around there. Popendicken creek was named after the famous chief who was buried there.

From, *Times*
Reading Pa.
 Date, *Jan. 2" 1894*

BERKS IN THE REVOLUTION.

HISTORIAN MONTGOMERY'S REPLY
 TO AN "EX-EDITOR" OF PHILA.

The Claims Made in the Reading "Times"
 Not Only Reasonable, but Justified by
 Statements in MSS. Submitted by
 Mr. Montgomery.

EDITOR OF READING TIMES:—In the Philadelphia *Inquirer* of December 24th an article appeared on the editorial page, signed "An Ex-Editor," in which he made an extended mention of my proposed work on "Berks County in the Revolution," basing his remarks and criticisms on a notice of the work which you kindly made in your paper of December 16th.

I appreciate the kindness and favor of the "Ex-Editor" in devoting so much time and space to Berks county in the Revolution, and if I had the time to answer his criticisms and incredulity at length, I would be pleased to do so. Fearing that his remarks may have led the readers of the *Inquirer* (many of whom, not only in Philadelphia, but also in Reading and elsewhere, are greatly interested in Berks county) to agree with him that my claims for the number of men, captains and colonels in the Revolution from Berks county are "preposterous," I would ask you to permit me to make a reply thereto; and believing that he is a man with a spirit inclined to be fair and just, and a purpose to get at the truth as near as it is possible to do so at a time so far removed from the Revolution, I will endeavor to satisfy him that the claims made in the TIMES were not only reasonable but justified by statements in my manuscript which you examined.

MEN IN SERVICE ESTIMATED.

By referring to the TIMES it will appear that the statement as to the number of men supplied by Berks county for the Revolution was not so broad as the "Ex-Editor" states it to have been. The number was simply estimated at near 6,000. This may seem preposterous, not only to him and to readers of the *Inquirer*, but also to most of your readers. Not to take up too much space in reply, I will mention how the reporter of the TIMES came to get at the estimated figures.

I have found the rolls of twenty-six companies which were in the Revolution from Berks county, not necessarily by battles, and the aggregate number of names counts up 1,253. In only two places do the names in each company exceed the number required (83) but in the others they are less, and in most of them much less. Now, in order to get at the probable number of men who were in the service (I do not mean militia-service or service as associators,) I cannot be held to the number that appear in the company rolls as published. I have a right to presume that the companies were regularly organized with the required number, excepting in some instances. Reckoning the number in any way, it can be stated with reasonable certainty that the men in these companies really footed up about 2,000. The battalion of Col. Henry Haller was the "Flying Camp" at Long Island. I have ascertained the names of the six regiments, but not the company rolls. The battalions of Col. Daniel Hunter and Col. Daniel Udree were at West Point and in the Battle of Brandywine; though the names of the captains are not given in connection with the published record, I am able to state who they were by consulting the Militia Records. Col. Mark Bird equipped his regiment and marched it to New Jersey; the battalion of Col. Joseph Hiester was also in New Jersey.

CAPTAINS.

Arranging these captains according to the time of enlistment, they are as follows:

- 1775—Nagel and Jones, 177 men.
- 1776—Scull, Spohn, Decker, Christ, Graul, Hiester, Maurer, Ludwig, Old, Douglass, Weiser, Leshner, Wolf, Miller, Furrer, Soder, Withington, and Dewees, estimated 1,498 men.
- 1777—Will, Diehl, Scheffer, Moser, Von Heer, Bower and Mears, estimated 515 men, and the battalions of Hunter, Udree and Hiester estimated each 500 men; total 2,015.

By the militia returns the men in a battalion exceeded 600, even 700. The total number of men enrolled in six battalions of county militia in 1778 was 6,058.

Besides these mentioned, I have found evidence of the following men, and, by the dates, I am led to say that they are different enlistments:

Aug., 1776—Col Mark Bird (Not included in above estimate).....	300
Oct., 1776—Defence of Penna.....	500
July, 1777—First class of militia to Chester.....	400
Nov., 1777—Col. Henry Spyker.....	150
Jan., 1778—Capt. Edw. Scull.....	20
Mar., 1778—Guard duty.....	180
Aug., 1778—To Sunbury.....	123
" To Easton.....	52
June, 1780—To Philadelphia.....	83
July, 1780—To complete Berks county Battalions.....	189
Sept., 1781—Capt Jacob Livingood's company of riflemen, 3 months' service, estimated.....	200
Oct., 1781—To Newtown, three companies, estimated.....	108
Aug., 1782—Frontier service.....	2,063
Miscellaneous enlistments ascertained with names of men.....	
Total	

I found three companies which performed guard duty. Their names foot up 92. But it is absurd to think that Berks county supplied only three companies (respectively 17, 39 and 36 men) from 1776 to 1783. At times there were over 1,000 prisoners at Reading. The men detailed for this service must have been numerous for short terms, but I cannot estimate how many they might have been altogether. Doubtless they were selected from the county battalions of militia.

The "Ex-Editor" states that if Berks county had supplied even 1,000 men for the Revolution she would have done nobly. In my opinion, she would not have done her duty at all in the struggle. The men mentioned must not be taken as all having been in the service at one time for a year, much less three years, or five years. In some cases the term of service extended for a year and beyond, but in most cases it was short, thirty, sixty or ninety days, for a special purpose. But the service counts, whether long or short, whether in the county of Berks or out of it, and whether in battle or guarding prisoners of war.

Looking at the figures, as I have stated them, there can be no question that Berks county supplied a large number of men though I can not state with certainty how many. But reasoning as I do, with such facts and figures before me, and making an allowance for companies not full, and men enlisted in the county who were not may have been non-resident, I can certainly say that Berks county supplied many more than 1,000 men in the Revolution.

SERVICE EXPLAINED.

To give you an idea how the service was rendered in one case, let me state that John Soder, of Bern township, was in the service as a captain four several times—August, 1776, May, 1777, and October, 1779, in the Third Pennsylvania line, each enlistment for two months; and in July, 1781, in Geizer's Pennsylvania regiment for two months. For the "Sons of the Revolution," to entitle a

lineal descendant to become a member of the association, of course, Captain Soder would count only as one man; but as to captains from Berks county in the Revolution, he counts as four, just as if the names were Soder, Brown, Smith and Black. However, I have only counted him as one in my statement of captains. Doubtless he commanded men from Berks county, rather than from elsewhere, and unless the contrary positively appears, I am justified in saying so, though I cannot state who they were or how many. And the men whom he commanded are entitled to be counted in the same way.

Now this may also appear preposterous, but Soder's enlistment can not be questioned. By running over the figures as given, without any reflection, we might say they are very preposterous. For instance in 1776, I endeavor to ac-

count for 2,208 men, in 1777 for 2,415, and in 1778 for 753. I do not mean to say that these men for the several years were in service at one time: The men in the county subject to military duty numbered only about 4,000, and over one-half could not have been away at one time. Such a claim would indeed be absurd, and could not be entertained. But by taking into consideration the orders for men from Berks county, the reports of men forwarded, the time of service and its short duration, it is not only possible but probable that during the year the aggregate number from the county was about as stated. During the years 1776 and 1777, the excitement in eastern Pennsylvania was great, the appeals for men and supplies were numerous and earnest, and the invasion of the county was imminent, especially when the British drove Washington's army upward along the Schuylkill to a point within six miles of the county line. Upon such an emergency I believe that the Germans in the county were sufficiently awakened to raise men enough to equal one-half of the number liable to military duty, for the welfare of their families, lives and property was in great danger, and it was natural for them to do all in their power to aid Washington and defend themselves from an invading enemy.

AS TO COLONELS

Now, as to the Colonels, the article in the TIMES states that there were twelve men who were prominent in military life during the revolutionary period. The reader (as Ex-Editor did) might have taken that statement to mean in actual service away from Berks county. But I cannot say so. Not to mention Nagel and Jones, from what I have stated, it must be believed that Bird, Spyker, Hunter, Hiester, and Udree were colonels in service out of Berks county. In the colonial records they are named as such officers.

Valentine Eckert and Jacob Morgan were "Lieutenants of Berks county" whose duty was to fill orders for men and as such were known as and called colonels. I could not find that they rendered any service out of the county, but the character of it in the county was indispensable. They were appointed not by any local, but by State and National authority. The same as to Nicholas Lotz. He was a lieutenant colonel in the battle of Long Island, and afterward ranked as a colonel, not simply in the militia but in the service of the State and National Government in buying and forwarding supplies. Henry Haller was the colonel of the regiment in the "Flying Camp," but it appears that he was not practically engaged in the Long Island campaign.

PATTON AND BRODHEAD.

I am certain that both John Patton and Daniel Brodhead lived in Berks county during the Revolution. Patton was married to the widow of William

Bird (father of Mark Bird) and very prominently identified with the iron industry in the county. His assessment of property was very large. Deeds to and from him describe him as of Berks county. Brodhead came to Berks county in 1771 from Northampton. When the Revolution broke out he was placed on important committees. In a marriage settlement with Rebecca Mifflin, (widow of Samuel, of Philadelphia,) in 1778, they are both described as of Reading. In the conveyance of certain property he describes himself as of Reading. In 1789 he was sent to the Assembly from Berks county. While stationed at Fort Pitt, he was a resident of Reading, because his wife lived there, and she afterwards died there as his wife in 1788. Her last will proves this beyond doubt.

I might extend my remarks by way of supplying corroborating evidence as to men, captains and colonels, but I think I have made a sufficient statement to satisfy the "Ex-Editor" and the readers of the *Inquirer* and the *TIMES* that if I may be somewhat over the true mark, he is certainly far under it.

Let me add that I am not compiling this work to enable certain persons to become members of the "Sons of the Revolution," but to show as near as I can what the people of Berks county did in and for the Revolution, and to write up a subject that has been almost wholly neglected in this county from 1783 until now. With very little to aid me you can imagine what a laborious undertaking I have on my hands.

Very truly yours,

MORTON L. MONTGOMERY.

READING, January 1, 1894.

From, *Times*
 Reading Pa.
 Date, Jan. 17" 1894.

AN HISTORIC RELIC.

THE WELL-PRESERVED INDIAN FORT
 IN TULPEHOCKEN, BERKS CO.

The Place Where the Tulpehocken Settlers
 Erected Their First Building in 1723—
 Interesting Historical Reminiscences—A Thrilling Story.

A number of old Indian forts are still to be found in different sections of our State. Many of these forts have interesting historical reminiscences connected with them. Our friend, Rev. P. C. Croll, of Lebanon, Pa., has written an article for one of our exchanges, describing the Tulpehocken, Berks county, Pa.

fort, from which we take the following:
This old and well preserved Indian fort, built of solid masonry and in part ornamented with carved stone door-jambs and headstones, or lintels, was about two miles to the south of the Tulpehocken church, in 1745, on lands then owned by Heinrich Zellers, and now in possession of his eighth descendant, Mr. Monroe P. Zellers. It is at this place where the Tulpehocken settlers erected their first building in 1723, which was a log structure and served as a fortification against the Indians.

This first fort gave way to a Stone Fort. About this latter, now antiquated structure, cluster interesting stories and hallowed associations. Thus it is related that the original Mrs. Zellers, wife of Heinrich, superintended the erection of the fort, while her husband was out with the other settlers, fighting the Indians, her laborers being colored slaves. Inasmuch as Pennsylvania then had slaves, and the State governments authorized the erection of such forts on these frontiers as a protection of her citizens against the depredations of the Indians, it is probable that State aids were given in the erection of this fort, and perhaps in the employ of colored workmen.

Another story is told of the heroic defence against the slaughter of three attacking Indians by the same Christine Zellers, wife of Heinrich. One day, while all alone in this fort, she saw these prowling savages steadily approach the building and heading for the small hole in the cellar. Quickly descending the cellar steps with a broad-axe, she stationed herself inside this window with weapon upraised. Presently the head of the first Indian protruded through this hole, when she quickly brought down the weapon with an effective blow.

Dragging the body through the hole, she disguised her voice and in Indian language beckoned his companions to follow, as all was right and safe inside. These followed one by one, and were dispatched in like manner. With a triumphant air that equalled Deborah's of old, she is said to have recounted her victory that night to her husband, and the fame of her conquest speedily spread throughout all the settlement.

It was in this fort also that the community found refuge and protection during the well-known invasion of the French and Indians within the period of that historic conflict with the English colonies. Many cruel butcheries of white people were committed by the savages in this period, and in this community. This fort is said to have been attacked, and a cannon ball is still to be seen here which has been handed down from that day, said to have been shot through one of the square port-holes, of which all the original windows consisted.

From, *Gazette*
Altoona Pa.
Date, *Feb. 15* 1894.

Strange Freak of Nature.

A strange freak of nature was discovered recently near Reading. While Swoyer & DeLong were sawing a white oak log, which they procured from the farm of George S. Sell, a farmer of Maxatawny township, near Bowers Station, their circular saw, which is five feet six inches in diameter, struck a piece of quartz, which tore every tooth out of the big saw. The stone was six inches in diameter, and imbedded in the trunk 30 feet from the ground and inside the solid wood. There is considerable speculation as to how the stone got into the trunk of the tree. There is no quartz within a mile from the place where the tree stood. It must have been there for over 200 years, as the tree, it is believed, was several centuries old. The tree was one of the very largest in that section.

From, *Journal*
Reading Pa.
Date, *Mar. 3* 1894.

BERKS IN THE REVOLUTION.

INTERESTING CHAPTER FROM THE
EARLY HISTORY OF THE COUNTY.

Edward Biddle, Her Representative in
First Continental Congress—A Distinguished
Lawyer at Reading
from 1760 to 1780.

Morton L. Montgomery, Esq., the historian of Berks county, is about publishing a new work which will bring him additional credit and honor as an author of valuable local compilations. It will be entitled "Berks County in the Revolution." Included in this work there will be numerous sketches of the more prominent men of the county who participated actively in the Revolution. Among these sketches and at the head of the list is that of Edward Biddle, Esq., who was the most distinguished lawyer at Reading that practiced in our county courts from 1752 down to 1780. By the kind permission of Mr. Montgomery the JOURNAL presents his sketch this morn-

ing as an interesting subject for its numerous readers on the "Anniversary of Washington's Birthday," the hero of the Revolution, in which Biddle also was a distinguished character.

PARENTAGE OF BIDDLE.

Edward Biddle was born in 1732. He was the fourth son of William Biddle, a native of New Jersey, whose grandfather was one of the original proprietors of that State, having left England with his father in 1681. His mother was the daughter of Nicholas Scull, who was Surveyor General of Pennsylvania from 1748 to 1761. James, Nicholas and Charles Biddle were three of his brothers.

CAPTAIN IN INDIAN WARFARE.

On February 3, 1758, he was commissioned an ensign in the Provincial army of Pennsylvania and was present at the taking of Fort Niagara in the French and Indian war. In 1759 he was promoted to lieutenant, and in 1760 he was commissioned as a captain, after which he resigned from the army and received 5,000 acres of land for his services. He then selected the law as his profession, and after the usual course of study at Philadelphia, most likely in the office of his elder brother James, he located at Reading and soon established himself as a lawyer.

SPEAKER OF ASSEMBLY.

In 1767 he was elected to represent Berks county in the Provincial Assembly, and he was annually re-elected until 1775 and again in 1778. In 1774 and 1775 he officiated as Speaker, but he was obliged to resign this responsible position on March 15, 1775, on account of illness. He had previously been placed upon the most important committees and had taken an active part in all the current business.

When the citizens of Reading held a public meeting on July 2, 1774, to take initiatory steps in behalf of the Revolution, they selected Edward Biddle to preside over their deliberations, and the expressive resolutions then adopted by them were doubtless drafted by him. His patriotic utterances on that occasion won their admiration, and they unanimously gave him a vote of thanks in appreciation of his efforts in the cause of the rights and liberties of America.

DELEGATE TO FIRST CONGRESS.

On the same day, while he was presiding at this meeting, the Assembly of Pennsylvania was in session and elected eight delegates as representatives to the "First Continental Congress," and among them was Edward Biddle, of Reading. The State then comprised eleven counties. When this congress assembled at Philadelphia on September 5, 1774, the subject which principally occupied its attention was referred to a committee of two delegates from each colony, and Biddle was selected as one of them. They were directed "to state the rights of the colonies in general, the instances in which those rights were violated, and the means most proper to be pursued for obtaining a restitution of

them." The able declaration, which the committee reported, was earnestly supported by Biddle, though opposed by his colleague. The report of the Pennsylvania delegates to the Assembly was approved by it, and this action gave Pennsylvania the credit of being the first constitutional House of Representatives that ratified the Acts of Congress.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.

Biddle was again selected as one of the delegates to the new Congress, which was to be held on May 10, 1775. On his way from Reading to Philadelphia, by boat, to attend the second convention, he accidentally fell overboard into the Schuylkill, and circumstances compelling him to sleep in his wet clothing, he took a cold, which resulted in a violent attack of illness. Besides leaving him a confirmed invalid for the rest of his life, he was deprived of the sight of one of his eyes. He was one of the twenty-two members of Congress who did not sign the "Declaration of Independence." His illness may account for his non-attendance and non-subscription of that great document for our political freedom. He was elected three times as a delegate to Congress. The first two terms extended from September 5, 1774, to December 12, 1776, and the last from 1778 to 1779.

SUCCESSFUL LAWYER.

From 1776 to 1779 I could not find any information of his public actions, excepting his attendance of the meetings of the Committee of Safety at Philadelphia in the beginning of January, 1776.

The public records in the county offices, especially in the Prothonotary's office, disclose a large and lucrative practice as an attorney-at-law, and this extended from 1760 to the time of his decease in 1779. It seems to have been as much, if not more than that of all the other attorneys taken together.

He died at Baltimore, Maryland, on September 5, 1779. He had two sons, Nicholas and Charles, the latter having represented Berks county in the General Assembly in 1788; and two daughters, Kitty and Abigail, the latter of whom was married to Capt. Peter Scull, an active patriot in the Revolution.

EULOGIUM BY READ.

Upon his decease, the following highly complimentary notice appeared in Dunlap's newspaper at Philadelphia, which was attributed to Hon. James Read, who was then officiating as a councillor from Berks county in the Supreme Executive Council:

"On Thursday last, after a lingering illness, that great lawyer, Edward Biddle, of Reading, died at Baltimore in the 41st year of his age. In early life as a captain in our provincial forces, his military virtues had distinguished him so highly that Congress designed him for a high rank in the American army, which, however, was prevented by his sickness. His practice at the Bar for years having made his great abilities and integrity known, the county of

Berks unanimously elected him as one of their representatives in the Assembly, and this body chose him as speaker, and also selected him as one of the two delegates to Congress, where his patriotic conduct did honor to their choice. As a public character, very few were equal to him in talents or noble exertion of them; so in private life, the son, the husband, the father, brother, friend and neighbor, and also master, had in him a pattern not to be excelled. Love of country, benevolence and every manly virtue rendered him an object of esteem and admiration to all who knew him."

GRAYDON'S MEMOIR.

Alexander Graydon, in his memoirs, makes the following mention of him:

"Mr. Biddle, then in a declining state of health, and no longer in Congress apparently entertained sentiments not accordant with the measures pursuing, and in the fervid style of his eloquence—for which he was distinguished—he often exclaimed that he really knew not what to wish for. 'The subjugation of my country'—he would say—'I deprecate as a most grievous calamity, and yet I sicken at the idea of thirteen unconnected, petty Democracies. If we are to be independent, let us, in the name of God, at once have an empire, and place Washington at the head of it.'"

OPINION BY WILKINSON.

And Gen. Wilkinson in his memoirs, expressed the following estimate of Biddle's character.

"I took Reading in my route and passed some days in that place, where I had several dear and respected friends. Among them was Edward Biddle, Esq., a man whose public and private virtues commanded respect and excited admiration from all persons. He was Speaker of the last Assembly of Pennsylvania under the Proprietary government, and in the dawn of the Revolution devoted himself to the cause of his country and successfully opposed the overbearing influence of Joseph Galloway. Ardent, eloquent, and full of zeal, by his exertions during several days and nights of obstinate, warm, and animated discussion in extreme sultry weather, he overheated himself and brought on an inflammatory rheumatism and surfeit, which radically destroyed his health and ultimately deprived society of one of its greatest ornaments, and his country of a statesman, a patriot and a soldier. He had served several campaigns in the war of 1756, and if his health had been spared would, no doubt, have occupied the second or third place in the revolutionary armies."

From, *Eagle*
 Reading Pa.
 Date, *Mar. 4* 1894

AN HISTORIC PARSONAGE

THAT CONNECTED WITH TULPEHOCKEN OR CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH.

Located in Marion Township. Near Stouchsburg—An Ancient Record.

A newspaper writer recently visited the parsonage of Tulpehocken, or more commonly known as Christ Lutheran church in Marion township, near Stouchsburg. He says: Standing upon the threshold of this antiquated, ministerial abode, I shall ask my fellow-explorers to step lightly and reverently on entering a door that has swung on its hinges a 150 years to give entrance and exit, not only to the long line of its pious and honored inmates, but to hundreds, yea thousands, besides. In addition to the usual social and parish visits made here in its long history, this is the door that has opened to many a hundred couple of young lovers who came hither to have nuptial knots tied by the dominie in charge. Here many another hundred calls were made to announce the death of some parishioner and engage the pastor's services for the funeral. Hither many an infant was borne by loving parents—though probably more to the church itself—to have the rite of holy baptism administered. While not all these official acts may have been performed in the parsonage, it appears from an historical address delivered by Rev. Shantz at the sesquicentennial celebration of the church, that there are records preserved, showing that for a part of this period, covering a very large parish, the various pastors residing here officiated at 6,934 baptisms, 3,829 marriages and 2,518 funerals. Of course the record is incomplete in every one item, as for periods of years together one or the other class of entries was discontinued.

Beyond a doubt the most interesting wedding that ever occurred here was that of the Rev. Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg, the eminent patriarch of the Lutheran church in America, then resident in Phila., to Miss Annie Marie Weiser, a daughter of the celebrated Conrad Weiser. It was solemnized by the first pastor, Rev. Tobias Wagner, in 1745, and forms a most conspicuous entry in the intensely interesting church record begun by him and still preserved and continued. If indeed this illustrious pair were not married in this identical house, which seems to have been built a year or two later, it was yet solemnized on this spot in a house adjoining, which as a part of a mill property, was then used as the pastor's residence, and which is still standing and in possession of the congregation.

A book of accounts is kept at the par-

sonage to this day as one of the congregation's most valuable historic relics, showing, in Pastor Kurtz's hand, an account of receipts and expenditures in pounds, shillings and pence, contributed and disbursed during the building of this house. The erection of this building occurred during the first years of this pastor's official service here. He was called in 1746 and served as catechet until 1748, when at the first meeting of the oldest synod of the Lutheran church in America (the ministerium of Pennsylvania and adjacent states) convened in St. Michael's church of Phila., he was ordained as the first American Lutheran minister, so set apart by order and act of an organized ecclesiastical body. It was, therefore, in the newly completed and occupied parsonage that he prepared himself for this synodic examination. Whatever stress may have been laid by this young candidate for the ministry in his previous study upon purely theological points, the following practical questions were some that were laid before him for answer by the committee, viz.: What are the evidences of conversion? What is meant by the influence and blessings of the Holy Spirit? How do you prove that Christ was not only a teacher, but that He made an atonement for the sins of man? etc. At his ordination, Rev. Hartwig preached from the words, "His blood will I require at the hand." It may have been some impression made upon his mind by this sermon that made this pastor of Tulpehocken such a faithful and earnest preacher and worker for souls. In all those perilous years (when in his home or on his journeys, he was constantly exposing his life to danger from the attacks of the Indians, who frequently invaded the territory of his parish and tomahawked or scalped entire families, many of whom he was called upon to bury*) he kept faithfully at his post, doing his work as pastor and preacher.

It was, while residing in this parsonage, that his large family of children were born, consisting of 9 sons and 3 daughters. The baptism of at least 8 of them is recorded in the church book kept here. One of these is that of John Daniel, who himself became an eminent minister and spent his life for a few years as assistant to his father, then residing at York, and later as assistant pastor to and soon as successor of Rev. Goerock, of Baltimore. He was pastor of the first Lutheran church of that city for 46 years, when he retired, living to the extraordinary age of 93. Another son of Pastor John Nicholas Kurtz, of Tulpehocken, was long the parochial teacher of the York Lutherans and became the father of the Rev. Dr. Benj. Kurtz—one of the most eminent men the Lutheran church of America ever produced, who, as preacher, author, editor of the Lutheran Observer, and one of the chief founders of the institutions of classical and theological learning at Gettysburg and Selinsgrove, and of the Evangelical Alliance, and, as traveler abroad, has acquired a reputation as wide as the church.

A daughter of this Tulpehocken Pastor Kurtz, and born in this manse, afterwards became the wife of Rev. Jacob Goering, of York, concerning whom a church historian said, at the time of his death, "many generations must pass away before

the world will look upon his equal." Through the marriage of a granddaughter, (the daughter of Rev. John Daniel Kurtz), this family also became connected with that of the gifted Lutheran divines, the Schaeffers, and their two children became famous, the one being Rev. Dr. Charles F. Schaeffer, long a professor in the theological seminary at Gettysburg, and the other the wife of the Rev. Dr. Demme, of Phila., one of the most learned men of this century.

We see, therefore, what a celebrated progeny came from the family which occupied this parsonage for the first 20 years after its erection.

That Pastor Kurtz, the senior, was himself a man of eminent literary attainments, as inferred by the respect accorded him by so renowned a literary institution as the College of New Jersey, whose faculty sent him special invitations to attend their annual commencements, though Tulpehocken was considerably distant from Princeton.

But other prominent families succeeded that of Pastor Kurtz as occupants of this manse. His immediate successor was Rev. Christoph Emanuel Schultz, for several years previous assistant pastor to Dr. H. M. Muhlenberg, of Phila. He was a native from Saxony, Germany, and a graduate of the institutions at Halle. He arrived in this country in 1765, newly ordained to the ministry, and as associate of Dr. Muhlenberg served both the St. Michael's and Zion's churches of Phila. The latter was founded during his ministry there, and was, at the time, regarded as the handsomest church in this country. It was to this church that Congress repaired in a body to express thanksgiving to God for the victory of the Revolutionary army and the restoration of peace on the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. The same edifice had also been used as a hospital by the British during their occupancy of Phila. But Pastor Schultz

had long since left Phila. when this occurred, although he was strongly urged by this flock to return. He took up his abode at Tulpehocken in 1770, having previously married Eve Elizabeth, daughter of Patriarch Muhlenberg. Here he labored, occupying this manse for 38 years, with the house again, as in the case of Pastor Kurtz, filling up with children. There were nine children in all, of whom the most conspicuous was John Andrew, born here, who, after a short ministerial career, entered secular life and served this state for two terms as governor. His administration is still conspicuously remembered for its justice and intelligence.

The many arduous and fatiguing labors of Pastor Schultz so enfeebled his body that during the last year of his life he had often to be assisted to the pulpit. The Sunday preceding his death he was too weak to leave the house, so he summoned the congregation to the parsonage, where he preached his last sermon. The following Saturday, March 11, 1809, he fell asleep in Christ, following his lamented wife, who had a few months previously preceded him to the bosom of a loving Savior. Rev. Dr. Lochman, of Lebanon, preached his funeral sermon the following Wednesday from the words: "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant

be." A portion of Pastor Schultze's valuable library was afterwards presented to Penn'a college.

All the successors in this historic parsonage have helped to make the abode famous by long residence and noble deeds. Here the well-remembered Rev. Daniel Ulrich resided for 40 years. He was followed by the families of Parsons Eggers, Maysen and Long, the last of whom is now the genial occupant, who, with his accomplished wife, has in training a small family of children, whose noble deeds, we trust, will keep up the high repute this abode has gained by the high character of those who have dwelled here or gone out from hence.

*In a letter to Dr. Muhlenberg in 1757 he says that "on one day not less than seven members of the congregation were brought to the church for burial, having been murdered by the Indians the day before."

From, *Stem*
Schweanksville Pa.
Date, *Mar. 9th 1894.*

OLD INDIAN FORT.

A number of old Indian Forts are still to be found in different sections of our State. Many of these forts have interesting historical reminiscences connected with them. Our friend Rev. P. C. Croll, of Lebanon, Pa., has written an article, for one of our exchanges describing the Tulpehocken, Berks Co., Pa., Fort, from which we take the following:

This old and well preserved Indian fort, built of solid masonry and in part ornamented with carved stone door-jambes and head-stones, or lintels, was about two miles to the south of the Tulpehocken church, in 1745, on the lands then owned by Heinrich Zellers, and now in possession of his eighth descendant, Mr. Monroe P. Zellers. It is at this place where the Tulpehocken settlers erected their first building in 1723, which was a log structure and served as a fortification against the Indians.

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From, *Record*
Milkes-Barre Pa.
Date, *Mar. 8th 1894.*

THE PALATINES OF 1723.

The First Fleet of White Men that Ever Traversed the North Branch of the Susquehanna River — Who They Were, From Whence They Came and Their Destination — A Brief History of the

Course of the Expedition,

[Contributed by C. F. Hill.]

In the spring of 1709 among the inhabitants near Württemberg, a part of the once famous Palatinate of the Rhine, occurred an exodus of more than ordinary movement, the causes of which can be traced to the period covering the thirty years war. The revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and the religious wars, and the devastation that followed by both French and Spanish aggressions, laid waste the Palatinates. A migrating epidemic seized upon the stricken masses who fled and in about two months reached London in England, where they camped on the Black Moor from August until the close of the year, when Queen Ann sent ten ships laden with 4,000 souls to America, which after a six months voyage anchored at New York on the 17th day of June, 1710. Queen Ann had directed, with the acquiescence of the Mohawk chiefs, that a tract in the land of the Mohawks, on the Hudson, where Newburg and New Windsor now stand, should be granted by letters patent to the Palatinates. Thither they repaired with exalted hopes, but alas, new troubles awaited them. In addition to the privations incident to their wilderness homes, they fell the victims to bold designing men. Robert Hunter, governor of the Province, and Robert Livingstone, a large bondholder, conspired against the unsuspecting colony and imposed a ground rent for ten acres on each separate family, and besides levied a per capita of \$33 as passage money. They now abandoned their homes on Livingstone Manor on the Hudson and removed to Schoharis and the Mohawk valley. For this privilege they repaid the Mohawk chiefs \$300. Here they remained until their homes, fields and meadows became homelike and attractive. Then they discovered that the Provincial Governor had long since sold their fruitful valley to seven landlords, one landlord for each one of the seven settlements of the unfortunate Palatinates. Soon after these events took place, His Excellency, William Keith, Baronet, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, visited Albany, and learned the condition of these unhappy people. He lost no time in informing them of the freedom and justice accorded their countrymen in Pennsylvania. The question now arose how to reach this land of promise as pictured to them by Governor Keith. The Mohawk Indians, who were on friendly terms with the Palatinates, readily gave them what information they had of the country and how best to reach the valley of the Tulpehocken. An Indian guide led them through the forests of New York and a journey of fifteen days brought them, in all about sixty families, to the head waters of the North Branch of the Susquehanna. Here they built canoes sufficient in number to carry their families and effects. Their cattle were driven overland, by what route is unknown. This was in the spring of 1723. An estimate of three canoes to each family would number one hundred and eighty. A fleet that at this day would attract attention probably beyond anything that ever passed over the same stream. No doubt by the help and directions

given them by their Mohawk guides they made a successful descent of the Susquehanna to the mouth of the Swatara Creek, now Middletown, Pa., and thence up the creek to where the headwaters of the Swatara and Tulpehocken interlock with each other. Here they transferred their canoes and their lading to the waters of the Tulpehocken, where they again settled, after the sad experience in the province they had left. The lands of the Tulpehocken and Maxatawny valleys were at that time yet unceded and belonged and were occupied still by the Indians, who kindly permitted them to settle among them.

Of how the Palatinates were regarded in their new location by the authorities we will quote from James Logan's letter to John Penn, Nov. 25, 1727:

"The next year (1723) our late Governor placed the Palatinates there, (Tulpehocken) whom he had invited from Albany, who will certainly hold it, on some terms or other, peaceably, by agreeing to an annual rent or a reasonable purchase if they can, but they are too numerous and resolute to be removed; nor since they were placed there by what they accounted an authority, would it be proper to endeavor their disappointment."

Two years later Logan again writing to the proprietaries says;

"Speaking of Indian purchases I have always been scrupulously careful to suffer no settlements to be made as far as I could prevent it on the Indian claims, but S. W. Keith made the first outrageous steps in settling these Palatinates at Tulpehocken." Later the proprietaries wrote to James Logan: "As to the Palatinates you have often taken notice of to us, we apprehend have lately arrived in greater quantities than may be consistent with the welfare of the country, and therefore applied ourselves to our council to find a proper way to prevent it, the result of which was that an act of assembly should be got or endeavoured at and sent us over immediately, when we would take sufficient care to get it approved by the king."

The Palatinates, the ancestors of the now Pennsylvania Dutch, were too poor to purchase the lands on which they settled, although they did purchase them and they are still owned and occupied by their descendants.

This is the brief history of the first fleet so far as known, or body of white people who traversed the waters of the North Branch, and numerous are the descendants who can trace their ancestry to the families who were members of the expedition of 1723.

From, *Steu*

Allentown, Pa.

Date, *Mar. 20th 1894.*

A New Church for Stouchsburg.

At a congregational meeting held after services on Sunday in Zion's Lutheran Church at Stouchsburg, of which Rev. E. S. Brownmiller is pastor, plans and specifications were adopted for a new church. This congregation was the first organized Lutheran body and built the first church in Tulpehocken township, having been organized in 1727. The new edifice is to be a fine brick structure, with a tower and spire. This is the congregation with which Conrad Weiser worshipped.

From, *Eagle*

Reading Pa.

Date, *Mar. 23^d 1894.*

100 YEARS OLD TO-DAY.

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE READING ARTILLERISTS.

A Brief Sketch of This Famous Company of Volunteers.

To-day marks the 100th anniversary of the organization of the Reading Artillerists. It was effected March 23, 1794, at a meeting held in Woods' tavern, now the Farmers' National bank, by a number of survivors of Lieut. Col. Nicholas Lotz's 3d battalion of the Continental army, and other citizens. D. DeB. Keim was chosen the first commander.

In the fall of that year, they were called out to aid in quelling the "Whisky Insurrection," in the western part of the state. They left Reading with 2 field pieces and joined the army of General Henry Lee. President Washington accompanied the troops and the Artillerists were detailed as a portion of his body guard while at Carlisle.

Again they were called out in 1799, and joined the regular army, and served during the Northampton county troubles. During the same year the company took part in the funeral procession of Gen. Washington. During the war of 1812 the company re-organized under the name of the "Reading Washington Guards," and were put in the Advance Light brigade, under Gen. Thos. Cadwalader. They were ordered to Phila., Sept. 16, 1814, to aid in the defence of that city. When the company was leaving Reading, they were escorted to the Schuylkill river by Col. Simon's band, where they took boats and joined the army near Wilmington.

In 1820 the company again took the old name of "Reading Artillerists" and was presented by the government with a brass field piece, captured from the British at Yorktown.

On Sept. 18, 1824, the company took part in the reception of Gen. Lafayette at Phila. During the celebration of the semi-centennial of American liberty in this city, the artillerists played a prominent part and attended special services in Trinity Lutheran and Christ Episcopal churches. In September, 1830, Captain Keim resigned, on account of old age, after having been in command for 36 years. In his place George M. Keim was elected captain and served until the fall of 1834.

Wm. H. Miller was appointed his successor and served until 1839, when Wm. Strong, afterwards a justice of the United States supreme court, was elected to the captaincy. Captain Strong resigned in 1841 and was succeeded by Thos. Leaser. In May, 1842, when encamped on what is now Penn's Commons, the Artillerists were inspected by Gen. Winfield Scott, commander-in-chief of the U. S. army, and Gov. David R. Porter.

On the 11th of July, 1844, the Artillerists were ordered to Phila., where they garrisoned the arsenal and Girard bank during the riots of that year.

The next services of the company was when they left for Phila., Dec. 26, 1846, and from there to Chambersburg, from which place they were conveyed to Pittsburg in 3 6-horse teams, arriving Jan. 5, where they were mustered into the U. S. service to serve during the Mexican war. They were landed on the island of Lobos, and engaged in all the hotly contested battles from the coast to the capital. After peace was declared, they arrived home July 29, 1848, with but 38 of the 112 men who went out with the company. In September, 1849, Captain Leaser died, having served 9 years, and was succeeded by John Biddle. A short time after this, Daniel R. Clymer was elected captain, which position he held until June, 1852, when Captain Biddle again became commanding officer. In 1855, Wm. I. Clous was elected captain, and served until the election of George W. Alexander in 1857.

At the breaking out of the Rebellion the Artillerists were mustered into service at Harrisburg, April 20, 1861.

After doing service under Gens. Patterson and Keim in the Shenandoah, they were mustered out of service July, 1861. They again re-enlisted as Co. E, 128th regiment, P. V., and served under Capt. Andersou, at Antietam, where the company was badly cut up and Capt. Anderson killed.

In May, 1861, the company was reorganized by Capt. R. H. Savage, who continued in command 1 year. He was succeeded by Wm. A. Souders, followed by Capt. Samuel H. Stahr in 1863. On the 3d of October, 1865, Capt. H. C. Christoph was selected as the commander of the company and has served in that capacity ever since.

At the time of the silk mill disaster, Jan. 9, 1889, the Artillerists were called out to assist the police and remained on duty 24 hours. During the riots at Homestead the Artillerists were ordered to that place and remained on duty 19 days. The company has attended all the state encampments and will participate in the Liberty jubilee to be held in this city July 4.

From, Eagle
Reading, Pa.
Date, April 12th 1894.

AN OLD LANDMARK GOING.

Tearing Away the Property at Jackson's Locks.

Contractor Jacob Myers has a force of men at work tearing down the property at Jackson's locks, preparatory to the erection of the house sewage disposal plant. The building was put up in 1836 by Thomas Jackson. Contractor Richard Hoffmaster did the work. Edward Jackson, brother of Thomas, and family, were the first to occupy it. They moved there in the fall of 1836, and in the spring of 1837 Edward Jackson opened a general store. He built up a large business, principally among the boatmen, but his customers also included residents of the lower sections of the city. Mr. Jackson continued in business there until the spring of 1842, when he sold out to a Mr. Graeff, who remained several years. The late Conrad Frame and Samuel James conducted a general store there for a number of years. After 21 years Mr. Jackson again occupied the property, and continued in business up to 1890. Since that time Alfred Keiser and family lived there up to a few weeks ago. The property was purchased by the city from Henry Conrad, one of the grandchildren of Thomas Jackson for \$15,000. Said Edward Jackson, "If the canal was in good condition, and the company was shipping more freight, the property would not have been sold."

From, News
Allentown, Pa.
Date, April 23rd 1894.

Found in a Corner Stone Laid in 1761

The greater portion of the old church at Moselem, Berks county, has been torn down and in the corner stone was found a piece of lead $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches square, divided into four parts by lines radiating from the centre, in which a number of inscriptions in German were traced with some sharp instrument. One announces that the corner stone was laid August 10th, 1761, in the presence of the congregation and others. Another states that "These 101 acres of land were purchased from Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, true owners, lords of the Province of Pennsylvania, on the 12th day of August, A. P. P. V., 1748," "with the privilege to erect a church thereon and for burial and other purposes, to the congregation and its successors," and "this patent

is recorded in Philadelphia, in Patent Book A, Vol. 10, 16 A. M., 50th page, July 29th, 1754." In the corner stone were placed "a Bible, catechism and hymn book, also the silver and copper coins of our king of Great Britain, France and Ireland, 1761." The lead is in good condition, but the coin was all tarnished and green, and the books crumbled when touched.

From, Eagle
Reading, Pa.
Date, May 2nd 1894.

ALMANAC COLLECTIONS.

Why Farmers No Longer Irrigate Their Meadows.

MOSELEM SPRINGS: Jacob A. Boyer, tailor, Virginsville, has an almanac of the year 1805, and one of every succeeding year to 1894. Mr. Boyer has next to the largest collection of Indian relics in the county, besides numerous other relics, all of which he prizes very highly.

Solomon Schweyer, a retired and respected farmer, residing near Moselem Church, is the owner of a grandfather's clock made more than 80 years ago. The clock is in first-class order. He considers it a valuable heirloom, and expects to give it to one of his 3 sons.

Joel M. Leibelsperger, merchant, this place, has almanacs for every year from 1791 to 1894. They were saved by his grandfather, Solomon Leibelsperger, and his father, Jacob D. Leibelsperger, both deceased. The EAGLE correspondent was recently handed a copy of the "Der Geist der Zeit," published at Kutztown every Thursday by Hawrecht & Wink. It is a copy of one of the first editions. The paper has 4 pages and each page 4 columns. Size of paper 13x21 inches. The first and last pages are devoted to advertisements exclusively as is also the last column on the third page. The second page contains President Tyler's message to the Senate and House of Representatives. Following closes one of the advertisements for a shooting match for a hog weighing 650 pounds, distance 100 yards, with balls:

"Kommt bei, ihr Schutzen und scharf geschossen,
Denn hier ist keiner ausgeschossen.

Wer zweimal schieszt den Nagel ein,
Der nimmt das grosze Schwein mit heim."

Dec. 16. Geo. P. BREIFOGEL,

In 1826 the first paupers, 2 in number, of this (Richmond) township were taken to the poor house. The others were cared for by relatives and friends, who preferred maintaining them rather than see them taken to the almshouse. Annually on the 25th of March overseers were appointed to care for the poor of this township—prior to the erection of the almshouse. In 1793 the expenses of this township for maintaining the poor were £25, 7s., 9d., and 26 years later the £'s. s. and d.'s were dispensed with and dollars and cents used. One hundred and forty-one years

ago a pair of stockings cost 5s.; a shirt, 7s., 6d.; a jacket, 15d., 10d.; breeches, 6s.; soling and mending pair of shoes, 8s., 6d. In 1753 David Ely was overseer, he being one of the first. The average expense of supplying a pauper at that time with shoes and clothing for a year was £2, 11s., 10d.

The majority of farmers are having their cattle dehorned owing to the fact that several animals were gored to death. In every drove there are some vicious ones and when confined to the barn yard they generally have others on the run.

Irrigating along the Moselem creek is a thing of the past, owing in part to the muskrats. For irrigating purposes ditches were dug and embankments thrown up, and these, being the abode of the rats, were often undermined during the winter for quite a distance, causing the farmers considerable expense in repairing the embankments every spring before they could irrigate their meadows successfully. One farmer after another discontinued irrigating until at present some meadows from which three crops were taken formerly are used for pasture exclusively.

The roads of this (Richmond), township, have the reputation of being among the poorest in the county, and justly so.

In the agricultural regions there is much less depression than in the manufacturing towns and districts. The people are not much given to luxurious living, but they have an abundance of solid comforts.

From, Eagle
Reading Pa.
Date, May 6th 1894.

FAMOUS PREACHERS.

Early Pastors of the Tulpehocken Reformed Church.

Having taken a general survey of the grounds and buildings and the past history of the Tulpehocken Reformed church, 3 miles from Myerstown, let us take our seat on the front portico of the historic parsonage, and in company with the hospitable pastor in charge, call up the long line of the sainted men who labored here in the past century and a half.

The first that must be referred to are those earliest supply-pastors, or missionaries, who preached the gospel here before the first synodical organization of this denomination was effected in this country. These were the Revs. Rieger, Boehm and Weiss, names that stand high in the earliest annals of the Reformed church in America. They were the very earliest pastors of this church, and did much pioneer work for this denomination in Pennsylvania. Boehm began to preach in 1726, before he was formally licensed. He took up his home in Whitpain township, then Philadelphia county about 16 miles north of that city, from whence he supplied surrounding places, even Philadelphia. At this place (Whitpain)

he built up a flourishing church that still bears his name. Weiss located at Skippach, Montgomery county, after arriving in this country with fifty families of native Palatines, September 21, 1727, having been sent hither as the first ordained pastor of the Reformed church in Pennsylvania, by "the upper consistory, or classis, of the Palatinate." He served all the older congregations of upper Montgomery county, such as Old and New Goschenhoppen, Dross, Schwam, etc. He also visited the Fatherland, with one Keif, in the interests of the struggling Reformed congregations of Pennsylvania, and for a brief period preached at Rhinebeck, N. Y. Reiger arrived in this country in September, 1731. He settled at Lancaster, and supplied the surrounding congregations with preaching, namely, Conestoga Shaefferstown, etc. These 3 men have a number of things in common, viz., they united in Sept. 29, 1747, with Rev. Schlatter in the establishment, in Phila., of the first ecclesiastical organization, known then by the name of boetus, now as synod; 2, they founded the first churches in the localities where they settled; 3, they all accumulated considerable wealth; 4, they all lie buried in the churches which they respectively founded, and 5, they were all among the first supplies of the Tulpehocken congregation. Would we visit their respective graves we should find Weiss buried at the southeast corner of the new Goschenhoppen church, the grave marked by a wooden slab on which is painted the barest fact of his resting there. While he died childless, he owned about 20 slaves, all of whom and their offspring he baptized, some of whose descendants still linger about Goschenhoppen. The grave of Boehm is likewise in the southeast corner of the church he built at Whitpain, having died suddenly, May 1, 1749, after a trip to Egypt, Lehigh county, where on the previous day he had administered communion. He left a number of children, among whom was long preserved, as a relic, an iron chest filled with this pioneer's most important church papers and correspondence with the church judicatories of Holland and Germany, but which valuable historic treasures were after oft handling finally but most unfortunately given to the flames. Reiger lies buried in the First Reformed church, of Lancaster, a horizontal stone, with an elaborate epitaph, marking the spot, and noting his death as occurring, in 1769, March the 11th.

When the Rev. Michael Schlatter, the great leader and organizer of the German Reformed church of America (sent by the Reformed classis of Holland, and commissioned to consolidate the scattered Reformed congregations upon the basis of their denominational order, doctrines and worship) arrived in this country, these 3 named pastors accompanied this conspicuous personage to this congregation at the Tulpehocken. The illustrious patriarch visited here at several other occasions, but perhaps the most memorable visit of all is that occasioned by the introduction and installation of the first regular pastor in the person of the Rev. Dominicus Bartholomaeus, whom, with Rev. Hochentiner he was instrumental in inducing to come to America from Switzerland for the important fields at Tulpehocken and Lancaster.

Rev. Bartholomaeus took charge at Tulpehocken, September, 1748, but was not permitted to labor for any length of time. Almost from the very beginning of his ministry his health was precarious, causing him to cease from his active labors here in 1752, and being relieved of his bodily infirmities by death in 1759. Rev. Dr. William Stoy, who succeeded this first pastor at Tulpehocken, was born in Herborn, Germany, March 14, 1726, where he was educated for the ministry, and accompanied Rev. Schlatter to America, 1 of 6 pastors, whom this leader induced, in a visit to the Fatherland in 1752, to accompany him to America to serve the church here. He was appointed as successor of Mr. Bartholomaeus, when failing health debilitated the latter. He remained but three years, when the severities of the climate induced him to resign. After health improved he accepted a call to Lancaster, and from thence came back to the Lebanon valley, settling in Lebanon, and operating up and down the valley as a physician and minister. He preached here and at Host church, in Berks county, for some time longer, at which latter place he was buried, according to his own ante-mortem request. A memorial stone, with suitable inscription, marks his resting place. He died in Lebanon, Sept. 14, 1801. Whatever may have been the influence of his gospel teachings, his medical skill was admitted, and from his saddle bags he oft took cures for the body. We know not the result of his offers of the water of eternal life. Among his remedies was a popular preparation known as "Stoy's Drops," and an effectual cure for hydrophobia.

Rev. John Waldschmidt, who served Tulpehocken from 1757 to 1758, was also a native of Germany, and one of the 6 pastors whom Mr. Schlatter induced to labor in the American field. He was first stationed in Lancaster county, and from thence supplied this church for nearly 2 years. He died in September, 1786, and lies buried in the Swamp (Lancaster county) church yard, a stone fittingly inscribed marking the spot.

Rev. Wm. Otterbein, another German, succeeded Mr. Waldschmidt in this charge in 1758. He likewise was one of Rev. Schlatter's 6 apostles, induced by his appeal to leave home and native land in the interests of the Reformed-Zion in America. He, with the other 5, was ordained to the gospel ministry at the Haguc, and accompanied their earnest leader across the mighty deep in 1752. He was a youth of 26 when he arrived, and at once entered into an agreement with the Lancaster congregation to serve them for 5 years. He established order and discipline in the church, introducing the time-honored custom of each communicant's personal interview with the pastor (Anmeldung) a day or two prior to the communion. The original paper drawn up by him and signed by 80 members of his flock, is preserved in the archives of the Lancaster church. He was a successful in giving strength and stability to this congregation—inducing them to erect during his ministry a massive stone church edifice, which stood almost a century before it was displaced by the present brick structure. He resigned in 1758 and assumed charge at Tulpehocken, only as temporary supply at first, which continued, however, for several years. From

Tulpehocken Mr. Otterbein went to Frederick, Md., and from thence to Baltimore where he labored for almost 40 years, until his death, being, however, meanwhile instrumental in giving form and shape to a new sect or denomination, the United Brethren in Christ. Later he seems to have come back to his first love, taking a deep interest in the Reformed church and dying within her fold, one of the most highly gifted preachers and intensely ardent workers of this denomination. He died Oct. 17, 1813, in Baltimore, where the venerable Dr. Kurtz, of the Lutheran church, ministered to him in his dying hours and preached his German funeral sermon. He lies buried aside of the thero Reformed church, now United Brethren, in Conway st. of that city. Bishop Asbury, first bishop of the M. E. church, whom the former assisted to consecrate to the bishopric, and whose intimate friendship he enjoyed, spoke a special eulogium to his memory in the Conway st. church from Rev. 3:10-11. Mr. Otterbein's tomb is well preserved and marked by a marble entablature, bearing the date of a brief memorial.

Rev. John J. Zufall succeeded Mr. Otterbein at Tulpehocken and served this charge from 1765 to 1769. There is not much recorded concerning this pastor's work or career from which the writer could trace a life sketch.

Rev. William Heudel, sr., served Tulpehocken from 1769 to 1782. He arrived in this country from his native Palatinate in 1764, and assumed charge at Lancaster. From thence he came to Tulpehocken, laboring here during the Revolutionary war period. After an efficient ministry of 13 years, he returned to Lancaster. In 1794 he accepted a call to Phila., laboring here during that period of trial occasioned by the pestilence, which plague finally made him its victim, ending in death Sept. 25, 1793. He is buried by the side of many of his ministerial brethren, in Franklin square, Phila. Dr. Helmuth, of the Lutheran church, his warm and faithful friend, preached at his obsequies, from the text 11 Samuel 1: 26. Dr. Harbaugh called Heudel "the St. John of the Reformed church." A friend composed a special hymn on his death.

Rev. Andrew Loretz, the next pastor, was a sort of unaccountable personage in the annals of the Reformed church, whose parentage and general history is hid. A native of Switzerland, he came to America in 1784, and the next year settled at Tulpehocken, where he served this church and the ones at Swatara, Heidelbergtown, Lebanon and Hill. His Swiss dialect is said to have interfered with his usefulness here, and he, therefore, soon returned to Europe, leaving this charge again vacant in 1786.

Rev. Daniel Wagner succeeded him in 1787. He was born in the duchy of Nassau, Germany, but came with his parents to this country when 2 years of age, settled temporarily in Chester county, but after a few years taking up their permanent abode in Bern township, Berks county, Pa. He labored in the ministry in York county for 15 years, before assuming charge at Tulpehocken, where he remained 4 years, when he again returned to York, remaining 9 years longer, when he settled at Frederick, Md. After a few more years' labor here he became disabled, removing back to York

in 1810, only to die and be buried there, which occurred in December of the same year. There many of his descendants still reside.

Rev. Dr. William Hendel, jr., eldest son of the senior Hendel, succeeded Rev. Wagner. He was under the tutelage of the celebrated Lutheran divines, Drs. Kunze and Heilmuth, graduating later from Columbia college, N. Y., and from the New Brunswick theological seminary. He was ordained in 1793, and at once assumed charge at Tulpehocken, remaining 30 years. He was a progressive man, much in advance of his brethren of that day in point of liberal thought. For his advocacy of missions and the establishment of a theological seminary of his church he was violently persecuted. It was by his casting vote, as president of synod, that the first theological seminary of the Reformed church was established. In 1823 he resigned several of his churches and removed to Womelsdorf, where he continued to preach 6 years longer, when he retired from the sacred office, only preaching occasionally as supply for his brethren after that date. He died at Womelsdorf, on June 11, 1846, and there was buried. At his funeral the Rev. John C. Bucher, of Reading, who was one of the officiating clergymen, made the startling statement at the request of deceased that he (the deceased) had lived and preached all his years with a mere theoretical knowledge of the religion and the grace of God, and that he had never enjoyed the favor and pardon of God in its fullest and experimental sense before impending death opened his eyes to his dreadful situation. He then called on God and found peace. By request this statement was to be made at his funeral to warn other pastors against a false trust or hope, and to urge his own members to seek the Lord's pardon and experimental grace while it was yet day. The Leinbach brethren, Thomas and Charles, in turn succeeded Dr. Hendel at Tulpehocken and served the charge for more than 50 years. They were both well adapted for this field and under the ministry of the former some of the greatest improvements of the church were made—such as the building of the present church edifice, and the celebration of the centennial of the church in 1847, all of which helped to strengthen the cause of the congregation. He also succeeded in dividing the large membership into 2 congregations and thus establishing the Reformed congregation at Myerstown and building that edifice. He died at Millersburg, Berks county, on Thursday, March 31, 1864, having there been seized with violent sickness, while officiating on the preceding Sunday. His funeral was a solemn occasion, attended by a large concourse of people, when several sermons were preached, the principal one by Dr. J. S. Dubbs, of Allentown, who was a classmate of his, and a mutual friend throughout life—they having married each other. Mr. Leinbach was the first person buried in the new cemetery at Tulpehocken, and a marble monument marks the site of his resting place, close to its entrance near the church. The following inscription is engraved thereon:

In Memory of
REV. THOMAS H. LEINBACH,
Pastor of this Con-
gregation for 38 years.
Commenced
in March, 1826,

Ended
in March, 1864.

"I am the Resurrection and the Life, &c."

His brother, Charles, succeeded and served the church for 20 years longer. He lies buried near his brother, and a granite shaft tells this story:

REV. CHARLES H. LEINBACH, D. D.,

Born
Nov. 7, 1815,
Died
July 15, 1883.

"He Giveth His Beloved Sleep."
Pastor Tulpehocken Charge May 1, 1863
to July, 1883,

Since 1884 Pastor Welker has done good work here, and continues his successful labors.

From, *Eagle*
Reading Pa.
Date, *May 13* 1894,

REVOLUTIONARY HEROES.

Col. George Nagel and Capt. Peter Nagel, of Reading.

Frank D. Nagle, 326 North 8th, a well-known citizen, has spent his leisure moments during the past 2 years in preparing a genealogy of the Nagle family. He has examined the Colonial Records, Watson's Annals and musty records of different kinds, and has had quite an extensive correspondence with members of the Nagle family in different sections of the country. Judge Daniel Agnew, of Beaver, in published genealogical sketches, refers to Col. George Nagel and Capt. Peter Nagel, of Reading. Frank D. Nagle says these sketches were published from notes he had prepared.

COL. GEORGE NAGEL.

George, son of Joachim Nagel, was born in Isenberg, about 3 miles from the city of Coblenz, in the Rhenish province of southern Prussia, about the year 1740. His father came to America, landing at Phila. from the ship "Brothers," Sept. 16, 1751. The father was a miller by profession and settled in Douglass township, near the confluence of the Ironstone and Manatawny, Berks county, where he erected a stout grist mill, which after his death passed into the possession of his youngest son John, and remained in the family name until about the year 1870. This mill has since been enlarged, but the walls of the original structure seem to be as firm as when erected nearly 150 years ago. Owing to the poor quality of the land, Joachim Nagel rented the mill and moved to the limestone region of the Tulpehocken, but owing to the Indian troubles shortly after their settlement they were driven to Reading, where they remained a number of years, and then, with his youngest son and 2 daughters, returned to the old homestead in Douglass township. In the Fritz burying ground is an old tombstone with this inscription in German:

"Here rest the remains of the former well known Joachim Nagel. He was born on February 21, 1706, and died July 26, 1775, being eighty-nine years, five

Rev.
pehor
months and three weeks old. My rests in God's hands, the land Isenberg is my fatherland, there was I born. Christ is my choice."

Joachim Nagel's family consisted of six children, four sons and two daughters:

- i. George; m. Rebecca Lincoln.
- ii. Frederick.
- iii. Peter; m. Maria Miller.
- iv. John.
- v. Catharine; m. Elias Youngman.
- vi. Margaret; m. — Geyer.

The son, George, from his provincial and revolutionary record, must have been a born soldier, having frequently been engaged in lively skirmishes with the French and Indians. In 1764 he was commissioned an ensign and given the command of twelve men, stationed at one of the frontier forts located along the southern slope of the Blue mountains. He continued in the frontier service until 1768, when he married Rebecca Lincoln, daughter of Mordecai Lincoln, and the sister of President Lincoln's great-grandfather. He then settled down to mercantile business. They had one son, Jacob, who was lost at sea, and a daughter, who married Thomas McCartle, of Westminster, Maryland. In June, 1775, when the news reached Penn'a regarding the battle of Lexington, at once George Nagel raised a company for the Continental service, of which he was commissioned captain, June 24, 1775. This company was among the first troops west of the Hudson to reach Cambridge, arriving on Tuesday, August 18, 1775. On the evening of the 25th of August following, Captain Nagel, with his company, was ordered to march at sunset, without beat of drum, to Ploughed Hill, within 300 yards of the enemy's encampment, to cover a party of 2,000 musket men, who were at work entrenching Ploughed Hill. They labored hard all night, and at daybreak had the entrenchment nearly completed, when the English opened a cannonade, which continued nearly all day. The men composing Capt. Nagel's company were riflemen, accustomed to use their guns upon the frontiers, and who never failed to hit the mark at a long distance. They were the "sharpshooters" of the war of the Revolution, and every British soldier or officer who ventured to show his head within range suffered for his temerity.

On the 5th of January, 1776, Capt. Nagel was promoted major of the 5th battalion under the command of Col. Robt. Magaw, and remained there in active service until he was promoted lieutenant colonel of the 9th regiment of the Penn'a line, Oct. 25, 1776, to rank from Aug. 21, 1776. His service with the 9th regiment must have been very meritorious, for we find that he was subsequently promoted colonel of the 10th Penn'a, Feb. 7, 1778. He continued with that regiment until the consolidation of the regiments; being a junior colonel, he became a supernumary July 1, 1778. Of Col. Nagel's subsequent service in the Revolution we have little or no knowledge, save that he was instrumental in organizing the militia for subsequent service on the frontiers of Berks county. Col. Nagel died at Reading in 1789.

CAPTAIN PETER NAGEL.

Peter Nagel, the third son of Joachim Nagel, was born at Isenberg, Rhenish Prussia, October 31st, 1750, coming to America in the first year of his life. In

1764 he was indentured to Samuel Jackson, of Reading, to learn the hatting trade, and in 1773 he engaged in business for himself; shortly after he married Rebecca Imler. Their children were as follows:

- i. Elizabeth; m. Capt. William Old.
- ii. Sallie; m. Jacob K. Boyer.
- iii. Maria; m. George Buehler.
- iv. Rebecca; m. Nicholas Coleman, father of Wm. N. Coleman.
- v. Catharine; m. — Kimmel; they settled near Pinegrove, Pa.
- vi. Peter; m. Susan Filbert.
- vii. George; m. Ellen Woods.

During the Revolutionary struggle Peter Nagle took an active part. In August, 1777, with his employees as a nucleus, he organized a company of which he was elected captain, being the second company of the Fourth battalion, Colonel Joseph Hiester. After the campaign of that year he was detailed with his company to guard the large number of Hessian prisoners at Reading, the prison camp then being erected on the southern slope of Mount Penn, near the Mineral Springs.

At the close of the war he resumed his business. Several years after the death of his first wife he married Sarah, the widow of Isaac High and daughter of Wm. Hottenstein, who was a commissary during the War of the Revolution. Their children were:

1. Harriet; m. Daniel Mears.
 2. Susan; m. Jacob Boyer.
 3. John H. Nagel; m. Mary Kunsman.
- They were the parents of Frank D. Nagle, 323 North 6th, and Morton I. Nagle, Allentown.

Upon the election of General Mifflin to the governorship of Penn'a, Capt. Peter Nagel was appointed one of the justices of the peace by Gov. Mifflin in 1793 and held the office until his death. He was for many years an elder of the First Reformed church. Frank D. Nagle said to the EAGLE: "I can now, in my mind's eye, see him sitting in the official pew alongside his colleague, General and ex-Gov. Joseph Hiester, with ruffled shirt fronts and hats on their heads during the services. As a boy then I remember often admiring the large silver buckles they wore on their shoes. In figure, Capt. Nagel was 5 feet 11 inches in height, and about 180 pounds in weight, and had a military bearing. Capt. Peter Nagel died at Reading, Nov. 27, 1834.

Several of Joachim Nagel's younger brothers arrived in America years before his immigration. Jacob arrived Aug. 29, 1730, and was a taxable in Douglas township in 1740, and subsequently settled in Upper Bern, and from him descended the Nagels of Lebanon, Dauphin and Lancaster counties and along the Susquehanna river. He was followed by John, Oct. 17, 1732, David, Sept. 11, 1738, and Frederick W., Nov. 25, 1740.

Wm. N. Coleman has a life-size portrait in oil of Capt. Peter Nagel, painted when the latter was about 40 years of age. It shows his ruffled shirt front and high coat collar.

From, Eagle
Reading Pa.
Date, April 29 1894.

THE OLD LUTHERAN CHURCH NEAR MOSELEM.

The Ancient Edifice Which Was Recently Dismantled to Make Way for a New Structure.



The above is an excellent rear end view of the old Lutheran church near Moselem, which was recently torn down so that the material could be used in the erection of a new edifice. Outside of the famous church, still standing at the Trappe, Montgomery county, this is believed to have been the oldest Lutheran house of worship in America, and regret has been expressed in many quarters that the building could not have been left standing as an historic landmark, as it was still in

a good state of preservation. As the contents of the corner-stone disclosed, it was erected in 1761, when it gave way to a log-meeting house built in 1742. The rear wall was hexagonal and the roof shaped to a slope covering it the same way. The graveyard surrounding contains the last resting places of some of the first settlers in that section of the county. The above is one of eight views taken by Photographer W. A. Dietrich, of Kutztown, who is selling the pictures at 20 cents each.

From, Ledger
Phila. Pa.
Date, May 14 1894.

NORTH HEIDELBERG CHURCH DEDICATED.

[SPECIAL TO THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

READING, May 13.—The remodeled historic North Heidelberg Church and new organ were dedicated to-day. The edifice is located near Bernville, this county, and it is estimated that 3000 people were present. Revs. W. W. Kramlich, Thomas Calvin Leinbach and others officiated. The new organ is a handsome and fine-toned instrument. The

history of North Heidelberg Church is an interesting one. Nearly 170 years ago a large number of Moravians located in that section, and in 1744 decided to build a meeting house of their own. It became a flourishing charge, and connected with it was a parochial school. After nearly 100 years the congregation began to decline, and in 1835 Lutheran and Reformed congregations were organized, and the few Moravians who remained decided to them the church property. In 1846 the century-old meeting house gave place to a plain brick edifice, and this has now been remodeled and greatly improved. In the graveyard adjoining lie the remains of some of the first settlers in this section of Pennsylvania. The eccentric Baron Stiegel, famous in Colonial history, is generally supposed to be buried here.

From, *Intelligencer*
Lancaster Pa.

Date, *May 14* "1894,"

North Heidelberg Church Dedicated.

The remodeled historic North Heidelberg church and new organ were dedicated on Sunday. The edifice is located near Beanville, Berks county, and it is estimated that 3,000 people were present. Revs. W. W. Kranlich, Thomas Calvin Leinbach and others officiated. The new organ is a handsome and fine-toned instrument. The history of North Heidelberg church is an interesting one. Nearly 170 years ago a large number of Moravians located in that section, and in 1744 decided to build a meeting house of their own. It became a flourishing charge, and connected with it was a parochial school. After nearly 100 years the congregation began to decline, and in 1835 Lutheran and Reformed congregations were organized, and the few Moravians who remained ceded to them the church property.

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From, *Ledger*
Phila. Pa.

Date, *May 21* "1894,"

[SPECIAL TO THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

READING, May 20. — Contemporaneous with the present meeting of the Pennsylvania Lutheran Ministerium in Philadelphia there was celebrated here to-day the centennial anniversary of Trinity Lutheran Church building, whose congregation is among the largest in Reading and which was among the first to connect itself with the Synod of the latter's organization more than 140 years ago. Old Trinity was elaborately decorated. The chancel and pulpit were one mass of ferns and flowers in bloom. The sermon this morning was to have been preached by Rev. Dr. G. F. Krotel, of New York, ex-President of the Pennsylvania Ministerium. He arrived in this city last night, but was taken ill, and, by advice of his physician, did not leave the house.

Dr. Krotel's illness is of the nature of nervous prostration, and is not considered serious. At the service this forenoon the Rev. Charles L. Fry, Pastor of Trinity Lutheran

Church, Lancaster, a son of the Pastor, spoke on "The changing and the unchanging." The Rev. Robert Roeder, of Norristown, followed with an address. The opening hymn was "My Church, My Church, My Dear Old Church, My Father's and My Own."

This afternoon Rev. E. F. Kerver, of Boston, Mass.; the Rev. Charles L. Fry and the Rev. Robert Roeder delivered addresses.

To-night Professor M. H. Richards, D. D., of Muhlenberg College, Allentown, and Rev. Frank F. Fry, of Bethlehem, also a son of the Pastor, delivered addresses to a large audience. During the service a hymn, composed for the occasion by Rev. Dr. Fry, Pastor, entitled "One Hundred Years Ago," was sung with great effect. There was special music by an augmented choir, who sang "The Deum," by Stalner; "Magnificat Festival," in G, by Gilchrist, and "Awake! Awake! Put on Thy Strength," by Stalner.

Altogether it was a notable day in the history of Trinity Congregation.

When the ancient edifice was dedicated on Trinity Sunday, 1794, the Rev. Dr. J. H. C. Helmuth, of Philadelphia, preached the sermon. The Rev. Emanuel Shultze, President of the Synod, performed the act of dedication, and the entire Lutheran Synod, attending a meeting in that year in Reading, was present. As Reading was a mere village in 1794, and as the congregation was poor and times were hard, owing to the Revolutionary War just closed, the erection of such a stately edifice was thought a most remarkable event.

A subscription list was then started in Philadelphia, and men who had signed the Declaration of Independence contributed to the erection of this edifice. Another interesting fact is that Rev. Tobias Wagner, the reputed organizer of the congregation in 1745, officiated at the wedding of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, the patriarch of the Lutheran Church in America, to Anna Mary, daughter of Conrad Weisser, the famous Pennsylvania German pioneer. From this marriage there have descended a long line of men distinguished in the State and nation, in the farm, on the field and in the pulpit.

From,

Eagle
Reading Pa.

Date, *May 21* 1894,

TRINITY 100 YEARS OLD.

CENTENNIAL SERVICES OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH YESTERDAY.

Brief Outline of the Dedication of the Church a Century Ago.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, 100 YEARS OLD.

The centennial anniversary of the completion of Trinity Lutheran church building was fitly celebrated yesterday. Despite the rain storm, the edifice was well filled by 10 o'clock when the services began. At every seat was a printed pamphlet of the programme of the special exercises. The chancel, altar and pulpit were splendidly decorated with flowers, growing plants and electric lights, and when the speaking began an extra current of electricity was turned on and there blazed forth in bright lights high above the pulpit the figures "100," the figures being formed by incandescence electric light globes the size of an egg. The effect was striking and appropriate.

After the organ voluntary by Prof. Benbow, the congregation sang the hymn, "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty," after which the clergymen entered the chancel in the following order: Rev. C. L. Fry, of Lancaster; Rev. E. F. Keever, Boston; Rev. F. L. Fry, Bethlehem; Rev. R. D. Roeder, Norristown, (all former members of Trinity), and the pastor, Rev. Dr. J. Fry.

It was at once noted that Rev. Dr. C. F. Krotel was absent. Subsequently Dr. Fry announced his regret to announce that Dr. Krotel, who had arrived in Reading on Saturday, had been suddenly seized with nervous prostration and that he would not be able to attend any of the services of the day.

Rev. Keever conducted the opening services, confession and absolution, and Rev. F. L. Fry read the epistle for Trinity Sunday. The choir sang the magnificent, followed by the gospel and Apostles' creed, after which the congregation sang with much spirit, "My Church! My Church! My Dear Old Church! My Fathers' and My Own."

EXERCISES 100 YEARS AGO.

The absence of Dr. Krotel caused a change of programme. In his sermon he would have referred to the ever memorable scene at 6th and Washington sts., 100 years ago, when the members of the Lutheran ministerium assembled in the old log Trinity church, and, with the congregation of about 430 communicants, marched in procession at 9 a. m. to the new church, completely filling the building, then the most prominent in the small town of Reading. It was Sunday, June 15, 1794. When the opening service was completed the congregation sang "Komm Heiliger Geist, Herr Gott." The entire dedicatory morning service 100 years ago was in German. Then Rev. E. Schultze, the president of the synod, standing before the altar, dedicated the church, naming it "Trinity." After prayer an anthem, especially written for the occasion, was sung by the singing school. The congregation next sang, "O, Jesu Christe, Wahres Licht." Then Rev. J. H. C. Helmuth, of Phila., entered the pulpit, which was then on the west side of the church, and preached the dedicatory sermon, taking his text from II Cor. 6:16. "Ye are the temple of the living God." Rev. Helmuth, in his diary said, his sermon was serious and declamatory. The hymn "Lobet den Herrn" followed. Rev. H. E. Muhlenberg, of Lancaster, preached in the afternoon on I Tim., 1:15. In the evening there was English preaching, but Trinity's church records do not give the name of the preacher. Rev. Schultze preached the synodical sermon on Monday morning in the church. He was from Tulpehocken. At this dedication 100 years ago, there were present clergymen and lay delegates from all over east Penn'a, Phila., Germantown, Lancaster, Chambersburg, Sunbury, Culpepper, Virginia; Hudson, N. Y.; Tauneytown and other distant points, all of whom had to come either on horseback or by stage. The organ and choir were in the west gallery. Rev. C. F. Wildbahn was the pastor in charge.

The pulpit had a sounding board suspended over it. A shelf projected beyond the front of the pulpit on which the Bible rested, and on its under side a large eye was painted. This old pulpit is now stored away in the belfry, and many yesterday regretted that it was not placed on public view in some way, the same as the old pewter communion tankards were.

YESTERDAY'S EXERCISES.

After the announcement of Dr. Krotel's illness yesterday, Rev. C. L. Fry entered

man pulpit, and spoke without text, on the changes of time, and in church buildings and decorations and forms of church worship, and the never changing character of the Lord Jesus Christ. He referred to Lutheranism in America in the early days and the character of the first preachers. Time has wrought wonderful material changes, but the gospel is ever fresh, ever interesting, ever new. Taste and fashions change but the sweet story of Jesus never changes and is always new. Our forefathers would probably have said that these memorial windows, marble altar and chancel furniture were popish, but we think them a consistent ornament and a thing of grace and beauty. It is not only necessary that a church should be a thing of general utility, that the roof should protect you from storm, that the walls have no breaks and the carpets no rents, but that it be ornamental and pleasing.

We can be thankful that we live in a century in which we are not compelled to submit to the seridom of our forefathers, with limited railroad facilities and other inconveniences. On this centennial day, memories come crowding in upon us. We look back on the old church, the old windows, the soiled paint and threadbare carpets. So it has been with the souls of some of us. It is a pity if, with some, they must relinquish their whole life in order to take a fresh start. It should not be hard to distinguish a church from an opera house, but, if you cannot, then something must be wrong. It is surely not because the world is becoming degenerate, but because the church is becoming too secular. So with a man's religion. It is difficult to tell which is the Christian and which is not. Then something is radically wrong. The Holy Ghost is the only spiritual artificer of the spirit, and His work is always well done.

Rev. Roeder then ascended the pulpit and spoke on the theme, "Her children shall rise up and bless her." He referred to Trinity as a venerable old mother and told how her children had gathered in the century just past and how they are still gathering to do honor to the congregation by repeating the teachings of the church, obeying her warnings and loving and venerating her precepts.

Dr. Fry followed in a few remarks on the centennial occasion, and the elaborate decorations, all of which was justly and appropriately in honor of the event. Too much could not have been done.

After the singing of the Te Deum by the choir during the special collection, a hymn (written for the occasion by Dr. Fry) was sung, as follows:

All hail the Triune God!
His glory let us show;
The God whose praise our fathers sang
An hundred years ago.

All hail the blessed Truth!
Our heritage to know;
The faith our fathers here confessed
An hundred years ago.

All hail our Mother Church!
Our home in weal or woe;
The house of God, our fathers built
An hundred years ago.

May these dear, sacred walls
Be kept from every foe;
And truly bear the Name received
An hundred years ago.

Here may our feet abide;
Our souls with ardor glow,
To consummate the work begun
An hundred years ago.

O may we rise at last,
From out the Church below,
And share their joys who gained the crown
An hundred years ago.

The doxology and benediction by Dr. Fry closed the morning exercises.

In the afternoon, Rev. Roeder spoke on "the Good Shepherd," and made suitable allusion to the 30 years' pastorate of Dr. Fry.

Rev. Keever next spoke, his address being chiefly a historical review.

The evening services were opened with an organ voluntary, followed by the usual service, led by Rev. C. L. Fry. The scripture lesson was read by Rev. Roeder. After the singing of a hymn, the first address was delivered by Rev. M. H. Richards, on the "Book of human life." It can be written in 3 volumes—1st, anticipation or preparation; 2d, realization, and 3d, retrospection.

Rev. Frank Fry followed, his subject being the "Work of the Christian church for the people." From their baptism to their burial the church is ever present. He referred to the present glad centennial jubilee of old Trinity and rejoiced with the congregation.

Rev. Keever also spoke briefly on the work of the church yet to be done.

The committee of decorations consisted of Mrs. Jefferson Snyder, Misses Sue Mohr and Lillie Bushong, and Messrs. Jerome L. Boyer and W. S. Mehr, members of the vestry.

Just before the close of the services, Dr. Fry made the announcement that the \$1,000, which was still due for improvements, had been raised.

DR. KROTEL WELL ENOUGH TO LEAVE.

Dr. Krotel, who arrived Saturday, and was stopping with Mrs. Muhlenberg, 4th and Court sts., arose Sunday morning not feeling well and owing to the rain, decided to remain indoors. This is the second disappointment of Dr. Krotel for Trinity the past few years. Dr. Krotel, Dr. Fry and the other ministers left at 8 a. m. for the Lutheran ministerium at Phila.

From, *Gazette*
Bedford Pa.
Date, *June 8th 1894.*

INDIAN DEPREDATIONS.

Another Chapter of the History of "The Palatinates."

After all the trials, sufferings and hardships of this colony, from the time they were driven out of the Palatinate up to the time of their settlement in Tulpehocken, it seemed to them, that at last, they were to have peace and happiness. But in this they were fearfully mistaken. For early in November, 1755 during the French and Indian war, the Indians made an irruption into the valleys east of the Tuscarora mountains, and committed hor-

rible depredations along the frontiers in Pennsylvania and Virginia. The atrocities at Tulpehocken were heartrending.

Governor Morris in a message to the council on the 24th of December, 1754, says, "this province never was in more imminent danger than it is at present, having as you know, a very large body of French troops in the back parts of it, assisted by a great number of Indians in their alliance.

Peter Spycker writes to Conrad Weiser, 16th November, 1755, "The Indians killed the watch, killed another man. We saw four Indians sitting on children scalping them, three of the children were dead and two were alive—found six more dead bodies, four of them scalped. The Indians here burned four plantations.

John Elder writes, "Upwards of forty persons massacred in the portions of this and Cumberland county, a great many carried into captivity"—dated Paxton, 9th November, 1755. Edward Biddle writes, "Thirty Indians were engaged with as many white persons at Tulpehocken, 18 miles west of Reading. It appears that the Indians had passed the Blue mountains, broke into the county of Berks and were there committing murder, devastation and other horrid mischief."

The sheriff of Cumberland county reported to the governor the depredations committed by the Indians in the upper part of that county.

He said twenty-seven plantations were burned and a great quantity of cattle killed, that a woman, 93 years of age, was found killed, with her breast torn open, and a stake run through her body—that of 93 families which were settled in the two Coves, and the Conolloway, 47 were killed or taken, and the rest deserted." Letters from El. Shippen dated 4th July, 1755, giving an account of the murder of some people near the fort at Shippensburg, show that 15 or 20 men, women and children are missing, supposed to be conveyed away by the Indians. Mr. Trent writes from Shippensburg, 4th October, 1755, "At Patterson's Creek there are forty killed and taken, and one whole family was burned to death in a house. The Indians destroy all before them, firing houses, barns and stockyards, and everything that will burn. Benjamin Chambers writes 2d November, 1755, "The Great Cove is destroyed. There are 100 Indians and they are divided into two parts. The one part to go against the Cove, and the other

part against the Conolloway. The Delaware and Shawnese. That part against the Cove is under the command of Shingas, the Delaware king. They burned houses, and such of the inhabitants as could not escape were either slaughtered or made prisoners."

SURRENDER OF CAPTIVES.

Early in the spring of 1764 the Indians renewed their depredations along the Pennsylvania and Virginia frontiers, murdering and pillaging in isolated parties that were difficult or impossible to pursue. General Gage, commander of the British forces in North America, sent two strong expeditions into the Indian country. Colonel Boquet marched down the Tuscararras (now in Ohio) and erected barracks and cabins at the "Forks of the Muskingum," in the midst of the Indian villages. The Indians sued for peace, and agreed to surrender all the captives they held, at a conference held by Colonel Boquet with the chiefs of the Senecas, on 17th October, 1764. Eighteen white prisoners and 83 children were surrendered.

Colonel Boquet met the Senecas, Delawares and Shawnese on 31st October, 1764. Over forty white prisoners were surrendered. November 2, 1764, sixty-five prisoners were surrendered. On the surrender of 200 prisoners, and giving hostages as a security for restoring all that yet remain in their possession, and that they should commit no further hostilities, the governor issued a proclamation of peace with the tribes.

At the Forks of the Muskingum 206 captives were delivered to Colonel Boquet, and about 100 in the following spring. The campaign had been entirely successful. Some of the captives were not identified when first delivered, and were carried to Carlisle, where the people assembled from near and far to find their lost ones, Colonel Boquet having advertised for those who had lost children to come there and reclaim them. Many of this little band of captives had been captured when very young, and had grown up to boyhood and girlhood in the wigwam of the Indian, having learned the language of the savage, and forgotten their own. What an interesting romance could be written of these Palatinate children.

On the settlement of Pennsylvania, in 1782, by William Penn, the counties of

Philadelphia, Berks and Chester were established. The Palatinates, therefore upon their arrival at Philadelphia, generally settled in the county of Philadelphia. As other counties were organized—Montgomery, in 1784; Lancaster, in 1729; York, in 1749; Cumberland, in 1750; Berks and Northampton, in 1752, they gradually spread over these counties.

After the old military road, known as the "Forbes Road," was built in 1758; and Colonel Boquet's march was made over the Allegheny mountains to Fort Pitt in 1764, these people followed these trails westward. Now their descendants may be found in every county in Pennsylvania and in every state and territory in the United States, and also in Canada.

In concluding this series of articles, it may be said with truth and justice, that the Palatinates, and the Germans in general, have done as much to build up the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and to mould her institutions, and to develop her resources as the people of any other nationality. They were industrious, patient, honest and frugal. They were excellent farmers. They were a Christian people, and favored education. They felled the forest, they opened farms, they built houses for themselves, and shelter for their cattle, they erected school houses and churches, they trained up their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord. And when the land of their adoption needed their services to repel invasion from abroad and crush rebellion at home they willingly gave up their lives and their fortunes.

Many of the descendants of the Palatinates have held high and honorable positions in the state government. Among these may be named the following, to wit:

GOVERNOR—Simon Snyder, John Andrew Shultz, George Wolf, Joseph Ritner and William Bigler.

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This article closes the series. The

next will contain the names of the Palatinates and the vessels upon which they were brought to Philadelphia, and the date of their oath of allegiance. The extracts contained in the last article may be found in Colonial Records, volume 3, page 282-3 A PALATINATE.

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A PALATINATE.

From, *Eagle*
Reading Pa.
 Date, *July 22, 1894.*

OLD BERKS TAVERNS.

Well-Known Public Houses--Some of Them Opened Over a Century Ago.

The tract of 100 acres of land connected with the Black Bear inn was part of the manor of Penn's Mount. Jacob Maurer, sr., established a tavern there before 1800, when he was already a well-known innkeeper. Mr. Maurer bought several tracts of different parties, portions of which are now included in the Black Bear farm. In 1787 he purchased a tract from Philip Durst, in 1790 another and in 1800 a tract

from Adam Drinkhouse, where a stone building had already been erected. In 1806 Jacob Maurer, sr., conveyed the property to his son, Jacob, who was the landlord for many years.

Caleb Harrison, of Union township, executor of Jacob Maurer, jr., dec'd, sold the Black Bear property to William Masser in 1846 for \$5,420, who conducted the public house himself and in 1849 sold the property to George Hill, who was the well-known landlord of the place for years. After his death his son, Levi Hill, accepted the property at the appraisal, conducted the place himself and in April, 1887, sold out to Franklin P. Esterly for \$17,000, who tore down the old 2-story stone building and erected a large and handsome hotel of modern style, which has become a favorite summer resort.

Half a century ago the state militia drilled in a field near the inn, and many a rough and tumble fight occurred between "bullies" of Reading and young men of Exeter, the former going down specially to fight. Participants, now aged over 70 years, are still living and fond of relating "how they whipped" a certain "bully" at the Black Bear. Hugh Lindsay, a well-known showman 50 years ago, often exhibited "Punch and Judy" and other novelties under canvas near the tavern to large and delighted audiences.

The "Three-Mile house," of which Wm. R. Nein is the present landlord, has been for many years a popular place of resort. The "Reading driving park" was opened there in 1869, with a half mile track, where years before a race course had already been constructed. In olden times the "Reading road," from the tavern in the direction of Reading, was used as a race course. From a white oak tree about 5 feet in diameter, near the hotel, to a sassafras tree, was exactly half a mile, and many an exciting race was run there half a century and longer ago. The tract of land connected with the tavern at present embraces 54 acres.

The Three-Mile house was a public house over 120 years ago, when it was owned and conducted by George Riehm. He was succeeded by his son-in-law, Valentine Straub, and the latter was succeeded by his son-in-law, Jacob Shilling, each of whom successively conducted the place for many years. In recent years the hotel has frequently changed landlords. Owing to the level road, which is generally in good condition, a great many citizens of Reading have been accustomed for years to drive in their private conveyances to the "3-Mile house" and further.

Hugh Jones, in Sept., 1734, devised a tract of 264 acres, including the 3-Mile house property, to his wife, Jane Jones, for life, and after her death to their son, David Jones, in fee, and a patent for the property was given by the Penns to Jane and David, June 4, 1735. This was 17 years before Berks county was formed and the tract was then in Robeson township, Lancaster county.

David Jones sold the property in 1753 to Morgan Morgan for 165 pounds, who the following year sold it to Jacob Weiss for 380 pounds.

George Riehm, who was a well-known hotelkeeper, purchased the property of Mr. Weiss in 1771 for 1,050 pounds, and bequeathed it in 1788 to his children, and

was taken in partition proceedings by one of them, Edward Riehm, at the appraised value of 5,100 pounds.

In 1809 the property, then 150 acres, was sold by the sheriff as the estate of Edward Riehm, and it was purchased by Valentine Straub, who was married to a daughter of George Riehm. Jacob Shilling, who was married to a daughter of Valentine Straub, sold the property, as executor, to John Beidler in 1844, for \$4,810, who held it until his death in 1870, and his youngest son, Abraham Y., accepted it in partition proceedings. The latter died in 1877, and devised it to his brothers and sister, and in 1890 Mary Ann B. Brobst, the sister, accepted the property in proceedings of partition, paying \$32,100 for it, and still holds it. Her son, John B. Brobst, manages her estate for her.

The first public improvement at Gouglersville was the tavern there, which was erected by Jacob Reedy in 1813. William Kohl was the landlord for some time. In 1842 John Gougler became the owner and he enlarged and greatly improved the building. Henry H. Trostle is the present landlord.

The "Red Lion," on the Perkiomen turnpike, 1 mile above Baumstown, was established by Nicholas Hoerner in 1760, who first called it "King George," and it was known by this name for 20 years. George Stoner took charge of the inn in 1863. Nathan Y. Harner is the present landlord, and the property is owned by Solomon Stoner.

The tavern at Stonersville was opened in 1813, and was called the "compass," a representation of that instrument being painted on the sign. Philip Boyer was the first landlord, and he was succeeded by his son, John, who sold out to George Stoner in 1847. Daniel

H. Snyder became the landlord in 1853. Years ago this hotel was largely patronized by drovers, and Mr. Stoner had a 40-acre pasture field specially for the cattle. In 1848 he built a large brick shed. Daniel K. Young took possession of the tavern in 1881, and he was succeeded by his son John. Howard K. Rapp has been the landlord since the spring of 1893. The property is owned by Daniel K. Young.

The Mineral Springs park hotel, of which William Behm is the landlord, was opened over 75 years ago, and Jacob Schneider was the first landlord. It has been a popular resort ever since. For many years the Democrats celebrated 4th of July there. In 1837 Mineral Spring was advertised as a "fashionable hotel," and in 1840 omnibuses were run from the central part of Reading to the "Mineral Spring house," when John Coleman was the landlord. Anthony Fricker purchased the property in 1851. The city of Reading has owned it for a number of years. The late Susan Roland furnished chickens and waffles there to guests for a period of 30 years.

Dengler's "Mt. Penn inn," Woodvale, was opened over 80 years ago in a 2-story log house by William Fry. Charles Dengler is the present owner of the property, and Newton B. Keehn is the landlord. He succeeded William R. Nein last spring. Rudolph Lampe bought the property from the Penns in 1803, and the following year he sold it to Daniel Hartman, who, in 1810, disposed of it to

William Fry for \$625. The property then included 33 acres. After Fry's death his eldest son, John, took it in partition proceedings and in 1826 sold it to his mother, Elizabeth Fry, for \$2,000, including 56 acres. She conducted the tavern awhile, then removed to Reading, and in 1839 sold the property for \$3,400 to Samuel Keehn, a Reading merchant. Sheriff Binkley sold the property in 1840 to Geo. Dengler for \$550, and after his death it was conducted respectively by his sons, Charles, Effenger and Jefferson. Many dances were held there in olden times in which a number of citizens of Reading were fond of participating.

Peter Fies has been the landlord of a hotel near Spics' church, Lower Alsace, during the past 55 years, a longer period than any other person in the county has conducted one public house. This tavern, the oldest in the township, was opened about 80 years ago by Benj. Tobias, who sold out to William Hartman, who was followed by Abraham Spies, and the latter was succeeded by Peter Fies in 1839.

Half a century ago, Capt. John Gechter's hotel on the hills in Exeter was a popular militia training place. He was for many years the captain of the "Washington rifle blues," and took great pride in his company. The property is now owned by Abraham Snyder. Aug. K. Snyder was the landlord last year, and Wm. S. Markley, of Ruscombmanor, took charge of it about 2 months ago.

"Blind Hartman's tavern" is a well-known public house, on the Alsace hills, and was so called because Jacob Hartman, who was the landlord for years, was blind. The building was originally an old log house, but after Blind Hartman's removal to the west, a new building was erected by a German named Northoupt. Jonathan M. Moyer is the present landlord.

"Babb's tavern," at Stony Creek Mills, Lower Alsace, was opened 35 years ago by John Babb, was kept by George Babb, and subsequently by James D. Babb, until Aug., 1893, when Wm. Y. Shade became the landlord.

The 5-Mile house, Cumru, is an old tavern stand, and a place visited by many citizens of Reading having their own teams, the drive to the place being a pleasant one. John N. Steffy is the present landlord. A number of well-known landlords have successively conducted the place. J. K. Olwine, this city, has owned the tavern and 28-acre farm connected with it since 1880. He bought it of Mrs. Wm. R. Bertolette for \$8,928 and improved the property. When Jos. Gaul bought the property of Adam Grill 40 years ago, it was a well-known tavern. Gaul sold the property, including 17 acres, to James G. Lash in 1863 for \$5,500. Lash sold it to Michael A. Shade for \$10,000 in 1875, and Shade disposed of it to Mrs. Bertolette in 1876 for \$8,911.

From, *Eagle*
Reading Pa.
Date, *Aug. 7th 1894.*

AN OLD LAND MARK GOING.

The Girls' High School Erected for an "Academy" 55 Years Ago.

Contractor Harrison S. Hartman, 814 North 11th, made his first appearance on the street since the fracture of his leg, when he drove to the Girls' High school building to supervise the tearing down of the structure. The instruction committee of the school board will meet either Wednesday or Thursday evening to take preliminary action on plans already submitted by architects for the new Girls' High school building.

The old building, a 2-story brick, which is being torn down, was erected in 1839-40, and was used as the "Reading academy," taking the place of the old academy, which had been erected on South 7th below Chestnut, and first opened April 13, 1811. The old building was sold in 1838 to the P. & R. Railroad Co., and school was opened in the new building, May 4, 1840, by Rev. J. R. Goodman as principal, the instruction embracing the branches of a classical education. In 1850 a "Military and Scientific collegiate institute" was opened in the building by Capt. Alden Partridge, April 1, 1850. In 1852 it was incorporated as the "Penna. military institute of Reading." The scholars then numbered 69.

The "Reading High school" was organized in the building, Nov. 2, 1852, with Prof. Wm. H. Balt as principal. The "Female High school" was organized Sept. 2, 1857, the 2d floor being used for the girls. In 1881, the Boys' High school was removed to the 3d floor of Bard, Reber & Co.'s Building, 8th and Penn, and in 1884 the new Boys' High school building at 8th and Washington was occupied.

School Treasurer Hoover has discontinued receiving school taxes in the evening, owing to the few callers. He has received so far \$95,000 for this year, and the amount will reach \$100,000 by the close of the week. The penalty on delinquents is to be added after the middle of the month.

The instruction committee of the school board will meet this evening.

From, *Eagle*
Reading Pa.
Date, *Sept. 2nd 1894.*

THE BUTZ FAMILY.

Sketch of an Old Undertaker—Has Had Charge of Many Funerals.

SPRINGTOWN: Few people in this section are better known than Peter Butz, under-

taker, carpenter and farmer, of Lower Macungie. He owns and occupies a cozy farm of 17 acres, and he has lived there half a century. The property is located on the road leading from Shamrock to Allentown, and is in a high state of cultivation. It comprises a strip of land formerly owned by his father, Peter Butz. It has been in possession of that family since 1761. The property was bequeathed to him after he had attained the age of 21. The land then only consisted of 10 acres and was without buildings, Mr. Butz being a carpenter, erected a house and barn together with other necessary buildings. He has supplied nearly 900 burial caskets, besides shrouds, etc., and has the reputation of being the most experienced funeral director in this section. Besides attending to the dead, Mr. Butz, as foreman, constructed numerous dwellings in this section, but has retired from the business. He, however, has decided to continue the undertaking business, and pay more attention to farming. Recently he purchased another tract of 5 acres from Samuel Butz.

Mr. Butz is an ancestor of Peter Butz, who emigrated from Germany in 1742. Peter Butz first settled on a farm near Topton, now owned by Ephraim Butz, of Topton, and had possession until 1761, when he purchased a tract of land consisting of 212 acres, in Lower Macungie. This farm is now owned by Samuel Butz, a great grandson, of Allentown, who purchased it at the sheriff's sale of John Butz, a son of the late Stephen Butz, the former owner, and a cousin of Samuel. The farm, however, does not at present consist of 212 acres, but about 117. The remainder, except the 17 acres belonging to Peter, was cut off and is owned by Reuben Butz, of Allentown. Reuben's farm consists of about 150 acres, he having purchased another tract. Five farms were at one time owned by the family, hence that vicinity is known as Butz's valley. Eight farms, all in a circle, and comprising 1,000 acres, are now owned by the Butz's or their relatives.

Peter Butz, sr., was one of the building committee in 1748, when the first Longswamp Reformed church was erected. He had 3 sons—Peter, Samuel and John, the last having inherited the homestead. John had 4 daughters and 4 sons, 1 of whom was Peter, the father of the subject of this sketch, and his brothers, Stephen, William, Aaron and Frank, and sisters, Hettie, wife of the late Elias Kemmerer; Mary, wife of the late Nathan Weiler, Allentown; Anna, wife of Daniel Lebensperger, Rothrockville, and Eliza, wife of Nathan Haas, this place. Stephen inherited the farm after the death of his father, and Peter a tract of 10 acres. After the death of Stephen, John inherited it, but only held possession for about 5 years. It was on this farm that the subject of this article spent his early days.

In 1848 Peter was married to Miss Carolina Haas, of near Breinigsville. Shortly after their marriage they commenced housekeeping in the dwelling which the family still occupy.

When 30 years of age, he, together with his other work, engaged in the undertaking business. He was energetic and worked with his men from sunrise to sunset and on his farm until late at night,

g caskets whenever he could. He
3 daughters. One died when small
d another when 11 years of age. The
her is married to Daniel Dangler.

Among the many buildings erected by
Butz, are the following: St. Paul's
chapel, Alburtis; two hotels, Butz's and
Fisher's, at Topton; Fegely's hotel, Sham-
rock; Butz's storehouse, at Alburtis, re-
cently destroyed by fire; besides many
others. Mr. Butz said: "Carpentering
differs greatly at the present day from
years ago. Almost anybody who knows
how to handle a saw, can be a carpenter
nowadays because everything is done
by machinery. I remember well when I
started out. I was assigned to a log
probably 10 to 15 feet long and
5 to 6 feet in circumference, and was told
to saw it up into boards 1 inch thick. It
was a hard task, but I accomplished it.
Harder work followed and in that way I
continued until my time expired. I re-
ceived 25 cents a day. It was not much,
but young men then had more money
after the expiration of the year than those
who get \$1 to \$2 a day now. Journeymen
received 65 cents per day. Now they get
\$3. For 3 years I worked as an appren-
tice with my brother William, who gave
me all the necessary instructions. He was
a first-class mechanic. After the expira-
tion of the 3 years my brother gave
up the place as foreman, having
purchased and moved on a farm, and I
took up the position. I often went to
Allentown to inspect new houses and get
pointers. In that way I learned how to
make a stairway, which is considered the
hardest job in the carpentering line.

When the East Penn railroad was con-
structed I had the contract for the
Lebanon depot. While working there I
saw the first railway train. A freight
brought stones there for the depot. I also
had the contract to erect the second sta-
tion house there. There are not many
homesteads hereabouts of which I built
either the house or barn or both.

When I was 30 years old, I concluded
to engage in the undertaking business.
The first funeral I had was a child of
L. H. Konig, Feb. 6, 1861, and the second
was a child of my brother, William, with
whom I learned the trade. In 1861 I had
2 funerals; 1862, 2; 1863, 7; 1864, 13; 1865,
17; 1866, 28; 1867, 25; 1868, 12; 1869, 28; 1870,
21; 1871, 23; 1872, 31; 1873, 30; 1874, 35; 1875, 40;
1876, 32; 1877, 35; 1878, 27; 1879, 25; 1880, 31;
1881, 30; 1882, 34; 1883, 33; 1884, 30; 1885,
31; 1886, 31; 1887, 31; 1888, 34; 1889, 29;
1890, 29; 1901, 28; 1893, 23; 1893, 22, and in
all to date, 16; total, 877. I made my
own caskets up to about 15 years ago
when I commenced buying them. I was
the first to introduce them hereabouts.
Home-made caskets are still the best. I
know that I made caskets for people
whose bodies were disinterred about 20
years later, and the lids were found in-
tact."

Mr. Butz is a member of the Longswamp
Reformed congregation, having served 4
years as deacon and another 4 as elder.
Before his hearing was effected he seldom
missed a Sunday.

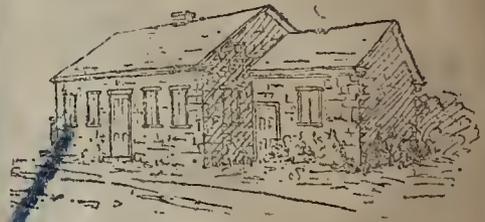
From, Eagle
Reading Pa.
Date, Sept. 2^d 1894.

AN OLD SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Said to be the Oldest in Berks, Out-
side the City--Founded by Wm. D.
B. Hain.

Zion's Sunday school, of Pricetown,
claims to be the oldest in the county, out-
side of Reading.

It was organized in the spring of 1832,
in the old 8-roomed school house, which
then stood where Pricetown school house
No. 2 is now located. William D. B.



EARLY HOME OF BERKS' OLDEST SUNDAY
SCHOOL.

Hain, whose father was an Englishman
by birth, not only brought about the or-
ganization of the school, but took a promi-
nent part in educational matters for
years.

He was the youngest son of Adam
Hain, who came from Phila. about 1802
and bought a 22-acre tract of land of Cou-
rad Price, founder of Pricetown.

Mr. Price had at this time cut the whole
area now covered by Pricetown into 11-
acre lots and laid out a driveway
around the whole. A part of this road
still runs along the south and east sides
of Pricetown and is known as "Green
lane."

About the time Mr. Price finished lay-
out the village that bears his name, Adam
Hain erected a substantial stone house on
one of the lots and moved there from
Phila. with his family. This house
stands to this day and is well preserved.
It is owned by Mrs. Wm. Haas and ten-
anted by Milton Schlegel.

Mr. Hain, the elder, was a man of re-
finement. He lived in Phila. for a num-
ber of years, but, desiring a nice country
home in an elevated village and intelli-
gent community, not more than a 2-days'
journey from the city, he selected the
village of Pricetown.

Mr. Hain and a number of other public-
spirited people of the village soon suc-
ceeded in making the little town one of
the principal places in the county
outside of Reading. There was no
place in this part of the state
that had as many summer board-
ers during the first quarter of the present
century as Pricetown. Some stopped at
the hotel, but the greater portion secured
lodging with private families. Scores of
Mr. Hain's Phila. acquaintances visited
him every summer and he bought a great

deal of truck, fruit, etc., from the farmers. At that time the greater part of the products the farmers had for sale were bought by the Hain family. Nobody attended market at Reading from that quarter.

Mr. Hain was the father of 6 children—Maria, Mrs. David Jones; Eliza, Mrs. William Mason; Henry, Hannah, Mrs. Thomas Evestor; Sarah, Mrs. Samuel Tea, and William D. B., who was married to Sarah Leaman.

Subsequently the place became one of the principal horse centres, races being held there about every other week. The majority of the farmers of eastern Berks drove through this village on their way to Reading, where nearly all the grain was taken. For a time as many as 25 and 50 teams would stop there every Monday morning. Monday was the great hauling day of the farmers of 60 years ago.

There were 3 flourishing tanneries there and no other place outside of Reading could boast of that number. But as soon as the railroads were built, business moved Wednesday to other parts, and Pricetown lost its pre-eminence.

Toward the close of the winter of 1831-32, William D. B. Hain announced his intention of organizing a Sunday school. This at first caused a great deal of talk among the ministers as well as among the people. All were ready to acknowledge that such a school would do a great deal of good, but very few felt assured that it would prove a success. Mr. Hain, however, was not discouraged, and visited every house on horseback. He requested the parents not to fail to send their children on the morning the school was announced to open. He obtained permission of the trustees of the 8 cornered school house to use that building. This was before the era of free schools. The structure was owned by leading citizens. Mr. Hain did all in his power to make his new venture a success and a great many of his acquaintances anxiously awaited the result.

It was on a beautiful Sunday morning, the latter part of April, that the children of Pricetown and the surrounding community for the first time gathered at the old school house to be religiously instructed. There were about 25 present, which was exceedingly gratifying to Mr. Hain. He and his niece, Marg. Jones, were the only grown people present the first morning. At the proper hour the children were called inside and the exercises were opened by singing a familiar hymn. Prayer was next offered, after which the school was divided into 2 divisions for the purpose of teaching them. Mr. Hain took the advanced portion and put them to reading in the Bible, explaining and asking questions after each verse.

His niece took charge of the younger element, and gave them lessons in spelling and reading, and some had even to be taught the A B C's. Mr. Hain then, in a short address, gave an outline of the work he proposed to do. Another hymn followed.

The greater part of the children returned home very much pleased with the new school, and were obliged to answer scores of questions. Very many parents had only a faint idea of what a Sunday school really was like. Of the group of merry youngsters that crowded around a door of the old school house that

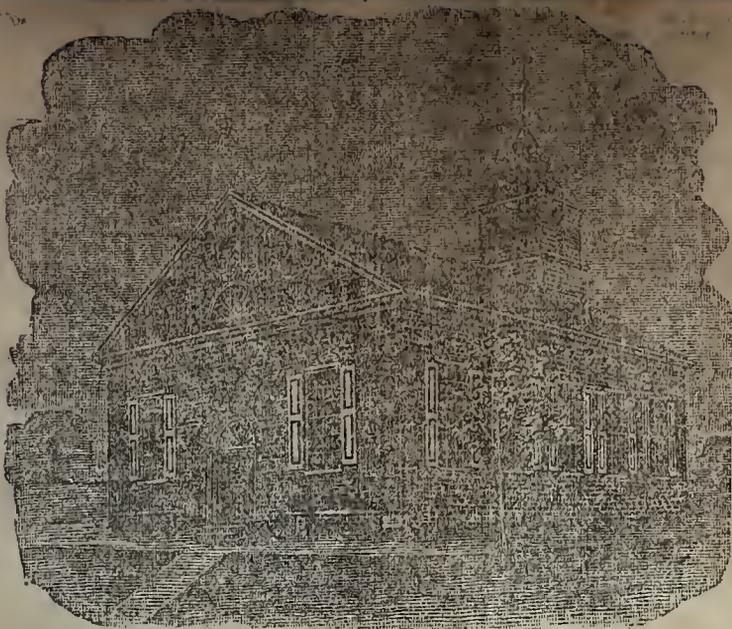
morning, only a small portion wore shoes and only 3 or 4 had stockings. None remained away because of a lack of suitable clothing, as is sometimes the case in our day.

On the second Sunday there were more children present and a few more grown people. The school was divided into several more classes. The members had told their friends of the beauty of the Sunday school and had thus induced many to join.

Within a month of the time the school was established, Mr. Hain received as a gift from Phila. Sunday school workers a lot of hymn and other books that were no longer needed in the city schools. These and the additional number of grown people who had by this time offered their services as teachers, caused the school to flourish beyond the founder's expectations. In the fall, when the day school commenced, it was thought best to discontinue the Sunday school until spring.

Mr. Hain had by this time so endeared himself to the community that both young and old regretted the fact that the weekly meetings with their generous friend, the superintendent, would cease for the time being. The following spring the school was reopened with a greatly increased number of scholars. Nearly every child within a radius of 4 miles attended and all walked to and from the school. That summer the first Sunday school celebration was held, and it was without a doubt the first that ever took place in the county. It was something new to everybody, and all the people for miles around attended. A Reading band furnished music, which alone was a great thing in those days. A procession was formed at the old school house, from whence they marched to the grove east of Pricetown, headed by the band. One of the older boys carried a big banner. The procession was formed with the teachers at the head of their respective classes. Everybody in the parade was decorated with flowers. In the woods a long table had been erected by Mr. Hain, which was laden with eatables of every variety. The parents of the scholars had provided most of the cakes and the eatables. The confectionery was bought by the school. Everybody attending the picnic was asked to eat. About the middle of the afternoon, Mr. Hain took a big bag of peanuts on his back and cut a hole in the bottom so as to let them run out gradually. Then he ran through the woods and asked the children to follow him and pick up the nuts. There was a great scramble among the youngsters, while the parents enjoyed the fun. It took almost an hour before the bag was emptied. The bag was carried all through the woods and by the time the chase was over every child had his or her pockets filled.

After this the celebrations were held annually and they were always successful. The Sunday school remained alone in the field only a few years, however. These others were organized in almost every part of the county. The Pricetown people had started the movement and the reports of its success soon spread. Five or 6 years after the organization of the school, its quarters were changed from the old school-house to the Dunkard meeting house, which stood on the same tract of land. There was no public school to in-



PRESENT QUARTERS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

terfered and consequently the Sunday school was kept open all winter. The farmers sometimes drove from house to house with their big wooden sleighs to gather up the scholars.

About the time the school commenced holding its meetings in the Dunkard's building, the ticket system was introduced. The scholars who committed to memory the Bible verses assigned by the superintendent each week, received a blue ticket for each 6 verses memorized, and for 6 blue tickets, 1 red one was given. The red tickets were worth a cent apiece among the scholars. They could be used to buy books, cards, etc., of the Sunday school at that rate. Abraham D. Hill, who will be 71 years of age on February 14 next, remembers the morning the Sunday school was organized. He is one of the few persons now living who were present on that eventful day. From him, his wife and sister and a number of other Pricetown residents, the EAGLE gleaned the history of this pioneer among Berks Sunday schools. Mr. Hill and wife always spend their summers at Pricetown among their childhood scenes. In winter they live in Reading or one of the larger cities.

Mr. Hill continued to conduct the Sunday school with constantly increasing success until 1849, when Charles Levan became superintendent and Daniel C. Weston, treasurer and secretary. Mr. Weston subsequently became superintendent. The school was kept in the Dunkard meeting house until about 30 years ago, when it was moved to St. John's Lutheran and Reformed church, where it is held to this day. The membership is about 100, although dozens of scholars have now sprung up in the field formerly covered by Pricetown Zion's Sunday school alone. Abraham D. Hill, who served as a teacher in this school from 1846 to 1832, still takes a fatherly interest in the school. The superintendents that have succeeded Mr. Weston are: Abraham D. Hill, Samuel J. Hill, Daniel H. Manwiller, and Henry H. Manwiller. Samuel J. Hill is the present incumbent.

From, Eagle
Reading Pa.

Date, Sept. 7, 1894.

FAMOUS DOCTOR POUNDER

A NOTED PHYSICIAN OF LOWER BERKS A QUARTER OF A CENTURY AGO.

History of His Interesting Life--How He Became White Haired--The Eccentricities of His Genius.



DR. JONATHAN POUNDER.

For very many years Dr. Jonathan Pounder was a famous physician of Southern Berks. He attended thousands of people who still live in Reading and in the county, and are well advanced in years. The fame of Dr. Pounder has been made known to the children and children's children of his many patients. The story of his life is of intense and graphic interest, and the SUNDAY EAGLE herewith presents it for the first time.

About the middle of the 18th century there lived in southern England several families by the name of Pounder, who attracted a great deal of attention on account of their many peculiarities and the great amount of money they made by farming. They associated very little with their neighbors, nor with anybody else. They seemed to live for themselves and in most respects were very different from other people. They were by no means disbelievers, yet they belonged to no church. As the period of the American revolution approached the Pounders became even more wealthy, as well as more numerous. The majority of this family were born, raised and died on their farms without being known individually by more than a few score people. They rarely went away from home. But in 1785 a Pounder was born in southern England, who was destined to become known far and wide and have his home and most intimate friends in our own Berks county. This individual's name was Jonathan. His was an exceptional case, as he was brought up under religious influences and was given a liberal education. At 14 years of age he began work on his father's farm as the rest of his brothers had done, but he didn't take to it kindly. There was a longing in his heart to see the world. His parents frowned upon the idea. Although Jonathan was the first member of the family who held such an idea, his general characteristics were very much like the rest of the family. When about 20 years of age, Jonathan in some way learned that a company of about 50 London adventurers were about to start on a tour of exploration to South America. Shortly after, young Pounder one night stole away from his home, and, after a walk of several days, reached London without a penny and with but the suit he wore. The first night he slept in the open air. He at once called on the captain of the ship that was to sail to South America and offered to "work his passage." The captain consented, and young Pounder shipped before the mast, with a crew and some 40 passengers.

Pounder and the rest of the crew were soon at the mercy of the cruel and brutal ship captain. They were flogged and nearly starved. The passengers were heartless gamblers, and had no mercy for the victims of the tyrannical captain. After being at sea 40 days, a frightful tempest arose. The destruction of the ship was threatened, and the captain conspired to save the passengers in the 4 small boats, and allow the crew to perish. The crew were placed on deck and the passengers below. Instead of being washed away and drowned, the crew escaped. The ship foundered, water rushed into the port holes where the captain and passengers expected to escape from, and the crew were dashed into the water. Captain and passengers were drowned. Those on

deck were all cast into the sea except young Pounder, the female cook and her child and 4 men. These secured one of the boats and launched it safely just as the ship sunk. Around them some 30 of the crew were struggling in the water. They made frantic efforts to draw themselves into the boat, thereby threatening certain death to all. It was a desperate moment. Self-preservation, then as now, was one of the first of laws, and a man in the boat seized a hatchet. It was life or death. As fast as the struggling, drowning man seized hold of the boat, their fingers and hands were chopped off. It was a frightful scene. Pounder witnessed it all. One by one these desperate sailors, in the water, were maimed and they sank to rise no more. That awful battle for the boat was over, but not before several in the boat had fainted over the horribly bloody work. Friend had to cut friend, there was no other way. It was the survival of the fittest.

But young Pounder was to face the still more terrible experience of starvation and cannibalism. For 3 days they drifted on the bosom of the sea without food or water. On the 4th day the woman's child died. Its remains were divided and speedily devoured by the half famished people. On the 6th day lots were drawn as to who should die that the others might live. Young Pounder drew the fatal stick, and it was resolved that he should die early next morning. The brown haired young man faced death heroically. "I am ready," said he. "The lots were fairly cast. I am ready to die, that you all may live, if you so decide. But I am young. Life to me is sweet. I have dreamed fair dreams of a bright future, but if fate so decrees, let death come." The shades of night settled upon the deep, and the famishing boat's crew were silent in the anticipation of a horribly bloody but necessary meal in the morning. Pounder afterwards said it was a long night, as he sat under the stars contemplating death. How he thought of the farm far away in England. Home and kindred loomed up before him. His companions sat silent and sleepless, thrilled with the new horror that overwhelmed them. The rippling waters pattered against the side of the boat. Now and then there was a groan, and then a shriek of some tropical night bird that flew above them. It was a horrible night. Pounder trembled at the first sign of dawn. Then his companions were transfixed. They looked upon Pounder, and their red, sore, hot eyes filled with tears. Pounder's brown hair, like Byron's prisoner of Chillon, had become snowy white in a single night. The next instant a new horror was upon them. Lying in the bottom of the boat was a man. He was supposed to be sleeping. On examination he was found to be dead. The horrible thought of cannibalism and starvation, had killed him, and Pounder need not die. Pounder cut the body in pieces and distributed it, retaining the heart for himself. And during this awful meal, ate in silence, with eyes closed as if ashamed of it, some one turned away and looked toward the east. He was dumfounded with gladness. "A sail, a sail," he shouted. Soon the famished party were safely on board the passing ship. They were well

cared for and taken to Buenos Avres. Pounder, know much of botany and getting a chance to go with an exploring party, he joined them. They went into the wilds of South America, among the Indians, and Pounder learned all the secrets of their "medicine man." A vast fund of knowledge of herbs was gained. By the time he had spent a year in the South American wilds he knew a half a dozen different remedies for as many ailments. He was frequently called upon to administer to the sick and by the natives he was really worshipped on account of his knowledge of the art of herbal medicine. At the end of 14 months the vessel sailed up the eastern coast. On board the ship Pounder acted as doctor and succeeded in making himself such a useful man that everybody thought it a providential act of kindness that they had met the little boat of starving people. After a cruise of almost a year the ship landed in the coast of New England. Here Pounder, against the entreaties of all, left the party, but the rest, including the woman who had lost her baby, returned to England. Pounder travelled about at random for several years and then selected Phila. as his home. By this time his knowledge of medicine had been the means of earning him quite a sum of money, so much at least that he was enabled to become partner in a small book bindery at Phila. This business was conducted successfully for a short time, but happening to see a good chance to start a book store, the partnership was dissolved and he commenced dealing in books. Shortly after arriving in Philadelphia he became a member of the Methodist church and soon proved a very active worker here. Through his instrumentality the first Sunday school of that denomination in Philadelphia was organized. He was single when he first came to Penna., but at the time he started the book store he had already had his second wife, the first, a Phila. lady, having died a few months after marriage. The book store was continued until the death of the second wife, who was also a native of Phila., when he quit the business, and, after a course of study in a medical college, became a regular physician. He soon had the third wife, another Philadelphian.

His striking peculiarities were no hindrance to matrimony, and people who knew of his value as a citizen scarcely noticed them. In his 30th year he took a sudden fancy for the country and therefore sold all his city property, which by this time was as heavily encumbered as to net him only a small sum. He then took his family to where Birdsboro now is and commenced practicing medicine there. He soon moved from there to a small house near the Bull tavern, about a mile from Springfield.

Several years later he bought an unimproved tract of land about 2½ miles northeast of the present village of Morgantown and erected a house. The tract consisted of 28 or 30 acres, but most of it was so stony as to make clearing almost impossible. The house erected here was built of stone and was about 14 feet square. It was a very rough building and only 1 story high. A por-

tion of the work was done by Dr. Pounder himself. The rear of the building bordered a swamp and there was a flight of 14 steps from the meadow to the first floor of the house. There was only one room and here cooking and all housekeeping was done. Pounder and his wife slept in this room. In the garret the children had their bed. After the house was completed, work on a large stone barn was commenced, but when the walls were stable high his money ran out and building was stopped. By this time about 6 acres of his land was cleared and were growing crops of grain and grass. When the first crop was harvested his barn was still only stable high, so he went to work and put supports across the walls and extended a big stack over all. In this way he sheltered his horse and cows during the win-



THE DOCTOR'S HOUSE.

ter. Several years later the barn was completed, the doctor's practice having by this time grown so much as to bring him a fair income. He was known over a large territory and had already acquired a wide reputation as a doctor. It was not an unusual thing for him to be brought from 10 to 15 miles. After the completion of the house and barn, he commenced improving his land and beautifying his surroundings.

He made a nice garden to the left of the house, about 90 feet wide and 100 feet long. About one-third of this was planted with asparagus, which was his favorite article of food. He also used it largely in his medical practice. In the rest of the garden flowers and the usual vegetables were raised. The paths over the whole garden were lined with boxwood and in the centre of the garden there was an elaborate and very pretty arbor of flowers of the most beautiful varieties. The arbor was at least 8 feet high and surmounted by a peak several feet higher, which was covered with several varieties of clematis, some of which were constantly in bloom. The arbor wasn't destitute of flowers from April to October. In front of his house there was a lane of boxwood kept as carefully as those in the Botanic garden, at Washington. At the head of the lane there were 2 trees of boxwood about 10 feet high. The others were fence high. The 2 big ones at the beginning looked like gate posts. His home was one of the most beautiful to be found in that section in those days. The house was small as a shoemaker's shop, and none of the buildings were costly, but still they presented an appearance that could not be rivaled by homes that cost 5 times as much. The doctor was eccentric, and without an equal in his days. His home was unique and suggested eccentricity at every corner. He used a great

many herbs in his practice and these he gathered himself on the surrounding hills. He built an herb cellar about 15 feet square at the south end of the barn, which was entered from the interior of the barn. There he stored all the herbs he could find and it was generally pretty well filled. He delighted in having a full cellar of herbs although he knew before hand that the greater part would spoil long before he would have occasion to use them. When the doctor and his family first arrived in the vicinity of Morgantown he created a sensation. He came with a shaggy covering of snow white hair. He wore no hat. His face looked pale and pinched, and yet the features as a whole suggested a great physical power. Wisdom seemed to be looking out of his eyes, which were large and kindly-looking. In his hand he held

a crooked staff. This staff and his white hair made him look like a man of 70.

It was at first thought that he had lost his hat, but he said he never wore any. He would sometimes ride on horseback



THE POUNDER BARN.

for 20 miles or more without a hat. His staff or crook was always with him and he frequently used it to urge on his horse. When asked about his hair, he related his experience at sea. The peculiarities of the man soon ceased to be noticed by the people. He never refused to perform an operation, although he had hardly any surgical instruments. He had a very sharp pocketknife, which he used in most cases where cutting was necessary. In addition to practicing medicine, he also prepared and sold skeletons.

About 15 feet to the right of his house he built a stone fireplace at least 16 feet square. In one corner an iron kettle about 3 feet in diameter was walled in, and her human flesh was boiled from the bones of the corpse sent to him from a distance. After this was done the bones were cleaned with flint paper and then articulated together with wire. The demand for skeletons was always good. Dr. Pounder and wife almost immediately after coming to Morgantown, became active members of the Morgantown M. E. church. The doctor and his family prospered, but he would not erect a larger house. He had more business than he could attend to, and for a long time was the only physician within a large radius. When about in the height of his prosperity his third wife died, leaving 4 children, Cooper, Jonathan, Louisa and Mary. She was buried in the M. E. church yard at Springfield. Shortly after the wife's death he sold his homestead to William Barkley, of Weigertown, and hired a room at the Morgantown hotel, where he remained for

some time and then bought a small house and lot a short distance below the hotel. Into this house he then moved and for a time lived alone. As long as Mrs. Pounder lived, the daughter, Louisa, used to teach school in the neighborhood, but after her mother's death she ceased teaching and went to Phila. to join her sister, Mary, who was married to John Glasby. Jonathan, jr., went away from home several years before the death of his mother. He was a great traveller and finally lost his life in a fight in Mexico. Cooper commenced boarding with Hannah Ruth-erford. He and his father couldn't agree.

Dr. Pounder was 70 years of age when he married his 4th wife. This time it was Sarah Durham, who had been married to James Robeson. She lived on the mountain near Honeybrook, like a hermit, at the time the doctor met her. Her father lived with her for a number of years, but had died. She went with the doctor to his Morgantown home, where they commenced housekeeping. Her house on the mountain was left empty. They lived together only a short time before differences arose, and she again returned to her little house on the mountain. Here she spent the remainder of her days alone. Finally she became sick and after being alone in a bed for several days with hardly any food was discovered by a passerby.

Dr. Pounder was then sent for and he attended her until her death, which occurred November 30, 1864. The doctor was present when she died. The following day he placed the corpse on a board in the house and proceeded to dissect her. He removed both her heart and liver and laid both on the floor. The next moment he accidentally tread on the heart and mashed it. Then the 2 organs were replaced. At the funeral, which took place at Honeybrook, only 2 or 3 people outside of the doctor were present. She left no relatives. There is a story that the doctor's dissecting table is still in use, but doing duty as a counter in the country, over which ice cream is sold.

From the time of the death of his last wife the doctor lived alone in his little house at Morgantown. His medical practice was much smaller than formerly. He could not attend to more. The most of the time he did his own cooking. Although he became weak and tottering, like other men as age advanced, he was still a man of iron will. However, one day towards the close of January, 1871, he was obliged to keep his bed. The doctor at last was ill himself. Thousands were sorry, for he had benefited thousands. Many were ready to attend to his wants. However, he became weaker, and finally Dr. Pounder realized his career was ended. He died peacefully Feb. 7, 1871.

He was buried alongside of his wife in the graveyard at Springfield, and his funeral was the largest ever witnessed in lower Berks. Rev. George Hunter held the services. His house and personal property were sold by the children and the debts paid. Cooper received a large portion of his father's household goods. He was well advanced in years, but still earned his daily wages burning lime and quarrying stone. Less than a year after his father's death he erected for himself a little shanty a short distance southeast of Morgantown, where he commenced house-keeping very much after the manner of

his father, during the evening of his life. Cooper was a bachelor and possessed only a smattering of knowledge in comparison with his father. He continued to live in his humble home until the 29th of September, 1879, when he accidentally fell into the race of Hartz's mill while going home from Morgantown at night. His dead body was not found until several days after. He was buried by the side of his parents at Springfield. His shanty and personal belongings were sold to pay the funeral expenses. This ended the career of the Pounder family in Berks county. Grandchildren of the old doctor are still living, but not in these parts. Much of the foregoing information was gleaned from a dozen or more of the old people living in the vicinity of Morgantown and Springfield. David R. Beyler, the oldest male resident of Morgantown, however gave the EAGLE the greater part of the data. He was a personal and very intimate friend of the old doctor's. They spent many a pleasant evening together, and walked and talked away many a summer afternoon. Mr. Beyler nursed his old friend, the doctor, in his closing days, and saw him draw the last breath. He also loaned the EAGLE photographs of the doctor and his son, Cooper, both of which were received by him as gifts from their own hands. Mr. Beyler said to the EAGLE's travelling correspondent: "A few days before Dr. Pounder's death he called me to his bedside, and as I approached the bed he assumed a sitting position and said: 'David, I thank God that I never refused to treat a patient even if I know in advance that I would never receive a cent in payment.' One evening that he visited me he said before leaving that he would get up at precisely 12 o'clock to pray for both himself and I. I did not doubt him, because he was a man of truth, but I was curious to know whether he wouldn't forget to carry out his resolve. I watched him, and to my great surprise saw him get out of bed precisely at midnight, and make the promised prayer. He was a very active member of the Morgantown M. E. church until the time he removed the heart and liver of his

wife. The church thought this action unbecoming a Christian and they expelled him from the congregation. From that time on he attended Harmony M. E. church, which is about 2 miles northeast of Morgantown and not far from his old home. He always walked and I very frequently accompanied him. He was such excellent company, so pleasantly reminiscent and such a delightful talker. He often told how he scared a big band of savages shortly after landing in South America. They happened to overtake him while he was out on one of his botanizing tours and had already surrounded him preparatory to ending his earthly career by torturing him to death when all at once he commenced swinging his arms and uttering words of command that made the natives believe the other members of the expedition were close by and as a consequence they left him unharmed. When Pounder had the heart and liver of his wife he asked me in his room. I went in and saw all. He did not put the heart in alcohol as sometimes reported. The house in which he died was torn away a

number of years ago. During the last 10 years of his life his house was not kept clean. It was by no means an unusual thing to see a half cleaned skeleton lying about his room. His third wife was the one he loved most. She was an exemplary woman in all respect and was liked by all. I knew Pounder previous to 1840. He looked almost as old then as he did just before he died, 31 years later. His long snow white hair and full beard, which he always wore very long, and which was as white as the hair on his head, made him look 30 years older than he actually was. I once asked him why he never shaved. He replied that every time he did, so he was tempted to cut his throat. He drank neither tea, coffee, nor cold water, but used hot water exclusively. From the death of his third wife on he used intoxicating liquors to excess at times. Before his death the doctor expressed a strong desire to be buried aside of his third wife. Cooper ordered the grave to be dug here. After the coffin was already partly covered with ground I saw that the grave was at the wrong place, being not near the wife's grave at all. I called Cooper's attention to it and he ordered another grave dug, which was done, and this time at the right place. All of the doctor's children were given a good education, rather better than the children of the other people of the vicinity."

The old homestead, which Pounder sold to William Barkley, is now owned by Edward Barkley, of Phoenixville, and Smith Barkley, a grandson of William,



THE DOCTOR'S SON, COOPER POUNDER.

lives on the place at present. The original Pounder barn still stands intact, and the accompanying cut is taken from a photograph taken last week. There is no other building like it to be found anywhere. Outside of the roof and doors not a particle of wood is used in its construction. The door frames are all in the form of stone arches and the doors open inward. One must be close to the building to be able to see that there are any doors at all. A large frame building has been erected in front of the original house, and what used to be Pounder's house is now used as a kitchen. A large black walnut tree that Pounder planted near the house when he first got possession of the tract is still standing and appears to have just reached its prime. It is about 90 feet high and is shown in the illustration of

the house. The fire place where Pounder used to boil his skeletons has been remodeled, and now contains a roof. Smith Barkley gave the EAGLE a great deal of information concerning the life of the builder of the homestead, that he had received from his elders, and he still has the big kettle used in preparing skeletons in his possession. It is now used to slack lime in. When William Barkley took possession of the home, 2 unprepared skeletons were found in the granary. They were buried close by. A great many of the herbs pounder planted are still growing on the place.

From, Eagle
Reading Pa.
 Date, Sept 14 1894.

ST. JOHN'S HISTORY.

The Church, Whose Centennial Will be Celebrated Saturday and Sunday.

Appropriate to the centennial of St. John's Reformed church, Sinking Spring, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 15 and 16, herewith is presented a short history of this interesting congregation.

The name of the village is derived from a spring in the place, which is periodical in its flow. At times it is strong, then weak, and at times sinks away entirely. The land upon which the church stands, was donated in 1793 by Christian Ruth. The tract embraces $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Singularly he was one of the first to be buried on the ground then donated, for he died in the same year, on Aug. 24. His wife died in 1809.

The congregation was organized in 1792, by 14 men, who soon after planned the erection of the church which still stands, and which was then one of the finest in the state. It was erected of brick which had been burned by the members. The original size of the church was 48 by 56 feet. The corner-stone was laid on May 3, 1794. The lumber was purchased in Reading, but not being seasoned, it was placed in a building, which was heated, and a continual watch was kept day and night, lest the building and lumber be set on fire.

The church was erected in what was then a modern style of architecture. It had galleries on 3 sides, with a so-called wine-glass pulpit. The woodwork inside was beautifully carved and the floor was of brick laid in ornamental figures. The church was dedicated as St. John's Evangelical Presbyterian Reformed church. The term Presbyterian has reference to the form of government as exercised in the Reformed church. It is said that the boarding for the workmen was gratuitously furnished by Ulrich Houder, one of the original founders of the church, whilst Geo. Ruth dug a well on the church property and contributed £100 towards the church building fund. Christian Ruth also gave £100, (\$500).

The founders and early members of St.

John's were believers in Christian education. In 1804 about 90 members united in the founding of a school. A log school house was erected at a cost of \$379.37%. The teachers had to serve also as choristers and organists of the church. This school building served for educational purposes until 1850, when it gave way to the public school system, and the building became the dwelling house of the organist.

On Dec. 19, 1811, the congregation purchased $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres of additional land for graveyard purposes from Peter Ruth for \$133.33%. On Dec. 27, 1828, 2 acres and 24 perches more land was purchased from Elijah Ruth for \$99.56. The congregation now owns 6 acres and 24 perches of land.

In 1817 a large pipe organ was purchased. This was the first musical instrument used in the church. The organ was made by Mr. Openhauser, of Reading, and was then considered a fine piece of workmanship. On the top was perched a large golden eagle, and on each side were gilded figures of angels, each blowing a trumpet. The cost of the organ was \$1,200. Some years later the brick floor of the church was removed and a wooden floor substituted.

Thus far the church had been without steeple and bell. A fine steeple was erected in 1852 and dedicated on Oct. 16 of that year. It is 16 feet square at the base and 151 feet high. The cost of erection was \$2,651.28. Into this tower a bell weighing 1,473 pounds was placed. This bell, having become damaged, was replaced in 1881 by another weighing 1,592 pounds, and costing \$509.55.

The original church stood 91 years without any material improvements, excepting the erection of the tower and steeple, until 1884, when extensive improvements were undertaken. A spacious chapel was erected on the east side of the church, 49 by 30 feet, and 19 feet high. At the west end a vestibule 12 feet wide was erected. The interior was finely frescoed, and a beautiful picture representing Christ as the Shepherd was painted on the wall back of the pulpit. The cost of the improvements was \$7,626. A new organ with 24 stops and costing \$1,600 was also purchased.

As early as 1818 the Lutherans were given permission by the Reformed to worship in this church. The Reformed, however, owned the property exclusively until May 6, 1854, when the Lutherans were given equal rights upon the payment by them of one-half of the cost of erecting the steeple in 1851. The Lutherans also agreed to pay one-half of future improvements. In 1888 the Reformed congregation erected a suitable dwelling house for the use of the organist at a cost of \$1,000.

On June 13, 1891, a Woman's missionary society was organized in St. John's church which now numbers 100 members. In the beginning of 1894 the congregation supplied itself with hymn books.

In the old graveyard 911 graves may be counted. The oldest person buried here is Mrs. Catharine Krick, who was 94 years of age. On Feb. 5, 1861, a cemetery company was organized at Sinking Spring, which controls 4 acres of ground adjoining the graveyard of the church. Here are buried 721 bodies. Whole number of burials in both places, 1,632.

As stated at the beginning, St. John's

church was organized in 1793 with 14 members. Now it numbers about 500, and is in a better condition than ever before. The congregation has only one elder and two deacons.

During the hundred years of its existence St. John's church has had 5 pastors. From its beginning until 1871 it was served by pastors bearing the same name—Pauli; that is, by a father and his 2 sons. The first pastor was Rev. Philip R. Pauli, who served from 1793 until his death in 1815. He was born in Magdeburg, Germany, and came to this country in 1783.

The second pastor was Rev. Wm. Pauli, son of the above, who succeeded his father in 1816, and served the congregation until his death in 1855.

The third pastor was Rev. Chas. A. Pauli, another son of Rev. Philip R. Pauli. He succeeded his brother in 1856 and continued as pastor until his death in 1871.

The fourth pastor was Rev. W. F. P. Davis, who served from 1872 until his death in 1883.

It is a singular fact that each of the first 4 pastors died as such, and all of them had resided in the city of Reading. There has never been a resignation of the pastorate of this flock.

Rev. W. J. Kershner, the present pastor, is the successor to Rev. Davis. He is a graduate of Franklin and Marshal college and of Lancaster seminary. His first charge was Christ church, Allentown. During his pastorate at St. John's church, numerous improvements have been made, and the work is prospering under him. The Kershner family are numerous in Berks county and have always been firm members of the Reformed church, as far back as their ancestry can be traced.

Thomas H. Krick and Frank P. Miller, members of the congregation, are preparing to enter the ministry.

Following hold the positions named: Elder, Francis B. Krick; deacons, George B. Hain and William Eberly; treasurer, Adam B. Krick; secretary, Thomas K. Reedy; organist, Prof. Charles George Specht; trustees, Henry B. Krick, Richard Shoup and James R. Kegerreis; janitor, Levi S. Witman.

The officers of the Woman's missionary society are: President, H. R. Hull; vice president, Mrs. Samuel Keppel; secretary, William H. Stoudt; treasurer, Adam B.

Krick; executive committee, James B. Kegerreis, Frank P. Miller and Francis B. Krick.

St. John's Reformed choir is composed of: Sopranos, Misses Kate Seltzer, Annie Ludwig, Ella Krick, Margaret Ruth, Sarah Ruth, Lydia Ruth; tenors, John R. Kegerreis, John S. Yocum, James Heister; altos, Mrs. Sallie Groff, Miss Katie Hatt; bass, James R. Kegerreis, John H. Kegerreis, Hiram R. Hull, Jesse R. Lutz, Harvey Marshall; chorus, Misses Edna Miller, Lillie Miller, Ida Miller, Sallie Weitzel, Ida Keffer, Susan Keffer, Ella Hatt, Katie Hatt, Mary Ruth, Mrs. Ellen Francis.

Trinity Sunday school—The Sunday school being a union school, Reformed and Lutheran, the names of all the officers and teachers connected with it are given. Officers: Superintendent, Rush G. Seibert; assistant superintendent, Hiram R. Hull; secretary, Oliver B. Ruth; assistant secretary, Miss Jennie Webber; treasurer, Joshua Ruth; librarian, John R.

Kegerreis; assistant librarian, Miss Emily S. Krick; usher, C. D. Reber; organist, Mrs. J. Van Reed; assistant organist, Miss Olivia Seibert; janitor, Levi S. Witman. Teachers: Miss Lottie Unger, Charles H. Billman, James L. Pearce, Daniel R. Kegerreis, Miss Ella Krick, Miss Lizzie Hain, Mrs. Charles Schrack, Miss Katie Ruth, Mrs. Annie Reber, Mrs. C. D. Reber, Mrs. George Ruth, Miss Mattie Hull, Mrs. Jas. L. Pearce, Mrs. Mary Hull, Miss Kate Stoudt.

The Young People's society of Christian Endeavor was organized July 17, 1893. The first officers were: President, T. H. Krick; vice president, F. P. Miller; recording secretary, M. Ella Krick; corresponding secretary, Jennie Webber; treasurer, O. B. Ruth; organist, Lotta Unger. Present officers: President, F. P. Miller; vice president, T. H. Krick; recording secretary, Katie Ruth; corresponding secretary, Jennie Webber; treasurer, O. B. Ruth; organist, Lotta Unger. F. P. Unger was sent as a delegate to the Cleveland convention, held July 11 to 15, 1894. The society was organized through the efforts of T. H. Krick.

Active Members—F. P. Miller, T. H. Krick, Katie Ruth, Emily Krick, Ella Krick, Jennie Webber, Ida Krick, Lotta Unger, R. G. Deibert, O. B. Ruth, F. H. Hain, J. Pearson Reeser, Mrs. J. Pearson Reeser, Mrs. William R. Groff, Jesse R. Lutz, Rosa Livengood, Edith Reber, Maggie Hatt, Emma Barto, Hattie Leinbach, Angeline Leinbach, Mary Leinbach.

Associate Members—Lizzie Oberlin, Ella Van Reed, Nellie Reber, Laura Smith, Maggie Fisher, Emma Krick, Katie Hatt, Jacob Krick, William Stoudt, John Smith, Weidman Seibert, George Brunner, Paul Young, Charles Billman, Katie Body, Addie Reber, Mrs. Valeria Webber, Mrs. Joshua Van Reed, Mrs. George J. Klopp, Mrs. Susan Hatt, Mrs. Amanda Grime, Mamie Grimes, Ida Miller, Lydia Ruth, Sarah Ruth, Mary Hunsicker, Maggie Ruth, John Ems, Lillie Miller, Emma Brumbach, Gertie Grime.

From, *Eagle*
Reading Pa.
Date, *Sept 17/1894*

CENTENNIAL CLOSED.

Concluding Exercises of the 100th Anniversary of St. John's Reformed Church at Sinking Spring.

The opening exercises of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of St. John's Reformed church, at Sinking Spring, on Saturday afternoon, were largely attended. Many came in teams from the surrounding country, including Womelsdorf, Wernersville, Vinemont, Denver and other places. Over 300 people came on the P. & R. noon train. The residents of Sinking Spring turned out in full force.

Prior to the exercises, many people visited the edifice to view the magnificent decorations. They walked up the side aisle to the right and out by way of the left aisle.

The colors of the Reformed denomination, red, old gold and black, were conspicuously displayed. Over the pulpit was an arch, composed of wheat. It was surmounted with an initial "C," formed of purple flowers. Beneath was suspended a white dove clinging to a golden ring. To the latter, white silk ribbons were attached, bearing the inscription in purple, "Centennial—1794—1894." The base of the arch of wheat was composed of yellow and pink flowers. Directly in front of the pulpit was a purple panel, surrounded with white flowers. Surmounting the panel was the inscription, "In Memoriam." In the centre was the following in raised white letters: "Chr. Ruth, 1793; P. R. Pauli, 1815; Wm. Pauli, 1855; C. A. Pauli, 1870; W. F. P. Davis, 1883." "Our Departed Ones." At the rear of the chancel, to the right and left, were circular banners, surrounded with wheat, bearing the inscriptions, respectively: "I will be with you always," "Tempus omnia revelat." Surmounting each was a cross of red flowers.

To the left of the chancel was a frame containing a strip of wood about 2 feet long and 2 inches wide. Across the front of the strip was engraved in old style characters: "Adam Krauser—1796." To the right was written in script characters: "Inventor & Executor of This Building." To the left was a card containing the following: "This board was carved by the architect in 1796 and placed in the sounding board above the pulpit. It was found where the church was remodeled in 1834. Presented to St. John's Reformed church, Sept. 15, 1894, by Thomas J. Oberlin, of Sinking Spring, Pa."

Suspended high above the chancel, on either side, was a large white banner. The bottoms were striped in old gold. The one to the left bore the German inscription: "1794—Damals hat Gott unser Altar-hier errichtet."

To the right: "1894—Bis hierher hat Gott uns geholfen."

Directly in the centre resting on the chancel rail was a German Bible opened at the 79th, 80th and 81st Psalms.

Hanging to a white satin ribbon was a card containing the following:

"The first Bible used in this church. See last fly-leaf. Kindly loaned for this occasion by the present owner, Daniel Peifer, Esq., of Sinking Spring, Pa."

To the right of the chancel was a pillow of flowers, containing wooden pulpit ornaments. Attached to these was a card worded as follows: "Pulpit ornaments. One hundred years old. Relics of the old church. Kindly loaned for the occasion by Mrs. Isaac Y. Beidler, of Sinking Spring."

Surrounding the galleries were ropes of evergreens, caught up in graceful folds with shields, striped with the Reformed colors—red, black and old gold. In the centre of each shield was the monogram "I. H. S." Encircling each was a large spray of wheat.

The beautiful and melodious organ was profusely decorated with greens, shields and wheat.

Around the choir loft railings were

hung red, old gold and black drapery in profusion. In the centre was a large gold frame with the portrait of Ulric Zwingli, one of the founders of the Reformed church.

The decorations were much admired by all. Thomas Oberly, florist, of Sinking Spring, had full charge of all decorations. He was highly complimented.

Another attraction of the anniversary was the grave of Christian Ruth, who bequeathed the land—about $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres—whereon the church is erected. The grave is about 50 yards from the entrance of the church. Encircling the mound is an arch of evergreens and wheat, wrapped within the colors of the Reformed church.

The exercises began at 2.15 p. m. On the chancel were seated the pastor, Rev. W. J. Kershner; Rev. T. C. Leinbach, of Womelsdorf; Rev. F. B. Hahn and Rev. J. P. Stein, of Reading.

At the opening, Rev. T. C. Leinbach read the invocation and offered the long prayer.

The pastor followed by reading the scripture lesson. I Samuel—7:1-12.

A select organ voluntary was then rendered in an excellent manner by Prof. Charles G. Specht.

A musical programme was given by the choir composed of the following: Miss Annie Ludwig, Miss Kate Seltzer, Mrs. Sallie Groff, Miss Katie Hatt, Miss Ellie Krick, Miss Lydia Ruth, Miss Maggie Ruth, Miss Sarah Ruth, John Kegerels, jr., John Kegerels, sr., James Kegerels, John Yocum, James Niester, H. R. Hull, Jessie Lutz and Harvey Marshall.

A chorus composed of Miss Edna and Lydia Miller, Sallie Weitzel, Mary Ruth, Susie and Ida Keffer.

"O give thanks unto the Lord," was a solo sung by John Kegeries.

Rev. John P. Stein, pastor of St. Thomas' Reformed church, this city, delivered the sermon in the German language. "Hitherto the Lord has helped us." Text, I Samuel, 7:12. After relating the Bible story of the text he said: "In the history of the church we learn that the presence of the ark is necessary to the perpetuation of God's blessings. The outward observance without the inward spirit will always prove a failure. Then our religion is only a profession, devoid of spiritual life. It becomes a mockery. When our worship and our practical life is at variance with the teachings of the scriptures, God's blessing is withdrawn from His people."

The reformation was nothing less than a restoration of the ark of God. The reformers sought to bring the people into direct contact with Christ by the teachings of the scriptures. Christ is to be central, and in the language of Wolfgang Capitol. Christ is the substance of all doctrine. The reformation was the work of many of God's faithful servants. Here the speaker enumerated some of the early reformers. Continuing he said: "The effort of Frederick III was to win by conflicting opinion by appointing Ursinus, a student of Melancthon, and Olevianus, a student of Calvin, by the production of the Heidelberg catechism, which is the only symbol of the Reformed faith."

Unfortunately, Frederick III added a condemnatory clause to the 80th answer, which involved the church in a fearful persecution. The French general, Meillac, marched with his forces

into Switzerland, destroyed the cities and villages, in Reformed cantons cut down the orchards and vineyards and drove the Palatines by the thousands as refugees down the Rhine in search of a home, they knew not where, to re-build their altars and carry forward their worship in accordance with the teachings of the scriptures. The same fate awaited those who had espoused the Reformed faith in France. The massacre of the Huguenots was the beginning of the dreadful conflict, and the revocation of the edict of Nantes in 1685 caused 500,000 of the best citizens of France to seek refuge in other lands. The very names Berne and Alsace point to the countries from which your forefathers came.

God has been with them in their flight and He has been with them when they reared this temple a hundred years ago. He was with them when they encountered the fearful ravages of the Indians and when they made their heavy sacrifices to build their temples and to restore the worship to its scriptural simplicity. It is well that you make great account of this day—that you call together the members—and remind them of their religious heritage and erect in this centennial year a stone with the inscription, "Hitherto the Lord has helped us." And as we call to mind this day the services of God's servants, who as ministers in the Word labored as the pastors of the congregation until the day of their departure, when God called them to their eternal rest, we feel thankful that none felt inclined to resign until God ended their labors, and our prayer is that the spirit of God may continue to rest upon your present pastor, the elders and deacons with the membership of the whole church so that in years to come you may continue to express yourselves in the language of the text, "Hitherto the Lord has helped us."

After the exercises many people adjourned to the beautiful grove at the rear of the edifice, where, under the shade of tall, massive trees, were erected lunch stands. James L. Freeman, who conducts a general store on the main street, furnished an excellent meal and refreshments on the grounds at a very small sum. The accommodations were all that could be desired.

On Saturday evening Rev. J. V. George delivered an address, having for his subject, "Zwingli."

"The Pilgrim Home" and "God be Merciful Unto Us" were sung by the choir.

Charles Ruth, of this city, a student with Artlist Philip Igle, painted the banners. He is a descendant of the founder of the church.

Although the weather was threatening Sunday morning, about 1,000 people were in attendance at the centennial exercises at St. John's Reformed church, Sinkling Spring. About 400 came from Reading on the morning train. Toward noon the crowd increased, as the weather was all that could be desired.

At the opening Prof. Charles G. Specht performed with remarkable grace an "Adagio" on the organ, with orchestral accompaniment. "Great and Marvelous" was sung by the choir.

In the chancel were seated the pastor, Rev. W. J. Kershner; Rev. D. B. Albright, of Mohrsville, and Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Dubbs, of Lancaster. Rev.

Kershner read the invocation and offered a prayer, followed with a hymn by the choir.

Rev. Albright read the scripture lesson and offered prayer.

The sermon was preached in German by Rev. Dr. Dubbs. His text was Psalm 137:5-6.

After speaking of the affection of the Israelites for the temple, the speaker described the Christian church as the subject of similar affection. The church of Christ is the Ebenezer of thanksgiving. Its whole history manifests the mercy and goodness of God. The colors—black, red and orange—typifying sin, deliverance and thanksgiving. This congregation has abundant reason for thanksgiving to God. The same truth is preached here to-day that was preached here 100 years ago. Earthly homes are desolated, but the church remains the same. Here the visitor finds his home again. In this valley the gospel has been preached almost since its settlement, which occurred 170 years ago. At that time Conrad Weiser brought his colony from New York. The earliest Reformed minister was John Henry Goetsch, of Skippack, Montgomery county, who preached at Tulpehocken and other places in 1731.

The founder of this congregation was Philip Reinoehl Pauli, who was a man of literary ability, who had achieved distinction as a writer before he came to America. The history of the congregation was peaceful, all of its pastors dying while in its service, beloved and revered by every member of the congregation. He said a church which forgot its duty was like a man whose right hand was withered. Those who do not sing and pray are like those whose tongues are palsied. By faithfulness, he said, to the Jerusalem of God on earth, Christians are prepared for the glory of the New Jerusalem of God in the eternal city, where, free from toil and trouble, the weary soul finds rest.

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds," was sung by the choir. The benediction was pronounced by Rev. Albright, after the collection.

As the congregation was leaving the edifice, Prof. Charles G. Specht performed on the large organ "The March of the Friars."

The afternoon exercises began at 2 o'clock. Over 2,000 people were in attendance. They came in carriages and on foot. Vehicles lined the road for a considerable distance.

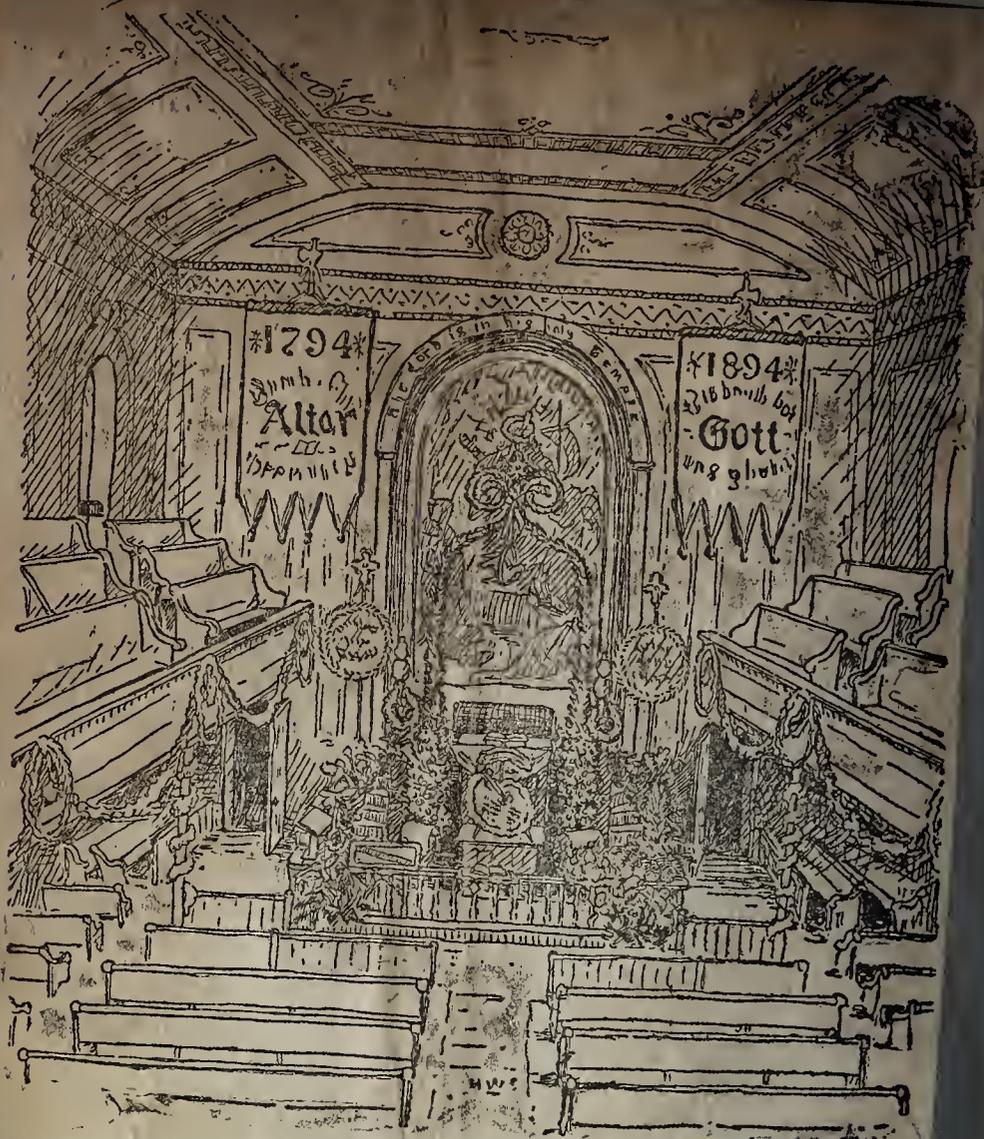
Every seat in the edifice was occupied, including those in the chapel adjoining. Benches and chairs were placed in the aisles.

After a prelude by orchestra and organ the choir sang "O Magnify the Lord."

The invocation was pronounced by Rev. D. B. Albright, after which the congregation sang "Wash Me Whiter Than Snow." Prayer was offered by Rev. Albright.

The first address was delivered by Frank Miller, a student at Franklin and Marshall college, and a member of the confirmation class of '88.

"Oid Father Time is fast completing this 19th century," he said. "The hands on the clock move constantly and time is fast passing away." He referred to the eternity of the past and the eternity of the future. "We look back to our school



INTERIOR DECORATIONS OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, SINKING SPRING.

days, past sickness, when we cast our first vote and many other acts of our former days, and reflect. It is the tendency of human nature to review the past, to hold festivals and centennials for the purpose of reflecting upon our past actions. It is well for man to appoint certain days to recall to mind all acts of his life, to give thanks to God for all His kindness and favors bestowed. Our Christian people are going on their good work through the guidance of the church. They will continue holding festivals and centennials for the purpose of reviewing the work of the past." The speaker eulogized the memory of Zwingli. "The angels in heaven, he continued, "will sing a louder song when they witness the celebration to-day in the church. Centennials everywhere speak of progress. This can readily be applied to this congregation. A number of societies have been organized through the efforts of your beloved pastor, especially the Y. P. S. of C. E. The influence of this society overcoming the saloon and political power."

The congregation sang "Take the Name of Jesus With You."

A. R. Lutz, a theological student at Yale seminary and member of the confir-

mation class of '88, spoke next. After referring to the days of his youth that were spent within the walls of the old church, he referred to the improvements achieved by the present pastor. He said: "Prosperity has been bestowed on the congregation. I picture to my mind many of the old arrangements. I can now see the figure of saintly Rev. Pauli preaching from the old pulpit. I recall the day I made a public profession to embrace Jesus Christ. Since that time I can give public testimony as to what Jesus has done for me. I have found Him to be a dear, sweet friend. I come here to-day to give my humble tribute toward this anniversary for the rich blessing received within the walls of this ancient edifice during my childhood." After referring to the early days of the Reformed denomination, the speaker said: "I am afraid that we are degenerating from the reverence of our forefathers. In those days there was never such levity, going on in churches during services as we often now see. Religion, with our forefathers, was practiced in their daily life. They had remarkable reverence for the teaching of God and the Bible. We are now in the period of trans-

tion. This is a grand century. We notice many changes going on. We must not be lax, but bring about changes within our religious lives. The proper way to do is to go out and gather in those on the outside. Each member must be a soldier and the pastor a leader."

Thomas H. Krick, a student of Franklin and Marshall college and a member of the confirmation class of '84, was the next speaker. "It is a pleasure to again meet in this time-honored edifice, especially on an occasion of this kind, and grasp the hand of my fellow-men and members of this congregation. I am glad to have the privilege to speak, especially to the young, particularly the 11 classes of communicants that have been confirmed in this church by Rev. Kershner. The word Christian is often wrongly misunderstood. It is not only that we take unto ourselves the name of Christian, but we must have the spirit of Jesus Christ within us. Without that there is no use in coming to church. For to be a true Christian it requires more than sitting in a pew. A living Christ must be within us. "Partaking of the Lord's Supper is too frequently objected to. All sorts of excuses are made, such as business cares, illness and many other such remarks. We must practice what we profess. We must give our bodies and souls to Christ. We must take up this cross and follow Him. Did you ever stop to think that you were a pattern for some other person? What have you ever done for Christ? I would like you to take that question home with you and answer it within your hearts." The speaker called on the 271 communicants who were confirmed by the present pastor to go out and do some public work for the benefit of religion and the prosperity of the congregation." Here he turned to Rev. Kershner, and in the name of the communicants, congratulated him upon his care and sympathy that he always bestowed upon the congregation."

Mr. Krick then in the name of these classes presented the pastor with a purse of \$60. Rev. Kershner was completely taken by surprise. He stepped into the pulpit and endeavored to thank the contributors for their kindness, but was considerably affected. He requested the assemblage to sing a hymn, after which he recovered his composure, and thanked them for their kindness.

"I never was a lover of money he said, but this act of kindness from loving friends was such that proved to me who were my truest friends." There is no use of producing anything to prove that our hearts are bound with love."

The congregation then sang a hymn. Rev. Kershner announced that the trustees intended placing many of the articles used in the decoration, within a tin box, including a copy of the EAGLE, which would be preserved within the altar and kept there until the next centennial exercises. He thanked all those who assisted in making the celebration a success, those who designed the decorations, the choir for the excellent music, and the speakers.

A "Wedding March," by Bartholomew, was rendered by the orchestra as the people were passing out.

In the evening the following programme was rendered: Organ and orchestra, prelude, by Gounod; anthem, "O, How Lovely," choir; sermon, by Rev.

J. Warren Johnson, of Lebanon; duet, soprano and tenor, "In the Cross of Christ We Glory;" benediction; organ and orchestra, "Adagio," by Spohr.

The name of the orchestra was the Olive Leaf of Montello Sunday school, composed of the following: John Young, cornet; Charles Pott, clarionet; Dan'l Marks, alto; James Ruth, trombone; Michael Young, bass.

From, *Eagle*
Reading Pa.
Date, *Sept. 30* 1894

KUTZTOWN'S EARLY FAIRS

Incidents Related by Daniel S. Kutz--
Some Interesting Reminiscences of
His School Days.

KUTZTOWN: Daniel S. Kutz, a descendent



DANIEL S. KUTZ.

ant of the Kutzs after whom Kutztown was named, is 63 years old and lives near the normal school buildings of this borough. He spent all his life here and in Maxataway. He was born on one of the big and well-conducted farms of the township, and has devoted many years to farming.

There is no work he loves so well, and although somewhat hampered by age, he still spends more than half the days of the year in the field and about the barn.

Mr. Kutz is a jovial and intelligent old man and is a son of Benjamin Kutz, who was one of the early county commissioners of Berks. In conversing with the EAGLE he said:

"The first fair at Kutztown I remember as vividly as though held only twenty-five weeks ago instead of that many years. I helped to haul the exhibits the first year and every season after that up to 3 years ago. When it first came to be talked about that an annual fair was to be held here there was a great deal of speculation as to whether or not such a project could ever be made a suc

but the first exhibition removed all doubts. The fair was a pronounced success from the very first year.

"A quarter of a century ago, however, the exhibits were considerably different from those of the present day. In the live stock department there were more large bulls, hogs and sheep than now, but fewer thoroughbreds. More attention was paid to the ordinary brindled cow than the finely bred Alderney, Jersey or Holstein.

The poultry exhibits were in every respect equal to those of the present day. Races were fully as interesting as now, although the entries were not as numerous and the average time not as fast.

"There were just as fine specimens and just as large exhibits of fruit, vegetables, cereals, flowers, preserves, jellies, etc., as now, but the variety was smaller. The same can be said of the household department. Faking was carried on much more extensively than now. People invested more freely in this direction than at present. About the same class of music was found on the fair grounds as in modern years.

"The Ringgold band, of Reading, was engaged some years as were also the Eagle Point, Fleetwood and Alburdis bands. There was much less show of wearing apparel. Many of the farmers viewed the exhibits and other attractions in the same clothes in which they did their plowing. A great many of the small boys were barefooted if the weather was warm enough. The women put on less style than now. There were not nearly as many teams in town on the big day as now. Scores of young boys and women walked from 5 to 10 miles to see the attractions. This year there were few in attendance who walked 2 or 3 miles. Of the vehicles that were used 25 years ago many were ordinary springless farm wagons with boards thrown across the body or bundles of straw placed the length of it. Drinks of all kinds were sold on the grounds. The crowds were much more boisterous than nowadays and fights were sometimes the result. The bullies of the surrounding country were in the habit of gathering here to settle their grudges and to compete for the championship."

"Relate some of the incidents of your school life," said the visitor.

"Ah, yes! Those school days were the most pleasant period of my life, but, like many of the scholars of the present day, I didn't know it until it was too late to recall them. Although we labored against many disadvantages and went to school in the days when the hickory rod was the paramount instrument of discipline, a tender spot in my heart is touched every time those days are referred to.

"It carried back my memory to a long list of old friends, who have long since passed away, and whose affection for one another was probably strengthened by the punishments we received on account of the little conspiracies against the teacher. The rules were often broken by us boys, not because we meant mischief, but rather to satisfy our great love for sport, which in those days could not be so readily obtained outside as now. The school was about the only place where the frisky youths met and had any chance to have fun. At home the stern eye and strong arm of the father, who was

then in nearly all cases so strict that the slightest offense called forth a severe flogging, kept them in constant dread. Then when they got away from home they felt like wild animals let loose, knowing that if they did mischief they at least had a chance to escape punishment. At home every offense meant a thrashing. At school the teacher sometimes failed to discover the guilty party. The first I attended was in the parochial school house belonging to St. John's Union church. Later I attended the academy, a frame building erected expressly for the benefit of the larger pupils. This building is still standing and is occupied by Mrs. Cresintz Miller. It has been somewhat altered since it was last used for educational purposes. The long, low stone building that was called the parochial school house still stands near the church. With the exception of the porch that was added and the old-fashioned slanting cellar door that was removed from the front of the building, very few changes have been made. I was 15 years old the last winter I attended

school, but many of the others were much older. In those days the common schools had twice as many adult pupils as now, and most of the teachers, who were in nearly every case Yankees or Southerners, looked like little boys aside some of the strong, big sons of Maxatawny farmers.

"Alexander Ramsey, who was afterwards governor of Minnesota and senator from the same state and secretary of war under President Hayes, was the first teacher I had. He remained here only 1 term, when he returned to his native place and was elected congressman. He was a good teacher but poor disciplinarian. Ramsey was succeeded by a Mr. Brack, who was a stranger hereabouts.

"There was a platform in the parochial school house about 25 inches higher than the rest of the floor. It was approached by 3 steps. There was an opening so that one could crawl underneath the platform and here some of the scholars were sometimes kept confined. The whips, of which the teacher never trusted to have less than 8 or 10 close at hand, were dried and kept underneath this platform.

"The teacher went on a whip hunting expedition about once a week. Whenever someone was to be thrashed one of the smaller boys had to crawl under the platform to get out the whips. For a slight offense only one whip was brought into play, but if the offender was one of the scapegraces of the school 5 or 6 whips were often used up before the teacher stopped.

"I was whipped about once a week, and generally very severely, although I was only about 10 years old when I attended school in the old parochial building. In the academy there wasn't so much whipping.

"One day 3 of my companions and I commenced throwing wet paper balls at the ceiling, at the other pupils and at the teacher's head. After studding the ceiling pretty well with the balls, which adhered to whatever they struck, the teacher discovered that we were the guilty parties and called us to his desk. Our trial was very short, since the evidence was very convincing. The teacher ordered me to get underneath the platform and hand out a number of whips. With



OLD PAROCHIAL SCHOOL HOUSE AT KUTZ-
TOWN.

an alacrity unbecoming the occasion I made my way under the platform. After handing out the desired number of rods, I was requested by the teacher to come out again, but seeing that I was in a safe place I refused. The teacher saw that he couldn't crawl under the platform himself, so he allowed me to stay, and proceeded to thrash my companion, intending to get me out afterwards. He gave the 2 first a thorough soaking. The third remonstrated, and in the scuffle which followed the teacher was kicked in the abdomen so forcibly that for a time he couldn't talk, and with his head bent walked about and groaned. The pain, however, soon passed away, when my companions were sent to their seats, and I was coaxed to come out from my retreat. I came out and was the only one who escaped without being whipped at all. Such exciting scenes frequently took place in the school. The small boys were frequently compelled to sit alongside the girls when they committed a slight offence. I had to sit there quite frequently, and soon learned that it was more pleasant than elsewhere. The teacher finally saw this, and after that gave me a good thrashing instead.

From, *Herald*

Reading Pa.

Date, *Sept. 29th 1894*

SOLD SIX TIMES.

A Curious Relic of Ancient Customs in This County, Gleaned From the History of the Gazzam and DeBeelen Families. Mr. A. deB. Mackenzie, editor of The World, has just issued, from the press of Charles F. Haage, a handsome volume, entitled "History of the Gazzam family, together with a biographical sketch of the American branch of the DeBeelen family." Mr. Mackenzie, who is descended from both of these families, undertook the work principally at the suggestion of Joseph M. Gazzam, the distinguished Pittsburg lawyer, and the volume which he has produced, though for private circulation only, is of considerable interest outside of the families interested and is an admirable specimen of genealogical and biographical research. The work is enriched with

numerous portraits, including that of the Baron DeBeelen Berthoff, one of the family ancestors, together with the coat of arms of the DeBeelen family, together with a number of interesting and quaint family documents. Among the collection that has descended from the Baron DeBeelen is one that recalls the ancient system of apprenticeship in this county, and that is a curiosity in its way. The document is as follows:

This indenture, made this 26th day of February, 1784, witnesseth that I, Philip Michel, and Elizabeth, his wife, of Robeson township, Berks county, do bind our son, Amos Michel, unto Frederick Spar, of Brecknock township, to him his heirs or assigns. The said Amos Michel is to continue and serve from the 15th day of March ensuing the date hereof until the full end and term of 17 years, during all which term the said servant his master true and faithfully shall serve and keep his lawful commands gladly. Neither shall he do damage to the said master, nor see it done by others without telling or giving notice to his said master. He shall not waste his master's goods or lend them to any without his consent. He shall not play at cards, dice or any unlawful game whereby his master may be damaged with his own goods or the goods of others. He shall not commit fornication, nor contract matrimony. He shall not absent himself at any time from the service of his master, nor haunt ale houses or taverns; but in all ways behave himself like a true and faithful servant. And said master shall procure and provide for him sufficient meat, drink and apparel, washing and lodging during the above term; also the said master shall give him eight months schooling, but not till he is nine years old and two suits of clothes, the one for his freedom suit of clothes, that is sufficient; one axe and one grubbing hoe, one pair of small rings and two iron wedges."

A curious appendage to this document is a number of assignments by virtue of which young Michael was sold. In the same year he was sold to John Evans for seven shillings and sixpence. In the eight years that he remained with Evans he evidently increased in value for, on Jan. 14, 1792, he was sold to Joseph Ashton for seven pounds. Two years later the Baron DeBeelen acquired him on a rising market for eighteen pounds. The Baron kept him a year and realized on his investment by selling out for nineteen pounds, ten shillings, to James Hamilton. From this time he evidently began to deteriorate in value for, in 1799, John Bicking got him for eighteen pounds, fifteen shillings, and, on Sept. 4, 1800, he was marked down and sold out to close business at the reduced figure of three pounds, fifteen shillings. The document does not disclose whether or not he got his suit, his axes, his grubbing hoe, his small rings and wedges.

From, *Herald*

Reading Pa.

Date, *Oct. 4th 1894*

THE PENNA. GERMANS

Yesterday's Annual Session of the Society
in This City.

Judge Pennypacker, of Philadelphia, Succeeded Dr. Heckman as President—Last Night's Banquet—Toasts and Addresses—A Monument for Conrad Weiser.

The fourth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania German society was held in McLean post hall yesterday. Among those in attendance were: Col. James Young, Middletown; Prof. John S. Stahr, D. D., Dr. R. K. Baehrle, F. R. Diffenderfer, Prof. Geo. F. Mull, Major Jere Rohrer, all of Lancaster; Rev. Thomas C. Porter, D. D., of Easton; Julius F. Sachse, of Philadelphia; Dr. W. H. Egle, Mayor Maurice C. Eby, Dr. J. P. Keller, all of Harrisburg; Gen. J. P. S. Gobin, Lee L. Grumbine, Dr. E. Grumbine of Mt. Zion; John H. Hoffer, Dr. J. H. Redsecker, Christian Shenk, Jacob M. Shenk, all of Lebanon; Rev. J. Max Hart, Bethlehem; Dr. W. J. Hoffman, Washington, D. C.; Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, Myerstown; Rev. F. K. Levan, D. D., Wilkesbarre; E. H. Rauch, Mauch Chunk; E. W. S. Parthemore, Harrisburg; D. C. Maurer, Harrisburg; State Superintendent Schaffner, Rev. M. C. Peters, New York; Rev. Spangler, president Ursinus college; J. S. Hess, Hellertown, an ex-senator; Rev. Paul De Schwernitz, Nazareth; Dr. W. B. Diffenderfer, Pittsburg; Dr. D. W. Nead, Philadelphia, and others.

President Rev. Dr. Geo. C. Heckman, of Reading, called the meeting to order at 10 a. m.

Rev. J. Max Hark, D. D., of Bethlehem offered prayer and President Heckman introduced Judge Ermentrout for the address of welcome. As a Penn'a German, he said he would welcome the visitors to the beautiful city of Reading which would always be German in thought and feeling and in progress. As a ruling force, the German settlers dominated the country and impressed themselves upon the history of the entire state. Strength and activity have always been characteristics of the race. The earlier settlers dashed into the interior regardless of danger. They conquered a home in the wilderness and later won for themselves a place in history. Their industry and thrift were proverbial. They have been prominent in war and peace.

The response was made by Rev. Theo. E. Schmauk, of Lebanon, who said that the meetings heretofore have been held more on the outskirts, but today they have come together right in the heart of the Pennsylvania German settlements. Reading is situated like a glistening gem set in the midst of a beautiful environment and shining in two-fold color. First, she is truly in a Pennsylvania German district for was it not laid out by Penn himself? Second, it was truly German because Conrad Weiser took up his residence here. The speaker said that the mission of the association was to inspire Pennsylvania German descendants with a deeper love for

their ancestry and to raise the whole of central Pennsylvania into an illustrious type of history.

President Heckman then read his annual address. His subject was, "German Colonization in America." First, and above all, we are American by birth and in feeling, with as much patriotic pride as any nation can boast. But then, too, we are American citizens of German descent; and in this also, we indulge in a preferential pride. But we are not associated to herald or praise either our German or American nativity. Whatever secondary and valuable consideration may be involved in our organization, our society is primarily designed to secure the permanent record of those historic facts which exhibit the large and noble race which Germans occupy in American colonization and the development of our country."

Continuing, Dr. Heckman gave a most interesting history of the colonists, and considered their social, religious and political characteristics. They were an intensely religious people, children of martyrs. Their log cabins were succeeded by log schools and churches. They were the most advanced of the colonists in industrial arts and agriculture. He referred to them as they were in revolutionary times, their strength being such that the war for independence would have failed had they not been by the side of the colonists.

Dr. E. Grumbine, of Lebanon, read a poem entitled "Der Prahl Haus," an epic of 1812, which was very amusing.

The remainder of the morning session was devoted to the transaction of business.

The report of Secretary Frank R. Diffenderfer showed the membership the past year to be 232 active, 4 associate and 2 honorary, making 238 in all. At the meeting of the executive committee in the morning, 40 new members were received. Two members were lost by death—Col. Sam. C. Slaymaker and Dr. Frank Muhlberg.

The treasurer, Julius T. Sachse, of Philadelphia, read a report which showed receipts of \$429.17 and disbursements of \$415.46.

Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, of Myerstown, read a telegram from Rev. W. H. Lewars, of Anville, urging the individual help of the members toward the erection of a monument in memory of Rev. John Casper Stoebel, who came to this country in 1728 and labored in Pennsylvania and Virginia with great success.

Rev. Dr. Mosser introduced a resolution for the appointment of a committee of 10 to cooperate with individuals and associations for the erection of a monument in memory of Conrad Weiser, which was passed.

These officers were elected: President, Judge W. S. Pennypacker, Philadelphia; vice presidents, General Gobin, Lebanon; Dr. N. C. Schaeffer; secretary, H. M. M. Richards, Reading; treasurer, Julius Sachse, Philadelphia; members of executive committee, Rev. J. Max Hark, D. D., of Lebanon, and E. H. Rauch, Mauch Chunk.

At the afternoon session, in the absence of the chairman, the newly elected vice president, Dr. N. C. Schaeffer, state superintendent of public instruction, presided.

The first speaker was Rev. John S. Stahr, D. D., on "The Pennsylvania German at Home." The address was of some length, but was listened to very attentively, being full of interesting history and data in reference to the Pennsylvania Ger-

mans. He traced their history and growth from the time of their first settlement in this country, in the vicinity of Germantown, in 1683, down to the present time, and told of many pleasing incidents.

Dr. W. J. Hoffman read an interesting paper on "Popular Superstitions," which was well received. He referred to the many superstitions prevalent among the Pennsylvania Germans in different stages of their history, tracing them from their origin to the present time.

Suggestions were made by several of the members as to a change in the time of meeting, but, after some discussion, the matter was laid over.

The place of next meeting is left in the hands of the executive committee. Philadelphia, Bethlehem and Manch Chunk, presented their claims.

The meeting then adjourned and the members were taken over the Gravity road, leaving Penn square on special cars at 3 40 and the Gravity station at 4 10, returning to the city shortly after 6 o'clock, much pleased with the ride.

All the members, with but few exceptions, were at the reception and banquet in Library hall, last evening. The hall was beautifully decorated with plants and evergreens. The orchestra was hidden on the stage behind a huge bank of evergreens and palms.

The members began to arrive shortly after 7 o'clock and by 8 they were seated about half a dozen tables, each one of which was adorned with a candelabra and flowers. The menu, which was an elaborate one, was served in Caterer Dorsey's best style. During the progress of the dinner the Germania orchestra rendered a concert program.

George F. Bear, Esq., was toastmaster, and it was about 9.30 when he rapped for order and introduced the first speaker, Rev. Dr. Henry Mosser, who responded to the toast, "The Schuylkill Valley." The other toasts responded to were: "Civil Liberty and Self Government," Major John Reinhold of Lancaster; "The Pennsylvania German Antiquarian," Judge S. Pennypacker, Philadelphia; "The Heritage of Conrad Weiser," Morton L. Montgomery; "The Influence of Our Race in Literature," Dr. R. K. Buehrle, Lancaster; "Our Mothers and Housewives," Hon. Henry Houck, Lebanon; "Pennsylvania - German Surnames," Prof. Levi O. Kuhns, Middletown, Md.

The retiring president, Rev. Dr. Heckman, made a few parting remarks and closed by introducing the new presiding officer, Eben S. Pennypacker, of Philadelphia, who thanked the members for the honor conferred and predicted much success for the future of the society. It was midnight when they adjourned.

From, *Eagle*

Reading Pa.

Date, *Nov. 4 1894.*

THE OLD DE TURCK FARM.

Searching Out Old Records in Oley-- 300 Acres for £30--This was in 1712--The Land Still Owned by the DeTurcks--Interesting Sketch of the Founder of the Family.

On a recent research for facts regarding the De Turck family, some interesting documents were found in Oley. One record has it that Isaac De Turck, or De Tirck, as it was written at that time, came to America from "Frankenthal in Germany," 1708. This is an error as far as Germany is concerned, because he came from France. With thousands of others they bled for their lives on account of religious persecutions, and after they were gone all their property was confiscated by the French. The names of Bartolet, L. Van, De Røife now Dierolf, and many familiar names were among those who left. All of them were Huguenots.

In the colonial records of New York is recorded the arrival of Isaac le Tirck, of Frankenthal, and his sister Esther. On the way over on the ship in 1708 or 1709, he became acquainted with a widow, whose acquaintance resulted in their marriage on their arrival in New York. The widow's name was Maria Von Weimerin. The last 2 letters, *in*, were added according to the old custom, signifying the feminine. Females had *in* added to their names, such as DeTurckin, Hochin, etc. Therefore the above widow's name was Von Weimer, or later, simply Weimer, as at the present day. With the widow was also her daughter by her first husband. They settled in Dutchess county, N. Y., but only remained there a few years. DeTurck and family left there and came to Penn'a in 1712. On June 11th, of that year a warrant issued to him by the Wm. Penn land commissioners of the province of Penn'a, viz., Samuel Carpenter, Richard Hill, Isaac Norris and Jas. Logan, calling for 300 acres of land for £30, to be called Oley. What the name of Oley signifies is not definitely known, but it is supposed to mean a level valley, bounded by a chain of mountains on all sides. The document for the 300 acres is still on the same old farm, now owned by Nathan DeTurck, near Friedensburg.

It is the oldest record of any land so far found in that vicinity. It is recorded in Phila. in book A, Vol 5, page 106, and the date of recording is March 21, 1716. Chas. Brockden was the recorder. The land warrant is in a remarkable good state of preservation. The large wax seal, 3 3/4 inches in diameter, is not mutilated or broken in the least. All the penmanship is in large, plain letters and beautifully executed. The name of Wm. Penn is in the beginning of the writing and is in large old English letters. must be remembered that Phila. coun

cluded the land now known as Berks county. The original De-Turck farm is on a branch of the Manatawny, near Friedensburg. The greater part of the land is still included in the original farm, and some of it is owned now by Abraham K. De Turck, also a lineal descendant. The old homestead which the ancestral Isaac De Turck settled on, is now in charge of Isaac De Turck, he being of the 6th generation. There is no doubt but that this farm will continue a long time in this family. Tradition says, also, that the sister, Esther De Turck, who came over with Isaac DeTurck, married John Keim, the ancestor of all the Keims. The history of the Keim family, which is now being written, tells of that romantic marriage.

The elder DeTurck brought along from France a Bible in 3 volumes. Only one volume can be found thus far. It begins with Genesis and the book of Job is the last in the volume. Each page is divided into 5 parts and on every page are 5 different versions of the Bible. The first is the Catholic, next Lutheran, next Reformed, next Jewish and the last is Highlandish. The Catholic and Lutheran versions read sometimes alike, but the other 3 are entirely different. Some have the same meaning, but in the 3 last versions the difference is radical, having nothing in common. The Bible of this print did not include the New Testament. It was printed sometime between 1660 and 1700. The title page, if it ever had one, is lost. The book is printed in German type. At that time in France, to have those books, the penalty was death. How the elder DeTurck succeeded in getting away with the books is a mystery. After the Huguenots came to Oley and settled, they concluded to have nothing more to do with organized religious matters, as far as church denominations were concerned. They were satisfied to lead a quiet and God fearing life. All were taught to pray and work, and read their Bibles. They had no fights or lawsuits among themselves. Depravity was almost unknown. All prospered until the 4th or 5th generation, when it seems the good old rules were broken, and some distress followed. An incident happened in one of the families which will be interesting: A young lady asked her mother to learn music and painting. Her mother told her that when she was competent to cook, bake, pray and be a housekeeper, as all women should be, then she would give her consent, and no sooner. How well those Huguenots provided for their descendants can be seen to this day, by the excellent way they put up their buildings. Some which were erected between 1755 and 1780 are models to this day of good workmanship, masonry and carpentry.

In the forestry of Oley there is also an interesting fact worthy of mention. The elder De Turck was a great hunter and it is handed down as a fact, that when he and the Indians were hunting deer in the valley of Oley with dogs, they generally kept themselves on high ground somewhere near where the old "Hornhut meeting house," which was demolished several years ago. It was at the end of the De Turck tract, on the road leading from Oley line to Friedensburg. The "Hornhut" people were a branch of the Moravians. From this point they could see

the deer leap over the small brush. There was no heavy timber in Oley at that time. Inquirers have been unable to find many trees in the whole eastern part of Pennsylvania, that are over 150 years old. It may seem strange, but it is a fact. In the Pacific coast trees are found having 1,500 rings of growth, showing that to be their age. According to this, this part of the U. S. is the newer part of this continent. Another fact handed down, is that the elder De Turck being a great hunter, in the fall and winter would be gone for weeks. He generally went southwest probably into Virginia. He always said he visited a place where two waters met, and where there was a large falling of waters. The supposition is that he also owned land there, but he died and never gave his descendants any information on the subject. He died about 1727, and is supposed to be buried on the old homestead in Oley. There are 2 graves there, with field stones at head and foot, according to the old custom. It is supposed Isaac De Turck and wife are buried there. Their children are also buried there. Amos De Turck, a lineal descendant, was buried in the same graveyard last summer, but no more bodies will be interred there. When the original Isaac De Turck went hunting, his wife packed his saddle bags with food, including apples. The same kind of apple was always selected. From this fact the apple was finally called the "Jacht" or (Yacht) apple or hunter apple. On the old De Turck homestead this same apple grows in abundance. Some of the trees are 60 feet high.

From, *Jessie*

Reading Pa.

Date, *July 24 1895*

OUR OLDEST DUTCH COLONY.

A PAPER BY H. M. M. RICHARDS OF
GREAT HISTORICAL VALUE.

What He Discovered in the Course of His
Researches as a Member of the Indian
Fort Commission—The Colony
of the Minisink Flats.

[For the Reading Times.]

MR. EDITOR: In a recent issue, under the caption of "An Early Dutch Colony," you quote most interesting statements from an address of Judge Pennypacker at Philadelphia, intended to show that the Dutch settlement on the Delaware, at the mouth of the Hornkill creek, was

the earliest German colony in Pennsylvania, antedating some twenty years that under Pastorius at Germantown in 1683. The article very thoughtfully ends by saying "We have still much to learn about our own country." To this I take the liberty of adding, "and still more about our own State."

It is a pity we have not, in our midst more men like Judge Pennypacker and our learned State Librarian, Dr. Egle, to tell us, what so few know, how great a State is our grand old Commonwealth. Were this done more of us would realize the fact that, in the greatness of her patriotism, resources and history, Pennsylvania is excelled by none of her sister States, if even equaled by them; and more especially would we, Pennsylvania Germans, take pride in our descent from an ancestry the lustre of whose deeds is tardily, though surely, beginning to shine forth, not as the feeble light of a star, but as the more glorious rays of the sun itself as they break through the clouds which have hitherto obscured them.

It is not my purpose to take up the foils, even in a friendly contest, with Judge Pennypacker, knowing too well what would be the sad result to myself; but, prompted by a desire to disseminate all possible facts of historical interest amongst the public, as well as a desire to be informed myself, I ask this question concerning the settlement at the mouth of the Hornkill creek:

Was it the earliest Dutch colony in Pennsylvania?

In the course of my historical research, whilst fulfilling my duties as a member of the Indian Fort Commission, I was much interested in a fact which I never see mentioned in connection with the settlement of Pennsylvania, and that was the Dutch colony of the Minisink Flats, or low lands along the Delaware river in Monroe county, above Stroudsburg. This colony appears to be unknown except to a few historians, and even by them almost ignored. We have read so much of the settlements to the south, near the mouth of the Delaware, that we seem to have overlooked the possibility of colonization from the land side to the north. This is exactly what happened, and it is an open question whether the colony of which I am about to speak did not antedate all other German or Dutch colonies in Pennsylvania, as it certainly did that of Penn. Unfortunately my literary work concerned more especially the existence and history of forts erected during the French and Indian war, and prevented a thorough research into the facts concerning our Dutch colony. Still more unfortunately

it is very likely that the whole subject is shrouded in mystery, and that none but the most meagre facts any longer exist with regard to it. Few as may be the seed in my possession I will, nevertheless, scatter them in the hope of a future harvest.

Nearly all the land along the Delaware river, from Stroudsburg quite a distance up the stream, was originally owned by the Minisink or Monsey tribe of Indians. Much of it, which was low land, and therefore called the "Minisink Flats," was extremely fertile. Here, in peace and quietness which was unbroken until the savage outbreak of the Indians in 1755, dwelt a Dutch colony, surrounded by rich grain fields, abundant orchards and every sign of prosperity, whose existence was unknown to the British Government for many years, and who, in turn, knew not the course nor ending of the beautiful river which flowed past their doors, and had never heard of either Philadelphia or William Penn. Of course such a state of affairs was bound to come to an end. One day an adventurous pioneer discovered them and before long the English authorities were aware of their existence. With characteristic modesty they promptly passed a law, in 1729, to the effect that, as the entire country belonged to them, all purchases made from the aborigines were null and void and that such purchasers should be forthwith indicted for "forcible entry and detainer" in accordance with the laws of England. In 1730 they appointed an agent to visit the colony and investigate. This agent was the famous surveyor, Nicolas Scull, an ancestor of our esteemed family in Reading of the same name. Time forbids our telling how the poor people were imposed upon in many ways, being obliged to again purchase their homes or abandon them. However, Time at last made all things even, just as he does to-day. Mere justice to the memory of Nicolas Scull, however, demands that we should say he made every effort to lighten their burden in that respect.

Precisely as we are now interested in learning the origin of this colony, so were the English at that time, after they had recovered from their astonishment in finding it. Many questions were asked and many investigations made, with this result. It was found that whilst New York was still New Amsterdam and belonged to Holland, a party of Dutch miners had immigrated from the old country and there settled. In some way or other, probably from the Indians, they received information of the existence, to the west, of valuable mineral deposits. With indefatigable perseverance they cut a good road through the wilderness from the Dutch settlement of Esopus, on the Hudson river, (now Kingston), for one hundred miles to the Delaware river. They opened up two mines, later known as the "Mine Holes," one on the Jersey side of the Delaware, "where the mountain nearly approaches the lower point of Paquarry Flat," the other at the north foot of the same mountain, half-way between the Delaware and Hudson. From these mines much valuable ore is said to have been hauled to

Esopus over the road made by them and later called the "Mine Road." Penetrating a little further our Dutch friends struck the fertile low lands of Pennsylvania, and here, with the usual sagacity of their race, they built their homes and settled. Then came the abundant harvests, the surplus of which was still hauled over the Mine Road to Esopus, the only market they knew, and, indeed, the only one which then existed, even if they had known all about the course of the Delaware, save possibly the Swedish settlements near its mouth.

One day in 1664 the aggressive Englishmen captured New Amsterdam and suppressed Dutch supremacy in that part of our country. When again our settlers made their journey to Esopus, with their ores and merchandise, they learned this sad fact and received their first shock. Later we know how the enemy invaded their very homes, and then came the end. To-day some of their descendants still occupy, in peace, the property of their forefathers, honored and respected by their neighbors of different blood.

Unfortunately our honest settlers were men of toil, who doubtless thought it sufficient if they faithfully performed their work and cared for their families, without deeming it necessary to collect and preserve historical data for the benefit of posterity. In this, it is needless to say, they have, alas! too closely resembled many others of their time. As a result they, mostly the grandchildren of the original colonists, were unable to give any satisfactory data to their inquiring and astonished visitors, who would gladly have ascertained more concerning their origin. All that could be gleaned was, in the main, what has already been stated. One fact, however, appears to have been established, and that fact was that, a number of years before New York was occupied by the English, in 1664, these people lived along the Delaware river and had commercial communication with their brethren on the Hudson. If we remember that the Pastorius settlement at Germantown took place in 1683, that of Penn no earlier, and even that mentioned by Judge Pennypacker at the mouth of the Hornkill creek about 1664, are we wrong in claiming our colony on the Minisink Flats, along the upper Delaware, to be the oldest Dutch or German settlement in Pennsylvania, antedated only by that of the Swedes?

H. M. M. RICHARDS.

From, Press
Phila Pa
 Date, March 31 '95

MEMORIES OF READING'S RIOT.

The Dreadful Scenes of Disorder and Bloodshed There
in 1877.

SEVEN MEN MOWED DOWN.

The Deadly Charge of the Fourth Regiment Through the Railroad Cut.
Details of the Burning of the
Lebanon Valley Bridge.

Special Correspondence of "The Press."

Reading, March 30.—The memories of the mass of the people are comparatively short. In a very few years the recollections and lessons of the most important and stirring events become dim and are overshadowed by the commonplace happenings which occupy the attention for the time being.

One of these crises occurred but little less than eighteen years ago, and is known to history as "The Great Strike of 1877." In the manner of its inception, in the rapidity of its spread, in the fierceness of the conflicts that were engendered, in the wild, unreasoning mob spirit that prevailed, in the wanton destruction of property and in the apparent danger of general insurrection it has not been equalled by any or all of the strikes and public disturbances in the last dozen years. That insurrection, which came almost without any warning, which apparently resulted from no previous planning, organization or design, and which spread with inconceivable rapidity through and to nearly all the centers of industry, was the nearest approach to anarchy which this country ever witnessed.

Neither the strikes in Homestead, Chicago or Brooklyn, or all of them combined, involved so great a destruction of property, such fierce fighting and bloodshed, so great a sacrifice of life or such a general fear of the triumph of mob rule. For a few days the country was terrorized and held its breath, but in less than a week law and order asserted themselves and everything moved on as usual.

One of the centers of industry that was thus swept by that cyclone of insurrection was Reading, and it resulted in riot, bloodshed and the exhibition of a fierce spirit of destruction and lawlessness that startled and amazed all who were acquainted with the traditional conservatism of the people of the city. There was no strike in this city in July, 1877. There was no struggle going on between employers and employ-

ees, either in any of the industrial establishments of the city or on any of the railroads centering here. In the preceding April President Gowen, of the Reading Railroad, made his famous move against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, which resulted in the majority of the engineers quitting the service of the company, but this was over in a few days. This of course had produced a feeling of discontent among the engineers and their sympathizers, and there was present in the community the discontent consequent upon the unparalleled depression in business and industry that had existed since the panic of 1873.

CROWDS BEGIN TO GATHER.

But there was no sign of any outbreak or any apprehension of any until Saturday, July 21, 1877. On that day crowds began to gather around the bulletin boards to hear the news and upon prominent street corners to discuss the situation, while it was rumored that meetings of the railroaders were being held to determine whether or not they should imitate in this city the scenes that were being enacted in Pittsburg, Wheeling and many other places. On the next day, Sunday, the exciting news from other points together with the rumors of outbreaks in this city caused considerable apprehension. Many railroaders and idle people stood in groups



Peter Cullen, Chief of Police During the Riots of 1877.

along the railroad tracks and around the shops and depots of the Reading Railroad Company, but no one made a move to disturb anything, to stop a train, or destroy any property of the company. By nightfall, however, the air was full of rumors of contemplated movements by the railroaders and crowds assembled at Seventh and Penn and congregated around the outer station to see what would happen.

The gathering of the crowds seemed at length to give to the real mob and those who were bent upon disorderly deeds the proper courage to proceed. Accordingly, at 10 o'clock, the train from Allentown to Harrisburg was stopped and prevent-

ed from proceeding farther. The train going in the other direction was likewise stopped and the engines of both uncoupled. This action was quickly followed by the spiking of switches, the tearing up of rails, and within half an hour by the firing of a caboose. When this blazed up it was a signal for firing many more cars standing on the tracks between the main station and the Lebanon Valley railroad bridge.

The burning of the caboose and cars together with a few squabbles with some of the firemen, who feebly tried to put out the flames, sufficed to give vent to the lawless spirit of the mob until about midnight, when a suggestion that had been made at one of the meetings of the

idle railroaders the day before to burn the Lebanon Valley bridge, one of the handsomest railroad bridges in the State, upwards of one hundred feet high, spanning on a series of brick arches the deep gorge of the Schuylkill at this place, was again broached. The suggestion was no sooner made than work was begun to carry it into effect. The trusses of the bridge were of wood, having been built in 1857. A lot of lumber and waste was carried and inserted amongst the structural work through one of the trap doors and a match applied.

FLAMES CLAIM THE BRIDGE.

In a very short time the flames began to spread, and in less than half an hour the entire bridge through its eight hundred feet of length, was in flames, presenting to the thousands of spectators who lined the banks and filled the gorge above and below the structure one of the most magnificent sights ever witnessed. In a little more than an hour pliers began to fall into the river and canal below, the work of destruction was finished, and \$50,000 had gone up in smoke. The rioters were apparently content with what they had accomplished during the night and desisted from further depredations.

The next day, however, encouraged by their own boldness and the apparent ease and safety with which they had destroyed so much property the night before, they resolved to put a stop to railroad traffic altogether. Accordingly, early in the day great crowds began to assemble around the station and at Seventh and Penn Streets, where the main line of the road crosses the main street of the city. First they merely jeered at the crews or threw an occasional stone at them. Early in the afternoon a loaded coal train was passing through when about one hundred men jumped upon it, applied the brakes and drove away the crew. The cars were uncoupled, the coal dumped upon the tracks and other measures taken to produce a blockade.

The news of the stoppage of trains, coupled with the exciting events of the night before, aroused the greatest fear and apprehension on the part of the citizens; yet in spite of this thousands who were not rioters and had but little interest outside of curiosity crowded to the assembling points and by their pres-

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SEVENTH AND PENN STREETS, SHOWING THE SPOT WHERE THE PEOPLE WERE KILLED BY THE MILITIA, AND ALSO THE RAILROAD CUT IN WHICH THE SOLDIERS WERE ATTACKED.

once gave courage to those who were bent on mischief. At 6 o'clock a most exciting and thrilling incident occurred. At that time an express train from Philadelphia was due. It was in charge of Engineer Savacool and Conductor Frescoln. At Birdsboro they had received word that they were likely to be interfered with at Reading and that they should run carefully in approaching the city on account of possible obstructions being placed upon the track. They obeyed these orders, and upon coming into the city the engineer observed a track blocked by a dense mob. He at once made up his mind that his only chance for safety was to dash right through it at full speed. He accordingly opened the throttle and the engine responding in a moment developed a speed of about forty-five miles an hour.

The mob at first made frantic demonstrations, intended to cause him to stop, but when they saw the speed at which he was approaching they scattered in every direction and gave him a clear passage. The locomotive, however, was obliged to plow through several carloads of coal which had been dumped upon the track and did so in safety. Engineer Savacool ran his train in safety to the outer station, but the mob, exasperated by his escape, followed a few minutes later, dragging him from the train, beat him into insensibility, drove out many of the passengers and would have burned the cars but for the coolness of the conductor, who succeeded in persuading them that it was foolish to stop passengers who had already paid for their tickets and whose detention therefore should not injure the company.

Shortly before 8 o'clock the Fourth Regiment of the National Guard numbering about 300 men under command of Colonel Good and accompanied by General Eedder arrived at the outer station and at once disembarked and at once started for Seventh and Penn about four blocks away, marching down the railroad tracks, through a cut from twelve to fifteen feet deep made through the original street which is walled up and topped with a coping along the side walks. As the troops entered the cut they were seen and at once vigor-

ously attacked with stones and bricks which were hurled down from above. The troops were in a most dangerous position as their assailants were above them and behind the heavy stone coping. Many of the troops were struck, some of them knocked down and their rifles knocked out of their hands. When they got within half a block of Penn Street near the Court Street Bridge a few of them began to fire at their assailants upon the coping above and one or two persons were hit. This did not stop the attack, however, and a volley was fired straight ahead toward the mass at Seventh and Penn.

SEVEN MEN MOWED DOWN.

The first volley was aimed rather high and few if any were hit and it had no effect, whatever, in dispersing the crowd. It was quickly followed by another which was aimed low and which proved to be one of the deadliest ever delivered either in regular or mob warfare. The bullets plowed through the mass of people and in a moment the vast crowd realized what was taking place. In an instant each member of it who was able rushed away in a wild

panic of fear. They rushed over and trampled upon one another, they dropped down into cellar ways, rushed into stores and hotels urged on by a terror of the death dealing missiles.

And they had reason to flee, for the soldiers hemmed in by the mob in the cut, bruised and wounded by stones and bricks were exasperated and full of fight.

Almost in a minute the place was cleared and no one was left except the dead and wounded who strewed the vicinity of the encounter as thickly as upon any great battlefield. The place where the bulk of the crowd had stood but a few minutes before was literally dripping in blood. Seven lay dead upon the street and sidewalks and upward of thirty lay there wounded,

several of them high unto death, while in every direction persons who had been hit or more or less wounded were limping away or being assisted by friends. The total casualties as it was afterwards learned were ten killed and some sixty to one hundred wounded, many of the latter very seriously, their injuries resulting in causing them to be cripples for life.

Among the wounded were six policemen, five of whom were badly shot while the chief of police himself received a bullet hole through his coat. One person was killed who was crossing the street two blocks below. In a short time the drug stores in the vicinity and other stores were turned into temporary hospitals. All the physicians in the city were summoned and such scenes were witnessed as were only familiar to the eyes of old soldiers. In a near undertaking shop lay seven dead bodies upon the floor while the groans of the wounded were heard from nearly every doorway. Store fronts, doors, windows and awning posts were shattered by bullets and all the gruesome accompaniment of genuine war were present.

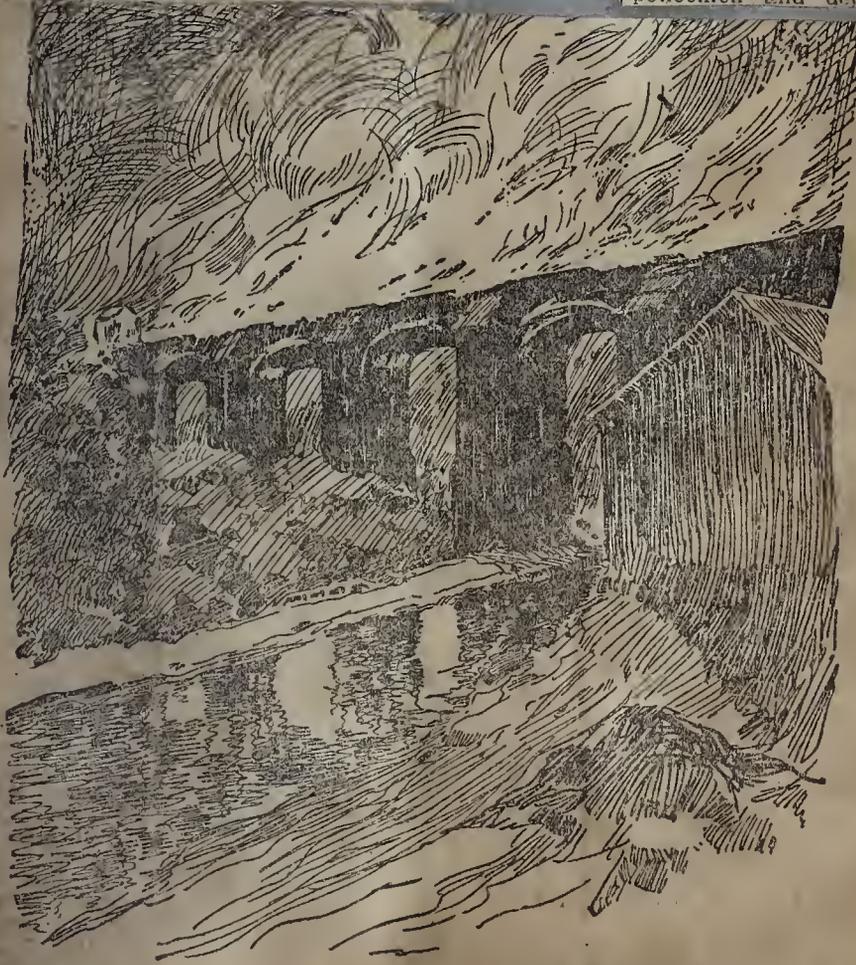
THE SITUATION MASTERED.

After emerging upon the street the troops rallied for a moment collected themselves together, picked up their wounded, and then marching down the street rallied again in front of the Mansion House. They presented a sorry looking appearance. Many of their clothes were torn, numbers of them had lost their rifles and they were bleeding from cuts and bruises and were excited and nervous over their recent trying experience. By this time some remnants of the mob had gathered again and com-

ing around the troops threatened to renew the attack, but, perhaps, fearing another volley they thought better of it and confined their demonstrations to threats and denunciations.

The march in through the cut was undoubtedly a military blunder and it resulted in unnecessary bloodshed, and the killing of a number of innocent people. This, however, is always inseparable from a fight with rioters. But whatever may be said of that, it effectually put a stop to disorder in the city. During that night some of the ringleaders broke into the armory of the Reading Artillerists and captured their rifles and ammunition. They also looted a gun store and many of them marched around the streets in a threatening manner. Some more of the rails of the Reading Railroad tracks through the city were torn up, and some cars were looted, but wherever the rioters went the people fled from them as from a pestilence, and they were unable at any point to collect a sufficient crowd to embolden them to commit any overt act of destruction so that, though millions of dollars worth of property of the Reading Railroad Company were exposed, the troops being penned up in the railroad station, a few coal and iron policemen sufficed for their protection.

The next day more militia arrived, but were relieved in the evening by a regiment of the United States regulars under Captain Hamilton. Their soldierly bearing and businesslike appearance inspired confidence in the public, and fear in the hearts of the rioters. By the next day, although the Sheriff and Mayor were ostentatiously enrolling extra policemen and deputies, all fear of



BURNING OF THE LEBANON VALLEY BRIDGE, ON JULY 21, 1877.

Further violence had passed and the police and constables were already beginning to make arrests of those suspected of being concerned in the disturbances. The city quickly resumed its ordinarily peaceful attitude, the railroads which had been blocked for about twenty-four hours resumed traffic, and the strike of 1877 was over.

From, *Jones*

Reading, Pa.

Date, *May 28 /95*

DR. BODO OTTO IN OIL.

PORTRAIT TO BE PRESENTED TO THE
VALLEY FORGE ASSOCIATION.

Now on Exhibition at the Studio of Artist
Amos Gable—Sketch of the Dis-
tinguished Revolution-
ary Surgeon.

A portrait in oil of Dr. Bodo Otto, of this city, who served with distinction in the War of the Revolution, has been painted by Artist Gable for Henry M. Otto, Centre avenue and Greenwich streets, and is now on exhibition at the artist's studio, 11 North Ninth street. It is to be presented to the Valley Forge Memorial Association and placed on the walls of the old Washington headquarters among the other interesting and valuable relics of that period. Mr. Otto is a grandson of Dr. John A. Otto, a son of the subject of the portrait. The presentation will be made on June 19th, when the Daughters of the Revolution and the Memorial association will be in session at Valley Forge. Mrs. Anna M. Holstein, regent of the association, has addressed a letter to Mr. Otto thanking him for the interest he has manifested in the matter and assuring him of the appreciation of the association. A brief biographical sketch of Dr. Otto will accompany the portrait as follows:

DR. BODO OTTO.

Dr. Bodo Otto was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, 1709, and obtained his Christian name in honor of Baron Bodo, who was his sponsor in baptism. He was the son of Christopher and Marie Magdalena Otto. He was regularly educated as a surgeon under the authority of the government in the University of Gottingen, where he also received special instruction in anatomy, physiology, botany and physics. He was then received as a member of the College of Surgeons at Lueneberg, and had charge of prisoners in the Fortress Kaleberg and the Invalides, quartered in the town. He was twice married, the first time in 1736 to Elizabeth Sauchen, and the second time in 1742 to Dorothea Behmchen. In 1755 Dr. Otto and his

family, wife, three sons and daughter, left their native land, owing to the political dissensions, and sought a new home in America. They left Rotterdam in the ship Neptune, Captain George Smith, and landed October 7th, 1755. He located in Philadelphia, where he was soon highly esteemed for his literary, medical and surgical ability. As the tide of German emigration was moving up the Schuylkill valley, whose fertile lands were fast becoming occupied by a thrifty class of settlers, Dr. O. followed the footsteps of many of his worthy countrymen and moved to Reading, locating here in 1773. As an evidence of the influence of Dr. Otto among his fellow-countrymen with whom he had resided but three years he was in 1776 chosen one of the delegates to represent Berks county in the Provincial Conference which met in Carpenters' hall, Philadelphia, June 18th, 1776. As a further evidence of his patriotic devotion to the interests of his adopted country, early in the progress of the Revolution he offered his services as a surgeon in the American army and they were gratefully accepted. During the gloomiest period of that prolonged war for liberty and independence while the army of General Washington was encamped at Valley Forge, Dr. Otto, assisted by his two sons, Drs. John A. and Bodo Otto, Jr., were surgeons in charge of the camp hospital. He endured the same privations during the memorable winter of 1777-78 while devoting himself to the welfare of the sick and wounded. After the disastrous battle of Brandywine, September 11th, 1777, Trinity Lutheran church, Reading, was used with the consent of the congregation, and possibly under the direction of Dr. Otto, as a hospital for the sick and wounded soldiers who had been brought here.

At the close of the Revolutionary war Dr. Otto returned to Reading, resumed the practice of his profession, and in the meantime took a prominent part in the administration of local affairs. He died June 13, 1787, and the remains are interred in the old Trinity church yard.

The following certificate is of special interest. It is from John Cochran, who was director of the military hospitals during the Revolution: "This is to certify that Dr. Bodo Otto served in the capacity of senior surgeon in the hospitals of the United States in the year 1776, and when the new arrangement in April, 1777, took place he was continued in that station until the subsequent arrangement of September, 1780, when he was appointed hospital physician and surgeon, in which capacity he officiated until a reduction of a number of the officers of said department, in January, 1782, was made. During the whole of the time he acted in the above stations he discharged his duty with great faith-

From, *Inquirer*

Philad. A. P.

Date, *Sept 29 1895*

fulness, care and attention. The humanity for which he was distinguished towards the brave American soldiery claims the thanks of every lover of his country, and the success attending his practice will be a sufficient recommendation of his abilities in his profession." This certificate is dated January 26th, 1782.

The First Veteran Volunteer.

Capt. H. A. Eisenbise, of the Fifty-fifth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, was the first veteran volunteer. When Congress passed the law he was a captain in the Forty-sixth Regiment, and his term having expired, he re-enlisted, and under the provision of the act selected his regiment and company. He chose the Fifty-fifth Regiment, Company G, which was then lying at Beaufort, S. C.

Reading Fire Department have been actively engaged in making preparations for the event. Already the city is gaily decorated, thousands of dollars having been spent for paintings, flags and bunting. All business establishments and most private houses have been magnificently draped and festooned.

To make the convention and tournament a success the Firemen's Union have left nothing undone. Committees of active and experienced firemen have been hard at work, looking after all the various details to make everything pleasant for the thousands of visitors who are expected. A conservative estimate places the number of visitors at not less than 50,000. There will not be less than 10,000 men in the line of parade, which will cover ten miles of streets.

All hotels have made extensive preparations for the accommodation of guests and several important additions have been built. The Mansion House, for instance, has been increased to double its former size, a new six-story building having been added in the rear, and the front raised to the same height. Besides the hotels, many private boarding houses have consented to accommodate the representatives of fire companies at the solicitation of the different local committees. All the public halls have been leased, where the especially invited guests of the Reading fire companies will be handsomely entertained. Each of the local companies will have from eight to twelve visiting companies as guests. There will also be



Harry Addis, Neversink Engine. Arthur Larkin, Washington H. and L. W. W. Wunder, Keystone H. and L. George O. Mee, Riverside Engine.

The Reading Fire Department

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LARGEST VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

The firemen's convention, parade and tournament, to take place in Reading this week, promises to be the largest demonstration of the kind ever witnessed in Pennsylvania. For nearly a year the members of the twelve companies constituting the

many private receptions, tendered by the families of Reading firemen to visitors.

The State Firemen's Association will convene in the Grand Opera House, Reading, on Tuesday, October 1, at 2 P. M. The opening ceremonies will consist of prayer by Rev. William Y. Chapman; addresses of welcome, on behalf of the municipality, by Mayor



JUNIOR ENGINE HOUSE, READING.

William F. Shanaman; addresses of welcome on behalf of the Reading Fire Department, by Charles M. Plank, Esq., president of the Firemen's Union. The response will be by George W. Brooks, of Coatesville, president of the State Association. The convention will then proceed with the regular business, as arranged by the secretary, William W. Wunder, of this city.

On Tuesday evening there will be a banquet in Maennerchor Hall. Howard P. Wanner, chairman of the Executive Committee, having the arrangements for the firemen's convention and tournament in charge, will be toast master. Following will respond to toasts: Mayor Shanaman, "The City of Reading;" Hon. James N. Ermentrout, "Our Fire Department;" Hon. G. A. Endlich, "Then and Now;" Hon. H. Willis Bland, "Our Guests;" Hon. James R. Kenney, "Our Jolly Firemen." Covers will be laid for 600 persons. Music for the occasion will be furnished by the Ringgold Band.

On Wednesday, October 2, there will be an exhibition of the New York Life Saving Corps, by special permission of the Fire Department of that city. This will take place in Penn Square at 11.30 A. M. The convention will reconvene at 2 P. M. At 7 P. M. the delegates will be taken over the mountain railroads, returning in time

for the ball, to be given in their honor, in Maennerchor Hall, commencing at 9 P. M.

On Thursday, October 3, the great parade will take place. It will be in twelve divisions, each being headed by a local company, in order of seniority, the Rainbow, the oldest fire company in Reading, instituted March 17, 1773, marching at the head of the first division. The first and second divisions will form on South Third street, right resting on Penn street; third and fourth divisions on North Third street, right resting on Penn street; fifth and sixth divisions on South Fourth street, right resting on Penn street; seventh and eighth divisions on North Fourth street, right resting on Penn; ninth and tenth divisions on South Fifth street, right resting on Penn; eleventh division on Chestnut street, right resting on Fifth; Twelfth division on Franklin street, right resting on Fifth.

The route of parade will be as follows: Form at Third and Penn streets, proceed up Penn to Perkiomen avenue, out the avenue to Nineteenth street, countermarch to Fifth, thence to Washington, thence to Tenth, to Robeson, to Fourth, to Pine, up Pine to Fifth, down Fifth to Bingaman, up Bingaman to Eleventh, up Eleventh to Penn, down Penn to Third street and dismiss.

Following is a complete list of the 125 visiting fire companies who will



RAINBOW ENGINE HOUSE, READING.

participate in the parade, and quarters for whom have been secured:

Volunteer Fire Association, Tivoli Hose, Independence, Acme, Volunteer Association, William Penn Hose, Tally-Ho, Veteran Firemen's Association, South Penn, Fairmount, Hand-in-Hand and Harmony, all of Philadelphia; Columbia and Shawnee, both of Columbia; Bridgeport, of Bridgeport; Fame, Phoenix, Weccacoe and Washington, all of Wilmington, Del.; Fame, First and Goodwill, of West Chester; Atlantic, of Atlantic City; Philadelphia, Empire Hook and Ladder and Goodwill, of Pottstown; Humane, Montgomery, Fairmount and Norris Hose, of Norristown; Laurel, of York; Rainbow, of Schuylkill Haven; Junior Hose, of Chambersburg; Friendship, of Boyertown; Vigilant, of Johnstown; Pioneer, of Hazleton; Perseverance, of Lebanon; Goodwill, of East York; Washington, of Coatesville; Independent, of Jenkintown; Altoona, of Altoona; Union, of Carlisle; Citizens, of Harrisburg; Washington of Conshohocken; American, of Pottsville; Nay Aug, of Scranton; Washington, of Danville; Friendship, of Birdsboro; Columbia, Liberty, Alien and Hibernia, of Allentown; Washington, of Mahanoy City; Phoenix, of Catasauqua; Humane, of Royersford; Union, of Hamburg; Liberty, of South Bethlehem; Slatington Hose and Vigilant, of Slatington; Chambers, of Portsmouth, Va.; Niagara and Bellview, of Niagara Falls, N. Y.; Junior, of Hagerstown, Md.; Washington Veterans, of Washington, D. C.; Pittsburg Fire Department, of Pittsburg; Kohanza Hose, of Danbury, Conn.; Columbia Hose, of Peekskill, N. Y.; New York Veteran Firemen's Association; Beacon, of Mattawan, N. J.; Camden Veteran Hose, of Camden, N. J.; Cataract, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; Eureka, of Ithaca, N. Y.; Liberty, of Spring City; Darktown Fire Brigade, Williamsport; Citizen's, of Mahanoy City; Alert, of Downingtown; Fairmount, of Lansdale; Phoenix, of New Burnswick, N. J.; Lebanon

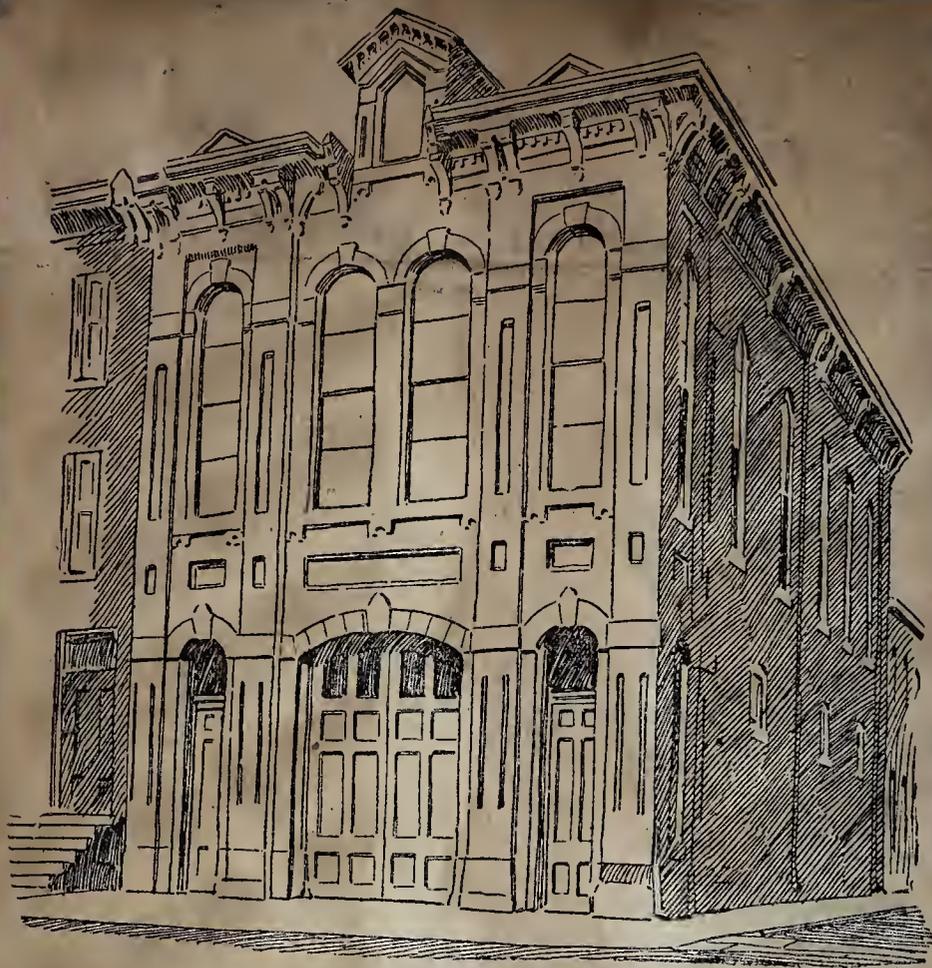


Harry E. Richards,
Liberty Engine.



Samuel Adams,
Friendship Engine.

Hook and Ladder, of Lebanon; Weimer, Hose, of Kingston, N. Y.; Veteran Association, of Brooklyn; Columbia, of Peekskill, N. Y.; Baltimore Veteran Association; Lehigh, of South Bethlehem; Paxton, of Harrisburg; Enterprise, of Hatboro; Morton, of Morton; Marion, of Ardmore; First Ward Hose, of Butler; Susquehanna, of Harrisburg; Logan, of Bellefonte; Friendship, Independence, Liberty and West End, all of Shamokin; Phoenix, of Phoenixville; Rescue, of Lebanon; Goodwill Hose, of Plymouth; Eagle Hose, of Pittston; Volunteer, of Gettysburg; Mechanics', of Pittston; Mechanics', of Waynesboro; Franklin, of Chester; Goodwill, of Minersville; Pennsylvania, of Fox Chase; Phoenix, of Mauch Chunk; Liberty, of Lycoming; Perkasie, of Perkasie; Anthracite, of Mt. Carbon; Vigilant, of Chambersburg; Rescue, of Shamokin; Citizen's, of Tamaqua; Wrightsville, of Wrightsville, and Hanover, of Hanover, Pa.; Rescue, of Mechanicsburg; Hope, of Manheim; Alert, of St. Clair; Southwark, of Catasauqua; Rescue, of Shenandoah; Liberty, of Lebanon; American, of Lansford; Humane, of Mahanoy City; Franklin, of South Bethlehem, and Wissahickon, of Annville. This brings the total number of visiting companies up to 150.



NEVERSINK ENGINE HOUSE, READING.

All the brass bands and drum corps in Eastern and Central Pennsylvania have been engaged for this parade. The above companies will turn out from fifty to one hundred men each. The local companies will have from one hundred and fifty to five hundred men in line each. There will also be delegations and representatives of many fire companies in Pennsylvania and other States in line not mentioned above.

On Friday, October 4, commencing at 9 A. M., there will be hose carriage races, hook and ladder races, hand engine contests and an exhibition of the Pomper Life-Saving Corps, of New York. All these exhibitions will be in Penn Square. At 2 P. M. there will be prize drills in Witman's Ball Park, Eleventh and Amity streets.

Prizes of \$1000 in cash will be awarded as follows:

	First prize.	Second prize.
Hose race for companies of Pennsylvania.....	\$150	\$75
Hose companies outside the State.....	75	30
Hook and ladder companies of Pennsylvania.....	75	35
Hook and ladder companies outside State.....	50	25
Prize drill, open for all.....	75	50
Largest uniformed fire company in line.....	60	..
Finest uniformed fire company in line.....	50	..
Hand engine contest, first class..	50	..
Hand engine contest, second class	50	..
Finest looking steam engine in line.....	50	..

Finest looking hose carriage in line.....	50	..
Finest looking hook and ladder truck.....	50	..

There are also a large number of special prizes, offered by Reading business men, as, for instance: Gold-headed cane, to be awarded the oldest fireman in line; box of cigars, to the ugliest man; twelve pounds of tobacco to the company coming the longest distance; handsome badge, to the heaviest fireman; suit of clothes for the most lank and lean; box of cigars for the smallest fireman, etc.

Each fire company of Reading has arranged for a supply of souvenir badges, which will be distributed among its guests. The companies will have different designs, and each has endeavored to keep its peculiar features secret from the others. The Rainbow will have 1400 metal badges, with the monogram of the company in the centre, suspended from a coil of hose. The Junior will have 400 metal and 1400 ribbon badges. The former will have a youth's head in the centre, representing "Junior." The Reading Hose will have 1000 metal badges, each suspended from a blue ribbon; Neversink, 2000 metal, with a ship in the centre, and 2000 ribbon badges; Friendship, 500 metal, with clasped hands as the centre design, and 200 ribbon; Liberty, 2000 metal, with Goddess of Liberty in the centre; Marion,



HAMPDEN ENGINE HOUSE, READING.

800 metal; Schuylkill, 100 metal, with steamer in the centre, and 500 ribbon; Riverside, 600 ribbon; Washington, 500 metal, with General Washington's head in the centre; Keystone, 1400 metal, with ladders and picks forming the design in the centre. A number of the metal badges will be of gold and others silver plated. These badges will be about three inches in length, suspended from bars, representing twisted hose. Every fireman coming to Reading should be sure to look out for one of these handsome souvenirs.

The arrangements for the State Firemen's Convention have largely been made through the Firemen's Union, of Reading. This body is composed of sixty members, five from each company, the delegates or members being elected annually. It is regularly incorporated. The object of the Firemen's Union is to promote harmony and friendly intercourse among the various fire companies of the city, and to establish those just relations which ought to exist among institutions, whose views are similar, and to enable them to more effectually perform those philanthropic duties devolving upon them.

The officers of the Firemen's Union are as follows: President, Charles M. Plank; Vice-President, Howard P. Wanner; Secretary, Harry E. Richards; Treasurer, Hon. S. E. Ancona.

State Firemen's Association.

The organization of the State Association of Firemen was effected in the City of Reading at a meeting of the Firemen's Union, held September 15, 1879. The late John McKnight of-

fered the resolution. After a year spent in correspondence, a number of fire companies in the State appointed two delegates each to attend a convention in Reading on December 16 and 17, 1880, when the association was organized in the Grand Opera House with the following officers:

President, Henry A. Derr, Norristown; Vice-President, H. F. Feiber, Scranton, and Jeremiah Carl, York; Recording Secretary, W. W. Wunder, Reading; Corresponding Secretary, S. H. Ettla, Harrisburg; Treasurer, George L. Roberts, Bradford.

The present officers are: President, George W. Brooks, Coatesville; Recording Secretary, W. W. Wunder, Reading; Corresponding Secretary, James A. Green, Carlisle; Treasurer, John Slingluff, Norristown.

The Reading Fire Department was first organized in 1772, when the Rainbow Fire Company came into existence. The apparatus then in use

was very primitive. The old hand engine and pump, which was first used by this company, is still intact, and is on exhibition at the company's engine house, corner of Eighth and Court streets. It was on exhibition in 1876, at the Centennial Exposition, at which time it was rebuilt. It will be in the great firemen's parade next Thursday.

The department to-day has twelve companies, with over 6000 members. There are ten steam fire engines and two hook and ladder trucks. Each company is thoroughly equipped. The total value of the engine houses is \$100,000, and of apparatus as much



READING ENGINE HOUSE, READING.

more. The furniture and other incidentals bring up the total value to \$250,000. The city owns all the buildings and apparatus except the Liberty Engine house, which belongs to the company, the city paying a rental for the use of it. Each company receives an annual gratuity from the city of \$1800. The fire companies do the sprinkling of the streets, from which they derive an additional revenue, to sustain the expense of keeping horses, pay salaries of drivers, stablemen, etc. There is also an appropriation for the chemical engine of \$900, and for the Reading hose ambulance of \$700. The chief engineer of the fire department receives a salary of \$500; the two assistant engineers, \$150 each, and the superintendent of the fire alarm, \$600. The total annual cost of the department is \$30,855. This is exclusive of the cost of repairs to engine houses, etc.

The Rainbow Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 1, as its number signifies, is the oldest company in the Reading Fire Department. It dates back to March 17, 1773, when it was regularly instituted. Of its very early

history comparatively little of definite value is known. The project of organizing the company was first broached in the latter part of 1772, when the population of Reading was less than 500, and in the following year it took shape. At the outbreak of the American Revolution many of the members enlisted in the company of Captain Joseph Hiester, afterwards General, who organized a company of volunteers at his own expense.

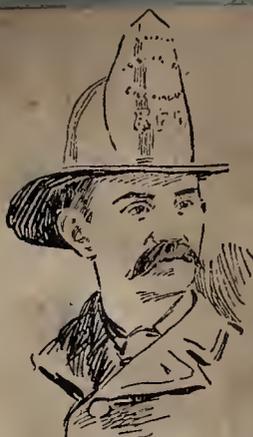
In 1834 a fresh impetus was given the company by the erection of a new building. The older members gave way to their grown sons, who awoke new interest in the company's affairs. A reorganization was effected, with Jacob Frickes as president. About this time also the company ordered its first uniforms. In June, 1863, the company received its first steam fire engine, which remained in service until 1866, when it was sold to the Rainbow Fire Company, of Rome, Ga. On March 10, 1870, the company took possession of the present engine house, on the northeast corner of Eighth and Court streets. The present engine of the company, a second-class Amoskeag, was received November 10, 1868,



Charles Griffith,
Second Assist. Chief



George W. Miller,
Chief Fire Department.



John Luigard,
First Assistant Chief.

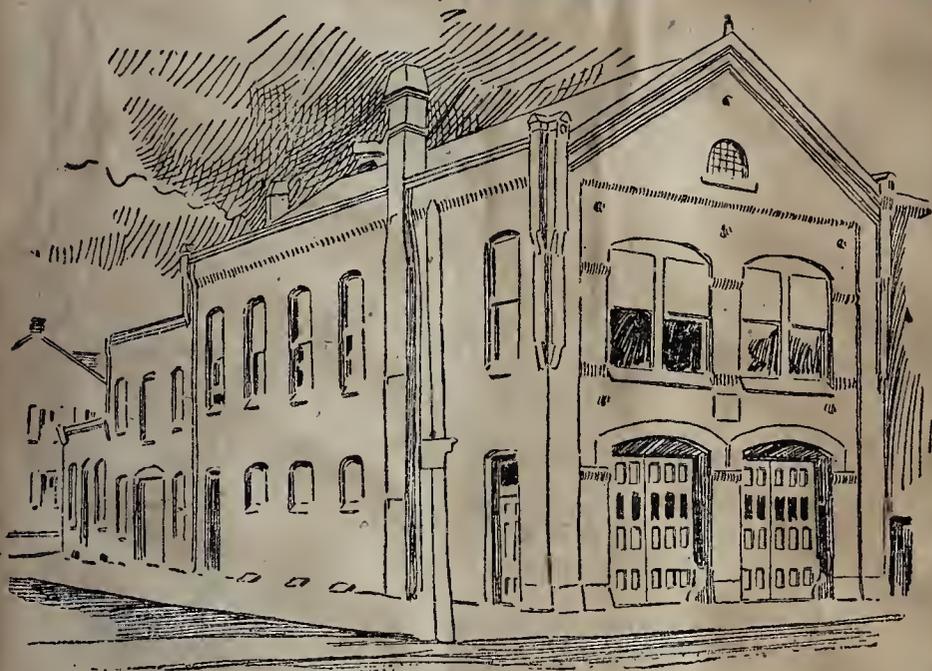


M. K. Spatz,
Marion Engine.

and cost \$4900.

The first charter of the company is dated April 7, 1843, when David Eisen-

opposite the Postoffice. The present building, on the corner of Walnut and Vine streets, is the fifth that the com-



MARION ENGINE HOUSE, READING

hower was elected president and Henry Nagie, secretary. The charter was amended by the court in 1869. The present membership is 990, as follows: Active members, 600; honorary, 200; contributing, 190. The officers are: resident, A. Monroe Moser; vice-president, E. D. Levan; secretary, J. Ed Krouse; assistant secretary, A. Brunner; treasurer, John G. Niethammer.

Junior Fire Company.

The Junior Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 2, was instituted on the 2d of December, 1813, and is the second oldest in the department. It has 450 active and 242 honorary members. Dr. John Marshall was the first president. The first engine house of the company was on North Fifth street,

pany has occupied. It was erected in 1877, and is a commodious, substantial structure. It is the most centrally located engine house in the city, and is in the wealthiest ward—the Seventh.

The records of the company are lost until 1847, the book having either been burned or stolen. In the year mentioned, William Alligaier was elected president, and Henry A. Lantz secretary. The former is still living—a venerable citizen of some 80 years; while the latter, Captain Lantz, was killed in battle in the late Civil War.

John H. Ruth has been president of the company since January, 1880. He also served in 1873 and '74, and was secretary in 1866 and '67. George H. Young is the present secretary, having been elected in 1893. Daniel Levan



Paul Kirshman, Hampden Engine.



John E. Spears, Reading Engine.



John Scull, Schuyikill Engine.



Howard P. Wanner, Junior Engine.



George Kemp, Rainbow Engine.

is the treasurer. The Junior was the first company in Reading to use horses for drawing their apparatus. The company has taken numerous

from the City Hall. The conveniently arranged and well-designed engine house that the company now occupies is on Franklin street, above Sixth,



KEYSTONE HOOK AND LADDER, READING

trips, and is one of the strongest financially in the department.

Reading Fire Company.

The Reading Hose and Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 1, was originally organized as a hose company, and hence was entitled to the use of the numeral 1, as to priority as a hose company in the Reading Fire Department. It was instituted on July 4, 1819, and at present has 200 active

and over 100 honorary members. It has always been centrally located, never further than a square away

within half a square of the Franklin street station of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. It was erected in 1884 by the city, and was furnished by the company.

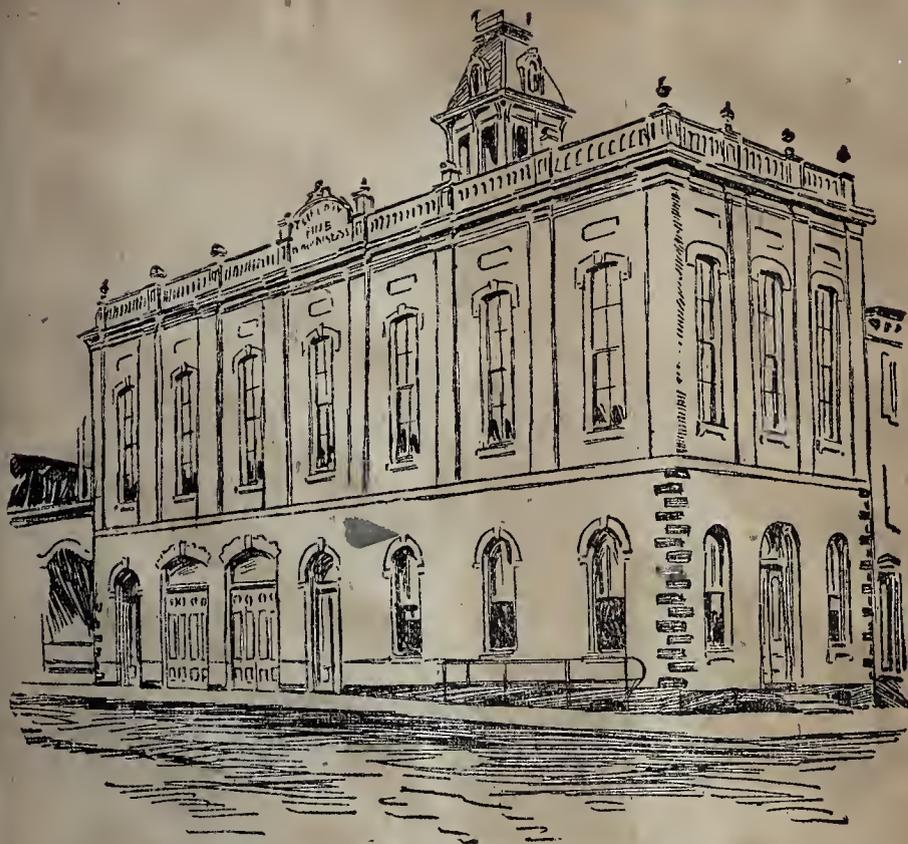
The company has the proud distinction of having purchased the first steam fire engine ever owned in this city. It was manufactured by Lee, Larned & Co., who had it on exhibition at the Berks County Fair in 1860. The purchase price was \$3000. After having done effective service for fifteen years, it was sold in 1875 for scrap iron. In that year the company bought a Silsby engine for \$5500. The company also owns a Silsby hose car-

riage, three horses and an ambulance. It is the only company in Reading that maintains an ambulance for the removal of the sick and injured to the hospitals, a duty which it is called upon to perform every day of the year. The officers of the company are as follows: President, John G. Beck; secretary, Andrew J. Menzel; treasurer, Henry Kieser.

Neversink Fire Company.

The Neversink Fire Company was organized on the 14th of April, 1829, one of its incorporators having been General William H. Keim, who was its

The Friendship Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 4, is one of the strongest organizations in the State, having 1100 active and 360 honorary members. It was organized on the 4th of March, 1848. For many years the building of the company was on Franklin street above Peach, but it now occupies the neat and commodious building diagonally across the street from its old location, being on the northwest corner of Franklin and Peach streets. The company was incorporated on March 20, 1869, after it had been in existence twenty-one years. In that year a large acces-



LIBERTY ENGINE HOUSE, READING.

first treasurer. The company was named after the Neversink Mountain, one of the high peaks which overlooks the city. While not as strong numerically as some of the companies of the Reading Fire Department, it has a fine membership comprising some of the most prominent citizens. It is expected that it will turn out in next Thursday's parade about 175 active members.

In 1883 the city erected for the company the large two-story brick building on the northeast corner of Third and Court streets, which it at present occupies. The building is elegantly appointed and furnished throughout. The company owns three horses, one of which, a noble Percheron, is considered the most beautiful heavy draft animal in the State. The present officers are: President, George P. Moyer; secretary, William G. Edwards; treasurer, Allen H. Gettelman.

Friendship Fire Company.

tion was made to its membership. Friendship Lodge, No. 5, Knights of Pythias, had been organized by members of this company a short time before, and is still in existence, one of the oldest and most prosperous lodges of the order in the State.

The Friendship Fire Company has a splendid outfit of apparatus, comprising a second-class Amoskeag engine, hose carriage, hose wagon and nearly 2000 feet of serviceable hose. The company has four horses, the one used in the hose carriage being acknowledged to be the handsomest fire horse in the city. The officers of the company are: President, Peter F. Nagle; Secretary, John W. Morrison; Treasurer, Charles F. Yeity. Many of the members are employes of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, which accounts for its large roll.

Liberty Fire Company.

This company was organized on the evening of January 21, 1854, in the

old Laurel Street Schoolhouse, where a few persons met for the purpose, and their efforts have resulted in the present splendid organization of 700 members, occupying their own magnificent building, erected at a cost of \$15,000 and fitted out with every convenience of a modern club house. It is divided into engine room, reception hall, parlors, library, smoking and billiard-rooms. The furnishings cost over \$10,000. It is acknowledged to be one of the finest and most completely-appointed fire engine and club houses in the country.

They are still adding to the States. They are still adding to the attractiveness of their engine house, having within the past year made extensive alterations and improvements. The present officers are: President, J. N. Hagenmen; vice-president, William D. Butler; secretary, H. A. Hetrick; treasurer, Albert J. Wartman.

Washington Hook and Ladder.

The Washington Hose and Hook and Ladder Company, No. 2, is the successor of the Washington Hose Company, which was organized on the 17th of September, 1855. It occupied a central location until 1870, when it was moved to the southeastern section of the city. The company's house is on Spruce street, above Tenth, and is one of the best adapted for the purpose in the State. Recently the entire front was remodeled and it was otherwise greatly improved. In 1875 the company procured a hook and ladder truck, when its name was changed. The company now have a second-class hose truck and a hose carriage, with 100 feet of combination hose. Four horses are always kept ready for service. There are 202 active members. The officers are: President, Herman Hermann; vice-president, Edward Price; recording and corresponding secretary, George W. Toole; financial secretary, Adam H. Schroeder; treasurer, Magnus Ott.

Keystone Hook and Ladder.

The Keystone Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1, was instituted January 19, 1856. It has 185 active and 130 honorary members. It occupies a handsome new building on the southeast corner of Second and Penn streets, the only fire engine house on the main thoroughfare of the city. It is surmounted by a tower, in which there is a large bell, upon which alarms are struck. The house is elegantly furnished, the parlor and sitting-room being models of beauty. The equipment of the company is first-class in every respect, and it has the only chemical engine in use in the city. This engine has done very efficient service in extinguishing incipient fires, and the salvage corps connected with it have saved much valuable merchandise. The hook and ladder truck is

one of the largest pattern, made by Buckley & Merritt, of Brooklyn, N. Y. The salvage wagon was built in Reading. The company has six splendid horses, three of which are used in the truck, and the others in the chemical engine, etc. The company re-

sponds to all alarms in the city, and was also recently designated to do duty in West Reading. The officers of the company are: President, Edward Yeager; secretary, W. W. Wunder; treasurer, George W. Miller.

Hampden Fire Company.

The Hampden Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 6, whose commodious engine house is located on the northeast corner of Eleventh and Greenwich streets, was organized on September 7, 1867, by the election of the following officers: President, Major S. E. Ancona; Vice-President, William Border; Secretary, John Clay; Treasurer, Henry A. Hartman. Major and ex-Congressman Ancona is still the president of the company. The company has a second-class Clapp & Jones engine, which is in first-class condition. The hose wagon is capable of carrying 1000 feet of hose. The company owns three splendid cotton hose. Henry A. Hartman, the treasurer of the company, like the president, Major Ancona, held that office since the company was instituted, covering a period of twenty-eight years. The other officers are: Vice-President, John Gallagher; Secretary, Alfred Gunkel. The membership of the company is 210, comprising the best citizens of the northeastern section of the city.

Marion Fire Company.

The Marion Hose and Steam Fire Engine Company is one of the youngest organizations in the Reading Fire Department, having been instituted on the 1st of October, 1881, with sixty-nine charter members. It now has over 200 active members.

The company has a fine equipment with horses that are the pride of the people of the northeastern wards, where it is located. Mr. Marion is in the section of the city which is making the most rapid growth, hundreds of buildings going up in the immediate vicinity every year. It is only two squares from the Reading Silk Mill, which was destroyed by a cyclone in January, 1889, but subsequently rebuilt. The company is officered as follows: President, Jacob Haas; secretary, George J. Trievel; treasurer, William H. Kehley.

Riverside Fire Company.

The Riverside is one of the newest companies in the Reading Fire Department and was instituted on the 27th of January, 1890, for the purpose of affording fire protection for North Reading. Four large industrial plants are located in that section.

The company is equipped with a Silsby engine, has 100 active members and 1500 feet of hose. The officers are: President, George O. Mee; vice-president, Jacob Bennethum; recording secretary, Charles H. Kiesling, corresponding and financial secretary, A. K. Wanner; treasurer, Adam Umbenhauer; trustees, Adam Himmelberger, John S. Weber, John H. Phillips.

Schuylkill Fire Company.

The Schuylkill Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 12, is the youngest

organization in the Reading department, having been incorporated on the 20th of February, 1892.

The company has 172 actual and 3 contributing members. It is equipped with a first-class Ahrens steam fire engine, a hose carriage, with 600 feet of hose, and three fine horses.

The officers are as follows: . President, William F. Moyer, vice-president, Robert Williams; treasurer, Morris R. Keen; recording secretary, Daniel Beidler, Sr.; trustees, Conrad Kaltenbach, Howard E. Ahrens, Charles J. Boyer, Robert B. Harris, George Tobias; delegate to State Firemen's Association, Robert B. Harris.

From, *Chwick Saunders*

Philad Pa

Date, *July 20 1895*

Colonial Churches.

IV.---ST. GABRIEL'S CHURCH, DOUGLASSVILLE, PA.

THE first colony from Sweden to the New World reached the Delaware River in 1636, and settled upon its western shore. Slowly they moved up the banks of its tributary, now the Schuylkill River.



THE OLD ST. GABRIEL'S CHURCH, DOUGLASSVILLE, PA.



THE NEW ST. GABRIEL'S CHURCH, DOUGLASSVILLE, PA

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An old house, once a fort, standing near the Schuylkill bridge at Douglassville, Pa., has a slab upon its gable bearing in quaint figures the inscription "A. D. 1716." Some time before this date the hardy pioneers settled in that neighborhood, soon afterward called Morlatton. The lessons of their mother country were too well engraven upon their hearts to be forgotten; God had preserved them from the perils of a long voyage and protected them in the dangers of a wild country to which they had come to find homes; and so, not unmindful of duty, but influenced by a desire to preserve among themselves and their posterity those principles of religion in which they had been instructed in their native land, they erected churches at various points for the public administration of God's Word." The year 1736 witnessed the completion of a substantial log church in this neighborhood, called St. Gabriel's Church, Morlatton (probably of Indian-derivation). This did service for sixty-five years when the stone building now standing, and used for Sunday school and parish purposes, was built. A large cemetery surrounds the old church. The tombstones are quaint and interesting, marking the resting-place of many of the original settlers. Their inscriptions are in Swedish and German as well as in English. Upon the footstone of one grave there are a skull, an hour glass, and cross-bones, with "Remember Death" placed under them. The headstone tells us that "Here lyeth Andrew Robeson, who died 14, 1880, ground was broken for the erection of a new church on a lot of ground purchased and donated by Mr. M. H. Meschert, the corner-stone being laid October 19 of the same year. It is a beautiful stone church of goodly dimensions, designed by the then supervising architect of the United States, Mr. James H. Windrim. Divine service was first held in the new edifice on Wednesday, January 23, 1884. Owing to the large and generous assistance rendered by Mr. John H. Krause, of Philadelphia, the total indebtedness of the parish was liquidated and the church consecrated Thursday, December 8, 1887, the Bishop of the Diocese, Right Rev. M. A. De Wolfe Howe, D.D., being the consecrator. The sermon on the occasion was preached by Rev. C. K. Nelson, rector of the Church of the Nativity, South Bethlehem, Pa., now Bishop of Georgia. The parish also has an endowment of \$12,000, a well-selected public library (in addition to that of the Sunday school) consisting of 1,000 volumes, and a public reading-room supplied with the current periodicals, etc.

From, *Herald*

Palmyra Pa

Date, *Aug 21 / 96*

WELL PRESERVED RELICS.

How a Palmyra Soldier came to Enlist to Save the Union.

Geo. B. Brunner, showed the HERALD man some very interesting reminiscences of the rebellion the other day, and they are highly prized by the veteran who, although following a peaceful avocation was actively engaged in the struggle to preserve the Union. The first relic shown us was a despatch conveying news of the death of his step-brother who had been killed in an engagement, and read as follows:

BERMUDA HUNDRED, Oct. 10, 1864.

Mr. Brunner :

SINKING SPRING, Berks Co.

Your son John Hare, was killed on the seventh (7th) send some person for his body. His money is here, ninety-three 93 dollars, 22nd Pa.

E. RUTH,
Co. H. 5th Pa. Cav.

A letter dated a few days later contains the full particulars of the death of this young patriot. It was in a cavalry charge that he was shot through the body and fell, his comrades tried to carry him from the field but were pressed so closely by the rebels, they had to retreat and leave him to his fate. The last words he spoke to his comrades was to the effect that they should secure his money and send home to his parents, his money he carried in his boot. They had succeeded in removing one of his boots when the rebels charged on them and they were forced to decamp. Several of his comrades after dark went in search of his body but could not find him. Early the next morning the ground having been taken by the Union troops, his companions made another search and found him but as

his comrade so graphically describes in his letter "he was dead, but it he died from his wounds or was murdered by the rebels, I am unable to say." They found the other boot still on him and after removing it found his money which was forwarded to his home. We saw the identical pocket book and in it are well preserved \$100, \$50, \$5 and other smaller confederate notes. When the news of his death was confirmed, Geo. B. who was quite a young man at this time resolved to take his place, so bidding his parents good bye, bravely shouldered the musket and marched to the battlefield. He served to the close of the war and is now engaged in the carriage manufacturing business in this place. George has not exactly "beat his sword into a plow share, or his spear into a pruning hook," but he has done the next thing to it, his bayonet he has made into a screw driver and almost every day he handles it yet in the peaceful avocation of his trade, although no doubt his thoughts often turn to the time when he handled that weapon in the defence of the Union. There are other relics in the hands of Mr. Brunner which have an interesting history, which he may well feel proud to possess, and serves to link the dark past with the present.

From, *Lewis*

Reading Pa

Date, *11/12/96*

FIFTY-SIX YEARS AGO.

READING MILITARY COMPANIES AND
THE PAOLI ENCAMPMENT.

The Acceptances of the Commanding Officers of the Orders Issued by Adjutant General Diller for the Encampment in 1840.

In looking over a lot of old papers a

day or two ago Junus F. Sachse, of Philadelphia, treasurer of the Pennsylvania German Society, found a package of letters from this city relating, with a single exception, to the military encampment held at Paoli, in September, 1840. This encampment proved so great a success, by reviving the military spirit, that similar camps were organized at different places in Eastern Pennsylvania for several years after, viz: Pottstown in 1841, and Reading, "Camp Kosciusko," in 1842.

Under date of July 20, 1840, Adam Diller, then Adjutant General of the Pennsylvania Militia, issued the following circular from Lancaster, Pa.:

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
LANCASTER, July 20, 1840.

To the Officers and Volunteers of the _____:
GENTLEMEN: You are respectfully invited to Encamp on the PAOLI Battle Ground, in Chester County, on the 20th day of September next, with a large number of Volunteers, from different parts of the State, who intend Encamping for several days in commemoration of our Revolutionary Fore-Fathers, who were massacred on that place.

The 13th Section of the Militia law of 1838, provides pay for camp duty, on the certificate of the Adjutant General; it will, however, be understood that it is only in case of Regimental, or Battalion Encampment: Therefore those Companies, that wish to receive the pay, to which they are entitled by law, when properly organized, will be temporarily organized for the time of the encampment, into Regiments or Battalions; which in connection with the resolution of the Board of Canal Commissioners providing, that volunteers shall proceed over the Public Works free of Toll, will render the Encampment less expensive, than otherwise would be. The tents and Marquees I can have delivered on the Ground, from the Philadelphia Arsenal.

A large Encampment of Volunteers, upon strict military principles, with an eye to economy, would be the means of imparting military information of a substantial nature and give impetus to the Volunteer corps in the different sections of the State; those are my reasons for being interested on this occasion.

The order of Encampment will, I suppose, be regulated by the Officers and Volunteers of Chester county, who propose repeating their annual Encampment at that place.

Please inform me, as soon as possible, whether or not you will attend; with the number of Men, and whether in Company, Battalion or Regiment—the 20th being on Sunday, it will be necessary that the assembling take place on Saturday the 19th. Upon the receipt of your answer, another communication will be made to you, in the meanwhile, I will consult with the Officers who reside in the neighborhood of the place of the Encampment.

(By Request,)

Very respectfully,

ADAM DILLER,
Adjutant General, P. M.

The Harrison-Van Buren Presidential campaign was at fever heat at that time, and the circular was looked upon as "a sly and adroit move made by 'the powers that be' to prepare the mind of the people for submission to the *Standing Army* received and sheltered the fleeing Garibaldi after his defeat in 1849, and of their moral character when in 1872 they refused to allow to be established amongst them those gambling institutions which had been made illegal elsewhere in Europe. In the same year some difficulty was experienced with Italy on account of the harboring of

criminals by San Marino, but this trouble was settled amicably. There now exists between the two countries an arrangement by which San Marino is to have no printing presses within its borders, all of its printing being done in Italy. The reason for this is to avoid the granting of copyrights, but more especially to prevent the spread of dangerous political doctrines.

Though theoretically a republic, the government is in reality an oligarchy, being in the hands of a few, while the masses have but little voice in political affairs. This method appears to answer very well in a small state where there are no wealthy families in the ruling class, or any merchant princes to arouse the envy of their less fortunate companions. Power is vested in a Great Council of sixty members, composed equally of the three classes of nobles, artisans and farmers. The title of Councilor is hereditary in families, so that when a family becomes extinct the remaining fifty-nine meet and select some other to take its place. From these is chosen the Council of twelve, which has control more directly over agriculture and domestic industries, and who, with the assistance of two foreign lawyers, form a Supreme Court. The executive is in the hands of two Captains-Regent, one a noble, the other an agriculturist, elected by the Great Council and holding office during a term of six months. Revenue is raised by voluntary offerings, and when the public coffer becomes depleted a drummer is sent around to invite contributions. There is an army of nine hundred and fifty men and thirty-eight officers, but it is a militia army and consequently the expenses of its maintenance amount to a mere trifle. Consuls at Paris and Montevideo attend to the foreign trade of the country, which consists principally of agricultural products, cattle, wine and silk. San Marino has its own postal system, the beautiful stamps being much sought after by collectors, its own coinage and public schools, which are modeled after those of Italy.

The capital city of the republic, likewise called San Marino, is situated upon the summit of Mount Titanus, the high peak before mentioned, and from which can be seen the sun as it rises over the Illyrian Alps. It is an old town, surrounded by walls and towers, and the only approach to it is by one narrow, winding road, easy of defence. The streets are badly paved, and the houses built of undressed stone, are tall and gloomy, but quite picturesque. There are several public buildings, including a palace, a museum, a town hall and a small theatre. The town hall is of recent construction and is very tastefully designed, while the museum contains a cabinet of rare and beautiful medals. There are hospitals for the sick, a number of convents, and

ches, in one of which the bones of Marinus are preserved. The Borgo di San Marino is the commercial quarter, and above it towers the Capitol, the Rocca, over which on high holidays waves the blue and white national flag. In the largest square is a magnificent marble statue of Liberty, the gift of an English lady, in reward for which she received the title of duchess of Acquaviva. This little republic creates nobles who rank with the highest aristocracy of Italy, and confers an order of chivalry, the Order of San Marino.

There are three reasons given as to why San Marino has been able to exist so long, and these are: that it has kept out of debt, has never been greedy for extension of territory, and has been too poor to invite the attacks of more powerful States. A distinguished American writer in speaking of San Marino, said "That if he had to be an Italian he should prefer to be a San Marinese."

CHARLES GRIFFITH HOFFMAN.

From, *Recald*
Reading Pa
Date, *Oct 11. 1897*

SOME BITS OF LOCAL HISTORY READING'S EARLY DAYS

Suggestions That Will Be of Value to Members of the Ses- qui-centennial Committee.

Mr. John D. Mishler, in his plan to the Board of Trade for the celebration of the sesqui-centennial of the founding of Reading, asked for suggestions from the public.

As a citizen of Reading I herewith suggest a development of Mr. Mishler's plan, which may bring forth more interest and enthusiasm in the event of June, 1898.

There is no time to be lost in this matter. As a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Cleveland, we were for two years preparing for the week's celebration in 1896 of the centennial of Cleveland. In our short time of eight

months the Board of Trade, through its committees, will have much to do to bring forth a mature result. The press should spread broadcast the story of Reading's celebration, for there are numerous descendants of Reading settlers in other states, notably in Ohio, who would gladly visit us.

CHURCHES AND HOSPITALS.

First. Prominent among the churches the Methodist should take an active part, and on this occasion celebrate the 126th anniversary of the establishment of Methodism in Reading in 1772. The Rev. Dr. Carrow, in a paper on "Methodism in Pennsylvania," read before the Pennsylvania Historical Society on the 12th of January, 1885, said: "Entering this commonwealth at the chief point (Philadelphia) in 1768, by the end of the century Methodism had established itself in most of the principal towns: Reading, 1772; York, 1781; Wilkes-Barre, 1788, etc."

Next, the hospitals should celebrate in honor of their brethren of the Revolution who, for seven months in Reading, struggled with the wounded and dying troops both of the line and the militia. The general hospital was established here in 1778. In the Moravian archives at Bethlehem the church diary shows this fact recorded as follows:

"April 8, 1778, an order by express from Dr. Bond was received removing the hospitals here (Bethlehem) to Reading.

"April 14. Today completed the removal of the hospitals."

WOMEN OF THE REVOLUTION.

The women of our town should also take part, for they held a conspicuous position in the early history of Reading, not only on account of their patriotism, but they were noted for their beauty and sociability. They not only knit stockings and provided supplies for the relief of the cold and starving Continentals in the field, but contributed to the polite entertainment of numerous officers of the forces and patriotic persons who during the whole war, at different times, made Reading their headquarters. Alexander Graydon, who resided in Reading with his mother during the greater part of the Revolutionary period, often refers to the patriotism and hospitality of the town. In his memoirs published in Harrisburg in 1811, in part he says: "The ensuing winter in Reading, 1777-1778, was gay and agreeable notwithstanding that the enemy were in possession of the metropolis (Philadelphia). Besides the families established in that place, it was seldom without a number of visitors, gentlemen of the army and others. Hence, cards, sieghing parties, balls, etc., were freely indulged in."

In extracts from the letter books of Lieut. Enos Reeves, of the Pennsylvania

Line, published by the Pennsylvania Historical Society, Lieut. Reeves writes:

A DREAM IN PINK SILK.

Reading, Pa., September, 1781.—On Monday last we performed the "Revenge" again with the "Lying Valet" for a farce. Our house was much crowded; a number of people that had tickets begged to be admitted. We had the satisfaction to hear that every character in the tragedy was better supported than the last evening. Leonora made a brilliant appearance this evening, dressed in a pink silk with an extraordinary head-dress. We broke up about 1 o'clock and waited on the ladies of our acquaintance home in dress."

Reading, Pa., September, 1781.—Last evening the officers of the garrison at this place had a ball and entertainment to which all the ladies and gentlemen of the town were invited. The ball was opened about 7 o'clock with a minuett. We then proceeded to country dances, and spent the evening. About 11 o'clock adjourned to supper. Our wines were tolerable, the music good. After supper our dances were chiefly cotillions and concluded the evening in a very agreeable manner about 2 o'clock in the morning, and waited on the ladies home. This day has been spent very agreeably according to custom in waiting on the ladies. I drank tea this afternoon with the agreeable Miss Nelly Scull, her mother and sister."

Reading, Pa., Saturday, September, 1781.—On Wednesday evening last an express arrived from Gen. St. Clair to march all the troops from this place to the city of Philadelphia with all expedition. Our detachment marched off yesterday morning for Philadelphia. I have remained behind, having a horse, and shall set off this day. The town looks distressed since the departure of the troops; no drums beating in the morning or evening, nor crowd of men parading up and down the streets, nor gay officers gallanting the gayer ladies to and fro. The ladies look disconsolate and confess their loss. I am just going to take my leave and to horse and away to Philadelphia."

OUR POLITE LADIES.

Lieut. Reeves wrote in October, 1781, from Philadelphia: "I cannot quit Reading without doing this justice to the ladies of it, that they are exceedingly sociable and very polite. On the evening before the party marched on half an hour's notice, all the young ladies of the place were assembled to a dance that a few of us had at Mrs. Whitehead's. As there were not ladies sufficient for partners for all the officers, we invited as many as could be supplied, and had a genteel little family hop, as we termed it that no one could take offense, but in fact we had more satisfaction and as many couples on the floor as at the large assembly. The company broke up at one o'clock in the morning,

when each waited on his partner home and then retired each to his own quarters."

Reeves' battalion having been ordered to the south, we find that the Reading ladies had so subdued him that it took him a long time before he could get rid of them, and as far down south as Halifax, North Carolina, we find him in a reverie on his horse on the 7th of January, 1782, where he writes: "I now am carried to Reading, and ranging through the different habitations of my well-known acquaintances."

I have a number of invitations to balls, dances and other entertainments written on the blank backs of playing cards, as was the custom in those olden days. John Witman's, Henry Boyer's, Mrs. Woods', Mrs. J. Hartman's and "The Leopard Inn" seem to have been the favorite inns. I hope when the Berks County Museum is installed on Penn Common to deposit there these, as well as other relics of local interest.

Lastly: The people generally should aid in this celebration. They will not have another opportunity until the bicentennial of 1948. By that time many of us will be gathered to our fathers. The histrionic part of these processions is always most interesting. We could put Ben Franklin on a "float" with Gov. James Hamilton and Conrad Weiser, who figured with these people. They made Reading their headquarters during the Indian troubles of 1756.

In the Moravian Church diary, Bethlehem, on Jan. 2, 1756, is recorded: "An express was sent early in the morning to the commissioners at Reading."

"Jan. 4, 1756. The express returned from Reading with a letter from the Governor that he would again hold Gnaden-Hutten and cover the frontiers."

"Jan. 7, 1756. Benjamin Franklin, one of the commissioners, arrived here (Bethlehem) from Reading."

WHERE MIFFLIN LIVED.

Then could come in the procession the descendants of the pioneers with the Sons of the Revolution and other patriotic societies. Here would be an opportunity to "float" Washington, Mifflin, St. Clair, Stirling and other generals of the Revolutionary War, who passed some time in Reading during that period, all but Washington, who came here later. Also statesmen, John Hancock, Samuel Adams, recorded as having been in Reading, possibly their way from York, Pa., after the Congress adjourned on their way to the East. Thomas Mifflin, general of the Revolution and first Governor elected for this Commonwealth under the Constitution of 1790, lived for years at his farm, "Angelica," now the County Home near Reading. It was here, according to the diary of Jacob Hintzheimer, that on Nov. 5, 1783, Mifflin was notified of his having been appointed

President of Congress. The Directors of the Poor should mark this fact with a metal tablet on one of the buildings. Gen. St. Clair and Lord Stirling were both in Reading, as their correspondence shows. The latter, in an interesting letter to Gen. Washington, the Commander-in-Chief, dated Reading, Nov. 3, 1777, describes the efficient ferries here and the means of defence.

WHEN WASHINGTON CAME.

Washington was here in 1794, when, as President of the United States, he went through to Carlisle during the whiskey insurrection of Western Pennsylvania. His diary says:

"Wednesday, Oct. 1, 1794.

"Reading, Pa.—Left the 'Trap' and breakfasted at Pottsgrove, 11 miles. We reached Reading to dinner, 19 miles further, where we found several detachments of infantry and cavalry preparing for the march to Carlisle."

The late Charles Evans, founder of the Charles Evans Cemetery Company, who died in 1847, aged nearly 80 years, was the last surviving member of one of these companies, Washington's body-guard, under Capt. Keim, afterwards the Reading Artillerists. The next day the President started up the Lebanon Valley. He stopped at Wood's Inn, now the Farmers' Bank building. This fact should also be recorded on a metal tablet on the building. Here he had a reception on Wednesday evening, Nov. 3. Justice of the Peace Frederick Heller, grandfather of Captain Frederick P. Heller, of this city, was deputed to introduce the people to Washington.

CONWAY CABAL HERE.

Gen. Thomas Conway, whose duties as Inspector General of the Army, received from Congress, brought him to Reading. His headquarters were at the Leopard Inn, which formerly stood on the south side of Penn street between 10th and 11th, on properties now owned by Samuel Diehl Dibert and Mrs. Louisa Sallade. It was here Conway held his cabal to depose Washington from Commander-in-Chief. The Conway cabal was not held, as has been stated, in the private one-story, tiled-roofed house on the south side of Penn street above 8th. The proof of it is not necessary to cite here. Graydon says: "There was to all appearances a cabal forming (in Reading) for his (Washington's) deposition. The well-known apostrophe of Conway to America, importing 'that heaven had passed a decree in her favor, or her ruin, must long before have ensued from the imbecility of her military counsels,' was at this time familiar at Reading, and I heard him (Conway) myself, when he was on a visit to that place (Reading) express himself to the effect," etc.

This site of the Leopard Inn should be marked by a metal tablet. Mr. Dibert has a well-known Revolutionary pedigree in old Bedford County and

takes a great interest in matters pertaining thereto. In the cellar where stood the old inn is a well 52 feet deep, containing 22 feet of water. Mr. Dibert explored this old well and found many relics of the early days.

THE HESSIAN CAMP.

The site of the Hessian Camp should be marked. There were a number of prisoners in Reading. According to Graydon: "It was the station assigned to a number of prisoners, both British and German, as well as of the principal Scotch royalists, that had been subdued and taken in North Carolina." In the history of the life and services of Capt. Samuel Dewees, a soldier of the Revolution, published in Baltimore in 1844, there is an account of how the authorities were obliged to change the prisoners' camp from Poplar Neck on account of the Tories running off the prisoners to another site on the side of Mount Penn.

It may not be inappropriate to quote from this writer how Washington was buried in Reading in December, 1799: "Two companies of volunteers, commanded by Capt. Keim, were ordered out. The procession was fully a mile long. It moved to a large church in Reading (doubtless Trinity E. L. Church), where the military, civil officers, masons and citizens entered. A funeral oration was delivered (there were 22 clergymen present), after which the procession moved through some of the principal streets of Reading and then to a graveyard, where the coffin was deposited with military honors in the tomb with much solemnity."

Let us try to disinter Washington and imbibe some of his zeal and perseverance in the cause we have in hand.

HENRY M. KEIM.

From, *Press*

Philistia pen

Sep 26 1897
Date, *Oct 10 1897*

FOREFATHERS' DAY *COMMEMORATED.

Services in Honor of Schwenk-
felder Fathers' Landing
Held at Pennsburg.

SOME EXCELLENT ADDRESSES

Life and Character of the Founder of the
Order Fully Discussed by Eminent
Authorities—Dr. Hartranft's
Address.

Special Despatch to "The Press."

Pennsburg, Sept. 25.—The one hundred and sixty-third anniversary of the landing and Day of Thanksgiving of the Schwenkfeld Fathers was appropriately celebrated in the Washington meeting house, near Clayton, on Friday. Rev. William S. Anders, of Fairview, opened the exercises with remarks calling attention to the importance of the day and reminding the audience that the day was one to recall the tears and suffering of the fathers. After prayer and singing of hymns, Rev. Anders preached the memorial sermon, announcing his text, I Sam., vii, 12: "Hitherto has the Lord helped us."

THE SERMON.

The minister said:—

"The Jewish people were greatly oppressed at this time. Samuel called them to repentance and promised relief. They repented, relief came, and a stone was erected to commemorate the event. We as a church could also erect a memorial stone with like inscription: 'Ebenezer, hitherto has the Lord helped us.' The Lord has done much for us of which we should be mindful.

"This day reminds us of the history of Caspar Schwenkfeld and his followers. This celebrated Reformer was born in Liegnitz, Silesia, 1490, and died in 1561. He was one of the greatest men of his day and generation. He preached the gospel, reproved people of their sins, but never tried to found a church or denomination of his own, although he prepared the way for it. His life and teaching drew many to accept his views. He himself was subjected to great persecutions, but he always lived his motto: 'Nil triste Christo recepto.'" At one time there were many places where nearly all the people accepted the views of Schwenkfeld, but persecution and oppression reduced the numbers.

"Time does not permit us to relate the dire trials to which these adherents to the views of Schwenkfeld were subjected. They were put in prison, placed in battle where danger was greatest,

put in galley ships to toil with slave.

"Oppression in its worst form was brought on these people, and even the dead were not allowed Christian burial. The hand of oppression at last pressed so heavily that the Schwenkfelders fled by night to Saxony in 1726, leaving their homes, their houses, their cattle, their all to their oppressors.

"They found refuge under Count Linzendorf from 1726-33, when they were not allowed to remain any longer, and started for the asylum that William Penn had established, arriving at Philadelphia September 22, 1734. The 24th of September was observed as a day of thanksgiving, and has been observed as such ever since. We cannot value our freedom too highly. We owe a debt of gratitude for what God did for our fathers. The remembrance of the past ought to give us hope for the future."

This address was followed by the singing of a hymn and remarks by Rev. G. K. Meschter Schwenkfeld, minister, residing at Worcester, Pa., and Jonas Y. Schultz, of Quakertown, editor of the "Heavenly Manna," and adjournment was taken for lunch.

DR. HARTRANFT'S ADDRESS.

After reassembling the services were opened by singing, and prayer by Dr. Hartranft, president of the Hartford Theological Seminary, Hartford, Conn. The Doctor took up the study of Caspar Schwenkfeld in 1883, and is beyond doubt the best informed man on this subject that is living to-day.

In his address he said:—

"You have just sung a hymn used by the Congregationalists on their memorial days, and I hope the day may come when they will sing a Schwenkfeld hymn by way of reciprocal expression of kinship. I opine we do not value highly enough the importance of the spirit that named Caspar Schwenkfeld. The day is significant of the importance of the man. The fathers came for liberty.

"I would dispute the relative importance of the Gedaeltwils Tag as compared with Forefather's Day commemorative of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers. I would place their platform equally high and in many respects regard this higher and more important. We are to consider one of the greatest personalities the world has ever produced in Caspar Schwenkfeld. I make him the peer of the foremost reformer of the Reformation period.

"Intellectually he was a great man. As a layman he studied Greek in order that he might study the New Testament more intelligently. In like manner he studied the Hebrew. He studied the Church Fathers, and I do not know another reformer who had such a profound knowledge of patriotic literature as he. He was a thorough believer in education, and urged his prince to found the University of Liequitz to promulgate his views; but God gave him a wider school than the university.

"Socially, Schwenkfeld stood very high by birth and marriage. He was used to refined society and acquainted with the chief men of his time, a man moulded in the school of the world. Schwenkfeld was a man of colossal industry, and Martin Luther is his only parallel in this respect. His great toil and labor made him a master mind.

"Spirituality was the very essence of Caspar Schwenkfeld. He made the Bible only a vehicle for the conveyance of thought and life from the Divine to the human. Other reformers erected Bibliolatry and worshiped the letter of the scriptures, notably Luther, in the second stage of his history. He advocates the

Precedence of the State, the use of a religious conscience in politics, and there are many notable instances to-day where people argue that we can not follow conscience in politics, although reformers of the day, are trying to lead us to that position.

"Caspar Schwenkfeld advocated freedom. His sense of accountability to God called for freedom. If I am accountable I must be free. No writer of the Reformation so illustrated the doctrine of personal freedom.

"He believed in equality and affiliated with the poor, although born of a princely house. He believed in progress, the education of the human race toward high ideals, the goal being that man might become partaker of the divine nature. If this can not be the case there is retrogression.

"What was the result as Schwenkfeld projected these thoughts? A clash with the existing condition of things, a politico-religious persecution broke out. He lived an exile from 1529 to 1561 the time of his death. We say the day of persecution is past, and yet there are to-day hundreds in the priestly craft who throw stones at Caspar Schwenkfeld. We, as a body of believers, are the custodians of a great body of truths. Are we worthy of the trust?

JUDGE HEYDRICK'S TALK.

Ex-Judge Heydrick, of Franklin, said:—

"I have come far to celebrate with you this day—over 500 miles—and can therefore say, 'I have done my duty.' You do well to meet and consider the deeds of faith of our ancestors. We are unmindful of the debts we owe them. The degradation of woman as seen to-day in the home of our ancestors is very pitiful and the escape from it by itself would be sufficient ground for gratitude on a day like this, but we have other and many reasons for being grateful.

"Sunday schools were founded by the Schwenkfelders fifty years before Robert Rorher was heard from. If our legislators of Pennsylvania would study a good public school system let them consult the school system established by the Schwenkfelders in 1762. Were our schools conducted by the system advocated by them we would get better results from our public school system."

PAPERS AND ADDRESSES.

Prof. H. W. Kriebel, of Perkiomen Seminary, read a paper on the "Charity Funds" of the Schwenkfelder Church, and showed that this church has always cared for its poor without recourse to the aid of other charitable institutions of the laws of the State.

Dr. Learned, of the University of Pennsylvania, and Howard M. Jenkins, editor of the "Friends' Intelligencer," also addressed the meeting.

Rev. O. S. Kriebel, the minister of the church in which the exercises were held, brought the meeting to a close by a few fitting and stirring remarks, calling the attention of the audience to the importance of the past as related to the present.

CONRAD WEISER HERO AND PATRIOT

POSTERITY WILL NOT FORGET HIS SERVICES, SAID WASHINGTON.

RELIGIOUS AND OF BROAD CHARACTER

A Cherished Relic in the Archives of the Pennsylvania Historical Society—Conrad Weiser, the Man, the Teacher, the Interpreter, the Friend of the Red Man and His Unceasing Work for the Country of His Adoption—His Grave Near Wormelsdorf—His Many and Well Known Descendants.

Special Correspondence of THE TIMES.

READING, December 26.

About half a mile from Wormelsdorf, a town not far from the city of Reading, is the unostentatious grave of a great man. A single rough-hewn sandstone marks the spot and records the fact that Conrad Weiser was buried there in 1760. The place at that time was the private burying ground of a very prominent figure in colonial history and was a part of his vast possessions, which numbered about a thousand acres.

The obscure grave, with its almost obliterated epitaph, is in striking contrast to the importance of its occupant, for Conrad Weiser rendered such services to the government as have graven his name on the colonial records of his time with a frequency almost unique and in a manner so flattering to his character and ability as to be cause for surprise that no memorial has commemorated his heroic deeds and signal ability.

Conrad Weiser was a German refugee to this country in the beginning of the eighteenth century. He was the pioneer of the Pennsylvania Germans and led a colony of sixty families from Schoharie, New York, to the eastern part of Pennsylvania in 1729, and as head of this colony constituted himself its protector and the guardian of its interests. He possessed, to a remarkable degree, the qualities that marked the early German settlers here—indomitable energy, perseverance, industry and integrity. But he was pre-eminently a diplomatist, adapted by nature and a peculiar education to perform the delicate task of mediating between the Indians and the provincial government.

From his comfortable possessions it can be inferred that the primal object in settling in the new country—that of agriculture—was pursued with marked success. Then the work of defending the settlers in his vicinity from the perpetual incursions of the Indians would appear to have been enough in itself to engross him. But these were the side issues, and his great work was in serving his adopted country as Indian agent, interpreter and soldier.

A Blessing in Disguise.

The man who was thus prominent in the old colonial days was launched into his special field of usefulness by the blessing in disguise of a stepmother. But for the ad-

From, *Louis*

Phila Pa

Date, *Jan 2. 1898*

vent of this traditionally unpopular item into the Weiser household the stepson would not have been driven to the strange school which alone fitted him for his life's work. It is difficult to conceive a man of affairs such as Conrad Weiser became, enduring in early manhood the ignominious treatment of being held captive by his father and tied with a rope to prevent his escape from Ills. which he had and did not like, to others which had the decided advantage of being unknown. In this disaffected state his father allowed him to go to the habitation of an Indian chief whom he knew and trusted, Conrad acquiescing in the plan for the reason just stated. Quaynant, the chief who solicited this from Conrad's father, had a fondness for the lad and desired to adopt him. But the unnatural arrangement was of only eight months' duration, in which period Conrad endured every conceivable hardship from exposure and hunger and fear. He was insufficiently clothed, and food was scarce, and when the Indians became intoxicated there was no safety from their murderous instincts except in hiding.

Nevertheless, the training was a valuable one and during his stay of eight months with them he acquired their language and a knowledge of their character and habits, and became equipped as no other man of his time for the labors which he afterward so faithfully discharged. On his return to such civilization as Schoharie then represented he made use of his training and his innate bent for diplomacy in an amateur way, settling the many disputes that arose between the Indians and his neighbors whom they harassed, so that when he was employed by the provincial government to mediate in important matters he was not without practical experience in the art of diplomacy. His brief training in a severe school with its immediate adaptation to a stern necessity, prepared him to serve as peacemaker between Indians and white settlers until the end of his life.

Weiser and the Indians.

The importance of this office can scarcely be estimated in these later days of security when the Indian has been removed to such a comfortable distance from our vicinity, but the Indian of that day was a different affair and had to be reckoned with at almost every turn. Weiser was the only man acceptable to them. They fancied that his dwelling among them had allied him to their interests and they never failed to reiterate their claim to him, though admitting that those of his own people were equal. A Delaware chief said on a state occasion: "We esteem our present interpreter to be such a person, equally faithful in the interpretation of whatever is said to him by either of us; equally allied to both. He is of our nation and a member of our council, as well as yours. When we adopted him we divided him into two equal parts—one-half we kept for ourselves and one-half we kept for you."

Under this agreeable delusion which they never wearied in repeating—that Conrad Weiser was half theirs and half ours—they were almost always manageable in hands. At the request of Shikellamy, the Indian agent of the Six Nations, residing at Shamokin, Weiser accompanied him to Philadelphia as interpreter and was thus brought into public notice. He was rewarded for his volunteer services on this occasion and not again permitted to withdraw from active duty until his death. From 1732 he was the officially recognized interpreter of Pennsyl-

vanla. By the treaty with the Indians that date "Conrad Weiser and Shikellamy, were appointed fit and proper persons to go between the Six Nations and this government, and to be employed in all transactions with one another; whose bodies the Indians say were to be equally divided between them and us, we to have one-half and they the other!"

The provinces of Virginia, Maryland and New York also found Weiser's services necessary and employed him in the same capacity. On the side of the Indians he was engaged by every tribe and nation and there was no negotiation of importance transacted without him. Belts of wampum, the most solemn of Indian instruments, and pipes of peace, their flags of truce, were not more frequently obtruded in their covenants than the cherished name of the man whom they trusted to speak their words—"not his own." He negotiated every treaty between Indians and white men from 1732 until the French and Indian war, his signature, in many instances, in his Indian name of Tarachawagon as well as his English (?) one, being an indispensable touch from the Indian point of view.

Unconscious Humor.

Highly as the Indians valued the two-fold training of their trusted interpreter they did not see the force of adopting it, nor could they be prevailed upon to try the experiment with their own children. A messenger from the Governor of Virginia, reminding them of the necessity of rearing a substitute for Weiser, proposed to take several Indian children to Virginia and educate them like white people. The honor was declined. Again, when Washington was President of the United States, it being necessary to conciliate the Chipewa tribe in the interest of the lucrative fur trade, he offered on the part of the United States "to take two or three of the sons of their chiefs and educate them in our colleges." The reply is unanswerable. "They were of the opinion that it would render them effeminate to be educated in our schools, as it would totally disqualify them to hunt or pursue the war; but in return for the civility of their Chief Washington they would, if he would send the sons of his men among them, educate them to pursue the chase for several days without eating; and to go without clothing in extremely cold weather and in frosty nights to lie on the ground without covering and every other thing requisite to make them Indians and brave men."

The Indians appear to have been possessed of an unconscious humor. Dr. Franklin tells a story in which Weiser, as usual, figures. He was questioned by a chief as to the cause of the custom among his people of closing their shops once in seven days and assembling in the "great house." Weiser explained that the people went there to be taught good things. But this did not seem convincing to the chief, who replied that Conrad must be mistaken, for "if they met so often to learn good things they would certainly have learned some before this time."

A Profoundly Religious Man.

Weiser's characteristic broadness was displayed in everything. He was a profoundly religious man and originally a Lutheran, yet he worked with zeal in the cause of the Moravians. He acted as interpreter to the celebrated Count Zinzendorf as he preached to the Indians, spent three months in imparting his knowledge of the Mohawk tongue to three Moravian missionaries and above

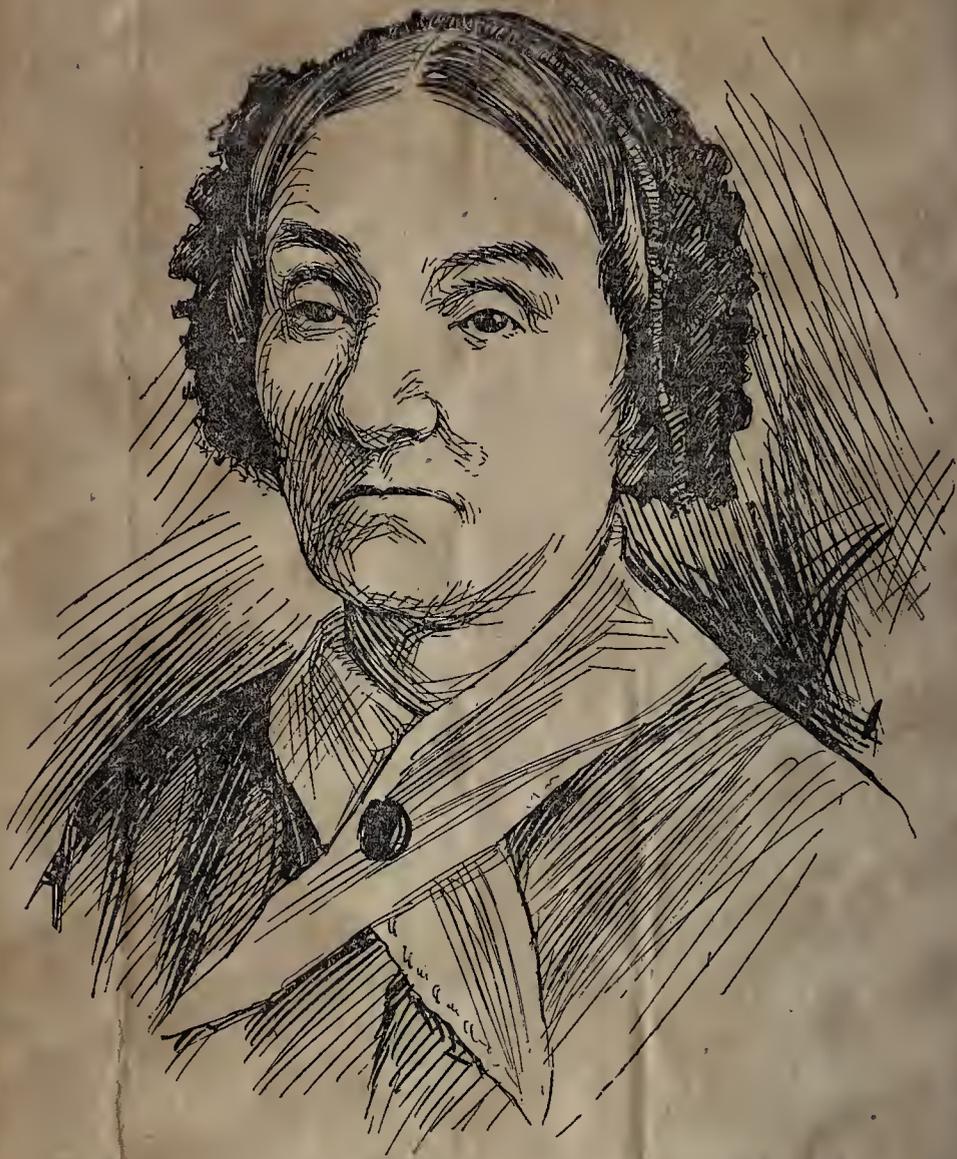
all in importance to them in their missionary work gave the brethren the benefit of his wisdom in sage counsel.

His work as a public officer would seem to have kept him constantly employed, yet his broad acres prove him to have cultivated these assiduously. Often, scarcely arrived at his home near Womelsdorf after the arduous labors of a mission to a distant point, he would receive a command to start again "by express," which in those days implied

journey and the cold and heat suffered during its progress, sat down under a tree and expected to die, when the same Indian exhorted him to have courage, saying "evil days are better than good days, for when we suffer we do not sin." Conrad was ashamed of his weakness and traveled on as best he could to the end of his long journey.

Humanity Touchingly Exhibited.

Weiser did, however, have some domestic life and he became a Justice of the Peace



MRS. DANIEL WOLFF

making his way over an untraveled road, breaking through thickets as he went, with all the dangers that such a journey would incur. On one of these expeditions through the Wyoming Valley in company with several Indians who were going to attend the same important council they had to make their way over the snow-clad hills with the greatest difficulty. One poor Indian lost his footing and escaped being plucked over a high precipice by catching in a bush. Conrad afterwards showed him how narrow his escape had been. After a little longer travel Weiser, exhausted from the fatigue of the

for his district, an office held by his father and grandfather in the old country. He discharged its duties with his customary dispassionate zeal. In complaining of a particular family that caused him much trouble he said they were "worse than any Indian or Frenchman." Whatever the propensities of Indian or Frenchman neither could have displayed greater vindictiveness than this family, who barred Weiser's windows and doorways with the intention of making escape impossible and set fire to his house.

His humanity was touchingly exhibited when his old friend, Shikellamy, was in distress. The Indian's entire family was ill

with fever, several had died and he himself had almost succumbed when Weiser came to his relief. He gave his own personal assistance, administering medicines under a physician's advice, supplying food, and in addition recommended to the State authorities that they send further aid to their former friend.

His public career was without reproach. With his name are always found associated complimentary allusion and glowing tribute to his integrity and merit. His vocation, however, exposed him to calumnious remark. The position of Indian trader was an enviable one and offered temptation and opportunity for amassing wealth. Apropos of this is the well-known and often-repeated story again told by Dr. Weiser in his life of his ancestor, but whose merits as a story warrant another repetition. It is told in this way by Dr. Weiser: "Shikellamy came to Conrad Weiser and informed him of his glorious dream I dreamed," said Shikellamy, "that Tarachawagon (Weiser) had presented me with a rifle." Conrad banded over the coveted rifle to his dusky friend, suspecting that the dream was not all a dream. A few days later Conrad Weiser had a dream, and told Shikellamy so. The chief asked for its revelation. "I dreamed," said Tarachawagon, "that Shikellamy presented me with the large and beautiful island nestled in the Susquebanna river." The nonplussed chief at once made over his favorite island—the Isle of Que—but added: "Conrad let us never dream again."

Posterity Will Not Forget Him.

The descendants of Conrad Weiser are numerous. It is claimed that every family of this name in the country is descended from the original Conrad Weiser. His oldest daughter married the great pastor, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, and thus the many Muhlenbergs in the State are his descendants. Also the Muhlenberg Richards and Hiesters, illustrious descendants all, of an illustrious ancestor.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has among its archives an account of Conrad Weiser, the German refugee, who became Indian agent, interpreter and soldier. Among the "cherished objects of interest" in the cabinet of the society is a "valuable relic," a piece of the limestone foundation of the house in Reading owned and constructed by Conrad Weiser in 1751. The colonial records of the era in which Weiser rendered invaluable service to his adopted country are replete with mention of his name and bear indisputable evidence of the importance of the part played by this actor in the difficult scenes attendant upon gaining a foothold in the country.

Thus the prophetic words of General Washington concerning him have been fulfilled. Standing at Weiser's grave he said: "This departed man rendered many services to his country in a difficult period, and posterity will not forget him." But it has come to be very generally recognized by posterity that a more living and conspicuous place than the comparative obscurity of buried archives is due to the heroic deeds of this man, whose mission like that of the Great Exemplar was peace. In conformity with the newly awakened interest and pride in everything pertaining to the forefathers of his locality posterity now desires recognition for Conrad Weiser in the annals of the history which he so largely helped to make. As an important factor in the formation of the Commonwealth it is claimed that he deserves mention in history no less than the great

men with whose names that of Conrad Weiser is found associated in the official records of the era.

As a very modest beginning in the right direction a movement was started about two years ago for a memorial to his memory. This will be a local tribute and doubtless would long ago have been accorded to the pioneer of any other people than the modest Pennsylvania Germans. The broader tribute that he merits in the pages of history should not be more difficult or tardy of achievement.

CELEBRATES HER NINETIETH NEW YEAR'S

Surrounded by Her Children's Children,
Mrs. Daniel Wolff Beholds the
Dawn of 1898.

Special Telegram to THE TIMES.

HAMBURG, Pa., January 1.

"Happy New Year!"

Surrounded by children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Mrs. Daniel Wolff, one of the oldest and most distinguished residents of this prosperous and progressive town, received and returned the familiar greeting, oft repeated to-day.

One week ago, on Christmas Day, Mrs. Wolff celebrated her 89th birthday. She was born on December 25, 1808, in Womelsdorf, Berks county, being a lineal descendant, the great-granddaughter, of Conrad Weiser, the "historical hero of Berks." Conrad Weiser's parents emigrated from Germany in 1710, being driven to the new world by the persecutions which were visited upon the Protestants by the Palatinate. They belonged to the "Redemptionists," who were cared for by Queen Anne.

As a little boy Conrad Weiser lived with the Indians for a time to learn their language, and in after years he made all the important treaties on behalf of the province with the Indians 150 years ago. He was called to many places to adjust disputes with the red men, to New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia. He made nineteen journeys on horseback to New York, was called thirty-two times before the Pennsylvania Council and made nine visits to Maryland, all to settle disputes with the Indians. Every land purchase from the Indians by the Penns during the period from 1729 to 1750 was conducted by him as interpreter, and it is recorded that never was a complaint made as to his justice and integrity by either party to the transactions. He rendered conspicuous service as an officer, and superintended the erection of certain forts during the French and Indian war. He frequently met Benjamin Franklin and enjoyed an acquaintance with him. His most recent office before his death was that of the first President Judge of Berks county.

Conrad Weiser's oldest daughter, Maria, was married to Rev. Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg, father of the Lutheran Church in America, the fruit of which union gave to the country a long line of men, eminent in religion, war and politics. Jacob Weiser, one of the sons of Conrad Weiser, was the grandfather of Mrs. Daniel Wolff, and with his wife Mary a sponsor at her baptism.

Mrs. Wolff is a worthy descendant of her illustrious ancestor. As a girl she was educated in both English and German. S

music lessons of Professor Vile, and among her vocal selections, one, "Life Let Us Cherish," she still sings, remembering all the words, although now in her 90th year. Mrs. Wolff, who was a Miss Pesig, came to Hamburg as a girl of 15, traveling overland with horse and carriage, railroads, of course, being unknown. She was married to Daniel Wolff by Rev. Waltz, of Philadelphia, on her 19th birthday, December 25, 1827. Two years later ground was broken for the Wolff homestead, which is now one of the landmarks of Hamburg. The stones for the house were quarried at the Blue Mountain, and the sashes were hewn out of the green timbers and cut into shape in the cellar while the house was being built. In this home Mrs. Wolff lived sixty-seven years. Here her sons and daughters were born, grew up, married and returned to visit oftentimes with their children and children's children, and from its doors, too, more than one funeral cortege wound its way to the little cemetery which enshrines the forms of her beloved dead.

Mrs. Wolff has had twelve children, seven sons and five daughters; twenty-nine grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. She is a charming old lady, cultured, accomplished, vivacious in conversation and gracious in manner. Although nearly 90, she still reads and writes, and is a remarkably entertaining conversationalist. She takes a lively interest in politics, and has a vivid recollection of the political situation before and during the war. The picture from which the illustration in THE TIMES is drawn today was taken some years ago, and does not do justice to the lovable-looking old lady, dressed in black, with a spotted kerchief crossed on her bosom and a little black lace cap on her luxuriant white hair. Mrs. Wolff is a devoted member of St. John's Lutheran Church, in which during her younger and active years she was an influential worker. She was one of the organizers of the Sunday school.

Like her husband, she believed strongly in education as a preparation for life, and all her sons and daughters received a thorough school training, supplemented by instruction and reading at home.

Owing to the death of her oldest son, who was her companion in the homestead, Mrs. Wolff now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Ada Derr. It is charming to see her, surrounded by a bevy of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom delight to show honor to one to whom honor is so well due. Mrs. Wolff believes and frequently remarks that few mothers whose lives have been spent in their families and for their families will be unrewarded. For a verification of this statement, no better evidence is needed than the life of the woman who utters it.

From,

Jules

Phila Pa

Date, *July 30 1898*

Special Correspondence of THE TIMES.

READING, January 29.



IT IS A fact within the knowledge of very few people that on the eastern slope of the Allegheny Mountains in Pennsylvania, not more than half a dozen miles east of Reading, in close proximity to Exeter Station, on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, hundreds of people are daily passing with a stone's throw of the ancient home of the forefathers of Abraham Lincoln. All that is generally known of the ancestors of Abraham Lincoln points out that they emigrated to Massachusetts, then to New Jersey, and afterwards to Berks county, Pennsylvania. From there they moved to Rockingham county, Virginia, and finally into Kentucky, where the President was born. An investigation proves, too, that the Lincolns were not always poor, but that some of them were distinguished citizens of Massachusetts, and the great-great-grandfather of the President was a prominent and extensive landholder in Pennsylvania.

The Lincoln family is of English origin and the name was quite common in England in the early part of the seventeenth century. Samuel Lincoln, the emigrant, settled in Hingham, Massachusetts, some time near the close of the seventeenth century. He had a son named Mordecai, who was born in 1657, and who was married to Sarah Jones. Mordecai also had a son by the name of Mordecai, who moved south to New Jersey, and bought a large tract of land. He was the great-great-grandfather of President Lincoln. His wife died in New Jersey and his family consisted at least of one son, and probably one or two daughters at this time. The son's name was John and he is in the direct line of the ancestors of the President. Mordecai came to Exeter township, Berks county, Pennsylvania, about the year 1720, and bought a large territory of land in close proximity to what is now Exeter Station.

The reason for the frequent family removals of the Lincolns is not well known, but it is quite sure that they were Quakers and as Berks county and its immediate surroundings comprised a good many people of the same belief, it is probable that they sought a closer religious communion with people who had the same spiritual tendencies. However this may be, deeds and records are in existence which show that Mordecai Lincoln bought one thousand acres of land lying in the township, from the sons of William Penn. The exact boundaries of the Lincoln purchase can be outlined, both from original data and from the knowledge of several of the inhabitants who are still living in that section. The land was in the shape of a square and lay directly on the Schuylkill river. It extended north from the river into the open country to a line of low

Lincoln's Ancestors in Pennsylvania



THE HOMESTEAD OF MORDECAI LINCOLN

hills along the present Philadelphia and Reading turnpike. Its eastern and western boundaries were formed by two small creeks, the Antietam, and another stream further east about half a mile.

Here Mordecai Lincoln erected a house in the southeasteru corner of his land. It was built of stoue and stauds in a gorge, at the bottom of which the creek flows. The house remains undisturbed, with the exception of an addition, which was built about 1800, and can be seen from the railroad before reaching Exeter Station.

Records show that Mordecai Lincoln attended Gwyned meeting in Montgomery county, but as a monthly meeting was established in Oley, which is near Stonersville, Excter towship, soon after his arrival in Berks county, he severed his relations with the former and worshiped in the latter place. He died in 1735 or 1736 aud was buried in the graveyard of the Oley Meeting House.

Although all records concerning the burying of Mordecai Lincoln have been lost, it is known that his body was one of the first buried in these grounds. To-day the Oley Meeting House is still used as a place of worship by the Friends, and the graveyard continues to receive the dead of these people, one of the latest interments being the remains of John Lincoln, a great-great-grandson of Mordecai. George and Mary

Boone, the grandparents of Daniel Boone, are also buried here.

At the time of his death, Mordecai Lincoln had three sons and four daughters, whose names were John, Mordecai, Thomas, Hannah, May, Ann and Sarah. In accordance with the expressed intimation in his will, another son was born in 1736, shortly after he died. This son was named Abraham, and it is of him that we know more than of any of the Berks county Lincolns.

He lived here all his life, and was prominent in the affairs of his county and State. He served prior to the revolution as a commissioner of Berks county for a number of terms, and during the revolution, on March 21, 1777, he was appointed one of the sub-lieutenants of the county. In that office he was very active in raising troops and forwarding supplies to the Continental army, and was frequently complimented from headquarters for his zeal and ability. He was a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1782, became a delegate to the Pennsylvania convention which ratified the Constitution of the United States, and he was also a member of the constitutional convention in 1787. The signature of Abraham Lincoln is found affixed to many of the deeds and public documents in the archives of Berks county. He married Anna Boone, a cousin of Daniel Boone, Kentucky's famous pioneer.

However, Abraham Lincoln is not in a direct line of the President's descendants,

as has been supposed by many. His half-brother, John, the oldest son of Mordecai, and the only son of his first wife, was the great grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, the martyred President. By his father's will he received a farm of three hundred acres in New Jersey, which he in all probability occupied before his father's death, but which he left shortly after the occurrence of the latter event, and came to Berks county, Pennsylvania, where he had purchased some land only a mile distant from the old homestead. Tradition locates the spot where stood the house in which he lived.

About the middle of the eighteenth century, along in the sixties, the spirit of unrest affected not only the Boones, but the Lincolns. They moved southward to Virginia and thence to Kentucky.

At this time, and almost within hailing distance of the Lincoln homestead near Exeter station, lived another family, the descendants of which were also destined to play an important part in the history of the President. This was the Hanks family, from which Nancy Hanks, the mother of the President, directly descended. The precise name of the head of the Hanks family is uncertain, but it is generally believed to have been John.

Following the fall of Boone, the family of John Hanks also left its native soil to go to Virginia, while John Lincoln, the great grandfather of the President, was still there.

John Lincoln had a son by the name of Abraham, who was the grandfather of the President, and before leaving Virginia Abraham married Hannah, the eldest daughter of William Winters, who also originally came from Berks county.

In Kentucky Abraham Lincoln was slain by the Indians. He then had three sons; Mordecai, Josiah and Thomas. The latter, a good-natured and easy-going individual, and the father of the President, married Nancy, the daughter or granddaughter of John Hanks, who emigrated from Berks county, Pennsylvania, and finally landed in Rockingham county, Virginia, as we have already seen. This occurred in 1806, and in 1809 the President was born.

How Miss Hanks came from Virginia to Kentucky, or whether Thomas Lincoln married her in Virginia, is not known, but tradition has it that she was a Virginian by birth. The following is an interesting description of her: "She was a tall woman, above middle height, with black hair, uneducated, but of marked character, and a mind naturally vigorous. Her experience in the rude frontier life with a husband who did not get along, was hard. The glimpses



of her in the biographies of her grandson are sombre, and probably to her the President owed that underlying element of sad thoughtfulness in his nature, always so apparent, and so in contrast with the humorous surface traits that came from his father."

A study of the ancestry of Abraham Lincoln brings out some peculiar points. One of these is the preservation of certain few names in the family record. Thus through five successive generations of the Lincolns, beginning with Mordecai, the original settler in Berks county, to the lamented President, there were at least three Mordecais, three Abrahams, four Johns and four Thomases.

There is a striking resemblance between a Lincoln, Albert by name, living near Exeter station, and the dead President. They resemble each other both in looks and stature.

It is also in place to refer to the intimate association between the Lincoln, Boone and Hanks families. The Lincolns and the Boones were very closely related by many inter-marriages in Berks county. Whether the Hanks family had any similar relation to the Lincoln families in Pennsylvania is not known, but it is certain that there were ties which bound and kept them closely together, not only here, but throughout their wanderings in Virginia and finally into Kentucky, where the President was born.

From, Eagle
Reading Pa
Date, Mch 6 1898

AN OLD HOSTELRY.

The Central House, Known as "Fesig's Tavern" a Century Ago, the "Penn Farmer" 60 Years Ago, Changed to the "Gold Horse," and Subsequently Known for Many Years as "The Mishler House"—The First Circus in Reading Showed in the Hotel Yard.

Over a century ago the "Central house," north side of Penn above 4th, was known as "Fesig's tavern," as Conrad Fesig owned the property and conducted the public house. Dimensions of the lot, 60 by 230 feet, to Liberty alley (Court st.)

The late Henry Rheinhardt, tailor, who was born in Phila., in 1789, and came to Reading over 100 years ago, said to the Eagle 25 years ago: "Long before the railways were built I saw the teams pass through Reading conveying merchandize between Phila., Sunbury, Pittsburg and other points. Generally 10 to 15 teams travelled together, and they usually stopped at Fesig's tavern, now the Central house, north side of Penn st. above 4th. The wagons had white canvas covers, high bodies painted blue, and the

running gear painted red. The teams usually consisted of 4 horses, sometimes 6."

The late Jacob Bright Hoff, born in Reading in 1796, said to the Eagle 16 years ago: "I recollect well the first circus that was ever held in Reading. I was then only a lad. The oldest citizens said then there never had been one here before. It was so well patronized that it stayed several weeks. It was exhibited on the rear end of the lot of Fesig's tavern. We had never seen a clown before, and we nearly died laughing at him. When a circus rider dressed up as a soldier, hung by his legs to the saddle on one side of the horse as if he were falling off as he rode around the ring, some people said it was all deception, as it was impossible for a person to hang on as he did."

Benjamin Parvin, of Maiden creek, was the original owner of the property, and he received his title paper from the Penns in 1752, after the lot had been built upon. He transferred it to Moses Heyman, who in 1758 conveyed it to William Reeser. Mr. Reeser, by his will, dated Sept. 9, 1734, bequeathed the property to his nephews, Andrew Reeser, of Bucks county, and Casper Reeser, of Northampton county, and they sold the property, April 6, 1790, for 419 pounds, to Conrad Fesig, a clock-maker, living in Reading, who then turned his attention to conducting a public house. During the time that he was sheriff, 1806-08, he sold liquors over a bar in the old jail building. Mr. Fesig disposed of the hotel stand in 1811 to Valentine Brobst, miller, of Albany township, for 2,700 pounds. Mr. Brobst sold the property, April, 1816, to Samuel Wood, "gentleman," for 6,000 pounds. Mr. Wood conveyed the property back to Mr. Brobst in January, 1819, and the following April the latter sold it for \$10,000 to Peter Auran, who was sheriff in 1816-17 and register in 1821-23.

William N. Coleman recollects when George Michael Brobst was the landlord of the hotel about 65 years ago. Mr. Brobst erected in 1814 on the river bank, north of Court st., a brewery for the manufacture of "small" and "strong" beer. The brewery was conducted some 18 years when it was abandoned before "lager" was manufactured in Reading.

About 60 years ago the name on the sign was the "Pennsylvania Farmer," and it was a very popular place for the farmers to stop at. Jacob Donahower, father of Wm. Donahower, clothier, was the landlord. The name was then changed to the "Golden Horse," there being a golden horse on the sign. The late Jacob Mishler became the proprietor of the hotel, while John K. Wright was postmaster and the post office was in the western portion of the old building. Mr. Mishler tore down the old buildings in 1861 and erected a commodious brick building, which has since been greatly enlarged. Jacob Donahower succeeded H. B. Boyer, Feb. 1, 1839, as landlord, and Mr. Mishler succeeded Isaac Ennis in 1848.

Rev. Henry A. Muhlenberg, born in 1732, who was a very prominent citizen for many years, was the owner of the property at one time. He was the pastor of Trinity Lutheran church 29 years, from 1803 until 1829, when he was elected to Congress. In 1835 he was the Democratic candidate for governor. He was offered, by President Van Buren, the Russian mission and the post of secretary of the navy,

both of which he refused. In 1838 he resigned his seat in Congress and accepted the Austrian mission, which he held until 1840. Rev. Muhlenberg, who died in 1854, bequeathed the hotel property to his sons, Dr. Hiester H. Muhlenberg and Henry A. Muhlenberg, jr. The latter was elected to Congress in 1853. He appeared in Congress only a single day, when he was taken sick with typhoid fever and was unable to resume his seat. He died at Washington, Jan. 9, 1854. His executors were his brother, Dr. Hiester H. Muhlenberg, and his brother-in-law, G. A. Nicolls. The executors sold the property in April, 1846, to the late Jacob Mishler, for \$15,000.

When Mr. Mishler bought the property there were 2 buildings fronting on Penn, with a driveway between them to the stable on the rear end of the lot. One was a 2-story brick building, in which there was a general store, of which William Silvis was the proprietor for many years. The other was a 2-story stone structure, the front being plastered somewhat in imitation of brown sandstone.

Jacob Mishler having died, the property was offered at orphans' court sale in the spring of 1866, and was bought by his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Mishler, for \$25,000. It had been appraised at \$33,000. The late Christian Bechtel, of Cumru, was the executor of Jacob Mishler's estate.

John B. Brobst, the present owner, bought the property at sheriff's sale, 18 years ago, for \$32,244. It contains the original width of 60 feet on Penn, but the width on Court st. has been reduced to 45 feet, lots connected with houses fronting on 4th having cut off 15 feet. Mr. Brobst spent over \$100,000 in enlarging and improving the building in 1887, and the property has now cost him over \$140,000. The building extends from Penn to Court and both fronts are 5 stories in height.

After his father's death, Evan Mishler conducted the hotel a number of years, license being granted to him, excepting during the term that he was sheriff—1871-74, when Joseph S. Levan was the landlord. Mr. Levan went from here to Allentown, where he took charge of the Merchants' hotel. During the years 1876-79, Mrs. Elizabeth Mishler, widow of Jacob Mishler, held the license. In 1880, John M. Killian was the landlord, and in the spring of 1881 Milton C. Feather took charge. In August, 1882, the license was transferred to George W. Hain. During the years of 1883-4, E. O. Immel conducted the hotel, and in 1885, John B. Brobst (who had bought the property in December, 1880), took personal charge as landlord, and he has successfully conducted the house ever since. From Dec. 14, 1885, until his death, in July, 1886, Col. T. H. Good, of Allentown, acted as manager of the Central for Mr. Brobst, and built up such a large business that the house was not large enough to accommodate it, and Mr. Brobst removed the stable on the rear end of the lot and extended the hotel building to Court st. Col. Good was very popular among commercial agents and other travelling men, and after he had managed the hotel about a month as many as 38 persons, who came in one day to stay over night, were turned away for want of room.

From, *Eagle*

Reading *PA*

Date, *April 2, 1898.*

"OLD FOREST CHURCH" # AT GEIGERTOWN

Now St. Paul's M. E.—Organized in 1776—Revival Services Just Closed, During Which 75 Professed Conversion.

Joanna: On last Christmas eve special meetings were begun in St. Paul's M. E. church, Geigertown, for the conversion of sinners, and were continued ever since until Sunday evening, March 20. The services resulted in a gracious revival of religion. They were held under the ministrations of Rev. C. W. Milam, the young and talented pastor of the church, who was admitted to full connection in the Phila. M. E. conference, at its session last spring, at Bethlehem.

Rev. Milam has proven himself an earnest preacher and a faithful pastor. His gospel utterances, drawn from suggestive texts, read from a small black bound pocket testament, attracted the people. They came, heard the Word, believed and joined the church. The meetings were remarkable in interest, which never flagged a single evening. Amid all kinds of weather the church was crowded.

The altar was full of penitents each evening and one after the other of these seeking the "pearl of great price" changed their cry of sorrow into shouts of joy.

The labors have been borne almost entirely by Rev. Milam, and the united efforts of a membership of 130, resulting in 75 professing conversion, of which 60 have united with the church as probationers. Others will unite with neighboring churches. This religious awakening was not confined to the Methodist congregation, but reached the Lutheran and German Reformed adherents. A peculiar feature of this revival was the many heads of families who joined the church.

Ex-Recorder James W. Sponagle, an active member says there was a similar revival during the winter of 1876-77, when over 100 conversions occurred, under the ministrations of Rev. John C. Wood.

Rev. C. W. Milam, the pastor, is a young married man, and has a son named Matthew. He was born and reared near Clarksburg, West Va., on a farm, where he labored until of age, studying and going to school as often as opportunity offered. He began teaching, and pursued a course of studies in a higher institution. For one year he filled the position of county superintendent of schools.

Having a desire to preach, he completed a course of theological studies at Drew

seminary, preaching whenever an opportunity was offered. He is absorbed in the love of revival work and in the ambition of making his life recognized as a factor in the better life of mankind. To the Eagle representative he said: "The revival is of more value to me than a college course."

St. Paul's church is a landmark in the history of Methodism, although it has suffered neglect by the author of the History of Berks county.

The plans for the home of a Methodist organization was materializing while the colonies were in the midst of a national strife to destroy the power of King George III. And in the year 1776, noted as the year when the spirit of liberty was framed in the marvellous Declaration of Independence, this church was organized.

An old tombstone in the graveyard of St. Paul's bears this inscription: "Sacred to the memory of the Rev. William Demom, who organized the first religious society at the Old Forest, now St. Paul's M. E. church, about the year 1776; died 1776." This stone was erected by Michael O'Neall, whose mother, Mary Elizabeth O'Neall, united with the church about 1800. Thus 10 years after Methodism had been organized in the Rigging house, on William street, New York, by Captain Webb and Philip Emhury, the earliest American minister of the M. E. church, it was established at St. Paul's.

Accordingly, in 1870, 4 years before the Methodist Episcopal church in the United States was organized, St. Paul's church was established on a grant of land made to John Wesley and his followers. The indenture was recorded in the court house at Reading, May 10, 1782, Henry Christ, recorder. During Jas. W. Sponagle's term of office as recorder, the transcribed indenture was found and he made a copy from which the following extracts were taken:

"This indenture made the fourteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty, between Mounce, alias Moses Jones, Farmer, and Mary, his wife, of Union Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, of the one part, and Evan Evans, Samuel Howe, Valentine Carberry, Abraham Lewis, John Davis, Joseph Howe, Henry Carberry, John Galloway and Thomas Rutter on the the other part, Witnesseth, That in consideration of Five Shillings, * * * truly paid * * * doth grant, hargaln and sell * * * all that erected Preaching House with the piece of land hereunto adjoining, situate in Union Township and county aforesaid (describing the houndaries), containing Three quarters of one acre and Fifteen perches of Land, heing part of a tract of one hundred and ninety-seven acres. * * * To have and to hold the said House, Piece of Land, and other premises, to the said Evan Evans (and others mentioned) forever, nevertheless upon special Trust and Confidence, and to the intent that they and the survivors of them, and the Trustees for the time heing, do, and shall permit John Wesley, late of Lincoln College, Oxford Clerk, and such other persons as he shall from time to time appoint, and at all times during his natural Life, and no other persons to have and enjoy the full use and Benefit of the said premises." (This paragraph, it is claimed, forever annuls any claim made by any other denomination to the owner.)

ship of the premises at any time.)

The deed says further: "That the said John Wesley and such other persons as he appoints, may therein preach and expound God's Holy Word, and after his decease upon further trust and confidence, and to the intent that the said trustees and survivors of them, and the trustees for the time being do and shall permit Charles Wesley, and such other persons as he shall from time to time appoint during his life, and no other to have and enjoy the said premises for the purposes aforesaid. And after his decease, upon further trust and confidence to the intent that the said Evan Evans (and others named) and the succeeding trustees, shall at all times forever thereafter permit such persons as shall be appointed at the yearly conference, held in America, by the people called Methodists, and no others to have and enjoy said premises for the purposes aforesaid, provided, always, that the said persons preach no other doctrine than is contained in Mr. Wesley's notes on the New Testament, and 4 volumes of sermons."

The witnesses to the deed were: Thos. Othy, Samuel Zink, Leonard Zink and John Zink.

This church was the only organized place of worship for the people called Methodists, in a wide extent of territory, and after some years the M. E. church had become organized, it was joined with the Lancaster circuit. The name of their first preacher is now unknown, although the inference is clear that local preachers supplied the pulpit frequently, and when the travelling minister came he was on horseback.

A prominent minister of the society, who preached in this church during its early history, was Bishop Francis Asbury.

From this church went forth an influence in the establishment of other churches, and when the first Methodist church was dedicated in Reading they sent a delegation of signers to assist in the services.

There were several families of Hoffman's in the neighborhood, who were closely identified with the founding of "Old Forest," as it was then called.

The Mounce Jones mentioned in the deed owned 200 acres of land in Union township, and Valentine Carberry and Evan Evans were large taxpayers in the same township in 1753.

From, *Eagle*
Reading Pa
Date, *May 8. 1898*

WM. N. COLEMAN'S RECOLLECTIONS

His Ancestors Conducted Stage Lines Running in All Directions from Reading—Packet Boats on the Schuylkill.

The first stage coach in Reading, of which there is any record, was that of Martin Hausman, which was run from Reading to Phila. in 1789. Two days were consumed in making the round trip and the fare was \$2 and letter carriage 3 pence. Alexander Elsenbise succeeded Mr. Hausman in the business and over 100 years ago he disposed of the stage line to William Coleman, who subsequently established the famous "Coleman stage lines," which were conducted after his death by his sons, John and Nicholas Coleman. Nicholas Coleman was the father of William N. Coleman, who was interviewed as follows:

"My grandfather, William Coleman, engaged in the stage business about the year 1791. He made 3 trips a week, going to Phila. one day and returning the next. The stages were open in front and had black canvas curtains on the sides, and when these were rolled up the stage was open all around, excepting behind, where the boot was located for the baggage. The stage was drawn by 4 horses and sometimes by 5, 3 being abreast in front. My Uncle John and my father, Nicholas Coleman, succeeded my grandfather in the business and established new stage lines until it required more than 100 horse to draw the vehicles. The stage bodies were made by Slaymaker, in Lancaster, and the running gear by John Grow, who had his shop on the north side of Franklin st. below 8th. The blacksmithing was done by Anthony Bickel, whose shop was located on the west side of South 5th, between Franklin and Chestnut, on a large lot now occupied by the houses that were the residences of the late Isaac Eckert and George R. Frill. John Hoffa also drove a 2-horse carriage to Phila. each week to carry passengers, about the same time that my grandfather run stages over that route.

"Jacob Peters, of Phila., and Colder & Wilson, of Harrisburg, became interested in the Coleman stage routes, which were extended in every direction—to Pottsville and Sunbury, Allentown and Easton, Lancaster, Harrisburg and even all the way out to Pittsburg. Such a thriving business was done that Rescids & Platt started opposition stage lines. At first weekly trips were made and they gradually became semi-weekly, tri-weekly and eventually daily in 1826. Relays for fresh horses were established at points along the line every 6 miles. In 1830, the competition was so great that the fares had been cut to half their regular rates, and the stages were driven at a gallop over the turnpikes. There were 6 daily coaches to Phila., 3 belonging to the Coleman line and 3 to the opposition. Two coaches, one belonging to each line, started at the same hour, and these often raced side by side to reach certain towns. The old court house in Penn square and the street corners there were prominent points of observation in Reading to witness the arrival of the stages, and they were often seen coming down Penn st., side by side, the drivers cracking their long whips and

horses at full gallop! It was not uncommon to see 75 to 100 men, women and children assembled there to welcome the stages with shouts and applause, and even some persons bet on which stage would reach Penn square first.

John Miltimore secured an interest in the Coleman stage lines and was a partner of John and Nicholas Coleman for some time. Later, George DeB. Keim and John F. Smith, the latter of Phila., and a brother of the late Henry W. Smith, lawyer, each had an interest with John Miltimore in the old stage lines.

"When the Coleman Brothers and Miltimore conducted the stage lines, they had some very fine stages that had been built at Troy, N. Y. One of them, called the 'Knickerbocker,' cost \$1,000, while others cost about \$500.

"The stages were at one time charged such high tolls that the Colemans would not drive over the Perkiomen turnpike, but constructed a road along the southern slope of Neversink mountain (the White House road), crossing the river at Poplar Neck and continuing on the 'River road,' which they widened and improved. The enterprise was a big undertaking at the time, but the stage company saved the tolls. Years afterward the turnpike company and the stage company compromised on the toll rate and the pike was again used by the stage line.

"After the mining of coal was begun in Schuylkill county, nearly 90 years ago, the stage line in that direction did a thriving business. The late John McKnight, who opened in Reading a branch of the Penn'a Bank, of Penn'a, in 1808, told me that he was a clerk in the bank in Phila., when George Shoemaker brought a 2-horse load of coal from 8 miles above the site of Pottsville and no one would buy it in Phila. Finally he obtained permission to unload it in front of the Penn'a bank, and the man returned home. One day an Englishman came along and asked at the bank where that heap of anthracite coal came from. He was asked whether he meant the black stones. He said he could make the 'black stones' burn, and was given permission to construct a temporary grato in front of the large Franklin stove' in the bank building. He laid kindling wood on the grate and placed coal on top and lit the wood and covered the grate with sheet iron. In a short time the sheet iron got red hot and was removed when there was a splendid fire and the 'black stones' were burning to the amazement of all who saw it. Many people came to the bank from all parts of Phila. to see the strange fire. The late William Stable said that Lawyer Marks John Biddle was the first person to bring Schuylkill county coal to Reading and that he (Maj. Stable) introduced the first coal stove into the town in 1812."

"After the completion of the Schuylkill canal in 1824, the Coleman Bros. and Jacob Peters run packet boats on the canal and these carried many passengers between Reading and Phila. The boats were fitted up handsomely, having cabins, dining rooms, bars and berths. There were relays of horses every 8 or 10 miles. A packet boat that left Reading at 6 a. m. arrived at Phila. in the evening and left there the following morning at 6 o'clock for Reading. The number of passengers on a boat often numbered 50 to 75. The canal originally extended through the lower section of the town between Front

and 2d streets at Penn and entering the Schuylkill at Jackson's locks. On the west side of 2d street, between Cherry and Franklin, there was a large basin and wharves, where passengers and freight were loaded and unloaded. I recollect the names of 3 of the packet boats that belonged to the company. They were "Independence," "Planet" and "Lady of the Lake." About 1828 the late Joshua Keeley was the captain of the "Planet." The fare was about \$2.50 a single trip. On one trip he had a party of 75 ministers, who went to attend a conference in Phila., and many of them had come with the stages from Harrisburg.

"I well recollect the large Conestoga wagons that were used to haul store goods from Phila. to Reading, Sunbury, Harrisburg, Pittsburg and other places before the railroads were built. On their return trip to Phila. they carried all kinds of products raised in the country. The wagon bodies were blue and the running gear red and the covers heavy canvas. Generally each wagon was drawn by 6 fine horses with open bells of different tones suspended over the hames, and it was a pleasure to see a team of 6 horses step to the music of the bells. Generally 6 or more teams would travel together, one after the other, and all stop at the same place over night. If there was not room enough in the tavern to accommodate all with beds, some would sleep in their wagons. The taverns along the lines did a big business.

"It was not an usual sight before the P. & R. railroad was built to see a row of a dozen or more covered one-horse wagons passing through Reading. They were those of emigrants who had landed from a sailing vessel in Phila., brought their furniture, bedding and clothing with them, and most of them said they were going to Ohio. Each family brought their wagon along from across the ocean, it having been taken apart when loaded on the ship, and put together when unloaded at Phila. The men, women and larger children walked, while the small children rode on the wagon with the household goods. The women were dressed in their foreign garb and most of them wore caps with strings tied under their chins. When we saw these emigrant trains we knew that a ship had arrived from Europe."

From, Coyle
Reading Pa
Date, June 11, 1898

HISTORIC CHURCHES.

Some of Them in Berks County Over 150 Years Old.

In the "The Lutheran" the following sketches of "Historical Churches More Than 150 Years Old," has the following:

ZION'S (REED'S) CHURCH. (1727.)

This church had its origin in the famous fort on Mill Creek, near Newmans-town. The fort is still standing. Rev. John Casper Stover was among those who attended the meeting. It was there resolved to erect a church on land donated by a family named Rieth (now Reed). Men, women and children at once united in the work and by October of the same year the building was completed and consecrated, Pastor Stover officiating. The communion table of that early church is still in existence and owned by Aaron Snyder, of Berks county, a descendant of the Rieths. The congregation was without a pastor for a number of years. Then came what is known as the "Tulpehocken confusion." Discussions arose, and for a long time two rival pastors, Leibbecker and Stover, preached to two factions. After the former's death, Count Zinzendorf made his appearance and a Moravian pastor, Buttner, stepped into Leibbecker's place. After him Mener took charge, and soon a third party formed, withdrew and established Christ's church, west of Stouchsburg, in 1842. Finally, through the efforts of Conrad Weiser, the old church was restored to the Lutherans and served by Rev. J. N. Kurtz. This church has an interesting history which cannot be given here. It numbers 125 members at present and is served by Rev. E. S. Brownmiller.

MOSELEM (ZION'S) CHURCH. (1734.)

The old records show the following facts: The first baptism was that of John Carl, infant son of John Carl Hofelin and wife Eva, nee Kern, which took place December 29, 1737. Several more baptisms in 1739 are recorded, and then in 1741. From that time on there were many baptisms recorded. The first marriage recorded was that of Conrad Maneschmid and Ann Maria Kuhn, March 13th, 1744. The first effort to gather people together for the organization of a congregation was made in 1739, and a donation of land for church and school house was obtained in 1742. A log church was built in 1742. A stone church was erected in 1761. This church stood till 1895, when it was torn down and a new church built, the stones of the old church being used for the foundation of the new one. This new church has been built during the ministry of the present pastor, Rev. S. L. Harkey, D.D., of Kutztown. The records do not show who the first ministers were. But

in the organization the strongest language was used, to bind the property forever to the use of the "Evangelical Lutheran church, of the unaltered Augsburg Confession." No church or minister of any other faith or name is allowed to use the church, school house, or graveyard. Its present membership is 191.

CHRIST CHURCH. (1738.)

This church dates back to 1738. Its present pastor is Rev. B. E. Kramlich and the membership is about 319.

CHRIST CHURCH, NEAR BERNVILLE. (1745.)

This church is known as the "Little Tulpehocken Church" and dates back to 1745, according to the parochial table of the minutes of 1897. Its present pastor is Rev. A. J. Long and it has a membership of 150.

READING AS IT IS.

The Story of Our Fair City and Its Birth 150 Years Ago.

It is doubtful whether so charming a view of any city in the United States can be obtained as that of Reading seen from the "Tower" or from other points on the Mt. Penn Gravity and on the Neversink R. R. The whole broad expanse of the city lies before the eye, the wide shady streets, the neat red buildings in artistic groupings, the towers of churches and the lofty roofs of the great business houses, all enclosed within the gentle curving of the river as it flows deep-bedded amid the shade of the maples and willows, and out beyond the rich variegated green and yellow. Not only does the city stand revealed in rare beauty, but the whole valley stretching away between the mountains to the north and west presents a most entrancing effect. Especially at night when the long line of street can be traced by the brilliant arc lights and the gleam of innumerable homes seems a vision of fairyland, the scene is well fitted to call forth the finest conceptions of the artist and poet. It is not without justice that we feel inclined to say:—

"Earth hath not anything to show more fair."

We may voyage to many foreign lands and return without having seen a more beautiful view than that spread out from our own hills. And the ease with which it can be reached gives Reading advantages which are enjoyed by but few cities in the world.

The city which is thus spread before one from the pinnacle of the "Tower," delicately traced like a broad expanse of tapestry work, embraces within its present area about seven square miles, or 4,558 acres, over seven times as large a territory as that originally laid out by the Penns in 1748. The city is in average length from north to south, 3.13

its width from east to west
 es 2.37 miles. It is interesting
 that the water-front along the
 Schuylkill River, which is available for
 manufacturing purposes, 4.82 miles.
 This is chiefly due to the long sweeping
 curves of the river and is of incalculable
 value to the city. with well-elevated
 mountains to help in purifying air and
 afford atmospheric protection, and the
 river to always ensure good drainage,
 Reading could ask little more from Nature
 than it has already bestowed. The
 topographical position of the city is most
 admirable. There is a steady gentle decline
 from the eastern section, at the foot
 of Mt. Penn to the Schuylkill at the
 western extremity. No arrangement
 could be better adapted for drainage.
 The soil also consists of limestone and
 gravel formations, the "sine qua non" of
 a good sanitary foundation for a city.
 Penn street, running east and west from
 the Park to the river, forms the natural
 boundary between northern and southern
 sections. It is about a mile and a half
 in length. There are seventy-seven miles
 of completed streets in the city, of these
 fifty miles are paved or macadamized.
 There are in addition fifty eight miles
 of projected streets, either now under
 construction or to be very soon opened.
 The street railways at present cover 23
 miles—a very large proportion, being
 nearly one-third of the street line.

The electric railroads extend over 18
 miles, which distance is soon to be large-
 ly increased. Fifty-six miles of street
 have gas mains, and there are 72 83 miles
 of water-mains in the city. In exact
 numbers there are just 171 streets and
 alleys.

There is a regularity of street system
 which is simple and harmonious without
 being in any way monotonous. In every
 direction delightful drives can be taken
 into the suburbs over the best of
 thoroughfares. Among the most pleasant
 of these are the routes to the Chas. Evans
 cemetery through North Fifth Street and
 Centre Avenue; to Mineral Springs Park
 or the Black Bear out East Penn street
 and Perkiomen Avenue; also to Mohns-
 ville via Bingham Street and the Lan-
 caster Bridge. These drives are of course
 supplemental to those which can be
 taken on Reading's fine system of street
 cars, the electric lines, the Gravity Rail-
 roads. In the way of charming and
 healthful facilities for swift locomotion
 few cities of its size in the country can
 even be compared to Reading. So far as
 natural beauty is concerned it can hold
 its level with the very finest and best.
 Not far from the centre of the city is
 Penn's Common, one of the oldest and
 most attractive parks in the State. It
 was set apart by the Penns, at the laying
 out of the city, to be a public pleasure-
 ground forever. It covers about fifty
 acres, consisting of broad spacious lawns
 and terraces, drives and shaded promen-

ades, with a number of very beautiful
 fountains in different parts of the
 grounds. At the western side of the
 Common is the Penn Street Reservoir and
 the County Jail, a mediæval, castellated
 building, with an impressive keep and
 tower.

A little further out from the centre of
 town are two beautiful pleasure-grounds,
 both handsomely equipped, namely
 Lauer's Park and the Mineral Springs
 Park. At the latter art has simply had
 to reveal rather than to adorn nature.
 The Park is owned by the city and free
 to all, being easily reached by the Perk-
 iomen Avenue cars. It is delightfully
 situated in a long winding dell between
 two jutting spurs of Mt. Penn. Through
 it runs a romantic little stream, crossed
 here and there by rustic bridges, and
 every little while dashing down in brilli-
 ant sparkling cascades. The terraces
 are well supplied with benches, arbors
 and pavilions for picnic parties. Near
 the entrance is one of Reading's best hos-
 telries, and a fine refreshment hall.
 The Park is a special favorite during the
 warm summer evening when the bright
 lights glimmer through the trees and the
 soft strains of music float dreamily away
 among the hills. High's Woods and Fly-
 ing Hill Park are also pleasant resorts,
 near at hand and great favorites during
 the summer.

READING'S MAGNIFICENT MILITARY SPIRIT

And in This the County Has Borne
 Its Full Share—Our Citizens Have
 Always Borne an Honorable Part
 in the Glories as Well as the Privations
 of War.

Reading has always been famous for
 its patriotism and military spirit. Its
 citizens have been engaged in the 5
 wars in which our country has been
 involved, and in all they have distin-
 guished themselves for their courage
 and soldierly qualities.

In the French and Indian war, the pa-
 triots from this county, took an active
 part. Conrad Weiser was one of the
 commanders and was a lieutenant col-
 onel of the 2d battalion of the Penn'a
 regiment of 9 companies. This was a
 portion of the troops raised for the pur-
 pose of driving out the Indians, who
 were about making an invasion of the
 state.

In 1756, an independent company of
 grenadiers in General Shirley's regiment,
 was stationed here temporarily and a
 number of citizens did loyal service in
 the Berks forts, the ruins of which still
 remain. The patriots were kept busy in
 those days, and the Reading soldiers
 were complimented upon their bravery
 and endurance. Scalps were in great
 demand among the Indians. The letters
 of Conrad Weiser give stirring accounts
 of the scenes about Reading and the

county in this war. The cruelties continued until peace had been declared and the French and Indians withdrew.

During the revolution patriotism ran high, and the news of the famous Boston tea party stirred up the people. Meetings were held, the British government was denounced, and a committee was appointed to correspond with the counties of the other provinces. This committee was composed of Edward Biddle, James Reed, Daniel Brodhead, Henry Christ, Christopher Shultz, Thomas Dundas and Jonathan Potts.

The news of the battle of Lexington did not reach Reading until a week afterward. Great excitement followed, but there was never any question as to where Reading would take her place. A company was formed and a number of companies were raised in the county.

Capt. George Nagel's company of Riflemen was one of the first organized in Reading. A number of the patriots from this city participated in the Massachusetts campaign and saw hard service.

Capt. Jonathan Jones' company participated in the campaign for the conquest of Canada. Capt. Henry Christ's company served in the Penn'a Rifle regiment, commanded by Col. Samuel Miles.

Companies commanded by Capt. John Spohn and Peter Decker were enrolled in the 5th Penn'a battalion, while a company commanded by Capt. Jacob Moser was included in the 6th Penn'a regiment. Companies composed of Reading and Berks men were commanded by Jacob Bauer, Benjamin Weiser, Joseph Hiester, Jacob Maurer, Jacob Livingood and others. Many Reading soldiers rose to places of distinction and won high honors on the field of battle. Reading was a basis of supplies during the war, and was used as a military camp, where prisoners were kept. The latter were English officers and Hessian soldiers, who were stationed in what is still known today as the "Hession camp." The news of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis was received with great rejoicing.

In the war of 1812, the military spirit was again aroused to a high pitch and many men again enlisted for service in hope of again thrashing England.

On Sept. 27, 1813, a brilliant illumination of the entire town took place in honor of the victory of Commodore Perry on Lake Erie.

The response of soldiers to the call when once issued was prompt and indicated the sympathy of the people for the war.

The Reading Washington Grays was one of the companies which went to the front and was commanded by Capt. Daniel deB. Keim. It was raised, uniformed and equipped in 15 days, and left home on Sept. 16, 1814. The company gave a parade on the evening before leaving, and were given a parting address by Rev. J. F. Grier. When peace was declared, the citizens of Reading "had an illumination, in which 1,600 pounds of candles were consumed."

The Mexican war followed in 1847, and hardly had it been declared, when a town meeting was held and the government was unanimously upheld. The Reading Artillerists, Washington Grays and National Grays promptly tendered their services to President Polk.

The departure of the Artillerists is one of the incidents in Reading's military history, which has possibly never been equalled. The officers and men were given handsome gifts, the officers receiving swords, etc. The company did splendid service in Mexico, being engaged in the battles of Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Chapultepec and Belen Gate. The company was stationed in the City of Mexico for a time and was given a brilliant reception upon their return home. Twenty-seven men were lost in Mexico, but most of them died from sickness contracted there.

During the rebellion similar scenes were witnessed and the people of this city were aroused as never before. The Ringgold Light Artillery won the famous title of the "First Defenders" by its prompt response when President Lincoln made his famous call for troops. The company left here on the afternoon of April 16, 1861, and reached Harrisburg that evening, where its men were mustered in with the 4 other companies for 3-months' service. They arrived at Washington on the 18th and were given a hearty reception.

Company after company was raised, and there were few large engagements in which Reading soldiers did not participate. Many of our people were lost on southern battlefields; others suffered at Libby and Andersonville, while many won high honors on the field and received promotions. No braver soldiers ever wore the blue than those who were sent to the front from Berks. Many persons from this city served in the navy. Thousands of dollars were raised for the support of the government and the greatest patriotism prevailed until the close of the war, when the "Boys in Blue" returned home, after one of the greatest struggles ever known in modern times.

There are, probably, several thousand veterans of the late war residing in this city and county. These have their patriotic organizations, such as McLean and Keim Posts, Grand Army of the Republic, and Union Veteran Legion.

General D. McM. Gregg, who was one of the leaders at Gettysburg, although not originally from this city, is claimed by the people of this city as one of its soldiers.

Reading has always been represented in the army and navy service, and not a few of its officers have risen high. Col. Simon Snyder, who was recently made a brigadier general, is one of the Indian fighters who won fame on the frontier and has always claimed this place as his home. Col. E. P. Pearson is at Mobile with his command. Fully a score of Reading men are officers in the regular service. Several score of Reading boys are blue jackets in the navy and are with Dewey at Manila or Sampson and Schley in Cuban waters.

Only a few days ago, a party of 28 young men started south to join the 2d U. S. cavalry at Mobile, and it is as fine a party of volunteers as ever left here.

The Reading Artillerists are encamped at Chickamauga park, under command of Capt. S. R. Willets. The company is a part of the 4th regiment, one of the crack organizations now in camp there, and has received the highest praise from military authorities. Besides these there are not

... who are enlisted in other companies in the Guard. Two new companies, which have been raised by Henry D. Green and Harry M. Phillippi, are ready to go as soon as they are called upon.

WHEN MR. KEIM FOUND THE CODE

CAUGHT REBEL SIGNALS

He Sent Them to His Newspaper and They Were Published—He Was Arrested But Was Soon Cleared of the Charge—The Man Who Published Them Lost His Job

The last number of the "Fourth Estate" contained the following:

"Only once or twice during the entire war did a correspondent publish information to which the generals in command seriously objected. One of these was DeB. Randolph Keim, who sent to his paper the enemy's signal code, which he had worked out, and thus put an end to a valuable source of information."

DeB. Randolph Keim, who returned from Washington on Friday evening, was shown the above by a Herald man and asked for the story of the publishing of the rebels' signal code.

Mr. Keim said: "When I was with Sherman's army in the Atlanta campaign a number of us set about working out the signal code used by the Rebels in telegraphing from one part of the army to another. Sherman's operations were largely influenced by the readings we would bring of these messages. When we got down to Allatoona General Corse was in command, and it was here Sherman signalled over to him: 'Can you hold out until I come?' Corse replied, 'Yes, till hell freezes over.'

Learning the Code.

"I became proficient in learning the enemy's code by frequently watching the different movements of the flags on the heights. We would discover that a given movement resulted in certain changes in the direction of the army, while at other times a different movement of the flags would bring about a sudden halt on the part of the enemy. From day to day, as the varied signals were shown, we would note them, observe the effect they had, and at last we had the perfect code. When we got to Lone Mountain we knew we would be at Atlanta in a few days.

"One day when I was at Gen. MacPherson's headquarters I told him that

Mr. Bennett, of the New York Herald, had requested his correspondents to send him a personal letter informing him accurately of such things as might not be proper to include in the communications to the Herald. I had written a number of such letters before, which I had always submitted to Gen. Grant or Gen. MacPherson, as the case might be. On this occasion I said, 'General, I have a great notion to tell Bennett how I have read the Rebels' signals and give him the full code for his personal information.' Gen. MacPherson said it would be all right to do so. I accordingly wrote up my newspaper correspondence and then wrote this personal letter to inclose with it. I took the letter to MacPherson and he read it over carefully and said there could be no objection to sending it, as it was of a private nature.

Placed Under Arrest.

"Four or five days after I had dispatched these letters Col. Killburn Knox, one of Pennsylvania's sons, then a member of General Sherman's staff, rode up to headquarters, dismounted, came up to me, and, saluting, said: 'Mr. Keim, I have a very unpleasant duty to perform.'

I asked him the nature of it. He replied, 'I am here to place you under arrest.' I was, of course, somewhat taken back and I asked, 'What for?' He said, 'I have an order from Secretary Stanton directing your arrest.' I replied, 'Well, I suppose I am expected to go with you.'

"I mounted my horse and went with him to Gen. Sherman's headquarters. Gen. MacPherson was sitting at the time some distance from headquarters, talking to some of the general officers of the Army of the Tennessee. As we halted in front of him, he asked me what was the matter. I said, 'I am under arrest.' He asked, 'What for?' I replied, 'I don't know; the order comes from Secretary Stanton.' 'Well, we'll find out,' said he, and, mounting his horse and calling two mounted orderlies, he went with us to Gen. Sherman.

"When we arrived, there I demanded of Knox what the charges were for which I was arrested. He said he did not know, but finally admitted that he had a despatch from Secretary Stanton saying that in Keim's despatches to the New York Herald it was said we were reading the rebels' secrets from their signals. Gen. MacPherson spoke up and said that was not a despatch to the Herald, but personal information to Mr. Bennett. Gen. Sherman said, 'Well, I have nothing to do with it. We all know Keim and there must be some mistake about it. He was with the Army of the Tennessee before it was organized. Go over and see Gen. Geo. H. Thomas, commander of the Army of the Cumberland.' MacPherson said,

'Don't worry; this will come out all right.'

The Editor Printed It.

"I rode over to Gen. Thomas' headquarters, Col. Knox riding by my side. I explained to the general the object of my coming. He said, 'Why, this is none of my business,' and at once dismissed us. I then said to Col. Knox, 'If this is no one's business I'll make it my own. I'll go to New York immediately. I don't see that you can do anything but have me ordered out of the army, or turn the matter over to Secretary Stanton. I propose to go at once.'

"I did so. When I arrived at the Herald office in New York, I met the elder Bennett, who, after hearing me for a moment, said, 'Mr. Keim, no apologies are necessary. The editor who printed that despatch has been dismissed, and I place you on the editorial staff in charge of all military correspondence. I was surprised to see such an announcement and sent to the composing room and had your copy brought. I discovered that your despatches to the Herald were written on manila paper, whereas the paragraph about signals was written on white paper, such as that used in writing to me. I called the editor in and he tried to defend himself on the ground that the letter was open, as it was enclosed with the press despatch, but I dismissed him.'

"Soon after this I was authorized to return to the army. Gen. Grant invited me to join him at City Point, near Richmond. The letter I have in my possession yet, and afterward when I went abroad on the foreign staff of the Herald he gave me a handsome letter of introduction, and I remained in confidential relations with him until the day of his death. The records of the War Department contain all the correspondence on this subject of the signal exposure and the letter of Gen. MacPherson. Immediately after Sherman being actively engaged in the Shenandoah Valley, I was sent down there.

"I mention these after incidents to show I was entirely exonerated from all censure or blame and was in no wise made to suffer for the irresponsible act of another."

READING AS IT WAS.

The Story of Our Fair City and Its Birth 150 Years Ago.

CHURCHES of the Lutheran, German Reformed, Dunkers, Mennonites, Huguenots and Anglican faiths of the Christian Church were early established. The Quakers were not much given to outward forms, but held quiet gatherings at each others' homes, and there chiefly in meditation revolved the distinctive doctrines of their subdued yet generous faith. The religious influence of the people who

early settled here must be given a large place among the great forces in the development of this country. Along with this religious spirit went hand in hand the undaunted industry of a frugal race, the solid foundation, and the only one of a great national prosperity. The people lived, toiled and took their quiet pleasure in well-governed moderation, and thus made possible the luxury and material splendor of to-day. The section gradually took on the characteristics of a German province. The buildings, dress and customs, and practically the common language were all German. This region is probably the most purely German in its origin of any in the United States.

About 1740, the growth of this section had become so marked that the organization of a new town seemed an immediate and natural conclusion. In 1745-46 the two sons of William Penn, Thomas and Richard, visited this locality, partly to enjoy the fine fishing and hunting, which was even then a gentlemanly custom, and even more to see what might be done in the way of advancing their interests hereabouts. They seem to have been greatly impressed with the beauty, fertility and general advantages of the point between the Schuylkill and Mt. Penn, now occupied by our flourishing city. They at once decided to lay out a new town at this point. As some ten years previous they had sold a large part of this land it was necessary to repurchase it from then holders. After some delays and negotiations, this was finally effected in 1748, and the original plot of Reading was laid out by Richard Hockly centering around what is now Penn Square, in the same year. The original town included only 600 acres. The streets were laid out with good engineering ability and a large tract, what is now Penn's Common, was set apart forever as a public park. The proprietors Thomas and Richard Penn, sold off the lots for an annual ground rent, which was never fully collected. Growth continued to be rapid and four years later the county of Berks, with Reading as its seat, was set off from the old county of Philadelphia. This was the fourth county of the State, the three prior having been Philadelphia, Chester and Lancaster. It is interesting to note that the name of Reading was taken because it was the birthplace of the Penns, and Berkshire is the English county of which it is the seat. So far then as it represents the Penns, Reading is a distinct example of the influence of Old England at the same time it has always been one of the most thoroughly German cities of the country. At its very start, Reading went on a kind of a boom, the proprietors advertising it everywhere, as possessing "great natural advantages and destined to be a proper place." In the first four years of its town history,

gained about 400 people, was a great increase in those days. The town was now well started and no serious impediment has since retarded its growth.

COLONIAL WARS AND THE REVOLUTION.

As heretofore intimated the people of Reading, as of the rest of Pennsylvania, had little trouble with the Indians near them, living quietly and doing them justice in all particulars. But their action could not destroy the effect of that of the other colonists, nor of the English Government. The last has always been accustomed to treat the natives of a subdued country like pawns, to be moved around at will, more "food for powder." Their action prior to the French and Indian Wars had greatly incensed the latter, and made them regard as enemies all who bore the English name or lived under the English flag. After 1740, the great agitation among the other tribes began to effect these of Pennsylvania and for the first time the warlike passion burst forth. The people were all the more unprepared by reason of the previous peaceful condition of things. There were no blockhouses scattered through the country, as in other States, and families in the outlying districts were entirely at the mercy of the red men. Not a few were entirely cut off, the remainder fled to the towns and fortified villages. This in the end rather contributed to the growth of Reading and again suggests how good sometimes comes out of evil. One strong element in Reading's favor at this time was the fact that it contained the celebrated Indian interpreter and agent, Conrad Weiser, whose influence over the dusky foresters was always paramount. He had removed to Reading from Heidelberg a few years before, and had set up an Indian trading-post at the northeast corner of Penn and Fifth streets. The curious old building stood for over a century, being destroyed by fire in 1872. In front of it and in Penn Square, the red men often assembled in times of peace, stretching their wigwams where now stand great business establishments, and bartering skins or venison for whiskey, heads and fancy cloth, where now millions of dollars are turned over monthly. Rude as it was, however, this bartering was the original mother and spring of all trade whatsoever. The Indians in these various transactions had formed so good an opinion of the people of the little village of Reading, and especially held Conrad Weiser in such high affection and regard, that they never attacked nor threatened to attack the town. They came very near at times, overrunning the whole northern part of the county, and ravaging the townships of Bethel and Tulpehocken. After Braddock's defeat in 1755 large hordes of western Indians, from Ohio and beyond, made frequent incursions through the Schuylkill valley, which then had practically the frontier. In Nov-

ember, 1755, quite a little battle occurred at Tulpehocken, only eighteen miles distant, between the settlers numbering about thirty, and such an invading band. The noise of firing aroused the citizens, the alarm-bells of Reading rang out, and reinforcements were sent to the seat of the conflict. This was as near as the bloody shadow of war ever came to the quiet domiciles of Reading. The townspeople on various occasions sent detachments to the different outlying forts of the Schuylkill Valley. We find no record that any Reading man was ever killed in these expeditions. Within the town itself it is certain that no one ever lost life or property at the hands of the Indians. Throughout the period of colonial struggle the town went steadily ahead, increasing in stature, population and solid wealth. The iron interest, which had been started in a crude way in 1717 with one of the old-fashioned forges, developed quietly through the century and was in good working shape by the time of the Revolution. Other trade interests multiplied and flourished. Reading became recognized as the great trade centre of northern and central Pennsylvania, the second city of the State. A township was organized in 1760.

As the time of the great struggle for liberty drew on, the people of Reading gave evidence of the blood they inherited. They had no special attachment to England, and the old Teutonic spirit of independence and freedom came easily to carrying everything before it. There were very few Tories here, these being the richer families of the Friends, who were allied to the English Penns and held position to a certain extent under sanction of the Crown. With these, the entire people welcomed the advent of a free and independent national life, lending to such welcome the devotion of their blood and treasure. On the passage of the Stamp Act in 1765, a great mass meeting was held in Reading, where some of the earliest and strongest utterances in favor of freedom were made. As it became clear that war must decide the questions at issue, the citizens promptly prepared to take part in the festivities. They equipped two military companies in 1775 and sent them to the assistance of Washington. The commanders, captains Biddle and Broadhead, both gained high distinction during the war. Other volunteers were soon enlisted and from Boston to Yorktown there was not an important battle-field where Reading was not honorably represented. At the same time, she was proving her usefulness in another direction. The value of her foundries for the casting of her cannon and ammunition, as well as her strong and yet not too remote position early suggested to General Washington that Reading would be the best possible point for a reserve depot of supplies. A

large quantity of munitions and supplies were therefore kept here throughout the war. The pressure of the conflict also developed the manufacturing interests of Reading. They not only made cannons and balls but also fire-locks, powder, equipments and saddlery. Out of the loss again flowed gain. Still the city shared in the general calamity, many of its best citizens perished, families were left desolate, except in some special lines trade languished to the extinction point. With a starving army at Valley Forge it is not likely that there was very much hilarity or social excitement. We read of a ball given by some English visitors to the Tories here in honor of the successes of Howe, which was broken up in short order by the angry citizens who came near to driving the Tories out of town. In 1777, and again in 1778 Reading was also made the depository of several hundred Hessian prisoners, who had been taken at Trenton and later on. The place where they were encamped can be seen on the side of Mt. Penn as one rides out to Mineral Springs. After the capture of Yorktown in 1781 some of these settled down permanently in this section, though most were exchanged and departed.

Before the clouds of battle smoke had entirely disappeared, Reading emerged in renewed beauty and strength. The large growth was evidenced by its incorporation as a borough, Sept. 12th, 1783. It now had four churches, a court house, a jail and over two thousand inhabitants. Its original area was increased to 2,194 acres. The first census (1790) gave Reading 2,235 inhabitants and the county 27,010. The city has joined relatively on the county since. As is often the case after a severe war, the closing years of the last century were ones of marked prosperity for Reading. Her people thrived and industry flourished in many directions. They took part with the State militia in helping to put down the Whiskey Insurrection and through good representative men joined in getting the State and also the national constitution into regular and steady working order. They were strongly in favor of union from the very beginning.

THE TWO READINGS.

The Late Mr. Knabb's Account of a Visit to Our Namesake Across the Sea -- A Comparison.

[In a letter to the TIMES AND DISPATCH, dated Reading, England, August 21, 1878 -- nearly twenty years ago -- the late Mr. Knabb, the then senior editor of this paper, drew a comparison between our own city and its ancient namesake in England. Following is the letter. -- Ed. TIMES.]

READING, August 21, 1878.

Among the places which I particularly

desired to visit during my tour

was the old borough of READING, in Berkshire, England, after which *our* Reading and *our* Berks were named. One cannot always carry out a program made at home, but as regards this particular locality I determined not to be thwarted, and so after leaving London for the second time and for good we took Reading in our course on the way to Liverpool, where we take the steamer for home. Twenty miles from London -- that is from the *centre* of London, although the great city seemed to follow us all the way, -- we passed Windsor Palace and Park, a favorite residence of the Queen, with a good sized village adjacent. We could just catch a glimpse of the towers of the Palace as we rushed by. Five miles further on is "Stoke Pogis," the homestead of

WILLIAM PENN, THE FOUNDER OF PENNSYLVANIA

Here also lived and is buried the poet Gray. The old church and churchyard at this point, I need scarcely say, is the scene of the sweetest poem in the English language -- his "Elegy written in the Country Churchyard," which is familiar to every American school boy and school girl and to every lover of pure English literature throughout the world. By the way, we saw a page of the autograph copy of the 'Elegy' in the British Museum at London. A copy I say, which though in the handwriting of the poet himself, could hardly have been the *original* as it is written in a fair, even hand, without emendations or corrections of any kind. Eton, noted for its boys' school and college, and for the many celebrated men who received their elementary education there was next passed. These famous localities are in the delightful valley of the Thames, above London, -- a valley that is similar in many respects to the valley of the Schuylkill between Philadelphia and Reading in Pennsylvania. Another similarity is that immediately at Reading, in Berkshire, the river Thames is joined by the river Kennet, just as the Schuylkill is by the Tulpehocken at *our* Reading, and the relative size of the two streams is about the same.

READING IN BERKSHIRE, ENGLAND is located in a charming country, but there are no hills, such as the "Never-sink," or "Penn's Mount," which make *our* Reading more picturesque. But by way of comparison the *old* Reading in England has parks, and gardens, and streets, and ancient churches, and villas, and old houses, that far surpass ours. The first settlement of *old* Reading dates back a thousand or more years. It was a town of note long before the discovery of America. In riding and walking through its ancient streets, and beautiful modern parks, and miles of elegant villas on the London and Bath Roads, we were forced to admit that, as a "slow

place," our reading is far behind its old namesake—but in enterprise and progress we are in the advance. Curious to say, the population of the two towns is very nearly equal—they claiming 38,000 and we 40,000. They have two weekly newspapers—both well supported—to our three daily and half a dozen or more weekly.

VISITS THE READING "OBSERVER"

It so happened that our hotel, the "Royal George," was located next door to the office of the *Reading Observer* and so we called in to see our brothers of the craft, and were politely received. We exhibited to them copies of the "BERKS AND SCHUYLKILL JOURNAL" and "READING TIMES AND DISPATCH," which surprised them greatly, they had either never heard of our Reading before, or supposed it to be an American "backwoods" town not worthy of a thought. We had an hour's conversation with our Reading and Berks County "Contemporaries" of old England, and enjoyed it much.

THE ENGLISH TEMPERAMENT.

The English are by no means a demonstrative people. They are as cold as an iceberg upon first encounter—but once interest them, or warm them up, and they can be as enthusiastic as their most ardent trans-atlantic cousins. We have experienced this feeling dozens of times—and it was often very annoying, that just as we began to understand them and they us—we were compelled in our "rapid transit" through the country to bid them good bye. We have had them, again, and again, beg us to stay a day or two longer that they might show us the sights of their towns and pay us special attention—but as our stay in the provincial towns was always limited, we were compelled to decline.

RECEIVED WITH COURTESY EVERYWHERE.

We have said heretofore and desire to say it again, that in the whole course of our travel, we have received the kindest and most courteous attention from all with whom we came in contact. An intelligent European is never impolite, whether a lady or gentleman, they are always courteous and especially so to Americans who conduct themselves properly. An American rough would probably be received roughly, for ugly words are responded to with ugly words or repaid all the world over, and those who use them in the first instance have no right to complain if they are treated in kind.

DESCRIPTION OF READING.

But I am writing a letter about READING, and should stick to the text. From an authorized book published here purporting to give a history of the old town. I make the following extracts:

Reading is a place of great antiquity. Its early history is enveloped in obscurity and the derivation of its name is involved

in doubt. In the Doomsday Book it is called Redinges, and doubtless, as time wore on the appellation, was gradually changed into Reading. The earliest authentic record of Reading is in the year 871, though Mann, in his history of Reading, says the town formed a part of the Kingdom of Wesser under the Saxons, towards the close of the 5th Century. Previous to the subjugation of the Kingdom by the Normans this particular neighborhood was frequently the scene of battle between the Danes and the Saxons. In the year above mentioned the Danes succeeded in capturing the town, at which time the kingdom of Wessel was under Ethelwulf. Alfred the Great, the youngest son of this King, was born at Wantage. In 1006 the town was ravaged and burnt to the ground by Sweyn, King of Denmark. The principal epoch in the history of Reading, however, was in the reign of Henry 1st, when the monarch founded the abbey—an institution that tended to give great importance to the place if not actual prosperity. From this time to the Reformation, Reading at intervals figures prominently in the history of the country. Parliament was held here, Royal visits were frequent, and interments of royal and other important personages were numerous. Henry II visited the town several times, as did also Queen Elizabeth and Edward III spent the Christmas of 1346 here, and among the festivities, held a tournament. Hercules, the patriarch of Jerusalem, with Roger the master of the hospital, came to Reading on a solemn embassy, commissioned by the pope to persuade Henry II to join the Crusaders, and, as an inducement the keys of the Holy Sepulchre and the Royal banners of Jerusalem were offered him. A duel of historical renown was fought in the presence of Henry II on an island close to the town (supposed to be the one below Carestam Bridge.) It appears that in an engagement with the Welsh in 1157, some of the Nohles of Henry's army were cut off by an ambuscade. Those who escaped, thinking the King had fallen, spread the news of the disaster, and caused the greater portion of the army to flee, and with them the Hereditary Standard Bearer—Henry-de-Essex, who threw away the Royal banner.

Now the supposed disaster to the King probably would have happened had not Roger, Earl of Clare, encouraged the troops by again displaying the Royal banner, for Essex's act of cowardice Robert de Montfort challenged him as a traitor, and by the direction of the King the quarrel was settled by a single combat on the spot indicated, on the 8th of April. Essex fell wounded in several places, and the King gave the monks permission to hurry the body. But the vanished knight revived in the Abbey, and subsequently recovered of his wounds.

He was received into the community, and his lands forfeited to the King.

The town itself received the first charter from Henry III. Subsequently the place became noted for its manufacture of woollen cloth, and this trade continued to prosper from the reign of Edward I down to the civil war and the Commonwealth. One of the most thriving merchants in his day was John Kendrick, who, it is said, in the time of Elizabeth and James I employed seven hundred weavers at as many as a hundred and forty looms. This wealthy man, at his decease, bequeathed a lot of valuable property for the benefit of the town, but owing to mismanagement on the part of the town authorities of that time a great deal has been lost to the town. After the civil wars the trade in woollen stuffs languished, and gradually died out. *A propos* to the Civil Wars, Reading again figured conspicuously in the encounters between the parliamentary forces and those of Charles I. The town was fortified by the King's troops, who were commanded by Sir A. Ashton. The parliamentary forces under Essex laid siege to the town, and after ten days the King's troops surrendered the place. At the revolution of 1668 James II quartered a body of some 800 Irish soldiers upon the inhabitants, and the latter fearing the violence and massacre at the hands of the soldiery, and being in common with the rest of the country, opposed to the re-introduction of Popery, which James II was attempting, sought succor from the Prince of Orange, who had landed with some Dutch troops at Torbay. As soon as it became known that the Dutch troops had reached Newburg the inhabitants contrived, though closely watched by the Irish soldiery, to inform the commanding officer of the peril in which the townspeople feared they stood. The same night the commanding officer despatched a column of 300 men to Reading, as it was apprehended that on the following morning, the 10th of December, the massacre would take place. The Irish were on the alert and posted men to guard the different approaches to the town. Nevertheless, with the connivance of the inhabitants, the Dutch troops effected a surprise and drove the Irish soldiery into the market place, and a panic ensuing, the Irish fled in hot haste to Iwyford, their commander (Sir John Lavier), narrowly escaping capture. But few lives were lost on either side, and those were principally of the King's troops. The Dutch lost one officer, and a few privates were wounded. For a century afterward, Mann tells us in his history of Reading, that the "Reading Skirmish," was annually celebrated in the town by great rejoicings. Archbishop Laud was born at Reading and several charities he left to the town are still extant. John Bunyan was frequently at Reading, and in going through the

streets he disguised himself as a cart to avoid recognition. A charter granted by Charles I increased the power and usefulness of the Corporations, but the benefit of local self-government were never fully appreciated until the passing of the municipal Corporations Act of 1835.

In giving a description of the present aspect of the town it may be stated that Reading is the county town of Berkshire. It is built in the valley of the Kennet, close to the junction of that stream with the Thames. It is situated in the Eastern division of the county, and important corn and cattle markets are held here weekly. It is an assized town, assigned to the Oxford circuit, and being a centre from which three lines of railway diverge to all parts of the country (viz. the Great Western, the London and Southwestern and the Southeastern), it has become a place of considerable importance. The population has increased in the census of 1871 by nearly 8,000 and adding the population of that portion of Early which is built upon and immediately contiguous to Reading, and which, locally speaking is part of Reading, it brings up the total population from between 35,000 to 40,000 souls. The increase of population may fairly be taken as an index of the prosperity of the town. In place of its woollen manufactories of bye-gone days have sprung up industries of a character never dreamt of when Mann's History of Reading was compiled, and of a magnitude which the promoters themselves could scarcely have anticipated. The principal of these are Messrs. Huntley and Palmers Biscuit Factory—an establishment of so gigantic and yet unique a character that it necessitates a special description. Then there is the far famed Royal Seed firm, Messrs. Sutton & Sons; also the noted Reading Sauce Manufactory. In addition there are several large iron works, the principal being the Reading Iron Works and the Great Western Iron Works. There are some extensive breweries, and a great trade is done in horses at Tompkin's Royal Repository. There is a large tin box factory employing several hundred hands; the trade in a minor degree, is done in a large building, sail cloth, coal, &c. Reading being the centre of a wide agricultural district the trade in corn is very great, and Berkshire being noted for its porcine breed, Reading forms one of the principal depots for the sale of the porkers, either alive or in the shape of pig-meat, pork or bacon.

READING AS IT WAS.

The Story of Our Fair City and Its Birth
150 Years Ago.

THE growth of a city resembles that of a great forest tree. The little nucleus or germ-center of life is deposited among conditions which have been silently pre-

for its reception during untold centuries. The favoring soil, the sheltering hills, the abundant water supply of rivers and streams are as essential to one as to the other. For many generations the growth is slow, quiet, almost unnoticeable. Then more rapidly the great branches reach out, clothed with a thousand offshoots, and sheltering beneath their mighty shade countless denizens of field and wood. It is worth noting that the great monarchs of the forest have sometimes been known to live over a thousand years. Few cities last that long. The real history of Reading indeed is included within two centuries. What was prior may be of interest to the scientist or speculative student, but can help little in presenting a clear view of the present city, which is the main object of this article.

It is not at all unlikely that another distinct race dwelt along this section of the Schuylkill river before it was occupied by that strange, stern people, with copper-colored skin, whom, following the original error made by Columbus, we have been accustomed to call Indians. Whoever this primeval people may have been, there has not been found in this valley a single relic of their existence, so that their presence can be merely inferred from remains elsewhere discovered. They may have departed long before the Indians came, leaving the forest-crowned hills and beautiful winding rivers to reflect the stars and the sunlight, unruffled by the echo of a human voice, unswept by the discords of man's unceasing struggle with nature and his fellows, for hundreds, even thousands of years.

The brief, blood-stained history of the Indian peoples must always possess a striking interest to all who remember that their title to the territory we now occupy was at least as good as our own. No more interesting account, moreover, remains of the swift transition in the fate of a people swept away by a superior race and barely tolerated where once they were completely dominant. The people of Pennsylvania can reflect upon the relations established by their ancestors with the aborigines, with greater satisfaction than can the people of any other section of the country. As the treatment on one side was the more honorable and conciliatory, so on the other the attitude of the Indians was normally quiet and peaceful. Our early annals contain but very few touches of that bloody smirching, which stains in an almost steady stream the first century and a half of colonization along the rest of the Atlantic coast. A few instances of

individual strife there of course were. But is a good instance of the broad justice of the Quakers and Germans that early in the eighteenth century a party of white men were hung for the murder of some inoffensive Indians, including some helpless women and girls. Such an event probably never happened in any other of the colonies. The Indians inhabiting this section belonged to the Minsi tribe of the Delaware nation—otherwise known as the "Lenni Lenape." This was one of the strongest and best of the Indian nations, occupying most of what is now Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Southern New York. They were united in close bonds with the Lake tribes, forming the Five Nations, and some of their noblest types of men have been immortalized in the novels of J. Fenimore Cooper. They had sufficient basis of integrity and honor to appreciate the spirit of William Penn and his sons. So long as this spirit prevailed, they lived peaceably with the settlers of Pennsylvania, including this immediate section. They seem to have made this section of the river a great center for fishing, their name for the mountain being "Navesink" (from which our Neversink), which means a "favorite fishing-ground." Among the fish caught were shad, sturgeon, salmon and bass. They had set lines with wampum hooks, and no doubt some of their young braves used to spear the larger fish as Longfellow describes Hiawatha doing in his famous poem. There is nothing besides this fact of good fishing here to indicate that the present site of Reading was made a center of the Minsi tribe. It was a small one, scattered throughout Berks and adjoining counties. Only a few dozen people lived where now are as many thousands. They have sometimes held their "pow-wows" or religious dances, at the Navesink, but the great tribal cemetery, which usually marks the central rallying-place, was not here. Their simple life and habits, stern, unconquerable disposition and ferocity when aroused, their often childish curiosity, are all familiar to the students of American history.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The initial impulse to the life and growth of this section came from several sources. Indeed Reading may be said to have a very cosmopolitan foundation. In the order of their immigration thither, the first settlers of Berks and Reading were the Swedes, the French Huguenots, the Germans of the Palatinate and the English Quakers. The last two have had the greatest influence on the development of the city; the Quakers giving the name and many of the early forms of administration, the Germans forming from an early period the great bulk of the people, and determining in large measure the entire scope of industrial, social and intellectual progress.

The Royal Grant by Charles II. to William Penn of the Province of Pennsylvania in 1682 furnishes one of those historical milestones which mark a new and important epoch. This region at the very center of the new country, became at once the refuge of those suffering from religious persecution in all lands. New England had simply opened her stern-forbidding harbors to the Puritans, Penn threw wide open the doors not only to the persecuted Quakers, but also to the French, German and other religious refugees. In the City of Brotherly Love all creeds found for the first time tolerance and men began to build upon one of the great foundation stones of the Constitution. Out through the city and up the course of the Schuylkill river the new settlers began to pour, toward the close of the 17th and in the beginning of the 18th centuries.

A few Swedish settlers were found already ensconced here, but they were of slight importance historically. The first of the new order of settlers to arrive were the French Huguenots, who had been driven out of France by Louis XIV.'s revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. An interesting historical reflection here suggests itself as to the strange transversions of human influence. This revocation was the work of the famous or the infamous Madame de Pompadour, and thus the superstitious whim of a royal courtesan had a very important effect on the development of Reading, as well as of other cities in the New World. By the early part of the 18th century several thousand of the Huguenots, among whom were members of the French nobility, had settled in the vicinity of what is now Reading. Their chief center was at Oley, and they have always constituted a very useful and industrious element in the upbuilding of the best life of the section.

Just a little later, between 1705 and 1710, large bodies of Germans from the Palatinate began to arrive. They had been driven out also by religious intolerance and the disastrous condition of the Rhine country produced by the Thirty Years' War. A pathetic picture of the universal desolation of the Palatinate at this time is given in Goethe's great poem "Hermann und Dorothea." Many of these Germans came from the best families in Heidelberg, Frankfort, and parts of Wurtemberg and Bavaria. They brought with them their sturdy Teutonic habits, their conservative and reliable traits, expressed in the old maxim "Ein Mann, ein Wort," their love of home and music, their generous, broad-souled hospitality. It is said that there was a tavern in town where the burghers used to gather for social converse and good large steins of the old German beer, before even the first pmp had made its appearance. Afterward there were a great many of these, for Reading has

from the first been famous for its fine water supply, even more so than for its beer, which is saying a great deal. From this period, (1710), the Germans have formed the great underlying and determining force in Reading's general life. About 1713, however, a few families of Quakers arrived, who were the representatives of the Penns, and took charge of administrative matters, collection of rents, etc. Their influence was largely external and formal, rather than decisive in the social growth of the people. These first immigrations were followed by the accession of several more families of the Friends in 1738, and a sort of tidal movement of the Germans in 1740, which spread itself over all parts of the county. All of the various peoples who came hither in the first half of the 18th century were marked by strong religious feeling, a faith as strong and distinct as that of the New England Puritans. They built, among their earliest structures, temples of worship, rude fanes of forest trees, and every movement in this early time, whether the laying of a foundation for a barn, a farmhouse or a township, was inaugurated by prayer.

INDIAN TRAILS, STAGES, RAILROADS AND TROLLEY.

It's 150 years from Indian trails to trolley tracks. The period between the two is filled by mud roads, turnpikes, canals, street cars and the locomotive. The century and half existence of Reading has seen them all.

Long before Charles II. thought of giving the province of Penn'a to the Penns, the Indians had their paths through the woods where Reading now stands. Nature provides and man selects them.

Where the Penn st. bridge now is was an Indian ford. The red men used it in passing to their encampments along the Tulpehocken. Ontelaunee and Wyomissing. Then came the white men, and their survivors, in laying out roads, generally followed the paths of the Indians. The confluence of these roads at the ford or its vicinity was the first incentive for the formation of a town. Its success depended on them.

The first mention of a road through what is now Reading was that marked out in 1687 which was to connect the Delaware and the Susquehanna and was to make use of the ford at the foot of Penn, and for many years was known as the Tulpehocken road. In 1768 a road was laid out from Reading to the Susquehanna, and 50 years later became the Berks and Dauphin turnpike.

Then came the Maiden creek road, surveyed in 1745 by Samuel Lightfoot from Francis Parvin's mill, near the mouth of the Maiden creek, southward to the Reading ford. Later this became the pike to Easton, and tolls were collected until 1784.

The first steps were taken for a line between Reading and Phila. It was the Oley road. It began at the Oley and had its terminus near Amityville. Later the route was changed to the way of Douglassville, and in 1810 the pike followed this route from Reading to Perkiomen creek. This was the first great highway between Phila. and what is now Berks, and then, after passing through the village of Reading, passed on to the west by way of what is now the Berks and Dauphin turnpike through Sinking Spring, Womelsdorf, etc., to Harrisburg.

Another that centred in Reading was the Schuylkill road, surveyed by George Boone in 1751, from Caernarvon up along the west bank of the Schuylkill.

Following this came the thoroughfare over Neversink mountain to Flying Hill, in 1753, with another through Reading northward to Alsace church.

In 1762 came that which is now the continuance of Bingaman st., crossing the river on its way to Lancaster. Then there was a lull of a few years, when the Bern road was laid out in 1772, and what is now known as the Friedensburg road, in 1776.

THE STAGES.

After our forefathers had roads and pikes to different points, they naturally turned their attention to transportation. It was the day of the stage. The first was a 2-horse coach, established by Martin Hausman and made weekly trips to Phila. The fare was \$2 and the journey required 2 days. Now the distance is covered in less than 2 hours. Going to Phila. a hundred years ago was as much as a trip to St. Louis is to-day. It was quite an event. Besides the inconvenience of spending 2 days in the carriage, riding over bad roads, there was a possibility of being held up and robbed before the journey was completed.

William Coleman purchased the line several years after its establishment, and for 70 years the Coleman family were prominent in the stage business. The line was soon extended to Harrisburg, and by 1818 there were 2 trips weekly between Sunbury and Phila. by way of Reading. In 1823 the service was extended to Lancaster and Easton. The business must have been profitable, for soon Reading became a centre, and others entered into competition, and Colder and Wilson, in 1825, started a line to Harrisburg, the fare being \$2-50 cents to Womelsdorf and \$1 to Lebanon.

In 1826 a combination was made between the Colemans, Jacob Peters and Colder & Co. to run a daily stage between Phila. and Harrisburg by way of Reading. The start was made from Phila., at 4 a. m.; dinner was taken at Reading; lodging at Lebanon, and Harrisburg was reached next morning. This was quite an event, and the people thought it was rapid transit.

Until 1826 the vehicles were known as the steamboat variety, being an uncovered wagon holding 20 persons, made at Lancaster. About that time other parties went into the business and competition became keen. There were 3 lines. Coleman's, known as the old line; Reeside & Platt's and Miltimore & Mintzer's. About 1827 an improved coach was introduced, known as the Troy. It held 11 passengers, with room for 5 on the top. By

1830 competition was so brisk that rates were reduced one-half, but because of their mail contract the Coleman lines compelled the others to withdraw. It always had 100 horses in its stables to be ready for any emergency.

But the railroads were appearing, and the stage was doomed. They were discontinued from Phila. in 1833; from Pottsville, 1842; from Harrisburg, 1858, and from Allentown, 1859.

CANALS.

Soon after the establishment of the stage lines, canals began to be agitated. As early as 1690 William Penn suggested that one be built to connect the Schuylkill and the Susquehanna. One hundred years later the Penn'a Legislature incorporated the Schuylkill and Susquehanna navigation company, and in 1792 a charter was obtained for the Delaware and Schuylkill canal company. This was to connect with the former at Reading and build one to Phila. These two were to form part of a chain which would give a water connection to Phila. and Pittsburg. Both fell through.

April 2, 1811, the Legislature chartered the Union canal company. It was a combination, partly of the 2 former companies, and it required 17 years to complete the work. The first boat to pass through was the Fair Trade, Capt. Smith. Over 200 boats were in service before the close of 1828. This canal was 79½ miles in length and had 91 locks, 8 basins, 93 bridges, 16 dams and 17 aqueducts. For a long time it was thought that this water way was the only communication possible between the Delaware, Schuylkill and the Susquehanna. But the building of the Columbia railroad by the state in 1835, and the opening of the East Penn railroad in 1857, proved to be crushing blows. These figures give some idea of the business: In 1847 the tonnage amounted to 139,256 and the tolls collected were \$91,356; 1848, 153,222 tons, and \$95,953 tolls, and 1849, 148,332 tons and \$86,800 collected in tolls.

March 8, 1815, the Schuylkill canal was incorporated. It was to extend from Mill Creek, Schuylkill county, to Phila., and make use of the water of the Schuylkill. At that time the Centre turnpike was used to transport freight to Reading, where the heavy teams made use of the Perkiomen and Germantown pikes to conclude the journey to Phila. Different sections were completed from time to time, but the formal opening took place with appropriate exercises on July 5, 1824. This witnessed the completion of a class of internal improvements recommended by William Penn, more than 130 years before. The cost was nearly \$2,000,000.

Until the completion of the canal, it cost 40 cents per hundred weight to transport goods between Phila. and Reading by wagon. The boats reduced it to 12½ cents. As might be expected, such a reduction in freight was a boom to business. Until 1826 the boats were pulled through the water by 2 men, and by this means it required 6 weeks to make a trip from Port Carbon to Phila. and return. Then horses and mules were used.

In 1826 the tolls collected amounted to \$43,108; 1827, \$58,149; 1828, \$87,171; 1829, \$120,939; 1830, \$148,165. Traffic grew, and by 1842 the tonnage had increased to over half a million tons, and the tolls were

over \$400,000. It was considered a gilt-edged investment. Splendid dividends were paid and shares that originally cost \$50 were sold at \$175 and even \$180. In 1851 the tonnage had reached 842,097, and 10 years later it had jumped to nearly 1½ million tons.

Half century ago, as now, people wanted rapid transit. After 1858 the canal company offered premiums for speed. Two boats competed and in a short time it was possible to make the trip between Port Carbon and New York and return in 7 days. This was considered extraordinary, and the competition became so strong that boats were loaded at the Reading wharfs in 18 minutes.

In 1825 John and Nicholas Coleman ran passenger or packet boats to Phila. In was a success, and a decided improvement over a journey by the dusty stage. Three boats were used and the trip was made in a day, the fare being \$2.50. Three trips were made weekly. Think of it! To-day a score of trains make the journey in less than 2 hours. The packets had the right of way, and all other boats had to turn out. They continued in operation until 1832, when the freight traffic compelled their withdrawal. Steamboats began running regularly in 1846. They left Reading daily at 2 p. m., arriving in Phila. the next morning. The fare was reduced to \$1, but the enterprise did not last very long.

In 1870 the company leased their great water way to the P. & R. railroad company for 999 years. As canals took business from the pikes, so railroads took it from the canals. Each was a step forward.

RAILROADS.

Men are living in Reading to-day who remember the first railroad train that entered the city. The world has been making some rapid strides since then. In 1833 a road was projected from Port Carbon to Phila., and a charter for the Phila. & Reading company was secured on April 4 of that year. Work was begun at once, and by 1837 one track was completed from Reading to Pottstown, and on Dec. 6 an excursion party of 100 residents of this city, in 5 freight cars, drawn by horses, made the trip to Pottstown. The start was made at 9 a. m. and their destination reached in 2¾ hours. They began their return at 2 p. m. and reached home at 5. That day marked the beginning of the end of the great activity along the river front. The first regular train to Pottstown began running May 1, 1838. There were 2, one leaving at 8 a. m., and the other at 12.30 p. m.

The road was opened to Norristown, July 16, 1838, and to Phila., in 1839, when there were 2 trains daily each way. The fare was \$2.50 for first-class and \$2 for second-class. The company's charter was extended and the road extended to Pottsville, and on Jan. 10, 1842, the railroad was formally opened between Phila. and Reading, a distance of 93 miles. It was single track until 1844, when another was added the entire length. The Reading depot was at 7th and Chestnut until 1874, when the present outer station was put in use, made necessary by the large number of roads centering in this city.

Reading's next railway was the Lebanon Valley, which was incorporated in 1836, but nothing was done for some years.

Reading, as a city, subscribed for 1,000 shares. An election was held to get the people's consent, on June 15, 1853, and it was carried by a vote of 1658 to 1682. Then some of the citizens opposing it, took the matter to the supreme court, asking for an injunction, which was refused. The road was opened to Lebanon in June, 1857, and to Harrisburg, Jan. 18, 1858.

March 9, 1856, the Reading and Lehigh railroad company was incorporated to build a road from Reading to Allentown, but the name was changed to the East Penn'a railroad company, April 21, 1857. The first ground was broken near Temple, June 11, 1857, and the road completed 2 years later.

The Reading and Columbia, beginning at Sinking Spring, was incorporated May 19, 1857.

The Wilmington & Northern was incorporated April 20, 1864, under the name of the Berks and Chester. Later its name was changed to its present title, and was completed to Reading in 1874.

In March, 1871, a charter was obtained to build a road from Birdsboro, through Reading and Berks to the Lehigh. It was called the Berks county railroad company, and built a road from Poplar Neck, through Reading to Slatinington. It was opened for travel in July, 1874, but shortly after was foreclosed on a mortgage, and a re-organization affected under the name of the Berks & Lehigh.

The manufacturers along the canal saw the need of a road to connect their establishments with the main line, now that the canal was no longer a great means of transportation. An act was passed, March 20, 1860, with authority to construct a road from the Lebanon Valley at any point between the river and 4th st., thence to a point on the canal near the Reading gas works, with power to extend it to the Henry Clay furnaces, at the extreme lower end of the city. It was opened for traffic in 1863, and after operating it for 10 years, it passed into the hands of the P. & R., and has been used ever since to deliver and receive freight.

The Penn'a Schuylkill Valley was the last addition to Reading's steam railroads. It was opened for traffic between Phila. and Reading, Nov. 15, 1884. On Dec. 1, 1885, it was leased to the Penn'a company.

This is the story, told in a brief way, how travel between Reading and the outside world has been accomplished. It covers a long period of time. A century and a half ago a trip to Phila. was quite an undertaking, and few made it. To-day hundreds do it and think no more of it than a trip of a dozen miles when Reading was founded. From a horseback journey over an Indian trail to a cushioned seat in a Pullman!

STREET CARS.

After rapid transit had been provided to neighboring cities, citizens of Reading wanted it within their own town, and the day of our local street car service dawned. Henry S. Eckert was one of the prime movers and the old Penn st. passenger railway was the pioneer line, which was constructed in 1874. Then came the 6th st. line, followed by the 10th, the Cotton st., that up Walnut and out 11th, and the other branches followed until now our citizens have cars on nearly every street

and a service which is most excellent. The Reading passenger railway succeeded the Penn st. company, and in turn made way for the Reading traction company, which in turn was succeeded by the United traction company, now operating all the Reading lines with the exception of the Reading & Southwestern.

While the little bob tail cars with one horse have been succeeded by the present handsomely upholstered affair, the horse has been retired by the trolley line. Each step has been one of advancement, and 5 cents pays for a 5-mile ride.

The first electric road was the Black Bear line, and this was soon followed by the equipment of the entire Reading system. It's but a few years ago, when great crowds were out at 19th street to see a car run without horses, while to-day it is one of the most ordinary of every day sights. And with the trolley have come lines to Skillington and Mohnsville, to all the towns as far west as Womelsdorf, to Denglers, Black Bear and Stony Creek, Riverside, and soon to Boyertown, and then on to Pottstown. A line has been chartered to Temple, and that will lead on to the Fleetwood, Kutztown, and so to Allentown, and it is a question of a few years when we'll go to Birdsboro, Bernville and every other village within the county on the rapidly invading trolley.

It's but 150 years ago that the Indian stealthily took his way over the hills and through the valleys of Berks. The trolley now reaches over the same course, carrying happy excursion parties. From the Indian trail to the trolley track indeed.

WEEKLY EAGLE.

From

READING, PA.

Date

JUN 11 1898

THE CAREERS OF THOMAS AND RICHARD PENN,

Who Showed Such Wise Forethought in the Selection of the Site of Reading—The Former's Visit to the Colonies and 9 Years' Stay Previous to the Founding of the Town on the Schuylkill—Details of His Later Life.

As is well known, Reading was founded under the direction of Thomas and Richard Penn, the sons of William Penn. On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the city, the Eagle herewith presents sketches of these interesting personages:

At the death of his father, Thomas was in his 17th year—an apprentice in London. Apparently he resided in that city from that time on until he came to Penn'a in 1732. Here he stayed 9 years, and in 1741 returned to England. In 1751 he was married; in 1775 he died. It is as the principal proprietor of Penn'a for nearly 30 years and as Reading's founder that Thomas Penn has distinction. His influential connection with the province was second only to that of his father.

He, as before stated, lived 9 years in Penn'a, beginning with 1732. This was the time when the German immigration was at its full height and the Scotch-Irish were also coming freely. It was during this period that he decided upon

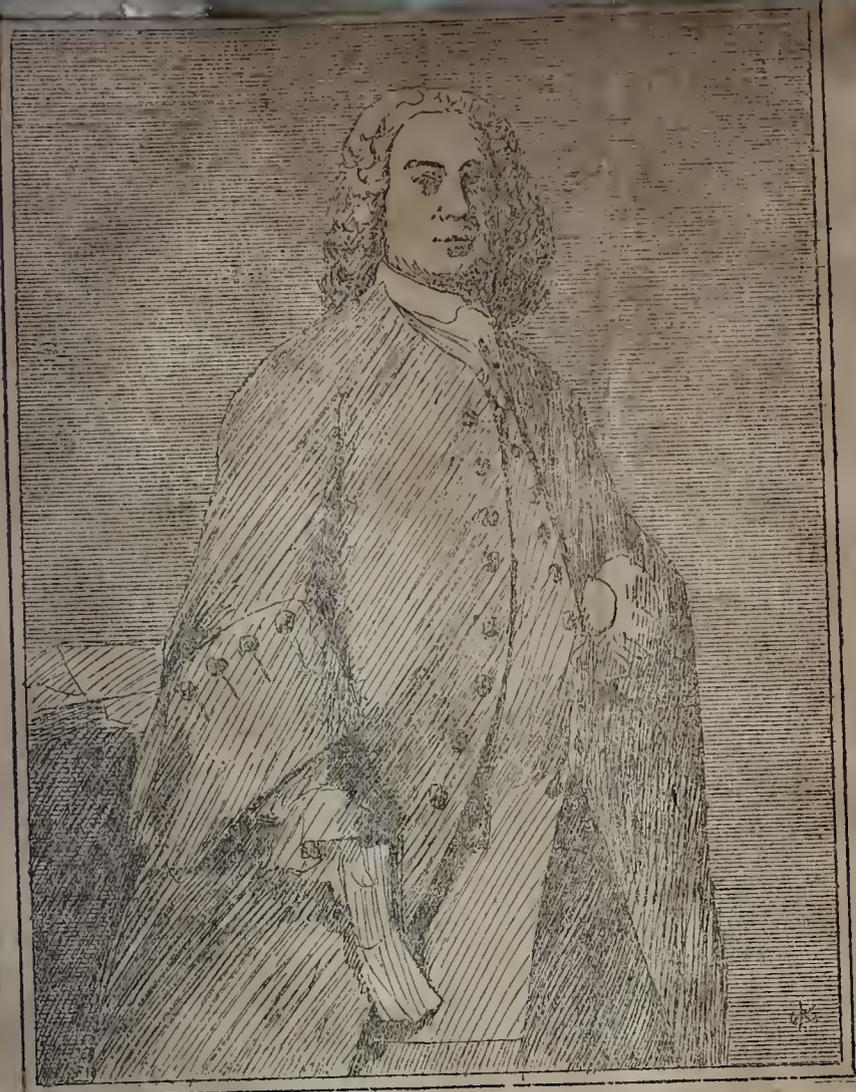
the future location of Reading on the Schuylkill.

Leaving England in the summer of 1732, Thomas Penn reached the Delaware in August and landed at Chester on the 11th of that month. An express rode with a letter from him to Gov. Gordon, at Phila., and that official hastened to receive him with due honor. The governor "and all the members of the council who were able to travel, accompanied with a very large number of gentlemen," set out next day for Chester, waited on him, and paid him their compliments in due form. That he was embarrassed by the ceremonial, as the story attributed to Keimer the printer, cited in Watson, avers, is not very probable; he does not appear to have been a person unequal to the demands of the station he occupied, whether it might be that of mercer's apprentice or something higher. The company dined at Chester, then set out for Phila., and near the city the mayor, recorder and aldermen, "with a great body of people," met the party and extended the civic welcome. There was general anxiety to see the visitor, for since the brief stay of William, jr., 28 years before, and his angry departure, there had been none of the family of the Founder seen here. There were crowds in the streets as the cavalcade entered, and women and children gathered on the balconies and door stoops to see the new arrival—"a son of William Penn!"

The stories which were told afterwards of Thomas Penn, the outcome of his stay here, are preserved by the omnivorous Watson, and may be read in his "Annals." They represent his manners as cold. This may have been. We presume him to have been a self-contained and somewhat formal man, with little disposition to what in a later day has been called "gush." The democratic colonists doubtless tried him by the tradition, then still fresh among them, of his father's gracious and graceful manner, and they are said to have found his brother John,

when he came 2 years later, a more affable person. We may take from Watson the story of that worthy Welshman, the Reverend Hugh David, who visited Thomas Penn to read him a congratulatory poem recalling the honorable connection of the Penns with the royal house of Tudor, and who retired from the presence much disappointed. Relating his experience afterwards to Jonathan Jones, of Merion, Hugh said with great disgust, "He spoke to me but 3 sentences: 'How dost thou do?' 'Farewell!' 'The other door!'"

Thomas Penn addressed himself with energy to the proprietary affairs. The situation had greatly changed since the days of continuous outlay and no income in the first years of the settlement, and of perpetual struggle to balance income and outgo in the period when the founder broke down. There was now a large revenue from the sale of lands and quit-rents, and the expense of the government could be sustained by the increasing numbers



THOMAS PENN, from an original oil painting in possession of the Penn'a Historical society.

of the people.

In September, 1734, John Penn arrived at Phila. with his sister Margart and her husband Thomas, Freame, and now all the children of Hannah Callowhill but Richard, were gathered at Phila. John returned to London in a year, to carry on the controversy with Lord Baltimore over the Maryland boundary, but Thomas and the Freames remained at Phila.

Thomas Penn established himself at Phila., in a residence between Bush Hill and the Schuykill, with grounds esteemed handsome in that day, and long known as the "Proprietor's Garden." A young Virginian, Daniel Fisher, who had come to Phila. to seek his fortune, and who walked late in the afternoon of the first day of the week in May, 1755, "two miles out of town," found the garden, though somewhat neglected, more attractive, he thought, than that of ex-Governor James Hamilton, at Bush Hill. It was, he says, "laid out with more judgment." The house, of brick, was "but small," with a kitchen, etc., "justly contrived for a small rather than a numerous family,"—a bachelor's establishment, plainly. "It is pleasingly situated," says the writer, "on an eminence, with a gradual descent, over a small val-

ley, to a handsome, level road, out through a wood, affording an agreeable vista of near two miles." The greenhouse, at this season empty, its plants and flowers disposed in the pleasure garden, "surpassed everything of its kind" Daniel Fisher had ever seen in America, and he looked with pleasure on "a good many orange, lemon and citron trees, in great perfection, loaded with abundance of fruit, and some of each sort seemingly ripe." There was also a neat little deer park, but he was told that no deer were then kept in it.

At the time of Daniel Fisher's visit to the Proprietor's Garden, Thomas Penn had been absent from Phila. 14 years. He returned to England in 1741. He had taken a somewhat active part in the affairs of the province, especially in the treaties and conferences with the Indians, and was occasionally present at the meetings of the governor's council. The council's minutes record him as present March 26, 1741, and at a meeting Oct. 14, that year, several Cayuga chiefs being present, Gov. Thomas told them that "Mr. Penn had hoped to have seen the chief of their nations here this summer, but being disappointed, and being obliged to go for England, he had left the governor in his place."

The Pennsylvania Gazette, Aug. 20, 1741.



THE CHILDREN OF THOMAS AND LADY JULIANA PENN, FROM A PAINTING BY SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS, 1764.

has this paragraph: "This day the Honourable Thomas Penn, Esq., one of the Proprietors of this Province, attended by a Great Number of the Principal Inhabitants of this City, set out for New York, in order to embark on board his Majesty's Ship Squirrel, Capt. Peter Warren Commander, for Great Britain."

Apparently he did not sail from New York, however, but from a port in New England, and his ship did not get away until October. The following letter to Richard Hockley (his agent in the laying out of Reading), who was about to sail from England to Penn'a, to act as agent for Thomas Penn, gives the time and circumstances of his arrival in England:

"Dear Dickey:—As we have been in pain for you, hearing Privateers were off our Capes, and should have great pleasure in hearing you were safe, I conclude it has fared so with you, and that you will be glad to hear my Sister (Margaret Freame), with her Children and myself are arrived, in perfect health, as wee have been ever since our departure, which was this day five weeks from New England; wee expected after seeing the mast ship in the morning to have proceeded to Portsmouth, but the wind blowing hard at South our Captain judged proper to put in here, where it blows hard, but as soon as the

wind is fair wee propose to sail for Portsmouth, from where I shall be very glad to see you. Enclosed is a letter from my Brother which put in the Post if he is not in Town, and desire Joseph Freame to get the enclosed bill for £1,000 accepted and take his receipt for it. Wee all affectionately salute you, and I am

"Your Very Sincere Friend,
"THO: PENN.

"Plymouth Harbor, Nov 22d 1741."

The death of John Penn, in 1746, left Thomas Penn the holder of three-fourths of the Proprietary and family land in Penn'a and Delaware. One-fourth had come to him in fee, as we have seen, and two-fourths had been left him in life-right by John. He thus became, prospectively, if not already, a rich man. Thenceforward for almost 30 years, to his death in 1775, he was the chief of the Penn family and a figure of the first importance in the public affairs of Penn'a. Throughout the period following his return to England he was continually in correspondence with the lieutenant-governors and other officials, and with his legal and business representatives in Penn'a, and the mass of letters from and to him, in the collections now owned by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, is so extensive that it has been fully examined by but few persons.



RICHARD PENN, from an original oil painting in possession of the Penn'a Historical society.

His brother, Richard, took no such prominence in the conduct of the affairs of Colonial Penn'a, and it is safe to say that the founding of Reading was due to the wise forethought of Thomas Penn. In those days he was not possessed of ready finances. "People imagine, because we are at the head of a large province," he says, "we must be rich; but I tell you that for 15 years, from 1732 to 1747, I laid by (only) about £100 a year." He had been inclined to think, as is shown in a letter from Margaret Freame to their brother, John Penn, in 1736, that he was doing in Penn'a the chief work for the united Proprietary interest, and should have corresponding compensation.

The Freames, at this time, were remaining in Penn'a for the purpose of selling their lands, some of which appear to have been at Tulpehocken, in what is now Berks county. Thomas Freame writes to John Penn that there are plenty desiring to buy, but they want small tracts and have little ready money, while he wishes to sell in large blocks and for cash. He says, writing from Phila., March 22, 1736-7, "I met with a very great Disappointment, for those Germans that I wrote you were about a large part of my Land went up with me to see it. They approved of the Land and agreed with me for a price, so that I began to think of seeing you this

Summer, I having been informed that they had sixteen hundred pounds in Gold by them, but it proved otherwise, for they would pay but £150 this summer and the rest Six years hence. This would have done very well if I could afford to let my money lay at interest, but that is not what I want, therefore I did nothing with them." Later, in September, 1736, he again writes to John that as soon as he is able to ride' (he had been unwell) he is going to Tulpehocken "with some Palatines lately come in, to whom I have some expectation of disposing of half that tract."

After returning to England, Thomas Penn lived in London for a time. After the death of his brother, John, Thomas' possessions increased, and he lived in better style. When 50 years of age and a bachelor he was married to Lady Juliana Fermor, some 27 years his junior. There are several portraits of her preserved, and one of these, a small full length, painted about the time of the marriage, represents her as a fine-looking lady in her wedding dress of white silk, made in a style which illustrates strikingly the fashion of the time, the side being spread out by hoops to enormous dimensions. She stands near the fireplace of a handsome room, presumed to be in her father's house in Albermarle, London. This marriage was an event of

ance to Thomas Penn and all
It gave them increased social
on. The couple had 8 children,
these grew up; Thomas Penn had
ed to return to Penn'a. In a letter
Richard Peters, at Phila., March 13,
14, giving him a message for the In-
dlaus, he says to tell them, "And, as for
myself, that I fully expected to return
before this time, but some affairs have
hindered me; however, I hope to be in
America some time the next year." And
in a letter a few weeks later, May 9, he
says, "I can't think of seeing Phila.
until the latter end of summer twelve-
month." During the few succeeding
years he was preparing plans and com-
municating them to his agents in the
colonies for the laying out of Reading.

By the opening of 1775, Thomas Penn's
strength was evidently far spent. His
wife was now conducting the Penn'a cor-
respondence. She writes from Stoke to
Gov. John Penn, Jan. 7 of that year: "Mr.
Penn is going to London for the winter."
Then follow, in successive letters, same
to the same, the following passages:

Stoke, January 10: "Mr. Penn has no
particular complaint, but I think the win-
ter does not agree with him, and that he
is weaker, though he goes out every
day."

London, February 21: "I am sure that
he rather loses than gains strength. As
I know your affection for him, I cannot
write without giving you some account of
his health."

London, March 1: "I think Mr. Penn is
visibly worse the last 2 months, tho' he
still looks well at times, and goes out in
the Coach as usual."

Finally there comes this announcement:

"I know the news I have to communi-
cate will affect you, But the considera-
tion that poor Dr Mr. Penn had long
since been no Comfort to himself will I
hope make the hearing it is at an end
less painful to you. It pleased God to
release him yesterday, March 21, in the
evening. * * *

"Spring Garden, March 22."

Thomas Penn's portrait, in the posses-
sion of the earl of Ranfurly, painted at
the time of his marriage (a copy of which
was added, March, 1896, to the collections
of the Penn'a historical society), is "a
small full-length of a perfectly dressed
and somewhat precise gentleman, in the
costume of the middle of the 18th cen-
tury. He wears an embroidered grayish
lilac silk coat and breeches, and a long
white satin waistcoat. He stands at the
open door of a wainscoted room, with un-
carpeted wooden floor. Through the
doorway an antechamber can be seen, with
a window opening upon a pleasant country
view."

A painting by Sir Joshua Reynolds, 1764,
shows the 4 children of Thomas and Lady
Juliana Penn, then living. Juliana, a girl
of 11; Louisa Hannah, 8; John, 4, and
Granville, 3.

Richard Penn, son of William Penn, the
founder, was the only one of the three
young proprietors, inheritors of the Penn'a
property, who did not come to this coun-
try, and therefore whatever interest he
took in Reading was direct from the other
side of the ocean.

He lived at different times in London
and in the country, and, of course, great-
ly benefited from his American posses-
sions. He left a large correspondence,
much of which relates to Penn'a. He was
born in 1705 and died in 1771. His widow

(formerly Hannah Lardner) survived her
husband 14 years. Richard Penn was ac-
tive in promoting the town on the Schuyl-
kill, which he and his brother founded,
but never exerted the influence of his
brother Thomas in colonial affairs.

From,

Eagle
Reading Pa

Date, June 19 1898

DECLINE OF THE QUAKERS IN BERKS.

Only a Few Remaining Families Belonging to the Society of Friends.

The Society of Friends numbered
about 275 families in Berks 130 years ago.
To-day this entire county has scarcely
more than 20 families living in the Quaker
faith. The original meeting houses are
still here, but some of them are neglected
and going to decay. With one or two ex-
ceptional the meetings have been discon-
tinued, but occasionally an aged brother
or sister spends a "sileut hour" amid the
old scenes of worship, the visitor arriving
in some cases from a distauce. In the
early history of this section the Quakers
exerted a powerful influence. Located as
they were in the midst of an overwhel-
mingly large German settlement, they had
at the begiuning of the prescut century
implanted their language and certain
manuers and customs into thousands of
families that belonged to other churches.
Many of the sons of the early Quakers of
Berks became distinguished men. Ex-
President Abraham Lincoln, martyred
president of the United States, and Dan-
iel Boone, the famous Kentucky pioneer,
were direct descendants of Berks county
Quakers, the latter having been born in
Exeter, Oct. 22, 1733, on a farm a mile
north of the present village of Baums-
town. This farm 'Squire Boone, father of
Daniel, bought in November, 1730. The
original dwelling is still standing. 'Squire
Boone and family left for North Carolina
in 1750.

Some of our first county officers were
Quakers, and they are prominent in the
industrial history of Berks. The Baileys,
of Pine Iron Works, for instance, have for
more than a century furnished large num-
bers of men with employment. The head
of this family is to-day one of the few
persons who regularly visit Exeter meet-
ing house.

The meeting houses are in Exeter,
Maidencreek, Robeson and Reading, out-
side of which districts they never had any
places of worship in this section. The
few surviving members are nearly all
people above 60 years of age. Many of
the younger generation have gone to
Phila., Reading and Pottstown, where
more than half of them are now success-



THE OLD MEETING HOUSE IN MAIDEN-CREEK.

fully engaged in business or the professions. Others, however, remained on the fertile farms of their fathers, and as tillers of the soil are more than ordinarily successful. They are, as a class, intelligent, well read and prosperous. Where direct descendants of Quakers live near a meeting house of that denomination, the buildings are kept in repair, although they may not be opened once a year. All of the old burial grounds are looked after, even where there are no children of the Friends near. This attention is given to the old properties largely out of pure respect for the ancient faith. Many of the sons and daughters of the Friends married outside the church, and these and their children are now of the most liberal citizens, belonging to no particular creed, but adhering strictly to the moral laws, and ranking far above the average in sociability, enterprise and general usefulness.

Here and there, however, one comes across a family that live as strictly within the Quaker faith as their ancestors several generations ago, even continuing the use of the pronouns thou and thee. Refusing to marry any one not a member of their church, their matrimonial range was limited, and as a consequence, aged maiden ladies and unmarried brothers now live together and lead a quiet, peaceable life. A few middle-aged and even younger men and women still attend the meetings, but have considerably modified their mode of living and would marry outside the church if they felt justified in deserting one or more aged single brothers or sisters. A few of those nowadays attending the meetings have discarded the regulation garb, but occasionally one sees the same sombre garments as those worn by the members in the early colonial days. Quakerism in the old form may last but a few more years in this county, but the stamp of its influence in the formation and advancement of Berks will never be effaced.



ORTHODOX MEETING HOUSE, MAIDEN-CREEK.

The first Friends that settled here left Phila. prior to 1723, following the course of the Schuylkill until the Manatawny and Mouocacy valleys were reached. Here they turned away from the main body of the stream and made their homes on the fertile land along the tributaries, gradually extending their clearings until they reached almost to the present village of Friedensburg, Oley township.

The structure now known as Exeter meeting house stands close to the spot where the first log church stood. The first mention on record of this place of worship is in a petition presented to court at Phila. in 1727 for a road "from the Lutheran meeting house at Tulpehocken creek to the high road at the Quaker meeting house near the mill to George Boone, in Oley." That time the present township of Exeter was a part of Oley, and the Quaker meeting house above mentioned stood at the most convenient location for the members living in Manatawny and Monocacy valleys. In 1742, when Exeter was set apart from Oley, the name of the house of worship was changed to Exeter meeting house.

The first meeting house erected in Oley was in 1736, found too small and the following year replaced by a larger structure. The acre of land on which this house was built was part of a 277-acre tract which was patented by Thomas Penn to George Boone in 1734 and was deeded by the later and his wife Deborah to Anthony Lee, John Webb, and Squire Boone for a consideration of 20 shillings, Dec. 24, 1736. The same day they in turn conveyed the land to Ellis Hugh, Thomas Ellis and James Booue in trust "for a house and place of religious worship for meeting for the people called Quakers within said township of Oley."

Since the second meeting house was erected here several others have in turn been built near the same spot. A large burial ground was added shortly after 1736, which is still in excellent condition. A great many people have been buried here, the place being filled once and is almost half covered with graves the second time. There are no tombstones, all the records of death being kept in the church, as well as those of births and marriages. Exeter meeting house is a substantial stone structure and in good repair. All the meeting houses outside of Reading are about the same size, somewhat larger than the average country school house and resembling the latter in appearance, with the exception of the stone wall which surrounds the meeting house and the cupola and bell that surmount some school houses. At Exeter the Lincolns, Hanks, Lunds and Hughes were at one time among the leading spirits of the meetings.

Maidencreek township was taken up by the Friends in 1732. It is supposed that Moses Starr and wife were the first Friends to settle here. Some of the other Friends who took up land were: Francis Parvin, Samuel Lightfoot, Joseph Whyley (Wily), Robert Penrose, Mordecai Lee and Nathaniel Houlton. In 1752, when Berks was erected, nearly the whole of Maidencreek was owned by the Friends, and at that time the township included what is now known as Ontelaunec. There were then some 70 Quaker families in Maidencreek. In September, 1737, the first meeting house was erected here in the midst of an oak and walnut forest. The



THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE OF MAIDEN-CREEK FRIENDS' GRAVEYARD IN FOREGROUND.

present stone structure stands on the original site. Previous to 1737 services were held in the open air and in private houses. In 1784 the Friends of Maiden Creek erected a log school house, close to the church. Thomas Pearson was the first teacher. He had 15 pupils in winter and 8 in summer the first year. In 1807 a stone school house was erected on the spot where the log structure stood. This school was considered one of the best for many miles. Special attention was paid to mathematical studies, a number of surveyors being turned out here every year. Among those who taught here were: Mordoccai Wright, John G. Lewis, Joseph Jacobs, Jesse Willits, Joseph M. Meredith and Jesse Lightfoot. The stone school house still stands, but has not been used in the interests of education since 1870. It is now used as a private house, being occupied by John Yeager. In the old Maiden Creek meeting house no services have been held for some years. The adjoining graveyard is well filled with graves, and, contrary to the usual custom, contains a few plain marble head stones.

In 1827, when Elias Hicks, a Friend of remarkable powers, created a schism in the society, the split was extended to Maiden Creek. The one branch was now called Hicksite and the other Orthodox. The latter for a time worshipped in a log house on the Reber farm in Maiden Creek. In 1853 Thomas Willits donated a tract of land and an Orthodox house of worship was erected. Among those who composed the meeting that time were Jacob Parviu, Thomas Willits, John Pearson, Rebecca Lee and William Smith. The residence of Thomas Willits is right alongside the Orthodox meeting house, both being located along the same road that goes past the old meeting house. The latter stands half a mile nearer to Blaudon than the new. Captain Willits, of the Reading Artillerists, is a son of Thomas Willits, who is now far advanced in years.

In Reading the first meeting house was built in 1751. The present structure, which is in excellent repair, has been put up more recently. Some of the old Quaker families of Reading were the Jones, Huttons, Imbrees, Pauls, Jennings, Wickershams, Georges, Embrees, Penroses, Parkers, Jacksons, Williams, Shiffs, Wyls and Chandlers. In 1776, while the Hessians were prisoners in Reading, the Friends church of this place was used as a hospital for soldiers. Of recent years

Rachel D. Griscom has been one of the most interesting of the Reading Quakers on account of her wide knowledge of the early history of the denomination in this city.

The meeting house in Robeson has been out of use longer than any of the others. Twenty acres formerly belonged to the property, but in 1870 all the land, outside the graveyard, was sold to Jacob Kurtz. Some of the early members of this meeting house were Gaius Dickinson, John Scarlet, Peter Thomas, John Hugh, William Hugh, William Morris and Isaac Bonsal.

From, *Eagle*
 Reading Pa
 Date, *Aug 7-1898*

VALUE OF FARM STOCK 126 YEARS AGO

Inventory of the Personal Property of James Wells—Paid for Real Estate at That Time.

Joanna: In 1772, while events and diplomacy were basting on the war of Revolution, there died in Robeson township a person named James Wells. His dust now rests in the neglected Boice graveyard, in the midst of a cultivated field.

But while oblivion has closed the epoch and events of his life by his death, a record was preserved that was handed to the Eagle representative. It was found among the records in the possession of J. H. Wells, justice of the peace of Caernarvon.

It was an early English law that required a true and perfect inventory of the goods, chattels and rights to be made after the decease of an individual. The parchment exists as it came from the hands of the appraiser. It is nearly the size of a modern foolscap sheet, very much stained by the mutilations of 126 years, and is a sample of the parchment included in the famous "Stamp Act" passed in George's reign for taxing the colonies, and one of the causes of the Revolutionary war.

It was written by a quill pen. The writing is distinct and was done with a black fluid that has remained unfaded for a century and a quarter, to be read by this generation.

At the head of the paper it is declared to be "a true and perfect inventory." The spelling is in the antique style, and the sums are expressed in the English method of pounds, shillings and pence. The old paper is valuable because it gives a glimpse of the value of goods and chattels of that era. In many of the items can be traced a value corresponding with prices paid at the public sales in the county last spring. The paper brings before us the value of household furniture, of sundries and farm implements.

The items are: Horse and saddle and bridle and wearing apparel, 15*l*; 2 beds, one feather and the other chaff, and furniture, 10*l*; clock and case, 9*l*; chest and corner cupboard, 1*l* 10*s*; table and sundry old chairs, 7*s* 6*d*; shoemaker tools, 8*s*; 2 pitchforks and sundry other lumber, 7*s* 6*d*; maul and wedge and sundry other old things, 12*s*; hand saw, auger and sundry old things, 7*s*; a fowling piece, 1*l*; 3 old pots and brass kettle, 1*l*; hand irons, tongs and shovel and sundries, 1*l* 10*s*; sundry pewter, 18*s*; sundry old lumber, 11*s*; 3 old wheels, 8*s*; 4 old bags, 10*s*; plough and harrow and sundries, 1*l* 15*s*; cutting knife and steel sundries, 13*s*; cow and calf, 4*l*; a year old calf, 15*s*; 5 sheep, 2*l*; a hive of bees, 5*s*; sow and 2 pigs, 11*s*; scythe and pair hoes, 4*s*; leather and sundry other things, 15*s*; 5 acres winter grain, at 15*s* per acre, 3*l* 15*s*; 3 bonds that amounted to 70*l*.

We, the subscribers hereof, appraised the above goods and chattels and find them to amount to 123*l* 5*s*. As witness our hands this 21st, 3 month 1 772. John Scarlet, David Jackson.

A copy of this original inventory is exhibited in the register's office at Reading, bearing seal of office and dated Sept. 1, 1784, Henry Christ, register.

John Scarlet was one of the primitive settlers and was assessed a taxable of Robeson township in 1756.

In the collection is a parchment deed poll of June 13, 1766, made by David Jones, of the Province of Pennsylvania, Inholder and Elizabeth, his wife, to Jas. Wells, of Robeson township, yeoman.

The original deed poll was made Jan. 7, 1764, by Charles Norris, Mahlon Kirkbride, Francis Yarnall and James Wright, who were the surviving members of the board of trustees of the general loan office of the Province of Pennsylvania.

The tract embraced 115 acres in Robeson township, for which 300 pounds was the consideration paid by James Wells, a yearly quit rent was exacted to be paid to the Chief Lord or Lords of the Fee. It was signed in the presence of Benj. Talbot, and Daniel Jones, and the officer who transacted the legal business was Jacob Morgan, who afterward became a colonel in the Revolutionary war and the founder of Morgantown. He was then a justice of the peace.

The deed was recorded at Reading in 1772.

The grantees of the indenture—David Jones and the witnesses, Daniel Jones and Benjamin Talbot, were among the primitive settlers of Caernarvon at the time of the organization of Berks county, in 1752.

Another indenture on parchment in the collection was made in 1773, between Dorothy Wells and Abraham Wells, of Robeson township, executors of the will of James Wells, probably the same person mentioned in the foregoing inventory.

Owen Hughes was the purchaser of the tract of land of 150 acres. Two hundred and ten pounds was paid. The deed was made according to the deed poll dated 1764 by the surviving trustees of the General Loan Office of the Province of Penn'a to David Jones.

In 1766 David Jones confirmed the sale to James Wells. Dorothy was his wife and Abraham his son. The usual quit rent was exacted to be paid to the chief lord or lords of the fee. The deed was acknowledged before Jacob Morgan in 1773.

of the face of the document are pieces of tape on which is stamped in red wax the impression of an English sovereign wearing a crown. On the reverse is the seal of Thomas and Richard Penn. James L. Read was the recorder at Reading.

From, *Series*

Reading Pa

Date, *Sept 3 1898*

100,000 INDIAN RELICS HERE.

PROF. BRUNNER'S PAPER PREPARED FOR THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Important Movements of the Aborigines in Berks and Adjoining Counties. Essay of Historical Value—The Delaware Indians.

A resolution was passed at the last meeting of the Berks County Historical Society requesting me to prepare a paper on the early history of the Indians of Berks county, and in compliance with that resolution I prepared the following historical sketch. Heretofore I confined my writings exclusively to the Indians of Berks county, but in this paper I propose to branch out farther and give a history of the Delaware Indians, and since their history cannot be given without frequent allusions to other tribes that stood in close relation with them, I will give as detailed an account of all the tribes in Pennsylvania as it was possible for me to gather from the meager records that were kept during the time in which the white people and the Indian had dealings with each other.

The Delaware Indians like all other Indians at that time knew nothing about the art of writing and had no artificial means of keeping accounts, but depended altogether upon tradition for the earlier part of their history and committed the conditions of their contracts and sales of lands to their memories, and sealed the act by giving strings or fathoms of wampum and smoked the calumet, which made a lasting impression upon their minds and it was to them what the seal is to us.

CONTRACTS AND TREATIES.

So well did they remember their contracts and treaties that there is not a single conflict on record that originated from a violation of any of them on their part through forgetfulness. They

must have had interesting and valuable traditions, but in all their intercourse with the white people they never revealed any of them, and in their speeches in conferences and in council they never referred to anything that took place prior to the treaties they had made with the white people except in two or three cases, and these intensify the historian's desire to search for more definite knowledge bearing upon their unwritten history, but he searches in vain. Loskiel says that they often talked of the bravery and heroism of their living warriors but never of the dead.

I often wish that the curtain that separates the unwritten from the written history of Pennsylvania, could be raised that some of the important and thrilling events that took place before the white man set foot upon this soil, could be rescued from oblivion and handed to future generations. But the past is gone and we must content ourselves with gathering a few fragments here and there, place them in chronological order; and this after all will give us a fair knowledge of the dwelling-places, customs, habits and warlike spirit of the Indians.

I obtained my information from the Colonial Record, Pennsylvania Archives and the history of the Missions of the Moravians among the Indians published by George Henry Loskiel. I examined these records with great care, and read most of the treaties and speeches on both sides, and more particularly those of the kings and chiefs, to form some idea of the character, disposition and diplomatic ability of the great men among the Indians. Many of the proceedings and the treaties and conferences were mere repetition of previous meetings, and I have selected such incidents and transactions as will most clearly and briefly represent the relation between the white people and the Indians, and the gradual retreat of the Indians and the advance of the white people.

THE DELAWARES.

When Wm. Penn began the settlement of Pennsylvania in 1683, it was inhabited in the east by a large and powerful tribe of Indians called the Delawares by the English and Lenni Lenape by themselves. It is impossible to state whether the Delaware Indians were the original owners of the soil or not. Some students of archaeology maintain that another race preceded the Delawares, and attempt to prove their theory by pointing to implements of different forms which were apparently intended to be used for the same purpose. There were Indians of different tastes, notions and skill, and there is not as great a difference in the shapes of their knives and arrow-points as there is in the shapes of our knives and guns. The Indians called themselves the Lenni Lenape, which means original people, and if their traditions are worth anything, this should settle all dispute and establish the fact that they were the first settlers in the eastern part of Pennsylvania.

The Delawares were divided into three subtribes: The Unamis or Turtle, Unalatchgoes or Turkey and the Minsi

or Wolf. The three tribes spoke the same language, but different dialects. The dialects of the Turtle and Turkey who lived in the eastern part of Pennsylvania and New Jersey were nearly the same, but that of the Wolf, who lived on the Delaware river in the northeastern part of Pennsylvania, differed so much from the others that they could scarcely be understood by the other tribes. The Turtle was the most powerful tribe, took the lead in all treaties and diplomatic transactions, and is the only tribe that had an unbroken line of kings from the time of the arrival of Penn until they moved West and were lost as a race. The other tribes had their chiefs who were subordinate to the king of the Unamis, but they signed treaties and sales of land in their usual way.

The chief of the Unamis was called king and the heads of the other tribes were called chiefs. The Unamis had their council fire at Perkasio, in Bucks county. The Minsi at Minisink and the Unalatchgoes undoubtedly somewhere along the Schuylkill, probably where Reading is now located.

TAMANENT.

Tamanent was the king of the Delawares from 1683 until 1697, at least this is the last date at which his name appears in the records. How long previous to 1683 he was king cannot be determined. Penn went to visit the king in 1683 at Perkasio in Bucks county, where he had a place of abode. He signed the first deed that transferred land to Penn, which occurred on April 23, 1683. From 1683 to 1700 was a period of the profoundest peace and concord, at least nothing occurred that required the attention of the Lieut. Governor.

During these 17 years there was but a single conference held in Philadelphia, (1794) and this was voluntary on the part of the Indians. This was the first and only opportunity Tamanent had to make a speech. He said: "We and the christians of this river, have always had a free road-way to one another, and though sometimes a tree fell across the road, yet we still removed it again and kept the path clean and we design to continue the old friendship that has been between us and you." And then he gave a belt of wampum. He was a great king; he said much in a few words, and during his whole life he practiced the principles which he professed.

THE CONESTOGA INDIANS.

Before proceeding further with the Delawares it will be necessary to give a brief history of the Conestoga Indians who lived in the Pequea and Conestoga valleys in Lancaster county, extended through the lower part of Berks county and probably some miles into Chester county. These Indians were

occupying this territory at the time of Penn's arrival and were entirely independent of the Delawares. Their origin like that of the Delawares is shrouded in almost as profound a mystery. William Keith Bar, Governor of Pennsylvania, said at a meeting of council in Philadelphia, "that some measures be taken to prevent the five

of them from taking their warlike course through Pennsylvania to the southward; it was more necessary because the Conestoga Indians were formerly a part of the five nations called Mingoës and speak the same language to this day; that they actually pay tribute to the Five Nations and either from natural affection or fear, are under their influence."

At a treaty held at Philadelphia, July 12, 1742, ten tribes were represented and the Conestoga Indians were represented by four chiefs "that spoke the Anayint language." The Anayints were a sub-tribe of the Five Nations and Shekaltamy, Conrad Weiser's Indian companion was one of the chiefs of the Anayints at this treaty. These data prove almost to a certainty that the Conestogas were originally a part of the Five Nations.

As far as my observations extend the Conestoga Indians were the only tribe that believed in female suffrage and practiced it. At a council held in Philadelphia, Sept. 21, 1710, they were represented by the Queen of the Conestoga Indians, Ojunco and two chiefs more," and at a council held at Conestoga in 1719 they were represented by "Canatawa Queen of the Mingoës and Captain Civility."

There appears not to have been any relation, trade or intercourse between the Conestoga and Delaware Indians.

They were entirely independent of all other tribes in Pennsylvania and must have been a tribe of great influence and standing, because a number of important and largely-attended conferences were held at Conestoga and they became the guarantee of two other tribes that were afterwards admitted into Pennsylvania.

There is no intercourse between the English and the Conestogas' record until September 13, 1700, when they sold their land to William Penn. Widaagh was their chief and they were called Susquehanna Indians in the deed, but afterwards they were always called Conestoga Indians.

THE SHAWANESE.

The Shawanese originally lived in Florida and were constantly at war with the neighboring tribes. They were greatly reduced by the Moschko Indians, and by them they were driven north when they settled upon the Potomac. In 1701 they asked to be permitted to settle in Pennsylvania. An agreement was made by Penn on the one part and the Conestoga and Wopatha alias Opeša, king of the Shawanese, on the other, and to the mw was assigned a tract of land "on the further side of the Susquehanna" on condition that they would be subject to the laws of England, live peacefully with the other tribes in the province and live up to the agreement which they had signed. The Conestogas became a "guarantee and surety for their good behavior. The Shawanese were an unruly and arrogant tribe, the first to create any suspicion of the treachery of the Indians and were guilty of several breaches of the treaty which they had faithfully promised to obey, and the Governor was obliged to call the attention of the Conestogas, who were a guarantee for

their good behavior, to see that they lived up to the agreement which they signed when permission was given to them to settle west of the Susquehanna.

Their chief, Opeša, was a man of a roving character and absconded in 1711. Several of the Conestoga Indians reported at the council at Philadelphia that the chief of the Shawanese had absented himself for a few years, and that after a number of entreaties to bring him back he refused to return. The Conestogas reported that the Shawanese appointed Cacundawanna and desired to have the approval of the council. Opeša had gone to the Delawares and a few years later he attended a meeting of the council in company with the chiefs of the Delawares.

THE GANAWESE.

The Ganawese or Piscataway Indians moved from some unknown locality and settled on the Potomac about 1700 and the first record that we have of them is when their chief, Whiwhinjac, made a friendly visit to the council at Philadelphia, February 23, 1701. The Ganawese were greatly reduced by sickness and desired to settle on the Tulpehocken. In 1705 they sent a belt of wampum to secure the friendship of the English and their consent to settle near them on the Tulpehocken. Manangy, the chief of the Schuylkill Indians, waited upon the Governor to obtain his consent and stated that the Conestogas would become a "guarantee of a treaty and friendship between them." The Governor gave them a kind invitation by the said Manangy to come and settle as near as they would think fit, provided that they would take care and live peacefully, and that the said Manangy and the Indians of that place with him, would appear and promise that they would behave themselves well and dutifully to this Government.

The Ganawese were a small and orderly tribe and made visits to the council at Philadelphia. They maintained the most friendly relations with the other tribes, and their young men made but a single disturbance.

SCALLITCHY.

In the meantime a change took place at the head of the Delawares. Tamant's last appearance was in 1697 and he must have died sometime thereafter. Scallitchy (Skallitchy) was his successor and always had associated with him Sassoonan who followed him as King of the Delawares. Sassoonan's name was always written first, and it would appear from this fact that Sassoonan was the superior, but Scallitchy addressed the council and performed the functions of the chief executive of the tribe, and Sassoonan in a speech after the death of Scallitchy said "that their late King Scallitchy desired of them that they should take care to keep a perfect peace with the English and that they should be joined as one."

Scallitchy was a quiet, unobtrusive king and performed the duties of his office with acceptability to the English and Indians. During his incumbency of 14 years, peace reigned and only three conferences were held, and at one held at White Marsh at the house of Edward Farmer, May 19, 1712, he made a speech full of Indian patriotism, and in

it he "declared that many years ago being made tributary to the Mingoes or Five Nations, and being now about to visit them, they thought fit to wait on the governor and council to lay before them the collection they had of their tribute to offer and to have a conference with the governor upon it. When he and two of his constant companions, Sassoonan and Ealocholen, had presented their gifts and they were accepted, he filled their calumet or long-winged pipe with tobacco and lighted it, they presented it so lighted to the governor and each of the council to smoke a few blasts of it as a token of the greatest friendship that could be shown."

Scallitchy was the only king that ever alluded to the previous condition of the Delawares, but he does not say whether they were made tributary to the Five Nations by treaty or conquest. Up to this time—30 years after Penn's arrival—the Delawares were remarkably quiet and peaceful and not a ripple of dissatisfaction could be found anywhere, and he who studies the life actions and intercourse among the Indians in the eastern part of Pennsylvania is almost constrained to suspect that there is some inexplicable reason for the remarkable composure and friendliness among the Delawares toward the English.

Loskiel says that the wars between the Delawares and Iroquois reduced the tribes rapidly and that the Iroquois proposed to a cessation of the wars by selecting a tribe and call it a woman and that this tribe should not engage in war but should be a peacemaker and have the power of settling wars between other tribes. The Iroquois made a great feast to which they invited the Delawares and, after making a number of flattering speeches, they selected the Delawares as the woman. The Delawares were proud of this distinction, gave and took belts of wampum and smoked the calumet. These belts were carefully kept and the Delawares did not discover the stratagem of the Iroquois by which they were deprived of their belligerent right and made tributary to the Five Nations, until they had yielded up their independence as a tribe by their most binding method of sealing a contract. By what other right did the Five Nations claim the land north of the South Mountains which was settled and occupied by the Lenape?

1712.

Now let us for a few moments overlook the beautiful cities and towns, finely cultivated fields and splendid mansions, the churches school-houses and factories found over the whole State of Pennsylvania and look at the condition of the province in 1712.

The Delawares or Lenape occupied all the land along the Delaware river to the northern boundary of Pennsylvania and all the land south of the Blue Mountains from the Delaware as far west as the Susquehanna, and were under the rule and supervision of Scallitchy, their king, who was aided by his close friends and counselors, Sassoonan and Ealocholen. The Schuylkill Indians were under the vigilant eye

of Manangy, their chief, and there is no doubt but that a chief of lower rank presided over the Indians at Sacony and Moselem and another over those who lived in Maxatawny.

The Conestoga Indians occupied the land in the Pequea and Conestoga valleys, extended some distance along the eastern side of the Susquehanna and were superintended by the "Queen of the Conestoga Indians, Ojunco and two chiefs more."

The Shawanese occupied the territory lying on the west side of the Susquehanna and may have extended beyond the Carlisle and had their tribal affairs attended to by their recently chosen chief, Cacundawanna, who was aided by a number of other chiefs.

The Ganawese who were admitted into the Province in 1705 were located on the Tulpenocken and extended from Heideberg to a considerable distance into Lebanon county. Their chiefs at this time were Peter and Pipskoe.

The rest of the State was in possession of the Five Nations, who had settled in the northern part of New York. There were some smaller tribes in Pennsylvania, but no mention had been made of them up to this time and they were probably subdivisions of the larger tribes.

Emigrants were coming into the country and settling some of the land which Penn had purchased of the Indians. Settlements had been made as far north as Amity and Oley, and one at Pequea in Lancaster. The irrepressible spirit of civilization and advancement gradually extended itself toward the north and the Indians gradually receded before the approach of the white people, and yet there was no conflict or sign of discontent except the murder of a Palatine at Pequea.

Up to this time only a few conferences were held at Philadelphia at which the different tribes were represented and gave the most cordial expressions of friendship and satisfaction for the kind treatment they received from the English.

SASSOONAN ALIAS ALLUMAPES.

Scallitchy who had been king of the Delaware about 14 years, died, and Sassoonan or Allumapes, who had been a chief and Scallitchy's companion for a number of years, became king in 1712. He was a genius and wise administrator of the affairs of the Indians, and assumed the duties of his office with a full comprehension of the relation and treaties existing between the English and them. In his first speech he proved that he was a fair-minded diplomat, remembered the chief items of treaties and gave the most positive assurance that the friendship that existed up to that time should be continued, and that if any clouds arise between them and the English they should be immediately removed.

MANANGY.

Manangy, the king of the Schuylkill Indians, died and was succeeded by Lingahonca. Manangy made his first appearance at a meeting of the council in Philadelphia July 26, 1701, at the invitation of the governor to devise some plans and means to prevent the traffic in rum and diminish drunkenness

among the Indians. He was a man of influence among the Indians and the governor must have had full confidence in his integrity and wisdom, since he alone was the intercessor between the governor and the Ganawese and secured permission for them to settle on the Tulpehocken.

PURCHASE OF LAND.

In 1718 Penn purchased of the Delawares all the land which they claimed. It was bounded on the east by the Delaware River, on the north by the South Mountains and on the west by the Susquehanna. At this time the Indians had left the land which was sold. Some had their council fires at Minisink on the Delaware, in Wayne county, and those in Berks were moving toward the Susquehanna and Shamokin.

Palatines began to come into this country, commenced to occupy and till the land as though it was in fulfilment of a law of nature, because I do not believe that the creator ever intended that the immense bodies of mineral wealth of Pennsylvania should forever remain in the bowels of the earth and that the fertile soil that would produce grain to feed millions of civilized people, should lie fallow simply for the maintenance of a few tribes of barbarians, who, though humane for two generations, fulfilled the grand mission and destiny of man in only a few particulars. While the Palatines were advancing and populating the country, the Indians gradually and peacefully retreated until 1728.

The Indian tribes in 1728 were located as follows: The Delawares had left Berks county and moved north and west to the Susquehanna under the leadership of Sassoonan or Allumapes, their king and his aids, Opekasset and Shakatawhia, the Conestogas were still in the Conestoga valley with Capt. Civility as their chief, the Ganawese moved from the Tulpehocken to the banks of the Susquehanna under the guardianship of their chief, Whiwhinjac, and the Shawanese occupied the same territory on the west of the Susquehanna.

CONOYS AND NANTICOKES.

Two other tribes, the Conoys and Nanticokes, made their appearance. Their number, influence and location are not definitely recorded. The Conoys had settled on the Susquehanna and the Nanticokes further north. It appears as though they were detachments of the Conestogas or the Ganawese, but they had their chiefs and on several occasions they had their representatives at conferences and took part in the proceedings.

At a treaty in 1742 they were classed among the Conestogas "as Indians of the Nanticokes by us called Conoys." and Gov. Gordon in writing to Gov. Gooch, of Virginia, on Aug. 10, 1733, about a murder committed by the Conoys, said "the Conoys, or as we write them, the Ganawese," and later in the Colonial Records the Conoys and Nanticokes are generally associated and they were evidently the same race and belonged to the Ganawese.

Up to this time there was no disturbance between the white men and the red men. In 1728 an attack was

made upon the people of Hanover (Colebrookdale, and another upon the people living on the Manatawny, by roving bands of Indians not connected with the tribes living in Pennsylvania, and an Indian by the name of Tocoalco was killed at Cacoosing.

The movement of the Indians toward the West made Philadelphia an inconvenient place of meeting and a number of largely attended conferences were held at Conestoga.

Important changes were taking place. The Delawares had sold all their land and the settlers were beginning to encroach upon the land claimed by the Six Nations. In 1728 Shekallamy was sent by the Six Nations to preside over the Shawanese and had his council fire on the Susquehanna north of Lewisburg. In addition to presiding over the Shawanese, he was chief in general and represented the Six Nations in council, conference and treaty. In 1729 Conrad Weiser came from New York and settled in Heidelberg, and since he was well acquainted with the Indian languages he was employed by the Governor as interpreter and moderator between the two races.

The Indians, with the exception of a few families, left Berks county, and through the invitation of Wm. Keith Bar, Governor, thirty-three families of Palatines settled upon the Tulpehocken before the Indians were fully paid for the land. In 1736 Penn purchased the land between the South Mountains and the Blue Mountains and between the Delaware and Susquehanna river, of the Six Nations.

In 1731 Opekasset and Shakatawlin, two of Sassoonan's constant companions, died from an over-indulgence in strong drink. These two men accompanied Sassoonan in his daily journeys, and by their agreeable manners and sociable habits, they made warm friends among all the tribes and especially with the officials at Philadelphia. Sassoonan grieved so much over the loss of his companions that it was thought at the time that he would die of grief, but the Governor sent for him, consoled with him in his distress and gave him a new coat to go in mourning.

The greatest disturbing element and the one that produced the greatest trouble and degradation among the Indians, was rum. The Indians knew that the drinking of liquor debased and impoverished them and killed some, but they had such an insatiable appetite and uncontrollable passion for it, that they bartered the skins which they should have kept for clothing for rum.

Stringent laws were passed to curtail the sale of rum among the Indians, but they had very little effect upon the traffic. The liquor question was discussed at many of the conferences by the Governor as well as the chiefs, and plans were adopted, but the smuggler who wished to strike a good bargain was shrewd enough to escape the legal barriers that were placed between him and the Indians.

In 1735 it was agreed that all liquor should be seized and confiscated. The Governor, in order to protect Sassoonan and relieve him from all responsibility, gave him an order to seize all the liquor brought among the Indians

by the English traders until he could dispose of it. Sassoonan began to seize the liquor, but instead of storing it up and delivering it to the Governor the Indians opened the kegs and drank the liquor and their state was not improved. The Governor then recalled the order which he had given to Sassoonan.

This evil was somewhat abated when the Indians saw that their only safety was in the adoption of stringent measures for their protection and put them into effect. A council composed of about 100 Indians met at Allegheny, March 15, 1737, and resolved not to allow any liquor to be brought into their towns for four years. They resolved to break the casks, spill and not drink the liquor that would be brought into their towns. They gave notice to all traders and appointed four men for each town to enforce their resolution.

But the Indians had an insatiable desire for liquor, the English and French traders took advantage of their avidity for it, and while it was checked occasionally in some of the tribes, the smugglers continued thir illegal traffic, and it inflicted untold suffering and poverty upon many families.

SHAWANESE.

In 1728 Shekallamy was sent by the Six Nations to preside over the Shawanese, who soon after his arrival moved on Susquehanna above Muncy, and after sojourning some time in Shekallamy's neighborhood, they went West, and in 1732 they were on the Ohio river.

GANAWESE.

In 1733 three young men of the Ganawese killed and scalped a man and woman in Virginia. The Governor, at a meeting of the council at Philadelphia, demanded an explanation of Ullaloes, their chief, why they had violated the treaty.. He replied that the scalps the young men brought were scalps of Indians. This explanation seemed to be satisfactory to the Governor. The Governor wrote again and demanded the surrender of three Ganawese.

Ullaloes did not visit Philadelphia for two years. The Governor then accused him of deception and demanded that the three young men be given up. The chief replied that the three men were killed in a war in Virginia, and that one of their companions was present who saw them fall, after which he made his escape. Ullaloes' explanation was accepted as true and no reference was made to the murder afterwards.

1740.

In 1740 the Delawares extended from Minisink, on the Delaware river north of the Blue Mountains, to Shamokin and Minisink on the Susquehanna, and probably beyond those places, and they were still under charge of Sassoonan, alias Allumapes, and his lieutenant, Liggahonoa, who was formerly a Schuylkill Chief. The Conestogas were still in possession of the Conestoga valley and the name of the Ganawese is not to be found in the records. They were not numerous at the time and were undoubtedly united with the Conoys and Nanticokes, who occupied the territory between Conestoga and Paxtan, now Harrisburg, and the

Shawanese were on the Ohio.

From 1740 to 1750 only a few important events took place beside the usual routine business transacted between the Government and the Indians. In July, 1742, a very important treaty was held in Philadelphia, at which ten tribes were represented by fourteen chiefs, two counsellors and one captain, and other Indians, amounting in all to ninety-three. These Indians were in charge of Conrad Weiser, passed through Berks county, sojourned with him and gave a report of the number of their men. I do not know how long they remained at Weiser's house. The Council at Philadelphia gave Weiser \$500 and 20 gallons of rum to maintain the guests while they were under his care.

In June, 1744, another and larger one was held at Lancaster, and was attended by 120 chiefs and other prominent Indians, but there were no Delawares present, because they were forbidden by the Six Nations.

TEEDYUSCUNG.

Sassoonan, alias Allumapes, who was king of the Delawares since 1713, was a great man among the Indians, and wisely guided his people while they retreated from the Delaware to Shamokin. While there was the greatest friendship and good feeling between the white people and the Indians, yet the anxiety and "wear and tear" upon the mind of a man of his position during an incumbency of 34 years so enervated him mentally and physically that he became weak-minded, and for a few years he was entirely incapacitated to perform any of his duties, and he died in 1747.

After the death of Allumapes, Teedyuscung was elected king of the Delawares. Teedyuscung was elected at a time when there were rumors of war. The loyalty of some of the tribes was suspected and there was great solicitude for the king of the Delawares, and even if he would remain faithful to the treaties, wheteher he would be able to control the whole tribe, which was not as compact as it used to be, but was scattered over much larger territory. He began his official career by the warmest professions of friendship and his manly course and conduct at the outset, established at the head of the Government, confidence in his integrity, which he was never accused of betraying, at least openly.

TWIGHTWEES.

Through the intercession of Scarrooyady, an Oneida chief, the Twightwees, who lived on the Miami river, were admitted into the province and settled on the Ohio.

SHEKALLAMY.

In 1749 Shekallamy died at Shamokin, and his son John took his place, but Scarrooyady seems to have performed the gravest duties of the office.

PURCHASE.

In 1749 a large tract of land lying north of the Blue Mountains and between the Delaware and Susquehanna, was purchased of the Six Nations for 500L.

1750.

Very few changes were made in the Indian settlements from 1740 to 1740. The Conestogas still remained in their

valley, but at a meeting in Philadelphia May 25, 1750, a chief said that they proposed to sell the improvements on their land and move nearer to the other Indians. In 1756 there were only a few Indians at Conestoga. Many of them must have joined the Conoys and Nanticokes, who had moved from Harrisburg to Wyoming. The Delawares were diminishing at Minisink, on the Delaware river, but they had a large settlement north of Shamokin, while others had followed the Susquehanna toward the west and founded a settlement at Kittanning, on the Allegheny river. The Shawanese and Twightwees still remained on the Ohio river.

1750 TO 1760.

The period from 1750 to 1760 was the most eventful one in the history of the province and contains material for a lengthy essay, but I can advert to only a few of the leading events. For 70 years the white people and Indians were neighbors. They bought, sold and bartered without ever bringing charges of fraud or deception, (until they were deceived by the French,) except against dishonest traders who went among them in violation of law, stupefied them with liquor and then robbed them of their skins. The Delawares sold all their lands and always expressed themselves as satisfied with the amount of goods they received for it and at the conferences in Philadelphia they often repeated the substance of their treaties, gave the Governor assurances of their determination to strengthen rather than weaken the bonds of friendship between them.

But some of those tribes that had been friendly for two generations, in the course of a few years became hostile, and were just as violent and barbarous in their acts of plundering and murdering as they appeared to be sincere and loyal in their friendship towards the white people.

There was always a jealousy existing between the French of Canada and the English, and for years the French endeavored to excite the Indians against the English, but as long as the Indians were in the East in close proximity to the English they had no influence over the Indians, but when they moved to the West they were closer to the French than the English and the French by giving liberal presents to the Indians and inducing them to believe that they were defrauded of their land, they succeeded in enlisting a few tribes in their cause, and the dispute between the French and English culminated in 1755 in the French and Indian war.

To point out the various steps that led to the French and Indian war, the movements of the contending armies, the attacks made by the Indians on our frontier settlements, the frequent conferences held with the friendly Indians, and the doleful events at the close of the war, would fill many pages and must be passed over now.

BRADDOCK'S DEFEAT.

When hostilities began General Braddock was brought from England to America to command the English army. Braddock was totally ignorant of the Indian method of warfare and George Washington volunteered to give him

some information to put him on guard, but Braddock was aristocratic and opinionated and did not want a young American to teach him how to conduct his army. He proceeded in his own way and met the Indians unexpectedly. They were concealed behind rocks and trees, fired and routed Braddock's army and wounded him mortally before he could get his army in a position to fight. If George Washington would have commanded the English army it would not have been defeated, but the French and the Indians would have been routed, and I do not believe that any murders would have been committed along the borders of our settlements.

The Indians who were engaged in the war were the Delawares that had moved to the Ohio river, the Shawanese, the Hurons of Sandusky and the Five Nations inhabiting the plains of the Sciota, the banks of the Ohio and Presque Isle.

Teedyuscung, who lived at Diahogo, north of Wyoming, during the war, kept up his friendly relations with the government at Philadelphia, and there is no evidence that the Turtle engaged in the war. He died in 1763 and Kelipama was chosen to fill his place.

At the close of the war the Conoys and Nanticokes were one nation and had their settlement "at Chenango on the Upper Waters of the Susquehanna." This was probably Venango-mon, the Allegheny river. The Delawares were west except the Turtle. Kelipama was King of the Turtle; King Beaver, of the Turtle, and Cataloga, of the Wolf. The intercourse between the Provincial Government and the Indians ceased and they hastened their course westward until they had gone beyond our boundaries.

DENSE INDIAN POPULATION IN BERKS.

The Indians never reported a population either of their population or their warriors and their number is a mere matter of conjecture, and is based upon the number of relics that are still found. I doubt whether there is a county in the State in which the population was denser than in Berks.

100,000 RELICS IN BERKS.

To the collections of relics already described and published, amounting to 80,000 specimens in the hands of the collectors, I desire to add those of Boyertown and vicinity. The Indian population around Boyertown must have been numerous, since a great variety of the finest relics are found there and traces of their workshops are still visible. William H. Fox, Esq., has a collection of 1551, and among these are found many unique, rare and choice specimens. Mr. Jesse F. Bechtel has a valuable collection of 1450 specimens of rare beauty and workmanship. Dr. J. S. Borneman has a splendid collection from the vicinity of Boyertown, numbering 10,165 specimens. Dr. Borneman has devoted much time and attention to the arrangement of his collection of very fine relics, and he undoubtedly makes the most attractive display in the county. Mr. Ritter and Dr. D. L. Bower, of Boyertown, and Mr. Peter Moyer, of New Berlinville,

have collections amounting to about 4,500, including many rare and valuable specimens. There are at least 100,000 relics in the hands of the collectors of Berks county at present, and at least 20,000 have gone out of the county by purchase or removal of collectors, making thus far 120,000 relics, and they are still abundant in some of the fields where the Indians had their villages. This will give you some idea of the Indian population of Berks county.

From, *Eagle*
Reading Pa
Date, *Sep 12. 1898*

church, of Dryville, popularly known as Mertz church, was an event of which every member of that congregation may well be proud. The centennial was in honor of the erection of the present edifice, which was preceded by two other structures, the congregation being organized 151 years ago.

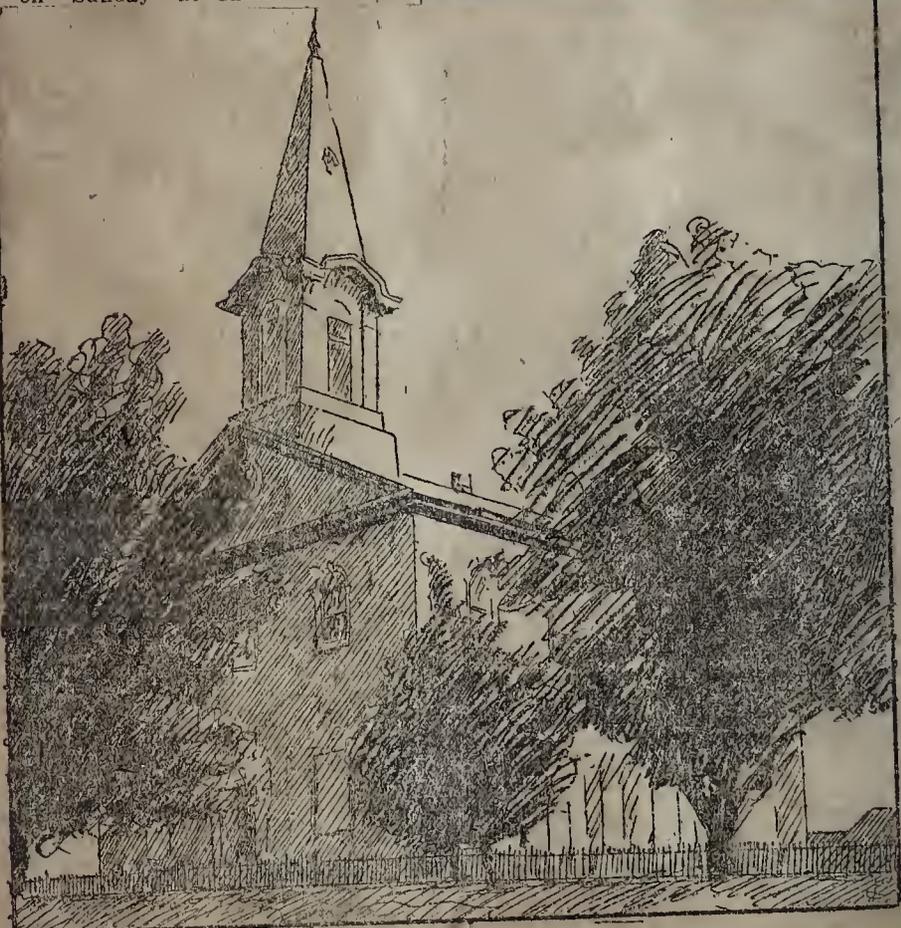
This ancient structure was probably never surrounded by as large a crowd as that in attendance on this occasion. The capacity of the edifice is considerably over 500. It was packed with people. In the church yard several hundred were seated on benches and there was a vast assemblage standing all around. Shortly after the noon hour, large and well-filled coaches arrived from Kutztown and other surrounding places. Long lines of equipages stretched away from the church in all directions.

Many of the old friends of Mertz church who formerly lived in Rockland, arrived the day before the centennial or early Sunday morning, stopping with the families nearby. Among those who entertained numerous visitors are: Mrs. Judith Boyer, Daniel Readinger, F. H. Brintzegg, R. H. Angstadt, Charles R. Heffner.

MERTZ LUTHERAN CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATED

The Congregation Was Organized 151 Years Ago--Rev. Dr. Schantz's Historical Discourse--A Great Gathering from Berks and Neighboring Counties--Sketches of Pastor and Officiating Ministers.

Dryville: The centennial celebration held on Sunday at Christ Lutheran



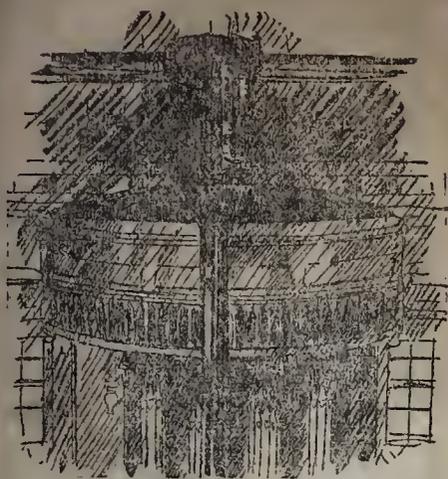
MERTZ CHURCH.

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and Frank M. Rothermel. The hotel kept by George B. Yoder was crowded with guests.



THE ORGAN LOFT.

The interior of the church was decorated with evergreens, potted plants and flowers. Back of the pulpit, in letters covered with sprigs of boxwood, appeared these words:

Christ Church,

1798—Centennial Celebration—1898.

In the church yard the grave of Rev. Johannes Schaum, one of the congregation's earliest pastors, was tastefully bedecked with flowers and evergreens. Rev. B. E. Kramlich, to whose untiring efforts the church owes its present large membership, also deserves credit for the decorations.

Near the entrance of the church, Solomon Heist conducted a refreshment stand that was largely patronized, a percentage of the receipts going to the congregation.

The music was in charge of Mertz's church choir, under the leadership of Prof. J. C. D. Koch, of Bower's station. Their selections were well rendered. The choir was composed of Miss Dora Herbein, Mrs. Albert Baitler, alto; Mrs. Jacob Hoch, Misses Ida Herbein, Ellen Dry, Emma Herbein, soprano; Valentine, Amos and John Kiefer, bass; Oscar Welder, W. G. Readinger, tenor.

The morning exercises were attended by the Dryville Union Sunday school in a body, the school being headed by George Kniss, superintendent, and H. H. Heffner, assistant.

"O, Send Out Thy Light" was sung by the choir, and then Rev. Benj. G. Welder, of Reamstown, delivered the morning sermon. He took for his text the 106th Psalm. His discourse was in German. Rev. Welder is a son of Benj. Welder, of Rockland, and was born near the church

at the centennial. He was confirmed at Mertz's church by Rev. Kramlich, and is now one of the most successful Lutheran ministers of Lancaster county.

"God of My Salvation," by the choir, closed the morning exercises. At 2 p. m. the services were resumed. After a selection by the choir, reading of the scriptures, etc., Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, D. D., of Myerstown, historian of the Lutheran ministerium, delivered the historical sermon. It was the feature of the day and delighted the audience. Rev. Dr. Schantz, assisted by Rev. B. E. Kramlich and Amos G. Welder, the latter for 19 years the secretary of Mertz church,

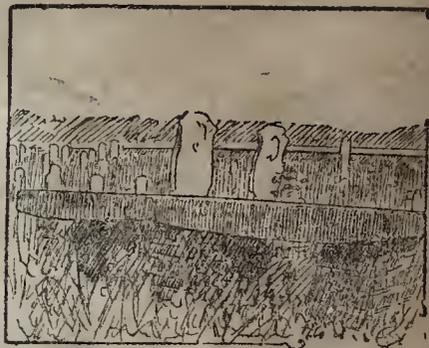
spent the greater part of a day over the old records of the congregation. The master hand of Rev. Dr. Schantz extracted a vast amount of local church history that required over an hour to discourse from the pulpit. His gray hair, and clear, forcible delivery added much to the impressiveness of the sermon, which was delivered in a beautiful German. He not only gave every detail of the early history of this ancient congregation, which is unsurpassed in historic interest in this section, but he gave a minute sketch of all of the 7 pastors that have served here since the erection of the first church. This valuable contribution to the local history of Berks will appear in full in a future number of the Eagle.

In the evening Rev. C. F. Dry, of Mifflinville, Pa., another son of Rockland township and catechumen of Rev. B. E. Kramlich, delivered an English sermon. His text was from Zachariah 6:13, "Even He shall build the temple of the Lord; and he shall hear the glory." Rev. Dry's 3 principal points were the temple, the builder and the glory. The different illustrations were exceedingly well drawn.

Rev. F. K. Berndt, a member of the faculty of the Keystone State Normal school, of Kutztown, was in attendance all day and assisted in the exercises.

At noon, when the large crowd was gathering, the old church bell tolled 100 strokes in honor of the occasion.

Rev. B. E. Kramlich, of Kutztown, has for 39 years been the pastor of Mertz church. There are few ministers connected with the Ministerium of Penn'a, whose record equals that of Pastor Kramlich, or the "Bishop of Berks," as he is sometimes called.



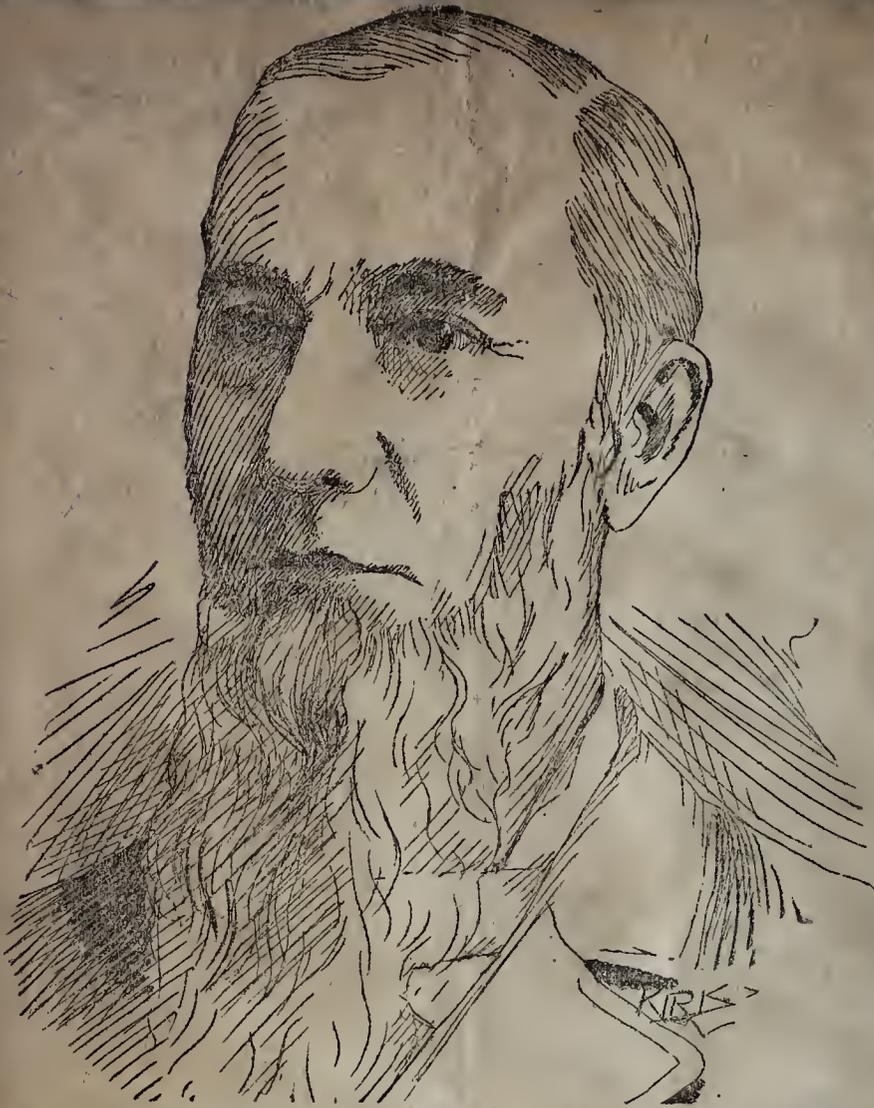
GRAVE OF PASTOR SCHAUM.

The centennial celebration was proposed by him, and through his efforts, became such a great success. He conducted the affair most gracefully.

Rev. B. E. Kramlich was born, October 7, 1831, in Weisenberg, Lehigh county, and confirmed at Ziegel's church, by Rev. Jeremiah Shindel. He attended the common schools at home until his 14th year, and then entered the private academy of Rev. Dr. Vandever, Easton.

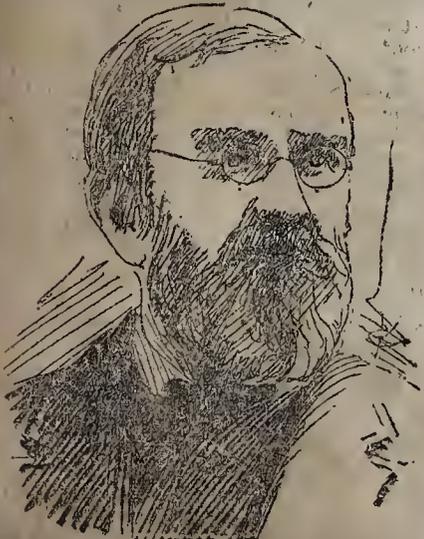
At 19, he entered Penn'a college, at Gettysburg, and graduated in 1856. He immediately entered the Lutheran Theological seminary, at Gettysburg, graduating there in 1858. He was at once licensed to preach, and was regularly ordained by the synod, at Lebanon, in 1859.

He was elected to become the successor of Rev. Isaac Roeller, and took charge of Trexlerstown, Maxatawny, Mertztown, Fleetwood, Rockland, Mosalem and Huff's congregations—a large and influential



REV. BENJ. E. KRAMLICH, THE PASTOR OF MERTZ LUTHERAN CHURCH.

change for a young man to take hold of. In 1864, he dropped Huff's and Moselem, in order to form new charges. He also preached for shorter or longer periods, at Jacksonville, Shoemakersville, Mohrsville and Topton. The last-named was instituted by Pastor Kramlich.



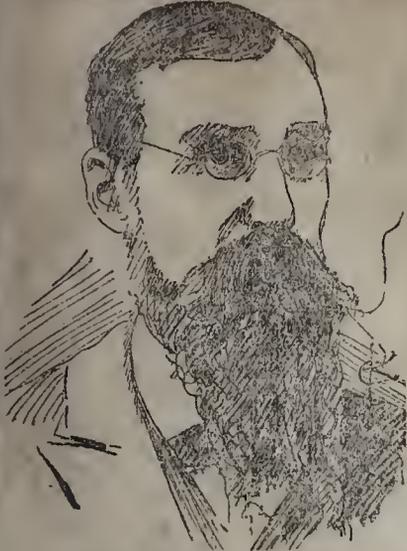
REV. DR. F. J. F. SCHANTZ, WHO DELIVERED THE HISTORICAL SERMON.

Rev. Kramlich is not only an able preacher, but is one of the most useful citizens as well. When the Keystone Normal enterprise was inaugurated, he was one of the principal agents in pushing it forward to a successful completion. He has held the office of trustee ever since the organization of this great educational institution, and during the last 23 years has held the office of president of the board. As president of the board, and as chairman of various committees, he has done much for the cause of education. He has one son in the ministry and two are taking courses preparatory to that calling.

Rev. B. E. Kramlich's conversational address makes him an agreeable companion; his energetic oratory, a popular preacher, while his genial spirit endears him to a large circle of friends. He is as active and vigorous as the average man at 30 and lives contentedly in one of the finest residences in Kutztown.

Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, D. D., of Myers-town, sometimes known as the "Walking Historical Encyclopaedia," was born in Upper Macungie, Lehigh county, January 8, 1836. From April, 1843 to 1850 he attended the Allentown Academy, Prof. R. C. Chandler, principal, and from the spring of 1850 to the fall of 1853 the Allentown seminary, Rev. Christian R. Kessler, principal. He entered the junior

class of Franklin at Marshall college, Lancaster, in the fall of 1853 and was graduated in 1855. He entered the theological seminary, at Gettysburg in the fall of 1855, and completed the required course on September 15, 1857. He was licensed as an Evangelical Lutheran minister at the meeting of the West Penn'a synod at Carlisle, on Sept. 28th, 1857, and ordained at the meeting of the German Evangelical Lutheran ministerium of Penn'a, etc., in



REV. C. F. DRY, WHO SPOKE IN THE EVENING.

St. John's church, Easton, Pa., on June 3, 1858. He was in charge of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran church, Reading, as supply from October 4, 1857 to Jan. 9, 1858, and as pastor from Jan. 10, 1858 to Jan. 9, 1861. He was pastor of Catasauqua charge to the close of 1866. He was assistant agent of the Theological seminary, Phila., from Nov. 5, 1865, to Sept. 30, 1866, and general agent of the same institution from Oct. 1, 1866, to June 30, 1867. In the summer of 1866, he was called as pastor of Frieden's Lutheran church, of Myers-town, but declined the call and accepted the general agency of the Theological seminary. He received a second call from the same church, accepted the call and commenced his labors, July, 1867, and was installed as pastor on Sunday, July 21, 1867, by Rev. B. W. Schmank and Rev. B. M. Schuncker, D. D. He also became pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran congregation of St. John's church at Mt. Aetna. From July, 1871, he was, for about a year, the supply, and thereafter, to the close of December, 1881, the regular pastor of Zion Evangelical Lutheran church at Jonestown, Pa. He was the temporary pastor of Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran church at Erickerville, Lancaster county, from 1876 to 1879.

Dr. Schantz attended all the meetings of the ministerium of Penn'a from 1858 to 1866, and nearly all the meetings of the district conferences, of which he was a member, and most of the Sunday school conventions of the 4th, now the Lancaster conference. He was the secretary of the ministerium of Penn'a from 1874 to 1877.

He has been a member of the executive committee of the ministerium since 1869 (excepting for 9 months, in 1871-72), and secretary of the executive committee since 1879.

He has been for many years chairman of the central committee, appointed by

the executive committee, in the examination and reception of beneficiary students.

He has served for many years as a member, and long as chairman of the committee on systematic beneficence, appointed by the ministerium to make annual appointments to pastoral charges for benevolent contributions.

He served as a trustee of the orphans' home, at Germantown, Pa., elected by the ministerium from 1872 to 1875.

He has served as a visitor of Emmaus orphans' home, at Middletown, Pa., since 1874.

He has served as a trustee of Muhlenberg college since 1867.

He was a delegate of the Ministerium at all of the meetings of the general council of North America since 1874, excepting the meeting in 1891, when he was prevented by sickness. By appointment of the general council, he has served as a member of the English Home Mission Board since 1882. By appointment of the Ministerium of Penn'a, he attended, as its delegate, the meetings of the Reformed synod, at Baltimore, Md., in 1867, and at Martinsburg, West Virginia, in 1872. In 1882, he was appointed by the Ministerium of Penn'a, a special delegate to attend the meeting of the Pittsburg Evangelical Lutheran synod, at Erie, Pa.

Rev. Dr. Schantz has served the Lutheran church in hundreds of other ways and has probably labored in $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Lutheran churches in eastern Penn'a.

He was the president of the third district conference, embracing Berks, Schuylkill, Lebanon and Dauphin counties, from 1869 to the summer of 1871—and after the re-arrangement of conference districts, by which the 4th conference embraced Lancaster, Lebanon and Dauphin counties, and all west of the Susquehanna and south of the Juniata, he became the president of the 4th conference in 1872, and served as such for some years.

He has a wide acquaintance and has few equals in his profession in this section of the state.

Rev. C. F. Dry was born in Rockland, June 2, 1851. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. John K. Dry, still living in that township. He attended the Keystone State Normal school, Kutztown, one spring term, and in the fall of the same year took up the profession of teaching, which he followed for a period of 17 years, as follows: Ten years in the common schools of Berks, 1 year in Lehigh, and from 1881 to 1887 as superintendent of the model department of the K. S. Normal school, from which institution he graduated in 1874.

In the fall of 1887 he entered the Lutheran Theological seminary at Phila., and graduated from the same in 1890.

In the fall of 1890 he accepted a call to become pastor of the Mainville parish, Columbia county, in which field he has labored since.

His early days were not by any means all spent in school. Periods of study were followed by periods of manual labor on the farm and in the iron ore mines, known as Heffner's, located about a mile southwest of Lyon's station.

He was received into full communion with the Mertz church congregation by the Rev. B. E. Kramlich, in the spring of 1868.

The oldest members of Mertz church are Mrs. Judith Moyer, almost 90 years of age;

Peter K. Heffner, aged 84, Daniel Heist, 83, and Benj. Welder, 81.

Peter K. Heffner now lives in Reading, but spent the greater part of his life in the vicinity of Mertz church. In his younger years he taught school in winter and made spinning wheels in summer. He has for some years been leading a retired life. He is said to be the oldest male member of Mertz church.

The Mertz church, also known as Christ Lutheran church and "Bieber Creek" church from its location on the headwaters of that stream, is situated on an eminence near Dryville, one mile from Lyons station.

The congregation was organized in 1747 by the Rev. Tobias Wagner, and in the spring of that year Henry Mertz donated three-fourths of an acre of land upon which to build a church. The building was of logs and was so far completed that it could be occupied in the fall of that year. After 17 years the members of the congregation had increased to such an extent that a new and larger church was required. Accordingly the cornerstone of this second church was laid June 14, 1764, and the edifice built that year. The building committee comprised George Schacffer, sr., Henry Mertz, Johannes Bieber, George Heffner and Jacob Freu. The minister at that time was the Rev. Johannes Schaum. When he died, Jan. 25, 1778, he was buried under the church after the custom of that day. His grave is to this day marked by 2 large, flat sandstones, raised about 18 inches above the ground and resting on pillars of oblique brick. The inscription is almost obliterated. This grave attracts much attention, it being the only one of the kind in the church yard. In fact, there are very few of this design in the county.

The 3d church, which is the present one, was erected in 1798. It is a stone building of substantial appearance, and is plastered outside. It was remodeled in 1870, and again in 1895. The church property embraces some 20 acres of land, 4 of which are used as a cemetery. The congregation has over 500 members. Rev. B. E. Kramlich, of Kutztown, has been the pastor since 1859. His predecessors were Rev. Isaac Roeller, who served the congregation 22 years; Revs. John Knoske and Daniel Lehman.



PETER K. HEFFNER, THE OLDEST MALE MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION.

When the first church was torn down some of the logs were used in constructing the house of Jonathan Welder, of Rock-

land. The last of these logs disappeared some 20 years ago. Several of the older members of the church remember seeing these relics. The second church was of logs, some of which can to this day be seen on the place of Peter Oswald, of Rockland. The grave of the Rev. Schaum is more than 20 feet away from the present edifice.

The present officers of the congregation are: President, F. M. Rothermel; secretary, Amos G. Welder; treasurer, Daniel Stern; trustees, William Behm, John Mertz and Solomon Heist; deacons, Clinton Heist, Samuel Wiltrout, Samuel Herbein, A. K. Heist, David Heffner and Alvin Herbein.

From, *Eagle*

Reading B

Date, *Oct. 18. 1898*

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

100th Anniversary Services in Frieden's Church Near New Ringgold.

Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 15 and 16, were red-letter days in the congregation of Frieden's church, near New Ringgold, in Schuylkill county, and the community of East Brunswick, when the people from near and far gathered at the church to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the first regular church building there. Large as is the capacity of the present edifice with its seating accommodations for from 800 to 1,000 people, it could not at one time contain nearly all who gathered to these jubilee services. The pastors, Rev. H. A. Weller, (Lutheran), of Orwigsburg, and Rev. Henry Leisse, (Reformed), of the same place, had, together with the people made great preparations to observe the occasion fittingly.

The historical sermon on Saturday afternoon was preached to a large congregation by Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, D. D., of Myerstown, who based his address on the text Psalm 100, the liturgical services being conducted by the regular pastors of the church, together with Rev. George Gebert, of Tamaqua, president of the Pottsville conference of the Ministerium of Penn'a, who expressed the greetings of the conference and of the sister congregations at Tamaqua and at Lewistown, where he is pastor.

On Saturday evening the services were conducted under the auspices of the Sunday school of the church, and were of an historical devotional character. These services showed forth the jubilee interest of the pupils, teachers and officers of the school, to whom great credit is due for their devoted labors.

On Sunday morning, at 10 o'clock, the people came from all directions to worship, and the regular Sabbath "Haupt-Gottesdienst" was celebrated; the minis-

trants being the pastors local, and the sermon, based on the text, 1st Samuel 7:12, was preached by the Reverend Thomas N. Rcher, of Andreas, Pa.

In the afternoon the people gathered in the greatest numbers. Those who could crowd into the church took part in a choral-vesper service; and, the way the old German chorals were rendered by the audience, led by a choir of young people, accompanied at the organ by Mrs. B. F. Sallada, the regular organist at the church, and an orchestra of 6 string and brass instruments, was good to hear. The Scripture lessons were read by Pastor Leisse, and Pastor Weller conducted the singing of the congregation. This service, unique in its character outside the larger city congregations to-day, fittingly showed forth the depth of true devotion which characterized the fathers a century since, when they gathered in divine worship in their first little log church, "unwelt der Kleinen Schuylkill in Braunschweig ueber den Blauen Bergen," as for almost a half century previous they had gathered from time to time in their little log school house there, without a pastor, to worship God.

On Sunday evening another great course of people, deeply permeated by the sacred character which breathed through all the services, gathered for the closing service of the series in the jubilee, under the auspices of the Young People's society of the church. The evening topic, "Better work for Christ and the church," was considered at this service, Pastor Weller being the leader. The members of the society had prepared a fitting programme of exercises to conclude the jubilee service of praise and thanksgiving. The hymns, the remarks of the leader and the participation of many members, all marked a high order of work already being done by the young people consecrated to the service of the Lord. The greetings of the societies at Orwigshurg, at Zion's (Red) church, in West Brunswick, and at St. John's church, of Auhurn, Pa., were borne and expressed by large delegations who had come from these affiliated societies, and the jubilee was fittingly closed with the Aaronic benediction.

The beautiful altar-cloths and pulpit and lecture hangings, the handiwork of some of the ladies of the congregation, were for the first time used in these anniversary services; and will remain a permanent mark for the new century of the congregation. They are fine specimens of the needleworker's art, and a fitting memorial of the occasion.

The history of the community and congregation, painstakingly gathered and written by Rev. H. A. Weller, was printed at the instance of the congregation in neat book-form and many copies were sold for the congregation. Though this commendable work on its outside cover, in its title designation, would seem to pretend to be a history of the congregation only, the first chapter already convinces the reader that the title is too modest and it is really a history of the German pioneer settlers and settlements which pushed civilization beyond the frontier lines in America; and Rev. Weller's contribution to the historical literature of Pennsylvania will be prized by every student of the Pennsylvania German, his history, his growth, and his sterling qualities that have helped to build a nation. Many requests for copies of the work have already come to Pastor Weller from students, teachers and literarily, so that the present edition promises to demand duplication.

From, *Revein*

Reading Pa

Date, *Dec 29, 1898*

VETERAN SINGERS.

Celebration of 50 Years of Service of Three Choir Singers. 7

A Reception Tendered to Jacob and Daniel Shaaber and James Hill in the First Baptist Church in Honor of Their 50 Years of Service—Historical Sketch.

A notable event took place in the First Baptist Church, 5th and Chestnut streets, last evening. It was the reception tendered the three oldest members of the choir—Daniel Shaaber, Jacob Shaaber and James S. Hill—who have been singing together, in the same choir, for fifty years. Recently they tendered their resignation, feeling that after half a century of service their places could be taken by younger members of the congregation. Their resignations, however, were not accepted, but it was decided to relieve them as much as possible in the future, and also to have a festival in the church, in honor of their long and faithful services.

The spacious church was crowded. The old choir, as it was twenty-three years ago, or at least all the survivors of the choir as it was then, responded to the invitation to be present, and opened the exercises by singing "Jehovah's Praise." The young pastor's choir then rendered "Send Out Thy Light." This was followed by the singing of "Gloria" by the combined choirs with grand effect.

The pastor, Rev. J. S. Bromley, then delivered a congratulatory address. He alluded to the fact that next Sunday he will enter upon the tenth year of his pastoral labors in this congregation, and that during these years his relations with the choir have been most pleasant. He spoke of the harmony which should always exist between the choir and the pastor, and what an important adjunct music is to render church services effect-



ive. He then referred feelingly to the noble work of the Messrs. Shaaber and Hill and the great service they had rendered the congregation.

Rev. Bromley was followed by Andrew Shaaber, the historian of the First Baptist Church. He is a nephew of Messrs. Daniel and Jacob Shaaber. He spoke in a historical vein and related some interesting reminiscences of the choir.

Among other things, Historian Shaaber said:

"About 61 years ago Peter Rankin, John Wolfington, Daniel McTaggart and Samuel Hill were regularly appointed to 'take the lead in the singing.' In 1841 Lewis Brown, remembered as a famous bass singer, was given the use of the meeting house on Tuesday evenings for a singing school. The next year similar permission was given to Mr. Boyer. In the same year the church resolved, 'to occupy one hour weekly at the closing of the afternoon session of the Sunday school for the purpose of improving our singing.' In 1843 the singers were given permission to have one evening each week for practice, and were also permitted to make alterations in their choir pews at their own expense. In 1844 Adam Waid taught the singing school, and among his

successors in the same line were Mr. Hoover, Dr. Grigg, Henry Kaercher, Blind Barry, Mr. Gougler, Ephraim Barker, Charles Miles, Geo. W. Durell and Daniel Shaaber, with others bringing the line down to Prof. Edward Knerr, who has in his class at present a number of grandchildren of the earlier singers. The first combined hymn and tune book was introduced into the church in 1872. Before that time the choir folks held two books in their hands while singing, one containing the hymns and the other the tunes.

"George W. Durell, who came into the church about fifty-three years ago, was one of the most active members of the choir. He became its leader in 1850. At the outbreak of the Civil War he was one of the first to enter the military service, and became commander of a famous battery of artillery. At the close of the war he resumed the leadership of the choir."

An important feature was the reading of a letter from Rev. Dr. A. H. Sembower, of Millville, N. J., who was pastor of the First Baptist Church 23 years ago, when all the members of the "old choir" who sang last night were members of it. The letter contained words of cheer and encouragement, and the reading of it

elicited marked attention, as Dr. Sembower is regarded with great veneration by many members of the congregation. In his letter he stated that he could always depend upon his choir, and especially upon the three male members, who were about being honored by the congregation.

The entire congregation then united in singing the long metre doxology, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," after which all repaired to the Sunday school room, where refreshments, ice-cream and cake were served.

The following committee had charge of the arrangements: Mrs. Clarence Sembower, Mrs. Clara Noacker, Mrs. Thomas Morgan, Mrs. Sarah Barber, Mrs. M. E. Scheibner, Mrs. J. S. Bromley, Mrs. Horace Kurtz, Mrs. Andrew Shaaber, Miss Mary Ives, Miss Amanda Woodward, Miss Annie Howe, together with the Music Committee, Messrs. Robert Ringler, D. E. Esterly, Edward Knerr, James Eckenroth and C. H. Sembower.

Daniel and Jacob Shaaber are twins, or it should have been written Jacob and Daniel Shaaber, thus giving Jacob precedence, as he is the elder brother by about one hour, but Daniel has probably had more prominence in the choir through having been its leader for a period of thirty years, having succeeded Col. Durell. He also served more continuously than his brother, Jacob, who was absent from Reading for several years in the South.

They joined the choir about fifty-four years ago. Daniel is a tenor singer and Jacob a basso. Jacob S. Hill is also a bass singer, and his voice at his age (he is now in his 65th year), is as full and deep as ever. The Shaaber brothers are about three years older than he is. They entered the choir at the age of thirteen years, and, until their voices changed, sang alto. Mrs. Daniel Shaaber was a member also of the choir for forty-five years. Among others who were members for many years may be mentioned Mrs. James Roland, Mrs. Sallie Kutz, Mrs. Emma Richards, Misses Mary and Lizzie Jones, and Capt. R. H. Jones and wife. The late Griffith W. Jones was a member for a long period, as was also the late Jesse Orr.

The First Baptist congregation was organized Dec. 20, 1828, with six members. Now it has over 600 members. There are also 500 members of the Sunday School, which is supporting three missions—in West Reading, Millmont and at Second and Oley streets, respectively. The Berean Baptist Church is a child of this First Church.

The beautiful church now occupied by the congregation was erected in 1897 at a cost of \$87,000. The pastors in their order of service were as follows:

1. George Higgins.
2. Enoch M. Barker, 1858-8.
3. Thomas T. Kutchin, 1838-9.

4. Enos M. Phillips, 1840-41.
5. Samuel Davison, 1842-4.
6. Charles R. Hendrickson, 1844, (six months.)
7. Emerson Andrews, 1845-6.
8. Joseph Hammitt, 1846-9.
9. Enoch M. Barker, 1849-50.
10. Isaac Bevan, 1850-7.
11. George Frear, 1858-72.
12. A. H. Sembower, 1872-84.
13. Charles M. Deitz, 1885-9.
14. Joseph S. Bromley, Jan. 1, 1890.

Rev. J. S. Bromley, under whose able pastorate the church has greatly prospered, will next Sunday enter upon the tenth year of his pleasant pastoral relations with the congregation.

From, *Eagle*

Reading Pa

Date, *Jan. 1 1899*

Pottstown: The queer spectacle of a graveyard nearly entirely hemmed in by iron works can be seen by a visit to the old Sprogell burial ground, near the Pottstown Iron Company's plant, and that of the Philadelphia Bridge Works. Here one will see a plot of ground, 100x200 feet, surrounded by a stoue wall, broken down and dilapidated in many places. The entrance is through an old cross-bar gate, which has the appearance of a typical barn-yard gate. To the east of the graveyard and almost against the stone wall is the foundry of the Philadelphia Bridge Works, whose bleak appearance from several years of inactivity, suggests itself a fitting neighbor to the quiet old cemetery. To the north lies the grounds and other buildings of the Bridge Works and the extensive plant of the Pottstown Iron Company is the western boundary.

Nearly 200 years ago, John Henry Sprogell donated this ground for burial purposes and doubtless bodies lie there nearly that length of time. The majority of the oldest gravestones are imbedded in the ground and the inscriptions on them are obliterated. But it is known that the wife of John Henry Sprogell and his two children lie there, while Mr. Sprogell is buried in the Fatherland. The original stones that mark these three graves have been better taken care of and are now covered by a slab of marble 3 feet wide, 7 feet long and two inches thick. A fine marble shaft was erected to their memory about the year 1870, with the inscriptions of their birth and death. This monument and slab was erected by the late Christian Bliem and others, and contains the following inscription: "This monument is in honor of John Henry Sprogell, who purchased this land of Wm. Penn and dedicated this portion to John Bliem,

OLD GRAVEYARD SURROUNDED BY IRON WORKS.

The Sprogell Burial Ground and Some of Its History—Nearly 200 Years Old.



THE CEMETERY AS IT APPEARS LOOKING WESTWARD.

Jacob Bliem and others for a burial ground forever." On the other side it contains: "In memory of Dorothea Sprogell, died Aug. 4th, 1718, aged 40 years.

Frederick Sprogell, born April 17, 1714; died Dec. 3, 1716.

Margaret Sprogell, died Sept. 28, 1716, aged 7 months.

On the marble slab is written: "This slab is placed as a protection over the graves and original memorial stones of the wife and children of John Henry Sprogell."

According to the research into the history of the Bliem family, there must be an error in regard to the land being donated to John and Jacob Bliem, by Mr. Sprogell, as the first original Bliem did not arrive in this county until 1735, while burials had been made in the cemetery as early as 1716. But the Bliems have been interested in it for many years, Christian Bliem having been interred there in 1812. At present there are none of the Bliem ancestors buried there, as they were all removed some years ago to the Coventry Mennonite burial ground, Chester county.

The Bechtel ancestors occupy the entire eastern portion of the plot, and all have nice, neat memorial stones to mark their resting place. Among the oldest burials of the Bechtels is Martine Bechtel, in 1736, and Daniel Bechtel, in 1802. The last burial was that of a Bechtel, in 1886. Mrs. Samuel B. Yahn and Mrs. Henry Naylor, both daughters of Joshua and Susanna Bechtel, were laid to rest in the old cemetery in 1880.

Among other names on the gravestones marking their resting places are found those of Irwin Schanzen, Betz, Coryell, Rhodes, Grobb, etc.

The title of the land had become lost and during the late Hon. James Eschbach's term in the Legislature, about 1865, a charter was granted, through his efforts, to the late Christian Bliem and others of this vicinity, and the Sprogell Burial Ground Association was formed, which annually meets on the first Monday in

January and elects officers for the ensuing year. It was shortly after the formation of this association that the marble shaft was erected and the marble slab placed over the graves of the Sprogell descendants.

The present Board of Trustees is composed of Joseph B. Bechtel, of Phila., president; Frank H. Bliem, Upper Pottsgrove, secretary and treasurer; Isaac E. Bliem, Phila.; John E. Bliem, Boyertown, and J. Stauffer Bliem, Pottstown. John H. Bliem, of Phila., who died within the past year, was a trustee, and his successor will be elected at the coming annual meeting.

While the Phila. Bridge Company was in the height of its busy career, they made repeated efforts to purchase the old cemetery ground, and at one time would have succeeded but for one interested heir residing in Phila., who would not give her consent, and the matter was abandoned. The offer was a liberal one and would have enabled the association to secure grounds in a more favorable locality.

From,

Eagle

Reading B.

Date,

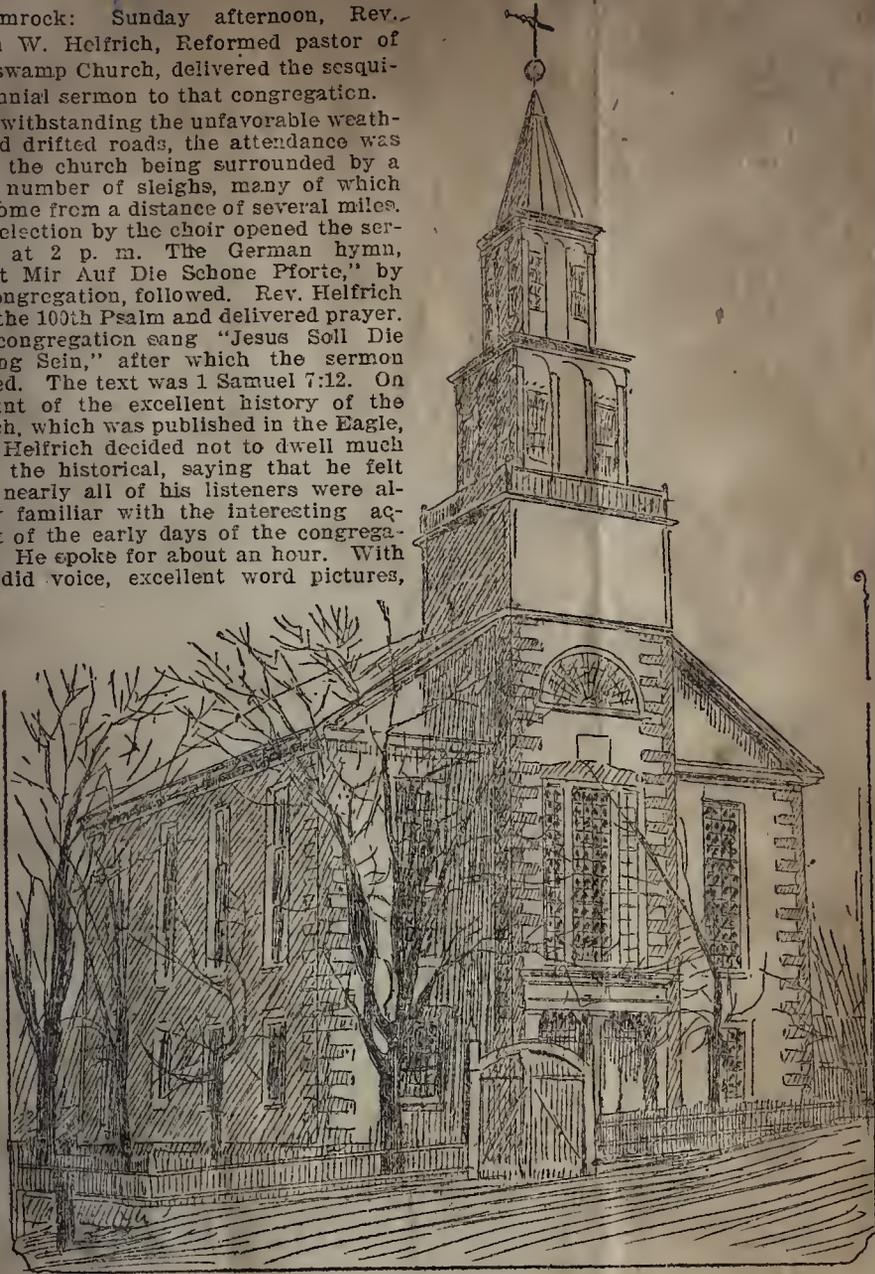
July 2 1898

150TH ANNIVERSARY SERMON IN LONGSWAMP CHURCH

Shamrock: Sunday afternoon, Rev. Nevin W. Helfrich, Reformed pastor of Longswamp Church, delivered the sesquicentennial sermon to that congregation.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather and drifted roads, the attendance was good, the church being surrounded by a large number of sleighs, many of which had come from a distance of several miles.

A selection by the choir opened the services at 2 p. m. The German hymn, "Thut Mir Auf Die Schone Pforte," by the congregation, followed. Rev. Helfrich read the 100th Psalm and delivered prayer. The congregation sang "Jesus Soll Die Losung Sein," after which the sermon opened. The text was 1 Samuel 7:12. On account of the excellent history of the church, which was published in the Eagle, Rev. Helfrich decided not to dwell much upon the historical, saying that he felt sure nearly all of his listeners were already familiar with the interesting account of the early days of the congregation. He spoke for about an hour. With splendid voice, excellent word pictures,



LONGSWAMP CHURCH.

and clear German, he eloquently portrayed the growth of the Reformed Church and the wisdom, piety and self-sacrifice exhibited by our forefathers.

"Those early Reformed pastors," he said, "were not only pious, but they were patriotic and practical. Rev. P. J. Michael, one of the first preachers of Longswamp congregation, resigned as minister that he might serve in the American army during the Revolution. He returned to the congregation afterward and worked unremittingly.

"When the first and second churches were erected here at Longswamp, John Butz, one of the members, made all the nails by hand that were required.

"After the congregation had been established 15 years it consisted of only 28 members and there were only five or six

ministers in America that belonged to a synod when Longswamp church was started."

The John Butz mentioned in the sermon was the great-grandfather of Charles A. Butz, of Shamrock, who attends Ursinus college, and is the Eagle correspondent who wrote the history of Longswamp church recently published. The Longswamp choir was in attendance. It is composed of the following: Robert Fritch, leader and organist; Misses Carrie Long, Sarah Keiser, Lizzie Romig, alto; Misses Lillie Long, Agnes Romig, Mary Fritch, Clara Long, Catharine Romig, soprano; Dr. J. F. Wertz, Peter Keiser, Morris Long, William Boyer, Edwin Deyscher, bass; W. F. Long, Charles Long, George Long, tenor.

The first church was erected here of logs in 1748. It was one of the very earli-

est Reformed edificos in eastern Penn'a. Rev. F. C. Miller was the first pastor. In 1781 the second building was put up. It was of stone and Rev. Heinrich Hartzol was the pastor at the timo.

The present structure was built in 1852. It stands one-half mile south of Shamrock on an eminence that makes it a conspicuous figuro in the landscape.

Up to 1817 the church was usod entirely by the Reformed, but from that year on the Lutherans rented the church until 1837, when they becamo half owners. Tho church is a union one to this day. Rev. D. K. Humbert, of Bowers Station; is the Lutheran pastor. On the Reformed side four generations of Holfriches have been the pastors. When Rov. Michael joined the Colonial army he was succeeded in the church by Rev. John Henry Holfrich. Upon Rov. Michael's return Rev. Holfrich vacatod, but later the latter again took charge of the congrogation and served until 1810. In the fall of 1816 Rov. Johannes Holfrich, son of Rov. John Henry Helfrich, took charge and served until 1852, when he died and was succoodod by his son, William A. Holfrich, D. D., who continued until 1894, since which time his son, Rev. Novin W. Helfrich, has been the pastor. Tho congrogation has been growing right along, thore being about 300 Reformed communicant members now.

The oldest Roformed membor is Nathan Hass, of near Shamrock, 91 years of age. Up to a few years ago ho walked to church regularly and oven now reads without glasses.

Among the original families who still belong to tho congrogation aro: The Fenstermachers, Butz, Schwartzs, Koisers, Longs, DeLongs, Fogelys, Bierys, Folks and Walberts.

The pipe organ that still doos excellont sorvico in the church was put in placo ovor 100 years ago.

In 1852 a Sunday school was started. The earliest superintendents were Charles Weiler, deceased, and Augustus Sander, who still livos at Kutztown. Levi S. Mabry, of Mertztown, has been the superinondent the last 15 years.

At the closo of the Sesqui-Centennial sorvico a special collection was lifted, each person being requested to give as many cents as ho or sho is years of ago. Tho collection amounted to \$51.05.

place was founded in the beginning of the 18th century by Baltzer Zimmerman, a well-to-do farmer, and after his death he was laid to rest there. He had one son, Richard, and two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth. Mary and Richard were buried in the private cemetery by their parents. After her parents' death, Elizabeth moved to a small house, now used as a blacksmith shop, on the farm at present owned by Samuel Siesholtz. She died there several years later and was interred with the rest of her family. Altogether more than 100 burials were made there. Some of the graves are still marked by curious inscriptions. Of the stones on which the inscriptions can still be deciphered, 12 are marble, one slate and one a slab, fashioned out of a boulder. The most legible one contains the following in German: "Here rests Susanna Huff. She was born a Keim, daughter of Johannes and Mari Elizabeth Keim; born December 25, 1739; married to Frederick Huff, October 25, 1751; the mother of 6 sons and 8 daughters, and died May 12, 1809, aged 69 years, 4 months and 18 days. Text, Revelaton 14:13."

The slate marks the grave of Johannes Kauffman, and other stones the resting places of Isaac Bechtel, Frederick Huff, Susanna Bechtel, Jacob Bechtel, Elizabeth Zimmerman, Katharine Moll, George Moll, Rosina Bechtel, Johannes Frederick Huff and Anna Marie Imbody. It is a tradition that nearly all buried there died of a severe attack of cholera morbus. The oldest was Johannes Frederick Huff, who reached the age of 82, dying in 1816. It was his famliy that gave the name to Huff's Church. The old burying ground is kept in good condition by Mr. Rauch.

From, *Republican*
Phoenixville Pa
Date, *Jan 23-1900*

From, *Times*
Reading Pa
Date, *Feb 1-1900*

AN OLD BURIAL GROUND.

Best Resting Place of Nearly 100 People--18th Century Interments.

There is a small and almost forgotten old burial ground located about a quarter of a mile northeast of Huff's Church, in Berks county, on a piece of elevated ground owned by David B. Rauch, who lives nearby. This burial

OLD LANDMARK TO BE REMOVED.

THE BUILDING AT SIXTH AND PENN STREETS ERECTED NEARLY ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

As the old buildings on the Heizmann property at the southeast corner of Sixth and Penn streets will be torn down after April first next, to make way for a modern seven-story building to be

occupied by Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart, a peep into the title and history of this old landmark will be interesting.

The lot at the southeast corner of Sixth and Penn streets was originally known as lot No. 120 on the old plan of the borough of Reading, and was sixty feet front on Penn street, extending south on Prince street (now Sixth street), two hundred and seventy feet to a twenty foot alley (now Cherry street). In 1751 this lot was bought by Conrad Weiser from the Penns and was sold by him in 1759 to Krafft Henner.

In 1779 a log house stood on the lot which was used as a commissary storehouse for Washington's army. In 1787 Krafft Henner sold the lot to Casper Henner, and after his death it was awarded by the orphans' court to John Heiner, who, Feb. 9, 1805, sold it to John Francis Eichhorn, the grandfather of the Messrs. Heizmann, now living in this city. Mr. Eichhorn at that time was engaged in business on the north side of Penn Square, between Fifth and Sixth streets, with Mr. Reppler, under the firm name of Eichhorn & Reppler.

In 1806 Mr. Eichhorn erected the building now standing at the southeast corner of Sixth and Penn streets, and on its completion the firm above-mentioned, took possession and carried on business there for some years. John Schwartz, afterwards a member of Congress, and the late Simon Seyfert were clerks in the store. Subsequently Schwartz and Seyfert succeeded Eichhorn & Reppler, and they in turn were succeeded by George Feather and John Allgaier, who were succeeded by Filbert Nagle.

On November 10th, 1830, Mr. Eichhorn died, and in the settlement of his estate in 1837, the property was conveyed to Charles Lawrence Heizmann, a son-in-law, and Anna and Theresa, daughters of Mr. Eichhorn. Charles Lawrence Heizmann was married to Mary Cecelia Eichhorn; Anna was the widow of Jonathan Dwight, and Theresa married Dr. Adolphus Lippe, of the house of Lippe Detmold, Germany. These three heirs owned the property jointly until December, 1840, when Mr. Heizmann purchased the Lippe third interest. In February, 1847, he purchased the remaining third interest belonging to Mrs. Dwight, thus becoming sole owner of the property. Mr. Heizmann sold four lots on the Sixth street front to different parties and when he died July 3d, 1859, he still owned the corner of Sixth and Penn streets, 60 feet by 144 feet 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches, and the corner of Sixth and Cherry streets, 37 feet 10 inches by 60 feet.

In November, 1899, the children of Charles Lawrence Heizmann leased the lot at the corner of Sixth and Penn streets to Messrs. Dives and Pomeroy for ninety-nine years, from April first next, and after that date the old building, which has been standing nearly one hundred years, will disappear forever, to make way for a handsome modern structure adapted to the business of Dives, Pomeroy & Stewart.

Among the old parchments and papers relating to this property are documents with the signatures, as principals, witnesses, etc., of Conrad Weiser, Krafft Henner, John Heiner, John Francis Eichhorn, Frederick Heller, Peter Nagle, John Bright, John S. Hiesler, John Cadwaiader, Marks John Bidle, Wm. Schoener, Matthias S. Richards, Charles Troxell, Adolphus Lippe, John Banks, William Strong, William Darling, Thomas Morris, Henry A. Muhlenberg and Jacob Sallade, all of whom were prominent citizens in their day.

[SPECIAL TO THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

Reading, Feb. 12.—In the Lincoln exercises to-day in the schools of Reading and throughout the county the fact was prominently brought out that the ancestors of President Lincoln, before their emigration to Virginia and then Kentucky, lived in Berks county, and that the ancestral home still stands in Exeter township, eight miles below Reading. Here Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of the President, settled about 1725, and built a stone house, which the ravages of a century and three-quarters the Martyr President Lived a Half Century

olutionary War.

ters have not destroyed. He had a son named Mordecai, and the latter had a son named Abraham, who became prominent in the affairs of Berks county during Revolutionary War times.

Another son of Mordecai, Jr., John, settled in Virginia. The latter had a son, Abraham, who was the father of Thomas Lincoln, father of President Lincoln.

Numerous Lincolns still reside in this section, and the old home in Exeter, of the progenitor of the greatest of American Presidents, is an object of interest to many.

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