



*The Historical Record*

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# The Historical Record

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO

**The Early History of Wyoming Valley**

AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY

WITH

**NOTES AND QUERIES**

BIOGRAPHICAL, ANTIQUARIAN, GENEALOGICAL



EDITED BY F. C. JOHNSON.

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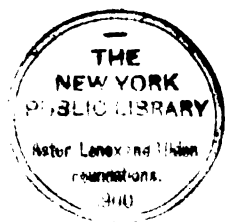
**Volume IV, 1893.**

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WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Press of The Wilkes-Barre Record

MDCCCXCIII.



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*For complete index to first  
5 volumes, see front of vol. 6.*

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#### CORRECTION OF ERRORS.

Volume 2, page 24, should read, Stone Coal not Stove Coal.

Volume 4, page 129, reference to Pittston Gazette, should be 1891.

Volume 4, page 153, Kanson, should be Ransom.

Hammond's name should be Lebbeus.

# The Historical Record

VOL. IV.

NO. 1

## FATHER THOMAS P. HUNT.

A Tribute to His Memory Suggested by the Marriage of His Granddaughter to the Pastor of Memorial Church

At the Memorial Presbyterian Church at Wednesday, May 7, was celebrated the marital union of the Rev. Caspar B. Gregory, the pastor of the church, and Miss Elizabeth Welles, daughter of the late A. J. Welles, of this city.

This announcement recalls former associations, and an ancestral relation suggests a tribute to the memory of the late Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, and brings to our recollection a former esteemed resident, a venerated, wise and good man, whose life and labors were largely devoted to the welfare of this people, and who in the past generation was both an eminent preacher of the gospel and the leading advocate of the temperance reformation.

Miss Welles is a granddaughter of the late Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, who came to this valley half a century ago, who lived at Wyoming, and whose professional labors were not circumscribed by the limits of this Commonwealth.

Without historical significance or biographical importance, the following as a "reminiscence of Kingston" (where he was best known to the writer) is given, that this community may remember him, who bore so distinguished a part in religion, in temperance, and who may now seem to bear to the "Memorial" almost an ancestral relation.

No man exerted a greater moral and religious influence in this valley than did the Rev. Thomas P. Hunt. Father Hunt had a nature filled with kindness and sympathy for erring humanity, and by the union of benevolence, mildness and energy, which adapted itself to every character and to every situation he required a thorough knowledge of the moral ills which afflict human nature; and it is to the profound impression this knowledge made upon his life and character, that we ascribe that tender commiseration which he displayed so powerfully in all his actions. He was world-renowned as a temperance

lecturer and reformer, and he brought to the work a courage inclined to aggression, strengthened by an unshaken conviction of the duties and of the greatness of the mission.

His simplicity of character was a testimony in favor of the charm of virtue, and he considered nothing as innocent that could wound virtue in the slightest degree. He detested affectation, and his mind was dead to vanity. He possessed a natural eloquence, and even those who did not yield to his pathetic exhortations, did not refuse him esteem, confidence and admiration.

He was the friend of the afflicted, the bold reprover of vice, the gentle guide of the wanderer, and the spirit of Christian love in him was the power that touched men's souls and drew them from the wine-cup when it was red. He was deservedly eminent for his learning, compact reasoning, purity, vigor and picturesqueness of his style; the graphic fervor of statement, the grandeur of the truths he reiterates and illustrates, and the directness, faith and zeal with which he persuaded men to enlist under the banner of temperance. His religious papers were excellent for their high ethical tone and for their natural and fine reflectiveness.

He showed decisive originality and his critical dissertations always abounded in good taste, eloquent expression and consistency.

He was contemporary with Father Theobald Matthew; both were world renowned and earnest missionaries, and exercised an immense influence over the intellectual, and especially the religious character of their countrymen. Societies and leagues were formed, periodicals were established and the temperance society then pledged to the temperate use of intoxicants, but having for its object the suppression of the liquor traffic, rapidly grew into total abstinence.

Following came Good Templary, which is the Free Masonry of temperance, with ritual, pass-words and grips, closely modelled on the old secret societies, but the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, 1874, is the latest form of efficient temperance activity, and is the outcome of the women's crusade against the liquor traffic in 1872.

In coming times Father Hunt will take his place in that galaxy of noble names who have achieved their own position, been architects

Imp. 24. h. 16 Apr. 1900. J.C. Johnson.

of their own fortunes, and left an enduring mark upon the age in which they lived.

Father Hunt was a goodly man, whose hallowed memory we delight to honor.

He was eminent as a preacher of the gospel, also the leading temperance advocate on the continent; and the purpose to which he had concentrated the powers of his great intellect and heart, during a long and laborious life, with earnest zeal and Christian humility, was to honor God and do good to his fellow men.

In the varied walks of life, in the scenes in which he mingled, in the pulpit, in the councils of the church, in the social circle, in the sacred precincts of the family, his example radiated the sunbeams of Christian benevolence and kindness all along his path. This expression and tribute of personal regard is due him whom the entire community knew only to honor, and will ever cherish his Christian example, which bore a stamp of sacred truth which the revolutions of the world will never efface.

He left behind him an imperishable reputation as a forcible, eloquent and conscientious minister of the gospel, and with the graces that adorn the Christian and entitle him to the esteem of posterity, he possessed the virtues that constitute an amiable, enlightened, virtuous and wise man. In private life he was courteous and affable, generous to the poor and needy. Experience served to instruct him in the distresses of others, and a genuine piety and utility was exhibited in his habitual respects to the duties of private devotion, and to the conscientious regard for the public institution of religion.

GEORGE URQUHART.

#### Golden Wedding in Luzerne Borough.

It is not often that persons who celebrate their golden wedding are favored with the presence of the clergyman who married them. Yet such an anniversary occurred in Luzerne Borough on May 24, when Hiram Johnson and his wife, Mary, celebrated the 50th anniversary of their wedding day. The affair was a complete surprise to the worthy couple and was prepared by their children. Rev. E. Hazard Snowden, who married them at the home of the bride's father, Mr. Hughes, way back in 1840, was present to join in the glad occasion. The event was held in Temperance Hall. There were present two other couples whom Mr. Snowden had married—a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Denniston, of Luzerne, a sister of Mrs. Johnson. The father of Mrs. Johnson owned the Hillside farm and lived to the age of 96.

#### A FAMOUS CLOCK MAKER.

One of His Time Pieces in the Possession of the Founder of the Record—Interesting Letter From Mr. Miner.

EDITOR RECORD: David Bittenhouse was born April 8, 1733, at Germantown, Pa. Without instruction he made a wooden clock before he was 17 years old, and soon afterwards one of metal.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* of Thursday, April 10, has an interesting notice of a family gathering at Germantown on Tuesday of the descendants of William Bittenhouse, who with his son built the first paper mill in America in 1690. David Bittenhouse was a great-grand son, whose birthday was celebrated, but none of the name were present. As the *Ledger* says "It is the genius and the world-wide fame of David Bittenhouse that has made the name illustrious."

Mr. Childs has a magnificent instrument, also his work, in his private office in the *Ledger* building, where, in the beats of the pendulum one can imagine David Bittenhouse's pulse still throbbing.

If the editor of the RECORD had prolonged his call at the Old Home this morning he and Mr. Plumb could have imagined the throbbing in the beat of a pendulum of a wooden clock, probably the first one made by David Bittenhouse, nearly 150 years ago. It has a highly ornamented metal face with the maker's name engraved upon it, but the works are of wood, and wound up by means of a steel chain with open links, drawn out by hand and deposited in the bottom of the old fashioned case. As the clock strikes, a heavy weight rolls the chain up until the movement is stopped by the weight reaching the bottom. The time would not do to run an express train by, but the noise of its striking might serve for an alarm. It was in the family of Charles Miner, "time whose memory runneth not to the contrary," and the writer has known it more than half a century.

M.

April 11, 1890.

#### Found Indian Relics Near Mud Run.

While gunning for bear on the mountain near Mud Run, Amos Meckas, of this place, unearthed some peculiar Indian relics. The largest piece is a thin clay pot, shaped like a soldier's helmet, with marks upon it that resemble the cane or straw work of a willow basket or chair seat. Another of pieces is a stone spear or arrow head. He found them at the entrance of a cave, where he went to look for bruin.—*White Haven Journal*.

## THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE.

**The Most Comprehensive Work in the Osterhout Free Library—A Handsome and Convenient Catalogue Now Ready for the Public—Its Plan and Contents.**

It is a fact worth publishing that within the last two days the usefulness of the Osterhout Free Library has been increased immensely—perhaps doubled. And this is brought about by the addition of one more book to the eleven thousand which have loaded the shelves for months. The librarian, Miss James, has announced that the catalogue which for a year has been in course of preparation is now received from the binders and is offered for sale. The Record is in receipt of a copy and its contents have been studied with much interest.

The new catalogue is a handsome cloth bound book of 450 pages, printed on fine paper in clear neat type. It is from the printing house and bindery of Robert Baur & Son, and is a production, mechanically, which is highly creditable to the printer and to our city.

As to its contents, the catalogue is equally pleasing, giving as it does a comprehensive idea of the treasure we possess in our excellent free library. The catalogue has been prepared with great care, with a view to making it as useful as possible, that it may add to the usefulness of the library. It is intended for the use of the patrons, in their own homes, and though an elegant and substantial volume, it is to be sold to the public at \$1, which is far below its actual cost—probably less than one-half. A few minutes' inspection of the work will satisfy the reader that it is indispensable to those who wish to reap the full benefit of the library.

To one who glances through the catalogue hastily it at first presents a bewildering list of subjects, tables, numbers, etc. A little intelligent inspection will show perfect order and excellent practical arrangement. A few words may help to get an understanding of the work. Let us examine it, first glancing at the neat title page, the "rules and regulations" of the library and a page of "information for readers." Now let us begin, not at the beginning, but at the ending, consulting the last pages. At the back of the book we find an "index of subjects." Are you interested in any particular subject on which you desire information? Perhaps it is "Money." In this index of subjects we find "Money," pages 32, 33. Turning to these pages we find "Capital and Labor," Camp,

O. C., Labor, Capital and Money 1898, and on the same line 331, C 1. Here we have the name of an author, the title of his work and the date of its publication. The other numbers are the shelf and class numbers of the book, and are to be written on the borrower's card if he desires this particular work. On page 33 are seven works on "Money" similarly described.

Perhaps the reader is interested in Switzerland. Then turn to the subject index again, and we find it directing us to works on that subject, as Switzerland, description, historical fiction, history. If interested in its history we turn to page 267, where we find under the sub-head Switzerland,

Mackenzie, H. D. S., Switzerland B. C. 113—A. D. 1871, illust.

Zschokke, J. H. D., History of Switzerland, B. C. 100—A. D. 1848, Map.

And so it is with any other subject. The catalogue speedily directs the reader to one or more works, giving at the same time an idea of their contents.

Perhaps he is desirous of consulting the works of some particular author. Let him turn to the "Author Index," pages 300 to 433, and he finds an alphabetical list of the authors whose works are on the shelves. Would he like one of Scott's works? The name is as easily found as in a dictionary. Under the name we find a list of his poems and biographies, and are referred to the Fiction Index for his novels. This index includes pages 124 to 190, and the names of fiction writers are here arranged alphabetically. Finding the name of Sir Walter Scott, we see a list of his novels, with explanatory notes. Thus, Vol. 5, Black Dwarf (Jacobite Conspiracy, 1708); Vol. 7, Count Robert of Paris (Time of first crusade, Constantinople). In the same way the works of any author may be found, with explanatory notes. A valuable feature is an index of historical and descriptive fiction. An inspection of the catalogue shows the library to be particularly rich in choice works on philosophy, religion, sociology, art, geography and travels, biography and history. Every reader should study the catalogue frequently and carefully. The result will be to improve the taste for the best literature and broaden the mind by freeing it from any overconceit as to literary attainments.

—The Bath (N. Y.) *Plain Dealer* gives an account of the killing by the Indians in 1779 of a family in this section. It was the family of Samuel Doyle, living at Fishing Creek, all except one son being slain by the Indians. The account in the *Plain Dealer* of the son's subsequent attack upon the red skins and killing three of them is probably more fanciful than true.

### THE ISLAND SCHOOL HOUSE.

**An Old Resident of Luzerne Borough Recalls Who Taught and Preached There During the Last 70 Years.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** Accompanied by James Martin Coughlin, superintendent of public schools in Luzerne County, I visited the Sarah Bennet Grammar School a few days ago and was courteously introduced to the board of directors: Dr. William Henry Faulds, Dr. Jerome B. Weida, Richard Clark, William Rowley, Henry Newell Schooley and Calvin Perrin, also to the corps of instructors: Principal Edward Elliott Ross, Misses Caroline Victoria Dorsey, Ann Huey, Harriet Emily Scureman, Clara Racine Bishop and Sarah Ellen Smith. The number of names of students enrolled was four hundred and twenty-six. The school rooms are pleasant, comfortable and commodious. The students are orderly and interested in their exercises, and the teachers love their work. Returning from Luzerne's temple of science of to-day, we will stroll with the reader farther up town and I will point to an uninviting, unattractive, forbidding building, Hartseph's school house, around which as a school boy I played fifty years ago. This old island school house was built in 1818. The ground was given by Josiah Squires and Jacob Holgate. The names of the old residents who contributed of their means towards the erection of this first school house in Hartseph were: Andrew Raub, James Hughes, John Bowman, William Hicks, David Goff, Adam Shaver, Jonas Delong, James Mathers, Christopher Miner, Jacob Holgate, Josiah Squires, Reuben Holgate, William Royal and James Gray. The contractor was Christopher B. Shaver, who was assisted by his brother, Alexander Clark Shaver, Adam Shaver, Adam Shaver, Jr., and Jonas Delong.

The old school house is altered somewhat, the long desks and benches once defaced by our pen knives have been replaced by chairs, and in this old refuge Miss Margaret Austin teaches a private school, and, to-day twenty boys and girls are sporting on the old playground, with spirits just as gay as were ours when we figured here fifty years ago.

I will first introduce the readers of the RECORD to most of the old foggy instructors who tried to teach "the young idea how to shoot" in this old haunt, and afterwards present to you many eminent ministers who preached in this Elysium of yore before the town built a church.

The first teacher hired after erecting the school house was Miss Esther Dean, who

taught a school of fifteen pupils. Among the early teachers were Amaza Genung, Miss Martha Walker, Booth Hoyt, Miss Elizabeth Bennett, George Schott, "Limbo" Griffin, Thomas Sweazy, Miss Horton, Miss Susan Richards, Cheester Tuttle, Elias Hicks, George A. Starkweather, Miss Sarah Speece, George Weeley Peck, Miss Catherine Court-right, Miss Mary Millard, Miss Elizabeth McFarlane, Prof. Parsons and Miss Sarah Allen both taught a term during the year 1826, and were followed by Major Church, who held spelling schools at his residence on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. After finishing a term of four months he was succeeded by Asher Stout, who taught for twelve dollars a month and boarded around.

David Baldwin commenced a term Jan. 2, 1828, at ten dollars a month. In 1829 Zenas Barnum taught for fifteen dollars a month.

In 1830 the school house was repaired and painted and a tin chandler was purchased and put up to light the school room for evening religious services. Mr. Ketcham was the painter. After repairing the school house Girdin Perrin was hired to teach December 8, 1831, and was followed by William Reynolds, who taught three months in 1835. In 1838 Miss Miriam Cummings was teacher. Cicero Hasbrouck commenced teaching January 10, 1839, and taught three months. John Dixon was hired August 27, 1839. George W. Helme finished a term of three months January 14, 1843, he having taught a second term. Harlo Hakes was hired October 7, 1843, Miss Eleanor W. Foster having taught the summer term of 1843. Amaza J. Kennard taught in 1842 and 1844. It was he who set out the first willow trees on the island.

Had Arbor Day been observed in the years gone by as now, the grounds around the first school building in the town might be ornamented with evergreens like those along the turnpike a short distance above Luzerne. Miss Emily Worth was hired May 18, 1844, at \$1.25 a week and board. Imlah Drake and Henry O. Drost each taught a term in 1845. Jonathan Peck taught the winter term of 1846 and 1847, and the summer term of 1847 was taught by Esther Hart. Abner C. Kinney taught the winter term of 1847 and 1848. During the summer of 1848 the old school house was again repaired, a new floor was laid, etc., the cost of repairs amounting to \$100 76%. George Pringle taught a winter term commencing in 1849. Charles Myers commenced a winter term of three months at \$15 a month in 1850, and leaving two weeks before the term closed, Edward Walter Abbott, at present a citizen of Luzerne, was introduced to the school as the dignitary who would officiate for the fortnight, and to express their approval of the retiring teacher's plan all the school rose to their

feet when the new teacher was introduced. About this time Charles Moore taught a winter term. Horace Armstrong taught in 1853 and afterwards. Holmes Ketcham also taught a winter term, as did also Samuel Blair. During the summer of 1855, Miss Priscilla Lathrop taught three months and eighteen days. Elmer Bennett taught more than one term, was teaching in 1856. It was he who taught the oldest boys the theory of single entry bookkeeping, which was never put to any practical use. The summer term of 1857 was taught by Miss Marilla Lathrop. J. B. Floyd, a student from Wyoming Seminary, taught a winter term. The summer term of 1858 was taught by Miss Ellen M. Beese, who is now reading law with Andrew Law, of Plymouth Township. J. B. Kirkhuff, a student from Wyoming Seminary, finished a term in March 1859. Jerome Starr taught a winter term afterwards, as did also H. T. Hull, a student from Wyoming Seminary. The summer term of 1861 was taught by William Penn Mathers.

The summer term of 1864 was taught by Miss Mary Elizabeth Boyd, now Mrs. William C. Meyer, of Hazleton, and a governess of a private school of only four or five. Miss Mary Selena Snowden taught the summer term of 1866 and is now Mrs. John W. Metcalf, of Huntington.

The summer term of 1867 was taught by Miss Mary Jane Mathers, now housekeeper for her father, John Mathers, of Luzerne.

The summer term of 1868 was taught by Miss Josephine S. Houghton, now Mrs. Alexander Smith, of Denver, Col.

Eleanor Elizabeth Bartholomew, now Mrs. J. P. Lutz, of Kingston Township, taught her only term of school in this old Lyceum in the summer of 1869 and then abandoned the profession to train a small school of two or three.

During the same year Miss Samantha Mathers, now Mrs. J. O. Jackson, of Dallas, taught a term of pay school and then quit the business to govern a more private school of only six or seven pupils.

Miss Lucinda Terry taught the summer school of 1871. Miss Anna G. Abrams that of 1872. Miss Josephine Bonaparte Boyd, now Mrs. Edward DeLancy Arnold, that of 1873. Miss Clara B. Bishop that of 1874. Miss Lillie Morton, now Mrs. John Holmes, of Dushore, that of 1875. E. Lewis Underwood that of 1876, and Miss Mary R. Shaver that of 1877. Previous to this date the winter terms had been taught by John Hazletine, Cyrus Houghton, Joshua Pettesone Bartholomew, Miss Ella Beeves, James M. Lewis, Solomon Jones and others who had taught summer terms here, the correct dates of which could be given by referring to the teachers' old report books. Miss Margaret Swetland Hughes, now Mrs. John Dennis-

ton, of Luzerne, and Miss Martha Hazletine, now Mrs. I. M. Schooley, of Truckville, each taught a summer term in this old school house. Miss Celeste C. Kitchin, now Mrs. Frank Prutzman, of Huntsville, taught a summer term here.

In December, 1835, Jacob Holgate asked the Hartseph school committee to grant the Methodist Society the privilege of holding services in the school house Friday evenings, and the request was granted. Since then a small army of preachers have displayed their eloquence in this humble edifice, most of whose names we will recall without regard to dates, which, with a number of Christian names, are forgotten. Among the first were Bevs. George Lane, Benjamin Ellis, Barbery, Castle, Elisha Bibbins, Lorenzo Dow, Holmes, (Presbyterian), Nash, William Bound, Oliver Lewis, Abel Barker, John B. Benham, King, J. Mulkey, Henry Wheeler, E. Hazard Snowden, (Presbyterian), Mitchell, Levi D. Tyron, George Porter, (Presbyterian), Thomas Poe Hunt, (Presbyterian), Andrew J. Orandall, Maurice Stanton, King Elwell, Lucius Bennett, William Reedy, Thomas Pearnce, Samuel Barnes, Schoonmaker, Bronson, Samuel Griffin, Roger Moister, George Peck, George Comfort, Horatio B. Clark, John J. Pearce, Henry F. Rowe, Reuben Nelson, Jacob and John P. Rice, local; George P. Porter, Harry Hunton Welles (Presbyterian), Byron D. Sturdevant, Winfield Scott Smyth, Young Colt Smith, Ira T. Walker, Leonard Oole, Miner Swallow, William J. Hill, John B. Davis, Almus D. Alexander, Charles S. Alexander, J. K. Halmbala, Harry Fortner, Caleb E. Wright (local), Jonathan K. Peck, Luther Peck, A. Pemberton (local), Samuel Pugh (local), Elisha Harris (local), Daniel Harris (local), Charles and William J. Judd, Lyman C. Floyd, Samuel S. Kennedy, Charles Perkins, Taylor D. Swartz, William Keatley, George B. Hair, William Oooley, Harvey Asa Brooks, Thomas Kline and his brother (both local preachers), Trethowan, Patrick Armstrong, Fletcher, Joseph Madison, Stephen A. Edwards (Christian). Francis Asbury King, the present Methodist minister, while a student at Wyoming Seminary, preached his first sermon in the old Island school house during the winter of 1866. The text chosen as the foundation of "a few remarks" is found in Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." He was sent to supply an appointment for Rev. W. S. Smyth, who was then associate principal of Wyoming Seminary, Dr. R. Nelson being principal. It was with great reluctance that Brother King consented, but Brother Smyth urged the request, promising to return the

favor. Brother Smyth had been on guard nearly all of the previous night watching some mischievous students, occasionally one might be found there at that time. The weather was extremely cold and Brother King tried to shorten the distance by going across lots; unfortunately he missed his way and found himself on the opposite side of Toby's Creek from his point of destination. In vain he wandered up the stream for some distance seeking a crossing, and then taking a back track he arrived at the school house twenty minutes late and found a crowded house, and as he imagined a disappointed congregation when he announced that he was sent to preach for Brother Smyth, which was no particular encouragement for the young preacher. His sermon was written, and as he attempted to read he was shivering with cold, and to this day Brother King fears this, his first attempt to discourse to the natives, had no warming influence on the hearts of his hearers.

To conclude the list, there were John B. Sumner, W. B. Westlake, George M. Chamberlain, Sanders F. Wright, John F. Williams, Ramsey, Roe, Dicks, Benscoter, William Case, local; A. Chandler, local; William, Simon and Andrew Lutz, all local preachers, J. Watrous, Ralph Caterall (Baptist), Benjamin Shearer (Baptist), George Forsyth, Charles W. Todd, William H. Stang, George O. Beers, William W. Andrews, James O. Woodruff, William Wyatt, George Day, Father Richmond (Christian), George W. Headley (Christian), Abel Marcy. Many prominent ministers who are to-day preaching the word to wealthy congregations in the largest churches, while students at Wyoming Seminary tried with dread and trembling to preach their first sermon in this old school house, and after such successful aspirations will not take exceptions if the fact is published.

The names could be given of a number of worthy persons who never attended school elsewhere than Hartseph's first school house. After a life of usefulness these old friends are proud to tell us they graduated here.

A word for the teachers, and my story is ended. As you read the long list of names you will say only a few of the number are in the ranks of the profession to-day. Many have finished their life work. Some have other avocations, and conscious that they did their work well as teachers, may consider it an honor to have taught in the humble structure, Hartseph's Island School House. x

#### Not a Norse Implement.

The ancient bronze which Charles Law found below the undisturbed alluvial soil proves not to be a relic of the Norsemen of

A. D. 1000, but a miner's pick of German make. It was recognized by a man who had worked in the Krupp mines in Rhenish Prussia.

#### THE PAXTANG BOYS.

An Episode in Pennsylvania Provincial History, a New Volume by William Henry Egle, M. D.

[Copy of Circular.]

Perchance, in no portion of Pennsylvania history has there been so much misrepresentation, as that concerning the action of the Paxtang boys in killing the Indians at Conestoga and Lancaster in December, 1763, and the so-called "Paxtang Boys' Insurrection," which followed, in February, 1764. It is proposed to give a candid history of this entire transaction. The number of pamphlets written on both sides of the discussion which followed, exceed those upon any other special subject of Pennsylvania ante-revolutionary history, a bibliography of which be given, and these, with numerous documents relating to that period, have been carefully collated and examined. To preserve the data thus gathered, the author has concluded to publish a small volume of about three hundred pages relating thereto. If possible to obtain them for the purpose, a reproduction of several of the broad-sides printed at the time, will be given. The edition, a crown octavo, will be limited to one hundred and fifty copies, to be well printed, bound in cloth, gilt top, uncut edges, at three dollars. Subscriptions can be forwarded to the author.

HARRISBURG, Pa., May, 1890.

#### Imitating the Sons of the Revolution.

The Sons of the Revolution is an organization having some members in this vicinity, but recently numerous circulars have been received soliciting membership in the Sons of the American Revolution. The latter organization is thus described by a prominent gentleman, a member of the original society:

I hear efforts are being made to induce persons at Wilkes-Barre to join a *bastard* organization—the "Sons of the American Revolution." This has been gotten up by McDowell, a labor agitator, and it is supposed the ultimate object is a political one. Especially is this considered when the president of a recently called national body, Chauncy M. Depew, is not descended from a Revolutionary soldier. It is much to be regretted that he and others have taken membership therein. The whole thing is misleading. Do not fail to say that the only legitimate body is the *Sons of the Revolution*. As our insignia and buttons are copyrighted they dare not infringe.



**REMEMBERING THE THIRD OF JULY.**

**The Wyoming Commemorative Association Presents a Valuable History to the Library.**

A few members of the Wyoming Commemorative Association met at the office of the secretary, 32 North Main Street, at 11 o'clock Wednesday, June 4. Col. Charles Dorrance, president, occupying the chair. After the transaction of some unimportant business, on motion of Calvin Parsons, it was,

Resolved, That a copy of The "Record of the One Hundredth Year Commemorative Observance of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming," arranged and published by the secretary, Wesley Johnson, be presented to the Osterhout Library, and that President Dorrance and Secretary Johnson be appointed a committee to wait on the librarian, and present the same in the name of this association.

On motion of Col. Dorrance the name of Mr. Parsons was added to the committee of presentation.

The committee, therefore, waited on the lady in charge of the Osterhout Library, at the library building, where Col. Dorrance, in his usual happy manner, presented the volume in question, accompanying the same with the remark that he regretted to learn, upon consulting the catalogue just published, that one of the most valuable contributions to the local history of the valley, in fact, a history of the most important event in Wyoming's history since that bloody July day of 1778, had not yet found a place on the shelves of this great and noble institution of learning, founded and endowed by a descendant of one of Wyoming's old time Connecticut settlers. Miss James accepted the gift in a pleasant manner, remarking that it was the desire of the managers of the library to collect not only the current literature of the country at large, and of the whole world for that matter, but especially the history of local events of this valley, of which she was pleased to learn since she came among us that the far-famed and original Wyoming is so richly endowed.

The meeting stands adjourned until Friday, May 6, at 3 o'clock p. m., at the same place.

An adjourned meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association was held at the office of the secretary Friday. Col. Charles Dorrance, president, called the meeting to order and stated that the object for which it had convened was to make preliminary preparation for the annual gathering at the monument on the anniversary of the battle and massacre of July 3, 1778.

On motion it was resolved to meet at the monument at 2 p. m., July 3, at which time

and place short addresses suitable to the occasion will be in order.

Dr. A. Knapp, of Pittston; R. T. Pettebone, of Wyoming; William A. Wilcox, of Scranton; John S. Harding and Sheldon Reynolds, of Wilkes-Barre; H. B. Plumb, of Sugar Notch, and Maj. O. A. Parsons, of Wilkes-Barre, were constituted a committee to make all necessary arrangements for speakers and to attend to all preliminary matters.

On motion, Hon. Charles D. Foster was invited to prepare a fitting eulogy in memory of the late Hon. Steuben Jenkins, who in his lifetime was one of the most active members of the executive board and a vice president of the association. Mr. Foster, being present, accepted the trust, and from his well known ability as a public speaker on like occasions, a very interesting paper may be expected.

Clarence Porter Kidder was invited to prepare a short poem.

It is expected that ex-Gov. Hoyt will make the principal address of the day, and that Dr. H. Hakes, who was unavoidably absent from the city and not able to attend the preliminary meeting, will be present and entertain the meeting with some of his cutting sallies of wit and humor.

The death of Hon. Peter M. Osterhout, of Tunkhannock, the member from Old Putnam, as put down in the association's preliminary organization, having occurred since the last annual gathering, was announced and the usual resolution of sorrow passed.

The continued infirmity of Dr. H. Hollister, of Providence, one of the able promoters of the association from its beginning in 1877, was feelingly referred to by the veteran president and sincerely shared in by all the members present.

**A Relicly Impression.**

About once a week some Record exchange or other mentions having been shown a copy of the *Ulster County Gazette*, dated 1800, and usually there is a comment like this from the *Kingston Times*: "What is remarkable is the splendid state of preservation of the relic." The fact is, the country is flooded with *Ulster Gazettes*, but they are all modern reprints.

The name of Dr. Miner, begun here by Dr. Thomas W. Miner, continued by Dr. E. B. Miner, and later by Dr. Joshua L. Miner, (all now dead) bids fair to be even further continued. Hon. Charles A. Miner's son, Charles, who is one of this year's Princeton graduates, will study medicine after leaving college.

### FAMILIES OF THE WYOMING VALLEY

#### The Completion of George B. Kulp's Extensive Work.

The third and last volume of George B. Kulp's "Families of the Wyoming Valley" is now in the hands of the binder, and will be issued in a few days. The work has been an extensive one, occupying years of labor and much painstaking research. Mr. Kulp has entered a field with these biographical sketches which has been entirely left to him, and so far as is known it is the only work of the kind ever attempted. A glance at its pages is evidence enough that it is invaluable and will increase in value from year to year, as other generations of men take the places of their fathers, and depend upon such sketches for the history of their lives and the history of their time. While the sketches deal with the lives of members of the Luzerne bar, there is incidentally given, in tracing ancestry, the history of war and peace, of adventure and stirring events in which the fathers and grandfathers of our best citizens were principal figures. There is special interest in the fact that its pages record:

An outline history of the Connecticut-Pennsylvania controversy as to the possession of the territory of which what is now Luzerne County once formed a part, and of the final official organization of the county and the leading details thereof, as also a complete list of the officials during the years that it remained under the jurisdiction of Connecticut.

Biographical sketches, so far as they were obtainable, of the deceased justices and judges of the courts who were not members of the Luzerne bar previous to their becoming justices or judges, or if members, were not treated in the first or second volumes in the order of their admission to practice; of deceased associate judges or judges unlearned in the law, and of deceased lawyers. In this category are many notable men, among them Burnside, Bidlack, Catlin, Collins, Conyngham, Gibbon, Griffin, Jessup, Jones, Ketcham, Mallery, Wilnot, Woodward, Wright and others, whose names and deeds became widely known and whose characters and abilities exerted marked influence upon the affairs amid which they lived, and who are still remembered and revered.

A carefully compiled series of pages, twelve in all, covering additions to, and alterations and corrections of the several biographies in the three volumes.

A list of deceased president judges, additional law judges, associate judges, non-

resident members of the bar, living judges and resident lawyers of Luzerne County, with the place and date of birth, date of admission or commission, the date of death of those deceased and the present location of those non-resident. This detailed information is given in all save a comparatively few instances, where the most careful and diligent inquiry failed to secure it.

An analytical index to the entire three volumes of all the names mentioned in each of the biographies and all the notable facts and incidents therein recorded. Much labor and pains were expended in preparing this latter compilation and its usefulness for reference purposes will be apparent at a glance.

Mr. Kulp may rest from his arduous task assured that he has compiled a work that will be of use and interest when other scenes and other times cover the period of his labors.

#### Gray in the Service of the Church.

Rev. E. Hazard Snowden, mention of whose illness was made on Saturday, is one of the oldest ministers in point of service in this part of the State. A correspondent, one of his best friends, sends these lines:

EDITH BACON: Rev. Snowden began his ministry in Kingston in 1847. His laborious pastoral duties in the Presbyterian Church of Kingston and vicinity for half a century, is indicative of his interest in the religious welfare of the people. In the direction of his ministerial labors he has been prudent, conservative, judicious, and his efforts marked with decorum and ability. He is social, learned, and blends himself with the humanities of the age.

Contemporaneous with the founding of the Foreign Mission, the Bible and Tract societies, he is familiar with the thrilling incidents that have marked the pathway of the church. He has seen the church edifices pass away, and the ministry have gone to the house appointed for all living, and now like a shock of full eared corn with honor and respect, he is tranquilly rounding out his fifty-fourth year of successful resident ministerial life. G. U.

#### Its Pastor 60 Years Ago.

Rev. E. Hazard Snowden was in town May 27. He was much pleased over the fact that the Presbyterian congregation in St. Augustine, Fla., of which he was the first pastor, some 60 years ago, has been presented with a magnificent edifice costing \$250,000. It is the gift of a wealthy New Yorker, Mr. Flagler, and is a memorial to his daughter, Mrs. Benedict, who died off St. Augustine, in a yacht, she having gone thither in broken health.

**DEATH OF STEUBEN JENKINS.**

**The Veteran Antiquary and Historian Passes Painlessly Away at His Wyoming Home.**

(Daily Record, May 30.)

Hon. Steuben Jenkins died at his home in Wyoming at 11 o'clock last night. He had been ill for some weeks, his medical attendants pronouncing his trouble a failure of the kidneys to perform their function. Instead of being carried off by the kidneys the waste products were absorbed by the blood and the result was uremic poisoning. For several days Mr. Jenkins had lain in a condition of only partial consciousness, and when dissolution came it was a mere falling asleep. Mr. Jenkins was 70 years of age and is survived by his wife (Catherine M. Brees), one son, William, and three daughters—Elizabeth, wife of William S. Jacobs; Catherine M., wife of William A. Wilcox, and Emma.

In the death of Mr. Jenkins there is created a vacancy in historical circles that can never be filled. It is probable that Mr. Jenkins was the possessor of more information concerning the early history of Wyoming—a vast portion of it unpublished—than any other man. He had for years anticipated writing a local history, and was engaged almost daily at some feature or other of the task.

His grandfather, Col. John Jenkins, was one of the first settlers of Wyoming Valley, coming as early as 1769, and was a prominent figure in the colonial and State history of this region, was a prisoner among the Indians in 1777, served in the Revolutionary War in 1778, was guide to Gen. Sullivan on the famous campaign in 1779 for wiping out the Six Nations, fought under Washington till the close of the war, and subsequently took a leading part as a claimant under Connecticut against Pennsylvania, holding various posts of honor and usefulness. Carefully kept diaries of Col. John Jenkins throw great light on the history of his time.

Steuben Jenkins was born on the paternal estate, which is part of the Wyoming battle ground. He read law with Hendrick B. Wright, and was for several years his partner. He was a life-long Democrat, and in 1856 he was elected to the Legislature and was chosen to a second term. At the close of the war he was appointed clerk to the

county commissioners and held the position seven years. Though having an accurate knowledge of the law, Mr. Jenkins had no marked fondness for the active practice of his profession, and for the last 20 years he has given his time to literary pursuits, chiefly in the direction of local history. Mr. Jenkins held many positions of usefulness and honor in the community, among them trustee of Kingston Township, secretary of Wyoming Bible Society, prison commissioner, director of Forty Fort Cemetery Association, director of First National Bank of Pittston, trustee of State Hospital for Insane at Danville, secretary of Wyoming Monument Association, trustee of Luzerne Presbyterian Institute, trustee of Wyoming Presbyterian Church, school director of Wyoming, member of Luzerne County Agricultural Society, justice of the peace, member of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, etc. All these varied duties he discharged with signal ability, fidelity and honor.

His life has been marked by intense activity and had it been as devoted to money getting as it has been to the varied interests of the community he would have amassed a fortune. As it is, he leaves his family a fair competency. He was a gentleman, a scholar and an honor to his day and generation. He lived much in the past but not to the neglect of the present. A kind husband and loving father is gone, a noble-hearted and patriotic and public spirited citizen has passed away.

**FUNERAL OF STEUBEN JENKINS.**

**A Large Concourse of People to do Honor to His Memory—Interment at Historic Forty Fort.**

No balmier day in all the spring or early summer could have been vouchsafed for a funeral than was that of Monday when the mortal remains of Steuben Jenkins were laid away in the beautiful burial place at Forty Fort. A striking illustration of the uncertainty of human life was afforded by the fact that the day of his burial was the very day appointed by him a month ago for a meeting of the trustees of the Cemetery Association. They met, but it was to lay one of their number to his last rest.

The services were held at the family residence in Wyoming and in accordance with his known wishes were brief and devoid of display. Rev. Henry H. Welles read a selection of Scripture and prayed and a quartet of men sang "I would not live away" and "Jesus, lover of my soul." Mr. Welles made no address, but stated that he hoped

some suitable memorial service would be held. In his prayer he referred to Mr. Jenkins as devoted to the best interests of the community, absorbed in the history of the Wyoming Valley and identified with all the institutions which are adapted to the building up of character and country. Rev. Miner Swallow spoke the benediction.

The features of the dead were peaceful and unmarred by death. On the coffin was a sheaf of grain and a wreath of flowers. It was borne by Dr. B. H. Throop and E. C. Fuller, Scranton; Col. H. A. Laycock, Wyoming; Dr. W. H. Egle, Harrisburg; Rev. H. E. Hayden, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Wesley Johnson, Wilkes-Barre; Calvin Parsons, Parsons.

The house was filled with sympathizing friends, and scores of others occupied the porches, yard and pavement, which were delightfully shaded. The officiating clergyman stood at an open door so that all heard equally well. Among those present were the following from various points, Wyoming, Wilkes-Barre, Kingston, Scranton, etc.:

Col. Charles Dorrance, Evi D. Wilson, B. F. Dorrance, Rev. R. W. VanSchoick, Joseph Mitchell, Rev. G. C. Lyman, David McGinnis, S. B. Vaughn, George Heiss, John Allen, Fisher Gay, Sharps Carpenter, J. J. Breece, J. I. Shoemaker, Joseph Hitzner, A. W. Vantyle, George Lazarus, Joseph Summers, J. B., J. M. and J. J. Schooley, Merritt Saxe, Joseph Andrews, Dr. F. Corss, Wm. H. Broadt, John Sharps, Samuel Shoemaker, Henry Van Scoy, E. J. Schooley, P. B. Reynolds, John B. Reynolds, Geo. H. Butler, Ira Griffin, Robert Weir, Daniel Harris, Sheldon Reynolds, Charles Jenkins, W. H. Hallet, John D. Hoyt, Abram Hoyt, Wm. and Thomas Pocknell, A. A. Bryden, Mr. McMillan, James Anderson, W. B. Storrs, R. C. Shoemaker, N. P. Wilcox, John Townsend, Frank Helme, T. H. Atherton, Major J. R. Wright, W. F. Church, Robert K. Laycock, John Richards, George W. Gustin, Rev. Y. C. Smith, Adolph Heiser, W. H. Freeman, F. F. Mosier, Senator L. A. Watres, Hon. L. Amerman, Robert Wilson, Maj. James Hicks, Wm. Makinson, John Hutchins, No. Jacobs, W. and G. F. Townsend, G. D. Kitchen, B. O. Dodson, Levi Knauss, Mr. Smith, Alvan Hoover, Johnson Gore, Wm. P. Miner, W. L. Watson, W. W. Winton, F. C. Johnson.

The State Hospital for the Insane, at Danville, of which Mr. Jenkins was trustee, was represented by D. M. Boyd, president; Hon. Thomas Chalfant, secretary of the board (and editor of the *Intelligencer*); Dr. S. S. Schultz, superintendent of the hospital, and Dr. B. H. Throop, Scranton. Another gentleman from away was Malcom Henry Angell, Brooklyn, N. Y., husband of Maria E., the only living sister of deceased. Dr. Egle,

one of the pall bearers, is State librarian. Among the ladies from Wilkes-Barre were Mrs. W. H. McCartney, Mrs. A. M. Jeffords and Mrs. F. C. Sturges.

#### MEMORIAL TO STEUBEN JENKINS.

##### The Bar Association Passes Resolutions Touching the Life and Character of Their Dead Associate.

The Luzerne County Bar Association held an adjourned meeting Monday morning when the committee which was appointed at the previous meeting to draw up resolutions relative to the death of the late Hon. Steuben Jenkins made its report. The report was as follows:

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Your committee charged with the duty to report resolutions upon the death of our departed brother, Hon. Steuben Jenkins, feel the inadequacy of a merely formal set of resolutions to fulfill the reasonable expectation, or to discharge us of the obligation it would be unmanly to neglect.

We have plenty of heroes, enthusiasts, fanatics, men of a single idea, even brilliant lights within narrow limits, but this was not the field of Mr. Jenkins. He possessed a versatility of learning, good sense, good taste and many accomplishments, that made him a useful man in all the departments and walks of life.

His friends, acquaintances, and his posterity will be gratified to know the estimate we, his professional brothers, had of him, and we trust it may be a source of encouragement for them all, to become living examples of such a manly model. Possibly Steuben Jenkins was best and most widely known as a historian and historical critic. In this line he was an excellent authority. Those who were familiar with him will not easily forget his patient hearing, his cautious commendation, his more cautious condemnation, and his earnest desire to embellish historical matter with a self evident philosophy. As regards our exciting and somewhat peculiar early local history, he, from among all our historians, (descended from Connecticut or New England ancestors) could resist the temptation to overestimate the virtues of his ancestors, and to deny any merit or honesty in the claims of the Pennsylvania side of the question. To Mr. Jenkins belonged the high honor of inaugurating the 100th anniversary memorial of the battle and massacre of Wyoming in 1878.

Mr. Jenkins was a lover of art, a poet of no restricted measure. He was a good judge of music, and an occasional composer. For many years he has accepted the common law office of justice of the peace, to the great benefit of his neighborhood, and by his grand

common sense and knowledge of the law added an original dignity to that neighborhood court and jurisdiction. In all his labors, method prevailed, and whatever cropped from his pen was traced in almost perfect Spencerian style. For many years he has been collecting the silent historical evidences of aboriginal races, as left in their rude and rudimentary stone implements and weapons. As his brothers of the bar he merits at our hands approbation as a good legislator, an honorable attorney, a good man. The community at large have lost a friend, a neighbor and useful, worthy citizen. Those whose immediate loss is the greater, and the hardest to bear, have left them that priceless and princely inheritance, the vivid memory of a kind husband, an indulgent father, a life full of generosity and good deeds and a man without spot or blemish.

Your committee, therefore, present for approval the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the members of the Luzerne County bar have learned with profound sorrow of the death of their fellow member, the Hon. Steuben Jenkins.

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. Jenkins our profession has lost an honorable member, the community a useful citizen.

Resolved, That we tender to the family of the deceased our sympathies in their bereavement.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the family of the deceased and to the newspapers of the county for publication, and a copy also to the court, with a request for permission that the same may be spread upon the court journal.

GARRICK M. HARDING,  
A. E. BRUNDAGE,  
H. HAKES,  
JOHN LYNCH,  
GEORGE B. KULP.

#### A WESTERN PIONEER DEAD.

**Capt. David P. Mapee, an Early Resident of Old Luzerne, Dies in Wisconsin at the Age of 92.**

The following sketch of a Wisconsin pioneer who was at one time a resident of old Luzerne is furnished the RECORD by Wesley Johnson, who, back in the early fifties, knew the deceased in Wisconsin. Squire Johnson, who, was himself a Wisconsin pioneer, remembers distinctly crossing the prairies from Marquette to Fond du Lac at the time when Capt. Mapee was locating a grist mill and tavern at an uninhabited spot which afterwards became the beautiful city of Ripon and of meeting the plucky town builder at that time. Ripon was afterwards the home

of Richard Catlin, brother of George Catlin, native of Wilkes-Barre and well known Indian explorer and artist.

Captain David P. Mapee, who died at Winneconne, Wis., May 17, was at one time an active business man at Carbondale, Pa., when that city was the infant center of the coal trade of northern Luzerne. Captain Mapee was a man of unbounded energy, and his delight was to always stand in the front rank of pioneers in developing the resources of the common country by building up towns and cities at points where his practical eye saw there was an opening for such an undertaking.

Capt. Mapee was born in the town of Coxackie, N. Y., in January 1798, thus being at the time of his death in the ninety-third year of his age. In the year 1818 he removed to Delaware County in that State. In 1831 he represented De'aware County in the State Legislature. From 1831 to 1836 he lived in Carbondale, where he was engaged in an extensive mercantile and lumber business. From 1837 to 1844 he was captain and owner of a steamboat on the Hudson River, when he emigrated to the Territory of Wisconsin, where he entered a large tract of government land and followed the occupation of farmer on the prairie, about five miles east of Green Lake, but in Fond du Lac County, near the town of Ceresco, where, on the Fourierite plan, Warren Chase and others had established a community settlement of three or four hundred members, in which everything was held in common by all the members of the community. They established a store, built a mill and conducted farming on a large scale and lived happily together for several years, but finally they dissolved this unnatural partnership, when all lived together in a common boarding house, and divided the assets among the shareholders.

To Capt. Mapee and ex-Gov. John S. Horner belong the honor of being the founders of the flourishing city of Ripon and "Brockway" College, among its chief attractions; the college having been especially the captain's creation from the start. In 1838 the ground now occupied by the city of Ripon, and lying between Capt. Mapee's farm and Ceresco, the home of the Fourierites, was bid off at a public land sale by ex-Gov. Horner, at that time register of the land office at Green Bay. At the time when Andrew Jackson was President of the United States John S. Horner was a young Virginia lawyer. Among the general's young lady friends at Washington was a Miss Watson, also of Virginia; one day the President, in a playful mood told Miss Watson that when she married he would appoint her husband to office. Miss

Watson and young Horner soon after married, and Old Hickory, to keep his word, appointed Mr. Horner secretary under General Cass, who was then governor of the Northwest Territory, embracing what are now the States of Michigan and Wisconsin. The office of governor becoming vacant, Secretary Horner became acting governor, and ever after retained his title of governor, and remained permanently in the country. Mrs. Horner has relatives here in our valley, Mrs. J. W. Eno, of Plymouth, being one.

In 1849 Capt. Mapes purchased a controlling interest in these lands from Governor Horner, and at once proceeded to lay out and establish the future city. He put up a hotel and grist mill the first year, expending a large sum for so out of the way a place as that part of Wisconsin was at that early period when wheat sold for barely 25 cents a bushel. He gave away lots to enterprising settlers, who were willing to locate there and establish trade so as to attract the business of the rich prairie country surrounding his prospective city, and he soon made it a success; business men from distant parts of the country soon flocked to Ripon and the town grew as if by magic. In 1850 he determined that the town should have better educational advantages, and he set about building a college. The citizens came to his rescue and the thing was soon accomplished. The people were not rich, but they had pluck and pride; so he gave out that the one who would make the most liberal donation to the fund was to have the honor of having the college bear his name. This honor was secured by a Mr. Brockway, a merchant in moderate circumstances, who put down his name for \$1,000 and it became "Brockway College."

But Captain Mapes, like too many other pioneers, failed to reap a well earned reward for all his sacrifice. The city stood there, a result of his own energy and brain work, but financially he was worse off than when he set about the task of building it up. By his liberality in helping others he had impoverished himself. The people of Ripon knew and honored him as the noble pioneer, but none could point out any valuable property as belonging to him.

Shaking the prairie dust of Ripon from his feet, he determined that his life work was not yet accomplished, so he removed to a point near the outlet of Lake Winneconne, on the Wolf River, on the line of the St. Paul R. E., and set about building up the city of Winneconne, which soon prospered by virtue of his push and energy. He projected and carried through the building of the Oshkosh and Winneconne R. E., and his latter years appear to have been peaceful and moderately prosperous. He died, surrounded by sym-

pathizing friends, at his Winneconne home, his remains having been returned to Ripon for burial.

Capt. Mapes had held several important political trusts and was a staunch Republican in politics. He was prominently connected with the organization of the Republican party, some of the initiatory steps for which were taken in Ripon. He was a Master Mason of over seventy years standing, and if not the oldest, was at least well up to the oldest Mason in the country.

The city of Ripon was so named by Governor Horner, from Ripon, in England, he claiming that his family was remotely connected with the family bearing that title in the old country. It was at Ripon College where one of the editors of the Record passed many happy boyhood days, and it is with feelings of pleasure that he now recalls to memory the faculty and fellows of that honored institution, tempered with sorrow as he remembers the gray haired and venerable men, particularly noticed in this article, and whose remains now, probably, lie buried in the city cemetery on the hill overlooking the old town of Ceresco in the valley below.

#### Dead at Ninety-three.

One of the oldest residents in Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. Mary Anhaeuser, passed quietly out of life Monday, May 26, 1890, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. She was the widow of Henry O. Anhaeuser and her maiden name was Mill, her parents having been early settlers in Hanover Township. Her father, John Mill, was a native of Philadelphia, and came to Hanover about 1802. He married Catharine Klinker and died in Nanticoke in 1840. Mary was their oldest child. Other children were Peter Mill, who married Mary Keithline, and died in 1871; the remaining four brothers and sisters all married into the Line family. George married Elizabeth Line, Solomon married Mary Line, John married Eliza Line and Catharine married James Line. The foregoing data is taken from Plumb's "History of Hanover."

Mrs. Anhaeuser was a life long member of the Presbyterian Church and has lived for many years on Franklin Street, opposite St. Stephen's rectory. She lived with her children, Joseph and Mary. Mr. F. Koerner is a daughter. She died possessed of some valuable property on Public Square, adjoining Welles Building. She bore her burden of years well and was in her usual health up to the time when death came. She slept peacefully away and was found dead in bed, with no sign of struggle or suffering. Funeral at 3 p. m. Wednesday.

### PUT FLOWERS ON HIS GRAVE

**The Loyal Sentiments of a Brave Officer at the Outbreak of the War.**

When Fort Sumter had been fired on in April, 1861, some of the Wilkes-Barre friends of Col. Alexander H. Bowman heard rumors that his sympathies were with the South and they naturally became anxious. Though a Pennsylvanian, he had married in the South and had spent years of service in that section, during a portion of which he had built Fort Sumter. His friends, L. D. Shoemaker and the late Dr. Charles F. Ingham, addressed an inquiry to him at West Point, of which he was commandant, and they received the following patriotic reply that completely silenced the insinuations that he was disloyal. The letter is furnished the RECORD by Mr. Shoemaker and it will be especially appropriate for Memorial Day. Col. Bowman is buried in Hollenback Cemetery, as is his son, Capt. Charles S. Bowman, and his son-in-law, Capt. Miles D. McAlester, both of the United States Army:

WEST POINT, April 23, 1861.—Charles F. Ingham, L. D. Shoemaker, Esqrs.—Gentlemen: Yours of the 21st inst. is this moment received and I hasten to reply. I need hardly tell any one in Wilkes-Barre what my opinion is of the men North and South, who have labored for years with the avowed purpose of destroying our glorious Union, the one supplying the fuel at one extremity of the country, and the other scattering the fire broadcast at the other, until the innocent as well as the guilty all over the country are involved in one fearful conflagration. I have not hesitated to express in the strongest language I am master of my abhorrence of both. I am not "a prophet or the son of a prophet," and yet my thorough acquaintance with the temper of the extremists, North and South, showed me long ago that unless something was done to avert it our present difficulties were inevitable. Many of my acquaintances in Wilkes-Barre can testify that I have often predicted it. Innocent persons North and South have been gradually drawn in until the separation is complete. You ask whether I "favor the movement of the Southern people in their war against our glorious Union?"

I answer most emphatically, no.

Seeing the tendency of events, I have on all fitting occasions, in private circles, endeavored to show where they would lead and their effects upon the country. It remains to be seen whether my opinions were right or wrong. There can be but little doubt that

the result will be bloody and disastrous to both parties.

As to my own course or position in this unhappy controversy, I have no hesitation in declaring it. When I received my commission on entering the army I took the oath of allegiance to the United States, and nothing has occurred to absolve me from that oath. The South has committed an act of war upon the government I have sworn to support, and duty, my oath and my inclination demand that I should do all in my power to protect the government I have served for forty years, and the glorious Union I love because it is the dear bought inheritance of our fathers, and the cause of all our prosperity, national greatness and power. God grant that all who espouse its cause may labor as zealously as I mean to do for its restoration. That any man can strike where his brother is his victim with as much indifference as if he were a stranger, or his natural enemy, I do not believe, but that this painful duty can be performed and faithfully when the prize is our glorious Union, the entire unanimity of our people, and my own heart tells me.

I am ready to renew the oath I made forty years ago, and as during that period I have done my duty (not always pleasant) to the satisfaction of my lawful superiors, I do not despair of securing their approval on this occasion.

Deny, in my name, emphatically, any statement inconsistent with the above.

With my thanks for the kind interest you have taken in writing to me, believe me, very truly,

Your friend,

A. H. BOWMAN.

### A Veteran of 1812 Gone.

John Mensch, one of the landmarks of Plains Township, died at his home in Miner's Mills, on Friday last, at an advanced age. He came here from Northampton County at the age of 9 years, and has lived in the house where he died ever since. He was a volunteer soldier in the war of 1812, and was drawing a pension at the time of his death. He leaves a son and two daughters, all living at Miner's Mills in comfortable circumstances. He was a man of strict integrity, and was beloved by all his neighbors, as was shown by the large concourse of friends at his funeral at the City Cemetery on Sunday last. He sleeps beside his aged wife who preceded him several years ago.

### The Oldest Inhabitant.

Probably the oldest person in Luzerne County is Samuel Bailey, of Sutton's Creek, who celebrated his 90th birthday on New Year's Day. Mr. Bailey is a native of Orange County, N. Y., and has been living in Luzerne County 43 years.

### GOOD BYE, OLD SCALES.

#### A "Landmark" Removed at Last — A Few Points About the Scales.

The hay scales that were removed June 2 from opposite the store of Lewis Brown, on east side of Public Square, were put in place something over fifty years ago by the Messrs. J. L. and L. Butler, who had them placed there to accommodate the business of the steam grist mill, which was built somewhere along in the latter part of the thirties. The hay scales mentioned as belonging to John P. Arndt in 1810 as being on the Square, were an entirely different affair from the modern scale just removed. Arndt's scale was fashioned something after a gigantic steelyard scale, with a long beam, and machinery to lift the load bodily from the ground. Mr. Arndt left Wilkes-Barre about 1820, and settled at Green Bay, Wisconsin. After his removal to the West "Old Michael" occupied the storage house formerly belonging to the Arndts, which stood on the river bank about opposite the E. P. Darling residence and was general weighmaster for the town until the Butlers set the scales just removed, which was a great improvement on the old style. The Arndt scales may have been located on the Square in 1810, but if they were they did not remain there a great while, and they had no feature in common with the ones just removed, and could not have occupied the same place, as they required to be operated through a second story door or window. There were no scales on the Square at the time the Butlers built their mill on the east side, facing the Square, near where the Exchange Hotel stands.

The scales just removed have been operated up to June 2 jointly by Lewis Brown and the Hillards, who own them. The receipts averaged about a dollar a day, at 25 cents a ton, though on some days 30 or 40 tons came to town.

The *Leader* has unearthed the following with reference to the first scales:

The fact is that the scales were first allowed on the Square by an ordinance of the old borough council passed July 7, 1810. There were present at the meeting Thomas Dyer, Charles Miner, Geo. Oahoon, Enoch Ogden, Isaac Bowman and F. Tracy, the clerk. The ordinance as passed was as follows:

"Whereas, John P. Arndt hath offered for the use of the borough his hay scales on certain conditions: Be it ordained that from and after the first day of August next, the hay scales, now situate on the Public Square,

shall be in readiness to weigh all hay that may be brought to the borough for sale.

"Be it ordained that the town council shall annually or as often as need be, appoint some person to take charge of the hay scales, and that he shall justly and truly weigh all hay brought to the scales to be weighed, and he shall receive for every load of hay weighed the sum of twenty-five cents, one-half of which shall go to John P. Arndt for the use of said scales."

It is added that in case the weigher takes more than twenty-five cents per load he shall be fined four dollars.

### LAWYERS PAY TRIBUTE

To the Memory of the Late Hon. Steuben Jenkins — A Meeting of the Luzerne County Bar Association.

A meeting of the members of the Luzerne County Bar was called for Monday morning, in the office of the association in the court house, for the purpose of taking formal action on the death of Hon. Steuben Jenkins. There were present: Judge Rice, Judge Woodward, Alexander Farnham, Hon. John Lynch, W. P. Ryman, Agib Ricketts, T. B. Martin, C. F. Bohan, George T. Troutman, Gustav Hahn. Mr. Farnham was elected president, and Mr. Hahn secretary.

Harry Hakes was appointed to speak, but in his absence a paper from his pen was read by Judge Rice. Mr. Hakes framed the following tribute to the memory of Mr. Jenkins:

"Mr. Chairman: Death is no respecter of persons, or waiter upon the convenience or times of men. Our brother has enjoyed his measure of days—three score and ten years. His measure of usefulness was uncompleted, and we may truthfully say, death found him in the harness, a hard worker, a ready writer and an acute observer and sound thinker. I have often urged him to put together his extensive manuscripts and publish such a rare and philosophical history of Wyoming Valley as we have never yet seen. I very much regret that he did not do it, for the facts faithfully and laboriously gathered by him during two score and ten years, though perhaps not lost to us, will hardly find (without him) an editor to do the subject complete justice. Did he think, and rightly, too, that the present generation is too much absorbed in their ordinary occupations to appreciate his labors or reward him for the publication? Steuben Jenkins was a very quiet and unpretentious man, a good and safe counsellor, an honorable, aye, a noble man. I have known him many years, always a friend, and genial entertaining gentleman of the old school. Before his brothers of the bar I need not allude



to his many and varied accomplishments. These were well known to us all. A good man has fallen and he leaves a vacancy in our midst that but few possess the measure of good qualifications to fill."

Alexander Farnham briefly reviewed the life of Mr. Jenkins as one well spent and shining in its nobleness and worth on the highest plane. He referred to his career politically, his being an important factor in that contentious walk of life. For several terms he was a member of the Legislature, where his position was a leading one. He was a good lawyer and a man who followed all his life energetically and successfully its highest traits. He delighted in the study of history, especially the early history of Pennsylvania, and coupled with this spent much time in the collection of relics.

Mr. Farnham also referred to his literary accomplishments and his usefulness to the community as a citizen and a scholar.

Judge Rice made a few remarks eulogistic of his career. He counted him as a valued friend and a great man.

The following were appointed a committee to draw up resolutions: Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Asa B. Brundage, Hon. John Lynch, George B. Kulp and Dr. Harry Hakes.

In order to allow the committee time to frame resolutions the meeting was adjourned to next Monday morning at 11 o'clock.

#### A Coal Land Expert Dead.

Edward Dolph died at his home in Dunmore, Lackawanna County, Friday, April 4, after an illness of five weeks. Mr. Dolph was between 75 and 76 years of age. He was well and favorable known to the older citizens of this city and county. In the early 40's he was deputy recorder of deeds and several times he sought to be the candidate for prothonotary and other of the county offices. He was an extensive manufacturer of lumber up Spring Brook, and at one time owned several thousand acres of timbered land in that heavily timbered region. About twenty-five years ago he moved from Spring Brook to the residence in which he lived until his death. The last twenty years of his life were spent in prospecting for mineral and timber lands. Perhaps more than one half of the last twenty years were spent in the woods, and in the search for coal and other mineral formations. It is safe to say that there was no man in the anthracite coal region (not a scientific geologist) who had a more extended or accurate knowledge of the coal strata north of Pittston, than Mr. Dolph. His judgment of coal and timber lands was continuously sought after. He was conservative and cautious in

expressing an opinion, and when acted upon was generally found to be correct. His knowledge of land surveys and corners was wonderful. His information of governing lines and corners, as given to the surveyors in the great ejection, Grier et al. against Pennsylvania Coal Co., tried in Lackawanna County, and afterwards affirmed by the Supreme Court, was what won the verdict for the defendant. We get it from one of the attorneys for the company in that suit, who spent many days with Mr. Dolph, upon the lines in dispute, that Mr. Dolph's information about the corners and lines of the different tracts for miles around was certainly marvelous.

He loved nature. He loved the woods, and was happiest when among them. He was not only temperate in his habits, but a Prohibitionist upon constitutional principles. He firmly believed in the motto, "Touch not, taste not and handle not," and contributed freely from his means, and by precept and example tried to further the cause of temperance.

He was an extensive owner of coal lands. The Dolph Coal Co., near Peckville, in which W. G. Payne, of Kingston, Isaac P. Hand, of this city, and E. B. Sturges, of Scranton, are interested, was named in his honor. He leaves a widow, one son, Edward Dolph, who studied law in this city, and was admitted to practice in Luzerne County Courts; one daughter, the wife of William G. Robertson, superintendent of the Dolph Coal Co., and two unmarried daughters.

The *Truth* says that Mr. Dolph had eight brothers and sisters. Those living are Moses Dolph, of St. Louis; Warren Dolph, of Moosic, this State; Laura, now Mrs. A. J. Weidner, of Dunmore; Polly A., relict of James Meisner, of Philadelphia.

#### Fence Post Advertising Still in Vogue.

NOTICE—The military roll for the — Ward, city of Wilkes-Barre, has been filed with the county commissioners, where the same may be examined till Saturday, June 7, 1890, the day appointed for appeal.

S. B. STURDEVANT,  
JOHN B. QUICK,  
ANNING DILLEY,

Wilkes-Barre, June 2, 1890. Assessors.

The RECORD gives place to the above manuscript notice, which is posted on fences and tree boxes around the town, after the fashion of the days when there were no printing offices. As long as the authorities are too poor to pay for proper advertising, the RECORD will cheerfully insert these military notices gratis, lest outsiders think that Wilkes-Barre is perpetuating the custom of 1772, in posting all public notices against the sign tree on the river bank.

## MOONOLOGY.

**A Correspondent Furnishes Some Curious Folk Lore and the Record is Desirous to Receive Further Points on the Same Subject—Pass It Around.**

There is the man in the moon and the cow that jumped over it. There are moonstones and moonworts.

Poets have impersonated the moon as Diana, Luna, Cynthia and the Goddess or Queen of Night. Astronomers have been so interested in this Satellite of ours as to be able to inform us that it is not inhabited and to give us the exact time of its quarterly phases and its eclipses and to calculate its effect upon the tides. Medical men have given us such terms as lunacy and moon-eyed. In heraldry we have the crescent and in architecture we have the meniscus. The movable fasts and feasts of the church are controlled by the moon, and important days of societies are fixed by her phases, such as St. John's Day and the meetings of the secret society of Red Men. The months are either lunar or calendar. All around us controlling the daily life, health and occupation of a multitude of our people is the moon lore. People plant and reap under its influences, they foretell the weather, and other coming events by its signs, and perhaps nothing is of quite so much importance to them as the probable effect of its changes upon men, animals and plants.

The observations of people will be probably found arranged under one of the following heads.

1. Pointing up or down.
2. Time of changes during the day.
3. Zodiacal signs, or signs of the man in the almanac.
4. Position in horizon, as high or low.
5. Atmospheric appearances, as rings or halos.
6. Quarterly phases, as waxing or waning, old or new.
7. Whether new moon is seen over right or left shoulder.
8. Effect of moonshine upon persons asleep.
9. The meaning of harvest moon, hunters' moon, and honey moon.

The following are some of the signs which I have heard related:

A cold moon lies high in the horizon, or far north.

Good events grow better and bad ones worse if happening in the new of the moon.

A new moon happening when the sign is "in the fish" indicates coming wet weather.

It is best to cut hair in the new of the moon and brush in old of the moon.

If fence posts are set when the moon points down they will stay down, while if done when the moon points up they will back up out of the ground.

When the moon lies on her back it is a sign of dry weather.

If one butchers in the old of the moon, the meat will shrivel in the tub and frying pan.

A ring around the moon is a sure sign of foul weather.

Plant cabbage when the sign is in the head and the heads will be large and solid.

If the first snow be in the new of the moon it is a sign of a severe winter ahead.

The nearer the moon changes to midnight the fairer the weather will be for a week.

No sailor will sleep in the moonlight for fear of color blindness or cataract of the eyes and no good nurse will allow the baby to sleep with the moon on its face for the same reason.

All kinds of fits come on worse with the changes of the moon and so does nose bleed.

Now, if you can refer me to any other such sayings I will be greatly obliged.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**Absent From Wilkes-Barre Sixty Years.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** It would be interesting to know how many men are living in Wilkes-Barre to-day who attended school at the old academy 61 years ago. Strange to say, the principal of that institution at the time mentioned, is still living. His recent gift of forty thousand dollars to Williams College speaks volumes for the salaries formerly paid Wilkes-Barre teachers. The following is an extract from a letter written by Dr. Abram Talcott, of Guilford, Conn.: "I feel quite an interest in the Wyoming Valley. I spent a year and a half there in my early days (in 1828-9), and have pleasant remembrances of my residence there as principal of the academy in Wilkes-Barre, but I have not been there since 1859. The little village has become a big city."

Miner's Mills, Pa.

g. w. g.

**First Wilkes-Barre Soldiers Killed.**

There were left at the RECORD office on May 30, two crosses of honeysuckles, laurel and ferns, to do honor to the memory of the first two soldier boys from Wilkes-Barre who lost their lives in the war. Lewis A. McDermott and James Dilley, both were members of Co. D, 61st Regiment, P. V., and both were killed at Fair Oaks, May 31, 1862. Their graves are unknown.

**W. R. MAFFET DEAD.**

**He Passes Away at the Age of 73 Years—  
A Distinguished Engineer Gone.**

The public has been aware for some days that William R. Maffet has been seriously ill and on Saturday, June 14, the end came. His illness was not the result of any particular disease, so far as could be learned, but was due to a general failure of the vital forces. He had been unconscious for several days and passed away painlessly and without a struggle. Mr. Maffet was born in Wilkes-Barre, March 29, 1817, and is said to have been the oldest native of this city. There are many others older but they were not born in Wilkes-Barre. No brothers or sisters survive him except Mrs. Charles A. Miner, who is a half-sister.

Only a week ago he was out driving and was contemplating a trip West for his health and to visit his children. While he was planning the trip one of his daughters, living in Chicago, came East, and it was part of his plan to return with her and afterward to visit her other children farther West, when taken with his last illness.

Mr. Maffet was twice married, his first wife being Adelia West, of Philadelphia, and his second Anna Middleton. The latter survives him. There were no children from the second marriage, but from the first eight children survive. These are Ann Eliza, wife of Trustian Connell, of Kiowa, Kan.; Rosalie West, wife of Lathan W. Jones, of Langford, Col.; Martha Maffet, who lives at home; Ruth Ross, wife of the well known engineer, Horace See, of New York; George West Maffet, of Anthony, Kan., publisher of a newspaper; Addie, wife of Geo. W. Ramage, of Chicago; Sarah Covell, married last winter to Lieut. Charles J. Stevens, U. S. A., now stationed at Fort McKinney, Wyoming Ter.; Wm. R. Maffet, Jr., engaged in the lumber business in Oregon.

He has always resided in Wilkes-Barre and he has been an important factor in many enterprises for the upbuilding of the community's welfare. Those who have known him only during the last dozen years, when he was in comparative retirement, are not aware that he was a brilliant civil engineer and that various commercial highway were surveyed by Mr. Maffet. He supervised the extension of the North Branch Canal, opened in the fall of 1856. He was originator and first president of the Coalville Street railway and for some years has derived a comfortable competency in the shape of royalties from lands leased to the Hanover Coal Co. He was the projector, builder and at the time of his death the chief owner of the water works at Honesdale. The gravity road at Mauch Chunk, now famous as the

Switchback, was engineered by him. He has also been identified with important surveys for the Lehigh Valley and the Pennsylvania. During the last dozen years or so he has not been largely identified in the practice of his profession but has sought the quiet of a congenial home circle. He was a good business man and nearly all of the many local industries that have sprung up here of late years have been aided by him when subscriptions of stock were solicited. He recognized the new commercial life that has sprung up and aided it as far as lay in his power.

Although Mr. Maffet never sought preferment, he served two terms as councilman of this city.

Mr. Maffet was fond of recalling early days, and every newspaper man can testify that he was always accessible when information was sought concerning the past. His well stored memory aided in many an emergency when every other channel seemed closed. But he always shrank from making himself prominent and on occasions when he was returning from extensive travels a reporter could hope for little more than a mere personal item of a line or two. He was a man of integrity and character and will be greatly missed. During the panic of 1873 he became seriously involved by reason of having endorsed for his friends and he was urged to save himself by taking advantage of the bankrupt law, but he firmly refused and was subsequently able to meet his liabilities in full.

Mr. Maffet's father, Samuel Maffet, (father of John Maffet, County Tyrone, Ireland,) was a prominent citizen of Wilkes-Barre. He was the proprietor of the *Susquehanna Democrat*, which was long the organ of the Democratic party in this county, and was established in 1810. He had previously learned the printing trade in Philadelphia with John Binns, the eminent jurist, and author of "Binns' Justice." Samuel Maffet held the offices of prothonotary, clerk of the courts, and recorder in Luzerne County. Samuel Maffet married Caroline, daughter of Gen. William Rose, and after his death she married Elisha Atherton. They had one child, Eliza Ross Atherton, who is now Mrs. Charles A. Miner.

**FUNERAL OF MR. MAFFET.**

**Impressive Services at His Handsome Residence on North River Street.**

A large number of the old friends of Mr. Maffet, many of whom had been associated with him in business relations, together with many who knew him merely as an acquaintance, gathered at his beautiful home on North River Street Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock to see his face again before being

hidden forever and hear those solemn words of eulogy, hope and comfort spoken over the remains of those who have lived a useful life and have fought a good fight. They were sorrowful faces that greeted the friends as singly and by twos and threes they stepped into the hall. There were no familiar greetings, happy looks of welcome from the members of the bereaved household. Instead there were bowed heads and tearful eyes. To the left, in the music room, lay the remains of the deceased coal operator, reposing in a handsome black cloth casket. Upon it were a few tributes, a wreath of flowers, a miniature sheaf of wheat, and two large ferns. The face of the dead retained the expression of life, and the closed eyelids was the only indication that those who filed past the bier were not recognized. The features bore no trace of the suffering Mr. Maffet endured. They rather looked as if he had lain him down to rest.

The services were conducted by Rev. Henry L. Jones and Rev. H. E. Hayden. Mr. Jones in a brief address alluded to the deceased as having borne three score years and ten and fulfilled the trust of a useful and good life. A quartet from St. Stephen's—Miss Prætorius and Mrs. Thomas and Messrs. Bowman and Lloyd—sang beautifully a requiem chant, "Nearer My God to Thee" and "Abide With Me." A few minutes before six the pall bearers left the room and the friends were assigned to carriages. The pall bearers were A. T. McOlintock, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Richard Sharpe, N. Butter, W. W. Loomis and B. J. Flick. The carriers were Allan H. Dickson, Charles P. Hunt, F. V. Bockafellow, Jerome G. Miller, S. L. Brown and Major Charles Conyngham. The ladies did not accompany the remains to Hollenback Cemetery.

#### OVER A HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

**Death of a Scranton Man at a Remarkable Age.**

(Daily Record, May 30.)

John D. Curran, aged one hundred and four years, died Wednesday morning at the residence of his son-in-law, Patrick J. Boyle, on Fig Street, says the *Scranton Truth*. Mr. Curran was born in Donegal, Ireland, in 1786, in the townland where Gen. Montgomery, of American revolutionary fame, first saw the light of day. Mr. Curran was a man in his youthful days of powerful stature and never knew what it was to be ill until a few weeks prior to his death. He was connected with the '48 movement in Ireland and was a compatriot of John Dillon, Richard Gavin Duffy, John Mitchell and other prominent Irishmen of those times. For participating in this movement he was

exiled to America and since then resided in Pennsylvania. He remembered the landing of the French in 1797 at Kilkala, and when in conversation with the acquaintance he loved to tell of the incident that occurred before and after the arrival of the friendly fleet and the ovation tendered to the soldiers and marines. Several sons survive him and reside in Carbon County. His wife died a few years ago, aged 100 years.

Mr. Curran was a man who had lived a temperate life, creditable to himself and the land of his birth. It was his prayer night, noon and morning for a half century that he might live to see Ireland "great, glorious and free" from English tyranny. He was well educated in the Irish language. His remains will be taken to Beaver Meadow on Saturday morning for interment.

#### A FEW REMINISCENCES

**Called to Mind by the Death of Mrs. Anhaeuser.**

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Anhaeuser took place from her late residence Wednesday afternoon, conducted by Rev. Dr. Hodge. A large number of friends listened to the tribute that fell from the lips of the pastor. The following memories called up by her death are from the pen of Dr. George Urquhart:

The death of Mrs. Mary Anhaeuser ended an earthly pilgrimage of nearly ninety-three years. About half of that time was spent in widowhood. In her death a link is severed that joined the present to delightful memories of the past. She was the wife of a most estimable and godly man, who half a century ago was officially prominent in the First Presbyterian Church, in association with Oristus Collins, W. O. Gildersleeve and John O. Baker. Few churches could claim the guidance, assistance and religious influence of such men, and in their death the church, community and their families sustained an irreparable loss. The spirit of goodness is ever the same, but these men fulfilled their purpose by doing the will of him in whose likeness they were formed. Virtuous susceptibility was a distinctive trait of them all, and they found in religion the support that upheld their courage and directed their daily work in life. Their social intercourse was marked with an air of good taste and refinement, and we cherish their memories for the spirit of Christian love that guided them and bound them together. Their chief consolation was the hope of future union and heavenly recognition, and the light of such sunshine in this life not only lightens the traveler's heavy load, but cheers and strengthens him to bear it.

**JOINED HER HUSBAND SO SOON.****Death of Mrs. Caleb E. Wright at Doylestown.**

A brief telegram announced to the relatives in this city April 29, that Mrs. Caleb E. Wright, of Doylestown, was dead; that she died during the night. The wires could have conveyed no sadder intelligence to her many friends and acquaintances in this city than this, that she was dead. Grieved and greatly depressed by the death of her husband, which occurred but a few weeks ago, she gave way to a sorrow that robbed life of its content and happiness and was largely instrumental in opening the way to the tomb, to join her husband.

Her illness, which was but of a few days' duration, excited no serious apprehensions until within a short time before her demise. Mrs. Wright's maiden name was Phoebe Ann Fell, and she was joined in marriage to her husband April 30, 1838, at Doylestown. She was the daughter of Amos Fell, who for many years lived in Pittston. She was born in Bucks County and for some years lived in Wilkes-Barre, having moved from here in 1876. She was a sister of the late J. Gillingham Fell, who was a largely interested member of the coal firm of Ario Pardee & Co., and was one of the first to enter extensively into the development of mining in the Hazleton region. His son, John B. Fell, is a prominent citizen of Philadelphia.

Two sons survive their parents—Wilson Wright, who lives in New Jersey, and Warren Wright, who resided in the home-stead at Doylestown. The blow to the latter will be unusually severe, as during his illness he has daily been blessed with his mother's comforting presence.

Deceased was an aunt of Mrs. Guthrie, Mrs. Josephine Hillman, Mrs. Thomas Graeme, J. Bidgway Wright and George B. Wright, of this city.

Mrs. Wright will be remembered for the extreme loving kindness that marked her in the family circle and in her association with friends—a quality that shines farthest beyond the sombre shadows cast by the mantle of death and lives longest in the minds of those who admire the highest and best in life. She was a woman of great intelligence, highly educated and possessed a cultured mind. To be in her society was a pleasure often sought by her friends and an opportunity always cheerfully extended.

The funeral will take place Thursday morning at 11 o'clock, with interment at Doylestown.

**DEATH OF MISS PHOEBE THOMAS.****A Self-Sacrificing Woman Passes to Her Final Rest.**

The many friends of Miss Phoebe Thomas will be pained to learn that she died Thursday, June 26, a few minutes before 2 o'clock p. m., at the residence of her mother, Mrs. Ellen E. Thomas, on Franklin Street. Miss Thomas was for twelve years a devoted missionary teacher and spent much of her time in Sao Paulo, Brazil, establishing the kindergarten system of teaching. The school was under the auspices of the Missionary Board of the Presbyterian Church, but was maintained by Miss Thomas at her own expense. A few years ago her health began failing her in the Southern clime and the seeds of consumption were sown in her system. About a year ago she came home, intending soon to return, but so firmly had the disease fastened itself upon her, so quick was its course, that when the time came for her to sail she was greatly enfeebled and was obliged to remain. Her illness was characterized by the most intense suffering, and for months she has been unable to lie down, day or night. Every motion of her body racked her with pain, the inflammatory process of the disease having invaded the shoulder joints and made it necessary to bind her arms to her body. She was a sister of Isaac M. Thomas, of this city, and a niece of William P. Miner. The appended sketch is condensed from an article furnished the Record by Dr. George Urquhart:

The past is memorable for the lessons it teaches and an experience of unusual interest to us is the heroic, charitable and magnanimous example of Miss Phoebe Bothrock Thomas, of this city, whose early life bore much promise of good, and culminated in devoting her gratuitous activities and usefulness to kindergarten instruction in a foreign land.

She was the daughter of Jesse and Ellen Thomas, and granddaughter of Charles Miner, the venerable and renowned author of the History of Wyoming.

She relinquished the comforts of a happy home life to disseminate the blessings of religion and virtue, that the less favored Brazilian might be taught the benign and elevating effects of the highest civilization, to offer his prayers to the only true God, and learn the way of salvation through redeeming mercy.

She early displayed a taste for those elevated subjects which gave a relish for the pleasures of devotion and the ardor with

which she desired a preparation for the divine enjoyments of a future world was inconceivably great.

She enjoyed every means of cultivation furnished by the general knowledge, practical good sense and liberal taste of the home circle, where also she imbibed her habitual dread of literary affectation, and her love of all that is practical and important in every day life.

She needed no borrowed shades nor any reflected lights to determine or illumine her path, and moving in her own grandeur, the lustre of her virtues remained untarnished by the unsullied parity of her excellent mind.

To a mature prudence she united a sound judgment, a good temper and her excellent understanding discovered that true religion alone imparted solid pleasures in life and yielded the greatest comforts in death.

And that which crowns her name with most resplendent and imperishable honors was her choice and determination to devote her best energies to the noblest Christian efforts, and bear to a distant land the precepts of divine truth which she adorned by an unblemished life. Her missionary spirit had its foundation in her religious constitution, rather than in a natural propensity to follow in the hazardous windings of an untrodden path.

Hers was a real benevolence towards mankind, the legitimate effect and tendency of a pure Christian influence upon a soul lighted from above, and under the impelling influence of love shed abroad in the heart. Such love is a constituent part of the Christian's character, and burns with a steadiness which shows that it is fed with an inextinguishable material.

In early life she was the subject of serious impressions, which laid the foundations of her Christian life, and the uniform piety and seriousness of her mind is forcibly displayed by her social preferences, her meekness and humility.

The circumstances of the age show that the field of foreign missions needs generosity in pecuniary contributions, yet in men and not in money the deficiency is greatest and most distressing.

Miss Thomas's personal preferences and and consciousness of power dominated over the claims of ordinary philanthropic enterprises, and she believed herself called called to a wider sphere of action, to assist in the inauguration of reforms in educational processes, to aid in the elevation of the ignorant and degraded, to the improvement of their social surroundings, and to the organization of schools for their instruction.

It was therefore a noble act, most certainly worthy of the highest commendation, for

Miss Thomas to voluntarily join her services with the heroic band who for years have been struggling with the darkness and enmity of unbelieving and irreligious minds, the powerful influence of caste, the degrading doctrines of heathenism in relation to the future life, and for the amelioration of the general condition, the depression, and wretchedness of vice and ignorance.

As a consequence of this voluntary offering many a Brazilian household owes the deepest thankfulness to Miss Thomas for having quietly helped to organize their schools, and modify the routine of ancient venerated and fruitless customs. Nor in the performance of these important duties, is it found that a sense of life's deeper realities and responsibilities, and an interest in foreign educational work, are hostile to those gentle womanly qualities that make the delight of companionship.

Her personal character was retiring, amiable, exemplary, and charitable. Unpretentious, and not seeking a record in the literary history of her time, she lived to show that womanly ability in educational pursuits obtain respect and observance, as sincerely and readily as pure womanly character commands reverence and affection.

She had given twelve years of her care and influence to her Brazilian school when failing health necessitated her retirement.

Since her return home her strength has constantly and gradually declined, and fully conscious of her approaching dissolution she has endured great suffering uncomplainingly. She was reconciled to the will of her Heavenly Father; her spirit of devotion in an eminent degree showed her fertility of mind, her purity of taste and her friendship for missionary companions, Rev. J. Beatty Howell and wife, and Mrs. Day, who are expected soon to return to their native home and friends.

#### Death of Dr. C. H. Wilson.

The sad news reached Plymouth July 1 by telegram to O. M. Lance that a former townsman, Dr. Charles H. Wilson, had died of consumption at his home in Nebraska City, whither he removed a year or two ago to join his brother, Col. William L. Wilson, president of a bank there. Dr. Wilson was a little past 50 years of age, and leaves a wife, four daughters and a son. He was a native of Berwick, and served as a surgeon during the late war. Subsequently he was appointed on Gov. Hoyt's staff. He graduated in medicine from the old Pennsylvania College in Philadelphia, in 1857, and practiced many years in Plymouth. During the epidemic of typhoid fever a few years ago he was one of the most active practitioners in

combating the malady, and was one of the prime movers in establishing the fever hospital. He was a member of the Luzerne County Medical Society, and went West on account of failing health. He was a son of the late Dr. A. B. Wilson, a distinguished pioneer doctor in Luzerne and Columbia Counties.

#### DEATH OF REUBEN DOWNING.

**The Aged Citizen Passes Away After Severe Suffering—Sketch of His Successful Career.**

One by one the old settlers are stepping into the other world, and their sons and grandsons are taking up life's work where they leave off. Death has carried away a large number of Wilkes-Barre's old residents in recent months. Reuben Downing was one of the best known and most progressive of these men who grew up with this city and enhanced by their liberality and personal efforts its material prosperity. For some weeks he had been confined to his beautiful home on South Washington Street with a complication of diseases. Gradually they took firmer hold upon his system, defying the skill of physician and the kind ministering of family and friends, and June 18, afternoon at 2 o'clock the patient sufferer closed his eyes for the last long sleep. To one who endured pain so continuous and severe, death is a welcome relief, and so it was with Mr. Downing. He died bearing upon his countenance traces of the affliction which racked his physical powers for five months, until they could no longer stand the strain. As he steps from the arena of life there is closed one of those careers made only by those who are called prominent and useful citizens, successful in life and universally mourned in death.

Reuben Downing was born in the township of Hanover, Luzerne County, on the 16th day of February, 1822, and was 68 years of age. He was the son of Bateman Downing, descended of an old New England family. He followed the occupation of a farmer for many years, was deputy sheriff under William Koono and also under Gideon W. Palmer, and was also a candidate for sheriff against Abram Drum but was defeated by about one hundred votes. He was also prothonotary of Luzerne County, having received the appointment from Governor Pollock in 1855 to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Anson Curtis. He was one of the auditors of this county for three years, and under Governor Geary was commissioned one of the justices of the peace of Hanover Township; during the civil war was

treasurer of the bounty fund of Hanover and one of the deputy provost marshals of the Twelfth Congressional District, and also held the office of school director in his township for many years. In 1870 he began looking after the lands and farms of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., and upon the purchase of that company's lands by the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Co., in the year 1874, the date of its organization, he was made the real estate agent of the latter company, which position he has filled ever since with great credit and to the satisfaction of his company, whose interests he guarded with the best of care.

At the time of his death he was a director and vice president of the First National Bank of Wilkes-Barre, a director in the Crystal Spring and Hanover Water Companies, vice president of the Hazard Manufacturing Co., manager and secretary and treasurer of the Paddy's Run Bridge Co. at Shickshinny, a member of the Wilkes-Barre Armory Association and president of the Hanover Cemetery Association. He was for a number of years president of the board of directory of the Third School District, which position he filled with ability.

Mr. Downing accumulated considerable property in this city, being the owner of one-half the First National Bank building, Brown's book store block, the building on the corner of Market and Washington Streets occupied by A. Gotthold, the stables kept by George Guinnip and Harry Posten, the property where he lived, and probably the best farm in the county, consisting of about 78 acres.

Mr. Downing married, in 1844, Nancy Miller, daughter of the late Barnet and Mary Miller, of Hanover Township, who survives him. His death comes peculiarly hard to her, as for some weeks she has been confined to her room with a stroke of paralysis. Two children also survive—Burton Downing, a young attorney and business man, of this city, and Miss Martha, who lives at home.

Mr. Downing was one of those men who start in the battle of life without money and by hard work, thrift and industry, forge themselves to the front rank of business men and gain a considerable portion of this world's goods. He was eminently a self-made man. His keen judgment, which served him with unerring fidelity, was looked to by many who were undecided when weighty considerations were before them. This qualification fitted him admirably for the responsible position he held. His investments were made carefully and yielded profitably and he died one of the wealthy men of this city. Not only this, but he gained the respect and esteem of all who knew him.

**FUNERAL OF REUBEN DOWNING.****The Casket Covered With Beautiful Floral Designs as Tributes From Friends and Relatives.**

When the sorrowing friends and relatives entered the parlor in the residence of the late Reuben Downing on Saturday at 1 o'clock, to hear the last words spoken over his lifeless clay, their eyes rested upon the most beautiful floral tributes from those who mourn his loss. The solemnity of those gathered together as their eyes rested upon the casket was the only suggestion of death. The flowers breathed of a life, the speaker referred to a life to which death is but the entrance door. The decorations were placed about the room in convenient places and combined the prettiest of roses and other cut flowers.

On the casket rested a very pretty design from the Ninth Regiment Armory Association. It was a floral Keystone with a figure nine in the centre. The edges were of red flowers and the other portion of white.

At the head of the casket was a sheaf of wheat and a sickle and another very pretty design by the officials and employes of the Hazard Wire Rope Works.

The tribute of daughter and son was a beautiful pillow of flowers resting on the casket, at the head, with the word "father" wreathed in the centre, also a wreath of white flowers.

The Wilkes Barre office of the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company placed a floral cross and crown on the casket as their offering of respect.

The other floral designs by friends and relatives were very profuse.

A silver plate on the casket contained an inscription giving name, age, date of birth and of death. The casket was a very handsome one of black cloth.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Hodge and Rev. Dr. Phillips. The former made a few remarks that touched the hearts of all present, and Rev. Dr. Phillips made a feeling prayer.

A dreary, drizzle of rain came down as the procession moved on its way to Hanover Cemetery, and had the day been pleasant, the cortege of twenty-four barouches would have been many times larger. The carriers were S. C. Struthers, Walter Gaston, Woodward Leavenworth, E. W. Marple, John Hance, Col. B. F. Stark, and the pall bearers were Charles Parrish, Major C. M. Conyngnam, R. J. Flick, Hon. Charles A. Miner, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, and Hon. G. M. Harding.

A touching incident is the fact that Mrs. Downing, who is confined to her bed with

paralysis, by the advice of physicians has not been permitted to see her dead husband. It was feared that the shock would prove fatal to her. During the services she was under the influence of an anæsthetic.

The aged sister of Mr. Downing, Mrs. Lydia Naugle, widow of the late William Naugle, arrived at the home from Wisconsin a few hours too late to attend the funeral. She is over 70 years of age and made the long journey alone.

Among the officials present was George S. Jones, of New York, secretary of the L. & W.-B. Coal Co.

**MR. MAFFET'S WILL.****How a Distribution of His Property Has Been Made.**

The will of W. B. Maffet was admitted to probate in the register's office last week. The provisions of the will are as follows:

He bequeaths to his wife, Anna M. Maffet, the use and occupancy, rents and profits of the house and lot on River Street during her natural life, also all the household furniture, books, pictures and other household articles. He directs his executors to pay to his wife within six months after his death the sum of \$1,000 and to pay her a like sum of \$1,000 every six months thereafter during her life. These provisions are in lieu and bar of her dower and in lieu of her share in the personal property.

He nominates and appoints F. V. Rockefeller, of Wilkes-Barre; Thomas S. McVair, of Hazleton, and Wm. B. Storrs, of Scranton, his executors.

If the personal estate other than the household furniture, etc., bequeathed to his wife be insufficient for the payments of his just debts and funeral expenses, he directs his executors to pay the deficiency out of the proceeds of sale of his real estate.

He authorizes his executors to pay to his unmarried daughters and to each of his married daughters as may need it, and in case of sickness to his sons, a sum not exceeding \$1,000 per annum during such time.

After his debts have been paid, and after deducting the annuity to his wife, he divides all his coal rents and royalties and all other moneys in the hands of his executors, among his eight children, Anna Eliza Connell, Rosalie Jones, Martha A. Maffet, Ruth Ross See, George West Maffet, Addie W. Ramage, Sallie Covell Maffet and William Ross Maffet, Jr., in equal shares.

The executors are to sell the real estate. The homestead is not to be sold till after his wife's death. They shall not sell the coal without the consent of all the children.

In case of the death of any of the children before distribution, the share shall be paid



to her lawful children, and if she dies without issue the share shall equally be divided among the other children.

The executors are to employ William W. Lathrope, of Scranton, as counsel.

The children shall not in any way dispose of their rights under the will. The will is dated Nov. 11, 1896.

#### Obituary.

Died at Denver, Colorado, of erysipelas and congestive fever, June 11, 1890, in the 74th year of his age, Joze Rogers, late of Huntington, Luzerne County, Pa.

The Rogers were among the first settlers in Plymouth, Luzerne County, under the old Connecticut title. The great-grandfather of the deceased with a family of little grandsons, and the father and mother of the boys were among the refugees who returned to Connecticut after the Indian massacre in July, 1778, their old grandmother dying from fatigue during the flight. Two years after this, the youngest of this family of boys, was born in Plymouth. The family subsisted largely on wild game from the mountain, shad from the river and corn-bread from meal pounded by hand from the whole grain, for one or two seasons. This "native born Shawneeite," the father of the subject of this sketch, was Elder Joel Rogers, a well known Baptist preacher, who traveled extensively, preaching in Luzerne and some adjoining counties during much of the first half of the nineteenth century, always refusing any salary or pecuniary recompense for his services, claiming with St. Paul "I seek not yours, but you."

Joze Rogers was born near Bowman's Grove, Wilkes-Barre, July 24, 1816, removed with his parents and three younger brothers and a sister to Huntington, where they settled on a farm, having a grist mill and a saw mill on the same property in March 1827. Here he worked on the farm summers and attended the district school winters. When some years older he run the saw mill, or the grist mill, or taught school, or did a little job of surveying, as occasion might require. In 1849 he married Lydia Ann, daughter of Col. Josiah Rogers, of Northmoreland, and remained on the homestead at Huntington till 1880. His only son and heir, Merritt Harrison Rogers, having no taste for farming or milling business, persuaded him to sell out and emigrate to Kansas, where in Shawnee County, a few miles from Topeka, he bought a farm. But before moving into the house his wife died suddenly with an attack of paralysis and apoplexy. Mr. Rogers boarded near the farm and with renting parties, and improved it for a few years and then took up his residence with his son Merritt H., who is

now located at Denver Colorado, as chief engineer of the Denver & Rio Grande R. R. The old gentleman had the best medical aid and attention and nursing which skill and kindness could bestow. The engineering department sent a nice floral tribute. The general manager ordered the office closed. Friends did all that could be done and yet his son writes: "Mattie and I are strangely alone in this far Western country."

Joze Rogers was a well read man, possessed of sterling integrity and public spirit and held a license to preach from the church his father had so long served. Politically he had always been a firm believer in the protection of American industry; cast his first vote for President for Gen. Wm. Henry Harrison, and his last for the grandson, Benjamin; and named his only son for a distant relative of the two generals and Presidents. Buried in Riverside Cemetery where the old lady and little Merritt are to be reinterred.

J. J. R.

#### The Late Steuben Jenkins.

The Harrisburg *Telegraph* in its Notes and Queries has a sketch of the late Steuben Jenkins from the pen of Dr. W. H. Egle. The *Telegraph* speaks of him as "a patriotic and public spirited citizen, who discharged with signal ability, fidelity and honor, the various positions of usefulness entrusted to him."

#### Married Half a Century.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Blodgett, of Buttonwood, celebrated the 57th anniversary of their marriage June 27 at their residence at Buttonwood. Children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were in attendance. A full orchestra rendered music, and during the day dancing, singing and games were enjoyed until evening, when supper was served. The spacious lawns were beautifully illuminated. The guests left, wishing them many a long year before the golden link that binds them together is broken, and that their journey through life will be always as smooth as it is now.

Dr. Hakes is going to erect a granite monument at Westerly, R. I., in honor of his ancestor, Solomon Hakes, whose descendants have been so admirably done up in genealogical form by the genial lawyer-doctor. Solomon Hakes was made a freeman at Westerly in 1709, and thither his scattered descendants will make a pilgrimage on August 20, to see the monument dedicated. They will meet in New York and take Sound steamer for Westerly, Dr. Hakes bearing the brunt of the expense himself.

### MR. KULP ON COAL.

**He Thinks Jesse Fell's Alleged Discovery was a Chestnut and that Wyoming Has Been Robbed of Her Credit in Originating the Coal Trade.**

A meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held June 27, 1890. Capt. Calvin Parsons presided and there were also present Gov. Hoyt, G. B. Kulp, S. Reynolds, S. L. Brown, A. H. McOlinck, Maj. O. A. Parsons, C. D. Foster, Dr. Taylor and F. O. Johnson.

Charles Law, Charles E. Dana and Dr. Harry Hakes were elected to membership.

Geo. B. Kulp read a paper on "Coal, its discovery and early development in the Wyoming Valley." It was a faithful grouping of the literature of a familiar subject and was listened to with great interest. After dwelling on the origin of the word coal and its use in ancient times, the paper quoted from *Seward* statistics to show that there are enormous coal fields outside of America, some of the deposits being 96 feet in thickness. Fully seven hundred thousand miles of coal lands are known to exist, not including America. China alone has four hundred thousand square miles of coal deposits.

The first knowledge of anthracite coal in America dates about 1750 or 1755, when an Indian brought a supply of it to a gunsmith at Nazareth for repairing their rifles, his charcoal supply having given out. It is not clear where the Indian derived his supply.

The first notice of coal at Wyoming grew out of the settlement here in 1763. These original settlers reported to the Susquehanna Company the presence of iron ore and coal.

The next mention of coal at Wyoming is in a letter written by James Tilghman, of Philadelphia, in 1766, addressed to the Penns in London and enclosing a sample of coal from Wyoming. [This letter was recently printed in full in the *Record* and appears on page 190 of *Historical Record*, vol. 3.—Ed.]

In 1766 a company of Nanticoke and Mohican Indians visited Philadelphia and reported to the governor that there were mines at Wyoming, but the character of the product is not specified.

A survey of Wyoming in 1768 notes "stove coal" near the mouth of Toby's Creek. One of Gen. Sullivan's officers (1779) records the presence of "vast mines of coal, pewter, lead and copperas." John David Schopf in his travels in 1783 mentions a coal mine a mile above Wyomí g.

Obadiah Gore used coal in his blacksmith forge as early as 1769. He also used it in a nailery in 1768. During the Revolution Wyoming coal was shipped in boats down the river and used in the government arm forges at Car-

lisle. John and Abijah Smith shipped coal from Plymouth down the river as early as 1807. The paper went on to trace the development of the coal trade, giving Wyoming Valley the credit (not usually accorded it) for the principal part of the pioneering in that direction. Mr. Kulp took no stock in the claim that Jesse Fell was the discoverer of the utility of coal for domestic purposes. Facts were quoted to show that he was anticipated by several years. On motion of Shelton Reynolds a committee was appointed to prepare a minute on the death of the late Steuben Jenkins.

### HAMILTON'S OLDEST GRADUATE.

**An Interesting Sketch of One who has been Identified with Wyoming Valley over Half a Century.**

Rev. E. H. Snowden has returned from his trip to Western New York. While in Syracuse he was tendered a reception, at which many of his relatives and friends were present. The *Syracuse Courier* has this pleasant mention of him:

Rev. Ebenezer Hazard Snowden, of Kingston, Pa., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Stevens. Mr. Snowden is the oldest living graduate of Hamilton College. He graduated in the year 1818—seventy-two years ago. The valedictorian of his class was Gerrit Smith, the celebrated abolitionist. That was a year before Queen Victoria—several times a great-grandmother—was born! Mr. Snowden was born at Princeton, N. J., June 27, 1799, six months before the death of Washington. On the 27th of this month, therefore, he will be 91 years old. His father was the first pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Princeton. Mr. Snowden, himself, was the first pastor of the Presbyterian Church at St. Augustine, Fla., to whose society the Standard oil king, H. M. Flagler, recently gave a \$250,000 church. The old gentleman is full of interesting reminiscences of days far gone by. He attended the funeral of the celebrated Indian chief Sconondoa. He describes the illumination of the college in celebration of peace at the close of the war of 1812. Mr. Snowden was then a college freshman. There were candles in every window, he says, and as seen from Utica, ten miles distant, it looked like a pillar of fire. The freshmen, the old gentleman says, were kept busy attending to the candles—freshmen in those days had to make themselves generally useful—but he did manage once to get outside and see the show.

Mr. Snowden is a most entertaining conversationalist and remarkably well preserved in body and mind, although he was one of the victims last winter of la grippe. He returns to-day to his home in Pennsylvania.

## ANNALS OF FORT JENKINS.

**Thrilling Adventures of the Early Settlers on the Two Branches of the Susquehanna—An Important Frontier Post.**

[Contributed to the Record by C. F. HILL.]

In writing the story of Fort Jenkins the reader is reminded, in order to avoid confusion, that there was another fort of similar name—Jenkins Fort, in Wyoming Valley. Fort Jenkins was situated on the north bank of the North Branch of the Susquehanna river, five miles below the town of Berwick, on the public road leading to Bloomsburg in Columbia County, at that time in Wyoming township, Northumberland County. It was situated upon a high plateau of ground overlooking the Susquehanna and from the southern bank of the river must have formed a prominent and imposing sight. The tract of land upon which it stood, was surveyed by Chas. Stewart, Deputy Surveyor, in October, 1774, for Daniel Reese, who afterward lived and died at or near the town of Lewisburg on the West Branch. Reese and Montgomery were actively engaged as commissaries during the revolutionary war.

The tract was named "New Orleans" and contained 400 acres. February 25, 1775, Daniel Reese conveyed it to James Jenkins, a merchant of Philadelphia, who soon thereafter built a house upon it and made substantial improvements. The tract adjoining this above was owned by William Chambers, a son of Colonel Benjamin Chambers, and a brother of Captain James Chambers, under whom in 1775 he marched to join the American Army at Boston. This tract had for many years been known as the Millard Farm.

The tract of land adjoining that of James Jenkins on the lower side was originally owned by the Rev. Dr. Francis Allison of Philadelphia, a graduate of the University of Glasgow, who died in Philadelphia in 1777. At the time of his death he filled the office of Vice Provost of the Philadelphia college. Later this tract passed into the hands of the Knorr family of French Huguenot descent. The Revolutionary War broke out the same year that James Jenkins settled on the Susquehanna and the Indian depredations which followed made it necessary in the spring of 1778 to surround his block house with palisades forming a structure which took the name of Fort Jenkins.

The war had now been in progress for three years and the Indians who had become the allies of the British were visiting their savage cruelties upon the exposed and unprotected frontier settlers of the North and West Branches of the Susquehanna, and who

in turn made common cause against their common enemy.

Major Moses Vancampen, then a young man, in the early spring of 1778, was sent from Fort Augusta at Sunbury by Col. Hunter to build a fort on the Fishing Creek for the protection of the settlers of that vicinity from the atrocities of the Indians. His intimate friend Captain Joseph Salmon joined him in the enterprise, and in a short time they completed a stockade around the home of Isaiah Wheeler, a settler from New Jersey; when completed it took the name of Fort Wheeler, and was situated near where now is the town of Light Street. Mr. Wheeler had a daughter Ann, for whose hand, Major Vancampen and Captain Salmon were rivals; they conducted their rivalry in a spirit of great friendship; there is not a suspicion that it was on her account that caused Major Vancampen to select her home as a very proper site for a fort. Whatever the Major's motive it is certain that the gallant Captain beat him in the race and he won the hand of Miss Wheeler. But Major Vancampen was not to be outdone for he built another fort further down the creek around the home of the widow of James McClure, who had a daughter Margarett, and who later became Mrs. Moses Vancampen.

While we honor the patriotism of these young heroes, we also admire their gallantry in providing as well as they could for the safety of their best girls. Almost as soon as Fort Wheeler was completed the Indians visited the neighborhood in force and made an attack on the fort which was kept up until in the night. This was in the month of May. The stock of ammunition becoming exhausted Major Vancampen sent two soldiers under cover of night to Fort Jenkins for a supply of powder and lead; they returned at daylight, but the Indians retired during the night lighting up the heavens by burning the homes of the settlers whose families sought refuge in Forts Jenkins and Wheeler.

Among the houses burned at this time were those of Major Vancampen's father and uncle, who were both two years afterward slain by the Indians near the present town of Orangeville. The home of Peter Moelich was also burned. Peter lived on land belonging to his father, Johann Peter Moelich near Espy. He and his family escaped to Fort Wheeler. Peter had married the daughter of Captain John W. Olingaman who was in command of the Militia garrison of Fort Jenkins in July following at the time of the Wyoming massacre. Peter had spent the previous winter of 1777-78 with Washington's army at Valley Forge. It is said that he rendered the destitute army great service in securing a large supply of grain, which was ground in the old mill still standing at Valley Forge. He died February 11, 1830, at

Light Street honored and lamented and left his lands which still remain in possession of his descendants.

Fort Jenkins was built, not later than April 1778, of hewn logs set upright in the earth, 12 feet in height. It was 60 feet in width and 80 feet in length and enclosed a substantial blockhouse, supplied with a hearth of brick brought up the river in boats for that purpose. The well inside the fort was a very substantial one seventy feet in depth and walled up. It still remains and does duty as a farm house well.

After the destruction of Fort Jenkins by the Indians and Tories the well was filled up with the charred logs and remains of the burned fort and buildings.

Fort Jenkins was connected with Forts Freeland and Munoy on the West Branch by a road cut through the forest by the way of the head waters of the Ohillsquaque creek. This was very frequently traversed by the military and especially by scouting parties. These forts on the North and West Branches were outposts of Fort Augusta at Sunbury which was their headquarters, and were the posts of real danger. With the opening of the spring of 1778, the settlers both upon the North and West Branches who were busy building their rude log cabins or clearing the first acre of a farm were frequently visited by their cruel and untiring foe and their depredations became numerous and alarming. On May 17, 1778, Gen. James Potter writes to Maj. Gen. Armstrong that he is informed by Col. Long of numerous depredations by the Indians; of the murder of twenty persons on the North Branch, and one taken prisoner who made his escape, and says the Indians are determined to clean the two branches of the Susquehanna this Moon. In this same month a panic prevailed among the settlers, and all in the vicinity of Fort Jenkins and on the Fishing Creek fled to the forts and to the riverside.

The Wyoming massacre occurred on the 3d of July following, at which time Captain Olingaman had command of Fort Jenkins with garrison of about 40 militia. A messenger from Wyoming was sent to Captain Olingaman to come to their relief. Almost simultaneous with the arrival of the messenger also came many of the Wyoming settlers, and of those above Fort Jenkins, down the river in boats and on rafts, spreading alarm and consternation. Many crowded into the forts, while others joined the fleet on the river and fled to Sunbury where the scene on the river bank it is said beggared description. Under this state of affairs the garrison at Fort Jenkins did not go to the relief of Wyoming. At the time it was feared that if the Indians and British had followed up their blow at Wyoming, that

they would without difficulty have penetrated to Carlisle.

In order to restore confidence Colonel Brodhead with his command was sent up the West Branch. Gen. De Haas sent a detachment consisting of a Major, two Captains, one subaltern, and eighty men including Sergeants up the North Branch, who were posted at the mouth of the Briar Creek about three miles above Fort Jenkins. This post was soon abandoned and on August 10, Fort Jenkins was garrisoned by Continental troops, and was made a military post by order of Col. J. Hartly then in command of Fort Augusta, after which it was regularly occupied by the continental troops instead of the militia until near the time of its destruction by the Indians. On November 14, Col. Hartley wrote from Fort Jenkins to the Executive Council:

"The enemy are in force between here and Wyoming. They are very intent on plunder by their desolations near this place; they expected the frontiers to give way: but the good countenance of this garrison has saved all below. I am now advancing towards Wyoming, I am weak, but I hope for success. I have no enemy in the rear, and as I command the water I am in expectation to relieve Wyoming."

The route of the Indians and Tories from York state to the settlements at Fort Jenkins was by canoes down the North Branch to the Tunkhannock creek, thence across by the headwaters of Hunlocks creek to the headwaters of the Fishing creek, thence down this creek to where it rounds the abrupt terminal of the Knob mountain and where now is located the town of Orangeville, in Columbia county. Here the settlements of the Fishing creek, Jerseytown and the Susquehanna lay open before them, and in which many farms, now the happy homes of peace and plenty, were then the scenes of untold atrocities and suffering. Unfortunately the history of events as they transpired was never preserved except by tradition and are lost forever.

We will now enter upon the scenes of 1779. On the Sunday preceding the 27th day of April a party of thirty-five Indians appeared in the settlement at Fort Jenkins, who came by the pathway described, and near what is now Lime Ridge captured the families of Bartlet Ramey, Christopher Farrow and Joseph Dewey, consisting of about twenty-four persons. The most complete and authentic account of this affair is that given by Nathan Beach, Esq., who was then at Fort Jenkins a lad of fifteen years of age who took part in the engagement; we will give his account of it in his own words.

"In the year 1769 my father removed with his family from the State of New York, to the Valley of Wyoming, now Luzerne county, State of Pennsylvania, where he continued

to reside within the limits of said county, until the 4th day of July 1778 the day after the Wyoming massacre, so called, when the inhabitants, all those who escaped the tomahawk and scalping knife, returned with my father and Thomas Dodson to secure our harvest which we had left in the fields. While we were engaged in securing our harvest I was taken prisoner by the Indians and Tories, but made my escape the day following.

In the fall of the same year 1778, my father and family went to live at Fort Jenkins, Columbia county, Pennsylvania, I was then employed with others of the citizens and sent out on scouting parties by Captain Sweeny commander of the fort and belonging to Col. Hartley's regiment of the Pennsylvania line; continued at said fort until about the first of June 1779, during which time had a number of skirmishes with the Indians.

In May 1779 the Indians thirty-five in number made an attack on some families that lived one mile from the fort and took three families twenty-two in number prisoners. Information having been received at the fort, Ensign Thornbury was sent out by Captain Sweeny in pursuit of the Indians, with twenty soldiers; myself and three others of the citizens also went, making twenty-four. We came up with them, a sharp engagement took place, which lasted about thirty minutes during which time we had four men killed and five wounded out of the twenty-four. As we were compelled to retreat to the fort, leaving our dead on the ground, the Indians took their scalps. During our engagement with the Indians, the twenty-four persons before mentioned made their escape and got safe to the fort. The names of the heads of the families taken prisoners, were Bartley Ramie, Christopher Farrow, and Joseph Dewey, the first named Bartley Ramie was killed by the Indians. Soon after the aforesaid engagement, I entered the boat department.

Boats had been built at Middletown, Dauphin county, called continental boats, made for the purpose of transporting the baggage, provisions, etc., of General Sullivan's army, which was on its march to destroy the Indian towns in the lake country in the state of New York. I steered one of those boats to Tioga Point where we discharged our loading, and I returned to Fort Jenkins in August where I found our family.

The Indians still continued to be troublesome; my father thought it advisable to leave the country and go to a place of more safety; we left the Susquehanna, crossed the mountain to Northampton county in the neighborhood of Bethlehem; this being in the year of 1779. In May 1781 the Indians paid a visit to this country took and carried away Benjamin Gilbert and family and several of his neighbors amounting to eighteen

or twenty in all; said Gilbert was a public Friend of the society called Quakers. It was then thought expedient to raise a certain number of militia men and establish a line of blockhouses north of the Blue Mountains, from the Delaware river near Stroudsburg in Northampton county to the river Schuylkill in then Berks now Schuylkill county, in which service I entered as substitute for Jacob Beedy. In May 1780 I was appointed Orderly Sergeant in Capt. Conrad Bather's company, in which situation I served that season six months, as follows: two months under Capt. Bather, two months under Capt. Deal; during this two months the Indians made an attack on our blockhouse at which engagement some of the Indians were killed; and two months under Capt. Smethers. During the winter it was considered unnecessary to continue the service. In May 1781 the forces were reorganized at the blockhouses where I served four months. In September of the same year I entered the French service in Philadelphia as wagoner with Capt. Goshe as wagon master and was attached to the hospital department, arrived at Yorktown, Virginia the last of September about three weeks before the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. I remained with the army in the neighborhood of Yorktown until June 1783 at which time the French army left Virginia for Boston, arrived at Providence, State of Rhode Island, about in November; remained there until the first of February, 1783, when the army marched to Boston and embarked on board of their fleet. I then returned to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was discharged and returned after an absence of about eighteen months. I was born, says our family register, July, 1763, near a place now called Hudson, on the North River, in the state of New York." This is the brief statement of Nathan Beach who has long since passed away. There is a portrait of him in existence and no doubt it would be a satisfaction to the readers if same were published.

On the 17th of May a family by the name of Windbigler living on the opposite side of the river and in full view of Fort Jenkins, except as obstructed by the forest trees, were cruelly murdered by the Indians and their house plundered and burned. This was about one mile below the town of Mifflinville. There were six persons in the family; two children, a boy and girl, left home in the morning to go to Catawissa for flour, a distance of six miles by a path that led over the southern slope of the River Hill; on the path they discovered where the Indians had camped the previous night, having had a fire and breakfasted on muscle shells from the river, which they had roasted in the fire, the shells lying around. This alarmed them and they returned at once for home, only to behold from the eminence of the hill, their

house in flames and the other four members of the family murdered, and the Indians retreating with their plunder and scalps. The children turned about and made their way to Catawissa and gave the alarm, while the Indians escaped unharmed.

The Indian incursions were daily becoming more bold and alarming, and fears were entertained that the settlements could not successfully withstand the assaults of the Indians and Tories much longer. Many schemes and expedients were suggested and resorted to. Wm. McClay, Esq., of Sunbury April 27, wrote to Council advocating the employment of dogs against the Indians. The Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment commanded by Lt. Col. Adam Hubleby had been stationed as follows: 100 men at Fort Jenkins, 100 at Fort Muncy and 70 at Fort Augusta and Captain Thomas Kemplin with a company of militia at Bosley's Mill. Affairs had become of such a serious character, that with the fall of Wyoming the previous year, and the numerous incursions which followed both on the North and West Branches, at Fort Jenkins, Fishing Creek, Freeland's Mill, Fort Muncy and Loyal Sock almost at one and the same time, it almost seemed that the threats of the Indians and Tories made the previous year of exterminating the settlements on both branches were about to be successfully carried out.

A campaign against the six nations and British in York state had long since become an absolute necessity, and had been planned upon a large scale. The settlers hailed this with joy, and felt encouraged in the hope that the complete overthrow of the Indians would be accomplished. Unfortunately however for the settlers while General Sullivan's army was forming in Wyoming Valley for the campaign, the Indians and Tories seemed to know and understand all about the situation. And they visited the frontiers that were left in an exposed condition with great severity.

The Colonial troops on the North and West Branches were sent to Wyoming to join Sullivan's Army, while all the available men in the settlement were employed in the boat service on the river to transport army supplies. They were paid \$120 per month in this service. The troops from the forts and the men from the settlements were all gone, Capt. Thomas Kemplin's company of rangers from Bosley's Mill had also gone to Wyoming as an escort for the boats. It was extremely difficult under these circumstances to find sufficient volunteers to garrison the forts and posts left by the Continental troops. Under the existing perilous situation on the 28th of July, 100 British regulars under MacDonald, and 200 Indians under Hiakatoo attacked Fort Freeland with a garrison of militia; defence was made for some time but

finally capitulated, the woman and children were allowed to go to Fort Augusta, while the men were sent to Canada as prisoners of war. Fort Freeland was located on Warrior Run a short distance above the present town of Watertown on the West Branch—The situation however improved upon the marching of Sullivan's army from Wyoming to New York state, and the remaining months of the year 1779 afforded some relief and quiet to the distressed and harassed settlers on both branches of the Susquehanna.

In the settlement surrounding Fort Jenkins and especially at the Fishing Creek and Catawissa there existed an element of royalism which excited the suspicion of the patriot settlers of giving information to the enemy and of guiding him against them. The desperation of those who lost family and friends either by the tomahawk and scalping knife or by imprisonment, at beholding their homes devastated while those of their royalist neighbors were spared, knew no bounds.

In the summer of 1778, Col. Lindenmuth stationed at Fort Jenkins, seize five rifles from one Webb a citizen living near the fort, on the ground of his disaffection; later however Webb made application to the authorities and recovered his rifles. Patrick Hill and Matthew Russell citizens of the township of Wyoming, Northumberland county, and of the same township in which Fort Jenkins was situated, were both proclaimed traitors and their property condemned for confiscation. Patrick Hill was of the Simon Girty stripe, and later in 1791 had joined him in the western part of Pennsylvania as related in the narrative of Mrs. Thomas Rhea who arrived at Pitt burgh from a captivity with the Indians, on June 30, 1791. Matthew Russell had a number of complaints made against him before Thomas Hewitt, Esq., a Justice of the Peace for Northumberland county, in consequence of which he on the 6th of April, 1779, appeared at Fort Jenkins and surrendered himself to Capt. Sweeney the commanding officer who immediately sent him under guard to Fort Augusta, where he was confined in prison with Duncan Beeth and Charles Carroll, charged with endeavoring to seduce Daniel Galloway and William Russell two soldiers belonging to Col. Hartley's regiment to desert to the enemy; also David Fowler charged with holding a criminal correspondence with the enemy, and sending Casper Ramey and others to the Indians for the purpose of giving them information as to the situation on the frontier; also Casper Ramey for going to the enemy and giving information by the persuasion of David Fowler and James McNeill; also William Dugan charged with being a confederate of the above named Fowler, Galloway and Russell; also the two soldiers Daniel Galloway and William Russell

who had agreed to desert to the enemy, but were discovered.

Duncan Beeth, Casper Ramey and other inhabitants of Catawissa and Fishing Creek, confessed that they had been sent with information to the enemy at Niagara by David Fowler and others. Thomas Hewitt, Justice of the Peace, August 29, 1780, in a letter to President Reed, complained that on every incursion of the enemy into the county, all the disaffected flew to Catawissa for protection, while the well affected to either leave the county or shut themselves up in garrison. On the 27th of August, 1778, Henry Ockill appeared before Thomas Hewitt and under oath made a statement that on the 24th he and Peter Simerman at Catawissa mill were engaged in repairing the mill pond when they heard two whistles on the charger of a gun, and soon heard an Indian halloo and saw him wave his hand to them to come to him. They asked the Indian what he wanted. The Indian asked if Ellis Hughes was there? They answered No. He then asked if Job Hughes was there? They again No. He then asked if they were Tories who lived at the mill? Peter Simerman answered No, that they were Yankees. Then the Indian answered Aye—Aye—twice and did not seem well pleased and took up his gun and went up the hill.

Moses Vancampen in his history says: "There was a small settlement a part of whose inhabitants belonged to the society of Friends, living up the North Branch of the Susquehanna at the mouth of the little stream which emptied into it, called the Catawissa, who were suspected of being favorable to the British and Indians. Every other settlement but this in the region had been deserted, the inhabitants having left their homes, to find in the forts that were scattered along up and down the river greater security and protection. They were permitted to occupy their farms without suffering at all; from the disasters that were brought upon their neighbors. This afforded some ground for suspicion, and as Indians were found to waylay every path upon which those who even occupied with the public business were obliged to travel, it was supposed that they derived their information concerning the officers and their business, and received supplies of provisions from the settlement named. The troops were considerably annoyed by this game which was playing upon them, having lost several of their men who had been caught at a distance from the camp, with too feeble a force and killed. Col. Hunter the commanding officer of the county of Northumberland resolving to put an end to whatever sufferings they were compelled to bear from the settlement, directed Captain Robinson to go with his company to its inhabitants, saying that if they

were not friendly to the British cause, it would be better for them to be removed, and in case they were, it was certainly of the utmost importance, that they should be taken from a position where they had the opportunity of doing so much mischief to the country."

Capt. Robinson was accompanied by Lieut. Moses Vancampen and Captain Joseph Salmon on this expedition, and captured the inhabitants of Catawissa, who were taken before Col. Hunter at Northumberland, who after hearing their case discharged them upon receiving their pledges that they would leave the frontier settlements, and not return until after the war.

Captain Salmon lived at this time on the North Branch below Danville on the main road, where he was taken prisoner on a Sabbath day, March 8, 1781, by a party of Indians. After travelling four days, his captors turned him over to another party of Indians among whom was an old acquaintance of Salmon's called Shenap, who said to the Captain, "Solly you shant be hurt." They soon fell in with a large body of savages who had another prisoner, named Williamson. They were to run the gauntlet, Williamson refused, and was beaten to death. Salmon started very rapidly and plunged through fearfully, receiving but a few trifling bruises, when Shenap came up, and shaking him by the hand laughingly said, "Solly you run like debil—you run like hoes." He was exchanged in a short time and returned to his home in safety. He lived and died near Light Street, where he got his wife, and left a respectable family.

Vancampen in his life calls Shenap a chief of the Seneca tribe, and names him Tom Shenap, and relates how he purchased a recipe of him "How to hunt deer."

Meginness in his Otzinachson relates the following adventurer: Cooper the subject of the sketch lived near where the town of Rupert now stands. During the Revolutionary war Robert Lyon was dispatched from Fort Augusta to Wyoming with a canoe loaded with supplies for a company of men stationed at that point. In the afternoon of the first day he landed his canoe at the mouth of Fishing Creek, and leaving his dog and gun in it, hastened to the house of Mr. Cooper, who had two very interesting daughters, one of whom he had taken quite a fancy to. He had scarcely seated himself in Mr. Cooper's house, and entered into conversation with his intended, till he observed her sister leave the house. At this moment an inward monitor seemed to warn of approaching danger; but a few minutes elapsed when three hideously painted savages rushed in at the door. The only weapon within reach that he could lay hands on, was a dull table knife. This he seized and endeavored to defend himself.

The three Indians attacked him and a severe struggle ensued. He managed to floor two of them when the third one sprang upon his back and endeavored to pinion his arms. The old knife was used vigorously and he tried with all his strength to thrust it into their bodies, but it was too blunt. If he had been in possession of a good knife, there is but little doubt he would have dispatched all three. In the midst of the struggle four more Indians came to the door, and one of them cried out in English, "Give up, Lyon, you shant be hurt." Seeing the number increasing he yielded and suffered himself to be led away.

The first night he was bound hand and foot and placed between two Indians in a thicket of underbrush about seven miles from where he was captured. The notorious Shenap commanded the marauding band; he could talk English sufficiently plain to be easily understood, and informed his prisoner that his life would be spared but he would be compelled to run the gauntlet when they got to the end of their journey. After many days of toilsome travelling through swamps, and over hills, Lyon became exhausted and his wrists and ankles became very sore and much swollen, from the effects of the cords used in tying him at night. At length they arrived at the Niagara river, about three miles above where the tower stood. He was placed in a canoe, and conveyed down to the village to run the gauntlet. A long row of warriors, squaws and young ones, were drawn up ready for the amusement armed with clubs, stones and all manner of weapons. Shenap pointed to the door of the Council House, and informed him if he reached it, he was safe, and encouraged him to run rapidly.

Lyon was well aware of his situation, and knew that if he attempted to run round them, his life would be forfeit. He plunged in between the two ranks at such a furious rate, knocking and kicking them about that he only received two or three light strokes, and arriving at the goal was safe. After the race he was taken and placed in prison, where he remained about two weeks without seeing the face of any one save his keeper, when he was visited by a very gentlemanly officer, clothed in the uniform of the British army, who asked him many questions concerning himself, his brothers, sisters &c., &c. Lyon informed him that he was an Irishman by birth, and when a small lad had come to America with his brother Benjamin, but what had become of him he was unable to say. At this juncture the officer abruptly turned away and left without saying another word; when the keeper came, he inquired if he had been visited by an officer; on being answered in the affirmative, said, "*You will fare well, that officer is your own brother;*"

He was thunderstruck as it were, and could scarcely believe that such was his good fortune as to fall into the hands of his long lost brother so unexpectedly. He had not seen him since he was seven years of age, and had almost entirely forgotten him. In three days time he was released and set at liberty. Whilst he was confined the jailor informed him that a large yellow dog had come to the door of the prison, and remained there manifesting much uneasiness. From the description he knew him to be his own faithful animal, that he had not seen since he left him with his rifle in the canoe at Fishing Creek, and was satisfied that he had followed him through the wilderness to this place. He desired the keeper to take charge of him, which he promised, but he disappeared suddenly that night. The people of Northumberland and vicinity had not learned the fate of Lyon and wondered what had become of him. One day his dog came to the house of Mr McKee in Buffalo Valley, apparently much distressed and half starved. He acted very strangely and seemed as if he wanted to tell something.

The faithful animal was returning from the door of his master's prison in Canada, to inform them of his captivity, but he was not gifted with the power of speech, and had to manifest his errand by signs. Mr. McKee knew the dog, and judging there was something wrong, mounted his horse and rode to Northumberland to make inquiry, where he learned that Lyon was supposed to be a captive. When Lyon returned home his noble dog was lying behind the house, but he scented him when forty yards distant, and running to meet him placed his paws on his shoulders, and licked his face with gladness. The fact of Lyon having disappeared so mysteriously from the house of Cooper, together with other evidences, convinced the people that Cooper was a Tory, and endeavored to further the interest of the enemy. A party of men from Northumberland proceeded to his house and arrested him as a traitor, and placed him in a boat to convey him to Sunbury Jail. On their passage down a rifle belonging to a man named Doyle was accidentally lost overboard; Doyle in his fury accused Cooper of throwing it in, which he denied, and an altercation taking place he seized an hatchet and buried it in Cooper's skull. The unfortunate man lived about twenty days, when he expired in prison.

Lyon afterward married a young lady of another family, and resided in Northumberland county until his death which took place in 1822. He left two sons, one named Robert lived many years on the main road leading from Northumberland to Milton.

[This article will be followed by another, recounting the destruction of Fort Jenkins.]



**Coal Production for Two Decades.**  
 (Daily Record, July 7.)

Some few weeks ago we printed statistics tabulated by mine inspectors, showing the number of mining accidents in this district for the past twenty years. The *Colliery Engineer*, of Scranton, in its recent issue prints the similiar statistics for all of the regions, which, by the way, are so interesting that we transfer them to our columns. It will be seen by the figures that the average number of tons of coal mined per life lost does not grow steadily better year by year. This is not surprising in view of the fact that mining is growing more dangerous every year. The shafts are going down deeper and therefore the gas becomes harder to manage; falls grow more frequent, and the wonder is that a worse record is not shown. Mine inspection shows its value every day and if we should look to the days when there were no laws—when every operator could mine as he pleased, with or without second openings, and with or without adequate ventilation—we should discover what a blessing the ventilation act has proven to be.

The following statistics of deaths from accidents in the anthracite coal mines since 1870, when the first mine law was enacted, are copied from the *Colliery Engineer*:

Year	No. of Em- ployes	No. of Deaths	Av. Deaths per 1000 Employees.	Tonnage	Tons Mined per E'ch Death.
*1870		211		12,653,575	59,969
1871	37,486	210	5.601	13,868,067	66,038
1872	44,745	166	3.709	13,899,976	83,734
1873	48,199	234	4.847	18,751,368	83,711
1874	53,402	231	4.325	17,794,857	77,034
1875	69,066	238	3.401	30,895,330	87,796
1876	79,474	228	3.285	19,611,071	86,013
1877	66,842	194	2.902	22,077,869	113,403
1878	63,964	187	2.923	18,661,577	99,794
1879	68,847	263	3.895	27,711,260	105,768
1880	73,373	202	2.753	24,843,476	123,987
1881	76,031	273	3.590	30,210,018	110,659
1882	82,344	292	3.546	30,867,301	105,709
1883	91,411	333	3.633	33,700,606	104,336
1884	101,078	332	3.284	32,561,300	98,073
1885	100,534	356	3.541	33,520,941	94,160
1886	103,044	279	2.707	34,064,543	122,095
1887	106,547	316	2.966	37,137,251	117,522
1888	117,290	364	3.103	41,638,426	114,391
1889	119,007	384	3.226	39,016,835	101,601
		5 061			

\*For 1870 we were unable to obtain the number of employes, and the Scranton district statistics are not reported for that year. In 1871 the Scranton district statistics are

also not in the report. In 1872 Shamokin and Hazleton districts are omitted, and in 1873 and 1874 the Hazleton district.

**HONORING THE PATRIOT SLAIN.**

**Interesting Exercises at the Feet of the Wyoming Monument—Rev. Mr. Craft Points Out a Difference Between the Connecticut and the Pennsylvania Idea.**

Somehow or other the elderly men in charge of the annual commemorative exercises in Wyoming have an idea that they are losing their grip, but the gathering of July 3 demonstrated the entire availability of the old stock. When they really become incapacitated the younger stock will turn in and take hold, but Col. Dorrance and his associates are doing well enough. The attendance was fully as large as on previous third of July's, if not larger. The only thing to mar the event was a passing shower, but nearly everybody had umbrellas or wraps and the exercises went on. Mrs. Judge Pfouts, Mrs. Sally Henry, Mrs. McCartney, the Dorrance ladies, Mrs. Stites, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Schooley, Mrs. Pettebone and other ladies were present as usual and there were a number of new faces of the gentler but not less patriotic sex. Of course Dr. Hakes was there, and Calvin Parsons, Rev. H. H. Welles, Henry B. Plumb, Wesley Johnson, Rev. J. K. Peck, Sheldon Reynolds, B. F. Dorrance. Among others were Hon. John B. Smith, S. H. Miller, Dr. Thomson, Wm. Jenkins, G. H. Butler, W. A. Wilcox, Col. J. Ford Dorrance, Rev. Wm. A. Beecher, Wm. P. Johnson, Isaac Dean, H. H. Harvey, Rev. J. O. Krause, Clayton Rymas, Andrew G. Raub, Abram Van Campen, Geo. W. Maffet, Hon. Charles A. Miner, Maj. O. A. Parsons, Rev. Henry L. Jones.

The base of the monument was strewn with a variety of roses from the conservatories of B. F. Dorrance. Around it were seated the officers of the Commemorative Association. Under the shade trees adjacent sat the audience, the ladies on benches and the men on the green sward. Fans had been distributed, and a supply of drinking water had been provided. About 3 o'clock the exercises began with music by Prof. Alexander's orchestra from the 6th Regiment Band. They wore their new uniforms, and their first selection was a most enjoyable medley of patriotic airs.

Rev. Dr. W. L. Phillips, of the First M. E. Church, Wilkes-Barre, then pronounced the invocation, which was full of patriotic utterances.

Col. Charles Dorrance made a few remarks as president of the association. He referred feelingly to the recent death of Steuben Jenkins. These gatherings were intended to keep alive the memory of the brave men whose bones lie beneath this monument. Anyone who had set, as he had, at the firesides of the men who witnessed the struggles of the last century would not wonder that he had deep feelings on the subject. He alluded to the noble mothers of that early day, women whose sufferings and hardships could not be realized by us. How could one half day a year be better spent than in doing honor to the memory of such men and women and to perpetuate an event which had much to do with establishing American liberty. The speaker, who is 85 years old, spoke with great force and feeling.

The address of the occasion was by Rev. David Craft, of Wyalusing, the historian of Bradford County. His address was without notes and purely extempore. He said he would not say much about Wyoming history, as it is already familiar, but would speak of matters related to Wyoming indirectly. First, however, he wanted to pay a tribute to the late Mr. Jenkins, with whom he had ransacked local history very pleasantly for 25 years.

History is not the mere recording of events, continued Mr. Craft, but of causes which produce the events. Why was it that the Pennsylvania government met with the sword and the rifle, the New Englanders who came here while she opened her doors to the Germans from the Hudson River valley and gave them opportunity to form settlements on the Tulpehocken and Swatara? They were of the same language, the same nationality, and the one were offered homes, the others were treated as invaders and outlaws and their possessions and improvements destroyed. Why was this?

Because there was an irreconcilable difference between the ideas of government of Pennsylvania and those of Connecticut. Penn was familiar with courts and kings. Though a Quaker his ideas of government were English. These ideas crept out in his plan of government for the American colonies. His ideas were those of the feudal system. He believed that the soil was a feudal gift—a gift from the king for services rendered by his subjects. It was thus that Pennsylvania was given to Penn by his royal master, and it was not an offered gift, but it was one which he sought for. It also bore his own name. No other colony bore the name of the grantee, but they derived their titles from members of the royal households. Under the Penn idea the holder of land held it only as a vassal, and he must make acknowledgment every year to the

lord of the manor, paying a red rose, ears of corn, etc. This was an acknowledgment on the part of the settler that the right of eminent domain was in Penn, in the province.

On the other hand, the Connecticut idea was that the land owner held it in fee simple, and the holder owed nothing to any superior, excepting only loyalty to the king and the government. Thus the New England idea was antagonistic to the Pennsylvania idea. The men who died in defending Wyoming believed that the freeman had a right to the soil.

Another difference was as to the authority and source of the law. Under Penn the popular assembly could neither enact a law nor propose one. Law could come only from the governor, the proprietor. The New England idea was just the reverse—the popular assembly proposed the law,—it was for the governor to give or withhold his consent. In other words, the power was in the people, not in the prince.

Under the feudal system of the Penns the vassal or tenant must render military service to his lord. The Connecticut idea was that the citizen owed service only to his king.

Later, the New England idea abolished the feudal system, as opposed to ideas of civil government. This idea, growing in its might, is coming to be the dormant idea of the world. It is to-day grasping the sceptres of the empires and the day is dawning when there shall everywhere be a free speech and a free press, and true manhood will be everywhere acknowledged as the true inheritance of humanity. This idea is destined to prevail until man shall be raised so high that there is nothing above him except God and the angels. (Applause.)

These men whose names are engraved on this monument did more than stand in the bloody breach. They laid the foundations of an empire of thought and of manhood, an empire whose boundaries shall enlarge till they encompass the earth. (Applause.)

Secretary Wesley Johnson announced that during the year, in addition to Mr. Jenkins, another member had died, Peter M. Osterhout, of Tunkhannock. Mr. Johnson read the appended letter from Dr. Hollister:

SCRANTON, July 1, 1890.—TO THE WYOMING COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION: Our numbers are diminishing, but the remembrance of the Massacre of Wyoming will be forgotten only when history is silent. Let it be remembered, by draping the monument with the inspiring stars and stripes on the third of every coming July, and may those who fill us never forget that their ancestors fought and fell at Wyoming.

Your invalid friend,

H. HOLLISTER.

Hon. Charles D. Foster read a most admirable memorial sketch of the late Steuben Jenkins.

Dr. A. Knapp read a brief paper on "One Hundred Years' Progress" and concluded it

with the following acrostic poem, suggestive of the day following:

Fling out your banners to the sky,  
Let booming cannons tell  
O'er all the nations of the earth  
Here none but freemen dwell:  
Unnumbered millions yet shall sing,  
Of this our natal hour,  
Ride on thou proud triumphant car,  
With liberty and power.  
The Eagle! Emblem of our land,  
Majestic soars above;  
How great, how honored be thy name  
Our patriots bold can prove.  
Of England's tyranny and wrong,  
Our children tell the story,  
For sire and son in battles fray,  
For freedom and for glory.  
Join in loud peans to the brave  
Who nobly fought and won.  
Undying glory is the boon,  
For deeds so valiant done.  
Let young and old, with bond and free  
Join in the acclamation;  
Yes! Hup! Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!  
For this great Yankee nation.

W. A. Wilcox was called on and stated that he had some correspondence bearing on the exercises of a year ago, in which Mr. Jenkins had taken exceptions to certain statements made by the State librarian, Dr. William H. Egle. One was a letter from Mr. Jenkins to Dr. Egle, dated Dec. 25, 1889, in which he said:

In looking over my grandfather's papers I came across some pieces of paper much worn, which I had the curiosity to pick out and put together until I got one-half of the document that could be read together. Its looks impressed me with the idea of its having been read much and worn in the handling. The contents were somewhat novel to me, and proved to be just what we both had long been seeking, the solution of the massacre of 15th October, 1763. As it is in my grandfather's handwriting, I cannot go back on it, for I have always found him perfectly truthful. The tenor of the paper is a succinct history of the first attempts at settlement at Wyoming, the hindrances met with, etc., beginning at the beginning and coming down till after the decree of Trenton. *The story as told confirms your theory*, and hence I suppose you are ready to approve its correctness. I reserve the right to make it public at our next meeting at the monument.

Another dated Wyoming, Feb. 5, 1890, says:

The document of my grandfather is not lengthy, and is of importance only as it sets forth that the massacre of 15th October, 1763, was done by the *savage*s. Having made the mistake of suggesting that it was quite as possible that it was done by the forces under Clayton and Elder, whom you endeavored to free from the crime in your address, I desire to present the case in its true light by giving full force and effect to your theory and arguments in support of your theory, closing with the fact that we now have the most positive proof that it was done by the *savages*, and not by the Pennamites. I prefer

this course in *vindication of myself*, and not of you, *for you need none*.

The following poem was read by O. P. Kilder, Esq.:

We're gathered once more near the dust of the slain,  
Who in one common tomb on Wyoming's fair plain  
Are quietly sleeping the sleep of the brave,  
Where the monument rests o'er the site of their grave.  
On the ground where they fought, near the spot  
where they fell  
'Mid the rattle of muskets, and fierce savage yell.  
'Tis meet to recall that third of July,  
And the carnage that lit up the midsummer sky.  
Blood of heroes flowed freely on that fatal day;  
The young stripling boy, with the aged and gray,  
Rushed bravely to battle, and bravely they died;  
All gory in heaps, they were piled side by side.  
Thrice their number, all skilled for battle array,  
A lone overcame the brave patriots that day.  
The bloody scenes after! O, spare us the shock!  
The cold-blooded murders on Queen Esther's rock,  
The blood pillaged farms, and desolate vale,  
Have often been told in Wyoming's sad tale.  
Let us turn on the eve of our great natal day  
And see the prosperity girding our way;  
The bright varied fields, to the far mountain tops  
Are blooming with verdure, and fine growing crops,  
The woodlands with silvery brooks purling through,  
Enrich the fair vale, with their sweet distilled dew.  
The mountains surrounding the valley between  
With its rich fields of grain, and the meadows all green,  
A prosperous city, and towns with their spires,  
Have arisen all 'round since that day of our sires,  
Who died not in vain when they valiantly fell,  
As o'er their graves swept the red man's death knell;  
And along Susquehanna's bright rippling shore  
The Indian canoe is seen gliding no more;  
The Indian maidens, along with their braves  
Have fast disappeared in their far Western graves.  
A network of railways, with horses of steam,  
Speed along the green banks of our swift flowing stream,  
Bearing "black diamonds," more precious by far  
Than all the crown jewels of emperor or czar.  
Yearly may we come together,  
Round this ever hallowed place  
Whispering to these sleeping martyrs,—  
Time will ne'er your deeds efface.  
We will ne'er forget this valley,  
It's an heirloom left by thee,  
And as sweet a spot as ever  
Blest this great land of the free.

The exercises came to a close with the benediction by Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden.

Following are the officers: President, Charles Dorrance; vice presidents, Calvin

Parsons, Dr. Hollister; secretary, Wesley Johnson; treasurer, Dr. Harry Hakes. Committee of Arrangements, 1890, Dr. A. Knapp, W. A. Wilcox, B. T. Petebone, O. A. Parsons, H. B. Plumb, John S. Harding, Sheldon Reynolds. F. C. J.

#### AN EARLY WYOMING SURVEYOR.

Something About His Experience in Pennsylvania and in His Later Home in the State of New York.

Christopher Hurlbut was a surveyor, and while he lived in Hanover after the troubles with the Pennsylvania Government, when Timothy Pickering had finally secured peace—from about 1788-9, he followed surveying. He and his brothers John and Naphtali, in 1789-90, had settled their father's estate with their sisters, Mrs. Anna Blackman, Mrs. Katharine Hyde and Lydia Hurlbut, afterwards Mrs. John Tiffany, by conveying to them the land from the top of the Hog Back hill, thence to the southeast line of the township. In 1795 he and Naphtali bought their brother John's third of the estate. About 1796 Christopher sold all he owned in the property to Naphtali. These were lots 11 and 12, First Division. In 1798 he owned part of lots 15 and 16, First Division, through which the Nanticoke Creek ran, and had a "grist" or "flouring" mill and a saw mill on it a quarter of a mile or so up the creek towards the mountain from where the Dundee shaft now is. In the meantime he was surveying all about the county, as it then was up to the New York State line. He surveyed land for the owners or purchasers in what is now Nescopeck, Salem, Union, Huntington, Newport, Hanover, Dallas, about Harvey's Lake, Pittston, Lackawanna and up the Susquehanna he surveyed the French town of Asylum in 1794; and the region for many miles on all sides of Asylum and Wyalusing. He surveyed roads in all directions in Hanover, Newport and Wilkes-Barre. Among the rest one "from Wilkes Barre to Shupps." One from Nanticoke to what is now the poor house, surveyed in 1792, is about four and a half miles long. 1796 he spent mostly in Western New York looking for a place to emigrate to. His brother John, who had bought land in Palmyra, Wayne County, N. Y., in 1795 and removed to it the same year, was visited by him, but he did not buy there. He bought and settled in Steuben County, N. Y., in Hornellsville, on the Canisteo River. Here in a level valley about a mile wide, surrounded by hills of six hundred feet or so in height, he built his cabin and made

the first settlement. He bought more land than he could pay for at once and he had a hard struggle for the next twenty years to meet his engagements. He sawed the lumber and rafted down the Susquehanna, and carried on the rafts and arks every kind of produce of that country that could be carried and took it down the Susquehanna to a market, and got his money accommodations at the Wilkes-Barre Bank, with Matthias Hollenbeck and Elisha Blackman as indorsers.

H. B. PLUMB.

#### HIS EMIGRATION TO NEW YORK.

Appended are the "Recollections of Mrs. Elizabeth (Hurlbut) Shepard," taken down by William S. Hurlbut in June, 1866, when Mrs. Shepard was seventy-five years old, describing the journey of her father's family (Christopher Hurlbut) from Hanover, Luzerne County, Pa., to Arkport, N. Y.:

"I remember well of living in Wyoming Valley at my father's home there, and our starting from it in a boat (in 1797) for what is now Arkport. We stopped at my grandfather's on my mother's side, Mr. Adam Mann, at Wysox, Pa. Grandfather Mann was then eighty-two years old, and quite feeble, and never expected to see my mother again. At parting both were much moved and wept. He died soon after. I was then six years old.

"As we came up the river (Susquehanna) I remember passing very close to some islands and longing to get off the boat on to one of them. When we arrived at Tloga Point (now Athens) the water was so low we could not get our boat along any further and so fastened it to the shore and hired some one to take care of it. We took out what things we could not get along without and put them in an ox-cart and started on our journey—my brothers John and James and Mr. Nathan Carey driving the cattle. Father put mother on horse-back with my brother Christopher (then three years old,) on before and sister Nancy behind—all on one horse. Sister Abigail (then fourteen years old,) and myself went on foot. We had a new road to travel, sometimes for miles through the woods. The first day we traveled eighteen miles on without riding a rod.

I do not remember so distinctly about our journey further until we arrived at Judge Hornells, where Hornellsville now stands, where our cart broke down and we got on an ox-sled. It was then nearly dark, and Mr. Nathan Cary (my uncle,) and I were left behind the family, who had preceded us to our new home, to come on with the oxen and sled. We had got but a part of the way through the woods, which were unbroken after we left Hornells, when our sled, too, gave out. Uncle Nathan then unyoked the oxen and

put a feather bed on one of them and myself on the bed, and traveled on in an Indian path in the darkness, which had then set in, for some time, when our way was hedged up by a newly fallen pine tree; and as there was no way to get around it, uncle made the ox jump over it with me on his back, calling me a 'brave girl' because I clung to the ox so well. At last we came in sight of a small log house—our future home. I could plainly see the light through the crevices between the logs, and was soon as happy as I could be to join the family within, and I spent the rest of the evening in play.

Sister Sally was left at grandfather's at Wysox until next year. Soon after we were settled in our new home father made a trip to Tioga Point on foot, and carried home on his back my mother's brass kettle" (more than eighty miles.) "We suffered much damage by the breaking of our things left in the boat from the ice and other causes; but what was left father got home the following season. The next season after our arrival here two of mother's sisters, Miss Nancy Mann and Mrs. Sarah Gibson, came all the way from Wysox here on horseback and brought sister Sally with them to make us a visit."

Now, a little further of that family, not from Mrs. Shephard's recollections, however.

That rude log house protected that night the first white family that ever lived in the "north gore." Their nearest white neighbors for two years after coming here were five miles away to the south and twelve miles to the north, twenty-two to the east and I know not how far away to the west, and only an Indian path in any direction for a road. It was during the first two years of their residence there that Mr. Hurlbut went a day's journey to the north to mill with an ox cart and was gone over night. After dark an Indian was discovered sneaking around the house. The lights were at once extinguished, the smaller children put to bed, the door barricaded and the fort put in proper shape for defence. Mrs. Hurlbut with axe in hand, Abigail armed with a heavy fire shovel and John with his trusty rifle awaited the attack and all night long their vigils kept. (The ages of these children were Abigail about sixteen, John about fourteen.) Visions of the Wyoming massacre of twenty years before flitted across the memory of the mother until her heart almost ceased to beat. That horrid night at last wore away and with it went the Indians. The bright morning was never hailed with greater delight by a family than by these watchers, and before the close of the day the husband and father received such a welcome home as those only can give who have passed through so great a peril.

When Mr. Hurlbut was land hunting through Western New York in 1798 he purchased of Robert Biggar lots No. 2 and 13 in the "Gore" containing six hundred and thirty-seven and three-quarters acres. He afterwards purchased lots No. 3 and 4 in the Gore, containing six hundred and twenty-seven acres. For this land Mr. Hurlbut was obliged to contract a heavy debt. He sold from it several farms, chiefly to his old Hanover neighbors, among whom was Nathan Cary, William and Wyllis Hyde (the former his brother-in-law, who married Katharine Hurlbut, daughter of Deacon John Hurlbut, of Connecticut, and Wyoming memory,) and John Harvey and Joel Atherton and Joseph Corey, all of whom came here during the first six years after Mr. Hurlbut came here.

Christopher Hurlbut's family were his wife, Elizabeth Mann, and his children, Abigail, John, James, Sarah, Elizabeth, Nancy, Christopher and Edward, all of whom but Edward lived to mature age, and all except Nancy settled here. Nancy married Mr. Ziba Hoyt and settled in Kingston, Pa., (the father and mother of ex-Gov. H. M. Hoyt.) The above is as concise a history of Mr. Hurlbut after he left Wyoming Valley as I am able to give. His death occurred in 1831. Wm. S. HURLBUT.

Arkport, N. Y., December, 1888.

#### What Kind of a Coin is It ?

A curious coin has found its way to the RECORD office. It is a ten dollar gold piece, of date 1849, and differs from the government eagle only in the inscription. The fillet on the goddess of liberty bears the words Moffat & Co., and on the obverse, instead of the usual United States of America, there is the legend "S. M. V. California Gold." The coin is apparently full weight gold, and was paid out by one of the Wilkes-Barre banks a few days ago. The suggestion is made that it was coined in California by a private firm previous to the establishment of the government mint on the Pacific Coast. The RECORD will be glad to receive some information on the subject.

#### ONE OF THE 49ERS.

The Identity of the Private Coin Unearthed—Facts About Old California.

Probably no other man in town read the item about the 10 dollar gold piece of 1849 bearing private inscription more eagerly than did ex-Mayor Robert H. McKune. He called at the office to see it, and said he remembered distinctly the circumstances of its coinage. He was one of the 49ers, and helped establish the first postoffice in San Francisco. At that time the only cir-

ulating medium was gold dust and Mexican silver dollars. California was not even a territory—only a military possession of the United States, and the coinage had necessarily to be done by private parties until the possession was admitted to the Union. The gold used for coinage was northern, or river gold, this being softer and much more easily worked than the southern gold. Mayor McKune distinctly remembers the Moffat firm. Besides the tens there used to be issued double eagles, of octagonal form. Mayor McKune says there is another 49er in town—William Kirby, 172 Market Street, who was a ranch partner with the late Judge Terry, who was shot and killed by a U. S. marshal a few months ago, to prevent a supposed intended attack on Judge Field.

#### That California Coin Again.

July 9, 1890.—EDITOR RECORD: I have noticed remarks in the RECORD referring to the unknown \$10 gold coin and also Mayor McKune's version. I can corroborate all the ex-mayor has to say. Distinctly remember the firm of Moffat & Co. Sold many an ounce of gold dust for their issues of five, ten and fifty dollar coinage. I can date back to 1848 in California. W. KIRBY.

#### That Curious Coin.

The item in Tuesday's RECORD relating to a peculiar gold coin excited much interest, and several communications thereto have already been published. In searching for information concerning the coin, the RECORD addressed a letter of inquiry to the publishers of Dye's Government Counterfeit Detector, Twelfth and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, a semi-official publication treating of the government coinage and paper circulation. The agency replied promptly by forwarding a copy of their work, in which the coin in question is fully described.

The coin, dated 1854, is one of a considerable variety of private issues authorized by the government under the regulations of the United States Treasury Department, and coined by assaying firms in San Francisco, prior to the establishing of the mint in 1854. Since that time only small coins, such as dollars, halves and quarters have been coined by private parties. The coin noticed by the RECORD contains California gold to the value of \$9.95, but its worth as a rare piece is considerably greater than this. The Counterfeit Detector thus describes it:

\$10. Obv. (Liberty head) with "Moffatt & Co." upon the flara. Rev. (Eagle) "S. M. V. California gold. Ten D."

S. M. V., it is explained, stands for standard mint value.

#### AN OLD FRENCH COIN,

Which Once Belonged to the Celebrated Frances Slocum—Something About Its Thrilling Historical Associations.

[Williamsport Republican, June 30, 1890.]

During his recent visit to the remnant of the Miami tribe of Indians living on the upper waters of the Wabash, Indiana, John F. Meginness (John of Lancaster) was presented with a French dollar of the coinage of 1794, which once belonged to Frances Slocum, the "Lost Sister of Wyoming." Many years ago it was given to a favorite granddaughter, Kin-o-zach-qua, who married Gabriel Godfroy. She died in 1877, and this coin, with one other, remained in the hands of her husband, who presented it to Mr. Meginness on the occasion of his visit to collect material for an exhaustive biography of the celebrated captive. Mr. Godfroy says that his wife once owned thirty of these coins, which were given to her by her grandmother, but the whereabouts of all of the others but these two are unknown.

Although the coin only commands a small premium, Mr. Meginness would not take a thousand dollars for it, on account of the remarkable and thrilling historical associations which cluster around it. Mr. Godfroy, is a son of Francis Godfroy, who was the last war chief of the Miamis, and died in 1840. He was partly of French origin and was distinguished for courage, humanity, benevolence and honor. Frances Slocum, who once owned this piece of silver, was captured by the Indians in 1778, on what is now the site of the opulent city Wilkes-Barre, when but five years old, and was lost to her white friends and civilization for sixty years, when she was discovered living on the Mississinewa, a tributary of the Wabash. She was the wife of Sha-pan-oan-nah, a famous war chief of the Miamis, who preceded Godfroy, and lived to the great age of nearly one hundred years. He died about 1820, and had been long known as the "Deaf Man," on account of having lost his hearing. When Frances was discovered in 1837 she had been a widow for about seventeen years. She died in 1847, aged 75 years, and it may be mentioned that Peter Bondy (Wah-pah-pe-tah,) her son-in-law, was present when she died, and her head rested on his arm. He still survives, and at the age of 78 relates many incidents in the life of the "White Woman." After long and patient research Mr. Meginness has gathered a large amount of interesting and valuable material relating to the history of Frances Slocum, the story of whose life forms the strangest, saddest and most pathetic in all the annals of Indian history.

## CHAPTERS OF WYOMING HISTORY.

**Adventures in the Fair Vale of Wyoming When It was but a Wilderness—How the Early Settlers Fought and Lived Among the Red Skins.**

Not another valley in the United States and few in any country have connected with them such historic associations as mark the vale of Wyoming. The difficulties with which the early settlers contended as they established their rude tenements in the virgin forests of Wyoming will live so long as the deeds of men are chronicled. Perhaps no one contended with and finally surmounted greater and more harassing difficulties than did Thomas Bennet. He was a relative of Edward Everett Hoyt, Esq., now of Kingston, who is a nephew of ex-Governor Hoyt. The great-grandfather of E. E. Hoyt, Philip Myers, was married to Martha, a daughter of the Thomas Bennet mentioned, in 1787. Mr. Bennet made an humble beginning in the Wyoming wilderness. His life in New England was not what he desired and oft times he would rehearse to his family the advantages to be gained by a residence in the woods of Wyoming. Leaving his family one day after they had removed to New York he set out himself with pick, and axe and hoe, determined to investigate the advantages and disadvantages of Wyoming. This was about 1764. Twice he attempted to make a settlement here but the hostile Indians each time drove him away and he bided his time until 1769, when he became one of a company of forty New Englanders, who tramped through the forests until they came to what is now Forty Fort, where they built a block house as a place of refuge from Indian attacks or surprises. This was built on the west bank of the Susequehanna where the thriving little town of Forty Fort now stands, from which it received its name. To north and south and east and west the hardy settlers scattered with their rude implements for clearing and cultivating the soil, all within easy reach of the fort, should at any time the rude tocsin sound the alarm. Mr. Bennet's clearing was about a mile from the fort. Whether the task was beyond his strength to cut away the large trees or whether he was dissatisfied with the location is not known, but in 1770, the year following, he packed his traps and went to the north of the Lackawanna River with another band of settlers. But luck seemed to have forsaken them. Hardly had they had

time to look about when the sheriff of Northampton County appeared upon the scene and in the name of the law laid his hand upon each male settler and announced his intention of escorting them to the jail at Easton. Over the hills and through the vales, continually through the forest, lay their path, and at the end naught but prison bars were before them. Mr. Jennings, the sheriff, had his hands full, and probably on this account Mr. Bennet managed to escape before many miles of the journey were covered. Back through the woods he tramped and again met his family. But his heart was not at rest. The fair vale of Wyoming ever dwelt in his imagination, and in September of that year we find him and his family making the hazardous journey towards Wyoming. What more dreary, more desolate in the form of travel could be conceived? Mr. Bennet's worldly possessions,—very few indeed, for he had lost all his farms and goods,—were packed as compactly as possible, and so they climbed the mountains and trailed the forests with no human being in view save themselves.

If disasters have no premonition in the minds of men here is one of those coincidences that set men to thinking seriously. The travelers had halted for their evening meal and as Mrs. Bennet was boiling chocolate over a fire, she suddenly remarked to her husband that she had not felt good all day, that she felt as if something unusual was going to happen. The remark did not impress itself very seriously upon the mind of Mr. Bennet, unaccustomed as he was to entertaining gloomy forebodings, until the throng September evening shadows were falling, when the campers were surprised to see two or three men coming towards their place in the woods, having probably been attracted to the place by the smoke from the fire as it curled above the trees. Awful was the spectacle they presented, and how terribly must have been blasted the joyous hopes and bright anticipations of father, mother and children,—visions of happiness in fertile Wyoming. The strangers were covered with blood and upon their bodies were large bleeding wounds. Their story was none the less discouraging. It was to the effect that the Pennamites had resolved on driving all the New England settlers from Wyoming and already had commenced their destructive work.

But two courses lay open to pursue—to advance or to retreat. The improvised camp was immediately turned into a council of war. The Bennet family had about ten hours before been joined by a man named Wires, across whose settlement they came and who accompanied them to this place. Mr. Bennet was one of those men who are

not easily daunted by adverse circumstances and he for one resolved to go on. Mrs. Bennet and the two men who came from the seat of trouble expressed their willingness to accompany him, Mr. Wires consenting to take care of the children in his cabin until the troublous times were over. These were, indeed, courageous people.

The result of the consultation was that the sturdy pioneers resumed the march and were not again interrupted until they set foot upon Wyoming soil. Here affairs were even in worse shape than they expected, for the hostility between the Yankees and the Pennamites had broken out in actual warfare, and he who came into the midst of the factions must needs endure the consequences. Coupled with this was the failure of the crops and all vegetation of the year before because of the presence of some kind of insect, and taken all in all, Mr. Bennet's advent into this region was under very discouraging circumstances. He immediately repaired to the cabin he had built about a mile from Forty Fort and proceeded to cultivate the seeds he had sown before he left in the spring. He determined to keep out of the fight so long as possible. In the meantime Captain Ogden, the leader of the Pennamites, had built a small fort or block house at the mouth of Mill Creek so that they might more effectively worry the Yankees. Upon this they based their hopes and it came to form a sort of centre or seat of warfare. But the Yankees were not wanting in their proverbial ingenuity and one beautiful morning when the Pennamites stalked about they found that their block house had been captured and was in the possession of the Yankees. Here was an advantage gained that was too precious to be left in the hands of the enemy. Ogden, the leader, proposed a parley with the New England settlers and the latter consented. It was a fatal error for a time. No sooner had the Pennamites entered the block house than Sheriff Jennings, who before escorted the settlers to the jail at Easton, arrested all present in the name of the new Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. There were thirty-seven prisoners in all. When they reached the jail at Easton, sixty miles away, they were bailed out of prison and returned home only again to be arrested, taken to the jail, again bailed out and again returned to Wyoming. For a time it proved to be a haven of peace, but not of rest. The colony had been reinforced by a few hundred more Yankees from the New England States, who rounded the Pennamites. A fort was built, called Fort Durkee, where the city of Wilkes-Barre now stands, for mutual protection, and the

axe of the foresters once more rang through the woods, slowly the wastes were cleared away and small clearings appeared in the forests. Here was the prospect of peace, but, alas, it was not lasting. Mr. Bennet took his children from the custody of friend Wires and in a short time was comfortably ensconced in his cabin, tilling the soil and preparing for the winter that was coming upon them. The settlers were for a time un molested, but the Penamites were not idle and subsequent developments were of the most startling and trying the settlers ever experienced. E. T. O

## CHAPTER II.

At the close of the last chapter of Wyoming history, Thomas Bennet, the ancestor of E. E. Hoyt of Kingston, and other residents of this valley, was securely ensconced in his rude log hut about a mile from Forty Fort. Captain Ogden and his band of Pennamites had evacuated the fort and been driven from the settlements by the suddenly augmented force of Yankees. Bennet, in common with the other settlers, was taking advantage of the peace that then reigned to till the soil and make his habitation and its surroundings as comfortable and secure as possible. The much coveted peace was of but short duration. Ogden was not idle when he retreated from Wyoming. By his scheming adroitness he succeeded in persuading a number of his followers to make a descent upon Wyoming and with him and a man named Patterson in the lead they made a stealthy approach and pounced down upon the unsuspecting settlers before they were aware of this new danger. A campaign of rapine, robbery and riot at once ensued that savors very much of the Scottish border raids in the chivalrous ages. Fort Durkee was captured and the commander for whom it was named was put in irons, the premises of the colonists were pillaged and the settlers themselves were driven from the country as much as possible. This occupied but a short time, and when Ogden imagined that his Pennamite privates had complete possession of the fort he hastened to Philadelphia to acquaint the dignitaries there of his success and achievements. But Thomas Bennet and his brave family faced the taunts and jeers of Ogden's followers and remained in the valley. The latter took with him to Philadelphia all of his men but a few whom he left in charge of the fort. In the meantime the Yankee force had in turn been augmented by a brave body of men in command of Capt. Lazarus Stewart, who stood not much upon



the ceremony of capitulating with the lonely Pennamites in the fort, but summarily ejected them and flung out the Yankee colors.

Ogden's consternation can better be imagined than described when he retraced his steps to Wyoming and found things in such shape. His force was superior to that of the Yankees, and he immediately planned an attack on the strong log structure. His men were desperate. Inured to crime they considered no method too base to employ and call it honorable warfare. The occupants, worn out by long nights and a protracted siege, saw that the odds were against them and were preparing to beat an honorable retreat when one of their number fired a musket and killed the brother of Captain Ogden, one of the assistants. This so enraged the Pennamites that they redoubled their exertions and succeeded before long in reinvading the fort. An inquest was held on the body of the dead Ogden and the "jury" charged that Captain Stewart (who had escaped when the assault became hopelessly heavy) was the murderer and the forty or more male inmates were charged as "rioters" or accomplices before and after the fact and were taken to Philadelphia to serve out a sentence in jail. Mr. Bennet was not one of the fighters, but simply sought the shelter of the fort when the trouble began. While threading his way to his family cabin he was placed under arrest and was taken to jail and served a sentence of five months with the others, an innocent man. Mrs. Bennet and children packed together what the Pennamites had left in the incursions that followed while the men of the settlement were in jail and went to the house of Capt. Manning, near the head of the valley, who had accompanied them. A rude cabin was built, and in this the two families resided for a time.

In the spring of 1771 Mr. Bennet was discharged and immediately joined his family at the head of the valley. Now the tide again turned, and the suppressed Yankee rose as one man in defense of their right. Capt. Zebulon Butler, than whom no other man played a more conspicuous part in early Wyoming history, by indefatigable effort succeeded in getting about him a number of strong, sturdy recruits, and impressed them into the service of the colonists. They marched to Wyoming Valley through the forest waste and surprised the irrepressible Ogden and his men. The leader was confined in the fort at Mill Creek and his followers were humiliated and subdued. But the obdurate spirit of Ogden could not content itself long in confinement. He evidently employed his leisure moments planning some means of escape, for he became unusually pensive and

morose. One dark night in the spring of 1771 his plans were culminated and he set about carrying them into effect. Gathering a number of old clothes that were in the fort he tied them securely to a stick and placed his hat on top of the bundle. This was towards evening. He bided his time and awaited a favorable opportunity. Everything was quiet as the grave about the Mill Creek fort and the drowsy sentinels were only awakened from their reverie when they heard a splash in the water. They grasped their muskets and rushed to the water's edge in time to see a suspicious looking object float down stream. Muskets were raised, the reports burst upon the night air, and the object in the water was riddled with bullets, but Ogden escaped unhurt. He had fastened the bundle of clothes to his feet and floated down stream on his back. The sentinels, of course, thought the hat covered the head instead of a lot of old clothes. When he had floated down far enough to elude pursuit he swam to shore and trudged the remainder of his way to Philadelphia, where he at once busied himself raising a supply of provisions and a new force of followers, associating with him his brother, David Ogden, and Capt. John Dick.

Again they retraced their steps to Wyoming, for the third time bent upon driving out the Yankee settlers. David Ogden remembered with a keen desire for revenge the killing of his brother at Forty Fort a short time since, and when he proposed that one or two of them take the advance and hunt up Thomas Bennet and murder him, he was heartily seconded in the proposition by the man Dick. They left their comrades and repaired to Schofield's island, where the Bennets and Mannings were still living in their huts. Mrs. Manning was the first to see them stealing through the woods and raised the alarm. Bennet greeted her with these words: "I may as well die one way as another. I have been in jail until I am worn out; they have robbed me of all I have in the world and now let them kill me if they will." His wife and children induced him to rouse himself and seek protection in the underbrush about the house and he had just done so when Ogden came into the cabin and demanded the man of the house. Mrs. Bennet allowed him to look about and told him she knew not where her husband was. But he was not so easily fooled or deceived. Judging of the deception that had been practiced upon him and imagining that Bennet would come from his cover as soon as he was out of sight, he secreted himself within gunshot of the house and closely observed the door of the hut. Ogden neither misjudged the artifice nor looked in vain, for a moment later Bennet pushed aside the bushes and rushed into the house.

His family was overjoyed at his escape, and for some time he sat on a chair near the door in the embrace of his daughter. This "angel daughter," as he was afterwards wont to call her, saved his life. Ogden subsequently said that it was his firm intention to shoot Bennet on the spot, but the sight of that beautiful child so completely unnerved him that he lay his musket on his shoulder and marched from the island without having harmed a living being on it.

Here was one of the narrowest escapes in Bennet's eventful and exciting life. As his friends often said, his seemed to be a life guarded by unseen hands and reserved for usefulness in the troublous times yet to come.

Mr Bennet was that same day informed that the Pennamites intended to take possession of the fort next morning. Taking a rod and line he stole across the river at night, pretending that he was on a fishing excursion and communicated this information to the Yankee sentinels. When the Pennamites turned up the next morning, expecting an easy victory, they met with a warm reception. The Yankees captured most of their provisions and allowed them to take the fort only after a terrific struggle. They found families staring them in the face and a dreary prospect before them. They finally capitulated with the Yankees and again left Wyoming.

Mr. Bennet transferred an old horse shed at Forty Fort into a tenable residence and moved into it with his family and here resided for over two years. During this time there was born to him another daughter—the late Mrs. John Tuttle of Kingston.

But still the most exciting incidents were yet to transpire and these will be recorded at another time. E. T. G.

#### A Chicago Judge in Town.

Hon. Henry M. Shepard, Judge of Supreme Court of Chicago, accompanied by his family, is now on a visit to this city. The judge Friday busied himself in looking up historical data relating to early times in the Wyoming Valley and in visiting the battle monument at Wyoming, where the names of three of the Gore family, through which he traces his lineage, are engraved on the marble tablet, as among the slain on that fearful July day. The judge is a fine specimen of Pennsylvania-Yankee manhood in the vigor of life. He is a native of Bradford County, but went west while yet a youth to grow up with the country, and he seems to have succeeded fully up to his youthful expectations. He says there is considerable of a colony of Pennsylvanians

in Chicago who have united in forming a "Pennsylvania Club" and who still cherish the memory of their mother Commonwealth with sentiments of the brightest regard; and though satisfied with their lot in the main, they never fail to yearn for the picturesque hills and fair valleys of their old homes as they survey the endless flat expanse of low prairie surrounding the city of their adoption.

#### INDIAN MASSACRES IN WYOMING.

**A Very Interesting Deposition from Original Papers Sent to the "Record" Relating to the Earliest Settlements of the New England People in This Valley.**

WYALUSING, July 8, 1890.—EDITOR RECORD: In regard to the Indian massacre at Wyoming in 1763, I have a deposition of Parshall Terry, Sr., which confirms the statements of Col. Jenkins, and may be of interest to some of your readers. The following abstract is from one of the most important and valuable papers (original) relating to the first settlement of the New England people in Wyoming. Mr. Terry was one of the earliest settlers at Wyoming, was in Forty Fort at the time of the battle, remained there for several days afterward, when, finding the Indians had destroyed every means of subsistence, was compelled with the few others who had determined to hold possession with him at Wyoming to return eastward. The deposition covers several closely written pages, and was taken for use in one of the trials growing out of the controverted land titles. Very truly yours,  
DAVID CRAFT.

#### DEPOSITION.

Parshall Terry being duly sworn, says that in the year 1763, he being then an inhabitant of Goshen, in the State, (then Province,) of New York, also being a proprietor in the Connecticut Susquehanna Purchase, that being informed that the company of proprietors had granted two townships, ten miles square each, as a gratuity to the first 200 settlers, (then being proprietors,) or in proportion to a less number, conditioned that said settlers go on and hold possession for the company for the term of five years.

That as near as he can recollect, some time about the last of August of the same year, the deponent with ninety-three others,

mostly from Connecticut, went on to Wyoming, that they carried and took with them horses and farming utensils for the purpose of carrying on business in the line of farming, that he well recollects the names of a number who went on in company with him whose names are as follows:

[Here follow fifty-nine names.]

The deponent saith that on their arrival at Wyoming they encamped at the mouth of Mill Creek, on the bank of the Susquehannah, where they built several huts for shelter, that they went on and cut grass and made hay on Jacob's Plains, that they were shertly joined by many others, that their whole company on the ground were one hundred and forty and upwards, that they continued on the ground according to his best recollection about ten days, that the season being far advanced, and finding that it would be difficult to procure provision at so great a distance from any inhabited country, the committee of the settlers, viz: John Jenkins, John Smith and Stephen Gardner, thought proper and advised to return, which was agreed to, and the greatest part of the company withdrew, the deponent being one, that a small number were left on the ground who tarried some time longer, as the deponent understood.

The deponent says at the time they arrived at Wyoming there were not any inhabitants in that country to his knowledge, except one Teedyuscung, an Indian chief, and a number of Indian families, that the deponent did not discover any appearance of any improvement being made by white people previous to the deponent and the company aforesaid going on to the land.

The deponent further saith that at the time they withdrew they secured their farming utensils on the ground, to be ready for use the spring following, as they expected to return at that time. He also saith that early in the month of May, as near as he can recollect, in the year 1763, the deponent, with a small number of others, went on to Wyoming to renew their possession, that they were soon joined by a large number, being mostly those who had been on the preceding year, that they took on with them horses, oxen, cows and farming utensils, that they proceeded to plowing, planting corn and sowing grain of various kinds, building houses and all kinds of farming business, that they made large improvements in Wilkes-Barre, Kingston, Plymouth and Hanover, as they are now called, that they improved several hundred acres of land with corn and other grain, and procured a large quantity of hay. They carried on their business unmolested until some time in the month of October; that during their residence in Wyoming this season, according to his best recollection, there were about 150

settlers who made improvements, though not so great a number were on the ground at any one time; that he also recollects lands being laid out and lotted on the Susquehannah River the same year, and that he, the deponent, drew a lot at that time in Wilkes-Barre, as it is now called.

That on the 15th day of October, the settlers being in a scattered situation on their respective farms, they were attacked by the savages on surprise, in every part of the settlement, and all at or near the same time, that near twenty of the settlers were killed, the others taken or dispersed, the whole property of the settlers then on the ground fell into the enemy's hands. The deponent recollects the names of several that were killed, viz: The Rev. William Marsh, Thomas Marsh, Timothy Hollister, Timothy Hollister, Jr., Nathaniel Hollister, Samuel Richards, Nathaniel Terry, Wright Smith, Daniel Baldwin and his wife, Jesse Wiggins and a woman by the name of Zuriiah Whitney. The deponent also recollects that Isaac Hollister, one Mr. Shephard and a son of Daniel Baldwin were taken prisoners as he understood. Several others were killed whose names he does not recollect.

#### Wyoming State and Wyoming Valley.

On the day upon which the formal celebration of the entry of the new state of Wyoming into the Union was being held at the capital city of Cheyenne, Wesley Johnson, Secretary of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, mailed to Governor Warren of the Commonwealth, a copy of the memorial volume report of the 100th year exercises of July 8, 1878, accompanied by the following explanatory communication:

WILKES-BARRE, July 23, 1890.—HIS EXCELLENCY, GOV. WARREN, CHEYENNE. DEAR SIR—As the new Wyoming has now advanced to the dignity of statehood, I have taken the liberty, as Secretary of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, of forwarding to you, the Governor of the 44th Commonwealth, a copy of our memorial volume containing a correct report of the 100th year commemorative observance of the battle and massacre of Wyoming, July 8, 1778—1878.

Old Wyoming feels justly proud of the honor of having given her name to a member of the great sisterhood of States. May the child namesake emulate the example of the mother, Wyoming, of bloody memory, and in all things show itself worthy of bearing the name of the beautiful and classic valley here in Pennsylvania, so rich in patriotic memories, immortalized by the poetry of Campbell, as portrayed in the life of his ideal Gertrude, endeared to our people by the 3d of July massacre, and the sad story of Frances Slocum and her life-long captivity among savages; and withal, bearing within its ample bosom untold wealth of anthracite,

not second in importance to the commerce of the world to the rich goldfields of the Black Hills of your own Rocky Mountain State.

I have the honor to be yours, respectfully,  
WESLEY JOHNSON, Secretary.

The following response was received by mail:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, CHEYENNE, Wyo.,  
July 30, 1896.—Mr. Wesley Johnson, secretary Wyoming Commemorative Association, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—My Dear Sir: It is with much pleasure that I acknowledge the receipt of your valued favor of the 23d inst., also a copy of your memorial volume containing a report of the 100th exercises in memory of the battle and massacre of Wyoming, July 3, 1778.

The volume shall be deposited in the archives of the State of Wyoming, and I thank you for myself and on the part of the State for your kind thoughtfulness in forwarding it.

The 44th, and the youngest State of the Union, sends you greeting, and confident assurance that the child and namesake will ever emulate the virtues and patriotism of the mother—the Wyoming of that historic valley of bloody memory.

The State of Wyoming may not develop such wealth of anthracite coal as has the parent, but the new State has a known area of bituminous coal amounting to more than 30,000 square miles.

With assurances of highest regard, I am your most obedient servant,

FRANCIS E. WARREN, Governor.

#### Where is the Bell on Old Ship Zion.

[Communicated.]

In the third issue of the RECORD OF THE TIMES, May 4, 1853, was a notice of the old dilapidated church on the Public Square with its beautiful steeple and bell, which for forty years had faithfully redeemed the promise, "I will sound and resound unto thy people, O Lord, to call them to thy word," and was then abandoned to the ravages of time or the midnight marauder. An attempt had been made to blow down the steeple by boring holes in three of the supporting posts and plugging in gun powder, and fire had been put in one side at another time near midnight.

"The youth, native of the valley, when absent with long and weary miles between him and home, finds mingling in his memory, with fond recollections of boyhood's happy hours, sounds of the old church bell which used to bid him home at 9 o'clock, or risk the terrors of Michael's

cane. Ah, how sadly times have altered since old Michael's lamp went out. Is there a heart that bears affection for the valley, but feels an interest in the old bell? Not one."

Alas! the hearts then old enough to recognize such affection are nearly all cold—not in old grave yards, but in cemeteries. Where is the old bell now? M.

REPLY.

[After being removed from its belfry on Old Ship Zion, on Public Square, where it had done duty since 1812, it was taken to Pittston, where it called the people to worship in the First Presbyterian Church for 35 years. Last year the Pittston Presbyterians having been presented with the bell in use in the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre, now the Osterhout Library Building, the old bell was brought back to Wilkes-Barre and deposited with the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. See *Historical Record*, vol. 3, pages 67 and 192.—Editor ]

#### A CURE FOR HYDROPHOBIA.

The Kind of Medicine Used Fifty Years Ago.

A communication has been received by the RECORD from Dr. W. S. S. Young, Lehman, stating that the article on hydrophobia in a recent issue of this paper reminded him of a receipt for the cure of the disease he had in his possession, which he encloses. It illustrates clearly the idea people had of medicine about 1837. The receipt is dated April 28, 1837, and is printed upon a piece of paper resembling in form and engraving a bank note. Upon it is an engraving representing a powerful man killing a dog and the price of the receipt (\$1) on both corners. This is the receipt:

Take two upper and one under oyster shell well freshened and burnt to a lime, roach alum well burnt, belarmanis or draggons blood pulverized, take in middling good white wine, beer or ale. The allocompain root must be dried, made fine, the shell lime and allocompain must be one-eighth the most, the other two articles half and half, all well mixed together and kept in a glass jar air tight. Take for man or beast weighing 160 pounds one common table spoonful and so in proportion to any heft, mixed early in the morning immediately after being bit in white wine, beer or ale, fasting four hours and neither eat nor drink, and put some of the medicine on the wound, mixed in some grease, and bind it on tight and soon for two mornings running, and the fourth morning take the third dose, fasting each time as above, and ardent spirits must not be drank for three months after.

JAMES PENNY.

## YANKEE—PENNAMITE.

Dr. Egle and Stenben Jenkins on the  
Massacre of 1763.

EDITOR RECORD: Too much has been made of the matter already, but I would like to add still a few words to what has been said and printed regarding the massacre of 15th October, 1763, since Dr. Egle's address of July 3, 1889

Dr. Egle's address was intended to vindicate the Pennamites from the serious charges of cruelty and inhuman warfare which the Connecticut people had made against them, and he urged a juster and kinder judgment of the Pennamites by the descendants of the Wyoming Yankees.

Mr. Jenkins's position was that although he would be glad to think as well of the Pennamites as Dr. Egle desired, the evidence would not warrant it, and in effect so said after the doctor's address, suggesting that it was quite possible the massacre of 1763 was properly charged to the forces under Clayton and Elder.

But a few months later he chanced to find among his grandfather's papers a manuscript petition in Col. John Jenkins's own handwriting, signed by him and by Col. John Franklin among others, which mentioned the massacre of 1763 as having been by the savages. He hastened to communicate the fact to Dr. Egle in the letter of December 25, 1889, reserving "the right to make it public at our next meeting at the monument." And he intended presenting the paper with certain explanations and comments, for, while he had changed his view regarding the immediate responsibility for this particular event, he did not abandon his position beyond that. He has so said to Calvin Parsons and to Sheldon Reynolds as well as myself.

To change Mr. Jenkins in sentiment from Yankee to Pennamite would have been about as impossible as a like change in his inheritance of blood. It does not imply his disloyalty to the Pennsylvania of today to say of him that not John Franklin himself, Lazarus Stewart, Geo. Dorrance, John Jenkins or any of those who staked so much on this issue in 1754-1762 was a stronger champion of the Connecticut claims than he. For many years one of the controlling influences of his life had been his belief in the justice of the Connecticut title and his regard for the memory of the Yankee settlers. He did actually sacrifice largely to this devotion and he was always ready to sacrifice more. This influenced his friendships and in some instances controlled them; it carried him long journeys and inspired him to numberless

hours of wearisome study. A look through his library or his manuscripts readily shows his interest in the subject and perhaps his position.

There was a propriety in having the acknowledgment made which he intended making as a matter of justice to himself, to Dr. Egle and to the memory of Clayton and Elder, but it will not do to let it be thought that the acknowledgment involved an admission that the Yankees were in the wrong or excused the Pennamites for their doings, not that Mr. Jenkins had any such idea. WILLIAM A. WILCOX.

Soranton, July 4, 1890.

## Pennsylvania Pioneer Life.

The following incident was reported to Dr. Egle's *Notes and Queries* from Brookline, Mass. Inquiry is made in regard to this family. Dr. Egle says he can find no record however, of the matter in either the history of Wyoming or of Wyoming County. It is more than probable that the Hon. John Blair Linn could furnish the information desired.

George Whitmer or Whitmore resided in Northumberland county. On Easter morning in 1780, it is stated, that as his oldest son Philip, aged 19 years, was lighting the fire, the door was broken open by Indians who tomahawked him and shot the father while he was reaching for his gun. They killed the mother before she got out of bed, while Sarah, aged 17, Mary, aged 16, Peter, aged 8, George, aged 6, and John, aged 4, and an infant were carried off. Sarah carried the child for two days, but it cried and worried so that an Indian dashed it against a tree and killed it. Catherine, aged 14 years, and Ann, aged 12 years, were in the Sugar Bush at the time looking after the sap. Seeing the house burning, they hid for three days until the neighbors fearing some of the family were likely to have been in the Sugar Bush before daylight, looked for and rescued them. Catherine married a man named Baker, and years after went to the Genesee Valley. Ann married one Ermentrout, remaining in Pennsylvania. Tradition states that the Indians divided the captives among themselves. Sarah and George followed the Senecas, Peter and Mary the Mohawks, and John the Tonawandas. When they were released, the younger children had become so accustomed to savage life that they did not want to stay with the whites. It is stated that Sarah went to Philadelphia and married Horatio Jones. This Horatio Jones, it is stated, belonged to the Bedford Bangers at the time they were taken by the Indians in 1781, when Jones was carried captive to the Genesee country. It is more than probable that it was there where Sarah Whitmer became acquainted with him.

### HAKES FAMILY REUNION.

**A Wilkes-Barre Man Builds a Monument to His New England Ancestor and the Same is Unveiled.**

[Correspondence of the Record]

WESTERLY, R. I., Aug. 19, 1890.—Only four years ago the name of Hakes was almost unknown, but through the untiring efforts of Hon. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., the family links were found and welded into a complete chain, beginning with Solomon Hakes, who came to this country in 1709.

His grave, hitherto almost unknown, now has a suitable memorial—a monument of fine Westerly granite roughly hewn, one side of which is polished and which bears the family record.

About 2 o'clock this afternoon the family were conveyed to the cemetery, where the monument was formally dedicated.

Hon. Harry Hakes gave an historical address of some length and of interest to the family mainly. We print, however, the closing words, which are as follows:

"We may now seal our ancient record in America by unveiling this granite block, to mark and perpetuate to future generations the place of residence and eternal resting place of the ancestor from whom we are all descended. We are not assembled for funeral services or an occasion of grief or sorrow. Those kindly and Christian rites fell to the lot of others. Ours are rather the offices of a kindred duty, long neglected. Yet now, with becoming respect and reverence, to the end that the knowledge of and remembrance of our American ancestors may be maintained and identified among his descendants forever we now dedicate this monument to the memory of Solomon Hakes and Anna Billings, his wife, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost."

This address was followed by the unveiling of the monument by Mrs. Ada J. Fenton of Covelo, Cal., a daughter of George Hakes of Pitcher, N. Y.

#### THE REUNION EXERCISES.

WESTERLY, R. I., Aug. 20, 1890.—The fourth annual reunion of the Hakes family was held to-day in the parlor of the Dixon House, about seventy-five being present. Representatives of all the Northern States and California were present. At 10 o'clock the meeting was called to order by the president, Hon. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Prayer was then offered by Rev. N. D. Kelley of Westerly.

The secretary, Miss Gertrude Hakes, of Worcester, Mass., then read her annual report.

The historical report was next given by the president giving account of changes

made during the year in the genealogical table. This followed by the reading of letters of regret from the absent ones.

The election of officers resulted in the same being chosen as last year. Vice presidents representing each branch of the family were then chosen to assist the president in gathering up historical facts of interest to the family. They are as follows: To represent the Richard Hakes stock, Albert H. Hakes, Chicago, Ill.; for James Hakes stock, Dr. Charles Hakes, New Milford, Susquehanna County, Pa.; for George Hakes, Hon. Carlo Hakes, Hornelsville, N. Y.; for Jonathan Hakes, Mrs. Lucy M. Reynolds, Petersburg, N. Y.; for Solomon Hakes, Jr., Lucius M. Hakes, Syracuse, N. Y.

The next place of meeting was then discussed and it was voted to hold the next reunion at Syracuse, N. Y.

#### A Cyclone Fifty Years Ago.

The Pittston Gazette of August 21 gave the following story by an old resident of that town:

Amos Stroh, the well known carpenter, says the papers are in error when they say that this is the first cyclone to strike the Wyoming Valley. He tells an interesting story of a terrific and destructive windstorm which passed over a portion of Wilkes-Barre in 1838. At that time Mr. Stroh was a boy, ten years of age, and went to school in a log house near where the Vulcan Iron Works now stand. He was at school when the storm came up, and happened to be sitting near a window, so that he noticed the storm coming. It generated on the large flats south of the city, in about the same spot as did Tuesday's cyclone, and moving north at a rapid rate, it reached the point where the school house stood, and then turning to the east, continued its work of destruction until the Empire mines was reached. Here it spent itself. The region traversed by the storm was at that time a farming country, and there were not many buildings in the path of the storm. Those which were, however, were totally ruined. The school house was first unroofed and afterwards blown in, fortunately not injuring any of the children, who huddled together in the centre of the room. A slaughter house which stood across the road from the school house was carried away bodily, the farm houses were all stove in, and trees, fences, etc., were picked up and carried for miles. Mr. Stroh says that the storm lasted for only a minute or two, but the scene he witnessed and the experience he went through during that brief space of time will never be effaced from his memory. John Hurbut, the West Pittston merchant, who lived in that section at the time, also remembers this storm quite distinctly.

**The Date of Our Preceding Cyclone.**

**PEELY, Luzerne Co., Pa., Aug. 23, 1890.**—**EDITOR RECORD:** From Pittston you have a communication from Amos Stroh and one from Wesley Johnson on cyclones, one in 1838, the other in 1834. Now look at Plumb's History of Hanover and Wyoming, page 293, and find his short description of one in 1835 from recollection. He was in it and bears the scar in his face now from a wound received then. He thinks both W. J. and Mr. Stroh are speaking of the same cyclone. Mr. McCarragher's house and barn were on the top of the hill on Hazle Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, in full view of Wilkes-Barre on the flat below it as it is to-day. The barn stood nearer the street than the house and was torn to the ground, while the house had only a very small portion of the roof torn off. That cyclone turned to the northwest there and crossed the Middle Road (now South Main Street), and damaged the little log school house called then the Careytown school house. Mr. Johnson may be a year too early, but Mr. Stroh, I am quite sure, is three years too late. I was then about five years old, not older. H. B. PLUMB.

**Cyclones of Early Times.**

**EDITOR RECORD:**—Probably the first serious blow that visited the Wyoming Valley since its settlement by Europeans, was in 1807, when the Wilkes-Barre bridge was hurled almost unbroken on the ice. But this was not a cyclone like the one that devastated a portion of the city on Tuesday, but, properly speaking, only a severe winter gale.

Coming down later, I think it was in 1834, about the first day of July of that year, that we were again visited by something like a cyclone or tornado, the same that caused the destruction of the village of Razorville. Not much damage was done here in the old borough, as the path of the destroying visitors seemed to be along the base of the Wilkes-Barre Mountain, at what is now Ashley and on the Moyallan farm of John McCarragher at the junction of Hazle Street and Park Avenue, where several barns and other outbuildings were torn to pieces by the fury of the winds, and as I remember, the wreckage of boards and shingles scattered all along the base of the mountain as far north as the Laurel Run. Many trees were uprooted and lay prostrate, but as the path of the storm was through an uninhabited region, the destruction of growing timber was the only evidence of its fury. The path of the tornado, or by whatever name it might be called, seemed to be in a direct line up the valley along its eastern side, passing back of Pittston and entering the Lacka-

wanna Valley at about the mouth of Spring Brook, touching lightly on its way further north, not striking Hyde Park at all, but exerting its expiring force on ill-fated Razorville, now a portion of Scranton City. Hyde Park and Razorville were at that time bustling villages on the stage route between Wilkes-Barre and Carbondale. Scranton proper was only Slocum Hollow and of little consequence. At Razorville there was a new Methodist Church in progress of erection. This was almost totally demolished, and nearly every building in the village suffered more or less, many of them being unroofed and sustaining otherwise serious damage.

I was but a boy at the time, but I well remember that there was considerable excitement when the Carbondale stage came down next day and the passengers reported, perhaps slightly exaggerated accounts, (as is sometimes seen in this day), of the destruction of Razorville. There were no daily papers in those days, nor telegraphs, not even wide-awake reporters to display the known facts in flaring headlines next morning, with losses greatly magnified; and I doubt whether the newspapers of the day gave more than a meager passing notice of the disaster: W. J.

**SOME OLD RECORDS.****The Curious Way in Which Our Forefathers Kept Their Records**

Bookbinder Baeder has just undertaken the largest job of bookbinding ever given out from the court house. It consists in a general overhauling and recovering of the old records, assessment books, etc., in the commissioners' office. Neat leather cases will be put on the volumes and the backs will be lettered in gold, so that lawyers and others who have occasion to consult the old records may do so without spending three or four hours in searching among the unclassified papers. It is quite interesting to look over the yellow-colored papers and books. The assessment books are from 1790 to 1870. The oldest ones have curiously illustrated covers. On one is the engraved picture of a lion, with a short essay on the life and habits of that animal. The illustrations appear to be from any object that suggested itself to the artist's mind. The names of the residents of the county about here when Wilkes-Barre was almost a wilderness are found through these books.

—The last number of the *Vidette* for the school year has been issued. It is a very neat and creditable monthly journal published by the members of the West Pittston High School. In the last issue Caroline M. Thomas has an interesting article on "Early History of the Wyoming Valley."

## AN EARLY PENNSYLVANIA PREACHER

Rev. Andrew Gray—The Soldier Parson  
The First Pioneer Minister in Old Steuben  
County.

[Bath (N. Y.) Plain Dealer.]

Rev. Andrew Gray was the master spirit of the Pennsylvania settlement on the Canadesas in the present town of A'mond, now in Allegany, but once a portion of Steuben county. His associates in the settlement were Joseph A. Rathbun, Matthew McHenry, Joseph Colman, Major Moses VanCampen, Capt. Henry McHenry, Samuel VanCampen, Obadiah Ayers, William Gray and—Vandemark. They were from Fishing Creek, Northumberland county or its vicinity; it is not certain where. He and his associates may have visited the country in 1795 or '6 and settled their location. We have before us, an autograph letter of his, bearing date "Northumberland, March 1796," written to Capt. Charles Williamson, the bearer of which was Benjamin Patterson, which gives evidence of a familiar acquaintance with the Captain and in which he states: "We hope, sir, to visit you next Spring as early as possible on our way to the KanaKadea. We shall bring with us a number of settlers, and it is possible myself as one of the number." Nov. 1, 1797, Capt. Williamson conveys to him certain lands in township 4, in the 7th Range.

Andrew Gray was a Scotch Irishman, born in the County Down, Ireland, January 1, 1757—emigrated to America in 1774, and at the commencement of the war enlisted in the Continental Army,—was taken prisoner at the battle of Long Island by the Hessians. In an altercation between two of these hirelings each of whom claimed him as his prisoner, he nearly lost his life. After great sufferings in the British prison for several months, he escaped to the American lines and took part in the hardest fought battles of the war.

Having been well educated in his native country, upon leaving the service at the close of the war, he commenced his theological studies, providing for his expense by his daily labor. The Rev. J. H. Hotchkins says he belonged to the Dutch Reformed Society. He preached his first sermon in 1793 in Low Dutch. He found his way to Northumberland, Pa., where there were large numbers of Scotch-Irish settled. He died in 1826, much and sincerely lamented.

## Another Pioneer Physician.

The RECORD printed not long ago some items from the old account books of Elisha Blackman in account with the earliest practitioner of medicine in Wyoming Valley, Dr. Joseph Sprague. He was shortly followed by Dr. William Hooker Smith and a little

later by Dr. John Calkins, or as pronounced Corkins. The late Steuben Jenkins believed that Dr. Calkins never located in Wyoming, but though owning lands here he made occasional visits from his home at Cochection on the Delaware. If not a resident it is certain that he was a frequent visitor as is shown by his dealings with Mr. Blackman at the latter's farm, in Hanover Township. Mr. Plumb furnishes the following:

In 1778 "there came from New London Connecticut a noted surgeon, whom many of the people desired to establish among them. A paper, drawn up by Henry Carey (and it is a very neat piece of penmanship), for subscription, purposes to 'pay Dr. John Calkins, in case he should settle among us in the quality of a physician' (the sum to be annexed), 'the money to be laid out in land for his benefit and use, etc. And among the names subscribed, are Anderson Dana £2-8-0, James Stark, £1-4-0, etc., and other less sums. The issue of the negotiation I have not been able to ascertain." *Miner's Wyoming* p. 150.

Well, it seems the negotiation was satisfactory all round, as we find the Doctor settled in Wilkes-Barre in 1775 and 1777, before the massacre, and in 1788, 1789 and 1797 after the massacre. H. B. Plumb.

## Wilkes-Barre

Doctor John Corkins to

Elisha Blackman Dr

		£.	s.	d.
1775 Dec 6 To	3 lbs of Pork	....0	1	6
"	3 lbs of Pork	....0	1	6
"	2 bushels of Oats	0	3	0
"	15 lbs of Pork	....0	5	0
"	2 lbs of Pork	....0	1	0
"	2¼ bushels of Oats	0	3	4
"	A leading lines and breech collar	.....0	6	0
"	25 bundles of Oats	0	6	0
"	killing a hog and salting	.....0	2	0
1776 Mar. 29	83 weight of Beef	..1	0	6
"	1 load of Wood	..0	2	0
1777 Jan 20	cutting and carting 2 loads wood	0	2	0
"	killing a hog	..0	1	0
"	Plowing your garden and carting a load of wood	....0	6	0
Aug.	board five weeks	1	17	6
"	Grain for your horse	.....0	4	0
"	1 Bushel of oats	..0	1	10
"	mend your boots	0	1	6
"	Keeping your horse to hay	..0	2	6
1778 Feb 2	1 load of wood	..0	6	0
"	1 load of wood	..0	6	0
"	1 load of wood	..0	6	0



1788 May 18	"	Time spent to do your business	0	6	0
	"	1½ bushels of oats	0	2	9
Sep. 29	"	5 days yourself and horse	0	7	6
1789 Oct 10	"	8 days board	0	8	0
	"	8 " your horse	0	4	0
	"	3 pecks of oats	0	1	4
	"	3 days board and horse	0	5	0

## Credit.

			£.	s.	d.
1775	To	cash five shillings	0	5	0
	"	cash two dollars	0	12	0
1788	"	20 lbs. of pork at eight pence	0	13	4
	"	Turn with gale	0	1	5
	"	½ lb of Tea	0	2	6
	"	1 lb of Tea	0	5	0
	"	A Turn with Gore	0	1	0
1789	"	½ bushel of Bye by Spencer	0	4	6
	"	Cash one Dollar	0	7	6
	"	By One order	0	7	6

This is Elisha Blackman Sr.'s account with Doctor John Corkins, both of Wilkes-Barre as they appear from the face of the accounts. There was one settlement between them as appears on the book but not shown here—on March 29, 1776, and a balance of 2 shillings and 7 pence found due from Corkins and carried into the next account, not shown here.

This would seem to fix Doctor Corkins' residence in Wilkes-Barre as late as 1789; but it might be found on further research, that from 1788, or perhaps 1778, after the Wyoming massacre, he was not a resident of Wilkes-Barre. That might possibly be consistent with the account as it stands here.

H. B. Plumb.

## An Historic Flag.

In front of Sturdevant's crockery store on West Market Street, hung July 4, an historic flag. It is the old Whig flag that was carried in the campaign which made William Henry Harrison President of the United States. It was the property of the late William H. Butler, and contains only 26 stars. It is an object of great interest to many of our older citizens, who still recall the stirring times of "Tippecanoe."

Among the papers and documents left by Col. Franklin, and now in possession of Z. F. Walker, the Athens (Pa.) News has been shown a "Journal of the General Assembly for 1788." It is a queer looking document, and the volume appears quite diminutive compared with the Legislative Record covering a session of the Legislature nowadays.

## WILKE'S-BARRE'S MAHOGANY TREE.

It is Thrifty at the Age of Twenty Years, but it is Liable to be Destroyed Unless Cared for.

Some time ago the RECORD made mention of the fact that a mahogany tree is growing in this city. The item attained wide circulation and the RECORD is in receipt of the following inquiries from R. J. Black of Bremen, O., horticultural editor of the *Pittsburg Stockman and Farmer*:

"1. By whom it was planted, how long ago and where was the young tree obtained?"

2. The circumference of the trunk, say a foot from the ground: and the height of the tree?"

3. Does the tree receive protection of any kind in winter, and has it ever suffered injury, greater or less?"

The natural habitat of the mahogany is, as you are doubtless aware, Central America and the West Indies. This renders the growing of it in latitude 40 degrees a matter of interest."

As the information may be of interest to the public as well as to Mr. Black, the RECORD appends the substance of its reply:

1. The tree was planted on the river bank in front of his residence by the late Martin Coryell, in 1870. It was obtained from a tree in his father's garden at New Hope, Pa., opposite Lambertville, N. J., planted originally by his mother-in-law about the year 1840.

2. The present circumference is 41 inches a foot above the ground and it is from 35 to 40 feet high.

3. It is on the river common and receives no protection in winter. About five feet above the ground it bifurcates and in the crotch there is a badly decayed spot which has so weakened the tree that it is liable to be split open and ruined by a heavy wind. It really ought to have the cavity plugged and the forking branches fastened with an iron band. Such a tree is a curiosity that ought to come under the care of the city.

Mr. Coryell also planted some mahogany seeds in his garden, but it was not for several years that the growth attracted attention. The present owner of the property, Mrs. W. B. Maffet, gave away several of the young trees, and one is now growing in the yard of Hon. Charles A. Miner, one on Mount Pocono and others elsewhere. One is growing alongside of the Maffet residence. It is probably ten years old, seven inches in diameter and some 20 feet high. It has a heavy top growth, and the branches have to be supported by straps in order to keep them from breaking off. In the winter it is a hard looking tree, as it sheds all its twigs. Just now it is shedding from its branches what appear to be sheets, a foot or two long. The tree more nearly resembles a locust than any other of our native trees.

### THE HISTORY OF COAL.

#### A Few Facts About the Early Days of the Great Industry.

[Hazleton Sentinel.]

The projected monument to Philip Ginter has set many of the coal region students to delving in history and the following facts were unearthed by one of our readers who has made a rather exhaustive study of the subject.

In the first place stone coal was actually used by the garrison at Fort Augusta in 1755. This fort stood at what is now the town of Sunbury, the county seat of Northumberland County. Mention of this is made by the celebrated Dr. Plunkett and documents in the British war office. A certain ensign named Hawley or Howley wrote that in the winter of 1758 the house was heated by stone coal brought down the river from near Nanticoke, and that a wagon load had been brought from a place six leagues from Fort Augusta, which point must have been at or near Shamokin.

It is a fact known to few that the first coal operators to do any active business or take any decided step to opening up the coal trade were two printers, Charles Miner and Jacob Oist. Miner and Oist ran a little paper up in Wilkes-Barre in 1813, when the second war with Great Britain was going on. It was called the *Gleaner*, and they must have done well on it even if they did have to take produce for subscriptions. The *Gleaner* appeared to have kept Messrs. Miner, Oist, Isaac Chapman and John W. Robinson, and kept them pretty well, for they were enabled to lease the lands of the Lehigh Coal Mine Co. in 1813. In 1815 coal brought \$8 a ton. The sum of \$1 a ton was paid for mining it. When the war ended coal dropped to \$6 a ton. Miner, Oist & Co. had their contract cancelled and Hazard, White & Hauto stepped in and made a little money.

In 1820 Hazard and White bought out Hauto. Now Hauto seems to have been the Harry S. Ives of the early days. He had no money of his own, but he had gall and wealthy friends and he knew how to work the latter. If Mr. Hauto was alive to-day we could expect him to figure as a promoter of a British syndicate scheme. There were no flies on Hauto and when White & Hazard wanted to get rid of him they had to agree to pay him a half cent royalty on every bushel of coal mined and sent to market. Hauto immediately organized the "Half Cent Company" and issued 1394 shares of stock at a par value of \$50 a share which would have given him \$69,700. In 1830 the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company bought the royalty, but no one knows what they paid for it. If the royalty were in existence to-day it would be worth \$100,000

a year and if it were paid on the total tonnage of the L. & S. and Lehigh Canal it would be near \$600,000, a sum big enough to let Hauto go back to Germany and buy a title. The town of Hauto perpetuates the name of the sharpest man of those early days, White and Hazard are forgotten except by students.

The Beaver Meadow road was chartered in 1830 and the Hazleton railroad in 1836 was run from Hazleton to Weatherly and Penn Haven.

#### An Aged Squire's Memories.

[Daily Record, September 6.]

Squire Zeigler has been justice of the peace in Wilkes-Barre for the past 18 years. He obtained his commission when the borough of Wilkes-Barre had but a north and a south ward and has been continuous in the same office ever since. What is also worth noting is that it was 50 years ago yesterday that he crossed the Wilkes-Barre Mountain in a stage coach, then a young man 21 years of age, to the borough of Wilkes-Barre. It had at the time a population of 4,000. It took him several days to get here from New York. He made his voyage from Germany to New York in a sailing vessel, which took them several weeks to accomplish the voyage. He states as an incident that occurred on the voyage that in mid-ocean they passed the steamer President, which was making her second trip across the Atlantic. They sighted her from the vessel he was on and were surprised by receiving a salute from the President's guns. The passengers of the ship on which Squire Zeigler was were afterwards told that it was a salute to Queen Victoria, who, on reaching 21 years of age, was assuming the crown of England. The steamer President on her next outward voyage from the United States was lost at sea. Squire Zeigler was 71 years of age last July and is still justice of the peace in the 8th ward.

With reference to an item in Saturday's Record, Dr. George Urquhart has this to say:

In Saturday's Record the population of Wilkes-Barre is stated to have been in 1840, 4,000. Pearce's Annals give the population of Wilkes-Barre in 1820 as 732; in 1830 as 1,201; in 1840 as 1,708; in 1850 as 2,728; in 1860 as 4,259.

1840 was an epoch in the history of this town and county—for in 1840 Chambers, Biddle & Co. erected the rolling mill at South Wilkes-Barre at a cost of \$300,000; during the operation of these works for a year or two Wilkes-Barre increased greatly in population and business, but the establishment was then sold on a debt due the Wyoming Bank, and purchased by the Montour Iron Co. and removed to Danville. The Scranton furnace was also commenced in 1840 and was successully blown in for the first time in 1841.

**IMPRESSIONS OF WILKES-BARRE.**

John F. Meginness Writes to the Lock Haven "Express"

A recent issue of the Lock Haven *Express*, contained a column and a half letter from Wilkes-Barre, from the pen of "John of Lancaster," the well known literary signature of John F. Meginness. Appended are his references to the material prosperity of the city:

WILKES-BARRE, Oct. 6.—No one can visit this bustling city without being impressed with its beauty and the enterprise displayed on every hand by its progressive people. Stately blocks of buildings meet the gaze of the stranger in all the principal streets, and the hum of machinery is heard in the numerous manufactories. Ten or fifteen years ago this was not so. At that time the city inclined to be sleepy and aristocratic. But the constant increase in the development of the mineral wealth which lies beneath its surface, has infused fresh life and vigor into the people, and they can no longer be accused of lack of enterprise. During the last ten years the city has increased rapidly, the population to-day being little less than forty thousand, while the numerous suburban boroughs contain as many more inhabitants. The county of Luzerne, with a thrilling history dating back for more than a hundred years, has a population of about two hundred thousand within her borders, and her wealth mounts away up in the tens of millions. And there is every indication of a continued and rapid increase in all the elements which conspire to make a people progressive, flourishing and rich.

\* \* \*

In recent years great improvements have been made in the streets of Wilkes-Barre. The asphalt pavement is rapidly coming into use. Several miles have already been laid and more are being put down. At first there was much opposition on account of the cost, but this is rapidly giving way, and residents on cobble stone streets are petitioning to have the asphalt put down. That this pavement is the coming one for all cities of any pretensions, there seems to be little doubt, unless something better is discovered. That it costs heavily is true, but it lasts much longer than any now in use, is easily kept in repair, and its smooth surface is delightful to ride upon. Its cost here has been about five dollars for lineal foot, though it is assessed at six on South Main St. The increased cost is on streets through which

street cars pass. The city is lighted by electricity, of course, and there are two lines of electric street cars. In a short time it is expected that the last horse car will disappear, and electric cars in one combined system will be used. Two or three omnibus lines are also largely patronized. A ride down South Franklin St., for a mile and a half over the asphalt pavement, is a very delightful one. The street on both sides is lined with elegant private residences and luxuriant maple trees afford an inviting shade in summer time. Many of the streets crossing Franklin are also paved with asphalt, which adds to the attractiveness of this portion of the city.

**The Official Count.**

The Census Bureau announces the official returns for the Fifth Census District, in which Luzerne County is included. These official returns fix Wilkes-Barre's population at 37,651, and Luzerne County at 201,120. The figures given as an official estimate, a few weeks ago, made Wilkes-Barre's population 37,974, so it seems to have been about 300 in excess of the count. Of the seven counties in the Fifth District, Luzerne shows the greatest increase, this being 68,055, while Lackawanna comes next with an increase of 53,607. Of the towns and cities in the district Wilkes-Barre is fifth in its per cent. of increase, ours being 61. The figures as tabulated are these:

Cities and Towns.	Pop. 1890.	Pop. 1880.	Increase.	Per Cent.
Archbald.....	4,928	3,049	979	32.11
Ashley.....	3,192	2,799	393	14.04
Carbondale.....	10,826	7,714	3,112	40.34
Dunmore.....	8,342	5,151	3,091	60.00
Hazleton.....	11,818	6,935	4,883	70.41
Honesdale.....	2,749	2,620	129	4.92
Lansford.....	3,995	2,206	1,789	81.10
Mauch Chunk.....	4,098	3,752	346	9.72
Nanticoke.....	10,037	3,884	6,153	155.40
Olyphant.....	4,075	2,094	1,981	94.60
Pittston.....	10,295	7,472	2,823	37.78
Plymouth.....	9,341	6,065	3,276	54.01
Scranton.....	83,450	45,850	37,600	82.01
Susquehanna Dep't	3,864	3,467	398	11.48
W. at Pittston.....	3,731	2,544	1,187	45.66
Wilkes-Barre.....	37,651	23,339	14,312	61.32
<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Pop. 1890.</i>	<i>Pop. 1880.</i>	<i>Increase</i>	
Carbon.....	33,643	31,923	6,720	
Lackawanna.....	141,878	89,269	52,607	
Luzerne.....	201,120	133,065	68,055	
Monroe.....	20,093	20,115	*82	
Pike.....	9,399	9,663	*264	
Susquehanna.....	40,071	40,354	*283	
Wayne.....	30,909	33,513	*2,604	
Wyoming.....	15,819	15,598	261	

\*Decrease.

The total population for the district is 497,960. In 1880 the population was 373,560, increase, 124,400, or 33.30 per cent.

**THE SULLIVAN EXPEDITION.**

**An Unpublished Letter from Col. Zebulon Butler—He Did Not Favor a Winter Campaign, and It was Abandoned.**

Appended is a letter which is contributed to the RECORD by Walter B. Benjamin, dealer in autograph letters at 30 West Twenty-third St., New York City, from whom it may be purchased. He has numerous other letters relating to early Wyoming history, some of which the RECORD hopes to publish. It is interesting to note that the winter campaign was abandoned, as recommended by Col. Butler, to be prosecuted the following summer. The season was so favorable and the campaign was so vigorously and intelligently pushed that the power of the Six Nations was forever broken and the massacre of Wyoming was avenged:

WESTMORELAND, JAN. 10, 79

HONORED SIR,—

Rec'd yours of ye 17th Dec. 1778 on the 4th Jan'y 1779. Immediately Sent over Express to Sunbury who Returned this day with the Inclosed Letter from Capt. Stoddard who Commands their in Col. Hartleys Absence. "Br I'm Verry happy to find that A Gentleman of Your Character is Appointed to the Command of these fronteers." Shall always be happy in Receiving and Obeying your orders." Inclosed I Send you the Returns of the Strength of this place as to men Ammunition &c. The Distance from this place to Chemong is About 100 Miles, the Rode impossible to pass any other way in the Summer Season than by pack horses or boats and I think it Not possible to pass Either way at this Season, with any Sufficient Quantity of provision for an Army Sufficient to go against Such an Enemy as We provirbly Shall meet with. the Ice in the River is Such that we cannot pass by Warter and the Oricks are Numerous and uncertain Pasing at this Season. the Depth of the Snow is Usually from 15 Inches to two feet Deep. Snow Shoes will be Necessary and Can be had Hear if men Can be Procured to make them as the Commeary has A Number of Raw Hides. If from those Representations your Honour should think A Winter Expidition was Not practicable I Would propose Whether (after your Knowing the Quantity of provision &c) Your Honour Would Not think it best to send 100 or 150 more Men hear for Winter-Quarters. Barracks can be had for them the Last Letter I had from Col Hartley He Informed me that A Regt was coming to this post and the board of War had Directed him to make the following Arrangement—viz. that is if A Reinforcement of Troops Come to this post that the Detachments from his

Regt at this post and at fort Jinkins join the Reg't at Sunbury. Fort Jinkins is a post Kept with About 50 men on this river About 38 miles Down from this post and that the Troops that came here should Garrison this post and fort Jinkins, but Your Honour Can order them affairs as you think proper. The Express I send you I have ordered to Return to me as Soon as possible after you Dismiss Him.

I am With Esteem Your Honours  
Most Obt Humble Servt

ZEBN BUTLER

Lt Col Comdg

N-B. If You should think Best I will be preparing for Boats. Desire your Directions and I think it my duty to Let you know that Letters of Consequence should not be trusted to the Care of Col Stroud. Wheather through Inattention to publick Business, or Design or multiplicity of private Business I Can Not Say but the Letter from Your Honour to Col Hartley and myself Lay at his House till the first Jan'y 1779 and that is Not the first time he has Done the like.

Your Humble Servt

ZEBN BUTLER.

To Hon Brigadeer Genl Hand  
Minisink.

**Information Wanted.**

Downing or Downey. "Two brothers, Isaac Downing or Downey and wife, Jane Vermilyea, and Roger Downing or Downey, and wife, Sarah Vermilyea, are believed to have moved from Dutchess County, N. Y., into Wyoming Valley about 1770. Roger Downing was said to have been killed in the Massacre of Wyoming July 3, 1778. He left a son, William "

Information is desired of these brothers. Neither of them appear among Wyoming taxables 1763 or 1773. They were not in the Wyoming battle. George Downing was killed in the action and Reuben was among the survivors. The various tax lists of 1799 also fail to show the names of Isaac or Roger. They may have been connected with George and Reuben, or with Daniel, Sr, and Jr, who were taxables in 1799, but it does not appear. H.

**Old People in Fairmount Township.**

Mrs. William Bell in Fairmont Township is 85 years of age, and has lived there 50 years. She remembers the battle of Waterloo and shook hands with Lafayette. Jesse Albertson of the same township is 93 years old, and walks several miles a day. Jeriah Van Horn, aged about 87, is smart in body and mind Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Moss, age about 82, are still smart They wedded in Fairmount for 59 of the 62 years of their married life. These old people were all recently met by Mr. Linskill in his travels.

### A Coincidence in Our History.

[Editorial in Daily Record, July 4, 1890.]

There is a pretty story told in the little folk's lore, of a singular tree that grows up in a night and glows with a blossoming of wax taper, bears wonderful fruit, such as dolls and hobby horses, dishes and drums, every toy which delights child life, then withers and in a few days is gone. This tree is the one beloved of children in all Christian lands the world over. The observing person who has watched the progress of events in our community has noticed a phenomenon equally singular in its brief but regular periodicity, but peculiar to the free born people of the most favored land on the globe. For nearly a week our town has been undergoing a transformation through the workings of this phenomenon. There has been a remarkable blossoming, a spreading outburst of color such as is equaled only on the expansive western prairies or sloping hillsides of the Pacific. This midsummer metamorphosis is strangely confined to the centers of civilization—first a little glow of rainbow colors here, then there, on one street, then another. Ever increasing, they become one mass of brilliant lines and everywhere prevail, the Red, White and Blue. And Wilkes-Barre, more than any other city in the land, is clad in this gay dress of midsummer, to the uninitiated so strange in its outgrowth, so short lived in its duration.

For those who know our history the fact that our city is favored beyond others by this display of the national colors and by the gathering of multitudes assembled as if to admire the wonderful blossoming—this fact is entirely in keeping with the story of the past. Yesterday the grey beards, the hoary headed residents of our valley who remember more vividly the stories told them in childhood than the news in last week's papers, met at Wyoming to celebrate an event which gave our valley world-wide fame, and for our own people set a double seal of impressiveness on the national festival. No event in our history, as a nation, is more characteristic of the struggles and hardships amid which the foundations of our government were laid. Another corner of our State had its Gettysburg, to make doubly

memorable the natal month of our nation, but any nation might have a great battle between contending armies, and even between factions of the same nation, but the stories told of our Third of July are peculiar to American history, unsurpassed for features of dramatic interest and patriotic heroism. The world over, when Wyoming is mentioned, the mind pictures the painted savage, the slaughtered martyrs, and imagination hears the war cry and the clash of arms.

But Wyoming is a name perpetuated today as never before. The fame of our valley with its July disaster is known to every civilized people. Hitherto the name has met their eye or fallen upon their ear but infrequently. Now, bestowed upon the youngest and most picturesque of the forty-four States of the Union, it will occupy an ever increasing prominence. The most recent enactment of Congress, increasing the constellation of our flag to forty-four stars, gives the name of our fair valley to a rugged yet beautiful State, not unlike in its characteristics. The creation of a later civilization, Wyoming State will not have to witness the ravages of foreign foes or savage tribes, but like our valley, will prosper and grow wealthy from the fruits of the soil, the flocks and herds on the hillside, or the treasures of the hidden mine. It is a happy coincidence, if the day on which our namesake State attains its independent sovereignty is made a great gala day in the valley which gave it a title rich in historic associations.

#### Struck an Old Corduroy Road.

People who ride over Wilkes-Barre's miles of asphalt pavement can hardly realize that some parts of the town a century ago required corduroy roads. Wednesday, while workmen were digging on North Main Street for a sewer, they came upon an old corduroy road, opposite Stetler's Alley, at a depth of about 6 feet. The logs are chiefly of yellow pine and are as sound as when chopped. Old citizens think the road was laid about a hundred years ago. It is remembered that in the location referred to there was a "swale," or low wet ground, but no one recollects the old road or the subsequent filling in. Contractor Tracy finds it impossible to chop the logs out, owing to the presence of water and gas pipes above them, so they will be tunneled under for the sewer.

### THE PLUMB GENEALOGY.

An Elaborate Tabulated Return of a Prominent and Widely Scattered Family—Something that Historical Students Will Appreciate.

Something elaborate in the way of genealogy has just made its appearance from the pen of H. B. Plumb, Esq., and from the press of R. Baur & Son. It is the genealogy of the Plumb family covering the past two centuries and a half. The author in a preliminary note says that the first edition is necessarily imperfect and incomplete and he desires corrections sent either to him at Peely, Luzerne County, Pa., or to Hon. P. B. Plumb, Senator, Washington, D. C., for a future corrected and enlarged edition. He has about 800 names and believes there are as many more which he has not yet obtained. Mr. Plumb explains that he has been collecting data ever since 1849, and that he has been assisted in the printing by Senator Plumb, of Kansas, and Hon. Ralph Plumb, of Illinois. The work extends no further than to the children of men born previous to 1800. The whole material is tabulated in a manner original with Mr. Plumb. By means of reference figures it is easy to connect the relationships. For example, the author: Henry Blackman Plumb is recorded on page 18. He is in the 9th generation and is No. 244. He is a son of Charles Plumb, No. 234, who is a son of Jacob, 229, who is a son of Jacob, 149, who is a son of Waitstill John, 138, who is a son of Joseph, 65, who is a son of John, 54—etc., down to the first recorded, John, born in Connecticut about 1693. With each name is given in columns the generation, the genealogical number, date of birth, marriage and death, to whom married and age at time of death. There is also a wide margin with such descriptive remarks as the author cared to incorporate concerning the individuals.

Wherever any uncertain dates are given they are printed in smaller type, as is any other matter which is not proven by the records. A great deal of the matter has been obtained by Mr. Plumb from the original town and probate records in Connecticut and other States. His persevering and painstaking work in this direction can only be appreciated by persons who have at some time had occasion to delve in the musty archives of the past and among ancient burying grounds for similar information. He acknowledges much valuable assistance from kinsmen with whom he has been in correspondence. A good deal of data was furnished by his son, George H. B. Plumb, now of Minnesota,

whose tastes for genealogical and historical research run in channels similar to those of his father. Mr. Plumb does not expect to make any money out of his book. On the contrary he is like Dr. Hakes and will give it to every Plumb who has enough family pride to want one.

The Plumbs are Norman by descent and can be traced back over seven centuries. The first known in America was John Plumb, who can be traced to Watertown, Mass., 1635. The name was variously spelled Plumb, Plume, Plumb and Plumbe. Its early pronunciation seems to have been Plume.

Being a preliminary edition the book, or pamphlet, is bound in paper covers. It comprises 57 large pages, printed on one side only. Mr. Plumb certainly deserves credit for the feeling of family pride which has prompted him to the preserving from oblivion of so much valuable material and he ought to place his book in every historical library in the United States.

### The Democratic Nominees

The appended sketches from the *Leader* will furnish information as to the nominees of the county convention held Aug. 23, 1890.

#### STANLEY WOODWARD.

Judge Woodward was born in Wilkes-Barre 57 years ago, the son of George W. Woodward, an eminent jurist and chief justice of the Supreme Court of this State from 1863 to 1867. Had the county convention been held three days later Judge Woodward's second nomination would have come to him on the anniversary of his birth, August 29. He was appointed additional law judge by Gov. Henry M. Hoyt, to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Harding in the fall of 1879 and was nominated and elected to the same position for a term of ten years at the succeeding fall election in 1880.

#### JOHN B. REYNOLDS.

John B. Reynolds, the nominee for Congress, was born in Wilkes-Barre, in 1830, the son of E. W. Reynolds, who was at that time a merchant carrying on business in a store on South Main Street. The family removed to Kingston in 1858 and since that time Mr. Reynolds has resided there. He attended the common schools of Wilkes-Barre in his early childhood; later, the private school conducted by W. S. Parsons; was for several years a student at Wyoming Seminary, and afterward went to Lafayette College. After two years there his health partially failed and he came home without graduating. He read law with W. W. Lathrop, Esq., and was admitted to the Luzerne Bar November 15, 1873. He was for four years standing ex-

aminer of the Orphans' Court; in 1884 was a delegate to the Democratic State Convention at Allentown, and in 1888 a Presidential elector on the Democratic ticket. During the past four years his time has been principally occupied in securing the construction of the new river bridge, road and electric railway between this city and Kingston. In addition to these enterprises he is interested in the Kingston Electric Light Co., is a stockholder in the Kingston Times Publishing Co., and a member of the Kingston Borough Council.

JOHN S. MCGROARTY.

John S. McGroarty, who received the nomination for treasurer, was born in Foster Township, Aug. 20, 1862. His family removed to Miner's Mills two years later and since that time Mr. McGroarty has lived there. He was educated in the public schools at home, the Carbondale High School and Harry Hillman Academy. When 16 years of age he began teaching school and continued as a teacher for three years. He then served a year on the city department of the *Evening Leader*, and upon the accession of John Turnbach to the treasurer's office, Mr. McGroarty was appointed his deputy, in which position he served for three years. A service of eight months as outside superintendent of Coxe Bros. & Co.'s Buck Mountain Colliery was followed by another term on the *Leader* staff, after which he was appointed to the position which he now holds—deputy treasurer. In 1881-82 he was president of the Scranton Diocesan Union. When 21 years of age he was elected justice of the peace by the people of his borough, receiving his commission from Governor Pattison and serving five years. He owns a controlling interest in the *Nanticoke Sun* and is its editor.

PHILIP V. WEAVER.

Philip Velasco Weaver, candidate for register of Wills, is a native of this county, having been born in Black Oresk Township March 11, 1855. He received his early education from the public schools of his native township and was graduated from the Bloom-burg Normal School in 1874. He subsequently graduated from the law school of the University of Pennsylvania in 1878. He has since practiced law in the courts of this county, being located at Hazleton.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Thomas McGraw, one of the candidates placed in nomination for the office of county commissioner, was born in Salem Township May 2, 1832. He was educated in the common school of the township. Quite young in life he began his industrial career, and it

has been a more or less checkered one, having included boating, railroad construction, etc. In 1853 he was conductor on the D., L. & W. R. R. He had charge of work for the Pennsylvania Canal Co at one time and was lock-keeper for five years. He also had charge of the Nanticoke ferry for two years, worked on a farm eight years, and for the past eleven years has been engaged in the mercantile business at Beach Haven. He has been township auditor for fifteen years, has held the office of constable and supervisor, has frequently represented his district in county and district conventions, and was one of the conferrees who nominated Buckalew for Congress in the Eleventh District.

THOMAS M. DULLARD.

Thomas M. Dullard, who received the second nomination for commissioner, was born in County Durham, England, March 12, 1856, of Irish parentage. His family moved to this country in 1870 and located temporarily at Pittston with a brother of the candidate, afterward taking a residence at Plains and more recently coming to this city, where they reside at present. Thomas went to Illinois in the fall of 1870 and while there organized a local assembly of the Knights of Labor. He returned to the Wyoming Valley in 1870 and six years later at Plains organized the first branch of the Miners' and Laborers' Amalgamated Association in Luzerne County, he being chosen as its president.

W. E. BENNETT.

William Everett Bennett, candidate for auditor, is a native of Wilkes-Barre. He received a splendid education in his youth and subsequently was a clerk in Jordan's hat store, a position he held for many years. Fancying a more active life, he obtained a position on the Jersey Central R. R. a few years ago and started in as a brakeman. While serving in this latter capacity he met with an accident that nearly cost him his life, the huge scar of which he still carries on his forehead. Leaving the railroad he entered the employ of the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Co. as engineer at one of their breakers, a position he resigned when he entered upon the duties of the office, the same for which he is now named a second time, three years ago.

JOHN J. BRISLIN.

John J. Brislin, candidate for auditor, is a resident of Sugar Notch and is one of the auditors of the county, having been elected to that position three years ago. Subsequent to his election as an auditor he held the office of justice of the peace at Sugar Notch and was otherwise identified with the interests and welfare of the borough of which he is a resident.

**THE STORY OF FRANCES SLOCUM.**

**First Complete and Authentic Narrative—  
Much New Information Concerning a  
Historic Incident.**

The RECORD has several times mentioned the fact that John F. Meginness, the historian of the West Branch region, was about to publish a volume devoted to the biography of Frances Slocum, the Lost Sister of Wyoming. He has now issued the appended circular, which gives full particulars:

Nothing in all the annals of Indian history is sadder, more pathetic and impressive than the story, the captivity, life, wanderings and death, in 1847, of Frances Slocum. Carried away in 1778, when but five years of age, from her home which stood upon what is now the site of the city of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., she was adopted into an Indian family and grew up a child of the forest. On the return of peace her mother, brothers and sisters made every effort to find and recover her, but in vain, and she was lost to relatives and civilization for nearly sixty years. Finally, in 1835, she was accidentally discovered living in a cabin on the banks of the Mississinewa River, Indiana, as the widow of an Indian chief.

Although many fragmentary articles relating to her have been published in newspapers and magazines, nothing like a consecutive history of her life has ever been attempted. Within a few years it has been my good fortune to learn much concerning her that is new, to visit her burial place twice, and confer frequently with her descendants on the Wabash; and after more than a year of patient research, I am now prepared to give the result of my labors in book form early this fall, providing enough subscribers can be secured to cover the cost of publication.

It will treat of her ancestry, life, death and descendants; how she was discovered after the lapse of more than half a century, and the memorable meeting with her brothers and sisters, and final identification. The journal of Mrs. Bennett, who, in company with her brother, Joseph Slocum, and youngest sister, visited her in 1839; the treaty of 1838, when a section of land was reserved for her two daughters and the petition of Frances Slocum to Congress in 1845, praying that herself and Indian descendants may be exempted from removal west of the Mississippi; the joint resolution of Congress granting her request, and the eloquent remarks

thereon of Hon. Benjamin Bidlack, will be printed without abridgment.

Hon. Horace P. Biddle, the eminent retired jurist and author of Logansport, Indiana, has consented to contribute his recollections of Frances Slocum, George Winter, the English artist, who painted her portrait, and other contemporary characters.

The work will also contain a chapter devoted to Francis Godfrey, the last war chief of the Miami, whose descendants were also exempted by Congress from going west of the Mississippi when the same privilege was granted to Frances Slocum, and who was noted for his ability, dignity, kindness of heart, fidelity to friends and princely hospitality.

The relatives of the "Lost Sister," and other interested parties, have kindly promised me assistance in the way of documents and whatever information they may possess, so that I may be enabled to make the biography as full and complete as possible.

The book will be a handsome octavo, and a limited edition of only 300 copies will be printed, neatly bound, and furnished to subscribers for \$3; half morocco or calf, exquisitely ornamented, for presentation purposes, \$5. Address JOHN F. MEGINNESS, Williamsport, Pa.

**Valuable Historical Publication.**

The October issue of the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* completes volume 14, and a valuable compendium of history it is. It is made more valuable by an index, which for completeness has no superior, if any equal. One great difficulty in tracing historical subjects is the finding of names and places. In this publication such difficulty has been entirely overcome. The index is triple. The first is an index of subjects, the second of names, and the third of places. The index of subjects enables the reader to know exactly what particular history is covered by the volume. In the index of names, no name is so trivial or unimportant as to be omitted, and the searcher for genealogical and other data is not compelled to wade through scores of Smiths to find Abraham or Isaac or Jacob Smith, but finds each and every one properly indicated, with initials or Christian names. This is a feature which ought to be imitated by all genealogical writers or publishers. The index of places is also valuable. The completeness of the entire index is shown by the fact that it occupies 52 pages, two and three columns to the page. The *Register*, of which John Ward Dean, A. M., is editor, is published quarterly at 18 Somerset St., Boston, price \$3 a year.



**Curious Case of Hydrophobia.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** The following case of hydrophobia, occurring about 1809, is taken from an old unpublished autobiography. The owner of the slave was Col. John Gustin, of Augusta, N. J., then an estate, now the village of that name in Sussex County. It establishes the market value of an adult servant at that day, and is interesting as showing how hydr. phobia was treated at the beginning of this century. G. W. G. Miner's Mills, Pa.

"My father had a young negro he had recently bought for \$300. He was a bright, active boy about 16 years old. He used to go down to the store in the morning to awaken the clerk, who slept there. On one occasion he stood outside of the window, and after raising the sash amused himself by teasing a little black dog within the room. The latter, making a sudden spring, bit Cato severely in the eye brow. In retaliation, Cato killed the dog. Some days after the negro began chasing my brothers and myself around and pretending that he was mad. One morning he came down from his sleeping chamber and called out to my father, 'Master, I am mad, tie me before another fit comes on.' Not realizing the full import of this message, my father ordered him out of the house, but instead of going through the door, the boy sprang through a window near by. He was next found chasing the cattle and trying to bite them. Being pursued he was caught, knocked down with a club and tied to a long pole with his arms extended. In this way they brought him home and locked him in his room, which contained a large chimney with a fire place. From this he tore large stones and threw them with great force against the door. Becoming more docile between his paroxysms, he was led out and shut up in the stone smoke-house, he all the time pitously begging them to kill him before another fit came on. A physician shortly arrived who bled the boy freely, but before the bandages could be arranged, he again became frantic, and poor Cato was released from his sufferings by bleeding to death."

**Death of an Old Luzerne Man.**

Eliphalet Bulkeley died at his residence in Eureka, Cal., Aug. 16. Deceased was a native of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, aged 74 years and 7 months. Mr. Bulkeley came to Humboldt Bay in 1852, and has resided in this county most of the time since, having held many important positions, being sheriff from 1872 to 1876, and constable of Eureka Township for several terms. He leaves a wife, three daughters and two sons.—*Eureka (Cal.) Herald.*

**"The Winds Sigh of Autumn."**

The following anonymous poem appeared in a RECORD OF THE TIMES supplement many years ago and is so timely and beautiful, that the present management take pleasure in clipping it. We feel sure that our readers will enjoy its perusal and will be surprised to learn that the author was the then editor of the paper, William P. Miner, Esq. We say surprised, because he has never been known as a writer of verse. The first line begins with a quotation from a poem which his father, Charles Miner, the historian, was fond of recalling:

"The winds sigh of autumn" and mournfully sweet

It spreads on their wings a rich melody round;  
The trees bare their branches its kisses to meet,  
And softly the leaves drop to rest at the sound.

A short time has passed since the sephyr's of spring

Called forth the bright verdure of forest and lawn;

The bluebirds sang gaily while high on the wing,

The lark soared with gladness at first ray of dawn.

Then came the mild summer, the sunny days  
That swelled out the rosebud and ripened the grain,

When Sol lent the peach the bright hues of his rays

And promised the farmers a harvest of gain.

And now as we list to the Autumn wind's sigh,  
When dead leaves betoken the close of the year

We fancy the ghost of the Summer goes by,  
And drop to the memory of Spring time, a tear.

Our lives, like the seasons, have—first their green spring,  
Sweet season of youth when our hopes are all bright;

Then Summer and Autumn swift follow, and bring

A rest from our labors with Winter's long night.

**Death of William S. Slocum in the West.**

The RECORD has received a copy of a Mason City (Iowa) paper reporting the death on May 8 of William S. Slocum. Deceased was born at Tunkhannock, Pa., in 1816, and was a son of Isaac Slocum, who moved to Ohio in 1824. Deceased married Mary A. Knapp in 1837. By that marriage he had eight children, three of whom are still living: Mrs. Mary A. Niman, of Mansfield, Ohio; G. I. Slocum, of Albert Lea, Minn., and William A. Slocum, of Toronto, Canada. Mr. Slocum's life was spent mostly on the farm. He was enterprising and successful in whatever he engaged. On removing to Mason City he retired from farm life and was engaged in the real estate business and successfully managed for a number of years

a hotel. He was patriotic, philanthropic and a strong advocate of temperance. Last fall Mr. Slocum made an extensive trip East, visiting the old homestead in Pennsylvania and scenes of his boyhood in Ohio.

#### Death of Jesse Lines.

Jesse Lines, of Easton, died at his home in that city Tuesday at the advanced age of 83 years. Deceased was the father of Col. William E. Lines, of Plains, superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.'s collieries at that place. Jesse Lines was well known to the older residents of this city, and leaves many warm friends here. In 1849 he went to California and after being there some years returned with considerable money. In his earlier days he was also engaged in the lumber business with the late Isaac Ripple, of White Haven, under the firm name of Ripple & Lines. This was also a lucrative business, both members of the firm having made a snug fortune. He had been a resident of Easton for the past twenty years, and for some years was the landlord of the American Hotel of that place.

The *Easton Express* says: Mr. Lines was of German descent. His grandparents came from Holland and settled first in New Jersey, but subsequently removed to the Wyoming Valley in this State. It was here the now deceased's father was born, and while his father was yet a child his parents were compelled to desert their home and seek safety in the mountains from the savages, who were massacring the whites. The family existed for weeks on the milk of a cow they had taken with them and from the berries they could find.

Jesse Lines was born in Hanover Township, Luzerne County, on Aug. 11, 1809. His earlier years were passed at the old homestead, where but meagre educational facilities were obtainable. But he possessed in these early years the rare traits of character which serve to give us self-made men, and which are not overcome by ordinary obstacles; every opportunity was embraced with a determination to win and the little lad of Luzerne came out conqueror.

When he was still a young man Jesse Lines' parents took up their abode at White Haven, where his father built the first house. It still stands in the quarter familiarly known as "Lineville." The young man here entered the employ of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. and took an active part in the construction of the company's canal to tidewater. Later he engaged in transportation over the canal and in the lumber business.

#### A Wilkes-Barre Settler's Death.

James Courtright of this city, a few days ago received a telegram announcing the death of his brother-in-law, Edwin Williams, which sad event occurred on October 10th, at Homer, Ohio, and was the result of heart disease in some one of its various phases. Mr. Williams was a son of the late George W. Williams, an old-time substantial citizen of Plains, then Wilkes-Barre Township. He went West about forty years ago and settled on a fine farm near the village of Homer, where he continued to reside up to the time of his death, with the exception of the few years while serving as sheriff of the county, he lived at Newark, the county seat. The farm upon which Mr. Williams made his home was one purchased by his grandfather, Orandall Wilcox, after selling out his valuable coal property at Plains to John Searls early in the thirties, and has upon it one of the largest Indian mounds to be found anywhere in the western country, still remaining in its original form. When the Mexican war broke out he was among the first to enlist and served under Gen. Taylor in his victorious campaign on the lower Rio Grande, and was in the thickest of the fight at the capture of the Bishop's Castle, at the siege and taking of Monterey and the defeat of Santa Anna's invincible army at the decisive battle of Buena Vista. He was a genial and social companion, a kind neighbor and stood high in the estimation of the community in which he had made his home. He is survived by a widow, daughter of the late John Searls of Plains, and an interesting family of several sons and daughters settled near the parental home.

#### Noted in Public and Private Life.

Dr. James D. Strawbridge, of Danville, a surgeon and physician, who was well known in this city, died at his home on Saturday of apoplexy. His wife is a daughter of the late Steuben Butler, of this city, and a sister of C. E. Butler. Dr. Strawbridge was born in Montour County and graduated from Princeton College when 20 years of age, and three years later carried a medical diploma from the University of Pennsylvania. He served through the war as a surgeon and was confined in Libby prison three months, having been captured before Richmond while surgeon in the 18th Army Corps. He also served a term in Congress as a member of the House of Representatives. Between his service to the public he continued the practice of his profession. He was one of the most successful practitioners in the State and a good whole-souled man.

**DEATH OF A PROMINENT MAN.****A Prosperous Business Man Taken Off Suddenly at Harveyville.**

Those who were associated in a business relationship with A. N. Harvey and those who have known him for many years will be surprised to learn this morning that he died suddenly of heart disease Sunday night at his home in Harveyville. Mr. Harvey was eminently prosperous in business. He was a merchant, miller, stockraiser and for forty years was postmaster at Harveyville and was one of the prominent men in that region. The town may well and with great pride bear his name, for within its boundaries he was born April 4, 1827, almost 64 years ago. He was proprietor of the store and grist mill at the time of his death. Mr. Harvey was an enthusiastic Republican. He leaves a wife and four children—Benjamin, Crawford, Annie and Ruth. His loss will be sorely felt.

**THE LATE COL. HARVEY.****A Brief Review of His Life in This County.**

The funeral of the late Col. A. N. Harvey was held at Harveyville, this county, Friday, October 10, at his late residence. It was very largely attended and conducted by a number of prominent ministers and the Bloomsburg Masonic lodge, of which he was a member.

His sudden death has cast a gloom over the whole community where he has resided for so many years. The immediate cause of his death was heart disease, with other complications, no doubt hastened by the terrible cyclone, which caused great and sudden destruction to his property and to the entire village, where he has spent his whole life of over sixty years and to which he was devotedly attached. He was the head, the chief of every enterprise, overcoming all obstacles and removing each difficulty as it appeared with his great energy and determination. Few men in the quiet and retired places of this world are so constituted as to be able to wield so great an influence in a community as he has done. Possessed of a strong and vigorous constitution, a mind of unusual forethought and activity, a nature of sympathy and generosity, happy in relieving suffering to the full extent of his ability, frank and outspoken in all his opinions, he waited not for applause, or heeded any voice of censure when his judgment decided upon a course of conduct. All who were fortunate enough to receive his friendship, and who

have ever been welcomed to his home with his ever ready word of jovial, cheerful greeting, will ever remember the bountiful hospitality of his household and the kindness of each member of the family.

His love of home and his respect and affection for his honored father, Benjamin Harvey, induced him to spend his entire life in the picturesque village bearing his name, when his business abilities might well have enabled him to take a much wider field of business activity and a more prominent position in the busy, active world.

In the church he was an invaluable and decided leader in plans for its temporal prosperity and in the late years of his life he was very much interested in the annual camp meetings held in his neighborhood, always anxious for their highest success and with his broad and generous nature endeavoring to secure the greatest good to the greatest numbers. He was a life-long Republican, always entering into all political subjects with great interest and vigor, an intelligent and undaunted champion for his principles and opinions, a lover of his country, a friend of the soldier and a faithful advocate of all the interests pertaining to the perpetuation of equal rights for all.

His distress at the destruction of their church property at Harveyville was great, but with his usual energy he was anxious and active in planning for the restoration of the church and with new improvements. The last hours of his life were spent, although in severe pain, in dictating and directing measures for the rebuilding of the church. His faith in the atonement of Christ, and the reunion of friends in heaven was a cheering thought to him, and afforded him much comfort in parting with his four children, to whom he was devotedly attached. Religion with him was not a gloomy sentiment but an active, living principle, glowing with faith and hope, moving him to unusual interest in the welfare of the church. He was a most indulgent father, a true and loyal friend, a "good Samaritan" to all who were in distress. He was ever ready to respond to every call of suffering with unbounded sympathy and a free and hearty generosity seldom equaled.

Mr. Harvey was a prosperous and popular business man. He owned the largest flouring mill in the vicinity and a store of general merchandise. He was a successful stock raiser and had extensive farming interests, and for forty years he had the office of postmaster at Harveyville. He leaves a true and faithful wife, who most deeply mourns his loss, two sons, J. C. Harvey of Duluth, Minnesota, and Benj. J. Harvey, and two daughters, Emma and Ruth.

**DEATH OF AN AGED LADY.**

**One of the Oldest Residents of this City  
Passes Away.**

[Daily Record, July 10.]

After having stretched out a span of existence of about 85 years, 55 of which were passed in this city, Mrs. Charlotte E. Butler died at her home in this city early Tuesday evening. She was born in Arundel, England, when the nineteenth century was but a few years old. Her father, whose name was Peter Lane, died while she was yet of tender age and when 15 years old she crossed the ocean with her stepfather, Dr. A. Streeter, who settled in Hanover Township. After a few years' residence there Miss Lane came to this city and was united in marriage to William H. Butler, who had the honor of being a son of Gen. Zebulon Butler, whose fame spread itself over early Pennsylvania history. Mrs. Butler has by her long residence in this city been identified with its progress. She saw it when but a few houses scattered here and there marked the site upon which sprung a modern progressive city later on before her eyes. She had great force of character and was endowed with the happy faculty of becoming popular through an extensive friendship. She was a member of the Episcopal Church. The funeral will be held at the late residence, 124 South River Street, this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

**THE LATE MRS. BUTLER'S WILL.**

**She Leaves the Greater Portion of Her  
Estate to the Missionary Societies**

The will of the late Charlotte Butler was admitted to probate July 11.

After providing for the payment of her debts, etc., the following bequests were made:

To Harry Streater, of Luzerne, Oscoda County, Mich., \$2,000.

To the Wilkes-Barre City Hospital, a cherry book case and \$1,000.

To Hettv Wright, of Wilkes-Barre, \$500.

To the Hollenback Cemetery Association, \$200, in trust to apply on the improvement of decedent's lot.

To the rector, church warden and vestrymen of St. Stephen's Church, of Wilkes-Barre, \$500 for the poor fund of the church.

To D. S. B. Sturdevant, her plated tea set, ice urn and goblet and \$300.

To Edna Streater, daughter of Harry Streater, all her silverware marked "E" and one-half dozen silver forks marked "W. O. B."

To Elsa, daughter of Harry Streater, all her silverware marked "L," one half dozen

dozen silver forks marked "W. O. B.," and four silver table spoons.

To Anna Streater her gold watch, all the rest of her silverware and a set of china.

To Rev. H. L. Jones a china tea set, etc.

To the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society the old bull's-eye watch formerly belonging to her father and four volumes of the *Art Journal*.

To Timothy Parker four large pictures in oil.

All the remainder of her property, real and personal is to be converted into money and divided into three equal parts as follows:

One-third to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States for domestic missions.

One-third to the trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary and High School in Virginia, for the use of the seminary.

The remaining third to the American Church Missionary Society, to be used in domestic missions.

This will is dated 1 May, 1886, and witnessed by F. W. Wheaton and George H. Fisher.

To this is attached a codicil dated 31 May, 1886, in which she disposes of various articles of household goods and furniture to a number of persons. It is signed by deceased and witnessed by George H. Fisher and Ann Bowen.

**The Late Doctor Wilson.**

The Record has already reported the death of Dr. Charles H. Wilson, which occurred, July 2, in Nebraska City. The *Press* of that city gives the following particulars:

Deceased was born in Pennsylvania August 17, 1835. He was educated at Williams College, Mass., and graduated in his chosen profession at the Pennsylvania Medical College in Philadelphia. He entered the U. S. service in 1861 as assistant surgeon of 110th Regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, and was soon after promoted to surgeon of the Forty-ninth Regiment with which he served until it was mustered out in 1865. He has resided in Nebraska City for the past two and a half years, was prominent in Grand Army circles, and a member of the military order of the Loyal Legion as well as of the Masonic fraternity. He leaves a wife and five children, and is a brother of Col. W. L. Wilson. The funeral services will be conducted by Rev. T. K. Hunter, of the Presbyterian Church, of which the doctor was a member.

## AN AGED FAMILY.

**A Lady Who Came to this Valley Seventy Years ago.**

In another column is noted the death of Mrs. Julia DeWitt at Pittston on Tuesday. Mrs. DeWitt comes from a remarkable family in point of ancestral longevity. Had she lived until October she would have been 95 years of age. Her father when he died was 106 years old, and her mother 96 years. Deceased was born in Smithfield Township, Monroe County, and came to Wyoming Valley more than 70 years ago. She and her husband John DeWitt, (who died when 90 years of age) first settled above Parsons, near what is now Laurel Run, when the county about here was but a wilderness. They established their rude settlement in the forest and battled with circumstances that have years ago been supplanted by a more advanced civilization. They observed the numerous cities and towns springing up in the valley, and the transformation of the waste into thrifty settlements.

Mrs. DeWitt was one of a family of eleven children, eight of whom are living—John of Wilkes-Barre, James of Kingston, tipstaff in the Luzerne County court; Charles of Pittston, Andrew of California, Ziba of New York, and the following widow ladies now residing in Forty Fort: Mrs. Hulda Jackson, Mrs. Parmelia Hutchins, and Mrs. Mary Bevans. The three daughters who died are Louise, who resided at White Haven, and Rose and Eilen, who lived in Plains. Mrs. DeWitt resided with her sons in this city and Kingston for three years until about three months ago, when she went to live with her son who resides in Pittston, at whose home she died. She was the oldest member of the Kingston Presbyterian Church.

The funeral took place Thursday afternoon with services in the old Forty Fort Church, conducted by Rev. H. E. Welles, and interment in Forty Fort Cemetery.

**Death of Josiah Lewis.**

After a fortnight's prostration and after a gradual decline of a year or two Josiah Lewis passed to his final rest on July 11 at his home on North Street. Mr. Lewis would have been 76 years old in October next, had he lived. He sustained a hemorrhage of the brain two weeks ago, since which time he has lain in a stupor, with only occasional moments when he was able to recognize the members of his family. Immediately after the stroke he retained his faculties

for a few hours, but only for a few. He said that the sensation was as if something had exploded in his head. Mr. Lewis was one of the substantial business men of this community and he leaves an estate that will not fall far short of two hundred thousand dollars. He was a man of genial disposition, of energy and of the strictest integrity. He was often called to settle estates, and in his hands every interest intrusted to him was absolutely safe. Mr. Lewis leaves a wife, a son and a daughter. His wife is Arabella, whose father was George Chahoon; the son is George Chahoon Lewis, and the daughter is Mary, wife of L. H. Gross, of Allentown.

Deceased, who was a native of Kingston, was (on account of bearing the same name as his father) for many years known as Josiah Lewis, Jr., as shown by old newspaper files, Council minutes, etc. Some 50 years ago he was engaged in the tannery business with William Bowman, on the Bowman property on North Street between Memorial Church and Main Street. Then for a term of years he was in the leather trade on the Public Square until he was burned out in the great fire which swept over this locality in 1855. Of late years he has not been in active business, his large and growing estate requiring his entire attention.

The building now occupied by the Record was the property of his brother, the late Sharp D. Lewis, of whose estate Josiah was executor at the time of his death. Mr. Lewis' parents came to Luzerne County from Philadelphia in 1805. His grandfather, William Lewis, was one of the most distinguished Philadelphia lawyers of his day. There is in the possession of the family his commission as judge of the United States District Court, dated 1791, and bearing the signatures of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin.

**Funeral of Josiah Lewis.**

Those who looked upon the face of Josiah Lewis Monday, July 14, as he lay in his coffin could scarcely realize that he was dead, so life-like were his features. There was not a trace of wasting or suffering. Rev. H. E. Hayden read the service, and the singing was by a quartet from St. Stephen's. The honorary pall bearers were William P. Miner, L. D. Shoemaker, F. V. Rockafellow, Weeley Johnson, F. J. Leavenworth and C. Brahl. The carriers were C. P. Hunt, T. S. Hillard, H. H. Harvey, A. H. McClintock, G. R. Bedford and Ira M. Kirkendall. There were some beautiful floral tributes. The attendance on the part of the business men of the city was conspicuously large. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### A Pioneer Mother Recalled.

The German paper, *Well Hote*, has a biographical sketch of Mother Kester, one of the heroic women of the last century, who adorned the pioneer life of Eastern Pennsylvania. She was born about 1778, maiden name Polly Heesler. While about 2½ years old, the entire family were taken prisoners by the Indians. This was during the Revolutionary War, in Buffalo Valley, on the West Branch of the Susquehanna, now Union County. Her parents' names were John and Susannah Heesler, and the children were William, John, Jacob, Polly, Lizzie and Catherine, and on the way through the wilderness to Canada little Catherine was cruelly murdered and scalped by the savages. Polly narrowly escaped a similar fate. The Indian who had to carry her determined to put his little burden out of the way and had raised his hatchet to brain her, when a kind squaw, Pocahontas-like, threw herself upon the child and turned the murderous blow aside. But the child received a scalp wound which she bore to her dying day.

The father succeeded in making his escape, at which the red fiends vented their rage all the more heavily upon the remaining captives. After being prisoners three years, the Revolutionary War having closed, the family were given their liberty and they made their way to Shamokin, near Northumberland County, Pa. One child, John, had become so attached to the Indians that he chose to remain a child of the forest himself. The father, who never expected that his wife would survive her captivity, married again and had children. The mother, on her return to Pennsylvania, heard nothing of her husband, and believing him to have perished in the wilderness, married again. From this marriage came the well known Trexler family of Lehigh County.

Polly Heesler, then a young woman of 20 found her way to Whitehall, Lehigh County, where she had friends, and there, in 1800, or thereabouts, she married George Philip Kester. Polly became the mother of 20 children, of which six were twins. Of the twenty only seven grew up—Jonas, John, Daniel, Peter, Joseph, Hannah and Sarah. Of these only one—Hannah—is living now. The writer of the narrative, J. C. Andrews, of Berlinville, says he remembers as a child when Mother Kester went to visit his parents and narrate the story of her captivity. She was an expert with the spinning wheel and the little lamp

by whose flickering light she prepared the flaxen thread for making homespun is still cherished by the family as a precious heirloom.

Mother Kester died in 1851 and was buried at Cherryville, Northampton County, in the church yard of St. Paul's, or the "Indian Church."

#### The Worth of the Antiquarian.

The death of so indefatigable a student of past and contemporaneous history as Steuben Jenkins is a striking event and arouses interest in his especial field of work. As an antiquarian and a collator of historical facts pertaining to this section of country Mr. Jenkins is second only to our Dr. Hollister of the Providence suburb. Both have done great work in their several lines. Mr. Jenkins, as an historian and as a collector of relics, illustrating the history of the past, has stood prominent in past years and his work will remain as part of the history of the valley of Wyoming and the vale of the Lackawanna, wherein great deeds were performed in the most troublous time. Dr. Hollister remains to continue the record.

It is worth while, in noticing the death of Steuben Jenkins, to consider the value of the work of the antiquarian. He helps to preserve the records. He sustains the traditions of a locality; he hands down to futurity the succinct records of the past. He gathers unconsidered trifles in matters of history and of fact, is an important factor in the social life of a community, and when a man like Steuben Jenkins passes into the hereafter there is cause for regret.

But for such men as Dr. Hollister, Steuben Jenkins, Rev. Abel Barker, O. I. A. Chapman and Rev. Dr. Craft of Wyalusing there would be little left for the general public to feast their memories upon in the facts and incidents of the past, locally considered.

The death of Mr. Jenkins creates a void that cannot be filled unless the efforts of his life are properly collated for the use of the general public:

Historic interest is widespread and the facts gathered by the antiquarian are of the most important. His interest pertains to localities and deserves especial attention because it has local interest. The gatherer, the collator of local history merely gets the credit that belongs to him. The death of Steuben Jenkins gives point to this fact. He gave his life to this end and he has erected to himself a monument that will live forever—more enduring than brass or marble. He has written the best efforts of his life on the pages of local history which will be forever preserved.—*Seranton Truth*.

# The Historical Record

VOL. IV.

No. 2

## CHAPTERS OF WYOMING HISTORY.

### **More Stirring Incidents in the Life of Thomas Bennet—Indian and Pennamite Depredations in the Vale of Wyoming.**

Comfortably ensconced in a pillowed arm chair, with a warm hearth before him, the reader of this series of articles can form no idea of the hardships in the lives of those pioneers who lived on and near the site of this city over a hundred years ago. A hut for a mansion, a wooden stool for an arm chair, a few burning logs in the hearth, a pallet of straw for a bed, a forest of pines and hemlocks resonant with the whistling winds about him—instead of a forest of handsome residences—perchance a band of murderous savages for his midnight visitors instead of the company of cheerful companions—these are the contrasting conditions through which Thomas Bennet has lived and we are now living.

At the conclusion of the last article on the life of Thomas Bennet the Pennamites had again been routed and the tide turned in favor of the New England settlers. Mr. Bennet's double log house was comfortably kept by his good wife and faithful daughter Martha, and plenty crowned all their efforts. Wolves, bears, beavers and raccoons were frequently seen in the forests about them and it needed but the crack of Bennet's rifle to fill the larder with venison.

There are but few who have not heard of the famous expedition of the Pennamite, Col. Plunkett, which was made about this time—December, 1775. It was the beginning of the end and was among the last efforts of the proprietary government to dispossess the Yankee settlers in Wyoming, but it was a terrible, a cruel war. The first act in that bloody drama was this expedition of Col. Plunkett and his men in the year and month mentioned above. The settlers got wind of the impending invasion and prepared as best they could to meet the party of marauders. A majority of them built a fort at the narrows, near Nantlooko, while others, among the number being Thomas Bennet and son, defended the fort just below Plymouth. For two weeks Bennet was stationed here and subsisted on the provisions sent him by his wife and daughter, driving the team themselves. Plunkett met with a warm reception. When he attempted to

cross the river in a boat with some of his men unprotected a few dozen good Yankee flint lock rifles were leveled at them and their vaunted courage forsook them. The prow of the boat was turned and the greatest energy displayed by them during the day was when they paddled for the opposite shore. Lieut. Stewart's Yankees were too much for them. Plunkett reported to headquarters that the season was far advanced, the river was filled with ice and advised an abandonment of the war for the year.

And now the Pennamites were allied with the Indians and both appeared upon the scene to harrass the Yankees, as will be disclosed in the course of the narrative.

Two years of comparative peace reigned in the settlements, when the harbinger of another war came up the river in the fall of 1777 in the person of Queen Esther, with a dozen or more Indians. The queen, at this time, was old and infirm, but she was still revered by the redskins almost as sincerely as they revered the Manitou or keeper of the happy hunting grounds. She encamped near the residence of Mr. Bennet on what was known as Shoemaker's Creek, and Mrs. Bennet and Martha were wont to visit her frequently during their stay. She took a great liking to the paleface women, and secretly communicated to them the fact that an Indian invasion was being planned and the lives of the settlers were in imminent danger. When she left the valley she shed tears of pity for these Yankee women she learned to love.

Her admonition was only too true. A few weeks after she left the news of Indian depredations reached the ears of the men as they were working in the fields and forests, and preparations were made without delay to place the forts in readiness and guard against nocturnal surprises. In June of the following year several horses were stolen from Bennet, and when the men went in search of them, thinking that perhaps they had broken loose and escaped, the twigs and branches in the woods were noticed to be broken in a peculiar manner and not a few prints of moccasins were noticed on the leaves. The thought flashed across them that the Indians were close at hand and preparations were begun anew not to meet them empty handed. Soon a few redskins were seen skulking about the outer settlement, then the two Hardings were

killed and then about July 1, the settlers inhabited the fort.

A fatal mistake now marked the deliberations of the people in the fort and one that caused the sacrifice of many lives, which probably might have been saved had wisdom instead of impatience guided the courage of the men. A majority of the men, with Captain Lazarus Stewart in the lead, were for leaving the fort and fighting Colonel Butler and his Indians on the plains. This determination was strengthened by the expectation of two parties of reinforcements under Captain Spaulding and Captain Franklin. The remnant of those in the fort were for delaying the attack until the recruits were within sight, but their remonstrances were set at naught, and one July morning the door of the fort was thrown open, the band of pioneers marched out with colors flying and drums beating, and soon were lost to sight amid the forest, bound for the open plains.

The men were impressed with the idea that the conquest would be easy, and the Indians would forever leave the country when confronted with such a well-organized force. Mr. Bennet, although he marched with the attacking party, was sanguine of defeat and was free to express his thoughts. He was so certain that they would be cut off that he refused to go any further than a mile from the fort, while his son Solomon went on.

No human being can conjure up with most vivid hues of fevered imagination the terrible anxiety of mothers and daughters for their husbands and fathers on that bloody battle field. Ever and anon the crack of the rifle resounded against the neighboring hills and the faint shouts and war whoops of friend and foe in exultation and in death racked the nerves and broke the heart strings of the anxious listeners. All the next day the suspense remained unbroken, and the weeping women endured an anguish that will only be compensated when wars have ceased, and a universal peace reigns o'er the earth—the peace of sterility.

It was late the next afternoon when Solomon Bennet rushed into the fort and detailed the story of his escape with the news of the terrible slaughter.

A week later the houses of the settlers were fired simultaneously and the people in the block house saw their houses burned to the ground. Mrs. Bennet and a few other of the women went to the field of battle and identified some of the men, whose bodies by this time were decaying under the hot midsummer sun.

Peace was again promised for a time. Martha Bennet was young and ambitious and when Col. Denison prepared to move to Sunbury she asked the consent of her parents to accompany him so that she might

earn another wardrobe, for her clothes had all been consumed in the conflagration. Her request was granted, Thomas Bennet, her father, and two brothers went to Sunbury, and E.quire Pearce offered to take care of Mrs. Bennet and child until the father's return. "Go along, gal," said Mr. Pearce, "and I'll take care of mother and child!" At Sunbury Martha met quite a number of Wyoming people, and formed an intimate friendship with Desdemona Marshall, the great-grand-mother of the wife of Judge Rhone of this city.

But peace was of short duration. E. T. C.

#### CHAPTER 4 OF WYOMING HISTORY.

**Thomas Bennet is Captured by the Indians and has a Hairbreadth Escape From the Medusas—The Journey of the Family and Final Scenes and Incidents**

In the last chapter of this series the settlers of Wyoming had just freed themselves for a time of the terrible anxiety caused by the reappearance of the Indians and the Pennamites. The decisive battle had been fought on the plains above Wilkes-Barre, the dead had been buried, the wounded cared for, and the settlers rested from the conflict. It was a battle to the death and many a prayer ascended from those primitive forest homes that such scenes might never again be repeated. It will be remembered that Martha Bennet had gone with the family of Colonel Denison to Sunbury for the double purpose of lightening the burden of her father in Wyoming and of providing herself with a new wardrobe, her costumes having all been consumed in the conflagration that leveled many of the settlers' homes. But she soon became homesick and when she heard that a party was being organized to traverse the wilderness to Stroudsburg, she resolved to become one of the number in the hope of finding some way of rejoining her father, mother and brothers. A small cart and a yoke of steers was the only means of conveyance they had to take them over this rough route and as there were a number of children in the party, Miss Bennet and some other girls made up their minds to walk. A hundred long miles of wilderness marching lay before them, but the girls were not used to sitting by a comfortable hearth with all the comforts of an advanced civilization at their command, perchance reveling in the latest sensational novel. Moreover, they were courageous, brave girls—worthy daughters of the sturdy pioneer settlers, rocking dully only when it came. Miss Bennet used to tell her children long years after that she walked until her feet were so sore



that they left tracks of blood wherever she stepped. Three days and three nights went by, during which time they took fitful rests of slumber in the open air or in such buildings as they happened to come across, until they arrived at Stroudsburg. The girls during part of the time outstripped the rest of the party, and at one time were lost in the woods. They saw tracks of Indian moccasins on the leaves and secreted themselves in an abandoned building until their companions in travel came in sight.

At Stroudsburg Martha met her mother and sister, who had come from Wyoming to meet her with a company. They went from place to place—Easton, Bethlehem, Canaan and Litchfield among the rest, remaining with friends until the fall of that year, when Solomon Bennet came from Wyoming to take his mother and sisters back with him. The family was reunited after two years of separation. Thomas Bennett had fixed up one of Sullivan's old barracks just opposite Wilkes-Barre and made it as habitable as possible for his family. Here they lived for a time in peace. The harvest of the year before was scanty and the settlers were in desperate straits for food. Finally a "hominny block" was set up in the settlement, and here the pioneers took their turn in grinding out meal for their subsistence—a rude and slow process indeed compared with the present method of preparing the meal for the staff of life.

An incident now occurred in the life of Bennet which reads like a novel. It was by far the most exciting of his varied experiences in the virgin forests of America and one which came very near costing him his life. The cleared land in the settlement on the flats just opposite Wilkes-Barre had all been taken by some of the settlers and Mr. Bennet found a plot a little further up at the junction of Mill Creek with the Susquehanna, outside of the cover of the fort. He constructed a rude tenement close by the fields and proceeded to plow and cultivate it with his son Andrew. His good wife cautioned them each morning before they left to guard themselves against the wary redskins and they took with them such implements of defense as they had in their possession. Nothing unusual excited their suspicions when they commenced to plow the soil on the morning of March 27, 1780, and the day was unusually fair, but rather cold. The son Andrew rode the horse while Mr. Bennet guided the plow. A few furrows had been made in the field when suddenly the horse shied as it approached a deep thicket by the side of the field. The two held a hasty consultation, but decided to proceed with their work, using, however, more caution than before. The length of the field

was again plowed, but when they approached the same place the horse again reared up and jumped to one side. The alarm was only too well founded. From the forest rang the dreaded war whoop and four Indians sprang from the forest. Mr. Bennet and his son were prisoners. They were hurried through the wood and marched until night overtook them, when two more Indians were met who had Libbeus Hammond, another settler, as a prisoner. The chill March air, said Bennet afterwards, froze them to the marrow. He was a severe sufferer with rheumatism and knew not how to ease the almost excruciating pain he experienced. Then again it was night,—night in a forest, surrounded by murderous savages, who any moment might summon their prisoners to run the gauntlet of their devilish tortures. A fire was kindled and the band sat around the crackling branches, the Indians keeping a watchful eye on their captives. The two Bennets and Hammond were allowed to converse with each other and the conversation drifted to planning some means of escape. The words of Hammond did not ring very musically in the Bennets ears when he informed them that this was the same band of Indians who tortured a Mr. Boyd some time before by tearing out his eyes, splitting his tongue and finally adorning a belt with his scalp. These must have been pleasant thoughts with which to lull their tired brains into unconsciousness.

The fourth night of their captivity was settled upon as the time for striking a decisive blow. It was an only chance for life and liberty and no risks were too great to take at this time. As was the custom, the Indians papoosed their prisoners to prevent their escape; that is, they were sufficiently bound with ropes made of twigs to allow the passing of a pole through their arms. An Indian slept on each end of the pole, so that if their captives made any move it would disturb the redskins. This done, fresh sticks were thrown on the fire and the savages threw their blankets over their heads and went to sleep. One old fellow acted as sentinel and tended to the fire.

About midnight Bennet complained of feeling sick and asked leave to rise and walk about. He gave such evidence as was understood that his sickness demanded that he should rise, but a savage, roused from his slumber, answered him by saying, "Lie down dog; most day." His pleading was at last successful and the prisoners were allowed to get up and walk about. The Indians were all soon snoring but the old watchman, who kept up his spirits by sticking a deer's head into the fire, scraping off the toasted pieces of flesh and eating it.

Andrew busied himself by hunting dry sticks and placing them upon the fire, while his father and Hammond stationed themselves near the stack of muskets and sneaked such tomahawks as they could lay their hands on while the watchdog was occupied in eating his frugal meal.

The old Indian had a good stomach and evidently was not much troubled with insomnia. The early breakfast had a soothing effect upon his nerves, soon his head began to nod—now came a snore and then a grunt—and in a half an hour he was asleep.

The time was opportune. The Indians numbered six, the whites three, and the chances to be taken were desperate. Hammond cautiously lifted the axe by which he had been standing, Andrew unstacked the guns, while Bennet still kept on poking the brands of the fire. The latter, when certain that he was not observed, moved with great caution towards the sleeping sentinel and, picking up a war spear by his side, hid it under his great coat and manoeuvred about until he got behind him. Then he pointed the spear with unerring aim and plunged it through the back of the savage.

The massacre was begun. With a tremendous yell the Indian jumped up and fell on the fire. The alarm was given. The forests again rang with the war whoop and the conflict raged furiously. Bennet grabbed a gun and axe and Andrew was armed with two tomahawks. One old warrior who the night before gloated over the manner in which he had tortured Boyd, yelled out "Chee-woo, chee-woo" and sprang at Hammond, who met him with an uplifted axe and buried it in his head. Andrew was rather unfortunate. His gun was damp and refused to go off, but he kept the Indians dodging from right to left until Hammond and the elder Bennet settled the question with their knives and the breach of a gun, which had been clubbed and with which more than one savage spirit was winged to the eternal hunting ground.

The savages fought like demons. Their eyes fairly blazed and they rushed about with desperation and the awful fate that hung over them incited them to herculean efforts. But Providence seemed on the side of the settlers. The battle was not long, but its counterpart can only be found in savage warfare. The soil was covered with blood, the corpses of five Indians lay stretched by the fire and the two who were yet alive took to their heels and tracked the forests towards the north. The victory was complete. Bennet had learned to throw a tomahawk with as much precision as a redskin and came in for a good share of the honors of the night.

Now began the march for home. Hammond found Boyd's sword among the weapon's and took it with him as a memento. The three took blankets to protect themselves from the cold, guns and ammunition and started through the forest.

Imagine the happiness of Mrs. Bennet and Martha when the three men walked into the house a few days later. They were well nigh dead from exposure. Bennet's feet were frozen and several of his toes dropped off, so severe was his suffering. He limped about on crutches for a year afterwards. The women, however, nursed the sufferers back to health.

Thus time wore on. Mr. Bennet and his family remained for another year under cover of the fort and then moved a little further down the river. Here their house was swept away by the flood and for some weeks they camped out in the open air until Solomon, Andrew and the father could construct another habitation. Once or twice after that they were visited by the Indians and Pennamites, but they were not the kind of people who easily become discouraged, and stuck out their determination to make their home in the Valley of Wyoming. Finally the Yankee-Pennamite war, which has formed so many annals in Pennsylvania history, was settled by compromise and peace reigned henceforth. Andrew Bennet married and lived in Kingston, and his descendants are yet titled landholders in this region.

This series of historical sketches, brought to mind by the life of Thomas Bennet, is now at an end. Who will not say that they are of the most exciting in Wyoming history? But they are merely some of the incidents of these turbulent times. Others will follow.

#### Two Rare Books on the Pennamite War.

There is in the State Library at Harrisburg a rare little volume of 47 pages relating to the Pennsylvania-Connecticut strife for the Wyoming region in the last century. It is entitled "The Rights of the Governor and Company of the Colony of Connecticut." Printed at Hartford, 1773.

Another rare contribution to the same controversy, also in the State Library, is a series of letters reprinted from the *Western Star*, entitled, "The Susquehanna Title Stated and Examined." The latter were written by Barnabas Bidwell, although published anonymously.

Where was the *Western Star* published?

—Dr. Charles Brundage, a son of M. S. Brundage of Conyngham Township, father of Dr. F. M. Brundage of Conyngham, and brother of Asa B. Brundage of this city, died at his home in Illinois on Saturday. He practiced medicine in Conyngham from 1848 to 1860.

**DEATH OF ABRAM H. REYNOLDS.**

One of the Most Respected Citizens of Kingston and a Member of One of the Oldest Families in the Valley Passes Away.

Abram H. Reynolds is dead. After months of suffering and weeks of semi-consciousness, he passed peacefully away at 1 o'clock Thursday, Dec. 4, 1890, painlessly, as if in a deep slumber. At the last he was surrounded by his physicians and heart-broken family, who, though unmeasurably distressed, were not unprepared for the end, as it had been known for days and even weeks that he was nearing the end of a well spent life. Never since suffering the stroke of paralysis in August last had he shown any of his old time vigor of body or mind, although at times he seemed improving. During the last few weeks of his illness he was confined to his room, and of late none were able to understand his wants save his daughter Emily, who has been constantly at his side.

The whole active life of the deceased has been spent in this community. He probably had a wider acquaintance in this valley thirty years ago than any other man at that time. The leading characteristic of his life was stability. He was always regarded as an exceptionally safe business adviser and friend and his advice was sought far and wide. While not aggressive in business, he always had the courage of his convictions and always worked hard for the success of any project in which he was engaged. Until his attack of illness in August last, he showed few traces of advancing years and his later acquaintances will no doubt be surprised to learn that he was 71 years old. He had the elastic step and erect bearing of a young man and his senses of sight and hearing as also his mental faculties had not been impaired in the slightest degree. His moral character was above reproach, and his word was as good as his bond.

Abram H. Reynolds was born in Plymouth July 14, 1819. Of his parents *Kulp's Families of Wyoming Valley* has the following to say:

"Benjamin Reynolds, the son of David, was born in Plymouth, Pa., Feb. 4, 1780. He was sixth in descent in line of James of Plymouth, Mass. (David 5, William 4, James 3, James 2, James 1, 1643). In the female line he was descended from James Greene of Rhode Island, the ancestor of Gen. Nathaniel Greene. Benjamin Reynolds was one of the prominent men of Plymouth. For many years he held the office of justice of the peace and was elected sheriff of the county in 1831. As

a friend to the cause of education and religion he did much during a long and useful life toward the promotion of its interests in his native village. In 1800 he married Lydia Fuller, a descendant of the Mayflower family of that name, three of her ancestors having been members of the company of Puritans who landed on Plymouth Rock in 1620. She was seventh in the line of Edward (Joshua 6, Joseph 5, Joseph 4, John 3, Samuel 2, Edward 1.) The last two were of the Mayflower. In another line she was descended from Rev. John Lothrop, who, fleeing from the oppression of Archbishop Land, came to America in Winthrop's company. Benjamin Reynolds died in Plymouth Feb. 23, 1854. The children of Benjamin Reynolds and Lydia Fuller Reynold\*, his wife, were William O. Reynolds, father of Sheldon Reynolds, of the Luzerne Bar; Hannah, wife of Andrew Bedford, of Waverly, Pa., the mother of George B. Bedford, of the Luzerne Bar; Chauncey A. Reynolds, the father of the late Lazarus Dennison Reynolds, of the Luzerne Bar; Elijah W. Reynolds, father of John B. Reynolds, of the Luzerne Bar; J. Fuller Reynolds, father of H. B. Reynolds, of the Luzerne Bar; Clara Reynolds; Emily, wife of E. B. Tubbs, M. D., of Kingston, and Abram H. Reynolds."

Of these the only surviving member is Mrs. B. H. Tubbs of Kingston.

Deceased received his education in the common schools of Plymouth and afterwards graduated at Dickinson College. He afterwards became a clerk in his brother's store in Plymouth. The two brothers a little later opened a large general store in Kingston near the site of the present family residence and this store constituted the only large business place in Kingston for many years. During the administration of Buchanan he was postmaster of Kingston and for several years secretary and treasurer of the old Lackawanna & Bloomsburg R. R., before its purchase by the D. L. & W. E. R. For many years he has been a consistent and honored member of the Presbyterian Church and during much of that time a trustee and treasurer.

In 1862 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Hoyt, daughter of Ziba Hoyt and sister of ex-Governor Hoyt, at the old homestead which stood on what is now known as Goose Island. For many years preceding his death he was engaged in the business of buying and selling coal with an office in Kingston.

He is survived by his wife and three children—Charles H., aged 27; Emily, aged 18, and Herbert, aged 16 years.

He was laid at rest on Saturday afternoon. The funeral services were held from his late residence on Wyoming Ave., King-

too, at 3 o'clock, and were largely attended. The friends were permitted to view the body which reposed in a solid oaken casket draped with drab broadcloth. The floral tributes were exceedingly beautiful. The services, which were brief, consisting of a prayer and Scripture reading, were conducted by Revs. von Krug and H. H. Welles. The pall bearers were all nephews of the deceased, P. Butler Reynolds and B. B. Tubbs of Kingston, G. Murray Reynolds and Sheldon Reynolds of Wilkes-Barre, and Andrew P. Bedford and Harry Reynolds of Scranton. The interment at Forty Fort Cemetery was private. Among the many present from out of town were: Mrs. Chauncey Reynolds and daughters, of Florence, Alabama; Mrs. Fuller Reynolds and family of Green Ridge, James P. Dickson of Scranton, and Mr and Mrs. Sterling Bedford of Abington.

The following lines are from the pen of Dr. George Urquhart of this city, who knew Mr. Reynolds for half a century:

Mr. Reynolds was about 72 years of age and began his business activities in Kingston about 50 years ago. Nature created him for a gentleman; and while he combined in his temperament a blending of the best vital motives and mental characteristics, integrity, self-respect, and kindness of heart were not less strongly marked.

He disregarded the dictates of popular clamor, and pursued in private life that course which will secure to him the approbation, respect and confidence of the community in which he lived. In his manner and address he was dignified and self-possessed; and although reticent and self-contained in his nature, he was always in earnest sympathy with the right. Thoroughly practical in his views, he had firm convictions, and the conservatism of his composition never permitted an unwise or rash act.

In private life that manliness of deportment which characterized him in public found its most complete expression, and in the bosom of his family his genial and kindly nature ever found its highest happiness.

His life is a fit example of the cordial virtues of uprightness, of frugality, of honesty, simplicity and exhibits the practical workings of a successful, sincere and dignified career.

#### Settlers at Fort Blanchard.

The Blanchard family, from whom Fort Blanchard derived its name, has lived there about one hundred years. E. S. Blanchard, who now resides there, is a grandson of Jeremiah Blanchard, who had charge of the fort on the east side of the river at the time of the Wyoming massacre. The Hodgdon

family, who are now the proprietors of the old Fort Blanchard Hotel, came there about 60 years ago. What is called the Plank Road, and which leads to the place was opened about 40 years ago.

#### The Late Mrs. Cady.

The following data concerning the late Mrs. Cady have been prepared for the Record, the death of so well known a lady seeming to call for something more than the brief mention which was made at the time:

Mrs. Henry Cady was born in Luzerne County January 25, 1811, and was a daughter of the late Dr. Charles F. J. Christel. Her early years were spent in Wilkes-Barre, where she formed the acquaintance of and married the late Col. Henry Cady, a prosperous contractor. Shortly after their marriage they moved to B. Chester, N. Y., and after the retirement of Col. Cady from active business they moved to Hanover County, Va. Mrs. Cady was a remarkably well preserved woman for her years, and while visiting Wilkes-Barre she was stricken with heart failure and after lingering for three weeks she died.

About three years ago she purchased a beautiful tract of land in Takoma Park, a thriving suburb of Washington, D. C., and erected thereon the handsomest villa in that pretty suburb. Her death occurred in Shickshinny at 6 p. m., Sunday, June 13, 1890. The funeral services were held at Wilkes-Barre and the interment was in the family plot at Rock Creek Cemetery, Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Cady was a sister of the late Mrs. A. C. Laning and a cousin of Mrs. G. W. Search, of Shickshinny, at whose home she died. She is survived by two children—Mr. Mary Becker and Henry Cady. Her father was an old time medical practitioner in lower Luzerne and later kept a well known hotel in Wilkes-Barre, the Wyoming, on South Main Street, on the site of which the present Christel Block is erected. Dr. Christel was prominent in local politics and for a time edited a German paper in Wilkes-Barre.

Those who knew Mrs. Cady during the declining years of her life were much impressed with her intelligence, activity and serenity of mind and disposition. Up to the hour of her death almost her faculties were clear and bright, and those who saw her penmanship were surprised with its regularity and distinctness. Throughout her whole life she had great talent for business, and in some of the last real estate transfers that she was engaged in she exhibited unusual intelligence. Always a woman of force and fore-

bearance it was not to be wondered that she stamped her individuality upon those surrounding her. Her manners were sweet and gentle, as though influenced by a strong Christian character, and many likened her both in person and disposition to Martha Washington. Her death proved a serious blow to her relatives and a large circle of friends, and the memory of her pure and blameless life will not soon be forgotten.

#### DEATH OF JUDGE WARNER.

**A Wilkes-Barre Boy Who Traded Eighty Miles to His Country Home—An Able Lawyer and a Student of American History.**

The Owego (N. Y.) *Gazette* (November 15, 1890,) reports the death at his home in Waverly, N. Y., of Hon. William Fiske Warner, of pneumonia. Mr. Warner was related to the Danas of the Wyoming Valley, he having married, in 1846, Helen J. Dana, daughter of Eleazer Dana, at that time one of the leading lawyers of Owego.

Mr. Warner was a son of Deacon Samuel Warner, of New Braintree, Worcester County, Mass., and was born Jan. 18, 1819. Deacon Warner removed with his wife and six children from Hardwick, Vt., to Gibson, Pa., in 1817, and thence to Athens, Pa., in 1818. When a lad he was sent to the academy at Wilkes-Barre, in 1834, but not liking the school he left and walked all the way home to Gibson, a distance of eighty miles.

In 1858 he was a law partner of B. F. Tracy, the present Secretary of the Navy. As a lawyer Mr. Warner was most generally known as a counsellor and pleader. He held the office of special county judge during his residence in Waverly. Socially he was one of the most entertaining of men. He had seen much of the world, both at home and abroad, and was happy in communicating the impressions made upon him to others. He was a cultured gentleman of the old school and of the strictest honesty in his personal business and in public affairs.

Mr. Warner was for many years one of the most public spirited men in his village, and was always foremost in all movements for its prosperity.

Mr. Warner was an interested student of the history of this country, particularly of the Indian history of his own vicinity. In 1876 he wrote, by request, the centennial history of Tioga County, and in 1879 was the leading spirit in organizing the centennial celebration of the battle of New Town and erecting a monument in commemora-

tion thereof. In recognition of his services as a historian he was elected a contributing member of the New Hampshire Historical Society.

#### DEATH OF MRS. FULLER.

**She Passes Peacefully Away, Having Died of Old Age.**

On July 18, 1890, a little after 10 o'clock Mrs. Henry Mills Fuller died at the residence of her son, Henry A. Fuller, Esq., on South River Street, the primary cause of her death being old age, she having brought her life to almost the 68th year. She was the mother of seven children—Henry A. Fuller, Misses Edith and May Fuller, Mrs. Charles E. Rice and Mrs. George B. Bedford, of this city, and John Torrey Fuller, formerly principal of the Dallas Academy. Her maiden name was Harriet Irwin Thorp. She was the daughter of Rose Thorp, of Philadelphia, who came from Ireland late in the eighteenth century.

Henry Miller Fuller, the husband of deceased, at one time read law with ex-Justice George W. Woodward, in this city, and was admitted to practice in the Luzerne courts in 1842. In 1848 he was elected to the Legislature by the Whigs of this county, and was an assiduous worker for the construction of the North Branch Canal at that session. In 1850 he was elected to Congress for Luzerne, Wyoming, Columbia, and Montour Counties by a rousing majority. He manifested great oratorical powers in the legislative halls and was named by his followers for several high offices, among which was the speakership of the House, and his candidacy produced a memorable contest. In 1856 he removed to Philadelphia and engaged in matters of private business up to the time of his death. In 1860 he was urged to become a candidate for vice president of the constitutional party, but he would not permit his name to be used, and Edward Everett was named in his place. He died December 26, 1860.

#### Death of Mrs. Jacobs.

[Record of the Times, October 10.]

Mr. William Jacobs, one of the oldest residents of Wyoming Valley, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. T. B. Polen, in Scranton Tuesday morning. She was 84 years, 9 months and 8 days of age. Funeral services were held at the Presbyterian Church, Wyoming, at 2:30 p. m. Thursday, October 9. Short services at the house at 12:30. She was decended from the Sharps of Wyoming, one of the oldest families in Wyoming Valley. Her father, John Sharps, died at the ripe old age of 92 years. She was born near Belvidere, N. J., in De-

ember, 1805, and moved to Wyoming when but 12 years of age. She lived there continuously until a few years prior to her death, when she went to live with her daughter, Mrs. T. P. Polen, at whose Scranton home she died. Mrs. Jacobs was of a mild, sweet disposition, and possessed an exemplary character. She looked at all things in a Christian light and was slow to murmur at the troubles and afflictions that are met with during life. She had been an earnest and active member of the Wyoming Presbyterian Church, from which she will be buried, for nearly 50 years. She was the relict of William Jacobs, and mother of the late Henry P. Jacobs, at one time a commissioner of Lackawanna County, Supt. John S. Jacobs of Hazleton, William Jacobs of Wyoming, Noah P. Jacobs of Scranton, and Mrs. Thomas Polen, also of Scranton.

#### DILTON YARINGTON DEAD

**One of the Oldest Natives of Wilkes-Barre Passes Away at the Ripe Age of 87 Years—Man and Wife Spared 63 Years.**

The citizens of Wilkes-Barre, particularly the older people, will learn with sad surprise that Dilton Yarrington, whom they knew so long and respected so highly, had passed out of life. He died at his Carbondale home Monday, Nov. 24, 1890, after an illness of three months. He is survived by his widow and by one son, Lambert, who is postmaster of Carbondale. Mr. Yarrington was united in marriage on Dec. 23, 1827, by Rev. George Bibbins to Bebecca Lambert of Wyalusing, and they were spared to each other for the unusual period of 63 years.

Mr. Yarrington was the first son of Peter and Naomi Flint Yarrington, and was born at Wilkes-Barre, Oct. 8, 1803, and the early years of his life were spent in the pioneer village of Wyoming Valley. He was educated as a blacksmith in his father's shop and remained in Wilkes-Barre until 1825, when he left, on foot, for Dundaff, to seek to better his condition. Dundaff was then for a time the principal village of northeastern Pennsylvania, and Mr. Yarrington's smithy was a prominent factor for 23 years, when he removed to the new and promising Carbondale to engage in the lumber trade. His trip on foot to Dundaff, and his contract to work with Gould Phinney, is described by himself in the *Historical Record*, vol. 1, page 130. While at Dundaff he supplemented his blacksmith work with the manufacture of edge tools and agricultural implements, and Yarrington's axes became famous with the early settlers of the county.

In the course of an obituary in the Carbondale *Leader* it is stated:

"During the war of 1812 he served as errand boy to one of the army officers who was stationed at Wilkes-Barre and thus at an early age was led to take a deep interest in public affairs. Every issue of the local paper was read aloud to the men employed in his father's blacksmith shop, and the workshop soon became a once-a-week resort for the villagers to hear the blacksmith's boy read the latest war news. When but fourteen years of age he entered the blacksmith shop as an apprentice, and soon became famous as an expert iron worker.

"For more than half a century he kept a record of events and until his last illness three months ago not a day passed that he did not place upon his journal the happenings of the day.

"He had also kept with great care files of each of the local newspapers published at Dundaff, Wilkes-Barre and Carbondale. His memory of events was unimpaired and unlike most men in advanced life he recalled happenings as readily as the events which took place in his boyhood days. Those who had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Yarrington will always retain pleasant memories of the genial "Squire," and his friends were legion. Dilton Yarrington was one of the remarkable men of the age, and there are few men who have made such a record even when spared to live to such a ripe old age. Hundreds of people in this city have reason to remember the genial man who never crowded a claim and treated those indebted to him kindly and most generously.

"That he attained such a ripe old age is due to his habits of industry and careful living. In all things he was thoroughly systematic. He invariably retired at 9 o'clock and was always ready to begin the day at five o'clock in the morning. He was physically a powerful man, and during his long life he seldom missed a meal and did not know what it was to suffer ills that many others complained of. From his earliest youth he was a strong advocate of temperance and while a mere lad he gave such evidence of his sincerity in waging the war against strong drink that he gained the respect and esteem of those who did not agree with his views on total abstinence. Shortly after his removal to Dundaff he organized the first temperance society in Susquehanna County and for many years he was very active in temperance work as an organizer of local societies throughout this part of the State. In religious matters he was equally earnest and active. Early in life he connected himself with the Presbyterian Church and for many years he was an elder in the church of that denomination in this city, laying aside the

active duties of the church office when the infirmities of old age compelled it."

Mr. Yarrington has taken the Record during all its changing history and has contributed many of his entertaining reminiscences to its columns. All those of later years are scattered through the pages of the *Historical Record*. A couple of years ago he was made a life subscriber to the *Weekly Record*. At that time he wrote:

From the days of those dear good men, Charles Miner and Steuben Butler, I have had the pleasure of reading the Wilkes-Barre papers. I commenced in 1813 to read the war news, and felt greatly interested to the end of the war in 1815, and from that day to the present, I have had the pleasure of reading at least two Wilkes-Barre papers every week. I do not expect to read anything much longer. I came to this beautiful world the 8th of October, 1803, and I remember well the total eclipse of the sun, June 7, 1806. I was then two years and eight months old. That was the first day that I knew that I was in this world, and from that day, during the first forty years of my life I remember almost everything that came under my observation, but the last forty years appear like looking down a long, shady, dark road.

The funeral of Dilton Yarrington took place in Carbondale Wednesday and a large concourse of sympathizing friends were in attendance. The service was conducted by Rev. Mr. Lee, (Presbyterian) pastor of the deceased, assisted by Rev. Mr. Grow (Baptist) an old-time friend. A large concourse of friends, in carriages and on foot, accompanied the remains to the cemetery Mrs. Yarrington, who survived her husband, is of the same age, 87, and their married life covered 63 years.

#### Died in Illinois.

The death of A. C. Thompson of Paxton, Ill., Sept. 23, 1890, aged 72 years, is reported. Abel Carpenter Thompson was born of Scotch-Irish parentage, Aug. 6, 1818, at Pittston, Pa., where he was interested in the coal business. About the year 1867 he moved with his family to Paxton, Ill., on account of poor health, where he soon entered the banking business under the firm name of Toy & Thompson. A few years later Mr. Toy withdrew and the business has since been carried on under the name of the Ford County Bank.

Mr. Thompson had recently visited Dakota and Montana and was in perfect health. Shortly after his return, while driving from his residence to the bank, the horses became frightened and both Mr. Thompson and the driver were thrown out, the latter receiving injuries which proved fatal.

Mr. Thompson was well known throughout the State of Illinois and was loved by all

who knew him. His death was a severe blow to his townsmen as well as many friends in Pennsylvania, who will remember him for his sterling qualities as a friend and in business. He was converted at 16 and joined the Methodist Episcopal church. He was a life-long worker in the Sunday school for many years, acting as superintendent, and was devoted to all the interests of the church. He leaves a wife, daughter and grandson in Paxton, a brother in Carbondale, Pa., and a sister in Waverly, Pa.

#### Married Fifty Years.

On Nov. 11, 1840, Anson A. Church and Miss Francis Smith were united in the holy bonds of matrimony by Rev. Frederick Benham, at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mr. Pierce Smith, which was located in what is now known as Maltby. After residing in this community for a number of years they removed to Lynn, Susquehanna County, where their fiftieth anniversary, the golden wedding, was celebrated Tuesday amid a large number of their descendants and friends. Mr. Church is now 72 years of age and his wife 69. Their four children are now nicely settled, Mrs. Leander Smith in Sacramento, California; Mrs. Marion Mathers in Golden, Colorado; Mrs. Payne Pettebone in Dorranceton, and A. C. Church in Luzerne.

An old-fashioned farmer's dinner was served at noon, big hams, turkeys, chickens, luscious pumpkin and apple pies and all the good things of the season. Most of the guests remained during the whole day and until the evening. Hearty congratulations were offered by all and the Jay pleasantly spent in recalling old times and renewing old acquaintances. A great number of handsome and valuable gifts were presented. Those present were:

Rev. C. D. Sheppard and wife, Springville; Capt. J. B. Harding and wife, Tunkhannock; Norman Harding and wife, Tunkhannock; William Streeter and wife, Tunkhannock; Theodore Streeter and wife, Tunkhannock; Alvin Day and wife, Tunkhannock; A. B. Sheldon and wife, Lynn; G. W. Sheldon and wife, Lynn; Frank Greenwood and wife, Lynn; J. M. Jeffers and wife, Lynn; F. L. Fish and wife, Lynn; Henry S. Pickard and wife, Lynn; George Amy and wife, Lynn; Abe Taylor and wife, Lynn; N. G. Sherman and wife, Lynn; J. A. Ellsworth and wife, Lynn; J. H. Lyman and wife, Lynn; F. S. West and wife, Lynn; Lawrence Clouse, Lynn; Charles Ahnor and wife, Lynn; George Bunnell and wife, Lynn; W. F. Church and wife, Kingston; L. J. Church and wife, Kingston; A. C. Church and wife, Kingston; Miss Laura Church, Kingston;

Miss Maria Bonham, Kingston; B. K. Leacock and wife, Wyoming; Henry Myers and wife, Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Dr. O. F. Harvey, Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. F. H. Kyte, Pittston; Mrs. Harriet Helme, Wilkes-Barre; Frank Helme, Kingston; E. N. Abbott and wife, Luzerne; Dr. Thomson and wife, Luzerne; H. Bonham and wife, Luzerne; H. N. Schooley and wife, Luzerne; A. E. Mathers and wife, Wyoming; Noah Pettebone and wife, Dorranceton; Payne Pettebone and wife, Dorranceton; Thomas Hunlock and wife, Orange; D. Eaper Baab and wife, Orange; James Howell and wife, Kingston; Levi Howell and wife, Kingston.

#### A Stenben County Centesarian.

The Bath (N. Y.) *Plainsdealer* recently had an interesting interview with Gen. Otto F. Marshall, who passed his 99th birthday on Aug. 14, 1890. His farm is in the town of Wheeler, a charming and quiet spot, which his father purchased in 1805, and to which he removed with his son in 1810, and where he has ever since resided. A part of the farm was purchased from Valentine Bear, a German. He was probably a member of that band of German colonists landed in Philadelphia in 1792 under the charge of that vagabond, Berezny, that was sent up to the Genesee County by Williamson's new road to become farmers and settlers upon the captain's new purchase, and caused him so much vexation and trouble. The old gentleman informed the reporter that he was born in the village of Siesar, in Prussian Saxony, Aug. 14, 1791, and came to this country with his father in 1799; that he was naturalized upon his majority at Bath, and took the oath of allegiance administered by the late Judge William Reed; that he was inducted into the State militia as fourth corporal, and rose by regular gradation until he reached the rank of major general of division. He gave an amusing account of his first experience in actual service, how in the winter of 1814 the report came that Buffalo was burned and that the Red coats were about to invade, burn and destroy the whole of the Genesee County. Col. Haight ordered out his regiment, including the company of which he (Marshall) was a member, and how it made a forced march to Danville, where it was found that the report was only partly true, and the orders were countermanded. His hearing is good and his voice is strong and sonorous as ever, and seated as he was, looked as fresh as he was twenty years ago. His memory is wonderfully clear, and his conversational powers undiminished.

#### LOCAL PAPERS OF 1816.

A File of the "Gleaner" Which Reveals Much Interesting Material. It was Edited Then by Historian Chapman.

Through the courtesy of George W. Gustine the RECORD has been favored with the loan of a file of *The Wilkes-Barre Gleaner*, for the years 1816 and 1817. It is the property of Charles I. A. Chapman, and covers the period that it was edited by his father, Isaac A. Chapman (author of the history of Wyoming), namely, from June 14, 1816, to September 26, 1817. It is headed New Series Volume one, and was published weekly at two dollars per year. In common with the journalism of those days, it had very little local news, though its editorial department was conducted with vigor. In No. 1 Charles Miner has a column valetictory, he having sold the *Gleaner* to Mr. Chapman for the purpose of embarking in the publication of the *True American* at Philadelphia, a venture which proved only short lived, he moving to West Chester, Pa., in the summer of 1817 to take possession of the *Chester and Delaware Federalist*. Mr. Miner's services on the *Gleaner* ended with No. 273, he having bought the *Luzerne Federalist* in 1811 and changed its name to the *Gleaner*.

Mr. Chapman, after the first issue, dropped the regular newspaper head as he believed it to take up needless room and used instead a single column head in the upper left hand corner.

The volume is full of interesting materials. 1816 was the year in which it is said that the e was frost every month in the year. [See Historical Record volume 1, p. 107.] Frequent allusions to the inclement weather are made. In the issue of June 14 it is said: "The late continuation of cold weather exceeds anything in our recollection. Ice has been found five mornings in succession since the first of June. Corn and potatoes are cut down, and beans, melons, pompons and cucumbers are entirely destroyed. September 6: The frost was so severe August 29, that much corn and most of the buckwheat is entirely destroyed. In the issue of October 25 the editor says that as the failure of the crops of corn and buckwheat will undoubtedly produce great scarcity of grain, it is recommended that the inhabitants of Luzerne quit distilling for the present season. The editor says whisky can be brought in as cheaply as it can be made here and it would be a pity to use the grain for liquor in the time of so great scarcity. Besides that, the editor sug-



gets that it is a lamentable fact that much more liquor is used than is necessary or proper for the good of society anyhow.

The subject of a bank was being discussed. In the issue of June 28, 1816, the editor deplores the fact that the local branch of the Philadelphia Bank, called the Office of Discount and Deposit is receiving so much money, when the citizens of Luzerne ought to have a bank of their own. It causes a smile to read further that either of "the counties of Bradford and Susquehanna will not probably succeed in forming a bank, but the three counties together are amply sufficient for that purpose." In October and November the Philadelphia Bank advertised that debtors must pay up or be sued. January 31, 1817, announcement was made that sufficient number of shares had been subscribed for the Susquehanna Bank to obtain a charter. In the following May, Benjamin Dorrance and Henry Clymer, trustees, advertised that they would offer shares for sale "at Mr. Reeder's inn at Wilkes-Barre, and at Mr. Buckingham's store in Kingston, payable in specie or notes at par in Philadelphia." In August further sales were advertised in Plymouth, Berwick, Pittston, Tunkhannock and Braintrim. The bank never materialized.

In the first issue Joseph Sinton, Stephen Tuttle, Elias Hoyt, James Barnes, Henry Buckingham and Geo. Chahoon, managers, advertise that the company for erecting a bridge over the Susquehanna, at Wilkes-Barre was now ready to enter into a contract and proposals are asked for. On August 30 Louis Wernwag advertised for materials, the bridge to be completed by November 1, 1817.

After one year's publication Mr. Chapman announces that he has formed a partnership with Patrick Hepburn, his announcement covering two columns and a half, devoted principally to politics. The first effect of Mr. Hepburn's presence was to replace the old head on the paper. In September 1817 Mr. Chapman sold to Mr. Hepburn. He gives as his reason that he is not in sympathy with the "old school" element of the Federalist party who wanted Gen. Joseph Heister for Governor, but that he is convinced that a majority of the *Gleaner* supporters favor the "old school," therefore he steps down and out. The sale was evidently sudden, taking place after the outside pages had been printed.

Bound up with the *Gleaner* is a copy of the *Susquehanna Democrat* for July 10, 1818, giving the Fourth of July address of Mr. Chapman, which it is needless to say was full of patriotic and Federalist utterances. The *Democrat* and *Gleaner* were of the same size—four pages, four columns (17 inches long) to the page.

### THE KING OF BETHLEHEM.

Lines Written by an Honored Citizen  
Who Now Has Passed Away.

In years gone by *RECORD* readers have read with pleasure lines from the pen of Caleb E. Wright, Esq. A year ago he was alive and well—while now he sleeps the last sleep. The *RECORD* prints with great pleasure the following beautiful carol from his pen and lays it as an offering upon his grave:

The dusky shades of evening fell,  
Where slept the pool in David's well,  
Shrouding the town of Israel,—  
That humble town of Bethlehem.

Where patient oxen ate their corn;  
Before the blushing dawn of morn  
That night a royal babe was born,—  
God-given babe of Bethlehem.

Seraphs, on pinions of the dove,  
With harps of gold and hymns of love,  
Hung in the starry sky above,—  
The new, bright star of Bethlehem.

The shepherds saw its dazzling light  
Gleam through the chambers of the night,  
And guided by its radiance bright,  
Set forth for ancient Bethlehem.

From sacred Jordan's flowing tide,  
Across Judean pastures wide,  
Press'd on the band with hasty stride  
To greet the babe of Bethlehem.

And hark! Around that manger low,  
The saints above and saints below,  
Their trumpets of salvation blow!  
All hail! the King of Bethlehem!

### The First Boat on the Canal.

"I can say that I drove the first team that pulled a boat on this canal," remarked a gentleman to a *RECORD* representative last Friday. "It was in the fall of 1857, after my father, Simeon S. Brown, (my own name is Ebenezer Sturdevant Brown, having been named after the late Gen. Sturdevant) had completed the first boat and called it the *John C. Fremont*, we run it down from Skinner's Eddy to Coxton, expecting to sell it, but the ice caught us and the boat was abandoned until spring, when I took it to Wilkes-Barre. Late in the fall of 1858 I drove the team that hauled the boat to Towanda with the first load of coal carried through the canal. I had three horses and drove them tandem. As I arrived at Towanda the bridge was just completed and part of the plank laid. Seeing the first boat approach the builder put down additional plank and I drove my team, the first of any, over the bridge into the borough of Towanda. I followed the canal for a few years and then started out in other business. Really it is astonishing to see the great advances that have been made since that year."

### A STORY OF THE EARLY DAYS.

**Elias Thomas Gives Some Reminiscences of Carbondale.**

[Carbondale Leader.]

Forty-eight years ago (Nov. 1890) there arrived in the little mining village of Carbondale a large party of Welsh miners. The men of the party numbered about seventy, but as they were nearly all married and brought their wives and children with them the population of the mining settlement was increased by nearly two hundred. Early in the summer of 1832 the managers of Delaware & Hudson Canal Company sent John Thomas (known as the night-master) over the Atlantic to employ experienced coal miners, and he found little difficulty in obtaining the men in South Wales. By the first of August he had secured seventy practical miners.

These men with their families made up a large company, so large in fact, that the owners of the vessel chartered to bring them to the United States declined to take the entire party. The vessel known as the *Cosmore*, was one of the largest ships afloat at that time, but Mr. Thomas was obliged to divide up his party and arrange with the owners of the *Fame*, a trim built three-master, to take all the passengers that the *Cosmore* failed to provide room for.

The *Cosmore* sailed from Bristol, England, about Aug. 15, bound for New York. The *Fame* sailed Sept. 1, bound for Philadelphia, and forty-five days later the little vessel landed her passengers on the banks of the Delaware. From Philadelphia the emigrants were taken in wagons overland to New York where they were met by Maurice Wurts who gave them a hearty welcome to the new country. The "*Cosmore*" had not yet reached New York and as the cholera was raging at that time Mr. Wurts decided to hurry the new comers to their destination.

The journey from New York to the coal region consumed two weeks. From Bendout to Honesdale a canal boat and from Honesdale to Carbondale coal cars were the best conveyances provided. During the canal trip cholera broke out among the passengers and among the victims were Mr. and Mrs. William Farry, who left to the care of their country people, the three small children made orphans by the dreadful scourge.

Among the passengers of the *Fame* was Elias Thomas, the veteran watchman who stood at engine 28 and sounded the fire alarm on the first appearance of a blaze, for more than a quarter of a century. Mr. Thomas was then a lad in his tenth year, but he retains in memory vividly all

the experiences of ship life and the ravages of cholera while a passenger on the canal boat. Mr. Thomas in conversation with a news gatherer, a few days ago said:

"We reached Carbondale about sundown Oct. 31, 1832, and were met by the Welsh people who were already settled here. That very night my sister Mary was taken sick and my mother soon found that it was a case of smallpox, and so on our first day in the coal village we were made prisoners and notified not to leave the house or mingle with the residents of the village until every trace of the disease had disappeared.

"It was as good quarantine regulations if not better than could be provided in this city to day. We were provided with everything that we asked for, and that without money and without price. The people sent food and the merchants sent provisions, and when the doctor declared that there was no further danger the holiday season was approaching. The descendants of these pioneer miners are scattered all over the country, and the number of old residents who will recall the familiar names are being rapidly thinned out by the grave reaper."

#### Some Old Papers.

George O Lewis of this city had a few moments to spare last week and occupied the time in looking over some old documents he had in his possession, which he had not examined for years. They were all papers relative to appointments received from the first President of the United States by his great grandfather, William Lewis, and are in a good state of preservation. The writing is all done by hand and is very plain and legible.

One of the papers is a commission to Mr. Lewis as judge of the District Court for the Pennsylvania District, dated July, 1791. It is signed by George Washington, president, and counter-signed by Thomas Jefferson, secretary of State.

Another is a commission as attorney of the United States for the Pennsylvania District, dated New York, 26th September, 1789, also signed by George Washington.

With reference to the former commission Mr. Lewis received the following personal letter from Thomas Jefferson, which his great-grandson has in his possession:

"Sir: The President of the United States desiring to avail the public of your services as judge of the District Court in and for the Pennsylvania district, I have now the honor of enclosing you the commission and of expressing to you the sentiment of perfect esteem with which I am, sir,

"Your most humble servant,

"THOMAS JEFFERSON.

"Philadelphia, July 14, 1791."

### THE STORY OF FRANCES SLOCUM.

An Interesting Narrative Put Into Type,  
Written by John F. Meginness.

John F. Meginness of Williamsport expected to be in town last week to deliver to subscribers his new historical work, entitled "Frances Slocum, the Lost Sister of Wyoming," but he has received some additional matter which will delay the work about a week. Judging from advance sheets furnished the RECORD, the work will be a most fascinating one. It contains 250 royal octavo pages, is elegantly printed on fine heavy paper and is illustrated with portraits of the stolen child and several of her descendants. The edition is limited to 500 copies and sells for three and five dollars, according to binding. Mr. Meginness has covered the subject in the most exhaustive manner, he having spent much time at the Indiana home of the captive. The matter is almost entirely new and no previous publication can compare with it—in fact all have only just touched upon the story, which in pathos, strangeness of detail and mystery, stands alone in aboriginal annals.

Captured by Indians November 2, 1778, from her father's house, which stood on the site of the present city of Wilkes-Barre, she was lost to her parents, brothers and sisters for fifty years, notwithstanding they kept up a vigilant search for her almost to the period of her discovery, when she was found, in 1827, living in a cabin on the Mississinewa River, Indiana, as the widow of a Miami Indian chief.

Since the foregoing was prepared a copy of the complete book has reached the RECORD, handsomely bound in morocco and red muslin. The mechanical part of the work is as excellent as is the literary portion.

Chapter 2 is of special interest, as it throws a ray of light on the whereabouts of the captive in 1780 and again in 1791—when she was within two or three hundred miles of Wilkes-Barre and at one time almost within touch of her brothers who were penetrating the Indian country in all directions searching for her. In Governor Clinton's unpublished papers, Vol. 9, No. 2736, is a report of Ools. Fisher and Harver, of Johnstown, N. Y., dated March 2, 1780, relative to confiscations, and Tory families to be sent to Canada. That list contains the names of 14 prisoners, and among them are the following:

Hookam child, Kingsley child, taken prisoner Nov. 2, 1775.

The word Hookam is beyond doubt an error in copying from a previous list of the word Slocum, phonetically spelled *Slokam*. Let anyone write the work *Slokam*, and see

how much Slo resembles Ho. Then it was on Nov. 2 (the copyist errs as to the year) that the Slocum and Kingsley children were taken captives at Wilkes-Barre. There would seem to be no doubt as to the identity under these circumstances. But unfortunately for the brothers Slocum they never had access to the Clinton papers.

The next reference to the white captive and the last one prior to her discovery 50 years after is in the Pennsylvania Archives (second series, vol. 4, p. 579) where its oversight by the numerous students of Wyoming history is remarkable. In 1791 Col. Thomas Proctor was commissioned to visit the several Indian tribes inhabiting the country bordering on Lake Erie, and the Miamis of the Wabash, for the purpose of establishing friendly relations with them. According to his journal he started from Philadelphia March 12, 1791, and reached Wilkes Barre a week later. On the 23d of April he records, stating the amount of money paid certain persons for services and provisions:

"Cash paid Francis Slocum, a white prisoner, 7 shillings and 6 pence."

A curious feature is that in his diary of only three weeks before, he writes of having been joined at Painted Post "by a Mr. Giles Slocum, who followed us from Wyoming to place himself under our protection and assistance, until we should reach the Cornplanters' settlement, on the headwaters of the Allegheny, to the redeeming of his sister from an unpleasing captivity of 12 years, to which end he begged our immediate interposition."

It seems passing strange that when practically within the grasp of her friends, this a captive, girl of 18 years, should be kept separated from them until she was burdened with age. The thoughtlessness of Col. Proctor seems cruel.

An entirely new feature of the book is the supplemental portion devoted to the recollections of Frances Slocum as given by the widow of the captive's nephew, George R. Slocum, who at her invitation left his Ohio home to live with Frances, manage her property and become heir to one-third of her estate.

Among the official documents given in full are a copy of the treaty of 1838 with the Miamis, the famous petition of Frances to Congress in 1845, the eloquent speech of Mr. Bidlack in her behalf, and the elaborate will of her youngest daughter in 1873, disposing of her large estate of 686 acres. All previous historians have erred in attributing the eloquent speech to John Quincy Adams, Mr. Meginness having found that the speech was really made by Luzerne's own representative in Congress, Benjamin A. Bidlack.

Hon. Horace P. Biddle, the eminent retired jurist of Logansport, Ind., contributes a chapter of recollections of Frances Slocum and prominent early settlers. And in the appendix are found very full biographical sketches of the famous chiefs who ruled the Miamis for fifty years, including one of George Winter, who painted her portrait in 1837.

#### FRANCES SLOCUM'S BIRTHPLACE.

**Reminiscence of Old Wilkes-Barre Suggested by a Formal of Mr. Meginness's Book.**

EDITOR RECORD: I have just had the pleasure of perusing the very interesting volume lately published by John F. Meginness, Esq., the able historian of the West Branch Valley, entitled, "Biography of Frances Slocum, the Lost Sister of Wyoming." I have no doubt that so ardent a searcher after the facts of history as Mr. Meginness has shown himself to be, would not fail to avail himself of all the information within his reach, and yet I cannot help thinking he has failed to identify the exact locality of the house where the subject of his pathetic narrative was captured. In a foot note to Col. Ewing's letter to the postmaster at Lancaster, which says that "her father lived in a wooden house two stories high and had a spring near the house." Mr. Meginness adds: "The lot where Jonathan Slocum's house stood, and whence Frances was taken November 2d, 1778, is on the corner of North Canal and North Streets, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and is now owned by Mrs. Martha Bennett Phelps and Mr. George Slocum Bennett, grandchildren of Judge Joseph Slocum. It is vacant, and not a trace of the original log house remains. The spring, on account of the march of improvement, has entirely disappeared."

By this I understand Mr. Meginness to say that the old Slocum house stood somewhere on the large corner lot to the south and west of North and Canal Streets, while the fact is that it was on the east side of Canal Street, and as near as I can now fix it on a spot just about where the boiler house of Conrad Lee's planing mill is now located. I well remember of seeing when I was a small boy the remains of the old house as represented by a pile of loose stones that once formed the chimney and foundation, together with a few decaying timbers surrounding a depression in the earth, in and about which grew in rank luxuriance a plentiful crop of burdocks, catnip and wild mustard plants. This ruin, as I learned from Joseph Slocum himself, was all that was left, and marked the spot where stood the dwelling from which his sister was carried away by the Indians. Mr. Slocum farmed the ground about here, and I have

often seen him at work in the hay field and at one time he pointed out this old ruin as being the remains of the dwelling where his sister was captured, and where he himself was rescued from a like fate by being hurriedly carried away by an elder sister. I think, though, that there can be no doubt as to this being the exact spot where the house stood. This portion of the estate passed from the hands of the Slocum family years ago, and it is not improbable that when O. B. Hillard built the planing mill some forty years ago that the very foundation stones of the old house, being already on the ground, were worked into the foundations for the boilers of his new industry.

Now to the question of the spring: If the house stood in the vacant corner lot where Mr. Meginness places it, there could not have been a spring near the door as the natural formation of the ground thereabout will not admit of such an assumption. The house stood on dry ground, the common plateau level of the town site, but only three or four rods from the edge of a low swale of swampy ground, through which flowed a small stream of pure water, and here is undoubtedly where the water for house use was obtained, as a pioneer settler would hardly stop to dig a well when there was a flowing stream of cool water at his very door. At that time this little brooklet, flowing through the primeval forest of tall oaks of the low, wet intervals to the north and east, must have been a clear, sparkling stream, affording a never-failing supply of the best of water, for even within my remembrance it contained plenty of small fish, as I often observed them when crossing the bridge a short distance east of the junction of the Laurel Run road with Canal and North Streets, while on my way to and from school at the old academy. We can readily see how a child of Frances Slocum's tender age at the time she was carried off by the Indians might mistake a little brook for a spring; or that the aged captive after having lost all knowledge of her native language might have so expressed herself to Col. Ewing as to justify him in translating the word as "spring," where any place where fresh water was to be obtained would express her meaning just as correctly.

W. J.

#### The Story of Frances Slocum.

John F. Meginness of Williamsport was in town a day or two ago and left copies of his recent book at Puckey's, where it can be purchased. He says that new information about the captive is constantly coming to light. Isaac Craig, the Western Pennsylvania antiquarian, writes that he has the diary of a British officer who mentions seeing the Slocum captive at Fort Niagara.

## LOCAL HISTORIANS.

**Annual Meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society.**

At the annual meeting of the above society Feb. 11, 1891, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, A. T. McOlintock, LL. D.; vice presidents, Rev. H. L. Jones, Hon. E. B. Coxe, Capt. Calvin Parsons, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker; trustees, Hon. O. A. Miner, Edward Welles, S. L. Brown, Dr. L. H. Taylor, H. H. Harvey; treasurer, A. H. McOlintock; recording secretary, Joseph D. Coons; corresponding secretary, Sheldon Reynolds; librarian, Hon. J. R. Wright; assistant librarian, F. O. Johnson; curators—mineralogy and conchology, I. A. Stearns; paleontology, E. D. Lacoe; archaeology, Sheldon Reynolds; numismatics, Rev. H. E. Hayden; historiographer, George B. Kulp; meteorologist, Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D.

Mr. McOlintock was in the chair. There were reported 289 volumes and 153 pamphlets added to the library during the past year, also bound files of the *Leader* and *Record* and unbound files of other local papers. The library has been re-classified and rearranged. The additions to the cabinets are: Indian pot, from Col. G. M. Reynolds; coral and native sponges, Mrs. J. H. Swoyer; English bull's eye gold watch, Mrs. Charlotte Butler, deceased; portrait of Admiral Jewett of the Brazilian Navy, by Rev. Dr. Hodge. Judge Rice, William O. Sharp and Miss Hannah P. James were elected resident members.

The report of the treasurer showed receipts from dues \$300, life membership \$100, room rent \$145, E. L. Dana legacy, \$95; expenditures, \$960. Balance in bank, \$69.82. Cash in bank, savings account, \$3,100.95

Historiographer Kulp submitted biographical sketches of ten members who had died during 1890, the same number as died during 1889:

John Jordan, Jr., of Philadelphia, honorary member since 1862.

Edward Dolph of Scranton, corresponding member since 1858.

O. M. Rouse of Laffin, resident member since 1853.

Peter M. Osterhout of Tunkhannock, corresponding member since 1851.

Lewis O. Paine, resident member since 1851.

William B. Maffet, life member since 1859.

Victor E. Piolet, corresponding member since 1850.

Dilten Yarrington, corresponding member since 1859.

Aoram H. Reynolds, resident member since 1871.

Reuben J. Flick, resident member since 1887.

Calvin Parsons presented a curious specimen sent by Ferdinand Weaver. It was about the size and shape of a goose egg and was found in the paunch of a cow. It was a mass of cow's hair, closely packed, and enveloped in a coating like leather, about a sixteenth of an inch thick. None of the members could explain how the bovine economy could secrete such a curious mass.

F. O. Johnson exhibited a rare pamphlet, describing the adventures of a Wyoming man who was made prisoner by the Indians in 1778. Part of the original manuscript is in the possession of Mrs. Payne Pettibone of Wyoming, and the society expressed a wish to obtain a transcript of the same. Mr. Johnson read the following concerning the narrative:

## LUKE SWETLAND'S NARRATIVE.

One of the rarest of local historical pamphlets is that entitled:

"A Narrative of the Captivity of Luke Swetland, in 1778 and 1779, among the Seneca Indians. Written by himself."

Charles Miner refers to it in his *History of Wyoming*. In response to an inquiry published in the *Record* for a copy of it, L. G. Swetland of North Main St. kindly furnishes a reprint copy. The original was printed in Hartford, Conn., and the reprint is dated Waterville, N. Y., 1875, having been carefully annotated by A. O. Osborn, and thus materially enriched. It is to be hoped that copies can be obtained for the Wyoming Historical Society and the State Library at Harrisburg. The annotator states that the original manuscript is still in possession of Luke's descendant, Caroline M. Swetland, of Wyoming, widow of the late Payne Pettibone.

Luke Swetland was one of the Connecticut settlers of Wyoming in 1776. During that year he enlisted in Capt. Robert Durkee's independent company, and was encamped with the Revolutionary Army at Morristown, N. J., during the ensuing winter. Owing to sickness he was unable to participate in the Wyoming battle of July 3, 1778, but on the 26th of the following month, he and a neighbor, Joseph Blanchard, were captured by six Seneca Indians near Nanticoke, to which place they had gone by canoe to a grist mill. Both were taken to an Indian town near Seneca Lake, New York. His captivity is described in considerable detail and covered two years. He died at Wyoming, at the home of his grandson, William Swetland, in 1823, having attained the age of 93 years.

The first leaf of the original pamphlet is missing, consequently the reprint narrative begins with the second evening. He records that his savage captor treated him with great cruelty on the way north, repeatedly

going through the motions of shooting him. Arrived at Mehoopany, where he had lived for a time, his former Tory neighbors joined the Indians in a dance of joy, though treating the captives with great kindness and furnishing them with food. Tory families all along the river gave them similar good usage. In the course of a few days he and his companion were taken in different directions. He ran the gauntlet but the ordeal was not severe. "They placed themselves in two ranks, about fifteen in each. They all made some attempts to strike me but did not hurt me much." Arrived at Oatherinestown, near the head of Seneca Lake. French Catherine, who "could speak good English," sent him on horseback to Appletown, or "Oondawhow." Here an old squaw adopted him as her grandson, showing many signs of respect. A few days later Indian scouts brought in two captives from the Susquehanna, but he did not know them and was not permitted to converse with them.

"I lived in Appletown twelve months and two days, excepting some intervals when I went visiting my Indian relatives and some prisoners. The Indians were remarkably kind to me and made me many fine presents: Three hats, five blankets, near twenty pipes, six razors, six knives, several spoons, guns and ammunition, Indian pockets, one Indian razor, awls, needles, goose quills, paper and many other things. In September I was taken with the fever and ague and the whole town was attentive to me, giving me butter, milk and buttermilk. My sister went daily more than half a mile to get spring water for me, though other water was but a few rods off. In my sickness French Catherine came to me and spoke in English. I could not help weeping. She and my grandmother and my sister wept. She went to Niagara and when she came back she gave me sweet flag root to steep in water to drink and it helped me. I had my liberty to do what I had a mind for." He suffered in winter for both food and clothing, and when spring came they ate ground nuts, basswood buds and bitterness, which they ate with sugar. Some dead horses furnished what he considered "the best meat in the world." He also assisted in making salt by boiling spring water.

Upon the advent of Sullivan's army, in the summer of 1779, the Senecas fled to Niagara, and Swetland succeeded in making his escape and reaching the advance column. He was mistaken for a Tory and rather roughly handled until recognized by one of the soldiers, George P. Ransom of Wyoming. He was taken before Gen. Sullivan, who obtained valuable information from him as to the strength and the plans of the Indians. He remained with the army and accompanied

it on its way back to Wyoming, where he was warmly congratulated, besides being presented with a horse, with which he rode to Kent, Conn., to join his family, after an absence of 14 months.

The reprinted pamphlet is supplemented with another narrative, not so long, but substantially the same, the manuscript being owned by Mrs. Payne Pettebone of Wyoming. Mr. Swetland, who was 48 years old at the time of his capture, was a man of pious habit of life, and his narrative is full of religious musings. He spent much of his time Sundays in reading his Testament and in prayer.

The pamphlet is supplemented with genealogical notes of the Swetland family, and by extracts from family records. Altogether it is a valuable bit of local history. It comprises 39 pages.

A quarterly meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held on Friday at their rooms on South Franklin St. The members listened to a paper on the recent Wilkes-Barre cyclone, read and prepared by Prof. Santee of this city. The points in the paper were nearly all covered by Professor Santee's series of admirable articles in the Record a month or two ago. It was received by the society with thanks.

The contributions to the society during the quarter were as follows:

- Commissioner of Education, U. S. A.—Educational reports.
- Boston Record Commissioners—Early Boston records.
- U. S. Fish Commission—Fishery reports.
- Historical, scientific and other societies—Proceedings and catalogues.
- Professor R. G. Huling—New England college reports.
- Department of State, U. S. A.—Consular reports.
- Dr. F. C. Johnson—*Historical Record*.
- Henry Phillips, Jr.—Account of the Congo Independent State.
- Secretary of Interior—100 volumes in sheep, gov. pub.
- U. S. Geographical Survey—Bulletins, monographs and annual reports.
- Smithsonian Institution—Report and bulletins.
- Comptroller of currency—Report.
- George S. Oonover—"The Genesee tract and articles on Genesee Indians."
- W. W. Pascoe—"Old New York," Vol. 1.
- Elnathan F. Duren—Maine historical publications.
- Diplomatic Review, England—Diplomatic fly sheets.

Professor A. W. Potter—Report public schools, Wilkes-Barre.

G. M. Mallory—"Israelite and Indian."

G. L. Lansing, Sec.—Central Pacific railroad report

Lucian Huot—"Siege of the Fort of St. John, 1775."

J. M. Montgomery, Sec.—Work on "Sons of the Revolution."

Tennessee State Board of Health—Bulletins.

Elias S. Hawley—Historical sketch of Major Joseph Hawley.

Charles J. Hoadley—Colonial records of Connecticut.

Hon. H. M. Hoyt—Second Geological Survey reports.

Hon. J. A. Scranton—Official records War of the Rebellion.

J. B. Cramer, secretary—Report of Johnstown Relief Commission.

Caleb Harlan, M. D.—"The Fate of Marcella," a continuation of "Elifora, of Susquehanna."

George B. Kulp—Stewart memorial and other volumes.

Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D.—Framed photograph of Admiral Jewett, Brazilian navy.

E. P. Cosgrove—Old musket.

Executors of estate of Charlotte E. Butler, deceased—Old bull's eye watch made in 1776; four volumes of art subjects.

Robert Baur—Plumb family biography.

Professor E. W. Claypoie—Geological extracts.

Gen. E. W. Darling—Oneata County Historical Society proceedings.

Surgeon-General, U. S. Army—Indexed catalogue of library.

H. O. Wilson, Mt. Vernon, Ohio—"Fort Ancient, Ohio"

Miss Priscilla Conatine—Old reprint.

Hon. J. G. Freeze—History of Columbia County, half Morocco.

Col. G. M. Reynolds—Indian pot, found at North Mountain. See page 81.

Mrs. J. H. Swoyer, through J. M. Crane—15 specimens coral and native sponges.

Photographers Cook and Wildermuth—Cyclone photographs.

#### Two Historical Publications.

Dr. W. H. Egle of Harrisburg, State Librarian, is having the address which he delivered at Wyoming July 3, 1889, printed in pamphlet form, with appendix containing valuable Wyoming Valley material. This is the address which awakened so much discussion as to the responsibility for the first massacre of Wyoming in 1763.

John F. Meginness's book on Frances Slocum appeared December 1.

#### RECOLLECTIONS OF KINGSTON.

Pastoral Sketches—West Side Then and Now—Memorials of Former Residents and Manufacturers of Kingston—Prospective Advantage and Future Possibilities of Fuel and Fuel Gas From Coal—Efficiency and Educational Influence of the Wyoming Seminary.

[Contributed by Dr. George Urquhart.]

A reminiscent view of Kingston, Luzerne County, Pa., pertaining to the past half century will show that years alone are not the just measure of a person's life, and that our experimental knowledge and practical wisdom, as taught by the changes and activities of modern times, differ from the experience of our fathers, in not being similarly circumstanced by the bondage of locality.

Furthermore, the mental advantage which springs from this freedom is happy with moral and educational changes. Our ancestors were not trained to our conditions of social and domestic life, brought about by the introduction of steam and electricity, by means of the present railroad and telegraph systems. To live and travel fast is with us compulsory, and in our customary hurry we unconsciously become nervous and anxious, to obviate which we may observe an increased tendency to shorten hours of labor, to multiply the number of holidays, and as a defence against the wear and tear of town-life, city people seek rest and recuperation during the summer among the streams and the fields of the country. What monotony might formerly have existed in country life is now abolished by the rushing of railroad trains over the hills and through the valleys; furthermore, with the opportunity to acquire the education of travel, life seems more valuable, because it is more interesting.

It will not impede the progressive tendency of the present time to contrast it with what was of good report in the ancestral life; and it may invoke interest in those feelings beyond self, which kindle a spirit of unity and peace among ourselves, as well as benevolence and justice towards others; besides, a repertory of old fireside ideas of the past may be found the means of improving the fireside wisdom of the present day.

That the once domestic, quiet people content to rest in their fireside comforts, have given place to a people who do everything on a great and grand scale, is evidence of the fast changing character of society. Amid such passing events, the present is not without interest in preserving some reminiscent

features of the past: indeed the great changes add to their picturesqueness, and those who discard the use of past modes and forms are gratified in their preservation; and sympathize with the intention to revive and keep fresh all that is instructive and even shadowy of the past that in any way concerns the deeds and memorials of our forefathers. In it modern society may discover that the day of profession is merged in the day of performance, and that in both periods there is much that is positively good. In both we find energy, self-denial, sympathy to discern, and earnestness to pursue what is calculated to promote happiness and progress. The speed of human life is brought strongly before our minds, when we look back and see the great changes which everyone finds in the personnel of his own surroundings; how boys and girls have become men and women; how the vigorous and mature of former time bend under the infirmities of age; and how the old and venerable of the past, fallen by the way, are now found only in the church yards.

It may aid us in considering modern change to remember that locomotives were first used in this country in 1829; that omnibuses were first used in New York in 1830; that steam had been successfully applied to railroads in 1837; to the manufacture of iron in 1838; and that steam navigation across the Atlantic was accomplished the same year. In 1839 envelopes were first used, and soon letter postage was reduced from 18½ cents and over to five and ten cents for distances lesser or greater than 300 miles.

Furthermore, when steam had just been doing wonders both by land and water for traveling facilities, the electro-magnetic combinations of Davenport and Cooke at Saratoga called forth the following remarkable prophetic ken of science as happily exhibited by Dr. Lardner in his treatise on the steam engine in 1838:

"Philosophy (said he) already directs her finger at sources of inexhaustible power in the phenomena of electricity and magnetism, and we may expect that the steam engine itself may ere long dwindle into insignificance, in comparison with the hidden powers of nature still to be revealed. We may expect that the day will come when the steam engine will cease to have existence save in the pages of history."

Mowing machines and reapers had not yet been introduced, and in the harvest scenes that pass before the mind, the merry voices of the sun-tanned reapers awake the memories and recall the pastoral life of the patriarchs of biblical antiquity.

In the vicinity of Kingston, the outstretched landscape dotted with widely

spread farm houses and cottages was busy with the stir of every day life.

From those quiet homes moved marrying and burying processions.

Yonder fields where the brown footpath stretches, where the children played and fathers toiled, and which in summer looked so beautiful, awake pleasant memories of departed summers.

Toby's Creek flows impetuous through the mountain gorge as if intent upon its welcome mission at the Rice, Ryman, Dorrance and Hancock mills. There is no time to play with the bending sprays, and as it rushes through the shade along its course among the pebbles, the murmuring brook becomes clear as glass in which the face of heaven is mirrored.

"So the pure limpid stream when foul with stain

Works itself clean, and as it runs refines."

Then the tranquil stream ripples in the sunshine and shadow in its peaceful drowsy course along the foot of the neighboring hill, while many of the overshadowing trees no longer remain to invoke the rest of former times, nor throw down their inverted shadows below a blue unfathomable depth of sky, which conjures back those ocean chasms which are always filled with beauty and mystery.

New in the back fields we miss the old ancestral trees, and there is hardly anything left to point out the places through which the old paths went winding along. The natural variety of landscape in beauty and grandeur was most impressive, but the grand march of improvement in the world's progress is incomprehensible, and shows in its discoveries and improvements the highest civilization of the nineteenth century.

In the history of Kingston it should be mentioned that before steam was successfully applied to railroad or to the manufacture of iron, the *Wyoming Republican* was established there in 1832 by Sharp D. Lewis, Esq. In 1837 the paper was removed to Wilkes-Barre and published many years as the *Republican Farmer*. It was ably conducted and aided by the literary and political contributions of the Hon. Andrew Beaumont, Hon. David Scott, Dr. T. W. Miner and others. Two of its editors represented the United States Government, and died in foreign lands. Benjamin A. Bidlack lies buried in South America, and Samuel P. Collings in Africa.

In that day the exquisite humor of the editorial exponents of political parties was the finest product of sense and reason. Asperity was conventionally permitted to political combatants, and the feathered shaft went swift and unerring to the mark, and in reviewing the memory of their bluster, we seem to feel the same admiration for the wit and



wisdom displayed on either side, irrespective of personal or party motives, for in a retrospective view of satirical newspaper literature, which throws a vivid light on political and social history, it matters little which side led in any given specimen of irony or invective, because graceful scholarship was always a high social and literary distinction.

The public appreciated the versatile ability, and recognized the resolute political courage exhibited by the opposing factions, yet only familiar friends were fully acquainted with the ripe scholarship and the playfulness and brilliancy that embellished the editorial satire and wit.

An impressive instance of local editorial readiness and facility in extemporaneous composition of former times is recalled.

At the political mass meetings of that day singing political songs was a prominent and interesting feature of the entertainment; original songs were prepared for special occasion, but at a mass meeting held at White Haven during the Ritner campaign for governor in 1837, this had been omitted, the meeting was large and enthusiastic, and an original song being requested, Amos Sistr, the editor of the *Wilkes-Barre Advocate*, accepted the task and wrote an unequalled original political song.

It may justly be said that journalism of that period was distinguished for originality, literary ability and political sagacity in Wyoming Valley.

(To be Continued.)

#### A Reminiscence of the Sintons.

Eighty-six years ago two merchants from Sunbury opened a store on River street, then called Bank street, in the building formerly occupied by Rosette and Doyle, a short distance above Market street. Their dwelling house was on the corner where our elegant Music Hall block now stands, near the old bridge. Their advertisement in the *Luzerne Federalist* with headlines displayed "A NEW STORE," "JACOB & JOSEPH SINTON" offer for Sale Groceries, China and Queensware, Iron Mongery and DRY GOODS "which as they do not intend to sell on CREDIT, they will dispose of on reasonable terms for CASH or Country Produce." Jacob was a man of family;—Joseph, younger, a bachelor, full as possible of story, anecdote, and fun. Honest as the day, courteous to all, and attentive to business, of course they succeeded. Children could be sent to their store with safety and if the purchase of an article required a half cent change, in the absence of small copper coin, half a row of pins did duty as currency, which then was chiefly of silver. A Spanish

or Mexican dollar, half dollar, quarter, eleven penny-bit, 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ c, and five penny-bit, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

It is many years; yet it does not seem long since they all passed away, Jacob and Mary; "Uncle Joe" Miss Phoebe Sinton daughter of Jacob, Sidney Tracy, who married another daughter; Charles A. Lane and his wife, Mary Tracy, Mrs. Tompkins and an unmarried sister.

"All, all are gone, the old familiar faces."

From a photograph Mr. G. W. Leach Jr. made a crayon sketch of the old Sinton Store, with Sydney Tracy in the door, owned by C. E. Butler Esq.

The Wyoming National Bank stands upon the corner of Market and Franklin streets where the Sintons long did a flourishing business—succeeded by John Sturdevant & Sons, who retained the "SINTON" sign until the building was demolished. A long low frame structure with John Lynde's watchmaker shop and W. H. Butler's Book Store at the alley where Hoyt's offices now stand. The Sinton dwelling a fine two story double house was on Market Street, the site of Sturdevant's china store and C. E. Butler's book store. The Sintons probably owned the whole plot bounded by Franklin and Market streets and the alley from Franklin street, turning north at the Faser lot to Market between Faser's and Voorhis & Murray's furniture store. Mr. Frank Wait made a grand step in the march of improvements when he long ago secured that corner alley lot and erected the fine three story brick building, afterwards purchased by Mr. John Faser, now occupied by the store of Misses Doran.

Moyallen street is named from the old McCarragher property at South end of Park Avenue once owned and named by the Sintons from their memories of Ireland.

James Sinton, long cashier of the Easton Bank, was of this family, elder son, or brother of Jacob. Mr. Pearce says that Joseph Sinton was chosen President of the Susquehanna Bank, organized in 1816, but never put in operation. I should like to have that verified. It might have been James. Who can remember?

This short sketch is written to correct an error of compositor and proof readers of a handsome publication from the press of our olden time brother printer, and publisher, Robert Baur & Son, gotten up by a strange company which "knew not Joseph" and in the list of early merchants had "Sulten Bros" following "Rosette & Doyle." The scribe had carelessly dotted part of the "n" and not a soul, or eye had caught the true name, not one remembered "Uncle Joe" or "Sidney."

"So the multitude goes, like flowers, or the weed  
That withers away to let others succeed."

W. P. Miner.

After the above was in type Mr. Miner sent the RECORD this notice:

I met Mr. McClintock who remembered James Sinton, cashier of Easton Bank and he says he was a son of Jacob Sinton, and what is strange I should not remember, he says that Phoebe Sinton, daughter of Jacob, married John Grandin, of New Jersey. George Slocum married a Miss Grandin, daughter of John, who afterwards married Phoebe. Their son John Grandin Slocum is living. John Grandin married the widow of Asher Miner, and at her decease came again to Wilkes-Barre for comfort, and got part of the Sinton property.

Described by "John of Lancaster."

The RECORD has already printed a portion of a letter in the Lock Haven *Express* describing the material prosperity, and we now append his historical observations. The writer is John F. Meginness of Williamsport, the gifted historian of the West Branch region.

#### IN THE BEAUTIFUL WYOMING.

The Valley of Wyoming has been noted for the beauty of its scenery and thrilling historical associations. Poets have painted its charms in glowing colors, while historians have vied with each other in describing the trials and sufferings of its early settlers. And if its early history was written in blood, the calm of peace which now pervades the lovely vale has effaced all recollections of the terrible times of 1778 and they can only be vividly recalled by turning back to the pages of history. If Colonels Wilkes and Barre, whose names are perpetuated in the beautiful city we now behold, could come forth and view it to-day they would not only be surprised but amazed. Its lovely homes are the admiration of all strangers. Take a drive through South Franklin St., for instance, or up the river. What could be more beautiful? If this is not sufficient, ascend to the top of the magnificent Hollenback Building, seven stories, and view the enchanting scene which is spread before you. Beneath you lies the city, in the foreground rolls the river, while far to the right can almost be descried the monument reared to honor those who perished in the massacre of July 3, 1778; in front is Kingston, with the rich alluvial flats which surround it, while busy Plymouth is seen to the left with Nanticoke in the distance. Beyond the Kingston mountains, like a girle of blue, shuts in the horizon, while another stately range obscures the rear. Within the scope of your vision lies a

teeming population, the hum of whose industrial marts reaches your ear, and you turn away delighted at having gazed upon such a lovely picture.

Wilkes-Barre is liberally supplied with good newspapers, which is one of the best evidences of the taste of culture of the people. The RECORD, published by Dr. F. O. Johnson and J. O. Powell, is the leading morning daily. It was founded in 1882, and became a daily in 1873. Mr. Miner was one of the earliest publishers. Of late years it has improved greatly and is now recognized as a first class paper in every respect. It covers the local field well and has an excellent general news service. Its young publishers are active, energetic and progressive, and fully appreciate the value of a live newspaper in an enterprising city. Dr. Johnson devotes much attention to local history and publishes a valuable little magazine in connection with his newspaper for the preservation of historical matters relating to the Wyoming Valley. It is already in its third volume and is worthy of a place in every public and private library. That the people of Wilkes-Barre possess a literary taste is shown in the splendid Osterhout Free Library with its thousands of volumes and splendid quarters. The Historical Society is another old and valuable institution, which contains, in addition to its reports and books, a large and fine collection of antiquities, the bulk of which have been gathered in the Wyoming Valley.

One of the hardest literary workers in this city is Rev. Horace E. Hayden. He has been a resident of Wilkes-Barre for eleven years, and notwithstanding his clerical labors are onerous, he has found time to write several valuable books and pamphlets on historical subjects. He is now engaged on a genealogical work of great magnitude, which the origin and history of several old Virginia families will be given, and many errors regarding them, which have crept into history, will be corrected. He has shown wonderful research as well as patience in the collection of materials, and although the work is heavy, exacting and perplexing, he seems to thrive under it. It will make a volume of 800 or more pages, will be invaluable to public and private libraries, and a monument to the literary ability, industry and tenacity of purpose of its accomplished author. Mr. Hayden has also accumulated a library which is particularly rich in American and general history, and in rare and curious books and pamphlets. It now comprises about 7,000 volumes and is steadily growing. He also possesses many rare and interesting old manuscripts relating to Colonial times,

and relics and antiquities in large numbers. He is one of the most genial and companionable of men, as well as one of the most industrious, plous and learned, and nothing affords him greater pleasure than to exhibit and explain his treasures of art and literature to his friends.

#### Valuable Piece of Aboriginal Pottery.

Although this locality has been fruitful in finds of fragments of Indian pottery, yet the finding of entire utensils is very rare. The Wyoming Historical Society has several specimens, whole or nearly so, and they are considered among the finest in the country. Another specimen has just found its way into the collection, the gift of Col. G. Murray Reynolds. It was found only a few days ago underneath a ledge of rocks in a gorge along Kitchen's Creek, near North Mountain. With the exception of two small nicks in the rim, it is entire. It is nine inches high, but its bottom resembles in shape the small end of an egg and consequently the utensil does not stand unless supported. Its largest circumference is 24 inches and above this it contracts to form a neck seventeen inches around. Then it enlarges to form a rim. The rim has the usual fish bone ornamentation of criss cross pattern, but the body has no marks. Why the aborigines made it without a base can only be conjectured, since it is so shaped that it could have no resting place and must have been peculiarly liable to accident. It will be encased in copper wire and suspended in a safe place. A similar pot was found some months ago near White Haven, as mentioned in the RECORD at the time, but the finder declines to present it to the society and wants \$150 for it.

#### Their Railroad Stock was Below Par.

Edward J. Mackinson of Maltby, who has been a resident of Wyoming Valley for 42 years, recently said that 22 years ago there were only two collieries on the West Side of the river, one at Plymouth and the Maltby colliery. He was then outside boss and had charge of the selling of the coal for household purposes. The Lackawanna & Bloomsburg R. R. had only been opened a short time and those who had taken stock in it regretted their venture, as it had depreciated until it was the next thing to worthless. He was one day at the mine when a former, the late Sanford Moore of Franklin Township, drove up to the colliery and asked the price of coal. Mr. Mackinson told him it was ten shillings (\$1.25). "Well," replied the farmer, "money is very tight and I don't know that I have enough money to purchase a load, but I have five shares I bought some months ago in a new railroad. I tried to sell them to-day in Wilkes-Barre and failed. I also

tried to sell them at William Reynold's store at Kingston, and he told me that they were not worth a cent." Mr. Mackinson replied that if they were not worth a cent, he could not be expected to give a load of coal for them. When he found he could not barter his railroad shares for a load of coal, he reluctantly pulled out his ten shillings and went away with his coal, having failed to rid himself of his railroad stocks. They were subsequently sold for a trifling sum to Major McNeil of Forty Fort and now command a premium.

#### A Reminiscence of the Court rights.

Mrs. W. B. Mitchell recently sent a RECORD to her relative, Dr. J. B. Gore, now living in Chicago, eighty-two years of age. In the course of a letter of acknowledgment he has the following pleasant reminiscences of this locality, he being a native of old Wyoming Valley:

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.—I received a copy of the WILKES-BARRE RECORD of the 9th inst., containing an allusion to "an aged Wilkes-Barre lady," referring to Mrs. Hannah Courtright Abbott. There were pencil marks which seemed to say, What do you know about the Courtright family of the Plains in and about 1831?

Well, they were our next neighbors. Their farm and ours were divided only by a line fence and bramble bushes entwined among the rails. There she on the one side and I on the other gathered raspberries and blackberries in the proper season.

Cornelius Courtright, the father of Hannah, was at the time mentioned above, I think, about 50 years old. He was a justice of the peace and as I recollect a member of the State legislature. He was respected highly and in influence was above other men of the Plains. His opinion in legal and other controversies were decisive among his neighbors.

Hannah may not remember me. She had a brother Milton, a year or two in advance of me. We attended school and played together. Our teacher was Amos Utley. Perhaps Hannah still remembers him, as the WILKES-BARRE RECORD says she has a good memory yet. Milton was a better boy than I was. The teacher never punished him as he did us bad boys. I have never heard the destiny of the teacher. The Abbott family were two or three farms removed toward Wilkes-Barre. There were other Courtrights on the Plains. There was my uncle, Henry Courtright. Also another Cornelius Courtright, called Young Case to distinguish him from the Esqr. So far as I know they were not related.

If Mrs. Abbott recollects my mother who died in 1813 I think she is the only person living who can remember her.

**REUBEN J. FLICK DEAD.****A Man Closely Related with the City's Growth and Industries Passes Away—Sketch of his Career**

Reuben Jay Flick died of blood poisoning, resulting from kidney complaint, at his residence on South River St. Thursday morning at 12:15 o'clock. He had been slightly ill for about two months, but had not been confined to bed until within a week, and not until then was his condition considered alarming.

Mr. Flick was born at Flickeville, Northampton County, Penna., July 10, 1816. His father, John Flick, was a citizen of that county, and was twice elected to the State Legislature in 1840-41. At an early age Mr. Flick left home and remained in Easton for several years. 1838 found him in Wilkes-Barre, without money and without friends, and in our city he has resided without interruption ever since. His first experience and training was in the noted store of George M. Hollenback, on the South corner of West River and Market Sts. For some years he was engaged in the general mercantile trade and his first store was in the building on West Market St., now occupied by George W. Leach, the painter and paper-hanger.

His habits of thrift and economy enabled him to save in a non-money spending age, and in about 1856 he engaged in the manufacture and sale of powder. In 1870 he secured a charter for a State bank, and the present popular and prosperous People's Bank was managed by him as president till 1881, when he resigned to more minutely manage his constantly increasing private affairs, and give more time to the official positions of a large number of local manufacturing and charitable institutions with which he was connected.

He has always led an active life and has contributed as much as any one man to the material growth and prosperity of this city. From their inception he has been a faithful director in the Vulcah Iron Works, the lace company, the electric light company, the Kingston Street Car Co., the Wyoming Valley Ice Co., the Newell Clothing Co. and the Iron Bridge Co., besides being a stockholder and supporter in numerous other local industries. And their present prosperity is due in a large measure to his personal ability and integrity.

His investments were all made at home—in Wilkes-Barre, the city of his choice. His judgment in matters of business was highly regarded and much sought after. The leading charitable institutions of the city always found in him a sustaining friend. His private pension list was a large one. He contributed of his means to every deserving charity that was brought to his notice. When a young man he used to say that he had taken stock in every new church erected in the valley, and regarded them as his best investments. In charities also his administrative ability was called into action. He was a trustee in the city hospital, of the Home for Friendless Children, of the female seminary and of the Harry Hillman Academy. He was also trustee of Lincoln University, a negro college at Oxford, Pa., and in which he endowed a professorship. He was a trustee of the Board of Trade, and president of the 9th Regiment Band Association. Few men were connected with more charitable or business interests than he, and none were more faithful or more efficient in the discharge of the duties arising out of these public or private trusts, and none will be more missed or leave a place harder to fill.

In private life Mr. Flick was plain, unassuming in demeanor, easy to approach, and sympathetic. He was decidedly positive in all his views, and having once made up his mind as to what was his duty, he could not be dissuaded. He was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him. He was a member of the first Presbyterian Church, in which he was a deacon, and for many years was superintendent of a large and prosperous Sunday school for colored people.

Mr. Flick came of a family noted for their longevity, and it was always a matter of pride with him. Though himself in his 75th year, his general health had been so good, and he had been so active till last October, that few believed him to be over 60. He is survived by three sisters, two of whom are considerably older than himself and in good health. His father was 86, his mother 83, and his grandfather 99, when they quit life. The latter had eleven children, of whom all but one lived to be over 80.

Mr. Flick was married late in life, 1858, to Margaret Jane Arnold. Besides his widow he leaves, surviving him, five children: Liddon, an attorney; Warren J., a civil engineer; Helen; Harry, a fruit grower in Southern California; and Reuben Jay, Jr., a student in Princeton College. All are unmarried. Mr. Flick's estate is valued at \$500,000. His family, with the exception of his son Harry, now on his way from California, were with him when he died.

**DEATH OF MRS. DR. URQUHART.**

*She Passes Peacefully and Painlessly Away with a Disease that Scarcely Gave a Warning of its Presence.*

Mrs. Mary A. Urquhart, wife of Dr. Urquhart, died near noon Friday at the residence on South Franklin St. of heart disease. She arose early in the morning and ate breakfast feeling as well as usual and proceeded to make arrangements to attend the supper in the First Presbyterian Church in the evening, the church of which she had been almost a life-long member. She then complained of slight pain in her left shoulder and about half past ten o'clock lay upon a sofa to rest herself. Several times a servant went into the room to communicate with her, but no answer was given to the call and she each time left the room, awaiting the time when Mrs. Urquhart should awaken from her apparent sleep. When at 11:45 the servant again approached the sofa and gently shook Mrs. Urquhart the lifeless body responded with no awakening movement and it was then discovered that the soul had winged its flight. When the fact had been communicated to the living husband—a man whose pen has worded such impressive tributes for friends and acquaintances for the columns of this paper, his sorrow passed all bounds and his sympathetic nature was thrown into the depths of grief. For 33 years she had been his companion in life.

Mrs. Urquhart was 60 years of age. She leaves besides her husband two children, George Urquhart, Jr., Esq., and Miss Hattie. The latter left a few days ago to spend the winter in California, and the telegram conveying to her the sad intelligence of the death of her mother will intercept her in Chicago. Mrs. Urquhart was a daughter of Col. Hodgdon, a former member of the Luzerne County Bar, who was prothonotary of this county from 1849 to 1851. He died Jan. 17, 1865.

Mrs. Urquhart is a sister of Capt. Henry C. Hodgdon of New York, also of the wife of Dr. Asa P. Meylert of New York. Her grandfather, Major Samuel Hodgdon, was quartermaster general and commissary general of military stores in the continental army, and was an intimate friend of George Washington. Her mother was the daughter of Capt. Henry Harris of Long Island. She was a sister of Mrs. Judge Jessup of Montrose and a cousin of the Jessups of Syria.

Her death will be indeed sorrowful to those who knew her and loved her; not the sorrow that for a moment tinges our feelings as the soul of one we slightly know sweeps past us

into the spirit land; not the sorrow that casts a momentary blight. Her friendship was too firm, her character commanded too lasting admiration. The sorrow for her death is that which dims the eye with tears and makes the impress of a void in family and community that the incidents of a day cannot fill.

**Funeral of Mrs. Urquhart.**

Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock the funeral of the late Mrs. Dr. Urquhart took place from the residence on South Franklin St. and the services were conducted in the presence of a large number of friends and relatives. Touching remarks were made by Rev. Dr. Hodge, who for many years was the pastor of deceased and the benediction was pronounced by Rev. H. H. Welles. The choir of the First Presbyterian Church sang "Asleep in Jesus," "Jesus Lover of My Soul" and "Lead, Kindly Light." There were a number of pretty floral emblems. The pall bearers were Dr. L. H. Taylor, Dr. G. W. Ganthrie, George B. Bedford, George S. Bennett, Col. O. M. Conyngham and S. H. Lynch.

**Funeral of Mrs. Driesbach.**

[Daily Record, December 19.]

The funeral of Mrs. Driesbach, widow of the late Adam Driesbach, took place on Wednesday on arrival of the 2:30 p. m. train of the N. J. C. R. R. Mrs. Driesbach had lately made her home with her daughter, Laura, at Sommerville, N. J. She had been somewhat of an invalid for years, but her final sickness was quite brief. Both Mrs. Driesbach and her husband were old time citizens of the valley; she being of the well known Gruver family of Newport Township. Her husband's family originally came from the same portion of the county, but his father, John Driesbach, for many years had charge of the old stone mill at the mouth of Mill Creek. Adam Driesbach was well known throughout the country as an energetic railroad contractor.

The remains were accompanied from Sommerville by a few members of the family living there, and were met at the station here by the grandchildren residing in this vicinity. Messrs. O. M. Brandow, G. B. Kulp, S. J. Whiteman and Wesley Johnson, nearest neighbors when the family resided on Union St., in this city, acted as pall-bearers. Mr. W. W. Loomis accompanied the remains and officiated at the grave in the midst of a driving snow storm by reading the burial service of the M. E. Church, of which the deceased in her lifetime had been a devoted and consistent member. Interment in the family lot in Hollenback Cemetery.

**Mrs. Lydia M. Maxwell Dead.**

A telegram to the Record from W. W. Lathrope brings the sad news that Mrs. Lydia M. Maxwell died at her home in Green Ridge aged 77 years. Mrs. Maxwell lived in Wilkes-Barre for many years, but removed to Green Ridge a few years ago in order to be near her daughter, Mrs. W. W. Lathrope. She was a devout Episcopalian, and was one of those sterling women whose religious activity so tells for good in any community. She was gentle in disposition, and her heart overflowed with kindness for the distressed and sorrowing—kindness which manifested itself in a practical way.

Her husband, Volney Lee Maxwell, was a prominent member of the Luzerne Bar from his admission in 1831 until his death in 1878. He was also warden and treasurer of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Besides being prominent in church work at home and in the diocesan organization, he was fond of scientific research and his paper read before the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society on "Coal" is one of the standard contributions to the literature of that subject. Their marriage occurred in 1840, his wife, now deceased, being a daughter of George Haines, a civil engineer in this city, whose finely executed maps are a feature of the county records of that time. Mrs. Maxwell was a granddaughter of Joseph Chapman, who located in Susquehanna County about the close of the last century. He was a sea-captain sailing between the West Indies and his native State, Connecticut. Capt. Chapman was the grandfather of the late Mrs. George W. Woodward and of O. I. A. Chapman.

Of Mrs. Maxwell's two children only one, Mary, wife of W. W. Lathrope, survives. The other daughter, Lillie, is well remembered, whose death occurred in 1877.

The late Mrs. Maxwell will be buried in Wilkes-Barre on Friday morning, services being set for 11:30 a. m., in St. Stephen's Church.

Deceased visited Wilkes-Barre recently at the house of her friend and relative, Mrs. E. Greenough Scott, remaining there about eleven days, including Thanksgiving Day; but she was not well and hastened home on that account. Since then she has suffered almost continually except on the day of her death, when she seemed unconscious. She died at 7 o'clock January 13, 1891, with her daughter and other friends at her side. During her illness she expressed her desire to be at rest, frequently murmuring "Come, Lord Jesus."

**Death of Mrs. W. W. Lathrope.**

Mrs. W. W. Lathrope died of typhoid pneumonia at her home in Green Ridge Monday, Feb. 9, 1891. Her illness was of only a week's duration.

Mrs. Lathrope was Mary Overton Maxwell, daughter of the late Volney Lee Maxwell of the Luzerne Bar, and she was a native of Wilkes-Barre. Until her removal to Green Ridge, a few years ago, she was a member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Wilkes-Barre. Mrs. Lathrope is survived by four little children—Maxwell D., Henry E., George H. and Eunice. Her death brings a pang to a large circle of Wilkes-Barre friends. A score of years ago her father's home was one of the social centers of this city, her parents being the most cordial of entertainers and the two sisters, now both dead, the most agreeable of hostesses. Mrs. Lathrope's life was rounded out with the full measure of womanly virtues, and the community will sustain a heavy loss. Words cannot express the poignant grief that has fallen upon a happy household, and husband and children will mourn for a touch of a vanished hand and the sound of a voice that is still. A lovely Christian life has gone out before it had yet reached the meridian of its happy usefulness—the last one of a noble family.

The funeral took place on Thursday at 10:30 a. m. at the family residence, interment in Green Ridge.

**An Aged Clergyman Dead.**

Rev. Joseph B. Gross died Jan. 4 morning after a lingering illness at the home of the late Mrs. Julia Anne Meyer, whose uncle he was. Mr. Gross was a brother of the late Dr. Samuel D. Gross, the eminent Philadelphia surgeon, and the two, in their boyhood days, were pupils at the old academy in Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Gross was born near Easton and was 83 years old in December last. He was for many years a clergyman of the Lutheran Church. During his later life he departed somewhat from what are usually considered orthodox doctrines and wrote several volumes on various religious subjects. Among them were "Doctrine of the Lord's Supper," "The Heathen Religion," "Thoughts for the Fireside and School," "The Parson on Dancing". He was peculiar in his views, but by no means heterodox.

Mrs. Jennie G. Seltzinger is a grand-niece and druggist J. Gross Myer is a grand-nephew.

Eighteen years ago he lost his wife, since which time he has lived with the family of his niece, who died last year. He was a man of extensive reading and of an inventive turn of mind. His tall, somewhat bent figure will be missed from our streets.

*[From the Sunday Leader.*

## THE OLD RIVER BRIDGE.

INTERESTING INCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH IT.

### BUILT NEARLY A CENTURY AGO.

The Ancient Structure Twice Destroyed  
Once by the Undermining of a  
Pier, and Again By a Violent Gale.

Of the few remaining landmarks of old Wilkes-Barre, none, perhaps, furnishes data for a more interesting sketch than does the bridge spanning the Susquehanna river at the foot of West Market street. Its history begins almost with the beginning of the century, and it is a history of long discouragement, earnest struggle and final triumph. Even in this day of almost boundless wealth and unlimited extravagance, of gigantic enterprise and wonderful achievement, there are few accomplishments which do not suffer by comparison with it. At the time of the inception of the enterprise our now populous and prosperous city was but a small borough of meagre population and limited resource. There was no market for the products of the farming region of the west side nearer than Easton, and as everything had to be ferried across the river and transported by wagon the actual labor of getting to market was really as arduous as was the work of production. With few exceptions the residents of the valley were people of moderate means, money was comparatively scarce, and to project and carry to successful consummation an enterprise of the proportions that this was, was no small achievement. Progress of the work was slow; the obstacles that arose in its way from time to time were aggravating and difficult to overcome and the very fates seemed averse to its completion. The elements combined against it and twice,

even thrice, nearly undid the work that the persistency and sacrifice of the sturdy yeomanry had done, and wreck and disaster beyond retrieve seemed inevitable. Finally, however, there was success, and for nearly three-quarters of a century the old structure has stood as a monument to the energy and enterprise of the people who erected it and has been an accommodation of inestimable value to the generations that have come and gone during those many years. There are those, of course, who are ready to criticise and condemn the management of the old bridge during recent years, but in the light of the events connected with it in the distant past, the struggles and reverses incident to its construction, it is not to be wondered at that those to whom it has come almost as an heirloom should guard it with jealous care and hold it as a highly prized possession bequeathed by an honored and beloved ancestry.

#### THE COMPANY.

The company was chartered by Governor Simon Snyder on the 19th day of March "in the year of our Lord 1816 and of the Commonwealth the fortieth," under an act entitled "An act to authorize the Governor to incorporate a company for erecting a bridge over the river Susquehanna at the borough of Wilkes-Barre in the county of Luzerne," passed the 9th day of April, 1807, and a supplement thereto passed the 20th day of March, 1811. These acts provided that "when twenty-five persons shall have subscribed one hundred shares of the stock of the said company the commissioners named in said acts to receive subscriptions shall certify under their hands and seals the names of the subscribers and the number of shares subscribed by each, to the Governor, and thereupon it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, by letters patent under his hand and the seal of the state, to create and erect the subscribers, and if the said subscriptions be not full at the time, then those also who shall afterward subscribe, to the number of six hundred shares, into one body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, by the name, style and title

of 'The President, Managers and Company for erecting a bridge over the river Susquehanna at the borough of Wilkes-Barre.'"

Pursuant to these acts Lord Butler, Henry Buckingham, John B. Wallace and John H. Brinton, a majority of the commissioners named to receive subscriptions, certified to the Governor that the following named persons had subscribed the number of shares set opposite their names: Lord Butler 4, Matthias Hollenback 10, Benjamin Dorrance 4, Jacob Cist 5, Isaac Bowman 2, George Chahoon 10, David Peckins 1, David Scott 6, Samuel Thomas 10, Elijah Shoemaker 7, George Lane 5, Henry Buckingham 5, James Barnes 10, Joseph Sinton 10, Nathan Palmer 1, Jesse Fell 2, Stephen Tuttle 2, Calvin Wadhams 3, Jonathan Hancock 5, Elias Hoyt 2, Daniel Hoyt 4, Naphtali Huribert 2, Darius Landon 1, M. Thompson 4, Joseph Tuttle 5, George M. Hollenback 10, Wm. Barnes 5, Eliphalet A. Bulkeley 1, David Smith 2, Isaac Shoemaker 2, Adam Shafer 1, David Brace 2, Henry Court-right 4, Barnet Ulp 1, Collings & Bettle 3, Elijah Loveland 2, Albert Skelr 1, Benjamin Drake 5, Joseph Slocum 5, Chas. Catlin 4, Joshua Pettibone 5, Christian G. Oehmig 2, John Peckins 1, Franklin Jenkins 1, James Hughes 2, John W. Ward 2, Alexander Jameison 4, Henry Kern 2—a total of 186.

The company organized on May 15, 1816, at a meeting held in the Court House, by electing Matthias Hollenback, president; Jacob Cist, treasurer; Joseph Sinton, Stephen Tuttle, George Chahoon, James Barnes, Elias Hoyt and Henry Buckingham, managers. On May 18, Benjamin Perry was chosen secretary.

On June 11 of the same year 20 per cent. of the stock was called in, to be paid on or before July 1, and it was resolved that the managers should forthwith advertise for proposals for erecting the bridge. On July 15 another call was made for the payment in full of all stock held in less than three shares and 20 per cent. of that held in three or more shares, payable September 1.

#### THE CONTRACT.

On August 27 the proposal of Lewis Wernwag to build a bridge of four arches of 185 feet each (without roofing or siding and the company to fill up the wing walls) for \$40,000 was accepted and a preliminary agreement entered into. On September 14, Mr. Wernwag having offered to deduct the sum of \$1,000 from the price of the bridge on condition that the length be reduced forty feet and the ribs be altered,

the offer was accepted and a formal contract made with Lewis Wernwag, Joseph Powell of Chester county, and George C. Troutman of Philadelphia county, the bridge to be completed by the 1st of December, 1817.

At a meeting of the stockholders, president and managers on Monday, May 5, 1817, the treasurer reported that he had received on account of stock \$7,284 and had paid on contract \$7,200. The work had been commenced, a number of hands engaged by the contractors and arrangements made by them to prosecute with vigor the erection of the bridge. The time for the completion of the contract had passed and the work was barely commenced. Prompt payment of subscriptions was urged. Up to this time the original 186 shares had been increased to 600, and at this meeting 200 additional shares were created. Joseph Sinton was elected President, and George M. Hollenback and Daniel Collings were elected to the board of managers in place of Joseph Sinton and George Chahoon.

#### APPEAL FOR STATE AID.

On November 29, 1817, by direction of the board of managers, Jacob Cist, the treasurer, was requested to prepare a petition to the Legislature for state aid. In this petition it was set forth that at the time of passing the acts authorizing the construction of the bridge and the creation for that purpose of 600 shares of stock at \$50 per share, it was supposed that the sum of \$30,000 would be sufficient for the erection of the bridge exclusive of the cost of covering it. "Owing, however, to the difficulties attending undertakings of this nature and to various other causes, the stock was not taken up until within the last eighteen months, when the prices of labor and provisions had considerably advanced. As soon, however, as the company was organized a contract was entered into with Mr. Lewis Wernwag, a civil engineer of great reputation," etc. "In their contract with this gentleman the company, relying on the liberality and friendly disposition of the Legislature uniformly manifested towards every species of internal improvement, and more particularly evinced in the assistance afforded to the other bridges over the Susquehanna and other large rivers of the state, agreed to pay the sum of \$39,000—a sum which has been generally considered as very moderate for a bridge consisting of four arches and of the extent of 700 feet between the abutments, with double carriage and double footways, to be built in the very substantial manner, elegant style and on the sound principles of that excel-



lent architect. The embankments, toll house and covering of the bridge will probably amount to \$6,000 more.

"The work was commenced in May last; the greater part of the stone work is done, and that in a very substantial manner. \* \* \* Great progress has been made at the same time in the wood work, the greater part of the arches being done and ready to be raised. The whole sum originally authorized to be raised has been paid to the contractor and the funds of the company are now exhausted. They are, it is true, authorized to and did create additional stock, but owing to the peculiar difficulty of the times, the additional stock cannot at the present moment be disposed of. Under these circumstances they pray that law may be passed enabling the Governor to subscribe for 300 shares of stock of the company, which will not only enable the company to meet all their engagements, but completely cover and secure the bridge from decay and thus render it at once an object of high ornament to the county, of lasting utility to the community and add another to those grand monuments of the enterprise of the citizens of Pennsylvania and of the public spirit and liberality of its Legislature."

This eloquent appeal for state aid was in vain and the troubles of the company appear to have begun with the refusal of the Legislature to lend a helping hand in the time of need. On April 2, 1818, Jacob Cist resigned the treasurership of the company on account of inadequacy of salary, which he said bore no proportion to the arduous and unpleasant duties of the position, and George Lane was appointed in his place to serve until the first Monday in May.

#### APPEAL TO THE PHILADELPHIA BANK.

On May 14, when \$32,857 23 had been expended on the bridge, notwithstanding every effort had been made for the collection of stock only \$19,621 99 and \$70 on account of penalties (imposed for non-payment) had been collected, and in order to meet the frequent and heavy calls of the contractors for money the company had been compelled to avail itself, by the issue of paper, of an indirect loan from the public of upwards of \$50,000. The embarrassed condition of the company at this time is shown by the report of the treasurer, as follows:

"As, however, considerable uneasiness exists on the part of the public in consequence of the inability promptly to redeem their notes it is desirable that this indirect loan should be canceled by calling in the

paper of the company as rapidly as possible." Vigorous measures on the part of the board toward delinquents was advised in the report, which continues: "Of the 200 shares of additional stock created at the last annual meeting scarcely any have been subscribed for, and it is probable, in the state of public feeling and from the general feeling prevailing of the impossibility of rendering the piers durable without the erection of ice breakers, that any resources can be derived by subscriptions to additional stock. The assistance which was so confidently expected from the Legislature has also failed. It has therefore become necessary to devise some plan by which the company will be enabled to meet with promptness their various engagements. This subject claims the particular, immediate and very serious attention of the company."

As an inducement to stockholders to pay their subscriptions within thirty days a portion of the penalties which had been imposed was remitted. The response to this appeal was not at all prompt and on the 8th of August it was resolved to petition the Philadelphia Bank, asking that "it permit the directors of the branch bank of this place to loan to persons indebted to the bridge company, on good security, the sum of \$10,000." This petition set forth that "in consequence of the curtailments of discounts at the branch bank many of the stockholders of the bridge company are unable to pay for their stock, by which means the company are under great embarrassment; that the company have never had any assistance from the Legislature or any other public body, by loan or otherwise, and have already, by great exertion, paid to the contractors upwards of \$30,000; that there is no doubt but said bridge will be completed this fall if some assistance can be obtained, as the mason work is nearly finished and three of the arches framed and ready to be raised." Under date of August 13, this request was refused by the Philadelphia Bank. In the meantime, however, work progressed, and (August 7) a contract for ice breakers or fenders was made with Mr. Wernwag, the contractor.

#### A STRIKE.

Under date of October 30, 1818, the following notice was served upon the company:

"We, the subscribers, do unanimously agree that we will not continue to work any longer at the Wilkes-Barre bridge than to-morrow evening unless we are paid for our former services in good chartered notes of Pennsylvania, and a fair prospect of

having our pay every two weeks hereafter." This was signed by Abiel Abbott, J. Henry, Daniel White, Owen Evans, Nathan Allen, William Spicer, David Lewis, Nehemiah Ide, Asa Bacon, Asa F. Snell, Stephen Scott, Reuben Daily, James Fitzgerald and Philip Roach.

Investigation disclosed the fact that though the contractors had been over paid they had not paid their hands and had no money with which to meet their demands and avert the strike, which was probably the first labor strike that had ever occurred in this locality if not in the country. However, the superstructure being in a critical situation from its unfinished state and the probability of a rise of water, it was directed that orders of the contractors for wages due and which may be earned be paid by the treasurer.

A month later (Nov. 30) Messrs Holtenback, Barnes, Sinton and Cist were appointed a committee to provide for temporary gates and toll house, for covering the wing walls and to receive proposals from persons wishing to act as toll gatherer. Though the work was slowly but steadily progressing there was still a great scarcity of money and it was almost an impossibility to secure the funds necessary to meet the demands, and in January, 1819, the Legislature was again appealed to for aid—to authorize the Governor to subscribe for 320 shares of the stock, "which, with the 600 shares already subscribed by the company would enable them to meet their engagements to complete the work." The petition stated that "the company was deeply in debt without the means of relieving themselves or of even securing what has already been done from decay."

#### THE BRIDGE OPENED.

The bridge, not yet completed, was first opened to the public in February, 1819, under the following resolution adopted on the 17th of that month:

"WHEREAS, It appears that the bridge is so far floored as to admit the passage of teams (the other side having only two courses of plank laid down), and the contractors having absented themselves for some time without giving any satisfactory assurance either of their return or the period when the bridge will be completed, and various persons apparently unauthorized being in the habit of demanding toll and many irregularities taking place, such as persons trotting over the bridge, occasionally four or five teams being at once on the same arch and fires being kept up within the gate near the frame of the bridge; therefore, with a

view to prevent the total destruction of the bridge,

*Resolved*, That the company proceed to the appointment of a gate keeper and the collection of tolls, and that the treasurer be instructed to keep an account of the same to be accounted with the contractors if desired by them."

Proposals for keeping the gate were received from John J. Ward, \$273.75 per annum; Myron B. Helm, \$18 per month, and Thomas Tyson, \$300 per annum, Helm was employed, but at the end of the first month he notified the company that he should no longer agree to keep the gate as toll keeper short of \$25 per month, "finding himself." Zury Smith's proposition that he would undertake to keep the gate for one year for the sum of \$180, payable quarterly, "fire wood and candles to be found him," was accepted.

#### THE BRIDGE DESTROYED.

On March 22 Job Barton was given the contract to erect a toll-house 7x10 for \$16. The bridge was open to travel and the troubles of the company appeared at last to be at an end. But it was not so. During the freshest incident to the breaking up of the ice in the spring of that year (1819), and though there appears no record of the date it must have been sometime in April, large quantities of timber were lodged against one of the piers, which gave the current such direction as to undermine it, and notwithstanding the utmost exertion to save it, it fell and with it two arches. On April 30 John J. Ward was given the contract, at \$120, to separate carefully the two broken arches and to deliver the timber on top of the bank and the iron and castings in the storehouse of Wernwag & Co. On the same date Elias Hoyt was elected president of the company to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Joseph Sinton on the 31.

On August 12 the company contracted with Luther Thurston and Erastus Hill to rebuild the bridge and complete the work before the 20th of January following (1820). The sum of \$9 500 was agreed upon, "to be paid as the work progresses as fast as it may be necessary to defray the expense as it accrues," and "whatever sum shall remain due when the bridge is finished the contractors agree to wait for until the profits of the first tolls collected will discharge that sum, together with the legal interest, and to be paid monthly."

About the 1st of January, 1820, the bridge was again opened, the work of rebuilding having been completed except

some small parts of the flooring, and it was believed that the work had been done in so strong and secure a style as to defy the force of any ordinary flood in the river. Joseph Tuttle was toll keeper at this time. On January 4, just after the reopening of the bridge, aid was again sought from the Legislature, but without success, and on Nov. 29, of the same year, another appeal was made. Referring to the falling of the bridge in 1819 this petition said: "At this period that spirit of emulation and enterprise which had animated the breasts of the few individuals on whom the burthen had principally rested was sunk in deep disappointment, already embarrassed to the great risque of losing with the bridge their other property. It was, however, finally resolved, in consideration of the great public loss of the Wilkes-Barre bridge, as well as the loss to the company, most expedient to jeopardize the whole of their property in an attempt to rebuild the bridge in its former style." An appropriation of \$10,000 was secured, for which the state received 280 shares of the bridge stock.

#### ITS SECOND DESTRUCTION.

During a heavy gale in the winter of 1823-24 (date not on record so far as can be learned) the bridge was blown from the piers. Colonel Dorrance, the present president of the company, clearly remembers this occurrence and in conversation with the writer recently stated that at the time it happened (it was in the late evening) his father, a visitor and himself were in the sitting room of the old homestead in what is now Dorr-Newton borough. He was then about 18 or 19 years of age and though quite certain that he felt the house shaking in the wind the older ones seemed to take no notice of it and he did not venture to remark upon it. At length, however, as the gale increased in violence and attracted the attention of his father and his guest the latter gave utterance to the conviction which he himself had felt for some time—that the wind really was so violent as to fairly shake the house upon its foundation.

Though the bridge had now been in operation between three and four years no dividend had been declared and the company was by no means wealthy. On the contrary the people still felt the strain that had been placed upon them in building and rebuilding the bridge and the outlook was anything but encouraging. In this strait the Legislature was again appealed to and through the personal efforts of the Hon Benjamin Dorrance, father of the Colonel, the act of March 30, 1824, was passed. It appointed "Calvin Wadhams,

Geo. M. Hollenback and Garrick Mallory commissioners to collect of the purchase money due the Commonwealth on certificates, liens or mortgages on lands in the seventeen townships, or such of the townships as are in the county of Luzerne, \$15,000, which sum is hereby appropriated to the use of the president, managers, and company and to be by the commissioners expended in repairing and building the bridge." It was further provided by the act "that it shall be the duty of the president and managers of the said bridge company to issue certificates of the stock to the Commonwealth on moneys paid by the commissioners agreeable to this act in the same manner as if the same had been originally subscribed to the capital stock of the company. Provided also that in all cases where stock has heretofore been subscribed by stockholders new certificates of stock shall be issued by the said president and managers, to each stockholder, for the amount of one half of the stock so originally subscribed."

It was arranged with the commissioners that they would receive produce in payment of the commonwealth dues, and in this way and with the money that could be spared the \$15,000 thus appropriated was finally secured, though an equivalent of \$30,000, by reason of the forced 50 per cent. reduction of the original stock, was given the state for it. However, it enabled the company to repair the bridge, and this was the object, at whatever cost or sacrifice it be attained. All this took time, however, and it was not until Feb. 22, 1825, that the plans of the Derrstown bridge were adopted and Reuben Field employed to superintend the erection of the bridge at \$6 per day. The work was so far completed that it was reopened the latter part of November of the same year, with Solon Chapin as toll-gate keeper. The bridge was then as we see it now, except the new toll house, which a few years ago took the place of that erected in 1826 and which very few of the LEADER's readers have forgotten. From this time down to the present the company encountered no serious obstacles and with the exception of quite extensive repairs in the summer of 1834; somewhat serious damage in the spring break-up of 1861, when the bridge was again nearly lifted from the piers, and more or less injury by the flood of '65, there has been nothing more than the ordinary expenses of maintenance. The stock taken by the commonwealth gradually came into the hands of the company and various individuals, so that it was ultimately held by the projectors of the enterprise or their des-

endants or representatives. The first dividend (\$1 25 per share) was declared on January 10, 1829, and from that time to the present there has never been occasion for regret on the part of the stockholders, though there have been a number of years when the annual and semi-annual dividends were passed. In fact, the Hon. Ziba Bennett, not a great while before his death, said that the bridge had not paid 6 per cent interest on the original investment.

The bridge has been well maintained and from time to time such repairs have been made as were necessary to the safety of the public patronizing it and the preservation of the ancient structure.

#### MEMORANDA.

Of the more interesting minor events in the history of the old landmark, the following are noted:

March 8, 1821—Resolved to impose a fine of \$5 for fast driving on the bridge.

April 2, 1821—Resolved that all teams laden exclusively with lumber for a Methodist meeting house to be built in Wilkes-Barre the ensuing season pass the bridge toll free.

May 7, 1821—Lord Butler elected president.

May 25, 1821—President, managers and treasurer give the privilege of passing the bridge on foot, on horseback or in carriage, toll free, together with any person or persons riding in carriage with them. Ministers of all denominations allowed to pass and repass to attend religious meetings free from toll.

June 20, 1821—Contract with Robert B. Ward for finishing and covering the bridge, to be done in six months, for \$1,600.

May 1, 1826—George Denison elected president.

February 22, 1826—Rates of toll fixed for individuals and their families, in their ordinary business, until 31st December, 1826, payable quarterly in advance, and upon failure of payment to be charged for tolls as usual: Wm. Church \$8, Wm. Banker \$6, Enoch Skeir \$12, Jacob Rice \$20, John Smith, Plymouth, \$12, Levi Hoyt, Abel Hoyt, Wm. Hancock \$8 each, Elijah Loveland \$12, Arnold Taylor \$10, James Gallup \$5, Dudley Atkins \$12, David Peckins \$15, Andrew Raub \$10, Benjamin Dorrance \$15, Isaac Carpenter \$12, O Helme \$20, C. D. Shoemaker \$10.

May 1, 1826—Elnathan Nieson appointed toll collector until toll house is built.

May 13, 1826—Resolved that toll house be built with wings 16x20 extending from the

main building back toward the wing walls of the bridge, with cellar under each.

May 7, 1827—Ebenezer Bowman elected president.

March 4, 1829—Appropriate action upon the death of Ebenezer Bowman, president.

First Monday in May, 1829—G. M. Hollenback elected president.

February 22, 1840—Enacted that no person or persons shall be permitted to smoke any cigar or pipe or any other substance containing fire, or to carry any instrument or thing containing fire, on the bridge, without incurring for every such offense a fine of \$5.

March 1, 1843—Colonel Charles Dorrance elected manager to fill vacancy caused by electing A. C. Laning, secretary.

June 29, 1843—Forty shares of stock, sold at public sale by commissioners of the commonwealth, purchased by the company at \$26 per share.

March 11, 1844—Tolls reduced as follows: Four horse teams from 70 to 50 cents; two horse from 40 to 30 cents; tickets for two horse team, from 25 to 20 cents. Ordered that after the next annual election the salary paid the secretary be discontinued and that he have the use of the bridge for light crossing free of charge.

August 12, 1848—Managers and officers given free toll for themselves and friends with them.

December 8, 1866—Hon. Ziba Bennett elected president to fill vacancy caused by death of George M. Hollenback.

April 1, 1872—O. Hemstreet became toll collector and has been in continuous service ever since.

November 30, 1878—Col. Charles Dorrance elected president to fill vacancy caused by the death of Hon. Ziba Bennett. Still occupies the position.

Among the comparatively recent improvements by the bridge company have been the erection of the present handsome toll house and residence at the entrance of the bridge, the partial macadamizing of the flats road, lighting of the thoroughfare by natural gas—the ingenious scheme of Mr. J. Bennett Smith, of Kingston, and the reduction of tolls to the minimum.

#### A Memorial of Judge Conyngham.

Mrs. A. B. Starkey, wife of the late lamented sculptor, presented the Law Library Association with a life-sized plaster bust of the late Judge Conyngham of Luzerne county. The bust is the work of her husband and was cast in 1874. The gift was tastefully displayed from the judicial bench yesterday.—*Scranton Times*, April 8, 1891.

## A REMINISCENCE OF 1780.

**The George Whitmoyer Family Who Were Murdered by the Indians on the Headwaters of the Chillisqueaque in Northumberland County, Pa.**

[Contributed by C. F. Hill, Hazleton, Pa.]

In a recent number of the Historical Record (volume 4, page 43,) I notice an inquiry coming from Brookline, Mass., asking for information of a family of the name of George Whitmer or Whitmore. The proper name is Whitmoyer and is a common one in Columbia County, especially in the vicinity of what was known during the Revolutionary days as the Fishing Creek country. It was one of the earliest settlements of the North Branch of the Susquehanna, and is now dotted by the towns of Bloomsburg, Eddy, Light Street, Rupert, Orangeville, Millville and Jerseytown. The upper portion of the Fishing creek and that section which during the late war received the appellation of "Fishing Creek Confederacy," was then an uninhabited region. The creek empties into the North Branch of the Susquehanna near the town of Rupert in Columbia County.

Among the pioneers in this settlement on the lower Fishing creek, were the families of James McClure, Thomas Clayton, Peter Melick, the Vancampens, the Alkmans, Josiah Wheeler, the McHenrys and Captain Joseph Salmon. During the decade of 1790, many families from this Fishing creek settlement removed to the Genesee country in the State of New York. Among them were Rev. Andrew Gray,\* Joseph A. Rathburn, Joseph Coleman, Matthew McHenry, Captain Henry McHenry, Obadiah Ayres, Wm. Gray, — Vandemark, Samuel VanCampen and Major Moses VanCampen. Captain Henry McHenry above mentioned was one of the two men whom Major Moses VanCampen sent during a night attack in 1778, by the Indians, from Fort Wheeler to Fort Jenkins for a supply of ammunition. The inquiry coming from Brookline, Mass., contains the following extract:

George Whitmer or Whitmore resided in Northumberland County. On Easter morning in 1780 it is stated, that as his eldest son Philip was lighting the fire, the door was broken open by Indians who tomahawked him and shot the father while he was reaching for his gun. They killed the mother before she got out of bed, while Sarah, aged 17, Mary, aged 10, Peter, aged 8, George, aged 6, John, aged 4 and an infant were carried off. Sarah carried the child for two days, but it cried and worried so that an Indian dashed it against a tree and killed it. Catherine aged 14 years and Ann, aged 12 years, were in

the sugar bush at the time looking after the sap. Seeing the house burning they hid for three days until the neighbors, fearing some of the family were likely to have been in the Sugar Bush before daylight, looked for and rescued them. Ann married one Ermentrout, remaining in Pennsylvania. Tradition states that the Indians divided the captives among themselves, Sarah and George followed the Senecas, Peter and Mary the Mohawks and John the Towandas. When they were released, the younger children had become so accustomed to savage life that they did not want to stay with the whites. It is stated that Sarah went to Philadelphia and married Horatio Jones. This Horatio Jones, it is stated, belonged to the Bedford Rangers at the time they were taken by the Indians in Genesee Country. It is more than probable that it was there where Sarah Whitmer became acquainted with him.

As a counterpart to the above and as a solution to the inquiry from Brookline, Mass., I give an extract from Battie's History of Columbia County under the head of Madison Township, which throws much light on the article given above. It seems the proper name is Whitmoyer and that both articles refer to the same family there is no doubt. He says, "Frozen Duck" is the literal meaning of the Indian designation, Chillisqueaque. The contribution of this people to the history of the region is not, however, confined to the single circumstance of bestowing upon it this name. The Indian trail from the West Branch to Nescoopeck crossed the divide several miles above Jerseytown; one of the early surveys locates an Indian town about the point where Looming, Montour and Columbia meet, and therefore partly in Madison township; and even after the whites had begun to occupy the soil in considerable numbers the savage clung tenaciously to a region that had once been a favorite hunting ground. A thrilling incident of their struggle for its possession and one of the last outrages committed in the region was the murder of the Whitmoyer family. In the year 1775 this family with two others, the Bilhimers and Wellivers, made their appearance at the headwaters of the Chillisqueaque. All came from that region in New Jersey on the opposite of the Delaware from Northampton County. In their journey they crossed Eastern Pennsylvania to Harris Ferry and followed the Susquehanna and "Frozen Duck" to the Jerseytown Valley. Michael Bilhimer located on Muddy Run where he built a cabin and cleared six acres of land. Daniel Welliver fixed his residence on Whetstone Run, an affluent of Little Fishing creek. The Whitmoyers settled a short distance west of Jerseytown. The dangers of frontier life were early realized by the Bilhimers and Wellivers who retired to a place of greater security. On a morning in the month of March, 1780, there was unusual stir at their solitary cabin. It was evident from the preparations made that certain members of the family were about to leave in order to estab-

lish a sugar camp and it would have been a happy circumstance if the departure of all had taken place. Sometime during the day a party of hostile savages passed through the region, leaving in their rear traces of the tomahawk and firebrand. It is disputed whether three or five of the Whitmoyses were murdered. The son returned the following morning in quest of a needed utensil, or perhaps with a premonition of the tragedy already enacted. Turning with a shudder from the melancholy spectacle which met his gaze, he fled in haste to Fort Augusta [Sunbury] The next day a party of rangers reached the spot and buried the dead. Their graves are still pointed out on the old road from Jerseytown to Washingtonville. It is a curious coincidence that on or about the same day that the Whitmoyer family was murdered, at near what is now Jerseytown, the Vancampen family was murdered on the Fishing creek at what is now Orangeville, Columbia County, and Major Moses Vancampen, his little nephew and Peter Pence were carried away prisoners, but escaped at Wysox by rising upon their captors. It is evident that the prisoners of the Whitmoyer family were taken up the West Branch a different route from that on which Vancampen and his party were taken.

P. S.—Any persons having in their possession any scraps of unpublished history relating to the early settlement of Columbia County, the writer would be pleased to have copies sent him.

\*[For mention of Rev. Andrew Gray see Historical Record, vol. 4, page 46.—Ed.]

† Dr. W. H. Egle, State Librarian, informs the Record that the word *Chillisqueague* is a corruption of *Chillisuagi* which signifies a *place of snow birds*.

#### A Gift to the City of Scranton.

On Tuesday evening in the Scranton Board of Trade rooms the mayor received in behalf of the city a handsome portrait of Col. George W. Scranton, the pioneer of the valley, painted by his niece. A number of speeches were made and among them was one by Calvin Parsons of Parsons. The *Scranton Times* quotes him as saying that he has the distinction of being the oldest man now living who was one of the first visitors to Scranton. He first came here in 1822. It was then a vast wilderness. He was here again in 1833, and it was a vast wilderness. He came here in 1837 and found a little red house, a few huts and a school. In 1844 he met Col. Scranton. He spoke most feelingly of the relations between himself and the Scrantons. The last time he saw Col. Scranton alive there was a smile on his lips which he saw in the picture before him. He never could forget the Scrantons. He related the

hardships the Scrantons had endured and their indomitable courage in building up the city.

#### The Elder Dr. Miner.

[The following biographical sketch from the pen of Hon. Hendrick B. Wright is reprinted from the *RECORD OF THE TIMES* of November 3, 1858.]

Dr. Thomas Wright Miner died in this, his native town, on Thursday morning, the twenty-first of October, in the fifty-first year of his age. He was a son of Asher Miner, one of the early pioneers of this valley, and who was well known to our people. The doctor removed with his father, while yet a lad to Bucks Co., Pa., and after receiving his medical diploma at the University of Pennsylvania, he returned to Wilkes-Barre with a view of a permanent residence as a physician and surgeon, probably about the year 1825. It may have been a little later. His reputation commenced at once as a skillful man at his profession. His advance was not step by step through a series of toil and disappointments. He came from the medical school with his honors about him. They were not fictitious, they were real. He was young in years but old in the acquisition of knowledge. All that he had to do was to give himself up to his profession. This he did, and with his undivided energy. Following a man of such high professional reputation as the younger Dr. Covell, it was no easy matter to obtain a prominent position. It required assiduous attention in practice. It required thorough reading and research. In other words, decision of character and energy of purpose. He had, it is true, a strong family influence—the name of his honored father and his uncle, Hon. Charles Miner, as well as his father-in-law, the late Ebenezer Bowman Esq., a leading and prominent member of the Luzerne Bar. Their names were a tower of strength 35 years ago in this county. They were a strong introduction and their influence helped to give this novice a start in his professional career. But his own energy and his will, laid the foundation of his own superstructure. At all hours of the day and night, in all kinds of weather, Dr. Miner was constantly in motion. He obeyed the summons of the rich and poor alike. He was proud of his profession and he met all its responsibilities like a man. The sequel may be summed up in a sentence—His reputation in-

creased, he reached the summit. All this was accomplished in a comparatively short period of time. It was permanent too. It was conceded in the community in which he lived; it had the indorsement of such distinguished men as Chapman and Wood.

For more than 25 years and during the whole time he was in active practice, he maintained his standing. He had the unlimited confidence of this community as a man of skill and high professional reputation.

During this period of time the name of Dr. Miner has been a household word. Everybody knew Dr. Miner and Dr. Miner knew everybody. He was plain and unostentatious in his manners. He was agreeable and friendly in his intercourse with all. He had a kind word for everybody he met; it was the impulse of a generous heart. Dr. Miner was the poor man's friend. He was ever doing them favors, not professional only, but his purse was ever open to their wants; his responsibilities in the way of sureties for this class of people were probably greater than those of any other man in the county. He lent his name to rich and poor, white and black. The writer of this notice has had occasion, in his own professional pursuits, to attest the truth of this assertion. The great throng of men, women and children, who pressed around his house on the day of the funeral, to get a last glimpse of their departed friend, told in stronger language than I can write of the affections of the multitude.

Disconnected from his profession, Dr. Miner was a man of marked genius. He was born with the imagination of a poet—His thoughts, his expressions, his ideas, were all imbued with poetical imagery. He was sensitive to the grand and beautiful in nature, and read as well as retained the choicest specimens of poetical writing. Scott seemed to be his favorite author. He had selected with great care many of those wild scenes of the poet's descriptive composition and delighted in social company to rehearse them. This he would do with effect. He also read Byron and Shakespeare with great interest. His fund of general knowledge was large, and on any subject—religious, political or literary—he was at home, and a skillful antagonist it must be, who would successfully enter the lists with Dr. Miner, upon almost any topic. He possessed a nervous temperament, his conceptions were quick, his conclusions rapid, and always bore marks of a strong reflecting mind. He wrote ably, his style was nervous and his ideas were always clothed in beautiful language. Some of his public lectures (and he was often called on to make contributions in this way) were specimens of the best composition; the style was elevated and of a character to demand attention.

When Dr. Miner was to speak the house would be invariably crowded, and was silent too, unless moved to applause. He always made a hit. His lecture on "Our Country, Past, Present and Future," was a masterly production. It was published at the time, and the press very generally extracted from it.

Many of the older inhabitants of the county will remember the biting and sarcastic article which emanated from his pen, some twenty years ago, when partially connected with the press. Those who were not old enough to read them at the time, should recur to the files of the *Wyoming Republican* newspaper and they will see such specimens of political satire as were never before or since published in Luzerne County. They were unanswerable; of their kind they cannot be excelled.

His language in his ordinary conversation was not only chaste but singularly beautiful. He possessed a remarkable faculty in this particular. It was done, too, without any affectation or effort. It cost Dr. Miner no effort to clothe ordinary ideas in fascinating language. It came as natural to him as the air he respired. Probably no man in twenty thousand had so happy a faculty of expression as he had.

For the past six or eight years Dr. Miner had pretty much withdrawn from his professional pursuits. In fact for the past three or four he had entirely abandoned it. He could well afford to do this. He had acquired more than a competency. He leaves a handsome estate behind him. During the last few years of his life he seemed only anxious to consult his own ease and comfort. He knew that his lease had nearly expired, and his sole thoughts were how he should spend the remnant of his life in the most agreeable way to his family and himself. In this he was wise. He traveled; he read; he visited his friends; he bestowed his aims.

Dr. Miner was an honest man.

No one can charge him with broken faith or deceitful practices. He met all his engagements promptly. His word was his bond—its spirit and its letter. He possessed a high toned principle; he was tenacious of his honor. He had a right to do this, for no man could impeach it.

Few men have died in this community whose loss would be more signally felt. He rose with the growth of the town, and during a number of years no man was more familiar with the population than he. He was literally one of the people.

He's gone down to his tomb in the prime of life and in the maturity of his manhood. The affections of the people are with him. We doubt if there is a person living who can truthfully say, that Dr. Miner, during a long active and eventful life, did him or any one

else within his knowledge, a wrong. And what nobler eulogy can be passed upon the dead? Who could desire a prouder inscription to be placed upon his tomb than "Here lies a man who never wronged his fellow?" And this, I think, can be said of Dr. Thomas W. Miner.

#### The Historian's Visit to Wyoming.

**EDITOR RECORD:** The interesting reminiscence by Alderman Oram, in *Scranton Truth*, copied in the *RECORD* of Jan. 29, of the visit of Hon. George Bancroft and Mrs. Bancroft in 1850, brings to mind an incident attending their journey worthy of mention, as showing the thoughtful kindness of our great historian.

While at the Court of St. James succeeding Hon. Edward Everett, who was then the most popular representative the United States had sent to England, Mr. Bancroft found on file an application from Charles Miner for a copy of some early record of our Indian history, in the War Department. The refusal of the war officials was endorsed on the paper and the fact formally dispatched to Mr. Miner by the Secretary of Legation. Mr. Bancroft renewed the application, and would not take "no" for an answer, but secured the paper and brought it to Mr. Miner at his home in Wyoming. Unsolicited and unexpected, this incident was a pleasant surprise (as they were of opposing politics), and the civility fully appreciated at the "Retreat," and continued a pleasant memory through life. Of course nothing was omitted that could add to the comfort and pleasure of the distinguished guests.

There was good reason for the failure of Mr. Everett's application. He was a personal and political friend, appointed by Daniel Webster under Gen. Harrison's administration, and undoubtedly well disposed, but war threatened on the dispute over our North-eastern boundary, and the formal and reserved manner which made him popular among English officials (as unpopular with his Harvard pupils) would not permit him to insist on the request. The last friendly letter of Mr. Everett to Mr. Miner in 1855 would show that no personal discourtesy prompted the formal letter of the legation. He begins: "My Dear Old Friend" and concludes, "Meantime I remain with sincere regard

Your ancient colleague and friend,  
EDWARD EVERETT."

The author of "Memories of Many Men, and Some Women," says of 1848: "Mr. Edward Everett was our minister at the court of St. James. I found him as frigid as an iceberg. His reserve was constitutional. He was polished as his own writings, but equally as cold." Wm. P. MINER.

#### The Paxtang Sesqui-Centennial.

Among the historic old structures in Pennsylvania none has greater interest than that of the old church at Paxtang in Dauphin County. Last year its 150th anniversary was celebrated and its story is now told in a sumptuous volume of 850 pages by M. W. McAlarney, editor of the *Harrisburg Telegraph*. He has done his work admirably and the book will rank as a standard contribution to the early history of Pennsylvania. It is more than a local history, for the Paxtang church, like those at Berry and Hanover, was an important outpost of education, patriotism and religion along the Indian frontier in the early years of the last century. That locality was a stronghold of the Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, to whom we of to-day are indebted for so much we possess. The story of Paxtang, of its early struggles, the tremendous power it wielded for freedom and religion before and during the Revolution until the establishment of the government of the United States, is graphically told in Mr. McAlarney's volume. The work comprises not only a verbatim report of the proceedings on the day of the celebration, but a great variety of information relating to the historic old church, which is invaluable and which every descendant of the pioneers of Paxtang will rejoice to see collected and preserved in such a permanent and attractive form. Of all the addresses the most elaborate is that of Dr. W. H. Egle, the nestor of Pennsylvania history. One of the most entertaining is that of Rev. Dr. N. G. Parke of Pittston. Gen. George Ross Snowden's speech told of his ancestor, Rev. Nathaniel Ross Snowden, pastor from 1798 to 1796. Rev. E. Hazard Snowden, who has been a Presbyterian pastor in Wyoming Valley for upwards of fifty years, is a nephew of the Paxtang pastor.

Among the mass of interesting material is a transcript of all the grave stones in the old burying ground by Dr. Egle several years ago. Since they were copied many of them have become illegible, and were it not for the present State librarian's forethought, they would be entirely lost.

There are also the marriage records of Revs. John Elder and John Boan, together with that more complete records of Rev. James B. Sharon—the notes on "Master Allen," that old-time autocrat of the school room," whose fame in Paxtang is second only to that of Parson Elder—the full and complete tombstone record, to which is appended fourteen closely printed pages of biographical sketches of persons now sleeping in that consecrated spot—together with several other items of like interest, rendering the book exceedingly valuable to every one whose ancestors had any connection with the locality.



## EARLY POWDER MAKING.

**Several Explosions and Their Results—When and Where the Mills Were Built and Who Owned Them.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** I noticed in your paper recently an item referring to Charles McKinney, now a resident of Southern California, who is a son of the Charles McKinney who lost his life by reason of an explosion in the Laurel Run Powder Mill over forty years ago, which brings to mind scenes and incidents of that fearful calamity. It was along in about 1838, or it may have been a little earlier, that Capt. William H. Alexander built a powder mill on Laurel Run at about where the slope of the Delaware & Hudson Company, bearing that name, is now in operation. The dam was further up stream, and the raceway brought the water to a large overshot wheel for operating the machinery. The making of powder in those days was a much more dangerous business than it is by the mode practiced at present. Then the saltpetre, charcoal and sulphur, in about the proportions of 10, 2 and 1, were all put under the stampers together, where the slightest friction from metallic or flinty substances coming together in the trough might at any time cause the mass to explode with deadly effect, notwithstanding it was being worked in a partly wetted condition. This mill, as I remember, was twice blown up by some such fortuitous circumstances. It had been running but a short time when the first explosion occurred, and a young man named John Harter was severely, but not fatally, burned on exposed parts of his head, face and hands, the skin sloughing from the latter in due time like the removing of a pair of gloves, part of his ears falling entirely off.

I think Reuben J. Flicke had become proprietor of the mill when Charles McKinney, an active and intelligent young Irishman, an expert powder maker from Sunnyside, Montgomery County, came to take charge of it. He was unmarried when he came here, but soon took to wife Abby Williams, daughter of Thomas Williams of Mill Creek, and had at least two children, a son and a daughter, at the time of his death. They lived in a small frame house that had been built near by for the use of the powder maker. When the explosion in the mill took place, which was, I think in about 1847, there was no other workingman present, consequently he was the only one to suffer. As a neighbor,

I, of course, with others hastened to the scene of the disaster, and remained with the injured man during the following night, ministering to his wants as far as I was able. He was in a fearful condition. His clothing being saturated with powder dust was entirely burned off and his entire person, except where his heavy boots had covered the feet and legs, was burned to a crisp, so that he suffered the most excruciating agony while he lived; death following at an early hour next morning.

Capt. Alexander I think was the pioneer powder manufacturer in this valley. Frederick Dietrick, father of Miller Dietrick, who drives the Kingston street car, built a small mill on Solomon's Creek, just below Ashley, about the same time. A Mr. Schooley also built a mill back of Wyoming. The Johnson heirs also had a mill at their place on Laurel Run, west of Mr. Parsons's place. Messrs. Knapp and Parrish afterwards had a mill on Solomon's Creek, a short distance below Richard Jones's foundry. This blew up in about 1854 and they then removed their works to the great Wapwallopen Falls, now Du Pont's works at Powder Hole. All these small mills were abandoned after one or two explosions. The making of powder was a profitable business during those early days, provided the plant did not go up in smoke too often. The selling price then was about \$3 a keg, but I understand it can be made at a much less price now, as the risk is much less by the modern mode of pulverizing the ingredients separately and by using a cheaper material, chloride of potash or some other salt instead of real Calcutta saltpeter as formerly.

I well remember when Knapp & Parrish's mill blew up in about 1853 or 4. It was in the evening and I was sitting in a frame building on North Main street. My first impression upon feeling the concussion and hearing the report was that some heavy body had been violently hurled against the side of the building. When Gen. Oliver's mills, on the line of the L. & S. R. R. below the old toll gate at what is now Whisky Hill, went up in '70 or '71, it was shortly after 7 o'clock in the morning. I was coming down Franklin street when I heard a tremendous explosion, and upon looking up in a southeasterly direction, saw an immense column of black smoke going up until it appeared higher than the top of the mountain before it began to spread out and become dissipated in the morning air. Upon visiting the scene of the disaster soon after scarcely a wreck of the mill was found on the ground where it had stood. By this explosion a young man named Oscar Shoemaker, son of big Marmaduke Shoemaker, lost his life.

w. j.

### A CENTENNIAL INCIDENT.

**The First Methodist Quarterly Meeting in This Section—Interesting Description by Rev. J. K. Peck.**

[Written for the Record.]

Yesterday I stood on the spot where Anning Owen formed the Methodist class in 1788, the first religious organization of the M. E. Church north of Baltimore and west of "Albany on the Hudson." From these points, then, one could travel north to the pole and west to the sunset and not run upon a religious society. The class was formed after a revival meeting on "Boss Hill" in a house occupied by "Captain Parrish." William Colbert preached in it and so did Bishop Asbury.

The house is gone, but the cellar is there with distinct outlines. The same old well is there, out of which the weary itinerant slaked his thirst. The barn is there to-day and I went inside. It is a barn still. In this inclosure was held the "first quarterly meeting" of the whole region above described. People now living remember the house and barn but not the quarterly meeting. Robert Cloud was the elder, James Campbell was the pastor. The barn was the meeting place before any meeting house was built. That barn carries on all its features the wrinkles of one hundred years and yet it wears a smile. In it they had a "solemn meeting" just one century ago. Darius Williams led the singing. Debora Sutton, then a girl of eighteen, went forward to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, "stepping from seat to seat" as she went and kneeled at the last one. This she could do, for the seats had no backs. The last one was the altar and was likely in the west side of the barn floor, where stood the preachers in the pulpit, such as it was. The front door of the barn is east, opening towards the house. Into this the audience entered. There stands to-day the old hacked and hewed posts that were witnesses of the scenes of that "first quarterly meeting."

I turn now to the old files of the RECORD OF THE TIMES for 1856 and find this under the head of "Records:"

"1791" "Wyoming, James Campbell. So we have a starting point. Robert Cloud, elder."

From this extract from the old RECORD OF THE TIMES, the old minutes, Stevens' history and the memory of Debora Sutton Bedford, written down by Dr. George Peck from his own lips we have located the "first quarterly

meeting" and who was there and what was done, exactly one hundred years ago.

There is no date on or in the barn and it needs none. It shows, age. The joists are numbered "I, II, V," etc. The nails are hammered nails and they are not very numerous.

One or two of the original posts are gone and their places supplied by sawed ones. A distillery was built up against the end of the barn afterwards. It came later and went earlier.

The love feast has outlasted that distillery. There are men here now who remember the distillery, but not that quarterly meeting.

April 16, 1891. J. K. Peck.

### New Irish Lane was Founded.

**EDITOR RECORD:** The traveler as well as the brief sojourner in passing over our beautiful hills, flecked on every hand with beautiful residences, grows enthusiastic with admiration in contemplating the grandeur displayed by a beneficent creator in the formation of both hill and vale, which are continually being beautified and made more attractive by the lords of creation. The first settlers in this locality were three hard-fisted sons of the Emerald Isle, Francis Irwin, James Crockett and Thomas Holmes. Leaving the land of the rose and the shamrock they came to America before landlordism, monopolies and syndicates had been conceived by mother time, where they purchased a tract of land together in what is now Ross Township. Irwin occupied the portion of the tract now owned and occupied by G. O. Bood, in the autumn of 1808, and the next spring Crockett moved on the middle portion, now owned by County Surveyor James Crockett, and in the spring of 1811 Holmes built a log house and moved on the north part of the tract, now owned by B. H. Holmes. There were no other settlers north of them for 40 miles. A straight road was cut through the forest, giving an outlet for those hardy sons of toil, which was very appropriately named Irish Lane. Three-quarters of a century later, when the surrounding country was teeming with go-a-head tillers of the soil and it was necessary for their convenience that a postoffice be established at the cross roads, the sons of old Erin were not forgotten, for their many virtues and good qualities, characteristic of every true Irish American, are still fresh in the memory of our oldest inhabitants, and the postoffice was called Irish Lane as a grandson of the original James Crockett as the postmaster.

S. T.

## COAL FOR LOCOMOTIVE FUEL.

**Some Early Experiments in That Direction  
—Curious Statements of the Difficulties  
of 50 Years Ago now Fully Overcome.**

In this day when locomotives burn no other fuel than coal it is difficult to picture the obstacles in its use 50 years ago. The following correspondence from Dr. Egle's Historical Column in *Harrisburg Telegraph*, will be found very interesting reading to railroad men.

The first and second letters were written to Hon. John Strohm, then chairman of a special committee of the Pennsylvania Senate on the subject of Burning Coal in Locomotive Engines. The inquiries were made under the following resolution of the Senate:

"WHEREAS, The use of wood for fuel on the railroads of this Commonwealth is productive of danger and occasions much apprehension to the owners of property through which such railroads pass, which might be avoided by the use of mineral coal; therefore

"Resolved, That the committee on Roads, Bridge and Inland Navigation enquire into the practicability and expediency of using mineral coal exclusively as fuel for locomotives on the railroads of this Commonwealth and of prohibiting by law the use of any other fuel for such purpose."

LETTER FROM HON. S. D. INGHAM.

BEAVER MEADOW, 24 Feb., 1848.

*John Strohm, Esqr.:*

DEAR SIR—I have duly received at this place your favor of the 16th inst., requesting information as to the experience of the Beaver Meadow company in the use of anthracite coal for raising steam in their locomotive engines. I will communicate with pleasure any information I possess on the subject. We commenced burning coal in one of our engines about the 1st of December, 1836, and since that time in three others. We now use no other fuel except for kindling fire in the morning, a small portion of wood is, however, always carried on the tender. The coal fire will keep up an hour readily during a stoppage, but for a long delay it is expedient to put in a few sticks of wood to keep the fire alive and expedite the ignition of the coal when the engine starts again. We have not the slightest difficulty in raising steam or keeping it up. The engines are limited to 100 pounds steam on the heavy grades, but their general limit is 90 pounds. Our engines were built by Garret & Eastwick, of Philadelphia, and the repairs are under the direction of Hopkin Thomas, a very skillful machinist, to whom much is due for our entire success in the management of coal fires. The only inconvenience that has attended the use of coal is the burning of the fire box and melting of

the grates. The first is occasioned by imperfect welding of the plies of which the boiler iron is made, which thereby comes from the rollers with partial partings in the middle. These partings cut off the communication of the heat from the fire to the water, hence the iron next to the fire rises in a blister and soon burns through to the parting. The water then finds its way to the melted seams and leaks out. We have one engine which has been in use with coal more than twelve months without the least appearance of failure in this respect. We have no little difficulty with the grates in the commencement, but none have been melted in the last three months, altho' three engines have been in constant use since that time. Not a single copper tube has been injured since we commenced the use of coal.

I have supposed that a particular description of the means used to perfect the management of the coal fire was not expected in this communication, but everything known and practised at our works will be cheerfully communicated to any person who will take the trouble to visit them, when not only the facts I have stated can be verified, but several other matters ascertained which will be very useful to all who are engaged in railroad transportation. I regret that I cannot give you an accurate statement of the amount of fuel consumed for a given effect, not being prepared for setting apart by *weight* the coal used for the engines. To determine this fact satisfactorily, the average of several week's consumption is indispensable.

I would observe that the apparatus for increasing the draught of the chimney is very simple and may easily be attached to any horizontal boiler. I am, with high respect,

Your Humble Serv't,  
S. D. INGHAM.

LETTER FROM GARRETT & EASTWICK.

PHILADA., 1 Mo. 27th, 1838.

Hon. John Strohm:

Respected Friend: Since the interview had with thee by the senior partner of our concern, when in this city during the late recess of the Legislature, in relation to the use of Anthracite Coal in Locomotive Engines, we have received a copy of the report of the Canal Commissioners in which we find a notice is taken by A. Mehaffy, Agent of Motive power on the Columbia road, & in which we think he has done us great justice, where he says (page 56) "An experiment was lately made on the road to shew that it (Anthracite Coal) was usefully practicable, but with little success. It was impossible to keep up a fire for any length of time so as to convey a full train without the aid of wood to produce a blaze," he also says, "much has been said as to the use of this kind of coal by a Southern company (Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road Compy,) but

from enquiry on the spot the undersigned is fully of the opinion that the kind of engines there used would neither suit our road in point of performance or cost of repairs." In this opinion we fully concur, as the Baltimore engines are very complicated in their construction and of course expensive to keep in order, and use fifty per cent. more coal than ours in performing the same amount of work, and he (Mebaffy) on his return from the South did us the justice to acknowledge there was no comparison between our engines and those. Notwithstanding the assertion he has made in his report to the Canal Commissioners, we can prove conclusively that we have frequently passed over the road between Philadelphia and Columbia, taking not only the passenger train, but also with burthen trains heavily laden, and in the usual time, without the use of a particle of wood, "to create a blaze." We believe the truth to be that the Agent above alluded to, having made up his mind that anthracite coal cannot be used, so as to answer a good purpose in generating steam for locomotives, did not deem the experiments we were making of sufficient importance to claim his attention, as we believe he never took the trouble personally to witness the operation of our engine in burning that fuel except in company with two of the Canal Commissioners from Parksburg to Philadelphia one afternoon, and from thence to Lancaster the next day, and on his arrival at the latter place he declared to the Commissioners that he saw it was so easy a matter to burn coal, that it could be burned in any of their engines without alteration, and in consequence of this assertion, they directed the experiment to be tried on one of the engines on the road and failed, as one of our firm was informed by John Brandt, chief machinist on the road, who tried it. He said they could keep up steam for only four miles, when they were obliged to take out the coal and substitute wood.

After the Canal Commissioners returned to Harrisburg, after having witnessed the operation of our engine in burning coal, they adopted a resolution (a copy of which we furnish thee) authorizing us to alter one of the engines we made for the State, and to proceed with our experiments, which we are now doing, and keeping an accurate account of the coal used, and of the loads drawn with it. The day before yesterday, although the dampness on the rail occasioned considerable slipping, we brought 25 loaded cars part of the way from Columbia, and made an average of 16 cars, using 1 ton of coal, and less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  cord of wood for kindling previous to starting, and to perform the same distance with that load requires at least 3 cords of wood, but such is the opposition on the road to coal, that officers

do not seem disposed to go with us and witness it for themselves, and therefore any statement that can as yet be made must rest on our own assertion; at least as to the particulars. Several very respectable individuals, it is true, have witnessed the operation of burning the coal and can testify that there is no difficulty in burning that fuel, and with it alone, keeping up an abundance of steam, but they are unable to say what was the load drawn or coal used. In order to remedy these difficulties, and believing that you should have official information on the subject referred to your consideration, we would suggest whether it might not meet your views to appoint some person who would be competent and disinterested, to pass with us a few times over the road on the engine so as to have an opportunity from his own observation, to make a report to you, and if it should meet your approbation, also for him to visit the Beaver Meadow road and Baltimore, and make his observation there, and report to you a fair statement of the information he may obtain at those places, which are all we have any knowledge of, where Anthracite coal has been used in locomotives with any degree of success. The trifling expense that will attend such an appointment will amount to a mere nothing, compared to the great saving that can be readily shown will result to the State, by the adoption of Anthracite coal as fuel for locomotives on the Columbia road, but further west, where bituminous coal is easier of access and cheaper than the anthracite, that description of fuel will probably be the cheapest. As we have it in contemplation in a few days to submit a proposition for supplying coal and burning it in the locomotive engines on the Columbia road, at a much less cost to the State than either wood or bituminous coal or coke will cost on the road, it would give us great pleasure if your committee could spare so much time from their other duties as to pass over the road in the engine in which we are now burning anthracite coal and witness for yourselves its operation, so as to enable you to report from your own observation as well as from the report or information derived from others. Should you be enabled to do so, by giving us a short notice we will meet you at Lancaster whenever it may suit your convenience.

Respectfully Your Friends,  
GARRETT & EASTWICK.

LETTER FROM GEORGE JENKINS, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE BEAVER MEADOW ROAD.  
PERRYVILLE, Jan'y 16th, 1838.

Messrs. Garrett & Eastwick:

In reply to the queries propounded by you in relation to the success, &c., attending the use of coal in the Locomotive Engines made by you for the Beaver Meadow Rail Road & Coal Company, I may state for your in-

formation, that the two Engines, the Elias Ely, & Sam'l D. Ingham, that were placed on the road during the summer of 1836, did not commence the use of coal until the latter end of Autumn, or beginning of Winter of that year. The Quakeake was constructed for burning coal, and placed on the road in the Spring of 1837, all three being six wheel engines. The Beaver is the larger and heavier Engine with eight wheels, and has used coal ever since being placed on the road in the month of August last. All the Engines have continued to burn Anthracite Coal, when running on the road, ever since their commencing the use of that fuel at the times above stated. We do not find the use of wood necessary, except for kindling previously to starting in the mornings, and there is no difficulty in keeping an abundance of steam through the day without its aid. The usual number of loaded cars taken per day from Black Creek to Parryvill. with the 6 wheel engine is 16, containing  $2\frac{3}{4}$  tons of coal each, and the same number of empty cars are drawn up the grade to Quakeake with the same engines, and twelve up the 96 feet grade on their return home. The Beaver (8 wheels) takes thirty-two cars per trip each way, and twenty-four up the 96 feet grade, from Quakeake to Black Creek. As nearly as we have been able to ascertain 1,200 pounds of coal is consumed per trip in the 6 wheel engines, that is from Black Creek to Parryville and back, a distance of forty miles, and for the same distance with double the load the Beaver consumes about 1,800 pounds.

With ten days, or two weeks' practice, an engineer or fireman will ordinarily become sufficiently acquainted with the manner of using anthracite coal in locomotives, to run them without difficulty, and they generally prefer coal to wood on account of its being much less laborious, and in consequence of which we pay our fireman only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents per day more than the men who attend the brakes at the cars.

Any other information on the above subject within my power I will furnish with pleasure.

Yours respectfully,  
GEORGE JENKINS,

Superintendent Transportation B. M. E. R.  
and O. Company.

#### A New York Assemblyman on Wyoming.

Milo M. Acker, the Republican leader of the New York Assembly, is able to find a little time for historical research. At the last meeting of the Canisteo Valley Historical Society he delivered an address on "Wyoming." The *Hornellsville Times*, in its report of the meeting, says: "Beginning with the early history of Wyoming and the Pennamite War, and tracing carefully the causes

and history of the Indian incursion that ended in a dreadful massacre, his address gave at once the history and the romance of that pathetic page in our country's annals."

#### Dundaff Sixty Years Ago.

The following was written for the *Pitteton Gazette* a year ago, by John G. Fell, whose death occurred recently (P. 107). Since it was written the venerable gentleman to whom reference is made, Dilton Yarrington, has also passed away.

Dundaff is situated in the south-east corner of Susquehanna county, near the line of Lackawanna county, on the old Milford and Owego turnpike. The stage coach and four horses used to rein up to the hotel, with nine passengers inside and three with the driver, and the boot and top of coach loaded with trunks. On its arrival the porch would be filled with spectators with more curiosity than there is now on the arrival of a train of railroad cars. A stage driver was equal to a conductor on a passenger train. It was the height of a boy's ambition to be a stage driver. A two-horse coach was run 60 years ago from Wilkes-Barre to Dundaff by the Searle family of Pitteton. The first occupant of the new hotel was Archippus Parrish, from Wilkes-Barre, father of George and Charles.

The founders of the village, which afterwards became a borough, were Col. Gould Phinny, who came from Elizabethtown, N. J., a smart, enterprising business man, and Peter Graham, a Scotchman from Philadelphia, a commission merchant, who owned a large farm of about 400 acres on the north side of the town. Mrs. Graham was a Gibson. They were an interesting family and spent their summers at the farm. Mr. Graham gave the village the name of Dundaff, a Scotch name.

Dundaff was a very lively town at that time, the only business town of any consequence north of Wilkes-Barre. There were two churches, two hotels, three stores, a millinery store, two blacksmith shops, two wagon shops, two shoe shops, two tailor shops, a printing office, the Northern Bank of Pennsylvania, a jewelry store, a tannery, a glass factory, a fulling mill, an ax factory, hat factory, tin and cabinet shops, two law offices, two physicians, carpenters and builders, etc.

Everything was flourishing until Carbon-dale overshadowed it when it lost its vigor and went into a decline, and is now a very dull town, but it is still a pleasant and healthy locality, a fine summer resort, and pleasure seekers can find nice home and good entertainment.

Of the multitude of business men of that time in Dundaff, but one is living, and that

is the venerable Dilton Yarrington, Esq., of Carbondale, in his 87th year, still hale and hearty and doing business every day. I received a long and interesting letter from him a short time since, written very neatly with a quill pen. He still makes his own pens and never writes with any other. He said he learned to make a pen when he was ten years of age and went to school to the late Judge Garrick Mallory in the old log academy on the Public Square, in Wilkes-Barre. Judge Mallory was a law student and taught school to pay his way while studying for his profession.

These old memories may be interesting to some. I am living very much in the past. I am now in my 80th year and enjoying tolerable good health.

J. G. FELL

Waverly, May 29th, 1890.

#### Ode to the Wyoming Valley.

[For the Record.]

Beautiful vale I knew so well  
Some fifty years ago,  
How greatly changed thou art to-day  
In dress I hardly know.  
Your citizens I then well knew,  
While in my youth of yore,  
Have mostly passed from earth, 'tis true,  
To the eternal sho. e.  
The Miners and the Hollenbacks  
With Starks at least a score,  
Like the T. Williams family,  
Are now, alas, no more!  
Those growing fields of wheat and corn  
Upon the fertile lands,  
Have passed away, and in their place  
The huge coal breaker stands.  
The rich coal barons now possess  
Those farms I knew so well,  
Except perchance a few small tracts  
Whose owners would not sell.  
"The borough," too, has made such growth  
And spread out all around  
With twenty citizens at least,  
Where then but one was found,  
The crystal stream which cuts in twain  
The surface, as of yore,  
Remains with the old borough bridge  
As fifty years before,  
Your changes made in fifty years  
With alterings as unfurled,  
Form with a modern writer calls  
"The essence of the world."  
While thou hast changed there is no doubt  
Thou hast of beauty less;  
Than fifty years ago when clad  
In your bright verdant dress.  
Long may your early history shine  
Brilliant on every page,  
A beacon light to high and low  
Piebald and the sage.

—R. W. Hinckley.

246 East Twenty-fifth St., New York City, January, 1891.

\* Thoms Williams with his family of ten children were then all living in or near Plains.

#### DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

**A Local Chapter Formed in Wilkes-Barre—List of the Ladies Elected to Office—Enthusiastic on American History.**

A notable gathering of women assembled at the home of Mrs. William H. McCartney Wednesday, April 29, to organize a "Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution," women who are descended from some of the most illustrious officers and soldiers of the American Revolution. Many tracing their ancestry to the early colonists by a proven lineage were present.

The house was decorated with American flags and the portraits of Washington and his wife, Martha Washington, together with a picture of Mt. Vernon, issued by the Mt. Vernon Association and presented to the mother of Mrs. McCartney, who was one of the lady managers of the Mt. Vernon Association for the purchase of the home of Washington, were appropriately placed.

The meeting was opened with singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee" by Miss Nellie Williams, the chapter joining. The meeting was then called to order by Mrs. McCartney, regent by appointment. The object of the organization was stated. The constitution and by-laws were read and business relating to the future of the chapter was discussed. The following officers for the chapter were elected:

Mrs. Stanley Woodward, vice regent.  
Miss Mary A. Sharpe, registrar general.  
Miss Ella Munroe Bowman, secretary.  
Miss Sally Sharpe, treasurer.

Local Board of Managers—Mrs. Col. Bruce Bicketts, Mrs. Benjamin Reynolds, Miss Emily Oist Butler, Mrs. Sheldon Reynolds.

Light refreshments were served. "Hail Columbia" was sung by Miss Williams in a patriotic, spirited manner and the meeting then adjourned to meet at the home of Mrs. Richard Sharpe Monday, May 4, 1891. Each application for membership must be made to the Wilkes-Barre chapter and passed upon by the local board and if satisfactory and her claims reasonable the applicant shall receive the endorsement of the secretary and registrar and her name be forwarded to the National board at Washington for final action.

It is peculiarly fitting that the women of Wyoming Valley should unite with this "National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution," in honoring the deeds of their ancestors, who "braved and dared so much that we might live." And it is a lamentable fact also, that the women of this beautiful historic valley, who have been so patriotic as to erect the monument at Forty

Port to commemorate the names of those slain by the savage foe, should cease to manifest that patriotism and allow each 3d of July to come and go without making a pilgrimage with their children to this spot, which would ever be a hallowed one to them.

The parent organization was formed in Washington October 11, 1890, by Mrs. Flora Adams Darling, a great-grand-daughter of John Adams and great-grand-niece of George Joseph Warren, and Miss Eugenia Washington, a great-grand-niece of George Washington. Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, the wife of the President of the United States, was made president general; Mrs. Thomas Adams Darling, vice president general in charge of organization; honorary vice president general, Mrs. James K. Polk, Mrs. Thomas A. Hendrick, Mrs. David D. Porter.

The object of this society is to perpetuate the memory and the spirit of the men and women who achieved American independence,—to encourage historical research in relation to the Revolution and the publication of its results, to preserve documents and relics and the records of the individual services of revolutionary soldiers and patriots, and to promote celebrations of all patriotic anniversaries.

At the meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution on Wednesday evening, a telegram of greeting was read as follows:

MRS. KATHARINE S. MCCARTNEY, REGENT—

The Daughters of New Jersey congratulate the Daughters of Wyoming Valley, wishing them as much success in peace as they knew of suffering days of the Revolution.

FLORA ADAMS DARLING,

Vice President General, Daughters of American Revolution, Washington's Headquarters, Morristown, New Jersey.

Mrs. Flora Adams Darling is the founder and organizer of the "Daughters of the American Revolution," and a great-grand-daughter of John Adams, and a great-grand-niece of Gen. Joseph Warren, who fell at Bunker Hill.

Eighteen wives and daughters of "The Sons of the Revolution" have joined the New York Chapter, of which Mrs. Roger A. Pryor is regent; Mrs. Phillip Livingston and Mrs. Schuyler Hamilton the State regents. Pennsylvania has four State regents, Mrs. Gen. William H. McCartney being one, with headquarters at Wilkes-Barre. This chapter is known as "The Wyoming Valley Chapter." All other chapters within her jurisdiction will report to this chapter. Action will be taken on all applications received, and them forwarded to Washington for final disposal and inspection by the National Board.

#### Colonial Dames.

The lady members of the families of the Sons of the Revolution in Wilkes-Barre, with others, invited guests, met Friday evening at the residence of Mrs. Col. C. M. Conyngham and a very successful organization was effected. As the Colonial Dames compose a State society, with headquarters in Philadelphia, no officers were elected, but about 40 names were enrolled as members of the State society. The Colonial Dames is the female society in harmony with the Sons of the Revolution, and Rev. H. E. Hayden, a member of the board of managers of the latter, was present and organized the meeting, explaining also the purposes of the branch. The Sons of the Revolution have been organized by the State historical societies of New York and Pennsylvania, and the members of the New York and Pennsylvania Cincinnati are largely members of the Sons of the Revolution. The general society is composed of the five State societies of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Iowa and District of Columbia.

#### Celebrated His 86th Birthday.

January 4 was the 86th birthday of Col. Charles Dorrance, and the event was celebrated in a quiet way by a family dinner at the home of his son, Benjamin F. Dorrance, which adjoins the home of the colonel in Dorranceton. Of his five children three, Charles J. of Chicago, Benjamin F. of Dorranceton, and Mrs. Sheldon Reynolds of Wilkes-Barre, were present, the other sons, John, of Keytsville, Mo., and Col. J. F., of Meadville, being unable to get here. Several of his grandchildren were also present. Many of the friends of the old gentleman called during the afternoon to tender their congratulations and express the hope that he might be able to celebrate many more birthdays. Col. Dorrance, at his advanced age, is as hale and hearty as he was twenty years ago and it is a pleasure to grasp his hand and see the smile on his strong and ruddy face. Unless acute disease should overtake him he bids fair to round out a century of life. For the last fifty-six years he has been an official of the Wyoming National Bank of Wilkes-Barre, of which he is now president, his father having been the first president of the same institution, but which at that time was not the great affair it has now become. He still takes an active hand in its management, driving nearly every day, rain or shine, from his home in Dorranceton across the lower flats road to his office at the bank. The Record joins in wishing Col. Dorrance many more years of active life.

**THE PROPOSED GINTER MONUMENT.**

**It Seems to be Thought at Harrisburg That He Discovered Anthracite Coal — Facts Show His Discovery Only a Local One**

[Daily Record, April 15.]

There is a bill on its passage at Harrisburg which provides for the erection of a monument to Philip Ginter as "the discoverer of anthracite coal." This subject has been pretty fully gone over and if the Harrisburg law makers are gullible enough to believe that Philip Ginter "discovered" coal an injunction ought to issue restraining the State treasurer from spending the money. The fact of the matter is that Ginter's discovery was purely local, anthracite coal having been discovered and used elsewhere long before. The fact that Ginter found anthracite coal in Carbon County is unquestioned and the find was of great value to that region and a monument ought to be erected over his bones by Carbon County—but the State is not called upon to do so.

As early as 1775 anthracite coal was used at the forks of the Susquehanna, Fort Augusta, (now Sunbury) an important post on the Indian frontier. Documents in the British War Office prove this. The coal came down the Susquehanna from the Wyoming Valley at what is now Nanticoke, where are located the extensive collieries of the Susquehanna Coal Co.

The first settlers in Wyoming Valley, who came from Connecticut in 1763 reported that they found coal.

In 1766 James Tillman of Philadelphia sent to the Penns in London a sample of coal from Wyoming. See his letter in *Historical Record*, vol. 3, p. 190.

In 1768 a survey of a tract of land at Wyoming, somewhere between Kingston and Plymouth is marked "stone coal."

Jesse Fell of Wilkes-Barre who is usually credited with the important discovery that coal could be burned in an ordinary grate without the aid of a bellow, used to tell that Obadiah Gore and Daniel Gore had used it in their blacksmith forges before the Revolutionary War, about 1770 or 1771, possibly a year or two earlier and they claimed to be the first to use it for blacksmithing.

During the Revolutionary War coal was shipped from Wyoming Valley down the Susquehanna and used in the government forges for making weapons at Carlisle.

When Sullivan's army passed up north in 1779 to crush the Indians of the Six Nations, the presence of coal in Wyoming Valley was noted.

Jesse Fell used coal in a nallery at Wilkes-Barre in 1788.

Now as to Philip Ginter. He knew all about the existence of coal at Wyoming and something of its use as above noted. In 1791 while hunting on the mountains near Mauch Chunk he found coal at what is now Summit Hill and from his local discovery the great business of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co. originated, though it was 20 years before the coal trade really began. The beginning of the coal trade is usually put down as 1830, the time that the Lehigh scheme got on its feet.

But really the coal trade began, not at Mauch Chunk, but in the Wyoming Valley. In 1807 the Smiths shipped a boat load to Columbia, and several loads the year following. Geo. M. Hollenback shipped two loads down the river in 1813, and the same year Joseph Wright mined two boat loads near Fort Griffith. The same year Mr. Hollenback sent coal by wagon to Philadelphia and James Lee to Germantown. Lord Butler and Orndall Wilcox both shipped in 1814.

In 1813 Hon. Charles Miner wrote in his *Wilkes-Barre Gleaner* that "the coal of Wyoming has already become an article of considerable traffic with the lower counties of Pennsylvania and the valley of Wyoming contains enough coal for ages to come." From 1810 to 1830 ten or fifteen hundred tons a year were mined in Hanover Township.

In view of the fact that instead of the coal trade beginning in the Mauch Chunk region in 1820 with 865 tons, as given in current coal statistics, the trade began in 1807 in Wyoming and increased year by year until in 1830 the production was 2,500 tons.

In view of all these facts it is indisputable that Mr. Ginter made only a "local" discovery and if any monument is erected to him it should be, not for "discovering anthracite coal," but for "discovering it in Carbon County."

Persons interested in the history of coal will find much valuable matter in a pamphlet by George B. Kulp, who has lately compiled the literature of the subject.

**Early Narratives of Indian Captives.**

In the State Library at Harrisburg is a rare pamphlet entitled, "A Narrative of the capture of certain Americans at Westmoreland by Savages, and the perilous escapes which they effected by surprising specimens of policy and heroism Printed and sold near the bridge." It was printed about 1783. On page 24 is related Abram Van Campen's famous exploit in killing Indians, accompanied by Van Campen's petition to the Council, Nov. 15, 1783, asking for the bounty that had been offered for Indian scalps.



**A West Side Reminiscence.**  
**WILLIAM SWETLAND.**

This sketch may not be without interest to those persons in this valley who would know something of him whose generosity during the past generation was so serviceable to the advancement of the sciences and the growth of classical literature.

There are but few persons in Wyoming Valley, whose benefactions have been more wise and generous than those of the late William Swetland.

In 1851 Mr. Swetland gave Swetland Hall to the Wyoming Seminary at Kingston, Pa., in generous benefaction of educational culture, and the prompt and willing manner with which the present was made, magnifies the gift, and renders it especially worthy of remembrance.

Such exercise of good will makes a peerage of virtue and benevolence, which we learn to respect and admire as wise and good; and especially do we revere Mr. Swetland's commingled taste and judgment, which rendered the donative action as natural and easy as if it was in the course of the most ordinary duties. In March, 1853, the entire Wyoming Seminary establishment was destroyed by fire, but was promptly raised from its ashes by the generous aid of William and George Swetland, Payne Pettebone, I. O. shoemaker, Ziba Bennett, Urbene Burrows, Esq, and A. Y. Smith. The Wyoming Seminary is under the general superintendence of the Wyoming Conference of the M. E. Church, although the trustees and board of directors are composed of men chosen without regard to denominational preferences.

To a figure compact and well formed, William Swetland added a well shaped head, square shoulders, and a ruddy face glowing with health, revealed a pair of eyes that looked at you with kindest expressions of good will and benevolence.

His manner was frank and ingenuous, and marked by an easy concern and a disregard for the formalities of position, which showed an indifference to social ceremony.

Nature had presented him with a working constitution, and the regular mental and physical exertion which he underwent tended both to amplify and consolidate the intellectual faculties, as well as to invigorate the body; and a flow of animal spirits animated a physical constitution that was both imposing and attractive.

He exhibited an exceeding simplicity and directness of character, his life was full of activity and inviolable integrity, and by a systematic disposition of his time he accomplished an amount of labor that few men would have achieved.

With him the cares of a large business did not impair the pleasures derivable from an intimate acquaintance with the harmony and beauty of nature, which the contemplation and seclusion of rural life afforded.

Mr. Swetland was emphatically a business man, his activities being principally devoted to merchandise, and also to agricultural pursuits in which he had few, if any, superiors.

He had a positive nature, lacking neither the courage to avow his convictions nor the zeal, good sense and industry to accomplish his purpose, in which he left the legacy of a good example and an upright life. Nothing in his career needs the embellishment of flattery, and few men could better trust the memories of a long and useful life to the scrutinizing judgment of posterity.

Self reliance was with him a marked characteristic, and this quality was softened by great good sense, and tempered by a desire to be just.

Independent in thought and prompt in action, he abhorred the arts of the demagogue, and turned readily from the perplexities of a complicated business to the social intercourse and amenities of family or friends. His salient traits of character were energy and force, which were able to bend circumstances to his will and use, and everywhere he was the self-contained, confident and successful business man.

He was descended from an ancestry who, in the battle of life, exercised a reasonable economy, a tireless industry, a close, discriminating and faithful attention to the requirements of business.

The brawny hand and bronze face taught him the wisdom of experience, which came to him like the sunlight of heaven, and his grasp of mind always comprehended the language of the widow's sigh and the orphan's tear, and when required he called in requisition the endowment of a will to work and the ability to render relief.

In his friendship for labor, and in his open-handed sympathy with the popular will lay the great secret of his power, in which is recalled much that was admirable in his life and agreeable in his associations. His individuality was the typical product of good-will, love of truth and earnestness of faith; and few persons were as free from imitation, or had a better trained power to think or act independently; moreover there was in his personality no neutrality; whereas, in every relation he was a force, especially in business activities, where there seemed to be no limit to his endurance or capacity. Strong and outspoken in his friendships, sometimes abrupt in his address, yet there was in him so much of generous impulse, good neighborhood, and human sympathy that he was popular in social life, and

in which he had troops of partisans and personal friends.

He seldom admitted any one within the circle of his ordinary benefactions, yet, as the good angel of many a poor man's home, he was there to comfort and assist. He was well known throughout this valley, and by a consistent career gained for himself a monument of esteem; and his most exacting friend can wish for him no better eulogy than a truthful record of his character and influence. There was in him none of that insipidity of character, whose favor might be regarded with indifference, or whose resentment could be considered with contempt. His personal endowments corresponded to the qualifications of his mind, for his robust figure seemed moulded by nature for out of door life, and his features were stamped with the unmistakable characteristics of independent manhood.

GEO URQUHART.

#### Reminiscences of Early Wyoming.

C. M. Williams of Plains in seeing a letter from Dr. J. B. Gere of Chicago published in a recent issue of the RECORD stated that he was related to that family on his mother's side. A few months ago he received a letter from Mr. Gore from Boston, wanting information concerning the family. They were a noted family in the early history of Wyoming Valley. Five out of seven brothers were massacred by Indians the same day. Miner's History of Wyoming Valley gives a detailed account of the cruel slaughter. Mrs. Theresa Gore, who died in 1854, was a widow of Samuel Carey and was 85 years of age, and remembered events of the struggles the early settlers had in Wyoming Valley. She elected to be buried in the Gore burying ground, now in a dilapidated condition adjoining the Henry colliery of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. All of the Gore family were buried there in early days. Some of the bodies, however, were subsequently removed to Hollenback Cemetery. The remains of Mrs. Gore still lie there, and of late years vandals have desecrated the grave and have broken the headstone. Still it is possible to decipher some of the inscription. W. E. Lines of Port Bowkley erected a wooden fence around the ground, but that has been maliciously broken. Mr. Williams suggests that something should be done to reclaim this spot where rests the dust of those pioneers who sacrificed their lives in the long ago to establish the prosperity we now enjoy.

#### Indian Names Along the Susquehanna

Where Mason and Dixon's line divides  
The "North" from South above high tides,  
There's "right smart" of Southern lingo;  
The people there don't "guess" but "reckon"  
Way down on Conowingo.

'Twas German thrift subdued the land;  
And plenty smiled on every hand;  
Here men grow fat and horses logy,  
Beside the fruitful Conestoga.

On either side the river lie  
Broad fields of wheat, and corn and rye;  
Where rule the plow and harrow,  
And plenty fills the farmer's board who lives  
On the Swatara.

To "run the falls" old raftsmen feared,  
And lips grew white as pilot steered  
Through channel like screw auger;  
But now alas! there's none to say, "I can run  
Canawaga."

They call it Yellowbreeches now  
But when 't took that name, or how -  
That question better not go in it;  
But where tis writ this name you'll see Cono-  
doguinnet.

Along the streams that smoothly glide  
Between green hills, through valleys wide,  
Are maiden fair and swains moet gawky,  
At least tis so by Chillisquaque.

Winding its way through valleys deep,  
With abrupt bend or graceful sweep;  
Below the dam an old stone mill is  
Hard by the creek, Kishacoquillas.

Where thou hast birth the farmer's toll  
Wins scanty bread from stubborn soil,  
But richer than gems from Afric's mine or gold  
From San Francisco,  
We prize the diamonds dark that shine on cars  
at Wisconsin.

In far off Alleghenies wild,  
The sun first kissed the mountain child;  
Poets have sung of Alverata,  
Brown Indian maid of Juniata.

A stream of Sylvan birth art thou,  
Though grimy black thy waters now,  
Of thy own self thou'rt but a wreck,  
Thou once wast pure old Nescopeck.

Thou stream of plunging fall art one  
That grinds out powder by the ton,  
When Janus' gates swung madly open,  
Thou'rt at thy work, wild Wapwallopen.

Thou comest serene as summer night,  
With laughing water pure and bright,  
Like savage saw in Ha Ha Minne,  
Fresh from thy clover fields Shickshinny.

Old Fort Sandusky's wooden walls  
Reared by the combined river's falls,  
Few redman's faith oft lightly broken,  
Though plighted well, on the Shamokin.

A quiet, homelike, rural scene;  
Some sloping hills, a brook between,  
Limpid and pure; not one iota  
Of poison lurks in Moseacota

Blimmed by hard rock its borders round,  
The valley lay in peace profound,  
Until the barrier madly broke,  
And left the falls of Natitoke.

Lovelier than Island of the blest,  
Wyoming's gem doth stand confessed,  
White high above old Dial Rock  
Looks down to great Monocknock.

Richer than miser ever dreamed,  
 Thy rugged hills with coal enameled.  
 Thy meadows green; thy streamlets bonny;  
 Pride of the red man - Lackawanna,  
 Where Moosic Mountains lift their head,  
 A brook flows down the water shed;  
 No sluggish stream through brake and bog,—  
 By Indian braves named the Naysug  
 Come like a long forgotten dream,  
 Thoughts of that sturdy forest stream  
 Where first I walked with Anna;  
 I'll ne'er forget those moments sweet nor the  
 trout of Tobyhanna.  
 A bleak, bald mountain rising high,  
 Whose summit seems to prop the sky,  
 Robed half way down with autumn snow—  
 'Tis such thou art, old Pocono.  
 The red deer and the savage bear  
 Make at thy mountain source their lair,  
 And gray wolves lean roan wild and free,  
 O'er thy stern hills, Mehoopany.  
 Tall hemlocks clothe its sterile banks,  
 And pine trees stand in straggling ranks,  
 Where axes ne'er cease chipping  
 To fell the giants of the wood that grow on the  
 Meshoppen.  
 Old Putnam's hills are rough and high.  
 Where once was heard the panther's cry—  
 As Scotchmen love the burn of Bannock,  
 Thy people cling to thee, Tunkhannock.  
 Where Christian Indians tilled their farms,  
 No thought of blood or war's alarms;  
 The land was free for their own choosing,  
 E'en the rich flats of Wyalusing.

w. j.

#### Reply to the Gibbs Query.

**EDITOR RECORD:** I noticed in your issue of April 24 an inquiry as to facts relating to the history of Jacob Gibbs, a citizen of old Wilkes-Barre. This is a mistake, as to the name; there never was a Jacob Gibbs here that I ever heard of. The proper name was Job Gibbs, who lived, when I was a small boy, in a house that stood on North Main street, about where W. D. Leomis formerly resided, now occupied by Jesse Morgau. Job Gibbs had two sons; one's name was Richard, familiarly "Dick," the oldest; and the other was called "Logs" by the boys; his true name I do not know. There were two daughters, Polly and Nancy. Polly married Enos K. Ellis, whose son, W. W. Ellis, went West many years ago. There is a daughter, "Sis Ellis," now living on Rolling Mill Hill, near Dana's Grove. Nancy married a Dr. Dorfy, and I think they had no children. The two sons left here years ago.

Job Gibbs was a coal operator in a primitive way; that is, he used to work a small vein of coal that cropped out on the edge of the river near the present gas works. He would go up in the morning and pick out a wheel barrow load of coal and trundle the barrow home when he got it full. This vein, being probably the upper one of the coal measure in this field, has ever since been known as the "Job Gibbs vein." w. j.

#### SUDDEN DEATH IN CHICAGO.

##### Apeplexy Claims Philip Myers—A Victim While in Life's Prime.

A telegram was received April 23, 1891, by Lawrence Myers, from E. H. Talbot, editor of the *Railway Age*, saying that the former's cousin, Philip Myers, had died suddenly in Chicago that day. The news was most unexpected, Mr. Myers not having been ill.

Philip Myers was one of the most genial of men and his integrity was as sturdy as his nature was sunny. Few men were more companionable than was Philip Myers. He was thoroughly informed on all the live subjects of the day and an admirable conversationalist. On questions of finance and political economy he was thoroughly posted. He was by birth and education a Methodist and was a warm supporter of the doctrines and institutions of that church, as well as a life long member. Though not a resident of Wilkes Barre for the last 30 years, yet he was a frequent visitor here, and a large circle of friends will hear of his sudden death with surprise and sorrow. A telegram from the widow states that death was due to paralysis.

Philip Myers was born in Kingston Nov. 28, 1830, consequently he was in his 61st year. His parents were Thomas and Sarah Myers. The death of the former occurred Dec 3, 1887, at the age of 86 years, at Williamsport, where he had lived for many years, after moving from Wyoming Valley. The widow of Thomas was Sarah, a daughter of Thomas Borbridge, an old-time Kingston merchant. By this marriage there were two children, Philip, now dead, and Mrs. Fanny B. Myers of Chicago. By a subsequent marriage with Miss Vanderbilt, two children were born, one of whom, George, is now living at Williamsport. Lawrence and P. H. Myers of this city are cousins.

Philip Myers was educated at Wyoming Seminary in Kingston and afterwards took a course at Dickinson College, graduating with honors at the age of 21. During the next three years he taught in Wyoming Seminary and afterwards studied law in Wilkes-Barre with Judge George W. Woodward. He then practiced law in Iowa till 1866, when he removed to Chicago and resided there ever since. For two years he filled a chair in one of the law schools of Chicago. Subsequently he engaged largely in Chicago real estate. For several years he has been closely associated with E. H. Talbot, proprietor of the *Railway Age*, their wives being sisters. After the publication office of the *Age* was moved from Chicago to New York, Mr. Myers was given charge of the Chicago office and has spent most of his time there

in the interest of that journal, the largest of its class in the world. Mr. Talbott has a magnificent palace car in which he and Mr. Myers, their families and friends, have been wont to travel all over the United States and to Canada and Mexico. On one of these jaunts they all visited Wilkes-Barre, where the car attracted great attention. Five years ago the writer of this paragraph encountered them again at St. Paul, at which time Mr. Talbott was giving the Mexican editors a trip through the United States.

Mr. Myers is survived by his wife and only child, Elizabeth Vanderbilt Myers. Mrs. Myers was Mary Isabella Cowen, of Ottawa, Ill.

He comes from an old and honored Wyoming family. His grandfather, Philip Myers, was one of the pioneer settlers. His grandmother was Martha Bannet, who was in the fort at the time of the massacre of 1778, but escaped.

The following tribute is written for the Record by Dr. George Urquhart:

The announcement yesterday of the death of Philip Myers at Chicago was a sad revelation to many a resident of Kingston and Wilkes-Barre. The Record gave an admirable narrative of his life and personality, and he seemed to have inherited the nature and qualities of a true friend and accomplished gentleman. He was descended from one of Kingston's honored families, and Kingston will ever cherish the memory of his father, Thomas Myers, with grateful admiration.

In matters pertaining to the growth, beauty and improvement of Kingston, Thomas Myers manifested an unusual interest, and in which his life presents a local transcript of the time in which he lived, and affords an example of decision and energy of mind quite in contrast with the ordinary grasping efforts of ambition. His expanded benevolence and generosity of character in promoting the establishment of religious and literary institutions in Kingston, especially that of the Wyoming Seminary, should never be forgotten. In the type of Philip Myers's personality there is seen a striking resemblance to his mother, who was distinguished for Christian gentleness and grace, refined and polished manner, and for fortitude, patience and submission under the most severe, continued and destructive experiences of physical suffering from rheumatism, nevertheless she was always amiable, and in her companionship there was a social prestige that makes life beautiful, and moreover leaves upon the mind an impression of refinement, confidence and esteem.

#### The Late Mrs. Lucinda Marcy.

Speaking of the late Mrs. Lucinda Marcy who died on April 13, 1891, the *Ashley Observer* has the following:

Lucinda Blackman was born at Hanover, now Plumbtown, on October 16, 1814. She was a daughter of Henry Blackman, one of the pioneers of Wyoming Valley. In 1833 she was married to Avery Marcy. The family lived for several years in a log house that stood a short distance below Sugar Notch and afterwards moved to Ashley where they have since resided. Mrs. Marcy united with the Methodist Episcopal Church when about fourteen years of age and since that time has been a Christian in all that the word implies. She was also a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and labored energetically in the cause until her health failed. She was a most devoted mother, a mother to whom no sacrifice was too great if such were made in the interest of, or for the benefit of her children. She was survived by a husband, Avery Marcy, and five boys and four daughters, as follows: William and Jared of Ashley, Ira of Pittston, Cyrus of Sayre and Albert of Harvey's Lake, Mrs. William Baudenbush, Mrs. Stacy Doan and Mrs. William J. Klapproth of Ashley and Mrs. Daniel Ide of Harvey's Lake. One son was killed in one of the battles of the late war.

#### The Late C. F. Dodge.

The following obituary notice from the *Titusville Herald* of March 9, 1891, refers to the father of our townsman, W. F. Dodge, of the firm of Dodge & Speece:

"Mr. Charles F. Dodge of Philadelphia, formerly of Williamsport, died Feb. 19 at the Grand View Hotel, a health resort at Wernersville, Berks Co. He had been there for six weeks for treatment for insipient paralysis, of the effects of which he died. The deceased was a well born and educated man, and at one time spent a year in this city, engaged in oil development, striking the famous gas wells in Spring Creek, the utility and value of which were not appreciated at that early day. Mr. Dodge was in the Union army and was a person of strong patriotic and benevolent impulses. Of late years he has been engaged with others in the development of the great natural resources of Virginia. His wife, Mrs. M. B. Dodge, a gifted authoress, survives him, with two sons. The deceased was a man with wide and varied information and great energy of character, and held in high respect and esteem by all who met him socially or had business dealings with him."

## NEARLY A CENTURY OLD.

**A Plains Lady who was Born and Died on the Same Farm at the Age of 91 Years.**

Mrs. Mary Searle died at her home in Plains last Thursday morning at the age of 91 years and 3 months. Mrs. Searle was born on the farm on which she died in the year 1800 and had lived there since. Her husband died during the war and her two only sons departed this life about the same time. Six daughters survive her—Mrs. Clara Dean of Waverly, Mrs. Catherine Williams of Ohio, Mrs. Elizabeth Vorse of Iowa, Mrs. James Courtright of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. J. K. Peck of Kingston, Mrs. James D. Green of Wyoming. She also leaves twenty grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Searle's name before marriage was Mary Stark and was descended from one of the oldest and best known Connecticut families. Her mother was a sister of the mother of Lawrence Myers of this city. The Stark family are among the earliest settlers from Connecticut who came to the forests of Wyoming and struggled against those great odds and difficulties that have become a part of history until they established a home in the settlements. Conrad Stark, an uncle, fell in the massacre and his name is inscribed on the monument. Her husband's father, then 18 years of age, escaped from the Indians when he was about to be tortured by outrunning them. The family settled in Plainsville and Mrs. Searle has kept the farm ever since. She was a woman among women. Her Christian fortitude and kind disposition kept her at peace with man and God, and those who knew her also admired her. Her children were kind in their ministrations when old age made her helpless, and did all in their power to stretch out still longer the span of earthly existence. Mrs. Hannah Courtright Abbott of North Franklin street, who is about 96 years of age, is a relative.

## Death of John G. Fell.

A telegram from Asher M. Fell informs the Record that his father died at Waverly, Lackawanna County, April 8, 1891, of pneumonia, in the 81st year of his age. He was the last of three brothers, Hugh, Samuel, John G. and George, and two sisters, Millicent and Tamer. Mr. Fell was born in Pittston and was at one time a resident of Wilkes-Barre, but removed to Abington some forty years ago, since which time he has been engaged in farming and in real estate transactions. While in Wilkes-Barre he was a blacksmith. He has been in good health and was in Wilkes-Barre during

the present winter. His wife (Mary Ann Ogden), whom he married in Wilkes-Barre, preceded him to the grave a year or two ago. Mr. Fell was a highly respected citizen and was an elder in the Presbyterian Church. Of his four children, Asher is the only one surviving. Ruth (who married John Connolly) and her brother Joseph died in Jackson, Mich., and George Ogden was killed in the battle of Gettysburg.

John G. Fell was the son of Joseph Fell, whose father, Samuel, was a brother of Judge Jesse Fell, to whom is usually accorded the credit of discovering that anthracite coal could be burned in an ordinary grate without the use of a bellows. A third brother of John's father was Amos, a surveyor and civil engineer, who was the grandfather of Daniel A. Fell, Sr., of this city. All three of these brothers were Quakers and came to Luzerne County from Bucks County. Their father was Thomas, sixth child of Joseph, who was born in England in 1668.

## Death of Mrs. Ruth Stewart.

A telegram Wednesday brought the startling news that Mrs. Ruth Ross Stewart had died at her home at Whitestone, Long Island. There were no particulars and her friends here, though in constant communication with her were not aware that she was ill. Mrs. Stewart was the last of the daughters of the late Sharpe D. Lewis, an old and respected resident of this city, and she was 58 years of age. She was twice married, first to Edgar L. Merriman, a prominent member of the Luzerne Bar, in 1866, who died in 1876. They had three boys, all of whom are living—Edgar Leroy, Lewis S., and Joseph Ross. Her second husband was Rev. Charles S. M. Stewart, an Episcopal clergyman living at Whitestone, Long Island, who survives her, as also one child. Mrs. Stewart is the last of a highly esteemed family. Her brother Arnold, was a member of the Luzerne Bar, an officer in the Mexican War, an officer in the Pennsylvania Volunteers at the outbreak of the civil war and lost his life in 1861 at the hands of a soldier in his command whom he had been compelled to discipline. A sister, the late Lucinda Oolt Lewis, or "Tid," as she was familiarly known, married Albert M. Bailey, a Wilkes-Barre lawyer, in 1867. Another sister, now deceased, was Cornelia, who never married.

Mrs. Stewart was in Wilkes-Barre not many months ago in attendance upon the funeral of her uncle, the late Josiah Lewis. She was a woman whose death will be sincerely regretted by a large circle of friends. She was a devoted wife and an affectionate mother.

**The Late John P. Brownscombe.**

From the residence on Academy St. the remains of the late John P. Brownscombe were Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock carried to Hollenback Cemetery, where the earth closed over one who identified himself with all that was progressive and honorable in this city and community. The services at the house were very impressive. A quartet composed of Frank Puckey, Mr. Frasier, Miss Nellie Wells and Miss Edith Puckey sang several appropriate selections. Rev. Y. O. Smith read the 90th Psalm, the ritual of the M. E. Church was read by Rev. A. Smith and prayer was offered by Rev. W. W. Loomis. A touching address was delivered by Rev. Dr. Boyle, and in conclusion the quartet again sang. The floral emblems were very beautiful and relieved in some sense the death gloom that pervaded the residence and the hearts of sorrowing relatives and friends. They were a beautiful harp of white flowers, a snowy white floral pillow, a broken wreath, a pretty ladder of flowers, a basket wreath with historical emblem from Landmark Lodge, F. and A. M., and an anchor of white flowers. There were also numerous handsome casket bouquets and a profusion of cut flowers. A delicate perfume as a sweet incense arose from these floral creations and permeated the air of the room.

At the conclusion of the services at the house the Masonic fraternity, of which deceased was a member, took charge. They were present in large numbers and were marshaled by W. L. Baeder. The impressive Masonic services at the grave were conducted by Loyal O. Hill, W. M., and Rev. W. W. Loomis, chaplain. The pall bearers were the following Masons: E. T. Long, H. L. Moore, O. B. Staples, William H. Reichard, D. O. McColium and O. B. Metzger. There were four honorary pall bearers from the First M. E. church—E. G. Butler, George A. Wells, Ed. Morgan, George S. Bennett. At the cemetery Rev. Dr. Boyle delivered a fervent prayer.

John P. Brownscombe was a man who was known not only in Luzerne county but had an extensive acquaintance all over the State and it is proper that in this connection a few words be said of his life, which could not be obtained during the haste in which the report of his death was printed. For twenty years he was a prominent business man in this city, having been extensively engaged in stone contracting. His quarries were located at Meshoppen and at Lanesboro, Susquehanna county. His stone saw mill was also located at Meshoppen. An idea of his extensive and responsible business may be gathered from the mention of the following notable buildings

for which he did the handsome stone work, mainly placing the fronts: Westtown College, Westtown, Pa.; Bryn Marr College, Bryn Marr, Pa.; Franklin St. M. E. and Presbyterian churches, Wilkes Barre; Oliver Opera House, South Bend, Ind.; Corn Exchange, Chicago; Lehigh University, Bethlehem; Sibley & Hohnwood's wholesale house, Buffalo; St. Mark's Church, Mauch Chunk; Century Club, New York; Mills building, Wall St., New York; Hutchinson dwelling, Fifth Ave., New York; Friend's select school, Philadelphia; Home Insurance building, Philadelphia; Packer residence at Mauch Chunk; Mechanics and Traders Exchange, New York. These are only a few of the numerous handsome and costly buildings whose exteriors were made massive and grand by his designs and contract work.

Mr. Brownscombe was born at Dundaff in 1845, his father being a minister there at the time. About 1873 he was married to Miss Jennie Price of Wilkes-Barre, who died ten years later, leaving no children. He was a member of Landmark Lodge, 443, F. and A. M., of the Wilkes-Barre Chapter B. P. O., and was assistant secretary of the Franklin St. M. E. Sunday school. His father, the late Rev. Henry Brownscombe, died in 1886, and his brother, H. W. Brownscombe, 17 years ago, and a sister, Mrs. Kate B. Phillips, ten years ago. Mr. Brownscombe was a genial, whole-souled man, whose presence was as rays of sunshine—ever bright and cheerful. A notable characteristic was his generosity and the pleasure he took in meeting his friends. If there was gloom he did all in his power to dispel it. His face was turned to the right and everything before him was bright. Hundreds of friends mourn that one so dear to them and so valuable to a progressive community should be taken away in the prime of life. Mrs. Brownscombe, his mother, is sorely bereaved. Her husband and children one by one have forsaken life's pathway until she walks the way almost alone. She is comforted by the presence of Mrs. Franc Brownscombe, widow of her son Watt, who is living with her. She has been a daughter to Mrs. Brownscombe and a sister to deceased. These ties were strengthened by force of circumstances. When Mrs. Franc Brownscombe's husband died she went to live with her mother, who also soon after died. In the meantime Mrs. Henry Brownscombe's daughter died and the motherless daughter-in-law went to live with her, taking the place of the deceased daughter. She, who has been a sister and daughter in name as much as she could have been by ties of blood, has been dutiful and loving in the full meaning of those words. Hers is a kind ministrations and devotion, such as find their true reward not on earth.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY WILKES-BARRE.

#### Interesting Incidents of a Former Generation.

About two years ago Stephen Wilson died in Philadelphia (see HISTORICAL RECORD, vol. 3, page 163), at the age of 88 years. He was a native of Wyoming Valley and his father was a Revolutionary soldier. The former was an uncle of Mrs. E. H. Chase and Thomas Taylor. He left some interesting reminiscences of his boyhood days in this region, and the following written in 1887, to his niece Clara Wilson, is taken from the same.

Elnathan Wilson, my father, came to Wyoming Valley from Connecticut near New London. The family at one time owned a great part where New London now stands. The family, supposed up to that to be rich, at the close of the Revolutionary War found themselves ruined by the depreciation in Continental currency. Elnathan at the age of 25 moved to Stroudsburg, Pa., and four years later went to Wyoming Valley, and locating at Forty Fort.

#### DURHAM BOATS.

In those primitive times Wilkes-Barre had no better way of getting salt, sugar, molasses and other heavy articles of household use than by boat from down the river. The Durham boat was long, slim and low, with running planks on each side from stem to stern. On these planks three or four polesmen on each side walked from end to end propelling the craft, the ends of their long ash poles against their shoulders, pushing in a bent position. At the stern was a long oar for steering; the steersman, who was the captain, had a horn whose musical notes echoed from hill to hill as he approached a town. At the sound of a boat horn the boys and girls would rush to the landing. Elnathan Wilson had an interest in one of these boats and went with it as captain.

#### SHAD ABUNDANT.

At that time there were thousands of shad caught at Wilkes-Barre every spring. I have seen five thousand on the river shore at one time and selling them as low as 3 cents each.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE BAKER FAMILY.

About this time a family named Baker came from Connecticut and settled in Forty Fort. The parents had two sons and three daughters. The boys were Hubbard and Stephen, the girls were Polly, Elizabeth and Eunice. Hubbard was 6 feet 4 and Stephen 6 feet 2. Polly was nearly six feet, stout and well proportioned and married George Chahoon. Elizabeth or Betsy at the age of 15

was married to Elnathan Wilson, by Rev. Anning Owen, a Methodist minister who lived near by in the house that Gov. Henry M. Hoyt was born in. Eunice married Stephen Scott. Old Mrs. Baker was killed by lightning in the house in which I was afterwards born. It was only a stone's throw from the Methodist Church now standing, as bright as it did 67 years ago when I as a boy used to hear hell described to trembling sinners.

At the spring training of the county militia the Baker boys took a prominent part in the athletic sports which followed the inspection by the General and the brigade inspector. They could easily jump a horizontal pole 6 feet and eight inches high. My father (Elnathan) could jump an 18-inch stone wall as high as his head. The Baker boys were related to the Temple family, in New York, engaged in the China tea trade, and therefore had opportunity for foreign travel. Hubbard left home when I was two years old and was not heard from until 10 years later, in South America. He never returned to Wyoming Valley. Stephen, for whom I was named, went West; if living yet he would be 101 years old.

Grandmother Baker was a sister of the celebrated American traveler, John Ledyard, who was with Captain Cook when the latter was killed by the Sandwich Island savages. Ledyard conducted an expedition into Africa and died at Cairo, Egypt.

#### HIS OLD HOME IN WYOMING VALLEY.

As to my old home, the house was within a hundred feet of the west end of the Wilkes-Barre bridge. It long ago disappeared. We moved from there in the fall of 1807 and went to spend the winter with uncle Enoch Holmes, at Caspouse [now Scranton]. In the spring of 1808 he moved back to Kingston to a house on the Squire Pierce farm between Col. Dorrance's farm and the river, about 3-4 of a mile from Kingston. Those were glorious days of childhood felicity. One day father took us to Wilkes-Barre to see an elephant show, which was in Geo Chahoon's barn. There was a big she elephant called Bets and two long-tailed green monkeys. For a long time I boasted of the daring exploit of feeding Bets a roll of ginger bread.

#### EARLY FERRIES.

In the spring of 1811 father leased the old ferry house, with its equipment of flats and skiffs and about five acres of land for \$100 a year. It was on the West bank of the Susquehanna opposite the foot of Northampton street. The road to Kingston village was an extension of Northampton street, though it has long been abandoned for the Market street road. The first year father built two flats and a skiff and put \$3,000 in bank. He often took in thirty or forty dollars a day,

though in winter when the river was frozen over his income stopped, except what he took in from his tavern, for the ferry house was a hotel in those primitive days.

#### EXODUS TO THE WEST.

The trouble brewing between Great Britain and America that resulted in the war of 1812 caused thousands of families in the Yankee States to move to the "far west," to the Holland Purchase, in the western part of N. Y. state. It had been bought years before by a company of Hollanders and was now offered at low prices to settlers. This resulted in a constant stream of travel, mostly by the route which crossed the Susquehanna at Wilkes-Barre and this exodus was fast putting shekels into father's pockets. After two seasons he gave up the ferry, having saved six or seven thousand dollars. My brother William was born at the old ferry June 4, 1812.

#### BLESSED BY BISHOP ASBURY.

Sometimes I used to earn a little by rowing a traveller over the river. One day I ferried a venerable looking man across. He put his hand on my head and pronounced a blessing on the flaxen haired boy who had brought him safely across. He was Bishop Asbury of the Methodist Church.

#### AN EARLY DROWNING.

I saw Tom Fry a dissipated negro drown while trying to swim the river. I sounded the alarm, and father and Adam, (our colored man) hastened to the spot. Steuben Butler also came and brought him up but the vital spark was fled.

#### THE YANKEE BOY MAKES MONEY.

I was eager in those days to accumulate money and when I gathered fifty cents in change I would take it to the bank (which was a few rods from above your uncle Taylor's house) and get Mr. Biddle the cashier to give me a new half dollar for it. There were large quantities of wild hops, plums, grapes, walnuts and butternuts growing along the river and flats. One day, with your aunts Polly and Esther, I picked 70 pounds of green hops, 20 pounds dry, which added five dollars to my pile, a glorious day's work. The last year we lived at the ferry house I trapped 75 muskrats and sold them to Barney Ulp, a hatter in Wilkes-Barre for \$18.75. In this and other ways I had accumulated \$99.50. When we left the ferry father built a house and store in the lower part of Kingston village, to which we moved in spring of 1812. Trade was

brisk and profits large. One morning before I went to school I sold \$50 worth of groceries to old Ann Blanchard, who kept a tavern at Hunlock's eddy, for cash down.

#### HIS FATHER'S POPULAR TAVERN.

The war of 1812 was followed by trying times. Three fourths of all the merchants of Wyoming valley failed. Father sold out his store in Kingston to a Yankee, Gilbert Lewis, and built a hotel, which he occupied several years. A few rods away was a tavern kept by Naphthali Huribut, at one time sheriff of Luzerne county. His children were Lyman, who married Caroline Sebofield, Esther, wife of Abel Hoyt and Mary Ann.

Our tavern was for years the home of the itinerant Methodist preachers—Benjamin Bidlack, George Lane, Marmaduke Pearce, George Peck and a score of others. In those days of primitive simplicity Methodist preachers thought it no sin to take a glass of wine or brandy, if they did not get drunk.

The family record from the old family bible:

Elnathan Wilson, born Feb. 23, 1762, died March, 1837

Elizabeth Baker, his wife, born Dec. 19, 1782, died Oct. 10, 1840. They were married in May, 1798. Children:

Stephen, born May 13, 1802.

Polly, born Aug. 11, 1804

Esther, born 1807, died 1808.

Ann, born 1809.

William C. born 1812.

George A. born 1815.

Lyman H. born 1817.

Elizabeth, born 1824.

After father sold his Kingston property he moved to Wilkes-Barre where he was bridge tender up to the time of his death in 1837. William had learned the saddler's trade with his uncle, Edmund Taylor. At this time I had moved to Milton and had a printing office and book bindery. George was apprenticed to John Lynde as clock maker, but he joined me at Milton in printing the *Ledger* a weekly paper. He was a fast printer, a good writer and could cut large type for show bills. The best newyear's address received at the office of the *Keystone*, in Harrisburg, for 1841, was set up in type by George, who composed it as he set it up in the sick. He married Kate Stoughton and moved to Columbus, O. where he made the reputation of being the best practical printer in Ohio.

Steve drew a rough diagram of the main road through Kingston from the old ferry house road on the line between Plymouth and Kingston townships, and marked off all the houses on the road to the head of the valley and gives the names of their occupants about 1817.



## AN INTERESTING BELIO.

A Map of Pittston on the Susquehanna to the Water Gap of the Delaware.

Among the many rare old maps in the possession of a Scranton gentleman of antiquarian taste, Dr. H. Hollister, none are more interesting than the one bearing the above title which was made in 1826 from original surveys by Joseph Welch for Henry W. Drinker, then of Olifton, Covington township, Luzerne county. During this year Drinker surveyed a route from Pittston to the Water Gap for the Susquehanna and Delaware railroad, to be run on levels and planes, ascending planes by an ingenious system of water wheels, then down levels by gravity. This was before the use of locomotives. Much of this route was utilized thirty years afterwards by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad upon the payment of \$1,000 to Drinker. Instead of running up through Moscov it left the Roaring Brook at Dunning, and struck the Paupack near Hollisterville, then made a detour through Sterling, Wayne county to Canedensis in Monroe county, and thence down the Anaconmie to the Delaware.

Drinker in his day was the master spirit of Drinker's Beech. His genius and enterprise was far ahead of the age. He beat his great turnpike through the wild forest, over mountain, hill and valley and could he successfully have called financial assistance to his side at that time the valley of Lackawanna would have been developed long before it was, and the city of Scranton would have born the name of Drinker.

On the map where Scranton now stands is marked *Deep Hollow*, with but two houses, that of Ebenezer Hitcock and the Slocum House. Providence, then the largest village in the valley, was printed on the map as Centre Ville, while Hyde Park, Scranton, Dunmore and Green Ridge had no name or place. Centre Ville and Pittston appeared to good advantage, while Covington, Olifton, Kingston, Wilkes-Barre, Stroudsburg, Easton, Eaglesville and Belvederer are well brought out. At this time not a chimney smoked in Archbald, Winton or Jessup and other villages were unknown. No store between Pittston ferry and Carbondale and but a single postoffice. Save at the new settlement at Carbondale where Maurice and William Worts were bending all their energies to make an outlet and market for their poor coal no coal beds were worked between Carbondale and Pittston. The North Branch Canal opened in 1826, gave the latter town a market for their anthracite.

Paupack or Cobbs pond on the Moosic mountain is designated with a true Indian name while the minor streams flowing into

the "Lackawanna" are outlined with singular fidelity and correctness. Roaring Brook—the Nay-Aug of the Indian—is named Deep Hollow Creek which heads at Lake Henry, near Olifton. At Centre Ville at the mouth of Leggitta creek is marked "Seymour's line to Great Bend.—Scranton Republican.

## THE STANDING STONE.

Used as a Target by Sullivan's Troops in 1889—Its Dimensions.

Speaking of the rock along the upper division of the L. V. R. R. which suggested a name for the village of Standing Stone in Bradford County, the *Towanda Review* says:

Tourists ever the Lehigh Valley at all familiar with local objects must have observed the large rock projecting out of the water near the west shore of the river, about half a mile below Standing Stone village. From the top of this huge stone to the bed of the stream, it is said to be 44 feet, the width 16 feet and its thickness 4 feet. It is not known how far the rock is embedded in the earth, but as it has maintained its upright position for more than a hundred years—how much longer nobody knows—it must be very firmly set, probably as much or it is under the ground as above.

It will be noticed that a piece has been broken from one corner, and the legendary explanation is that, when Gen. Sullivan passed up the river in 1779, his army encamped opposite this point, and observing that the great rock made a good target, ordered his artillerymen to fire at it. The missing corner of the "standing stone" demonstrates with what effect the solid shot were hurled against it.

The Indians were familiar with the landmark, hence the name—Standing Stone—which they christened the settlement, a title it has ever since retained.

## Timothy Green as an Editor.

A subscriber to the *Record* asks for information as to a paper published by Timothy Green & Son in Norwich, Conn., during last century. Reply: There does not seem to have been any such paper published in Norwich. Reference is probably had to the following early Connecticut journals:

1758—*New London Summary*, by Timothy Green Jr.; small half sheet, suspended five years later.

1763—*New London Gazette*, by Timothy Green; foolscap sheet, 14x17 inches. In 1773 changed to *Connecticut Gazette* Suspended 1844

1767—*Connecticut Journal and New Haven Post Boy*, by T. & S. Green; foolscap sheet 14x17 inches. Suspended 1835.

## A WEST SIDE REMINISCENCE.

Observations of Judge Shoemaker and the Years in Which He Lived.

[By Dr. George Urquhart.]

The lapse of many years has not diminished the pleasant memories that are indelibly associated with the genial and genuine hospitality enjoyed in our youthful days, at the spacious and embowered home of Charles D. Shoemaker, Esq.

Judge Shoemaker was dignified and courtly in his manners, yet wholly unaffected and with a fortitude of mind that never showed indications of uncontrolled emotion.

In conversation he was fluent, smooth, gentle and kind, delighting all with a style rendered pleasing and attractive by a beauty and refinement of manner, naturally graceful, but polished as education could make it.

Every act of his life that was traceable to a dictate of duty, pointed to the welfare of the community, and if he was not exempt from the infirmities incident to all human action, he was characterized for purposes always honest and sincere, for intuitions always pure, for a mind unwearied in the pursuit of right, patient of inquiry and contradiction, sound in its ultimate judgment, firm in its final conclusions, and for a manner discreet even in collision of sentiment. He was estimable for his virtuous principles, for his devotion to the right, for his enmity to either civil or religious intolerance, and for the correct and honorable discharge of every duty.

He had an antipathy for the bustle and vexations of public life, and shunned them for the pleasures of domestic retirement, where his benevolence and the urbanity of his manners rendered him beloved by all. His memory will be cherished with grateful admiration, for he was a sincere and practical Christian, and maintained through life a reputation for a pure and disinterested friendship and patriotism which commanded that respect and attention due to fearless and uncompromising integrity.

Judge Shoemaker was endowed by nature with the social elements of a true gentleman. His manner was that of distinguished and dignified ease, affability and politeness. We rarely find a person so punctilious in the observance of all the nice proprieties of life, or one who so frankly abhorred any violation of the established rules of decorum or encroachment on the sanctity of those rights and feelings which must owe their security to delicacy of sentiment in an enlightened community.

He possessed a frank nature, exhibited a marked refinement in all his thoughts and

actions, and never clothed his language in cautious phraseology for purposes of artifice or concealment, nor allowed any sentiment to escape him that was indelicate.

He was naturally self-reliant and the circumstances under which he discharged the active duties of life, were suited to strengthen the original tendencies of his nature.

He was placed on terms of confidential intercourse with persons whose characters stamped the impress of their individuality and influence upon society; the consequent result of which on a mind like his was the formation of habits of thought and action in conformity and sympathy with a popular sentiment which keeps the elements of progressive thought constantly within reach.

He was frequently called upon to discharge duties relating to the welfare of the community, was moreover for many years an associate judge of the county court and as an active and influential member of society lent his influence in advancing in taste and refinement the best interest of the people. He took the interest of a thoughtful and intelligent citizen in political affairs, wherein his views, which were firm and decided, were the result of careful thought and study of principles.

It is natural and beneficial to view with keen attention the character and personality of an esteemed or illustrious person with the hope of discovering some peculiar traces of their excellence which distinguish them from their fellows.

His simple and modest deportment, his manner, grave without dullness, commanding respect without appearance of haughtiness, were all calculated to awaken favorable interest and command respect and veneration.

His sincerity of purpose, his willingness and ability to follow his convictions of duty, and his record of an upright and Christian life, is the legacy of a good example, which will be remembered and cherished by all who knew him.

In his religious feelings he was equable and cheerful, and in a firm and settled belief in the inspiration of the scriptures, in the governing providence of God and in his dependence and trust in the atonement, he found continual consolation, a cheering consciousness of support, and an animating hope of future blessedness. He believed in the capacity of all men for progress and improvement, and that the Christian religion taught the unity and brotherhood of the human race.

He was ever subservient as a partisan; never sought political preferment; and declined with dignified courtesy, any prominence in political activity, yet, he enjoyed the confidence of the people among whom he was an honorable associate, and a good counselor.

He was an intelligent observer of forces, of causes and events; was wholly without personal bias or partisan prejudice, no breath of suspicion ever assailed his integrity, and his sturdy uprightness, his genial affability and his wide range of information is a most lasting and gratifying memorial. To a courtly and courteous bearing which won the respect of all who were associated with him, he united a rare companionship, and his utterances were marked by a broad charity and sincere good will, that evoked from all a feeling of a kindred character.

Long years ago the writer saw a similarity in many points of personal character, in the conception, manner and influence of Judges Shoemaker, Conyngham and Jessup, inasmuch, as they were all positive, conscientious, of resolute energies and strong, natural capacities. Thoroughly American in their tastes, intuitions and aspirations, they illustrated in their characters some of the best traits typical of their countrymen; and furthermore, in their love of justice was exhibited a professional character of exceptional symmetry and strength. The well-ordered and self-respecting life of Judge Shoemaker made him, what he was by nature, both the straightforward representative of a respected and independent people and a true representative of social order, social government and social law.

#### COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION.

*Stirring Appeal of President Dorrance—Gwalla Glee Club to be Present—Ex-Governor Hoyt the Orator—Looking to a More Perfect Organization.*

A preliminary meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association convened on May 16, 1891, for the purpose of arranging for the annual reunion at the monument on the anniversary of the battle and massacre, July 8. Col. C. Dorrance, the veteran president, in calling the meeting to order said:

Gentlemen of the association: I trust you will bear with me while I explain to you why I take so great an interest in everything connected with the Wyoming monument and this association's annual pilgrimages to that, to me sacred shrine, to commemorate the anniversary of Wyoming's great disaster of more than a hundred years ago. It was not alone because an honored ancestor fell on that bloody field, but there were other and deeper impressions made on my youthful mind, by listening to the blood-curdling tales of some of the active participants and survivors of

that fearful slaughter, rehearsed on many winter nights as we all gathered around the old-fashioned fireplace in my father's house, while they recounted the many hairbreadth escapes of fugitives as they were fleeing, wounded, sore and disheartened, to the friendly shelter of Forty Fort stockade. But there is another circumstance to which I will here allude; I alone, am the only living representative of the first meeting assembled to take into consideration and engage actively in the work of erecting a monument to mark the spot where our heroes lie buried. That was about sixty years ago, and now that the snows of eighty-six winters have fallen on my whitened locks, I recall with feelings of gratitude, and I trust an excusable pride, a remembrance of the fact that I was there and of the part I was permitted to take on that day as being an humble participant in the initiatory movement looking to the rearing of that modest tribute, hewn from the native rock of our dear old valley, to the memory of departed worth. A subscription was started on that day, and Gen. William Ross and Benjamin Dorrance each put down his name for eighty dollars; and here let me say that eighty dollars at that time was not the insignificant sum it would represent among the millionaires of our valley to-day. Sterling Ross was at the meeting and he supplemented his father's subscription by putting down his name for twenty more, thus making the Ross subscription one hundred. My innate modesty forbids any mention by me of what I did further than to say I was there, and from that circumstance my deep interest in everything connected with the monument has ever been cherished as dear to my heart.

In the ordinary course of nature I shall not have the privilege of meeting with you many times in the coming years, and it may be not at all, but I can assure you that these annual gatherings have been a source of untold gratification to me in my old age, and while I live I hope to see them become more and more cherished by the young men of the valley, so that when we, the old men who originated this custom, shall have passed away, that they will keep green the memory of those other older and braver men whose bones lie buried deep in the sacred soil that drank their blood on that hot July day. And I most cordially invite the rising generation, particularly descendants of the men of '78, many of you who now in luxury enjoy the fruits of their toil purchased by their sweat and blood in days that tried men's souls, to devote at least one day in the rolling year to the reverential task of paying a willing tribute to their memories, and to strew flowers upon their honored graves.

Col. Dorrance then said that as an evidence that an awakened and better feeling en-

this subject had now taken hold of our people, he took great pleasure in here submitting to the association a communication he had just received from a newly formed association of patriotic ladies of the valley, styled "Daughters of the American Revolution." He said he regarded this movement on the part of the ladies as an auspicious omen of a better time for these annual gatherings at the monument in the future. It was the ladies of Wilkes-Barre and Kingston who infused new life into the half finished monument when its further progress was delayed for want of funds. They, by the magic of their sweet wills, touched the corpse of the dead and decaying structure and it forthwith sprung into life, and to-day stands as an evidence of what our women are capable of accomplishing when the men fail in their duty to departed worth.

The secretary then read the communication as follows:

Ool. Charles Dorrance, President: Gentlemen—At the organization meeting of the "Daughters of the American Revolution" it was resolved; that we for our first patriotic expression attend the commemorative services to be held at the Wyoming monument on the 3d of July next, and respectfully ask that they be held at an earlier or later hour than formerly, that the usual heat of the day may be less oppressive; also that seats may be furnished us.

Respectfully,

KATHARINE SEARLE MCCARTNEY,  
Regent of Daughters of American Revolution,  
Wilkes-Barre, May 16, 1891."

In deference to the suggestion of these patriotic ladies the time of the next meeting was fixed for 9 o'clock a. m.

Hezekiah Parsons of Parson Berough, a newly elected member present, offered to furnish free of expense to the Daughters' Association his fine band wagon, capable of conveying twenty-five of its members to and from the place of meeting. Mr. Parsons' generous offer was accepted on motion of the secretary on behalf of the Daughters, with thanks of this association for his thoughtfulness and gallantry to the ladies on that day.

Robert Pettebone, W. S. Jenkins, John M. Stark and Benjamin Dorrance were appointed a committee on preparation of grounds and decoration of monument.

Messrs. Calvin Parsons, Sheldon Reynolds, William A. Wilcox, Dr. A. Knapp and John S. Harding were appointed committee to arrange program and invite speakers for the day. It is understood that ex-Governor Hoyt will be principal orator of the day.

Rev. Mr. Edwards of Edwardsville expressed a desire in behalf of the "Gwallia Glee Club," an association of noted Welsh vocalists, to assist at the exercises, and they will enliven the occasion with some choice selections of vocal music. The proper com-

mittee was directed to extend a formal invitation to the club with thanks for their kind offer.

Messrs. Hezekiah Parsons, Benjamin Dorrance, Maj. O. A. Parsons, F. C. Johnson, and Charles H. Chamberlin were elected to active membership.

There is always some expense attending these 31 of July gatherings which has heretofore been borne by voluntary contributions by members of the original executive committee, but as the members of this committee have nearly all passed from life to death, it has been decided to establish a more perfect organization, as contemplated by the plan originally adopted. By this plan any one desiring to become a member is required to pay an annual due of one dollar to defray necessary expenses.

#### COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION.

How Constituted and Who are Members—Interesting Points in the History of the Organization.

[Daily Record, June 23.]

As there seems to be an awakening interest manifested in the annual gatherings of this association, and especially in the meeting to be held on the anniversary of the battle and massacre, on the 31 of July next, and as the secretary has been frequently applied to for information as to who are members and how persons desiring to become members are to proceed to become such, he has prepared an outline of the plan, showing how new members can be received. The association is a body corporate under the law governing corporations of this kind. The plan of organization adopted July 3, 1879, for perpetuating and continuing the "One hundredth year Association" Commemorative of the Battle and Massacre of July 3, 1778, (See Memorial Volume, page 298, etc.) provides:

Article 2. "That it shall consist of such officers and members of the committees heretofore appointed and charged with the duties of commemorating the battle and massacre of Wyoming, July 3, 1778, and such descendants of participants in the battle, and of pioneers of the valley as may signify their desire to join the association by subscribing these articles"

Article 7. "The annual dues to paid in advance by each member of the association shall be one dollar to be appropriated to defray the expense of publishing in permanent form the proceedings of the annual meetings, etc., and for such other purpose as shall be designated by the Executive Committee."

Heretofore no annual dues have been required of the members, the expenses of the

meeting for printing programs, carriage hire for speakers, music, etc., at the monument having been met by voluntary contributions from a few of the more liberal minded members taking an active interest in the work of keeping green the memory of the brave men who stood up for home and country on that fatal July day.

A form of application for membership has been prepared by the secretary, and all who wish to join the association can do so by subscribing to the articles and paying in the required one dollar initiation fee.

Under the plan adopted, the following named officers and members of committees were entitled to and did become members by virtue of their association as such, with the "One hundredth year association," under whose auspices the grand commemorative observance of 1878 was so successfully managed. Many of the persons named, however, as being entitled to membership in the newly formed association were only nominally connected with the older one and have taken no part in the later annual reunions.

Officers: Charles Dorrance, president; Lazarus D. Shoemaker, treasurer; Wesley Johnson, secretary; Edmund G. Butler, assistant secretary; vice presidents, Edward Herrick, William Allen, John Sturdevant, O. H. P. Kinne, James Hadsell, Stewart Pearce, A. N. Harvey, Steuben Jenkins, Washington Lee, Gordon Pike, Elisha Blackman, James A. Gordon, Dr. B. N. Troop, Samuel Stark, Frank Stewart, Steuben Butler, G. M. Reynolds, and the following members of committees: Garrick M. Harding, chairman, Sharp D. Lewis, Joseph A. Scranton, Dr. W. H. Bradley, H. B. Beardley, William Jansons, Charles Parrish, James W. Kester; Edmund L. Dana, chairman. O. I. A. Chapman, John E. Barrett, George M. Eichart, Peter M. Osterhout, William A. Campbell, O. H. Worden; Dr. H. Hollister, chairman, Rev. George Landon, William P. Miner; Dr. H. Hakes, chairman; S. S. Benedict, Rev. David Craft, Rev. S. S. Kennedy, Ralph D. Lacos, Hon. Sylvester Dana, Edward Welles; Harrison Wright, Daniel S. Bennett, Porter Dearcey, W. H. H. Gore, George W. Beach; Payne Pettebone, chairman, Theodore Strogg, Abram Nesbitt, E. P. Kingsbury, George S. Bennett, Frank Turner, John Welles Hollenback, George Sanderson; George Corey, chairman, William O'Malley, H. H. Harvey, J. D. Green, A. S. Davenport, David Perkins; John M. Courtright, chairman, J. E. Patterson, K. J. Ross, Harry Laycock, Samuel Raub, Addison Church, W. S. Shoemaker, Marx Long; Henry M. Hoyt, chairman, Edward S. Osborne, O. K. Campbell, T. D. Lewis, E. W. Pierce, Charles H. Wilson, T. O. Harkness, Oliver A. Parsons; Hendrick B. Wright, chairman, Ira Tripp, Dr. A. Bed-

ford, E. W. Sturdevant, Hon. John Handley, Lewis Fugh, Edwin Shorts, B. A. Bidsack, John A. Carey, Peter Franklin; James F. Atherton, chairman, Bradley Williams, David Blanchard, Daniel Searle, James S. Slocum; E. J. Wisner, chairman, William H. Butler, James Searle, Benjamin Dorrance, James Sutton, Elisha A. Hancock, Bruce Price, Benjamin G. Cooper, Rev. Abel Barker, Bradley Downing; Calvin Parsons, chairman, E. O. Fuller, Aaron A. Chase, Henry Stark, Edward P. Darling, Robert J. James; Stanley Woodward, chairman, Victor E. Piolet, George L. Dickson, A. B. Dunning; Henry W. Palmer, chairman, Robert A. Packer, William R. Maffet, James Bethven, William L. Conyngnam; O. E. Butler, E. D. Barthe, J. A. Clark, E. A. Niven, Robert Baur, Ernest V. Jackson, John B. Alexander, John Espy, E. W. Weston.

The following are honorary members: W. A. Wilcox, Sheldon Reynolds, John S. Harding, Dr. A. Knapp, F. O. Johnson, C. H. Chamberlin.

Oliver A. Parsons and Hezekiah Parsons and Mrs. Judge Plouts have paid their annual dues for the present year.

The committee whose duty it is to prepare a program of exercises for the next 3d July meeting have about arranged all the details, and it will be announced as soon as fully completed. The first appearance of the "Daughters of the American Revolution" will form an interesting feature of the exercises. Ex-Governor H. M. Hoyt will be the orator of the day. The celebrated Gwent Glee Club will discourse some of the sweetest music, both vocal and instrumental, while some of our ablest clergymen will assist in rendering thanks to our Heavenly Father for his manifold blessings and favors shown to the people of this favored land.

W. J.

—There is being restored and reframed at Fockey's an oil portrait dating back to the last century. The subject is the wife of Rev. Benjamin Bidsack, one of the pioneer preachers of Wyoming Valley. She was the daughter of Obadiah Gore who figured prominently in Wyoming's stirring history. The old lady was a sister of the great-grandfather of John Gore Wood, of this city. The portrait belongs to Mrs. Helen Koons of Huntington Mills. The old frame is to be retained.

—Jesse Harding died in Eaton, Wyoming County, April 24, 1891, aged 90 years. He was well known here as a literary man and read the poem at the Wyoming massacre anniversary in 1878.

### THE THIRD AT WYOMING.

**A Larger Gathering Than on Former Occasions—Ex-Gov. Hoyt the Orator—Other Addresses and Incidents.**

The 113th anniversary of the battle and massacre of Wyoming was observed at the monument July 3, 1891. The attendance was large and enthusiastic. The granite shaft was festooned with smilax and hydrangeas and the stars and stripes were flying. The skies were overcast but there was no rain. Seats were provided but fully half the people had to stand, the attendance being larger than was anticipated. A fine flagstaff 56 feet high had been contributed by H. H. Harvey and the same was being put up by Robert Pettebone. The exercises opened at 9:30 o'clock, Dr. Frear pronouncing the invocation, after which the venerable president, Col. Charles Dorrance, now past 86 years old, made some pleasant informal remarks. He was glad to see so many on the sacred ground again, he said. Though having undergone a two months' illness he felt as if he ought not to be there. But so long as he had voice and strength he would attend. Col. Dorrance paid a compliment to the Wilkes-Barre branch of the Daughters of the American Revolution, whose members were present. None could appreciate more than he the valor of the patriot dead buried here, for he had listened to the tales of courage as told by the survivors when he was a boy. The blood of those who perished here cried for vengeance and the cry penetrated to the British Parliament and made us friends. He said he felt that this was the last time he would ever appear here, but he wanted Young America to take up the work that we leave off and at the next centennial of 1978 your children's children will be proud. I want your children and your children's children to know and to feel that you honor the memory of the patriot men and women of Wyoming. He thanked the people present for their attendance and hoped that they would continue to come to the sacred spot and learn the lessons of liberty. When the colonel took his seat he was warmly applauded.

The following communication from Dr. Hollister was read by the secretary.

SCRANTON, June, 29, 1891.—To the Wyoming Oom. Association: Years roll by in rapid succession, but the memory of the slaughter of the Wyoming valley will always be as vivid as it was a century ago. While I fear that I may never assemble with you again, I trust that our society, and that our children's children and our patriotic citizens will ever commemorate July 3, 1878.

Yours Truly, H. HOLLISTER.

Secretary Wesley Johnson stated that last summer on the day the Territory of Wyoming was admitted to the Union he mailed a

copy of the volume of the association to the governor of the new State. The letter which accompanied the volume and the governor's letter of acknowledgment were read. The latter thanked Mr. Johnson for the book and assured him that it would be deposited in the archives of the State. It also contained the greeting of the forty-fourth and youngest State in the Union.

#### THE OLD AND NEW WYOMING

John Butler Reynolds read a brief paper in which he compared the methods of life in Wyoming Valley in the last century with those of the present century. He began with the organization of the Susquehanna Company in Connecticut in 1763, mentioned the purchase of the territory from the Six Nation Indians, the arrival of the first settlers and the hardships they underwent and their mode of pioneer and pastoral life generally. The contrast of the present century, with its coal developments, its introduction of canals and railroads and the supplanting of agriculture by machinery was strongly drawn.

Paul B. Weitzel of Scranton, who was down for an address, sent a telegram as follows: "The Pannamite regrets his unavoidable absence. All honor to the heroes of Wyoming."

John S. Harding was introduced by Col. Dorrance as coming from a family of fighters. Mr. Harding's remarks were impromptu, patriotic and witty. He was the orator of the day three years ago.

#### THE BRITISH BUTLER NOT A FIEND.

John Butler Woodward gave an off-hand address in which he said in this age of skepticism it was not to be wondered at that much of what has been written about Wyoming was pure fancy. It was now believed that "the monster Brant" was not at the battle of Wyoming at all and that Queen Esther's savage and murderous orgies on the famous rock in the vicinity were figments of the imagination. Mr. Woodward did not believe that even Col. John Butler, who led the British forces in the battle, was as bad as he had been painted. On the contrary there is evidence that instead of having been bloodthirsty and cruel he was a brave soldier, actuated only by loyalty and devotion to the crown. Mr. Woodward made the statement that Col. John Butler and Col. Zebulon Butler were second cousins, a piece of information that is interesting if true.

James H. Torrey of Scranton was booked for an address but sent the appended regrets:

An imperative business engagement calls me suddenly from home this morning. I sincerely regret that I shall be deprived of the pleasure of joining in the commemoration of the labors and sacrifices of the Wyoming martyrs. Were I present I should urge upon their descendants and successors to value too highly and cherish too

sacredly the liberty purchased with so much of toil and suffering to permit its abridgement in the persons of any individuals or class however humble, or its expansion into license for the benefit of any individuals or class however powerful or numerous. In a more primitive age men seemed to deal more directly than we with the internal sources of liberty. But though the chain which connects right civil action with the everlasting throne may now contain more links, it is none the less direct. Liberty under the law. Law founded on justice. Justice prompted by conscience. Conscience enlightened by revelation. May we cherish liberty so derived and be ready, if need be, to defend it as the heroes whose memory makes this day sacred defended their humble firesides with their lives.

Very sincerely yours,  
JAMES H. TORREY.

#### THE EARLY LAND CONTROVERSY.

Ex-Governor Henry M. Hoyt was present as the orator of the day, but his throat was troubling him and he asked Hon. O. D. Foster to read the paper, which he did with good effect. Probably Governor Hoyt has a more intimate familiarity with the legal questions involved in the early struggles between Pennsylvania and Connecticut for title to the soil than any other living man and his paper will be found of great interest. It is as follows:

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:** The burden of what will be spoken here to-day naturally terminates on the men whose bones lie under this memorial, which their descendants have erected over them. The center of the impulses, which have made this gathering necessary and proper, lies at the incident which occurred here a hundred years ago, and at the fortunes and persons who were actors in it. It has been very loyally observed for many years now. I recognize here many of the lineal descendants of the group of men who participated in that tragedy. In such hands its memory is not likely to pass away. The relation of its stirring story fills many pages of history, tradition and song. Its moving and desperate issues constitute the most pathetic chapter in the literature of our country in all its annals. It stands out as the leading event in the history of the Wyoming settlement. The unexpected, sudden and atrocious "taking off" of the entire male population of the valley rivets the attention, and fixes on the massacre as a very memorable event in the history of all mankind. Indeed, the spectacle presented here on that summer day of July, 1778, is almost without a parallel as a cruel and destructive catastrophe in the annals of the race.

But the experience of the people of the United States, in this generation, in overlooking and forgetting the conflicts of a great, bloody and prolonged war, waged on the widest field, have accustomed us to estimate such disasters to the human family, by looking at causes and consequences. We try to institute a calm and philosophical inquiry at results, and we learn to mitigate our judgments as partisans and try to temper them by historical fairness.

The Wyoming Massacre was a most deplorable episode. It had no necessary connection with the orderly development of history in this valley. It was an incident, which happened to occur here, but which was produced by no local causes and, as I think, was not inspired by local considerations. From 1769 to 1799, a controversy between the purchasers under the Susquehanna Company, and the State of Pennsylvania, wore out one whole generation of men in its prosecution. I myself have never seen any historical connection between that controversy and the massacre. At the same time, the partisans of one side of that controversy were the victims of the massacre, and hence, the tendency to identify the controversy with the massacre. I think it well, here and now, to get right, historically, on this question, and to try and arrest the tide of resentment which is apt to arise against the State, in which our ancestors finally concluded to make their homes. There is enough of wanton outrage to justify any amount of indignation, but there is nobody now left upon whom to visit our sense of wrong. I see before me many whose ancestors were engaged in this conflict and controversy, and I am pleased to say that they still possess and enjoy the fruits of those fields and mines over which it was waged.

The pith and core of the conflict seems to be located on Abraham's Plains. It was, in fact, a remarkable struggle, a war to the knife, on the broad arena of natural rights, law and politics. If it had arisen in the days of Pericles at Athens, it would not have developed more single-minded, self-poised and alert disputants. If the papers, arguments, diplomacy and speeches had been issued from the Pnyx, they could not have been filled with more profoundly-broad thoughts about human rights and more eloquently urged than by these woodsmen here in the wilderness of Pennsylvania. Besides, the six thousand Yankees, a very considerable community in itself, had not only purchased rights, but were in fact and in law, in the actual possession of them, and they had the courage of men with convictions and the pluck to stand for them with arms in their hands. With all these mental and physical forces at their control, they were of course inexorable.

We shall always preserve grateful and reverential memories of the men who fell here. At the same time, you, their descendants, have a strain of *higher nobility* in your blood, which en'titles you to claim kin to the freemen who framed Magna Charta and the patriots who drew the Declaration of Independence. The massacre came at an interval when the controversy with Pennsylvania was not being waged. After the failure of the attempt under Pennsylvania by Col. Plunkett in 1775, and up to the Decree of Trenton in 1783, there was a suspension of hostilities here under the direction of Congress. Then followed the second Pennamite War, the passage of the Confirming Act of 1787, its repeal in 1790 and the the uncertain but never hopeless expectation of final relief, which came under the Compromise Act of 1799. In the progress of all these events, a generation had come and gone. The most intelligent and best informed among the participants believed that their settlement was under a *good title* from the State of Connecticut. As Justice Breckenridge said in *Oarkuff vs. Anderson*, "they were not *trespassers*;" "In favor of those who had settled under the idea of a good title and under the expectation of enjoying the land, which they were improving and defending at a great risk and with much loss from the *common enemy* during the Revolutionary War, there is a *claim* which ought not to be wholly disregarded, a *claim* on the ground of *moral obligation*."

That these frontiersmen, isolated as they were, should have risen to so vivid an apprehension of their rights and should have stood by them with a never flagging intelligence and devotion, is to this day a wonder and amazement to the impartial observer and student. Though nominally under the government of Connecticut, that Colony never did anything for them in the way of protection or defense. They were left to protect their own rights. They knew no sovereign but their own determined will. They found no justice outside their own limits. With all their reverses against organized power, their own strong arms and brave hearts continued to maintain the only wall of defense which was around them. Their patient resistance outlasted the spasmodic but ill-timed and cruel attempts of the State authorities in 1784 to dispossess them; so that at the last Alexander Patterson (the most hated name of the period) wrote to the Supreme Court—"Certain it is that no human policy could govern, or *reconcile both parties* to remain peaceably in this country." The sheriff of Northumberland County, in which this region then was, himself trying to enforce the decrees of Pennsylvania, "ordered the Yankees to take their arms, *for men were not to stand still and be killed*." Such was the state of public opinion in

which the issue had culminated by the year 1784, so merciless and irresponsible had become the agents of the State of Pennsylvania in the effort to coerce and destroy this Yankee colony. After the decree of Trenton, the settlers had cordially declared their entire willingness to pay due observance to the constitutional law of Pennsylvania, but at the same time, *they insist that they should be confirmed in their possessions*. And there they stood and patiently waited for fifteen years more, until good sense and equity finally prevailed in the councils of Pennsylvania. The commissioners at Trenton had found "that the jurisdiction and pre-emption of all the territory lying within the charter bounds of Pennsylvania, and now claimed by the State of Connecticut, do of right belong to the State of Pennsylvania." This decree was conclusive between the *States* which were parties to the cause on the question of *political jurisdiction*. It did not affect the *private right of soil* of individuals, and so the commissioners accompanied their decree with a letter to the State of Pennsylvania in which they stated: "Their individual claims could in no instance come before us, not being in the line of our appointment. We beg leave to declare to your excellency that we think the *situation of these people well deserve the notice of government*." Pennsylvania did nothing practical, and kept the equity of the settlers in abeyance, until the 4th of April, 1799, when the legislature passed an Act entitled "An Act for offering compensation to the Pennsylvania claimants of certain lands within the seventeen townships in the county of Luzerne and for other purposes therein mentioned." Under this Act, the Connecticut settlers were *confirmed in their possessions*, took the title of Pennsylvania to their land, and the Pennsylvania claimants took their compensation, and thus closed the controversy.

Some of the disputants in these various troubles have left their mark on other portions of the history of the country. Col. John Jenkins was, in the main, the penman and spokesman of Connecticut people. His papers and addresses exerted a powerful influence on his constituents. He was full of glowing traditions of their struggles, but finally inclined to leave the men of "the seventeen townships," and link his fortunes and influence with the "*half-share men*."

Timothy Pickering came here as the agent for the State of Pennsylvania and was the Prothonotary of Luzerne County at its first organization. He was mainly instrumental in passing the Confirming Law of 1787 and was a warm and staunch adherent thereafter of the cause of the settlers. He finally became Secretary of State under President Washington.



The passage and repeal of the Confirming Law raised up very powerful friends of the settlers in other parts of the State. I regard the "dissentients" from the votes repealing that Law, prepared by William Rawle and William Lewis, members of the Legislature from Philadelphia, as great, learned and incisive papers. They read like a lecture on constitutional law or a section of the Bill of Rights.

General John Armstrong, Jr., deserves a word of remembrance at our hands. He was commander of the troops who came here after the Decree of Trenton, in the second Pennamite War, to execute the behests of Pennsylvania. His conduct in dispossessing the Connecticut people was harsh and attended by wanton outrages. He soon discovered that he was engaged in a hopeless task and one probably distasteful to his instincts as a man and as a citizen. His last act here was a parting shot at the men whom he could not subdue. As he "gave it up" he lets fly a Parthian arrow,—*"Appearances which presented themselves were such as begot but few hopes of being able, by gentle methods, to extinguish a flame which has extended itself to a whole people, composed as they are of vagrants and desperadoes."*

If my name was Dorrance or Butler or Jenkins or Shoemaker or Harding or Bansom or Harvey or Ross or Gore, I would not, at this late day deny the pedigree.

In view of the heroic *life work* of the men who had stood by their possessions—had refused to surrender the interests of widows and children of their fellows and compatriots, and had declined to become abject slaves, and when they were willing to become obedient citizens to a just government, we will accept the lineage he assigned to our predecessors.

General Armstrong afterwards became a United States Senator for New York and Minister to France, where he was instrumental in negotiating the Treaty for the purchase of Louisiana under Jefferson, and was Secretary of War under President Madison.

But it will be improper to detain you longer to rehearse details of which you are all familiar. I want you to indulge me in a couple of quotations which embody a fair criticism on the conduct of the parties to the famous controversy now passed under the following perspective of history. Recent and judicious history has settled and run into the correct interpretation of the acts of the participants of this unhappy struggle. I quote from Upham's life of Timothy Pickering.

He delivers the following catholic judgment on Pennsylvania: "The lenient course of Pennsylvania during the several stages of the controversy with Connecticut, reflects

honor upon her wisdom, as well as humanity. At different times, she took many of the settlers in battle or skirmish, and held them as prisoners in her jails at Easton, or elsewhere, among them several of their leaders. She did not execute upon them any military or judicial penalties. She treated them not as wicked, but as misguided, men, allowing them to be discharged. Such a course may have been called "imbecility" by some, but is entitled, in the judgment of enlightened statesmen and philanthropists, and will be more and more so as the world advances, to commendation and honor, reflecting the truest glory on the character of Pennsylvania. Upon the whole, no conflict in arms, protracted through such a period of years, and accompanied by so much provocation, is so little stained by cruelty and vindictiveness, or has a better record for bravery, resolution, or endurance, than the very fight jurisdiction over the Wyoming lands."

Of the Connecticut settlers, he reasonably and naturally judges thus: \* \* \* \*  
 "Persons living in a wilderness, far more remote from organized communities, without means of communication with the rest of the world, are apt to acquire a spirit of independence making them disregardful of the artificial restraints that have to be recognized in more crowded states of society. They know nothing of the tribunals, and care nothing for the technicalities of law. He who, by his own ax and plow, has transformed the acre, within which his daily and yearly life is bounded, from a pathless, worthless forest, into a cultivated and productive inclosure, feels that he owns it by a title better than all written documents or recorded deeds. His farm, his house, his barns, all that he has, thinks of, or cares about, is literally the work of his own hands, his sole creation. No other man has contributed to it; and it is hard to make him understand that any other man, be he called what he may—Governor, proprietor, legislator, judge or sheriff—has a right to take his land from under his feet. He will hold to it as his life, and fight for it against the world. \* \* \* \* In the mean time, those lands had become more and more endeared to them by every principle of association, every habit of homely life, every trial, and every peril. By their toil and energy they had been reclaimed from the rugged wilderness of nature, and converted into smooth lawns and verdant meadows of marvelous beauty and loveliness. Adventurers from other colonies and other lands, had one by one, been drawn into their company, attracted by tales of world wide currency, portraying the charming aspect of the country, the excellence of its soil for the culture of grains and fruits, and every attribute that can adorn a landscape, and give reward to industry.

It was not only endeared to its occupants by the attachments now mentioned, but consecrated by special experiences of blood and woe, that have riveted on them the sympathies of mankind, perpetuated in the hearts of all coming generations by verses of foreign and native bards that will never die. The devastations of their fields, the conflagrations of their dwellings and barns, and the repeated massacres of their people—men, women and children—by savage hordes, all these combined could not destroy or weaken the tenacity with which they clung to their lands. Those who escaped the tomahawk and scalping-knife had come back, over and over again, from their places of refuge. The invincible, indestructible community persevered in its contest against all odds, and no power, civilized or barbarian, could root it out." \* \* \* \* \*

With judicial impartiality, he concludes thus: "Upon balancing the facts and evidence, we are brought, not to the conclusion usually the result of a fair consideration of the whole subject in like cases, that both parties were in the wrong, but that both were substantially in the right."

#### Death of Miss Jane Miner.

Miss Jane Parsons Miner died May 11, 1891, at the residence of her niece, Mrs. Joshua L. Miner. Miss Miner was born in Wilkes-Barre about 74 years ago, and was a daughter of Joshua and Fanny Hepburn Miner. She was a life long member of the First Presbyterian Church, and was a woman of most benevolent disposition. She was a sister of the late Lewis H. Miner and Augusta D. Miner and the last of her generation. Death was due to the infirmities of age and she passed painlessly away. She was devoted as a mother to her nephews, Joshua and John and to James O. Mackenzie, who was also a member of the household. The lamented death of Dr. Joshua two years ago was a shock from which she never fully recovered. Her only surviving nephew, John Miner of New York, was present at her bedside, and he is the last of his generation.

#### An Early Horse Thief Killed.

W. W. Delavan of Philadelphia, who is the guest of Dr. Charles P. Knapp at Wyoming, hands the Record a copy of the Trenton, (N. J.) *Federalist* of July 15, 1816, containing a letter from Wilkes-Barre giving the details of the killing of a horse thief on the mountain. In resisting his captor he was shot in the head and killed. He was buried at Bear Creek. An inquest of justifiable homicide

was rendered. The letter remarks that "horse stealing and counterfeiting appear to be the sport of the day. Two persons were arrested for having counterfeited money at Lackawanoock on Sunday last. They are committed for trial at the next term."

The same paper reports frost on the 9th, 10th and 11th of July. It will be remembered that 1816 was the famous cold year, there being frost every month. Some interesting details are given in the *Historical Record*, vol. 1, page 107.

#### A Wyoming Valley Veteran Dead.

Gen. David Perkins Grier, well known in Wilkes-Barre and in military circles, died in St. Lou's, on April 21st, 1891, and was buried at Peoria, Ill. He was born in Danville, Pa., in 1837. His mother was a daughter of Squire David Perkins of Wyoming, and his parents are both living in Peoria. He was a cousin of Mrs. Dr. Mayer and of Mrs. Anna Yost of this city, and was a cousin of John Hancock of Peoria, whose death occurred at Philadelphia a few days ago.

In 1851 he went to Peoria, Ill., to go into the grain commission business, in which business he continued until the war broke out.

He enlisted a company in Peoria, of which he was elected captain. The quota of the State of Illinois being full he took his men to St. Louis, where they were mustered into the Eighth Missouri Infantry. He and his company were at Fort Henry, Fort Donaldson, Shiloh and Corinth. In 1863 he was appointed colonel of a new regiment which was in camp at Peoria and which mustered in as the Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry. This command he held at Onchawasaw Bluffs, Arkansas Post, Fort Gibson, Raymond, Big Black, Ohampion Hill, Edward's depot and the siege of Vicksburg. He had command of the land forces in the capture of Fort Gaines and Fort Morgan in 1864, and for the service there rendered was brevetted a brigadier general by President Lincoln.

He led a brigade in 1865 at the assault on Spanish Fort and Blakely, which resulted in the surrender of Mobile. He was mustered out in August, 1865, at which time he was given a commission as brigadier general, "for gallant and meritorious services at Spanish Fort and Blakely." During over four years of active service Gen. Grier was not off duty a single day.

In 1866 he built the first grain elevator in Peoria, and later built two more there. In 1880 he went to St. Louis and built the Union Elevator, and has since been in business in that city. He was a Republican and a member of the Republican State Central Committee.

# The Historical Record

VOL. IV.

No. 3

## A COMPARISON.

Historical Address Read July 24, 1891,  
at the meeting of the Wyoming  
Commemorative Association at the Feet  
of the Monument.

[By John B. Reynolds.]

When in 1763 the "Susquehanna Company," numbering over six hundred persons, and composed of men of high social standing, of intelligence and of wealth—in short the flower of New England,—determined upon a settlement of Wyoming—they builded better than they knew. In the language of my distinguished friend, Governor Hoyt, when referring to this emigration, at a reunion of the Hoyt family some years ago—"they did a smart thing."

From time to time white men had passed through this beautiful and fertile region, and their glowing descriptions to friends made in the East resulted in the organization of the Company referred to.

The leaders of this little Colony had gone about their work in a practical and business-like way.

Trusted employes had first been sent forward to spy out the land, and, if possible, corroborate the reports of the first visitors; that having been accomplished to their satisfaction, a committee was appointed to attend a meeting of the Six Nations at Albany, New York, with instructions to effect a purchase of the land.

Sir William Johnson, who at that time was provisional, Civil and Military Governor of this territory which had been conveyed, either by purchase or compulsion, from the great council of the Six Nations, and whose influence was renowned for strength with the mighty Indian Confederation, lent his aid to the scheme and for 8,000 pounds of current "money of the Province of New York"—to quote the words of the deed, the sale was effected.

It is not believed that the Susquehanna Company "were entirely satisfied with the title to the lands in question; they doubtless had been informed of the claims of the province of Pennsylvania to the same property; but knowing that the charter granted by the Plymouth Company to Connecticut, and which covered all the territory west of the latter province," to the extent of its breadth

"from sea to sea," was dated fifty years before the charter to William Penn; and having made a cash purchase from the actual owners—the six nations, they felt that possession alone was wanting to complete their title.

Nevertheless and undaunted they began their weary journey. The transportation of a large number of people, together with their provisions, their household effects and articles of husbandry, across trackless forests and unbridged rivers, a distance of over two hundred miles, in the early history of our country was an undertaking of considerable magnitude.

We must pass quickly over that first march fraught with so much peril and anxiety, but we may easily imagine that many bright and happy visions arose in their expectant minds which served to cheer them on to the successful object of their ambition.

Having completed their—in many respects—remarkable journey, they began at once the development of their possessions. Again we are called upon to admire their business thrift and intelligence. They adopted a code of laws original with themselves and which all the inhabitants over 21 years of age were required to subscribe to, and under these laws they elected officers for the government of the community. They organized for defence against the Indians by the enrollment of the militia of all able bodied men in the settlement, they built block houses and stockades at frequent intervals as places of refuge; established churches and schools and set aside portions of their land for the maintenance of the same. Says Kulp in his "Families of the Wyoming Valley" they "found three foes to conquer: the Pennamites or claimants under the Pennsylvania title, the treacherous and predatory Indians, and the then unbroken forests. Only men of stout heart and vigorous understandings could hope to make successful combat against such a formidable trio of obstacles to civilized settlement at one and the same time. The Connecticut settlers brought with them both these essential adjuncts to the needed victory. They were no mere experimenters or excursionists. They had come to stay. And when, in a day and a night, the savages had sent scores of them to bloody graves and given nearly all their beautiful homes to the torch they had not vanquished the indomitable spirit of the survivors, who returned just as soon as it was safe, avenged them-

selves upon their cruel persecutors, rebuilt their rased domiciles, retilled their fields, reopened their schools and churches, and made a new, and even improved Wyoming."

To this *new* Wyoming I desire briefly to refer. Up to the beginning of the present century there had been no perceptible change in the condition of the country or the character of the population. The old settlers were pushing onward with characteristic determination, the rude manners of forest life began to change to a more refined method of conducting social affairs and a spirit of enterprise and progressiveness was soon manifest.

Agriculture in its primitive state was the occupation of the people and of that the principal crop was wheat. There was little or no money in the community and wheat was the medium of exchange and barter. Large quantities of the grain were hauled to Easton by the then only important wagon road leading to civilization—the Wilkes-Barre & Easton Turnpike—but the greater bulk was guided down the river upon Durham boats or Arks.

About this time—the actual date was 1807—the mining of coal was begun; the quantity was but a few hundreds of tons per year and the shipments were principally upon arks. The mining was in the most primitive manner. About the only tools used were the pick, shovel and wedge and the operation confined to the tunnelling of a hill or mountain. A local demand for lumber had caused the erection of a dozen or more sawmills in or near the valley, and this being supplied, the surplus, was made into rafts and floated down the Susquehanna to tide water and to Baltimore. Thus we see that wheat, lumber and coal were the chief exports. The changes which have been wrought by Time and an industrious and an intelligent people are many and important. They have not been accomplished without labor of the most exacting character, and have been the result of gradual and continuous development.

The vicissitudes of river traffic involving losses that could be ill-afford and the growing demands of the times led to the construction of the North Branch Canal. Attempts had been made to introduce Steam Navigation about this time, but were abandoned as impracticable after several disastrous trials.

By reason of the Canal a new impetus was given to the Coal industry which had already grown to considerable proportions.

The descendants of these pioneers are no longer an Agricultural people; where once waved the golden wheat may be seen the green rows of the market garden.

Of the millions of feet of lumber that were annually rafted down the river, one hundred times as many millions are yearly brought in-

to the valley and consumed by the local demand.

But the Coal trade—grown to such mighty proportions as were never dreamed of fifty years ago—has not yet reached its limit of productiveness. From humble beginnings it has come to be an industry second to none in point of magnitude, labor-giving and wealth-producing. Six different systems of railroads are required to carry the enormous out-put of coal as now made, and "Wyoming Anthracite" is known throughout the length and breadth of the land. A city of 40,000 people and the inhabitants of fifty towns and villages beside are sustained mainly by this trade.

And so I repeat, our ancestors "builted better than they knew." They sought and found a fertile land which only needed to be "tickled with a hoe to laugh with an abundant harvest." They sought and found a land more beautiful and lovely than which the sun never shone upon. They found, though they had sought it not, a wealth of mineral, the value of which is incomparable.

No one will for a moment contend that the unfolding of our natural resources would not have been accomplished no matter who the pioneers might have been, but I believe that the traits of character inherited by the descendants of the men who composed the "Susquehanna Company," had much to do with the rapid, systematic and intelligent development of our Valley. For while we do not arrogate to ourselves the exclusive distinction of this performance, we do know that the descendant's in every particular have borne well their part; as the names of the promoters of the many enterprises of this community will abundantly testify.

A few years ago, with much interest and profit to myself, I visited the tomb of Napoleon the Great. I cannot describe to you that unique and imposing mausoleum, for, as I stood beside the grave of the greatest man who had ever lived, I forgot the work of art before me and thought only of what it commemorated. Briefly I ran over the leading events of the great captain's life. The Corsican childhood; the young lieutenant of Artillery—His defence of Paris. A General of the Grand Army, first Consul and finally, Emperor. I thought of him as the patron of husbandry of science and of art. The lawmaker and the designer and builder of monuments, palaces and of navies—and finally, not to weary you, I thought of Uim, of Ansterlitz and then I thought of Waterloo. My hero was dead! but though dead and unseen, yes, dead for these many years, he held me attentive, admiring and worshipping! so to-day at the foot of this simple granite shaft, feelings akin to what I have just feebly described possess me. I think not of the shaft but rather does my mind dwell upon the patriot dead, their lives and achievements.

The stranger passing this way sees a simple monument, to him it is that and nothing more, but to us looking beyond this pile of stone, and recalling what is commemorated, it is an inspiration of a life time, and who among us will not be reminded that we can make our lives sublime in proportion as we imitate the virtues, the self-sacrifice and heroism of our revered forefathers; and how forceful are the words of the Latin poet which I see inscribed on yonder tablet—"Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori."

Kingston, July 3rd, 1891.

J. B. R.

#### The Catlin Family.

[From the Montrose Republican.]

Putnam Catlin, Esq., was a native of Litchfield county, Conn., who at the early age of 13 or 14 was a fighter in the company of his father, an officer in the Revolutionary War. He emigrated to Pennsylvania when old enough; and having read law, was one of the earliest lawyers at the Bar in Wilkes-Barre about the beginning of the present century. He married an estimable lady in the well known family named Sutton, in old Luzerne, of which the present mayor of Wilkes-Barre may be a relative. He subsequently resided for some time at Oquago, now Windsor, N. Y., and moved from there to this county about the time of its being cut out of from old Luzerne, and settled in what is now Brooklyn, where he was for some years a land agent for John B. Wallace. He lived for a while in a house of hewed logs, first built and occupied by the Sabin family; but Mr. C. built for an office a framed building in which his son George, then 18 or 20 years old (afterwards the famous artist), taught a common school one winter, which I, in my 7th year, and my elder brother attended.

I shall never forget my wonder and surprise at witnessing his occasional practice in leisure moments in drawing pen or pencil pictures of many birds, beasts, or various other animals, as well as his skill in beautiful copy writing, while attending his school.

His father, old Squire Catlin, soon after Susquehanna county was organized, was a Representative at Harrisburg, with Benjamin Dorrance, of Luzerne. After clearing a large farm and building a fine house (for the period) in Brooklyn, some 5 miles from Montrose, he moved to this place, being cashier of old Silver Lake Bank while Dr. B. H. Rose was President, and built for a banking house

the edifice which has since for many years been kept in repair and occupied by our townsman, F. B. Ohandler.

Squire Catlin spent the later years of his life at Great Bend. His large family consisted of the following sons and daughters.

Charles Catlin a lawyer of some note—first at the Wilkes-Barre Bar, afterwards here, where he built and for some years occupied the Webb mansion at the corner of Public Avenue west of the Court House. He left here afterward and went to Buffalo.

Henry Catlin, a merchant here and at Great Bend for a while. Went to Lockport, N. Y.

George Catlin, educated for a lawyer, but finally became the famous Indian traveller, historian, and portrait painter, whose career is amply set forth in Miss Blackman's History, commencing on page 551.

Eliza, (Mrs. Dart,) whose husband, Anson Dart, built the house now of Judge Searle in this place.

James Catlin, married a sister of the late Benj. Sayre of this place, and resided some years in Pensacola. In company with the late George Fuller, Esq., he succeeded Justin Clark (the first editor of a paper here) in publishing the *Montrose Gazette*, (first called the *Susquehanna Centinel*.)

Mary, was the wife of Asa Hartshorn, a druggist and jeweller here for some years.

Julius Catlin was my early school mate till from 6 to 9 years of age. when old enough he became a cadet at West Point, and after graduating he was in the U. S. service out West. He was remarkable for agility in boyhood, and could leap over a pole held as high as his head. Like his brother George he had a genius as an artist, and took lessons of him in painting. He unfortunately lost his life by drowning while bathing in the Genesee river below the falls at Rochester.

Lynde Catlin, the only one of that name I ever knew, was also a school fellow, though two years younger. But he died young, as I have before said.

Richard Catlin, a very amiable young man, went South.

John Catlin, when a boy, was a clerk for James Noble, in Brooklyn.

Francis F. Catlin, the youngest of the family,—a great lover of fun and rich jokes—married a sister of the late Joe. DuBois, Esq., of Great Bend, and went to Green Bay.

Erastus and Luther Catlin, cousins of Putnam Catlin, Esq., were early known in this country. The former was the father of Mrs. Abel Turrell; and the latter was the centenarian who died recently near Montrose, soon after reaching 100 years of age. His eldest son, Julius Catlin, now about 80, still lives near here. But was not a brother of George, the painter; nor did he ever teach a grammar school.

JAMES W. CHAPMAN.

## IT WAS A GREAT REUNION.

The Clarks Gather in Fall Force at the Old Homestead—Interesting Reminiscences of the Family—A Happy Reunion—These Present.

On Wednesday, Oct. 21, the old-fashioned, cozy home of George D. Clark of Plainsville presented a scene that will be long remembered by the one hundred and fifteen people who had gathered together to celebrate the golden wedding of Stephen Clark and his wife of Falls, Wyoming County. The event was made doubly interesting from the fact that it was also the centenary celebration of the settling of the Clark family and the old homestead. A brief history of the now famous home from whence has sprung several hundreds of our best citizens who are scattered over Luzerne and other places, was read.

John Clark, the great-grandfather or the first tenant of the homestead, was married in New Providence, N. J., Sept. 12, 1752, and settled in Wilkes-Barre in 1773 or '74 and built the first frame house in Wilkes-Barre, on the corner of Union and North Main streets, near the spot where now stands Both's gunsmith shop. He removed from there just one hundred years ago and settled on what was then a new settlement at Plainsville, about a third of a mile from the depot. In that old home, the greater portion of which stands where it was erected by the great grand sire, who died March 22, 1812, was gathered a large number of descendants. To the grandfather and wife were born a number of children,—four in New Jersey prior to their coming to Wilkes-Barre, and two in the old homestead.

Stephen Clark whose golden anniversary was celebrated, is a grandson of John Clark, and was united in marriage November 14, 1841, at Hyde Park, by Squire Vaughan, to Mrs. Cornelius Turner (nee Wagner of Plainsville.) The gay couple had sent to Carbondale for a preacher to be present at Hyde Park, but owing to the slow and insecure delivery of mail at that period the letter did not reach the minister, and as the party had been invited to the wedding festivities and the preacher did not come a justice of the peace performed the ceremony. After their marriage they settled down in their home in Plainsville, near the Hall-way House, about a quarter of a mile from the homestead, where they resided for three years. Then, after the death of some of the family, they removed to the old homestead, where the following children were born: George D. Clark, Plainsville; D. S.

Clark, the present postmaster of Kingston; Edward Clark, Plains; Mrs. M. C. Turn, Falls, Wyoming County; Mrs. J. C. Ladlow, Sanbourn, Iowa; Mrs. F. S. Compton, Philadelphia; J. F. Clark, Pittston; Mrs. J. J. Place, Mayfield, Lackawanna County.

The children were all present with members of their families, except Mrs. J. C. Ludlow, of Sanbourn, Iowa. The only surviving son of Mrs. Stephen Clark, from her first marriage, O. F. Turner of Mayfield, was present, and is 53 years of age.

Several years ago Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Clark removed to Falls, Wyoming County, where they at present reside.

As a reporter came up to the homestead on Wednesday he found a long line of carriages and other vehicles tied to the barn and fences, and upon entering the household there was a scene that will never be forgotten. Gray-haired men and matrons, middle-aged men and their wives, youths and maidens and infants were there, all intently happy.

At 1 o'clock, after the party had all arrived, the doors of the parlors and other rooms were thrown open.

Rev. Miner Swallow of Kingston, aged but hearty, born on the adjoining farm, offered a fervent prayer, invoking the Almighty's benediction upon the aged couple and their descendants. The great-grand-children then sang "The Old House at Home," accompanied by a string and brass orchestra, also members of the family.

Capt. Alfred Dart spoke feelingly of the pleasure it afforded him to be present. He was not a member of the family but he could imagine what an extremely joyous thing it was to be a Clark or a descendant of one. He congratulated the aged people whom they had met to honor.

Then Attorney G. J. Clark, a grandson, read a poem composed for the occasion by Attorney D. M. Jones of Wilkes-Barre. The poem was 100 lines long, a line suggestive for each year the homestead had stood. When it came to the following verses, many were the tears that fell from the eyes of the three generations present:

To the branches we look for the tree's tender blossoms:

The young child, that in frolic, we lift from the floor.

Or dance on our knees, or fold to our bosoms, Is the family's hope and care evermore.

The boy, from behind his small pinatore peeping.

That kinsman of ours, with a bib on his breast, And the babe, in the cradle, so tranquilly sleeping.

Enjoy our reunions as well as the rest.

Great-grandfather Clark, his spectacles wiping, A family likeness could certainly trace; And fancy he heard the robins still piping,

That a hundred years back, hopped about the old place.

And the family records, with scrutiny scanning.

His eyes seem to say, with pride all aglow,  
That, while he approves our more modern plan-  
ning.

Truth and love are the tests as they were long ago!

The patriot and soldier among them he numbers,  
To their families true, as well as the state;

So proud of them all he peacefully slumbers,  
Nor grieves they rank *not* 'mong the wealthy  
and great.

Then a feast was served of several courses,  
which was partaken of by 115 members of  
the Clark family. After dinner a further  
surprise was in store for Mr. and Mrs.  
Stephen Clark. Rev. F. A. King, pastor of  
the M. E. Church, Luzerne Borough, asked  
the aged couple into the parlor. He said  
that he had a duty to perform for their  
grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It  
was their intention not to let the occasion  
pass without giving them a souvenir to re-  
member their golden anniversary.

He then withdrew from a case a pair of  
gold spectacles. They were found to suit  
his sight well. Then taking Mrs. Clark's  
hand he placed upon it a handsome ring.

This was not all, for packages of silver-  
ware, bric-a-brac and China marked 1841-  
1891, together with envelopes filled with gold  
were brought out. He then offered up  
a fervent prayer, thanking God for the  
happy reunion of the family and for the  
preservation of the aged couple. A member  
of the household over 80 years ago pur-  
chased a clock. It was brought from Ply-  
mouth, Conn., and was manufactured by the  
Seth Thomas Clock Co. It was of the old  
Dutch type of timekeeper that hung on the  
wall, with the weights and pendulum  
exposed. Over 60 years ago, when Stephen  
Clark was a boy, a jobbing carpenter came  
around and built a case of cucumber wood.  
The clock and the case, which is old grand-  
father's hall clock, had not stopped short, but  
was still going at the golden anniversary of  
the wedding.

The following members of the family were  
present: Mr. and Mrs. John Clark, Mr. and  
Mrs. Zine Clark, Mr. and Mrs. George Clark,  
Edward Clark, Beaumont, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs.  
Bolland Nuff, Town Hill, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs.  
Will Stucker, Mr. and Mrs. David Prutzman,  
Wyoming Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Barton, Mr.  
and Mrs. Lenard Miller, Mrs. Mattie Miller,  
Miss Sibyl Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Myeris El-  
ston, Mr. and Mrs. John Williams, Mrs. Rouse  
and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barber,  
Mr. and Mrs. Will Stark, Misses Ellen and  
Margaret Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Ziba Wagner,  
Mrs. Adam Wagner, Mrs. Jerry Sniffer and  
daughter, Plains; Mrs. John Fechner, Miss  
May Newton, Bert Clark, Scranton;  
Mrs. Beemer and daughter, Mrs. Rev. Wil-  
liam Compton, Mill City; Mr. and Mrs. T. E.  
Fields, Falls; Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Compton,

Philadelphia; Rev. and Mrs. F. A. King, Mr.  
and Mrs. George Schooley, Granville Clark,  
Luzerne; Mrs. Miller Detrick, Mr. and Mrs.  
Miner B. Austin, Wilkes-Barre; Rev. Mrs.  
William Keatley, Wanamie; Mr. and Mrs.  
Edward Clark, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Clark, Mr.  
and Mrs. John W. Clark, Will Tompkins,  
Miss Mary Tompkins, Pittston; Rev. and  
Mrs. Miner Swallow, Alfred Darte, Mr. and  
Mrs. D. S. Clark, Kingston; Mr. and Mrs. J.  
J. Place, O. J. Turner, Mayfield; Mrs. J. B.  
Santee, Meshoppen; Mrs. Moses Chamber-  
lin, Harford; Adam Wagner, Miss Mary Wag-  
ner, Shickshinny.

#### MONUMENT TO MARY WASHINGTON.

*It Will Be Undertaken by the Daughters  
of the American Revolution - The  
Women of Wyoming Valley to assist.*

Mrs. Gen. William H. McCartney, one of  
the State regents of the Daughters of the  
American Revolution, has been made vice  
regent by the National Mary Washington  
Memorial Association for the same part of  
the State. The officers of the Daughters  
are as follows: President general, Mrs.  
Benjamin Harrison; vice president general  
in charge of organization, Mrs. Flora  
Adams Darling; vice presidents general,  
Mrs. William D. Cabell, Mrs. A. W. Greely,  
Mrs. H. V. Boynton, Mrs. F. O. St. Clair,  
Mrs. G. Brown Goode, Miss Mary Deaha,  
Mrs. Stephen J. Field, Mrs. William E.  
Earle.

Honorary vice presidents—Mrs. James K.  
Polk, Mrs. Thomas A. Hendricks, Mrs. David  
D. Porter.

Secretaries general—Recording, Mrs.  
George H. Shields; corresponding, Mrs.  
Ellen Hardin Walworth.

Treasurer general—Mrs. Marshall Mac-  
Donald.

Registrars general—Miss Eugenia Wash-  
ington, Mrs. A. Howard Clarke.

Surgeon general—Miss Clara Barton.

Historian general—Mrs. M. S. Lockwood.

Chaplain general—Mrs. T. S. Hamlin.

The women now intend to erect a monu-  
ment at the now neglected grave of Mary,  
the mother of Washington. It will be done  
through the National Mary Washington  
Memorial Association, which has the follow-  
ing officers:

Trustees—Hon. Benjamin Harrison,  
President of the United States; Hon. Mel-  
ville W. Fuller, chief justice of the United  
States; Hon. Phillip W. McKinney, governor  
of Virginia.

President—Mrs. Amelia O. Waite.

Vice Presidents—Mrs. Matilda W. Emory,  
Mrs. Elizabeth Blair Lee.

Secretary—Mrs. Margaret Hetzel, Miss  
Maud Lee Davidge.

Treasurer—E. Francis Biggs, Mrs. Matilda W. Emory, Mrs. Elizabeth Blair Lee, Miss Maud Lee Davidge, Begginaid Fendall, Blair Lee.

A stirring appeal has been sent out to the women of the United States to co operate.

As a vice regent Mrs. Gen. McCartney has issued the following:

To the men, women and children of Wyoming Valley: This work is to be entered upon at once and by the Daughters of the American Revolution vary appropriately as their first effort to fulfill the object of their society. As persons are eligible to membership through the mother of a Revolutionary patriot, that the mother of Washington may be honored. What more noble work can they do than take from obscurity and neglect this spot and raise over her resting place a monument that the women of America should be proud future generations would know they of this nineteenth century reared? The New York City Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution have already commenced this work. And as the Wyoming Valley Chapter is the first chapter in the Keystone State, may we not hope for great aid from you?

KATHARINE L. MCCARTNEY,  
Regent D. A. R.

#### SONS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Address by State Librarian Egle—Followed by a Banquet to the State Officers.

At the quarterly meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society May 23, 1891, Dr. W. H. Egle, the historian and State librarian delivered an address entitled "The Pennsylvania Associators in the Revolutionary War."

The associators under discussion were the local militia of Pennsylvania who formed the foundation of Pennsylvania's military forces in the Revolutionary War. They were not the militia proper, but the militia as subsequently constituted grew out of their organization. Their services were of incalculable value to the colonies struggling for independence, and they were the vanguard of the Pennsylvania line. Their efforts to organize for military service were greatly hindered by the non-combatants, the Quakers and the Mennonites. The associators were the outgrowth of the French and Indian wars and were organized in all the frontier counties of Pennsylvania, prior to the Revolution. When the latter war broke out there was a splendid nucleus for military organization, there being fifty-three battalions, comprising 25,000 men, more or less disciplined, and the shock at Lexington found Penn-

sylvania organized for defense. The associators were gradually absorbed into the service and largely lost their identity. After the war existence was no longer required, as the militia system was organized.

Dr. Egle's address was listened to with great interest and occupied 50 minutes. Vice President Mckley B. Coxe occupied the chair. The attendance comprised both gentlemen and ladies, among the latter some of the members of the Daughters of the American Revolution and of the Colonial Dames.

Some of the State officers of the Sons of the Revolution were present, and subsequently they were given a dinner at the Valley House. Among these were Hon. William Wayne, president of the Pennsylvania society and vice president general of the general society; Richard M. Cadwalader, Esq, vice president of the Pennsylvania society and treasurer general of the national organization; John W. Jordan, registrar of the Pennsylvania society; William H. Egle, of the Board of Managers; H. Cavalier Smith, Fred Meade Bissell and George C. Gillespie. All are from Philadelphia except Dr. Egle, who is from Harrisburg.

Besides the official guests there were present Rev. Dr. Hodge, Mckley B. Coxe, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Rev. H. E. Hayden, Pierce Butler, Dr. Hakes, A. B. Brundage, W. H. Sturdevant, C. B. Dougherty, M. H. Cooke, T. C. North, E. H. Jones, B. M. Snyder, J. Harry Fisher, Alfred Darte, John S. Harding, Benj. Dorrance, J. D. Coons, W. E. Woodruff and T. H. Atherton, the latter being toastmaster.

#### A Relic of Kosuth's Vain Effort.

George W. Gustin hands the RECORD, to be presented to the Historical Society, a perfect specimen of one of the Hungarian Liberty Fund certificates issued by Louis Kosuth in 1849. It is one of the certificates given in return for subscriptions in aid of the struggling Hungarians and is as fresh as when it came from the engraver 39 years ago. Mr. Gustin recently found it among the papers of his father, Col. John A. Gustin, who in 1852 was postmaster at Honesdale and to whom was sent a circular and a specimen certificate, asking him to become an agent. The certificates bear a fine likeness of Kosuth, the larger amounts bearing also his autograph signature. They promise to pay "on demand one year after the establishment in fact of the independent Hungarian Government"—a consummation that though devoutly wished was never realized. The circular is a lengthy one and embodies an earnest appeal that the people of America aid in establishing Hungary as a free and independent republic.



## VALLEY FORGE MUST BE SOLD.

**The Historic Spot at the Option of Patriotic Bodies—Revolutionary Memories.**

The Daughters of the Revolution, of whom there are a number in Wilkes-Barre, will be pleased to know that it is extremely likely that within a short time historic old Valley Forge, on which still remain the well-preserved ruins of Fort Washington and the earthen entrenchments thrown up by the Continental troops, will pass into the hands of a national patriotic organization, which will see to it that the spot hallowed by so many sacred memories will be preserved forever as a monument to the brave, self-sacrificing soldiers of the Revolution.

Washington's headquarters in the village have been so preserved for some time, says a Philadelphia paper. The tract which will now be acquired, which is the property of Mrs. J. B. Carter of Philadelphia, has upon it the site of Washington's headquarters, before the arrival of Lady Washington in 1777, on which spot he prayed for the salvation of his country; the site of the artificer's quarters, Washington's Cold Spring, the site of the camps of Woodford's and Maxwell's troops, and of the old forge, built in 1757, from which the place takes its name.

There are two movements on foot to purchase the Carter tract, one of which is headed by the Daughters of the Revolution, of which Mrs. Benjamin Harrison is president, and the other by a body of patriotic Philadelphians operating at the suggestion of Postmaster-General John Wanamaker, through the Board of Trade and other commercial organizations. Mrs. Harrison is deeply interested in the preservation of Valley Forge, and last week a gentleman who represented her in a confidential capacity came on from Washington and paid two visits to the historic spot. This gentleman, who is a well known newspaper correspondent, will make an exhaustive report of the result of his investigations to Mrs. Harrison, who will lay the matter before the Daughters of the Revolution at their next meeting. It is stated on the authority of her representative that so deeply imbued is she with the purpose to preserve Valley Forge from all future vandalism that she will endeavor to interest the President himself in the movement, and it is not unlikely that both will pay a visit to the place before the weather becomes too cold. The other movement, started by Mr. Wanamaker, is as yet in an embryotic state, but a committee representing the gentlemen interested has called upon the owner and obtained terms of sale.

"We are very anxious to sell," said Mr. Carter, the husband of the owner of Valley

Forge yesterday, "and the price we ask is not an exorbitant one. We own a hundred and ninety acres, and I have fixed \$60,000 as the amount. Considering the fact that we control the waters of Valley Creek for one mile, and that the buildings on the property are at present insured for \$20,000, I don't think that that is asking too much. Some time ago I had an offer from a distillery for the place, and could have received more money for it, but when the fact was made public that whisky was going to be manufactured on the spot where our Revolutionary sires starved and froze and suffered, a howl went up all over the country, and I received bushels of letters from patriotic people and patriotic societies, protesting against such desecration. The protest did not take any practical shape, however, and we have been holding the property ever since in the hope that something would be done.

Mr. Carter has in his possession the original brief of title to Valley Forge, and deeds of different divisions of the original tract, running back into the seventeenth century. The title begins with the charter of "Charles the Second of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, etc., unto William Penn, proprietary and governor of the province of Pennsylvania," which quaintly concludes: "Witness ourself at Westminster, this fourth day of March, in the three-and-thirtieth year of our reign, Anno Domini, One Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty-one, Charles II, Rex. God Save the King."

All of these deeds are written on parchment, are extremely voluminous and quaintly worded, and opposite each name is a great blotch of wax, on which the seal of the signer has been impressed. Mr. Carter has three other relics of Valley Forge which he prizes very highly. They are a rusty bayonet of ancient pattern, fifteen inches in length, which was found by workmen in 1868 imbedded in the clay of the old mill dam, and two copper buttons, which were unearthed near Fort Washington. One of these, which is about the size of a half dollar, is a penny hammered out with a bent copper wire rudely fastened through its centre for a shank. The other, which is of smaller size, is of better workmanship, and was probably imported.

**Early Local Histories Becoming Scarce.**

The histories of Wyoming Valley have become so rare that this week O. E. Butler sold a copy of Chapman, Stone and Pearce for \$16 for the three. Mr. Butler says he could sell 500 copies if William P. Miner would issue a new edition of his father's history.

## EARLY SUSQUEHANNA NAVIGATION.

A Historical Writer Contributes an Interesting Chapter to the Record.

The attempts to navigate by steamboats the Susquehanna was a failure and almost a continuous tragedy. Fulton invented and launched his first steamboat on the Hudson River in 1809, and the wonderful story of propelling a boat against the stream by steam spread over the civilized world, and mankind, that had been toiling and pushing the old keel and Durham boats so painfully up all their long journeys, was now rejoiced. People went down to the banks of the clear and swift flowing Susquehanna and looked upon the stream with wholly new sensations; a providence of God truly and the old time slow and horrid work of carrying on the travel and commerce of the country would soon change—the steamboat was coming—the great factor and hand-maiden of civilization. Why not “sound the loud timbrel o’er Egypt’s dark sea?” The good time coming is here; man’s ingenuity has overcome the appalling difficulties and the age of fire and steam has arrived.

First it was canoes, then flat boats, raft or rudely constructed “arks,” and finally the “Durham” boats. The latter were about 60 feet long and shaped something like a canal boat, with a “running board” on each side the entire length, manned usually by five men—two on each side “setting poles” and one steering. The boat would carry about 15 tons. With good luck they could ascend the stream at the rate of two miles an hour.

The Provisional Assembly of Pennsylvania of 1771 declared the Susquehanna River a public highway and appropriated money to render it navigable. In 1822 a boat called the “Experiment” was built at Nescopec and intended to be operated by horse power. On her trial trip she arrived at Wilkes-Barre July 4, 1824. A great jubilee was held over the arrival. The thing, however, proved a failure.

Necessity was pushing the people along this river. The Delaware River was being navigated successfully with steamboats, then why not the Susquehanna? In 1825 three steamboats were built for the purpose of navigating this important river. The “Odorus,” built at York by Davis, Gordon & Co., sixty feet long and nine feet beam, launched and with fifty passengers drew only eight inches water, ten horse-power engine and was expected to make up stream four miles an hour. She started on her trip in the spring of 1826 from New Haven. As she puffed along the people flocked in hundreds to the banks to see her. Arrived at Wilkes-

Barre April 12, where the town had an old style jollification day of it. Capt. Eiger invited the heads of the town and many prominent citizens to take an excursion to Forty Fort. After a short stay the boat proceeded on its way and soon arrived at Athens, making frequent stops at way places. The Athenians, indeed the people for miles, even way up into New York, now realized their fondest dreams. The boat continued on to Binghamton and turned back and after a trip of four months reached its starting point. Capt. Eiger was disappointed and reported to the company that it was a failure for all practical purposes.

The next boat was the “Susquehanna,” built in Baltimore, eighty-two feet long, two stern wheels, engine thirty horse-power, intended to carry one hundred passengers, loaded drawing thirty-two inches. The State appointed three commissioners to accompany the boat on her trial trip; several merchants and prominent business men were passengers and these were continually added to at stopping points. It was hard moving against the current. The boat reached Nescopec Falls May 3, 1826. This was considered the most difficult rapids and so the commissioners and all but about twenty passengers left the boat and walked along the shore. As she stemmed the angry current the thousands of people on shore cheered and cheered; reaching the middle of the most difficult part she seemed to stop, standing a few moments, then turned her course toward shore and struck a rock and instantly followed an awful explosion and death and horror followed the merry cheers of the people. John Turk and Geber Whitmarsh were instantly killed; William Camp died in an hour or so; Maynard, engineer, lived a few days. The fireman and William Fitch and Daniel Rose slowly recovered; Col. Paxton, O. Brobst and Jeremiah Miller were severely scalded; Wood-ide, Colt, Foster, Hurly, Benton, Benj. Edwards and Isaac Loay were all more or less wounded and scalded. William Camp was the father of Mrs Joseph M. Ely, of Athens, who was on his way home with a fresh stock of goods.

The third boat was the “Pioneer,” which was abandoned after an experimental trip on the western branch of the river.

In 1834 Henry F Lamb, G. M. Hollenbeck and Pompelly built at Owego “The Susquehanna,” a strong, well built boat, forty horse-power. Her trial trip was down the river to Wilkes-Barre, reaching that place August 7, 1835, traveling the one hundred miles in eight hours, and returned laden with coal. Her second trip she broke her shaft at Nanticoke dam, where she sunk and was abandoned.

In 1849 the “Wyoming” was built at Tunkhannock, 128 feet long, 22 feet beam, stern

wheel 16 feet, to carry 40 tons of coal. This was a coal boat and made trips from Wyoming Valley to Athens during the years 1849, '50 and '51. The arrivals of this boat were known all along the river and the people were wont to crowd the landings to see the sight and hearty cheers greeted it, and would lower their smoke-stacks, and at Athens land at the foot of Ferry street. The cargo generally was anthracite coal and in return carried grain and farm products.

The last steamboat for commercial purposes was built at Bainbridge, N. Y., by a company, under the superintendence of Capt. Gilman Converse, commander of the "Wyoming." She was named "Enterprise," 95 feet long, to carry 40 tons—completed and launched in 1851, and the first season had a profitable carrying trade, as the river was high through the season, but in the fall she grounded and was left on the dry shore to rot, and this was the end of attempts to navigate the Susquehanna.

#### Fifty Years of Editorial Life.

The Aug. 1 *Telephone* contains an interesting article by Robert Baur, describing his coming to Wilkes-Barre 50 years ago to start a book bindery. After a facetious description of the journey from Philadelphia by rail and stage, and his impression of the then little town of 5,000 inhabitants, Mr. Baur says:

Bearing letters of recommendation to Capt. John Reichard, at that time the leading German of Wilkes-Barre, I found a kind reception at his hospitable house, and soon was established in a one-story house on "Oarr's Patch," [now the Y. M. C. A. building] as the only bookbinder in Luzerne County.

The *Democratic Waechter* was offered to me by its founder, Maj. Walder, the following month, and appeared the first time under my name July 17, 1851, and since that time I have been its editor. The English newspapers, published at that time in this city were: *The Luzerne Democrat*, published by Capt. Tuttle, and *The Wilkes-Barre Advocate*, Sharp D. Lewis, publisher. Sam Collins, a few years later, established the *Republican Farmer*.

Mines in existence at that time were the Baltimore Coal Co. and the Black Diamond mine. The coal was mostly shipped to Baltimore, and by canal only. In winter, when the canal was frozen up, coal had to be sacked. All heavy freight from Philadelphia was shipped by canal and it took a full week to reach here. We had one daily mail, which came in the morning. William H. Butler was postmaster and Jack Fleischman his trusted clerk. For lighter goods an express ran between here and Tamaqua, one day down, next day up. Scranton was at that

time called Slocum Hollow and consisted of one blast furnace, one hotel, one store and not more than a half dozen houses.

The *Pittston Gazette* on Aug. 1, 1881 closed, the 41st year of its continuous publication. It claims to be the oldest English newspaper in the Wyoming Valley and is such as far as the present names are concerned. Both the *Record* and *Leader* are the direct successors of older papers than the *Gazette*, but have undergone several changes of name. The *Record* established by William P. Miner in 1853, succeeded Sharp D. Lewis's *Advocate*, which had for its predecessor the *Anti Masonic Advocate*. The *Gazette* has had a long and successful career and is better now than ever.

#### Francis Lord Butler Dead.

Francis Lord Butler, eldest child of the late John Lord and Cornelia Richards Butler, died very suddenly Wednesday, Oct. 21, of apoplexy. Mr. Butler was in his usual health up to 6 p. m., when he became unconscious and remained so until midnight, when, surrounded by his family, he painlessly passed away. Mr. Butler's life was an interesting and varied one. A student at Yale College, though not a graduate, he next became a lawyer and member of the Luzerne bar, but upon the gold fever breaking out in California he left Wilkes-Barre for that State in August, 1851, and from there going to Australia, altogether being absent fifteen years. Upon his return home he again went to California and traveled all through the West, coming East again to settle at last in 1876 on his Virginia farm, where he remained until 1889, visiting his Wilkes-Barre home every year and finally returning here permanently.

Mr. Butler is a man who should not go to his grave without a word being spoken upon his personal character—a character so gentle, so unselfish and sweet that every one who knew him held him in tender love and respect. Honorable and true himself he believed every one else to be so. He was a true Christian and a communicant of Dr. Hodge's church. Generous to a fault, with a pure simplicity of nature, a great student and constant reader, he was indeed a gentleman.

The funeral of the late Francis L. Butler was held from the residence of Judge Stanley Woodward on Saturday at 2:30. Rev. Dr. Hodge conducted the service, and the hymns were sung by Miss Brundage, Miss Baur, O. B. Hartland and Adolph Baur. The pall bearers were T. S. Ellard, S. H. Lynch, W. L. Conyngham, Col. O. M. Conyngham, O. E. Butler. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

### OUT OF HUMAN SIGHT.

**Leaving Hands Lay Dr. Mayer in the Silent City of the Dead**

The high esteem in which Dr. Edward B. Mayer was held was witnessed Tuesday by the large throng which attended his funeral at 3 p. m. The funeral of such a man partakes of a public character and it would seem fitting to have the services held in a church where all might hear the impressive words. The residence was far too small to contain the friends and scores upon scores stood outside. An opportunity had been given from 11:30 to 1 o'clock to view the body and a large number of people came to take a last look at the one whom they had so loved in life. The features bore no trace of suffering, but were as composed as if in peaceful and living slumber.

By request of the family there were no flowers. On the coffin lid was a wreath of myrtle and another of wild ferns. The services were conducted by Rev. Henry L. Jones, Rev. Horace E. Hayden and Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge. The address was by Rev. Mr. Jones and was spoken with a degree of pathos that touched every heart. Dr. Hodge offered a prayer that melted almost every hearer to tears and prayers were impressively heard by Rev. Mr. Hayden. Everything said conspired to impress the solemnity of the occasion and of the throng indoors few had eyes that were not moistened with the unbidden flood. Physicians from all over the county were present, as also Dr. Peter D. Keyser of Philadelphia and the elder Dr. Halberstadt of Pottsville. The latter was a medical student in the same University class with Dr. Mayer, that of 1844. The county medical society marched to the house in a body. Prominent lawyers and business men were present. The singing was by a quartet comprising Miss Cornelia Hillman and Miss Emma Baur and John B. Woodward and Thomas Darling. The hymns were "Lead, Kindly Light" and "I Would Not Live Away."

The coffin was carried by Dr. Guthrie, Dr. Taylor, G. B. Bedford, Benjamin Reynolds, A. H. McClintock and Allan H. Dickson. The honorary pall bearers were Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Judge Stanley Woodward, William L. Conyngham, Col. O. M. Conyngham, Albert Lewis, George Cotton Smith, Col. E. Bruce Bicketts and Isaac M. Thomas.

The interment having been announced as private, few went to the cemetery, and none of the ladies. The grave was lined and scattered about with hemlock twigs. Thus was laid away a great and good man, a brilliant and successful physician, one whose heart was ever flowing over with kindness and whose life was filled with doing good to others.

### DEATH OF TIMOTHY PARKER.

**Found Dead in His Lonely Cottage in the Country—He Had Reached the Ripe Age of 84 Years.**

(Daily Record, October 19.)

The news has reached Wilkes-Barre that Timothy Parker was found dead at his country home near Ketcham, Luzerne County. It is stated that he was found seated in his chair, but no particulars are yet obtainable, though he probably died of heart disease. He lived alone in a small cottage on a farm which he bought a few years ago. He prepared his own meals and as he had become very much reduced financially he had very few comforts. Mr. and Mrs. Dover, who were neighbors, rendered every kindness they could, but his wants were few. He cultivated a garden patch with great care but earned little from it. Last week his last piece of property in Wilkes-Barre was taken from him at forced sale, and he would have been compelled to give up the little farm had not kind friends kept the interest on the mortgage paid up. For a man who had once been in comfortable circumstances these are hard lines. As late as the 13th inst. he wrote a letter to C. E. Butler expressing his great appreciation of a money contribution which had been sent by W. W. Amabry. Some of his friends here have sent him groceries and were preparing to send another box. Mr. Butler visited him a week or so ago and found him much debilitated. He had a little wood fire in his house and cooked with a kerosene stove.

Timothy Parker was born near Birmingham, England, 84 years ago and there are few men even a score of years younger who could handle a hoe with him or walk as many miles as he. He was a man of severe simplicity of life, abstemious from everything which could injure, taking an abundance of exercise in the open air, so that he was able to leave the allotted three score and ten far behind. The only vanity he indulged in was tobacco and that never seemed to harm him in the least.

He was a child of nature and preferred the solitudes of the meadow and woodland to the noisy haunts of men. So wrapped was he in this communion with God as manifested in nature that his soul sought to pour itself out in poetry—the song of the birds, the hush of the deeping twilight, the merry chirp of the cricket, the rustle of the breeze, the pattering of the rain upon the roof, the changing splendor of the dying year, the happy innocence of childhood, these and many other kindred voicings of nature found utterance in verse and the readers of

the Record have been familiar with them for a score of years and more. Though almost living in the woods he never hunted and he spoke with pride of the fact that he had never killed a bird or caught a fish.

While in England he was wont to spend largely of his means in supporting Baptist mission churches for the poor of Birmingham and he often made addresses at these chapels. In politics he was a liberal and was associated with Bright and Gladstone in the repeal of the obnoxious corn law and other arbitrary measures.

Mr. Parker's life was crowded with doing good to others, but over his own path was thrown the dark shadow of a domestic unhappiness. A misunderstanding between himself and his wife resulted in a separation, after a family of ten children had been born, and Mr. Parker came to the United States during the early part of the late war. Previous to this he had been engaged in the extensive manufacture of jewelry at Birmingham but his fortune was swept away, as well as that of his wife, and an estrangement followed. The wife died in England 10 years ago.

Upon arriving in this country Mr. Parker's soul was stirred by the American conflict and he promptly allied himself to the cause of the Union. He was too old for admission to the army and as a next best thing he volunteered as a hospital nurse, doing valuable service near New York.

After coming to Wilkes-Barre in 1864 he engaged in the jewelry business with his son, Capt. T. O. Parker, though afterwards he had a separate store. Years ago he made unfortunate investments which swept away what he had accumulated and left him to pass his latter days in that privation and discomfort to which he ought to have been a stranger. Embarrassed to a degree from which he could not extricate himself he sought retirement in a quiet country place, on a road little traveled, where by hardy toil he wrested a living from the soil. He seemed happy there and was delighted to have his friends visit him. He did not seek many friends, but those to whom he became attached respected him highly and even loved him dearly. Such are Dr. Crawford, Dr. Sturdevant and C. E. Butler.

He had the true instincts of a gentleman, he was a warm friend, a loyal American, a good citizen and his memory will long be a benediction to those who knew him best.

He is survived by seven children—T. O. Parker of Wilkes-Barre; one daughter, wife of a banker in Melbourne, Australia; three married daughters living in England; a son living in Brooklyn, N. Y., and another, mayor of Albrincham, England.

#### Death of Miss Ellen Wright.

In the death of Miss Ellen Wright Oct. 31, 1891, the last member of an old and esteemed family of this valley has gone down to the grave to be registered with the past. She was the daughter of Joseph Wright and Ellen Hendrick Wadhams, who were married June 15, 1807, and spent the years of their married life in Plymouth, Luzerne County. Distinguished contemporaries of this family were the Wadhams, Reynolds, Turner, Gaylord, Davenport and Smith families of Plymouth during the early years of the present century.

Her father was a representative man whose ancestors belonged to the Society of Friends; this religious faith he respected, but violated the discipline of the church by marrying out of the faith and also in entering the military service in the war of 1812.

Children of this union, and born in the Plymouth homestead, were Hendrick Bradley, Caleb Earl and Harrison Wright, all of whom became prominent lawyers at the Luzerne bar, and by whom also was the county represented in the national congress and the

Aunt Ellen, as she was generally and familiarly called, was about 80 years of age and possessed a personality that was inherent in, and distinguished both sides of the ancestral line. She was of a kindly nature, with a simplicity of bearing and modesty of manner that foreshadowed an unpretentious and conscientious personality.

She lived near the site of the Shawnee Indian village, where the Moravian Zingendorf, one hundred and fifty years ago, preached to the red men.

Her memory is most indelibly inscribed in the hearts of her home circle, and will always remain a tribute to her worth.

A reminiscent view of her time brings to mind many localities and relics that time and fashion have nearly swept away, also associations of kindly greeting and ingenuous simplicity that give us assurance that it is among the good impulses of our nature to revere the memory of the past.

It is interesting to note the changes which progress has wrought in Plymouth in Aunt Ellen's life-time. Where sounds of pleasant life were formerly heard in the green pastures, is now seen the stately coal breaker and its mountain of inevitable culm waste. Again the busy stir of every-day life is no longer visible or audible in the widespread farm-house, while those who tilled the ground now lie beneath it. Then, individuality was marked and distinct, yet there was a harmoniousness of interest, a general feeling of confidence, peace, friendship and personal interest in each other's comfort and welfare, that is not found when individual interest is a less common possession and enjoyment. Since the father's death she has resided in

the family of her niece, Mrs. Josephine Hillman, in Wilkes-Barre, and it always gave her a flow of affection to look back upon the early years of the children of that household which multiplied the strong but invisible ties of the mind and heart which consecrated her devotion and hallowed her companionship. In all her quiet and unpretentious life we have an example wherein simplicity, discretion and geniality were successful elements in making her home life a memorial of elevated and fixed principle, of warm-spirited affection, of womanly devotion, of social enjoyment and personal benefaction.

#### Death of Thurman Knapp.

Truman Knapp, who was born in Hyde Park, Dec. 30, 1816, died in Newton Centre Dec. 29, 1890. Mr. Knapp was the son of Zephaniah and Nancy Knapp, who were the parents of twelve children, only two of whom are alive, Mrs. Ruth Knapp of Scranton and Miner Knapp of Baileyville, Ills. Mr. Knapp had the best advantages for obtaining an education that the early period of this county afforded. After leaving school he learned the tanner and curriers' trade with Nathaniel Tuthill, near where Scranton now stands, and after serving his time he went into business for himself in Abington Township, where he purchased a small farm in addition to his tannery. About thirty-five years ago he sold his property in Abington and purchased a good-sized farm in Newton Township. It was at that time almost a wilderness, but is now one of the finest in the township. Mr. Knapp gave up tanning after moving to Newton, devoting his entire time to farming, which he pursued with energy and success, accumulating a handsome property. In 1846 he married Miss Mary Ann, daughter of the late Joseph Swallow of Plainsville, who survives him. Six children were the issue of this union, only two of whom are still living—Frank T. Knapp, of Falls, Wyoming County, and Mrs. Gettie B. Biesicker, who resides in the old homestead. In the same year that Mr. Knapp was married he made a profession of saving faith in Christ and united with the M. E. Church, of which he remained a consistent and honored member until his death. As a business man Mr. Knapp was prompt and exact in meeting all his engagements, conservative and safe in counsel rather than brilliant and enterprising. He was a kind husband, a good father and an excellent citizen. He was decided in his opinions, but no matter how we might differ with him, we could not help but admire his honesty and loyalty to what he believed to be right.

His funeral was at his late residence and a large concourse of relatives and sympathizing friends attended. Old men who had

known him many years wept like children as his remains were laid in their narrow home. Rev. Mr. Smith, the Presbyterian minister of the place; Rev. Mr. Maryott, his pastor, and Rev. J. E. Angell, a former pastor, took part in the services, which were throughout impressive.

W. K.

#### Death of T. M. Atherton.

The Record has received a copy of the *Mitchell County (Iowa) Press* in deep mourning for the death of its founder, Thomas M. Atherton. He was born in Kingeton, Pa., in 1827, the son of Ansen and Sarah Atherton. He was educated at Wyoming Seminary, read law in Wilkes-Barre with Hon. L. D. Shoemaker and was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County at the age of 31. He had married in 1850, Miss Elizabeth J. Gilmore Berwick. He went to Iowa in 1860 and in 1865 established the *Press*. He was several times appointed postmaster. He was county superintendent of schools, a member of city council and a leader in all public enterprise and organization. He is survived by two brothers and three sisters in Pennsylvania, also by his wife and five children.

#### Death of a Former Resident of Kingeton.

Thomas Mitchell Atherton died at Osage, Iowa, October 23, 1891. He was born in Kingeton, where he will be well remembered by all of the older residents. About 1860 he removed to Iowa; settled at Mitchell, Mitchell County where he began the publication of the *Mitchell County Press*. After about six years he removed the paper to Osage, in the same county, where he succeeded in establishing a very influential and widely circulated paper. The news of his death is a great surprise. About a year ago on account of ill health he was obliged to relinquish the more active duties of editor to one of the younger members of his family, but no serious trouble was apprehended. He is survived by his wife and five children—two boys and three girls.

Mr. Atherton married May, 9, 1850, Elizabeth T. Gilmore, daughter of Stephen N. Gilmore. Mr. and Mrs. Atherton had a family of six children, Jennie S., wife of Isaac Patterson, Annie Elizabeth, wife of Nathan Patterson; Frank G., who married the daughter of the late Hon. Nathan G. Westler of Nescopeck, who represented Luzerne County in the legislature of this State in 1869; Charles Snover, Mary W. and Thomas M. Atherton.

Mr. Atherton was a brother-in-law of the late M. E. Jackson of the Luzerne Bar.

He was a brother of Mrs. E. B. Peckens, and J. M. Atherton of Plymouth, Mrs. O. A. Wambold and Mrs. B. F. Filmore of Scranton.

## A. T. McCLINTOCK DEAD.

**A Brief Sketch of the Life of the Oldest and Most Respected Member of the Luzerne County Bar—He Leaves a Proud Heritage to His Children.**

Hon. Andrew T. McClintock, who has been ill for the past two weeks, died at 2 a. m. Jan. 14, 1893. The end came peacefully and he sank to rest surrounded by his family and a few of his most intimate friends.

## AN HONORED CAREER.

Andrew Todd McClintock was born in the town of Northumberland, county of Northumberland, in this State, on the second day of February, 1810, and was consequently nearly 83 years of age. His father, Samuel McClintock, came to America when 18 years of age, having been born in County Donegal, Ireland. He was followed several years later by his father and both lived and died in Northumberland. The father of deceased died in 1812, when 36 years of age. The mother of A. T. McClintock was Hannah, daughter of Col. Andrew Todd of Traffic, Montgomery County, who served in the Revolutionary War.

Mr. McClintock was educated in the public schools and in Kenyon College, Ohio, of which Bishop McIlvaine was then president. Among his fellow students was Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War during President Lincoln's administration. He was a close student and made a brilliant record in the institution, from which he came thoroughly equipped with the most formidable weapon that has yet been suggested with which to battle through life. Stepping from college life with his diploma, he entered the law office of James Hepburn, Esq., in Northumberland, where he took the first step in an occupation which he has so honorably and successfully pursued in Luzerne County, an occupation for which he seemed peculiarly fitted. A year later he came to Wilkes-Barre and completed his law studies in the office of Hon. George W. Woodward. On Aug. 8, 1836—56 years ago—he was admitted to the bar of this county upon the recommendation of the late Judge Conyngham, of Chester Butler and Volney L. Maxwell, who then constituted the examining committee, after having passed a highly creditable examination. Mr. McClintock entered into a law partnership with his tutor and the firm prospered for two years. In 1839 Attorney General Ovid F. Johnson appointed him district attorney for Luzerne County, but public life was not lacking of Mr. McClintock, and one year after he resigned the office and resumed his private practice,

which, on account of the recognized ability of the man, was constantly growing. He was often importuned by his friends to run for office, but he courteously refused all offers of assistance in a political way and refused to allow his name to be used at any of the conventions.

In 1867, when Luzerne County was first granted an additional law judge, the unqualified choice of the people seemed to be A. T. McClintock. He was looked upon as a lawyer eminently fitted for the position, one who would carry from the bar to the bench all the qualities that go to make a desirable judge. The following correspondence explains itself:

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., April 8, 1867: We, the undersigned members of the Democratic party of Luzerne County, are very desirous that Andrew T. McClintock, Esq., should become additional law judge of the Eleventh Judicial District, and we urge upon him to accept the position, should it be tendered him. We have the fullest confidence that he will be the choice of the Democratic party beyond all question, and we shall do all that may be necessary for us to do to secure his nomination. It is simply unnecessary to speak of Mr. McClintock as a man and as a lawyer. He is known to every one, and he is without reproach, whilst his professional ability is acknowledged with profound respect here and elsewhere,

Stanley Woodward,  
George B. Kulp,  
A. B. Brundage,  
Gustav Hahn,  
O. F. Nicholson,  
E. K. Morse,  
Charles L. Lamberton,  
G. B. Bedford,  
Howard Ellis,  
D. R. Randall,  
D. C. Cooley,  
John Lynch,

Hendrick B. Wright,  
C. F. Bowman,  
G. B. Nicholson,  
E. L. Merriman,  
T. H. B. Lewis,  
D. Rankin,  
Charles Pike,  
D. L. O'Neil,  
Rurus J. Bell,  
Stephen S. Winchester,  
M. Regan,  
C. L. Bulkeley.

A number of leading lay Democrats and others also signed the petition.

A similar letter from Republicans was drawn up April 10 and was signed by Henry M. Hoyt, W. W. Lathrope, Andrew Hunlock, Garrick M. Harding, A. M. Baily, E. B. Harvey, V. L. Maxwell, W. W. Ketcham, W. P. Miner, Alexander Farnham, Calvin Wadhams, R. C. Shoemaker, A. H. Winton, H. W. Palmer, H. B. Payne, Jerome G. Miller, C. D. Foster, D. O. Harrington, George Loveland and a number of gentlemen not members of the profession.

On April 15, 1867, a meeting of the members of the bar was held endorsing Mr. McClintock for the position in laudatory terms.

To these earnest solicitations of his friends Mr. McClintock replied as follows:

WILKES-BARRE, April 24, 1867.

Gentlemen: Your communication of the 15th inst., informing me of the proceedings of a meeting of the bar of Luzerne County held on the 8th inst., was duly received. I have given careful consideration to the reasons so kindly

urged to induce me to permit the use of my name for the position of additional law judge for our several courts, under the act recently passed. I did not suppose that anything could be urged to induce me to hesitate in answering such a suggestion, but your strong appeal, and the appeal made to me from my fellow citizens, without distinction of party, have forced upon me the consideration of whether my duty should overrule my inclination, and here, I confess, greatly embarrassed me. I would like to oblige my friends, and am deeply sensible of the compliment they have paid me; but if, before receiving such expressions of confidence in my fitness for the position, I distrusted my ability to discharge the duties thereof with acceptance, I certainly am now convinced that I could not fulfill the expectations which it is evident my brethren of the bar and my fellow citizens entertain of my qualifications for the office. The standard which, in your kind appreciation of my qualifications, you esteem me fitted to fill is so high that I cannot undertake even to try to come up to it. I am averse to public life—the result, probably, of too exclusive attention to the calls of my profession. I greatly prefer the bar to the bench, and cannot bring myself to the point of consenting to the use of my name for the position of judge. Another consideration has its influence in bringing me to this conclusion. I have been counsel for many years for interests that embrace a large portion of the business and property of our county. My relations to those interests have been so confidential and intimate that I could not, on the bench, feel free to sit in cases where those interests were involved, even though they might arise after my relations as counsel to such interests had ceased, and I could not, therefore, dispose of very much of what must, in the next few years, make up the greater part of the business of our courts.

With every disposition to oblige my friends, and with a deep sense of their kindness in the expression of their partiality to me for the position of additional law judge, I must decline, decidedly and absolutely, the use of my name for the office. I cannot consent to accept the position. Very truly, your friend,

ANDREW T. McOLLINTOCK.

This refusal was a sore disappointment to the legal fraternity and to all people who recognized Mr. McOllintock's ability, for they knew that one of the brightest legal minds in the Commonwealth had, unfortunately for the bench, determined to stay in the ranks of private practitioners.

When Governor Hartranft appointed, in 1877, the committee to revise the constitution of the State, he included in the committee the most eminent legal minds in the State, justices of the Supreme Court, judges well known in the lower courts and Senators. Mr. McOllintock was named as a member of the committee and participated actively in the important councils that followed.

In 1870 the degree of LL. D. was conferred upon him by Princeton College.

Mr. McOllintock's practice embraced multitudinous interests of grave moment and he conducted, while in active practice, the most responsible cases on the trial lists of our

courts. He was counsel for the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, the Pennsylvania, the Delaware & Hudson and other railroad and coal companies.

At the time of his death he was president of the board of directors of the Wilkes-Barre City Hospital and of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, a director of the Home for Friendless Children, of the Wyoming National Bank, president of the Luzerne County Bible Society, president of the Hollenback Cemetery Association and president of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association. He was a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church and has been chosen a number of times as delegate to the General Assembly of that denomination.

Mr. McOllintock was married May 11, 1841, to Augusta, daughter of Jacob Oist of Wilkes-Barre, and has had five children, three of whom survive, with the widow. The children are Andrew H. McOllintock, who has inherited the legal acumen and ability of the father and has taken up his responsible corporation interests as counsel; Miss Helen G. McOllintock and Mrs. J. Vaughan Darling, all of this city. Another daughter, Miss Jean McOllintock, it will be remembered, died in April of last year, soon after the Bar had given Mr. McOllintock a dinner on the occasion of his 81st birthday.

The Luzerne County bar paid its tribute of respect to the memory of their Nestor, A. T. McOllintock, last Friday. When court opened in the morning Judge Lynch handed down the following order:

"The court has received with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. Andrew T. McOllintock, late a member of this bar, and tenders to the family and kindred of the deceased the assurance of sympathy in their sad bereavement.

"The court is now adjourned that opportunity may be given for fitting tributes to the memory of the deceased, and to his eminent public and private virtues."

Jan 15, 1892.

In pursuance of the order the members of the Bar Association, seventy-five strong, assembled in the bar enclosure and on motion of ex-Judge Harding, ex-Governor Henry M. Hoyt was elected chairman and James L. Lenahan secretary. Upon assuming the chair Governor Hoyt paid a high tribute to the character of the dead lawyer and his worthiness of the highest honors that could be paid to his memory. He referred particularly to the sweet simplicity of his character and his singular attainments as a lawyer and citizen. "He was a sincere and pure man and found his reward in the appreciation of the people among whom he lived. He was a great motive power in our society, and a strong prop to the dignity of



the courts and processes of the law. It is the highest duty of those who survive to adhere honestly and tenaciously to the standard his life has set up."

In presenting the resolutions of respect to the memory of the deceased, Alexander Farnham said that when the Bar last met on a similar occasion it was to do honor to the memory of the late E. P. Darling. That meeting had for its chairman the man whom we mourn to-day. Mr. McOlintock had been a prominent figure before the Bar for a period of time extending back before half of its living members were born. Notwithstanding the accumulated weight of his eighty-two years, he remained to the last in full possession of his powers and ever fresh and young in his associations with his fellow members in the profession. He wondered even yet that such a man should be laid low. His massive brain and herculean build seemed formed for a hundred years of life and it appeared almost as if, dying as he did at but 82, he was taken away in the very vigor of his physical manhood.

#### JUDGE RICE'S TRIBUTE.

Judge Rice paid the following eloquent tribute to the dead:

This meeting has been called, pursuant to a time-honored custom, for a purpose known to you all. But if there were no custom the great body of those who are assembled here would have been moved by a common impulse to meet together to pay this tribute of affectionate respect to the memory of him whose earthly career has just ended.

Mr. McOlintock was admitted to the bar of this county in 1836, and at the time of his death was its oldest, and for very many years before his death was its foremost member. He held this position, not by reason of his seniority of age merely, nor because of official honors bestowed upon him, but, on the other hand, because he persistently declined public office. No one can point to any one single act or quality of his and say, "That gave him the distinction so universally conceded." But if, between his admission to the bar and the date of his death, you write in the the simple record of a righteous life faithfully, uninterruptedly, and with singleness of purpose devoted to the performance of duty as it came to him to the profession he respected and loved to the last, it will not need the tongue of an orator or the pen of a rhetorician to account for the pre-eminent position he held at this bar and in this community. Let those who are accustomed to regard the legal profession as affording less opportunity than others for usefulness to their fellow man, stop a moment to consider that the mere short lived glory of winning legal victories is not the limit set by the profession, at least to the aspira-

tions of a lawyer for usefulness. The late Chief Justice Sharwood in his memoir of Sir William Blackstone said: "How much untold good is done by an honest, wise and generous man, in the full practice of this profession, which those to whom he has consecrated his time and thought never appreciate! How often, contrary to his own interest, does he succeed in calming the surges of passion, and lending the bitter partisan to measures of peace and compromise! How often does his beneficence possess that best and purest characteristic of the heavenly grace, that his right hand knoweth not what his left hand doeth." Of no man can these words be more fitly spoken than of Mr. McOlintock. If I were to point out any particular elements of his character as a lawyer for emulation I would select thoroughness, singleness of purpose, and integrity. He resorted to no arts which might elevate him in popular esteem at the expense of popular respect for the administration of the law he was sworn to defend, but there was none more faithful to his client, and he dignified his profession by consecrating every energy to the performance of the manifold duties, great or small, his practice brought to him. For more than half a century, from young manhood to old age he followed this one profession with fidelity, earnestness, and undivided and never wearying affection.

How great a student he was of other subjects than the law, except the one great subject of man's relations to his Maker it is not for me to say, but this we do know that they were not allowed to absorb his attention nor to divert his powers from the one great purpose of his life. Men naturally like to be admired for their intentions and for versatility of talents. Whether Mr. McOlintock ever felt the fatal influence of the temptation I cannot say, but if he did he overcame it. In so doing he magnified the law and dignified the profession even if he seemed to humble himself.

But any estimate, however general, of the character of Mr. McOlintock which omitted reference to his integrity would be unworthy. By this I do not mean the mere observance of those common rules of fair dealing which keep a man from positive dishonor, but those qualities of heart and conscience which made him duly sensible of the responsibility and dignity of the office of attorney, and which kept him free in his mental as well as moral action from every corrupting and every dishonoring influence and motive.

He was firm, decided, positive, yet cautious, painstaking and conservative. He was stern in his idea of right and wrong, yet

charitable, as well as tolerant to the last degree. He was pure in heart and single of purpose, yet full of human impulses and sympathies. Commanding in manner and bearing, yet not austere, but courteous, patient and gentle, he pursued the long journey of life to its end, as in the sight of God, with true humility.

Not weary of life or unable to enjoy its pleasures, yet not dreading death, enjoying this world and the companionship of his fellow men until the last, he met the last great change as he had met the vicissitudes of life with the manly composure and submission, not of the fatalist but of one having an abiding assurance of a life of unending and unalloyed happiness in the world beyond.

Judge Woodward said: Mr. Chairman and Gentleman of the Bar:

But eleven months have elapsed since the bar of this county with unanimous voice, resolved to tender Mr. McOlintock a congratulatory dinner on his eighty-first birthday. The occasion will be long remembered as one of the most agreeable episodes of our professional lives. It marked the retirement of him whom we were all proud to recognize as the father of the bar, from the active duties of his profession, to what we fondly hoped would be a long rest in the peaceful pathways of a serene old age. But it has been otherwise. Our friend and father, whose presence graced and dignified the festival evening, and whose grateful acknowledgment of our hospitality was to be a farewell and a benediction, has passed from our midst to the full fruition, as we have every reason to believe, of that reward which awaits the just man made perfect.

Like the choice flowers which lend beauty and fragrance to the banquet, but now have withered away, the guest of the occasion, whose whole life has been a bright and shining light, is now to be buried from our sight. We shall miss him in our accustomed daily walks in life, very much as we miss the sturdy and graceful oak, which for years has greeted our vision from some familiar outlook, but which has at last yielded to the relentless force of storm or time.

The recent occasion and place are not fitted for any elaborate memorial, or thorough analysis of our deceased friend's character. But even here, and now, we may glance at some of his predominant qualities. And perhaps, one of the most salient features of his well rounded life was its thorough consistency. No temptation was strong enough, and no fallacy seductive enough, either to force or woo him from the straight and narrow path of what he conceived to be his duty. His fidelity to his business and his clients, was a proverb among

those members of the bar who knew him best.

While, as a citizen, he was always interested in subjects affecting the welfare of the community, and keenly alive to the importance of political questions, he steadily refused to accept political honors or official distinction; and the blandishments of ambition never for a moment swerved him from his adhesion to the bestests of a noble profession—a profession broad enough and big enough to absorb the best energies of the human intellect, as well as to illustrate the noblest promptings of the conscience and the heart. His whole career would serve as an impressive proof of Addison's epigram that "the post of honor is a private station."

Another trait in the character of Mr. McOlintock was his considerate friendship for the younger members of the bar. I wish to bear witness from my own personal experience that the position of associate junior counsel was always rendered agreeable as well as profitable to the young lawyer who was fortunate enough to be associated with him in the trial of causes in court, or in the transaction of any professional business. To be treated as an equal, is nowhere more complimentary and gratifying than in the professional relation to which I refer, and no lawyer whom I have ever known, was so uniformly courteous as well as generous to his associate counsel, as he was.

Mr. McOlintock's career at the bar serves to show, above all other things, that good character is the only solid foundation upon which the true lawyer can successfully build. The lawyer who can be trusted—whose word is as good as his oath—who stoops to no chicanery—who despises trickery, and whose life is an object lesson of integrity to all observers, is the lawyer to whom, in the long run, success will come as a crown. It has often been said that the members of our profession are the best judges of each other, and always ultimately, do justice in their judgments. And I venture the opinion that there never has been a time in the history of the Luzerne bar, since Mr. McOlintock has been a member of it, when any reflection upon his honesty or his honor, would not have been instinctively resented by any and every one of his professional brethren as a groundless slander.

To have lost such a leader of our bar is indeed a great affliction. But to have left to us such an example is a great blessing. His duty in life was well done. He rests from his labor, but his works will follow him.

May not the lesson of his life he summed up in these lines of Schiller:

"What shall I do to gain eternal life?"

Discharge aright  
The simple duties with which each day is rife,  
Yea with thy might  
Ere perfect: scheme of action thou devise  
Will life be fied:  
While he who ever acts as conscience cries  
Shall live though dead."

This beautiful tribute is from the pen of Gen. McCartney, who was unavoidably absent from town and found it impossible to deliver it in person:

Tears and lamentations always come with death. But from the recollection of his life comes the consolation that dries the tears and soothes even the sobbing mourner. He was kind to the poor. Ah, how the sweet incense of charity sheds its heavenly fragrance around his half a century of unselfish and unheralded giving. There is sorrow and sadness to-day in many a humble home and many were the silent and heartfelt prayers of the poor and unfortunate that went with his sweet spirit to the spirit land. He loved the prattle of children. He rejoiced in the buoyancy of youth. He loved flowers and pens, and was by all beloved, respected and venerated. If death must come, in his case it came most opportunely. A noble life, an honest life, a beloved life, ripe in years, and rich in well doing, what else is there in life?

Others of Mr. McOlintock's friends and co-workers paid tribute to his sterling works as follows:

A. B. Brundage: "While personal achievements amount to but little, the impress they make and that survives them is the true measure of a man's character. Mr. McOlintock was one of the noble men whose genius and goodness have served to bring to the Luzerne Bar the reputation of being among the foremost in the State."

E. Greenough Scott: "There can be nothing better said of a man than that for four score years he maintained an upright character and exerted a sweet influence, and that at the end he returned this character to his Maker as pure as he had received it and left those around him sorrowing that this influence was no longer a living force, but a mere memory. This can be said of Mr. McOlintock."

Henry W. Palmer: "No man ever knew him to falter; where the path of duty led, there he traveled. The road might be rough, the way long, the goal unavailing, the reward valueless; it was enough for him that duty called."

"Death has called from us the honored man who has graced the president's chair of this association for many years. We mourn, but not as those without hope. The influence of his upright, honorable and useful life remains. It will be an example for us to follow and a success to achieve the measure of his fidelity and usefulness."

George R. Bedford: "Active in the practice of his profession for more than half a century, closely identified with large business interests and a leading spirit in the charities of the town, his loss will be felt in all quarters, will affect the public at large as well as households and individuals."

"It was a green old age, beautiful in its living and peaceful in its close."

A. H. Dickson—"I believe he was willing to surrender the large gains of his law practice and assume the more exacting and less remunerative duties of the judge. He knew that the bar wished him to accept the place. But he hesitated to enter that contest where the difference between success and defeat so often depends upon that basest of all creatures—an American citizen who values his franchise only as an article of merchandise. For Mr. McOlintock defeat would have been humiliating. For him success, with dishonor, was an impossibility. Under the conditions of our political atmosphere, success with honor was perhaps doubtful. So avoiding what he could not remedy, he kept his mind serene, his honor without reproach and his clients obtained the benefits of those high qualities which the public at large should have secured."

#### BANK DIRECTORS MEET.

The directors of the Wyoming National Bank met Friday morning and adopted the following:

Andrew T. McOlintock, late director of this bank, died Thursday, Jan. 14, 1893, at his residence in this city, after a brief illness, in the 83d year of his age.

Mr. McOlintock had been a director of this bank during the past eleven years and prior to that period he had served at intervals in the same capacity since the year 1842. His long association in the management of the bank; his extensive and intimate knowledge of the business and industrial life of this community; his sound judgment, conservatism, firmness and prudence rendered him a judicious administrator; a valued and safe counselor.

In his business and professional relations he was concerned in many of the varied interests that make up the prosperity and growth of this section of the State; he had seen this region progress in its commercial life from an agricultural county of sparse population and limited resources to a populous community, possessing many great industries, compassing a vast capital and furnishing a product reckoned in millions. Much of this development had been given its vitality and direction through his wise counsels, and been guided by his far-seeing judgment.

In the practice of the law his great learning, untiring industry and perseverance, zeal and known integrity gained for him distinction in the profession, and brought cer-

tain and substantial rewards that follow upon success.

He was a man of exalted character, cultured tastes, benevolent disposition, kindly yet dignified bearing; he possessed the confidence and esteem of the people among whom he had spent a long, useful and Christian life, the memory of which will be cherished wherever its influence has been felt.

In testimony of respect for the character of our late associate it is

Resolved, That in the death of Andrew T. McOlintock this bank has been deprived of a faithful, conscientious and able director, whose long and efficient services have been of permanent benefit to the institution; that we recognize in the sad event a deep personal loss; and that we will attend the funeral as a body.

SHELDON REYNOLDS,  
B. M. ESPEY,  
GEORGE S. BENNETT,  
Committee.

#### THE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION.

The Board of Managers Pay Tribute to the Memory of Mr. McOlintock.

At a special meeting of the board of managers of the Hollenback Cemetery Association held January 15, 1892, the following action was unanimously taken in regard to the death of Hon. Andrew T. McOlintock:

We have learned with profound sorrow and regret of the death of the president of our association, the Hon. Andrew T. McOlintock, who died at his home in this city, on the morning of January 14, 1892.

In the death of Mr. McOlintock, our association has lost a most valuable head, who has been connected with it from its inception to the present time, as manager and president; who has contributed freely of his time and wise counsels, during these many years, to make our cemetery what it now is, a beautiful resting-place for the dead; and who was the last survivor of the honorable men, who in 1855 constituted our first board of managers.

In common with our fellow citizens, we do now place on record our appreciation of him, who lived a long and honorable life in this community; of his great legal ability; of his broad and high minded culture; of his integrity and uprightness; of his liberality to all causes of humanity; and above all, of his high character as a true Christian gentleman; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, his associates in the management of this organization, feel deeply our loss, knowing the difficulty of finding one who can fill his place, and who will bring to its board meetings the courteous manners, the good advice, and the sound judgment of our lamented president.

That we tender to his widow and family, in this sad bereavement, our sincere sympathy.

Resolved, That the above tribute of respect be spread at large upon our minutes, that copies be transmitted to his family and to the city papers for publication, and that we attend his funeral in a body.

GEO. S. BENNETT,  
W. L. CONYNGHAM,  
Committee.

#### HOSPITAL DIRECTORS TAKE ACTION.

They Pay a High Tribute to the Worth of the Director Who Died.

At a meeting of the directors of the Wilkes-Barre City Hospital, held Friday afternoon, E. H. Chase and Liddon Flick, who were appointed a committee to draft resolutions on the death of Andrew T. McOlintock, reported the following which was unanimously adopted:

Hon. Andrew T. McOlintock was one of the originators of the hospital, and a charter member of the corporation. He was elected a director at the first corporate meeting, and has been re-elected at each succeeding term. He has been president and vice president of the board, and his counsel and advice have been more largely expressed in the management than probably any other member connected with it. He was liberal of his means also, so that the hospital's debt of gratitude has been of constantly increasing magnitude. His wide experience in affairs, together with high legal acquirements and eminent position in life have, in a variety of ways, helped the hospital attain and maintain a more secure establishment and a broader beneficence. Especially in trying financial distresses that have threatened to close its doors, the wide reaching philanthropy in Mr. McOlintock's character, warmly enlisted for this enterprise of mercy, has never flagged but staunchly met the crisis and led the way to obtain needed relief.

Resolved, That in the death of Hon. Andrew T. McOlintock the directors of the Wilkes-Barre City Hospital lament the loss of a benefactor, whose memory will be held in grateful remembrance so long as the hospital shall endure, for the ardor that animated his interest and care for its welfare, and for the substantial tokens of that interest by which its fountains of mercy and charity have been kept in flow among the maimed and suffering.

Resolved, That the members of the board will attend his funeral in a body; that these proceedings will be entered at large upon the minutes and published in the newspapers of the city and a copy be engrossed and delivered to his afflicted family.

## THE LATE MR. MCCLINTOCK.

Dr. Urquhart furnishes the "Record" With an Admirable Sketch of His Life and Character.

Andrew T. McClintock, an old and esteemed member of the Luzerne bar, died Jan. 13, 1892, at 2 o'clock, after a prolonged and serious illness. He was born at Northumberland, Pa., February 25, 1810. He received his elementary education at the home schools, after which he entered Keyvon College, Ohio, where he remained three years. At the close of college life he returned to Northumberland and entered the office of James Hepburn, Esq., as a student of law, but completed his course of law study under the supervision and in the office of the late Hon. George W. Woodward at Wilkes-Barre Pa., and was admitted a member of the Luzerne bar, August 8, 1836. His genius and judgment enabled him to take such knowledge of circumstance and opportunity as to make them subservient to his will, and to bring him the reputation of a thorough and skilled lawyer and an estimable man.

May 11, 1841, he married Augusta, daughter of the late Jacob Oist, a thorough geologist, whose scientific knowledge of the composition and formation of anthracite coal gave him a far advanced appreciation of its importance and value in the arts, sciences and requirements of progressive civilization. In 1870 Princeton College conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL. D. Mr. McClintock was affable and his generosity was felt in many local benefactions. Standing in the forefront of his profession, he possessed the confidence and respect of all. For social prominence, professional distinction, and as a man of profound legal learning, and with a sturdy grasp of principles and details, he is assigned the first place by the members of the bar, who without distinction of party are the best and in reality the only fit judges. Mr. McClintock never sought office, and declined the judgeship of this county, when solicited to accept that place by a most cordial and generous exhibition of professional confidence and brotherhood.

In his early professional life, he showed but little taste or inclination for criminal practice. With him, the theory of human right and social intercourse, had a Christian basis; and philanthropy was an influence in all the activities of his life. He had moreover a clear understanding, a readiness and comprehension of views, which united to a solicitude for the discovery of truth, won all to a thorough and implicit confidence in him.

He had resolution; but devoid of the appearance of self-consciousness, he possessed apprehensions and decision, united with

faculties broadened by an experience that would entitle him to rank anywhere as a man learned in the law, and to take precedence in the performance of high duties. The man who practices at the Luzerne Bar finds competitors of acknowledged professional shrewdness and ability, and nowhere is patient toil, courtesy, honesty of purpose, truth, impartiality and justice, more the measure and means of professional success. In all the relations of life, his mental equipment enabled him to fulfill satisfactorily the diversified requirements of professional responsibility, and his influence in business committed to his care, to have justice done, demonstrated his ability as an advocate and counselor.

At the bar his fund of knowledge and consideration for the opinions of others were qualities that made friends and cemented the companionship and good will of the fraternity, while other endowments received from nature, gave a lustre to his personal and professional individuality.

Mr. McClintock was by nature and constitution a man of integrity and of pure instincts, and as a man whose whole life was passed in the gaze of the public, it may be said of him that he was utterly incapable of a departure from what he believed to be the path of justice and duty. His life work is a rare example of self-dependence, and his integrity is a model for all.

He was regular in his attendance at church and his relish for religion made him a careful observer of religious requirements, and in devotion and in the various employments of life, and especially of those professional functions which he discharged, his example was a model of excellence. In the obligations of social intercourse he was guided by the influence of moral principle, and he cultivated a variety of useful knowledge which never oppressed his imagination nor clouded his perspicacity. His industry, his labor and his habitual and indubitable piety gave an impression of the purity of his intentions, and of his earnestness to live an example that would elevate his fellow man in the journey of life. As a member of this community, his career is worthy of imitation; his memory is inseparable from moral influence, and in his companionship, we have a memorial of Christian life. While he ever declined any prominence in political activity, yet he believed in the Christian unity and brotherhood of the human race, and his personality was characterized by a broad charity and good will, that evoked from all a feeling of kindred character.

As a member of the church, wide spread benevolence and moral and religious principle were successful events in forming an example of profound and living faith, of de-

light in God, of outflowing and expensive love, and of the gospel's heaven derived power to comfort, elevate and sanctify the soul.

GEORGE URQUHART.

#### Funeral of A. T. McClintock.

During the two hours when the covering was removed from the casket on Saturday, scores of friends of the late A. T. McClintock looked for the last time at the remains. The expression was calm and peaceful, although there were lines of suffering and traces of the long illness. At the appointed hour in the afternoon the services, simple yet unusually impressive, were conducted in the First Presbyterian Church. Across the casket were two palm branches tied with white ribbon. Rev. Dr. William O. Cattell, an ex-president of Lafayette College and a life-long friend of deceased, read from holy writ and offered prayer, the quartet sang "There is a land of pure delight," Dr. Hodges read a lesson from Revelation and concluded with a pathetic prayer that moved the many friends to tears. The quartet sang "Abide With Me," and Rev. Dr. Cattell pronounced the benediction. For a few moments the clergymen retired, while the quartet sang "I Hear the Voice of Jesus Say." Miss Gering singing the solo part very feelingly, and while the last verse was being sung the clergymen re-entered, walked from the pulpit and down the aisle, the audience standing as the casket was carried past. Organist Alexander played Chopin's funeral march until the last person had left the sacred edifice.

The honorary pall bearers were John Welles Hollenback, W. L. Conyngham, Charles Parrish, Hon. D. D. Shoemaker, Alexander Farnham, A. H. Vandling, Samuel Dickson, Judge Bice, Judge Woodward, ex-Governor Hoyt, Hon. O. A. Miner, J. B. Smith of Dunmore, Hon. Eckley B. Cox of Drifton, and Alexander Mitchell. The carriers were George B. Bedford, Col. O. M. Conyngham, O. P. Hunt, A. H. Dickson, Irving A. Stearns, T. H. Atherton, W. S. McLean, R. O. Shoemaker.

A large number of railroad and coal directors and stockholders and lawyers from other places were present.

#### He was Tortured by the Indians.

The oldest inhabitant of Ransom, this county—Samuel Gardner—died Tuesday of general debility, aged 93 years, 1 month and 25 days. His grandfather, John Gardner, was the first white inhabitant of Ransom and removed from Connecticut to that place in 1769. A few days before the Wyoming massacre he was tortured to death by the Indians. The oldest daughter of deceased, who is 70 years of age, lives in the West.

#### COL. IRA TRIPP DEAD.

Another Pioneer Called to Join the Great Majority—A Thrilling Family History.

The Scranton papers report that Col. Ira Tripp died at his residence in Providence Aug. 3d, 1891, after a few hours' illness. Few men in Northeastern Pennsylvania had such an extensive acquaintance as Col. Tripp. He was born in the old township of Providence 77 years ago and was the second son of Isaac and Catharine (La France) Tripp. At his bedside were his grandson, Walter Tripp, his granddaughter, Mrs. K. G. Tripp, and his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Jennie Tripp, John W. Brink, a life-long friend of the family, and George W. Keyes, his faithful colored body servant.

His boyhood was spent on his father's farm in Providence Township, now within the city limits, and he was educated in the common schools. On Feb. 20, 1838, he married Rosanna G., daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Shoemaker of Wyoming. There were born unto them two sons and one daughter, Isaac O., Leander S., and Gertrude, all of whom have since passed away. When James Pollock was governor of Pennsylvania he appointed Mr. Tripp an aid-de-camp on his staff, with rank of lieutenant colonel.

At the outbreak of the civil war Col. Tripp enlisted in the Eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers as hospital steward. At the battle of Falling Waters, in Maryland, which was fought in 1861, he was taken prisoner by the Confederates and was one of the first Union men confined in Libby Prison, being detained there about nine months.

Mr. Tripp was originally a Whig and afterwards a staunch Republican. He never sought political preferment, although he was once a candidate for sheriff of Luzerne county. He possessed a genial nature, which added to his courtesy and affability, made him a pleasant and entertaining companion and won him many warm friends.

In his younger days he was an inveterate smoker, so much so that he contracted a throat trouble, and in order to save his life he was forced to abandon smoking. This was found rather difficult and he continued to smoke by proxy—a companion accompanied him, and whenever the colonel desired to smoke the companion lighted a cigar and blew the smoke into his face, and he continued to smoke by this means until the end came.

A month or two ago he was stricken down by illness but rallied, and for the past few weeks had been spending a great deal of his time at Lake Winola.

Isaac Tripp, great-grandfather of the deceased, was one of the first settlers in the Wyoming Valley, having moved there from

Providence, R. I., with his family in 1769. He was a Quaker in his religious notions, and in all his intercourse with the Indians, his biographers write, "his manner had been so kind and conciliatory that when he fell into their hands as a prisoner, the year previous to his death at Capoose, they dismissed him unharmed and covered him with paint, as it was their custom to do with those they did not wish to harm."

He was a man of more than ordinary efficiency and prominence to the colony, and the Indians were often asked by the British why he was not slain and the unvarying answer was, "Tripp is a good man." In his efforts to protect the interests at the Wyoming colony at Hartford, whether he had been sent to represent its grievances, he made himself inimicable to the Tories and a double reward was offered for his scalp. As he had forfeited their protection by the removal of the war paint, and incurred their hostility by his loyal struggles for the life of the Republic, he was shot and scalped the first time he was seen. His son Isaac settled in Seranton in 1874, taking up a tract of about 1,000 acres of land in the heart of the present city. His children were William, Amasa, Stephen, Isaac, Holden, Polly, Patty, Betsey, Catherine, Susan and Nancy, all of whom lived to adult age, married and raised families. One of these sons, Isaac, the third, was the father of Col. Ira Tripp.

This Isaac had his struggles with the redskins. Of him the historian of the Abington Baptist Association says:

"This Isaac Tripp was in early life a resident at Capouse Meadows, in the Lackawanna Valley. In the 18th year of his age, and soon after the Wyoming massacre, he was taken captive by the Indians, and with others marched to Canada. On the way he experienced the most excruciating sufferings from the gnawings of hunger and cruel treatment of the savages, who bound his hands behind him and compelled him to run the gauntlet. At Niagara he met his cousin, Miss Frances Slocum, who was also a captive from the Wyoming Valley. They planned their escape but their intentions being discovered by their captors, they were separated, never more to meet on earth, and young Tripp was sold to the English and compelled to enter their service, in which he reluctantly continued until the close of the revolutionary war.

#### Death of an Abolitionist.

James Slocum, one of the wealthiest and most prominent citizens of Brownsville, Fayette County, Pa., died at his home March 15, 1891, at the age of 80 years. He was born at Olaverack, Columbia County, N. Y., Nov. 7, 1811, and was the son of Giles Slocum. He was a grand nephew of Frances Slocum.

For many years he was an extensive hardware merchant, farmer and stock dealer.

He acted with the anti-slavery party from 1845, and was a delegate in 1848 from the Twenty-first Congressional District of Pennsylvania to the Buffalo National Convention, where Martin Van Buren was nominated for president. He was a Free Soil candidate for Presidential elector in his district. He was an uncompromising Republican, a zealous Presbyterian, a man of great force of character, positive in his convictions, faithful in his friendships, a diligent reader, a man of extensive information, especially in the line of history, and was identified with all the public interests of his town. He was twice married and leaves a widow, children and grandchildren, one of whom, Miss Ella Rogers, has visited Wilkes-Barre. He was a warm personal friend of Rev. H. E. Hayden of this city, who was formerly located at Brownsville. During the ante-bellum days Brownsville was an important point on the underground railway, and Mr. Slocum was active in aiding fugitive slaves to make their way North.

#### AN OLD WILKE-BARREAN GONE.

A Brief Sketch of the Late Peter S. Stroh of Eaton, Wyoming County.

Along with the industrious life of the late Peter S. Stroh there is an eventful bit of old time history that would, if arranged, form an interesting narrative. The reverses of early life linked with the olden time happenings would make a very readable article. Mr. Stroh was born in Tannersville, Northampton County, in 1817, and in 1828 came to Luzerne County, where he secured employment at George M. Hollenback's old stone grist mill, at mouth of Mill Creek. Mr. Stroh's father, Henry Stroh, was a cooper by trade. Here his son Peter followed the making of flower barrels for the Hollenback mill. At eleven years of age he manufactured three per day. As railroad facilities in those days were limited river navigation offered the only mode of transportation and by the use of arks wheat was brought and delivered to the Hollenback mills.

Later he entered the employ of Lord Butler and had charge of his mill. The Butler mill was located on the now Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, and near where is now located the broker office of Lawrence Myers. This mill was the first steam mill in Luzerne county, and it required days and weeks to convert the people of those days to the understanding of the ways of steam. About the time their fears were removed and the mill began receiving the patronage of the surrounding country, an accident occurred which resulted in the bursting of the boiler

and came near causing the death of Mr. Stroh and his fireman. The work of repairing the boiler had to be accomplished at night time, that the people might not learn the facts of the case. Had they been apprised of the accident their feared suspicions of the new power would have offered new evidence to their fright. Accordingly a man with four horses and lumber wagon was dispatched to Harrisburg in the night, a boiler maker and a quantity of boiler steel procured, and the work accomplished in the night, and the people were none the wiser. Mr. Stroh remained at this mill four or five years. He then returned to the Hollenback mill, while he was married November 2, 1848, to Miss Mary Elizabeth Dickover of Wilkes-Barre, his wife being a sister of William Dickover of this city. They commenced housekeeping near the mill, where they resided one year, from there they removed to Eaton, Wyoming County. In 1845 he took charge of the Shoemaker mill, which he conducted for Shoemaker thirteen years and six months. The property was then sold to O. P. Miller, late president of the Wyoming National Bank of Tunkhannock, and O. W. Benjamin. Mr. Stroh remained in their employ six months. In 1846 and 1850 floods of a disastrous nature swept down the little valley and carried away his tools and lumber. He then purchased the Lee property, where he followed farming until the infirmities of old age and disease prevented. He was an honest, hard working, industrious man, and by his honorable dealings won the general respect of all.

Mr. Stroh at one time had lost considerable money by the failure of a bank and had therefore lost faith in banks and bankers, so that he would trust none of his savings to their keeping. He was frugal in his habits and had saved up over \$5,000, principally in specie, which was found by his family after his death scattered in odd places about the house, in books and drawers, of which they had no knowledge whatever.

#### Mr. Hayden's Long Work.

The last pages of an extensive genealogical work completed by Rev. H. E. Hayden, are just being issued from the press of E. B. Yordy. It is a history of several noted Virginia families and the pages number nearly eight hundred, mostly fine type. It is a compilation of names, dates and family incidents and interesting historical matter, and represents an inestimable amount of labor, Mr. Hayden having spent several years on this work. The edition consists of five hundred copies. The typographic work is very fine.

#### SIGNED HIMSELF "PHILOSOPHER."

**A Curious Document That Will Interest the Teachers at the County Institute.**

Boyd Owens hands the RECORD a curious old document that is timely just now in view of the presence of the county teachers. It is an application for a school in Newport Township made nearly fifty years ago, made by James Dowling.

It was found by Anning Dilley among the papers of Phillip Houpt (father of M. B. Houpt and grandfather of Boyd Owens), who was a director of Newport Township at the time the application was made. The application reads as follows:

To the Committee and Board of Directors in this School District the Subscriber being instructed of a vacancy for a teacher hereby humbly takes the liberty, of offering his name as an applicant for the same— its long & deep Experience with a thorough Course of Mercantile & Mathematical Education—that induced & flattered him to make the proposition— Notwithstanding the many Difficulties, that a teacher has to surmount, in labouring to please the Different minds of men. Yet the Subscriber, Stands ready to meet the Committee and Board of Directors or any Substitute that sd Committee may appoint for Examination on the Different Branches & Principals of learning which is herein Separately Inscribed—

Reading & writing  
Arithmetic with all its Adults & rudiments

Bookkeeping theoretical & Practical in-Special General & Particular Entries-Separate & Compound.

Geometry plain & Solid—plain & Spherical

Trigonometry, Geography founded on Globes

Globes founded on Spherics & & & -  
Mensuration with all its rudiments  
Surveying theoretical & Snylized, & & & -  
the subscriber feels able to Snylize  
the above Before a Board

of inspection— And would intend to  
lecture on the Different Branches to  
the learner— As it would be his  
Greatest object to instil the principals of  
morality, & the proper bases of sound &  
fundamental learning, on the youthful mind  
—that I might do Honor to myself, By doing  
Credit & Justice to the Scholars, & their  
Parents All of which I shall Guarantee &  
Pledge myself to the Board of which

I am theirs respectfully

JAMES DOWLING philos



## THE MASSACRE AT WYOMING.

Rev. J. K. Peck, Nephew of the Historian, Refutes the Allegation Made About the Men at Wyoming When the Massacre Took Place.

[Daily Record, January 15.]

Rev. J. K. Peck of Kingston, a close student of Wyoming history, has the following to say through the RECORD with reference to an article that appeared in the *Times* concerning the massacre at Wyoming:

"I have read the version of the above historic fact by the West Side Growler in yesterday's *Daily Times*. This growler quotes remarks that were made some time ago by a Kingston gentleman prominent in the local medical world, and this local medical man is reported as saying that he was 'heartily sorry that his grandfather and others of his relatives had been concerned in such a disgraceful affair as the Wyoming massacre;' that the 'men and boys were crazed with rum' and could not fight nor fly. This is a serious charge, and it is just as absolutely false as it is serious. I will here quote from the history of Wyoming, written by my uncle, the late George Peck, D. D., who himself heard the story of all the revolutionary scenes in the valley, and heard them from the lips of those who were present and who were most interested in the stormy times of one hundred years ago. His wife's mother was in the fort when the devoted band of brave men and boys marched out and when the few weary, dusty, bleeding, panting remnant returned to the fort. She was present when the brave captains from Washington's army, Durkee, Ransom, and Pearce came up from the south upon a gallop and dashed into the cabin at the fort, leaving their horses at the door, all in a foam and said to Mrs. Bennet, 'can you give us a mouthfull to eat.' Mrs. Myers saw and heard these men. She was then eighteen years of age. She saw them remount their horses with their cold out in their hands on the fatal 3d of July. They perched on and were each given command of a company and all three were slain. Mr. Peck heard these details over and over again from Martha Bennet Myers. She heard them from Debora Bedford who was a young girl at that time. She heard them from Harris, who was not old enough to carry a gun but old enough to distinctly remember the horrors of that bloody day. Will 'Growler' say to this community that Ransom and Durkee and Pearce were intoxicated? How could they ride their horses all night? Was

Zebulon Butler intoxicated, or Nathan Denison? Was Rufus Bennet? Was Hammond or Elliot or Roger Searle, or George Dorrance or Daniel Stark or Aaa Gore? If Gore could wheel a wheelbarrow with a girl in it as a passenger all the way from Luzerne to Forty Fort, can you believe he was drunk? Can anybody believe that the New England people, Pilgrims and Puritans, were drunkards? They came to this country for freedom to worship God. If there is any truth in the story, how did those brave men and boys get to Wyoming from Forty Fort, and how did they manage to kill so many of the enemy, as impartial history records, and how did those who escaped get back to Forty Fort?

"One young patriot fired his rifle so often that it became too hot to hold and every time he fired he brought down an Indian, and when the day was lost he got to the fort on the same pair of legs that took him to the field and that were under him while he was firing his gun. He went on the same legs to New England and returned on them and shod horses and preached the gospel and became a presiding elder, and was a delegate to the general conference.

"I have read the history of Wyoming by Charles Miner and have slept at his house and eaten at his table. I have read the annals of Luzerne County by Stewart Pearce and have read the work of Henry Blackman Plumb, and I have never found anything in all the stories of the massacre that would be disgraceful to the patriots or their descendants. I would as soon question the honor of the loyal patriots at Bunker Hill or Lexington or Gettysburg as to question the true, noble manhood and chivalry of those whose bones sleep under the Wyoming Monument. Braver hearts never contended on bloody field in the grandest days of Greece and Rome.

"I will close with a quotation from Peck's history of Wyoming.

"Mrs. Alexander says: 'In passing the house of Mr. Sutton they were met by him, he telling them that as the day was very sultry he had some hasty preparation for their refreshment by setting out a table in his house with pails of water and cups to drink from and that all were in readiness for them. His kindness was very acceptable and the men were formed into companies of twelve, and by marching in order around the table, drank, many of them, their last draught of fair water. There was *one bottle of rum* given, but it was hardly tasted. This was told me (Dr. G. Peck) by Mrs. Sutton when we went to be present at the raising of the bones of the slain in 1833 and proposed to erect a monument to commemorate the massacre, so the infamous re-

port that has been current that these martyrs who fell on the day of Wyoming's doom were under the influence of rum is a base lie and admits of no milder name."  
 "This is to the point and I need not say anything farther now."

#### Was Albert a Lay Judge?

In giving a very flattering notice of George B. Kulp's historical work "Families of the Wyoming Valley," the *American Law Review* says: Luzerne has had one senator of the United States, sixteen congressmen, two governors of Pennsylvania, two attorney-generals of that Commonwealth, one minister in the diplomatic service, four judges of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, two judges of courts of the United States, and eleven judges of Common Pleas Courts in other counties or States, in addition to the ten law judges she had furnished to the bench of that county. This is certainly a very fine record. This multiplication of lawyers and judges presents a strange contrast from the primitive condition of things depicted by the poet Campbell, when

"One venerable man, beloved of all,  
 Sufficed, where innocence was yet to bloom,  
 To sway the strife which seldom might befall;  
 And Albert was their judge in patriarchal hall."

And we have no doubt that Albert was what the Pennsylvania men call a "lay judge." Possibly he was one of the thirty-five lay judges which Luzerne County has had. But from a simple pastoral people whose strifes "that seldom might befall," were easily composed by one venerable arbitrator, himself seemingly learned in the law, the people of Luzerne County must have grown very religious; for we learn from these memorials that the total number of judges and lawyers, dead and living, in that county, has been, from its beginning down to the present time, five hundred and thirty-nine. If Luzerne County had furnished, after the venerable Albert of Campbell's poem, John Bannister Gibson alone, and had stopped there, she would have discharged her full quota and would have been entitled to escape draft; for Chief Justice Gibson was equal to a whole battalion of ordinary lawyers and judges. But his name is followed by that of Woodward, only less distinguished, and his by two others who have adorned the supreme bench of Pennsylvania,—a bench whose decisions have always been held in high esteem by the legal profession of our country.

#### A Church 100 Years Old.

Rev. E. Hazard Snowden left Aug. 25, 1891 for New Hartford, Oneida County, N. Y., to attend the centennial of the Presbyterian Church of which his father, Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden, was pastor in 1807. Mr. Snowden was born in Princeton, N. J., in 1790, but spent some of his boyhood days in New Hartford. The old home is still known as the Snowden place by such of the few old inhabitants as are still living, though "Gone are the reverent feet, that made the threshold beautiful and sweet."

Mr. Snowden will be the guest of Mrs. Charles McLean, now eighty years of age. Her grand parents, Ammi Doubleday and Lois Tilden Doubleday, were members of the church in 1816. Instead of the old stages which used to pass by on the Oxford turnpike, electric cars make quarter hour trips past the Snowden home. Few men at the age of 94 have either the strength or inclination to travel, but Mr. Snowden is active beyond his years and with the exception of impaired sight possesses all his faculties to the full.

#### He was Injured in the War.

Henry Stroh of Forty Fort died on Sunday night after an illness of several weeks, aged 49 years, of grip and rheumatism. A wife and three children survive. W. J. Stroh, the son, is just recovering from a severe attack of typhoid fever. The daughters are Mrs. Marsden and Kate, the youngest of the family, who is living at home.

While serving in the war Mr. Stroh received injuries that almost destroyed his hearing and incapacitated him from doing hard work. For eighteen years he has had charge of Forty Fort Cemetery.

#### A Minister Nearly Half a Century.

Rev. Charles Spurr, one of the founders of the Primitive Methodist Church of Schuylkill County, died a few days ago at the home of his son in Mahanoy City, aged 79 years. He had been in the ministry nearly half a century. He was at one time pastor of the Plymouth church and was the father of Mrs. Rev. S. Penglass of that place.

#### He Was a "Record" Man Once.

Benjamin Baker of Philadelphia was a caller at the RECORD office last week. Mr. Baker is an old RECORD man, having been a member of the editorial staff nineteen years ago. He is now engaged in the publishing business in the Quaker City and is full of old-time newspaper reminiscences.

## DEATH OF COL. DORRANCE.

**This Venerable Citizen Passes Peacefully and Painlessly to His Last Rest—A Descendant of One of the Patriot Dead of Wyoming.**

It will be no surprise to the public, who have been apprised from time to time of his serious illness, to hear that the venerable Col. Charles Dorrance is dead. The end came January 18, 1892, at his home in Dorranceton, the rising borough which bears his name. He had been confined to his house for some weeks, during which he had pneumonia and recovered from it, but his burden of years had sapped his bodily strength and he sank rapidly away. During the last few hours paralysis of speech manifested itself and made it impossible for him to impart any farewell message to his loved ones. He passed the 87th milestone of life on the 4th of the present month.

He is survived by a widow, who was Miss Susan E. Ford, youngest daughter of Hon. James Ford of Lawrenceville, Pa., and five children, four sons and a daughter—Benjamin F. Dorrance; and Col. J. Ford Dorrance of Dorranceton; John Dorrance of Keytesville, Mo.; Charles E. Dorrance of Chicago and Mrs. Sheldon Reynolds, of this city.

The following, written by the late Stauben Jenkins, his friend and neighbor, is as deserved as complimentary:

"Col. Dorrance was born and always lived on the old homestead farm of the family. His house was ever the abode of a large and generous hospitality, dispensed with all the grace and dignity befitting his surroundings. He was ever a farmer, and commencing his active business life with a liberal education, he kept up an intercourse with his fellow men and gave an attention to the affairs of the day which brought out his genial and warm-hearted nature and added a charm to his society.

The Dorrance farm has long been the model farm of the valley, and the colonel, farming for pleasure as well as profit, succeeded in acquiring both results from his labors. He early introduced the short-horn cattle on his farm and took great pains to keep the stock in its original purity. From his herd the strain has gone out into all the country round about and a great improvement in stock is the happy result.

He never sought official position except possibly that of captain of the Wyoming Volunteers, from which he rose through the various grades to the rank of colonel.

When the Luzerne County Agricultural Society was organized in 1858 he was unani-

mously elected president, which position he filled with honor and dignity 10 years. He was in conjunction with A. C. Laning appointed by the late Judge Conyngham as his last official act a commissioner of the Luzerne County prison, which position he held by successive party appointments until it was disposed of as a reward for political services. He was president of the board his entire official term.

When the patriotic citizens of Wyoming met to effect an organization for the proper commemoration for the 100th anniversary of the battle and massacre of Wyoming Col. Dorrance was, without a dissenting voice, made president of that organization. How well and with what grace and liberality he performed the duties of that position and how largely his means and hospitality were taxed to meet the requirements of that occasion, is attested by all.

It is a singular coincidence that the father should have been the first president of the Wyoming Bank and that after the lapse of nearly sixty years his son should hold the same trust. Time and space will not permit to name all the positions of trust and honor he has been called upon to fill. Whatever they have been he has filled them all with honesty and fidelity and he enjoyed the reputation of an honest and honorable man, in whom dwelt all the sweet and tender elements of humanity."

Col. Dorrance was one of the active promoters of the Wyoming centennial celebration of 1878, as stated above, and was up to the time of his death the president of the Wyoming Commemorative Association. He was always present at the meetings at the foot of the monument on every 3d of July since 1878, and last year made a speech in which there was a touching reference to the fact that he would never meet them again, but he urged, as he always urged, that the younger generation should interest themselves in the work of continuing from year to year the recognition of the priceless services of Wyoming's patriotic dead.

At the time of his death he was president of the Wyoming National Bank, an honor which he had borne since 1835, when it came to him on his father's retirement. During all these years he attended the directors' meetings with unflagging regularity. He was also president of the Wilkes-Barre Bridge Co., of which his father was an incorporator in 1816. Col. Dorrance had been a director since 1843 and president since Ziba Bennett's death in 1878. Col. Dorrance was also one of the earliest members of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. He and his family were attendants at the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, and though not a member himself he was a liberal contributor, not only to the general

work, but to the erection of the magnificent edifice lately completed.

He was a life-long Democrat and he was one of the too few men who take an active interest in the welfare of his township and in local politics. He was always an attendant at the primaries, and interested himself personally in the nomination of supervisors and other local officers. It is said that years ago when there was a scheme being quietly hatched in the Senate to divide Luzerne County, making the river the line and making Plymouth the county seat of the new west side county, Col. Dorrance hastened to Harrisburg and nipped the project in the bud.

He never became so old as to become sour or to avoid the society of younger people. On the contrary he was ever renewing his youth by contact with younger men. He was not a man who unbosomed himself to everybody, but such friends as he sought found him ever the staunchest of friends. Inheriting a moderate fortune, his wise and judicious management caused it to widen and broaden so that he leaves his children an ample competence, but what is better, he leaves them the precious heritage of a good name.

#### COL. DORRANCE'S FAMILY.

Benjamin Dorrance, father of the deceased, was one of the popular men of his day. He was born in Plainfield, Connecticut, in 1767, and died suddenly of apoplexy August 24, 1837, 70 years of age. In 1801 he was elected sheriff of Luzerne county and when his term expired was elected one of the commissioners of the county. Other honors came thick and fast. He was a member of the legislature of Pennsylvania during the years 1806, 1809, 1810, 1812, 1814, 1819, 1827 and 1830, and was elected the first president of the Wyoming bank, a position which his son has filled so long and so honorably. He was a young spectator of the stirring scenes in Wyoming's history which were then being enacted. In one of the Indian battles his father, Lieut.-Col. George Dorrance, (grandfather of deceased), was severely wounded after playing a prominent part in the engagement, July 3, 1778. Having endured the fearful Indian orgies of the night, his enfeebled condition made him a burden to his captors and he was slain the next day. The son went into Forty Fort the day after it was surrendered, and had many interesting tales to tell of the graphic scenes that were there enacted.

The mother of deceased and wife of Col. Benjamin Dorrance was Nancy Ann, daughter of Jedediah Buckingham. The brother of deceased was Rev. John Dorrance, born in 1800 and died in 1861, who for twenty-

eight years was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of this city.

A daughter of Rev. John Dorrance and niece of deceased is Emily Augusta, wife of Alexander Farnham of this city, and another daughter is Margaret Stella, wife of Col. G. Murray Reynolds, also of this city. F. O. J.

#### THE FUNERAL.

The funeral of Col. Charles Dorrance was attended Wednesday by a concourse of friends which entirely filled the capacious residence at Dorranceton. The rooms were beautifully decorated with floral tributes, designed by Mr. Fancourt, and at the head of the coffin was a sheaf of wheat. A crayon portrait of the deceased which looked down upon the casket was entwined with smilax. The singing was by the Gwent Glee Club of Edwardsville, an organization which Col. Dorrance had engaged to sing at the monument exercises on the 3d of last July. Their singing was superb, the selections being "Valiant Warriors," "There's a light in the valley," "It is well with my soul," and a chanted version of the Lord's Prayer.

The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, Rev. T. E. Richards of Edwardsville assisting. Dr. Hodge spoke most feelingly. He alluded to his long and successful life. Deceased had been entrusted with positions of honor and influence and in every place he had stood as the personification of honesty, probity and uprightness. Yet could those lips speak, Dr. Hodge went on, they would declare that the best work of his life had been done in the last few weeks, when God laid his hand upon him and sickness made him realize how fleeting were the things of time. With the humility of a child and with a faith humbled, yet strong, he looked to the Lord Jesus Christ. Riches and honors, Col. Dorrance said again and again, were unsatisfying. Could he speak, I feel sure he would say, tell my friends that there are necessities of the human soul which this world cannot satisfy, and tell them not to put off their duty till the last hours of life.

The pall bearers present were Richard Sharpe, J. W. Hollenback, H. M. Hoyt, A. Nesbitt, W. L. Conyngham, J. Laning, E. C. Shoemaker, A. B. Brundage, G. M. Harding, A. H. McClinton. Others invited by the family, but detained, were C. E. Butler, Calvin Parsons, N. Butler, Wesley Johnson, Charles Parrish, William M. Shoemaker, Stanley Woodward, S. H. Lynch. The carriers, employees of the Dorrance farms—Frank Billings, David Davis, Herrick Ides, James Baynard, George Fancourt.

In the funeral cortege the faithful old horse Prince and the buckboard wagon, which for so many years have been familiar figures in

the valley, were driven by the young colored man who had so faithfully served the deceased for a long time.

Among the attendants from abroad were G. Morris Dorrance, a cousin of deceased, and Mrs. Sherrad, a cousin of Mrs. Dorrance, from Philadelphia; Louis and Joseph Piollet, sons respectively of Victor E. and Joseph Piollet, of Wycox, Bradford County; Mr. Ford, of Binghamton, N. Y., and John and Charles Dorrance, sons of deceased, the former from Missouri and the latter from Chicago, Ill.

Among the gentlemen in attendance were Edward Welles, W. A. Wilcox, N. G. Pringle, O. Hemetree, H. H. Welles, Jr., Dr. Urquhart, G. H. Butler, G. Urquhart, Rev. H. H. Hayden, O. P. Hunt, T. Podmore, Abram Hoyt, Bernhard Long, Frank Helme, W. N. Jennings, E. G. Butler, J. S. Harding, B. M. Espy, C. A. Miner, H. B. Payne, W. D. Loomis, Pierce Butler, H. H. Harvey, G. S. Bennett, G. H. Flanagan, J. M. Nicholson, J. Bennett Smith, E. F. Payne, O. D. Foster, James Sutton, C. B. Sutton, E. W. Brudevant, Dr. Cores, W. H. McCarney, L. Myers, John B. Reynolds, E. O. Myers, John B. Yeager, Ben Tubbs, S. L. Brown, Ben Reynolds, R. B. Brundage, George Loveland, Judge Rice.

Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### Henry Colt Wilson Dead.

Henry Colt Wilson, who was born and lived in Wilkes-Barre the greater part of his life, died at his home near the city of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, on Saturday, Feb. 13, 1892. Mr. Wilson was about 73 years of age and was a son of Seth Wilson, a native of England, who died more than 60 years ago, his mother being Rebecca Yarrington, of the historic family of Yarringtons, who were among the pioneer settlers of the valley at the time of the massacre. Mr. Wilson, in company with John O. Frederick, was engaged in the hardware and stove business at the time of the big fire which swept away the entire east side of the Public Square, about 1854, their store being the old Butler steam mill building on the same grounds now occupied by Lewis Brown's grocery store. The large and valuable stock was a total loss, but the firm with commendable energy at once erected the present three story brick building and resumed business at the old stand. A few years later he sold out his store business and other property at the corner of Franklin and Jackson streets, now the homestead of the venerable Mrs. Hannah Abbott, and removed his family

to a farm about two miles south of Mt. Vernon. After a while he grew tired of farming, sold his property and returned to Wilkes-Barre, purchased a portion of the Pierce Butler farm on the Kingston side of the river and commenced business as a market gardener, in which latter calling he was eminently successful, his quick intelligence enabling him to conduct the business on general scientific principles never before attempted in this valley. In a few years he sold his truck farm to L. D. Shoemaker, the underlying coal being the object of the purchase, and again removed to Ohio; this time two miles north of Mt. Vernon, where he purchased a large farm of land equally good for farming purposes as that he had sold, getting more than ten acres of Ohio land for one acre of coal. Here he lived as one of Knox County's most respected farmers up to the time of his death, which resulted from senile gangrene, caused by an inconsiderable injury to one of his feet.

Mr. Wilson was twice married; his first wife being Miss Mary Seeley, a sister of John and George Seeley, eminent bankers of Galveston, Texas; she was also a sister of Mrs. Capt. Alfred Dart of Kingston. By this marriage he had one son, Robert F., who is a well-to-do farmer near Falls City, Nebraska, and two daughters, Jane and Rebecca. Jane is married to Isaac Ewalt, also a Nebraska farmer; Rebecca, unmarried, who hastened from attendance at the conservatory of music, Boston, to be with her father during his last illness. By his second wife, who is a sister of Alderman Johnson of this city, and still living, though an invalid, he has one son, Edwin F., a prominent physician of Columbus, Ohio, and three daughters; Stella S. is principal of the high school in Nebraska; the other two, Hetty and Ida, live at home with their parents. He had a brother who went to Texas many years ago with the Seeleys and died there. His sister, Frances, now deceased, was the second wife of Wesley Johnson and was the mother of Andrew W. and Lizzie McAlpine of this city.

Mr. Wilson's farm in Ohio was a most hospitable one, as all who have ever been entertained there can testify. His farm was a model one, and his broad acres were unsurpassed in the abundance of their yield. His methods of farming were scientific, and found many imitations in Ohio. Having learned the trade of a blacksmith in his youth, he was never at a loss for tools, and continued to do his own blacksmithing—and did it well—up to the time of his death.

Mr. Wilson, when quite a young man, was made a Mason in a Carbondale lodge, he at the time living with his cousin Dilton Yarrington of Dundaff, but he received his master's degree in old 61, Wilkes-Barre. w. j.

**PASSED AWAY AT 83.**

**Death of a Former Wilkes-Barre Lady at Eaton, Wyoming County, Pa.**

The reaper Death has again invaded the quiet village of Eaton, says a correspondent of the Record, and removed one of our most highly respected and beloved neighbors after staying the storms and battling with life's difficulties 83 years. Mrs. Joseph Kishbaugh passed away Monday, January 18, 1892. Deceased was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1809, her maiden name being Violetta Miller. On February 16, 1833, she was joined in marriage to Joseph Kishbaugh, who survives her and has attained the age of 83, one of the instances where man and wife are spared for a period of 60 years. They commenced keeping house at Stroudsburg and after a few years they removed to Luzerne County, thence to Wyoming County, taking up their residence in Mehoopany township. In 1844 they removed to Sugar Hollow, Eaton township and ten years ago they removed to Eaton village.

Five daughters and one son were the fruit of their marriage. Two daughters died several years ago. The surviving children are Mrs. Hannah Joyce, Miss Susan Kishbaugh and M. J. Kishbaugh, all of Eaton, and Mrs. M. S. Harding of Plainsville, Luzerne County.

Deceased was of a family of fifteen children, she being next to the youngest, and strange to say, she has lived to see her fourteen brothers and sisters buried.

Her father was in the Revolutionary War, also the war of 1812. Away back at the time the British were plotting to capture the city of Washington a number of the British officers were boarding at the residence of Mrs. Kishbaugh's uncle. One evening her aunt overheard the schemes they were plotting to meet Washington's troops. After all had retired for the night she made her way to the barn, where she hurriedly placed a saddle on one of the officer's horses and started on an adventurous undertaking to inform Washington's troops. The task was successfully accomplished and she safely returned to her home.

Mrs. Kishbaugh has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for over 60 years and was always an active and consistent worker for the Master. Her kind and loving voice was always heard in the class and prayer meetings until the infirmities of age prevented. The family have the sympathy of the entire community.

The funeral services were held at the Methodist Church Jan. 20, 1892, conducted by Rev. J. H. Perry, assisted by Rev. J. H. Warner of the Tunkhannock M. E. Church and Rev. George W. Hatch of the

Eaton Baptist Church. Interment at the old cemetery.

**DEATH OF EDWARD INMAN TURNER.**

**The Oldest Member of the Luzerne Bar Passed Away at an Early Hour Monday Morning.**

Shortly after midnight February 1, 1892 Edward Inman Turner died at his home on Main street, Plymouth, at the age of 76 years. He was operated on a few weeks ago for caries of the bones of the foot, caused by injudicious use of the knife by a traveling corn doctor. When the operation was undertaken the physicians found that the disease had progressed far beyond their expectations and the operation which was at first intended to be a small one resulted in the amputation of nearly the whole foot. Mr. Turner, whose health at that time was very poor, never recovered from the exhaustion. Gangrene set in and ended in his death. Deceased was the only survivor of the nine children of John E. and Jemima Inman Turner, and was born and always lived in the house in which he died. He never married.

He was a graduate of Dickinson College and studied law in the office of the late Judge Conyngham, being admitted to the bar on Nov. 5, 1839. He was the oldest member of the Luzerne County bar.

He practiced his profession in Wilkes-Barre for a very short time after being admitted and then went to St. Paul. He was there only a short time when he was called east by the death of one very dear to him and never returned to his western home. He instead abandoned the idea of living by his profession and settled at his old home in Plymouth, where he was successfully engaged in the mercantile business until a short time before his death.

The descendants of the Turner children are very few, numbering only six as follows: George G. of New York City and Rev. W. B. Turner of Great Bend, Pa., sons of George Turner; March, John and Mae of Wilkes-Barre, children of Samuel Turner and Ellen Dietrick Turner of Wilkes-Barre; Jose G. of Plymouth, son of Frank Turner and Gertrude Preston Turner.

**Death of Mrs. D. G. Sligh.**

Saturday, Jan. 16, 1892, at an early hour Mrs. Susan Sligh, wife of D. G. Sligh of Kingstons, died. She had not been in good health for many years, and at about Christmas was taken with grip. Owing to her advanced age, 76 years, she was unable to successfully resist the disease, and grew weaker and weaker until the time of her death. As Miss Susan Fuller she was married to

Mr. Sligh on May 20, 1833. They moved from Scranton to Kingston in 1856, and have made that place their home since. She is survived by her husband and one son, Fred, residing in Wilkes-Barre.

The last services were held at her late residence on Page street, Kingston, Monday afternoon. Rev. J. G. Eckman of Kingston, and Rev. H. L. Jones of this city read the Episcopal service for the dead, and a quintet composed of Mrs. William Oard, Mrs. Fred Dilley, Miss Lillie Wilcox, Will Clark and H. W. Williams, with Horace Eckman as accompanist, furnished appropriate music. The pall bearers were James Frank, Robert Cooper, George Brogley, O. Bach, J. C. VanLoon and George Neebitt. Interment was in Forty Fort cemetery.

#### Death of Col. Peter H. Allabach.

News was received last Friday that Col. Peter H. Allabach had died on Thursday night at his home in Washington, D. C. Col. Allabach was a son of the elder Jacob Allabach, who lived on North Main street in this city (Bowman's Hill) and was a brother of Jacob Allabach, a distinguished mining engineer in the early days of the coal business of the valley. During the Mexican war he served as a sergeant in the 7th Infantry of U. S. Regulars. He was an officer during the War of the Rebellion, where he got his title. He has been for many years chief of the capitol police at Washington. He married Nancy Blanchard, daughter of John Blanchard, and she is yet living.

In response to a Record inquiry, W. H. Walker, city editor of the *Washington Post*, telegraphs as follows:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Col. Peter H. Allabach, in command of the capitol police force, died at his residence, 223 B street, N. W., last night, after an illness of three weeks duration. He had been captain of the force since June 1, 1879. Col. Allabach was prominent in Grand Army circles, being a member of the Loyal Legion, Society of the Army of the Potomac and of Lincoln Post, S. G. A. E. His funeral will occur Sunday afternoon. The remains will be placed in a vault and subsequently interred at Arlington. Col. Allabach was regarded as an efficient and conscientious officer and held a high place in the esteem of all who came in contact with him. He had many friends among senators and representatives.

#### The Oldest Inhabitant.

In response to the Record's request for information as to who is the oldest inhabitant in Luzerne County, P. A. Oulver writes from Orange that that distinction belongs to Mrs. Lucretia Perrin. She was born in New Eng-

land in 1793 and is consequently 99 years old. She lives at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Salome Lewis, in Exeter Township. With the exception of her sight, her faculties are unimpaired.

#### KIN OF THE PRESIDENT.

**The Burning of a Hermit's Cabin Brings Forth the Sad Story of the Lord Family.**

The little isolated dwelling, high among the Sullivan County mountains, a few miles from Port Jervis, where for several years Col. John F. Lord has lived the life of a recluse, was burned to the ground a few days ago, and the veteran hermit has been seen for the first time in years among scenes of civilization. Thirty-five years ago Col. Lord was a power in the politics of Pennsylvania, and almost supreme in the management of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co., of which his brother, Russell F. Lord, was then the managerial head. He was a leader in the Pennsylvania militia and a member of Governor W. F. Packer's staff. His family was among the prominent ones of Northeastern Pennsylvania. His wife, a highly accomplished lady, was an own cousin of the present mistress of the White House, Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, and he is an uncle by blood of Mrs. Dimmick, of the President's household, and the wife of Lieut. Parker, both also nieces of the President.

Fifty years ago or more a bank was established in Honesdale, Pa., and its first cashier was a man named Neal. He was from Western Pennsylvania. He had a beautiful and accomplished daughter. The Delaware & Hudson Canal, then the greatest private undertaking of its kind in the country, had recently been built between Honesdale and Rondout on the Hudson. The construction of the canal and the gravity railroad connecting it with the mines at Carbondale had been in charge of the company's chief engineer, Russell F. Lord, and when the great work was completed his genius was rewarded by the company placing him in absolute control of all its internal affairs. He made his brother, John F. Lord, his chief lieutenant, and the two men for many years were supreme in the canal company's management, and its early success was due to their liberal and wise policy.

Soon after the Neal family took up their residence in Honesdale, John Lord fell in love with the beautiful Miss Neal, and won her. The young lady had an uncle, her mother's brother, who was a preacher and professor in a school in Western Pennsylvania. This was Dr. Scott. Some years after Miss Neal became Mrs. Lord she was visited by her two cousins, two handsome and lively girls, the sisters Carrie and Lizzie

Scott, daughters of Dr. Scott. They were younger than their cousin, Mrs. Lord. Russell F. Lord, the manager of the canal, was then a widower. He met the Scott girls at his brother's house and fell in love with Lizale. Although he was many years her senior he became a suitor for her hand. He was rich, powerful, the possessor of an elegant home, and he won the girl for his bride. She ruled a queen in the handsome and blue-blooded town for years. It was while her sister was staying at Mrs. Lord's residence in Honesdale that Benjamin Harrison, then a struggling Indiana lawyer, visited there also while wooing the sister. This visit to Honesdale is now one of the traditions of the place.

About the close of the late war the Lord brothers began to lose influence and prestige. Both had become singularly erratic. Irregular habits grew on them both. Col. John Lord was the most open in his indulgences, and his decline and that of his family was so rapid that in a very short time they had lost caste entirely. John F. Lord's connection with the canal company was severed, and he became a wanderer. He had two daughters. They, in their straits, married men in the lower walks of life. In the course of time their mother, the once beautiful and accomplished Miss Neal, became totally blind, and she died an object of public charity.

Russell F. Lord resigned his place at the head of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co. soon after the war, and his conduct became such at home that his wife was constrained to take her three children and return to her father's house. Benjamin Harrison had long before that married her sister and named their first born Russell, after his uncle, Russell Lord. The latter died a year or so after the separation with his wife. When Mrs. Lord paid her first visit to Honesdale after going away, her two daughters had grown to be charming young women. They were guests at the house of Attorney-General Dimmick in Honesdale. His eldest son fell in love with one of the sisters and soon married her, leaving her a rich widow within three months.

Col. John Lord, after years of living by odd jobs around lumber mills and tanneries, some years ago suddenly disappeared from all his former haunts and it was not known what had become of him until his hermitage was accidentally discovered one day by some hunters. He is now over 80 years old, and says he will return to his life of a recluse as soon as he can replace his burned cabin.

### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers—Discussion on the Early Local History of Coal—Fishing the Building Project. [Daily Record, February 12, 1892.]

The annual meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held yesterday, Capt. Calvin Parsons, vice president, in the chair. There were also present Major Oliver A. Parsons, Edward Weller, S. L. Brown, Rev. H. L. Jones, Hon. Charles A. Miner, William H. Sturdevant, George Loveland, George B. Kulp, J. D. Coons, J. G. Wood, George B. Wright, F. C. Johnson, J. M. Courtright, A. H. McOlintock, Col. G. M. Reynolds, W. P. Byman, A. F. Darr.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Capt. Calvin Parsons.  
Vice presidents, Rev. H. L. Jones, Hon. E. B. Cexe, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, F. V. Bockafellow.

Trustees, Hon. C. A. Miner, Edward Weller, S. L. Brown, Dr. L. H. Taylor, H. H. Harvey.

Treasurer, A. H. McOlintock.  
Recording secretary, Joseph D. Coons.  
Corresponding secretary, Sheldon Reynolds.

Librarian, Hon. J. B. Wright.  
Assistant librarian, F. C. Johnson.  
Curators—Mineralogy and conchology, I. A. Stearns; paleontology, B. D. Laoc; archaeology, Sheldon Reynolds; numismatics, Rev. H. E. Hayden; historiographer, George B. Kulp; meteorologist, Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D.

Except the change in the presidency, (owing to Mr. McOlintock's death), and the appointment of F. V. Bockafellow to succeed Mr. Parsons as one of the vice presidents, the list of officers is the same as last year.

W. A. Lathrop of Wilkes-Barre and Dr. W. R. Longshore of Hazleton were recommended for membership. At the suggestion of George B. Kulp, George Butler Griffin of Los Angeles, Cal., was made a corresponding member.

Andrew H. McOlintock reported \$206 in the treasury. Available resources—cash and mortgage, \$7,694.

George B. Kulp, historiographer, reported the death of 14 members since last annual meeting:

Chas. H. Sturdevant, William M. Miller,  
Jean McOlintock, Herman C. Fry,  
George W. Kirkendall, Ira Tripp,  
Dr. Edward B. Mayer, Lyman C. Draper,  
S. C. Struthers, Hezekiah Parsons,  
Lewis Pugh, A. T. McOlintock,  
Col. Chas. Dorrance, John H. Sutphin,



A committee consisting of Rev. H. L. Jones, Rev. Dr. Hodge and Col. G. M. Reynolds was appointed to take action on the death of the late president, Andrew T. McClintock.

It was voted to appoint a committee to consult with the trustees of the Osterhout Library with reference to the provisions in Mr. Osterhout's will for permanent quarters for the Historical Society. Rev. Henry L. Jones and A. F. Derr, Osterhout trustees, stated that the only reason for delay, so far as they knew, was that the Historical Society had not submitted plans of what it wanted. The chair appointed on that committee George B. Kulp, S. L. Brown, W. H. Sturdevant, B. D. Lacey and Col. G. M. Reynolds.

The plan seems to be to erect a fire proof building in the rear of the present library, the same to form a part of any future structure which may be erected for the library. It is believed that the project may be pushed to completion during the present year.

A paper from William P. Miner was submitted and read in relation to the early history of coal and the coal trade in Wyoming Valley. Mr. Miner facetiously alluded to himself as one of the original *dry-nurses* of the Historical Society, and perhaps the only survivor of the first meeting held at the old Fell House in 1858. Mr. Miner's article took exceptions to the attempt to deprive Jesse Fell of the credit for his famous discovery. The article was interesting throughout.

It awakened a discussion, in which Mr. Kulp reiterated his claim that Jesse Fell was not entitled to the credit which historians have accorded him, nor did he believe Jesse Fell ever made the famous entry till many years after 1808.

An interesting point was brought out with reference to the grate now at the old Fell House, and which is claimed to be the original grate with which Jesse Fell experimented. Calvin Parsons says the grate is not the original grate, though it was made by one of the Fells, possibly Jesse Fell. Mr. Parsons says he loaned it to the old Fell House in centennial year and it has never been returned.

During the year there have been added to the library by donation 238 bound volumes and 218 pamphlets and yearly files of the *Record*, *Telephone*, *Leader*, *News-Dealer*, *Saturday Abend*, *Waschter*, *Express*. Mrs. E. B. Mayer has given twenty-two volumes of the *Atlantic Monthly*, twenty-eight of the *Popular Science Monthly*, four volumes of the *Fortnightly Review* and the *Nineteenth Century* for 1889. The additions by purchase have been three bound volumes and yearly files of the *Pennsylvania Magazine and American Antiquarian*.

The additions to the cabinet are sword and belt of Capt. E. B. Mayer of the "Boss Rifles" and an Indian pot found by Amos Meckas in a cave at Mud Run.

The museum has been opened thirty-four afternoons and evenings during the year and has been visited by about 350 persons. While so few additions have been made to the cabinets in the past year many changes have been made. The great majority of specimens which were not in cases have been placed under cover, a new catalogue has been made of the archaeological exhibition and many specimens have been properly labeled. The front room on the second floor has been rented by the society and the rent of the rooms, \$200, is now paid by the Osterhout Free Library. The library has been entirely rearranged and the government publications in sheep are now deposited with the Osterhout Library. One publication has been issued during the year, "Notes on the Tornado, of August 19, 1890," at a cost of \$83.

The contributions to the society since Feb. 11, 1891, are as follows:

Reports and pamphlets from the Michigan Pioneer Historical Society, O. S. Lacey, Yale University, American Geological Society, Oneida Historical Society, Professor A. E. Foote, Pennsylvania Library, Minnesota Historical Society, New Haven Colony Historical Society, Canadian Institute, Smithsonian Institution, Astor Library, consular reports and transactions of other historical societies.

Hon. J. A. Scranton—Official reports.

W. H. Seamans, Washington—American Society of Microscopists.

Gen. C. W. Darling—Collections No. 8 Cayuga County Historical Society.

Hon. Garrick Mallery—"Greeting by Gesture," by G. Mallery.

James W. Goodwin—"The Goodwins of Hartford."

Smithsonian Institution—"Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge and Collections.

W. H. Egle, M. D.—Notes and queries.

Nicholas Ball—"Nicholas Ball and some of his Descendants."

Also a number of pamphlets published by the State and National governments.

Among the contributions to the library not noted in foregoing list were the following:

"History of Sullivan's Campaign against the Iroquois; being a full account of that epoch of the Revolution. A. Tiffany Norton, Lima, N. Y., 1879." It was presented by Mark O. Austin of Dansville, N. Y., through Edward S. Loop.

A curious old Shaker hymn book, dated 1813, presented by George W. Gustine.

## AT THE AGE OF 94.

**Mrs. Hannah Courtright Abbott Passes Another Milestone in a Long Journey of Life.**

[Daily Record, February 8.]

Ninety-four years ago, February 7, 1798, Hannah, daughter of Cornelius Courtright, first saw the light of day at Plains, just outside the present city limits of Wilkes-Barre and she is still spared to her family and friends. Yesterday was her birthday and some of her friends called to offer their congratulations. Mrs. Abbott has been a woman of rugged constitution, and of wonderful energy. As late as six months ago she was able to be about the house, and as recently as a month ago she was sewing. She had her sight unimpaired up to two years ago, but since that time she has been unable to read.

She is full of recollections of the past, though it is an effort for her to recall names and dates. "There are so many generations since I was born," she says, "that I cannot easily separate them. Time has mingled them so much that great grandfathers and grandfathers, and brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts are not easily distinguished."

Mrs. Abbott cannot realize the changes since the old days—the telegraph, the telephone, the electric cars and many other modern improvements. When speaking of the electric cars she said they remind her of lines that are running through her mind, where taken from she does not know—

The arm of omnipotent power they assume  
And ride in chariots of fire—

certainly not an unprophetic description.

When she was born, Wilkes-Barre was only a little hamlet in a great wilderness, she says, and she recalls many a horse back ride to Wilkes-Barre either alone or on the same horse with her father. It was a time of great hardship and she says the people of today have no idea of what had to be suffered in those pioneer times. A source of great inconvenience was the lack of money. The only way any money was had at all was by hauling a load of wheat over the mountains to Easton and turning it into cash. There was no bank in Wilkes-Barre and many settlements of accounts had to be made with promissory notes. These had to be secured by endorsement and many a man lost heavily by endorsing for his neighbor.

Mrs. Abbott remembers well hearing the survivors of the Wyoming Massacre of 1778 tell about that bloody event, for many of them were alive during her recollection. The terrors inspired by the presence of the

savages—the eager hanging of the women and children upon the gospel minister to shield them—the merciless attack of the British and Indians—the flight across the mountains through the "Shades of Death" to the Minisink settlements on the Delaware, or to Connecticut—the sufferings of the bare-footed, almost naked children—the birth of a baby during this mad stampede and the tender efforts of the fugitives to provide for the mother and carry her on blankets fastened to two horses—these and many other incidents were familiar tales to the now aged lady, and she tells them when drawn out in conversation.

She has been a member of the Methodist Church ever since she was a girl of fourteen, and she is cheered and comforted and sustained by a faith which has never wavered. She says that existence at so advanced an age is not desirable, but with all her bodily weakness she is patient and uncomplaining, ready to depart whenever it may please the Master to call.

"I had such an impressive dream," she said. "I thought the skies were illuminated as with a continued flash of lightning. I got a glimpse of the new heavens and the new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness. There was a burst of music and there was a multitude of angels in beautiful white robes, there was no sickness and no death there, but all was joy and peace, and I longed so much for one of the robes. Just as I was about to have it offered to me, the strain was too much and I awoke. O, it was a beautiful dream."

Among her birthday callers was her pastor, Rev. J. Richards Boyle, of the First M. E. Church, with which she has been identified nearly half a century. His visit brought her much cheer.

Mrs. Abbott is surrounded by everything that can make her declining years comfortable and her two daughters are devotion itself. She is the widow of John Abbott. John had two brothers, William and Stephen Fuller. Two of the brothers, John and William, married daughters of Squire Cornelius Courtright. William's family removed to Ohio. Stephen was the father of Rev. Wm. P. Abbott, a distinguished Methodist clergyman, who delivered the oration at the Wyoming Centennial in 1878. The mother of Hon. Charles A. Miner was a sister of the three Abbott brothers mentioned above. Cornelius Courtright was a prominent man in Wyoming family affairs, farmer, magistrate and member of the legislature.

So far as the Record knows she is the oldest person in Luzerne county. Rev. E. H. Snowden is a year younger. Should there be any older persons in the county the Record would be glad to be advised of the fact.

## THE MASSACRE AGAIN.

Rev. J. K. Peck Recites Mere Instances of the Disaster and Answers the West Side Growler.

**ERROR RECORD:** As to Dr. Peck's history I fail to find any of its particulars contradicted by any reliable authority. He talked freely and frequently with persons who were present and in the fight. He knew Palmer Kanson, he knew the Slocums, Shoemakers, the Butlers and the Pearce, Dorrances, the Bennets, and the Inmans. He consulted Bancroft and Loesing and talked with old Mr. Gardner and the Harries and Marceys. He tells the stories of Thomas and Andrew Bennett and Liebbens Hammond breaking away from seven Indians by killing five and wounding the others. He tells of the hand to hand fight with several Indians who had them prisoners; of Rogers, Van Campen, Pierce and Pike. He tells of the capture of Frances Slocum and her discovery years after, and who will say that the Forty Fort soldiers did not drink water in platoons of twelve on their way up to the battle, and each twelve took their turn, I challenge the whole world to bring testimony to contradict it. Mrs. Bedford was present and it occurred at her father's house and her father furnished the water and pail and dipper. That is not the way intoxicated men drink. It was a hot day and four hundred intoxicated persons would be likely to push each other and knock over the table and spill the water over the cabin floor. This story being true, and it cannot be contradicted, intoxication was out of the question and an impossibility. They were as orderly as any four hundred people you could get together in any town on any occasion. Indeed the growler contradicts his own marvelous statement which he first made. This first statement was that the whole crowd was intoxicated and it was disgraceful, and it being so we had better not perpetuate the memory of July 8d by having orations at the monument.

Now, being confronted with the positive proof that there was not a particle of truth in his statement, he comes down thus beautifully: "In the early days rum was as commonly used for a beverage as tea or coffee now, and in those days the preacher was considered none the worse if he drank as much as any of the others.

They know that the enemy was on the march and only an hour distant from the fort where their wives and children and sick ones were huddled together, and Washington's soldiers were twentyfour-hours away. If they had remained in the fort with the

women and children there might have been a worse slaughter than there was.

Brave men will meet a band of burglars and robbers and murderers at the gate instead of waiting for reinforcements.

Now I understand some one to say there was no Wyoming massacre. I find in the Cyclopaedia of History, etc., by Prescott this on page 885 in a chapter on the Revolution: "As the war was now prosecuted, 1778, both by the British and the Tories, in a less hopeful and more revengeful spirit, several predatory expeditions were sent out that did much wanton injury, and in some skirmishes no quarter was given and acts of sickening barbarity were committed. Wyoming a flourishing settlement in Pennsylvania, was desolated by an incursion of Indians and Tories, the male inhabitants were "massacred, the houses burned and the cattle killed or driven off." Then there was a "massacre." But you, Mr. Growler, have failed to find it out even after more than a hundred years have passed. You would do well to take the advice that you give me and read up. You think you have proved that Richard Inman was intoxicated, yet he killed an Indian and saved the life of Gen. Zebulon Butler. The truth was that he saved Rufus Bennett and likely others, for another Indian who was close by the one that fell and in hot pursuit of those that were escaping, saw his companion fall by the ball from Inman's rifle, turned and fled for his life. He was not too drunk to "fight or fly," for he killed an Indian and escaped himself.

Mrs. A Safford of Kingston is a granddaughter of Elisha Blackman, whose name is on the granite shaft at Wyoming and he often told her of the details of the Wyoming tragedy and always contradicted the story that they were crazed with rum, said it was a lie. Blackman was a friend of George Peck and told him the story. Blackman said that in the hardest of the fight he saw a brother-in-law, Capt. Spafford, killed by his side, and he was so intent on avenging his death that he failed to notice that the day was lost and soon he and a companion started for the river. Indians chased them and called to them to surrender and they would not be hurt. Blackman did not surrender but his friend did, and Blackman looked back and saw the treacherous redskins hack his brains out. Then Blackman strained every nerve to escape and did by swimming the river and dodged bullets as he swam and heard them whistle close to his head.

Now, Mr. Growler from the West Side, I am glad to see you inclined to revise your first expressed notions and I hope never more to hear insulting expressions about heroes a hundred years dead. Cover them over with beautiful flowers. You now "con-

clude there was a battle but no massacre."

You started out to prove that there was "no battle" for the men on our side were too intoxicated to fight or fly. We shall doubt your sincerity if you keep on with your contradictions.

J. K. PECK.

#### AS A BRIDGE DIRECTOR.

**Col. Dorrance's Services Extended Over a Long Period—Action of His Associates.**

At a meeting of the "president, managers and company for erecting a bridge over the river Susquehanna at the borough of Wilkes-Barre," held January 18, 1892, the following memorial was presented and unanimously adopted in regard to the death of Col. Charles Dorrance.

Col. Dorrance died at his home in Dorrance-ton, Luzerne County, Pa., on Monday morning, January 18, 1892, in the 88th year of his age. He was elected a manager of this company March 1, 1843, and was chosen president November 30, 1878, which office he held until the day of his death.

He was the last connecting link between the early and heroic days of the bridge company and the present time. He saw the building of the first bridge and personally knew of the misfortunes and discouragements that came to the enterprise at the beginning; rejoiced in the days of its prosperity, and his last official act was to sign the contract for the erection of a modern and more enduring steel structure. He crossed the bridge almost daily during the half century of his connection with the company and his watchful eye was ever on the lookout in its behalf. He gave an unusual amount of time and attention to its affairs and was ever ready in an emergency to protect its interests.

He lived and died where he was born and reared, and during his long life added largely to his possessions and took great delight in cultivating his broad acres, in bringing them to a high state of productivity and in improving the agricultural condition of the entire county.

As his ancestors were among the pioneers of the Wyoming Valley and died in its defense, he had a special interest in perpetuating the memories that centered at the Wyoming monument, and did more than anyone else to keep them fresh, that they might be an inspiration to coming generations.

He was a man of affairs, of a strong nature and of clean convictions. His wise counsels and sound judgment were called into constant use in many ways and by several institutions. He was warm hearted and gener-

ous, dignified and honorable in his intercourse with his fellow men, and in his own home, social and hospitable, therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of our late venerable president, Col. Charles Dorrance, we, the managers of this company, have suffered the loss of a valuable officer, whose advice has always been judicious and helpful, and on whom we strongly leaned. That we tender to the bereaved widow and family, in this time of grief, our sincere sympathies. That these proceedings be spread upon our minutes. That copies be furnished the family and the city papers for publication. That we attend the funeral as a body and that the toll house be draped in mourning.

GEORGE S. BENNETT,  
JOHN LANING,

Committee.

#### An Old Time Charge.

**EDITOR RECORD:**—Referring to Mr. Peck's letter in the RECORD of January 15, 1892, refuting the charge of drunkenness brought against the men in the Battle of Wyoming, it must be of interest to know that it was not an uncommon insult in those days to charge men with drunkenness when performing important public duties, as may be seen from the following from the *Pennsylvania Journal* of Feb. 8, 1775:

"A despicable pamphlet lately published in Boston, now called the *Grey Maggot*, has asserted, 'That the only apology that could be made for the conduct of the Continental Congress in adopting the Suffolk resolves, was that they came into this vote immediately after drinking thirty-two bumpers of Madeira, of which the next morning, when their heads were cool, they were ashamed, and then prudently determined not to do the business till after dinner for the future.' If it would not offend the characters of that truly august assembly to take so much notice of this most impudent and false assertion as seriously to contradict it, we would say, that it appears from the minutes of the Congress, that as they sat until late in the afternoon they never did any business after dinner and that the Suffolk resolves were acted upon Saturday in the forenoon. From this instance the public may see to what an astonishing height of unblushing falsehood, and the base calumny against the most respectable characters, the enemies of our common rights have now attained; and how ready they are to perform any dirty drudgery for the sake of procuring or preserving a title or lucrative place."

The author of the calumny against Congress was forced to leave the country.

## COL. JOHN BUTLER.

**The Desolator of Wyoming Receives Magnanimous Treatment at the Hands of a Descendant of His Old Foe, Col. Zebulon Butler.**

[Address delivered by J. Butler Woodward, Esq., at the commemorative exercises at Wyoming Monument, July 3, 1891.]

This is pre-eminently an age of skepticism, nothing is taken for granted, everything must be proved or, if it cannot be proved, held in abeyance and judgment suspended until more light is obtained. As Macaulay says, we aspire to know where our ancestors were content to doubt, we begin to doubt where our ancestors thought it their duty to believe. Theories believed to be sound and irrefutable yesterday, to-day are doubted, investigated and discarded. This is so in all branches of science, but peculiarly true of history, if history can be called a science. Occurrences, as related by contemporaneous writers, are apt to be colored by prejudice or by the exigencies of the time. It does not surprise us then to find many of the stories of the battle and massacre of Wyoming to be false. Many harrowing tales of the massacre were invented at the time for the purpose of discouraging the employment of savage Indians as allies in civilized warfare.

It is now generally accepted that Brandt, who figured so largely and so savagely in the battle as related by the early historians, was not present at all. There are strong reasons for believing that Queen Esther never sat on the bloody rock and picked out her victims for slaughter, and that a large part of the fantastic cruelties related by the early historians were without any foundation in fact. The man who figured most prominently on the Tory side in the battle and who came in for the largest share of the malediction was Col. John Butler. We have always been taught to believe him a black-hearted traitor, worse than the savages who accompanied him. I would like to say a word in his defense because I do not believe that he was so bad as he was painted, and I do believe he was a second cousin to that other Butler, Col. Zebulon Butler, from whom I am proud to trace my descent and against whom no word has

ever been written. Col. John Butler was born in New London, Conn., in 1728. He served honorably and with distinction in the war between Great Britain and France for the possession of Canada. When the Revolution broke out he was living on the frontier at Niagara in the employment of the crown as commissioner of Indian affairs. He had to choose which side he would take. No doubt his choice was largely influenced by his location and his employment. Many another good man had to make that choice and made it in the same way as Col. Butler. The good men were not all on our side, and Col. Butler had a better excuse than most of them. He may not have chosen wisely but he chose conscientiously and, having made the choice, he came out openly for the cause he had espoused, and there is reason to believe that his conduct in the battle of Wyoming and throughout the war was that of an honorable and a brave man, and when the war was over he retired to his distant home in Niagara and the following inscription on a tablet erected to his memory in St. Mark's Church at that place bears testimony to the esteem in which he was held by the people among whom he lived:

**"FEAR GOD, HONOR THE KING.**

In memory of Col. John Butler, His Majesty's commissioner for Indian affairs, born in New London, Province of Connecticut, 1728. His life was spent honorably in the service of the crown. In the war with France for the conquest of Canada he was distinguished at the battle of Lake George, 8th of September, 1755, and at the siege of Fort Niagara and its capitulation 25th July, 1759. In the war of 1776 he took up arms in the defense of the unity of the empire and raised and commanded the Loyal American Regiment of Butler's Rangers. A sincere Christian as well as a brave soldier. He was one of the founders and the first patron of this parish. He died at Niagara May, 1796, and is interred in the family burial ground near this town."

Some people have gone so far as to doubt whether there was any massacre at all but, if there was a massacre, it is not that that we are here to celebrate. There is nothing in the massacre that we care to perpetuate or that we can look back on except with pain; but there was a battle and a battle in which we take pride, although our side was defeated, for it showed the stuff our forefathers were made of and it showed that they were not lacking in courage, whatever may be said of their military sagacity. In fact, it was because Col. Zebulon Butler and Col. Denison could not brook the taunts of cowardice flung at them by Capt. Lazarus Stuart\* and his fol-

lowers that the calamities of that day came upon them. Had they listened to the dictates of their better judgment and remained in the fort until the reinforcements which had been sent for and were on the road had arrived, in all probability the massacre would never have taken place, but they marched bravely forth to almost certain death to attack an enemy, in every way their superior, on his own ground. It was not wise, but it was daring. We, who are living here peaceably enjoying the fruits of their toil and suffering, with nothing worse than the malaria to dispute our possession, are apt to forget that this valley is one of the most beautiful and fertile spots on the face of God's footstool. The old proverb says that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country, and the reverse is oftentimes true—that a country is not without honor save with her own prophets. It is only when we return after an absence or when the visiting stranger calls our attention to it that we fully realize its beauty. It was on account of its beauty and its fertility that so many different people struggled for its possession, and it was on this account that our forefathers had to undergo hardships and suffering that fell to the lot of few of the early settlers. They had to traverse an unbroken forest; they had to cross steep and difficult mountains to get here from their homes in Connecticut; they had to make their peace with the Indians, and, when these obstacles were overcome, they found a more formidable foe of their own race and blood in the Pennsylvania claimants. The controversy with Pennsylvania had begun when the revolution broke out and was laid aside that they might both take up arms against the common enemy. When the call came for more troops the men of Wyoming responded nobly and, when the war was over and the rest of the country settled down to enjoy a dearly earned peace with independence, they had to take up their struggle with the Pennamites, their homes desolated, their wives and children slain, but through it all they persevered, with what courage and success the number of Connecticut people in this valley to-day bears witness.

But we are not the only ones who enjoy the fruits of their toil. The stranger has come among us who knows nothing of the early history of this valley and cares little for its beauty but only for the money that can be got out of it. He has long since stripped the surface of its forests and is now engaged in literally turning the valley inside out, so that in a few years there will be nothing left above us but the heavens and beneath us a void. It is fitting then that we, the descendants of these noble men, should pause in the fierce struggle for existence and devote one day in the year to make at this shrine an offering to their memory and drink in an inspiration

that will last us for another year, and it is a worthy cause that these societies, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the Revolution, are engaged in, for while there is no aristocracy in this country, where all men are born free and equal, we all, I think, may be pardoned if we show some pride in tracing our descent from the early settlers of Wyoming.

\* He was lieutenant colonel in the 24th Connecticut Regiment of which Zebulon Butler was colonel. He resigned early in 1778.

#### Former Wilkes-Barre Soldier Dead.

Hiram Stocker was born at Wilkes-Barre April 3, 1822, and at 12 years of age was compelled to support and educate himself. At 18 years of age he joined Gen. Taylor's army, then about advancing on Mexico, in the capacity of clerk, but going into action at Palo Alto and Fort Brann, at the latter place he helped to work the artillery in the Fort under heavy fire, when some of the officers found it convenient to retire to the bomb proof. He was also present at the battle of Buena Vista. At the close of the war he engaged in the coast trade with Mexico and the United States, commanding his service at 25 years of age, having previously learned the Spanish and Mexican languages, following the ocean for ten years, he for over ten years was engaged in the exchange business between the City of Mexico and other countries. Returning to Wilkes-Barre in 1872. He made a visit to the City of Mexico with Gen. W. S. Rosencrans, now register of the treasury. For the past eight years he resided at Vineland, N. J., where he died on March 17, 1892, in his 70th year. He was buried at Sunside Cemetery, Tunkhannock, Pa., on Sunday the 20th inst. by Templar Lodge, No. 248, A. Y. M., he being a life member of Lodge 61, Wilkes-Barre, holding a certificate of membership signed by Ex-Governor Hoyt as master, and certified by James Tosce, secretary at the City of Mexico.

#### Two Views of the Vanishing Bridge.

E. T. Sturdevant, photographer, hands the Record a fine view of the Market street bridge as it appeared just before the work of demolition began.

J. Andrew Boyd also favors the Record with an excellent etching made by George W. Leach, Jr., of the bridge and former toll house as it appeared several years ago. Mr. Leach made only two or three prints and the etching is therefore practically unique.

**WILLIAM P. MINER'S DEATH.**

**He Expires Suddenly at His Suburban Home—His Family Connected with Wilkes-Barre Newspaper Life for a Century.**



As gently as falls the babe to slumber in its mother's arms sank William P. Miner into the last sleep of earth Sunday, April 3, 1892, between 5 and 6 a. m. Mr. Miner had been in poor health for a year or more, but the end came with a suddenness that was startling. He had been out doors on Wednesday and was taken ill on Thursday, but not so seriously as to excite unusual solicitude. Saturday marked symptoms of bowel obstruction had manifested themselves and during Saturday night he sank rapidly and on Sunday morning just as day was breaking, the sunrise of eternity dawned upon his tired spirit.

Mr. Miner was born in Wilkes-Barre 75 years ago, he having first seen the light of day Sept. 8, 1816. His father was Charles Miner, the distinguished journalist, historian and statesman, and his mother was Letitia, daughter of Joseph Wright. In the same year that Mr. Miner was born his father disposed of his Wilkes-Barre newspaper and removed to West Chester, where he was prominently engaged in political and editorial life for 16 years. The son was educated at West Chester and upon returning to Wilkes-Barre he became a student in the old

academy, which has turned out so many able men. At the age of 24 Mr. Miner was admitted to the bar of Chester County and a year later to the Luzerne bar. Meanwhile he had studied law with his brother-in-law, Hon. Joseph J. Lewis. Mr. Miner soon made himself felt among his brother lawyers. In 1846 the Whig party elected him prothonotary and clerk of the courts and upon the expiration of his three year's term of office he again began the practice of his profession, but his inherited tastes ran to journalism rather than to law, and in 1853 he established the RECORD OF THE TIMES, a venture which under his wise and judicious management was highly successful, his paper being recognized ever after as having no superior in Luzerne and adjacent counties. After the weekly had been running 20 years, Mr. Miner established the DAILY RECORD, October 5, 1873. The boldness of this venture is not fully appreciated by this community. It was ahead of the time and several years elapsed before the paper became self-sustaining. After experiencing all the hardships and annoyances incident to the pioneering of the effort, Mr. Miner in 1876 sold his interest to a publishing company. Though withdrawing from a proprietary interest Mr. Miner never relinquished his general interest in the paper, but continued to contribute to its columns up to within a fortnight of his death.

During the civil war when militia were called for Mr. Miner enlisted twice and went to the front.

Mr. Miner was married just fifty years ago to a Philadelphia lady, Miss Elizabeth Dewitt Liggett, who died in 1871, and of their five children four are living. Emily, Anna, Letitia and William B. Miner. The latter is the proprietor of the *Herald* at Lancaster, Wis. His wife and children were to arrive here on a visit in a few days and Mr. Miner was to be given a surprise.

Mr. Miner was one of the charter members of the Historical Society.

Reference to his personal characteristics is made on the editorial page.

Mr. Miner's father, Charles Miner, was a distinguished personage in Wyoming Valley in the early part of this century. He came from Connecticut in 1799 when only 19 years of age and engaged in the publication of a newspaper, the *Federalist*, with his brother, Asher. Charles Miner was in the legislature in 1807 and again in 1808. In 1816 he removed to West Chester, where he founded

the *Village Record* and published it until 1832. Meanwhile from 1824 to 1828 he was in Congress. After Charles Miner's return to Wilkes-Barre in 1832 he wrote a history of Wyoming Valley, a work which is recognized as the standard. He died in 1865. Not only did William P. Miner inherit a taste for journalism from his father, but on his mother's side as well. His mother was Letitia Wright, whose grandfather, Thomas Wright, established the *Gazette* in Wilkes-Barre prior to 1800.

#### WILLIAM P. MINER'S FUNERAL.

Services in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
—Laid to Rest in Hollenback Cemetery.

At 11 o'clock April 6th, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church held a large and sorrowful assemblage, the occasion of the funeral of one who had long been an attendant there, the late William P. Miner. Rev. Henry L. Jones and Rev. H. E. Hayden, in their robes, met the body at the entrance, and it was borne to the chancel by Douglass Smith, R. C. Shoemaker, Dr. S. B. Sturdevant, Maj. O. A. Parsons, E. H. Chase, Gen. E. S. Osborne, Agib Ricketts and Col. C. M. Conyngham. On the coffin were several floral tributes—a pillow from the Welsh Congregational Sunday school of Miner's Mills, cross from Gen. Oliver, and a sheaf of ripe grain. The church quartet sang with much feeling. There was no address. Among those present were: William Diekover, Judge Loop, Sheldon Reynolds, Rev. Dr. Hodge, O. M. Brandow, George R. Wright, Wesley Johnson, Dr. Urquhart, William S. Wells, Robert Baur, W. L. Conyngham, A. W. McAlpine, George C. Lewis, A. H. McClintock, W. P. Morgan, S. L. Brown, D. A. Fell, Gen. P. A. Oliver, D. P. Ayars, N. Rutter, C. P. Kidder, Charles Dougherty, Dr. Mebane, Rev. H. E. Spayd, George S. Bennett, Edward Welles, J. W. Hollenback, L. Myers, J. C. Powell, G. L. Palmer, Charles Morgan, F. C. Johnson, Calvin Parsons, D. M. Jones, C. Scharar, H. B. Payne, B. M. Espy, R. H. McKune, Col. S. H. Sturdevant, Rev. H. H. Welles; also lady representatives of the Hillman, Kesler, Maffet, Paine, Harding, Ingham, Brundage, McCartney and many other families. There were also present the following former employes of Mr. Miner, when he published the *RECORD*: E. B. Yordy, Isaac E. Long, J. Andrew Boyd, R. A. R. Winder and C. D. Linskill. In addition there were nu-

merous friends from Miners' Mills, Plains and other suburban towns.

From out of town were Asher M. Abbott, Sandwich, Ill., a nephew of deceased; John Miner, Mr. and Mrs. James McKean, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, New York City; Miss Alice Murphy, Philadelphia, and the only son of deceased, William B. Miner, Lancaster, Wis.

Out of respect to its founder the office of the *RECORD* was closed during the funeral.

#### DR. URQUHART'S TRIBUTE.

In the death of William P. Miner this community loses one of its oldest, most useful and prominent citizens, and the memorial of the past that brings before us his life and personality shows him to have possessed a rare combination of gentleness and force, freedom from all affectation, modest assurance indicative of sensibility of character; and furthermore the exhibition of those ancestral characteristics which lived beyond the influences of popular caprice unites in him many points of personal attraction and traits of goodness worthy of general admiration and remembrances.

In all his bearing there was an expression of well-bred suavity, and in his habits and tastes he exhibited a culture that was not wanting in the graces of logic; also a simplicity, geniality and accessibility that made him a thoroughly practical and popular people's man. His intellectual capacities have in general been employed in diffusing that knowledge which tends to dignify his fellow man and raise him higher in the scale of intelligence. Mr. Miner's conversation was instructive, and in his thirst for knowledge he never evinced an air of conceit, neither did any display of vanity or egotism mar an intellectual condition that was developed when and where the quiet of rural home life gave opportunity for uninterrupted thought and study. His humor was generally playful, and his broad and tolerant opinions gave no fellowship to shams and conventionalities. His friendships were undisturbed by ambition or rivalry, his gaiety was natural and spontaneous, and his temper never exhibited frivolous or superficial qualities. In social life Mr. Miner's marital association is a happy memory, for Mrs. Miner having been the best pianist in this valley, her frequent and various musical entertainments are links that bind us to the past; yet the field for the display of her strongest and best qualities was her own home.



In personal character his wife was sedate, and properly estimated the necessity and value of an estimable and well regulated position in society. Never critical she encountered and discharged social responsibilities with successful ease. Her memory is inseparable from active earnest duty, wherein in her example we have a memorial of simplicity, discretion and geniality, which were conspicuous elements of her personality. Her relations in this community were based upon enlightened conviction and affectionate association, and a loving spirit so pervaded and hallowed all her thoughts and actions as to make her social life a centre from which benedictions never ceased to flow, and for which it is among the good impulses of our nature to reverence her memory and example.

It was the literary and intellectual qualities of Mr. Miner that attracted the warm attachment of numerous friends in this community, and these now shaded by the lapse of many years still shed a placid light over his past memory, which has, as it were like the ray of a distant star, been for a time obscured from our view.

Mr. Miner in early life exhibited a preference for journalistic work, and his memory is cherished for that culture and sagacity which showed rare and unmistakable philosophical acumen. Of late years he has pursued in retirement that course which has merited approbation and esteem. In the family circle his genial nature has found its highest happiness, and when his life fragrant with the perfume of good deeds, is a fit example of an upright and dignified career. Surrounded by the hills he loved so well he sleeps in peace.

#### HOLLENBACK CEMETERY ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the Hollenback Cemetery Association, held April 6, 1892, the following minute was adopted in reference to the death of Mr. Miner, for many years a member of the board:

"WHEREAS, In the dispensation of time and Providence, our beloved associate, William Penn Miner, Esq., has been called away, full of years and honor, we desire to place upon record our sense of personal loss, as well as of sympathy with his family and large circle of friends. He was the first gentleman to fill a vacancy in the original Board of Managers, constituted April 24, 1855, having been elected April 27, 1858, to succeed Henry M. Fuller, Esq., resigned; thus making for him a continuous service of 34 years, second only in duration to that of our

late president, Andrew T. McClintock, Esq. The value and fidelity of this is evidenced by almost every page of our book of minutes; for though most remote in point of residence, he was never absent from the meetings of the board, when attendance was possible. While no words of ours could possibly add to the universal esteem and honor in which he stood while living, we deem it both duty and privilege to be allowed to add a leaf to the evergreen chaplet of his memory, and to follow his mortal part to its last resting place in the beautiful cemetery which he so long cared for, and did so much to serve and adorn."

#### NEARLY A CENTURY OLD.

**Mrs. Hannah C. Abbott of this City Passes Peacefully Away After a Long, Exemplary and Useful Life.**

May 3, 1892, about 5 o'clock a. m. occurred the death of Mrs. Hannah Courtright Abbott at her home on Franklin St., at the age of 94 years and 3 months, one of the oldest persons in Luzerne County. She was born in Plains Township February 7, 1798, and was a daughter of Cornelius Courtright, who was born in 1764 and was one of the prominent men of his day. He was a commissioner of Luzerne County in 1813, 1814, 1815, 1830, 1831 and 1832 and in 1816 was a candidate for State senator in the district composed of the counties of Northumberland, Columbia, Union, Luzerne and Susquehanna, but was defeated by John Frazer. In 1806 he became a justice of the peace and held the office until 1840. In 1820, 1821 and 1823 he was a member of the legislature of Pennsylvania. He was also an extensive landholder in this county and died at his home in Plains township, May 25, 1848. His wife, mother of the deceased, was Catharine Kennedy, a daughter of John Kennedy, a native of Dublin, Ireland.

Mrs. Abbott was the widow of John Abbott, to whom she was married in 1830. He was born in Wilkes-Barre Township, April 18 1800. He was the son of Stephen Abbott and a grandson of John Abbott, who came to this valley in 1796 and built the first dwelling house in the old borough of Wilkes-Barre. The latter, after the battle of Wyoming, in 1778, removed to his previous home in Plains and while engaged in gathering his crops was attacked and shot by a party of Indians.

John Abbott, the husband of deceased, remained with his father until 21 years of age,

when he went to Mauch Chunk and entered the employ of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co., with which he remained about nine years. In 1829, one year before his marriage, he returned to his farm in Plains, and there remained a successful farmer until the time of his death on November 23, 1861. Two of his brothers, John and William, married daughters of Squire Cornelius Courtright. William's family removed to Ohio. Stephen was the father of Rev. William P. Abbott, a distinguished Methodist clergyman, who delivered the oration at the Wyoming Centennial in 1878. The mother of Hon. Charles A. Miner was a sister of the Abbott brothers, mentioned above.

Mrs. Abbott leaves three children—Misses Lucy and Catherine Abbott, who lived with their mother at the corner of Franklin and Jackson streets, and Robert Miner Abbott of Davenport, Iowa, who, with his wife and son, arrived in this city last night. Mrs. Abbott had been failing for some time, although her ailments occasioned no alarm until a short time before death. She lived until the machinery of life was worn out and sank into eternal rest as peacefully as a babe on its mother's breast. Men were born, became old and died while she lived, cities and towns sprung up from a wilderness of forests in her sight. She stretched her years far beyond man's allotted time and lived a good life. She was a consistent member of the First M. E. Church.

On the occasion of the anniversary of her birth last February the Record printed an extended notice, giving reminiscences of Mrs. Abbott's life, and some of the extracts are here republished:

Mrs. Abbott has been a woman of rugged constitution and of wonderful energy. As late as six months ago she was able to be about the house, and as recently as a month ago she was sewing. She had her sight unimpaired up to two years ago, but since that time she had been unable to read.

She is full of recollections of the past, though it is an effort for her to recall names and dates. "There are so many generations since I was born," she says, "that I cannot easily separate them. Time has mingled them so much that grand fathers and grandmothers, brothers and sisters and uncles and aunts are not easily distinguished."

Mrs. Abbott cannot realize the changes since the old days—the telegraph, the telephone, the electric cars and many other mod-

ern improvements. When speaking of the electric cars she said they remind her of lines that are running through her mind, where taken from she does not know—

The arm of omnipotent power they assume—  
And ride in chariots of fire—

Certainly not an unprophetic description.

When she was born, Wilkes-Barre was only a little hamlet in a great wilderness, she says, and she recalls many a horseback ride to Wilkes-Barre either alone or on the same horse with her father. It was a time of great hardship and she says the people of today have no idea of what had to be suffered in those pioneer times. A source of great inconvenience was the lack of money. The only way any money was had at all was by hauling a load of wheat over the mountains to Easton and turning it into cash. There was no bank in Wilkes-Barre and many settlements of accounts had to be made with promissory notes. These had to be secured by endorsement and many a man lost heavily by endorsing for his neighbor.

Mrs. Abbott remembers well hearing the survivors of the Wyoming Massacre of 1778 tell about that bloody event, for many of them were alive during her recollection. The terrors inspired by the presence of the savages—the eager hanging of the women and children upon the gospel minister to shield them—the merciless attack of the British and Indians—the flight across the mountains through the "Shades of Death" to the Minisink settlements on the Delaware, or to Connecticut—the sufferings of the barefooted, almost naked children—the birth of a baby during this mad stampede and the tender efforts of the fugitives to provide for the mother and carry her on blankets fastened to two horses—these and many other incidents were familiar tales to the now aged lady, and she tells them when drawn out in conversation.

She has been a member of the Methodist Church ever since she was a girl of fourteen, and she is cheered and comforted and sustained by a faith which has never wavered. She says that existence at so advanced an age is not desirable, but with all her bodily weakness she is patient and uncomplaining, ready to depart whenever it may please the Master to call.

"I had such an impressive dream," she said. "I thought the skies were illuminated as with a continued flash of lightning. I got a glimpse of the new heavens and the new

earth wherein dwelleth righteousness. There was a burst of music and there was a multitude of angels in beautiful white robes, there was no sickness and no death there, but all was joy and peace, and I longed so much for one of the robes. Just as I was about to have it offered to me, the strain was too much and I awoke. O, it was a beautiful dream."

#### BURIED AT NINETY-FOUR.

**Touching Funeral Remarks Concerning One Who was Born During the Lifetime of George Washington.**

The funeral of the venerable Mrs. Hannah C. Abbott took place May 5, 1892, at 3 p. m., from her late residence, in the presence of a large concourse of sympathizing friends. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Boyle, assisted by Rev. J. K. Peck, and the pall bearers were: George B. Kulp, M. H. Post, Major O. A. Parsons, B. M. Espy, George S. Bennett and F. C. Johnson. Rev. Mr. Peck made some feeling remarks concerning her long life and the changes that had taken place in the world around her. For 80 years she had been a devoted member of the Methodist Church. Born in 1798, the Methodism of this region was only ten years older than she. In 1788 there was formed by Anning Owen, a Methodist class in this valley, the first from Baltimore northward to Canada and from the Hudson River westward. Mr. Peck referred to his own coming to this region a stranger 35 years ago, as a Methodist preacher, and his appointment to the Plains charge, where deceased then lived. Her hospitable Christian home was one of the several in that neighborhood that opened their doors to entertain him, as they did to welcome every preacher who came to them.

Rev. Dr. Boyle followed with remarks, giving a rapid view of what Mrs. Abbott had seen in her earthly pilgrimage. She had lived during the life time of every President of the United States and under every administration except the first one. When a babe Washington died. When growing out of girlhood the second war with Great Britain was fought. When in middle life occurred the Mexican War and when she had become old she witnessed the stirring scenes of the war between the States, and remained a generation longer, until now the average age of the surviving veterans of the last war is nearly 60 years. She lived throughout this the most

wonderful of all the centuries and saw the development of the steam engine and of electricity in all its manifold applications. Dr. Boyle's remarks were both earnest and eloquent.

Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery at a beautiful spot overlooking the winding Susquehanna and upon her grave were laid some of the roses and palms which had rested on her coffin.

#### SQUIRE GROFF KILLED.

**A Victim of the Deadly Grade Crossing—He Leaves Four Generations, Children, Grand-Children and a Great-Great Grandson.**

Ex-Alderman G. S. Groff was killed Friday, April 22, 1892, at the Northampton street crossing of the Lehigh Valley railroad, by passenger train No. 23, arriving in this city at 10:15 o'clock. The Squire had been to Alderman Rooney's office several times during the morning and was leaving the office. He stepped on the track and did not hear the train coming, being quite deaf. The engineer blew the whistle and this must have startled Mr. Groff, for he stepped forward hurriedly and then back again, evidently being uncertain on which track the train was coming. Just as he stepped back on the track again the engine struck him and hurled him into the air several feet. He struck on his head at the side of the track, inflicting an ugly gash. He was taken to the hospital, where he died at noon.

Squire Goff was 76 years old and was born in Reading. His wife is living at 79. He leaves four sons, George C., Albert S., Edward H. and Joseph, three grandsons and one granddaughter and one great-grandson and one great-great-grandson. He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1847 from Allentown and followed the tobacco business, opening a cigar factory on Canal street. He was an alderman in this city for 37 years and was a member of the Red Men.

He was the father of a family which married remarkably young and at his death he is mourned by children of four generations. He married at the age of 24 and celebrated his golden wedding three years ago. The children married even younger, one of his grandsons, now only 37 years old, having married at 17 and being now a grandfather. Squire Groff took great pleasure in seeing the generations springing up about him and felt that he was indeed a patriarch when not long ago a great-great-grandson was born to him.

## LEWIS LANDMESSER DEAD.

He Suddenly Passes Away at Atlantic City.  
[Daily Record, April 5, 1892.]

Two weeks ago, Lewis Landmesser, father of Postmaster L. B. Landmesser, went to Atlantic City for his health, and Monday a telegram came that he was dead. The demise was unexpected, as only a few days ago he wrote a letter that he was improving. He had been suffering with a disease of the heart and stomach. Deceased to Wilkes-Barre for interment. Deceased was one of the best known citizens in Wilkes-Barre, and was generally liked, having many qualities that lifted him into prominence. He was born at Spiesen, Prussia, on July 15, 1822, and came to this country when 14 years of age, locating at Ashley. He helped to build the old Lehigh canal, and also worked in the mines. He worked himself up, and in 1860 became an individual operator, afterward organizing the Germania Coal Co., which in 1870 sold out to the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Co. Since then he had not been engaged in active mining operations, but continued to deal largely in coal lands, buying and selling. He had been remarkably successful and accumulated a large property. In 1867 he built the Landmesser block at the corner of South Main and South streets, and in addition to this owned at the time of his death many other properties in this city and about forty acres of coal land located in Wilkes-Barre, Ashley and Hanover township. He was twice married—on February 24, 1846, to Margaret Greenley, and on December 12, 1865, to Philippena Matthias—and is survived by his second wife, who was with him at Atlantic City, and nine children—Mrs. J. N. Pettebone, N. G., L. B. and W. F. Landmesser; Mrs. Dr. Gunster of Scranton; Miss Kate Landmesser, John G., Harry and Edward.

He was the candidate for sheriff on the Republican ticket in 1877. He was defeated by the labor reform candidate, Patrick J. Kinney. He was also one of the organizers of the Anthracite Bank.

Dr. Urquhart says of him:

Lewis Landmesser, who death was announced yesterday, was a man whom the present generation had little knowledge of. He was a factor a generation ago, when such men as W. W. Ketcham and H. M. Fuller, by the personal popularity that was in them, ac-

complished a revolution in politics in this county, and in which they stood forth as standard bearers. Mr. Landmesser was one of the first and most prominent German Republicans, and his early political life work was a time of pleasant memories, and happy associations. He was a man of positive frame of mind, of plain manners, and social habits, and attained a personal popularity in political circles that has not been excelled. In his early day politicians received more general consideration than they do now, and he identified himself with men who were worthy of personal and political consideration. He possessed a sound constitution, and an unflexible resolution. He maintained through life a character for strict integrity, humanity, political energy, and in his social department never exhibited a spirit of ostentation.

It may be said of him that he has not lived in vain, his manner of life reflects honor on his memory, and those who differed with him politically will now find a laudable excuse for that difference in the times that are past, and the circumstances that attended political life.

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#### Was This the Grip?

EDITOR RECORD: George M. Bodge of Boston in his "Soldiers in King Philip's War," 1675 to 1677, says Rev. John Russell writes a letter from Hadley, Mass., May 15, 1676, wherein he tells the "Council of Connecticut" of the destruction and murders committed by the Indians, and of the intention of the settlers to go out and attack them at the "Upper Falls" of the Connecticut near Deerfield, where they were fishing (which they did three days later, the 18th.)

He speaks of their "visitation" by the epidemic distemper or malignant cold which had prevailed at Connecticut (and of which Mr. Mather wrote that he could not hear of a family in New England that wholly escaped.)

This is all there is about the influenza in Mr. Bodge's work. I did not see this letter of the Rev. John Russell in the Massachusetts archives as I was looking up only genealogical information, but I saw his letter describing the massacre at "Bloody Brook Bridge," now South Deerfield, Sept. 18, 1675, and giving the names of the killed, along with Capt. Lathrop, among whom was one of my family name, John Plumb. H. B. PLUMB.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING.

**Dr. Hakes Talks Entertainingly of the Great Achievement of Columbus—New Members Admitted.**

There was a good attendance at the regular quarterly meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society May 13, 1892. The address of Dr. Harry Hakes upon the geographical, cosmographical and geodetic problems and theories upon which the great maritime experiment of Columbus was based, proved particularly interesting. The doctor has evidently devoted to these questions a large amount of research, and his remarks brought out many new features of the great discovery. At the conclusion of the address the society extended a vote of thanks to the speaker.

At the business meeting the following candidates were elected members of the society: George S. Bennett, Charles P. Hunt, James Pollock, J. N. Conyngnam, Dr. J. Arthur Bullard, Eugene C. Frank, Edmund N. Carpenter, Levi I. Shoemaker, Joseph W. Patten, E. Constine, Elmer H. Lawall, David P. Ayars, M. B. Houpt, Sidney R. Miner.

Contributions were received since Feb. 11, the date of the last meeting, as follows:

Proceedings 39th annual meeting of State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Official Congressional Directory, 1892.

Consular Reports, 1891.

Annual report of Scranton Public Library, Catalog of Pre-Historic Works East of the Rocky Mountains, Omaha and Ponka letters, Smithsonian Institution.

Contributions to American Ethnology, Bureau of Ethnology.

Consular Reports, Nos. 184, 185, 186, 187.

Official Records War of the Rebellion.

Report of Commission of Education, 1888-9, Vols. 1 and 2.

Report of Secretary of Treasury.

Annual report of Board of Managers of the Buffalo Historical Society, atlas accompanying official records of the war department, bibliography of the Algonquin languages, constitution of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution, report of president of Yale University for 1891, historical account of the old State House of Pennsylvania, F. D. Stone, Philadelphia; transactions of the Oneida Historical Society proceedings of the Rhode Island and Rochester Historical Society, catalog of Amherst College, bulletin of Library Company of Philadelphia,

proceedings of American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia, consular report department of state for March, 1892; paper weight made from a bolt of the Monitor, Indian ceremonial banner stone.

## COMMEMORATIVE MEETING.

**Celebrating the Anniversary of the Massacre—Election of Officers and General Preparation.**

An adjourned meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association was held at the office of the secretary on Saturday, April 16, 1892, Calvin Parsons, V. P., acting as president.

On motion of Sheldon Reynolds it was resolved that the Daughters of the American Revolution be invited to co-operate with this association in commemorating the 114th anniversary of the battle and massacre of Wyoming, on the second of July next, and at all subsequent exercises.

On motion of W. A. Wilcox, Resolved, that the president of this meeting appoint a committee of three on the care of the monument grounds to prepare same for the meeting of 2d of July next, and that the proposed co-operation by the Daughters of the American revolution be favorably considered and referred to that committee with power to act. The chair appointed Robert Pettebone chairman, with F. C. Johnson and Benjamin Dorrance members.

The committee appointed at the previous meeting to arrange for orator of the day and make further preparations for next exercises, reported that they were in correspondence with certain eminent gentlemen on that subject, but as no definite conclusion had as yet been arrived at they merely reported progress, with leave to make final report at next meeting.

Committee charged with this duty reported officers for ensuing year: President, Calvin Parsons; vice presidents, L. D. Shoemaker, Dr. H. Hollister, Sheldon Reynolds, Garrick M. Harding and W. L. Conyngnam; treasurer, Dr. H. Hakes; recording secretary, Wesley Johnson; corresponding secretary, George H. Butler; librarian, W. A. Wilcox. Report unanimously adopted and officers elected. The secretary reported the names of twenty-eight candidates for membership who had complied with by-laws on that subject, all of whom being found worthy and eligible under the rule, were elected to active membership.

### DR. COPPEE WILL SPEAK

**At the Wyoming Monument in July—New Members During the Year.**

At the meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association on Saturday, May 7, 1892, the fact was made known that Dr. Coppee, the eminent historian, had accepted the invitation to deliver the oration at the monument.

The following persons have been elected to membership and paid dues during the year: Calvin Parsons, Sheldon Reynolds, William A. Wilcox, Wesley Johnson, Mrs. Judge Pfouts, F. C. Johnson, Hon. Charles A. Miner, Hon. C. D. Foster, George H. Butler, John G. Wood, O. A. Parsons, Rev. Dr. Geo. Frear, Geo. S. Pfouts, Jr., A. G. Hoyt, Geo. R. Wright, Wm. L. Conyngham, E. W. Sturdevant, Geo. S. Bennett, Richard Sharpe, Jr., George R. Bedford, James Sutton, Thomas H. Atherton, William M. Shoemaker, J. Butler Woodward, G. M. Reynolds, A. W. McAlpine, Charles P. Hunt, John B. Reynolds, Col. Eugene B. Beaumont, H. H. Welles, Jr., John Welles Hollenback, Hon. E. S. Osborne, Dr. Fred Corss, Ralph H. Wadhams, M. W. Wadhams, C. M. Conyngham, E. G. Butler, C. Bow Dougherty, George P. Loomis, E. S. Loop, J. Bennett Smith, H. B. Plumb, Charles M. Williams, T. Van Storch (Scranton), A. S. Orr, Dr. Charles Denison, Hon. John B. Smith, Rev. H. H. Welles, A. H. McClintock, Frances L. Pfouts, B. F. Barnum, George H. Flanagan, Dr. J. W. Kesler, (Honesdale), N. G. Pringle, Henry F. Johnson, Dr. B. H. Thropp (Scranton), J. M. Courtright, Samuel Sutton, Col. R. Bruce Ricketts.

The applications of J. Butler Hillard and John S. Harding for membership were accepted.

### A NOTED LANDMARK.

**Many Prominent Luzerne County Lawyers Graduated From the Old Collins Building, Now a Thing of the Past.**

The destruction of the small frame Collins office on South Franklin street to make room for the entrance to the new Grand Opera House, removes one of the prominent landmarks of Wilkes-Barre. In this office were developed the legal talents of lawyers who have gained prominence at the bar and on the bench, and many of them who still live in Wilkes-Barre watched the work of destruction not a little impressed by these memories welling up in their minds.

The first man to occupy the office, then one of the handsome buildings of Wilkes-Barre,

was William S. Wurtz, a relative of the Wurtzs who planned and started the D. & H. Canal Co.

Lyman Hakes, a brother of Dr. Harry Hakes, who came from New York State as a school teacher, studied law with Wurtz and was admitted to the bar in April, 1841, with Judge Dana. Mr. Hakes entered the office in 1839 and occupied it from that time on. Among those who entered the office to study law with Mr. Hakes were a man named Totten, Dr. Harry Hakes, George B. Kulp, Hon. C. D. Foster, Andrew Hunlock, Judge Charles E. Rice, Lyman H. Bennett, Burton Downing and Gains L. Halsey, who registered with Mr. Hakes and finished his legal education with Judge Rice.

This office was occupied from about 1860 to 1865 by James Barnes, who acted as clerk for Lyman Hakes and attended to his business during his absence.

The real successor to Mr. Hakes, however, was Judge Rice, who retained it until he was elected district attorney, in 1877. Then T. H. Atherton and G. L. Halsey took possession jointly and they were succeeded by S. J. Strauss and Mr. Halsey, who in turn were succeeded by real estate agent Coolbaugh and David L. Patrick. George Urquhart, Jr., and D. O. Coughlin were the last to occupy the office and moved out a few days before it was torn down.

In 1867 at the time of the big fire President Judge Conyngham ordered the firemen to tear down the building to prevent a spread of the flames. The walls only were razed to the ground, the floor and foundations remaining, and the next day Judge Collins, the proprietor, had the frame building rebuilt before City Council had time to know anything about it. The building was in the fire limit and this quick work on the part of Judge Collins excited no little indignation among the councilmen of that day.

Judge Rice and Hon. C. D. Foster, two of the gentlemen who graduated there, the other afternoon while looking at the ruins brushed up their recollections of the old place and recited interesting reminiscences of the days when lawyers offices were uncarpeted, when there were no folding desks; when, in short, the old Collins office was a model in every way, although notably ancient in comparison with the elegantly appointed legal homes of to-day. "Lyman Hakes," continued Judge Rice, "was very fond of young men and always had his office full of students and young lawyers."—Record, May 7, 1892.

## FIFTY YEARS MARRIED.

**The Golden Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morgan.**

Amid all that was bright and cheerful, surrounded by family and nearly 300 friends, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morgan of North Franklin street celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on April 2, 1892, with a reception from 6 to 10. Mr. Morgan came to Wilkes-Barre from Philadelphia by canal packet boat in 1839, having no intention of settling here, but the place agreed with him so well that he decided to remain and became one of Wilkes-Barre's most progressive citizens and staunchest business men. Three years after his arrival (in 1842) he married Miss Ellen Hann, he being 27 years old at that time and she 18. In 1843 Mr. Morgan entered the shoe business and in 1868 the hardware business, both of which have passed into the hands of his sons.

And so after fifty years of married life, still happy as on the day when they were married, these two people paused for a moment to receive from their friends the congratulations they well deserve.

The rooms were decorated with smilax and flowers, the mantels being hidden by masses of roses and other flowers. The dining room was similarly beautified, and as the guests partook of the delicious refreshments the Raff string quartet sat behind a curtain of smilax and discoursed music from the upper floor. The upper rooms contained the presents in great profusion. Gold pieces were evidently as plentiful as coppers, for under a glass case were two gilded apples cut open, the interior of each being lined with \$10 gold pieces. A gilded shoe was also full of the shining yellow coins and others were fastened on cards and the bottom of the case. There was fully \$500 of coin in the case. A happy reminder of fishing days was a glass vase full of gold fish, presented by George A. Wells, who with Mr. Morgan enjoyed many piscatorial excursions together. The marriage certificate of Mr. Morgan and wife and that of his parents, Benjamin Morgan and Tacy Stroud, who were married in Montgomery County in 1800 after the Quaker custom, were hung over the tables.

Among the guests from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. Loxley and Morris Loxley of Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Evans and William West Evans of Philadelphia, and

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Conard of Fort Washington.

Of the immediate family there were present all of the nine children, seven of whom are married, and nine grandchildren. The youngest grandchild is Charles Byron Morgan, aged 3 months, a bright little fellow. He represented the third generation of Charles, the second being Charles Evans Morgan, the baby's father.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan are Edward, Jesse, William, Benjamin, Charles, Mrs. Loxley, Mrs. Dunning Sturdevant, Mrs. W. L. Post and Miss Mary Morgan.

If the years deal as lightly with Mr. and Mrs. Morgan in the future as they have in the past this will not be the last special anniversary they will celebrate with their friends.

The only person at the reception who attended the marriage fifty years ago, besides Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, was Mrs. John Behee. At that time she was Mercy Fell and she and Mr. Behee accompanied the happy couple to the Methodist parsonage, when Rev. D. W. Bristol spoke the binding words. The only two other persons at the wedding are both living—Sarah G. Beaumont, now Mrs. Lelfer of Lebanon and her cousin Mary Butler, now Mrs. Reynolds of Kingston.

The following beautiful sentiment, so delicately expressed, was composed by Hon. W. W. Loomis a half century ago Saturday, on the wedding day of his life long friend Charles Morgan. The wish conveyed has come true in a remarkable degree:

May purest pleasures crown your loves,  
Through all your coming lives;  
While he the best of husbands proves,  
And she the best of wives.

A great many events have transpired within fifty years, yet Mr. Loomis had the pleasure of standing and repeating this same verse again for whom it was originally composed, after two score and ten years had rolled away.

**Funeral of Mrs. Blanchard.**

A large number of people throughout the county assembled at the late residence of Mrs. Sarah Blanchard, in Port Blanchard, on Saturday, to attend her funeral. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Parke, who had been her pastor for nearly half a century. He read the 90th Psalm, and a portion of the 15th chapter of Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians after which he spoke briefly of death and the resurrection, taking for his text the 51st verse of the 15th chapter of First Corinthians: "Behold, I shew you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed." Interment was made in Hollenback cemetery, this city.

### STEWART MEMORIAL CHURCH

Dedicated at Rendham Tuesday—Rev. Dr Boyle and George B. Kulp Deliver Addresses.

[Daily Record, April 27, 1892.]

Yesterday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock the new Stewart Memorial Church at Rendham, near Scranton, was dedicated to the service of God. It was erected by the children of Mr. and Mrs. John Stewart of Scranton, one of whom is Mrs. George B. Kulp of this city, in memory of their parents, both of whom died about a year ago within a short time of each other. The new pastor is Rev. L. E. VanHoesen who has a membership of 70 and a good Sunday school. The edifice is quite pretentious and makes a fine appearance, the front being of rough stone designed for a rustic effect.

The exercises yesterday were in charge of Presiding Elder Hard and quite a number of people from Wilkes-Barre attended. In preaching the dedicatory sermon Rev. Dr. J. R. Boyle of this city took his text from St. Luke, "He hath loved our nation and hath built us a synagogue."

The speaker closed with a reference to the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, whose benevolence, he said, had erected the church, and placed it there as a sign and symbol of those things for which the universal church stands, as well as a monument of filial love.

George B. Kulp, Esq., of this city took his inspiration from the words of scripture: "And the captain of the Lord's host said unto Joshua, loose thy shoe from off thy foot, the place where thou standest is holy."

In the year 1791 in this immediate vicinity the first Methodist class in what is now known as Lackawanna County was held. James Sutton was the leader and the class was held at the house of Capt. John Vaughn. Old Forge derived its name from Dr. William Hooker Smith, who, after his return from General Sullivan's expedition, located himself permanently here on the rocky edge of the Lackawanna beside the

sycamore and the oak. The forge was erected by Dr. Smith and James Sutton in the spring of 1689 for converting ore into iron. It stood immediately below the falls or rapids in the stream between two and three miles above its mouth. Hon. Charles Miner says: "My recollections of Pittston and Old Forge were all of the most cheerful character.

But to the Forge: The heaps of charcoal and bog ore, half a dozen New Jersey firemen at the furnace. What life, what clatter. And then at the mansion on the hill might be seen the owner, Dr. William Hooker Smith, now nearly superannuated, who, in his day, was the great physician of the valley, and if perchance the day was fine you might see his daughters, unsurpassed for beauty and grace, whose every movement was harmony that would add a charm to the proudest city mansion." We might say in this connection that Dr. Smith was not, and never became a Methodist. In his will, written by his own hand, and dated March 19, 1810, he uses the following language: "I recommend my soul to Almighty God that gave it to me, nothing doubting that I shall be finally happy. My destiny, I believe, was determined unalterably before I had existence. God does not leave any of his works at random, subject to change, but in what place, when and how I shall be happy, I know not." Old Forge as a centre, when Luzerne County embraced Bradford, Lackawanna, Susquehanna and Wyoming, was without doubt the busiest place in the country. In 1828 there were but fourteen heads of families living within the present limits of Pittston and one of them was John Stewart, Sr., father of the man whose memory we meet to-day to commemorate. Anning Owen was the apostle of Methodism in Wyoming. He was one of the handful of courageous men who were defeated and scattered by an overwhelming force under the command of Col. John Butler. In the battle and massacre of Wyoming in 1778 he was by the side of his brother-in-law, Benjamin Carpenter. It was during this terrible time that he became converted and afterwards joined the Methodists. Through his early work Methodism was established and he was looked upon by the young converts as their spiritual father and they came to him for advice and comfort. From this point Mr. Kulp carefully followed the growth of the denomination, its struggles and triumphs down to the present time.



**WILKES-BARRE'S FUTURE**

**With Reference to Her Coal Unmined Compared to That of Other Places in the Anthracite Regions—We Certainly Are Favored—The Interesting Resume.**

Below we publish a tabular estimate showing the approximate quantity and the past and probable future production of coal in the several districts of the northern anthracite coal field, prepared by William Griffith, engineer and geologist, late of the geological survey of Pennsylvania, and printed in the *Colliery Engineer*, a most interesting approximation of our coal prospects.

This table is accompanied by an explanatory letter from Mr. Griffith, explaining the methods whereby he arrives at his deductions, and we think all readers will agree in the opinion that his figures are as nearly correct as it is possible to make them. The compilation of this table entailed on Mr. Griffith an immense amount of research and hard work. He was, however, specially fitted for the undertaking by his experience on the geological survey and his practical acquaintance with the geology of the region. The table will, on inspection, be found very interesting, and the interest will not end with its first examination. It contains a vast amount of information concerning the great northern coal field, arranged in the most convenient form, and for years to come it will no doubt be used as a work of reference and as a basis for calculations.

A careful study of the table reveals the following interesting generalities:

It shows that in the past nearly 60 per cent. of the coal originally in the ground has been won—this includes shipments and local consumption.

Mr. Griffith thinks the future production cannot well be expected to much exceed fifty-three per cent. of the coal remaining in the ground, but this may be increased somewhat by improvements in the method of mining, but as most of the coal remaining is at the lower end of the field, where the measures are deep and gaseous, some radical change in methods will be necessary to materially increase the percentage stated.

The large yield of sixty per cent. in the past, as shown by the table, may be partially accounted for by the fact that the coal has been mined from the margin of the field and points where it is not so deep and the surface

of little value, so that more coal per acre could be taken out.

According to Mr. Griffith's deductions the several minor divisions of the field will, at the present rate of production, last the following lengths of time.

District.	Time of exhaustion including thin seams not now worked.	Time of exhaustion including thin seams not now worked.
Forest City and Carbondale .....	70 years	
Jermyn .....	14 "	19 years
Archbald .....	21 "	36 "
Peckville and Olyphant .....	75 "	140 "
Scranton .....	53 "	61 "
Pittston .....	80 "	83 "
Wilkes-Barre and Plymouth .....	127 "	134 "
Nanticoke and lower end .....	121 "	138 "

Of course, as the northern districts are exhausted the production will be greatly increased in the lower end of the basin. A large percentage of the coal north of Scranton is in thin beds that have not yet been worked to any great extent, and in this portion of the field more robbing can be done, as the beds are not deep, and the surface is not very valuable. This statement makes plain the relations existing between the figures in the above table.

In the following table is shown the proportion of the whole quantity of coal still unworked by districts and the percentage of the 53 per cent. of the whole quantity (that may yet be mined), which will probably be produced in each district.

District	Percentage of coal remaining in the ground.	Percentage of 53 per cent of coal that may be mined
Forest City and Carbondale .....	2.0	3.5
Jermyn .....	0.7	1.1
Archbald .....	0.6	0.9
Peckville and Olyphant .....	4.5	8.6
Scranton .....	16.0	16.0
Pittston .....	13.0	14.0
Wilkes-Barre and Plymouth .....	47.0	42.0
Nanticoke and lower end .....	16.0	14.0

Of all the coal remaining in the ground, including pillars in the mines, the Wyoming Valley has about 70 per cent., and it has produced about 54 per cent. of all the coal produced from the entire Northern Field. The Lackawanna Valley has 30 per cent. of the coal remaining in the ground, and has produced 46 per cent. of the total production. The past production divided up by districts, gives each district the following percentage:

Forest City and Carbondale, 6 per cent.; Jermyn, 3 per cent.; Archbald, 2 per cent.;

Peckville and Olyphant, 4 per cent.; Scranton, 31 per cent.; Pittston, 16 per cent.; Wilkes-Barre and Plymouth, 32 per cent.; Nanticoke and lower end, 6 per cent.

Of all the solid coal in the unworked areas, about 90 per cent. is contained in seams that have not been worked to any extent in the different districts.

The greatest thickness of the measures is at Wilkes-Barre, where they have at the deepest point fourteen beds, aggregating 97.6 feet in thickness. The Archbald and Carbonale Districts have the least thickness, the former having two beds with a total thickness of eleven feet, and the latter three beds with a total thickness of 17 feet.

To give an idea of the magnitude of the amount of prepared coal still to be produced from this field (2,374,194,600 tons) it is necessary to use something beside figures. This amount would fill an ordinary 60 feet wide city avenue, 60 feet deep, or level with the top of an ordinary fifth story window, for a distance of 5,000 miles.

#### Pennsylvania Germans.

Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker is lecturing very successfully on the "German Element in Pennsylvania." He spoke before the Pennsylvania Historical Society in Philadelphia the other evening and the large and cultured audience present were delighted with his effort. An exchange says:

He traced the history of the German people from the time of their first settlement in this State, noting meanwhile the different emigration movements from the fatherland, claiming that to the Germans was due the credit of setting in motion the first efforts in this direction. The character, religious beliefs and attainments of the settlers in Lancaster, Berks, Montgomery and on the Lehigh were dwelt upon, and the differences between those in the different localities described. The Swenkfelders, who settled largely in Montgomery, were spoken of as a people of refined literary tastes, who have preserved their love of culture up to the present day. Among their descendants was the late Governor Hartranft, and Judge Heydrick, lately appointed to the State supreme bench, is of the same stock.

The judge said there was very much of literature among these early German settlers, and their influence on the life of Pennsylvania was very great. In 1738 Christopher Sauer started in Germantown a printing press, and he and his son printed 250 different books, of which the judge said he possessed 180. He exhibited a book of

hymns printed by Sauer in 1739, which was in a good state of preservation, and so highly prized that he had sent it to Paris to be rebound. Three German editions of the Bible were printed in Germantown between 1743 and 1776, antedating the first English Bible printed in America. A number of other rare works were exhibited, mostly of a religious character, in which the printing was clear and the illustrations creditable, though somewhat crude according to the present state of engraving. Wherever the Germans established a settlement in Pennsylvania, he said, the printing press was sure to follow. The first Bible and Testament printed west of the Alleghenies was by a German named Geh, in the town of Somerset.

He claimed that music was first taught in Pennsylvania by the Germans at Ephrata. In 1747 Beissel wrote a book of hymns, with a description of the kind of music they had then. In public affairs, among the earliest German settlers were some who were greatly conspicuous. He referred to Pastorius as probably the greatest literary man who came to America, being conversant with several languages, and Helpius, the Hermit of the Wissahickon, as the writer of several books before he came to America. Koster, Zinzendorf and others were named in his category.

Judge Pennypacker said the earliest attempt to combat the institution of slavery was by the Germans in a protest sent to the Friends' Meeting at Germantown in 1688, and that the Quakers, who controlled the province of Pennsylvania, and did it better than was done by any other people elsewhere, were supported by the Germans. When the subject of the adoption of the constitution of 1789 was before the States, Pennsylvania was the first to adopt it, this result being largely due to the influence of the German element, the first movement coming from the people of Germantown, who sent a petition to the legislature in its favor. In this body were 12 Germans who voted for the adoption.

In all the great crises of the government, Judge Pennypacker said, "it is my pride and your pride that Pennsylvania has been prominent. In Washington's darkest hours, when his fleeting army had been reduced to 3,000 sore and dispirited men, Pennsylvania sent him a reinforcement of 1,500 men, which turned the tide of defeat into victory. The first movement at the beginning of the late war came from Pennsylvania. On the day of the assault on Sumter the Legislature voted \$500,000 to the government, and afterwards was never chary of men or treasure when the government needed either. In all past crises of the government there has been a strong infusion of the German element in advocating and defending it."

# The Historical Record

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## AN INDIAN STORY.

### TEEDYUSCUNG, THE FIRST SETTLER OF WILKES-BARRE.

**Exciting Times with the Whites who Settled Among Them—Teedyuscung and His Tribe were the First to Build Houses in Wyoming—Scenes of Bloodshed and Terror—The Murderous Tomahawk and the Midnight Torch—An Interesting and Exciting Story.**

Wyoming's early history is as intensely exciting as the most confirmed novel reader could wish for. The tomahawk and the torch relieved the seasons of peace with frightful consequences. George B. Kulp, Esq., the indefatigable historian, has compiled a history of Teedyuscung, the first settler of Wilkes-Barre, which will soon be issued from the press. A RECORD man has been permitted to see the pages and an abstract of the interesting story follows:

Teedyuscung, the noted Indian chief, the first settler of Wilkes-Barre, according to his own statement, was born about the year 1700, in New Jersey, east of Trenton, in which neighborhood his ancestors of the Lenape had been seated from time immemorial, Zinzendorf's reconnoissance in July of that year introduced the Moravian missionaries into the homes of the Eastern Delawares. Teedyuscung was converted by them and baptized. The lessons of the divine master whom he had promised to follow soon proved distasteful to him. He remembered how his countrymen were being injured by the whites and how they had been traduced and were

being oppressed by the imperious Iroquis. And once when his untamed brethren came down from the Minisinks to Gnadenhutten, bringing their unshod ponies and their broken flint locks to the smithy they opened their hearts to him wide and took him into their councils. Telling him that the hour was come to prepare to rise against their oppressors they asked him to lead them and be their king. That was the evil moment in which he was dazzled by the prospect of a crown and trafficked his peace of mind for the unrest of ambition. This was in the spring of 1754. Mohican Abraham also turned renegade, and the two chieftains together prevailed with seventy of the congregation to remove to Wyoming.

The removal of the Delawares from the Forks to Wyoming was as speedy as the order to that end had been peremptory. Some years before the Wyoming Valley had been allotted by the Delawares to a strong clan of the Shawanese. These latter had planted themselves upon the flats on the west bank of the river (Plymouth,) and on their arrival at the same place the Delawares selected as the site of the town they were to build the beautiful plain on the eastern side near what is now known as the slaughter house in the lower end of this city. Here was built the town of Maugh-wau-wa-me, the original of Wyoming. Meantime the Nanticoke Indians had removed from the eastern shore of Maryland to the lower part of the Wyoming Valley, which yet retains their name. The Shawanese made no opposition to the arrival of their new neighbors. The Wanamese, under their chief, Jacob;

resided on the east side of the Susquehanna above Mill Creek, known as Jacob's Plains. The Mohicans came to Wyoming with the Delawares in 1742, and under their chief, Abram, built a village above Forty Fort known as Abram's Plains. Besides these there were a few wigwams on Shickshinny and Wapwallopen creeks, and in Salem township near Beach Haven. There was also a considerable Delaware village at Nescopeck and one on the east bank of the Susquehanna about two miles above the mouth of the Lackawanna called Asserughney. There was a Shawanese village west of Ross Hill, between Plymouth and Kingston. These are all the known locations of Indian villages within the limits of Luzerne County. The news of Braddock's defeat in July, 1755, spread rapidly over the country, carrying dismay to the hearts of the English settlers. The frontiers of Pennsylvania were threatened with ruin by the victorious French and their savage allies. The words and deeds of Teedyuscung proclaim the deep seated offense and its cause. Sending a large belt of wampum to the Susquehanna Indians, and even to the Cherokees in the South, he said: "I am in exceeding great danger, the English will kill me, come and help me!" The Delaware town at Nescopeck was made the rendezvous of the warriors. With these Teedyuscung attacked the settlements in Berks County, Nov. 16, 1755, spreading fire and death in all directions. On the 24th of the same month Gnadenhutten was attacked, a number of the people were murdered and the buildings were laid in ashes. It is said the murderers of the people at Gnadenhutten were commanded by a chief of the Six Nations and not by Teedyuscung. In the beginning of December of the same year a council of war was held at Wyoming by the Delawares, the Shawanese, the Nanticokes and others, at which it

was determined to lay waste the whole country on the Delaware. They danced the war dance and sang their death songs. At the appointed time the paths between Wyoming and the Delaware, over which the missionaries had so often carried the white flag of peace and good will, were crowded with hostile savages on an errand of blood and death. Two hundred warriors rushed from the mountain side upon the defenseless settlements. Nearly the whole of Marshall's family, the man who performed the walk and afterwards declared that the Penns refused to pay him, were put to death. Teedyuscung, at the head of a scouting party, fired into a company assembled at a funeral. He penetrated into New Jersey and even approached within a few miles of Easton. During the month of December fifty dwelling houses were burned in Northampton County, upwards of one hundred men, women and children were murdered and scalped, and nearly as many were carried away into captivity. This destruction of life and property is attributable to the quarrel which existed between the governor and assembly in reference to taxing the proprietaries' estates. The assembly were wholly inexcusable for their neglect of the public defense at that critical period. The great body of the Indians in Pennsylvania who were disposed to arm against the French, being left to themselves and unsupported by the government, were easily persuaded by the promises and presents of the French agents to make war against the English. Paxinos, an aged Shawanese chief residing at Wilkes-Barre, was a friend of the English. It was he who, in the interview with Charles Broadhead, on November, 9, 1755, at Wyoming, urged upon him to send a messenger to the Indians in the valley with belts of wampum and presents to secure them to the English interest. The message contained a warm and pressing invitation to all the Indians to attend a treaty to be held on

January 1, 1756, at John Harris's. But before the messenger started on his dangerous journey Teedyuscung had devastated the country of the Delawares, and among others the plantations of Mr. Broadhead and of Aaron Dupuy, who had been selected to bear the message to the Wyoming Indians. On January 1 he was engaged with thirty of his warriors in scalping the remaining inhabitants and burning their dwellings in Smithfield Township, Monroe County.

To return to Paxinos. He used every argument to dissuade the Delawares and his own warriors from taking up the hatchet against the English. He pressed his solicitations with such zeal that the Delawares threatened to take his life. When the warriors began to dance the war dance he, with Abram and about thirty others, chiefly old men and women, retired to a village west of Kingston, near Blindtown, where he remained until all the Indians departed the valley for the country of the Six Nations. On his return to Wyoming with his booty and his prisoners he encamped for the night on the Pokono Mountain. Here the savages killed Peter Hess, cutting him almost in pieces with their knives, and tied the others to trees. They kindled a large fire, but the night was so cold they could not sleep. At daylight they set out and arrived at Wyoming in the evening. They found the valley deserted. The party pushed on to Tunkhannock, where they found about one hundred men, women and children, and where the prisoners remained until the cold weather was over. They were afterwards taken to Diahoga and stayed there until they were brought down and delivered up to their friends at the treaty at Easton in the following November.

Teedyuscung claimed to be king of ten nations. Being asked what ten nations, he answered, the united Six Nations—Mohawks, Onondagos, Oneidas, Senecas, Cayugas and Tuscaroras, and four oth-

ers—Delawares, Shawanese, Mohicans and Munstps, who would all ratify what he should do. Teedyuscung at one of the councils was alleged to have been the instigator of the Indian outrages upon the whites in 1755, by sending large belts of wampum to various tribes on the war path, but the shrewd informer or negotiator, with a view of personal advantage and emolument, informed Governor Morris that as Teedyuscung had brought on the war, he was the only person that could effect a peaceful solution of all Indian affairs.

On being requested by the governor to state the causes of their uneasiness and subsequent hostilities, Teedyuscung enumerated several. Among them were the abuses committed upon the Indians in the prosecution of their trade, being unjustly deprived of portions of their lands, and in the execution, long before, in New Jersey, of a Delaware chief named Wekahelah, for, as the Indians allege, accidentally killing a white man—a transaction which they said they could not forget.

The council continued nine days and Governor Denny appears to have conducted himself with so much tact and judgment as greatly to conciliate the good will of the Indians. By his candid and ingenious treatment of them as some of the Mohawks afterwards expressed it, "he put his hands into Teedyuscung's bosom and was so successful as to draw out the secret which neither Sir William Johnson nor the Six Nations could do." The result was a reconciliation of the Delawares of the Susquehanna with the English, and a treaty of peace upon the basis that Teedyuscung and his people were to be allowed to remain upon the Wyoming lands, and that houses were to be built for them by the proprietaries. In 1757, Teedyuscung requested the governor of Pennsylvania to so fix and define his land, around his village on the Susquehanna, that "his children can never sell or yours ever buy them," and

to remain so forever. He also asked the proprietary government to assist him in building houses at Wyoming before corn-planting time. Ten log houses "twenty feet by fourteen in the clear, and one twenty-four by sixteen of squared logs and dovetailed," were built for him in 1758. These were the first dwelling houses erected in Wyoming. Other buildings were subsequently erected there. To check or crush the ambitious projects of New England men about forming a colony at Wyoming, influenced their erection by Pennsylvania quite as much as any especial regard for the Delaware sachem. One of the masons was killed and scalped by six hostile Indians while engaged in this labor. The influence of Sir William Johnson, agent for Indian affairs, was invoked to bring the Six Nations to a new congress. Neither presents nor promises were spared, and in October, 1758, there was opened at Easton, one of the most imposing assemblages ever beheld in Pennsylvania. Chiefs from the Six Nations were there. Teedyuscung, on the way to the conference, having fallen in company with the chief who had commanded the expedition against Gnadenhutten and Fort Allen, high words arose between them, when the king raised his tomahawk and laid the chief dead at his feet. From this moment, though vengeance might slumber, he was a doomed man, a sacrifice alike to policy and revenge. At the congress Teedyuscung, eloquent and of imposing address, took at first a decided lead in the debates. But one of the chiefs of the Six Nations, on the other hand, expressed in strong language his resentment against the British colonists who had killed and imprisoned some of his tribe, and he, as well as other chiefs of those nations, took great umbrage at the importance assumed by Teedyuscung whom, as one of the Delawares, they considered in some degree subject to their authority. Teedyuscung, however, supported the high station which

he held with dignity and firmness, and the different Indian tribes at length became reconciled to each other and great offense, it appears, was given to the ambassadors of the Six Nations at the consequence assumed, and the forward part taken by Teedyuscung, and yet no immediate measures were adopted to chastise his supposed contumacy. A solution of what might otherwise seem difficult, both in his more bold, independent conduct and the forbearance of the Iroquois, may be found in the fact that the power of their allies was already sensibly shaken and Great Britain was preparing with unexampled vigor to drive the French from this continent.

Agents were sent out by the people of the State of Connecticut for the purpose of exploring the country and selecting a proper district. The beautiful valley upon the Susquehanna river in which the Indians of the Delaware tribe, eleven years before, had built their town of Wyoming, attracted the attention of the agents, and as they found the Indians apparently very friendly, and a considerable portion of the valley unoccupied, except for purposes of hunting, they reported in favor of commencing their settlements at that place and of purchasing the lands of the Six Nations of Indians, residing near the great lakes, who claimed all the lands upon the Susquehanna.

Teedyuscung, in September, 1760, being in Philadelphia, had a conference with Lieutenant Governor Hamilton, in which he said: "Brother, I am ready to set out, but have heard yesterday some bad news which obliges me once more to wait on you. Yesterday I was told that some New England people are going on the west side of Susquehannah with intent to settle lands at Wyomink; if this should be the case then all the pains that have been taken by this government and me will be to no purpose. It is the Indians' land and they will not suffer it to be settled. I therefore desire the governor will send a smart let-

ter to the government where those intruding people came from, to forbid this proceeding, and tell their governor plainly that if they do not go away the Indians will turn them off;" he added with a great deal of warmth, "these people cannot pretend ignorance, and if they shall then continue on the lands it will be their own fault if anything happens," and repeated his entreaties to the governor to take every measure in his power to prevent the settlement of those lands, for it will certainly bring on another Indian war. The governor informed Teedyuscung that he had, the other day, received some information of this matter and that as the justices of the peace were holding a court at Easton, he ordered the sheriff and some of the justices to go to the place where it is said these New England men are settling, to let them know they are sent by this government to warn them off, show them the bad consequences that would ensue on such an encroachment on lands belonging to the Indians and the proprietaries, and forthwith to report what they find doing, that proper measures may be taken to prevent it.

The governor at another conference acquainted Teedyuscung that he would now give him an answer to his speech, and then began as follows: "Brother, I readily acknowledge the zeal with which you have for some years past concurred with this government in promoting the good work of peace, and it is owing, in a great measure, to your endeavors that the same has been brought to an happy conclusion. Brother, you will please to observe that the people who are attempting to settle your lands, and in so doing justly give you so much uneasiness, are none of them of this province, they come from a distant government and set up pretensions for this land partly under the charter of Connecticut, the colony from whence they came, and partly under what they call Indian purchases, for besides what they told

Robert White, that they had purchased that land from some Indians that were at the last treaty at Easton, they did assure the gentleman whom I sent to warn them off that they had bought it from the Delaware Indians, who had signed them deeds for it, which I shall read to you that you may inquire into the truth of this matter." (He here read the names of eighteen Indians who had signed the deeds.) "Brother, you may depend upon it that this government will strictly observe their treaties with the Indians and will spare no pains to hinder these people from settling these lands," and so on. Teedyuscung thanked the governor and expressed great satisfaction therewith. He asked what should be done if they should come to Wyomink in the spring? The governor gave him for answer that they should not suffer them to settle, and expected to be informed of everything that they should attempt, either at Wyomink or in any other part of the country. To which Teedyuscung replied that he looked upon himself as the governor's eye and ear, and that he would give him the earliest intelligence of everything that should come to his knowledge. Then Teedyuscung desired that, as the people who came with him were poor and naked, the governor would order them clothes and provisions for their journey home, and the government promised to consult with the provincial commissioners and give him an answer. Another council was held April 13, at which was present Lieutenant Governor Hamilton and others. The governor, upon reconsidering that part of his speech to Teedyuscung, in which he desired him not to suffer the Connecticut people to settle at Wyomink, was of the opinion that they might possibly misunderstand his meaning and look upon it as an encouragement for them to use force in the preventing of their settlement, by which means many murders might happen and an Indian war be revived, thought proper to explain him-

self more particularly on that head, for which purpose he sent for Teedyuscung and explained himself in the following manner: "Brother, by what I said to you the other day about your not suffering the Connecticut people to settle themselves at Wyomink or on any of the Indian lands, I did not mean that you should use force or proceed to kill any of them for coming amongst you and attempting to settle your lands, but you should rather collect the ancient and discreet men of your nation and go to them in a peaceable manner and endeavor to persuade them to forbear settling those lands till the right to the same should be settled by lawful authority, and the Indians to whom the land belongs shall consent to sell it." Teedyuscung being asked if he understood what was said, answered that he perfectly well understood it and was pleased with it. As for him he will do nothing more in this matter, but will acquaint the governor with anything that shall hereafter be attempted by these people, and leave it to the governor to do what is proper. He then acquainted the governor by a string of Wampum that some of the Opey and Mohican nations were going to settle at Wyomink, and when he looked that way he should see them sitting together as one people. He will always do from his heart what shall be for the best, and in an open way. The governor then enforced again to him not to have recourse to violence lest it should occasion fresh disturbances, but that since he has said he would refer the matter to him, he will take care to manage the matter so as may be most for the interest of the Indians. In the case of Van Horn vs. Dorrance and Fenn vs. Pickering, the deposition of Parshall Terry was read. It contains *inter alia* this information; "That in the year 1762, he then being an inhabitant of Goshen, in the then province of New York, and he then also being a proprietor in the Con-

necticut-Susquehanna purchase, being informed that the company of proprietors had granted two townships, ten miles square each, as a gratuity to the first two hundred settlers, they being proprietors (or in portion to a less number), conditional, that said settlers go and remain in possession for the company for the term of five years; that as near as he can recollect, some time about the last of August of the same year the deponent, with ninety-three others, mostly from Connecticut, went to Wyoming; that they carried on and took with them horses and farming utensils for the purpose of carrying on the farming business. \* \* \* The deponent saith that on their arrival at Wyoming they encamped at the mouth of Mill Creek, on the banks of the Susquehanna, where they built several huts for shelter; that they cut grass and made hay on Jacob's Plains; that they were shortly after joined by many others; that their whole company on the ground were one hundred and fifty or upwards; that they continued on the ground, according to his best recollection, about ten days; that the season being far advanced and finding that it would be difficult to procure provisions at so great distance from any inhabited country, the committee of the settlers, viz., John Jenkins, John Smith and Stephen Gardner, thought proper and advised us to return, which was agreed to and the greatest part of the company withdrew, the deponent being; one that a small number were left on the ground who tarried some time longer as the deponent understood. The deponent says that at the time they arrived at Wyoming there were no inhabitants in that country to his knowledge, except one Teedyuscung, an Indian chief, and a number of Indian families. The deponent did not discover any appearance of any improvements being made by white people previous to the deponent and the company aforesaid going on to



his own hand the chief who had commanded the Iroquois war party in their devastation of Gnadenhutten. War upon the whites being now renewed, it is not improbable that the king may have declined to lead his tribe to battle. At the great council held at Easton in 1758, the Six Nations had observed, with no very cordial feelings, the important lands. The deponent further saith that at the time they withdrew they secured their farming utensils in the ground to be ready for the spring following, as they expected to return at that time." A private conference was held at the governor's house in Philadelphia, November 19, 1762, Lieutenant-Governor Hamilton being present, and after Teedyuscung recited mor, grievances and trials and encroaching upon his reservation by the white people, the governor suggested another treaty and it was ratified.

This was the last official act of Teedyuscung with the government of Pennsylvania.

For a period of nearly five years succeeding the last treaty held at Easton, the frontiers of Pennsylvania were exempt from Indian hostilities or depredations, except the practice of horse stealing, to which the savages were always addicted. The Indians frequently visited Philadelphia in parties and received attention and presents from the governor. In 1762 the chain of friendship between them and the whites was strengthened and brightened at a great council held at Lancaster, attended by chiefs from the Six Nations, by the western Indians and by those in Pennsylvania. At this treaty Teedyuscung withdrew the imputation of forgery made at Easton against the younger Penns and their agents, but adhered to the charge of fraud as connected with the walking purchase. He, however, signed a release for all claims upon lands on the Delaware, and received for himself and his people seven hundred pounds, Pennsylvania currency (eighteen

hundred dollars), in money and goods. The Moravians re-established their missions at Gnadenhutten, Waughwawame (Wyoming), Wyalusing and at other points, and the whites on the frontiers, recovering from the effects of the last long and bloody war, were anticipating the blessings of a prosperous peace. In the meantime Wyoming was the theatre of highly interesting events. Those of the Indians who had not been concerned in the sale of 1754 and who, on the other hand, were doubtless opposed to it, were of course not unwilling to repudiate the transaction, and a deputation of five of their chiefs were sent to Hartford. Conferences were held by these chiefs with the governor of Connecticut and his council on May 28 and 30, 1762, in the course of which the sale of the land was disavowed as a national transaction. They admitted that a sale had been made, but denied its validity. Notwithstanding a proclamation issued by Governor Fitch, eight days after the conference with the Indians were ended, forbidding the people of Connecticut from trespassing upon the disputed territory, the pioneers who, in the summer of 1762, had commenced their operations in Wyoming, returned to the valley to resume their labors early in the ensuing spring, accompanied by their families, and with augmented numbers of settlers. They were furnished with an adequate supply of provisions, and took with them a quantity of live stock, cattle, horses and pigs. Thus provided, and calculating to draw largely from the teeming soil in the course of the season, they resumed their labors with light hearts and vigorous arms. The forests rapidly retreated before their well directed blows, and in the course of the summer they commenced bringing the lands into cultivation on both sides of the river. Their advancement was now so rapid that it is believed the jealousies of the Indians began to be awakened. At least, notwithstanding the claims which the Six Nations had asserted over the territory by virtue of which they had sold to the Susquehanna Company, Teedyuscung and his people alleged that they ought to receive compensa-

tion also. Thus matters stood until in the spring, when an event occurred which broke up the settlement at one fell blow. Teedyuscung had slain with position which Teedyuscung had attained in the opinion of the whites, by the force of his talents and the energy of his character. Long accustomed to view the Delawares and their derivative tribes as their *subjects*, the haughty Iroquois could not brook this advancement of a supposed inferior, and the reflection had been rankling in their bosoms until it was determined to cut off the object of their hate. In the dead of night, on April 19, 1763, the house of Teedyung, and twenty of the surrounding dwelling burst, almost at the same moment into flames and thus the great Delaware king miserably perished. The wickedness of this deed of darkness is heightened by an act of still greater atrocity. They charged the assassination upon the white settlers from Connecticut, and had the address to inspire the Delawares with such a belief. The consequences may readily be anticipated. Teedyuscung was greatly beloved by his people, and their exasperation at "the deep damnation of his taking off," was kindled to a degree of corresponding intensity. Stimulated to revenge by the representations of their false and insidious visitors, the Delawares, on the 15th of October, rose upon the settlement and massacred twelve of the people in cold blood, at noonday, while engaged in the labors of the field on the flats in the lower part of the city. Those who escaped ran to the adjacent plantations to apprise them of what had happened, and were the swift messengers of the painful intelligence to the houses of the settlement and the families of the slain. Having no arms even for self defense, the people were compelled at once to seize upon such few of their effects as they could carry upon their shoulders, and flee to the mountains. At nightfall the torch was applied and the darkness that hung over the vale was illuminated by the lurid flames of their own dwellings—the abodes of happiness and peace in the morning. Hapless, indeed, was the condition of the fugitives. Their number amounted to several hundreds—men,

women and children—the infant at the breast, the happy wife a few brief hours before, now a widow in the midst of a group of orphans. The supplies, both of provisions and clothing, which had been secured in the moment of their flight, were altogether inadequate to their wants. Notwithstanding the hardships they were compelled to encounter, and the deprivation under which they labored, many of them accomplished the journey in safety, while others, lost in the mazes of the swamps, were never heard of more.

The descendants of a large number of the above named persons still reside in the Wyoming Valley, having returned in 1769, when the next attempt at settlement was made.

Teedyuscung with all his faults, was yet one of the noblest of his race. Yet, his character stands not well in history—not as well, by any means, as it deserves. That he was a man of talent and courage, there can be no question; but withal he was greatly subject to the constitutional infirmities of his race, unstable in his purposes, and a lover of the fire waters—the enemy which, received to the lip, steals away the brain, alike of the white man and the red.

#### DEATH OF REUBEN YOST.

##### An Old Resident of Wyoming Passes Away at a Good Old Age.

Reuben Yost died at the home of his son, D. F. Yost at Wyoming May 25, 1892, at the age of 73 years. His death was the result of a stroke of paralysis received in November, 1891. He is survived by seven children. D. T. Yost of Wyoming, J. H. Yost of Rhinecliffe, N. Y., W. L. Yost of Slatington, Mrs. Mary P. Barnhart of Weatherly, Mrs. Jennie Yocum of this city, Mrs. Martha Brobst of Hazleton and Mrs. Bella Reed of Wyoming.

Deceased was well known among the older coal operators, having been engaged as a carpenter in the building of the second coal breaker erected in the Schuylkill region. He located in Jeansville, near Hazleton, in 1850, and had charge of the construction of the first breaker and machine shops built in that town. He was an earnest member of the M. E. Church and was long an efficient organizer and conductor of Sunday schools in and near Hazleton.

## THE OLD WILKES-BARRE ACADEMY.

Recollections of it and Other Features of Wilkes-Barre Nearly 50 Years Ago, as Contributed by Charles Jewett Collins.

DEAR EDITOR OF THE RECORD: As in testimony to the loyal feelings which should be in the heart of the native, however far from home he may be, I am most delightfully constrained to assure you of a Wilkes-Barre boy's pleasure at receiving the RECORD of April 12, containing Rev. Dr. Parke's reminiscences of Wilkes-Barre in 1844. One of the thoughts instantly prompted was a regret that so few are still living to tell the story of our native city's early life, as a quiet and unobtrusive country village, whose universally acknowledged charms were only those of location and of general intelligence. It has long been a hope in the hearts of a few that a *syndicate* might be formed to keep in trust for coming generations and transmit items of historic interest, the memory of which ought not to pass away with those who daily draw near the border line.

The recent death of our excellent friend, Wm. P. Miner, as also the earlier death of Judge Dana, and that of Steuben Jenkins—each, at its sad occurrence, prompted the foregoing expression of regret. We might run back a little farther and note the death of William H. Butler and of Jas. P. Dennis, or recall the name of one perhaps less familiar to the readers of your columns, Lewis H. Miner, any one of whom was capable of richest and most racy discourse upon Wilkes-Barre's early history. The caption of your most recent article seems not a little impressive—"Nearly a half century ago." But those of us who have our nerves tingling at the reading of the article, look upon that as *not so long ago!*

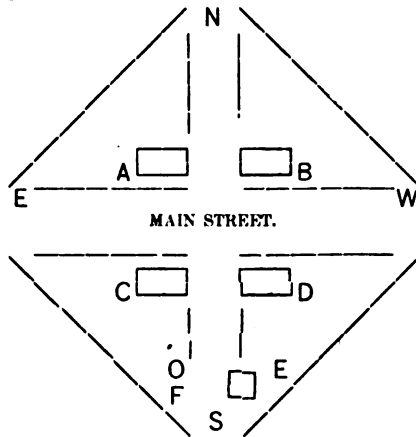
The writer of these lines was, then, just at the threshold of a college student's life. As he pens this sentence, he recalls a morning many years before

that, in the old "Log Jail," as the Wilkes-Barre Academy on Public Square was called. Many an eye was stealthily peeping through the lattice of the school windows to see even the road over which had just gone one of the boys—first of our day—to enter at Yale College!

What visions of the hitherto supposed unattainable broke upon the minds of those who peeped through the lattice, that morning! There was a vacant seat in the old school house, and one of our number had actually *gone to college*. Possibly this one the first fruit of the in-coming of that one, among the noblest of men—Rev. Nicholas Murray, D. D. But what a line was opened by him! Dr. Murray was a graduate from Williams College, and to his Alma Mater six young men were drawn by him, and all set out from that old "Log Jail"—three sons of Phineas Waller, an early resident in the valley, only one of whom survives—Rev. D. J. of Bloomsburg; Rev. Alexander Dilley; Rev. Dr. David Jewitt of New York City, and the writer of these lines. Five of these went from the family of Judge Oristus Collins, in which Nicholas Murray found a home during the first year of his pastorate.

The history of that academy should have its place in the archives of our Wilkes-Barre. May the pen move "at its own sweet will" amid the incidents associated with that memorable building. Would that I might give you a picture of it as realistic as that which lies in memory. It is well known by your intelligent readers that Public Square was laid out as in prophetic intimation of the day when the black *diamond* would throw its lustre upon the commercial life of the humble village, now become a beautiful city. In the day of our boyhood the Public Square contained six distinguished structures—a church, an academy, a court house, a prothonotary's office, a market house and—the town pump. It is hardly nec-

essary to remark that the *position* of the market house gave a name to the busy street, now so attractive as a commercial centre. From either end of the street the market house could be seen, the roadbed slightly turning to accommodate the market. Market street then, as now, was intersected at right angles by Main street, dividing the diamond at its angles, according to the best established law of cleavage. Looking up Main, eastward, the court house and prothonotary's office were at the right; at the left, the Presbyterian Church and the Academy, a little in the rear of which were the pump and market. Market street, running (nearly) north and south, separated market house, church and court house on the right from pump, academy and prothonotary's office on the left. By diagram:



A—Prothonotary's office. B—Court house. D—Church. F—Pump. E—Market House. C—Academy.

Quite prominently before the eye of the writer stands that distinguished exponent of learning, discipline and culture, the old "Log Jail." It is sad to record that it was possible to convert the building, with so little transformation; from an association with "durance

vile," as regards the bodies of men to the imprisonment of mind. Ah, that ancient regime! At this moment come to view a little group with muffled step, ascending the tortuous stairway to the door of the anticipated prison,—boys and young misses alike desirous of getting an early view of the visage of the new school master described as "*absolutely terrible*." The key hole confirmed the report already gone forth. But a little while later in the history of the school, that same door opened at the bidding of a determined miss whom all admired as, with a triumphant tone, she hurled a good eye at the enraged school master. But we small boys, still more admired the stalwart young man who had, with gallantry, stepped between the departing maiden and the descending blow! The female was then the symbol of authority, and it was wielded with a "right good will." More than once was the writer *honored* by the larger boys, in being commissioned to purchase *rosin*, with which to *make ready* some culprits' hands for the educational (!) bastinado, for it was supposed that the rubbing in of rosin would toughen the hand! One agile and ingenious youth I call to mind who early became distinguished—*for a short moment*—by the readiness with which he turned the teacher's hand before the ferule descended and thus brought the teacher's knuckles to receive the blow.

Those of your readers who have visited the "*Carcer*" of Heidelberg University may form some idea of our dear old Log Jail. That lattice work over the windows! It was smooth and neat, when first introduced to limit the view of the inquisitive. The slats were at an angle of about sixty degrees and the pupil was allowed to see the *yard* of the prison, or the surroundings, for a few yards. But the boys of that day had read of Baron Trenck and Silvio Pellico, and many a jack knife had given liberty and scope to eyes that could not be in-

tercepted by slats of soft pine. The youths of Wilkes-Barre had taken liberty with Cæsar's motto, and practically they read it—I came and conquered, cut the slats and saw. The work of the knife appeared everywhere. Along entire lines of desks were excavations into which the dust of slate pencils was put; and when the eye of the teacher was for a moment withdrawn ready communication with the accumulated dust was secured by a convenient quill, so that, at once along the line, a series of *volcanoes* added their illustrations of physical geography. Preceding any stove was a capacious fire place. For this the boys were only too glad to cut the wood because they thus enjoyed some brief release from the task at their desks and, better still, could show their gallantry in ministering to the comfort of the girls, beside whom they were allowed to sit around the blazing fire and from whose books, as well, they were allowed to study. Many heads in conspiracy, boys and girls planning, not Cæsar's bridge, but some coasting under the bridge and on the Susquehanna.

The wood was cut on the lower floor of this distinguished building where it was in reserve in an enormous pile and there was *little glass in the windows* to threaten vitiated air for the manly lads who vigorously plied the axe in furnishing some yule log for the ladies.

There was another room on the first floor occupied by a school in which only the English branches were taught. But between the pupils and the classicists, up one flight of stairs, there was the best of feelings generally. It appeared, with peculiar emphasis on the day of declamation the more ambitious boys from above were wont to accept on the lower floor any invitation to repeat their oratorical efforts and they were only too glad to draw out the admiration and applause of the timid, who never expected to ascend the stairs, which had already become the symbol of distinction in after life. When the large

fireplace was superseded by a stove, and greater comfort was furnished, although attended by a withdrawal of the privilege of sitting beside the girls, new experiences were afforded in the garret. By some strange (mis)fortune, the stovepipe would become so short as not to extend beyond the roof; and, when the boys saw their opportunity to introduce wood into the stove, by cramming it down the pipe case open and inviting in the garret, the alarm of fire would sometimes threaten the destruction of this temple of learning. One of the most obtrusive and obnoxious of the neighboring citizens would thrust his services upon the institution, water pail in hand, and only provoke the boys, by his ungracious manner or rebuking word. The watchful citizen secured an immortality of odium from the naughty boys. For some time the room of the academy was made to accommodate the Presbyterian Church prayer meeting. In the backs of the benches or desks, holes were bored for tall iron rods, on which were small tin candle sticks, for the lighting of the room of prayer. The writer recalls a novel expedient adopted by the Chorister. Before "setting the tune," he was wont to rise and grease his capacious nose, at the tallow-dip, and he put into confusion all the ideas of one childish observer, whose devotions were dissipated by an earnest spirit of curiosity, with regard to the relations of tallow, time and tune.

Only one more incident related to this famous seat of the muses: A day never to be forgotten was that on which it was announced, that the waters of the Susquehanna were to be let into the new canal. How long those embankments had been before the eyes of boys associate with the strange promise of another water high-way for merchandize and travel? But who of them believed it? But a holiday was declared and the long lingering promise was actually in its fulfillment. At the old "Redoubt" in the bed of the canal, stood every acc-

demie, holding high in air his shoes and stockings—waiting for the waters. Down they came, so slowly; over the naked feet of how many mother's sons rose the gentle tide. What a gladsome day, *at a day*, when no dreamer could have been found bold enough to promise the present easy access to the far-famed valley of Wyoming. Now "Redoubt" has disappeared; the canal is no more; how many landmarks of the past are disappearing, if they have not passed from the knowledge of Wyoming's sons already. Her ancient and honorable, how rapidly they are passing away! and, as one after another passes on, let him be assured of a hearty mention, as of remembrance, by those who are left behind.

C. J. C.

### THE CAPTIVE OF INDIANS.

#### Death of a Grand Niece of Frances Slocum Revives Interest In Her History.

Nearly all readers of the early history of this country are more or less familiar with the story of Frances Slocum, who, when a mere girl, was captured by the Indians and lived all her life with them. There died at Norwalk, on Sunday of last week, a grand-niece and name-sake of this lady of romantic history, Miss Frances A. Slocum, who was an aunt of Mrs. A. J. Ewalt, of this city, who, with her son Clive, Mrs. Esther M. Seymour, formerly of this city, Mr. Harry W. Pyle, of Cleveland, and Mrs. E. Shipman, of Washington, D. C., attended the funeral which occurred in Norwalk on Wednesday last.

The deceased, who was found dead in bed Monday morning, with her hands clasped as if in prayer when her spirit took its flight, was in her fifty-eighth year, and was born in Lyme, near Bellevue, Ohio, May 15, 1834. She was the daughter of John and Minerva Kellogg Slocum, and, as stated, her grand-aunt, Frances Slocum, was captured when five years of age, by the Indians at the time of the historic Wyoming Massacre, an account of which is found in many school readers. At this massacre the child's father and grandfather were killed by the savages. Little Frances passed her childhood among the Indians, and when she reached womanhood became the wife of a

chief. After she was discovered by her family she refused to leave her adopted tribe, even for a visit, but her pale-faced brothers and sisters were always welcomed when they visited her, and were given many presents of ponies, beaded moccasins and articles of Indian manufacture. When she died her remains were buried in the Slocum Indian reservation near Peru, Indiana, and her portrait in oil, life-size, hangs with those of other members of the family in the house of a relative near Bellevue.

[The above account of the death of Miss Slocum is copied from the Mt. Vernon *Semi-Weekly Republican* of May 11, 1892. After the sad death of the father and capture of little Frances Slocum, a branch of the family removed to the State of Ohio, and it is from this branch that the subject of this sketch sprung. The history of the case is probably correct, with but few exceptions. The father and grand-father of the captive were not victims in the horrid slaughter which took place in front of Wintermute's fort, July 3, 1778, and it was not in this raid that little Frances was carried off. The capture did not occur until some time after that event and was made by a small body of marauding savages who left the valley as silently as they came. The Slocum tragedy occurred at about the corner of North and Canal streets in this city. The log house from which the child was captured stood about where Conrad Lee's planing mill is now situated. The father, with a Mr. Trip, was killed later as they were about feeding their cattle from a hay stack on the meadows near by].

#### Hewitt Family of Wyoming.

EDITOR RECORD: I will be grateful if you or any of your readers can aid me to learn something of the Hewitt family, once resident in Wyoming Valley. Capt. Dethick Hewitt was killed in the massacre. There were also one Benjamin Hewitt, Senior and Junior, and Gershom Hewitt, but I have so far failed to learn anything of their descendants.

H.

#### He Was a New England Yankee.

EDITOR RECORD: I see the name of Dethic Hewitt constantly printed Deterick Hewitt. He was not a Hollander or the descendant of a Hollander, but was a New England Yankee of English descent. His name was *Dethic* or *Dethick* and not Deterick. H. B. PLUMB.

## IN COMMEMORATION

### OF THE BATTLE AND MASSACRE OF WYOMING.

**A Large Attendance and Interesting Exercises—Old and Young Residents Gather at the Historic Spot to Recount the Experiences of the First Settlers.**

The gathering July 2, 1892, at Wyoming Monument was the largest since the great centennial of 1878. Fully six hundred persons were present—a great many more than seats had been provided for. The grounds had been put in order by B. T. Pettebone, W. A. Wilcox had put up a shelter tent, the monument was decorated with flags and flowers by Benjamin Dorrance, the tablets bearing the names of Wyoming's hero dead had been cleaned up, the stars and stripes were floating at half mast from the flag staff, the assemblage was enthusiastic, the day was delightful—in short everything conspired to make this annual commemoration of the battle and massacre of Wyoming a complete success. A large delegation from the Daughters of the Revolution was present, including Mrs. McCartney and daughter Ella, Mrs. Isaac P. Hand, Mrs. G. M. Reynolds and Miss Helen Reynolds, Mrs. Alexander Farnham, Mrs. Col. R. B. Ricketts, Mrs. Stanley Woodward, Miss Emily Butler, Miss Laura Heilner of the New York City Chapter, Mrs. Col. E. B. Beaumont, Mrs. Caleb Bowman, Mrs. John B. Reynolds, Miss May Tubbs, Miss Mary Slosson, Miss Ella Bowman, Mrs. Thomas Graeme, Mrs. H. H. Harvey, Mrs. Irving A. Stearns, Mrs. Sheldon Reynolds, Mrs. B. Dorrance, Miss Loveland, Miss Hoyt.

The program was an entertaining one and was interspersed with music by the the Ninth Regiment Band. The opening prayer was by Rev. Dr. Beese of

Wilkes-Barre and the benediction by Rev. Dr. George Frear.

The new president, Capt. Calvin Parsons, was at his post and the address with which he was listed proved to be an informal talk and a very good one. He said he was one of the few present who were at the laying of the corner stone of the monument 59 years ago. The only others present so far as he could learn were Mrs. Judge Pfouts, William P. Johnson of Dallas and Hon. L. D. Shoemaker. Mr. Parsons said the name of Parsons was not on the monument, there were none of that name here in 1778, but his great-grandfather, Anderson Dana's, name was there and that of his grandfather, Stephen Whiting. Both were tomahawked and killed by the Indians. Mr. Parsons alluded with much feeling to the death of the late president of the association, Col. Charles Dorrance. He was glad to note the growing interest and that the people were learning that this is not a close corporation.

Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D., read a paper in memoriam of the late Col. Dorrance and it was a magnificent tribute to one who had ever taken such a live interest in these commemorative gatherings and was president up to the time of his death, which occurred since the last meeting, at the age of 87.

The address of the day was by Henry Coppee, LL. D., professor of history and literature in the Lehigh University and the gentleman who wrote the ode for the centennial observance of 1878. The paper was an admirable dissertation on the part which the Wyoming incident played in the history of the country, together with an analysis of Campbell's poem, "Gertrude of Wyoming." Reference was made to the naming of a Western State after Wyoming. In closing the speaker dwelt on the approaching 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus. He suggested three questions concerning Columbus

that are involved in doubt. (1) Where was he born? (2) Where did he land? (3) Where is he buried?

As an answer to the last question Dr. Coppee thought Columbus's bones had never been removed from Santo Domingo in 1795. He thought it would be a great thing to bring the dust over here to the World's Fair, but he was afraid, in such a case, that they would never get back again.

An address followed by Benjamin Dorrance on the subject "Do we owe these men anything?" Mr. Dorrance fairly surprised his auditors by his earnest, eloquent words. One of the striking sentences was a criticism of the *Evening Times* for spreading abroad a slander upon the patriot dead. Mr. Dorrance said:

Here in this very Valley of Wyoming. Here! almost in the shadow of this monument; here! where lie the bones of those who gave their lives in the cause of liberty—died that we might be made secure in life, liberty and property. Here, where every appeal to justice, to appreciation of noble action and unheard of generosity; here, where allens come to do honor to heroes, it has been said it was but a small matter that these men died; that they were only a lot of fools crazed by drink and in their drunken folly were slain like dogs. Charged by a newspaper, one of the educators of our people; charged by an editor supposed to be an American—charged that their bravery was only the bravery of those sodden in drink; that a descendant of one in the battle had said he was ashamed to acknowledge himself as such. My friends, build you a dam across the Susquehanna at Nanticoke; let the river run rum until the valley is one vast lake from mountain top to mountain top, and all therein contained would not suffice to instil bravery in such souls as these. If the child owes nothing to its parents; if the created

owes nothing to its creator; if the church owes nothing to its Saviour; if life owes nothing to its giver, then a country owes nothing to its defenders, then we owe nothing to those in whose honor we are this day assembled. But if by their efforts, by their death, one single star in this our flag was fastened more securely; if but one drop, shed on that day, helped dye one stripe more darkly and more enduring crimson, let us honor and glorify them and thank God that we are permitted to be their descendants.

An address followed by George H. Butler, on the early struggles for the possession of Wyoming Valley on the part of conflicting claimants before the Connecticut settlers could get a good title.

Secretary Wesley Johnson read a letter of regret from Dr. H. Hollister of Scranton.

The band played the Star Spangled Banner. At this point the flag which had been hanging at half mast, was raised to the top of the pole and the exercises concluded.

#### NOTES OF THE DAY.

The electric cars from Wilkes-Barre made it possible for the first time, for Wilkes-Barre people to attend conveniently.

The Scranton *Truth* printed a fine editorial on the celebration and also published a new poem by Susan E. Dickinson. It is worthy of being reproduced in this connection:

O, beautiful vision of summer delight!  
O, marvelous sweep of the circling hills!  
Where sunshine and shadow contend on the height

And a deeper green follows the path of the rills  
As they leap to the valley, whose gold and green

Add the finishing charm to the exquisite scene.

I stand on the spot where the brave ones sleep,  
Whose memory makes this a sacred vale;  
The century olden-shadows sweep  
From my backward gaze, and the mystic veil  
Of the Past uplifts, to reveal once more  
That vision of blood in the days of yore.



O, patriot souls! from your home above,  
Do you see the land that ye loved at rest?  
Can its wealth of blessing your spirits move  
To an added gladness among the blessed?  
So I faith would hope, as I win release  
From weariness, breathing this air of peace—

A peace that deepens—a peace that flows  
Like the waves of a river that seeks the sea;  
Enfolding the heart in a charmed repose,  
As the spell of some wonderful harmony—  
Breathed out from Beethoven's soul and brain,  
Swelling and sinking, and rising again.

Far off, when the tidal rush and spray  
Of our hurrying life the spirit whelm,  
The treasured charm of this golden day  
Will memory bring from her silent realm—  
Its sunshine and shadow, its odor and balm,  
Its freshness and verdure, its blessing of calm.

O, beautiful Wyoming! lingering still,  
By the loveliness spell-bound, I pause in farewell;  
May the winter touch lightly each verdure-  
crowned hill  
Where summer is weaving her 'wondering spell,  
And each summer to come on thy valley outpour  
A more radiant bloom from its bountiful store.

The RECORD hopes to print in full in subsequent issues the several addresses.

The Sons of the Revolution were present in good force, wearing their handsome badges.

Mrs. Gilbert Rellay was among the visitors, she having returned from Utah in time to attend the exercises.

Among the visitors was a Chicago Daughter of the Revolution, Mrs. M. E. Miller, who is a descendant of Daniel Gore whose name is inscribed on the monument.

The venerable Dr. Rogers of Huntsville was present.

Dr. Coppee was greeted by several of the Lehigh graduates from Wilkes-Barre and Scranton.

Rev. H. E. Hayden and H. B. Plumb, Esq., were in attendance, but Dr. Hakes was absent.

The old settlers were all in ecstasies over the general interest. They attribute it to three things—organization, active part taken by the Daughters and the greater newspaper mention the event has been receiving.

## THE COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION

**Is All Right Financially and Every Other Way—The Best Year But One in the History of the Association.**

The officers of the Wyoming Commemorative Association met as an Auditing Committee, and for the transaction of other business, at the office of Secretary Johnson July 9, 1892, with President Calvin Parsons in the chair.

The secretary reported receipts as follows: Received on July 3, 1891, \$15; received from annual dues to date, \$73; received from contributions, \$113; total, \$201.

The following bills having been paid by the secretary were approved: Printing programs, 1889 and 1891, \$10.50; circulars, \$100; certificates of membership, \$2.75; circulars and envelopes, \$4.25; tin box for papers, \$3.25; circulars and programs, 1892, \$6.50; postage and envelopes, \$5; E. Gunster, collector, \$17.50; Dr. Coppee, historical address, \$50; total, \$100.75.

Bills approved: Wyoming Valley Hotel bill, \$5.50; 9th Regiment Band, \$48.40; C. H. Townend, team, \$1.50; expense on tent, \$2.20; putting new rope on flag staff, \$3.00; total, \$60.60; total expenditures, \$161.35; leaving a balance with secretary, \$39.65.

On motion of Mr. Wilcox, Resolved, That a vote of thanks for favors on occasion of the service of the 114th anniversary of the battle and massacre be tendered to Robert T. Pettebone for preparation of grounds, providing ice water and other courtesies; to Townend Brothers for use of chairs; to Andrew Baldwin for use of chairs; to Company D, Scranton City Guards, for use of mess fly as shelter tent; to James Robertson for cleaning tablets on monument, and to Benjamin Dorrance for flowers for decorating monument, and to all others who in any way so generously assisted in the service, enabling us to make it a grand success.

On motion of Mr. Wilcox, Resolved, That the committee on program be continued with power as heretofore.

Charles Law and John D. Farnham, whose applications were received since last meeting, were duly elected to membership, initiation fee having been paid.

The association takes pleasure in acknowledging the following voluntary contributions from parties named: Mrs. Judge Pfouts, \$3;

George S. Pfouts, Jr., and Miss Frances L. Pfouts, paid to secretary each one dollar.

Paid to collector E. Gunster, Jr.: Thomas H. Atherton, \$5; W. M. Shoemaker, \$5; George S. Bennett, \$5; Gen. E. S. Osborne, \$5; Calvin Parsons, \$10; Charles A. Miner, \$5; John B. Woodward, \$1; A. G. Hoyt, \$2; M. M. Wadhams, \$1; G. H. Flanigan, \$5; J. B. Hillard, \$5; J. D. Farnham, \$2; F. C. Johnson, \$2; M. H. Cooke, \$1; W. B. Mitchell, \$1; John B. Reynolds, \$2; James Suttin, \$2; Samuel Sutton, \$1; E. S. Loop, \$5; George P. Loomis, \$1; S. H. Miller, \$1; William L. Conyngham, \$5; E. E. Hoyt, \$2; C. M. Conyngham, \$5; L. D. Shoemaker, \$10; E. W. Sturdevant, \$1; G. H. Butler, \$1; Col. R. B. Ricketts, \$5; H. H. Harvey, \$5; B. F. Barnum, \$1; Sheldon Reynolds, \$5; Charles D. Foster, \$5.

The present year, thanks to the earnest efforts of a few of the more enthusiastic members, has been the most successful year of the association since the grand 100th year demonstration of 1878, and it is gratifying to the few remaining original members that the spirit of pride in remembering the forefathers of the valley is taking so firm a hold in the minds of the rising generation. The association now counts on its roster the names of seventy-three (73) of the representative citizens of the valley, old and young, and it is confidently hoped to double this number before the next anniversary meeting.

If the parties whose bills have been credited and approved as given above, will call on Secretary Johnson, 80 North Main street, they can get their money at any time.

#### Anniversary of a Regiment's Battle.

September 6 was the 51st anniversary of the initial encounter of the 7th Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserves, under Col. E. B. Harvey with the rebels at Great Falls, on the Potomac in 1861. Of all those who enlisted in the 7th and were then citizens of Wilkes-Barre, including Col. E. B. Harvey, Capt. L. B. Speece, Lieut. C. W. Garretson, Quartermaster Charles A. Lane, Chaplain Thomas P. Hunt, Sergt. Al. Jones, John P. Fell, Charles Miner Stout and others, not one of those named is now living. If others are living they do not reside here. Among the survivors not then resident of the city but now are, may be mentioned Lieut. Frederick M. Shoemaker, Sergt. G. L. Baldwin, Corp. C. W. Bowman of Company K, Capt. John Robinson, S. H. Hagenbach, Israel P. Long of Company F and Lieut. William J. Harvey of Company I.

#### ISAAC A. CHAPMAN, ESQ.

*Sketch of a Former Prominent Citizen of Luzerne County—A Man of Great Diversity of Natural Gifts.*

Isaac Abel Chapman was fourth in descent from William Chapman, born in England, and who settled in New London, Conn., 1656, was made a freeman in 1669 and died December 18, 1699. Isaac's father, Joseph Chapman, was born in New London, March 31, 1741. He was a captain in the army of the Revolution, was twice made a prisoner and at the close of the struggle became captain of a ship employed in the West India trade. After leaving the sea he in 1798 settled in Susquehanna County, in this State. During the latter part of his life he was the recipient of a pension from the Government, which, with a generosity characteristic of his kin, was devoted entirely to charity. His death occurred at Nescopee, Pa., August 9, 1822. The

#### PATRIOTISM AND SUFFERINGS

of this family, during the revolutionary period, were such as to deserve full and ample consideration in this connection. James Chapman, Jr., a brother of Joseph, was major of one of the Connecticut regiments, and was in the terrible "Orchard Fight," near Harlem, N. Y., September 15, 1776. His son James, a mere lad, aged 14, was killed by his father's side. In 1781 Sir Henry Clinton despatched Benedict Arnold to ravage the coasts of New England. On September 6 one division of his forces attacked Fort Griswold. A hastily gathered company of "minute men" had occupied the fort, and made a gallant resistance for an hour, when the work surrendered, and as the enemy entered, their leader exclaimed, "Who commands this Fort?" Col. Ledyard stepped forward and answered "I did sir! but you do now," at the same time presenting his sword. The Briton ran him through with the weapon, and turning upon Lieutenant Richard Chapman,

second in command, served him in the same manner. A monument in the cemetery at New London thus commemorates his death:

In memory of Lieut. Richard Chapman, who was killed at Fort Griswold, Sept. 6th, 1781, in the 46th year of his age:

How suddenly death's arrows fly,  
They strike us and they pass not by,  
But hurl us to the grave.

John, another of the brothers, was for some time a captain in the military service and subsequently held the same rank in the navy. He was drowned by convicts while landing a boat load of them on Fisher's Island. Edward was the fifth brother to take part in his country's defense, and by this, the latest sacrifice, the grey haired sire could stand in his deserted home and justly claim that he had given all.

#### TWO STUDIOUS BROTHERS.

Isaac Abel Chapman was born at Norwich, Conn., March 23rd, 1787. Removed thence to Brooklyn, Susquehanna Co., Pa., with his father when a boy of tender age. In company with a younger brother, Edward, he was employed in the severe labor of "clearing up" a farm in that new and sterile region. The brothers secured the rudiments of an English education principally through the efforts of their sister, Lydia, afterwards the wife of Dr. George W. Trott, whose daughter by this marriage, Elizabeth, became the wife of the late Hon. George W. Woodward of Wilkes-Barre. The two brothers were boys who spent their days in the laborious occupation of felling and clearing the forests and their evenings by the light of a huge blazing fire, studying whatever books could be obtained from the few settlers who lived within a circle of from 16 to 20 miles. "In this manner did these two brothers educate and improve themselves to such a degree, that to human apprehension, only an early death, prevented them from being the very first men in our State. They were both excellent mathematicians, practical surveyors and draughtsmen. Poetry

and landscape painting were occasionally resorted to as an amusement and many of the singular events and rude scenes of that wild country were the subjects of their pen and pencil."

Isaac had saved enough to buy a compass, and hearing of the progress made in Luzerne, under the auspices of the various land and improvement companies, the brothers started together for Wyoming. Edward at first opened a school at Sunbury, and afterwards studied and practiced law in that town. His poetical talent was marked, and his poem beginning

"Columbia's shores are wild and wide" at once achieved a national repute. In both miniature and portrait painting he excelled. This promising genius died unmarried and in the prime of life, at Sunbury, April 5th, 1821.

Isaac secured work as surveyor for the North American Land Co. of Philadelphia, fixing his temporary residence at Nescopee. Upon the formation of Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co. he was appointed their surveyor, and subsequently assistant engineer, under Josiah White and Erskine Hazard. In this capacity

#### HE PROSECUTED SURVEYS

throughout the whole region now comprising Carbon, Luzerne, Susquehanna, Bradford and Sullivan counties, made the first map of Luzerne County, located the Lehigh Company's gravity road from Summit to Mauch Chunk—a road which disputes with *Quincy* the honor of being the first in the United States. He had opened mines at "Lausanne" (now Nesquehoning), and from thence shipped in arks the first anthracite coal, selling it at towns along the Delaware—the first load at Coryell's Durham Furnace, below Easton.

The British invasion of Baltimore suspended his labors. He organized a relief company and started for the seat of war, but their service was not needed and he returned to "Lausanne."

His continuous service in the arduous work of developing the Lehigh coal region left him but little time for other work, but he seems to have found chance for studies in mechanics and literature, for he

#### LEFT BEHIND HIM MODELS

for a syphon adapted to lockage and mining—a boat of such peculiar construction that it had the power of literally walking over a rift or shallow and which we will let Mr. Chapman describe in his own language: It consisted "of two hulls 32 feet long and three feet wide, each four feet apart, worked by setting poles only and machinery turned by four men—being the first successful team boat on the Susquehanna." On Saturday, June 26, 1824, he records in his journal: "Made the first trial heat with my team boat. Started from the dock where she was built, about 50 rods above the bridge at Nescopee Falls and passed up against the current two miles and a half, having nine persons on board."

"Saturday, July 3, 1824. Set out in my team boat for Wilkes-Barre. Was detained much by having to change some of the rigging. Stayed all night at Shickshinny Eddy.

"Sunday, 4. Passed up the river, having on board some twenty persons. Sprung one of the gudgeons ascending Nanticoke Falls. Lay by and repaired.

"Monday, 5th—Arrived at Wilkes-Barre at half-past 10 o'clock. Was received by the citizens in handsome style, under discharge of cannon, volleys from an independent company of infantry and a salute from a band of music."

The list of his inventions also includes a spiral spring car brake, a submerged water wheel and other contrivances.

#### HE WAS ALSO AN EDITOR.

During his publication of the *Gleaner*, a newspaper at Wilkes-Barre during the year 1816, his columns were enlivened by poetry of his own composition and he left behind him a manuscript "History of Wyoming," written in a concise

and pleasing style, subsequently published by S. D. Lewis, Esq., and Hon. David Scott.

There seems to have been no limit to Mr. Chapman's capacity for either work or study, and apparently he possessed the power of doing both at once. Copious notes are scattered through his journal, culled from various legal works, and on Feb. 16th, 1819, he registered his name as a student with Garrick Mallory, Esq., attorney at law, of Wilkes-Barre.

With all these multitudinous cares and labors he found, or took time to experiment in grafting, the planting of his own garden and to open in his journal a department of agriculture, sandwicheid in, as it is, between metaphysical and magnetic notes, canal statistics, political notes, meteorological observations, etc., etc. In June, 1819, he writes:

"This day planted a part of my potatoes—in two rows they were planted whole, in the others cut; moon's age 27 days; ground in good order. Oct., Find no difference perceptible in the crop."

"May 22, 1823—Planted some cotton seed at Nescopee."

Mr. Chapman's acquaintance was extensive, and his correspondence voluminous. He neglected no social duties, but entertained with great hospitality a large circle of friends. The one, however, of which he seemed the fondest and records that he visited most frequently, was the late Redmond Conyngham, Esq., of "Sugar Loaf."

He has been described by those who remembered him as a man of most pleasing and agreeable manners, and in his dress and habits, the very embodiment of cleanliness and neatness.

#### HIS EARLY DEATH.

In the autumn of 1826 he began the excavation of a tunnel to strike the great coal vein at Summit Hill at a lower level. His labors were exhausting and a cold which he contracted early in the work developed in typhoid fever,

which closed a life of great promise and great activity at the age of forty-one. He died at Mauch Chunk Dec. 8th, 1827, and "lies buried on the hill, in the burial place near the railroad, which he leveled *one year* before his death, and which he traveled in company with Mr. White in the *first coal wagon* that ever ran on it."

[The foregoing sketch is by George W. Gustine and was written for the forthcoming county history. Its advance publication is kindly permitted by Col. H. C. Bradsby, who is compiling the volume.—EDITOR.]

### HALF A CENTURY AGO.

An Old Paper Gives an Idea of Life Fifty Years Ago.

[Daily Record, April 17.]

Mr. Fensler of North River street yesterday while on the west side of the river picked up a copy of the *Alexander Express Messenger* and *Philadelphia Weekly Chronicle* of August 10, 1842, a well preserved paper. Washington news dates August 1, ten days before publication. Butter of good quality is advertised at ten cents a pound. News from Europe is five weeks old. In eight days 1,172 persons arrived at Saratoga springs, N. Y. Emigration to Wisconsin is one of the notable events of the day. Wooden sidewalks are to be dispensed with in New York City and substantial stone sidewalks laid. Hand printing presses are to be done away with and power presses substituted. Over 2,000,000 acres of land were sold in Michigan a few weeks before the paper was issued, for unpaid taxes.

The number of emigrants who left Liverpool for the United States during the quarter ending June 30, 1842, was 26,257. A report copied from the *Chicago American* says that about 200,000 bushels of wheat have been exported from that city since the opening of navigation this season, besides oats, hides, etc.

A plea is made for the ventilation of mines, giving instances of the suffering in England. One child, Mary Davis, a pretty little girl, 7 years old, was found fast asleep under a piece of rock near the air door below the ground. Her lamp had gone out for the want of oil.

### A Bit of History.

Messrs. EDITORS: Harman Blennerhassett, who, it will be remembered, was so intimately connected with the "Burr Wilkinson Revolution," was an Irishman of aristocratic lineage and at the time of his immigration to the United States in 1796, brought with him what was then a large fortune, about \$100,000. His residence in the "Beautiful Isle" of the Ohio, was of large proportions and here he enjoyed for a season pleasure and happiness with his wife and family. Toward the end of his romantic career, which it is not intended to notice in detail, he became reduced in circumstances and lost in one way and another the greater part of his fortune. He tried the practice of law in Montreal, but failing, returned to Ireland for the purpose of recovering an alleged interest in the "Bawn estate" then in possession of Lord Ross.

Before emigrating, he had married Miss Agnew, daughter of the lieutenant governor of the Isle of Man and granddaughter of the general of that name, who fell at the battle of Germantown. She is represented as unusually "intelligent and beautiful."

In July, 1822, she was residing at Flatbush, and thus writes her husband, then in Ireland: "On finding what my expenses at the lowest calculations amounted to here, I wrote my sister to let me know what we could get boarding for in *Wilkes-Barre*, thinking should you be detained anytime I might there make out much longer than here." It seems she carried out her purpose, for it is said "Mrs. Blennerhassett, with two of her sons, Harman and Lewis, visited her sister, a Mrs. Dow, then residing at *Wilkes-Barre*, Penna., where she remained until December, 1822.

In March, 1823, writing to her husband again she says: "I went with Harman and Lewis to *Wilkes-Barre*; I placed the former with Doctor Covel, a skillful and worthy Yankee, who paid him great attention. Mary (a servant) resided with my sister, Mrs. Dow, where she did enough to pay for her board and washed for us. I obtained board for the boys and myself at six dollars per week. This agreed with my finances, and I willingly endured the *canting* and *vulgarity* of the people of *Wilkes-Barre* for such advantages."

So it seems that this aristocratic daughter of the Isle of Man, not content with procuring cheap board out of the people of *Wilkes-Barre*, must needs give us a "piece of her mind," in terms of rather harsh criticism, we think. Would it not be interesting to know where and with whom she was boarding, and the cause of her dissatisfaction. Yours, etc.,

A. B. B.

### A HISTORIC CANNON FIRED.

"Bunty," a Field Piece Used by Gen. Sullivan, Resurrected.

Fourth of July the young men of Forty Fort raised the echoes of the valley with the thundering reverberations of a historic cannon which they had placed on the banks of the Susquehanna.

The history of the cannon is full of interest. "Bunty," as the piece is named—for what especial reason no one knows—was originally a 16 or 12 pound field piece. It is of iron and of a peculiar English mould. Had it a tongue what strange tales it could tell of horrible Indian butcheries and the terrible slaughter of the aboriginal wars.

The cannon was a part of the equipment of Gen. Sullivan when with his little army he entered Wyoming Valley just after the massacre, in commemoration of which services were held at the Wyoming monument on July 2, 1892. The piece exploded in a battle soon after, a chunk of the metal blowing out at the muzzle. Being considered useless it was left on the field. It lay where it was abandoned for many years, until the wooden carriage had rotted away and the barrel falling to the ground had been overgrown with weeds and partially buried in the earth. It was finally rescued from its oblivion and cared for by the Forty Fort young men who used it to celebrate the Fourth of July and other patriotic occasions. But for the last fifty years the piece of ordnance has had a rather uncertain ownership. Wyoming and Forty Fort young men have always been in contention over it. Wyoming gained possession of it about half a century ago and kept it buried for ten or a dozen years until the Forty Fort boys discovered it and took possession. A few years later while a few Forty Fort boys were firing it on a national holiday a troop of Wyoming lads overpowered them, placed the cannon on a spring wagon and fled with it. Several years passed and it was discovered under a shed at Wyoming buried three or four feet deep in the soil. Forty Fort dug it up, burned the shed and bore it home in triumph. Three or four years afterward Wyoming stole it again. This time they hid it successfully for a term of years. But it came to light again. A Forty Fort fisherman looking down through the clear water of the Susquehanna one day while out in his boat, saw it lying on the river bottom partially covered with mud. Carefully marking the spot, he rowed home and told of his find. A party of young men got lumber, built a raft, raised the cannon and floated it down the river to Forty Fort, where it has since been held.

On Sunday night it was taken from its place of concealment to the river bank, where it was fired until it became hot. Before daylight Monday morning it was replaced in hiding for another year.

### A Modern Sir Man.

[A parody.]

Brothers, be dad, it's a quare world entirely,  
Me word won't be taken for granted to-day,  
I call for me beer, and I pay me five cents for it,  
Or else I won't get it, och murder, they say;  
This isn't right, because  
Time out of mind I was  
Apt to forget the small matter to pay.

Honesty don't have to seek ather lantherna,  
She's out in the sunbeams a dancin' in glee,  
An' whin the sun sets, thin the lights incandescent  
Keep guardin' the form of dear old honestee.  
Och what a murderin' curse,  
Nothin' could happen worse  
Than always rememberin' ould scores, d' ye see,

Begorra, I'm sorry I was not made a pracher  
To speak a long sermon to althar and pew,  
But, darlint machree, sure thin every poor craythur  
Could n't hear me fine logic, but only a few.

Thin how would the world move  
So long as it could n't prove  
That the wrong is all ould, an' the right is all new.

An' thin there is Heaven, the man that invented it  
Had no thought of givin us a place to abide,  
Sure he fills it with angels with white wings an'  
curly heads,

An' laves no place vacant for me on the inside,  
With me wings just a droppin' out  
An' me gray hairs a droppin' out,  
Och jewel ashore, sure thin where can I hide.

But for all iv me sorrow, I have one consolation,  
I'm deep versed in facts, an' in logical mists;  
With sledge hammer blows I strike mystification  
An' unravel phylosophy's untwistical twists.

I seek out me fellow man  
His pocket, too, whin I can,  
An' I charge him two dollars for a squeeze of his  
wrists.

Now don't believe a word of those orthodox fakirs,  
It's a thrick of their thrade, you with trouble to  
fill,

An' get at your purse, oh the sly money makers—  
But I'll give you your money's worth, a dollar a  
pill,

Now aren't they cruel—  
But listen me jewel,  
I'll prescribe *aqua pura*, at a dollar a gill.

Afther all this palaverin' an' huxtherin' with logic  
I think that it's time that me pen cease its war  
With reason and right, and scribble broad, com-  
mon sence

An' gather me wits that have wandered afar;  
But before me farewell to ye  
A sacret I'll tell to ye,

Twixt yourself an' meself, I'm cut out for the war.

## THE LATE MRS. SHIRAS.

Descended from One of the Oldest and Best Families in Wyoming Valley.

Mrs. Alexander Shiras, sister of C. E. Butler of this city, died at her home in Washington, August 29, 1892, at midnight after an illness of only a few weeks. Death was due to wasting of the tissues of the brain. Mrs. Shiras was the oldest daughter of the late Steuben Butler and was born in Wilkes-Barre some 75 years ago and lived here up to the time of her marriage to Rev. Dr. Shiras, who was a minister of the Episcopal Church, at one time in charge of St. John's Church, Georgetown, opposite Washington. He is still living, though broken down in health and for 20 years and until quite recently was connected with the Bureau of Education at Washington. He was considered an invaluable man in that department by reason of his great resources in the realm of letters. It is said of him that no department in the Capitol has a more cultured and capable official than Dr. Shiras. Mrs. Shiras had no greater pleasure in life than in making people happy. Her devotion to her father and to her husband was complete and self sacrifice had no limit with her. She was a ministering angel in her girlhood home and later in her own household, and in many homes outside was her kindly beneficence felt.

Her sister, Mrs. Dr. Strawbridge, of Danville, and her niece, Mrs. Josephine Murray, of Trenton, N. J., were with her during her illness and rendered that kindly aid which only loving relatives can.

The following is from the pen of Dr. Urquhart:

Announcement was made in yesterday's Record of the death at her home in Washington, D. C., of Mrs. Frances Shiras. She was born at the old homestead on Franklin street, Wilkes-Barre, and was the daughter of Steuben and Julia Butler and granddaughter of Gen. Zebulon Butler, a distinguished pioneer of this valley, also an intimate friend of Gen. Washington. Those who remember Mrs. Shiras during her earlier life in her father's home will bring to mind as a pleasant memorial of the past her kind, self-sacrificing and charitable nature, her ready and open hand, her sympathizing heart for the needy or sorrowing.

She was the idol of her household and never wearied in her tender compassion and

efforts to soothe affliction and minister to the needs of those whose privilege it was to know her. In the hearts of her relatives and friends here there is a void that can never be filled, but the sweet memorial of her life will ever be fragrant with personal kindness and Christian benevolence.

It is of interest to this community to know that Mrs. Shiras was descended from one of the oldest and most noted families of Wyoming. Her father, Steuben Butler, built the old homestead, which remains on Franklin street, in 1808 and died there at 93 years of age.

The children of that household were Frances (Mrs. Shiras), William H., Gertrude (Mrs. Murray of Trenton), George, C. E. and Ellen (Mrs. Strawbridge of Danville). In this connection it is proper to add as due to the memory and character of Mrs. Shiras that in the society in which she mingled with honor and affection, she filled a station of great usefulness and responsibility, and it was especially in the church where her womanly character was marked for its religious excellence and commanded a respect and affection never to be forgotten.

Her heart ever clung with undiminished love to the church whose ministrations were associated with her early impressions of the things that were unseen and eternal.

Her best energies were devoted to works of piety and benevolence, and her thirst for knowledge, reading and reflection gave her an enviable prominence in matters pertaining to church preferment, of elevated morality, of religious principle, and also an example wherein simplicity, discretion, sound sense and geniality were successful elements in social and religious life.

There was nothing negative or indifferent in the temper of her mind, and her views were held with firm and unrelenting grasp.

Her life is an example of living piety, of warm spirited affection, of fixed principle, of outflowing, expansive love and of the gospel's heaven-derived power to comfort, elevate and sanctify the soul. The church was to her a spiritual home and the word preached there came with life and power to her soul and enabled her to maintain confidential relations based upon enlightened conviction and affectionate association. From her baptismal profession to the closing triumph of her deathbed she was unwavering in her adherence to those doctrinal views which are inseparably connected with the American Episcopal Church, while a loving spirit per-

vaded and hallowed all her thoughts and aspirations. In her personal qualities Mrs. Shiras possessed many traits that characterized her family. She had the decided bearing, industry, frugality of her father, who was a respected citizen and a devout man. She was about 74 years of age and possessed a personality that was inherited in both sides of the ancestral line. She was of a kindly nature with a simplicity of bearing and modesty of manner that foreshadowed an unpretentious and conscientious personality. Her memory is most indelibly inscribed in the hearts of her home circle and will always remain a tribute to her worth. A reminiscent view of her time brings to mind many localities and relics that time and fashion have nearly swept away. Also associations of ingenious simplicity and kindly greeting that give us assurance that it is among the good impulses of our nature to revere the memory of the past.

In her early life, when sounds of pleasant life were heard in the green pastures, is now seen the stately coal breaker and its mountain of waste culm; and those in the busy stir of every day life who tilled the ground now lie beneath it. The social intercourse of Mrs. Shiras was marked with an air of refinement, and while her memory will be cherished for the spirit of Christian love which crowned her life, she will be sincerely mourned as a kind friend and generous benefactor.

#### SIXTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY.

**An Aged Wilkes-Barre Couple Entertain Their Relatives and Friends and Look Into the Past—A Good Record.**

One of the largest family gatherings that has ever taken place in Wilkes-Barre was the one in the household of William Ridall, Jr. 354 South Franklin street, June 17. The occasion was the anniversary of the wedding of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ridall, Sr. On the 16th of June, 1828. Mr. Ridall, then a young man of 20, now 84 years old, led Miss Sarah Mitchell, who was one year his senior, to the altar of the parish church at Collingham, Nottinghamshire, England.

They made up their minds to emigrate to the United States, which was no easy task in those days, before the time of railroads and steamships. They came to a coast town in England by a conveyance and then took a skiff for Liverpool, and then the good ship Italy from there to New York and were over six weeks on the voyage. After another week of hard travel they reached Wilkes-Barre by stage. He obtained employment with the firm of Lord Butler Mallory & Co. and built the first boat that sailed out of Wilkes-Barre on the then new canal. And strange to say Mr.

Ridall only Friday completed a row boat which is now ready for a purchaser.

Mr. Ridall and his wife were of a musical turn of mind and their services were much sought after. About this time they joined the Methodist Church, when Rev. Mr. Shephard was pastor, which was then on Public Square, and also the choir. Mrs. Ridall, who had a sweet soprano voice, sang and he played his bass violin, made by himself, and conducted the choir of the church for 20 years. Mr. Ridall and wife were at Easton to assist at a concert and an invitation was given President Van Buren to be present. He accepted and the church was crowded. Mr. Ridall was one of the musicians and played on his own bass violin. He had the pleasure of an introduction to the President.

Mr. Ridall has lived in and around Wilkes-Barre ever since, and at present resides with his worthy son, who has inherited his musical ability. At that place the family gathered from all parts of the United States to celebrate this, the 64th anniversary of the wedding. A dinner was served to nearly four score of the relatives and friends, and visitors were received all afternoon and evening. After dinner congratulations and songs followed. Both were kept busy telling tales of the long ago. They were induced to sing a duet, and responded and sang with remarkable sweetness, "Jesus is Mine." He accompanied himself on his own instrument, made many years ago.

He also sang "The Sands of Time." The Y. M. C. A. choir sang several selections, also a double quartet of four generations of the family, the aged couple among the number. Mr. Riddle, Sr., was also the accompanist. Supper was served in the evening.

Here are four generations of the family: Mrs. Mary Speece, of Pittston; Mrs. Charles Mann, Altoona; Wm. Ridall, Jr., Mrs. Margaret Acker, Scranton; Mrs. H. H. Smith, South Dakota; Mrs. Robert Ridall, of Port Byron, N. Y.; Mrs. A. Carpenter of Seattle; Mrs. George Ridall of New York City; Mrs. John Fogart, of Yankton, Dakota; Mrs. Charles Ridall of Port Byron, N. Y. Justice Ridall of Marselles N. Y.; William Henckle of Kansas City; Mrs. Martha Parker of Pittston; Mrs. Horace Anderson of West Pittston; Walter Speece of Parkersburg, West Virginia; John Speece of Samuel Ridall of Troy, N. Y., Mrs. Mattie Smith, M. D., of Minneapolis, Frank Smith of Boston, Mass., DeWitt Smith of Yankton, Mrs. William Alford of Port Byron, N. Y., Miss Jennie Carpenter, Miss Ethel Carpenter of Seattle, Frank Ridall of Port Byron, Misses Mattie and Sarah Ridall of Port Byron, Mertie, Grace, Bessie, Reva, Henry and Charles of Marselles, N. Y.

William Ridall, Sr., was born Oct. 22, 1808, and his wife Dec. 9, 1807, and both are in the enjoyment of good health.



**HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S NEW BUILDING.**

**Work Will Be Begun Within a Week and to Be Completed About the First of Next January—A Permanent Home for the Society and Its Museum.**

[Daily Record, July 12, 1892.]

The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society has one of the rarest and most elaborate museums in the State. The public has been repeatedly invited to inspect it, but on account of the dingy quarters in which it is located at present the opportunity has not been very generally taken advantage of. Many specimens are contained in the cases that are connected with the early days of Wyoming Valley and are therefore invaluable. The society had been planning for a long time on ways and means to secure a permanent home, where the museum might be properly arranged and the society have attractive quarters and the death and very generous bequests of the late Isaac Osterhout gave these plans some definite form. It always seemed proper that the building should be located in connection with the library and the trustees of the Osterhout estate also favored this plan.

At a meeting of the officers of the society held a few days ago the plans of Architect A. H. Kipp were adopted and the contract for the erection of the building was awarded to Hull & Sherrerd. The cost will be about \$10,000, including the extra furnishings which the society is at present contemplating. It will be located adjoining the Osterhout Library on South Franklin in the street rear of the library building, front facing South Franklin street, forming a sort of wing to the library building. It will be two stories in height, of brick and stone and terra cotta trimmings. The front elevation shows a very pretty design. There are large double doors with a stone arch above. The style of architecture is semi-classic. The dimensions will be 59x40 feet.

The cellar will be used as a general utility room and toilet.

On the first floor there will be a large meeting room for the society, and adjoining that the library. A large fire proof vault will be set on this floor.

The steps will lead to the second story into a hall of large size, and the rest of the floor

will be occupied by the museum collection in a large room. The museum will be attractively arranged and made inviting to visitors.

In the meeting room on the first floor there will be a large open hearth with elaborate decorations above and about it. There will be a panel wood ceiling divided into squares. The entrance will be on Franklin street.

**HAKES REUNION.**

**The Family Assembled From All Parts of America — Descendants of the Original Family Meet Once a Year to Get Acquainted.**

[Syracuse Evening Times, Aug. 17.]

The sixth annual reunion of the Hakes families of America was held at the Vanderbilt House this morning. The reunion is held every year in the form of an association. The permanent officers are president, Dr. Harry Hakes, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; vice presidents, Hon. Harlo Hakes, Hornellsville, N. Y.; Albert H. Hakes, River Forest, Ill.; Hon. O. Hakes, Bridgeport, Cal.; Frank P. Hakes, Pitcher, N. Y.; secretary, Miss Gertrude Hakes, Worcester, Mass.

The history of the organization is interesting. Eight years ago Dr. Harry Hakes, who is an attorney at Wilkes-Barre, conceived the idea of gathering together the entire Hakes family of America. Being ancient, the task was a hard and tedious one. After six months the doctor succeeded in gathering together 560 members of his order. A reunion followed two years after at Niagara Falls and those who attended were so pleased with the novelty of the idea that it was decided to make it a fixture. Since then there has been a reunion each year on the third Wednesday of August.

Every northern State and territory, with the exception of Maine and New Hampshire, is represented in the reunion. Their ancestry is traced as far back as 1709, and the coat of arms consists of three hake fishes on a shield, emblazoned as follows: "Azure three fishes (hake) haurient in ferre argent."

The exercises at the meeting this morning consisted of music by Schneider & Moses's band followed by prayer by Hon. George Hakes, who is 87 years of age. A general talk followed regarding the next reunion, which is to be held in Chicago. The usual banquet was held at 1:30.

Dr. Harry Hakes, the president, is the author of the well known synopsis of the discovery of America.

### BLENNERHASSETT'S WIFE.

"W. J." has Something More to Say About This Remarkable Woman and the Reply of "E."

**ERROR RECORD.**—I am not going to find any fault with "E's" defense of Mrs. Blennerhasset as given in the *Leader* May 30. I am willing to admit, though I know nothing personally on the subject, that in the first bloom of her early womanhood she was all that she was described to be in Wirt's famous panegyric describing her as she appeared 25 years before her advent here in Wilkes-Barre. I am not prepared to gainsay as seen by the people of the old town. She was a disappointed woman, having fallen from her high estate through no fault of her own or from any criminal act of her husband, whom she no doubt idolized, even after the great calamity of loss of fortune had fallen upon the Blennerhasset house. I intended to be charitable to the lady, and said in effect just what Mr. E. has said of her, that "her foreign training may have made it hard for her to adapt herself to the surroundings." What he says of her housekeeping qualities I presume applies to her as a housekeeper under her husband's roof. As a boarder in Mr. Peleg Tracy's family at the old mansion, corner of Union and Franklin streets, which stood on the lot now occupied by the Syndicate Block, I presume she had no occasion of "every morning passing an hour or two in the kitchen, preparing the day's meals and directing her servants," as she had but one, Mary by name, and she earned her own living by doing washing and sewing for Mrs. Dow's family. I never heard any of the old people speak of her literary and musical attainments, but it does not follow from their omission to name them that she was not what "E." claims her to have been. Our grandmothers were not proficient in the divine arts of music and poetry, and probably could not have appreciated her old world accomplishments had they ever had the good fortune to be invited to any of her soirees or Shakespearian readings. Taking the English dictionary as a definition for the word "servant," "E" is all right, but the plain country folks of that day did not speak of their hired help as servants. Distinctions in society were less marked then than now, or were then in England. "Niggers" were niggers and nothing else, as Esquire Arnold Colt once married a couple from his chamber window in the middle of the night, pronouncing them "man and wife in the presence of God and Lord Butler's nigger."

Blennerhasset's Island, I am glad to hear, has been restored to its pristine loveliness. Its fertility no one can doubt, but when I saw it forty-five years ago it was sadly out of repair. W. J.

### A Moravian Indian Monument.

(Contributed.)

Passengers on the Upper Lehigh Valley road will notice a little below Wyalusing station, near the track, on the river side, a stone monument.

It is to mark the site of "Friedenshütten," "tents of peace," an Indian village that flourished about 130 years ago.

The tribe was a clan of the Delawares, and having some crude notions of the gospel, desired its spread in their midst. This intelligence reaching David Zeisberger, the distinguished Moravian missionary, he visited the place in 1762 and labored among them some time, great success attending his efforts.

The village contained in its palmiest days a church, a school house, 29 log houses and 13 huts. The Indians had horses and cattle and cultivated the adjacent flat lands, the products of which, with the fish and game found in that immediate vicinity, furnished them a good living. But after several years of peace and prosperity, a change of fortune took place with them. Their lands had been sold by the Iroquois, and difficulties between England and the colonists threatened to bring on a general war. These and other matters, naturally made them discontented, and wishing to escape those pending troubles, they accepted an invitation to locate with a friendly tribe in Ohio. It was in June, 1772, that after a solemn communion service, and amid prayers and tears, they left their "huts of peace," so dear to them, and set out to find new homes in what was then the far West.

This is a brief history of an interesting Indian tribe whose subsequent fate is unknown, all farther trace of them being lost.

The shaft which is 13 feet high is made of stone, quarried from Campbell's Ledge, near Pittston. In June, 1871, it was dedicated with fitting services by the Moravian Historical Society.

## ST. STEPHEN'S.

### A RED LETTER DAY IN ITS HISTORY.

Seventy-five Years of Work for the Master in St. Stephen's Parish—Eighteenth Anniversary of Rev. Dr. Jones's Pastorate—The Interesting Services Sunday.

[Daily Record, November 14, 1892.]

St. Stephen's parish, the handsome main church of which points its column heavenward on South Franklin street, in its three-quarter of a century history has grown, like all efforts of stupendous moment, like all the great things of life, from a small beginning. To-day the benign Christian influence exerted by this parish is exceeded by few in the State and the untiring rector, who also yesterday celebrated the eighteenth anniversary of his pastorate here, may well feel proud of such a retrospective review as was listened to yesterday.

A large congregation gathered at St. Stephen's Church yesterday morning to attend the first service of the day. Every seat in the church was occupied, many from other congregations of the city being in attendance.

Within the chancel were Rt. Rev. Henry C. Potter, bishop of New York; Rt. Rev. N. S. Rulison of Bethlehem, assistant bishop of this diocese; Rev. Dr. Charles DeKay Cooper, rector of the church of the Holy Apostles of Philadelphia, the only surviving former rector of St. Stephen's Church; the present rector, Rev. Dr. Jones, and the assistant rector, Rev. Horace E. Hayden.

All of the clergymen took part in the liturgical services, at the conclusion of which Rev. Dr. Jones read the following:

#### HISTORY OF THE PARISH.

St. Stephen's Church has had an organized existence of 75 years. Rev. Bernard Page, of the Church of England, ordained by the Lord Bishop of London for "Wyoming Parish, Pennsylvania," August 24, 1772, was the first Protestant Episcopal minister to officiate in this section. Owing to the great political disturbances of that date, Mr. Page did not long remain in the valley, but retired to Virginia, where he ministered as assistant to Rev. Bryan, Lord Fairfax. No other minister of our church is known to have visited these parts until 1814, when that "apostle of the Northwest," Rt. Rev. Jackson Kemper, D. D., held divine services in the old Wilkes-Barre Academy, and stirred up the church people of the village of Wilkes-Barre. The first

baptism recorded was performed by him December 8, 1814. Who officiated during the next three years cannot be learned. No definite steps were taken to organize a parish until September 19, 1817, when the church people met together and elected the first vestry, applied for a charter, which was granted October 7, 1817, and engaged the services of Rev. Richard Sharpe Mason, D. D.

Dr. Mason was succeeded by Rev. Dr. Phinney. His ministry here was brief, and no record exists of his work.

In 1819 Rev. Manning R. Roche became the missionary at St. Stephen's. The Sunday school had been organized in 1818 by Hon. David Scott, the president judge of the district, then the only male communicant of the church here, and the parish appears to have been prosperous. But Mr. Roche retired from the parish in 1820, and from the ministry in 1822. During the next two years, 1821-1822, the services were conducted by Samuel Bowman, a lay reader, whose connection with St. Stephen's is worthy of notice.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, May 21, 1800, ordained deacon by Bishop White Aug. 25, 1823, he was, after a successful ministry of 35 years at Lancaster and Easton, elected assistant bishop of Pennsylvania and consecrated Aug. 25, 1858.

St. Stephen's parish was admitted to the convention May 2, 1821.

During the previous years her people had worshipped in the old frame building, "Old Ship Zion," which had been erected by the joint contributions of the various Christian bodies in the town. It was determined, December 27, 1821, to sell the right of St. Stephen's parish in this building, and to purchase a lot and erect a church. Through the aid of Judge Scott this work was begun and January 15, 1822, the contract for the building was let.

Some of you will remember the following tradition, which the late Mrs. Volney L. Maxwell (whose kindly presence and loving sympathy in all good works many of you will call to mind) has the credit of relating. When in the good old days three organized bodies of Christian people (Presbyterians, Methodists, Episcopalians) met in the union meeting house (in those days house was the chosen term), Mrs. Bowman and other ladies deemed it fitting to deck the interior of the same with evergreens, in commemoration of the birth of our Savior. This was too much for the feelings of some of the worshippers, and their zealous indignation found vent in the tearing down of the symbolic green. This so aroused these good Episcopalian sisters that they determined to have a church edifice of their own. A lot was procured and eventually the church was built.

This edifice was consecrated by Bishop White, June 14, 1824.

During a portion of 1823 the services were in charge of Rev. Samuel Sitgraves, who in December of that year was succeeded by Rev. Enoch Huntington, who remained until 1826. He was succeeded in February 1827 by Rev. James May, D. D. During the ten years' ministry of this godly man, the church in Wilkes-Barre from being a feeble missionary station, grew to be what it has ever since continued, one of the strongest and most effective parishes of the Episcopal Church in this section of the diocese.

Dr. May was succeeded in 1837 by Rev. William James Clark, who remained until 1840, when Rev. Robert Bethel Claxton, S. T. D., entered upon the charge of the parish.

After six years of zealous and faithful labor he resigned in 1846 to enter upon other and important fields of duty.

It was during Dr. Claxton's ministry (and in his judgment largely due to the faithful service of his predecessor, Dr. May,) that such men as Hon. John M. Conyngham, Hon. George W. Woodward, Volney L. Maxwell, DeWitt Clinton Loop and others of ability and influence, became active and zealous communicants. Here it is appropriate for me to refer to a lay-ministry that was powerful in establishing the character of St. Stephen's parish for the coming time. In my judgment, there are few, if any, of those now living who have for twenty-five years been communicants of this parish, or of the godly men and women who within that period have passed from us to their reward, who would not unite in acknowledging a debt of gratitude for the Christian life of one, who for twenty-five years represented the Diocese of Pennsylvania in the General Convention, and of whom an aged man, in his illness, speaking to his minister of his attachment to the Episcopal Church, said: "I have confidence in a church that nurtured such a character as that of Judge Conyngham."

For six months after the departure of Dr. Claxton, the parish was in charge of Rev. Charles DeKay Cooper, D. D., now rector of the Church of the Holy Apostles, Philadelphia, and the only survivor of the past rectors of St. Stephens, who by his presence brightens the joy of this day.

The Rev. George D. Miles took charge of the parish as rector April 1, 1848.

During the eighteen years of his earnest and active ministry the parish was blessed with large successes. In 1852 the increase of the congregation was such as to demand enlarged accommodations. The church building erected in 1822 was a frame structure of one story with a tower at the northwest corner. The Sunday school met in a building a square distant. It was decided to erect an edifice of brick. The corner stone was laid

June 20, 1855, by Bishop Alonzo Potter. The building was consecrated April 19, 1855, by the same bishop of saintly memory, whose son it is our privilege to have with us at the services of this day.

Rev. R. H. Williamson succeeded Rev. Mr. Mills in 1866 and remained until 1871, when he was deposed from the ministry. During 1874 the parish had the services of the late Rev. Chauncey Colton, D. D. On the second Sunday in November in that same year the present rector took charge.

#### SERMON BY BISHOP POTTER.

The sermon of the morning was by Bishop Potter, based upon selections from the 37th and 38th verses of the 4th chapter of the gospel according to John: "One man soweth and another reapeth; other men labor and ye are entered into their labors." The sermon was a thoughtful exposition of the dependence of the present upon the past; chaste and beautiful in expression, impressive in delivery. The obvious truth was pointed out that the sowing by one that another may reap is the foundation of all material prosperity.

#### IN THE EVENING.

At the evening service another large congregation gathered to hear the anniversary addresses. In addition to the clergymen who were at the morning service there were present Rev. J. P. Ware of Plymouth and Rev. D. W. Coxe, D. D., of Nanticoke, who took part in the services. The first address after the conclusion of the liturgical exercises was the historical and statistical review of Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones, who epitomized the eighteen years of his pastorate as follows:

It was my privilege to enter upon the charge of St. Stephen's parish on the second Sunday in November, Nov. 8, 1874. Of the 64 clergymen reported in the *Diocesan Journal* as entitled to vote in the convention of 1875 only three beside myself remain settled in the same charge—Rev. Dr. Orrick, Christ Church, Reading; Rev. M. A. Tolman, St. Mark's Church, Mauch Chunk, and Rev. G. P. Hopkins, St. Mathew's, Pike. At that time the services of the church had been temporarily suspended in Ashley and Plymouth, also in Pittston (where now there is one self-supporting parish and one flourishing mission). For five years the ministry of the parish in its relation to parts adjacent depended on the rector. In that period occasional services were held at Tunkhannock, Wyoming, Pittston, Ashley, Plymouth and North Wilkes-Barre, and for the first time at Laurel Run upon the Wilkes-Barre mountain. At a subsequent period your rector was the pioneer in holding services at Alden and Nanticoke and more recently at Dorranceton. At various times when our sister parish of St. Clement's, South

Wilkes-Barre, has been without a rector, it has also been my pleasant duty to render such service as other appointments would permit. In the latter part of 1879 it was my happy lot to welcome as a fellow laborer the Rev. Horace E. Hayden, whose Christian character and scholarship have won so firm a hold on our affection and esteem. Since that period the following clergymen have been at different times associated with the rector in charge of mission work:

Rev. T. D. Bannister, now at New Hartford, C. N. Y.

Rev. W. F. Watkins, Jr., now Mount Washington, Md.

Rev. William Brittain, now at Ashtabula Harbor, O.

Rev. T. B. Angell, rector St. Stephen's, Harrisburg.

Rev. C. M. Carr, late rector Grace Church, Watertown C. New York, whose sudden death has brought sorrow to many hearts.

Rev. J. P. Ware, in charge of St. Peter's, Plymouth.

Rev. J. D. Ferguson, now at Scottsville, W. N. Y.

Rev. D. W. Coxe, D. D., in charge of St. Andrew's, Alden and St. George's, Nanticoke.

Rev. Messrs. Hayden, Ware and Coxe form at present the faithful and efficient clerical staff of the rector of St. Stephen's and are brethren beloved. This missionary work in parts adjacent to the parish would have been impossible but for the active and self-sacrificing efforts of lay helpers, some of whom have passed from this earthly scene and entered upon the higher life.

Among the changes in material things largely brought about through the agency of this parish and the instrumentality of its individual communicants. I note in—

1879—The erection of the log chapel upon the Wilkes-Barre Mountain.

1881—Enlargement and adornment of St. Stephen's rectory.

1883—Erection of a commodious parish building for Sunday school and charitable work. At this time was commenced the work which continued through successive years, of the enlargement of the church edifice. During this period the chapel of St. Peter's, Plymouth, was moved and enlarged, also two additional lots purchased.

1885—A new chapel was erected at Alden and later on a parsonage.

1886—The chapel at North Wilkes-Barre was enlarged.

1888—The tower and vestibule of St. Stephen's added. About this time a new brick church was erected at Nanticoke, also an attractive parsonage at Plymouth. Since that time the main church has been decorated, steam heating has been introduced, and within the last summer, through the agency

of the ladies, the parish building has been adorned and beautified.

I shall not at this time attempt to designate the various memorials of loved and revered members of this parish, which have so fitly found a place within these hallowed walls. Among these memorials it is my privilege to note a tribute to the late Bishop Stevens, who for the first twelve years of my pastorate was ever the faithful friend and counsellor and whose ministry within the parish, in his times of recreation, added greatly to its efficiency and strength.

#### STATEMENTS, OFFICIAL ACTS, OFFERINGS, ETC.

Baptisms—Adult, 138; infant, 539; total, 677. Confirmed, 485.

Communicants added, 621; communicants lost, 492.

Number of communicants reported in 1874, 215; present number, 404.

Marriages, 196; burials, 454.

Offerings—Parochial, \$217,472.58; diocesan, \$65,262.54; extra diocesan, \$28,327.54; total offerings, \$311,062.66.

In 1874 the report of the Sunday school workers noted—Officers and teachers, 44; scholars, 319; present number of officers and teachers, 66; scholars, 960.

The Sunday school work of St. Stephen's parish has thus far been maintained by the liberality of the parish. The offerings received from the schools themselves have been of valuable assistance in the parochial, diocesan and general missionary work of the church, besides supporting scholarships in Salt Lake City, Africa, China and Japan, also aiding the work in Brazil and Cuba.

The above report includes only statistics connected with the main church and Calvary and Log Chapels. It does not indicate the energetic and zealous labors of the Ladies' Parochial Aid Society or of the junior branch of the Woman's Auxiliary, and the valuable aid rendered by them from year to year to the missionaries of the church.

#### CONCLUDING ADDRESSES.

After the singing of the 447th hymn, Bishop Rullison in a few felicitous words introduced Bishop Potter. The bishop began by indulging in some reminiscences of the earlier days when he frequently visited Wilkes-Barre with his father, who was then bishop of the undivided diocese of Pennsylvania. He contrasted those days of trial with the achievements of these late years as shown by the report of the rector.

Bishop Rullison followed in a brief speech in which he spoke of the prominence of the parish in the diocese and the relation of the parish to the work, emphasizing as its distinguishing characteristics that it was doing living work, was loyal to the church, desired to help others and had developed the habit of doing good unconsciously.

## DEATH OF WESLEY JOHNSON.

Another of Wilkes-Barre's Old Residents Passes Away—A Quiet Yet Interesting Life has a Painless Close.

The RECORD has the painful duty of announcing the death of Wesley Johnson, one of Wilkes-Barre's oldest and most highly respected citizens; which took place Thursday, Oct. 27, 1892. Just as the sun was gilding the Eastern hill tops his tired body found rest in the last long sleep of death. Mr. Johnson had been confined to his room for some eight weeks, though his decline dates back to a severe attack of the grip through which he passed two winters ago. Ever since that attack his friends have noticed a gradual failure of his strength. Death was not the result of any particular disease, but was due to a general failure of the vital forces, which involved all the important organs. His last sickness was not attended with much acute pain, but his condition was distressing to himself and his friends by reason of profound weakness. He died at his home on Union street, and the final change was a peaceful sleep, unmarked by a single struggle. During his illness he was visited by Rev. Henry L. Jones and Rev. Horace E. Hayden, and at his own request received baptism. For several weeks he realized that the end was near and was anxious for release. He was fully prepared to go and as he passed into the shadowy beyond, the words of Bryant's *Thanatopsis* described the going:

"So live that when thy summons comes  
To join the innumerable caravan,  
That moves to that mysterious realm,  
Where each shall take his chamber  
In the silent hall of death,  
Thou go not like the quarry slave at night,  
Scourged to his dungeon,  
But sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust,  
Approach thy grave, like one who wraps  
The drapery of his couch about him  
And lies down to pleasant dreams."

Mr. Johnson was born at old Laurel Run, now Parsons Borough, Dec. 20, 1819, and was consequently not yet 73 years of age. He was the son of Jehoida Pitt Johnson and a grandson of Rev. Jacob Johnson, the first settled minister in Wilkes-Barre, and who officiated over what is now the First Presbyterian Church from the time of his call from Connecticut in 1772 to his death in 1797. Jacob was the son of Jacob of Wallingford, Conn., (1674-1749), the son of William of New Haven, the son of Thomas of New Haven, who emigrated from Kingston-on-Hull, England, and was drowned in 1640 in New Haven harbor. Jacob drew up the articles of capitulation between the British and Americans

in the battle and massacre of Wyoming in 1778.

Wesley was one of a large family of brothers and sisters, of whom there now survive only two—Wm. P. Johnson of Dallas Township, in this county, and Sarah, widow of Henry C. Wilson; of Ohio, now residing at Columbus. Of his brothers, Ovid F. Johnson was a distinguished lawyer and was attorney general of Pennsylvania under Governor Porter from 1839 to 1845. Of the other brothers, Miles died in California within a few years, Jehoida died at the old homestead about twenty years ago and Priestley R., a twin brother of Wesley, died in 1878. Of the sisters, Diantha died in 1874 and Mary G. Reel in 1880.

Wesley received his schooling at the old Wilkes-Barre Academy, and at the age of 23 went to Philadelphia and studied law with his brother Ovid. He was duly admitted to the bar of Philadelphia County in 1846, and subsequently of Luzerne County. While in Philadelphia he held a position in the United States custom house. Soon after his admission to the bar of Philadelphia he went to Texas, the difficulties on our Southwestern border then attracting much attention. He began the practice of law at Galveston, and when a little later the war with Mexico for the possession of Texas broke out, Mr. Johnson crossed over into the Spanish domain and witnessed considerable of the hostilities. Having letters from leading Philadelphians he had access to prominent people everywhere and had unusual opportunities for observing the movements of the military forces. Some years ago he contributed to the RECORD a series of sketches reminiscent of his experiences in Texas and Mexico. Among other facts noted was that his brother Ovid figured in a plot with certain Mexican officers to incite the northern States of Mexico to rebellion and annex them to the United States.

About 1850 Wisconsin was assuming prominence as a rapidly developing region and Mr. Johnson joined the throng of eastern pioneers who were hastening thither. The Fox River was then an inviting point, as it promised to become an important government canal, which was to connect the Mississippi River with the great lakes. Though the subsequent development of railroads practically shattered the day dream of its enthusiastic projectors, yet the movement went a great way in planting the region with a hardy band of pioneers that have made Wisconsin one of the richest of our commonwealths. Mr. Johnson settled in Marquette county and was elected clerk of the circuit and county courts. At Marquette in 1852 he married Cynthia Henrietta Green, whose father and brothers

had emigrated from Vermont and who had a leading part in developing that region, all the brothers still surviving and being among the most prominent and respected residents of the Fox River Valley. Mr. Johnson returned to Wilkes-Barre with his wife and infant son in 1853. Mr. Johnson never afterward practiced his profession but engaged in mercantile pursuits, the turmoil of a lawyer's practice being distasteful to one of such quiet habits of life. It was a desire to avoid litigation rather than to reap personal gain by becoming a party to it, that probably had much to do with weaning him from practice as a lawyer. Those who knew him best say he had a profound knowledge of the law, and had it not been distasteful, there is no reason why he should not have shone as an advocate. He was preeminently a man of peace. He never provoked a quarrel and he always turned away when a quarrel threatened, so as not to be drawn into it.

In 1855 his wife died, leaving him with two little sons, the younger of which soon followed its mother to the shadowy land. The other, Frederick C., is living and is one of the proprietors of the RECORD. Mr. Johnson subsequently married Frances Wilson, widow of Frederick McAlpine, who died four years ago. There are no surviving children from this union, though his wife's daughter Lizzie has kept house for Mr. Johnson since her mother's death and was utiring in her devotion to him during his final illness.

Since his retirement from active business life in 1874 he has for several years been elected Alderman of the Fourth Ward without opposition. His rulings have been considered models of fairness. He did not encourage litigation, even to earn fees and many hundreds of cases that came to him were through his advice terminated by private settlement without resort to the courts. He also held several positions of trust such as city auditor, judge of election, etc.

He was one of the projectors of the Wyoming Centennial of 1878 and was the secretary of the Commemorative Association from its inception to the day of his death. His compilation, the memorial volume, is one of the standard annals in the local history of this region.

Mr. Johnson was by politics a Democrat, though not strongly partisan. In matters of national politics he voted with his party, but on local issues he knew no party ties, but voted for the best man. During the war, when the Democracy was divided, his feelings were for the Union and when Lee invaded Pennsylvania Mr. Johnson responded to the call for volunteers and hastened to the front.

Gentle in manner and considerate of others, he was conspicuously a silent man. Not given to much talking, he was ever a good listener. Possessed of an inquiring and analytical mind and a retentive memory he had a large fund of information on a range of subjects. His powers of observation were good and he had a literary taste that enabled him to write the most graceful articles descriptive of travel or other matters which interested him. All the local papers have had articles from his pen. In his early life he loved to peruse and memorize the better poets and as a result he was able to draw upon an extensive fund of classical quotations. Some graceful verses of poetry have been written by him—in short, he had the pen of a ready writer.

He had a diversity of natural gifts, any one of which, if cultivated, would have brought him a reputation, but he lacked the quality of aggressiveness. His quiet life was unmarked by any serious struggle to gain an advantage over his fellow men. He was not avaricious, he was content with a small store of worldly goods, and as far as this store would permit he was generous. While he did not leave a legacy of wealth he left the priceless heritage of an honest and upright life and a reputation that bears no blemish.

### THE EARTH HAS CLOSED O'ER HIM.

Impressive Services Over the Remains of the Late Wesley Johnson on Saturday.

On Saturday afternoon, in the first faint shadow of declining day, followed by the friends of his association and profession, the remains of the late Wesley Johnson were conveyed from the home to St. Stephen's Church and from thence to Hollenback Cemetery. Many friends at the house were given an opportunity to look upon the face of him they honored. A number of floral creations were placed about the room and gave forth the sweetest incense.

The following carriers, who are members of the Wyoming Commemorative Association of which Mr. Johnson was secretary, bore the casket to the hearse and thence into the church: Edmund G. Butler, George H. Butler, John B. Reynolds Benjamin Dorrance, Sheldon Reynolds and William A. Wilcox, the last named being from Scranton. They were followed by the relatives and about fifty Masons, members of Lodges 61 and 442, in a body. Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones and Rev. Horace E. Hayden officiated at the church and a quartet from the choir sang appropriate selections. Rev. Dr. Jones made a beautiful address, lifting the sombreness from the scenes of death and pointing to the halo of glory that surrounds the immortal soul, lifting the mind from the sorrow of

death's separation to the thought of that bright transition in which death is only instrumental. The remains were placed in charge of the Masonic fraternity who marched to the cemetery following the cortege. Their carriers were Samuel J. Tonkin, C. B. Metzger, Col. B. F. Stark, William L. Stewart, C. B. Dana and W. A. Wilcox. The regular pall bearers, nearly all of whom were Mr. Johnson's old Masonic friends, were W. W. Loomis, Calvin Parsons, Dr. Urquhart, William S. Wells, Charles Morgan, Hon. Chas. A. Miner, Isaac Livingston and William Dickover.

At the cemetery Worshipful Master Augustus L. LeGrand conducted the Masonic ritual, assisted by Rev. Dr. Jones. Just before the lowering of the casket the hollow square formed by the members was broken and, filing past the grave, each one threw into it a sprig of arbor vitae, and with this suggestive ceremony the services were concluded and the earth closed over one of Wilkes-Barre's staunchest and most respected citizens.

### HON. H. B. PAYNE DEAD.

Expires Early Yesterday Morning at His Home in Kingston—His Career.  
[Daily Record, September 2, 1892.]

Every one was shocked yesterday morning when it became known that Hon. Hubbard B. Payne had a few hours before been found dead in his bed at his home on Maple street in Kingston. On Wednesday he was at his office in the Harvey Building on Franklin street in this city and attended to his business as usual. On the evening before his death he was on the streets of Kingston chatting pleasantly with friends and acquaintances. Wednesday evening he retired to his room at about 10 o'clock with the expectation of being called at an early hour on account of some domestic arrangements.

The cause of death was thought by the physicians to be heart trouble as he had suffered from rheumatism and a heart affection at times for a number of years. Two years ago he had a slight stroke of apoplexy from which he recovered in a few weeks, but his general health has never been good since. During the past summer he spent all the time he could spare from his practice at his Harvey's Lake cottage where his family was located, but not getting as much benefit there as he felt necessary he went about a month ago to Avon Springs, N. Y., remaining there three weeks, returning some days since considerably stronger in appearance.

At the time of Mr. Payne's death only Mrs. Payne, the younger son Paul and the servants were in the house, the daughter Louise and elder son H. B. Jr., having gone to Philadelphia on Monday to make preparations for the removal of the family there to spend

the winter months. They were immediately notified of their father's death by telegraph and arrived home in the afternoon.

To know Mr. Payne was to be his friend and to respect him. His nature was like the sunlight tending to shed warmth wherever its influence extended. In his capacity as a lawyer he was always a champion of the right, and many a widow and penniless person has been allowed to pay him with thanks for upholding a just cause against oppression and wrong. He was a large and constant contributor to all worthy charities and church work and his helping hand and ready action in these directions will be greatly missed.

### HIS CAREER.

Hubbard Bester Payne was born in Kingston, where he has always resided, on July 20, 1839, making him a few days over 53 years of age at the time of his death. He was a descendant of Stephen Paine, a miller from Great Ellingham, near Attleburg, County Norfolk, England, who came to New England in 1638 with a large company of emigrants from the neighborhood of Hingham, bringing his wife, three children, and four servants, in the ship Diligent, of Ipswich. Bester Paine, father of deceased and a great-great-great-grandson of the emigrant Stephen Paine, was born in Norwich, Conn., on April 10, 1810, and removed with his father to Gibson in this State in 1813. He removed to Kingston in 1839 and was widely known throughout this and adjoining counties as a lead pipe layer. He was married on December 4, 1834, to Polly, a daughter of Joseph Pierce, of Hasbrook, Sullivan county. Her grandfather was William Pierce, a native of the north of England, and her mother, Elizabeth Cargell, a daughter of Abram Cargell, a native of Scotland and his wife, Catherine Hornbeck, a native of Holland. Some time after the death of her husband, Bester Payne, Mrs. Payne married for a second husband Isaac Rice of Kingston. Mrs. Rice is for a second time a widow but still lives in Kingston on Maple street, and is in good health at the age of 74 years.

Hubbard Bester Payne, just deceased, was the only child of the late Bester Payne and until the age of eighteen lived at home working with his father in the lead pipe manufactory or by the day for the farmers or attending the schools of the neighborhood. He prepared for college at Wyoming Seminary and has ever since been a staunch friend and supporter of the school, frequently lecturing there on subjects appertaining to the law, and always with the greatest favor. In August, 1857, he entered Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., and there his life struggles really began. His parents' means being quite limited, he sought to aid them, and during his college course taught a dis-



trict school for three successive winters at Rocky Hill, Hartford County, Conn., meantime keeping up with his college studies. He was active in the literary societies of his college, being a member of the Psi Upsilon and of the Pythologian societies, and was chosen by the college faculty as a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. In June, 1861, he graduated, being fourth in his class. Two months after emerging from college he entered the office of the late Charles Denison as a law student, meantime teaching a school in Cinder alley in this city, and a little later a boys' school in the Hillard block. He was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County Aug. 20, 1863, and secured desk room in the office of Winthrop W. Ketcham, now deceased, then solicitor of the United States Court of Claims. In politics Mr. Payne was always a staunch, unwavering Republican, always able and willing to tell his reasons for his political complexion. He was an active party worker and a much sought after public speaker. In 1874 he was nominated without opposition in his own party for the State Senate in the Twenty-first Senatorial District and elected over his Democratic opponent, Jasper B. Stark, by a majority of 1,054 votes. During his term in the Senate he was chairman of the committees of "Mines and Mining" and "New Counties" and serving on the committees on "Judiciary General" and "Judiciary Local." He introduced a bill providing that elementary education should be compulsory for children between the ages of 8 and 14 years. The bill was reported favorably but recommitted to the Committee on Education, where it was smothered, the party leaders fearing it might be looked upon as a political scheme of some kind.

In 1876 Mr. Payne was nominated for Congress in the Twelfth Congressional District and his prospects for election were flattering. Edgar L. Merriman, his Democratic opponent, died during the campaign and the Democratic and Greenback parties united and placed in nomination Hendrick B. Wright, by whom he was defeated by a small majority. In 1880 he was a candidate for one of the law judges of Luzerne County, being defeated by Stanley Woodward.

Mr. Payne was a past master of Kingston Lodge, F. and A. M.; district deputy of the order for three years; a member of Wilkes-Barre Lodge, F. and A. M., 61; member of Dieu Le Veut Commandery Knights Templar; a member of the Amphictyon Society of Wyoming Seminary; president of the board of trustees of the Osterhout Library; a director of the Miner's Savings Bank and a trustee of the Kingston Y. M. C. A.

On February 22, 1865, he was married to Elizabeth Lee Smith, the only daughter of Draper Smith of Plymouth. Mrs. Payne

and three children, Louisa S., Hubbard B. and Paul D. survive him.

#### THE FUNERAL.

The last services over the remains of the late Hubbard Bester Payne were held from the family home on Maple street, Kingston, on Saturday afternoon. The residence and grounds were thronged with people, not mere curiosity seekers, but friends and admirers of the dead man who had come from far and near to show in the only manner possible their genuine regard and respect for him whose character had been so nearly perfect that none could say aught in derogation. The remains reposed in a handsome black cloth covered casket, covered and surrounded by flowers, among the most beautiful of which were a floral pillow from his sorrowing mother, Mrs. Polly Rice, bearing the words "My son;" and anchor from the Presbyters of the Kingston Presbyterian Church; an ivy wreath from Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Welles. Another token was a very beautiful flat bouquet from the West Side Veterans' Association. A note left at the Record office explains the reason of the veterans in sending the tribute, although he was not a soldier, and it is a beautiful one: "The bouquet was sent because he loved the old boys and was always with them at their reunions and campfires, and he was always ready and willing for any service for which the boys saw fit to call on him."

The services, which were very simple, were conducted by Rev. F. von Krug, pastor of the Kingston Presbyterian Church, of which deceased was a member, and consisted of a short scripture reading and a prayer.

The Bar Association of Luzerne County was represented by a committee consisting of Judge Stanley Woodward, Gen. E. S. Osborne and Gen. W. H. McCartney. The pall bearers were John D. Hoyt, George Shoemaker, Hon. Daniel Edwards, William Loveland, J. Bennett Smith, Alfred Darte, George K. Powell and Alfred Smith. The carriers were P. M. Carhart, George H. Flanagan, B. R. Tubbs, T. L. Newell, L. C. Darte and Professor W. L. Dean.

The burial, which was in Forty Fort Cemetery, was attended only by the pall bearers, carriers and immediate relatives.

A meeting of the Luzerne County Bar was held in the court house last Friday at 10 a. m. to take action on the death of the late Hubbard B. Payne. The meeting was called to order by Gen. McCartney and on motion Gen. E. S. Osborne was made chairman and E. H. Chase secretary.

In taking his seat Gen. Osborne said, among other things: "I think that all in all Hubbard B. Payne was one of the leading men of this bar. He was a man who took an

interest in his community and in this county. If you were to go into the homes of the masses you would find him regarded as a thoroughly conscientious, upright, good man. He stood on a par with the best men of Luzerne county. His word could be relied on. He was a fair man and was never in favor of snap judgments. He strove always to be on the right side of a case. His career as a boy, as a youth, as a man, is worthy of study and commendation. He and I were boys together and I can commend him to you and to all as one whose memory is to be cherished. He was successful as a lawyer and as a politician he was worthy and respected. The impress of his character is found to-day on the statute books of this State. When he was in the Senate he took a great interest in the matter of education. He ever had the interests of the people at heart and he never was appreciated as fully as he deserved. As a neighbor, friend and member of this bar he stood among the best, and such a name as his should be held in remembrance."

Capt. Alfred Darté said he had known Mr. Payne since 1853, and he had shown the same characteristics in boyhood that he afterwards showed in manhood. Mr. Payne was eminently a burden bearer and he was ever ready to do something for others. He had the interests of the whole community at heart. He felt it his right to stand up for his home and county. He died in his own home, only a quarter of a mile from the spot where he was born. He knew everybody and had an interest for every one. As a lawyer he believed in the abstract difference between right and wrong and he would not take a case if he believed it to be wrong. As a politician he had an honorable ambition to make something of himself and to achieve an honorable reputation. He was a Christian gentleman. He did not win cases by trickery. He did not believe that it was a lawyer's duty simply to win cases—his duty was to be right. He was honorable and straightforward and his life speaks his funeral sermon in the home of his boyhood. He was my neighbor for 28 years. In closing Capt. Darté quoted from Thana-topis to the effect that when Mr. Payne passed from life he went not like the galley slave, at night scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and smoothed by an unflinching trust, he wrapped the drapery of his couch about him and lay down to pleasant dreams. His last word was a cheery good night to his family and when they went to waken him in the morning he was dead—his face as peaceful as that of a child sleeping upon its mother's bosom.

Dr. Hakes said Mr. Payne was a rather remarkable man. In spite of his frail constitution, he won success. He earned a good

reputation and he deserved it. He resembled the old school lawyer. He did not encourage litigation, on the other hand he was always quick to embrace a settlement without going to court. Nothing so brings us to realize the vanities of life as death. We can do nothing for the dead, except to assuage the grief of those who are left. Of this dead we may say in all honesty "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Gustav Hahn said he had known Mr. Payne for 36 years. No one was so poor or so humble but that Mr. Payne had a kind word for him.

Judge Rice said he felt proud to have been united to Mr. Payne by ties of friendship. The best thing that can be said of a lawyer is that he kept faithfully the oath of admission to the bar, and none of us have kept it more strictly or conscientiously than did Hubbard B. Payne. In the esteem of the masses of the people he was an ideal lawyer. He was always ready to aid a good public cause, even when struggling with a weak body.

Mr. Farnham said he was impressed with the idea that this occasion was unique. Usually these gatherings have been to pay respect to older lawyers, men who had long preceded us, but here is a man who has grown up before our eyes and whose career has all been unfolded within our recollection. I was impressed, when he was admitted to the bar, with his intense enthusiasm and energy—qualities which marked his after life just as strongly. Mingled with this was a quality which became gradually added—a quality of contentment, arising from a feeling of satisfaction on his part that he had built up and maintained a character for integrity, professional and personal, with which he had rounded up his career. Throughout the whole county his name was familiar and he had the universal confidence of the community in his integrity as a lawyer. He was respected by men of all shades of public opinion. He had a deep religious life and was foremost in church work at his home. He was consulted pre-eminently by men in difficulty whether legal or otherwise.

Judge Lynch mentioned the characteristic that while suffering great pain himself he endeavored to hide it to sympathize with others in misfortune.

Messrs. Darté, Hakes and G. K. Powell were appointed a committee to draft resolutions and to report the same at a meeting of the bar to be held in the library at 1 p. m. to-day, the funeral being set for 2.

## LAND SPECULATIONS IN 1796.

**A Luzerne County Man who was Dazzled With the Prospects of a New York Town.**

The appended article is taken from the Bath (N. Y.) *Plain Dealer*. It was written in Hanover township at a time when many of the old settlers were hunting for new places of settlement in some other State. If anyone can furnish the information as to the identity of the letter writer the RECORD will be pleased to print it:

We find in Welds' travels in the United States in 1796 the following: "Bath is a post and principal town in the western part of the State of New York. Though laid out only three years ago, yet it contains about thirty houses, it is increasing very fast." He further states that large amounts of land have been sold, yet large amounts are on sale on credit and easy terms.

It may readily be imagined that the quantity of land on such very easy terms could not fail to draw crowds of speculators to that part of the country.

The following letter, supposed to come from a farmer, though somewhat ludicrous does not give one an accurate description of one of these young speculators and of what is going on in this neighborhood. It appeared in a newspaper, published in Wilkes-Barre, on the Susquehanna, and I give it verbatim because being written by an American it will perhaps carry more weight with it than any thing I could say on the same subject.

To the printers of the *Wilkes-Barre Gazette*. Gentlemen: It is painful to reflect, that speculation has raged to such a degree of late, that honest industry and all the humble virtues that walk in her train are discouraged and rendered unfashionable.

It is to be lamented, too, that dissipation is sooner introduced in new settlements than industry and economy.

I have been led to these reflections by conversing with my son, who has just returned from the Lakes or Genessee. Though he has neither been to the one or to the other;—in short, he has been to Bath, the celebrated Bath, and has returned both a speculator and a gentleman; having spent his money, swapped away my horse, caught the fever and ague and what is infinitely worse, that horrid disorder which some call the terra phobia.

We can hear nothing from the poor creature (in his ravings) but of the captain, Billy (Williamson and William Dunn meaning) of ranges—townships—numbers—thousands—hundreds—acres—Bath—fairs—races—heats—bets—purses—Silk Stockings—for—unces—fevers—agues, &c. My son has a part of a township for sale and it is diverting enough to hear him narrate its pedigree, qualities and situation. In fine it lies near Bath and the captain himself once owned, and for a long time reserved it. It cost my son but five dollars an acre, he was offered six and a half a minute after purchase, but he is positively determined to have eight, besides some precious reserves. One thing is very much in my son's favor—has six years' credit. Another thing is still more so—he is not worth a sou nor ever will be at this rate.

Previous to his late excursion the lad worked well, and was contented at home on my farm, but now work is out of the question with him. There is no managing my boy at home, these golden dreams still beckon him back to Bath, where, as he says, no one need either work or starve, where, though, a man may have the ague nine months in the year, he may console himself in spending the other three fashionably at the races. A FARMER.

Hanover, Oct. 5, 1796.

The young blood attended the famous Bath fair and races held in September of that year and witnessed the great race between Capt. W.'s Virginia Nell and William Dunn's Silk Stocking, upon which immense sums of money were staked. Dunn was the winner. It is not strange that the callow youth was crazed with what he saw of the glitter and show of the rising metropolis of Western New York.

Will not some of our antiquarians of Wilkes-Barre inform us who this young speculator was and the outcome of his investments?

#### The Last of the Pioneer Operators.

We failed inadvertently to speak of the death of Marcus G. Hellner of New York, which occurred a few weeks ago. He was an extensive retail coal dealer latterly, but at one time was an operator in the Schuylkill region. In speaking of him, the *Miners' Journal* says quite eloquently:

"Mr. Hellner's death marks an epoch in the history of the conduct of the coal business, as he is the last of that hardy adventurous set of pioneer operators who penetrated into the new regions prospecting and opening up new operations—frequently met

hazardous undertakings, as is indicated by the numerous physical and financial wrecks that marked the path of development. The difficulties under which these early operators labored were very great, the vicissitudes of startling frequency—few, if any, fortunes being realized in the industry until the great stimulus of war times overtook the trade. These were the men, however, who 'spied out the land,' made the developments, and nursed into busy life and activity the numerous smaller enterprises which to-day form the immense aggregate holdings of the great combinations. Mr. Heilner's death has a pathetic aspect in that it is the removal of the last link binding the old with the new. With him has disappeared the last of his class, men whose names to-day are merely a memory—Richard Kerr, James Ollver, Henry Gulterman, Lewis Audenried, Joseph Taylor, Potts, Keppler, Bast, Miller, etc.—all hardy, enterprising men, who paved the way for the present order of things. While Mr. Heilner's business career (particularly the early part of it) was one of ceaseless activity and vexation, he was particularly fortunate in his domestic life. In his early youth he married Miss Sylvia Butler of Wilkes-Barre, a woman of singular sweetness of character and charm of manner. She is a grand-daughter of the gallant Col. Zebulon Butler, of Revolutionary fame, and a daughter of Zebulon Butler and Jemima Fish. Through her father she is also great grand daughter of the Rev. Jacob Johnson, the first minister in the Wyoming Valley. Mr. and Mrs. Heilner had the felicity of living together surrounded by a devoted family of children for over half a century, their golden wedding being celebrated four years ago. Mrs. Heilner, an unmarried daughter, and four sons survive him—George C. and M. Butler, who succeed to the business of Heilner & Son, 1 Broadway; Percy B., who is the general sales agent at New York for the Reading combination, and Walter, a lawyer at Philadelphia.

DR. DEPEW said in his usual neat way at the Chamber of Commerce banquet: Now I say to my friends again that having won the election upon phrase and fable they must turn that phrase into statute and that fable into law.

And in doing so let them remember that their platform contains the following plank:

We declare it to be a fundamental principle of the Democratic party that the federal government has no constitutional power to impose and collect tariff duties except for the purpose of revenue only.

This does not allow that a tariff should be so adjusted as to cover the difference between the wages of this and

other countries. It is orthodox protection that demands this.

### COAL TRADE IN 1827.

#### Great Contrast in Conditions Between Then and Now.

The Pottsville *Miner's Journal* reprints one of its issues of 1827, and among the articles is the customary weekly review of the coal trade. The writer says: "We learn that the Lehigh Co. is enjoying the benefit of their late improvement and is pouring down coal in immense quantities and upon very advantageous terms, owing to the great reduction made in their expenditures by the railroad. It is painful to turn from this novel and gratifying spectacle to the stagnant operations at Mt. Carbon, where more than half, perhaps two-thirds of our coal boats are idle and laid up. We have boats enough in the trade to take down upwards of 1,600 tons of coal weekly. The average amount actually dispatched is about 700 tons. To those acquainted with the superiority of our coal and local advantages this state of things must appear surprising. In our opinion the occurrence may with confidence be taken as the result of a variety of circumstances which might and ought to have been guarded against and obviated. It is known there was a stagnation in the coal market at Philadelphia last winter, and that large quantities of coal remained on hand unsold. This fell heavily upon our individual coal merchants. Their funds were locked up, they had reason to believe that the market for coal would be lowered to a minimum price, and they saw no mode of immediately lessening the expense of getting the coal to market except in the item of toll. Some confidence was felt that a reduction in the toll would be made to meet the prospect of a reduced market, but these expectations were disappointed. The navigation managers evinced a disposition to offer the bounty solicited and appear to have been aware that a reduction was necessary, but it is believed they were deterred from meeting the exigencies of the case by the demands and wishes of the stockholders, who were averse to any reduction.

"The rates of toll were always considered very high, fifty per cent. more than were charged upon other canals, and more than ought to have been charged upon the Schuylkill. Under the circumstances of depression above mentioned, it was felt to be oppressive; was viewed as an imposition which coal dealers would rather abandon the trade than pay. They accordingly suspended their operations, and many others were deterred from entering into the trade. These

we believe to be the prominent reasons why two-thirds of our coal boats are now empty and idle.

"In the midst of these discouraging circumstances we have the gratification to see our commercial resources increasing and the natural wealth of our district developing itself. Not a week passes but some new and valuable beds of coal are added to our discoveries. The aggregate, if brought together, would be almost beyond computation, certainly beyond consumption in any limited time, and yet not one hundredth part of the coal has been explored."

### DEATH OF J. V. DARLING.

**The Prominent Wilkes-Barre Attorney Dies in New York Quite Suddenly of Bright's Disease — The Grip Weakened Him and Made Him Susceptible to Disease—A Prosperous Career.**

Although the most intimate friends of J. Vaughan Darling, the eminent Wilkes-Barre Attorney, for the last year noted his failing strength and suspected the presence of the insidious disease that carried him away, yet they in common with the community in general were very much surprised and saddened Thursday morning last to hear of his death, which occurred at the Westminster Hotel in New York at 10:30 o'clock a. m. In December of last year Mr. Darling underwent a severe attack of the grip, which left his system in a weakened condition, sensitive of disease. He could not go much to his office and his friends noted with no little alarm his condition. In March he undertook the conduct of an important case in court, and the strain was so great that his condition became more serious. In June he sailed for Europe, and after traveling for some time he placed himself under the care of the best physicians at Baden Baden, Germany, who pronounced his ailment Bright's disease and held out no hope for his recovery. A couple of weeks ago he reached New York, and at the Westminster Hotel was given every attention by prominent physicians. The alarming change came on Wednesday night. A telegram to this city announcing his serious condition was soon followed by one announcing his death. Andrew H. McClintock, his brother-in-law, and Thomas Darling left on the noon train to meet Mrs. Darling and make funeral arrangements.

John Vaughan Darling's career at the the Luzerne County bar has been an eminent one. Of the many attorneys practicing there he was recognized as one of the best authorities on points of law, and he and his brother, E. P. Darling, who died some time ago, included many large private interests in their

practice. Many of the largest corporations entrusted their cases in the hands of the Darlings. Socially he was a fine representative of a highly cultured man, but he rather sought the conduct of his business interests and the seclusion of his home than the functions of an active social life. He was a fine musician and whiled away many an hour with his instruments.

Mr. Darling was born at Reading, July 24, 1844, and was, consequently, 48 years of age. His father was Judge William Darling.

The Darlings are of English origin and were among the earliest of the emigrants to New England. Thomas Darling married Martha Howe, a niece of Lord Howe, commander of the British forces in America during the Revolutionary war.

The father, William Darling, was born in Buckport, Me., but came to Pennsylvania and located at Reading when a young man. He was admitted to the bar there, achieved a large practice, was a United States Commissioner to the World's Fair at London in 1851, and afterwards president judge of the court of Berks, a position he honored, but which failing health compelled him shortly after to resign.

John Vaughan Darling prepared for college and passed his examination for the junior year at Harvard, but he was not robust, and on that account abandoned the idea of a college education. He was a frequent contributor to such well known publications as *Lippincott's* and the *Atlantic* and was for five years associate editor of the *North American Review*. He read law in Philadelphia and was admitted to the bar there in 1865. After his admission he became a partner with the well-known Morton P. Henry, in the legal firm of Henry & Darling. He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1874 and became a member of this bar on June 4 of that year. He was junior counsel for the Lehigh Valley Company, with James E., brother of the late Franklin B. Gowen, as early as 1869, being then only 25 years old. He was in partnership in the law for many years here with his brother, the late Edward Payson Darling.

Mr. Darling married Oct. 9, 1875, Alice Mary, youngest daughter of the late Hon. Andrew T. McClintock, who survives him. They had no children.

On Saturday afternoon the mortal remains of the late J. V. Darling were laid to rest in Hollenback Cemetery. From 12 to 1 o'clock the friends were given an opportunity to look upon the face of the dead, and many cast a parting look. Services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Hodge.

The pall bearers were Hon. C. E. Rice, George R. Bedford, F. W. Wheaton, Hon. H. W. Palmer, I. A. Stearns, W. A. Lathrop, C. P. Hunt, R. C. Shoemaker, Alexander Mitchell,

F. V. Rockafellow and Samuel Hines, the last named from Scranton. The interment was private.

#### The Late Judge Chapman.

James W. Chapman, brief mention of whose death at Montrose on September 8, 1892, has already been made in the RECORD, was a remarkably active man for one of his age, and up to last April, when visited by a stroke of paralysis, he continued to pursue his avocation of later years, that of a surveyor. The Montrose *Independent* has the following sketch:

Hon. James W. Chapman was born in what is now Brooklyn Township (then Bridgewater, Luzerne County), May 7, 1804. His father was known as Joseph Chapman, Jr., and was a native of New London County, Conn. His grandfather, Captain Joseph Chapman, Sr., of the revolution, came to Pennsylvania in 1798 and moved his family here in 1799. Joseph Chapman, Sr., married Betsey Leffingwell, or Norwich, Conn., in 1800. James W. Chapman's parents and grandparents were among the pioneers of Susquehanna County, and he had only the advantages of the very common schools of the backwoods, attending summers from five until nine years of age, and winter schools until in his sixteenth year, when he was employed to teach a small school; he continued to teach from that time for ten years. He studied grammar and surveying without an instructor, at spare intervals while teaching and working on his father's farm. In 1833-34 he conducted the *Mauch Chunk Courier*. He returned to Montrose and joined C. L. Ward in the publication of the *Susquehanna County Register*, from 1835 to 1851, either with others or alone, he conducted that paper. Mr. Chapman was a smooth writer, with a vein of humor that held the attention. Since his withdrawal from journalism he has devoted most of his time to surveying, which he commenced in 1824. He was appointed deputy by the surveyor general in 1830, and served until he went to Mauch Chunk. He served as county surveyor, by election, from 1862 for a number of years. He served as transcribing clerk of the State Senate in 1847.

In 1850 he took the census of the eastern half of the county, and in 1880 took the census of the borough. In 1871 he was elected associate judge along with Judson H. Cook; they were the last to act in that capacity in Susquehanna County, the office having been abolished by the constitution of 1873. Mr. Chapman married, in 1844, Betsey Bisbee, who was born in 1825, being a daughter of Major Seth and Leah (Aldrich) Bisbee of Lathrop. Their children are Charles Miner Chapman, at one time editor of the Tunkhan-

nock *Republican*, now deceased, and Ella W., wife of S. L. Brown of Wilkes-Barre.

#### Facts as to Anning Owen.

EDITOR RECORD:—In the article on early Methodism in Wyoming Valley published in the RECORD of March 25, by Rev. W. W. Loomis of Wilkes-Barre, he refers to the Rev. Anning Owen as having emigrated from New England, and that he returned there after the battle and massacre at Wyoming. The birth place of this "Apostle of Methodism in the Wyoming Valley," seems to have been unknown, even to Dr. Peck, when writing his "History of Early Methodism."

Mr. Owen was born in Goshen, Orange County, N. Y., in 1751, and was a resident of that place as late as July 22, 1775, on which date he signed, in company with his brothers, the pledge to support Congress during the Revolutionary struggle.

His father, Eleazer Owen, was slain at the battle of Minisink in 1779. His brother Jonathan also took part in that engagement, their names appear on the battle monument at Goshen. Anning's, however, is not thus honored at Wyoming.

Mr. Owen had one sister, Ruth, who in 1759 became the wife of Mr. Thomas Gustine of Florida, in that county. They were my great grand parents. The brothers were John, Gershom, Jonathan and Ziba.

#### GEORGE W. GUSTINE.

A LEADING Boston critic maintains that "the curse of American civilization is the professional funny man." How or in what way he fails to specify. At all events his statement is rough on Bill Nye.

THE BARON and Baroness Blanc (pronounce it Blong please) have had a rumpus and engaged detectives to "shadow" each other. The baroness is an American girl and seems to have married for "position," which she now literally repents. Fashionable society is full of mistakes of this kind.

## DEATH OF ALLAN H. DICKSON.

**The Prominent Attorney and Well-known Citizen Passes Away at His Home on North River Street.**

[Daily Record, Jan. 22, 1893.]

The community was startled Sunday morning to hear of the death of Allan Hamilton Dickson, which occurred at his home on North River street on Saturday night—in the fulness of manhood. The brief notices of his illness which appeared in the papers on Saturday created no special alarm among his friends, and those not in attendance at the bedside attributed it principally to worry over the death of his son, Hugh, a few days ago. But Mr. Dickson for a couple of years had an organic weakness of the heart, and with a predisposition to such an ailment the heavy blow of his son's death was too hard for him to bear. Not long before Dr. Mayer's death Mr. Dickson called upon him for consultation regarding some minor ailment, and while he was leaving the doctor's office he fell upon the steps unconscious. This was the first premonition of an affection of the heart, and as he was a man who suffered in silence rather than complain to family or friends, there were very few who suspected that all his physical conditions were not as rugged and strong as his handsome, well built figure seemed to indicate. He looked to the layman as if impregnable to disease—as if his years would run the course of time until old age laid its burdens too heavily upon him. Mr. Dickson was very fond of his son, Hugh. Father and child were inseparable, and when a week ago last Saturday the physicians told the anxious parents that he was suffering with diphtheria, Mr. Dickson divined the end and fainted into unconsciousness near the bedside. Hugh was no rugged in health and the parents did not look for recovery. His sickness and death so preyed upon the father that half of his life seemed to have gone out with that of his son. On Thursday night, the day after the funeral, he was taken with a severe chill, but its depressing effects were counteracted on Friday and he appeared to gain in strength. A reaction, however, followed on Saturday and progressed so rapidly that in the afternoon hope was abandoned, and with the heart-broken family by his bedside the patient suf-

ferer sank into eternal rest about 9 o'clock. He did not close his eyes upon the scenes of earth as if their enchantment had made of death a monster to be dreaded; but he fell asleep like the weary toiler along life's highway who courts rest and peace as the shadows of the night fall about him. Mr. Dickson's life had been robbed of much of its sweetness and, as he said to an attendant by his bedside, he cared not much for life. His dutiful wife, his sister, Mrs. William P. Wilson of Philadelphia, and his physicians were by his side when he passed from life to death. His only brother, Frederick S. Dickson of Philadelphia, came just after the sufferer had passed away. Besides these there survive Mr. Dickson's aged mother, who lives in Philadelphia, and who is in failing health, another sister, Mrs. Samuel D. Lowrie of Philadelphia. About ten years ago Mr. Dickson's then only daughter, Caroline, died. About two years afterward Dorothy was born. She is the only surviving child, and all that is left of a happy household. Little Hugh, if he had lived until next spring would have been four years old.

Allan H. Dickson came from a noble and prominent ancestry. His father, Rev. Hugh E. Dickson, was born in 1813 and came to America with his parents when he was 14 years of age. He graduated at Union College in 1839 and at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1841. He assumed charge of a church in Louisville, Ky., and then went to Fort Wayne, Indiana, and during his pastorate there was married in 1845 to Sarah Margaret Stoever of Philadelphia. They had four children—Elizabeth, who married Rev. Samuel T. Lowrie, D. D., son of Judge Walter Lowrie of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Ellen, who married Col. W. P. Wilson, of Centre County, Pa.; Frederick Stoever Dickson of Philadelphia and Allan H. Dickson, the deceased, who was born at Utica, N. Y., Nov. 14, 1851. He was prepared for college at Myer's preparatory school at West Chester and entered Yale College in 1868. In 1870 he left that institution on account of a spell of sickness and went to New Mexico, where his brother-in-law, Col. Wilson, was stationed, and was there assigned to duty as an Indian agent. In January, 1871, he again entered Yale and remained there until July of the same year, when he received an honorable discharge from the junior class. In a short time he went to Heidelberg, Germany, and

then to Berlin, where he took a course of lectures in a prominent university. He then traveled through Switzerland and Italy and returned to America at the close of 1872. At the beginning of 1873 he entered the law office of the late ex-Governor Hoyt and was admitted to the Luzerne County bar September 14, 1874. November 12 of the same year he was married to Catharine Swetland Pettebone, daughter of the late Payne Pettebone of Wyoming, a lady of many accomplishments and coming from an ancestry who participated actively in the stirring scenes of early Wyoming.

Mr. Dickson rapidly forged to the head, not only at the bar but in other walks of life as well, and soon became noted as one of the leading men of the Wyoming Valley. His counsel and advice were sought by many, because he had the happy faculty of combining conservatism with progressiveness; of looking at a business matter in a cool, deliberate way without being carried away with every scheme that presented itself. He weighed disadvantages as well as advantages and his conclusions were generally looked upon as the outcome of a sound judgment. These qualities of mind soon gained for him an enviable distinction among his fellowmen, especially among those whose ideas and judgment are naturally superficial. For several years he was a valued member of Wilkes-Barre City Council, but resigned in 1889 to pursue more closely his private interests. While a member of that body his words were always carefully heard, and what he said was said after mature deliberation. Largely to him must be credited the fine streets we now have, for he was one of the strong advocates of the asphalt pave when there was much opposition to it. Mr. Dickson was a director of the Miners' Savings Bank and of the Anthracite Bank. To him principally is due the credit for the reorganization of the latter corporation two years ago. He had always retained his membership in the West Chester Presbyterian Church, though here he was a pew holder and a communicant in the First M. E. Church. When the present fine structure of the latter church was built he was one of the most active members of the building committee.

Within the last few years, conscious of the fact that he was predisposed to a dangerous ailment, Mr. Dickson did not pursue the practice of his profession with a view to in-

creasing it largely, but still his services were great demand.

In the seclusion of his home and among his friends he was a man among men. The bent of his mind was in the direction of all that is high and ennobling and those who were in his society respected him accordingly. He cared not for superficial pleasures, but found his chief enjoyment in the arts. As a literary man he was much devoted to his books and those who have read his writings in the RECORD and elsewhere and have heard his profitable lectures and addresses have admired him for his rare accomplishments in this line. He was thoroughly conscientious in all he did, and departed a life that will stand as a monument more durable than shaft of stone or granite, the life of a noble man. To the bereaved wife and young daughter there is this consolation, which will entwine him in their affections through the span of existence, little as it may comfort them in their present great sorrow.

#### Tribute of the Bar.

At a few minutes before noon yesterday while court was occupied in the trial of criminal cases, George R. Bedford entered the bar enclosure and facing Judge Rice, moved that court adjourn in honor of the late Allan H. Dickson. The motion was seconded by District Attorney Garman, and in complying with the motion Judge Rice paid a high and elegant tribute to the character of the deceased. "All that has been said of him in the public prints and in private conversation since his untimely death is essentially true. Pathetic and heart-rendering as were the circumstances of his death, these alone cannot account for that shock which is caused in this community, much less for the spontaneous tribute of respect that has been paid to his name and memory. This latter is the prize which character alone can win in the struggle of life. Mr. Dickson had high ideas, which he persistently, conscientiously and without wavering, strove to realize, and few have succeeded so well. As a lawyer he had the unqualified respect and confidence of the bench, the bar and the community. He was well grounded in the fundamental principles of the law, and well qualified by study and habits of thinking for correct legal reasoning. He was thoroughly pains-taking, earnest and candid. He came before the court with well defined ideas, of



his clients' rights and defended them fearlessly but courteously. They were never left to the chances of a lucky turn in the case, but were fortified by intelligent and discriminating study of legal principles and precedents. He was by no means a yielding or half-hearted man in what he undertook, either at the bar or elsewhere; when he reached a legal conclusion he maintained it with pertinacity, but at the same time he was pre-eminently candid in his arguments. He asserted no proposition which he did not firmly believe to be true, or to be worthy of honest and cheerful consideration. Of pure life and spotless character, he has left an example which we honor ourselves and the profession by commemorating and emulating."

Alexander Farnham, president of the meeting, then took the chair, and G. L. Halsey was elected secretary.

In taking the chair Mr. Farnham said: A most melancholy duty has fallen on me to announce the sudden and untimely death of one of the most prominent as well as one of the most respected members of this bar. We have been called upon to note the startling frequency of late with which death has stalked into our midst and stricken down one and then another of the brightest ornaments of our professional circle. It would seem as if he had reached out here and there, selecting the forms most familiar to us and the most conspicuous before the community, in order that we might become more vividly impressed with the fact that the universal law of change rules all ranks and bodies of men. A glance over the history of our bar for the past four years reveals the extended nature of this change as applied to ourselves. During this period we have lost members of the profession who had rounded out the full allotment of human life and again others whose term of service had approached or exceeded a quarter century, but who were still in the prime of manhood, all of them leaders at the bar. Their familiar names are but echoes now from the past, so that a glance, as I have said, over the history of this bar for the short time named, as well as a glance at its personelle now, exhibits with a startling distinctness the greatness of the change that has taken place among us.

Perhaps among all the bereavements we have suffered none has come to us with such distressing force as that occasioned by the circumstances of the death of Allan H. Dickson. A fortnight ago he was moving in and among us, in the active performance of his professional duties, in apparently sound health, and, being in the early prime of manhood, he seemed to have every prospect of a long future of sincere and conscientious service to himself and of usefulness to the community. To-day he is to be buried from our sight.

Mr. Dickson's position seemed peculiarly fortunate. Possessed of scholarly tastes, he had the foundation of a liberal education by means of which those tastes could be cultivated and developed. Nor did he spare any opportunity of culture by which his mind could be enriched. He had abundant means by which to gratify himself in this direction and at the same time he was so in love with his profession that he spared nothing in the performance of most painstaking labor in connection with it. His domestic surroundings were of the happiest nature. Surrounded by comfort and in the mutual affection of a wife and two young children nothing seemed to be wanting to make life a well spring of happiness to himself and the objects of his affection. In one week all was changed. On Saturday the 14th instant he was overwhelmed with the announcement that his beloved boy was seized with the fatal diphtheria. Within four days after this he consigned his beloved child to the tomb and on the following Friday he laid himself on the couch of death and, as the deeper shadows on Saturday night drew on, his spirit took its flight and went out from the darkness of earth into the full light of an eternal day.

With this announcement of Mr. Dickson's death I may well leave to his brethren assembled here the expression of sentiment proper to the occasion. Many of you will undoubtedly bear testimony to his worth, private and public, as well as to his pre-eminent professional qualities. I will not anticipate them, nor tre pass upon your time in saying what will undoubtedly be better said by others. I will content myself in saying that Mr. Dickson was a recognized leader at this bar. He had a quick, instinctive legal apprehension, and at the same time was painstaking to the highest degree, and his discussions of legal principles were always marked by thoroughness. He viewed the question involved from all possible points of view. This quality of mind united to ability of the highest order placed him, though a comparatively young man, in the front ranks of the profession. More than this, he was a true and upright man. The meeting is now

open, gentlemen, for you to take such action as you shall deem proper.

Hon. H. W. Palmer read the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the intelligence of the sudden death of Allan H. Dickson was so unexpected and shocking as to cast a gloom of unusual character over the members of this association and the whole community.

Resolved, That Mr. Dickson was a man of acknowledged ability which was exhibited in his profession as a lawyer, and in all his responsible business relations and in the public and private offices he held. He was possessed of fine literary and artistic taste; was strictly honorable in every post and station; of courageous determination in the defense of what he adjudged right; was a progressive, enterprising member of society, and in every relation of life a good citizen.

Resolved, That we grieve with exceeding great sorrow that his promising career is ended, and extend to his mourning family the assurance of our profound condolence.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to publish these resolutions, and to communicate them to his family.

Attorney General Palmer was the next speaker. He spoke of the loss the bar had sustained and of the conspicuous and admirable traits of his character. In the course of his remarks he said:

Very soon after he became a resident of Wilkes-Barre, he was instrumental in unearthing and bringing to justice a bold and influential band of criminals who, holding official positions, had plundered the county and State of large sums of money. It was not policy in the customary sense, but it was courageous, and exemplified a trait which was admirable.

Again in the attempt made by the citizens of Wilkes-Barre, in the year 1884, to reduce the number of licensed houses in this city, Mr. Dickson was an active and zealous worker, and in the campaign undertaken to carry a constitutional amendment prohibiting the accursed traffic in liquor in the whole State, he was not only a sympathizer and a friend, but an eloquent and efficient advocate, and large contributor of time and money to the cause. In both cases he had the courage of his convictions.

He hated shams or pretenders of high or low degree, whether at the bar, on the bench or in politics or the pulpit, and had no hesitation in making his opinions known. He never "crooked the pregnant hinges of the knee, that thrift might follow fawning" or drew back from giving an honest opinion of men or measures when to avoid it would show want of courage. In the independent revolt of 1882 he was active and outspoken, and has never abated a jot or tittle of his

contempt for the machine-made statesmen who sit in the high places of the State and nation. In truth he was a reformer in politics who looked forward with hope to a time when the control of parties and the possession of places of honor would be secured by men of the highest integrity, learning and ability; to many an iridescent dream, but to him a high ideal toward which he looked and for which he labored.

Judge Woodward, being unable to be present, sent the following letter:

The twofold affliction which, within a single week, has fallen upon the family of which Mr. Dickson was the head, is so overwhelming that it seems almost a rudeness to attempt an expression of our sympathy and sense of loss, in the ordinary forms of speech.

And yet it may, in the years to come, be a source of some comfort to the family of the deceased, and to his kinsmen and friends, to be assured that the same qualities of the head and of the heart, which endeared him to his household and his blood, were understood and appreciated by his professional and business associates.

Speaking for myself, I feel at liberty to say that from no lawyer at our bar has the bench been more ably assisted in the consideration of legal questions, than by the oral arguments and the written briefs presented by Mr. Dickson, in the performance of his professional duties to his clients and to the court. He possessed in the best sense of the term what may be called the judicial faculty, or the power to comprehend the whole of the question of a case, and to see the other side as well as his own. This mental tendency, or quality, evinced itself in all his relations to the business of life. He was recognized in all of them as a man of fairness, and of a wholesome and practical integrity, which could always be relied on by those with whom he dealt. It may be truly said of him, as was declared of Joseph the counsellor, who consented not, "he was a good man and a just."

And his heart was tender. If the time and place were appropriate I could bear witness to his kindly warmth and his generous impulses. Illustrations of these traits of the man are stored away in the memories of his intimate friends, and will stay with them while life lasts.

The death of such a man in the full ripeness of his career—immaturity passed, but no decay begun—is a great loss. The community in which he lived knows that he was an unselfish and diligent citizen, who was always at work for the public good when called upon to serve them in a representative capacity. His clients know that he was a wise and prudent lawyer, learned and honorable, who could never tread in paths

that were not straight and clean, and open. The bench and the bar know him as an exemplary and distinguished member of a noble profession, which needs such men to keep its standard high. And we all know and will remember him as a Christian gentleman, with whom we are glad to have been associated and whose character and influence have bettered and brightened the world in which he lived.

Eloquent tributes, sentences right from the heart, were also spoken by Thomas H. Atherton, John T. Lenahan, George R. Bedford, Asa R. Brundage, W. S. McLean, E. Greenough Scott, mayor Nichols, E. G. Butler, L. H. Bennett, S. J. Strauss and Judge Rhone. Mayor Nichols was so affected that he broke down in delivering his speech. And so the praises of a very worthy man were sounded.

#### Wyoming Seminary Trustees Take Action.

At a meeting of the board of trustees of Wyoming Seminary held at the office of George S. Bennett in this city Tuesday afternoon the following members were present: George S. Bennett, president; Abram Nesbitt, vice president; Dr. L. L. Sprague, Dr. M. S. Hard, Dr. L. H. Taylor, J. I. Shoemaker, Dr. J. Richards Boyle, H. C. McDermott, secretary.

Resolutions were adopted as below:

Whereas, In the wisdom of God, Allan H. Dickson, Esq., late a member of this board, has been removed from us by death, therefore

Resolved, That in this bereavement this board deeply feels the loss of a cultured gentleman, a wise counsellor, a genial associate and a true friend.

Resolved, That by his death the Wyoming Seminary has lost one who cherished her interests, who thoroughly appreciated the work of education and who has served the institution faithfully and well.

Resolved, That we extend our warmest sympathy to the family so sorely bereft of one whose life was so full of promise to them of love and of continued happiness.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the bereaved family and that they be spread upon the secretary's minutes and furnished to the daily press.

H. C. McDERMOTT, Secretary.  
 GEORGE S. BENNETT, President.

#### Laid to Rest at Forty Fort.

The funeral of the late Allan H. Dickson Tuesday afternoon was attended with singularly impressive services and the friends who assembled were visibly affected with the un-

usually sad circumstances of his death. The remains reposed in a light casket and looked natural and the peaceful expression of the face showed the calm resignation with which he fell into repose. The rooms were filled with friends and there were few dry eyes. The floral tributes were many and very pretty, one being an open floral book from the Chautauqua Circle of which Mr. Dickson was president for several years. Other floral pieces were from friends and families. The services were conducted by Mr. Dickson's pastor, Rev. J. Richards Boyle, Rev. Dr. Hodge and Rev. J. O. Woodruff. The First Presbyterian Church quartet sang "Lead Kindly Light" and another selection from the hymnal. The pall bearers were A. F. Derr, C. P. Hunt, T. H. Atherton, William Shoemaker, George R. Bedford, George S. Bennett, Judge Rice, Irving A. Stearns, D. P. Ayars, James P. Dickson of Scranton, W. W. Curtin of Philadelphia, W. T. Smith of Scranton. Interment was in Forty Fort Cemetery.

#### The Late Mrs. Northup.

The RECORD has already mentioned the death at Dubuque, Ia., on June 12, 1892, of Mrs. Betsey Sterling Northup, at the advanced age of 90 years and 10 months. Later information is given herewith:

Mrs. Northup came from one of the old Pennsylvania families, and was the oldest of twenty children. Her father, Daniel Sterling, was a prominent contractor early in the present century and did the first work on the Rock Island rapids. The town of Sterling, Ill., was named in his honor. Of the large family only three are now living—a brother, J. C., in Philadelphia, a sister in Colorado Springs and another sister, the wife of James P. Whaling, general auditor of the Milwaukee R. R. Co. for thirty years. Of her brothers now deceased, Professor John Whelen Sterling was the distinguished president of the University of Wisconsin; D. T. Sterling of Meshoppen was the father of A. A. Sterling of this city; Walter G. Sterling was a half brother.

In June, 1823, Mrs. Northup was married at Braintown, Pa. Her husband died at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in 1848, and shortly after that time the widow moved to Dubuque, where she resided ever after. Eight children, only two of whom survive, were the fruit of this union. The surviving children are Mrs. G. B. Rand and Henry Northup, both of Dubuque. It is interesting to mention that she wore at her burial the white merino slippers which she wore at her wedding 69 years previous.

# THE STATE IN MOURNING,

## In Memory of Ex-Governor Hoyt.

### PATTISON'S PROCLAMATION.

**A Glowing Tribute from the State's Executive to His Brilliant Predecessor—  
All Flags Ordered at Half-Mast and All Executive Offices to Be Closed on the Day of the Funeral.**

HARRISBURG, Dec. 1.—Proclamation, Executive Department, in the name and by authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The people of Pennsylvania have received with profound regret the sad intelligence of the death of the brave soldier and honored ex-governor of the Commonwealth, Henry Martyn Hoyt, which occurred at his residence in the city of Wilkes-Barre, after a painful and protracted illness, at 2 o'clock a. m. this first day of December, A. D., 1892.

A native of Pennsylvania, he revered and loved the solidity of its mountains, its men and its civilization.

As a student, a school teacher, a lawyer, a judge, a soldier and a statesman, he exemplified in a remarkable degree that strength of character and manly devotion to principle which characterizes true manhood and genius greatness.

As executive of the Commonwealth he was loyal to the exacting duties and responsibilities of the trying position, and his acts cast a lustre on his name and elicited the admiration of all good citizens.

Born June 8, 1830, his early years were passed upon his father's farm near Kingston, Luzerne County, where he acquired the rudiments of his most excellent education. He graduated at Williams College in the year 1848, and further improved his mind by teaching the academy at Towanda and at Wyoming Seminary. His law studies were prosecuted under the supervision of Hon. George Woodward, ex-chief justice of the Supreme Court, and Hon. Warren J. Woodward. He was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County on the 4th day of April, A.

D. 1863. His abilities as a lawyer were developing rapidly when his country called him to service and he sacrificed his prospects for success and distinction at the bar for the hardships and uncertainties of the battlefield. He aided in raising the 52d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, of which he was commissioned lieutenant colonel, served with distinction in many hotly contested engagements, was promoted for merit and gallant conduct, became colonel of his regiment and brevetted a brigadier general.

Returning to private life, he resumed the practice of his chosen profession and soon forged his way to the front ranks of the able bar at Wilkes-Barre. In the year 1867, he was appointed additional law judge of the Luzerne County courts, and his career on the bench was marked with ability, impartiality and dignity. He was appointed collector of internal revenue for his district in the year 1869, and resigned from said office in 1873. He was chairman of the Republican State Committee in 1875 and became the candidate of his party for governor in the year 1878, elected by a large plurality, inaugurated on the 14th day of January 1869, and discharged the duties of chief executive with great credit to himself and to the best interests of the commonwealth.

The Pennsylvania Industrial Reformatory at Huntingdon is the result of his interest in the treatment of first offenders against the law, and was erected in pursuance of his suggestions to the legislature.

He introduced and tried to bring about reforms in the administration of the affairs of the State. History will do justice to his memory.

To-day all admire the character of the learned professor, the great lawyer, the upright judge, the gallant soldier and the able, fearless and scholarly ex-governor, whose courage and independence reflected credit on himself, his State and his people.

His funeral will take place at Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, on Saturday, Dec. 3, at 3 o'clock p. m.

In consideration of his eminent and long continued public services it is ordered that the flags upon the public building be displayed at half-mast upon the day of the funeral, and that the several departments of the State Government within executive control be closed upon that day.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State at the city of Harrisburg, this first day of December in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and ninety-two, and of the Commonwealth the one hundred and seventeenth, by the governor:

ROBERT E. PATTISON, Governor.

William F. Harrity, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

## TRIBUTE OF THE BAR.

Judges and Lawyers Wreath Garlands  
Fair to Crown the Memory of the Late  
ex-Governor—Fine Tributes to the Brave  
Soldier and Able Jurist.

A few hours before the remains of ex-Governor Henry M. Hoyt were laid to rest on Saturday the members of the Luzerne County bar met in the court room to take action on the death of the eminent man who, until called to the highest office in the gift of the people of Pennsylvania, was one of them.

Ex-Judge Garrick M. Harding stated the object of the meeting and moved the election of Judge Stanley Woodward as chairman. John S. Harding was chosen secretary.

In taking the chair Judge Woodward said:

## JUDGE WOODWARD'S EULOGY.

"The death of Governor Hoyt, while it oppresses us all with a weight of grief, was not unexpected, and I well know that he himself looked forward to death as a release from bondage which had become well nigh insupportable; for our deceased brother had been during the latter years, and especially during the latter months of his life, the victim of constant and, at times, intense suffering. Life and its affairs had lost their power to divert him from the ever present thought of his own weakness. Worn down by the frequent attacks of disease, he had for a considerable time come to look upon himself as a shattered fragment of his former self. And this conviction, possibly somewhat exaggerated in his own mind, of a gradual decay of strength, had naturally led him to contemplate with complacent calmness the approach of the King, not for him of terrors, but the welcome harbinger rather of release and rest.

"My own relations to Governor Hoyt embraced more than forty years of a continuous and intimate acquaintance, beginning in boyhood, when I pursued the studies preparatory to entering college under his instruction, and extending through early manhood, when I was a student of the law in the same office with him in this city; continued still as fellow members of this bar, practising law side by side for twenty years, and until he was called from private life to become the chief executive of the State of Pennsylvania. His removal to Philadelphia after his retirement from office interrupted, to some extent, his intimacy with his old friends and neighbors, all of whom however were glad to welcome

him back again to his former home, when he determined to return to it.

"But while I feel thankful that through all these years I have enjoyed an intimate and delightful association with our deceased brother, I also realize the great difficulty of doing justice to his memory within the narrow limits allowed for this ceremonial. The life and career of a truly great man cannot be well portrayed in the lines of a mere epitaph.

"And yet the occasion would seem to require from those of us who knew him well, a brief outline of a character which entitles him to rank with the foremost men of his country and his time.

"Governor Hoyt was a profound thinker and a learned man. He was a student by nature. The grand problems of philosophic research were his constant and most attractive study. He cared very little for the much trodden paths of our lighter literature, but was fond of wandering over those grander spaces which are being illumined by the best light of modern thought. His reading was extensive, thorough and persistent. The apothegm of Lord Bacon, that 'reading maketh a full man,' was forcibly illustrated in the mental make-up of Governor Hoyt. There were few great subjects of thought, upon which he had not, to the best of his ability and opportunities, formed an intelligent opinion, based not upon prejudice or the criticism of others, but upon his own faithful and laborious investigation. He was familiar with the literature of theology, of history and of politics, and was well versed in the learning which pertains to natural science, and its manifold applications to the improvement of the social condition of the people. There are few men of our time, engaged in the active business of life, who have cared to pursue, upon so many lines, their own intellectual development. And it is no exaggeration to say, that in this respect he has had few equals at this or any other bar.

"This occasion does not permit more than a brief reference to the great service rendered to the legal literature of our State by his treatise on the land titles in the seventeen townships of Luzerne County. It was published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and will always remain a standard text book, as well as a most interesting contribution to the history of the long struggle between Connecticut and Pennsylvania for pos-

session of what is now an imperial source of wealth and power, the anthracite coal field of Luzerne County. And the political literature of our day contains no abler or more exhaustive treatise on the subject of the tariff for protection than that of which he was the author. If it is not conclusive of the case to all minds, it is because all minds cannot be brought to concur in the premises from which it proceeds.

"When Governor Hoyt volunteered his services to the cause of the Union in the great civil conflict of 1861, he acted upon no hasty impulse or transient sentiment, and from no martial enthusiasm aroused within him by the pomp and circumstance of war. He was a patriot through and through. He believed in and gloried in his country, the Union, the flag, the manifest destiny of the young republic. He went to the war because he believed it was his duty to go. Some of us here well remember the circumstances which made this obedience to the behest of duty difficult and sacrificial. But a few years married, with a young family dependent upon him for support and direction, with a prosperous and constantly increasing professional business, it was no light thing to turn his back on home and family, and assured professional success, and merge himself in the grand movement of patriotism for the preservation, by force, of the government and the Union. His military career is part and parcel of the history of the war, and there is in it the record of a steady and patient subjection of self to the cause of his country, and of a high and unflinching faith in the final triumph of the right.

"Others will speak of our distinguished friend as a statesman and a political leader. I must content myself, in this connection, with the grateful recognition of the fact which my own personal experience illustrates, that strong as were the political convictions and the partisan loyalty of Governor Hoyt, his friendships and personal attachments were stronger still.

"When, years hence, time shall have worn away the last vestiges of our generation, when our names are simply a line in a catalog, or an inscription on a tomb stone, among the few who can hope to have so impressed themselves upon their age as to be known and read of men, will be our deceased brother, in whose honor we are here and now assembled, and whose mortal re-

mains are about to be buried forever out of sight."

Alexander Farnham, Esq., presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

#### THE RESOLUTIONS

The bar of Luzerne County has been often called, of late, to mourn the decease of some one of its leading members. Another honored one has now fallen. Ex-Governor Henry Martyn Hoyt died at his residence, in Wilkes-Barre, on the morning of Thursday, Dec. 1, 1892. This sad event was not unexpected, for, when laid low on his bed of sickness some time ago, it was foreseen that his disease would, in all probability, have a fatal termination. Before this, however, for a period of nearly two years back, he gave evidence of an enfeebled constitution, and, as the months rolled by, the steady progress of an insidious disease was apparent. Notwithstanding this, the death of Governor Hoyt has come as a painful shock to his innumerable friends. He had been distinguished, during all his life before, as the possessor of an exceptionally robust physical nature, and it was hoped that its strength was dormant and might yet avail him to resist successfully the stealthy approach of his malady. His vigorous physique was united with an intellect broad and profound in building up a strong and commanding personality. It is because he has so recently appeared to us as the type of a splendid manhood that his death startles us as an untimely one. A short time ago it seemed as if advancing years had passed him by with the purpose of leaving no trace of their progress upon him, so fresh and young did he look.

Resolved, That the members of the bar of Luzerne County are deeply pained to learn of the death of their fellow member, ex-Governor Henry M. Hoyt, in whose distinguished career they each and all feel a personal pride. It is not the place here to present a record of the incidents of Governor Hoyt's life, but it is a pleasure for us, at this sad moment, to note that the beginning and end of his professional career was with us and that during the interval he had in a large measure filled the public eye. He had risen to a widely known eminence at the bar, occupying, meanwhile, a seat upon this bench. He served this country in war, through siege, battle, and in the privations of the enemy's prison, and

he came from this war wearing, through well earned promotion, the stars of a brigadier general. Keenly interested in the political activities of his country, he was often called to his party's highest councils and twice its leadership in this State was placed in his hands. Finally, by a large majority of the popular vote, he was chosen governor of this great Commonwealth, and, after a wise and prudent administration, he returned to the profession of his love, in the practice of which he was engaged when touched by the deadly hand of disease. That which pre-eminently distinguished Governor Hoyt, causing him to tower up among his fellow men, was his wonderful intellectual scope. Personal intercourse with him at once revealed this, for there was perhaps no subject of human inquiry toward which his appreciative thought would not reach. Not only did he bring his great powers of mind and wide acquirements to the aid of his professional duties, but in whatever relation he was placed, the charm of his personal nature, as well as his adaptive power, brought every one to recognize the strength and breadth of his mental grasp. His death is a loss, not alone to this bar, but to the profession at large.

Resolved, That we tender to the family of the deceased our heartfelt sympathy and condolence.

Resolved, That his portrait in the court house be draped in mourning for the period of thirty days, and that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to his family.

Mr. Farnham spoke at some length, reviewing his own association and acquaintance with deceased, and referring to the more prominent features of his life and character.

Mr. Farnham was followed by Judge Rice, who said:

JUDGE RICE'S TRIBUTE.

"On these occasions it is natural to speak of, and make prominent, what may be called the endearing qualities of him whose earthly career has been brought to a close. We are wont to remark upon his generosity, his kindness, his gentleness of nature, his courage, and all those distinguishing characteristics for which he was beloved and respected by his associates rather than those which gave him fame. This practice is not to be criticised, but to be commended.

"It is the unpremeditated testimony that, in the judgment of at least of fellow lawyers, the lawyer and the man are not two distinct personalities, one of which may be praised while the other is condemned, but that the character of the man is revealed in the conduct of the lawyer, and that to the extent that it is manly, generous and unselfish he is esteemed in life and truly mourned in death by those who knew him best.

"Judged by this standard the memory of Governor Hoyt is justly entitled to the highest tributes of affection we can pay. He was courageous and independent, but not boastfully so; he was ambitious, as I believe, but he was not a self seeker; he must have been conscious of his superiority to the average man, but while he affected no false humility or bearing he was a truly modest man; there was no lawyer more faithful to his clients' interests, but those who knew him when he was in full practice at this bar will bear me out when I say there was no more generous, manly and fair dealing antagonist. He honored his profession, he revered the law, and ever urged respect for its administration. He took the broadest views of legal questions, and weighed them in the scales of justice and equity. His capacity for impartial judgment is nowhere more aptly illustrated than in the propositions in which he sums up his investigations of the Connecticut titles, when he says: '1. In the forms of law Connecticut, with a title regular on its face, failed justly. 2. In the forms of equity 'the Connecticut settlers,' without other title than the '*possessio pedis*' prevailed rightly."

"Of his unselfishness, of his kindness, of his fidelity and of his generosity to others, I personally know young men never had a more appreciative or more helpful friend than Henry M. Hoyt. There are scores of them throughout the Commonwealth who, while joining with the public in proclaiming him a distinguished lawyer, a brave soldier, a broad and independent statesman, a true patriot and one of the greatest thinkers that this Commonwealth has ever produced, will ever remember that he was their generous and helpful friend."

ATTORNEY-GENERAL PALMER'S.

"In a short space of three years this bar has been called upon to lay funeral garlands on the tombs of its most distinguished members. The sod is scarcely green on the graves of McClintock, Paine, and Edward

and Vaughan Darling, and now we are summoned to pay the last debt of respect and sorrow to the illustrious Hoyt.

"How truthfully we may say, 'When sorrows come, they come not single file, but in battalions.'

"My association with Governor Hoyt during his term of office, as a member of his official family, was, of course, most intimate; and as others can testify of him as a lawyer, soldier, scholar and neighbor, I can bear witness to his qualities as statesman and executive that enabled him to afford the State a most successful and prosperous administration. Here, where he is known, it need not be said that he was a man of great intellectual endowment, and that a life of devotion to books had secured for him an exceptional degree and quality of knowledge, without disparagement to his predecessors, it may be said with perfect truth that he was the most thoroughly cultivated man that ever filled the office of governor of Pennsylvania. In the profession of law, the field of politics, or the domain of theology, science or philosophy, he was able to maintain himself with men the most learned in either department. The many sided character of his attainments was the subject of frequent comment, and the freshness and originality of his thought and conversation, commanded for him respectful attention in every circle. To his official business he brought a great store of political and legal knowledge; tasks that for other men would have been formidable were for him pastime. Indeed he found too little in the duties of the office to occupy his attention and satisfy a mind which was never content unless actively engaged. He became interested in the introduction of the reformatory system for first offenders through his official visitation to the penitentiaries. The evils of associating young persons who may have fallen inadvertently into a violation of law with old and hardened offenders were apparent. To inform himself thoroughly on the methods of reform he visited other States where reformatory systems are in successful operation. After a thorough investigation he formulated a plan which was submitted to the General Assembly, and in due time enacted into a law under which the buildings at Huntington were erected, and an institution organized which cannot fail to confer blessings on the State and her unfortunate youth.

"The governor of a State finds it to be his duty, from time to time, to reverse the action of the general assembly, and it is sometimes difficult to prevent strained relations and disagreeable antagonisms. Such was the tact, courtesy and dignity exercised by Governor Hoyt, and the soundness of the reasons always given for his actions, that notwithstanding the veto by him of a large percentage of the bills passed during his term, his relations with the general assembly were most cordial, and its members were always ready and willing to adopt his suggestions for improvement in the laws of their administration. All his dealings with the legislature were characterized by courage that never faltered.

"In the contest between the accounting officers of the State and the members over the salary question, the position of Governor Hoyt was outspoken and unequivocal. Though to oppose the members in their demand for fifty days' pay, at ten dollars per day, above the salary provided by the law was a most unpopular action, yet Governor Hoyt did not flinch or falter. He believed the members were wrong, and never hesitated to vindicate his belief. The contention of the auditor general and the State treasurer was sustained by the courts of Dauphin County, but their judgment was reversed by the Supreme Court in a majority opinion, which was diametrically opposed to the principle of all decided cases in this and other States, and which created a genuine surprise to the profession and brought out severe criticism in the public press. The litigation, though unsuccessful for the time, brought forth fruit that vindicated the soundness of the law, for which the governor contended viz: That under the constitution of 1874 the members of the general assembly could be compensated only by a round sum covering the entire term of service, and that a per diem allowance after a fixed term was unlawful. The general assembly at its next session passed a bill establishing a session salary, and forbidding further compensation. During Governor Hoyt's administration a plan for refunding the public debt falling due was matured and carried into effect, resulting in a material saving of interest and a general improvement in the State finances.

"His messages and state papers are proof, not only of the high literary attainment and a most intimate and thorough understanding of the general history and principles of the government, but also of the minute and



detailed working. If the turn of his mind was theoretical and philosophical, he never failed to be intensely practical at the proper time. He had theories, but they were not visionary. He went below the surface and into the very foundation of moral, social and political questions, but was never led astray, or failed to reach sound and practical conclusions. To the performance of his duties he brought industry and thoroughness. Executive work was done promptly and in time. Without the appearance of haste or worry he could turn off a great burden of detail, and while seemingly always at leisure for the reception of friends, he was in reality a hard and patient worker, always abreast of what he had to do.

"In all business relations with Gov. Hoyt, official or otherwise, he was always to me the very soul of honor; while not inclined to open his thoughts to all men, yet those who knew him best could feel an assurance that his animating inclination and purpose was always honorable, and that he was incapable of a mean or dishonest act.

"During his term as governor a meeting of the pan Presbyterian synod was held in the city of Philadelphia. An invitation to address the body was accepted by Gov. Hoyt. Without doubt his discussion upon that occasion was both unexpected and astonishing. The grave and reverend members versed in all the doctrine and dogma of the Presbyterian Church were amazed at the learning of the speaker in his treatment of abstruse theological questions which are outside the investigation of laymen, and only understood by those bred and educated in the schools of the Church. No one who heard him doubted the intellectual force of the lawyer who could stand before the wisest men of that church, which is celebrated for the dialectic skill of its preachers, and speak to them of the doctrines which, since the days of Calvin and Knox, have furnished food for complex and learned discussions. It was an illustration of the many sided character of Governor Hoyt's mental cultivation and of the breadth of the great intellect now gone out into the great unexplored and unknown mystery beyond the grave.

Governor Hoyt, guided by the exquisite taste and sound judgment of his excellent wife, remodelled the executive mansion and transformed an unpromising and incon-

venient building into an elegant and comfortable home, and there they together dispensed the most liberal hospitality, official and friendly. When the governor's term ended and the time of departure came, the regret expressed by the friends and his family had made at the State capital was honestly sincere; all were favorites in society, and now after the lapse of many years, are remembered with affectionate kindness.

"The scholar, soldier, lawyer and statesman sleeps the last sleep; the genial presence and hearty good fellowship are memories of the past. His wise counsels will no longer guide his associates. The leader of leaders stands no longer at the head of the column. He is gone, let us believe, to the palace of rest; set free from the pain of lingering disease; the bitterness of unfulfilled hopes; the emptiness of this brief and fruitless life. His great intellect is lost to earth forever. His busy, weary brain that never would rest is still at last. In the presence of this great grief only the voice of kindness is heard. If he had weaknesses, let it be remembered that the one perfect man was also a God."

DR. HARRY HAKES

also made a fine address, speaking of the literary, political, judicial and soldierly achievements of the ex-governor. He regretted that many more years of usefulness could not have been added to his life.

ALLAN H. DICKSON

gave utterance to an eulogy worthy of the deceased and of the orator. He had placed no high estimate upon his own services and lived without ostentation. In conclusion Mr. Dickson said: "He has laid down to rest here where he was born and where those are who know best how great a man has gone from among us."

GEORGE R. BEDFORD.

The high esteem in which Governor Hoyt was held is evidenced not only by the tribute paid him now and here, but also by the public press and the proclamation of the present governor of the Commonwealth, which but voiced the sentiments of the people of the State. It can be said of Governor Hoyt that he was equally at home in the realms of law, history, philosophy, science, general literature, political economy and public affairs. As a lawyer at this bar, as a judge of this court, as a soldier in the field, as the governor of this State, he exhibited commanding ability and was equal to every demand made upon him. We all admired and loved

him living. We mourn him dead. His voice is hushed. The silver cord is loosed, the golden bowl is broken, dust returned to earth as it was and the spirit to God who gave it.

GEN. M' CARTNEY.

We cannot do too much towards honoring the memory of Henry M. Hoyt. In point of intellectual force he towered far above the average man, and he was entirely unselfish. He also entertained the most chivalrous notions of his relations with his friends. He was a scholar even to the cultured theologian, and the technical scientist. And, in that inner life, which it was given to few to know, he was irresistibly deserving, and eminently satisfactory. Some fondly cherish the hopeful theory that the best there is in us will be reproduced in the hereafter. If so it be, my highest aspiration is some day to be permitted to join him there.

Oh! friend, of truest friendship. Oh! man, of manhood, the highest and best, peace to thy ashes, and hallowed be thy memory.

#### COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION.

**Special Meeting to Fill the Vacancy of Secretary Created by the Death of Wesley Johnson.**

A meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association was held Tuesday afternoon at the office of Sheldon Reynolds. Calvin Parsons, president, was in the chair and W. A. Wilcox of Scranton was chosen temporary secretary.

The following minute on the death of the society's secretary was submitted by W. A. Wilcox and adopted:

Wesley Johnson, Esq., secretary of this association, died at his home in Wilkes-Barre, Thursday, the twenty-seventh day of October, 1892, aged nearly seventy-three years.

He was the youngest son of Jeholda P. Johnson of Laurel Run, and grandson of the Rev. Jacob Johnson of Wallingford, Connecticut, who was the settled pastor of the Connecticut colony at Wyoming during a period of six years immediately preceding the massacre of Wyoming and until his death in 1797.

When, in 1877, it was proposed to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the battle, Wesley Johnson was one of the first to join in the movement. He was chosen secretary at the first meeting held and continued to act in that capacity throughout. The conspicuous success of the celebrations to which

he had contributed so materially, led to the organization and incorporation of this permanent association, of which he became the first secretary, and that office he held uninterruptedly to the time of his death, performing for a considerable part of the time the duties of corresponding secretary also.

It is ordered that this minute be entered in full upon the record of this meeting, and that the Committee on Program request some person to prepare a suitable sketch of Mr. Johnson to be read at the annual commemorative meeting, July 3, 1893.

Resolved, Also, that the vacancy in the office of secretary, caused by the death of Wesley Johnson, Esq., be filled by the election of Frederick C. Johnson thereto.

#### The Late T. S. Hillard.

There was sincere sorrow in Wilkes-Barre Feb. 23, 1893, week over the death of Thaddeus S. Hillard. He was a whole-souled, congenial man, whom everybody liked. He made no pretensions, but whenever his services were needed in any cause he was willing to respond. As chief of the Wilkes-Barre fire department he worked heroically and took great delight in directing its affairs. His death is a loss to the community and is sincerely regretted. He was an attendant of St. Stephen's Church and was a member of lodge 61 F. and A. M. of this city; and was for a long time one of the leading Knights Templars of Dieu le Veut Commandery.

He is survived by his wife, Esther Jane Reynolds, daughter of the late Charles Reynolds of Elmira, N. Y.; by three sons—Harry R. of New York, Tuthill R. and Oliver C. Hillard; by one daughter, Mrs. J. B. Woodward of Wilkes-Barre. Another child died in infancy. There was only one brother, but four sisters survive; Mrs. S. H. Lynch, Mrs. Mary H. Bell, Mrs. W. L. Conyngham and Miss Harriet Hillard, all of this city. There are also three step-sisters—Mrs. Hatch and Mrs. Patterson of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Wheller of Eastern Shore, Maryland.

#### Over a Hundred Years Old.

Dr. G. Underwood and wife of Pittston have been called to Herriekville, Bradford County, by a message announcing the death of Mrs. Underwood's father, Elisha Newman, at the advanced age of 102 years.

# The Historical Record

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO

The Early History of Wyoming Valley

AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY

WITH

NOTES AND QUERIES

BIOGRAPHICAL, ANTIQUARIAN, GENEALOGICAL



EDITED BY F. C. JOHNSON.

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VOLUME V.

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WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Press of The Wilkes-Barre Record

1896.



30402

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# The Historical Record

VOL. V.

No. 1

## LOCAL EDUCATION.

**Interesting Sketch of Schools in Wyoming Valley Seventy-five Years Ago, by Mrs. M. L. T. Hartman.**

**EDITOR RECORD:** The following letter, regarding the schools of Luzerne County during the early part of the present century, was written me by Mrs. Hartman, who was educated in these pioneer schools and taught in them for nearly fifty years, for some studies that I have been pursuing with Professor Barnes, at the Leland Stanford Junior University, touching the historical development of the American intellect. Her letter is so full of historical interest that I commend it to your columns as a worthy contribution to the history of education in Wyoming Valley. Palo Alto, California. WILL S. MONROE.

Our ancestors coming from New England, principally from Connecticut and Massachusetts and being well informed, intelligent and practical business-like men and women, brought with them people capable of usefulness in all the requirements of an early, progressive and permanent colonial settlement. They were of the best, learned and influential families of their several New England colonies. Education was ever considered by them the basis of prosperity, independence and happiness. They secured all the needed mechanics, ministers, physicians and teachers for the convenience and success of a new or pioneer settlement as parts of the required colonists. As the northeastern part of Pennsylvania was at that time considered by all a part of Connecticut they lived in conformity to all the laws and customs of that colony until the decree of Trenton, 1782 (Dec. 30), decided that we belonged to the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. Connecticut's claim was from early in 1753 until Dec. 30, 1782.

But as the Connecticut claimants, or rather the "Susquehanna Company," had previously set apart 500 acres in each township for the benefit of the schools, that land continued still as an endowment for that purpose and the interest of the money those 500 acres sold for is still appropriated to that purpose in Huntington, and I suppose in other town-

ships also. (Sold by special legislative enactment.)

After we (i. e., Northeastern Pennsylvania) became subject to the laws of Pennsylvania, the customs of the Yankees, or New England settlers, still continued, although much in advance of other portions of Pennsylvania. (I remember that such opinions prevailed.) The schools were kept in session three months in summer and the same time during the winter months. The teachers were hired by persons voted in for that purpose, styled a committee, all the voters agreeing to support the school and teachers, and each paying according to the number of pupils, in board or salary. (I taught two years of my early experience under that ruling.)

Many academies and higher institutions were started and several were successfully maintained by liberal minded citizens for the purpose of higher development in the languages. Amongst the names of the earliest teachers of Huntington we find Amos Franklin, Samuel Franklin, your direct ancestor, Margaret L. Trescott, my grandmother, and others of the early settlers.

Other townships were also provided with home teachers who had received their education in the schools of Connecticut and Massachusetts or some higher institution (both my teachers, Thomas Patterson and George W. Wadhams, were college graduates) than the common schools of their native place.

The ministers of the gospel and the physicians were often teachers also, and although salaries were low, still those pioneers considered no sacrifice too great if their children could thereby be benefitted by good schools.

School houses kept pace with dwellings, while houses built of logs were lived in; generally the school house was also built of logs. I remember two that were used for schools after 1825 and one of them I think was taught in perhaps five years later, in the then limits of Huntington.

But in most of the school districts frame buildings had been used some years prior to 1820. When I first went to school our school house was quite old and weather-beaten as well as somewhat battered, whittled, etc., by thoughtless boys and girls. It was a comfortable frame house, I think about 24 or 25 feet square, lined, ceiled and seated with planed

boards of white pine with a yellow pine floor, all unpainted, as were also the weather boards of the outer coating.

The door opened near the corner of the building into an anteroom or entry as we called it. Four desks about ten feet long surrounded the enclosed area, with smooth benches or seats in front of three of them. The other bench was next the wall and the desk far enough in front to admit the larger girls to face the stove or to observe all the room and its occupants. The desk for the teacher's use was high to prohibit sitting by it to write, but was capacious enough to hold all the books belonging to the school, which averaged near forty pupils during winter terms. There were also three lower benches surrounding the stove, ten or twelve feet in length, for the smaller children. In the centre of the room stood a large stove, called a *ten plate stove* for burning wood, with the side doors off to emit as much heat as possible. The wood or fuel was supplied by the patrons of the school "district." It seemed an easy matter to warm the room by one of those large stoves, as the surface inside the middle box and some of the outer surface soon came to red heat. That kind of stoves was used generally until 1840, and in several places ten years later.

I think our school house was about an average one at that time; it was lighted by four 12 pane windows of 8x10 glass, one in each side, and if anyone broke a glass, duty and honor compelled him to replace it or to repair other damages done the building, thoughtlessly or maliciously.

Stewart Pearce says in his "Annals of Luzerne County" that the Wilkes-Barre Academy was founded in 1804. After the erection of the new court house in that year, the old building, being removed to the western corner of the Public Square, was converted into an Academy and was the first institution of learning, superior to the common log school house in Luzerne County." The first principal was Mr. Thayer, an Episcopal clergyman. Mr. Finney succeeded him. In 1807 the trustees requested Dr. Dwight, of Yale College, to send them an active, intelligent and competent teacher, a graduate of Yale. Garrick Mallory was sent for the place, under whose superintendence the Academy soon advanced to considerable eminence. Greek, Latin, mathematics and all the higher English branches of education were taught. Andrew Beaumont was assistant teacher. They were succeeded in after years by others, Jones, Woodbridge, Baldwin, Granger, Orton, Miner, Talcott, Ulmann, Hubbard and Dana. In 1842 the old building was supplanted by a brick one. Other academies and high schools soon followed in different places and favorable locations,

affording facilities for the youth of both sexes to gain more advanced education than could be obtained in the "district schools," as they were then termed.

Pennsylvania, as a State, was slower to act in providing educational enactments for her growing population than some of the sister States, especially New England.

In 1807 the incipient step was taken, followed in 1824 by acts providing for educating the poor at the public expense.

From that time until the free school system was enacted in 1833, Luzerne County expended yearly several hundred dollars for the education of the poor. But many not able to pay for the educating of their children were too proud to ask for or accept that help.

In 1833 State Senator Thaddeus Stevens headed a force sufficient to gain an enactment providing for a common school system, supported by taxes. But as each township, borough or city was to adopt the law by vote, its beneficial influences were slowly adopted. However Pennsylvania has steadily advanced until now her common school system has few equals in our great Republic.

The Connecticut Susquehanna Company also appropriated several thousand acres of their purchase for the benefit of the Indian school of Dr. Wheelock, in Connecticut, where several of the Delawares and other Indians from Eastern Pennsylvania were educated; also others from different locations and tribes, among them the noted Mohawk chief, Brant. This school was the foundation of Dartmouth College, of which Dr. Wheelock was the first president.

Other schools were established for educating the Indians within the bounds of Pennsylvania, of which those of the Moravians or United Brethren, were the most successful, at which many Indians were taught.

Count Nicholas Louis Zinzendorf, the founder and apostle of the "Society of United Brethren," came to Pennsylvania in 1741. A number of the society had preceded him two or three years earlier and had located at Nazareth, where the celebrated preacher, John Whitfield, had been endeavoring to found and build up a mission school for the benefit of the Indians. Whitfield had met with pecuniary losses and could not proceed with his noble plans.

The Moravians obtained his partially built town and large stone mission schoolhouse, where their leader came to assist them in 1741. The next year, after building a still larger mission town, named Bethlehem, nearer the Delaware River, he traversed the then almost trackless wilderness to Wyoming Valley and there endeavored to plant a mission, but dissensions between the Delawares and other tribes in the neighborhood prevented. After staying

several weeks in the valley and being joined by Conrad Weiser and others of his followers he partially succeeded. He left Martin Mack and others as teachers and missionaries, but the jealousy caused by the rival forces of France and England soon after caused its discontinuance.

A mission was maintained at Wyalusing several years later. Their mission schools at Bethlehem and other places in the Lehigh Valley were very successful for many years as means of educating the Indians, and also the white pioneers of that region. The schools at Bethlehem are still well patronized by many people of all other sects, as models of education in morals, as well as in other attainments. The Sisters' School, for girls exclusively, is esteemed by many as a rare model, and has been so esteemed by people of all creeds for over a century and a half, still well supported.

Before the adoption of the common school system each sect or church organization had founded schools of different grades and titles for educating the children of their own creed, but they all failed in reaching the masses, those outside of their own church environments. Sectarian bigotry was then more exclusive than in later years. No doubt much of this toleration is due to the common school system.

#### Card from Mr. Chapman.

EDITOR RECORD: I have been enjoying a great treat in the perusal of Mrs. Hartman's letters touching the early time schools. She mentions the "west corner" of the Square as the site of the "old academy."

The fact that Col. Durkee laid out our "Square" and then brought in the streets at the corners leads to misapprehension.

A glance at my "India ink sketch" of the old Square will show you the building in its proper position, at the northeast corner of the intersection of Main and West Market streets. The old building was superseded by a new brick structure, which, after a brief period, gave way for our beautiful (?) court house.

Mrs. Hartman gives us a list of the old teachers, but omits the two I loved best—Stewers and Owen.

Accept my endorsement of your views on the proper application of that \$10,000 appropriation for "mine education." C. I. A. C.

#### Artist Harry Brown's Publication.

The winter number of the *Comet*, published by H. E. Brown at Bethlehem, is devoted to the Lehigh Coal Field and its history from Ginter's discovery in 1791 down to the present time. It is illustrated with drawings by the editor and by photographs.

## A BRITISH SETTLEMENT.

Interesting Scheme to Locate English and Scotch Immigrants in Susquehanna County in 1818—Some Mountain Canals Which Never Materialized.

An interesting old volume in the Osterhout Library, and of some local value, is entitled "Letters From the British Settlement in Pennsylvania," dated 1819, the author being C. B. Johnson, M. D. It bears both a Philadelphia and a London imprint and was intended to induce English mechanics and others to settle on the lands of Dr. Robert H. Rose, in Susquehanna County, he having purchased 100,000 acres along the New York line. Montrose (or Mont Rose) perpetuates his name. The book really resulted in attracting quite a number of English and Scotch people, but the British Settlement met with many discouragements incident to frontier life, and did not prove to be of very long duration, though many of the present population are descendants of these hardy people. The volume is accompanied by two steel maps, one showing such portion of the United States as was then opened for settlement, extending but little beyond the Mississippi River. The other map shows such portions of Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey as were contiguous to the British Settlement, indicating also the turnpikes, one leading eastward 110 miles to Newburg on the Hudson, where steamboats were running from New York; a second leading to New York, 130 miles, and a third to Philadelphia by way of Wilkes-Barre. The country was painted as a paradise, and the map predicted great improvements in the way of stage roads which never came. A "proposed canal" connected the Lehigh at about what is now Penn Haven Junction with the Susquehanna near Nescopeck Creek, and another connected the head waters of the Schuylkill at about Nesquehoning, with the Susquehanna at Nescopeck—two canals from Carbon County to the Susquehanna, over the roughest of mountains. Still another "proposed canal" connected the Lehigh at a point near Stoddartsville with the Susquehanna at Wilkes-Barre.

Dr. Rose was a pioneer of whom Susquehanna County may well be proud. Though his schemes were visionary in some particulars he was a generation or two ahead of his time and it was left for others to profit by his early labors. He lived in splendor in the northern wilderness and his scheme was so promising as to elicit favorable mention from Hon. Charles Miner in his newspaper. Many interesting particulars of Dr. Rose and his

British Settlement, together with an engraving of his palace in the wilderness, are given in Miss Blackman's valuable History of Susquehanna County.

### STORY OF A DOCTOR.

**How an Ancient Medico was Highly Inconsistent.**

Dr. Hollister of Scranton writing a reminiscence article in the *Scranton Truth* of a recent date gives the following incident of a physician who wanted to see other peoples' souls all right but was rather regardless of his own:

"The original township of Providence, six miles square, had enjoyed the presence of but a single doctor prior to the advent of Dr. Throop. Dr. Silas B. Robinson, an excellent old gentleman but no surgeon, settled in Providence in 1823. He died here in 1860. During his long practice he always carried his own medicine, which he purchased in Wilkes-Barre, at the nearest drug store. He always went on foot, no matter how great the distance or urgent the case. A colt once ran away with him and never afterwards would he ride in a wagon. He always carried his rusty turnkeys to twist out teeth. He had two peculiarities about him, one was to always read the Bible at the bedside of his patient and the other was his great habit of profanity. He would rarely utter a sentence without an oath. He had no competitor in the field, while Dr. Nathaniel Giddings at Pittston Ferry, Dr. Andrew Bedford of Abington and Dr. Thomas Sweet of Carbondale were his nearest colleagues."

**Valuable Compilation From Old Newspapers.**

George C. Lewis has been putting in a few of his leisure hours going over some old files of local papers running from 1828 to 1836, and he has extracted therefrom all the marriages and deaths and arranged the same alphabetically, with dates and annotations. The same has been type written and he will present a copy to the Historical Society. It is not unlikely that Mr. Lewis will make similar arrangement from still older files. It is a most valuable contribution to local history and would well be worth including in the publications of the Historical Society. Mr. Lewis is making an extensive search for genealogical data along both the paternal and maternal lines in his family and already has a mass of most valuable data.

**The Archives of the State of New York.**

One of the most interesting articles in a recent issue of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record is a contribution on "The Archives of the State of New York," by Berthold Fernow, late keeper of the historical records. A summary is given of all the early archives from the time of the Dutch rule in the 17th century down to the Revolution. He states, however, that many volumes have been mutilated by relic hunters who have despoiled the documents of their autographs, and in many instances stolen the documents themselves. Reference is made to the Sir William Johnson manuscripts, twenty-two volumes, containing 7,000 documents, presented to the State Library in 1850 by a citizen of Albany. This covers the period from 1738 to 1774 and is important for the political, Indian, social and religious history of New York. The writer of this paragraph has had occasion to consult this collection and has found much of value to Pennsylvania students of history. Included are several manuscript letters by Rev. Jacob Johnson to Sir William Johnson, having to do with the Fort Stanwix treaty of 1768 and its relations to the Indians along the Susquehanna River. Mr. Fernow strongly urges upon the State authorities additional legislation to preserve the rich historical treasures of the State Library, with which are rapidly becoming lost or destroyed through the negligence or carelessness of the State authorities.

**Historical Paper by a Wilkes-Barre Woman.**

Singularly enough, the admirable paper read by Miss H. P. James of this city, before the Feb 22, 1892, meeting of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames in Philadelphia has escaped the attention of the local papers. The paper is said to have been full of matter new to the Philadelphia ladies. The *Ledger* spoke thus of it: "Miss James's paper was on the warfare so long existing between the proprietary government of Pennsylvania and the Connecticut settlers, who held the lands upon the Susquehanna River under a grant from the king of England, ante-dating Penn's time. The paper was quite detailed as to the bitter jealousies and struggles between the settlers taking title under the prior grant and the officials of province, and followed Governor Hoyt's distinction that the contest was not between the people of Pennsylvania and the Connecticut men, who were good neighbors and held each other in good esteem, but between the former and the proprietary officers alone."

## A REVOLUTIONARY SATIRIST.

Professor Moses Coit Tyler of Cornell University Lectures on Francis Hopkinson and His Distinguished Services in the Cause of American Liberty.

Under the auspices of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Professor Moses Coit Tyler of Cornell University, lectured to a large assemblage April 7, 1893, in the Y. M. C. A. auditorium on "The Wit Combats of the Revolution." The platform and galleries were tastily draped with the stars and stripes and with a badge of the society. Professor Tyler was introduced by Judge Stanley Woodward. He said the Revolutionary period had been written up from all standpoints except that of the satirist, and he would devote an hour to this greatly overlooked feature. The Whigs had three satirists who wielded an immense influence, Jonathan Trumbull, Philip Freno and Francis Hopkinson. The lecture was devoted entirely to the latter. Hopkinson was described by John Adams, in a letter to his wife, as "a little man, a most amusing specimen of natural history, having a head not much larger than an apple," who was yet one of the profoundest thinkers of his time and whose pen was mighty in the cause of independence. The lecturer described him as a lawyer, statesman, mathematician, physicist, inventor, musician, writer, artist and humorist. Though holding a position under the crown when the colonies threw off the yoke, he resisted the temptation to truckle to his own personal interests, and enlisted himself in the patriotic cause and was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. All through the struggle he wrote satirical pamphlets, newspaper articles, ballads, letters and catechisms—directed both towards the resident Tories and towards the military invaders. His humor was merry like Chaucer's and not stern and savage like Juvenal's. When Burckoyne issued a grandiloquent proclamation (ludicrous to us in the light of later events) Hopkinson burlesqued and made the country ring with laughter, in the very face of threatened danger. It was the province of his satire to cheer up the desponding and suffering colonial troops and the laughter of his emotional tonic did the cause of liberty as much good as the winning of a battle. Posterity, when it comes to adjust reputations of those who have done their country signal service, will award dis-

tinguished honor to Francis Hopkinson, author of the "Battle of the Kegs" and to his son, Joseph Hopkinson, author of the "Star Spangled Banner," the latter written in 1798. Francis Hopkinson was a distinguished Pennsylvania judge subsequent to the Revolution and died suddenly in 1791, at the age of 54.

Mr. Tyler's address was of the most fascinating character and was thoroughly enjoyed. Subsequent to the lecture he was given a reception at the home of Gen. W. H. McCartney, whose wife is regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

## Locating an Ancient Boundary.

PORT BLANCHARD, Aug. 7, 1892. EDITOR RECORD: I see you notice this morning my measurements made last night through Main street, in company with my friend Mr. Conniff. No measurement at this day will to the inches tally with those of 1791 as found in the clerk's office; a close approximation is all that can be expected. My object was to identify the position of the "stump near Hollenback's barn," given at page 48, Road Docket No. 1, the termination of the second course of the old main road from Hanover, through Wilkes-Barre, to Pittston.

By the kind assistance of Mr. Conniff and his son and considerable from the moon, the gas and electric lights I made a complete success of it.

I am not at all selfish in the matter. If any other surveyor or engineer wishes to see that corner or any other on that old highway I will show it to him free gratis. I make these remarks for the benefit of those kind young men who rendered us material help by cheering on the work very much in the same way the "boys" did "John Burns" at Gettysburg.

C. I. A. CHAPMAN.

P. S.—I wish also to present my warmest acknowledgement to my old friends Thomas Quick and Mr. and Mrs. Lees for services rendered at a critical moment during the survey.

C.

## The Oldest Living Alumnus.

Rev. E. Hazard Snowden has the badge worn at the inauguration of Rev. Melancthon T. Woolsey Stryker, D. D., as president and pastor of the college church. The badge is a neat bow of pink ribbon, and was worn by all in attendance on the occasion referred to, and sent to Rev. Mr. Snowden in recognition of the fact that he is the oldest living alumnus of Hamilton College. Mr. Snowden is now in his 94th year.

## AN OLD WILKES-BARRE FAMILY.

## Some Interesting Data Concerning Amasa Jones and his Descendants.

The following bit of biographical matter is furnished the RECORD by Lieut. Col. J. P. Wright, deputy surgeon general United States Army, a resident of San Francisco. Col. Wright was born in Wilkes-Barre 55 years ago and spent his boyhood days here. In a personal note to the publishers he thus writes: "I have received the back numbers of the *Historical Record* up to January, 1890, and I am *very much pleased indeed* to get them, as they supply me with certain data, long wished for. In looking over the *Historical Record* I find an allusion to my maternal grandfather which, though no doubt true enough, seems harsh and somewhat derogatory, and while I do not desire to make any correction, I think a more full notice of this family would be only fair. Some of the grandchildren of Amasa Jones have attained fair places in the world, and might have corrected, or written something of the kind I send herewith, had they seen the *Record*."

EDITOR HISTORICAL RECORD:—As supplementary to the historical notice of Amasa Jones (vide Vol. 1, No. 7, Page 113), I beg to offer the following more extended sketch of the family:

The father of Amasa Jones was Lieut. Col. Joel Jones, who was first colonel of the 12th Connecticut line regiment during the Revolutionary war, and was a descendant in the direct line from Hon. William Jones, deputy governor of the colonies of New Haven and Connecticut. Amasa was born at Hebron Conn., Oct. 17, 1771, and in early manhood took up his residence in Coventry, Conn., where he engaged in mercantile pursuits, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Huntington, D. D., and niece of Hon. Samuel Huntington, who was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, President of Congress prior to the adoption of the Constitution, from 1779 to 1781, and governor of Connecticut. In the year 1816 Amasa Jones, with his wife and six of his eight children, emigrated to Pennsylvania and settled in Wilkes-Barre, where he lived until his death, Nov. 5, 1842 (27 years). Two older sons, Joel and Joseph Huntington, were at this time students, in Yale and Harvard College respectively. After their graduation they both taught school in the old Wilkes-Barre Academy for a short time. Joel Jones soon

established himself in Easton, Pa., having been admitted to the bar; he married Miss Eliza Sparhawk, daughter of one of the oldest families of Philadelphia, and soon removed to the latter city, where he was elevated to the bench, became mayor of the city, and afterwards the first president of Girard College. Judge Joel Jones was recognized as a very able jurist and a man of unusual erudition. He died Feb. 2, 1860. Joseph Huntington Jones graduated at Harvard, and was for many years pastor of the Sixth Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia. He received the degree of D. D. from Harvard, and was considered an able and faithful pastor. He died Dec. 22, 1868. Samuel Jones, when quiet young, taught school in the old academy, and subsequently resided in Philadelphia, where he became a doctor of medicine. He died in Philadelphia Oct. 31, 1864. Matthew Hale Jones, the youngest son, graduated at Yale, studied law and was admitted to the bar in Easton, Pa., where he practiced with great success, and was among the distinguished lawyers of that part of the State. He died June 1, 1883. He was long an elder in the Presbyterian Church of Easton. One child of Amasa Jones still survives, at an advanced age—Fanny H. Jones. She resides with her nephew at Easton, Pa., but for many years she lived in Wilkes-Barre. Eliza (Mrs. Wright) the third daughter of Amasa and Elizabeth Huntington Jones, resided with her family in Wilkes-Barre for many years, in consequence of the demands of the service requiring her husband, an officer in the United States Army, to be separated from his family; especially during the Seminole War in Florida and the Mexican War. Eliza Wright was a contemporary of Debora Slocum Chahoon, Abi Slocum Butler, Cornelia Richards Butler, and both she and her family were well known to Wilkes-Barreans forty years ago. Her husband, Joseph J. B. Wright, born in Wilkes-Barre in 1800, held a commission as surgeon in the United States Army, and the family retained their residence in Wilkes-Barre until 1852. Mrs. Wright died July 6, 1854, at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., of Asiatic cholera.

The family of Amasa Jones were all very devout Presbyterians and regular attendants upon the old Presbyterian Church and the ministrations of the Rev. John Dorrance. Mrs. Elizabeth Huntington Jones especially was known far and wide in that day for her pure and saintly life. She died April 16, 1843.

J. F. W.

## OLD TIME FARM PRICES.

Cost of Farm Products and Rates of Wages  
a Century Ago.

The United States Department of Agriculture recently sent out from Washington an interesting statistical report of farm prices in Pennsylvania covering a period of seventy-three years, from 1770 to 1842, inclusive. This report presents a statement of prices of farm products and rates of wages and board in Pennsylvania in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. These prices illustrate, by contrast with the present prices, the vast difference between the poverty of primitive agriculture and the progress in civilization and wealth resulting from high development of all the possibilities of land and labor in rural and industrial arts and industries.

For the statistics and other information contained in this report, the department is indebted to a Pennsylvania farmer, H. P. Plumb of Peely, Hanover Township, Luzerne County. These statistics are taken from three books compiled by Mr. Plumb's ancestors.

The farm on which Mr. Plumb resides at present is located in Luzerne County, near Wilkes-Barre, and was formerly the property of his grandfather, Elisha Blackman, who resided there from 1791 until his death in 1845. Mr. Blackman kept these records from 1805 to 1842, inclusive, and prior to that his father, Elisha Blackman, Sr., had compiled them for the period extending over the years 1770 to 1804, first in Lebanon, New London County, Conn., from 1772 to 1778, on his farm near Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Few farmers make systematic registry of prices or results, even for short periods, so that a careful and persistent record for a long series of years is very rare and exceedingly interesting and important as material for history. These accounts were first kept in Connecticut currency, 6 shillings to the dollar, until the end of the Revolutionary period, and from 1787 in Pennsylvania currency, 7 shillings and 6 pence to the dollar.

These reports show a wide range of fluctuation in prices. Take wheat, for example; prior to the organization of the national government its lowest values were 60 to 67 cents per bushel, and in the year following it went to \$1.17. In 1814 it went up to \$1.50 and in 1817 was sold at \$2, which was the year following the almost universal crop

failures of 1816, noted for its frosts in every summer month.

The prices of meat quoted in this report are also interesting. Beef was sold for from 3 to 5 cents per pound or 5 to 7 cents for the more valuable pieces. Mutton brought 5½ cents. Pork appears to have been higher than beef, having brought from 5 to 7 cents. Veal is rated at from 4 to 6½ cents. Fish and game were abundant in those days and therefore cheap.

Wages, in comparison with those paid at the present time, were unusually low. Throughout the State at the present time wages for transient labor is usually \$1 per day, and from \$1.75 to \$2.50 during the fall harvest. The rates of service as quoted by Mr. Blackman were only about one-third this price. An ordinary unskilled laborer was paid at the rate of 33 cents per day; that requiring a degree of skill, 42 cents; and for harvest work, 50 cents. Wages in the period of the war with England were higher than at earlier or later dates. Wages by the month are named in several cases, generally those in which one of Mr. Blackman's sons is hired to a neighbor. In 1779 a charge of \$30 is made for the wages of his son, a youth of 17, for six months, and in 1781 another son, 16 years of age, for a like period received \$25.

Some peculiar items in this report are worth nothing. The use of a pair of oxen per day was usually 25 cents. Board was cheap in those days, the price usually charged being \$1 per week. Children were boarded at a somewhat lower rate. One item is the board of an individual for thirteen weeks for \$6.50, just 50 cents per week. Intemperance was not as prevalent as at the present day, yet one gallon of rum could be purchased for 50 cents. For nine and one-half days' work of oxen, \$2.42 is charged. Three loads of hay were bought for \$5. One pair of leather breeches were purchased for 33 cents. For three nights' lodging 13 cents is charged; 22 cents was paid by Mr. Blackman, in 1799, for horse to attend 4th of July celebration; 4 cents was paid for one night's lodging and \$1.09 was required to school two children for six months.

While these prices show that there has been an advance of at least two-thirds in the rate of wages paid over those of a century ago, yet we find that the cost of manufactured goods and wearing material has been reduced at least two-thirds of the prices paid

100 years ago. If this increase in wages and reduction in the cost of supplies in Pennsylvania is kept up, the next generation will be found to be much more prosperous than are the people of the present time.

#### Farm Prices in Two Centuries.

Reference has already been made in the RECORD to a report made to the United States Department of Agriculture by H. B. Plumb, Esq., of this county on "Farm Prices in Two Centuries." From one of the government pamphlets lately issued, Report No. 99, the subject matter of Mr. Plumb's article is found to be of great interest. It is based on the account books of Mr. Plumb's grandfather, Elisha Blackman, who resided on his farm in this county from 1791 to 1845. Some ten pages of the accounts are given. They were kept in Connecticut currency, 6 shillings to the dollar, until the end of the Revolutionary period and from 1787 in Pennsylvania currency, shilling 6 pence to the dollar.

#### OLD MAP OF PENNSYLVANIA.

It Shows this Region When it was a Howling Wilderness and Wilkes-Barre was Marked Only by an Indian Village—Coal Beds Shown.

[Daily Record, April 11, 1893.]

There is shown in the windows of Butler's book store a most interesting old map of Pennsylvania. It was bought by Walter M. Dickson of Scranton at an auction sale in New York City for \$2 and there are any number of people who envy him his purchase. He is quite a collector of curios and knows a rare thing when he sees it. The map is steel engraved and is about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet long, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide. Here is the title:

A map of Pennsylvania, exhibiting not only the improved parts of that province, but also its extensive frontiers: Laid down from actual surveys, and chiefly from the late map of W. Scull, published in 1770, and humbly inscribed to the Hon. Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esqs., true and absolute proprietaries and governors of the Province of Pennsylvania and the territories thereunto belonging.

This particular map was published in London in 1775.

What is now Wilkes-Barre is represented as an unnamed Indian village, the general locality being called Wyoming. The falls at Nanticoke are called Wyoming Falls. An Indian path leads from Wyoming across the moun-

tains through the "Shades of Death" and the "Great Swamp" to the Delaware river. The great swamp is represented as extending from a point what is now the Mauch Chunk region, then Fort Allen, to the New York line, and having an average width of about 30 miles. Two other Indian paths lead down the river—one to Fort Augusta (Sunbury), another to the West Branch at what is now the Williamsport region. There are no paths indicated as leading northward from Wyoming.

The streams above Wyoming are Mill Creek, Lackawannak Creek, Tankhonink Creek, (Tunkhannock) Massape Creek (evidently Meshoppen), Machapendaawe Creek (presumably Mehoopany). Then comes an Indian village, "Wyalusing town."

What we call Harvey's Lake is put down as Shawanese Lake and on its east bank is an Indian village marked "Old Shawanese Town." The late Henry Worthington, whose father settled at the lake in 1806, has often told of the Indian remains that were plowed up at that spot. Fishing Creek is wrongly indicated as taking its rise in this lake.

Off to the east is what is now lake Ariel, wrongly shown to be larger than Harvey's Lake, and a little further the group of lakes which attract so much attention from visitors at Farview.

At two points the presence of coal is indicated—one along the upper waters of the Schuylkill in what is now the borough of Potts ville and the other is ten miles distant along the upper waters of the "Machanoy Creek" near the present town of Ashland. No mark of coal is made in the Wyoming region, though the presence of coal here was known even earlier. William J. Buck read a paper before the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in 1875, saying that the Penn manuscripts state that coal was found in the Wyoming Valley in 1766 and a specimen sent to England. Mr. Buck's article referred to appears on page 190, volume 3, of the *Historical Record*.

All of Northeastern Pennsylvania was then in Northampton County, erected 1752. It included the territory now in Lehigh, Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Wayne, Susquehanna and parts of Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wyoming, Schuylkill, Bradford and Columbia.

Berks County was a strip about 30 miles wide reaching from Philadelphia County northwesterly, nearly across the State. The entire western half of the State was Cumberland County (erected 1750) and there were at the time the map was made only seven other counties. Cumberland embraced all the territory in Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna River and northwest of York.



## AN OLD SETTLER GONE.

**Asa Blodgett Departs This Life at His Home at Buttonwood, Near This City—A Good Man Gone.**

Asa Blodgett—and at mention of the name the memory of a hardy, industrious settler of Wyoming Valley will spring up in the minds of the older residents—died at his home at Buttonwood, Hanover Township, near this city, March 12, 1893, of the ill incident to old age. He was born March 19, 1809, and therefore would have been 84 years old next Sunday. He had been a resident of Buttonwood ever since 1830.

The deceased is survived by a wife and eight children, as follows: Mrs. Eunice Gruver, George Blodgett, A. L. Blodgett, Thomas Blodgett, Mrs. Alma Rinehamer, Mrs. Ida F. Davenport, of Wilkes-Barre; and Charles and James Blodgett, of Union Mills, Indiana. The funeral took place Wednesday forenoon at 10 o'clock, and interment was in Hollenback Cemetery. Last summer he celebrated the 59th anniversary of his marriage with Mary, daughter of George Lazarus, who in 1816 established himself a resident farmer in that locality. Then the population of Wilkes-Barre was about 500. Mr. Blodgett was a good, kind-hearted Christian gentleman. For over 60 years he had conducted a farm at Buttonwood, and was ever active and industrious. In old age when the duties of active life could no longer be performed he had the blessed privilege of looking back upon a life well spent, which priceless heritage he now leaves to his family.

## A Former Wilkes-Barre Man Dead.

Houghton Butler Robinson, a native of Wilkes-Barre, died at his home at Sparrow's Point, Md., Dec. 29, 1892, aged about 82 years. He was the son of John W. Robinson and was a brother of the late Mrs. Hendrick B. Wright. He was a cousin of C. E. Butler, his mother having been a sister of the latter's father, the late Steuben Butler. For many years Mr. Robinson was U. S. consul at Port Mahone island of Minorca, in the Mediterranean, near the coast of Spain. He has not lived in Wilkes-Barre for 30 years or more. While here he lived in the stone house on River street, later occupied by Dr. Mayer. He married a lady in Spain, who, with two sons, survives him.

## A FAMILY OF ENGINEERS.

**One of them Dead in Western Pennsylvania—He Lived in Wilkes-Barre Twenty-five Years Ago.**

John Morton Byers, twenty-five years ago a resident of Wilkes-Barre as assistant superintendent of the Lehigh & Susquehanna R. R., died at his residence, Swisvale, Allegheny County, Pa., March 4, 1893, and was buried by Rev. H. E. Hayden on the 7th. He was 61 years of age and was for more than forty years a civil engineer. He was engaged in the construction of the Washington aqueduct, resident engineer of the Philadelphia & Erie R. R., chief engineer of the Mifflin & Centre County R. R., chief engineer of the Pittsburg, Virginia & Charleston R. R., of which he was superintendent for years. At the time of his death he was engineer of construction on the Pennsylvania R. R., Western division. His son, Morton Lewis Byers, C. E., Lehigh, is assistant engineer on the Pennsylvania R. R. Mr. Byers belonged to a family of engineers. His uncle, John A. Byers, father of Mrs. H. E. Hayden, was an eminent hydraulic engineer engaged on the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal and superintendent of the western division of the James River & Kanawha Canal, Virginia. It is on the basis of his valuable surveys that the government is continuing the work.

Joseph Byers, brother of John A., was for years a civil engineer on the Pennsylvania R. R. and had charge of the middle division of the James River & Kanawha Canal. Of Joseph's six sons, five were engineers. Charles Byers was chief engineer of the Philadelphia & Reading R. R. until his death, another son, Joseph, was chief engineer of coast defences, United States of Colombia, South America, another son, Henry M., is engineer of construction of Pennsylvania R. R., western division. Elwood is right of way agent of Philadelphia & Reading R. R. John M., just deceased, was his eldest son. Deceased leaves a wife (who was a daughter of Richard Lewis, a civil engineer,) and three children. Miss Gertrude Byers, who has visited Wilkes-Barre, is a niece.

## Death of Mrs. Amanda Butler.

Mrs. Amanda Butler died at her home on Northampton street on April 8, 1893, after a painful illness from a bronchial affection which had afflicted her for some ten years. Mrs. Butler was born in Wysox, Bradford County, her maiden name having been Myer. Nearly her entire married life was passed in Wilkes-Barre, at the place where she died. Her husband, who died some twenty years ago, Houghton Seymour Butler, was a well

known civil engineer of Wilkes-Barre, and was prominently identified with railroad and canal work.

Her husband came from one of the pioneer Connecticut families. He was a brother of the late James M. Butler, whose widow, Martha, lives in Dorranceton; of Pierce Butler, a resident of Carbondale; and of Mary, widow of Elijah W. Reynolds, now residing in Dorranceton. They were children of Pierce Butler, who was a son of Gen. Lord Butler, who was a son of Col. Zebulon Butler of Revolutionary fame and who commanded the Wyoming forces at the battle of July 3, 1778.

Mrs. Butler is survived by three children—Charles S. Butler, a druggist, of Durango, Colorado, Henry Colt Butler, editor of the *Herald-Democrat*, at Leadville, Col., and Miss Julia Butler, who has always lived with her mother. There are also two brothers and a sister surviving—Charles Myer, of Columbus, O., Parson Myer, of Louisville, Ky., and Mrs. Clark, of New York City. Mrs. Butler was preeminently domestic in her habits and possessed one of those quiet, unobtrusive and sympathetic dispositions that endears her to all who knew her. During the last few years her health has been so impaired that she has been confined to the house except in the mildest of weather. A week or two ago pleurisy developed and she became so exhausted that when the end came she welcomed it. She was a life-long communicant of the Episcopal Church and was fully prepared for the change and entirely resigned.

#### Mrs. Amanda Butler's Funeral.

Rev. Dr. Jones read the burial service at Mrs. Amanda Butler's funeral Monday and the pall bearers were: John Butler Reynolds, P. Butler Reynolds, Henry C. Butler of Carbondale, J. Butler Woodward, George H. Butler and A. W. McAlpine. The singing was by Miss and Mrs. Brundage and Thomas Darling and J. B. Woodward. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery. There were some beautiful floral tributes.

#### Maria Hurlbut Hancock Dead.

Maria, widow of James Hancock, of Plains, died April 17, 1893, aged 62 years. She was attended in her last moments by her son, John, and her sister, Mrs. Caroline S. Gibson, of Corning, N. Y. The end was not sudden or unexpected, but had been anticipated for several weeks, the last few days being marked by unconsciousness. Throughout her great suffering she displayed ever the same patient, uncomplaining spirit and Christian fortitude which were always distinguished marks of her fine character. She was retired in her nature, never courting society nor seeking large acquaintance, but preferred the

quiet intercourse of a few intimate friends. Her marriage to the late James Hancock, who died in November last, took place about forty-four years ago. She is survived by three sons, George Hancock of Nebraska, William Hancock of Wilkes-Barre, and John Hancock of Plains, and has two sisters and three brothers still living, Mrs. Gibson of Corning, N. Y., Esther Close of Farmington, John Hurlbut of New York City, William N. Hurlbut of Westfield, Charles F. Hurlbut of Elmira. Funeral Monday afternoon at 1 o'clock. Interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

She was a daughter of Lyman Hurlbut, and her father was a son of Naphthali Hurlbut, who was born in Connecticut in 1767 and came to Wyoming Valley in 1779. The Hurlbuts played a prominent part in the settlement of the valley, and a genealogical table of the family is given in Plumb's History of Hanover Township.

#### Washington's Birthday in 1838.

The following invitation which has been received by the RECORD calls up a pleasant incident of Wilkes-Barre life fifty-five years ago. It was a reception to Thomas Quick and his bride. None of the persons mentioned are living, Mr. Quick, whose death occurred in November, being the last survivor:

**BIRTH-NIGHT BALL**—The managers' compliments to Mr. Thomas Quick and lady, and respectfully solicit your company at the Phoenix hotel, in Wilkes-Barre, on Thursday, February 22, 1838, at 6 o'clock P. M.

**Managers**—Gen'l William S. Ross, Col. John L. Butler, Col. H. Denison, Capt. F. Smith, Capt. Wm. H. Alexander, Henry Pettebone, Esq., O. Donlevy, George F. Slocum, E. Reynolds, H. Collings, N. J. Dennis, Henry Myers.

#### A Reminiscence of 1861.

"The fine weather to-day is in great contrast with that 32 years ago, April 18, 1861," said Major O. A. Parsons to a RECORD man Tuesday. "That was the day the Wyoming Artillerists left for the front—the first company from Northern Pennsylvania. The weather was wintry and a road had been cut through the ice across the Kingston Flats. In places the ice was ten feet high along the road. Had we not been delayed a day we would have reached Harrisburg in time to join the five companies which had already gone to Washington and which are known as the First Defenders. When we got to Harrisburg there were only two companies in camp."

## LINCOLN'S ASSASSINATION.

Col. George A. Woodward Tells of His Experience on That Exciting Night in Washington, April 14, 1865.

Col. George A. Woodward of the United States Army (retired) has written an account of what he saw on the night of Lincoln's assassination, giving experiences not heretofore recorded. He was in Washington that evening awaiting orders to join his command in the West. After describing the excitement after the news of the assassination and the uncertainty whether or not all the heads of the government had been included he came upon a crowd of soldiers who were about to rush to the place of excitement. It flashed through his mind that 400 Confederate officers who in the morning had been marched to the capital as prisoners of war might have escaped or been released and headed by a preconcerted rising of Southern sympathizers, were making a last mad effort to avenge the lost cause. He told the body of soldiers about him that they as military men instead of going down to Tenth street to swell a crowd and be of no use, had better get up the garrison of the city. The proposition received immediate assent.

Gen. Gile having arrived, immediately began dispatching squads under command of subaltern and non-commissioned officers to the residences of the several cabinet ministers and other prominent officials. The remaining troops were ordered to be held in readiness, and, at Gile's invitation, Oliphant, Baxter and Woodward started with him to his headquarters.

At the headquarters office there commenced arriving officers from every part of the city, some to tell what they knew of the night's doings, and others eager to hear the minutest details of the direful event. Every few minutes some man would come rushing in with the announcement of a victim previously unheard of by the assembled crowd, until the list came to include, besides the President, the Vice President, Secretary Seward, Gen. Grant, and Secretary Stanton. Being entirely assured of the truth as respected the President, they were prepared to accept each fresh announcement as equally well founded. The excitement mounted to a pitch more easy to be imagined than described.

As the night wore on, one after another of the officers at Gile's headquarters took his departure. I sent an orderly for a horse, and spent the remainder of the night in the

saddle, going from place to place where guards were stationed and seeing that they were properly attentive to their duties. About 5 o'clock in the morning I reached the house opposite Ford's theatre where the President lay, and the officer commanding the guard proposed to me to go in. In the room with the President were several members of the Cabinet and Surgeon-General Barnes, the latter kneeling by the President's bedside, apparently sopping with a towel the brains and blood which oozed from the wound. The President lay with his head to the foot of the bed, entirely unconscious and breathing stertorously. Every now and then the sounds would cease, and for a moment or two it would seem as if the end had come; then they would begin again, and the falling flame of life would feebly flicker on. Twice while I stood in the doorway of the room Secretary Stanton pressed by me to where Gen. Augur sat, and conversed with him briefly and excitedly.

As I left the house the new day was breaking. Riding to my quarters, the events of the night passed in rapid review through my mind. What a change a few hours had wrought! From a scene of rejoicing the capital would in a brief space of time be filled with mourning. To the remotest corners of the land would be flashed the dire intelligence that the nation's chief had been stricken down by the bullet of an assassin, and hearts that had been elate with joyful anticipation of peace and reunion and the re-establishment of fraternal amity would be sickened with dread forebodings of evils yet to come. Depressed and weary, I sought relief in sleep, feeling that I had passed through the most memorable night of my life.

## A Locomotive of 1832.

Apropos of the old locomotive John Bull, which in April was taken to the World's Fair, George C. Lewis hands the RECORD a clipping from a local paper, the *Republican*, in 1832, describing a "new locomotive engine called the American, William T. Jones, inventor," though the city is not mentioned. Its power was equal to sixteen horses, and was so simple "that a boy four years of age can manage it with but little instruction." It was capable of "being propelled at the rate of forty miles an hour, *much faster than one would like to travel.*" It was to be forwarded to Baltimore in a few days for use on "the great railroad."

## FIFTY YEARS OLD.

## Interesting Semi-centennial Services in the Baptist Chapel.

The fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Baptist Church in this city was fittingly commemorated by Dr. Frear and his congregation at the South street chapel Wednesday evening. The attendance was large, including some who were pioneers in the church, were present at its inception and watched its progress with loving eyes for nearly half a century.

Dr. Frear presided and on his right sat Rev. Mr. Hague of Plymouth. The services were opened with a hymn by the choir, and then Dr. Frear read an interesting historical sketch of the rise and progress of the church in this vicinity.

In 1762, he said, Elder Marsh accompanied the first white pioneers to Wyoming Valley. He was the "preacher and school teacher" of the colonists. They located at Mill Creek, and in the fall returned East to spend the winter, coming back the following spring fifty strong and opening up settlements in Plymouth and Hanover.

In 1769 ministers of other denominations visited the valley, and among these was John Stafford, a Baptist licentiate from Dutchess County, New York, who preached in Kingston Township. The same year a Baptist minister named Gray preached there, and afterward in the vicinity of Pittston.

In 1792, just 10½ years ago, Elder Jacob Drake, a Baptist minister, came from New Canaan, New York, and settled in this valley. He moved to Exeter in 1798. From Exeter, the base of his operations, he itinerated over a large territory, establishing branches of his church in various centres, among others in Wilkes-Barre. Many of these became independent churches.

Elder A. L. Post of Montrose came to Wilkes-Barre in August, 1842, and held a series of meetings which resulted in the conversion and baptism of a number of people.

On Dec. 7, 1842, delegates gathered in council at Forty Fort, Elder Dimmock moderator, to form a Baptist Church. The church united with the association in 1884. Rev. James Clark was then pastor, continuing only one year.

Rev. C. A. Hewitt became pastor of the church in 1845 and remained to October, 1849. During his pastorate the church on Northampton street was erected (in 1846). It was then one of the best edifices in this locality.

Rev. John Boyd was pastor from 1851 to 1854. Elder E. M. Alden's pastorate extended

from 1859 to 1865 and James L. Andrews served as pastor from 1866 to 1867. Rev. D. E. Bowen filled the pastorate from 1869 to 1870 and Rev. C. A. Fox was settled as pastor in 1870 and died in 1871. He was a remarkable man.

Rev. J. D. Griebel was in pastoral charge from 1871 to 1873. In this year the church disbanded, depositing letters in the First Pittston Church.

In 1874 Rev. J. B. Hutchinson came as a missionary and on July 1, 1875, the church was reorganized with a membership of 79. In 1878 the membership reached 126, the largest number so far in its history.

The present pastorate, under charge of Dr. Frear, began in 1880. In 1887 the old property on Northampton street was sold, the present site selected and the chapel begun.

Few financial reports were published prior to 1879. From 1869 to 1880, \$11,000 were raised and from 1881 to 1892, \$30,000. The grand total of benevolence reported for fifty years, 1842 to 1892, is \$3,548.46.

George Mason submitted the financial report from 1875 to 1892. There was collected \$2,397.46. There were 61 conversions from the school. In 1875 the school had 95 members, in 1892, 182.

In thirteen years previous to the organization of the present church there were received in the Sunday school \$596.12. The superintendents since 1875 were Rev. J. B. Hutchinson, H. W. Kalish, B. F. Mahoney, W. G. Colley, Rev. George Frear, Timothy Parker, Dr. Maris Gibson. George Mason, the present superintendent, has held the position for the last seven years.

J. B. Manchester read an interesting history of the Young People's Association, the many vicissitudes it encountered during its existence and the good work it has done. The report was well written and produced a good impression.

Mrs. Dr. Frear read the report of the Women's Missionary Society and the Children's Mission Band. Considering the difficulties under which they labored, the report was decidedly gratifying.

At the conclusion of the regular services Dr. Frear called on the old members for reminiscences of the church in its early days, and many responded with interesting tales of the struggles of the pioneer Baptists.

During the services the choir rendered some choice selections, among them being two choruses, a duet by L. L. Evans and wife, and a solo by Mr. Evans.

Mr. Fry on behalf of some of the other members who felt a little bashful, gave their recollections and his address was decidedly pleasing. Rev. Mr. Hague also made a short address, after which the congregation sang the doxology and dispersed.



LATEST PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WYOMING MONUMENT FROM S. B. NELSON & CO.'S NEW HISTORY OF LUZERNE COUNTY.

## PREPARING FOR THE THIRD OF JULY.

**Preliminary Meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association and Arrangements Made for the Annual Exercises.**

At a meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association held Tuesday, officers were elected as follows:

President—Capt. Calvin Parsons.

Vice presidents—Hon. L. D. Shoemaker,

Dr. H. Hollister, Hon. G. M. Harding, Sheldon Reynolds, William L. Conyugham.

Secretary—F. C. Johnson.

Corresponding secretary—George H. Butler.

Treasurer—Dr. Harry Hakes.

Librarian—William A. Wilcox.

Committee on grounds—Benjamin F. Dorrance, Robert T. Pettobone, William H. Jenkins.

Committee on program—Calvin Parsons, Sheldon Reynolds, William A. Wilcox.

Mrs. W. H. McCartney, regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution was present and said her society was anxious to co-operate and a committee of three ladies had been appointed—Mrs. Col. Reynolds, Mrs. Major Stearns and Mrs. Judge Woodward—to attend to the carrying out of any special work which might be assigned them. Mrs. McCartney thought the grounds ought to be systematically cared for and steps taken to prevent vandals from chipping and defacing the monument. The matter was left to the committee on grounds to confer with the Daughters.

A letter was read from E. Greenough Scott accepting the invitation to deliver the oration July 3.

After some informal discussion as to instrumental and vocal music, tent, seats, finances, etc., adjournment was had to May 22, at 3 p. m.

## WYOMING DAY.

### ENTHUSIASTIC EXERCISES AT THE MONUMENT.

**Mr. Scott's Scholarly Study of the Causes Which Led the American Colonies to Revolt—He Revives the Old and Almost Forgotten Line of Thought in That Direction—A Heavy Thunder Storm.**

[Daily Record, July 4, 1893.]

Evidently public interest in the battle of Wyoming, July 3, 1778, is not on the wane, for the attendance at the commemorative exer-

cises at the monument yesterday was larger than on any year since the centennial of 1878, when President Hayes and his cabinet honored our valley by their presence. A novel feature was the providing of a tent, or rather, a canvas fly, 150 feet long, supported on poles. The canvas has been purchased for permanent use and will be an invaluable shelter against either sun or rain. Yesterday in the midst of the exercises there came up a thunder shower and some of the people hastened away, but of the several hundred who remained under shelter none received a drenching.

Several hundred chairs had been provided and yet scores of people had either to stand or to seat themselves on the turf. The base of the monument was decorated with vases of roses brought by Benjamin Dorrance, who got up from a sick bed to attend. In the village of Wyoming many residences were hung with flags and bunting. In Wilkes-Barre the flag on the court house was flying at half mast. In the throng at the monument were many patriotic ladies and the several Revolution societies had numerous representatives present. Among the ladies were Mrs. Sallie Henry and Mrs. Judge Pfouts, also Mrs. Dr. Hollister of Scranton. All the towns in the valley were strongly represented, the electric cars carrying hundreds of people. The Ninth Regiment Band added greatly to the interest of the occasion and when at one point it was necessary to intermit the exercises until the shower should subside, the band filled the gap in most interesting fashion. The band received many compliments.

The exercises began about 10 o'clock, each person present being furnished with a program on which was a splendid and recent picture of the monument.

Rev. Dr. S. C. Logan offered the opening prayer and his invocation was marked by appeals filled with patriotic utterances. Capt. Calvin Parsons, president of the association, made a brief opening speech, in which he recalled the laying of the corner stone of the monument sixty years before and the presence of the local military company, of which he was a member, and with one possible exception, now the only surviving member. He emphasized the fact that the company was not a militia company, but a volunteer organization, uniformed and equipped, while the militia appeared only on training days, with-

out uniform and armed with broomsticks or pitchforks if muskets were not at hand. Mr. Parsons alluded feelingly to the many of the monument projectors who had passed away.

The historical address was by E. Greenough Scott, a grandson of the honored Judge David Scott, as chairman Parsons said, and it was a most charming historical study. He alluded but briefly to the incident of the battle of Wyoming, branching out into the wider field of a consideration of the real causes of the revolt of the colonies and their separation from the mother country. In his reference to the battle the speaker believed the Wyoming people had not shown military wisdom in attacking the preponderating forces of the invaders in the methods chosen. Proceeding with the general theme, the cause of the revolution, Mr. Scott's argument embraced these ideas, he stating that he was not laying down a new line of thought but reviving the original idea, from which we had gotten too far away and to which we ought to return:

Some writers account for the Revolution solely upon politico-economical grounds. Others attribute it entirely to the oppressive effect of the Navigation Act, or to the repressive effects of the acts against colonial manufactures; others again to the fact that the tobacco growers and Southern planters were getting behind hand and were falling in debt to British creditors, and others still to a long repressed and concealed spirit of contumacy, rather than of independence, which had no opportunity to make itself heard until the French wolf at their doors had been rendered harmless by the fall of Quebec. Others still attribute the revolt to colonial exasperation and imperial arrogance. Each of these views taken singly is too circumscribed and narrow to account for this tremendous schism in the English speaking race. Each, it is true, had its place, and was a motive, but it was a subordinate motive. Each had its effect, but no single one could have accomplished such a result. The acknowledgment of our independence by the Treaty of Paris and pressing the war to the bitter end justified our forefathers in taking up arms. But of the reasons just specified was there any that taken singly would have justified the revolt in the eyes of our ancestors themselves or in those of the world. The greater part of the colonists came over or were born here after the Navigation Act had become one of the corner stones of British

policy; after the acts of trade had stamped these regions as British factories. The arrogance of British officers had been curbed by the defeats of Braddock and Abercrombie and was really nothing but an irritation of the hour. We have the concurrent testimony of the best men North and South that while the subversion of the French revealed to the colonies their own powers, it did not arouse anything like a general desire for independence and it is in vain to attribute the rupture to grievances arising from trade, when on the floor of the House of Commons and by political economists the world over, the British possessions in America were pointed to as illustrations of the most marvelous prosperity then known to men. In fact not only was the material prosperity of these colonies beyond comparison, but their political condition was almost Utopian. The colonists owned their land in fee simple, which was something the classes from which they sprung in Europe did not do; they had their own judiciary and their own parliaments; they governed themselves; they could not be taken across sea to fight the battles of Great Britain; they had their own militia, and if this was not sufficient Great Britain was bound to defend them; they taxed themselves and not one penny could be drawn from them by imperial tax gatherers. Thus they were their own men and while they shared the benefits of the empire they were exempt from its burdens. Is it credible then that the Adamses, the Dickinsons, the Franklins, the Washingtons, the Randoilphs and the like could have ever justified themselves for subverting this happy state by reason of economical conditions which enriched them, by arrogance at which they could afford a contemptuous smile; by the sense of power which the downfall of dangerous neighbors had aroused; by the paltry indebtedness of a few planters; by the restraint on navigation, which was really in compensation of maritime defense, or by any reason which savored of the personal rather than the political?

No. They revolted because, from change of policy on the part of the home government these halcyon days were numbered, and through no fault of their own. Let it be clearly understood that our fathers took up arms, not to gain more, but to save as much as they could of what they already had. Not one of those men was so deluded as to sup-

pose that he would gain by independence. On the contrary he knew well that such a Utopia as he had enjoyed could never be his again; that the best could not be bettered, and that if there was anything hazardous in this world it was to cast his fortune on that which never yet improved the citizen's condition—civil war. "There was not a moment during the revolution," said John Adams, "when I would not have given everything I possessed for the restoration to the state of things before the contest began, *provided* we could have had a sufficient security for its continuance." This last phrase is the whole thing in a nutshell. The "security for its continuance" was wanting.

The colonists' liberties and prosperity did not exist by right but by grace. Constitutional guaranty was lacking. We had no Bill of Rights and there lies the reason of the Revolution. All the other reasons so painfully dwelt upon are but incentives, if they amount to anything at all. But here is the great reason, the great motive of the revolt, that the colonial franchises which had been conferred by charter or acquired by time and custom were to be held as matters of grace and not of right, and that colonial prosperity henceforth was to be subject to the uncertain need of the imperial treasury.

The speaker then, following out the testimony of the facts as above quoted, took occasion to criticise some of the later British historians. He first showed the fallacy of the view expressed by Lord Mahon—that if Chatham's bill had become a law the Americans would have accepted it cheerfully. Mr. Scott claimed that Chatham's bill did not confer any rights that the colonists did not already possess. "Lord Mahon," he continued, "failed to see that the opposition of the Americans was to parliament as a ruler, not as legislator, and that congress itself was a standing denial to the supremacy of parliament."

Mr. Scott then turned his attention to Lord Macaulay's astonishing statement that Congress and the leading Americans yielded every power to parliament except the power to tax. Macaulay appears here to have confined himself to assertion without adducing proofs. Adams, who is better authority on the subject than Franklin or Washington, says, as if he had risen from his grave to answer this very assertion of Macaulay, "The truth is, the power of parliament was

never generally acknowledged in America. More than a century since, Massachusetts and Virginia both protested against even the Act of Navigation, and refused obedience, for this very reason, because they were not represented in parliament and therefore were not bound."

But what are we to say of Mr. Lecky, a greater historian than Mahon or Macaulay? He told a Birmingham audience only 266 days ago that Grenville had determined to keep an army of 10,000 men in America, through fear of France attempting to regain her lost possessions, and he asked America to contribute \$500,000 a year, or a third part of the expense. Lecky recited the difficulty of getting the thirteen State legislatures to agree on any scheme for supporting an army in America; that Grenville called into power a dormant power of the constitution and levied this new war tax by imperial taxation, guaranteeing that the whole sum should be expended in America. And such, and so small, Mr. Lecky says, was the original cause of difference between America and England.

Mr. Lecky's assumption, remarked Mr. Scott, of the power of parliament to tax us must meet with flat contradiction. He touches the subject gingerly and calls it a dormant power. When had it ever been an active one? Not in the history of Ireland, nor Scotland before the act of union, and never in America.

Mr. Lecky prefaced his remarks at Birmingham by saying, "You will often hear of this even treated as if it were simply due to wanton tyranny of the English government, but you will find that this is a gross misrepresentation."

As I had never heard or read any American treat this subject in such a reckless way, Mr. Scott went on, I supposed that he referred to English writers unknown to me. Since his statement of Grenville reviving a dormant power, an act on its faceavoring of the tyrannical, I am myself almost persuaded that his statement is true, and that he was referring to himself. No, my friends, Grenville's act was not the real cause of the revolution, but merely the irritant of it.

In closing, the speaker drew a sharp line of distinction between the Tories and Loyalists of the Revolution. Between those apopates, vengeful, self-willed, cruel, the greedy, the restless whom we include in the word



Tory and the orderly, well regulated, intelligent and honorable people whom we class as Loyalists. Our fathers made this distinction in their time, and it is only fair that we should maintain it in ours. We all know that some of the best people in the land left home, property, friends and relatives sooner than countenance that which they believed to be wrong. They acted from fear of God and love of their king; our forefathers acted from fear of God and love of independence. Both sides then had the moral motive of their course in common, and differed only in the political motive. The Loyalist deserved a better fate than to have his name linked to posterity with those whose deeds he condemned, and with whom he scorned to associate.

With a kind word then for those who honestly differed from us in opinion and with intense sympathy and sorrow for those who having faith in us and our cause found their lot cast among our enemies, let us turn from past to the present, and in a moment when we are taking the nations of the world to our bosom, greet with all our heart the great people from whom we severed ourselves, but who have come to behold our prosperity and to rejoice at it. The soil upon which we stand will not have been soaked with the blood of its defenders in vain nor the memory of that bitter day be worthless if the lesson taught be that of peace on earth and good will to men.

There were two brief addresses—one by Henry A. Fuller, Esq., the other by Dr. Harry Hakes. The former was knocked out for a few minutes by the storm, he remarking that never before had he ever tried to compete with thunder. He afterwards was called for and concluded his speech in most satisfactory fashion. His theme was veneration of the dead. Its treatment was scholarly and eloquent.

George H. Butler read a tribute to the memory of Wesley Johnson, the secretary of the Commemorative Association, who died in October last. Mr. Butler's paper was admirably written and gave a graphic pen picture of the departed secretary.

There was read a letter from Dr. H. Hollister of Scranton, regretting his inability to attend these gatherings, as follows:

SCRANTON, Pa., July 3, 1893.—I regret that I cannot meet with you to-day at the monument. It is doubtful if I ever meet with you again as a collective body, but I trust and hope that the association, cheered and encouraged by the presence of the patriotic ladies of Wyoming and elsewhere, will always

be animated by the same zeal and spirit that is manifested to-day. Yours truly,

H. HOLLISTER.

Led by bandmaster Alexander and his men the assemblage rose and sang "My Country 'Tis of Thee" in stirring fashion.

The benediction by Rev. Dr. J. Richards Boyle brought the exercises to a close about noon.

### THE WYOMING MASSACRE.

Facts Relative to That Memorable Battle—  
James S. Slocum's Claim.

[Scranton Republican.]

In a recent issue of the *Pittston Gazette* there appeared a paragraph asserting that Garrick M. Harding, L. D. Shoemaker and C. E. Butler were the only surviving grandsons in a direct line of participants in the battle and massacre of Wyoming.

I claim that my grandfather, James Scovell, was a guardsman at Forty Fort on the day of that battle, July 3, 1778.

Giles Slocum, whose name is on the monument at Wyoming, was a survivor of the massacre. My grandmother, Thankful Nash's father, was in that battle and swam to Wintermute Island and escaped to Plymouth where he had lived and started for Connecticut the same night with his entire family.

When Gen. Sullivan came back to protect the settlers after the massacre, James Scovell accompanied him throughout the campaign to Painted Post, N. Y., where the final surrender took place. He then came back to the head of the valley, where I now reside, and brought with him the first currant bushes planted in this valley, a fact which old Mrs. Jenkins told my grandmother and myself, and she was in Fort Wintermute at the time of the massacre.

Any person desirous of obtaining authentic historical facts in relation to the settlers and survivors of that memorable and trying time, can obtain them from me by calling at my residence near Indian Park, Exeter borough. I am yours very respectfully,

JAMES S. SLOCUM.  
Pittston, Pa., March 3, 1893.

### MORE DESCENDANTS OF HEROES.

Four Surviving Grandchildren of a Participant in the Wyoming Massacre.

EDITOR RECORD: The statement that L. D. Shoemaker, C. E. Butler and G. M. Harding are surviving grandsons of participants in the stirring scenes of the eventful days of July, 1778, in the Wyoming Valley, naturally arouses the inquiry are there not others still living who can claim this distinction? It is my pleasure to be able to report four members of one family still living, grand-

children of Capt. Samuel Ransom, who fell on that ill fated 3d of July, 1778. One grandson, Ira Ransom, a former member of the 143d Pennsylvania Infantry, and Chester Ransom, another grandson, are residents of Jackson Township, this county. Miner Ransom lives in Iowa and Lydia Kriedler, a granddaughter, is still living in the State of Illinois.

It is quite surprising that so many of one family should still live whose grandfather was a prominent actor in an event which occurred 115 years ago, an event which has made Wyoming Valley so famous in the history of the nation.

L. WHITNEY.

Plymouth, Pa., March 6, 1893.

#### More Living Grandsons.

[Daily Record, March 23, 1893]

Probably there are not a few living grandsons of persons who participated in the battle of Wyoming, 1778. The RECORD has already published the names of C. E. Butler, L. D. Shoemaker and will be glad to note any others whose names may be sent in. A man does not have to be in advanced age to be such a grandson, as witness the grandchildren of Matthias Hollenback, who was an ensign at the time of the battle: Matthias H. Welles of Elmira, George H. Welles of Wyalusing, Rev. Henry H. Welles of Forty Fort, R. M. Welles of Towanda, John Welles Hollenback and Edward Welles of this city.

#### There is One More Surviving Grandson.

In addition to the three Wilkes-Barre men who were said to be the only surviving grandsons in a direct line of participants in the battle and massacre of Wyoming, there is still another, as shown by the following from a well known Methodist clergyman:

LANESBORO, March 21, 1893.—EDITOR RECORD: Please say to your readers that Guy Wells, Esq., now living at Duluth, Minn., is the grandson of Lieuts Perrin Ross and James Wells, whose names will readily be found on the monument. C. L. RICE.

#### Sheldon Reynolds's Appointment.

HARRISBURG, June 28 —[Special].—Governor Pattison to-day appointed Benjamin Chambers of Chambersburg; Jay J. Weiser, Middlesburg; G. Dallas Albert, Latrobe; Henry M. M. Richards, Reading; Sheldon Reynolds, Wilkes-Barre, as a commission to report at the next meeting of the legislature the propriety of erecting tablets to mark the location and number of the forts erected by the early settlers as defenses against the Indians prior to 1783. The commission was appointed under an act passed at the recent session of the legislature.

#### ZION'S CENTENARY.

##### The 100th Anniversary of the Independence of the Reformed Church in America.

Zion's Reformed Church on South Washington street celebrated April 30, 1893, the centennial of the independence of the American Synod of that church, which was proclaimed on April 27, 1793, in the First Reformed Church, Lancaster. The American Synod was organized in 1747, but was under the jurisdiction of the Synod of Holland until 1793. At that time there were in the United States 22 ministers, 153 churches and about 2,700 members. At the present time there are over 900 ministers and 215,000 members.

In the morning the pastor, Rev. Dr. Levan, was assisted by Rev. Donate of Wapwallopen and Rev. Meckel of Wilkes-Barre and in the evening short addresses were delivered by Dr. Levan and Revs. Donate, Glantz of Nanticoke, Siegel of Plymouth and Meckel of Wilkes-Barre. Rylance Smith presided at the organ and the choir sang very sweetly. At the close of the service a collection was taken up for the new seminary now in course of erection at Lancaster, and the response of the congregation was quite liberal.

The addresses dwelt largely upon the history of the church in America, the many trials and tribulations which it has undergone, and the gratifying increase of membership shown in the last 100 years. Zion's Church has not been behind in this latter respect, and under the efficient direction of Dr. Levan is steadily progressing in numbers and influence.

#### A Faithful Portrait of Lincoln.

EDITOR RECORD: As swift flying time sweeps away the old landmarks it may be of interest to some to look upon the face of the one fast becoming the greatest of the age—Abraham Lincoln. I make this remark *ex rei* the portrait as depicted in New York *Tribune* of Monday, March 13.

This is A. Lincoln exactly. A faithful portrait as I recollect him, seen in his room at the Briggs House, Chicago, Nov. 13, 1860, one week after his first election.

I sent up my card asking a few moments interview and received his in return; spent twenty minutes with him and carried away with me an impression of his face that is now for the first time satisfied.

C. I. A. CHAPMAN.

**Conyngnam Post's Roll of Honored Dead.**

Albert, Sidney, 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Apt, M. C.  
 Buckley, J. C., Vet. Reserve Corps.  
 Brisbane, Wm. E., 49th Pa. Vols.  
 Barnes, George W., 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Bowman, Samuel, 8th Pa. Vols.  
 Bogert, Joseph K., 28th Pa. Vols. and U. S. Signal Corps.  
 Brecht, Godfrey, 112th Pa. Vols.  
 Bergen, John, 8th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Booth, Henry, 171st Pa. Vols.  
 Clapsaddle, H. E., 7th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Connor, David M., 61st Pa. Vols.  
 Culver, James, 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Coggins, Bartley, 7th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Curran, Patrick, 28th Pa. Vols.  
 Cruse, Thomas, 58th Pa. Vols.  
 Connolly, Michael, 17th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Dunlap, Robert, 30th Pa. Vols. M.  
 Dickover, John M., 58th Pa. Vols.  
 Dane, Wm. B., 2d Mass. Cavalry.  
 Davis, Thomas, 17th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Dana, E. L., 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Eldridge, James, 104th Pa. Vols.  
 Ely, John, 23d Pa. Vols.  
 Evans, Henry P., 3d Pa. Artillery.  
 Edwards, John D., 11th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Ennis, Robert M., U. S. Navy.  
 Finch, E. W., 8th and 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Fell, John P., 7th Pa. Vols.  
 Futterer, Conrad, 8th Pa. Vols.  
 Frantz, Henry, 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Fisher, C. S. M., 132d Pa. Vols.  
 Farr, N. P., 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Gava, Charles, 177th Pa. Vols.  
 Gaylord, Rozelle B., 3d Pa. Cavalry.  
 George, Joseph, 67th Pa. Vols.  
 Hibler, S. H., 8th Pa. Vols.  
 Harkness, T. C., 8th and 81st Pa. Vols.  
 Hunter, James, 8th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Hunt, Thos. P., 7th, 8th and 112th Pa. Vols.  
 Hay, Peter H., 8th Pa. Vols.  
 Hagenbach, Abraham, 210th Pa. Vols.  
 Higgs, James, 61st Pa. Vols.  
 Herbert, Wm. R., 77th Pa. Vols.  
 Hawk, Wm., 67th Pa. Vols.  
 Hartland, John, 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Hedden, Nelson B., 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Hinkley, Ira, 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Hoyt, H. M., 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Jones, Avery, U. S. Navy.  
 Jones, John M., 87th Indiana.  
 Johnson, C. H., 2d Pa. Cavalry.  
 Kraft, Christian, 9th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Knoll, Michael, 18th Pa. Vols.  
 Kantner, Joseph, 151st Pa. Vols.  
 Keller, Henry, 58th N. Y. Vols.  
 Kidder, R. M., 6th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Killan, John, 8th Pa. Vols.  
 Kreidler, John A., 143d Pa. Vols. and 15th U. S. Infantry.  
 Kittle, E. H., 197th Pa. Vols.  
 Kindred, Ezra H., 28th Pa. Vols.  
 Lewis, Josiah L., 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Landmesser, N. F., 143d Pa. Vols.

Lahr, Charles, 177th Pa. Vols.  
 Loch, Frank B., 4th N. Y. Heavy Artillery.  
 Mooney, Patrick, 7th Pa. Cavalry.  
 McLean, George, 5th Iowa Cavalry.  
 Mundy, John, 47th Pa. Vols.  
 McNails, William, 96th Pa. Vols.  
 Moses, William, 177th Pa. Vols.  
 Moss, William J., 143 Pa. Vols.  
 Moran, John, 6th Pa. Vols.  
 Most, George W., 4th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Nesbit, Archibald, 28th Pa. Vols.  
 Ossent, Eugene, 41st N. Y. Vols.  
 Plotz, Charles C., 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Pryor, Theodore, 2d Pa. Light Artillery.  
 Root, C. L., U. S. Vet. Reserves.  
 Reehl, John, 98th Pa. Vols.  
 Reece, Francis, 154th Pa. Vols.  
 Ruff, Andrew, 5th and 45th N. Y. Vols.  
 Rineman, Phillip, 9th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Smith, O. B., 142d Pa. Vols.  
 St. Clair, Daniel, 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Stout, Charles B., 143d Pa. Vols.  
 Spendler, George, 1st N. Y. Cavalry.  
 Speece, L. B., 7th Pa. Vols.  
 Shuldy, Henry, 52d Pa. Vols.  
 Sittig, Joseph, 9th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Safford, Robert, 8th N. Y. Cavalry.  
 Stroh, Henry, 8th and 9th Pa. Vols.  
 Townsend, John, 9th Pa. Vols.  
 Tyler, Joseph P., 177th Pa. Vols.  
 Turnbach, John, 18th Pa. Vols.  
 Willie, James, 41st Pa. Vols., M.  
 Warnick, Zavler.  
 Webb, Samuel C., 29th Pa. Vols.  
 Wurm, August, 17th N. Y. Vols.  
 Wilson, Ferdinand, 2d and 29th N. Y. Vols.  
 Walter, C. J., 9th Pa. Cavalry.  
 Williams, E. D., 11th Pa. Vols.

**Looking up the Rittenhouse Family.**

[Daily Record, June 20, 1893.]

Daniel K. Cassel of Philadelphia, 4333 Germantown avenue, postoffice address Nicetown, is in this city looking up the Rittenhouse family, about whom he is writing several volumes. Any persons who have any knowledge of the family or are related to it are earnestly invited to correspond with him. Mr. Cassel is a guest of George B. Kulp, with whom he is related. The Rittenhouse family of America numbers among it some very prominent men. William erected the first paper mill in America and was the first Menonite bishop and preacher in America. David was a very noted astronomer and philosopher. He constructed the first scale used in the United States Treasury at Washington, which is still in use, the most accurate scale in the country. He was also a prominent State official. Mr. Cassel has in his possession some very old and rare Rittenhouse documents, papers, portraits and relics.

The work will be issued in three volumes, and the first volume will go to press July 1.

## EARLIEST WILKES-BARRE EPITAPHS

As Shown by the Tablets of Native Mountain Stone, Before Marble Had Come Into Use.

A visit to the City Cemetery or to the Hollenback Cemetery reveals numerous interesting grave stones, over persons who died in the latter part of the last century and the first two decades of the present century. They are of native mountain stone, either reddish in color, or resembling the gray stones now in general use for pavements. With but few exceptions they are in splendid condition, having been uninjured by the cold and heat of nearly a century. A very few of them have their surfaces marred by frost or erosion, but most of them are perfect and the inscriptions look as if they were chiseled only yesterday. In durability the native mountain stone is far superior to marble, the latter in many cases being illegible after a lapse of only a score of years.

Up to the year 1870 the public burying ground was within the space bounded by Market, Washington and Canal streets, but the demands of our modern life made it necessary to seek more commodious quarters adjoining Hollenback Cemetery, and a removal was consequently made.

The first mention of the public burying ground, so far as the present writer has learned, is made in the journals of the Sullivan Expedition, which passed through Wilkes-Barre in 1779, on the mission entrusted it by Gen. Washington, to desolate the region in New York, occupied by the Indians and so cripple their resources as to make it impossible for them to ever repeat such an attack on the frontier posts as that on Wyoming in the summer previous. Sullivan's army had been preceded in April, 1779, from Easton to Wilkes-Barre, by an advance guard, who were ambushed by Indians at a point where are now Oliver's powder mills and two officers—Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones—were killed, besides several others whose names have not been preserved. They were buried by the roadside and when the main army arrived in June the bodies were removed to the then desolated settlement of Wilkes-Barre and interred in the public burying ground with Masonic ceremonies. (See *Historical Record*, volume 1, page 48, for detailed account). They lay there undisturbed until the general removal when they were removed to Hollen-

back Cemetery and placed in a triangular lot to the right of the entrance. A marble slab "erected by a friend," but really the patriotic gift of George W. Hollenback, bears this inscription:

In memory of  
CAPT. J. DAVIS  
of the 11th Pennsylvania Regiment.

Also Lieut  
WILLIAM JONES,  
who were massacred  
by the savages on their  
march to the relief  
of the distressed  
Inhabitants of  
Wyoming on the  
23d of April, 1779.  
Erected by a friend.

But there was an interment in the old burying ground anterior to that date. At the time of the removal a rude and irregularly shaped stone was found and was given an abiding place in the Historical Society. It is now almost undecipherable but the inscription as made out at the time of removal was as follows, over the rude device of a wheel and spokes:

HEAR LISE  
THE BODDEY OF  
ELIZABETH  
PARKS SHE  
DID MAY THE  
7th A D 1776  
AGED 24

The oldest stone now to be seen in the City Cemetery has this curious inscription, the tragic death of one of the pioneer settlers calling forth a bit of undoubtedly original verse, the poet ingeniously weaving the name of deceased into his rhyme:

1784  
HERE lies the BODY of  
WILLIAM SMITH  
Mortals attend he was  
Call'd forth with  
He left the world at  
twenty five  
A warning to all  
thats yet alive  
His zeal for justice tho  
hard to relate  
It caused his flight  
from this mortal State.

The story of "his flight from this mortal State" occupies a place in the local histories, see Miner, page 360, and Pearce 87. Mr. Smith lost his life Sept. 29, 1784, in one of the numerous encounters between the Pennamites and the Connecticut Yankees. Col. Armstrong and a force of 50 Pennsylvania men

were trying to dispossess the Yankees, and in a conflict Col. John Franklin was wounded, and Nathan Stevens and William Smith were shot dead, the latter while attempting to obtain water from the Susquehanna.

The story of these old mountain stones and their curious and interesting inscriptions will require another chapter.

### WHO ISAAC BALDWIN WAS.

Reminiscences Suggested by the Old-Time Summons Recently Printed in the "Record."

EDITOR RECORD: Noticing the article "Hundred and Fifteen Years Old," in an issue, I am led to send you the following scraps of history. In 1774 Wyoming was constituted a town by the name of Westmoreland, connected with Litchfield, County Conn., and numbered 1,923 inhabitants. Isaac Baldwin, a graduate of Yale, whose wife was Ann Collins, was clerk of the court of Litchfield County from 1751 to 1793, but as Westmoreland was erected into a county November, 1776, it is probable that the Isaac Baldwin who issued the "time-worn summons" was his son, who also was a graduate of Yale and a lawyer. He was in the massacre of Wyoming as adjutant on the staff of Col. Zebulon Butler, and among the few who escaped and returned to Connecticut, as the appended bill shows, as it also shows that the present generation came honestly by its love for stimulants:

#### STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

TO ISAAC BALDWIN, DR.

February, 8. Ct., 1806.  
 To 138 dinners for the judges, etc. . . . . \$69 00  
 To 24 bottles Madeira wine . . . . . 36 00  
 To 6 papers tobacco . . . . . 18  
 To brandy biters, etc., at 75c. a day . . . . . 15 00

One of the judges was Hon. John Trumbull, from whose father, Governor Jonathan Trumbull, came the happy title of "Brother Jonathan," of which every Yankee is justly proud. This title was given by Washington himself.

An advertisement in the *Farmers' Monitor* of November 12, 1800, shows a condition which, thanks to Abraham Lincoln and the boys in blue, exists to-day nowhere in the Union:

Notice—Ran away from the subscriber on the 4th instant, a Negro girl, name Sue, a slave for life, a tall, slim-built Wench, about—years of age, squint-eyed. All persons are forbid harboring or secreting said girl, as I am determined to prosecute any person that shall harbor her. Whoever shall return said girl, or secure her so that she may be returned, shall be handsomely rewarded, and all necessary charges paid by

I. BALDWIN, JR.

Litchfield, Conn., Nov. 10, 1800.

Many and varied are the mutations since Wyoming was called Maughwau-wame, by which name the aborigines meant "Great Plains," and Count Ziudendorf set the first white foot upon its now historic bosom an hundred and fifty-one years ago, to be followed by the hearty Connecticut pioneers eight years later. It is curious to think of a "town meeting legally warned and held in Westmoreland, Wilkes-Barre District, March 10, 1776, and voting that the first man that shall make fifty weight of saltpetre in this town, shall be entitled to a bounty of ten pounds, lawful money, to be paid out of the town treasury, and

"Voted—That the selectmen be directed to dispose of the grain now in the hands of the treasurer, or collector, in such way as to obtain powder and lead to the value of forty pounds, lawful money, if they can do the same," and

"Voted—'As the opinion of this meeting, that it now becomes necessary for the inhabitants of this town to erect suitable forts as a defense against the common enemy,' and that the people proceed forthwith to build said forts without either fee or reward from ye town." G. L. B.

59 Carey avenue, March 17, 1893.

### A Credit to the Daughters.

The Daughters of the American Revolution have reason to feel proud of their magazine—the *American Monthly*—published at Washington, Ellen Harriet Walworth, editor. It contains a fund of most valuable material, admirably presented. In the January issue is a sketch of Mrs. Frances Wells Shepherd, regent of the Chicago Chapter. Her claim to membership rests upon the active services of one great-great-great-grandfather, three great-great-grandfathers and two great-grandfathers. Her great-great-grandfather was Judge Obadiah Gore, who figured so conspicuously in Wyoming's stirring history. In the battle of Wyoming, July 3, 1778, Judge Gore had three brothers slain, two brothers wounded and two brothers-in-law slain.

Another great-great-grandfather was Capt. Simon Spalding, one of the early Connecticut settlers in Wyoming Valley, and one of the officers in Capt. Samuel Ransom's "Independent Company" attached to Washington's army. A year after the battle of Wyoming Capt. Spalding's company formed a part of Gen. Sullivan's army, which crushed the Indian power in the State of New York.

The February number contains a sketch of Col. Wm. Butler, who with his four brothers rendered distinguished service in the Pennsylvania line. Col. Butler was a prominent officer in the Sullivan expedition of 1779.

### RELICS OF THE ABORIGINES.

**Dr. H. Hollister, who has the Largest Private Collection of Indian Relics in the World, Writes an Interesting Sketch on the Stone Implements of Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys.**

(Contributed by H. Hollister, M. D., Scranton, Pa.)

In the earliest historic times the Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys were inhabited by numerous tribes of Indians subject to the renowned Six Nations, whose great council fires smoked around the long, narrow and deep Seneca Lake of New York. Of the antecedent or prehistoric people, if such they were, we have no authentic information, while the flaked stone archeological remains give no hint of the occupancy of this region by older and different tribes. Tradition is also silent in this matter.

The most of the Indian relics found here were worked from native stone. The workable varieties of rock from which they manufactured their curious implements for the chase, or war, or for agricultural use, such as syolite, flint, quartz or jasper, were sought out by the aborigines of the low lands all along the two valleys where they were found in great profusion. Nature in her own way selected from the highlands of the Susquehanna and Lackawanna the choicest bits of crumbling rock and deposited it along the lowlands in great quantities for the use of primitive man.

It would seem even to the keenest observer that the rude cobble stone or ovoid boulder or the rougher pebbles would be a difficult stone to utilize into arrow or spear points, drills, skinning stones and other useful weapons, but when we examine matters we find that nature provided no other kind of stone so suitable for the sharp implements as the boulder and hard pebble found everywhere along the streams flowing from the mountains. The long, crooked Susquehanna, crossing many rocky formations, "brings down a great variety of stones while the shorter Lackawanna, crossing but few strata, has but a limited number.

Probably one-fourth of the arrow and spear points found here were made from jasper quarries which are located in many places from the head waters of the Susquehanna down to the sea. Smaller projectiles were made from flint of a dark or bluish hue or from ordinary stone found in the country. Implements made with great care and skill,

polished, pecked, cut and ground are quite common here. In the manufacturing of pipes, amulets, mortars, ornamental rings and charms, soapstone transported from the Chesapeake by Indian canoes was obtained. Soapstone mortars are rare here, while in Lancaster County they are abundant. I have a pot or mortar with a capacity of three quarts, elegantly carved out of a boulder which was found in the Indian mound of Capoose, one mile north of the Scranton court house, in 1880 by a party of old settlers who exhumed it with many other relics on Sunday morning, ninety-three years ago. I obtained it forty-four years ago from Aunt Lydia Secor. It is the most perfect one I ever saw and it is possible that it was once owned by the old chief Capoose.

Mortars generally improvised from boulders having at least one concave surface were pecked out at first and then were gradually deepened by pounding corn into *was-ump*. They were rarely transported because of their bulk and weight. Mullers and hammers, picks and hoes, easily made by a few ingenious blows, were rarely removed from the camp-fires. Sharp skinning and scalping stones and bone breaking tools are found both along the river banks and on the highlands.

Tomahawks were formed from the rough boulders of volcanic or granite rock obtained from the stream bed or the highlands. Axes and various kinds of agricultural articles for cultivating tobacco and corn, used extensively in this region by the dwellers in wigwams, were rarely carried from the fires by the braves. Obsidian picks, chisels, gouges, quoits and sling-stones were taken but little from their permanent campgrounds. Pestles, symmetrically and often beautifully made, sometimes grooved, were carried from camp to camp for a long distance. It took a skillful savage weeks sometimes to make one, and hence they were of great value. I have in my large collection over two hundred of them, from six inches to twenty-four inches long, once in use by the wild man of the forest.

No article of luxury was constructed with more care, cherished with holier memories, or loved with more constant fervor than the Indian's pipe. Their calumet, or pipe of peace, was the most prized article in the wigwam and the most sacred of all the stone implements they possessed. These, with their bat-

teaxes and various kinds of ornaments worn upon their persons, were easily transported, and not unfrequently, doubtless, passed from forest to forest through different hands.

Of the flaked stone arrows and spear points I have many hundred kinds of every size and finish, some for battle, others for large and small game and some even for fish.

Near Bald Mount, back of Hyde Park, in many places in Wyoming Valley, and at the ancient Indian village of Capoose, near Scranton, piles of raw material and refuse chips and half finished and broken utensils were found where Indian implements were made when the white man first entered the valleys.

While the able and talented antiquarian, the late Hon. Steuben Jenkins of Wyoming, possessed the largest and the most invaluable collection of Indian pipes found in America and which ought to be in possession of the Wyoming Historical Society, my own collection, embracing over 20,000 different articles, all found within an area of 30 miles of Scranton, is the largest *private* collection in the world.

H. HOLLESTER.

#### Centennial Celebration at Bath.

The RECORD is in receipt of papers from Bath, Steuben County, New York, reporting the proceedings at the centennial of the founding of that town, June 6 and 7, 1893. The occasion was a notable one in every respect. Capt. Charles Williamson, the Scotchman who passed up the Susquehanna from Northumberland a century ago, and founded Bath, had his memory embalmed with fitting honors. The historical address was by Ause J. McCall, Esq. It was eminently fitting that Mr. McCall should be the historian of the occasion, as he has for years taken a special interest in everything pertaining to the early years of Bath, and he has accumulated many original documents pertaining to the pioneers. He confined his attention to the first fifty years of Bath's history—from 1793 to 1843—supplementing recorded facts with traditional incidents, and with personal recollections of men and events. The proceedings, including the addresses in full, are to be published by the *Steuben Courier*, Bath, N. Y., at \$1.25 in cloth and \$1 in paper.

#### A New York Town's Centennial.

Bath, N. Y., has just celebrated its hundredth anniversary and the *Plain-Dealer* of that place, its tenth. Bath was settled by Pennsylvanians, who went up the Susquehanna from Northumberland, Pa. Quite a number of people from the Wyoming region located in the Bath region. An account of

the land speculation fever as taken from the Wilkes-Barre *Gleaner*, appears in the *Historical Record*, Volume 4, Page 201. Matthias Hollenback had extensive business relations up the country, and his Bath branch is mentioned in the *Historical Record*, Volume 2, Page 178.

#### Back From the Pacific Slope.

[Daily Record, June 29, 1893.]

Will S. Monroe of the Stanford University, Palo Alto, California, who is now in the East on his vacation, will be in Wilkes-Barre Saturday. He has been in Boston and other New England cities pursuing some literary researches. In a private letter from Hartford he says:

"I have been working in the Connecticut Historical Society library the past week; and so often I have come upon rare old documents that touched upon the Susquehanna Co. and the Connecticut settlements in Wyoming Valley, that I have every now and then been tempted to digress from my nearer interests and go over some of these original records bearing on Wyoming Valley."

It is nearly five years since he left Wilkes-Barre and during this time he has achieved many honors as an institute worker in California and as a contributor to leading educational journals of the East and West. During his recent visit in Boston he was the guest of numerous prominent educators and authors. His stay in Wilkes-Barre will be brief. He will be at the Valley House during Saturday afternoon and will be glad to welcome any friends who may call, and whom he might otherwise not have the opportunity to see.

#### Relics for the Liberty Bell.

TROY, N. Y., May 1, 1893. Mrs. General W. H. McCartney, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Dear Madam—Let us acknowledge receipt of a further contribution toward the Columbian Liberty Bell in a form which is very acceptable.

This contribution is very acceptable and we again tender thanks. Yours, truly,

CLINTON H. MENEELY, President.

The above acknowledgment is for two bell metal kettles contributed by Miss Carrie Alexander, which belonged to her grandmother and were used by her in 1780. Also for a large piece of fine copper contributed by Mrs. Bertels. Any one having old kettles now past further use can have privilege of giving them to the Liberty Bell, which will not be cast until June 8. All express companies will transfer any weight to ten pounds free of charge.

**Old Houses at Luzerne Borough.**

The old house that stood near Haddock's breaker has been purchased and torn down by William Pifer. It was known to the old residents as the "Reuben Holgate" house, having been built 75 years ago, and during that period has been the home of a number of different families. Upwards of 50 years ago Reuben Blakeslee occupied the house, and when he acted as superintendent of our little Sunday school, we picnicked under a famous grape arbor on the grounds.

The "Isaac Carpenter" house on the Bennet estate was recently destroyed by fire. For more than half a century the old farm house was occupied by different farmers' families of whom some are living in the valley to bear testimony to the fact. Years since the soil of the land was good and yielded satisfactory crops. The orchard of apple, cherry and pear trees returned to the generous owner a wealth of fruit.

The late Charles Bennet lived in his farm house a number of years and the boys from the little village near the farm were never turned away without fruit when they politely asked Mr. Bennet for it. Mrs. Bennet had a great variety of roses and flowering plants in her garden, and there are persons in town to-day who point to plants and rose bushes on their lawns and name Mrs. Bennet as the kind giver. It was the delight of the young lads and lasses of the town to visit the farm house in summer and enjoy the shade of the orchard where a gay peacock moved so gracefully in the tall grass. The most attractive and principal part of the town is being built on the Bennet farm.

The "Josiah Squires" house that stood near Waddell's shaft has been purchased and torn down by Rev. E. E. Heal. The chimney and cellar walls were removed to furnish material for a building at Forty Fort. It was built in 1862 by a sun-dial, standing exactly north and south, east and west, and during the longest days in the summer when the sun reached its zenith it shone down the chimney in the dinner pot. The purchaser found that the lower part of that large chimney was built 9 feet square and enclosed three fire places, one of which contained a grate in which the cooking was done. This house and the farm of upwards of thirty acres were purchased by the late Charles Mathers in 1840, where he resided until 1875. Samuel R., Gaylord J., and their cousin, William P.

Mathers, residents in town, pointed to that house as "the spot where they were born." Nearly all the farm is occupied by Waddell's colliery and culm bank.

RECORD readers in far away States, who once were residents here, will learn that with the passing years these relics of the dead and gone past are giving place to something more stylish, more attractive, and soon none will remain of the twenty-six dwelling houses that were within and near the borough limits fifty years ago.

**Nearing the Century Milestone.**

William McDermott, who resides at 139 North Washington street, celebrated his 96th birthday anniversary on May 30, 1893. He was born at Schneck, near Nazareth, this State, 1797, and removed to Luzerne County over a half century ago. He is still hale and hearty and his figure quite erect and his eyesight good. He has been twice married, having ten children with his first wife and seven with the second, seven of whom are living. His oldest daughter, Mrs. Mary A. Parry of Brooklyn, N. Y., is 67 years of age. Others are J. J. McDermott of this city, night watchman at the Dickson Machine Works, Mrs. William Parker, North River street, 60 years of age. His youngest son was killed at the battle of Fair Oaks May 31, 1862.

**Early Transportation of Coal.**

As early as 1795 a company was formed to carry coal from Schuylkill County, Pa., to Philadelphia. An ark was freighted and taken to that city. It remained for a year a heap of black stones; exciting the curiosity and jeers of the idle and knowing ones and a monument of the supposed folly of those whom it was thought exposed their ignorance by attempting to apply these blocks of stone to any useful purpose. There are people to-day displaying the same amount of ignorance in regard to the good qualities of certain coal.—*Saward's Coal Journal.*

**Oldest Widow Drawing Revolutionary Pension.**

EASTON, Pa., May 3, 1893.—Mrs. Anna Maria Young died to-day, aged 59 years and 8 months. She was the widow of Capt. Jacob Young who died forty-eight years ago and was the oldest widow drawing a revolutionary pension. There are no other widows of this class in this State and there are but fifteen of them in the country.



## THE MASSACRE OF WYOMING.

No one with a love for the beautiful in nature can stand on a summer day on the top of Prospect Rock and gaze upon the exquisite loveliness of the Wyoming Valley without a thrill of admiration. Nor will he wonder that Indians and White men could have battled with each other for its possession.

Its beauty was doubtless far greater one hundred and thirty years ago, before art had entered to change the face of nature, when the forest was broken only here and there by a few clearings and cabins, and the silence unbroken except by the voices of nature. It doubtless appeared a Paradise to the little band of colonists who came here in 1762, and were made to suffer so sorely in the Indian Massacre of 1763. Else why did a second colony from Connecticut essay in 1769 to recover what had been so mercilessly wrested from them six years before?

Willing to endure, as they did, a series of disasters for the next twenty years or more, they settled, cleared, built and sowed with the desperate resolve to retain possession at the peril of life and fortune.

During the years preceding the Revolutionary War, from 1769 to 1775, so frequent were the conflicts resulting in bloodshed within the town of Westmoreland that it may be said to have been in a state of continual war. It was a repetition of the experience of their New England ancestors who went to the plow and the church with the trusty rifle slung over their shoulders.

Becoming used to dangers however the Wyoming people did not neglect the

means of defense needed to protect their families. Nor were they unmindful of the events occurring beyond the limits of their town. The intercourse kept up with kindred in New England did not leave them in ignorance of the storm of war which threatened to burst on the whole of the thirteen colonies. News of the battles of Concord and Lexington promptly reached Wyoming. On the 1st of August, 1775, the proprietors and settlers resolved to "unanimously join our brethren in America in the common cause of defending our liberty." And despite the land difficulties between Pennamite and Yankee, the settlers were thoroughly in earnest in acting upon the resolutions of the Continental Congress for the Country's defense.

During the summer of 1774 the people built five principal forts for the defense of the valley. Major Eleazer Blackman who aided the building of the fort at Wilkes-Barré enumerated them, in 1838, as the "Plymouth Fort;" the "Wilkes-Barré Fort," covering nearly half an acre, enclosing the public buildings, and formed by digging a ditch in which logs, sharp at top, 15 or 16 feet long were set in on end closely together, with the corners rounded so as to flank the fort, and with one gate; the "Forty Fort," at Kingston similarly planned, larger and with two gates; "Jenkins Fort," in Exeter township, built around the house of Col. John Jenkins, at the Pittston Ferry, west side; "Pittston Fort" at Brown's just above the Ferry, east side, and "Wintermoot Fort," built by the family of that name near the head of the Valley. Beside these there were various block houses built by individuals. The Act of Congress, August 23,

1776 calling for two companies of troops to serve through the war met immediate response in the Valley, and by Sept. 17, 1776, Captains Durkee and Ransom had each filled the quota of their respective command. The Act of Congress specified that "two companies on the Continental establishment be *raised in the town of Westmoreland and stationed in proper places for the defense of the inhabitants of said town and parts adjacent until further order of Congress.*" This was nullified by another clause providing that the men should be liable to serve in any part of the United States. Within three months after they were mustered in, these two companies were, "by the further order of Congress," commanded to report to General Washington, and were participators in the various actions of the Continental Army in New Jersey during the winter. Thus the Valley was left without immediate and adequate means of defense against the common enemy.

Meanwhile Connecticut was not entirely unmindful of her people on the Susquehanna. The Assembly passed an Act in Oct. 1776, to complete the 24th Regiment of Connecticut Militia, to be formed of Westmoreland companies, and in November erected the town of Westmoreland into a County. The field officers of the 24th Regiment were, Zebulon Butler, Colonel; appointed May 1775, and succeeded by Nathan Denison as Colonel, promoted from Lieutenant Colonel May 1777; Lazarus Stewart, Lieutenant Colonel, promoted from Captain May 1777, resigned Oct. 1777, succeeded by George Dorrance promoted from Captain Oct. 1777; John Garret, Major, promoted from Cap-

tain October 1777.

The Captains of the Regiment were James Bidlack, Dr. Wm. Hooker Smith, John Garret, Nathaniel Landon, Asaph Whittlesey, Wm. McKarachan, Jeremiah Blanchard, Rezin Geer, Stephen Harding, Robert Carr and Elijah Farnam. Several of the companies were like the "Reformadoes," as Captain Wm. Hooker Smith's company was called, formed of old men. The young men, the bone and sinew—the chivalry of the valley—had mainly enlisted in the two Congress Companies of Durkee and Ransom. The defeat of the patriot forces by Howe at Brandywine, and the New Jersey Campaign of 1777 and 1778, kept these two companies with Washington.

The situation of the inhabitants of the Wyoming Valley was therefore at this time most deplorable. The nearest settlements within the limits of Pennsylvania were Easton and Bethlehem, each 60 miles to the southward, and Sunbury, or Fort Augusta, 60 miles to the westward, their people unfriendly to the Connecticut settlers on the North Branch of the Susquehanna whom they regarded as intruders.

To the North dwelt the Six Nations, as cruel as they were crafty, whose powerful hand had wiped out in the Massacre of 1763, the Wyoming settlement of whom the Oneida Chief, Old King, had declared "they have taken their land from us." Stimulated by the thirst for revenge, and the reward offered by the British Government for American scalps, these only waited for the fit opportunity to make a second descent on Wyoming. This opportunity soon offered. Colonel Daniel Claus, the British Superintendent of Indian affairs, in his manuscript history

of Joseph Brant, written Sept. 1778, and published for the first time in 1889, states that after the Battle of Brandywine „the plan of Operations for the ensuing campaign was laid, and Mr. Brant determined to harass the Frontiers of the Mohawk Valley while Sakaqeguvaraghton took the Opportunity of this diversion to cut off the Settlements of Wyoming on the Susquehanna River.”

It is true that between the Wyoming Valley and the Mohawk region there were here and there white settlers, Pennsylvanians. But these in 1776 had received such severe treatment at the hands of the Wyoming people that their friendship was turned to enmity, and being Tories, eager to retaliate for the wrongs they had suffered, they made common cause with the Indians against the inhabitants of the Wyoming Valley, and were doubtless important factors in the development of Brant's plan of Campaign.

On the 30th of June, 1778, a large body of the Six Nations, led by the king of the Senecas, Sayenqueraghter, or Old King, with a detachment of Tories from Sir John Johnson's Royal Greens, in all from 900 to 1200 strong, and under the command of Major John Butler, appeared at the head of Wyoming Valley and took peaceable possession of Fort Wintermoot whose occupants were always suspected of Tory proclivities. In Fort Jenkins there were then only seventeen defenders, mostly aged persons, including the Jenkinses, the Hardings, (Captain Stephen, Stephen Jr., Benjamin and Stukeley) James Hudsall, Samuel Morgan, Ichabod Philips, Miner Robbins, John Gardner and Daniel Carr.

On the morning of the 30th eight of these, armed with only two guns, went to the field to work. Returning at evening they were fired on by the Indians. Two of the Hardings were killed. Elisha Harding in his statement says, “they fought bravely as long as they could stand, but being overpowered by numbers were cut to pieces in the most shocking manner, many holes of the spears in their sides, their arms cut to pieces, tomahawked, scalped and their throats cut.” Others were captured, thus leaving but ten persons in the Fort, two of them were old men, and three boys. On the 2nd of July when John Butler demanded the surrender of the Fort it was seen that resistance was useless and the surrender was made.

Meanwhile the news of Butler's invasion had aroused the settlers in the Valley who hastily assembled at Forty Fort, the largest and strongest defensive post in the Valley. Colonel Zebulon Butler, then here on furlough from the Continental Army, was immediately placed in command. His experience as a soldier for twenty years made his services at this moment invaluable. His military career began soon after he had reached twenty-one. He was made an Ensign by the Connecticut Assembly May 8, 1758, Lieutenant 1759, Captain 1760, serving through the French and Indian War. When the battle of Lexington occurred he was a member of the Connecticut Assembly and was at once commissioned Colonel of the 24th Connecticut Regiment. At this time, July 3, 1778, he was Lieutenant Colonel of the 3rd Connecticut Regiment Continental Line having been appointed January 1, 1778. He was promoted Col-

onel Nov. 15, 1778, to date from March 13, 1778. He had been a participator in the actions at Danbury, Conn., White Marsh, Pa., etc., and had won the confidence and friendship of Washington. He was a kinsman of the Loyalist John Butler commanding the forces now invading the Valley. On the morning of July 3rd, a council of war was held in Forty Fort, when Colonel Zebulon Butler advised delay until the companies of Spalding and Franklin could reach the Valley. But this counsel was opposed by Lieutenant Colonel Lazarus Stewart then in command of Captain McKarachan's company who urged the desperate measure of anticipating the enemy's attack by a surprise. Colonels Denison and Dorrance coincided with Colonel Butler, but the majority agreed with Stewart, who nobly laid down his life in the battle that day, and Colonel Butler reluctantly consented.

About 3 o'clock that afternoon the Americans left the fort and advanced in search of the enemy, their line of battle extending from the marsh to the river a distance of about 1600 feet, Colonel Zebulon Butler commanding the right, and Colonels Denison and Dorrance the left. The advance was made with spirit, and the British purposely fell back until the Americans were drawn to a point in the field where their left wing, opposed by the Indians, was exposed to a flank movement. Then Sayenqueraghter with his savage warriors gained the rear of Colonel Denison's wing and suddenly fell upon his men. Colonel Denison at once perceived his danger and ordered Whittlesey's company to fall back so as to form an angle with the main line. The order was misun-

derstood as one to "retreat." The mistake was fatal, the falling back became a retreat, the retreat a panic, and the massacre followed, the Indians pursuing the flying troops and attacking them with terrible slaughter. Historians say that the British line "gave way before the galling fire of the Americans in spite of all their officers' efforts to prevent it." It is a singular fact that only two white men in Major John Butler's command were killed, and the casualties included about a dozen Indians. Doubtless the falling back of the British line before the fire of the patriots was a part of their plan of battle. Colonel Claus, in the document referred to, *supra*, dated Nov. 1778, says that while Brant was devastating Schenectady and Cherry Valley, "Sakayenquaraghton at the same time put his plan in Execution, making every preparation, Disposition and Maneouvre with his Indns himself and when the Rebels of Wyoming came to attack him desired Col. Butler to keep his people separate from his for fear of Confusion and stood the whole Brunt of the Action himself, for there were but 2 white men killed. . . . And then destroyed the whole Settlement without hurting or molesting Woman or Child, which their two Chiefs, to their honor be it said, agreed upon before they went into Action in the Spring."

This confirms Colonel Stone's statement, viz: "It does not appear that anything like a massacre followed the capitulation." And Mr. Jenkins in his address of July 3rd, 1878, acknowledges that "so far as known to the people here not a woman or child was slain by the enemy in the Valley."

But it does not disprove the fact that between the 3rd of June and the morning of the 4th of July, there was a massacre of the male settlers, and of the Americans engaged in the conflict of the 3rd of July, equalling anything of the kind in Indian history for cruelty and atrocity! The capitulation of the Americans occurred on the 4th of July at Forty Fort and on the 8th John Butler withdrew from the Valley with his command, and with 227 scalps which he reported as taken at Wyoming. These scalps, valued and paid for by the British at \$10 apiece, in all \$2270, were not merely the scalps of men killed in actual combat. The highest estimate of the slain given by American reports and certified by the list on the Monument is 182, leaving forty-five of the number reported by John Butler unaccounted for.

The latest history of the massacre by Colonel Bradsby states that "it is pretty generally conceded that the story of Queen Esther and the Bloody Rock were without foundation; that the Queen was not there at all." That the Colonel did not exhaust all the official sources of information in his search is evident.

Mrs. Jenkins, the widow of Colonel John Jenkins, in her statement made to Congress in 1838, says: "The next day (July 4th.) she went down to the battle ground. . . where Philip Wintermoot, a Tory whom she was well acquainted with said to her, 'Look, but don't seem to see.' The dead lay all around and there were places where half-burnt legs and arms showed the cruel torture our poor people must have suffered." Colonel George P. Ransom, 14 years old at

the time of the battle, testifies that after the battle "we went in with Colonel Butler and helped to bury the dead as soon as it could be done. The battle field presented a distressing sight; in a ring round a rock there lay 18 or 20 mangled bodies. Prisoners taken on the field were placed in a circle surrounded by Indians and a squaw set to butcher them. Lebbeus Hammond for many years afterward a respectable citizen of Tioga County New York was one of the doomed. Seeing one after another perish by her bloody hand he sprang up, broke through the circle, outstripped his pursuers and escaped."

Ishmael Bennet testifies that he was at Pittston Fort when it capitulated. "St. John and Leach were moving off with their goods, St. John was tomahawked, and Leach had his child in his arms. The Indians tomahawked him and gave the child to its mother. On the night after the battle seeing fires under some large oaks near the river, he with his father, Squire Whitaker, and old Captain Blanchard went down to the river side, they could see naked white men running around the fire, could hear the cries of agony, could see the savages following them with their spears, it was a dreadful sight."

General Wm. Ross, aged 17 at the time of the battle, testifies of what he saw on the field. "The scene was shocking. There were two rings where prisoners had been massacred. There were according to his recollection 9 bodies in one and in the other 14."

If to "massacre" means, as Webster defines it, "to murder with circumstances of cruelty," the question as to whether the *massacre* of Wyoming preceded the

capitulation of Forty Fort or *followed* it is hypercritical. No historian has yet published the "Petition of the sufferers of Wyoming, Pennsylvania, by depredations committed by the Indians in the Revolutionary War" presented to the 25th Congress, containing the statements of Mrs. Sarah Bidlack, Mrs. Huldah Carey, Mrs. Bertha Jenkins, Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Courtright, Edward Inman, Stephen Abbot who testifies that his wife's grandfather, Constant Searle, Sr., was killed in the battle. Geo. P. Ransom, Ishmael Bennett, Ebenezer Marcy, Joel Rogers, Eleazer Blackman, Rev. Benjamin Bidlack, Joseph Slocum, Cornelius Courtright, Mrs. Phœbe Cooper, Gen. Wm. Ross, Anderson Dana, Elisha Harding. Many writers of Wyoming history have evidently never read this petition with its overwhelming testimony of 18 eye-witnesses. The sufferings endured by the women and children on this fateful 3d of July and the week following it cannot be estimated, exaggerated as the history of the sufferers may be, there is truth enough in the various accounts and records to justify the statement that language fails to give an adequate description of it.

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The above account of the Massacre of Wyoming is kindly contributed by the Rev. Horace E. Hayden, of Wilkes-Barre.

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The above interesting article is from the *Library News-Letter*. We are indebted to Messrs. Robert Baur & Son for the use of the same.—EDITOR RECORD.

#### DEATH OF ASAIAH MACNUTT.

**A Well Known and Aged Citizen Numbered With the Silent Majority.**

May 9, 1893, occurred at his home, 305 South Main street, the death of Asalah MacNutt, for several years corresponding book-keeper of the Wyoming National Bank. Mr. MacNutt was taken ill ten days ago with grip symptoms, but a fatal termination was entirely unanticipated. Death was attributed to heart failure as a result of the grip. Mr. MacNutt's wife died a number of years ago. He was 71 years of age and is survived by Capt. Ira MacNutt of the United States Army, now stationed as superintendent of the government ordnance department at the Bethlehem iron works; Edwin MacNutt of the testing department at the Watertown government arsenal; Charles MacNutt, surveying engineer on the Wilkes-Barre & Eastern Railroad; Miss Marie MacNutt, teacher in the Harry Hillman Academy; Miss Catharine MacNutt, teacher in the Franklin street school; Miss Ellen MacNutt, teacher in the Pittston High School, and Mrs. MacLachlin of Colorado, who is the only one not yet at home since Mr. MacNutt's death.

Deceased came to Wilkes-Barre from Philadelphia in 1873 and was well known in this city. He was an honorable, upright man, and lived a contented and peaceful life. His years were well spent and he was ushered into the great beyond leaving the memory of a long and useful life.

#### Death of Mrs. John D. Hoyt.

Died at her home on Maple street, Kingston, on Wednesday afternoon, June 21, 1893, at 4:30 o'clock, Mrs. John D. Hoyt.

Elizabeth Harriet Hoyt was born in Dryden, N. Y., on Jan. 1, 1824. She was the daughter of Abram Goodwin and Sarah Myers Goodwin and was married on June 8, 1853, in Kingston to John D. Hoyt.

For many years Mrs. Hoyt was an active member of the Presbyterian Church of Kingston and always took an active part in all church work. Her tender heart led her to bestow a ready sympathy and liberal support on all charities and objects of benevolence.

Mrs. Hoyt was taken seriously ill last Saturday night and bore the suffering incident to her fatal illness with perfect patience and resignation.

## EIGHTH REGIMENT PA. VOL.

Some of the Wilkes-Barre Companies That Figured in the Three Months Service—Gen. Osborne, Judge Rhone and Other Familiar Names.

Among the articles of no intrinsic value found in the Rockafellow effects was one that attorney Fuller permitted a RECORD reporter to take away after the auction sale and deposit in the Historical Society. It was the muster roll of the ten companies in the 8th Regiment, P. V., of which Mr. Rockafellow's predecessor, Anthony H. Emley, was colonel. The regiment was enlisted for the three months service and saw active service at the front, particularly at the battle of Falling Waters near Winchester. The rolls are in the writing of Edward H. Chase, who was in Company C, and who in addition to his ordinary duties as a private served as clerk for the colonel. He filled the place only two months as he was captured in June, 1861, by the Confederates and held prisoner for a year at Salisbury, N. C. The RECORD will reprint some of these muster rolls and they will be found interesting reading. Many familiar names will be recognized as still living. The companies are as follows:

Wyoming Light Dragoons, light infantry, Co. C, Capt. William Brisbane.

Scranton Union Volunteer Company, Co. H, Capt. Henry W. Derby.

Wyoming Artillerists, Co. F, Capt. Edward W. Finch.

National Guards (Northumberland Co.) Co. A, Capt. Cyrus J. Strouse.

Wyoming Yeager Rifles, infantry, Co. G, Capt. George A. Reichard.

Luzerne Guard, Co. E, Capt. John McCasey.

Covington Fencibles, Co. B, Capt. H. S. Travis.

Wyoming Jackson Rifles, Co. D, Capt. Jacob Bertels.

Brookville Rifles (Jefferson Co.), Co. I.

Brookville Rifles (Jefferson Co.), Co. K.

Each company numbered 13 officers and 64 privates, or a total of about 800.

## WYOMING LIGHT DRAGOONS.

Captain, William Brisbane, commissioned 21st Sept. 1860.

First Lieut., Joseph Wright.

Second Lieut., John B. Conyngham.

First Sergeant, Lyman R. Nicholson.  
 Second Sergeant, William G. Fell.  
 Third Sergeant, Beriah S. Bowers.  
 Fourth Sergeant, William Rhone.  
 First Corporal, Treat B. Camp.  
 Second Corporal, Samuel H. Hibler.  
 Third Corporal, Albert M. Bailey.  
 Fourth Corporal, Edwin S. Osborne.  
 Musicians, Thomas J. Sleppy, Joseph W. Collings.

## PRIVATES.

Chase, Edward H.	McFarlane, Roderick
Crusan, Andrew L.	Powell, John
Cook, William H.	Piper, John
Closson, Daniel	Patten, Joseph W.
Carey, George B.	Puterbaugh, Alexander
Closson, Andrew	Partington, William W.
Falley, Elisha	Puterbaugh, Samuel H.
Downs, William G.	Pradeux, Richard
Detrick, Orlando	Rymer, John
Everett, Joseph H.	Robbins, Stephen D.
Gray, Peter	Robbins, Adam
Gregory, Jacob	Reel, Miles
Gorham, Witter E.	Reese, George A.
Harris, James D.	Attenhouse, Wesley
Hoover, George	Rhone, David L.
Hughey, Andrew G.	Rennard, Charles
Hummel, John	Raub, James A.
Harvey, James	Rommel, Jacob
Irvin, Burtis	Rinus, William W.
Jumper, George W.	Schoonover, Nathan
Kelley, Charles	Smith, Frank
Karney, Patrick	Stevens, Giles E.
Kelley, George W.	Stevens, Charles F.
Kelley, James	Stroh, Henry
Kizer, Isalah	Stookey, Samuel
Millham, William L.	Tripp, Isaac
Moser, William	Taylor, Preserve
McWilliams, Charles	Vanscoter, William W.
McGee, Daniel	Wood, Daniel
McNiel, Norman	Walker, Lazarus W.
McCormick, John	Watson, William W.
McGuire, George	Waring, George E.
Young, Alexander	Ward, William H.

## SCRANTON UNION VOLUNTEERS, COMPANY H.

Captain, Henry W. Derby, commissioned 23d April, 1861.

First Lieutenant, Beaton Smith, Jr.

Second Lieutenant, William B. Snyder.

First Sergeant, Thomas Edmonds.

Second Sergeant, Charles Knerr.

Third Sergeant, Henry Derris.

Fourth Sergeant, Joseph K. Shultz.

First Corporal, Israel Ruth.

Second Corporal, William Bryder.

Third Corporal, Monroe Roch.

Fourth Corporal, William Booth.

## PRIVATES.

Adams, Charles G.	Kirling, Hiram P.
Benjamin, Lyman T.	Kind, Hudson D.
Bloom, Thomas B.	Long, Anthony
Bound, Abram L.	Miller, William
Routon, Samuel A.	Mordock, Charles W.
Bradford, Miles N.	Morgan, Henry J.
Brown, James O.	Milroy, Lyman

Bloss, William S.  
 Bucland, Warren  
 Cobb, Samuel  
 Conklin, George W.  
 Cherry, Theodore  
 Coon, John  
 Crawford, Hugh R.  
 Decker, Martin  
 Diehl, Hugh M.  
 Drake, Andrew J.  
 Eitring, Frederick M.  
 Ennis, Henry  
 Fleuring, Alexander L.  
 Gabrio, Peter S.  
 Galloway, Jacob W.  
 Gregory, Nathan C.  
 Harris, John  
 Henson, Henry B.  
 Haley, Stephen H.  
 Hastings, John 1st.  
 Hastings, John 2d.  
 Hale, Dinsmore  
 Hardy, Robert  
 Hopkins, John  
 Houser, Harvey  
 Jamison, William

Mullhan, Thomas  
 Moriath, Frank  
 Palmer, John M.  
 Palmer, George G.  
 Peters, George W.  
 Rex, Henry  
 Richard, Joshua  
 Rhodes, Simon  
 Robling, Nicholas  
 Shively, Peter  
 Shafer, Charles  
 Silkman, Mead S.  
 Shiffer, Joseph  
 Staples, William  
 Stark, William  
 Smith, Peter J.  
 Swartz, John G.  
 Stephens, Roland N.  
 Thomas, William H.  
 Ward, Charles E.  
 Wittingham, Charles  
 Williams, William H.  
 Wilson, Edward B.  
 Wigton, David  
 Wooley, James  
 Yaple, Fletcher D.

## THE WYOMING ARTILLERISTS, COMPANY F.

Captain, Edward W. Finch, commissioned April 18, 1861.

First Lieutenant, Butler Dilley.  
 Second Lieutenant, Isaiah M. Leach.  
 First Sergeant, Alpheus C. Montanye.  
 Second Sergeant, Charles B. Metzger.  
 Third Sergeant, Charles B. Stout.  
 Fourth Sergeant, Oliver A. Parsons.  
 First Corporal, Benjamin F. Louder.  
 Second Corporal, John J. McDermot.  
 Third Corporal, William H. Roundtree.  
 Fourth Corporal, Paschall L. Hoover.  
 Drummer, David C. Connor.  
 Fifer, Charles H. Hay.

## PRIVATES.

Albert, Joseph  
 Atherton, J. Casey  
 Briggs, Emery  
 Breese, Martin  
 Culver, James  
 Collins, Hugh  
 Cyphers, Charles M.  
 Detrick, Emanuel  
 Doobar, Abraham  
 Elliot, Charles H.  
 Ellis, William W.  
 Finch, Irvin E.  
 Fordham, John N.  
 Flickinger, Peter  
 France, John  
 Fritz, Nathan  
 Frantz, Henry  
 Fell, Samuel C.  
 Groff, John S.  
 Guiver, Lee D.  
 Gordon, Henry M.  
 Gorman, Albert

Minich, John H.  
 McGuire, Rufus  
 Manville, Ozro  
 Myers, Judson W.  
 Nichols, William P.  
 Neuer, John  
 Newsbiggle, Joseph  
 Uplinger, James  
 Post, Charles B.  
 Riley, Alfred  
 Riley, Bernard  
 Rhodes, Sylvester  
 Rankins, William  
 Randolph, Alfred  
 Root, Henry J.  
 Root, Chauncey B.  
 Russell, James  
 Shepherd, James H.  
 Stookey, Charles B.  
 Swan, William H.  
 Schutt, David R.  
 Severn, James

Hughes, George  
 Haney, Ebert  
 Hay, Peter H.  
 Harkness, Thomas C.  
 Johnson, William  
 Jenkins, John  
 Kuff, John C.  
 Killian, Philip  
 Lobach, Andrew J.  
 McLaughlin, Robert

Tucker, Theodore A.  
 Tucker, Thomas O.  
 Trout, Gottlieb  
 Turner, James C.  
 Taylor, David J.  
 Valentine, William W.  
 Wood, Horton  
 Waters, Reuben H.  
 Weaver, Newton T.  
 Young, Jacob

## WYOMING YEAGER RIFLES COMPANY.

Captain, George N. Reichard, commissioned April 23, 1861.

First Lieutenant, John Treffelsen.  
 Second Lieutenant, Gustav Hahn.  
 First sergeant, George W. Smith.  
 Second Sergeant, Joseph Herald.  
 Third Sergeant, Walter Chris.  
 Fourth Sergeant, Jacob Goeltz.  
 First Corporal, Chris. Treffelsen.  
 Second Corporal, Andreas Hausam.  
 Third Corporal, Henry Katzenberger.  
 Fourth Corporal, John Marr.  
 Musicians, William Kaiser, Frederick Andrie.

## PRIVATES.

Baur, Anton  
 Brahl, Henry  
 Boehm, Benedict  
 Branst, Maurice  
 Bach, Frederick  
 Bohne, Peter  
 Bauman, John  
 Blau, Michael  
 Birkle, A. Ichae!  
 Burkhardt, Max  
 Dieffenbach, Lewis  
 Dench, Jacob  
 Easterie, Jacob  
 Early, Frank  
 Fraunthal, Abraham  
 Firestone, Charles  
 Futterer, Conrad  
 Fritz, George  
 Frey, Zeno  
 Glessner, Phillip  
 Gersting, Frederick  
 Gerlitz, Nicholas  
 Grubb, John 1st  
 Grubb, John 2d  
 Hartman, Henry  
 Harwish, John  
 Hartman, Joseph  
 Hang, Emil  
 Herp, Phillip  
 Heffersick, Nicholas  
 Haup, John  
 Ittel, Lorenz

Jochaim, Anton  
 Jayne, Thomas B.  
 Klinghammer, Anton  
 Koff, Rudolph  
 Kubian, John  
 Loomis, J. F.  
 Long, Charles  
 Lefler, Fritz  
 Luckhard, Jacob  
 Mowery, John  
 Mahler, Jacob  
 Matthew, John.  
 Mehman, Martin  
 Mitz, Florian  
 Oppel, John  
 Peter, John  
 Riester, William  
 Rup, Henry  
 Rupp, Jacob  
 Ruebenack, Matthew  
 Sengfelder, John  
 Schmidt, Frederick  
 Scheerer, Frederick  
 Schmalz, Ernst  
 Schaule, William  
 Siedig, Joseph  
 Snyder, Michael  
 Schmidt, Frederick 2d  
 Stern, Conrad  
 Washmuth, Justus  
 Werp, Christian  
 Woolbart, A. C.

## COWINGTON FENCIBLES COMPANY, B.

Captain, H. S. Travis, commissioned Aug. 3, 1859.

First lieutenant, Frank Wombacker.  
 Second lieutenant, Sanford D. Cogitzer.  
 First sergeant, Jacob Swartz.  
 Second sergeant, Jacob F. Sayer.



Third sergeant, John W. Fike.  
 Fourth sergeant, Dilton F. Miller.  
 First corporal, Benjamin J. Stephens.  
 Second corporal, David Weldy.  
 Third corporal, George Weldy.  
 Fourth corporal, Warren Beemer.  
 Drummers, Paul Debbler, Thomas R. Conner.  
 Fifer, William Miller.

## PRIVATES.

Albro, William	McGuigan, James
Austin, Shadrach G.	McDoherty, James H. (I. I. Doherty.)
Anstin, Richard	Noggle, Hubbard M.
Aten, James R.	Powell, Levi
Bird, John	Reese, William
Bender, Adolph	Robison, David
Brennan, Thomas	Rhoades, Thomas R.
Barclay, Matthias	Roach, James A.
Barns, George	Rhoades, Morris H.
Benson, Thomas L.	Rockwell, William R.
Cooper, Nicholas	Rogers, Benjamin F. (R. R.)
Curtis, Nodiah	Rijan, William G. (G. W.)
Chrisman, George	Sayers, John F.
Clouse, Charles	Scott, Richard H.
Colvin, Horatio V.	Smith, Freeman
Conner, Thomas R.	Switer, Francis
Davenport, Henry L.	Smith, Robert
Davenport, James T.	Smith, John
Felts, H. P.	Stallbird, Merritt
Gilchrist, Samuel	Swan, Nelson
Hoover, Lorenzo D.	Sterling, David C.
Hinds, Henry M.	Sherwood, Obediah
Hurley, Michael W.	Scott, Jerome
John, Frederick	Sheaffer, John
Keyser, Abraham	Sayers, Vincent G. (V. J.)
Kilpatrick, Samuel	Tanfield, John A.
Knapp, Joseph	Tompkins, Levi B.
Lefrance, William	Wallace, Joseph W.
Lefrance, Joseph	Wilber, Chester
Lecompt, Benjamin	Wood, Patrick
Murring, Westbrook	Yarrington, Dorman A.
Martin, Ezra B.	Yeager, Spencer

[The initials in parenthesis are in pencil and are perhaps corrections of the original list.—Ed.]

## WYOMING JACKSON RIFLES.

Captain, Jacob Bertles.  
 First Lieutenant, Richard Fitzgerald.  
 Second Lieutenant, Patrick Lenahan.  
 First Sergeant, Michael Riely.  
 Second Sergeant, John C. Riely.  
 Third Sergeant, Michael Gilligan.  
 Fourth Sergeant, Matthew Coyie.  
 First Corporal, Daniel McBride.  
 Second Corporal, Daniel Shovlin.  
 Third Corporal, Thomas Devanny.  
 Fourth Corporal, John Ryan.  
 Drummer, Bartholomew M. Lynch.  
 Fifer, John Batterton.

## PRIVATES.

Boyle, Philip	Keighan, Michael
Barney, John	Lynch, James
Byrn, Joseph W.	Levy, Patrick
Bibble, Patrick	Luby, John

Brannan, Patrick 1st	Lesk, John
Brannan, Patrick, 2d	Lynch, Bernard
Boran, Thomas	Lahy, Michael
Baley, John R.	Labar, Henry
Barber, John	McCoy, Thomas
Birmingham, Thomas	McClusky, Thomas
Cofrey, John	McConnellough, John
Clark, John	Meehan, William
Cunningham, Daniel	McMannamara, Thomas
Cosgrove, John	Morris, Michael
Collins, John	Mulvey, Michael
Cunan, Michael	McTighe, Patrick
Cull, Francis	McCall, Job
Coggle, Michael	McKennelly, John
Collins, Patrick	McGinness, Michael
Delaney, John	McCormick, Daniel
Dogherty, James	Morgan, George
Dolton, James	Nelson, Thomas
Davis, Evan	O'Donnell, Thomas
Dougher, James	Plum, James
Evins, John C.	Paul, Patrick
Fogerty, Patrick	Ryan Patrick
Grehan, John	Rutty, Michael
Griffin, Patrick	Sullivan, Tim
Gallagher, Patrick, 1st.	Sheeran, Edward
Gallagher, Patrick, 2d.	Scott, John
Haley, Thomas	Sullivan, John
Houston, Patrick	Totten, Dalton W.
Kilroy, Patrick	Walsh, Martin

## Wyoming in the State Archives.

Persons who have an interest in local history will be pleased to learn that the forthcoming volume of the Pennsylvania State Archives is devoted wholly to papers relating to the Wyoming settlement. State Librarian Egle has lately come across other documents pertaining to this region, which will fill almost another volume. A manuscript volume of records, borrowed by a recent historical writer, now dead, cannot be found, much to the sorrow of all concerned and the new volume has to go to press without it.

## The Blackleach Burritt Genealogy.

Some time ago there was some correspondence in the RECORD relative to Rev. Blackleach Burritt, who has descendants in Wyoming Valley. It will be of interest to those concerned to know that M. D. Raymond, of Tarrytown, N. Y., has recently published a pamphlet entitled "A sketch of the Rev. Blackleach Burritt and related Stratford (Conn.) Families." It gives a full genealogy of the Burritt family and also of the Blackleach and Welles families, early settlers of Stratford. The paper was read before the Fairfield County Historical Society at Bridgeport, Conn.

### HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN YEARS OLD.

**An Old Legal Document Which Recalls the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming—signed by One of the Victims.**

[Wilkes-Barre Record, March 17, 1893.]

Appended is a copy of a time worn summons issued at this pioneer settlement just a hundred and fifteen years ago this St. Patrick's Day. It has no historical significance but is interesting nevertheless. The sheriff's deputy, who served it, as shown by his signature, was Stephen Whitou. He was the maternal grandfather of Calvin Parsons and was killed at the battle of Wyoming in the following July, as was his wife's father, Anderson Dana, great-grandfather of Mr. Parsons. Here is the document:

To the Sheriff of the county of Westmoreland, his Deputy or to Either of the Constables of the town of Westmoreland in said County, Greeting, in the Name of the Governor and Company of the State of Connecticut you are hereby Comanded to Summons Elias Scovel of said Westmoreland to Appear if he see cause before the County Court to be holden at Westmoreland within and for the County of Westmoreland on the last Tuesday of March instant, then and their to show Reason if any he has, why the Prayer of the fore going Pertition should not be granted here of fall not but of this writ with your Doings Thereon Due Return make according to Law. Dated at Westmoreland this 17th Day of March, 1778.

ISAAC BALDWIN, Clerk.

[Indorsement.] The Within is a true Copy of the original Summons. Attest Stephen Whitou, Sheriff's Deputy.

### Editor Linskill's Recollection of the Flood.

Editor Linskill, of the *Telephone*, says: "If you people wish to know the day and the hour of our greatest flood, it was on Saturday, March 18, 1865, from 2 to 4 in the afternoon. This fact is on record, not only in our memory, but in the newspapers and journals of that year. This winter has been quite "old fashioned" enough for me, but the winter of 1867-'68 was longer, giving us weeks more of sleighing and many colder days. The ice in the river broke up on March 12 and the road to Kingston was blockaded for several days."

### More Grandchildren Living.

The list of grandchildren of those who participated in the battle of Wyoming in 1774 is increasing daily. Roger S. Searle, Daniel W. Searle, Henry Searle, sons of Daniel Searle; Davis D. Searle, son of Leonard Searle; Daniel Brown and Myron Brown, children of Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, whose maiden name was Searle, a sister of Daniel and Leonard Searle, are grandsons of Roger Searle, who was in the battle, and these are all living. There are also thirteen female descendants of Roger Searle now living. They are Mrs. Jonathan Lathrop, Mrs. J. B. McCollum and Miss Clara Searle, daughters of Daniel Searle; Catharine, wife of Gen. W. H. McCartney; Mrs. Josephine Bentley and Hetty, wife of the late William M. Miller, daughters of Leonard Searle; Mrs. Clarissa Dean, Mrs. Ruth Courtright, Mrs. Catherine Williams, Mrs. Mary Peck, Mrs. Elizabeth Vorse and Mrs. Martha Green, daughters of John Searle; also Clarissa Brown, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, born Searle, are also living.

George W. and W. W. Ross left March 29 to attend the funeral of their father, William Ross, who died March 27, at the age of 76, at his home in Herriek, Bradford County. Mr. Ross was a grandson of Lieut. Perrin Ross, who was killed in the battle of Wyoming July 3, 1778. Thus it will be seen that two of Parsons' esteemed citizens are great grandsons of one of the heroes of Wyoming.

### Over a Hundred Years Old.

Mrs. Bager of Frenchtown is 104 years old to-day. She is a Hungarian by birth and was born on April 18, 1789. The old lady is beginning to grow childish, but is able to be out of bed every day. Her eyesight is good, as is also her hearing. She buried her husband when he was 54 years old. She is the mother of ten children, who are all alive.—*Hazleton Sentinel*, April 18, 1893.

### Relics of the Revolutionary War.

Mrs. Ebenezer Leggett of Bemus Heights, N. Y., sends the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, through Edward S. Loop, two bullets picked up on her farm, which is a part of the Saratoga battle ground. They are interesting relics of one of the important battles of the revolution.

## HISTORIC HANOVER.

### Interesting Facts About the new Picnic Ground of the Traction Company and Its Vicinity.

It is among the possibilities that the electric road to Nanticoke is destined soon to make Hanover Grove a most popular picnic and pleasure ground. Its accessibility to any part of the valley through the traction road gives it unusual interest as a resort for rest, pleasure and refreshment. It is worthy of remembrance that it is a part of one of the original townships laid out by the Susquehanna Land Company in 1770 and named Hanover by Capt. Lazarus Stewart, in memory of a former home. Among the prominent original emigrant settlers who came into this valley under the Connecticut title, was the late Matthias Hollenback, a prudent, far-seeing and successful man in business matters, and an active participant in both the Revolutionary War and the conflict relative to the right of soil and jurisdiction in the Wyoming Valley. Judge Hollenback held various civil and military appointments, filled responsible and influential positions in social life, and died Feb. 18, 1829, at the advanced age of 77.

In Hanover the Paxton boys were settled and erected the first frame church in the county, in the vicinity of the present church on Hanover Green. Furthermore, the first Congregational Society was established in Hanover Township and one hundred years ago Revs. Von Benschoter, Gray, Johnson of Wilkes-Barre and Wadhams of Plymouth constituted the entire clerical force of Congregationalism in this valley.

In the earliest settlement of the valley the Shawanese Indians established themselves on the west bank of the Susquehanna River at Plymouth, while the Nanticoke came from the eastern shore of Maryland and settled in the lower portion of the valley on the east side of the river in and adjoining Hanover Township.

The associations of Hanover have been full of nature and ingenuous simplicity, and its remembrances spread o'er the thoughts and give the fancy a vision illuminated by a bright and beautiful glimpse of beauty and pleasure more readily felt than described. The contemplation of Hanover Grove and its surroundings has something in it intensely attractive, not indeed in the recollection of years which may enable us to see our declin-

ing sun, but in the exhilarating pleasures of those who shall strengthen and refresh themselves where kind nature has given the accommodation of circumstances by which we may enjoy a landscape which has been softened by civilization and which art and science have made health-giving, beautiful and accessible.

GEORGE URQUHART.

### Trying to Change the Name.

George R. Wright, was on from Harvey's Lake this week, and he states that an effort is being made to change the name of that body of water to Shawanese Lake, a name which appears on an old map of 1770, recently described in the RECORD. It is contended that the lake ought to bear an Indian name, particularly a name which it may have borne long before the region was visited by the whites. The lake bears the name of an honored pioneer settler, Benjamin Harvey, and has borne it throughout the present century.

It must be said that the old map does not definitely name the lake as Shawanese Lake, but it notes the presence of an Indian village on the banks, occupied by the Shawanese Indians, whose principal town was what is now Plymouth, formerly "Shawnee." The late Stewart Pearce, one of our leading county historians, tried to apply the name of Skandara to Harvey's Lake.

### Nelson's New County History.

The new history of Luzerne County has made its appearance and it is a handsome volume of 1,500 pages. It is in two divisions—historical and biographical. The historical part was written by Col. H. C. Bradsby and is done in interesting and attractive style. Much material not in the older histories has been incorporated and the whole is well arranged. Some of its chapters are as fascinating as fiction. It is made accessible by what few histories have—an index. The biographical portion is the larger part and it gives interesting sketches of hundreds of local personages of greater or less prominence. The volume is well bound, attractively printed and contains numerous excellent portraits. S. B. Nelson & Co., Chicago, are the publishers.

### First Car Across the New Bridge

The first car across the new Wilkes-Barre & Eastern bridge crossing the Susquehanna at North Wilkes-Barre passed over last week. It was a flat car loaded with stone.

## PRESERVING THE MUSTER ROLLS.

**New Records Being Made of the Pennsylvania Troops of the Late War—Books that will be of Great Value to Future Generations.**

Two clerks are constantly employed in the adjutant general's department copying the rolls of the Pennsylvania troops of the late war. The men who do this work are Francis M. Grim of Beaver and A. L. Crist of Lycoming, both one-legged soldiers who saw hard service during the rebellion. The original rolls have been handled almost constantly since the close of the war and are becoming worn out. For the purpose of preserving them two temporary clerks were provided for by the legislature of 1891, and were continued by the last session for two years more, at a salary of \$1,200 a year each.

These rolls are supposed to contain the name of every man who enlisted in a Pennsylvania company or was credited as a citizen of Pennsylvania under the several calls made by President Lincoln during the entire war. These records are being written in large books prepared for that purpose, but before any names are entered in those books all the papers relating to each separate command are carefully and closely examined. As there are quite a number of papers this necessarily consumes a great deal of time. In fact, the preparation of the records of the regiments takes more time than making the entries in the books. After the preparation sheets have been prepared then the work of entry begins. The names of each member of the organization is entered in alphabetical order. Opposite each name is placed the person's age, date of enrollment, name of the enrolling office, date of muster, place of muster, mustering officer, term for which mustered and all remarks as to the final disposition of the men so far as possible. While satisfactory progress is being made in this work, yet the job is a big one and is necessarily slow. Accuracy and not speed is the object.

When it is considered that there were 215 regiments from Pennsylvania in the late war, sixty regiments of State militia, besides independent batteries, colored troops and the unattached companies, some idea may be formed of these tremendous files. The original rolls are fast fading away and the object for which these two clerks were employed is to copy them so that they can be preserved

correctly and plainly for the use of future generations.

The *Times* says that in 1878 Hon. C. Ben Johnson was a clerk in the office of auditor general Schell. Under the old law this official was the custodian of military documents, since transferred to the care of the adjutant general. Mr. Johnson noticed the condition of the muster rolls of Pennsylvanians who had served in the war of 1812 and the Mexican trouble, which by constant handling and the passage of time had become brittle and were fast falling to pieces. To preserve the records they had been copied into books.

It was then that Mr. Johnson suggested the feasibility of treating the rolls of those Pennsylvania regiments that served in the rebellion in the same way. Nothing was done, however, until he was sent to the legislature from this city in 1891. He then set himself to the task of preparing a bill and urging its passage for the appointment of two clerks to transfer into books the records as they appeared on the muster rolls.

### Early History of Coal.

The summer issue of the *Comet* is devoted largely to history of the coal industry of the Wyoming field, prepared by the editor, H. E. Brown. It is also illustrated with original drawings by the editor. Fully eight pages are devoted to the subject, chiefly to the early history, though statistics of production down to the present year are given.

The same journal contains a well written description of the Lehigh Valley K. R.'s new and delightful mountain resort, Ganoga Lake, the highest sheet of water in Pennsylvania, 2,139 feet above tide.

### The Society of the War of 1812.

Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden has been elected chaplain of the Society of the War of 1812. There are two members from Wilkes-Barre, Mr. Hayden and Gen. Paul A. Oliver, the grandfathers of both having served in the war of 1812. Of the sixty veteran members who fought in that war forty-five are from 90 to 100 years of age, and thirteen are of an extreme age ranging from 100 years to 104½.

### Survivors of the 143d.

The twenty-fifth annual reunion of the survivors of the 143d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, was held at Tunkhannock August 25 and a larger number of survivors of the regiment were present. A public meeting was held in the court house in the afternoon.

**New Edition of the Plumb Genealogy.**

There is no more indefatigable worker in local history than H. B. Plumb, Esq., author of the "History of Hanover Township, Luzerne County." He has also delved deep in the genealogy of the Plumb family, and there has just issued from the press the second edition of his valuable work on that subject. It comprises more than 100 pages. A new feature is the giving of the English records of five generations, tabulated like the American. The American records are all indexed, but the English are not. The parish register of the first American Plumb was found at Ridgewell, County Essex, England, and the registers and wills and other evidence of relationships of his ancestors back three generations beyond him, where the author begins the tables. He could not go further and be sure of the parentage, but there are wills and chancery inquisitions, and deeds, and receipts, and kindred rolls, and the Great Rolls of Normandy, that carry us back 300 years further with the name to A. D., 1180, in the reign of Henry II. The ones known as the author's lineal ancestors begin about 1500 (the birth of the first known ancestor was not found), and from there he has the full line all the way down to the present.

The disjointed families of the first edition are joined together in this, the connecting links being found.

The Plumb that came here—1635—was the owner of Ridgewell Hall, in Ridgewell parish, where all his children were born except one Dorcas, who must have been born in Wetzersfeld and married John Lymon. A Hall is a very pretentious house, being the dwelling of the owner of the manor, and also the hall and office of the magistrate who was mostly always the owner of the manor, where all cases between the residents of manor were tried, and small misdemeanors also were tried there. The owner was the judge, and in his house was the court room and the offices necessarily connected with it, while it was also his residence. In the old times, while there was serfdom, called villinage, in England these halls were generally great buildings.

Mr. Plumb has wondered how a man situated as this John Plume was at Ridgewell Hall, could leave that, even if it was one of the cheapest and poorest kind, and come here to live in a log cabin in the woods among stumps and stones, surrounded by

wild, savage men and wild, savage beasts five years after the settlement of Boston, having almost no beasts of burden for farmers' use, where everyone, old and young, had to dig in the ground to raise food enough of only the roughest kind to keep body and soul together. Their love of religious freedom must have been excessive.

Many historical points were disclosed by these searches in both England and the United States that the author says he has never seen followed out or elucidated by any historian of either country.

The coat of arms of the Plumb family (variously spelled also Plum, Plume, Plumme and Plumba) is also given. The crest is a plume of ostrich feathers. There are also half tone portraits of the author and of several distinguished kinsmen. The volume is an extremely valuable addition to genealogical literature, and is prepared with a degree of painstaking that is as creditable as it is rare.

**How Lake Ganoga was Named.**

The Pittston *Gazette* gives the following as the origin of the name of Lake Ganoga: Having been pined with questions as to how that pretty sheet of water near Ricketts station, on the Harvey's Lake branch of the Lehigh Valley road (which, by the way, is becoming a very popular summering place) came to be called Lake Ganoga, we have gone to the pains of looking up the matter. We find that the lake was named by ex-senator C. R. Buckalew and Frank Ricketts, the latter being proprietor of the North Mountain hotel at the lake. Before deciding on a name many were the suggestions the gentlemen received. Finally they went to Steuben Jenkins and got from him a list of Indian names with their meanings, and through him it was learned that the Seneca Indians had named the lake "Gaugheohnogah" (Ganoga), "on the mountain." Hence the name. When a settlement was built up in the valley below the lake the inhabitants named the village Ganoga, but when Messrs. Buckalew and Ricketts learned this they swooped down on the people and had the name changed in less time than it takes to tell it.

**Found an Old Paper.**

T. E. Rees, employed by S. L. Hagenbaugh, while unpacking old pictures, found a copy of the New York *Day Book*, a newspaper dated Wednesday evening, Nov. 28, 1855. It is a four-page paper of six columns, well printed, and contains a good deal of slavery discussion.

### INTERESTING REMINISCENCE.

It is Recalled by Princess Eulalie's Recent Visit—Royal Visitors Who Spent Some Time in Wilkes-Barre Early in the Century.

The following interesting communication appears in the *Carbondale Leader* of July 8, 1893, and is presumably from the pen of C. E. Lathrop:

The recent visit of the Infanta Eulalie and her husband, Antonio Louis Filipo, grandson of the famous Citizen King of France, Louis Philippe, has revived some recollections of the latter's visit to this country under far different circumstances. According to tradition (for it was so long ago that no eye witness of the event is now living) this prince of the house of Bourbon-Orleans sojourned for a time in the summer of 1799 in Wilkes-Barre, occupying a room in an old frame hotel which stood on the river bank in the then lower part of the town. It was kept at the time by a Mr. Morgan.

By the way, a daughter of this hotel-keeper afterward became the wife of David Wilmot, who became famous while a member of Congress, through his "proviso" to an act admitting a new State into the Union. They were married, tradition has it, in the same room the French king occupied as his private parlor. The property afterwards passed into the hands of the father of a lady now residing in Carbondale, and she and her husband have the same distinction in reference to the place of their marriage as Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot had.

It is said that after Louis Philippe became king of France, about 1830, he used to entertain American visitors to that country with tales of his adventures while a fugitive in this country.

Appropos to this subject, it may be mentioned that Louis Napoleon, afterwards emperor of France, was also in his younger days a wanderer in this country for many months. He spent most of his time in New York City and suburbs, sitting among the gentry in Westchester County. A lady now residing at Lake Ariel, and who is a descendant of one of the prominent families in that county, told

the writer that he often visited at her father's house and held her on his lap on many occasions.

Nearly sixty years ago the writer was a resident of Wilkes-Barre, and at that time there were many who knew personally of the incidents connected with Louis Philippe's visit. He often heard it stated that during the sojourn of the famous royal visitor he for a while taught a class in the French language.

SENEX.

#### Was Capt. Lazarus Stewart Culpable?

PITTSBURGH, July 25, 1893.

EDITOR RECORD: I noticed last week in the RECORD a vigorous historical article from Dr. Urquhart, giving reminiscences of *Hanover* and noting the renowned Stewart family. It reminded me of a promise made to my companions at the table of mine host Laycock on July 3 after the shower had dispersed us from the monumental ceremonies. The promise was to lay before your readers a statement made on that occasion by Mrs. Mary Pfouts of Hanover, who from the initiation of these delightful reunions has seldom been absent from them. I had in the course of a few remarks made allusion to the tradition that the captain of the Hanover company was culpable in his determination to precipitate a battle with the invading forces. Mrs. Pfouts interrupted me with a statement which certainly possesses historic interest. Said she:

"I know that was the case. The captain of the Hanover company was Lazarus Stewart. He and my grandfather (also named Lazarus Stewart) were cousins. On the afternoon of the 3d of July at the last conference in the fort my grandfather, then a lieutenant in the company, said in the presence of all 'I think it is too late to go out to-day, let us stay in the fort till morning and give one more night's delay in hope of reinforcement.' Captain Lazarus Stewart said: 'Lazy, if you're afraid to go out and fight you had better stay in the fort.'

"My grandfather answered: 'My heart is as brave as any of you, but I think we had better stay over night.'

"This was related to my grandmother by one who escaped the massacre and heard all that he related."

I owe an apology to the whole company present on that interesting occasion for my delay in sending you this scrap of unwritten history.

C. I. A. CHAPMAN.

### DEATH OF MRS. L. C. PAINE.

**A Good, Noble Woman Numbered with the Silent Majority After a Long Illness.**

The numerous friends of Mrs. Annie Lee Paine, widow of the late Lewis C. Paine, were painfully startled by the news of her death, which occurred at 9 o'clock a. m. Thursday, July 6, 1893.

Mrs. Paine had, for many years past, presented the appearance of one having the best of health, and about February 1 last she made one of a small party of friends who set out for Southern California for the purpose of spending in that balmy region those winter and spring months which are so trying in the East. Nothing could have been brighter than her anticipations in looking forward to her journey and her subsequent return home. She was in San Francisco during Easter week, intending to start homeward on the next Saturday, but she was suddenly prostrated by an attack of pneumonia, which for a time threatened a fatal termination. She recovered sufficiently, however, to be able to be brought East and for a while after her return she appeared to be greatly improving so that her friends hoped to see her again in restored health. Other complication set in afterwards, besides a heart trouble which had been developed by her attack of pneumonia, and in the steady progress of her disease hope of her final recovery was abandoned. Her death, caused by a sudden attack of heart failure, was unexpected at this time, however, and therefore came as a shock to her friends.

Mrs. Annie Lee Paine was born in Willistown, Chester County, Pa., and was the daughter of the late David Cloyd Lee, a prominent citizen of that county, and on Oct. 18, 1857, she was married at Sycamore Grove in Chester County to Lewis C. Paine in Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Paine was then, as he was ever afterward, one of the leading business men of this community, identifying himself with many of the large enterprises which sprung into existence along with the expanding growth of the city.

Mrs. Paine's married life, as well as her widowhood, was all spent in Wilkes-Barre, so that the home of her adoption became the home

around which her best affections and ties were centered. To those who know her, words are unnecessary to call to mind the excellencies of mind and heart and Christian grace of character which she possessed. She was of a most cheerful and sunny nature, and kindness beamed from her as if it were a part of her very being. Unselfish to the greatest degree, her hand and purse were always open to the appeal of charity and sympathetic expression found in her a ready utterance. She was of a retiring disposition, but she will be greatly missed in all the relations of her family and social life and in the church community of which she was a part.

Mrs. Paine leaves two daughters, Mrs. Warden, (widow of the late Dr. Warden) and Priscilla Lee Paine; also a sister, Miss Margaretta Lee, and a granddaughter Ann Lee Warden, and these comprised her immediate family.

The funeral of Mrs. L. C. Paine took place on Saturday afternoon from her late residence on North River street with services conducted by Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones, her pastor. A quartet composed of Mrs. R. B. Brundage, Miss May Brundage, J. B. Woodward and Thomas Darling sang several selections. Flowers and floral designs were placed on the casket in great profusion. The carriers were T. H. Atherton, J. B. Howell, W. P. Anderson, E. Gunster, G. Bennet and W. Post. The pall bearers were W. M. Shoemaker, Charles P. Hunt, C. M. Conyngham, C. E. Butler, Alexander Farnham and A. A. Sterling. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### Veteran Came East to Die.

Monday afternoon, at the residence of his sister, Mrs. O. F. Harvey, occurred the death of Isaac C. Smith, son of the late Amos Y. Smith. Deceased was 47 years of age and consumption was the disease that carried him off. Mr. Smith enlisted when only 16 years old in Co. C, 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and served with credit and was discharged June 30, 1865. After the war he went West and settled in Joliet, Ills. He came East with his wife about two months ago, expecting that the change would be beneficial, but the disease had taken too severe a hold and death came suddenly and unexpectedly. A few surviving members of his company are residents of Wilkes-Barre. The funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Smith is survived by a widow, but no children.

### MRS. STURDEVANT DEAD.

**She Expires After a Short Illness at Her Cottage at Harvey's Lake.**

Mrs. Leah, wife of Col. S. H. Sturdevant, died at 6 o'clock August 17 at her cottage at Harvey's Lake, after an illness of about a week with Bright's disease of the kidneys. She sank rapidly since she was taken ill and hope soon sank within the hearts of the anxious watchers by her bedside. Mrs. Sturdevant is survived by her husband, who is one of the best known business men in Wilkes-Barre, and by four children, Harry of Coney Island, Robert of Wilkes-Barre, George of Pottsville, and Miss Ellen, also of this city. Deceased was 61 years of age. She was a sister of Dr. George Urquhart. Mrs. Sturdevant was a lady of many admirable traits of character and her death will be sincerely mourned. The funeral took place Monday. Interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

#### Death of a Hero.

The following notice of the death of Rear Admiral Jenkins, the father-in-law of C. D. Foster's daughter, Florence, is taken from the *New York Times* of August 10:

Rear Admiral Thornton A. Jenkins, one of Farragut's most efficient officers in the naval campaign in the Gulf of Mexico in the war of the rebellion, died yesterday in Washington, of heart failure. He was 81 years old.

Throughout active service in the navy for 45 years, Rear Admiral Jenkins's record was that of an officer who always performed his duty with zeal, energy and discretion. He entered the navy in 1828 under appointment as midshipman from Orange County, Va., his native place. Service in West Indian waters occupied the term of his apprenticeship, in which he had a taste of cruising for pirates off Cuba. He had part in the Mexican war and filled acceptably various posts in the Mediterranean, the South Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico.

With a captain's commission, he commanded the steam sloop *Wachusett* in 1862, being engaged successfully in the repulse of the enemy at Coggin's Point, James River, and at City Point. In the latter part of that year he took charge of the *Onesida*, which belonged to the blockading squadron off Mobile. Farragut appointed him fleet captain and chief of staff. He was present at the passage of Port Hudson in March, 1863, and

attended Farragut in all the operations in those waters.

When on the *Monongahela*, in a fight with the enemy's batteries at College Point, he was wounded. Farragut transferred him to the *Richmond* and placed him in command of the naval forces below Port Hudson. He held that position when Port Hudson surrendered, July 9. He commanded the division blockading Mobile Harbor, taking part in the battle of Mobile Bay in August, 1864, and in the attacks that led to the surrender of Forts Morgan, Gaines and Powell, and was left in command of Mobile Bay until February, 1865. Then he went up to the James River, where he was stationed with the naval forces until Lee surrendered.

Admiral Farragut spoke in the highest terms of Capt. Jenkins in his report of the operations in the gulf leading to the capture of Mobile, saying that he felt he should not be doing his duty if he did not call the attention of the department to an officer who had performed all his various duties with so much zeal and fidelity.

Recognition of his services made him a commodore in July, 1866. The following month he became chief of the Bureau of Navigation, retaining that position until 1869, when he was appointed secretary of the lighthouse board. In August, 1870, he was promoted to the grade of rear admiral. He took command of the Asiatic squadrons in December, 1871, remaining there for two years, when he was retired from active service. President Grant appointed him commissioner to represent the Navy Department at the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia.

Rear Admiral Jenkins was a member of the Naval Lyceum, this city, the Virginia Historical Society, the Philosophical, Biological and Anthropological societies of Washington; the Economic Society of Boston, the American Historical Association and the Northwestern Historical Society of Sioux City, Iowa.

He was twice married. His first wife was Miss Powers, and she was the mother of two of his eight children. His second wife was the daughter of paymaster Thornton. One of his daughters is the wife of Col. P. C. Hains, another is the wife of Lieut. Converse, United States Army; a third is the widow of Lieut. Commander Parker. Three daughters are unmarried. The elder son is



Dr. F. T. Jenkins of this city, and the other son is H. T. Jenkins. Admiral Jenkins has been in feeble health for some time, although he had been a very active man and in good health until recently.

#### A VETERAN DEAD.

**Joseph Cryderman Passes Away at the Age of 84.**

Joseph Cryderman, an old veteran, 84 years of age, died suddenly Monday, Aug. 7, 1893, of paralysis. Mr. Cryderman at 10 o'clock Monday morning was apparently all right and conversed with Dr. Spayd. When he was stricken Dr. Spayd was sent for, but before he could reach his bedside he was dead.

Mr. Cryderman was a veteran of the regular army and was in the service about forty years. He was through the Mexican war, the Oregon war and helped suppress a number of Indian troubles. After the Mexican war he was sent with the first body of United States troops to the newly acquired territory of California and for thirty years was stationed at Mare Island, in the bay of San Francisco.

Mr. Cryderman came to this city about eight years ago and has resided with Mrs. Catherine Sorber, 138 Jackson street, where he died. He is survived by his wife. The funeral took place Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

#### A Luzerne County Woman's Death. [Communicated.]

Died, at Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, May 1, 1893, Mrs. Celinda Smith, wife of John J. Smith, aged 87 years, 11 months and 7 days. Miss Celinda Abbott was born at Bethlehem, Pa., and when quite young removed with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alice Abbott, to Forty Fort, Pa., where she resided until 1857 when she went to Michigan with John J. Smith, whom she married in 1854 at Forty Fort. Mr. and Mrs. Smith settled upon a farm in the township of Commerce, Oakland County, where they continued to reside, with the exception of a short time when they resided at Northville, Michigan, where Mr. Smith owned a milling property, and the last three years during which time they have resided with their children. Mrs. Smith bore her husband seven children, five girls and two boys. One son and three girls survive her, all of whom are married and have

families. Mrs. Smith was converted to the Christian religion when quite young, uniting with the M. E. Church in Pennsylvania and had continued to exemplify the religion she professed to the day of her death. She possessed the one great trait which insures success and happiness in temporal as well as in spiritual things, viz. discerning a bright side to every difficulty in life. During her long residence among the people of Commerce and Novi she has always been considered a power among those with whom she associated and, in fact, all who knew her admired her for the kindly Christian character she possessed. Two brothers and one sister survive her, James W. Abbott, Reading; E. Walter Abbott, Luzerne, and Mrs. Ann Hathorn, Wixom, Michigan.

F. E. QUIGLEY.

#### A Kindly Woman's Death.

Mrs. Diantha Johnson Henney died suddenly at her residence, 163 North Main street Friday morning, August 4, 1893, after an illness of only a few hours. In her death the community loses one of those ministering angels which are all too rare. She had what appeared to be a fainting spell about 7:30 the previous evening, but this was of short duration, though it was followed by vomiting, which persisted for several hours, ending in sudden and unlooked for dissolution. The attending physician pronounced it a case of bilious vomiting, ending in an apoplectic attack. Mrs. Henney was born in Wilkes-Barre 46 years ago and was a daughter of the late Charles and Mary G. Reel. She is survived by her husband, Henry W. Henney, and a stepson, Frederick Henney, who is also her nephew, his mother having been Diantha's sister, Dolly. Mrs. Henney was blessed with a most kindly disposition that endeared her to all who came within the bounds of her influence. She was always ready to volunteer her services in the sick room or the death chamber and very many families have been the recipients of her gentle ministrations in these directions. Though blessed with no children of her own, she was greatly attached to the little cousins and relatives, and in fact to all the children of the neighborhood. She had a kind word for all and all loved her dearly. Miss Helen M. Reel is a sister and Miles and Benjamin are brothers. She was a niece of the late Wesley Johnson. The funeral was on Sunday at 9:30 a. m., Rev. Dr. Jones officiating. Interment in Hollenback Cemetery.

**Death of a Plains Physician.**

Dr. Peter C. Shive passed quietly away at his residence in Plains May 12, 1893. He had been sick for three weeks with a complication of ailments. He was born in Bucks County, Aug. 18, 1830, and consequently was nearly 63 years old. His father was Henry Shive, a native of Pennsylvania and a descendant of early German settlers of Bucks County. Mr. Shive spent his boyhood days on his father's farm and was educated in the common schools and Freeland Seminary at Norristown. He afterwards taught school several terms and studied medicine and graduated from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1861. He then returned to Bucks County, where he practiced for six years and in 1867 he came to Plains and began a drug business in connection with his practice. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Delp and by her had one child, Simon. She died in 1862. The doctor then married Miss Hannah Sibles for his second wife, who now survives him. He was a member of the German Reformed Church, the F. A. M., the I. O. O. F., the encampment and the Luzerne County, Lehigh Valley and the Pennsylvania Medical societies. Besides his wife he is survived by his son, Simon, who is now a practicing physician in Bucks County.

**Story of a Useful Life.**

There has just been issued from the press a book of 160 pages, devoted to the life of one whom many Wilkes-Barre people knew and loved—Henry L. Webster, of Mauch Chunk, brother of Rev. R. B. Webster, of this city. He died at his home in New York City two years ago, of pneumonia, at the age of 38, and the story of his eminently useful life is admirably told in this little book by Joseph Van Vleet, author of "The Use and Abuse of Athletic Sports," etc. Henry H. Webster was the son of pious parents and his life was marked throughout by a strong religious cast. Though engaged in business pursuits, he was extensively engaged in Christian work, the former apparently being a means to the latter as an end. The deep piety of his life and his intense activity as a lay worker in the Master's vineyard is little short of phenomenal and his death was more than a family loss, for his energy had been far reaching in the communities where he dwelt and labored. The story as told in this little book is calculated to do a vast amount of good and it deserves wide publicity. Copies at 75 cents each can be had at the Y. M. C. A. building or at Puckey's.

**Death of Mrs. William Dickover.**

Mrs. Elizabeth J. Oliver, wife of William Dickover, died Monday, Aug. 28, 1893, aged 71 years. Her husband and four adult children survive her. The funeral was held at 2 p. m. Wednesday from the residence, 69 Ross street. Interment at Forty Fort Cemetery.

Mrs. Dickover was born in England May 21, 1822, and came to this country with her parents when 9 years of age, settling at Beech Pond, Wayne county, Pa. In 1841 she came to Wilkes-Barre and married William Dickover Dec. 24, 1844. She has been a member of the Ross Street Methodist Church ever since it was built in 1857, and for twenty-three years taught a class in Sunday School. For thirteen years she has been an invalid and for the last few months her suffering has been quite severe. Mrs. Dickover was one of those women whose death creates a void that is hard to fill. Her characteristics were so refined and her many good qualities so pronounced that her influence was felt alike among the rich and the poor, among the happy and the unfortunate. Her life was a ray of sunshine that beamed into many a life. Four children besides her husband survive her—all of this city—Miss Maria Dickover, Mrs. H. L. Moore, Mrs. J. B. Howell and George T. Dickover.

The funeral of Mrs. William Dickover took place August 30, 1893, from her late home, 69 Ross street. Revs. Reese, Crydenwise and Labar officiated at the house. A quartet from the Ross Street M. E. Church sung several selections. It was composed of Miss Emma Lamb, Miss Nellie Drum, Ernest Hungerford and Mr. Bachman. The pall bearers were W. J. Smith, S. S. Sturdevant, S. Drum, P. Meixell, H. Hockenberry and Samuel Smith. Interment was in Forty Fort Cemetery.

**Death of Mrs. Judge Dana.**

[Daily Record, June 14, 1893.]

Announcement is made of the death from pneumonia in Paris, France, of Sarah, widow of Judge Edmund L. Dana, who died April 25, 1889. She was married to Judge Dana 51 years ago and her maiden name was Peters, she being a daughter of Ralph Peters of Philadelphia and granddaughter of Hon. Richard Peters, also of Philadelphia. One son is the only issue of the Dana marriage, Charles E. Dana, who is an artist and who lives in Philadelphia.

**HON. L. D. SHOEMAKER'S DEATH**

**Another of Wilkes-Barre's Oldest and Most Prominent Citizens Passes Into the Great Beyond—A Useful Life Well Spent—He Died Honored and Loved By the Entire Community.**

[Daily Record, September 11, 1893.]

In the death of Hon. Lazarus Denison Shoemaker of South Franklin street it may be said with all truth and sincerity that the entire community has suffered a loss that will be felt not only by those among whom he lived, but in years to come when any progressive movement appeals to the citizens of the community for aid.

While his family and closest friends may recently have noted an almost imperceptible decay of vital force, to the public he was apparently in his usual health and moved about with his wonted activity and good spirit. To these the news of his death came as a shock and caused the most profound sorrow. On Friday Mr. Shoemaker complained of a cold and seemed to have a slight chill, but his indisposition caused no alarm, as he was well enough to attend to his business and spent part of the day in the directors' room of the Second National bank. His son, Dr. Shoemaker, prescribed for his cold, and after spending a pleasant evening with his family he retired to rest. About 2 o'clock in the night a member of the family heard him coughing severely and went to his room. Mr. Shoemaker said he was feeling quite well and she retired. The family went to breakfast in the morning while Mr. Shoemaker was still in his room, which was not at all unusual. When he did not come down at 8:30 o'clock his daughter, Mrs. Norris, went to his room and could get no response to her inquiries. Mr. Shoemaker was dead. Dr. Murphy surmised that death occurred about 5 o'clock in the morning.

Hon. Lazarus Denison Shoemaker was born in Kingston, March 5, 1819. He was descended from those sturdy settlers who contended with the most adverse circumstances in the virgin forests of America and laid the foundation for a great nation, the envy of the world.

His family ancestry originally came from Holland to England, thence to America. They were among the first settlers on the Delaware River in what is now Monroe County. These pioneers built the old "Mine

Road," along which John Adams and his compatriots traveled on their way from Boston to Philadelphia. Benjamin Shoemaker, the great-grandfather of deceased, came to Wyoming Valley in 1763. After the first massacre he returned to the Delaware, but his son Elijah, grandfather of L. D. Shoemaker, settled here permanently. He was a lieutenant under Col. Butler and was one of those killed at Wyoming Massacre, leaving a son Elijah, but six weeks old. When he grew to manhood he built the large house—which is even yet in splendid preservation and occupied by R. C. Shoemaker—and he was the father of the subject of this sketch. The mother was Jane McDowell, of Irish and Huguenot extraction and a race of noble traits. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Shoemaker was Col. Nathan Denison. When he in 1769 married Elizabeth Sill in a log cabin in Wilkes-Barre, it was the first marriage of whites ever recorded in the Wyoming Valley.

L. D. Shoemaker secured his earliest grasp of knowledge at the Moravian school in Nazareth, Pa. Subsequently he attended Kenyon College, Ohio, and thence went to Yale where he was graduated in 1840. He studied law with Gen. E. W. Sturdevant in this city and was admitted to practice in August, 1842. Since that time, or for fifty years he has practiced law here, being interrupted only by political honors and consequent absence from home. In 1866 he was elected to the State Senate on the Republican ticket. Subsequently he was elected representative to Congress from the Twelfth District. It was an exciting campaign but Mr. Shoemaker won by a majority of 1,200. Two years later he was re-elected.

The death of his wife, who was Esther Wadhams, occurred in August, 1889. Six children survive: Dr. Levi Ives Shoemaker; Clorinda, wife of Major L. A. Stearns; Carolina, wife of William G. Phelps, of Binghamton; Mrs. George Dickerman of New Haven; Mrs. R. V. A. Norris and Miss Jane Shoemaker.

**HIS BUSINESS CONNECTIONS.**

Hon. L. D. Shoemaker inherited large landed wealth from his father, under which coal was found in abundance. Although a handsome income was insured from this source, Mr. Shoemaker was too ambitious and industrious not to take an interest in growing Wilkes-Barre. His investments

were made with keen foresight and good judgment and the town was wonderfully benefitted. Any stable industry seeking location in Wilkes-Barre always found in Mr. Shoemaker a helping hand, as his present interest in most of the enterprises of an industrial nature now doing business here testifies.

Blessed with an abundance of means he was public-spirited to a marked degree. When the industrial era developed in Wilkes-Barre a few years ago and factories were seeking locations here Mr. Shoemaker encouraged them by liberal investments, particularly in case of the lace factory, the axle works and many others. When the Wilkes-Barre Water Co. and the gas works were established many years ago he was among the financial backers.

After William P. Miner undertook to establish the RECORD as a daily paper in 1878 and a stock company was formed, Mr. Shoemaker was one of the public spirited citizens who encouraged the enterprise by investing his money as a stockholder and he ever remained a warm friend of the paper, though subsequently disposing of his interest, as did all the other stockholders, to the present proprietors. He was a liberal contributor to the armory, the building of the Young Men's Christian Association, the new Methodist Church, the Home for Friendless Children, the Wilkes-Barre Hospital, the Home for Homeless Women, and all of the charitable institutions seeking aid from the public. Mr. Shoemaker was one of the projectors of the Wyoming centennial celebration of 1878 and was one of the officers of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, which grew out of that event. He was ex-president and a director of the Second National Bank, president of the lace works, one of the organizers and president of the Spring Brook Water Company in which he always took a deep interest; president of the Forty Fort Cemetery Association; president of the Home for Friendless; a member of the board of trustees of the First M. E. Church; director of the Wilkes-Barre Gas Company; director of the Vulcan Iron Works and at one time president of the board of prison commissioners.

A few years ago when it became apparent that the population of the valley was increasing so rapidly as to make the water problem one of growing importance, he joined Abram

Nesbitt, Governor Watres and Congressman Amerman in organizing the Spring Brook Water Co.

#### A GOOD MAN HAS GONE TO REST.

To the poor Mr. Shoemaker was a friend indeed. Many an appeal for assistance was heard by him, and the needy were never sent away empty-handed. His charities were unostentatious, and what he gave was given with a willing heart. In all his business and social relations he was kind and affable, and those with whom he associated, as well as all who were brought in contact with him, entertained for him the highest regard. Few men combined so admirably the many essential qualities that go to make up a useful and well spent life, and few men pass away leaving such pleasant and never-dying memories. When the present generation reaches majority and the greater Wilkes-Barre overspreads our vacant lands, when the smoke of hundreds of industries curls into the air, no man will receive more credit for enhancing the possibilities of the Wilkes-Barre of his day than L. D. Shoemaker. And in years to come his memory will be loved, honored and respected as he was loved, honored and respected while he lived. A shaft of marble or granite may mark his last resting place, but by far the greatest and most enduring monument is the invisible and yet tangible evidence of his good deeds, that live in the heart and the mind while stone crumbles to dust and generations come and go. If in one moment of consciousness before the death angel sped his silent message Mr. Shoemaker's mind could have looked in retrospect over his whole life, he might well have closed his eyes and fell into that dreamless sleep with these words on his lips: "I am satisfied."

#### Funeral of Hon. L. D. Shoemaker on Tuesday, Sept. 12th—Impressive Services.

A large number of representative people of this city and neighboring towns assembled Tuesday at 4 p. m. at the residence of Hon. L. D. Shoemaker to attend upon the funeral services of that lamented citizen. The parlor was heavy with the fragrance of flowers and the features of the dead were unmarked by any traces of suffering. The house was not large enough to contain the throng. There was a large attendance from the bar and from the various business enterprises with which Mr. Shoemaker had been identi-

ded. A choir composed of Mrs. Nellie Fraser, Miss Sligh, Frank Puckey and Adolph Baur sang. Rev. Dr. Boyle, pastor of the First M. E. Church, read the burial service and made some appropriate remarks. A brief but fitting address was made by Rev. J. O. Woodruff, under whose pastorate the new church had been erected and toward which Mr. Shoemaker did so much. Dr. Woodruff was deeply moved and had difficulty in giving utterance to what he wished to say and while not over-eulogistic, the address was yet a tender and touching tribute to the many excellent traits of deceased, prominent among which his simplicity, the beauty of his domestic life, his unruffled temper, his kindness of heart to others in distress, his entire serenity of disposition and his faith in God.

Interment was in Forty Fort Cemetery. The honorary pall bearers were Theodore Strong, Hon. Charles A. Miner, Abram Nesbitt, Edward H. Chase, Alexander Mitchell, Daniel Edwards, George Loveland, and the carriers were Col. G. M. Reynolds, A. H. McCintock, G. R. Bedford, Alexander Farnham, Judge Rice, C. P. Hunt.

#### LUZERNE BAR TAKES ACTION.

The Late Hon. L. D. Shoemaker Eulogized by His Fellow Members of the Luzerne County Bar.

Lawyers from Luzerne and Lackawanna counties met in the court house at noon on Monday, Sept. 11, 1893, to take action on the death of Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, who for fifty years was one of the most honorable members of the Luzerne County bar.

Judge Rice called the meeting to order and nominated Alexander Farnham for chairman, who was unanimously chosen, with J. Butler Woodward as secretary. Mr. Farnham in taking the chair said:

"The death of L. D. Shoemaker is one of those events so oft recurring of late which startle us by the evidence they afford of the rapidly changing personnel of our bar. The last decade has brought about great changes in this respect. Scarcely a year has passed but that one or more of our leading members has fallen before the grim destroyer. It is not probable that any like period in the future will stand out so prominently in this regard, because the great and rapid increase

of population of this county, especially of this city and valley, will of itself tend to render less notable the vacancies at the bar which death will hereafter create. Commensurate with the great increase in population of this region is that of its business interests, in respect to both their magnitude and diversity. A widening field for professional labor is thus constantly being presented as the demand for professional skill becomes more and more extended. In many respects the practice of law in Luzerne County is analogous to that which obtains in our larger cities, in that, the courts are almost in constant session during the greater part of the year. The courts themselves are duplicated to such an extent that the spectacle of two courts in session at the same time, disposing of the swollen calendar, both civil and criminal, has become an ordinary one. That the membership of this bar should have become greatly increased in consequence, is obvious, and as each year has added greater numbers in accessions to our ranks, so each year in the future will continue to swell these accessions in increased ratio. By the force of numbers alone, individual prominence at the bar becomes less marked. Special lines of professional labor invite the attention of the practitioner and where one drops out of sight two are ready to fill his place. It is for these reasons that the future annals of this bar will show less marked sensibility to its loss of membership through death than has formerly been the case.

Lazarus D. Shoemaker is the last of a generation of men conspicuous before the community in their time. He was the compeer of Henry M. Fuller, Charles Denison, Warren J. Woodward and Edmund L. Dana, all of whom except the last one named, and he for several years back, have long been gathered in, so that their names survive only as traditions. Unlike them, however, his name has been so largely identified with the living present as to be a recognized force in this community up to the day of his death. No public enterprise of any kind, no popular movement, no charitable undertaking was entered into without the name of L. D. Shoemaker being sought for as a sponsor or benefactor. His mind was abreast of the times and his interest in things present and and in the material progress of the valley yet to come was abiding to the very last.

On Friday his genial presence was seen on our streets, as usual for so many years back, but before another sun had arisen the things of this life had gone from him forever.

It was in the earliest years of his professional career that Mr. Shoemaker acquired distinction at this bar. His reputation in those days was that of a sound lawyer, and this reputation so far adhered to him that notwithstanding his large business interests drew him aside from further professional effort, many of his old clients continued to entrust him with the conduct of their legal affairs, so deep was their confidence in his sagacity, skill and prudence.

Mr. Shoemaker's mental quality was of that kind which commands immediate confidence as well as respect. It was this which rendered him so successful, not only as a business man but as a public character, honored with the approval and confidence of the public. The quiet citizen, the unassuming lawyer, suddenly became the political leader of his party and after serving his district one term in the State Senate and two terms in the national Congress, his influence as a leader and director of its local policy never ceased to have effect.

The only true testimony to a man's character is that afforded by the appreciation held of him by his neighbor, and by this test Mr. Shoemaker's character is that of one worthy in every sense of the word in all the relations in which he was placed—in his family, in his community and in his church.

The following resolutions were then read by Gen. McCartney and unanimously adopted:

The Luzerne County Bar on the death of its senior member, Lazarus Denison Shoemaker, hereby tenders its profoundest regrets and deepest sympathy to his family, whom he loved so well, and by whom he was so well beloved, and to this community in which he has been for so many years an important factor, a worthy and useful citizen and an exemplary public servant.

This bar recalls the facts that Mr. Shoemaker, as a lawyer, was ever diligent, conservative, faithful and true. As a public servant he was ever mindful of the public interests; untiring and patriotic. And as a Christian he was always consistent in his faith and its practices.

The history of his life affords a worthy and commendable example to all who seek to benefit their race and country.

Genial, gentle, forgiving and forbearing, beloved and honored by all who knew him, rich in honors and ripe in years, he lived and died an honest man.

Gen. E. S. Osborne spoke of the deceased in a highly eulogistic strain. He characterized him as a man among men, ever ready to do good. His end in life was not simply to practice law, but to do some substantial good.

Judge Archbald of Lackawanna County said fifteen years had separated Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties but they have not deprived us of the good work and friendship of Mr. Shoemaker. He represented us as well as you in the halls of Congress and Senate and we mourn with you in the death of so good a man.

Judge Rice spoke of his admirable qualities and alluded to the idea that he probably never had an enemy in his life. He paid a glowing tribute to his life.

Gen. McCartney said in part: The death of some men excites our sympathy, because of their public benefactions; others, because of the severance of their public or private relations; others, because of their good fellowship, and others, still, from any of the great variety of influences that sway mankind.

There is something in the life of every man that moves the sympathy of some one when death comes.

But here was a man whose taking off, although it came at the end of a long and well spent life, invokes the regrets of every one. He was so frank, so genial, so honest and true that I doubt if he had an enemy in all this cold and cruel world.

Ah! dear and gentle friend! Whose very presence was a charm and whose simple yet manly individuality was such a consolation, we only meet to make a record of what you were. No words of mine, at least, can add to the manhood record you made for yourself.

But if ever any man has earned the crown of immortality by an unpretentious, honest and well rounded life, such will be your high reward. You gently lived and gently died. Hallowed be thy memory!

Gustav Hahn referred to his forty years' acquaintance with deceased and spoke of him as one of the truest, staunchest men he ever met. Beloved and highly esteemed by all of those who were more intimately acquainted with him, his character was such that he died without ever having an enemy. As his

life was full of sunshine extended by him to others, so even his death was calm and peaceful. Gently the angel of death approached him and he was privileged to leave this world without even a struggle. In the full possession of his mental facilities as well as the powers of his body he fell asleep peacefully. Many will mourn for him while he is reaping his reward. Though dead he still liveth.

Thomas H. Atherton and Dr. Harry Hakes also spoke eloquent tributes to his memory.

#### The Late John S. Law.

[Daily Record, September 2, 1893.]

The recent death of John S. Law recalls the fact that he was at one time a Wilkes-Barre man, connected with the Dickson Manufacturing Co. and later president of the Miner's Savings Bank. Mr. Law was born in Wanlothead, Scotland. His father, Archibald Law, located in Carbondale in 1830 and was the first mining engineer in this region. Previous to his arrival coal had been mined largely by stripping and the modern scientific method of underground mining was introduced here by the elder Law. The son, John S., and his family, consisting of his mother, himself and two sisters, went to Carbondale and settled there in 1831. He was educated in the common schools of the town and his first work was driving a mule on the D. & H. Co. No. 1 level, at the same time Thomas Dickson was doing the same work. He afterwards was apprenticed to Peter Campbell, of the firm of J. P. Farnham & Co., to learn the mercantile business. Mr. Farnham was the father of Alexander Farnham, Esq., of Wilkes-Barre. In 1844 he went with Gillespie and Pierce, and in 1846 went into business with Lewis Howell, and in 1848 with John Howell, now of Pittston. They were burned out in 1862. Mr. Law took an active part in filling the soldiers quota for the city of Carbondale, and afterwards volunteered twice and served his time in the United States Army. After the war he was the purchasing agent for the Delaware & Hudson Co. at Carbondale, until he took charge of the Dickson Manufacturing Co.'s interests in Wilkes-Barre in 1874. He left that company to accept the presidency of the Miner's Savings Bank, soon after the death of A. C. Loring, and as its chief executive officer and general manager he did much to bring it up to its present high standing. Some eight or ten years ago he left Wilkes-Barre and has since resided in New York. He was interest-

ed in several coal companies and was president of the Lackawanna Coal Co. He leaves a wife, one son and one daughter, and one brother and two sisters in Pittston, Charles Law and Mrs. Robert McMillan, and Mrs. John Cosgrove. He was born in 1826 and died of pneumonia at his summer home in Connecticut. He was a business man of superior accomplishments and amassed a fortune, besides leaving his family the heritage of a good name.

#### Death of Thomas Rogers.

Last week the RECORD noted the fact that Thomas M. Rogers, superintendent of Hollenback Cemetery, owing to a disease of the leg, had the limb amputated. He got along well for a few days, remarkably well for a man of his age, but the reaction was severe and Thursday, Sept. 5, 1893, he died. Deceased was born July 14, 1816, in Broome County, N. Y., and was a son of Alexander and Nan (Menn) Rogers, Massachusetts. The family came to Forty Fort prior to 1820 and later lived at Laffin. The family afterward removed to Sullivan County, Pa. The deceased spent his early manhood in boat building, which he followed from 1852 to 1870 in Wilkes-Barre, when he became superintendent of the cemetery. Mr. Rogers in August, 1835, married Rosanna, daughter of Samuel and Lois Corey, of Wayne County. There were ten children born to them, of which four survive. They are: Mrs. John Fulton, Missouri; Mrs. Robert Nesbitt, Kingston; Mrs. William A. St. John, Scranton, and William. Mr. Rogers was a man well thought of and he died leaving many friends. His widow, who is 76 years of age survives him.

#### An Old Resident Passes Away.

Daniel Titus of Shickshinny, another of Wyoming Valley's oldest residents, passed away Sept. 20, 1893. He was born in Salem Township, September 15, 1816, and lived all his life time in that valley. He leaves four sons and two daughters, George and William who live in Shickshinny, John and Nathan, well-known engineers running on the Lehigh Valley R. R. and residing in Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. Amanda Deets, who lives at Askam, and Mrs. Marry Chapens of Shickshinny. He leaves eleven grandchildren. The funeral services will be held in the M. E. Church, Friday, Sept. 22, and the remains will be interred in Pine Hill Cemetery at Shickshinny.

### DEATH OF A PIONEER.

One of the Oldest Residents of Bradford County Passes Away.

The following taken from the Elmira (N. Y.) *Advertiser* of September 12 will be of interest to many of the older residents of this locality:

Rev. Harry S. Newell died at his country seat, "the old Newell homestead," at Canton, Pa., Saturday morning at 9 o'clock, and was buried yesterday, the funeral occurring from his late residence with interment in Woodlawn. The death of Mr. Newell removes one of the oldest citizens of Bradford County and the only survivor of the old Oliver Newell family who came into Pennsylvania with the early settlers in 1792 from Connecticut. The great-grandfather of Oliver Newell came from Salisbury, England, in 1652, and settled in Warwick, R. I., thus the death of M. Newell not only removes an old and respected citizen, but it also removes still another of the descendants of old Connecticut stock, of which Pennsylvania is justly proud. Mr. Newell was born in Towanda in 1813. Among those in attendance at the funeral were: Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Rogers of this city, the latter a niece, Mrs. S. R. Young, of Sayre, Pa., Ex-Governor Newell, of Newark, N. J., and T. L. Newell, of Kingston, Pa., the latter his youngest nephew.

#### Passed the Seventy-Sixth Milestone.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Tripp's home at Forty Fort was the scene of an enjoyable event Sept. 7th, the occasion being the seventy-sixth anniversary of Mr. Tripp's birth. Every child, grandchild and great grandchild was present, viz: Miss Mary A. Tripp, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Sherwood, Mrs. Isaac Estabrook and daughter Grace, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Estabrook, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Estabrook and daughter Blanche, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Stout and three sons, Fred, Isaac and Jay; Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Williams and two children, Stewart and Kate; Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Bronson and three children, Howard, Willard and Edith; Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Tripp, Jr., and two children, Helen and Isaac; Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Space and two children, Clifford and Gertrude; Ed. M. Tripp, Katherine J. Tripp, Bertha M. Tripp, Rev. and Mrs. LaBar of Wyoming and Isaac Dean of Scranton. The children began to arrive as early as 10 o'clock, bringing with them useful and valu-

able gifts, and each in turn presented his gift to father and grandfather in a neat little speech. An elegant dinner was then served by Mrs. Drake of Wyoming, after which Mr. Tripp had every one seated in the spacious parlors, and then went from the oldest child to the youngest great grandchild, presenting each one with a good large gold piece.

A photographer was then called upon to make a picture of the entire company, about forty in all.

The day passed pleasantly throughout, and was one long to be remembered by both parents and children. Long life to Mr. and Mrs. Tripp.

### HAKES FAMILY REUNION.

Representatives from Nearly Every State Gather at Chicago.

The Hakes family reunion, of which Dr. Harry Hakes of this city is president, met Sept. 20 at the Mecca Hotel at Chicago, and members of the family were present from nearly every State in the Union.

The program of proceedings consisted of music by Brabant's famous orchestra; prayer by Rev. Mr. Oglethorpe; report of proceedings of reunion of 1892, music by orchestra; genealogical report for year ending September 20, 1893; music by orchestra; president, Dr. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre, annual address; music; place of meeting, 1894, Albany, N. Y.; adjourned to banquet at 9 p. m.

They are the descendants of a Solomon Hakes, who was born in Devonshire, England, emigrated to America and settled in Westerly, R. I., in 1709.

The idea of holding an annual reunion of Hakes's descendants originated ten years ago with Dr. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre, who had become interested in tracing the genealogy of his family. At the last reunion of the family, held in Syracuse, N. Y., Dr. Hakes had traced fully 1,300 descendants of his ancestor, Solomon.

#### Three Brothers Over 90 Years.

Arthur H. Snowden died at Stratford, Conn., Sept. 24, and was buried Sept. 27, aged 91 years, 3 months and 20 days. Deceased was a brother of E. Hazard Snowden of Forty Fort, who is about 95 years of age. Another brother in the West is over 90 years old. It is remarkable that three brothers should live to be past 90 years of age.



### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S HOME.

**Possession Taken of the Handsome Building Erected Through the Munificence of the Late Isaac S. Osterhout.—Interesting Dedicatory Exercises.**

[From Daily Record, November 21, 1893.]

One of the provisions in the will of Isaac S. Osterhout was that in conjunction with the building which his estate was to furnish for the Osterhout Free Library there was to be erected also a permanent home for the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. The latter annex being now completed was occupied for the first time last evening and the occasion was made memorable with interesting and appropriate exercises. As the readers of the RECORD already know, the new building is in the rear of the old Presbyterian church and is intended to be an annex to the library building that is to be erected in the future. It is a handsome two story brick building with basement, the architect being A. H. Kipp. It is admirably adapted to the uses of the society and surrounded with such a luxurious home the organization ought to become one of the most prosperous of its kind. The building is heated by steam, profusely lighted with gas and incandescent lamps and the splendid collection of curios appeared to fine advantage, so tastily were they displayed and so neatly and plainly labeled. In the basement is the collection of geological specimens, the ground floor is devoted chiefly to library and lecture room, the upper floor is occupied with the general collections.

The crayon portrait of the late Harrison Wright looked down upon the cheery throng and the feeling of sorrow came to many minds that he could not have lived to see the splendid permanent home of the society, a javish fruition of all the hopes he, its ruling spirit, had ever entertained.

The lecture room was thronged with a most representative audience and the exercises were enlivened by orchestra music. The president, Capt. Calvin Parsons, occupied the chair. He announced that hereafter the building would be open to the public every Wednesday and Saturday afternoon from 1 to 6 o'clock.

Henry A. Fuller made the address of presentation on behalf of the directors of the Osterhout Library. The address was a beautiful tribute to the memory of Mr.

Osterhout, brightened with humor concerning the delay in erecting the building, ten years having elapsed since the donor's death. The will was spoken of as the most munificent ever recorded in this county. The library directors, to whom was entrusted the erection of a building, had spent nine years in considering what ought to be done, and during the last year the building had been erected at a cost of \$12,000. Allusion was made to the founding of the society in 1858, the presentation of a lot by the city in 1870 on the impossible condition that a building be erected within two years at a cost of \$40,000, and the occupation now of a beautiful and commodious building without a dollar of cost to the society. From occupying a gloomy third-story flat the society had now come down like Zaccheus, paradoxically, to greater elevation. Mr. Fuller's address was listened to with keen interest and at its close was warmly applauded.

Judge Stanley Woodward made the address announcing the acceptance of the donation on behalf of the Historical Society. Mr. Osterhout was described as a wealthy but a plain man. His accumulations were the result of a patient devotion to his business as a merchant and of the careful re-investment of the profits of that business, in real estate, in Wilkes-Barre. He saw in the Historical Society the germ of a grand ideal, which, fully developed, would prove an instructive and conservative force in a region of country, whose romantic history and commercial importance, would attract to itself the attention and interest of generations yet to come. The Historical Society having had its origin in the "old Fell tavern," the speaker gave a description of that famous hostelry, the first Wilkes-Barre inn or tavern of which we have any tradition. It antedated the present century. The county of Luzerne had just been organized and Wilkes-Barre was the county town. This tavern was the place at which to put up and here were held the dances of the day. In this tavern Jesse Fell made his famous experiment on Feb. 11, 1808, of burning anthracite in an open grate. Judge Woodward exhibited the book (now the property of the Historical Society) on a fly leaf of which Judge Fell entered a record at the time of the historic occurrence. Fifty years later, to a day, Jesse Fell's grandson, Capt. James P. Dennis, Henry M. Hoyt, J. Butler

Conyngnam and Stanley Woodward, the latter being the only present survivor, happened to be discussing the entry on the fly-leaf and it was determined to commemorate the anniversary that evening, which was done in the same old tavern. The outcome of that evening was the organization of the Historical Society. Judge Woodward proceeded to trace the career of the society and the building up of its splendid museum. His address was full of interesting historical matter, and the RECORD regrets that a crush of matter prevents its publication in full. At its conclusion the several departments were thrown open for inspection. F. C. J.

### AN UNIQUE MONUMENT.

**It will be Constructed of Wyoming Red Stone and will Mark the Resting Place of the Distinguished Editor and Statesman, Charles Miner.**

William B. Miner of Miner's Mills, son of the late William P. Miner, has placed an order for a family monument that is unique. It is to be of native red stone from the quarries of Gen. Paul A. Oliver at Oliver's Mills. It is to be six feet square at base, narrowing to four and one-half feet square at top, surmounted by a cap five and one-half feet square and two feet thick. It is to be constructed of irregularly shaped blocks of stone with rough finish, except polished surfaces for the inscriptions. There is nothing like it hereabouts and its novel character will be most fitting. Mr. Miner's grandfather, Charles Miner, was the distinguished historian of Wyoming Valley and as a pioneer editor of this region he attained a reputation which caused his writings to be reprinted in the great journals, not only of Pennsylvania, but of the nation.

In these pioneer efforts he was associated with his brother, Asher, grandfather of Hon. Charles A. Miner of this city. Charles Miner was twice elected to Congress and he included among his intimate friends many of the leading statesmen of his time. His correspondence, which, together with the story of his life, ought to be published, reveals letters from such men as Webster, Clay and Adams and others equally notable. He was one of the first to recognize the importance of the coal beds which underlie Wyoming Valley, as shown by the files of his paper in the early years of the century. He was an early and

outspoken abolitionist, a warm friend of internal improvements and an ardent advocate of the development of the American Industries as opposed to free trade. Mr. Miner was a Mason and when the wave of hostility to that ancient order swept over the country it prompted his old friend John Quincy Adams, who had become an active anti-Mason, to write him a letter deprecating any estrangement or break of personal friendship on that account and enclosed some verses which concluded with the following lines:

Be thine the compass and the square,  
While I discard them both;  
And thou shalt take, while I forbear,  
The secret and the oath.

The monument to be erected was projected by Charles Miner himself. He left a memorandum asking that his grave be marked by a plain stone from the mountains of Wyoming Valley, inscribed:

CHARLES MINER,  
Born Feb. 1, 1780,  
Died Oct. 26, 1865.

The Historian of Wyoming.

His son, William Penn Miner, like his father before him, was a prominent figure in the history of Wilkes-Barre journalism. He established the RECORD, as a weekly in 1853, and as a daily in 1873. He died revered and honored, April 3, 1892, at the age of 76.

The monument will be furnished by H. W. Chapin of Kingston. F. C. J.

### A Bit of History.

Forty years ago the old rolling mill and nail factory stood on a woodland bluff on the spot now occupied by No. 5 colliery of L. & W.-B. coal breaker and shaft. A few cottages were scattered at distances in the woods between the mill and Hazle street. It was known as Welsh Hill. Some of the people who resided there were Daniel Lloyd, Isaiah Davies, John Hoskins, Thomas Strickland, Jonathan Jones and Owen Richards (familarly known as the Wild Welshman). Their descendants still reside in this city.

### Her One Hundredth Anniversary.

The one hundredth anniversary of Mrs. Lucretia Perrin was celebrated at Harding, near Wyoming Camp Ground, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Salmon Lewis, April 17, 1893. Her oldest daughter is 79 years of age—Mrs. Oliver Whitlow. About fifty couples were present.

## PASSED AWAY.

**Residents of Wilkes-Barre and Vicinity  
Who Have Been Called to Another  
World.**

While the announcement of the death of Capt. Charles R. Connor will cause little surprise, yet there will be sorrow in many hearts, for the captain was one of the best known and best liked men in Luzerne County. He passed away December 29, 1893, at 9 o'clock at his home, 5 Harrison street. He was conscious to the last and died with all the comforts of the Christian faith.

Deceased was employed as a storekeeper for the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Co at the Empire. He was born at Plymouth June 30, 1860, and was a son of John M. and Cinderella (Keller) Connor. He resided in that place until 17 years of age and then came to this city. Since 1876 he has been in the employ of the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Company. On Feb. 13, 1884, Mr. Connor was united in marriage to Ella, daughter of John and Mercy (Fell) Behee of this city. Five children were born to them: Mac, Daniel, Norman (deceased), Harold and Charles. Since 1877 he had been a member of Co. D, 9th Infantry Regiment of this city, and received promotion to a corporal, sergeant, and to a captaincy Dec. 8, 1890. He is also a member of the Sons of Veterans, and holds the office of captain in that order. He was also a member of the Good Fellows and insured in them for \$2,000.

A brother of deceased, DeHaven Connor, and a sister, Mrs. W. E. Bennett, survive, also the parents, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Connor. Capt. Connor is the fourth of their children that has been claimed by death during the past three years, the others being Ralph, Stella and Ola.

Capt. Connor was enthusiastic in military affairs and did all in his power for the good of the regiment. He contracted a heavy cold while on duty at Homestead and this is regarded as the foundation of his fatal illness. As a private citizen he was also universally esteemed.

**WELL KNOWN IN WILKES-BARRE.**

Edward C. Lynde died suddenly in Scranton Dec. 30, 1893. He was one of that city's most prominent men and his death, at the age of 62, has occasioned universal regret. He was a son of John W. Lynde, a native of Putney, Vt., who lived in Wilkes-Barre many

years and had a watch making shop on Market street adjoining the Wyoming Bank. Mr. Lynde was a brother of Fanny D., widow of Calvin Wadhams. Their maternal grandfather was Capt. Josiah Cleveland, who served in the Revolutionary army. Mr. Lynde has a charming summer home at Harvey's Lake.

The Scranton *Republican* says:

Edward Cleveland Lynde, or "Ned" as his intimate associates call him, was actuated by generous impulses all his life. He possessed a highly sensitive and refined nature, was a reliable counsellor, was gifted with artistic taste and enjoyed the happy faculty of retaining close friendship. He loved music and his violin, he was a connoisseur in art and kept up with current literature. Withal he was an active business man, faithful to responsible trusts and always equal to any emergency put upon him by his official duties. He was personally quiet and retiring, but his friends are legion, who will sincerely mourn his loss. He was born in Wilkes-Barre on July 22, 1831. His father was John W. Lynde, who settled in the Wyoming Valley in 1830. He came from an old New England family, the progenitor of which, Joseph Lynde, came from England to Boston in 1712. Edward C. Lynde was educated in the old Wilkes-Barre Academy, which stood near where the Luzerne County court house now is. At the age of sixteen he went to New York, where he entered the employment of a wholesale dry goods house.

In 1852 he returned to Wilkes-Barre and entered the office of the Baltimore Coal Company as accountant. Two years later, at the request of Selden T. Scranton, he came to Scranton and assisted in transferring the accounts of the firm of Scrantons & Platt to the Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company, which corporation was organized in 1853 and which had succeeded to the business of Scrantons & Platt. Mr. Lynde rose rapidly in promotion and held various positions of trust.

In 1855 he married Miss Gertrude Murray of Scranton, who survives him, as do three of their children—Edward H. Lynde, superintendent at the South steel mills; J. H. S. Lynde, manufacturers' agent, and Mrs. John J. Ryman, of Dallas, Luzerne County. A sister also survives him, Mrs. Calvin Wadhams, of Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. Lynde was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and a prominent and

honored member of the Masonic fraternity.  
AN OLD RESIDENT PASSES AWAY.

Mrs. Gomer H. Snyder died at her home in Dorranceton late on Saturday, Dec. 30, 1893, of pleurisy resulting from an attack of grip.

Mrs. Snyder was 72 years of age and had been a widow for nearly 12 years, her husband having been one of the most favorable and widely known citizens of Plymouth Township. She was a daughter of Daniel Lamereaux, formerly of Plymouth Township. Of her father's family surviving are one sister, Mrs. William Castner; two half-sisters, Mrs. Nicholas Downs and Mrs. George Snyder, of Plymouth Township; and a half-brother, John Dodson, of Plymouth Borough. Her surviving children are: Mrs. James Eley, Mrs. Frank Edwards, Mrs. William Shaw of Plymouth; Mrs. F. C. Gates and Mrs. Tidy Parke of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Wilson Carey of Germantown; Elmer Snyder and G. H. Snyder of Larksville.

#### DR. H. HOLLISTER DEAD.

The Veteran Physician Passes Away—He was an Antiquary and the Historian of the Lackawanna Valley.

Dr. Horace Hollister, the veteran physician and historian of the Lackawanna Valley, died Friday, Dec. 29, 1893, at his home in Scranton. Though he had been paralyzed in the legs for 13 years, death was sudden when it came and he was spared a lingering illness. Dr. Hollister was 71 years old on the 22d of last November, he having been born in Salem, Wayne county, in 1822. He was one of the active spirits in the Wyoming Centennial of 1878, and though deprived of attending many subsequent annual commemorations, yet his interest never failed, and he each year wrote a letter of regret. He was most intimately familiar with the early history of North-western Pennsylvania, and in his death passes away one of the most distinguished of our local chroniclers, whose demise will be deeply regretted. The *Scranton Truth* says of him:

Dr. Hollister was one of the oldest physicians in this region. He came to Providence when there was no Scranton, and for many years successfully practiced his profession throughout this region. Some time after he sustained his first paralytic stroke he resumed his office work and occasionally rode out. His customary cheerfulness never

failed him, and his friends who visited his office were heartily greeted, although the doctor could not leave his chair.

The doctor wrote "The History of the Lackawanna Valley," which passed through five editions and is notable for the vast amount of information which it gives and the patient research that its pages reveal. The doctor was also a prolific contributor of historical matter to the local newspapers.

Dr. Hollister was descended from an old family that came from Connecticut in the latter part of the last century. He was educated at the public schools of his native town, and later in the high schools of Bethany and of Honesdale. He then began the study of medicine with Dr. Charles Burr of Salem, and later with Dr. Ebenezer T. Losey, and in 1843 came to Providence, where he entered the office of Dr. B. H. Throop. He subsequently went to the University of the City of New York, where in 1846 he graduated. He returned to Providence where he at once entered into the active practice of medicine. His fame as a physician is still high among the old residents of the valley. He prepared several proprietary medicines, and the celebrated "Dr. Hollister's Cough Syrup" is yet regarded as one of the best medicines of its kind. The revenue he has gained from the sale of his medicines has been his almost exclusive support since he was stricken with paralysis.

But it was not to medicine alone that he confined his talents. He was a deep student of Indian antiquities and closely studied the archaeology of that singular race, especially the relics of them found in this vicinity. He gathered some 20,000 pieces of stone, flint and other instruments used by the aborigines. It is said to be the largest individual collection in Europe or America and is valued at about \$10,000.

While the doctor lost the use of his limbs his head has always been clear and his intellect active and he had always been a man of brilliant mind.

Dr. Hollister had likewise written other works entitled, "Recollections of Our Physicians," "History of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co.," "Coal Notes."

Dr. Hollister was a man strongly pronounced in his views on all subjects, outspoken even to bluntness, yet he had always a most tender heart. He freely attended to the physical needs of the poor, the widow and the orphan, without any reward than that

of the inner satisfaction the work of doing good gave him. He also prescribed for the clergy when called upon, and always refused remuneration, though he himself was attached to no church or creed.

Dr. Hollister was a brother of the late Mrs. Harriet G. Watres, "Stella of Lackawanna," the poetess of the valley. He was an uncle of Lieutenant-Governor Watres of this State.

He is survived by his wife, who was a daughter of ex-Sheriff Goff of Luzerne County. His three daughters also survive him: Mrs. W. A. Anderson of Scranton, Mrs. H. C. Albright, of Utica, N. Y., and Mrs. Gertrude Lackey, of Minneapolis, Minn.

#### Had a Brilliant War Record.

W. S. Solomon of Meade street has received news of the death of his father, Silas Solomon of Upper Mauch Chunk, who passed away Nov. 20, 1893, aged 75 years. The Mauch Chunk *Democrat* devotes a half column to a biographical sketch. Deceased enlisted in Co. H, Eleventh P. V., and was in the second battle of Bull Run, Aug. 29, 1862. Both the deceased and the captain were among the wounded and were taken to the hospital in the same ambulance and it so happened that both recovered and returned to duty about the same time during the latter part of November. The battle of Fredericksburg took place on Dec. 13, and it was on that memorable occasion that Silas Solomon made his record as a hero. The company having suffered severely in previous engagements was much reduced, only the captain, Lieut. Williamson and nineteen men were on duty and participated in the engagement. Of these Privates Cunningham, Deitrich and Wagner were killed and Lieut. Williamson, Sergeants Wehr and Solomon, Corp. A. W. Raudenbush and seven privates wounded, leaving only seven who came out without injury. During the engagement, as men were dropping all along the line, Solomon dropped his gun and lay down and said: "Captain, see to it that no injustice is done to my family." He was shot in the side and evidently thought it was fatal. A moment later the captain noticed that Corp. Raudenbush was wounded, and while looking after him Solomon managed to crawl a short distance to the rear, and a party with a stretcher happened to be near and carried him off the field. While lifting him on the stretcher he received another wound in the ankle, and that was his fourth wound in the same en-

gagement, having received two small wounds before he was struck in the side. The heroism was in enduring his two wounds and persistently remaining on duty as long as he was able to stand and without even mentioning the fact that he was shot. His death leaves only three survivors of Co. H residing at Mauch Chunk, George Rose, John Seip and another.

#### The Late Dr. A. P. Meylert.

The following additional information from the Brooklyn *Eagle*, concerning the late Dr. Meylert, will be of interest to his many friends:

"Dr. A. P. Meylert, who died in Wilkes-Barre yesterday after a long illness, was formerly a resident of Brooklyn. In the time of Henry Ward Beecher he was prominent in Plymouth Church and taught a Bible class in the Sunday school. He moved from Brooklyn to New York where he established a sanitarium, but was obliged, several years ago, to go to California for his health. Dr. Meylert earned distinction in the first two years of the Civil War as an army surgeon. He was at one time in charge of all the hospitals centered in Louisville, Ky., and was among the very first to introduce the field hospital service. His health broke down under the strain and he was obliged to retire from the army before the war closed. He would have risen to the rank of surgeon general if he had remained in the service. He was a member of the Loyal Legion and of several medical associations and was the author of a number of pamphlets treating of medical topics. His professional attainments were of the highest and his personal traits of character endeared him to a wide circle of friends, of whom he had many in Brooklyn."

#### To Inspect the Sites of Old Forts.

The State commission appointed by Governor Pattison to examine the sites of the forts erected by the early settlers to guard against the Indians and report to the legislature for the purpose of marking them with tablets, met at Harrisburg last week. John M. Buckalew of Fishing Creek was elected president and Sheldon Reynolds of Wilkes-Barre secretary of the commission. The other members are G. D. Albert of Latrobe, J. G. Weiser of Middlebury, H. M. Richards of Reading. The members of the commission will visit the sites and a district was assigned to each. Mr. Reynolds's district comprises the Wyoming Valley.

### WILKES-BARRE'S CURFEW BELL.

Presented to the Historical Society by a West Pittston Church.

The Presbyterian Church of Pittston, through Rev. N. G. Parke recently presented to the Wyoming Historical Society the original bell, which once surmounted Old Ship Zion, occupying the site of the present court house at Wilkes-Barre, and, touched by Old Michael, was wont to ring out the curfew every night at 9 o'clock, when, according to the New England custom, ordered first in England by William the Conqueror, all the people were to retire from company to their own abodes. But few remain who recall the ringer or the curfew, but for generations to come that old bell should have sincere veneration and be treated as a valuable relic of the fathers and mothers and the days that are gone.—(Rev. F. A. Dony in Scranton Republican.

### Daughters of American Revolution Reunion

The second annual reunion of the Daughters of the American Revolution, "Wyoming Valley Chapter," took place on Aug. 25, 1893, at Bear Creek, by invitation of Mrs. Benjamin Reynolds. From the earliest formation of the society Mrs. Reynolds has been one of the most earnest supporters of its objects. Herself a lineal descendant of the two renowned pilgrims of the Mayflower, Dr. Samuel Fuller and Capt. Mathew Fuller and of Lieut. Mills and Col. Eleazar Lindsley of revolutionary service, it was fitting that an invitation should come from her. And reunion it was in every sense of the word, members coming from various summer resorts to join in the festivities. Such a day! Nature was at its best! The citizens of Bear Creek joined with the host, Mr. Reynolds, in doing honor to the occasion. Albert Lewis sent his stage with four horses, Mr. Reynolds his coach and fine team of sorrels, the Misses Smith each driving a pair of spirited horses to an elegant turnout, Dr. Hodge's carryall, each decorated with American flags, to convey the daughters to the charming residence of Mrs. Reynolds, situated on a lofty knoll, rightly named "The Pines," from the enormous wealth of pine trees surrounding it. Flags waved from house top and porch, but on a magnificent flag pole, battered and weather-stained fluttered the flag General Sullivan carried on his memorable march over these very hills.

After serving of bouillon, a drive was enjoyed through the picturesque forests of Bear Creek. Art and nature have combined to make this one of the most charming private resorts in this country. One could but wish these lofty trees had the power to unfold the tale of woe the heart-broken and weary refugees, after the frightful massacre of July 3, 1778, who found shelter under their protecting branches while journeying to their Connecticut homes, must have uttered as they mourned fathers, husbands and brothers who had fallen under the scalping knife and fiery torture. A story more wondrous than ever historian recorded or poet sang would be revealed. How little dreamed they a society in honor of the American Revolution would one day celebrate her victories in this very forest. A visit to the cabin built by Messrs. Bedford and Price, a ride on the mountain railway constructed by the master workman, Bruce Bedford, in the very heart of the forest, and the return trip was made by boat and carriage to the Pines where the celebration of the day began by reading all names in the visitors' book, singing of patriotic airs and making of speeches. An appeal from the Mary Washington Memorial Association was attentively listened to, and three cheers were vigorously given for Mrs. Richard Sharpe, the first life member of the chapter of this organization in memory of the mother of our Washington. An elaborate luncheon was served on the broad verandah overlooking the cottages and picturesque lake with its rustic bridges. A vote of thanks was tendered to the generous host and hostess, when all repaired to the lawn, where Eugene C. Frank grouped the society for a photographic picture. A serenade was tendered by the Banjo Club of Bear Creek. The signal for departure reminded that the day's enjoyment must end and with adieus and kind words the society adjourned until the autumn.

### Kulp's Next Literary Work.

The pen of George B. Kulp, the historian and biographer, will soon be brought into activity again. Mr. Kulp proposes to write the history of the public schools of Wilkes-Barre from the settlement of the place to the present. Mr. Kulp was for twelve years a member of the school board and was largely instrumental in bringing about the remarkable revival of learning spoken of at the dedication of the Carey avenue building yesterday. Mr. Kulp was an eminently progressive school solon.

# The Historical Record

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NO. 2

## MASONIC CELEBRATION.

### ONE HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE

**Founding of Lodge No. 61—Prominent Masons in Attendance—Banquet in Loomis Hall in the Evening—An Elaborate Menu and Toast List.**

The one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Lodge 61, Ancient York Masons, was celebrated with imposing ceremonies Feb. 19, 1894. The officers of the Grand Lodge were met at the Lehigh Valley station by a delegation of prominent citizens and escorted to the Wyoming Valley Hotel, nearly all participating of dinner at 2 o'clock. Among those present, not Masons, were: Judges Rice, Rhone, Woodward and Lynch, Hon. Henry W. Palmer, Co'. E. B. Beaumont, George R. Bedford, Liddon Flick and Dr. Murphy; members of Lodge 61, W. C. Allan, Wadsworth Austin, Isaac Livingston, L. B. Landmesser and F. O. Johnson; other Masons: Hon. C. A. Miner, Hon. C. D. Foster, W. S. McLean, T. F. Ryman, Dr. Guthrie, Dr. Harvey, W. D. White, Henry L. Moore. The dinner was an elaborate one and nicely served.

At 6 o'clock the lodge met in Laning Building, some 300 brethren present. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. W. Bischoff of Upper Lehigh. The brethren were cordially welcomed by William L. Raeder. Dr. George Urquhart (the oldest past master of 61) gave some reminiscences and Dr. Harvey presented a most interesting historical address, read by Postmaster Landmesser, and there was singing by a quartet comprising Frank Puckey, W. L. Raeder, R. A. Spilding and Adolph Baur.

The historical paper read by Dr. Olin F. Harvey, from which the following is extracted, was of great interest:

So far as is known the first operations of Free Masonry in northeastern Pennsylvania

occurred in the Wyoming Valley in June, 1779. At that time very few white men dwelt in this immediate region. Their first settlements in the valley had been made but little more than twelve years before; while the terrible massacre of the settlers by the Indians and Tories had taken place near Forty Fort not quite twelve months previous.

Early in the year 1779 an expedition for the extermination of the Indians was planned by Gen. Washington, approved by Congress, and placed under the command of Gen. John Sullivan, to proceed from the Delaware River at Easton, across the mountains to the Susquehanna at Wilkes-Barre, and thence up the river to Tioga Point, there forming a junction with Gen. Clinton's troops. Accompanying this expedition was the 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania artillery in the United States service, under command of Col. Thomas Procter of Philadelphia. He was of Irish descent, was an ardent Free Mason and had been worshipful master of Lodge No. 2, the oldest lodge of ancient York Masons in Philadelphia.

During the war of the Revolution military or army Masonic lodges existed in the American army—charters or warrants being granted for such lodges by the provisional grand lodges of Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts. These travelling lodges were organized at various times, and accompanied the regiments to which they were attached in all their expeditions and encampments. One of these lodges was organized by Col. Procter in his regiment—he having received on the 18th of May, 1779, from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, a warrant "to form and hold a travelling military lodge" in his regiment. It was the first military lodge warrant granted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the American army, and was numbered "19" on the Grand Lodge register, now called Montgomery Lodge, No. 19.

The military stores for Sullivan's expedition were being collected at Easton in April

and May, 1779, and about the 20th of April, Gen. Sullivan sent an advance detachment of two hundred men, under Maj. Powell, to scour the country between Easton and Wyoming, and reinforce the garrison of the old fort at the latter place. But on the 23d of April, when near the summit of Wilkes-Barre Mountain, they were fired upon by Indians in ambush, and six of the party were slain, two of them being Capt. Joseph Davis of the 11th Pennsylvania regiment, and Lieut. William Jones of a Delaware regiment, both of whom were Free Masons. The bodies of the slain were hastily buried where they fell, and the spot marked, and the same day Maj. Powell and his command reached the fort at Wilkes-Barre.

Two months later, on the 23rd of June, Gen. Sullivan arrived in Wyoming with the main body of his army—Col. Procter's regiment of artillery with its military lodge accompanying it; as they passed the place where Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones were buried the regiment played "Roslin Castle" in honor of their fallen brothers. The following day was the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. It was the first festival in the masonic calendar that had occurred since the formation of Col. Procter's lodge, and the brethren met in conformity with the usual custom of Masons and held their festival in Wyoming. The place of meeting was the tent of Col. Procter, and there was read a sermon—patriotic and masonic in sentiment—written by Rev. Bro. William Smith, grand secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. This then was the first masonic lodge held in Wyoming Valley, and these the first masonic services.

Gen. Sullivan remained with his troops at Wyoming more than a month. Gen. Sullivan was a distinguished Mason, and Gen. Hand as well as Col. Procter, and probably many others of the officers under Sullivan's command were Masons.

Before leaving the valley it was resolved to bring the remains of Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones from their graves on the mountain and re-inter them in Wilkes-Barre with appropriate military and masonic ceremonies. On the 28th of July the graves of the slain were opened, their bodies raised thence and conveyed to Wilkes-Barre. Here they were buried with military honors and peculiar rites of Masonry in the public burying ground

—where now stands the new city building. This then was the first masonic funeral in Wyoming Valley.

Previous to the war of the revolution no Masonic lodge existed in Pennsylvania north of Lancaster. After the close of the war many lodges were established in the interior of the State and the western part, but none in the north or northeast until the year 1794. In that year this lodge was organized. At this time Wilkes-Barre was a small village (there being about one hundred taxable inhabitants in the whole township of Wilkes-Barre) and it was the only regularly established post-town in Luzerne County, the territory of the county embracing about 5,000 square miles, and had in the neighborhood of 9,000 inhabitants.

A petition from the Brethren at Wilkes-Barre was presented to the Grand Lodge, convened in special session at Philadelphia, on Feb. 18, 1794. The petition was unanimously granted, and the original warrant is still in possession of the lodge.

At 8 o'clock the lodge having been called from labor to refreshment, marched to Loomis Hall, where a banquet was spread. Oppenheim's orchestra delighted the assemblage. Six rows of tables paralleled the hall, at each of which about fifty guests were seated. The grand officers and invited guests occupied a table running at right angles along the platform, which was decorated with plants. The spread was served by a corps of young women. The only thing of which there was not a lavish sufficiency was water—plain every day water.

After the banquet the toastmaster, Charles D. Foster, introduced the speech-making part of the program in felicitous style and punctuated the intervals with wit and humor. The order of addresses was as follows, they being both entertaining and eloquent: "The Grand Lodge," R. W. G. M. Michael Arnold; "Anniversaries," Bro. Edwin Shortz; "The Masonic Soldier," Bro. W. H. McCartney; "Melange," Bro. W. S. McLean; Recitation, "Barbara Frietchie," Bro. W. L. Raeder; "The 12th Masonic District," D. D. G. M. Bro. William D. White; "This is My Impression," Bro. William I. Hibbs, Pittston.

#### THE VISITORS.

Ashley—G. A. Peck, John McConnell, Thomas Cassidy, John Tanner, T. C. Williams, O. O. Esser, B. F. Tucker, J. C. Wells,



D. Halliday, H. A. Lawn, S. E. Stair, R. L. Wylie, J. A. Fleming, W. A. Brong, J. Schwab, L. E. Tennant, C. W. Bell, P. L. Hoover.

Bloomsburg—P. S. Harman.

Berwick—A. M. Freas, H. C. Angstadt, W. A. Baucher, J. E. Smith, J. W. Evarard, J. W. Evans.

Carbondale—James Alexander, Jr.

Dallas—C. D. Gregory, B. W. Brickel, Robert Holley, C. H. Cooke, A. B. Shaver, E. B. Shafer, J. T. Phillips, A. D. Hay, J. F. Garraan.

Kingston—W. L. Myles, A. C. Laycock, B. Cooper, P. B. Reynolds, A. Darte, L. C. Darte, C. Graham, Jr., Isaac S. Van Scoy, R. E. Miles, F. W. Tyrrell, W. F. Church, C. F. Swallow, W. Courtright, Z. T. Keller, G. H. Flanagan.

Mauch Chunk—Jacob Brong.

Nanticoke—F. P. Loug, John Dunn, A. K. Mowry, J. B. Anderson, E. N. Alexander, Alvin Lape, S. L. Leuder, G. P. Lindsay, J. S. Deltrick, Xavier Wernet, A. A. Enke, Henry Adams, R. C. Hitchler, R. Black, A. E. Chapin.

Plymouth—S. L. French, Sol Hirsch, B. S. Blair, E. W. Marple, Isaac M. Mack, A. F. Hitchler, Z. B. Rice, W. G. Eno, A. F. Harrison, J. A. Opp, S. U. Shaffer, H. W. French, L. R. Minch, J. R. Lee, John C. Devins, C. Wren, J. C. Tyrrell.

Pittston—T. W. Kyte, J. Floyd, C. E. Howitz, J. B. Carpenier, A. McDougal, O. M. Davenport, James Davis, R. Stephens, G. Cadman, W. J. Monk, J. B. Smith, A. C. Craig, C. C. Bowman, Charles Schumacher, W. I. Hibbs, H. D. Judd, C. H. Memory, A. K. Howe, William C. Brinton, A. Lendrum, R. T. Smiles, John Muirhead.

Philadelphia—W. B. Joslyn.

Soranton—C. N. Ziegler, T. S. Morgan, H. N. Dunnell, A. Mutter.

Shickshinny—E. W. Garrison, C. P. Campbell, E. S. Stackhouse, William A. Campbell, Charles A. Boone, R. M. Tubbs, L. T. Seward, J. N. Culver, C. S. Robbins, W. P. Poust, D. F. Hollopeter.

Sugar Notch—David Stetler.

Selinsgrove—Miller H. Cook.

Taylor—J. S. Porteus.

Wyoming—Dr. C. P. Knapp, H. A. Laycock, R. K. Laycock, R. E. Hutchins, H. C. Jones, Niece Minegar, H. L. Morgan, J. P. Smith, G. F. Townsend, C. F. Wilson, W. Bodle, J. I. Shoemaker.

White Haven—Andrew Morrison, W. B. Brader, C. E. Keek, C. M. Driggs, John Fisher, M. G. Peters, C. A. Schumacher, W. A. Feist, Hugh Laird, Rev. W. Bischoff, J. J. Baker.

Waverly—H. C. Wharren.

South Delta, Ind.—J. H. Price.

Middletown, N. Y.—Theodore Neumann.

Buffalo, N. Y.—W. H. Mooers.

Parsons—Nelson Stranberg.

Lodges 61 and 442, Wilkes-Barre, 118 members.

F. O. J

[For further account see page 67 &c.]

### OLD LODGE SIXTY-ONE.

Some Reflection on the Occasion of Its  
Hundredth Anniversary — Distinguished  
Members Now Passed Away.

[Written for the Record.

Lodge 61, Free and Accepted Masons, celebrated Monday evening, Feb. 19, 1894, the centenary of that lodge and of Free Masonry in this valley.

This occurrence is filled with social and historical interest, and it brings to the present generation reminiscences of the olden time not otherwise obtainable.

The lodge was first organized at the house of Jesse Fell, which still remains at the corner of Washington and Northampton streets, Wilkes-Barre, when George Seytz, officiated as W. M.; J. P. Schott, S. W.; Peter Grubb, J. W. and Arnold Colt as secretary.

Lodge meetings were held there until 1804, when they rented a room in the court house, in which it was customary to hold social, religious or political meetings as occasion might require.

The membership of lodge 61 embodies the names of some of the most distinguished men in this locality, men who have discharged the most important duties in the commonwealth, distinguished for their personal excellence and for their beneficial influence in the country.

It is probable that when Lodge 61 was first opened in Wilkes-Barre the entire population of the town was not equal in number to the membership that will be present at this centennial anniversary. There has always been a harmonious masonic friendship in this district and a general interest in the progress and welfare of the lodge, and while the brethren are true to each other and to the State, the institution of Free Masons aims to aid in all matters relating to the welfare of society. The century that closes with Lodge

61 meeting this evening is more replete with the wonders of improvement and invention and the progressive civilization than any hitherto recorded, and the general expectation and hope is that this centennial memorial may perpetuate the best influences of the order and recall those scenes which have rendered fraternal associations so pleasant and beautiful.

The register of Lodge 61 contains names which for social and literary consequence, and for the exemplification of good work in the lodge are justly entitled to a liberal measure of masonic gratitude. Among her past masters we have the names of Chief Justice John Bannister Gibson, who was also a past grand master.

Charles Miner, the W. M. of Lodge 61 in 1806, was a distinguished literary and editorial writer and author of the History of Wyoming.

Past master Andrew Beaumont was a member of congress, well known in political circles and much esteemed in social life in the Wyoming Valley.

Past master Garrick Mallery is worthy of all honor for the study and knowledge of jurisprudence, for good understanding, for incorruptible integrity and uprightness in all the relations of life.

A name well known in this city is that of John N. Conyngham, who was W. M. of Lodge 61. He was a man of great professional consequence and esteemed at home and abroad for his judicial status and character that ranked among the best and most consistent jurists of the land. His life was employed in securing the best interests of humanity, and while of high order as an advocate, his virtue and piety gave his name a lasting lustre and an influence which adorned all stations, and showed his readiness and ability in promoting religious progress.

Edmund L. Dana was a past master of Lodge 61, also a judge of the court in Luzerne County. In the earlier years of Judge Dana's professional life he ranked first among the local orators of the day. He was a man of unusual vigorous intellect, and having received a regular classical education, his devotion to literary culture gave him a ready familiarity with the historians and philosophers of antiquity. There was no measured sententiousness, nor tiresome attempts at antithesis in him, neither wit, hu-

mor or sarcasm, but there was a force of earnestness and energy that compelled conviction. His scholarship included a wide range of general culture, and there was moreover an intense fastidiousness of taste and thought, with pure, finished classical style, formed upon the best models of antiquity. His fitness for military duty was thoroughly tested in the wars of Mexico and of the rebellion, when his were among the most trusted troops, and were much occupied in special service.

In past master Henry M. Hoyt we mention a man whose career is instructive and interesting. He was a colonel of a regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, a judge of the county of Luzerne and a governor of Pennsylvania. Tracing him from his boyhood to the highest official position in the Commonwealth, we find his course maintained with dignity and honor, and strictly adhering to the principles of right and justice. Governor Hoyt was genial, with a temperament overflowing with gaiety. No display of vanity or egotism marred his intellectuality, and though not a professed student of metaphysics, he possessed the power of minute analysis, and was essentially a metaphysician, analytic in his mental processes and holding firmly to good tradition. He had an accurate eye for political perspective, admitted claims to legal knowledge and excelled as a writer of English prose.

In past master Hendrick B. Wright we may remember a man who stood forth in this county as a popular leader and political standard bearer. His congressional membership was the result of his successful management of campaign work. His time seemed to be an epoch which formed a chronological link between politicians, when matured powers of argumentative skill seemed to give high social position. Col. Wright possessed a kind nature, never wanting in sympathy for the needy poor, and in social life he was esteemed for an expanded benevolence to all around him. He was a dignified and impressive speaker, and his social qualities rendered him a companionable person. He possessed a rich store of political knowledge, was well versed in parliamentary rules and was frequently called to the chair. He was chosen a representative to Congress and held some of the most important positions in the Commonwealth. Although time and space forbids further mention of the past

masters of Lodge 61, reference may properly be made here to those mourned past masters, Sharp D. Lewis and William L. Stewart, because they were the most correct and thorough-going workers Lodge 61 ever had, and Freemasonry in this valley owes much to them as leaders in its rites and customs; both were men of sterling character and well and favorably known in social, masonic and church circles.

We owe much to them for divesting the work of erroneous customs and for establishing that exemplified by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Their efficient discharge of important duties, and their beneficial influence in local masonic matters is unanimously admitted.

Their loyalty to the R. W. G. L. is a pleasant feature of their companionship, and their personal relatives in the masonic brotherhood is a pleasant memorial which memory does not diminish, nor time efface.

GEORGE URQUHART.

#### FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

**The Golden Wedding Celebration of the Ashley Presbyterian Church—Dedication of the Handsome New Chapel.**

The fiftieth anniversary of the organization of Presbyterianism in Ashley was celebrated Feb. 15, 1894, in a manner fitting the occasion. The services commenced at 2 o'clock, and the church was filled with visitors and strangers from many of the surrounding towns and cities. In the absence of J. W. Hollenback, who was to be the chairman, Calvin Parsons occupied that position.

The services were opened by the pastor, Rev. Morvin Custer, in a few well chosen remarks, who then introduced the chairman.

The Choral Society sang "Let the Hills and Vales Resound," after which Rev. Dr. T. A. Mills of the Memorial Church, Wilkes-Barre, offered the invocation. This was followed by scripture reading by Rev. Dr. N. G. Parke of Pittston, the 84th Psalm. Rev. Jacob Weidman, who many years ago served the church, then offered the anniversary prayer.

Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge of Wilkes-Barre delivered the anniversary sermon, selecting for his text Psalm 26:8, containing David's estimate of the sanctuary and its privileges.

After the sermon the Choral Society sang "Sanctus" by Mozart, which was followed by

Rev. William J. Day of Plymouth, a former pastor of the church. His historical address was lengthy but interesting. During the course of his remarks he said:

The origin of the Ashley Presbyterian Church is not to be sought in the records of the Coalville Presbyterian Church, but in the archives of the First Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre. Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve the pastor of the Wilkes-Barre church from 1821 to 1829, preached occasionally at Ashley from house to house, sometimes in Samuel Pease's barn. In 1826 he had a revival that added nearly fifty members to the first church in Wilkes-Barre; this included residents of Hanover, Newport, Pittston, Providence, Kingston, Ashley, etc.

Rev. Dr. John Dorrance, to whom Ashley owes such a debt of gratitude, was called and settled in Wilkes-Barre Aug. 22, 1833, took a vital interest in Ashley. The cradle of the Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal and Episcopal churches is to be found in the organization of the Sunday school, by W. C. Gildersleeve, the worthy son of Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve, in the year 1832 or 1834, in the old log schoolhouse on the spot where the engine house of the C. R. R. of N. J. is located. Mr. Gildersleeve rode out each Sunday, accompanied by his two daughters, Mrs. N. G. Parke and Mrs. Chapman Sayre. Mrs. Parke began teaching when about 15 years of age, and has continued to this time, fifty-five years of continuous Sunday school work. She has a class of seventeen girls in the First Presbyterian Church, Pittston. She taught in Ashley for about ten years. She is here to-day. The other teachers were Miss Laura Brower, Mrs. Miner, Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt, Samuel Huntingdon, J. B. Dow, Matthias M. Petty, W. W. Lathrope. Mr. Huntingdon was superintendent after Mr. Gildersleeve resigned. These were the Sunday school workers in the old log schoolhouse.

In 1843 the planes were completed to facilitate coal transportation out of the valley. Ashley would be the great outlet for all the coal of the Wyoming Valley.

Dr. Dorrance seized the golden opportunity and built a church here, the first of any denomination, to accommodate the incoming population. Mrs. Daniel Frederiek selected the lot on which the church was to be built. George Lazarus of Buttonwood gave the lot. The church was finished October,

1844, and dedicated. 21 years later the mother church of Wilkes-Barre set off 19 members from the roll with a view to organization, which was effected by Revs. S. B. Dod, H. H. Welles, N. G. Parke and elder O. Collins, January 17, 1866.

Another opportunity to seize the flood-tide for the expansion of the Master's kingdom was when the C. R. B. of N. J. completed their back-track in 1867; when the shops were being built and when the railroad employes were moving to Ashley and Wilkes-Barre from White Haven. In 1868 ground was broken to build the brick church. It was completed and dedicated Feb. 15, 1870. Dr. Duryea preached the dedication sermon. \$4,100 was the whole amount required, but pledges from D. J. Steward and others made the amount to be raised that day \$3,200.

The month following the dedication a revival followed, resulting in the accession of 51 new members to the church.

The ministers who have served the church have been Rev. Jacob Weldman, 1860 to 1865; Rev. T. P. Hunt.

Rev. William J. Day took charge of the whole field from Wilkes-Barre down the valley July 12, 1865, and resigned Jan. 22, 1889, to go to Plymouth.

Rev. Morvin Custer was installed May 3, 1889, who is still serving the church.

The Sunday school building was dedicated Feb. 15, 1894.

After the address and singing the present pastor, Rev. Morvin Custer, ordained the following deacons: Godfrey Smith, Frank Gemmel, E. E. Breyer and D. R. Hughes. Rev. P. H. Brooks delivered the ordination prayer and the benediction was by Rev. R. B. Webster.

The evening dedicatory service was opened at 7 o'clock in the Sunday school building with a few remarks by the chairman of the evening, W. W. Lathrop of Scranton, a former superintendent of the Sunday school. After a hymn by the Choral Society the invocation was pronounced by Rev. W. E. Faulkner of Mountain Top.

The address on the interests of Sunday school work by the Rev. E. Morris Ferguson of Trenton, State secretary of the Sabbath School Association of New Jersey, was interesting and instructive. In lining out his remarks he applied them very forcibly to the lessons of the afternoon. J. Andrew Boyd, present

superintendent of the Sunday school, gave a historical sketch of the school and he was followed by a solo by Daniel Llewellyn of Sugar Notch. Rev. G. N. Makely of Brooklyn then delivered the dedicatory sermon. Mr. Makely is an orator and his sermon was listened to with marked attention. Dedicatory anthem, "And it shall come to pass." Dedication of the chapel by Rev. Morvin Custer. Dedicatory prayer by Rev. H. H. Welles, D. D. Closing hymn, "Gloria" from Mozart by Choral Society. Benediction by Rev. W. J. Day.

The following committee is to be congratulated for the successful termination of their labors in the celebration of the anniversary: Rev. Morvin Custer, chairman; J. Andrew Boyd, secretary; L. H. Flory, J. B. Graham, Joseph Johnson, C. D. Geissler, Jacob Druzheller and Robert Blair.

The Choral Society, which has only been organized a few weeks, did remarkably well and helped to make the exercises so entertaining. The society promises to be one of the prominent musical societies of the future.

We republish from the RECORD of May 3, 1889, the following brief sketch of the church:

The Ashley Presbyterian Church has a record extending back for over fifty years. It was, in its early history, a mission church, under the jurisdiction of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre. Services were held for many years from house to house, in barns and also in the old log school house. It was during the ministry of Rev. John Dorrance that the subject of building a church was first broached, and on the 15th day of February, 1844, a meeting was held, and Thomas Lazarus agreed to give 10,000 square feet of land to be used for church purposes *only*, and if perverted to any other use, the land to be forfeited. It was also stipulated that "no night meetings" be held in the church. The preamble drawn up at this meeting was as follows:

"Whereas, A house of worship is much needed in the neighborhood and the members of no one denomination of Christians are sufficiently numerous to justify them in the attempt to erect a house for themselves exclusively, and

"Whereas, Experience teaches that a house, the ownership and control of which is in several religious denominations, is very liable to neglect and abuse and to become a

subject of contention, and consequently an evil rather than a benefit to society;

"Therefore we, the undersigned, do agree to the following conditions as to the basis of our subscriptions:

"First, That the house shall be for the use of the Presbyterian Church and the people of the neighborhood, to be occupied by the ministers connected with the Presbytery of Luzerne or under their jurisdiction as frequently as desired by them.

"Second, When not wanted for the use of the Presbyterian Society said house may be opened in the day time for the preaching of the ministers in regular standing of the German Reformed, the Lutheran, the Methodist Episcopal and the Protestant Episcopal Churches with consent of trustees, in rotation.

"Third, For the protection, preservation and control of the house, under the preceding stipulation, there shall be chosen by the subscribers a board of trustees, in such manner and for such term as they please. Provided, that in these elections and in all other matters relating to said house, for the payment of every five dollars by a subscriber, he or she shall be entitled to one vote.

"On the above conditions we, the undersigned, do promise to pay to Frederick Detrick, Daniel Frederick and David Inman (as building committee, to whom the charge and superintendence of the building, while in process of erection, shall be given,) the sums set opposite our names, respectively, at such time and in such manner as said committee shall direct."

Sixty persons signed this preamble, and the sums pledged varied from 50 cents to \$20. The total amount was \$334.50, of which \$162 was paid in work, \$89 in materials and \$83.50 in cash. The church was finished in October, 1844, by Daniel Frederick, who is still living and who is an elder in the present church. The building was 24x30 feet, and stood where the present church now stands. At the dedication of the old church the sum of \$10.03½ was raised, and the treasurer's books show that of this amount \$1.40½ was expended for candles and a pair of snuffers.

Rev. W. J. Day was the first settled pastor of the church and continued in his office from July 12, 1865, to Jan. 1, 1889—over 23 years.

The present pastor is Rev. Morvin Custer, who was installed May 3, 1889.

The present church membership is about 495, and the Sunday school has an enrollment about 450.

## A NEW YORK ASSEMBLYMAN

**Writes a Paper on the Battle of Wyoming—He Believes Brant was Here—Tells Where the British Butler and His Indians Built Their Canoes.**

The RECORD is in receipt of a pamphlet of twenty pages on "The Wyoming Massacre," being a paper read before the Canistota Valley Historical Society. The author is assemblyman Milo M. Acker of Hornellsville, N. Y. The pamphlet is largely a resume of facts familiar to Luzerne County people, but not so familiar in the Canistota country. Its local interest to them is considerable, by reason of the fact that subsequent to the battle of 1778 many Wyoming families, (notably Hurlbut, Stephens and Jamison) were led by the unsettled conditions of the times and insecurity of land titles, owing to the Pennamite war, to seek homes in the Canistota Valley. As the author says, his society therefore has more than an ordinary interest in collecting and preserving the facts connected with the important event of 1778. "The courage manifested by the hardy pioneers as shown in the early battles with the Indians and in the war for National Independence, illustrates the true character of the men and women who settled this country and founded our government."

After a description of the picturesque features of Wyoming Valley, Mr. Acker briefly traces the pioneer attempts at settlement and the difficulty of obtaining possession from its Indian owners, also the troubles between the rival claimants, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. The description of the battle is taken from the standard accounts, Mr. Acker expressing his belief that the preponderance of evidence was in favor of the claims that Joseph Brant was present and in personal command. Although ostensibly under the command of Col. John Butler, Mr. Acker says Brant was really the central figure who made possible the English plan to invade Wyoming Valley.

In the many volumes that have been written concerning Wyoming and its bloody battle, little has been said relating to this march of the Indian and English forces from central and western New York until the two divisions met on the upper Susquehanna at Florka Point, now Athens, Pa. Mr. Acker goes into this matter somewhat. He describes the march to Arkport, at the

head waters of the Canisteo, and tells how, weary of feeling their way through almost trackless forests, they decided to complete the journey by water. Arkport was subsequent to the Revolutionary war settled by the very Wyoming people whom the British were trying to destroy. Near where Hornellsville now stands is a high bluff overlooking the stream which was to float them towards the Susquehanna. This bluff was covered with a dense growth of pines and was selected from the fact that logs of sufficient size to make canoes capable of carrying a score of armed men could be easily slid down the steep hillside to the water's edge. At this spot have been found many relics—trunks of trees that had been partially hewn into canoes and then discarded, arrow heads, bullets, etc. Once these canoes were dug out, the further journey was easy. With strong and trained men at the oars, Butler and his army landed at Tloga Point, June 25, 1778, where he was soon joined by Brant and his Indians from the Mohawk country, the attack on Wyoming occurring a week later.

Mr Acker has invested the narrative with interest and his literary style is pleasing, and his valuable pamphlet should find a place in every public library which has a Wyoming collection. F C J.

#### Honors to a Kingstonian.

Isaac P. Hand returned from Easton last Thursday, he having attended the annual meeting of the trustees of Lafayette College. The year had been a fairly prosperous one, with an increase in the number of students. Considering the business depression the finances were found in encouraging condition. As will be seen in another column the degree of D. D. was conferred upon Rev. H. H. Welles of Kingston. Although not himself a graduate, but of Princeton, his brother, J. W. Hollenback, has been one of the most liberal supporters of Lafayette, and that institution compliments itself and its benefactor in thus doing honor to the Rev. Mr. Welles. He was born at Wyalusing in 1824. He graduated at Princeton in 1844 and after graduating there in theology he was licensed to preach in 1850. He has not been engaged in active pastoral work for some time.—Wilkes-Barre Record, Feb. 9, 1894.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

### The Annual Meeting—Election of Officers and Reports.

Unusual interest was manifested at the annual meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society on February 10, 1894. The officers elected were as follows: President, Sheldon Reynolds; vice presidents, Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones, Judge Stanley Woodward, Calvin Parsons and Eckley B. Cox; trustees, H. H. Harvey, Edward Welles, Hon. C. A. Miner, S. L. Brown, Richard Sharpe, Jr.; treasurer, Andrew H. McClintock; recording secretary, Sidney R. Miner; corresponding secretary, Rev. H. E. Hayden; librarian, Hon. J. Ridgway Wright; assistant librarian, H. R. Deltrick; curators, mineralogy, Irving A. Stearns; paleontology, R. D. Lacoe; archeology, Sheldon Reynolds; numismatics, Rev. H. E. Hayden; historiographer, George B. Kulp; meteorologist, Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D.

The secretary reported the additions to library to have been 189 bound volumes, 229 pamphlets and five atlases. Yearly files of local papers, *Leader*, *RECORD*, *Telephone*, *Saturday Abend*, *Waechter* and *Luzerne County Express*. Bulletin of American Geographical Society, Tennessee State Board of Health, *Naturalist*, *Leisure Hours*, *Official Gazette* of the United States patent office and 60 specimens have been added to the other departments.

The historiographer reported four deaths—Frederick Ahlborn, George Butler Griffin, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker and Horace Hollister, M. D.

The treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$152.44 and interest on savings account of \$272.26.

The resident members elected were George C. Lewis, Harry R. Deltrick, William C. Allan, H. H. Ashley and William R. Ricketts. Sheldon Reynolds read an excellent paper on the death of A. T. McClintock.

It was resolved to place \$200 at the disposal of the trustees to use in the purchase of books if the funds of the society warranted such outlay.

Rev. H. E. Hayden, in his report of numismatics, asked for an appropriation of \$10 per year to apply in the purchase of coins.

Miss James, librarian of the Osterhout Library, said that in future a column in the

*Library News Letter* would be devoted to the *Historical Society*.

Calvin Parsons presented to the society a valuable medal that was once in the possession of his father. Rev. Mr. Hayden spoke on the need of the society coming in possession of all old pamphlets and books for which families had no particular use.

The new building is very convenient and comfortable, and the public will find it interesting and profitable to inspect the valuable collection of relics and antiquities many times.

### PRINCES OF THE ORLEANS FAMILY.

**Their Visits to America During the Last Century—Some Interesting Details of Louis Philippe's Stay in Wyoming Valley in 1797, and His Visit to Old Lodge 61.**

The following interesting historical article was received by the *RECORD* last summer, but was in some manner overlooked. It is not too late even now to publish it in the historical column, indeed it is particularly appropriate to the observance of Lodge 61's centennial, Feb. 17, 1894, and it will be found most interesting reading:

EDITOR OF THE RECORD—Sir: I have just read in the *RECORD* of July 11, 1893, the "Interesting Reminiscence" called up by the recent visit to this country of the Spanish Infanta and her husband, Prince Antoine d'Orleans. I am thereby reminded of certain facts *apropos* to this reminiscence, some of which I discovered several years ago while browsing among a lot of files of old newspapers in the Philadelphia Library.

These discoveries interested me at the time and perhaps they may interest you now. The presence in the United States of the Prince Antoine naturally has been suggestive of visits made to this country by other princes of the Orleans family, under various circumstances.

In the early days of the War of the Rebellion the Count de Paris and his brother, the Duke de Chartres, accompanied by their uncle, the Prince de Joinville, came to the United States on a tour of military observation, and the two young princes subsequently served as aides-de-camp on the staff of General McClellan during the Peninsular Campaign of 1862. Afterwards they journeyed through some of the Northern States, and were keen observers and intelligent travelers. This Prince de Joinville had previously visit-

ed our country twice; his first visit having been made during the administration of President Van Buren. He landed at the Washington navy-yard from the French man-of-war *Vohuc*, and calling upon the President to pay his respects the latter invited him to dine at the White House the next day. For some reason not then explained he neither accepted nor declined the invitation, but left the capital. This produced a good deal of comment and many disagreeable remarks, which were reported on the other side of the Atlantic. De Joinville, like others of the family in a later generation, was a man of no social tastes or talents. When the young prince returned to France he received a "*fameux galop*" from his father, the Citizen King, Louis Philippe, who peremptorily ordered him to return to the United States and "accept an invitation to dinner."

The Prince de Joinville therefore made his second visit to us, arriving at New York in the ship *La Belle Pouille* in September, 1841.

In the meanwhile ex-President Van Buren had retired to Kinderhook, President Harrison had died, and the invitation to dinner was given by President Tyler.

In 1888 Prince Henri d'Orleans, son of the Duke de Chartres, who served on McClellan's staff, and great grandson of Louis Philippe, accompanied by his tutor made a rapid tour thro' some of the most noted regions of our country, and brief visits to some of our principal cities—receiving many social attentions. This young prince had become involved in an intrigue with the beautiful but unscrupulous Marquise de C., and to satisfy her greedy requirements and extortionate demands he adopted various desperate methods known to the *jeunesse doree* for raising money. The accidental disclosure of those methods to the Duke de Chartres resulted in the young man being sent away from home on a two years' tour of travel—and thus it happened that the United States were honored (?) by his presence.

In October, 1890, the Count de Paris visited this country for the first time subsequent to his ten-months' tour of military service with General McClellan. Meanwhile he had published in 8 vols. his "History of the Civil War in America." Upon this visit he was accompanied by several of his close personal friends, and by his oldest son the Duke d'Orleans, commonly and jocularly known then as "The First Conscript of France," because of an act of boyish audacity and wilfulness which he

had performed only a short time before—an act really worthy of the comic opera, but which led to his being compelled to serve a fourteen months' term of imprisonment in the Clairvaux prison, France.

The Count de Paris and his suite were handsomely entertained in several of the principal cities of the union by the military order of the Loyal Legion, and by other bodies of distinguished citizens.

Shortly after the return of the Count de Paris to England (where he has resided since the expulsion from France of the Orleans princes) the Duke d'Orleans gained unsavory notoriety by being made the co-respondent in a suit for divorce brought by one Captain Armstrong against his wife, the beautiful prima donna Mme. Melba.

The first and most distinguished member of the Orleans family who ever visited the United States came to our shores ninety-seven years ago; but under circumstances quite different from those attending the visits of his descendants hereinbefore described.

In *Claypool's Daily Advertiser*, Philadelphia, Oct. 25, 1796, there appeared in the "Shipping intelligence" column the following item: "In the *America* (Capt. Ewing, Hamburg, 27 days, came [24 Oct.] ten passengers. Among them is L. P. B. Orleans, eldest son of the *ci-devant* Egalite, and distinguished in the French Revolution as a Lieutenant General at the battle of Jemmapes and the final flight of the celebrated Dumouriez."

"L. P. B. Orleans" was the Duke d'Orleans, afterwards King Louis Philippe of France.

He was then only twenty-three years of age, and had sought the shores of America in compliance with the requirements of the French Directory, and out of regard to his mother's wishes.

The ship *America* was owned by the house of Conyngham & Nesbitt, then and for many years one of the most extensive mercantile establishments in Philadelphia, and when the ship reached port Mr. David Hayfield Conyngham invited the duke to lodge at his residence on Front street, which he did for several weeks, and then established himself in a house on Spruce street, near Third.

David Hayfield Conyngham was the father of the Hon. John Nesbitt Conyngham, for so many years a resident of Wilkes-Barre and president judge of the courts of Luzerne

County—a man who was "honored as an upright and learned judge, revered as a Christian without ostentation, respected as a citizen without reproach"

Watson in his "Annals of Philadelphia," says that the Duke d'Orleans "arrived in Philadelphia about the year 1790" This statement is, of course, erroneous, as Louis Philippe made but one visit to the United States, and that was in 1796.

On the 6th February, 1797, the Duke was seized by his brothers, the Duke de Montpensier and the Count de Beaujolais, after their release from three years' imprisonment in the political prison at Marseilles. In the following June (and *not* "in the Summer of 1799," as "Senex" says in his "Interesting Reminiscence") the three exiles set out on horseback for Luzerne County.

They sojourned in Wilkes-Barre for a few days and then went up along the Susquehanna River to what is now Bradford County, where they owned a large tract of land upon and near which a colony of French *emigres* had but a little while before settled.

While in Wilkes-Barre the travelers were entertained at the old inn which stood on Bank (now River) street, on the spot where now stands the residence of the late E. P. Darling, Esq. I am inclined to think that "Senex" has made an error in stating that the inn "was kept at the time [of the visit of the Orleans princes] by a Mr. Morgan." I am quite certain that John P. Arndt, who had come to Wilkes-Barre from Easton, Pa., was proprietor and landlord from 1803 to 1818, and, I think, also for several years prior to that period.

Louis Philippe was a Free Mason, having been admitted to a Lodge in Paris in the year 1792, his father—the notorious "Egalite," the then Duke d'Orleans—being at the time Grand Master of Masons in France.

In the year 1797 Lodge No. 61, F. and A. M., of Wilkes-Barre, was three years old. It numbered sixteen members, and its place of meeting was at the house of Capt. John Paul Schott (a charter member and Past Master of the Lodge) on North Main street, just about where the Record building now stands. Capt. Samuel Bowman was Worshipful Master of the Lodge, Judge Jesse Fell Senior Warden, Maj. Eleazer Blackman Secretary and Jean Francois Dupuy Tyler.

Captain Schott was a man of distinguished character and ability, was fifty-three years of



age, and had seen a good deal of the world. He had been an officer (a lieutenant, I think) in the army of Frederick the Great, and after the Seven Years' War had served as adjutant to Charles William Frederick, Prince of Brunswick and brother-in-law of George III., King of England. Schott having come to America and offered his services to the struggling colonists, was, by vote of the Continental Congress on Sept. 7, 1776, appointed captain in the Continental Army and directed to report to General Washington at New York City.

Captain Schott's first appearance in the Wyoming Valley was in 1779, when he commanded the Right Wing of Hand's Brigade in General Sullivan's army.

In 1783, having three years before married a daughter of Jacob Sill, he became a citizen of Wilkes-Barre.

Jean Francois Dupuy was a native of Bordeaux, France, and he came into Pennsylvania in 1791 from the Island of St. Domingo, where he had lived for a number of years and accumulated considerable property. He was a man of agreeable manners and of much intelligence, and was highly esteemed in Wilkes-Barre, where he resided until his death in 1836. For thirty-seven years he was Tyler of Lodge 61.

The other members of the lodge whose names I have mentioned were prominent citizens of Wilkes-Barre and largely identified with its early history; you are, I am certain, familiar with their names and deeds.

The brethren of Lodge 61 entertained their distinguished brother from "*Le Grand Orient de France*" during his short stay in Wilkes-Barre; and I am inclined to believe that, by reason of their intelligence, their knowledge of the world, their *savoir-vivre*, those "first" citizens were not only competent to, but did, to the best of their combined abilities, make things pleasant for their foreign brother and his brothers.

Louis Philippe, who could and would at the proper time, effectively display all the dignity of a monarch, turned out his popular or *bourgeois* side during his sojourn in this country.

Though his voice was far from melodious, he spoke in a pleasing tone without the slightest suggestion of the condescension peculiar to the elders of his family, and this, with the kindly twinkle of the eye and the generous fullness of the well

curved lips, constituted an expression of *bonhomie* decidedly *re-we-dispelling* and even attractive. It was said after the close of his reign as King, that no ruler of France ever equalled him in versatility of manner, or to speak more accurately, in unaffected naturalness; owing no doubt to his miscellaneous experience of life in almost every station of humanity. While in this country he was for several weeks a guest at Mount Vernon.

Going out v-ry early one morning he found General Washington riding over his estate, and he said: "General, you are an early riser." "Yes," said Washington, "I rise early because I sleep well; I sleep well because I never have written anything which I care to recall. Young man, remember that"

Some years ago Louis Philippe's son, the Duke d'Aumale, authenticated this anecdote and said that this injunction of Washington made his father during the whole of his subsequent career the most cautious of men; and that many a letter, expression, or proclamation was never published on account of General Washington's advice to him as a young man.

Louis Philippe and his brothers lived in Philadelphia altogether for about two years, and in the directory of that city for 1798 will be found their names as "D'Orleans, Messrs., merchants, near 100 South Fourth street."  
17 July, 1893. O. J. H.

#### G. A. R. Historical Addresses.

[Daily Record, Feb. 16, 1893.]

Conyngnam Post, G. A. R., has arranged for a series of addresses on "Our Dead Comrades." The first was delivered on Wednesday evening by Gustav Hahn and his subject was "Edmund L. Dana, the Scholar, the Lawyer and the Soldier." Mr. Hahn gave a comprehensive sketch of Mr. Dana's eventful life, similar to the sketch published in the Record at the time of his death. Next Wednesday evening Mr. Hahn will speak about Col. John Butler Conyngnam.

#### Tripp's Monster Cow slaughtered.

In January Simon Falk, the butcher at 460 South Main street, purchased from Isaac Tripp of Forty Fort the large cow which had been on exhibition at various fairs and been awarded premiums. The cow was slaughtered by Mr. Falk in the presence of about fifty spectators. It weighed 3,200 pounds, of which 300 pounds was inside fat. The liver weighed 21 pounds and the heart 8½ pounds. This is one of the largest cows ever raised in America and was five years old.

### CANDIDATE HANCOCK.

He was a Former Luzerne County Boy and came from an Old Wyoming Family.

J. Denton Hancock, who was nominated as the Democratic candidate for congressman-at-large at the State convention in Harrisburg Jan. 10, 1894, was a former Luzerne County boy, and came from a family well known in Wyoming Valley.

A RECORD man had gathered from Hon. Charles A. Miner of this city, who was well acquainted with the Hancocks, some interesting facts.

The father of the candidate, James Hancock, lived in Plains Township and was well known. He owned a fine farm and was considered to be one of the best farmers in this part of the country. The farm still belongs to the family, the coal under it having been leased to the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. Mr. Hancock during his latter years abandoned the farm and moved to Wyoming, where he died about fifteen years ago. His first wife and mother of the six children was a daughter of David Perkins of Wyoming and she died about twenty years ago. Both died at their home in Wyoming. Mr. Hancock's second wife was a Miss Hibler, sister of William Hibler, who will be remembered by the older people of the valley as a prominent business man.

Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hancock three survive.

J. Denton, the nominee, lived with his parents in Plains until he became a young man, when he removed to Franklin, Venango County, and built up a fine law practice.

John was a merchant in Peoria, Ill. He died in Philadelphia, but he was buried in his Western home.

William lived at Wyoming until recently, when he removed to Alexandria, Virginia, and became proprietor of a hotel.

The only daughter, Sally, married and died in the West.

Maj. E. A. Hancock, now of Philadelphia, is a frequent visitor to Wilkes-Barre.

David died at the home of his parents in Wyoming soon after he returned from honorable service in the War of the Rebellion. He was also a graduate of West Point and was a member of the United States Regular Army.

### MILLIONS INVOLVED.

In Coal Litigation—The Discovery of the Value of Coal by the First Moser.

The recent death of John Moser of Coaldale reveals some strange history. John was the youngest son of Burkhart Moser, Jr., who was the first white settler in Tamaqua. He is said to have been the direct heir of Burkhart Moser, who first discovered coal in Panther Creek Valley, and whose property, now valued at \$14,000,000, is held, so it is claimed, illegally by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co. It is claimed that he, with his father, came to Tamaqua in the early days, and by an examination of the sand in the bed of the Wabash Creek, where it empties into the Schuylkill River, discovered what they supposed was a mineral and decided that the land was of a paying quality.

This find resulted in the purchase of 250 acres of land on Owl Mountain by Burkhart Moser, Sr. Later Burkhart Moser, Jr., purchased 1,000 acres of land, comprising the Dutch Hill portion of Tamaqua and extending eastward to a point near No. 10 breaker. They were the first to discover coal on this property, small quantities of which were mined and conveyed to Lehigh County and there sold by the bushel. For a score of years or more the descendants of Burkhart No. 1 have been endeavoring to regain the possession of the vast estate, which they claim justly belongs to them. The heirs still hope to establish this. The dispute is now awaiting trial before the courts of Schuylkill County, and is expected to come up in the near future.—[Hazleton Sentinel Jan. 12, 1894.]

### Valuable Old Map.

A blue print copy of an interesting old map was framed at Puckey's the other day. It is the borough map of 1802, the foundation of all our titles in this city. The map belongs to Henry W. Dunning and is invaluable in tracing titles. William H. Sturdevant expects to incorporate the map in his proposed atlas of Wilkes-Barre, which he is now preparing for publication. In 1802 there was no Franklin or Washington streets. River street was called Front street and Canal street was called Back street. Wilkes-Barre was bounded by Front and Back, North and South streets, although there was a slight projection across South street, where the Conyngham residences now stand. The blocks were 1,000 feet square, and as a rule, each block was divided into six lots.

## MASONIC CELEBRATION.

[Continued from page 57.]

We are indebted to the *Evening Leader* for the following additional account of the Centennial Celebration of Lodge 61, Ancient York Masons, which took place February 19, 1894.—ED. RECORD.

### Dr. Harvey's Paper.

The first accession to the membership of the Lodge was by initiation on the 10th of March, 1794.

The first election of officers of the Lodge was held December 18, 1794, when John Paul Schott was elected Master for the ensuing Masonic year; Arnold Coit, S. W.; Joseph Duncan, J. W.; Jessie Fell, secretary, and Samuel Bowman, treasurer. At this meeting it was voted that Bro. Fell be requested to provide a dinner for the Lodge on St. John's day. On that day (Dec. 27) the Lodge met at 10 o'clock a. m. at the Lodge room, where the officers were duly installed, and then walked in procession (ten members) to the court house, where a sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Drake. From the court house the Brethren proceeded to the house of Jessie Fell, where they dined together. This was the first public demonstration of Lodge 61.

The Lodge was first represented in the sessions of the Grand Lodge held at Philadelphia, March 2, 1795. According to the returns of the lodge now on file in the office of the Grand Secretary, there were, or had been in the Lodge from its beginning up to December 27, 1795, twenty members—including those named in the charter or warrant.

In January, 1796, it was resolved to hold Lecturing Lodges, to meet once in each month for instruction in the work and landmarks of the Fraternity; and it was further resolved that every member living within three miles of the Lodge should "pay seven cents monthly to the Stewards' fund, for the purpose of defraying the expense of refreshments for said Lecturing Lodges. These Lodges were kept up for many years. In October, 1797, the Lodge lost nine members (leaving about six or seven).

From April, 1794 to October, 1797, the meetings of the Lodge had been regularly held in an upper room of the house of Bro. John Paul Schott, which was on North Main street, almost opposite the present Luzerne House. In October, 1795, the Lodge had agreed to give Bro. Schott twenty dollars for the use of this Lodge

room, fire and candles, from April, 1794, to that time, and twelve dollars per year for the same thenceforth so long as the Lodge continues to enjoy them. On October 30, 1797, the Lodge vacated the room, having been notified by Bro. Schott to give up possession, and thereafter the meetings were held at Bro. Jesse Fell's inn until early in the year 1800, when a return was made to Schott's house, and he was appointed steward of the Lodge.

On February 1, 1778, in special session of the Grand Lodge convened at Philadelphia, Jesse Fell was installed, placed in the chair and recognized as Master of Lodge, No. 61.

At a special meeting of the Lodge held December 23, 1799, the Worshipful Master communicated to the Lodge that such information was received, that left the truth therefore beyond a doubt, of the lamented death of our illustrious friend and Bro., General George Washington, late president of the United States, on the 14th day of December (nine days previous). It was resolved that the Lodge wear mourning for three months in memory thereof. Four days thereafter, St. John's day, was made a mourning day by the Lodge, as well as most American Lodges. On that day the Lodge proceeded in procession to the court-house, where an eulogium on General George Washington, our illustrious Brother, and Masonry in general, was delivered by Brother, the Hon. Rosewell Wells, who emigrated to Wilkes-Barre in the latter part of 1786, becoming the earliest resident practitioner of the law in the county of Luzerne, and was one of the four attorneys admitted to the bar at the organization of the courts of the county in 1787.

In 1802 the Lodge was in a flourishing condition. From the date of its organization up to June, 1802, the Lodge had had fifty members by initiation and admissions. The meetings were of frequent occurrence, averaging two or three a month, and were known as monthly and quarterly communications, and special and Lecturing Lodges; the quarterly communications being the most largely attended. In the year 1859 the venerable brother, Charles Miner, speaking of the Lodge as it was in 1802—1805, when he was a young and active member, said: "It was constituted of gentlemen, the majority of whom had passed the middle age; soldiers of the Revolution; men from other States, familiar with their history and legislation; several of high legal attainments; natives of England, France and Ireland—all intelligent." The Lodge continued to be held at the house of Bro. Schott until Feb., 1804. Arrangements were then made with the County Com-

missioners for the use of a room in the western wing of the new court house at a rental of ten dollars per annum. In September, 1805, the lodge was still meeting in the court house and at the meeting held that month a committee was appointed to represent to the County Commissioners, "the situation of the Lodge room being injured by people being permitted to pass through it."

The first funeral at which the Lodge was in attendance and performed the rites of Masonry, was that of Brother Ezekiel Hyde, postmaster of Wilkes-Barre, who was buried February 12, 1805. By resolution of the Lodge the members were to wear mourning for the deceased during fourteen days.

It was the custom of the Lodge from the date of its organization, to have refreshments served at each regular meeting. The refreshments served at the meetings of the Lodge were of a simple and inexpensive kind, and were generally—in fact almost always, spiritual in their nature. An examination of the old Steward's books discloses some interesting facts concerning these matters. In February, 1808, it was resolved, "that suppers in the future be dispensed with, unless at our quarterly communication." This, however, seemed to be drawing the line too close, for at the same meeting it was resolved that the Tyler be instructed "to furnish the Lodge with crackers and cheese at each and every communication, in lieu of suppers." But evidently this did not work well, for in about six weeks thereafter the Tyler, by unanimous vote of the Lodge, was directed "to supply the Lodge with liquors and with glasses, and to have a reasonable compensation therefor, to be paid for out of the funds of the Lodge."

So far is known the first operations of Free Masonry in northeastern Pennsylvania, occurred in the Wyoming Valley in June, 1779. At that time very few white men dwelt in this immediate region. Their first settlements in the valley had been made but little more than twelve years before; while the terrible massacre of the settlers by the Indians and Tories had taken place near Forty Fort not quite twelve months previous.

Early in the year 1779 an expedition for the extermination of the Indians was planned by Gen. Washington, approved by Congress, and placed under the command of Gen. John Sullivan, to proceed from the Delaware River at Easton, across the mountains to the Susquehanna at Wilkes-Barre, and thence up the river to Tloga Point, there forming a junction with Gen. Clinton's troops. Accompanying this ex-

pedition was the 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania artillery in the United States service, under command of Col. Thomas Proctor, of Philadelphia. He was of Irish descent, was an ardent Free Mason and had been worshipful master of Lodge No. 2, the oldest lodge of Ancient York Masons in Philadelphia.

During the war of the Revolution military or army Masonic lodges existed in the American army—charters or warrants being granted for such lodges by the provincial grand lodges of Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts. These traveling lodges were organized at various times, and accompanied the regiments to which they were attached in all their expeditions and encampments. One of these lodges was organized by Col. Proctor in his regiment—he having received on the 18th of May, 1779, from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, a warrant "to form and hold a traveling military lodge" in his regiment. It was the first military lodge warrant granted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the American army, and was numbered "19" on the Grand Lodge register, now called Montgomery Lodge, No. 19.

The military stores for Sullivan's expedition were being collected at Easton in April and May, 1779, and about the 20th of April, Gen. Sullivan sent an advance detachment of two hundred men, under Major Powell, to scour the country between Easton and Wyoming, and reinforce the garrison of the old fort at the latter place. On the evening of the 22d of April they arrived at Bear Creek. Here they encamped for the night, deeming themselves out of danger from an attack by the Indians. Early the next morning orders were given that officers and men should dress in their best apparel, their arms be newly burnished, and everything put in order to appear respectably on entering the Valley. The line of march was soon taken up, but when near the summit of Wilkes-Barre Mountain they were fired upon by Indians in ambush, and six of the party were slain, two of them being Capt. Joseph Davis of the 11th Pennsylvania regiment, and Lieut. William Jones of a Delaware regiment, both of whom were Free Masons. The bodies of the slain were hastily buried where they fell, and the spot marked, and the same day Maj. Powell and his command reached the fort at Wilkes-Barre.

Two months later, on the 23rd of June, Gen. Sullivan arrived in Wyoming with the main body of his army—Col. Proctor's regiment of artillery with its military lodge accompanying it; as they passed the place where Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones

were buried the regiment played "Roslin Castle" in honor of their fallen brothers. The following day was the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. It was the first festival day in the Masonic calendar that had occurred since the formation of Col. Proctor's lodge, and the brethren met in conformity with the usual custom of Masons and held their festival in Wyoming. The place of meeting was the tent of Col. Proctor, and there was read a sermon—patriotic and Masonic in sentiment—written by Rev. Bro. William Smith, grand secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. This then was the first Masonic lodge held in Wyoming Valley, and these the first Masonic services.

Gen. Sullivan remained with his troops at Wyoming more than a month. Gen. Sullivan was a distinguished Mason, and Gen. Hand as well as Col. Proctor, and probably many others of the officers under Sullivan's command were Masons.

Before leaving the valley it was resolved to bring the remains of Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones from their graves on the mountain and re-inter them in Wilkes-Barre with appropriate military and masonic ceremonies. On the 28th of July, brethren of Col. Proctor's Lodge, accompanied by the regimental band, proceeded to the mountain brow, where the graves of the slain were opened, their bodies raised thence and conveyed down into the valley. Here they were received by the regiments of Col. Proctor and Lieut. Col. Adam Hubly and by them were buried with military honors and peculiar rites of Masonry in the public burying ground—where now stands the new city building. This then was the first Masonic funeral in Wyoming Valley.

Previous to the war of the revolution no Masonic lodge existed in Pennsylvania north of Lancaster. After the close of the war many lodges were established in the interior of the State and the western part, but none in the north or northeast until the year 1794. In that year this lodge was organized. At this time Wilkes-Barre was a small village (there being about one hundred taxable inhabitants in the whole township of Wilkes-Barre) and it was the only regularly established post-town in Luzerne county, the territory of the county embracing about 5,000 square miles; and had in the neighborhood of 9,000 inhabitants.

A petition from the brethren at Wilkes-Barre was presented to the Grand Lodge, convened in special session at Philadelphia, on Feb. 18, 1794. The petition was unanimously granted, and the Grand Secretary directed to make out a warrant, the said

Lodge to be called No. 61, and the original warrant is still in possession of the lodge.

By virtue of this warrant Geo. Seytz, W. M., John Paul Schott, S. W., Peter Grubb, J. W. (the persons named in this warrant), Arnold Colt and Archibald White, who were all Master Masons, and Samuel Bowman, a Fellow Craft Mason, assembled at the house or inn of Jesse Fell at the corner of Northampton and Washington streets, on the twenty-seventh day of February, 1794, to take into consideration the business of the institution and the interest of the lodge. A committee consisting of the Master and Wardens was appointed to form rules and regulations for the government of the Lodge; and at a meeting held March 6, the By-Laws recommended by the committee were adopted, and this lodge then became the first lodge in old Luzerne.

On April 4, 1814, the Grand Lodge vacated the warrants of seven delinquent lodges, including No. 61, but on the 6th of June, having provided for its delinquencies the Lodge was restored.

On the 9th of November, 1814, admission to the Lodge was refused to a visiting brother on the ground of improper conduct, "for that whereas in the night time he put his horse in his neighbor's pasture without first obtaining permission."

On the 21st, 22nd and 24th of November, 1823, special meetings of the Lodge were held, and Bro. Murray, "Grand Visiting Lecturer from the Grand Lodge" instructed the Lodge in the landmarks and work of the Craft. This was the first official visitation by any one representing the Grand Lodge. The Lodge, continued to hold its meetings in the Court House until 1831, when, on account of the opposition of the anti-Masons, it became necessary to secure a new Lodge room.

The room in the Beaumont building situated on the corner of Union and Franklin streets was selected, and having been appropriately fitted up, the Lodge early in 1831, moved into it. Here, during the next fourteen years, the brethren of Wilkes-Barre held their regular and their informal meetings. At this period the evil spirit of anti-Masonry, which had been abroad in the country since 1826, was almost at the zenith of its power and strength, and its influence was beginning to be felt in this section of the state, where for thirty-six years Free Masonry had been so highly esteemed and its honors and benefits gladly sought and enjoyed by the best citizens living in this portion of the commonwealth.

During the year 1831 meetings were held quite regularly, but from 1832 to 1836 but

four meetings were held. The Lodge was considered by the Grand Lodge as still alive, although no regular stated meetings were held, and no minutes or records kept, until early in the year 1837.

In this year at an extra grand communication of the Grand Lodge held in Philadelphia on February 6, the warrant of Lodge 61, with others, was again vacated for delinquency, but in September, 1833, Andrew Beaumont, George M. Hollenback and Henry Pettebone, a committee appointed at an informal meeting of the Lodge, informed the Grand Master at Philadelphia that Sixty-one's difficulties were caused by the anti-Masonic crusade and asked that the lodge might be permitted to resume work under the ancient charter. Reply from the Grand Secretary was received the same month and on February 3, 1843, the members convened in the Lodge room and elected Brother Andrew Beaumont, W. M.; Brother Henry Pettebone, S. W.; Brother John Turner, J. W.; Hezekiah Parsons, Treasurer, and Brother Henry Colt, Secretary, and framed a petition to the Grand Lodge which was signed by the members present." In January, 1844, the Grand Master issued a dispensation to Past Master Isaac Bowman, authorizing him to call a sufficient number of Past Masters and reopen and re-constitute Lodge 61, at Wilkes-Barre under its old warrant, and to install as officers thereof those brethren chosen in October last. On the 27th of January at 6 o'clock p. m., the brethren convened at the Lodge room in the residence of Brother Beaumont, when the officers were installed and the Lodge reopened in due form. The first new member admitted to the Lodge was Elijah W. Reynolds, who was initiated in February, 1844. In October, 1844, a room in the store building of Brother Reynolds, situate on South Main street, was secured at a rental of \$30 per annum, and the sum of \$198.07½ was expended by the Lodge in fitting up and furnishing it, and early in 1845 the Lodge moved into their new room.

On St. John the Baptist's day (June 24), 1845, the members of the Lodge and visiting brethren met at the Presbyterian church in Kingston, where an address on Free Masonry was delivered to them by Brother Henry Pettebone, W. M. This was the first public demonstration of the revived Lodge.

Early in 1846 monthly or evening dues were dispensed with, and superseded by annual dues of \$1.50, payable quarterly. The first public demonstration in Wilkes-Barre of the revived Lodge was on St. John's day,

1846, when the craft in goodly numbers marched in procession to the Methodist church (the old church on the Public Square), where an address was delivered by Past Master Andrew Beaumont. Following this the brethren dined together at the "Pennsylvania Arms" hotel (formally the Free Masons' Arms), situated on the spot where the Luzerne House now stands.

In December, 1846, by dispensation, Edmund L. Dana, Eleazer B. Collings and A. H. Goff, all of Wilkes-Barre, received the degrees, but were not admitted to membership in the Lodge. Brother Dana was captain of the Wyoming Artillerists and Brothers Collings and Goff lieutenants, and their company was to start December 7 for Pittsburgh to be mustered into the United States service and take part in the war then being waged with Mexico.

From 1848 to 1850 the Lodge was in a very weak and poor condition, the meetings were irregular and there were few accessions to the membership, but in 1851 the affairs of the Lodge began to assume better shape; there were a good many admissions to membership, and new life and vigor seemed to have been infused into the brethren, but it was not until 1855 that the condition of the Lodge was such as to give real encouragement.

The year 1854 was a prosperous year; the Lodge meetings were well attended by all the members. Twenty-four new members were admitted (the largest number in any one year up to that time), and the work of the year was ended in peace and harmony on St. John's day by a very enjoyable banquet and attended by nearly all the members.

In January, 1855, a committee was appointed to take into consideration the subject of procuring another lodge room, either to rent, buy or build one. In March it was decided to rent Odd Fellows' Hall located on the third floor of the brick block on Franklin street below Market street, the same being offered "furnished" at a rental of \$40 per annum. The first meeting was held in this room March 30, 1855. The next month the secretary of the lodge presented the lodge with seven officers' aprons and a Masonic chart valued at \$60. During this year thirty-eight new members were admitted into the lodge.

In July, 1856, the lodge received from the commissioners of Luzerne county an invitation to lay the corner-stone of the new court house with Masonic ceremonies. The invitation was accepted and the lodge selected Brother the Hon. John N. Conyngham, President-Judge of the courts of the county, orator for the occasion. August 12 was selected as the day on which to perform the ceremony, and on

that day ninety-one members attended as a lodge. June 24, 1854, the lodge assisted at the laying of the corner-stone of St. James' church, Pittston. In 1859 the lodge was in good condition and the membership large. It was still in the building on Franklin street, but early in 1860 arrangements were made to lease from Brother Geo. M. Hollenback, at a rental of \$36 per year, the third floor of the new building on West Market street known as the "Iron Front." The first meeting was held in the new Lodge room in April, 1860, and sixty-four members and visiting brothers were present. Wednesday evening, April 11, was set apart for the reception of visitors. On that evening a large party of ladies and gentlemen assembled at the new Lodge room and after inspecting, admiring and approving the various appointments of the room, were entertained by Past Master Caleb E. Wright, who delivered an address, in which he gave a brief history of the fraternity from its origin. At the conclusion of the brother's remarks, a collation was served to the company. From 1860 to 1867 the members of 61 worked along in peace and harmony, and the affairs of the Lodge prospered.

In February, 1867, a committee was appointed to report on the propriety of removing from the old grave yard the remains of Captain Davis and Lieutenant Jones, which had been interred there in 1779. The committee consisted of Brothers Edmund L. Dana, S. D. Lewis, E. B. Harvey, H. B. Wright, George Urquhart, A. M. Bailey and W. S. Stewart. (Brother Urquhart is the only surviving member of the committee). The committee subsequently reported in favor of the proposition, and submitted for the consideration of the Lodge a program of ceremonies. The suggestions were approved, and they were instructed to make the necessary arrangements for carrying out the program.

In accordance with a resolution of the Lodge a lot (330) in the Hollenback cemetery was purchased, and a deed for the same taken in the names of Brothers H. B. Wright, S. D. Lewis and E. L. Dana, in trust for the Lodge. St. John the Baptist's Day (June 24) was fixed for the ceremonies, and invitations to unite and take part in the same were extended to all the Masonic Lodges in Luzerne county and some others in neighboring counties.

The day selected proved a most favorable one, and Wilkes-Barre was filled with strangers drawn here to witness the solemn and peculiar ceremonies that were to take place.

The procession was formed on Market street, the right resting on River. The

formation of the procession was as follows:

Veteran Zouaves and Drum Corps, of Wilkes-Barre.  
Officers and soldiers of the war of 1861 in full uniform.  
Officers and soldiers of the Mexican War.  
Officers and soldiers of the war of 1812.  
Scranton Cornet band  
Masonic Lodges.  
The clergy.  
Hearse.

Pall bearers, nine in number, who were all officers in full uniform.

The procession moved down River street and through several other streets to the old graveyard. Here the remains of the long buried brethren were placed in the hearse, and the procession moved on to Hollenback cemetery. Impressive ceremonies were held at the cemetery. The number of Masons who took part in the ceremonies was estimated at 500. The expenses incident to the re-interment were paid by 61.

At the meeting of the Lodge July, 1868, a communication was received from the Luzerne County Commissioners requesting the Lodge to lay the corner-stone of the county prison about to be erected. The invitation was accepted, and Past Master John N. Conyngham was selected to deliver the address, and September 9th was fixed for the ceremonies.

During the thirty years just ended many matters of interest have transpired, but time will not permit to even mention them. We will mention that these years we have added largely to our membership—gathered into our fold many who are Free Masons not in name only, who will increase our strength and advance our power to do good. The Lodge is now in excellent condition, better in fact than it has been in years past.

#### W. S. McLean's Address.

The first Lodge of Master Masons met June 24th, 1779, on the plain where Wilkes-Barre now stands, in the tent of Col. Proctor of Gen. Sullivan's army. A few days afterwards the funeral services of the Order were read at the graves of Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones, two Free Masons who had been killed by the Indians on the Wilkes-Barre mountain the preceding April and whose remains were re-interred in the old grave yard where the City Hall now stands. On the 27th day of February, 1794, nearly one hundred years ago, the second Lodge of Ancient York Free and Accepted Masons, that met in Luzerne County, was opened in due and ancient form in the old "Fell House," still stand-

ing, with the following principal officers: Worshipful Master, George Selytz; Senior Warden, John Paul Schott, and Junior Warden, Peter Grubb. The regular communications of the Lodge were held in the old "Fell House" until 1804, when a room was rented in the old Court House for ten dollars a year, where all the communications were held for a number of years. The alleged abduction of William Morgan and the bitter opposition to Free Masonry excited by it closed the Lodge for about twelve years—the last communication prior to 1844 having been held August 12th, 1832. Among the Masters of the Lodge were Jesse Fell, a prominent citizen; Charles Miner, the historian of Wyoming Valley; John Bannister Gibson, of whom we will speak hereafter; Andrew Beaumont, a brainy, upright man and a member of Congress; Garrick Mallory, a distinguished lawyer; John M. Congnyham, an upright and able Judge, and Henry M. Hoyt, an accomplished scholar, brave soldier, learned lawyer and one of the most distinguished Governors of the Commonwealth.

One of the greatest honors of Lodge "61" was to have for its Worshipful Master John Bannister Gibson. He was a great judge who had but few equals in the land. His written opinions are models of juridical literature. With his wonderful memory and keen sense of the right meaning of words, how charmingly and accurately he must have read the ritual of the Order. He was Master of the Lodge for two successive terms—from December 27th, 1814, to December 27th, 1816. He was at the time Judge of this judicial district, and lived on Northampton street in the house now occupied by the widow Murray. The *Wilkes-Barre Record of The Times*, in May, 1853, speaks of him in this wise: "As a Mason he entered in the spirit of the society and found pleasure in attending its communications, for he met there numbers of its intelligent citizens whose localities and various pursuits could hardly have brought them elsewhere together." Gibson was also elected Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, St. John's Day, December 27, 1821, re-elected December 27, 1822, and elected Right Worshipful Grand Master December 27, 1823, and served in that office for one year. Gibson was a many sided man. He played beautifully on the violin; he was also an artist, having painted his own picture, now in the Allegheny law library, and Pulaski mounted on horseback. He also wrote a poem called "Retrospection," and wrote on the manuscript these words: "First and last

attempt." He was also well booked in geology, and had a mechanical turn of mind. Some amusing stories are told of him, two of which we will give.

Judge Shannon, of Pittsburg, was arguing a case before him. He was an involved speaker, using long sentences. He had spoken a long time and stopped, saying: "Now, if the court understands me"—"Stop a moment, Mr. Shannon," said Judge Gibson, "I think we possibly understand you now, but if you continue longer, I fear we shall not."

A lawyer, addressing the court, caught the eyes of Judge Gibson fixed upon him and saw him now and then noting something on a paper before him. After he finished, he said to a friend beside him, "I think I have the Chief Justice; he drank in all I said. I should like to see his notes." The court adjourned and Gibson walked off, leaving the paper. The gentleman went up and looked at it and was surprised to see no notes, but written every here and there, "Dam phool—dam phool—dam phool."

Now let us digress a little from matters masonical to matters historical. A few years after Lodge "61" was constituted, the building of the first church in Wilkes-Barre was begun. The church was called the "Old Ship Zion" and was finished in 1812. Its bell was cast in Philadelphia, and it tolled the funeral of nearly everyone who died in the town from 1812 to 1845. When "61" was in its swaddling clothes, the first menagerie visited the town. This was in 1806. The show consisted of one elephant and the place of exhibition was in George Chahoon's barn, back of the present Wyoming Valley House. Stewart Pearce, in his annals of Luzerne County, says that "one farmer carried a half bushel of wheat on his back with which he paid the price of admission."

About this time the first drama was presented in Wilkes-Barre. The playhouse was the old tavern at the corner of Main street and the Public Square, and the play was the "Babes in the Wood." The characters were represented by puppets with the aid of ventriloquism. The first newspaper printed in the town was called "The Herald of the Times," afterwards changed to "The Wilkes-Barre Gazette." The paper was very small, not more than a foot square, and the news in it from Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington was about a month old, while the news from Europe was at least three or four months old. The first physician of the town was Dr. Smith, and the first lawyer was Anderson Dana. The former bled frequently with his lancet, while the



latter bled whenever he could without the aid of a lancet. In 1800 the first book was published in the town and was called "The new Theory of the Earth." In 1810 the first bank was opened on River street about where the house of Col. Ricketts stands. The first debating society was organized in 1804 and was composed of a goodly number of Masons. The first question discussed and decided in the negative was "Is celibacy justifiable by the laws of God or consistent with moral principles?" The first school master was Godlove Nicholas Lutyens, a graduate of a German University. In 1769 the first marriage was celebrated when Col. Nathan Denison took Miss Sill to wife, and the first birth was that of their son, Lazarus Denison, in 1773. The first saloon was presided over by Sam Wright, a negro from New Jersey, and it is said on good authority that the occasions were rare indeed when he served to the gourmands of that day oysters on the half shell and salt water terrapin. In 1818 the first fire engine was brought to the town all the way over the mountains from Philadelphia by teams. It was a bucket machine and was called the "Neptune." Leather fire buckets in those days hung up in every house, and at an alarm the occupants, men and women, would seize them and hasten to the fire.

The favorite resort of the craft and the lawyers in the early days was the old Fell House, built in 1787. At these social meetings lawyers had no use for their books and the craft laid down gavel, the ritual and their vestments. Many a long winter night and lazy summer afternoon was spent in the best room in the house talking over the politics of the day, the doings of the courts, the eloquent speeches and witty sayings of the lawyers, the powerful sermons of this and that minister, the crops, the great pumpkin freshet and devising ways and means how to get Molly McCalpin's shanty off the river common, built by Job Gibbs, the laziest man in the town. Jesse Fell was the proprietor of the old inn and one of the most prominent Masons in the valley. It was in this old hostelry that the first anthracite coal was burned in a grate fashioned by Jesse Fell himself, who was quite a philosopher in his way. This is the record he left on the fly-leaf of his copy of the Freemasons' Monitor: "Feb. 11th, 1808, of Masonry 5808. Made the experiment of burning the common stone coal of the valley in a grate in a common fireplace in my house and find it will answer the purpose of fuel, making a clear and better fire at less ex-

pense than burning wood in the common way."

Another famous old hostelry in the early days was the "Red Tavern" in Hanover township, built in 1789 and enlarged in 1805. Near it was Hanover Green, where on training days the old militia met and evolutionized after a manner. In this old tavern all the famous balls in the early days of the valley were held. Here all the great suppers were given. Most of the wedding trips of the day were from the bride's house to the old tavern, a royal supper there and back again to the house warming. The Connecticut man and the Pennymite here forgot all their strife. Here hot toddies, waffles smothered in butter and sugar, broiled chickens and the toothsome Susquehanna shad made "all the world akin." The balls held here were the balls of the aristocracy, and their only music was the violin and their only dances the Virginia Reel, the Minuet and the simplest quadrilles, but the music and the dances were the best going and everybody was, of course, satisfied. The old "Red Tavern" still stands, but the days of its pomp and glory have forever passed away, and most of those who enjoyed life's sunshine there have long ago fallen in sleep.

#### **Badly Mixed in Wyoming History.**

Rev. H. E. Hayden received the other day a letter written in a Western State, which is almost ludicrous by reason of its erroneous suppositions. It was as follows:

DEAR SIR: I should like to get a little information from you in regard to a monument said to have been erected in memory of and containing the bones of the Americans who were killed at the battle of Wyoming, Penn., in the year 1778. History says there were 600 Indians and 400 British and 400 Americans, and that all the Americans were killed except seven men and one boy who escaped. I have been told lately that the bones of the killed have since been gathered up and placed in a monument at or near Mauch Chunk, Penn. Can you tell me anything about such monument?

#### **A Stelle of the Rebellion.**

Imbedded four inches deep in a yellow pine board received in a car load from South Carolina by the Kingston Lumber Company on Thursday was a bullet. It had been cut in halves by the saw which cut up the tree and its exposed surface was as bright as thirty years ago, when it was fired from a musket in one of the battles of the rebellion. It is preserved in the office of the company as a souvenir.

### REV. DR. HODGE'S ANNIVERSARY.

Observed With Special Services in the First Presbyterian Church.—Sermon by the Pastor in the Morning and Historical Address in the Evening.

Daily Record, February 26, 1894.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge in the First Presbyterian Church of this city was observed yesterday with special services, and morning and evening the handsome edifice was crowded. Simple but tasteful decorations greeted the eye as one entered the sacred edifice. A cluster of pure white lilies stood upon the table in front of the pulpit. Large tropical plants stood at either end of the platform and palms and ferns were placed about the pulpit. Beneath the pipes of the organ were ropes of laurel nicely arranged.

Rev. Dr. Hodge's pastorate has been eminently successful. Learned and yet unpretentious, zealous for the upbuilding of the church of God, solicitous for the welfare of his people, he has endeared himself to all, and the relation of pastor and people has always been ideal.

In the morning Rev. Dr. Hodge preached his anniversary sermon. The beloved pastor said in part:

"After an expanse of twenty-five years, out of a full heart, I can adopt the language of the apostle Paul and say to you, 'I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine, for you all, making request with joy for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now.' After such a long period of fellowship it may not be unbecoming in me nor unprofitable to you to recount the way in which God had led us, and inquire for the fruit He has permitted us in His mercy to gather.

"My coming among you was not of my own seeking; it was against my desire and my effort. I was delightfully located among a kind, indulgent people who had lately erected a beautiful church at a great expense. I felt in honor bound to stay with them, and therefore when your pastor appealed to me to come to his relief during the last Sabbath of his pastorate, though he was my kinsman and friend and we had been brought up together, I refused, because I learned that I was looked upon as a possible successor to his pulpit. I could do nothing which could be construed into my seeking a new field.

On the 26th day of October, 1868, I was elected to this pulpit. Though I had no idea of accepting the call, I could not do less than visit the field, and on the second Sunday of November for the first time I preached from your pulpit, with the result that the following week the call was more emphatically expressed in a memorial, setting forth with great force the opportunities for enlarged usefulness which the field offered and I decided to accept. The Presbytery of New Castle confirmed this decision when the call was presented to it by a committee consisting of Messrs. A. T. McClintock, W. S. Parsons, S. L. Thurlow and G. R. Bedford. This is how I came among you and I thank God that He brought me. I now feel constrained to say that had I decided otherwise in that fierce conflict as to my duty I would have made the mistake of my life.

"My work began here on the 7th of January, 1869, but I was not installed till the 23d day of February following. The sermon was preached by my friend and classmate, Rev. Dr. Alfred H. Kellogg, then pastor of University Place Church, N. Y. Dr. Newlen of Hazleton, since deceased, delivered the charge to the pastor and the charge to the church was given by Rev. Dr. Belville, now of Pottsville.

The first service I conducted as your regularly constituted pastor was on the evening of the day of prayer for colleges. When I entered upon my work I realized I had come into a grand inheritance. Here was a church with a history, the beginning of which was lost in the romance and hardship of the earliest settlement of this beautiful valley. Again and again was it nigh unto death, but it survived and gradually developed in strength and influence, and when I came here I found a strong, active, well organized church. The beautiful gothic building, now the Osterhout Free Library, was full. There were seven mission Sabbath schools beside the church school, under the control of this church and taught by teachers taken almost entirely from its membership. The work was carried on with enthusiasm. The church school was under the efficient leadership of W. S. Parsons, aided by a magnificent corps of teachers, among whom was Mrs. Cornelia Butler, who "knew the book" and was engaged in teaching it for fifty consecutive

years in the school. I felt it an honor and privilege to stand in such a succession, and the longer I have wrought here the more deeply have I felt my indebtedness to those who have gone before me. They have labored and I have entered into their labors; they laid deep and broad the foundations and we have built a portion of the superstructure, 'fitly framed together into a holy temple of the Lord.'

"Let us note some of the changes which have taken place around us. There was not a single commodious, well arranged Sunday school room in this community. Now I think this city excels in this respect any city I have ever visited. There was no Y. M. C. A. nor Y. W. C. A., nor B. I. A. Association, nor Christian Benevolent Association, nor City Mission. With the exception of the noble charity, the Home for Friendless Children, there was no united work among the churches. There had been a tract society but it was dead. I began single-handed services on Sunday afternoons to the prisoners in the jail, and sometime after the Y. M. C. A. took charge of the work, and they were still later on succeeded by the Christian women of the different churches. What an advance has been made in all respects—in material things; in educational advantages; in eleemosynary institutions and organized Christian work.

"One of the pleasantest experiences of my past twenty-five years of pastorate here has been the cordial fellowship between the people and pastors of all the churches.

"With growth all about it the church could not help growing, but looking back upon the past I am constrained to believe that with some other leader the advance might have been greater. I have been with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling. For some good and inscrutable reason God has permitted sickness again and again to come upon me. I came to you with youth and vigor, but I had not been with you one year when a severe cold, aggravated by continued use of my voice, laid me aside from preaching for nearly two months; and when at last I did resume my work it was with such difficulty as to tax your patience and greatly interfere with my usefulness as a preacher. But through it all your kind forbearance never failed. When I would have released you from your engagement and set you at liberty to look for one

better able to do the work required, your kindness would not listen to it, but assured me of your willingness to await my restoration to health. Through the blessings of God health came and with it greater prosperity; but at different times sickness in different forms has laid me aside or greatly impeded my work. Yet God has been gracious and caused His work to prosper far beyond my highest expectations.

"It is the greatest glory of this church today that she conceived and was willing through all the past years to sustain its missionary work in and about this city. We have had at one time 114 teachers and 1,300 scholars connected with our Sunday schools. In this period three churches have been organized—the first of which was Memorial Church, [the history of the building of which was recited] the second, Westminster Church, now under the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Webster, and third the Grant Street Church, now under the pastorate of Rev. Charles Junkin.

"While we provided liberal things for our mission schools our home school was without facilities for efficient work, and the necessity was upon us to do something. Accordingly in the spring of 1886, at the annual meeting of the congregation it was decided to enlarge our church, but this was not the will of the people, and when another meeting determined to build a new church it was endorsed with enthusiasm. Accordingly ground was broken in August, 1886, and the corner stone was laid July 7, 1887. On the 12th of February, 1888, we held our last services in the old church. [The pastor here gave some extracts from the sermon he preached on that occasion.]

"On the Sunday of the 19th of February, 1888, we entered our new chapel, where we worshiped very comfortably for a little over two years. At last the church was ready for occupancy, and on the 6th of April we entered this room with glad acclaim, where 535 communicants now worship."

#### THE HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

The feature of the evening service was a historical paper prepared by Sheldon Reynolds, Esq., and read by George R. Bedford. The paper was an elaborate one and covered in a comprehensive manner the history of the establishing of the Presbyterian Church in Wyoming Valley and its subsequent development. It opened with a consideration of the conditions under which the First Church was organized and the circumstances which

imperiled both the church and the community. Allusion was made to the controversy between the Connecticut settlers and the proprietary government, involving the political jurisdiction of Wyoming, interrupted by the Revolution, but renewed at the close of the war. In 1768 the Susquehanna Company voted to engage the services of a pastor for carrying on religious worship and Rev. George Beckwith of Lyme, Conn., was selected. He remained at Wyoming about one year. He was succeeded in 1772 by Rev. Jacob Johnson, who came from Groton, Conn., and who was formally chosen pastor Aug. 23, 1773, at a salary of sixty pounds a year. He remained as pastor until his death in 1797. Mr. Johnson was a graduate of Yale College in 1740, was a missionary among the New York Indians and spoke their language.

During these years the church was self supporting, the organization was preserved and its sustaining influences were felt in the community. Most of the written records of the time have been lost. One of the few that has come down to us is that of Hanover Township. The Connecticut Missionary Society embraced this region in its field of labor and from time to time its missionaries preached to the people in the several towns. Rev. Elias von Bunschooten of the German Reformed Church at Minisink on the Delaware visited this valley at intervals prior to 1791.

In 1791 services were held in the then new log court house on the Public Square. Its use in part as a house of worship was continued till the completion several years later of the church building known as Ship Zion. In 1791 a movement was on foot to build a church edifice. With the exception of the house of worship destroyed by the savages in 1778 and possibly one in Hanover Township this was the first effort to build a church in this vicinity. Here the essayist presented an interesting and detailed account of the building of the edifice, which was not begun until 1800. The delay was doubtless due to the controversy in regard to the right of soil, which was not ended until the compromise act of 1799. The first to preach in the church was Rev. Andrew Gray, son-in-law of Capt. Lazarus Stewart, who remained only three years. It was found a difficult task to raise funds with which to complete the building and recourse was had to a lottery scheme, then a common method

of raising money for public purposes. The lottery, although it promised well, was not a success and entailed a heavy loss upon several worthy men, through the lax management of the enterprise.

The old ferry house was finally ordered sold to increase the funds. Before the new house of worship was completed there was a great struggle for pastors. On July 1, 1803, the Wilkes-Barre and Kingston people united and adopted the confession of faith and the pulpits were supplied by missionaries of the Connecticut society.

In August, 1806, Rev. Ard Hoyt of Danbury, Conn., became pastor of the Wilkes-Barre church, which then had thirty-four members. During his eleven years' pastorate eighty-five were added. He remained until November, 1818, when he resigned. He was for some time president of the board of trustees of the old Wilkes-Barre Academy. After resigning he engaged in missionary work in Tennessee.

The year following his resignation Rev. Hutchins Taylor became the pastor. So large had the congregation become that it was deemed expedient to divide the congregation, with congregations at Wilkes-Barre and Kingston. Rev. D. Mortemus followed him and preached in Wilkes-Barre, Kingston and Newport.

During Rev. Mr. Gildersleeve's pastorate, preaching in various places in Wilkes-Barre and vicinity, notable revivals took place that greatly augmented the membership. He resigned in 1829 and removed to Bloomfield, N. J.

In August, 1829, the churches of Wilkes-Barre and Kingston, united again, called Rev. Nicholas Murray, who was installed Nov. 14. He found the Wilkes-Barre church divided into two factions and a gloomy prospect was before him. He succeeded, however, in restoring harmony. A beloved and energetic pastor, Wyoming soon felt his presence. During his pastorate the church sold its interest in the Old Ship Zion to the Methodists, and a new church costing \$11,000 was built. The pastor succeeded in securing much aid from other churches. He remained here four years and added 66 to the membership.

Rev. John Dorrance was installed August 22, 1833. His family was resident here since the settlement of the place, and he had the advantage of knowing well the people. He

was not dependent upon his salary for support, but worked zealously and fervently. The church became self-sustaining, and assisted in supporting other charges. Churches were also organized among the members of this church resident in Tunkhannock, White Haven and other places. During Rev. Mr. Dorrance's pastorate the Wilkes-Barre Female Institute was established in 1834 and a handsome brick structure erected. He died April 18, 1861, having been pastor of this church for 28 years.

Rev. Mr. Dorrance was succeeded by Rev. Archibald Hodge, D. D., who was installed in September, 1861. During his three years' ministry 144 people were added to the church. He resigned to accept a responsible collegiate position. The paper recorded at some length his scholastic attainments and great worth as a man.

In 1864 Samuel B. Dodd was installed and during his four years' pastorate 85 were admitted to the church.

Rev. Mr. Dodd was succeeded by the present pastor.

The paper gave short biographies of the pastors noted.

Rev. Peter H. Brooks of this city occupied the pulpit with Rev. Dr. Hodge and assisted in the services by reading the scripture lesson and pronouncing the benediction.

This evening a reception will be tendered Rev. Dr. Hodge in the church.

#### FOUR-FACED, BUT HONEST.

**The Clock which Gives the Time to Wilkes-Barre—It has a House of its Own and its Hands are Forty-five Feet Away from its Body—The History of the Town Clock by George P. Loomis.**

To most Wilkes-Barreans the four faces of the court house clock are as familiar as the features of intimate friends and the same may be said of its voice. The adjective "two-faced" when applied to an individual carries with it potent suggestions of trickery and deceit spiced with malice, but a clock may be two-faced, four-faced or even eight-faced, and still run no risk of losing the respect of the community. In fact the more faces it has the more it is looked up to, and the greater the power of its tones the greater its hold upon its constituency, as is the case with so-called political leaders. The town clock of Wilkes-Barre, as already remarked,

has four faces, each one of which, as facile as the face of Sol Smith Russell, is capable on occasions of portraying emotions the very opposite of those exhibited by its neighbors around the corner. For instance, the West Market street face will show that close at hand is the hour of noon, in fact the larger hand will hide completely the smaller hand by holding itself directly in front of it at 12, while the face looking up North Main street will be calling the world to witness that it will not be 12 o'clock for two and a half minutes to come, and the third face, looking out towards East Market street, tells the traveler hastening to the depot that he has two minutes to spare, and the face showing itself far down South Main street tells the world that it was 12 o'clock a minute and a quarter ago. And as one wonders which face is telling the truth, "government 12" sounds out, and every face looks ashamed but the one peering out toward Kingston, and even that one is a half minute slow. Nine out of ten are ready to swear by the court house clock. And it must be said to the credit of this many-faced, but eminently respectable old party, that if one sees his timepiece by the striker and not by the hands of the clock, he can be but a very few seconds out of the way. We all rely upon the old clock implicitly, and like to be hand-in-hand with the striking apparatus, as it were, experiencing a feeling of deep gratification whenever perfect accord exists between it and our own timepieces.

Until recently the writer had no more than a nodding acquaintance with the court house clock, and it was through the kindness of Lewis Price, who has watched over its welfare for twenty-one years, last August, that he came to know it in a more familiar manner. The clock is of the eight-day variety, but owing to a slight constitutional ailment it is deemed advisable that it should be wound up twice a week instead of once. Mondays and Saturdays are the winding days. It is a hard climb up to the private residence of the court house clock. Producing an old and rusty key from some unknown hiding place, Mr. Price opened a door upon the third floor of the court house and disclosed a rough pine stairway leading to the chamber where the works are housed. This private residence is in the fourth floor of the tower, facing and close up to the West Market

street front. The house is 8 feet deep, 15 wide and 9 high and covered with a tight-fitting roof. The house has six windows. The clock rests in a heavy iron frame supported by four iron legs, each three feet long. Every thing is in full view and there is no protection against dust. None is needed where the smallest wheel is six inches in diameter. There are not more than a dozen wheels altogether and how so little mechanism can do so heavy and exact work is a mystery to one not of the craft. Picking up a strong winch handle and applying it to a projecting rod, an inch square, Mr. Price bent his back to the task of hoisting a 1,100 pound striking weight from the depths to which, fastened to the end of a half inch iron rope, it had been traveling for four days previous. Then he went to the end of the works and raised a 600 pound clock weight in the same manner. The day Mr. Price wound the clock in the writer's presence was by no means warm, but when the man at the wheel had finished his trick, as the sailors say, he was as warm as if he had just finished a four-round contest with half minute rests.

Over the centre of the works is a beveled gearing, connecting the movements of the works with a most delicately dried wooden rod, spliced of course, forty-five feet long; extending upwards through holes in the different floors, to a level with the centre of the dials. At the upper end of this wooden rod is another beveled gearing, radiating to the four dials and moving the hands around these dials. The dials are five feet four inches in diameter, of ground white glass, a half inch thick. The hour numerals on the dials are ten and a half inches long. If the clock were a man what a giant he would be, with his hands forty-five feet away from his body when extended. The pendulum is a strip of round wood twenty-one feet long, weighing twenty-five pounds, attached to the lower end of which is a 400 pound weight of the usual shape. The arc swing of the pendulum is eighteen inches.

The pendulum is suspended from the works by a highly tempered piece of steel, two and a half inches long, one wide and about one-twentieth of an inch

thick. Think of it! For over thirty years, day in and night out, this delicate, slight piece of steel, holding up four hundred and twenty-five pounds, has unceasingly bent back and forth over 180,000,000 times, and yet its molecules are intact and not disintegrated. Here is a problem for the RECORD's mathematicians: If in one swing of the pendulum, occupying a second of time, this piece of steel has sustained the weight of 425 pounds, how many tons has this same piece of steel held up in thirty-three years? Its tenacity is marvelous. On the side of the works, in faded white letters, is the name of its makers:

Sperry & Co.,  
1861.  
New York.

What has become of this company? Truly, their good works live after them. No city possesses a more accurate town clock than Wilkes-Barre. Sperry & Co. were public benefactors.

The bell, which hangs midway between the clock works and the dials, is 2½ feet from the works. It is 3 feet, 6 inches in height and 4 feet, 8 inches in diameter. Its weight is 3,586 pounds, or a ton and a half. The following inscription in raised letters is moulded on the bell:

Meneely's, West Troy, N. Y.  
County of Luzerne,  
A. D., 1860.  
J. C. Dunning,  
John Blanchard,  
Daniel Rambach,  
County Commissioners.

There are four clappers. The original clapper, suspended from the inside of the bell, and is never used. Another clapper which is rung for court by pulling a rope running down to an opening in a wooden box, in the West Market street vestibule. A third, which is attached by a heavy wire to the works and tolls out the hours. And the fourth, which strikes out "government twelve" and startles us, whenever a fire alarm is sent in. This is rung by electricity and the dropping of a 1,500 pound weight.

These few facts of local history were picked up by the writer from time to time, when prowling around in the dusty, dreary heights of the court house tower.

GEORGE P. LOOMIS,  
Wilkes-Barre, Feb. 21, 1894.

### THREE-QUARTERS OF A CENTURY.

The Kingston Presbyterian Church Observes Eastertide by a Service Commemorative of Its Organization—A Memorial Tablet.

[March 25, 1894.]

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow," swelled from the throats of congregation and choir as the opening hymn of the services at the Kingston Presbyterian Church Sunday morning. It was something more than an Easter service, for with all the Easter gladness and joy there was much of reverence for the occasion observed in connection with it. It was the seventy-fifth anniversary of the organization of the society. When the service began, seated on the platform with the present pastor, Rev. Ferdinand von Krug, were Rev. Dr. Logan of Scranton, Rev. H. H. Welles of Forty Fort, who was for over twenty years pastor of the church; Rev. L. L. Sprague, D.D., of Kingston, and Rev. P. H. Brooks of Wilkes-Barre. Just before the beginning of the address and while the choir was singing a beautiful Easter anthem, the door leading to the Sunday school room opened quietly and Rev. C. C. Corsas, who was pastor of the church from 1834 to 1837, came slowly in. He is now 91 years of age and had come from his home in East Smithfield, nearly 100 miles away, to be present at the service. He is stopping with his son, Dr. Frederic Corsas, next door to the church, and thinking himself not quite strong enough to sit entirely through the service had waited until about time for the address to begin. He ascended the step to the platform without assistance and after being cordially greeted took a seat which had been reserved for him. The church was not elaborately decorated, but quantities of growing hyacinths, hydrangeas, Easter lilies and palms were placed on the platform and in the chancel.

#### THE MEMORIAL TABLET.

On Saturday, through the munificence of a number of members of the congregation, a handsome brass memorial tablet, ordered several weeks ago, was placed on the wall at the right of the platform, and attracted the attention of nearly every one. The inscription was as below:

In memory of  
REV. JOHN P. HANSEN.  
Born May 16, 1844. Died Sept. 25, 1886.  
Called to this charge March 11, 1886.

"Grant him eternal rest, O Lord, and let light perpetually shine upon him."

#### THE ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

Rev. H. H. Welles of Forty Fort pronounced the invocation, Rev. P. H. Brooks of Wilkes-Barre read a portion of scripture and Rev. L. L. Sprague, D. D., of Kingston offered prayer, after which the choir composed of Misses Louise Hutchison, Augusta Hoyt and Mary Tubbs, Messrs. Reynolds, Rimmel, Tiffany and Marcy with Miss Mary Loveland as organist rendered the Easter anthem, "Gloria in Excelsis." Miss Hutchison sang the solo parts most delightfully. The historical address was made by Rev. F. von Krug and showed much care in its preparation and much research through the archives of the church and the general history of the valley. A condensation of it will be of interest not only because it is a very complete history of the Kingston church but because it also records the founding of the church in Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys, and even throughout Eastern Pennsylvania. He said:

"Any history of the Presbyterian Church of Kingston must be incomplete that makes no account of the religious condition of the people of this region prior to the organization of the church. The Wyoming region was settled originally by New England people, chiefly from Connecticut. The first white settlement was made in 1762, not far from Wilkes-Barre.

A Congregational minister named William Marsh accompanied the immigrants. The most of this colony, including the minister, it is believed, were murdered by the Indians.

The Moravians must be regarded as the pioneer missionaries in the Susquehanna region. Their labors extended up to the Susquehanna river as far as the Wysox Valley. David Brainard, in 1744, accompanied by Rev. Ellab Byram, minister at Wendham, N. J., visited an Indian settlement on the Susquehanna River, near Berwick, and preached to them four days. In 1769 the second New England colony came and settled the rich land in the neighborhood of Wilkes-Barre and in the valley further south on the west side of the river. They also were accompanied by a minister, Rev. George Beckwith.

We may say then, that previous to 1773 there had been Presbyterian as well as other missionaries and transient preachers in the valley, but no settled pastorate. In that year the people concluded to have a permanent

pastor, and being mostly from Connecticut, and Congregationalists, naturally selected a Connecticut Congregationalist minister, Rev. Jacob Johnson, who had been preaching for them for some months.

Mr. Johnson, it seems, was pastor to the whole community, as such the townships of Wilkes-Barre, Kingston and Plymouth voting him supplies at their several town meetings. During his pastorate, however, there grew up a distinctively Congregational organization in Wilkes-Barre, afterwards called "the Church of Christ of Wilkes-Barre and Kingston," from which the Presbyterian churches of Wilkes-Barre and Kingston were formed.

After the settlement of the dispute between the Connecticut and Pennsylvania claimants, in about the year 1800, New England influence began to decline in religion as well as political interests in all Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The lower counties of the State, then as now strongholds of Presbyterianism, furnished the purchasers for the vast tracts of land, and sent many settlers who brought with them the prestige of Pennsylvania influence, laws and institutions. As was to have been expected, Congregationalism began to give way to Presbyterianism. The Luzerne Association of Congregational Churches became the Susquehanna Presbytery, which continued, however, to be practically Congregational until 1821, when it became a fully organized Presbyterian body and joined the Synod of New York and New Jersey.

It was not, however, until 1831, that Congregationalism entirely disappeared from this whole region, not to appear again until about 1866, when it was again introduced by our Welsh brethren, among whom it is now confined.

It was during this transition period that the Kingston church was organized. A revival of religion had taken place in the valley in 1818, and the members of the present church residing in Kingston desired a separate organization.

Accordingly, on the 2d day of March, 1819 a council of ministers, Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury, Rev. Oliver Hill and Rev. Manasseh York, how or by whom authorized, does not appear, but presumably, in accordance with the customs or regulations of the Congregational church—met at the house of Daniel Hoyt, and organized the Presbyterian church of Kingston; and the congregation was duly

chartered on the 19th of March, 1819, as the Presbyterian congregation of Kingston, being the first distinctively Presbyterian church in Luzerne County.

The charter members were twenty-four in number, of whom twenty presented letters from the Church of Christ, of Wilkes-Barre and Kingston, and four were received on profession of faith. The following are the names of those who came on certificate. Daniel Hoyt, Nehemiah Ide, Henry Buckingham, Asa C. Whitney, Elijah Loveland, Wm. Ticknor, Abel Hoyt, Silas H. Orcutt, John Huff, John Gore, Sylvia Hoyt, Ruy Hoyt, Nancy Dorrance, Clarissa Brown, Abigail Orcutt, Sybil Wheeler, Betsey Ide, Salome Ticknor, Harriet Buckingham and Mary R. Hoyt.

Those uniting in profession are as follows: Ebenezer Brown, Hannah Hughes, Lucy Smith and Parthena Gorden.

The organization was completed by the election of Daniel Hoyt and William Ticknor deacons. Daniel Hoyt, moderator, and Henry Buckingham, clerk.

While therefore the church was Presbyterian in name and doctrine, it was in the beginning Congregational in government, and so continued until 1823, when John Gore, Henry Rice, Abel Hoyt, George Albright and Elijah Loveland were duly elected and ordained ruling elders, and the church became Presbyterian in government.

The early membership was widely scattered. There were the Ides and Browns and Parkers from Lehman; the Orcutts from Bowman's Creek, and the Kerns from Exeter. Within the same territory there are now six Presbyterian churches.

As the congregation extended over so much territory it was necessary to hold meetings in different parts of the field in order that all might have a chance to attend more or less frequently. We find, therefore, that meetings were held sometimes at the house of Daniel Hoyt on the corner of Wyoming avenue and Hoyt streets; sometimes at the academy, located on Wyoming avenue, near the residence of J. B. Reynolds, Esq.; sometimes at the old Forty Fort Church and sometimes at the village of Wyoming in a small meeting house erected by Jacob Shoemaker on a lot now included in the cemetery of that place. Prayer meetings were necessarily local and the session held its meetings at different places, usually at the resi-



dence of members all the way from Kingston to Wyoming, then Exeter. As the population and congregation increased, more especially in and about the village of Kingston, it became advisable to have a permanent centralized place of meeting in the lower end of the locality. Accordingly in 1841 a lot was secured on the easterly side of Wyoming avenue, part within the present northern borough line on which was erected a cozy frame building capable of seating about 300 people and at a cost of about \$2,500, which was dedicated on the 13th of November, 1842, and occupied until October, 1875. This, of course, left the people of Wyoming and vicinity in no better condition than before, and therefore about five years afterwards, in 1847, they withdrew their membership and formed the Presbyterian Church of Wyoming. The continued increase of the population in and about Kingston village called for a still more convenient place of meeting, and in 1853 a lecture room at a cost of \$1,000 was erected on the easterly side of Wyoming avenue, opposite the Samuel Hoyt homestead and used for all the meetings of the church and Sunday school, except the regular morning service, until October, 1875.

The same condition of things which caused the erection of the church in 1842 and the lecture room in 1853, also caused the erection of the present building in 1875.

The movement towards its erection began as early as 1871. The actual construction, however, did not take place until 1875. The lecture room was first completed and occupied in October, 1875, and the church completed and dedicated on the 20th of January, 1876.

On the day of dedication services were held morning and evening. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. J. J. Porter, D. D., of Watertown, N. Y., who was pastor of the church from 1847 to 1850. His text was from the 96th psalm, "Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary."

Rev. N. G. Parke of Pittston preached in the evening from 1 Cor., 1:21.

The new congregation was not exempted from the usual experience of such enterprises in not having a settled pastor; in this instance for more than two years.

The Rev. Ard Hoyt, grand uncle of our elder J. D. Hoyt, was pastor of the present church from 1806 to 1817, when he went as a

missionary to the Indians in Tennessee. From that time both the Wilkes-Barre and Kingston churches depended for preaching upon the missionaries who visited the valley until June 1821, when Cyrus Gildersleeve was installed pastor of both churches. In 1826 the pastoral relations between Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve and this church was dissolved, he giving all his time to Wilkes-Barre. After his dismissal the Rev. Joseph Ogden labored for this church from December, 1826, to June, 1828. From this period until January, 1829, the church was without the regular ministrations of a pastor, when the Rev. Nicholas Murray came to the valley as a missionary from the Presbyterian Board of Missions. His work here began on June 8, 1829. After preaching as a supply for two months he received a united call from the churches of Kingston and Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Murray accepted the call and was installed on Nov. 4, 1829, by the Presbytery of Susquehanna, and remained with the church till 1833.

From this time the Kingston church became independent of the Wilkes-Barre church, and the Rev. Alexander Heberton was chosen pastor. At the same time Rev. John Dorrance was installed pastor of the Wilkes-Barre church. Mr. Heberton, however, remained only a year, when the church was again without a pastor for about three years, being supplied with stated preaching by Rev. C. C. Corss from 1837-39, who at that time occupied a large mission field in the valley and vicinity. The next pastor was Rev. E. H. Snowden, 1837 to 1846.

Mr. Snowden is still living at Forty Fort, being now 95 years old. In addition to his pastorate here for seven years, the churches of Plymouth and Larksville are monuments of his perseverance.

During Mr. Snowden's pastorate, in 1843, the Presbytery of Luzerne was formed with churches out of Susquehanna, Newton, Northumberland and Second Presbytery of Philadelphia.

Rev. J. Delville Mitchell was installed over this church by the Presbytery of Luzerne on Sept. 24, 1845. The sermon was preached by the Rev. A. Heberton of Berwick, Pa. The charge to the pastor was delivered by the Rev. Richard Webster of Mauch Chunk, Pa.; the charge to the people by Rev. John Dorrance of Wilkes-Barre. Rev. Thomas P. Hunt presided and proposed the constitu-

tional questions. His pastoral relation was dissolved on April 20, 1847.

During his pastorate Rev. Mr. Mitchell was compelled, on account of failing health, to take a rest for a few months, and on invitation of the pastor Theodore L. Cuyler, a licentiate of the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia, supplied the pulpit from May to September, 1846.

Rev. J. Jermain Porter commenced his labors as pastor-elect of this church July 16, 1847, and was installed by the Presbytery Nov. 9, 1847. Mr. Porter remained with the church till July, 1850.

We now come to a pastorate of twenty years from 1851 to 1871. On June 12, 1851, the Presbytery of Luzerne ordained Rev. H. H. Welles and installed him over the Kingston Church. Dr. D. V. McLean of Lafayette College preached the sermon from John 1:26-27.

Rev. John Dorrance of Wilkes-Barre presided, proposed the constitutional questions and made the ordaining prayer.

Rev. T. P. Hunt delivered the charge to the pastor and Rev. P. E. Stevenson the charge to the people. For twenty years Mr. Welles continued to preach the word, administer the sacraments, visit, comfort the mourning and bury the dead. For twenty years he was the faithful spiritual guide of the people. He taught you by precept and example in all the work of the church. Upon many of you here present this morning his hand sprinkled the waters of baptism—and later you received from his hands the emblems of our Savior's broken body and shed blood of your first communion. Many of you he has joined in the dearest and closest earthly relationship. We thank God for what he has been to this church, and we love him for what he is to us to-day.

In 1870 after reunion of the old and new school churches, the Presbytery of Lackawanna was formed out of the Susquehanna, Luzerne and Montrosa Presbyteries. Rev. W. P. Gibson succeeded Rev. H. H. Welles and was installed by the Presbytery of Lackawanna, October 12, 1871. Rev. N. G. Parke presided and gave the charge to the people. Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D., preached the sermon and Rev. E. D. Bryan gave the charge to the pastor.

During Mr. Gibson's pastorate from 1871 to 1875 the question of building a new house of worship was more seriously agitated, and

as has already been stated resulted in the building of this church in 1875.

Walter B. Frame, a licentiate of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, supplied the pulpit from May, 1875, to April, 1876. During this year the new church was finished and dedicated on Jan. 20, 1876. The dedicatory sermon was preached by a former pastor, Rev. J. Porter, D. D.

On the 27th of July, 1876, Rev. F. W. Flint was elected pastor, but the full pastoral relation was never consummated by Presbytery. In December, 1880, he returned the call to the session and closed his labors with this church.

Rev. C. S. Dunning, D. D., served this church as stated supply from March, 1881, to April, 1884. Dr. Dunning was an able Presbyter and the remarkable combination of superior mental and spiritual elements in his character made him an able preacher of God's word and toilsome worker in all departments of church activity.

Rev. S. Colt, a member of Presbytery, supplied the pulpit from October, 1884, to March, 1885; when Rev. J. P. Harsen was called to the pastorate of this church. His installation took place March 12, 1885. Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, D. D., moderator of Presbytery, presided and proposed the constitutional questions. The sermon was preached by Rev. Thomas Nichols of West Pittston; the charge to the pastor by Rev. W. T. Stites; the charge to the people by Rev. H. H. Welles; the prayer of installation was offered by Rev. J. Ewing, D. D., of Plymouth. Mr. Harsen was not an entire stranger to the Kingston Church, for he had been preaching in Nanticoke for four years—they knew of his work there and were well satisfied that he was the man for this church. Everything looked so favorable for a long pastorate, that it was a great sorrow to this church when the great head of the Church took his servant to himself on Sept. 25, 1886, after a pastorate of only eighteen months, at the age of 42 years.

Mr. Harsen was a man of eminent piety and ardent persistent Christian effort; he was ever watchful and affectionate in the care of his people. Though he could give to this church only about one year's entire service, yet he did excellent work and the Lord rewarded his faithfulness in a marked degree. Forty-nine were added to the church that year on the profession of their faith, and

thirty-eight by certificate—making a total of eighty-seven—a larger number than had ever been received in one year before. Mr. Harsen died as he had lived—quietly, in full consciousness of life eternal, and with the love and esteem of all with whom he had been thrown in contact.

This church will ever hold J. P. Harsen in affectionate memory. To show their affection they have placed a memorial tablet upon its wall on my right—which will last as long as the church will last. It is a tribute of love to a faithful servant of Christ.

On Dec. 22, 1886, the present pastor (Rev. F. von Krug) was installed by the Presbytery. Rev. C. R. Gregory, of Memorial Church, Wilkes-Barre, preached the sermon; Rev. N. G. Parke, D. D., gave the charge to the pastor; Rev. W. S. Stites to the people; Rev. H. H. Welles made the installation prayer and proposed the constitutional questions.

At the conclusion of the historical address Rev. C. C. Corras, of whose presence mention has been made above, spoke briefly of his early experience. Being nearly a century old the audience expected that the effort would be exhausting to the old veteran and call for the strictest attention on part of the listeners, but their surprise was great when he advanced to the desk with a tread as sturdy as would be that of a healthy man of fifty, and when he spoke his voice was as strong and resonant as it must have been when he was pastor of the same church over sixty years ago. He told how he first came to the valley and where he preached. His territory then was very large, embracing the area from Hyde Park to Nanticoke, which was most sparsely settled, there being only one house in what is now the city of Stanton. Many of the incidents of his long ago were very interesting, especially his word picture of the natural beauties of Wyoming Valley in time when coal was only mined in small quantities as contrasted with the present, when it was disfigured and made hideous throughout its length by the enormous culm piles and great breakers.

Rev. H. H. Welles also addressed a few sentences to the audience, congratulating the society on its gradual but steady growth and present condition. He said it would be strange if he did not have some interest in the occasion and with the people and in the school where he had spent the best years of his life.

Letters of regret at not being able to be present were read from Rev. E. Hazard

Snowden of Forty Fort, who despite his 95 years fully intended to be present, but was prevented by the inclement weather; Rev. J. D. Mitchell of Danbury, Conn.; Rev. W. B. Gibson of Edward, Mich., and Rev. F. W. Flint of Los Angeles, California. The morning service closed with a benediction by Rev. C. C. Corras.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

The Sunday school observed the anniversary at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The music was led by the Sunday school orchestra, an organization of young men most efficient in the handling of their instruments. Superintendent Alfred Dart offered prayer, the Apostles Creed was said and several chants and hymns were sung. A pretty Easter carol was sung by the primary department, and brief but interesting addresses were made by Superintendent Alfred Dart of the school and by H. W. Dunning, from 1884 to 1885 superintendent of the school and for several years superintendent of the Sunday school of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre. The prominent address of the afternoon was made by T. H. B. Lewis, Esq., of Wilkes-Barre, who was superintendent of the Kingston Presbyterian Church Sunday school from 1873 to 1878, and who had always been an earnest worker in the school until he removed to Wilkes-Barre a year or two ago.

A brief summary of the report is as below:

A union or neighborhood school existed here prior to 1819, and so continued down to 1842, holding its sessions in the earlier years at private houses, and in the later years at the old academy. In 1840 the Methodists, having erected a new church building in Kingston village, on the ground where the present church now stands, established a separate school of their own, meeting in their new church. The Presbyterians being thus left by themselves, also formed a school of their own, moving it into their new church, erected also in 1842, where it remained until 1853, when it was removed to the lecture room in the village, and finally into the present building in October 1875. The men who were prominent Sunday school workers in the early days were Henry Buckingham, who removed to the West in 1822; Elijah Loveland, who continued in the work until 1835; William Barker, who was admitted to church membership in 1819; James W. Abbott, who was teacher and superin-

tendent until 1855; George W. Lovelard, who was superintendent from 1848 to 1855; Mrs. William C. Reynolds from 1855 to 1858; Samuel C. Ladd from 1858 to 1861; H. B. Payne, 1861 to 1873; T. H. B. Lewis, 1873 to 1878; H. B. Payne from 1878 to 1880; W. B. Foralic, 1880 to 1882; H. B. Payne, 1882 to 1884; Henry W. Dunning from 1884 to 1885; Alfred Dart from 1885 to the present time. Since 1847 a number of branch and union schools have been established. In 1887 a branch school was established in Forty Fort, and H. H. Welles, Jr., was its first superintendent. He served until 1893, when he was succeeded by W. A. Moyer, who still officiates.

#### THE EVENING SERVICE.

The evening service was opened with an Easter carol, "God Hath Sent His Angels," by the choir, followed, after a scripture reading and prayer, by the beautiful anthem, "The Strife is O'er, the Battle is Won." The evening sermon was preached by Rev. S. C. Logan, D. D., LL. D., of Scranton. Rev. H. C. McDermott of the Kingston M. E. Church also made a brief address.

Mrs. Sally Henry of Wyoming, who united with the Kingston church over sixty years ago, was an attendant at the morning service and was greatly interested in the exercises.

#### On His 79th Birthday.

Having noticed in this paper that Calvin Parsons celebrated his 79th birthday on Monday, Dr. Urquhart sends the following reflections on that estimable gentleman:

EDITOR RECORD: Monday, April 2, 1894, was the 79th birthday of Calvin Parsons, and the anniversary was appropriately remembered by his family and friends. Mr. Parsons having lived here all his life, there are but few left who remember his boyhood days, and who can with him remember a great part of this valley as almost a wilderness, and Wilkes-Barre with a population nearly a hundred times less than it is now. Mr. Parsons's character and life in all probability took their direction from early associations and imbued him with moral ambition and religious purpose, and taught him those fundamental maxims and principles which are the enduring foundation of wise conduct in life, and promote the general good by the maintenance of those principles and actions which have the material prosperity of the community for their practical purpose.

Assuredly in a distinctive sense his prolonged career has been maintained with

honor, and with a reputation for the constant adherence to the principles of equity.

A pleasant memorial of his life is the circumstance that his personal example has always strengthened the side of moral and religious progress, which in the coming years will enable the family circle to live over a past which will recall to them lessons of popular sympathy, filial duty and parental attachment.

His intellectual capacity, his simplicity and accessibility made him a practical and popular man, fitted for diffusing an influence among his fellow men which tended to raise him higher in the scale of morality and intelligence.

His business associations brought him prominently before this community, and his personality exhibited a rare combination of force of character, supplemented by a freedom from affectation that indicated sound judgment and good sense.

In social life his humor was pleasant, his opinions tolerant, while his actions, uninfluenced by conventionality, had no fellowship with sham, his gaiety was natural, spontaneous and undisturbed by ambition or rivalry.

He had a positive frame of mind which entitled him to favorable popular consideration and he ever maintained a character of integrity without the exhibition of a spirit of ostentation.

His intelligence was discriminating and as an officer and member of the First Presbyterian Church he was esteemed for integrity, for a judgment ripened by experience and for an earnest Christian manhood.

Mr. Parson's individuality is indissolubly connected with the locality which bears his name and where possibly the beauties of mountain side and valley may have in a measure moulded that plain, sturdy, practical, moral and religious character which he possesses in a marked degree and which evoked in social life feelings of a kindred character.

The borough of Parsons is not without interest when contrasted with the long ago, when its surroundings were full of nature and its remembrances spread o'er the thoughts visions of farm life, the manufacture of woollen goods, lumber, etc., where now the accommodation of circumstances enable us to enjoy a locality which as a home has been softened by civilization and educational culture and which art and science has made beautiful and accessible.

### SUSQUEHANNA SHAD.

#### An Interesting Letter Concerning Those Good Old Times When Our Beautiful Stream Abounded With That Fish.

A recent report of the State commissioner of fisheries contains the following interesting letter from Gilbert H. Fowler, deceased, concerning early shad fishing in the Susquehanna:

"I write or dictate this letter on my eighty-ninth birthday. I have lived near the Susquehanna ever since I was born. My knowledge and recollections about the shad fisheries extend from Wilkes-Barre to old Northumberland. The first shad fishery near my home was Jacob's Plains. This was located just above the town of Berwick, and was one of the most productive fisheries on the river. Here I have assisted in catching thousands upon thousands of the very finest shad, weighing eight and nine pounds.

"The next nearest was Tuckahoe fishery, situated about one and a half miles above Berwick, on the same side of the river. At this place many thousands were caught night and day in early spring. The next was down the river about six miles from Berwick. This was the fishery of Benjamin Boon. At this fishery I have known so many caught that they were actually hauled out by the wagon load on Benny Boon's farm for manure, so plenty were they.

"The next fishery was that of Samuel Webb, located about four miles this side of Bloomsburg. This was an immense shad fishery. From the banks of the river at this fishery could be seen great schools of shad coming up the river when they were a quarter of a mile distant. They came in such immense numbers and so compact as to cause or produce a wave or rising of the water in the middle of the river extending from shore to shore. These schools, containing millions, commenced coming up the river about the first of April and continued during the months of April and May. There was something very peculiar and singular in their coming.

"The first run or the first great schools that made their appearance in the early spring were the male shad—no female ever accompanied them. In about eight or nine days after the male had ascended the river, then followed the female in schools, heavily loaded with eggs or roe. Those were much the largest and finest fish, and commanded the highest price. Those shad that were

successful in eluding the seine and reached the hatching ground at the head waters of the Susquehanna, after depositing their eggs, returned again in June or July, almost in a dying condition, so very poor were they, many died and were found along the river shore. The young shad would remain at their hatching place till late in the fall, when they would follow the old shad to the salt water; during the summer they would grow from three to four inches long.

"The Susquehanna shad constituted the principal food for all the inhabitants. No farmer, a man with a family, was without his barrel of shad the whole year round. Besides furnishing food for the immediate inhabitants, people from Mahantongo, Blue Mountains, and in fact, for fifty miles around, would bring salt in tight barrels and trade it for shad. They would clean and sort the shad on the river shore, put them in barrels and return home. The common price of shad was three and four cents each.

"Besides shad, there were many other kinds of food-fish. The most noted among them was the old Susquehanna salmon, weighing as high as fifteen pounds. These salmon were considered even superior to the shad and commanded a higher price. They were caught in seines, on hooks and lines, and were the sport of the gigger at night. Nescopeck falls, directly opposite Berwick, near where the Nescopeck empties into the river, was a noted place for salmon fishing with hook and line. Men standing on the shore with long poles and lines often in drawing out the fish, would lodge them in the branches of the trees, giving them the appearance of salmon producing trees.

The shad fisheries, which I have referred to, were not common property. The owner of the soil was the owner of the fishery, and no one was allowed to fish without a permit. The owners of the fisheries also had the seines, and when not using them they would hire them out to others and take their pay in shad; the seiner's share was always one-half the catch. At the Webb fishery I have known eleven and twelve thousand shad taken at one haul. Those fisheries were always considered and used as a source of great pleasure, value and profit, and everybody depended on them for their annual fish and table supply. It was considered the best and cheapest food for all.

"Immediately after the erection of the river dams the shad became scarce, the seines rotted, the people murmured, their avocation was gone, and many old fishermen cursed Nathan Beach for holding the plow and the driver of the six yokes of oxen that broke the ground at Berwick for the Pennsylvania canal."

### AMONG EARLY FORTS.

**Where These Primitive Defenses Stood and What They Were—Marking the Various Old Sites—How the First Settlers Protected Themselves.**

At the last session of the legislature an act was passed entitled "An Act authorizing the governor to appoint five persons to make inquiry and examine into the advisability of erecting suitable tablets, marking the various forts erected as a defense against the Indians by the early settlers of this commonwealth prior to 1783."

As the Wyoming Valley, from Pittston to Wilkes-Barre, is the locality, so far as concerns this section of the State, in which transpired the events which gave rise to the erection of the forts, concerning whose location this commission authorized by this act will inquire, the subject is one which cannot fail to be of interest. With a desire to enlighten its readers upon the subject matter of the commissioners' labors the writer has delved in the early history of the valley for data. With the aid of early and rare historical works treating of the Wyoming Valley and the active assistance of C. I. A. Chapman of Port Blanchard, than whom there is none better informed upon or more thoroughly interested in these questions of especial local interest, the writer has been enabled to prepare the following sketch on the subject of the commission's labors.

#### THE FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The history of the forts of the Wyoming Valley begins with the month of August, 1762, when some 200 souls arrived at Wyoming, on the west side of the Susquehanna river, and began the first settlement under "The Susquehanna Land Company." The colony came from Connecticut and located their first improvement at the mouth of "Mill Creek." It consisted of a small log house, and was surrounded by several smaller cabins. Subsequently this fort was the site of "Ogden's Block House" in the conflict known as the "Pennamite War," waged by claimants under the colonies of Connecticut and Pennsylvania for the possession of the land.

The site of "Ogden's Block House" was afterward supplanted by a flouring mill, owned by the Hollenbacks. The spot is now covered by a vast pile of culm on which rests

the roadbed of the new Wilkes-Barre & Eastern Railroad.

#### THE SITE OF FORTY FORT.

Forty Fort was the principal "head centre" of the Connecticut settlers. It is located at a point about 1,000 yards southwest from the "old church" and immediately adjacent to the west end of the Lehigh Valley Co's. Harvey's Lake roadway bridge which was recently built.

It was from this stockade the settlers marched on the afternoon of July 3, 1778, to meet their Tory and savage assailants in a struggle known for its fiendishness and cruelty.

#### FORTS IN WILKES-BARRE.

In April, 1769, Wilkes-Barre was laid out and a stockade called Fort Durkee was built by the Connecticut settlers. It stood on or near the position of the present Hillman Academy and was taken and retaken repeatedly by the contending parties. Capt. Amos Ogden, of the Pennsylvania party, built his fort above Fort Durkee at a point nearly opposite the residence of Judge Stanley Woodward. This structure was christened Fort Wyoming.

There was also a structure on or near the present site of the Wilkes-Barre court house used both as a block house and said to have subsequently formed part of the first Wilkes-Barre academy.

#### PORT WINTERMOOT.

This fort was located in the present borough of Exeter (formerly Sturmerville) and consisted of a substantial log structure with barns attached. The new high school building probably as nearly represents the spot as any other object. It was a "Tory" settlement and gladly received the savage and Tory invaders who occupied it for a few days preceding the action of July 3, 1778.

The line of battle formed on that memorable day was immediately in its front to the southwest—British regulars on the left and Indians (Cayugas and Senecas) on the right. The conflict was one in point of savagery that has seldom if ever paralleled in the chronicle of recent Indian wars.

#### JENKINS FORT.

Their fort was a log stockade of small size, but strongly constructed. It was situated about one-third of a mile north of Fort Wintermoot. It was garrisoned by a small number of settlers who, securing the large num-

bers of the enemy and realizing the fate that awaited them in the event of an assault, surrendered two days before the battle.

#### THE FITZGERON FORT.

This fort was in command of Captain Blanchard and was evacuated immediately after the battle of July 3. It was used as a refuge for invalids, women and children, and was located at a point on the river bank destroyed by the building of the canal and subsequently by the Lehigh Valley railroad. It is nearly represented by the north end of the premises now owned and occupied by J. E. Patterson & Co.'s planing mill, and the spring which supplied the fort with water still trickles from the ledge of rocks at the intersection of Main street and the Lehigh Valley railroad, while the bluff directly over it is known as the Miners' Council Hill, so named, it is alleged, from the fact of the miners of the town gathering there to discuss any grievance they might have concerning their condition.—[Scranton Tribune, Jan. 3, 1894.

#### Brave Ferryman Yarrington.

The following item was published in the *Carbondale Advance* the Centennial year, editor S. S. Benedict having gleaned his facts from conversations with the late Dilton Yarrington and others:

Abel Yarrington, grandfather of D. Yarrington, Esq., and his brother, Alanson Yarrington, and great grandfather of Pierce Butler, superintendent of the D. & H. C. Co.'s machine shop, all of Carbondale, was one of the Wyoming patriots in that ever memorable year of 1778. He was not in the battle and did not wear epaulets or a sword, or carry a musket, but in his allotted place he served the patriot cause bravely and usefully. He was in charge of the ferry between Wilkes-Barre and Kingston, and as there was then no bridge, all crossing thereabouts whether of soldiers, citizens or families, was over this ferry, and all supplies were thus taken over the river. The ferry was very near the spot where the bridge has so long spanned the river. Mr. Yarrington and his family lived on the Kingston side, and one of the large trees now growing near the Kingston end of the bridge was planted by him before those troublous revolutionary times. About the 1st of July, 1778, it became known to the settlers in "Fair Wyoming" that trouble awaited them. The British and Indians were collecting in the valley in alarming numbers, and evidently with most hostile intentions. The settlers had no doubt that

their banner was a banner of blood, and feared that if it triumphed the indiscriminate slaughter of men, women and children would follow, before aid could reach them in their isolated position from the American army. The alarm was a terrible one. A large and excited meeting of the citizens of Wilkes-Barre and vicinity was held in that then young town, on the evening of July 2, and which proved to be the evening before the dreadful massacre, to devise measures for the public safety. At that meeting one of the questions discussed was whether Mr. Yarrington could serve them best by entering the ranks, as he was willing to do, or by attending to the ferry. It was finally decided that owing to the great danger that would attend a battle at such fearful odds and against such overwhelming numbers of British regulars and infuriated savages, and the awful peril in which women and children would be placed in case of "disaster," that he could not be spared from the ferry. The event proved that it was a wise and fortunate decision, and in accordance with it he was early at the ferry, and was kept hurriedly employed throughout the entire day, on the "fatal third," in taking women and children over from the Kingston side, that were fleeing for their lives from the dangers that threatened them. Toward night tidings of the lost battle, and the bloody massacre that followed, reached them. He then snatched his own wife and children from their home, hurried them to his boat and started with them down the river. He was not a moment to soon to rescue them, and secure their safety. Indians were seen coming down the river in their canoes and balls from guns they fired at them went whizzing over their heads and skipping on the surface of the river, but they escaped unharmed. He continued his course down the river until he reached Sunbury, where he found quarters for his family and lodged them in a place of safety until October, when he returned with them to Wilkes-Barre, where he afterwards resided. In the subsequent years of his active life he reflected with great pleasure upon the fact that he not only saved his own family from the tomahawk of the Indian, but also many that were then children, but who afterward became useful and honored citizens of the valley. His son, Peter Yarrington, the father of D. Yarrington, Esq., remained in Wilkes-Barre and reared his family there. He always remembered with great interest their hurried passage down the river in the night, to escape from the Indians.

#### A Veteran Doctor's Poetry.

Dr. J. J. Rogers of Huntsville is one of the oldest practitioners of medicine in Luzerne County, having been born in Wilkes-Barre in 1818. When a youth of 21 he was attending Franklin Academy, now Harford, Susquehanna County, and among his schoolmates were Galusha A. Grow, Hon. C. R. Buckalew and Col. E. B. Harvey. Dr. Rogers says the boys used to write machine poetry in those days, and although he has not done any of it from that time to this, he fell into the old habit recently, having been temporarily laid off with neuralgia. His effort, which was read before an Epworth League meeting, was a most meritorious one, as our readers will agree if they read it. It is as follows:

#### THE WISDOM, POWER AND GOODNESS OF GOD.

Thy mercy, Lord, with sun by day,  
Lights up all paths, that none may stray  
From duty's call to God and man,  
And wondrous show creation's plan.  
The needs of every child of earth,  
Are met by laws that gave them birth;  
As winds and waters work Thy will,  
While cold and heat run nature's mill.

Thy oceans swing at highest tide,  
Or fall, or heave, or calm abide;  
Or towering waves may shipping crash,  
When mighty storms their waters lash.  
A voice from Thee may brace the sail,  
A voice from Thee may calm the gale;  
Thy word supreme o'er laws prevail;  
True faith in Thee shall never fail.

When earth has made her cycle round,  
The path Thy wisdom set her bound;  
The singing birds are round us seen,  
And fields and forests don their green.  
Thy power at night the sky unfurls,  
All space seems sprayed with starry worlds;  
Who there can fix a bound and think,  
He stands on wide creation's brink.

To grasp such thought, man's feeble brain,  
Relents and shrinks with straggles vain;  
Too high for me King David said,  
Too deep for us, we'll say instead,  
When Beth'lem's star announced our Lord,  
And angels' music lent accord,  
The morning stars together sang;  
Wise men and shepherds voices rang.

God's children well may calm their fears,  
May sing and pray, and wipe their tears;  
May shout for joy where sinners turn,  
From evil ways and wisdom learn.

May plan and work to speed the day,  
When all shall know and love the way  
Of Him to whom all knees shall bow,  
And tongues confess His glory now.

God's new creation lifts on wing,  
The hearts of all who love our King;  
And Satan's wiles shall ne'er prevail,  
While saints are clad in heavenly mail.

#### Pennsylvania Snow in 1779.

John Teel was a Revolutionary soldier and for some years a pensioner. In 1830 he appealed to the United States Congress for the payment of \$475 due him since 1779 for the following service:

"The petitioner sets forth that in the year 1779 and after the 1st day of September, whilst in the service of the United States as an enlisted soldier, he volunteered his services to carry dispatches from Sullivan's store in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, to Wilkesburg (Wilkes-Barre) in said State, directed to Col. Butler."

"That it was a very hazardous undertaking, the snow being very deep, with a crust on it, and upon which he traveled with snowshoes. Fifty dollars per day was offered to any one who would do this duty, and that he did do it faithfully, performing the trip in nine and a half days, for which he has not to this day received any compensation, and now asks the pay then promised, which amounts to the sum of 475 dollars."

"The petitioner makes oath to the facts above stated, and they are further sustained by the deposition of John Shaffer."

"The Committee on Revolutionary Claims resolved that the claim of John Teel be allowed."

The above is quoted from House report No. 86, adopted Dec. 30, 1831, by the United States Congress.

H. E. H.

Who John Teel was does not appear beyond the fact that he was a pensioner and had served in the army of the Revolution. Sergeant John Teel, aged 82 in 1834, was a pensioner in Washington County, Pa., 1818-1835, having served in the Pennsylvania Continental Line. This may have been the same man. Where Sullivan's store was in Northampton County 1779 does not appear. The snow referred to was surely not a September snow. Lieut. Beatty in his Journal of Sullivan's Expedition, Sept.-Oct. 1779, notes "very hard thunder and lightning and rain" as far north as Seneca Lake, N. Y.

H. E. H.



### 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 Wurtemberg, 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 Schoharie and the Mohawk valley. For this privilege they paid 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 Palatines at Tulpehooken." Later the proprietaries wrote to James Logan: "As to the Palatines 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.

#### Ancient Map of Susquehanna River.

State Librarian Egle finds on an old map of the year 1645, the Susquehanna laid down with branches as follows, from the mouth upwards. Can anybody give the former names of the streams:

Skahadowri.  
Aratumquat.  
Chenegalde.  
Canoahga.  
Juragen.  
Godocoraren.  
Sionassi.  
Juragen.  
Seawondaona.

On another map of 10 years later the second stream is preceded by these:

Conewago.  
Swahadowa.  
Ganadaguehet.  
Enwaga.

#### An Old Landmark to Go.

Old landmarks about Wyoming Valley are disappearing rapidly. The next to go to make way for the march of progress is the old Pringle house on Pringle street, at the head of Chestnut street, which has been occupied for the last twenty-four years by Thomas P. Culver and family. On Saturday night about 150 of the friends of Mr. and Mrs. Culver tendered them a surprise party or a sort of farewell to the old house. Mr. and Mrs. Culver and family will move on April 1 to a new house recently erected by them on Walnut street and the historic mansion will be torn down to make room for the extension of Pringle and Chestnut streets, directly in the path of which improvements it now stands. The old house, which is said by architects to be the very best example of colonial architecture yet standing in Wyoming Valley, was erected by Peter Sharp nearly 100 years ago. Mr. Sharp died in Tunkhannock, and after his death it became the property of Thomas Pringle, the grandfather of Mrs. Thomas P. Culver and of Nelson G. Pringle.—From Daily Record, March 20, 1894.

#### An Historic Incident.

John Torrey, a citizen of Honesdale who died a few days ago in his 87th year, was the last but one of the survivors of those who rode on the Stourbridge Lion, the first locomotive that ever turned a driving wheel on the American continent, on the occasion of its trial trip on the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co.'s tracks at Honesdale, August 9, 1829. The engineer was Horatio Allen, who died at South Orange, N. J., a year or two ago. John Torrey and Otis Avery stood by the engineer's side during that memorable and historic trip on the pioneer of locomotives in this country. Otis Avery, now an associate judge of Wayne County, still lives in Honesdale, the last survivor of that trip.

#### Gen. Sullivan's Field Book Found.

A notable relic of revolutionary times, said to have been discovered at Lancaster, Pa., a few days ago, is the field and camp order book in which Gen. Sullivan made record of his famous march in the summer of 1779 from Wyoming Valley up the Sasquehanna Valley. He was in pursuit of the Indians to avenge the massacre at Wyoming of the previous summer. This expedition resulted in the breaking up of the Six Nations. The book was found among some papers that had belonged to Capt. Meyer, who was Gen. Sullivan's orderly in that campaign.

## THE WORD OF GOD.

### ANNIVERSARY OF THE LUZERNE COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

Union Services in the First Presbyterian Church—Encouraging Reports Read by Rev. S. S. Kennedy, the City Missionaries, and an Address by Rev. Dr. Morrow.

Daily Record, May 7, 1894.

Union services in the First Presbyterian Church last evening were in observance of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Luzerne County Bible Society, of which the present chairman is J. W. Hollenback, and who presided at last evening's service. Others on the pulpit with Mr. Hollenback were Rev. Dr. Hodge, Rev. Dr. Boyle, First M. E. Church; Rev. S. S. Kennedy, secretary of the church society, and Rev. Dr. Morrow of Philadelphia, secretary of the State society. Rev. Dr. Boyle offered prayer, and Rev. Mr. Kennedy followed with a report of the work accomplished by the society and the City Mission.

#### THE AGENT'S REPORT.

Rev. S. S. Kennedy, agent of the society, read a very interesting historical report. He said:

Organization was effected Nov. 1, 1819, at a meeting in the old church on Public Square; and that the first officers elected were: Ebenezer Bowman, president; William Ross, David Scott, and Capt. David Hoyt, vice presidents; Dr. Edward Covell, corresponding secretary; Andrew Beaumont, recording secretary, and G. M. Hollenback, treasurer.

In extent of territory the county then comprised what is now Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming counties and contained a population of 20,000. During three-quarters of a century this society has been cherished by many Christian hearts, both for the benevolent work it has done and also for the many excellent and distinguished men who have conducted its affairs.

Isaac Harris was the first agent.

In 1828 David Scott was chosen president; Thomas Dyer, vice president; Ziba Bennett, recording secretary, and James D. Haff, treasurer.

On the 25th of August, 1835, the society was reorganized and Rev. James May was elected

president; Rev. John Dorrance, Hon. David Scott, Oristus Collins and John N. Conyngham, vice presidents; Volney N. Maxwell, treasurer; Dr. Lathan Jones, Edmond Taylor and William C. Gildersleeve, Executive Committee. The population had increased to 40,000, but the work of bible circulation was not vigorously prosecuted.

On the 28th of January, 1853, after sixteen years of comparative inactivity, the society was again reorganized. The newly appointed board entered with renewed zeal upon the work of bible distributing, and Rev. E. Bowman of the Presbyterian Church was appointed agent, and after he retired from the work the venerable Roger Moister.

Mr. Kennedy began work May 1, 1860, and diligently canvassed the county.

Judge Conyngham continued in the office of president eighteen years, or until the time of his death, and his gentle watch-care over the society and its work was a labor of love.

Hon. Ziba Bennett and S. D. Lewis continued in the offices of treasurer and secretary to the end of their lives, or during twenty-six years, and were most faithful and efficient officers.

Volney L. Maxwell succeeded Judge Conyngham as president for a few years, and after his death A. D. McClintock was elected president. Mr. McClintock was elected corresponding secretary in 1853 and president in 1873, and gave thirty-nine years of willing and valuable service to the cause.

On the 27th of April, 1879, the society held its sixtieth anniversary in the Franklin street Methodist Episcopal Church, when the following board was elected: A. T. McClintock, Esq., President; Hon. E. L. Dana, vice president; George S. Bennett, secretary; John W. Hollenback, treasurer; managers, C. M. Conyngham, E. C. Wadhams, Richard Sharpe, John D. Hoyt, A. J. Pringle, C. A. Miner, B. G. Carpenter, H. W. Kalisch and Prof. A. Albert

The new board re-appointed the old agent, and we immediately entered upon the seventh decade of the society's work, which has been un-remittingly prosecuted with increased funds and enlarged distributions.

The seventieth anniversary of the society was held in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church on Sunday evening, May 12, 1889, when the following board was elected: A. T. McClintock, president; Richard Sharpe, vice president; George S. Bennett, secretary; John W. Hollenback, treasurer; managers, C. M. Con-

ingham, J. D. Hoyt, J. D. Cooper, B. G. Carpenter, Hon. C. A. Miner, H. W. Kallsch, Theodore Stronk, B. D. Beyer, Calvin Parsons and L. D. Shoemaker.

Since the last anniversary that important and populous part of the county, known as the Hazleton region, has been thoroughly canvassed and the scriptures in many languages bountifully distributed among its teeming population. Also large portions of the Wyoming Valley have again been canvassed by J. N. Bailey, C. B. Henry and W. A. Wagner, three young men of the Wyoming Seminary, who were employed as colporteurs.

Families visited, 51,176; found destitute of the bible, 3,801; destitute families supplied, 1,481; destitute families which refused to accept the bible, 1,820; bibles and testaments distributed, 27,012. The cash account of the agent was annually settled with the board of managers and all funds paid over to the treasurer. We have had no colporteurs employed the past year, but gave the Pennsylvania Bible Society a donation of \$250, instead of expending it at home.

The following is the report for the past year: Number of families destitute of the bible, supplied, 85; bibles and testaments sold, 874; bibles and testaments given, 247; total copies distributed, 1,195; price of bibles donated, \$76.93; cash collected, \$754.75; cash received for bibles sold, \$294.83; total, \$1,049.58; paid to John W. Hollenback, treasurer, \$1,049.58; received of J. W. Hollenback, treasurer, salary and expenses, four months, \$398.26. The assets amount to \$684.

#### ADDRESS BY DR MORROW.

Rev. Dr. Morrow spoke at some length of the general good the society is accomplishing in the various lands—Japan, China, India, the bible lands in Asia Minor, Egypt and Italy. Dr. Morrow's reference to the report read by the secretary of the county society was most complimentary, but he said much of the same kind of good work was going on all over the State. The work prosecuted by the society often extended to those who felt the heaviest weight of distress in great disasters and the results brought about are of the most gratifying kind. Through the society's labors over the world the bible is printed in 350 different languages and is read by 250,000,000 of people. Ten millions of copies were distributed last year, 110,000 in this State and 1,000,000 in other States.

In speaking of the importance and encouragement that should be given to the work of the society, particularly in foreign lands, he said it should be borne in mind that every third person born to existence and borne to the grave is in the land of the heathen.

Speaking of the field of work in Egypt, he said that the only mission there was sent from the Presbyterian Church. Voltaire predicted that in a century the light of Christianity would begin to go out, but to-day in the very room where the renowned French author so wrote, the Bible Society have well stocked shelves and from them is carried the light of Christianity to many who have long lived in darkness.

#### DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

##### They Celebrate Their Third Anniversary at Mrs. McCartney's Residence.

The Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated their third anniversary at the home of the regent, Mrs. Gen. McCartney, on River st., Monday evening. The literary exercises consisted of an address by Sheldon Reynolds on the "Old Forts of Wyoming Valley," which was replete with interesting information, another by Col. Beaumont on "Old Wilkes-Barre," which of course was delightfully humorous, an historical paper by Mrs. Judge Rice, detailing the rise, progress and triumph of the patriotic order of daughters, and recitations by Miss Breakstone. An elegant collation was served and the general opinion seemed to be that the daughters as an institution has come to stay.

Among those present were: Judge and Mrs. Rice, Judge and Mrs. Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Reynolds, Dr. and Mrs. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Reynolds, Miss Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. George Butler, Mr. and Mrs. I. P. Hand, Miss Bowman, Mrs. Benjamin Reynolds, Mrs. Graeme, Mrs. Henry A. Fuller, Miss Ruth Nicholson, Mrs. E. V. Jackson, Mrs. Burr of Carbondale, Miss Butler, Mrs. W. M. Miller, Mrs. Caleb Bowman, Mrs. Waller of Bloomsburg, Mrs. Loop, the Misses Sharpe, Miss Charlotte Wills, Miss Loveland of Kingston, Mrs. Mulligan and others.

##### Nearly a Hundred Years Old.

Mrs. Sarah Goodwin of Factoryville, Lackawanna County, who was born in Plains Township in 1800, celebrated her 94th birthday anniversary a few days ago. She removed from Wyoming Valley in 1841, and was a daughter of John and Mary Kennedy.

### PREPARING FOR THIRD OF JULY.

The Wyoming Commemorative Association Elect Officers for the Ensuing Year Arranging Program of Exercises.

A meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association was held May 8, 1894, at the building of the Historical Society. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Calvin Parsons.

Vice-Presidents—Hon. G. M. Harding, Sheldon Reynolds, William L. Conyngham, Benjamin Dorrance and Hon. Charles A. Miner.

Secretary—F. C. Johnson.

Corresponding secretary—George H. Butler.

Treasurer—Dr. Harry Hakes.

Librarian—William A. Wilcox.

Committee on grounds—Benjamin Dorrance, Robert T. Pettsbone, William H. Jenkins.

Committee on program—Sheldon Reynolds, W. A. Wilcox, H. H. Harvey.

Mr. Reynolds reported that his committee had consulted with the Daughters of the Revolution relative to offering to assist in the obtaining of Queen Esther's Rock and placing it in a proper enclosure. Mr. Reynolds stated that the ladies had been notified by the owner that he would not let them have it unless they paid him \$200. The society expressed the idea that instead of submitting to an extortionate charge it would be better to perpetuate the spot by means of a stone somewhere in the roadway, indicating the direction and distance from the place where Queen Esther dashed out the brains of the massacre victims in 1778. It was suggested at the meeting that this was not the right rock, anyhow. Vandals, too, have nearly destroyed what there is of it.

It was reported that the 9th Regiment orchestra had been engaged for the 3d of July. Judge Sylvester Dana of Concord, N. H., is to deliver the historical address and Dr. J. R. Boyle and Sidney R. Miner, Esq., are to be asked to make brief remarks. George B. Kulp is to prepare a ten-minute biographical sketch of the late L. D. Shoemaker and one is to be prepared of the late Dr. H. Hollister, both vice presidents, who died during the last year.

It was ordered that \$200 be raised by dues and subscriptions towards defraying ex-

penses. The only condition of membership is the annual payment of one dollar. As these dues are not sufficient to meet the expenses of the commemorative exercises, it is customary to make up the deficit by a subscription paper.

The annual commemorations have been growing in attendance and interest and it is believed this year will witness a similar growth.

### The Big Snow of April, 1857.

EDITOR RECORD: There is a slight error in this morning's RECORD as to date of snow storm in April, 1857, being the 13th of that month. At that time I was living at Eokley, Foster Township, Luzerne County. I find in my diary of that year the following memoranda:

"April 19.—Raw, cold day. Snow commenced falling this evening.

April 20, 6 a. m.—Snow 20 inches deep. Thermometer 31 degrees.

April 20, 6 p. m.—Snow 31 inches deep on road bridge in swamp.

April 21—Still snowing, about four inches fell during the night. Snowing lightly at intervals during the day, snow is fully three feet deep where not drifted and almost impassable, so dense.

April 22, 6 a. m.—Thermometer 30 degrees.

April 23.—Pleasant day, snow melting slowly. Afternoon snow squalls.

April 24—Thermometer 6 a. m. 32 degrees. Snow melting slowly, first wagon came from Olifton, no teams yet from Butler.

April 25.—Thermometer 30 degrees.

April 26.—Snow wasting gradually; rain at night.

April 27.—Rain this morning, snow melting rapidly."

The roads were in many places filled with snow drifts over top of fences and impassable for teams. RICHARD SHARPE.

April 12, 1894.

[Mr. Sharpe is right as to the snow storm of the 20th and our article mentioned that storm, but the files show there was one at Wilkes-Barre on the 13th also.—ED.]

### Historic Fort Pitt.

PITTSBURG, April 15, 1894—Fort Pitt passed into the hands of the Daughters of the Revolution. It is the most valuable historic relic in Western Pennsylvania, and the old block house, erected by the pioneers who started this settlement as a fortification against the Indians, is still in a good state of preservation.

#### Dr. Egle's Historical Publication.

Another volume of Dr. Egle's *Notes and Queries*, volume 1 of the fourth series, is concluded, and is a valuable addition to the history of interior Pennsylvania. Dr. Egle's position as State librarian enables him to glean much interesting and original information that would be difficult for persons otherwise situated to obtain. Among the interesting things are "a diary of a journey of the Moravian missionaries Zelsberger and Seneaman in 1768; numerous sketches of matrons of the Revolution; Ohio letters from "John of Lancaster," who is John F. Megliness of Williamsport; register of Moravians who emigrated to Pennsylvania from 1747 to 1767, etc., etc." The matter is well arranged, clearly printed, but is unfortunately without an index.

The following circular accompanies the number:

Proposals for Publishing by Subscription "Notes and Queries," Historical, Biographical and Genealogical, Relating to Interior Pennsylvania; comprising the Original First and Second Series, Published from 1878 to 1883:

Owing to the demand for copies of the Original Series of "Notes and Queries" published in the Harrisburg *Daily Telegraph*, comprising 42 numbers, and which did not appear in pamphlet form, as well as for the reprinting of the First and Second Series of the same publication, of which only a few copies were printed and which have become exceedingly rare, M. W. McAlarney, Manager of the Harrisburg Publishing Company, has concluded to print a limited edition of 100 copies of the same, comprising two quarto volumes of about 500 pages each, provided a sufficient number of subscriptions be secured to warrant it.

These series of valuable historical papers, relating to interior Pennsylvania, including its biography and genealogy, have been sought for by many persons during the past few years, as they contain information no where else to be found. The entire series does not consist of the republication of articles which appeared previously in print, but are gleanings from original records of the counties, towns, churches, family and public burial grounds, with original contributions preserved in the more prominent families of the State of Pennsylvania. The material which will be embraced in the two

volumes contemplated, is no where else accessible. At the present time when so much research is made and interest taken in preserving the records of ancestry the publisher deems it a most favorable opportunity to issue the work. A complete index of surnames will supplement the volumes, which will be printed in clearfaced type, on best of book paper, and furnished at the price of \$10 per set. The editor, William H. Egle, M. D., librarian of the State, will carefully revise the entire series, and those desiring a copy of this invaluable contribution to Pennsylvania history, biography and genealogy should subscribe at once.

#### Incident Regarding Frances Slocum.

In 1778, after the massacre, Frances Slocum was stolen from her home in Wilkes-Barre, at the corner of Canal and North streets.

Bishop Bowman of St. Louis was the means of identifying her over half a century from the time of her capture. The story as told by the bishop is as follows: "I had been appointed president of a college in Indiana and came there to live. Not long after my arrival I heard of an Indian woman that seemed to me to answer the description of the little girl with whose history I was well acquainted, I being a native of Berwick, Pa. There were two marks, one a crushed finger, the other a scar on the neck, caused by a burn with a hot iron. The father of Frances was a blacksmith, and one day, as she and her brother Joseph were playing in the shop, Joseph struck Frances a blow with the hammer that crushed the finger. After being convinced of the identity of the person I wrote a letter to Ziba Bennett, a friend of mine and a relative of the Slocums at Wilkes-Barre, mentioning the facts and immediately his wife and Joseph Slocum, the girl's brother, came west to find the long lost sister. We took them to the place where the woman was living among the Indians of her tribe, and sought an interview. At first she remained perfectly silent, evidently regarding us as impostors. When one of the party, however, took a bar of iron and after putting it in the fire, took it out and went through the motion of pounding it on the anvil, then a strange, peculiar expression came over her face. She was convinced that the parties were from her long forgotten home. The brother spoke of the crushed finger and she held it up, he spoke of the burn on the neck and she showed the scar. The recognition was complete. She clung to her Indian home and she died universally beloved by her adopted people."

### DAVID WILMOT.

#### Some Interesting Incidents in the Life of This Distinguished Abolitionist.

EDITOR RECORD: In an account book dated at Bethany, Pa., 1833, are several entries not without public interest, as they relate to the early life of David Wilmot. His father, Randal Wilmot, was a native of New Haven, Conn., and a descendant of Benjamin Wilmot, one of the signers of the original compact of civil government in 1639. The family came to Bethany in 1812. David, the eldest of Mr. Wilmot's seven children, being born two years afterward. They left Wayne County early in the spring of 1833. It formed no part of Mr. Wilmot's plans to take David with them, but he was to remain in Bethany until the close of the academy in the following autumn. Prior to entering that institution he had for some years attended a school kept by Mr. L. C. Judson, father of E. C. Z. Judson, the noted novelist, "Ned Buntline," who was also one of the pupils. This school was held in a building known as the fire-proof. Admirably adapted for the purpose, as it was essential that the school young David Wilmot attended should be held in a building both fire-proof and bomb-proof.

If the question where Master David was to live was a perplexing one to the elder Wilmot, he solved it by applying at once to my father, who was his brother-in-law, and where a refusal was impossible. We are informed as to what he was to pay:

[Bethany] "May 10th, 1833. David Willmot commenced boarding with me at the rate of \$1.50 per week.

Nov. 18th. Rec'd \$40.50 in full for the time D. Willmot boarded."

There was also a verbal agreement, made necessary by the fact, that to my father, "D. Willmot's" faults were simply faults, whereas to his own father they were only the eccentricities and idiosyncracies of a transcendental genius, which changed their aspect considerably. David was not a bad boy, and he had no vices, but he was the very spirit of mischief incarnate. He might have caused my father some anxiety, but never trouble. Bright, active and alert mentally, he abominated the very name of work, and if freedom from that constituted happiness, then he was surely happy while under my father's roof. This would seem to have been to him that peaceful, placid hour in a

man's life that intervenes between the time when he has said farewell to the restraint of his father and before he has bidden welcome to his nearing wife.

In August of the year before mentioned, comes the significant memorandum that father "had settled the matters for Messrs. Yale & Willmot with *David Willmot, Esq.*" The lad must have stood at my father's elbow when that was written and he had surely never been Esquired in his native village before.

The spelling of this family name as Willmot continued until young David returned from school for a vacation, while his father was a resident of a town in western Pennsylvania. Coming into his hall in the morning Mr. Randal Willmot found his son's trunk before him, boldly lettered at each end

"DAVID WILMOT,  
Aurora, N. Y."

The old gentleman looked, wiped his glasses and looked again, anger keeping pace with comprehension. Ordering the young man called up, he observed: "David, when I sent you away to school I did not expect you to learn anything, but I did sincerely hope that you would not forget how to spell your own name." "Father," was the calm reply to this sarcasm, "I find one 'I' in that name amply sufficient for myself." There must have been a family acquiescence, for I find all letters written by my uncle, after date, signed simply "Randal Willmot."

GEORGE W. GUSTIN.

Wyoming, Pa., April 12, 1894.

#### More Big April Snow Storms Recalled.

ENGLISH CENTRE, Lyeoming County, Pa., April 12, 1894, Messrs. Johnson & Powell: Enclosed find check to renew subscription for the RECORD OF THE TIMES.

Fifty years ago I subscribed for the Wilkes-Barre *Advocate* edited by D. S. Lewis. Have paid up for the *Advocate* and RECORD OF THE TIMES since that time.

We had 26½ inches of snow in the recent storm commencing the 10th inst. about 10 a. m., the greatest April snow since 1854 when on the 15th, 16th and 17th of April there was 28 inches here.

The 19th and 20th of April, 1857, 12 inches.

The 18th and 19th of April, 1867, 13 inches.

The 4th, 5th, 7th and 10th of April, 1868, 15½ inches.

STEPHEN ROGERS.

#### A Pioneer Maid of Wyoming.

The following item is from a Scranton paper of 1878, and refers to Silence Bates, whose parents were residents of Wyoming Valley at the time of the massacre of 1778:

When driven into Forty Fort by the Tories and Indians, Silence was eight years of age, and there were two or three younger children. Often has she told her children and grandchildren her recollections of that horrible time. She, herself, while picking berries, was captured by a warrior and taken across the river; but the following night, while her captor slept, a Tory neighbor, touched by her grief, returned with her to the vicinity of the Fort. Her parents were with those who succeeded in escaping from the Fort, and in their hasty flight her new shoes were left behind. Without a word to anyone, she returned to obtain them, was fastened in by the savages, who were preparing to burn the Fort, but a chief, grateful for kindness received from Mr. Bates, in time past, procured her release and permitted her to hasten on to rejoin her anxious friends. Her mother was so fortunate as to have a horse to ride, and the younger children rode with her; but Silence had to trudge along on foot till her poor feet were sadly blistered. A Mrs. Marcy was of the party, and while on her way to a place of safety, became the mother of a child to whom she gave the name Thankful. At the close of hostilities Mr. Bates and family returned to their desolated home, where Silence became a blooming maiden, and was married to a soldier named James Brown, a sketch of whose life was published in the *Tunkhannock Republican* a few years ago. He helped Gen. Sullivan to avenge the atrocities of Wyoming and Cherry Valley, and served all through the war for Independence. Silence and her husband dwelt in Pittston for several years after their marriage. Seven of their children were born there and one was born after their removal to Scott, which at that time was an almost unbroken wilderness. Mr. Brown built both the first sawmill and the first grist mill of that town then called Greenfield. Mrs. Brown was an esteemed member of the Baptist church of that place, and was much loved and respected by her relatives and neighbors. Two of her sisters married brothers named Vosburg, and have many descendants in Tunkhannock and vicinity. She survived her husband five years,

and died July 2d, 1848, aged 78 years. She, her husband and many descendants sleep in the old graveyard near Brown Hollow, on the land which was given by Mr. Brown for a public burial place. Eld. Bishop's grave is also on the old Brown farm, but has never been removed to the graveyard. Only one child of Mr. and Mrs. Brown is now living. A goodly number of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild are still residents of Scott, Lackawanna County, while some of their descendants have found other homes. Near Mrs. B.'s grave is that of Reuben Taylor, of whom his epitaph says: "He was a soldier of the Revolution, and fought for his country both on land and sea."

#### Reminiscences of the Long Ago.

EDITOR RECORD: Within the recollection of some of its present residents, Wilkes-Barre has increased in population from 450 to about 45,000. This in round numbers is one hundred fold, and speaks a progress that in all its parts is well nigh incomprehensible.

A contrast of the former time with the present in regard to some features is both interesting and instructive, as it may enable us in a measure to appreciate and enjoy what may have contributed to the changes we may have witnessed in the progress of our civilization.

Among these changes and improvements some will in the eight-page *DAILY RECORD* get a reminiscent reminder of the former time which prided itself on *Sisty's* sterling four-page weekly *Wilkes-Barre Advocate*.

Furthermore, in the eight-page *Daily Leader*, we have, perhaps, what may be deemed a product or result of the best known and ablest Democratic paper of its day, that of the four-page weekly *Republican Farmer*, when under the editorial management of Hon. Samuel P. Collins and Hon. Benjamin A. Bidlack—both were consuls to foreign lands. One lies buried in Africa, the other in South America.

Great geographical changes, with change of names of localities, respectfully await consideration and remembrance from enlarged and consolidated Wilkes-Barre. Scranton was Slocum Hollow, Wyoming was New Troy, Buttonwood Blodgett's, Luzerne was Mill Hollow, Larksville Blindtown, Plymouth was Shawnee, Parsons was Laurel Run, Newtown was Hendricksburg.



### EX-MAYOR LOOMIS DEAD.

One of the Oldest and Most Respected of Wilkes-Barre's Citizens Passes Away at an Early Hour Tuesday Morning.

Daily Record, May 2, 1894.

In the passing away of William Wallace Loomis at his home on Union street Tuesday night of paresis, where he has resided since 1851, Wilkes-Barre loses, with one exception, its oldest citizen. When Mr. Loomis came to the village of Wilkes-Barre in the autumn of 1827 there were not more than 500 inhabitants. Corn fields adorned the Public Square and the slow-going stage coach was the only public means of traveling. Mr. Loomis was not much more than a babe when he was brought by his father, Sherman, from Lebanon, Conn., where he was born July 14, 1815. His father settled in Northmoreland, back of Wyoming. William's first experience in Wilkes-Barre was as a school boy in the old academy on the Square, which he attended for a year.

He lived for a while in the family of Jonathan Bulkeley, who had a store on the north side of the Public Square. Then he was bound out to Edward Taylor to learn the harnessmaker and trunk trade, which he followed from that day to this, with the exception of a very few years when he with James Jones conducted a general store on West Market street, opposite C. E. Butler's book store. Failure attended this venture and Mr. Loomis started a harness shop on east side of the Public Square, where the Postal Telegraph office now stands. He was driven from here by the big fire, about 1853, which burned from the corner of Butler alley to the Exchange Hotel, to West Market street and erected his present place of business, that was in those days, one of the very finest buildings in the city. His business sign is probably the oldest in the city.

He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1834, and began his church life in the "Old Ship Zion." He was the oldest member of the Franklin Street Church. Since 1838 he has been a class leader. And in his feeble days of the last six months, when unable to attend his classes at the church, rather than surrender, he would have his class meet weekly at his home on Union street. In 1865 he was ordained a deacon and in 1870 an elder in the church. In his younger days he was en-

thusiastic in Sunday school work, and for many years was superintendent of the Franklin street school, voluntarily resigning about 1870. He, with his predecessor, Ziba Bennett, laid the foundation of this model Sunday school. Mr. Loomis was a local preacher and has been heard with profit and pleasure in nearly every Methodist church in the Wyoming Valley. He was frequently called upon to fill the pulpits of other denominations. His house was always a stopping place for ministers traveling to and fro throughout the country.

From 1854 to 1862 he was burgess of Wilkes-Barre and did positive and lasting work in arousing public feeling in favor of active duty in the beginning of the rebellion. He served as mayor from 1877 to 1880. And his service is spoken of to this day by Wilkes-Barreans with pride and satisfaction. As a charter member of the board of trustees of the Home for Friendless Children in 1862, he was no idle member. As a trustee of the Wyoming Seminary forty years ago, he has outlived most of the scholars and professors of that time. Twenty-five years ago he was treasurer of lodge 61, F. and A. M. He was commissioned by President Lincoln to go to the armies and collect the soldiers' votes for President.

In 1841 Mr. Loomis married Ellen E. Drake, a daughter of Benjamin and Nancy Drake of this city.

The only surviving issue of this marriage is William Drake Loomis, whose mother died in 1845. Mr. Loomis married for his second wife Elizabeth R. Blanchard, who was the mother of Fannie L. Urquhart of West Pittston and George Peck Loomis of this city. The mother was a daughter of Jeremiah Blanchard, Jr., who was the son of Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard. He was in Pittston in 1772, when he received a deed for "a settling right in Lackawanna" from Samuel Walkill, New York. In 1778 he was captain of the militia, and was in Pittston Fort with most of his company at the time of the massacre, July 3, 1778. He was the first settler in Port Blanchard. W. W. Loomis's third wife, Lavinia, is the daughter of Isaac Wilcox of the Plains. No children have followed their marriage.

Ex-Mayor and Rev. W. W. Loomis will be missed. While the greater measure of his services were rendered to an earlier generation, the salutary example will survive the

period of his natural life. Faithful to every obligation, upright in every walk of life, kindly and generous in every personal relation, it can be said of him truthfully that he "nobly bore without reproach the grand old name of gentleman."

### OBITUARY.

#### AN OLD ASHLEY RESIDENT.

Ashley has lost one of its oldest and most honored citizens, Daniel Frederick, who died April 18, 1894, in his 87th year. His home was at Newtown in Hanover Township, between Ashley and the city line of Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Frederick's grandfather came from Holland and lived and died in Northampton County. His son John had five sons, of whom Daniel was one, born Dec. 24, 1807. Daniel was born in Bethlehem, Northampton County, but came to Hanover Township, Luzerne County, at the age of 14, his father being a farmer. His mother was Christiana Fogel. Mr. Frederick received his education from the country schools near this place and learned the carpenter trade which he followed until 1877, when he retired from active life. He worked for D. A. Fell, now master carpenter for the C. R. R. of N. J., for about fifty years and helped to build the court house, which was commenced in 1856, and assisted in the erection of the C. R. R. of N. J. depot in Wilkes-Barre in 1866. He was married to Christiana, daughter of Adam and Mary Steel of Bethlehem. She was born in Hanover Township Oct. 29, 1808, and survives him, as do their seven children—Mary (Mrs. Alonzo Quick) of South Wilkes-Barre, Charles, a farmer in Iowa; Howard, a carpenter at the Vulcan Iron Works; Merritt, mine foreman at Buttonwood shaft; Annetta (Mrs. Steward McIntosh) of Ashley, Catherine (Mrs. Peter Farley) of Wilkes-Barre and Ruth (Mrs. Clarence S. Detro) of Ashley. Mr. Frederick during his whole life has been a devoted Christian, and his life has been lived with his fellow men without making one enemy. In 1844 he built, almost alone and without any pay, the first church in Ashley, which was an old log structure, and stood somewhere near where the hose house now stands. He also made the benches for the chapel and hewed the boards from trees felled near the spot. He was one of the organizers of the Coalville Presbyterian Church and was an active member and elder since that time until late years, when his health compelled him to retire.

#### MRS. LOUISA C. KESLER.

April 12, 1894, just as the church bells were tolling for their Thursday night service, Mrs. Louisa C. Kesler passed from earth, at the home, corner of Main and Union streets, occupied by her upwards of half a century. It is a singular coincidence that it was also on a Thursday night that the church bells were sounding when her husband's spirit winged away its earthly flight. Mrs. Kesler had been a sufferer for some time, having sustained several paralytic strokes, none being fatal until the fifth. She possessed all her faculties to the last and loving hands ministered tenderly to her every want.

Mrs. Louisa Cary Kesler was born in Port Blanchard Aug. 20, 1825, being the second child of Jeremiah Blanchard, from which family the village takes its name. She came from old Connecticut stock, her grandfather, Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard, having been, during the massacre of Wyoming, in command of the fort at Pittston to protect the women and children who took refuge there during that bloody conflict. It seems that the name Jeremiah has been handed down to the eldest son of each generation. The deceased on her mother's side was one of the grandchildren of Thomas Williams, who emigrated from Connecticut in the early history of this valley, his family having played an important part with the pioneer settlements of New England, and from which came the establishment of Williams College of to-day. They were the original owners of the greater part of the land known as Plains, between this city and Pittston.

The deceased was united in marriage to Andrew Keeler in 1841, well remembered as a popular coal and mercantile manager in the infancy of Wilkes-Barre. As a monument of his industry the brick block on Kesler's corner has been conspicuous for years. Mrs. Kesler, from girlhood until the days of old age, was an active member of the Methodist Church. From a family of eleven children, all born in Wilkes-Barre, but three remain: Dr. James Williams Kesler of Honesdale, Wayne County; Mrs. Lulu C. Le Grand and Frances Rue, wife of Russell S. Brown of this city. She also leaves a sister, Mrs. Clara Bulkeley of Philadelphia.

The many recent deaths among those of the pioneer families in this vicinity tell us that the old landmarks are becoming extinct. Mrs. Kesler's death is a strong link

between the past and present. To her large circle of relatives, and especially to her own immediate family, she leaves a memory pure, loving and precious, one which will be undying.

DR. D. T. JONES.

Dr. David T. Jones died at the Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia Jan. 15, 1894, after a long illness of general tuberculosis. Genuine sorrow will follow this announcement, as Dr. Jones was well known and a great favorite among hundreds of people in Plymouth and all the towns on the West Side and was well known in this city. He was never a robust man, but the acute phase of his illness was brought on by a fall which he received something over a year ago while descending the steps of a house in Plymouth where he had been making a professional call. This injury at first affected only his spinal chord, but ultimately extended to his general nervous system and assisted by an inherited tendency to tuberculosis, finally caused his death. He heroically underwent several operations for relief, but these only served to further exhaust him, and despite the best of medical treatment he gradually sank into unconsciousness and passed away as quietly and peacefully as a child sleeping. Since his entrance into the hospital at Philadelphia about a month ago nothing has been spared to make him comfortable, and besides his loving wife, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Newell, the brother-in-law and sister of Mrs. Jones, have spent all their time there and have been most assiduous in their attentions.

Dr. Jones was born in Llandilo, Carmarthenshire, South Wales, 38 years ago. He studied medicine at St. Thomas Hospital in London and was afterwards an assistant to Dr. Price, a celebrated practitioner in Llandilo. He came to America in 1877 and graduated at the Jefferson Medical College in class of 1880 and located at Utica, N. Y., where he remained two years practicing medicine. He came to Kingston in 1888 and soon after located at Plymouth where he has been in continuous practice ever since.

In September, 1885, he was married to Miss Anna Edwards, daughter of Daniel Edwards of Kingston and is survived by her. He was a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Plymouth. He was also a member of the Luzerne County Medical Society.

GRANDALL MAJOR.

Friday morning, May 4, 1894, Grandall Major, one of Forty Fort's best known residents, departed this life. He had been suffering more or less for the past two years from insomnia and extreme nervousness, which became very much aggravated since he fell from a building about a year ago, at which time he broke several ribs and received severe bruises. His death was due to nervous prostration. Mr. Major was born at Lehman, this county, June 13, 1837, and was 56 years, 10 months and 21 days old. He had lived in Forty Fort for twenty-three years, and conducted a general store business during all this time. In addition to this business he was a contractor and builder and erected many of the best buildings in the valley. Mr. Major was the postmaster in Forty Fort for many years until succeeded by John Batterton during President Cleveland's first administration. He was also first secretary of the council after the incorporation of the borough, since which time he has persistently refused to allow his name to be used for any political office. He is survived by his wife and three sons, Fred W., a D., L & W. R. R. conductor, Charles C., ex-principal of Forty Fort schools and of the Welsh Hill and Boston Hill schools of Plymouth Township, at present fitting himself for Cornell University, and Ray, who is still quite young. Mr. Major was a man of intelligence and had sound, practical views on all the questions of the day. He was a man with the strictest sense of honor. He always weighed his words and actions well and was never far wrong in any opinion he gave or line of action he followed.

A DESCENDANT OF DR. WILLIAM HOOKER SMITH.

Aurelia S., wife of John S. Seoville, died at home in Beaumont, Wyoming County, a few days ago and was buried on Sunday. She was somewhat past 70 years of age and was a daughter of Asel Smith, who was a brother of Draper Smith. She was married some fifty years ago and of her sixteen children only five are living. John lives at Scranton, Edward at Harvey's Lake, Mrs. Fanny Cleveland at Tuukhannock, and Martha and Sarah Jane at Beaumont. She was a descendant of Dr. William Hooker Smith, a noted pioneer of Wyoming Valley and she was therefore a relative of Isaac Smith Osterhout, founder of the Osterhout Free Library.

## DEATH OF MRS. WEEKS.

Mrs. Harriet S. Weeks died January 27, 1894, at her residence, 220 North Main street, from the infirmities incident to advancing age. Mrs. Weeks was born in Berlin, Conn., June 13, 1823, and her father was George McAlpine, who was born at the same place in 1785. Her mother's name was Sybil Shepherd, of Massachusetts, who came of old Revolutionary stock. She was one of a family of eight sons and three daughters. About 1840 she and three of her brothers came from Connecticut and settled in this county—Albert locating at Pleasant Valley, where he was for many years extensively engaged in the cooperage business. His death occurred not long since at the age of 74. Hiram and Frederick and their sister settled in Wilkes-Barre. The two brothers engaged in the stove and tin trade. Hiram married a sister of Calvin Parsons. Frederick married Frances H. Wilson, daughter of Seth Wilson, one of the early settlers in this valley, from which marriage there survive two children, Andrew W. and Lizzie M. McAlpine. Harriet was married Nov. 26, 1846, in this city to Joseph Weeks, who had come here from New Jersey. He died many years ago. The surviving children are Egbert O., who is first assistant secretary of the Etna Fire Insurance Co., of Hartford, Conn., where he now resides, and who was with his mother at the last; Frances L., who lived with her mother; and George S., who is a contractor in Omaha, Neb. Mrs. Weeks was a life-long member of the Baptist Church. She was one of the quietest and kindest of women, a neighbor highly esteemed, a devoted mother, a patient sufferer in sickness and a consistent Christian.

## FORMER COUNTY COMMISSIONER DEAD.

William Wolf of Rock Glen, this county, one of the early settlers of Black Creek Township, and at one time county commissioner and also justice of the peace, died at his home Jan. 9, 1894, in the 86th year of his age.

## WELL KNOWN FARMER'S DEATH.

Jesse B. Dodson, one of the best known farmers in Luzerne County, died at his home in Shickshinny Valley, about three miles from Shickshinny, Jan. 12, 1894, of pneumonia, aged 71 years. He leaves a wife and large family of adult children, among the sons being a prominent attorney of Des Moines,

Iowa. Mr. Dodson was well known, not only for his excellence as a farmer, but for his uprightness and general reputable conduct as a citizen.

## MISS CATHERINE ABBOTT.

The friends of Miss Catherine (or Miss Cassie, as she was generally called), Abbott will be shocked to learn of her sudden death which occurred during the early hours of April 8, 1894. She had not been ill and her death is attributed to apoplexy. She had been taken ill in the night and roused the servant, but passed away before anything could be done for her. Her age was 55 years. She is survived by her sister, Lucy, they occupying the homestead together and a brother, Robert Miner Abbott of Davenport, Iowa. Miss Abbott was a member of the First M. E. Church and a teacher in the Sunday school.

It is only two years ago (May 3, 1892) that her mother, the venerable Hannah C. Abbott, passed away at the ripe age of 94. The latter was born when Wilkes-Barre was only a little hamlet in a great wilderness, and she was familiar with the tragic history of Wyoming, as told in her bearing by the survivors of those perilous times. Mrs. Abbott was a daughter of Corneilus Courtright, who was prominent in Luzerne County affairs in his day. His farm house stood on the river bank, just below Port Blanchard. He was a county commissioner several times from 1818 to 1831 and a member of the legislature from 1820 to 1828. He was justice of the peace from 1806 to 1840. His wife was Catharine Kennedy, daughter of John Kennedy, native of Dublin, Ireland, and it was for this grandmother deceased was named.

Deceased's father was John Abbott, who married Hannah Courtright in 1830. He was an extensive farmer in Plains and died in 1861. He was the son of Stephen, and grandson of John Abbott who came early to this valley and built the first dwelling house in the old borough of Wilkes-Barre. The elder John Abbott, while gathering his crops in Plains in the autumn months following the battle of July 3, 1778, was killed by the Indians.

Miss Abbott was a first cousin of Hon. Charles Abbott Miner of this city, their parents being brother and sister. She was also a cousin of the late Rev. William P. Abbott, who became a distinguished Methodist divine and who delivered an historical address at the centennial commemorative exercises at Wyoming in 1878.

## MRS. LOVINIA JONES.

Lovinia, widow of the late Richard Jones, died April 5, 1894, at her home, 465 South Main street, at the ripe age of 83 years.

She was the descendant of one of the most prominent families of the early settlers of this valley.

Mrs. Jones is survived by two children, Edwin H., who is at the head of the Vulcan Iron Works, and Mary, wife of Harry Stray. She lost one son in the war, John, who was in the navy, and who died of yellow fever at sea while returning home after the battle of New Orleans on leave of absence. His cousin, Albert, only son of Edward Jones, was killed at the battle of Antietam.

Mrs. Jones was born at the Blackman homestead, in Wilkes-Barre Township, now the Franklin mines, where her father, who was one of the prominent men of that day, died in 1844. Her father was the first to mine anthracite coal in this region, at the Blackman, now Franklin slope, of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.

She was a life long member of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, and worshiped at the Central Church, her husband having been one of its projectors and builders. Her manners were plain and unostentatious. She was pre-eminently a home woman and was devoted to her family. She was one of the kindest of mothers and one of the best of neighbors. She was one of whom it may well be said: Her children rise up and call her blessed.

Mrs. Jones was born in Wilkes-Barre March 4, 1811 and was the daughter of Maj. Eleazer Blackman, who came from Connecticut to Wilkes-Barre with the early pioneers, his parents having arrived here in 1772. Her father when a boy of 13 helped build the Wilkes-Barre fort in 1778. He was here at the time of the battle and escaped across the wilderness through the Shades of Death to Connecticut with his mother and sister and a brother, Ichabod. He returned to Wilkes-Barre about 1784 and married Clarinda Hyde, whose ancestors came from England prior to 1700. They had two sons and six daughters. The sons died young. The daughters were as follows:

Lucy, born 1790, married Shepard Stearna.

Minerva, born 1791, married Calvin Edwards.

Melinda, born 1793, died 1861, married Daniel Collings, father of Miss Eliza Collings.

Mrs. Harriet Davison, Mrs. A. J. Baldwin, Mrs. Benjamin Snyder of Washington and Mrs. Julia Dougherty. Another child by this marriage was Samuel P. Collings, who was the able Democratic editor of the old *Republican Farmer*, this city, and who died at his post of duty as U. S. consul at Tangiers, Morocco, whither he was sent by President Pierce.

Julia, born 1806, married Edward Jones, of whom two daughters survive. She died in 1889.

Lovinia, subject of this sketch, born 1811, married Richard Jones brother of the preceding, who came to this country from Denbighshire, Cefnmaur, North Wales, and who was the founder of the Vulcan Iron Works, a large interest in which is retained by his widow and son.

The Blackmans played a prominent part in the early settlement of Wyoming Valley. Her grandfather, Elisha, came here from Connecticut in 1772, at the age of 55. He was in the Plunkett engagement at Nauticoke in 1775; was in the skirmish of July 1, 1778, at Exeter with the Indians who were in advance of the main body of Butler's expedition against Wyoming. He died on his farm, part of which was in the present city of Wilkes-Barre, in 1804. He had five children: Elisha, born 1760, died 1845; Ichabod, born 1762, died 1804; Eleazer (father of Mrs. Jones), born 1765, died 1844; Lucy, married John Titus; Lovinia, married Darius Spafford, who was killed in the battle of 1778 and whose name is on the monument.

Elisha's son Elisha was the grandfather of H. B. Plumb, Esq., (from whose valuable History of Hanover Township much of this data is taken). He, too, was in the Wyoming battle.

The elder Elisha's son Ichabod was the father of still another Elisha, who died in Pittston in 1881 at the age of 90 and was the author of numerous valuable historical contributions to the *Gazette* and other local newspapers. His daughter is the wife of Dr. Avery Knapp of Pittston.

## OVER NINETY YEARS OF AGE.

Mrs. Cynthia Bolles, mother of George W. Lung of Wilkes-Barre, died Jan. 11, 1894, at Wyalusing in her 91st year. Death was due to old age. She was in good health until several weeks ago when she was afflicted with the grip, which hastened her death. Her maiden name was Brown and she was

born at Browntown, near Wyalusing. She was twice married, first to Warren Lung and afterwards to Mr. Bolles. She is survived by four children, viz: George W. Lung of Wilkes-Barre, Dr. Jesse B. Lung of Brooklyn, N. Y., Charles W. Lung of Ionia, Mich., Mrs. Ellen Bevans, Decatur, Ill.

#### ANDREW RAUB.

Andrew Raub, one of the best known residents of Luzerne County, died Feb. 12, 1894, at his home in Dallas, aged 74 years. About sixteen years ago Mr. Raub suffered a slight stroke of paralysis, followed four years ago by a second stroke. Three years ago he suffered a more severe attack, which affected his throat so that he was scarcely able to swallow. Since a year ago last March he had been confined to bed entirely helpless. On Saturday he sustained the final stroke of paralysis and the throat became so affected that he could take no nourishment whatever. He passed quietly and peacefully away.

Andrew Raub was born Feb. 12, 1820, in Kingston Township, at Raub's, now Luzerne Borough. He worked on his father's farm until he was 27 years of age and then went to farming himself. He moved to Dallas twenty years ago the first day of last May and kept the famous Raub Hotel there for six or seven years. The hotel was then sold to his son Philip and Mr. Raub led a retired life.

He is survived by a widow who was Miss Catherine, daughter of John Price of Plymouth, and is now about 73 years of age, and by four sons—Draper, a farmer of Orange; Philip T., Edgar E. and Charles of Dallas. The latter was disabled by a spinal disease while living in the West and is now living with his mother. Mr. Raub's father died at Luzerne three or four years ago at the age of 97 years.

Mrs. Raub's father and mother, who were residents of Plymouth, are dead.

Mr. Raub's mother died at Luzerne Borough at the age of 97 years.

#### OVER 80 YEARS OF AGE.

George Remaley, Sr., aged 84 years, mention of whose illness has been made in this paper before, died at his residence in Huntington Township, near Huntington Mills, on April 4, 1894. He has been suffering for several years with a cancer in his face, which gradually grew worse and threatened his death. Deceased was a highly esteemed cit-

izen and was well and favorably known throughout the county. He located at Huntington Mills about forty years ago. Previous to this time he resided at Pittston, where he was engaged as ferryman before the bridges were built. In his younger days he was employed as stage driver on the Easton turnpike, between Wilkes-Barre and Easton, where he drove stage for several years. He is survived by his wife and seven children.

#### DEATH AT MAPLE GROVE.

Josiah Ruggles, an aged, respected citizen of Maple Grove died after an illness of less than a week. He was born at Hanover, Luzerne County, 1816, and lived at the following places: Hanover, Tunkhannock, Pittston, Ross Township, Maple Grove, Pleasant Hill, Ruggles and finally Maple Grove, where he died March 31, 1894. He left a wife and eight children. The children have all grown up and left home, but were permitted with one exception to be present at the funeral. Honesty and industry were the marked characteristics of the life of the deceased, and in his death the community has lost a good citizen and loyal friend.

#### AN OLD SETTLER'S WIFE DEAD.

Mrs. Mary Ann Phoenix, widow of ex-Judge James Phoenix of Wyoming County, and one of the pioneer Methodist local preachers of Wyoming and Luzerne counties, died May 8, 1894, after illness of two months at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. W. S. Ryman, 101 Hazle street, aged 75 years. She was a Christian from her childhood and a member of the M. E. Church. She was a daughter of Rev. Jacob Rice, who settled at Trucksville seventy-five years ago where she was born.

Her brothers are John P. Rice of Trucksville and Isaac Rice of Edwardsville, both deceased, also Mrs. Dr. J. J. Rogers of Huntsville and Rev. C. L. Rice of Binghamton, N. Y.

She leaves also a daughter Mrs. Annette Lamareux of Meridan, Iowa, and sons, C. M. Phoenix of Iowa, and Clarence J. Phoenix of Noxen. The late Mrs. Delphine Frantz of West Pittston was also a daughter. She was also an aunt of Dr. L. L. Rogers of Kingston.

Her father, Rev. Jacob Rice, and her husband, Rev. James Phoenix, were among the old-time preachers who would rise early, walk a dozen miles and preach two or three times the same day in villages between Harvey's Lake and Bowman's Creek.

## DEATH OF GEN. McCARTNEY.

### THE WELL KNOWN ATTORNEY AND SOLDIER

**Passes Away at North Mountain, Whither He Went on a Trout Fishing Expedition—An Eventful Life and a War Record for Bravery That Few Men Can boast of—A Terrible Shock to the Community—One of the Brightest Members of the Luzerne County Bar.**

Daily Record, May 12, 1894.

It has been the RECORD'S duty to tell no more unwelcome news than that which is sent broadcast this morning, an announcement of the death of Gen. William Henry Mc-



GEN. WILLIAM H. McCARTNEY.

Cartney, one of the ablest lawyers and bravest soldiers in the State. It will be remembered that a week ago, while attending a case in court, Gen. McCartney was suddenly prostrated and remained unconscious for quite a while. He, however, made a rapid recovery and in a day or two again appeared among his friends and legal associates, apparently completely restored to health. The attack was believed to have been superinduced by

indigestion, but in view of the sad finale of yesterday it is evident that it was the precursor of the fatal disease that came as suddenly as it terminated the life of one of our most honored citizens.

The General left yesterday morning for North Mountain with Henry A. Fuller and George B. Wright to fish for trout in the streams tributary to Lake Ganoga. He started out on Kitchen Creek at 8:30 in the morning.

At 10:30 he was stricken with severe pains in the region of the stomach, followed by vomiting spells. He was conveyed back to Ganoga Lake Hotel by stage, having to rest at intervals to give relief. Medical aid was immediately summoned from Jamestown City and Fairmont Springs. The Jamestown doctor arriving first gave the general a remedy which seemed to relieve him. He said he felt better and sat up a couple of minutes, then lay down and passed away at 8:30 last night before Dr. Bowman of Fairmont Springs arrived.

#### AN EVENTFUL LIFE

William Henry McCartney was born in Boston, Mass. July 11, 1834. His father, John McCartney, came from Dublin, Ireland, and was a manufacturer of carriages in Boston for many years. Deceased in his youth was an invalid and until 18 years of age he lived on a farm and acquired a robust constitution by systematic physical exercise. He then attended school at Laconia and Meriden, New Hampshire, and also received private tutorship from a gentleman who is now one of the judges of the courts of New Hampshire. He studied law at Concord, N. H., and was admitted to the bar of Massachusetts in Marsh, 1856. By the energy that has always characterized him he built up a large practice and continued therein until the outbreak of the civil war.

Prior to that event he had been connected with the Boston militia, first in the Light Infantry, an organization then known in Boston as the "Tigers," and at the breaking out of hostilities, held a commission as first lieutenant in a battery known as the Boston Light Artillery. That organization formed a portion of the three months' troops that Massachusetts sent into the field, and Lieut. McCartney left Boston with his command on April 19, 1861, at half an hour's notice. His command went with Gen. Butler's expedition from New York to Annapolis, and served at the Relay House on the B. & O. R. R., and at Baltimore through the three

months' campaign. At the expiration of this service Lieut. McCartney returned to Boston and raised the First Massachusetts Battery for three years' service, of which he was made captain. During the three years' service he participated in twenty-six engagements. He was commended in general orders by Gen. Franklin for "gallantry and conspicuous bravery" at Fredericksburg (Dec. 14, 1862,) and at Antietam. He was also commended by Gen. Sedgwick for "gallantry and exceptionally brilliant services" at Salem Heights, Gettysburg, and Mine Run, and by Gen. Brooks for "repulsing most gallantly, without assistance, a brigade of infantry which saved our line from being broken, when to break off a portion of it was sure to bring defeat to the whole corps."

He was also mentioned by Gen. Lee for "great gallantry and marked efficiency in battery service" at Fredericksburg, Dec. 14, 1862, and by Gen. Barksdale for gallantry in repulsing an assault of Barksdale's brigade at Salem Heights and for kindness and attention to Confederate wounded at Antietam.

For the above named commendations he was brevetted to the rank of brigadier-general. In February, 1865, he was made provost marshal and ordered to Massachusetts and had charge of the department until Dec. 31, when he was mustered out of the service. In January, 1866, he was appointed clerk of the Naval Committee of the House of Representatives at Washington and was made special council by the Navy Department to collect and to codify the testimony taken before the Naval Committee of the House on the subject of naval steam engineering. In June, 1866, he was appointed collector of internal revenue of the Third Massachusetts District, one of the largest in the State, including Boston. He was endorsed for the position by the governor, lieutenant governor and many of the leading officials of the State. April 1, 1866, Gen. McCartney resigned this position to engage in a contract granted by the government of Costa Rica for the construction of a railroad across the country until 1870, when he resumed his law practice in Boston. Soon after his health failed and he gave up the profession and shipped as a sailor, in the summer of 1870, on a vessel bound for Labrador. As soon as he returned from this trip he went South and became much stronger. He again came North and from January 1871, to July, 1873, he was connected with the

World in New York, doing most of his work under the *nom de plume* of "Muldoon, Major of Heavy Artillery." He also edited Frank Leslie's illustrated paper during a portion of that period and achieved considerable distinction as a literateur. He also wrote several plays that were pronounced among the best of the period, "The Bayonet" and "Gonstance" being among the best.

In 1855 Gen. McCartney was united in marriage to Anna M. Leach of Boston, formerly of New Milford, Susquehanna County, Pa., and three children were born to them—Frederick, who died in 1879 when 20 years of age, Jessie and Anne, who are both dead. His wife died in August, 1869.

Gen. McCartney was married to the wife who survives him in September, 1872. She is Katharine E. Searle, daughter of the late Leonard Searle of Montrose, Pa. Soon after their marriage they went to Europe and remained for nearly a year, returning in 1873 to spend the summer in Montrose. While there he was induced to relinquish his literary work and return to the practice of his profession.

Gen. McCartney came to Wilkes-Barre and was admitted to the Luzerne County bar September 12, 1873, and has been in continuous practice here ever since. Surviving him besides his wife are two children, Miss Ella, a young lady who lives at home, and Will H. McCartney, who is a student at Princeton College.

As a political speaker the General ranked among the best. In 1860 he stumped Massachusetts for Stephen A. Douglass, candidate for President. In 1863 he made twenty-two speeches in twelve days in a congressional fight in the same State. It was his services in that campaign that made him collector of internal revenue. In 1866 he spoke in Connecticut with the late Lot M. Morrill. In 1867 he stumped New York for John A. Griswold for governor and in 1868 the same State for Gen. Grant for President. In 1872 he did the same service in New York for Horace Greeley, and since his residence in this State he has stumped Pennsylvania in 1860 for Hayes for President, in 1878 for Henry M. Hoyt for governor, in 1880 for Garfield for President, in 1882 for Stewart for governor, in 1884 for Blaine for President. His oratory was superb and combined with logic, humor with reason. He spoke his convictions, and although at times they



ent to the quick and rankled in the breasts of those they struck, he gained distinction through it. His friends became firmer and his enemies learned to fear him.

Considering his gallant services for the Republican party, the general deserved, as much as any man, his choice of political offices, but very seldom he sought preferment. In his case, as in many others, the most worthy men are sometimes turned down, as is shown by his defeat for district attorney and mayor.

Gen. McCartney was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, of the Loyal Legion, which is composed of officers of the late war and their sons, of the Loyal League, of the United Service Club, of the New England Society of Philadelphia and many other clubs and societies. His war record is particularly brilliant, but his modesty prevented him from sounding his own praises and consequently only those who read the history of the remarkable conflict are aware of it. A sabre in the hands of a Confederate cavalryman inflicted a large scar on his head, which he hid by parting his hair in the middle. Old soldiers often speak of his record as one of the most praiseworthy in the history of the war.

Gen. McCartney was successively elected to City Council from the Tenth Ward, and was president of that body.

As a lawyer he was accounted one of the best at the Luzerne County Bar, and this, in view of the many brilliant legal lights that shed their radiance from this centre, is praise superlative. As counselor he conducted many cases in neighboring counties, and was especially strong in cross-examination and appeals to the jury.

As a man he was an ornament to this community. His varied experience as soldier, lawyer, politician and journalist gave him a fund of information, seconded by a good memory, that made him one of the most entertaining speakers in our midst.

His convictions were strong and he had the courage to assert them, but he was nevertheless a whole-souled, genial, companionable man to those who knew him—of broad intelligence and ready wit—a man honored and esteemed.

The General was a member of the following societies: St. John's Lodge F. and A. M., No. 1, of Boston; St. Andrew's Chapter, R. A. M., and St. John's Commandery, K. T., all of

Boston. Wilkes-Barre Lodge, No. 109, B. P. O. Elks, and of Conyngham Post No. 97, G. A. R.

#### THE AFFLICTED FAMILY.

The news came by telegram from Col. E. B. Beaumont at Ricketts to George R. Bedford, saying that the general had died at 8 p. m. of heart failure, and asking him to break the news to Mrs. McCartney. Mr. Bedford called at the residence of Isaac P. Hand and asked Mrs. Hand to accompany him on the mournful errand, which she did. The news was broken as tenderly as possible, but Mrs. McCartney and her daughter were terribly shocked. They feared their callers bore ill tidings and their fears proved well founded, and they were almost prostrated with grief.

[The biographical sketch is taken from Kulp's Families of Wyoming Valley.]

#### The Funeral.

In the full dress uniform of a captain of artillery, with the flag of his country over him and the sabre with which he made so glorious a war record across the casket, reposed the remains of Gen. W. H. McCartney Monday afternoon in his home on South River street.

The pall bearers were Col. R. B. Ricketts, Col. E. B. Beaumont, Judge Rice, Judge Woodward, Hon. H. W. Palmer, George H. Butler, E. V. Jackson and T. F. Ryman, and the carriers were Gen. Averill, Gen. McMahon, Col. William J. Harvey, Gen. E. S. Osborne, Capt. J. C. Paine, Capt. A. Darte, Col. H. A. Laycock and Col. S. H. Sturdevant, all members of the Loyal Legion.

The cortege proceeded to the cemetery in the following order: City police, Conyngham Post, City Council, clergy, carriers, pall bearers, hearse, family, friends. At the grave chaplain Frear conducted services according to the military ritual, and three volleys were fired over the grave. The firing squad in command of A. Barnes was composed of S. Bonham, R. Wallace, Roger Miller, James R. Griner, John Dickinson, D. S. Glark, T. A. Edwards, Henry Walters.

Among the out-of-town friends were Judge Craig of Mauch Chunk and attorney Bertollette of the same place. He and Gen. McCartney were associated in the Mud Run trial, Judge Craig being on the bench. There were also in attendance most of the members of the Bar Association, members of the City Council, police and fire departments, and a large delegation from Conyngham Post.

### FORMER "RECORD" EDITOR.

**Professor William J. Bruce, After a Prominent Career, Dies in Philadelphia.**

[Wilkes-Barre Times, Jan. 5, 1894.]

The death of Professor William J. Bruce is announced. He will be remembered by many as the one time editor of the RECORD, in this city. It was during the time Dr. Bradley owned the paper. He occupied the editorial chair in 1877, and his polished, incisive and learned labors in behalf of Governor Hoyt, who was that year the Republican candidate for governor, as well as in other editorial lines, will be remembered. Mr. Bruce was a ripe scholar and a graceful writer. Prior to his engagement by Bradley, he had for a time edited the *Wyoming Valley Journal*, a weekly paper started by John Armstrong at Pittston and before that was the principal of a private school for girls and young ladies in West Pittston. He was a close student and a man of extraordinary mental endowments. His wife was his equal in the possession of lofty scholastic attainments and classic graces. She was a woman of rare personal charms and social accomplishments. After leaving the RECORD Mr. Bruce went to New Jersey and started a paper at Burlington. Here he attracted the attention of the politicians, and it was not long before he was called to responsible duties in connection with the politics of that State.

He was private secretary to Gen. Sewell when that gentleman was president of the New Jersey Senate. He also served Gen. Sewell in the same capacity when the General was a member of the United States Senate. Mr. Bruce was subsequently made secretary of the United States Senate Library Committee and later on secretary of Committee on Indian Affairs, which position he occupied many years. He was also for a time secretary of the New Jersey State League of Republican Clubs and was historian of the Yorktown Battalion organization. Recently his health failed and he retired from active work. Mrs. Bruce died suddenly a few months ago, and in his weakened condition Mr. Bruce never rallied from the shock. His illness being a mental disorder, he was removed to an asylum in Philadelphia for private treatment, at which place his death occurred on Jan. 3, 1894.

### THE LATE EMANUEL MARSHALL.

**He Was a Great Grandson of Edward Marshall Who Figured in the Historic Walking Purchase of 1837.**

The death of Emanuel Marshall on Feb. 23, 1894, at his home near the toll-gate on the Wilkes-Barre Mountain, on the way to Oliver's Mill, recalls the fact that he comes from an old pre-Revolutionary family. He was fond of relating the stories he had heard when a boy of the troublous times of the last century. His brother, Nelson Marshall, died in this city some five or six years ago.

His great grandfather, Edward Marshall, was one of the men who was employed by the Proprietary Government in September, 1737, to participate in what has since been the historic walking purchase. Penn had bought a lot of land on the Delaware half a century before, but he was such an honest old Quaker that he would take no advantage of the Indians and so the three day's walk, which was to limit the purchase, was only such a one as Penn himself and the Indians could accomplish.

Not so scrupulous were his successors. They employed men who were famous for their abilities as fast walkers and they were to have a compensation of five pounds in money and 500 acres of land in the purchase. The limit of the purchase was to be a point as far distant as could be walked from sunrise of one day to noon of the next day. Of the three, Marshall was the only one who did not break down, he covering sixty miles. The Delaware Indians always considered that the Proprietaries had swindled them, nor would they relinquish the land until compelled by the Six Nations, six years later, to do so. The walk was undoubtedly one of the causes which afterwards led to war and bloodshed; and the first murder in the province, Dr. Egle says in his History of Pennsylvania, was on the very land they believed themselves cheated out of. When the Surveyor General afterwards passed over this ground it took him four days to cover what Marshall had covered in a day and a half.

Of Marshall's companions one who broke down on the way never recovered from the strain, but lived only a few years. The second who also fell by the way died of exhaustion in three days. Marshall, who was a native of Bucks County, was a noted hunter and chain carrier. He lived and died on Marshall's Island in the Delaware, reaching the age of 90.

### NEARLY A HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

Death of Mrs. Susan Houpt at Dallas — Other Deaths in Wilkes-Barre and Vicinity.

The announcement of the decease on Saturday, Jan 27, 1894, at the advanced age of 96 years, one month and five days, of Mrs. Susan Houpt, widow of the late Phillip Houpt of this city, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John Welch in Dallas, will bring to the notice of many of the older readers of the RECORD a name familiar to them in the years gone by, when they were among the more active citizens of this town and valley, and all who knew the deceased, whether personally or by reputation, will mark the termination of a long, useful, respected and respectable earthly career. Mrs. Houpt, whose maiden name was Susan Arndt, was born Dec. 23, 1797, in Northampton County, this State. In 1815, or nearly seventy-nine years ago, she married, at the age of 18 years, Phillip Houpt of the same place, and in 1820 they removed to Newport Township, this county, where they purchased a farm and resided until 1849, at which time they came to Wilkes-Barre, and here lived together on Ross street until 1880, when her husband died. Since then she has lived, first with her son, M. B. Houpt of this city, and later with her daughter, Mrs. Welch of Dallas. The deceased and her husband were among the leading, prosperous and influential citizens of Newport for nearly thirty years, and during their residence of thirty-one years in Wilkes-Barre were well known and highly respected by all. Eleven children were born of their marriage, of whom six survive; M. B. Houpt and Mrs. Anning Dilley of this city, Mrs. John Welch of Dallas, Barnett Houpt, of White Pigeon, Mich; Ziba Houpt and Charles Houpt of Oalo. The names of their deceased children are: Ellen, wife of Robert Robins of Nanticoke; Theresa, wife of Daniel Owen of Wilkes-Barre; Lavina, wife of Jacob Frey of Williamsport, and Sallie, wife of Bentley Crane, of Shalersville, Ohio.

The deceased enjoyed the full possession of her mental faculties until within a few days of her death, and thus the latter as well as the former years of her long life revealed to her a deserved and goodly share of personal comfort and happiness.

She was a member of the German Reformed Church, and during the latter years of

her life enjoyed, in the seclusion of her home, the comforts of her religious faith, which in her former days of physical strength and usefulness made her an active member of the church. The funeral was private, at the residence of her son, M. B. Houpt, corner of Ross and Franklin streets, this city, on Tuesday at 2 p. m. Burial at Hanover Green Cemetery.

### OBITUARY.

DR. JOHN T. DOYLE.

In the death of Dr. Doyle, which occurred Friday, Feb. 9, 1894, Pennsylvania loses one of its most eminent physicians and litterateurs. While in active practice he was considered the leading physician in the eastern part of Pennsylvania and almost daily dozens of people were turned away from his office on South Washington street, he being unable to attend to all those who sought his treatment. His large intellect and fertile mind were also shown in literary works and his spicy verses were always subjects of comment long after they were written. Many of his poems are published in local works. He had no mean histrionic ability and his appearance in local dramas was marked by the most flattering success.

The doctor has not been in the active practice of his profession for five years, devoting much of his attention to the cultivation of his farm at Bear Creek.

Dr. John T. Doyle was born in Dublin, Ireland, Dec. 9, 1837, and was consequently 56 years of age. He came from one of the oldest and best families in Ireland. He was educated in private schools and at Trinity College, Dublin. He graduated in surgery at the Royal College of Surgeons at Dublin, and for a time was assistant surgeon in the 3d Madras Army Corps. For eighteen months he was in the service of the East India Co., when he resigned and entered private practice in Australia. He returned to Ireland in 1863, and four years later came to America and settled in Wilkes-Barre, where he has since resided.

For several years he was connected with the London *Saturday Review* and the *Illustrated London News*, contributing various literary articles and descriptive sketches of scenes in Australia. In an article entitled "Prospects of the Irish at Home and Abroad," published many years ago, he prophetically demon-

strated the land question in Irish matters long before the deceased leader, Charles Stewart Parnell, was heard of.

Of the doctor's poetical effusions, "The Sunbeam and the Brook" is considered the most smoothly versified and the one that flows most freely from nature.

Dr. Doyle was thrice married—twice to sisters, daughters of the late J. Matthias Hollenback, who was related to J. W. Hollenback of this city.

He leaves one son, James, who is employed on the Lancaster Traction Company's line, this State. He has been in attendance at his father's bedside for several days. Mrs. Doyle has also been faithful in her ministrations and has done everything in her power to sooth him in his suffering.

The following is considered one of the best poems of the late Dr. J. T. Doyle:

I stand in the silence that death has made,  
By the side of my loved one's tomb,  
And fondly fancy, her phantom shade  
Is blent with the shadows that fall and fade  
O'er the grass-grown grave, where we mourning  
    laid

All the pride of her earthly bloom.

The flowers and buds that in death's dark days  
We wreathed on her robe of rest,  
Seem springing to life from her shroud of clay,  
And nod in a wistful and meaning way,  
As though thro' their forms she would fain convey  
    A sign to my sadful breast.

The anthem'd winds that around me sing,  
Are surely her spirit voice;  
For they move like the breath of an angel's wing,  
As it used to do when 't was wont to ring  
Thro' my raptured soul, and went caroling  
    To bid me in love rejoice.

The silken leaves, with their rustling sound,  
Strew softly the moss-clothed clay;  
And silver grasses array the ground,  
As tho' e'en the earth she had meetly gowned,  
To welcome my steps to her lowly mound—  
    To her home in the shadows grey.

'Tis sweet to draw thus a balm for woe,  
From the shadow-land's dole so dread,  
And to feel that fancy's eulvening glow,  
Like distant sun as it shines on snow,  
Blends with our sorrows, to kindly throw  
    In sheen o'er the dust of the dead.

Oh shrouds! and sorrows! and stillness deep!  
I thank ye, that after all  
Ye yield me my love in the winds that creep,  
In the fragrant leaves that around me heap,  
In the blossoms that waken and buds that sleep—  
    In the shadows that fade and fall.

#### JOHN MILTON COURTRIGHT.

John Milton Courtright, well known in Luzerne County as the proprietor of the Courtright House on West Market street, died Feb. 22, 1894, of peritonitis, aged 66 years.

Deceased was born on the old Courtright farm in Plains Township Sept. 12, 1828, and was a son of Benjamin Courtright. He worked on the farm until 1852, when he went to California, but returned in 1858. He purchased the White Horse Hotel in this city but rented it to Mr. Perrin and then to Mr. VanCampen, he being engaged in the mercantile business with his brother, James, in the meantime. He, however, again took charge of the hotel and kept it until about five years ago, when he leased it to his nephew. He has in his time served as a county commissioner, a member of the city council and has been for a long time a stockholder of the Wilkes-Barre Bridge Co., the Wilkes-Barre Water Co., and other corporations. He is the first to die out of a family of six children, the oldest of whom is 72 and the youngest 58 years of age. He is survived by four brothers and a sister—William Hamilton of Palmyra, Mo.; Benjamin Franklin of Lackawanna County; James of Kingston; Thomas W. of Newark, Ill., and Mary E. (Mrs. Sharp), of Wyoming. His wife also survives but no children.

#### MRS. ABRAM NESBITT.

Mrs. Sara Goodwin Nesbitt, the beloved wife of Abram Nesbitt, died at her home on Maple street in Kingston Thursday afternoon, Feb. 22, 1894. About four months ago she sustained a stroke of paralysis from which she partially recovered and in a couple of months was able to be about the house again and to take an occasional carriage ride. But she never gained her old time strength.

On Saturday she suffered a second stroke and gradually failed until she passed away. Mrs. Nesbitt was of a quiet disposition, essentially a home body and while every opportunity was at hand never took part to any extent in social affairs except in those of the M. E. Church, in which she was an active member and open-handed giver. Mrs. Nesbitt was a daughter of the late Abram Goodwin and Sarah Myers Goodwin, and was born in Kingston in 1838. She was a sister of Abram Goodwin, of Geneseo, N. Y., late of Kingston, and of Mrs. John D. Hoyt, lately deceased. She is survived by

husband, to whom she was married in 1862, and four children, George F., Sadie, Abram, Jr., and Fred, all of whom, as well as her brother, Abram Goodwin, were at her bedside when she died. She was educated in the Kingston public schools and at Wyoming Seminary.

—Mrs. William Bidall, whose death was noted April 15, 1893, celebrated with her husband the sixty-fourth anniversary of her marriage June 16, 1892. She was the mother of choir master Bidall of St. John's Lutheran Church.

#### Pennsylvania at Gettysburg.

Everything concerning the battle of Gettysburg is told in two splendid volumes which have been received at the RECORD office with compliments of Governor Robert E. Pattison. They are published by the State and each volume comprises more than 500 pages. They give an account of the legislation by which the State of Pennsylvania, in order to properly commemorate the heroic part played by its regiments at Gettysburg, voted to erect suitable monuments at a cost of \$1,500 each. There are 80 of these monuments on the field and each is shown in the volumes in half tone illustrations of unusual excellence. All the addresses made at the dedication of the several monuments and at the general dedication are given in full. There is thus gathered into these two volumes a mass of history concerning this historic battle that seems to leave not the slightest detail untold. Of all the monuments there is probably none that is more severely plain than that of our own 143d Regiment, but its absence of ornament will make it all the more enduring. On its polished face is the State coat of arms, lion and unicorn, the badge of the first corps (a blue disc and a description of the location of the regiment in those days of fighting. It records that of the total 465 present at Gettysburg, the regiment lost more than half, as follows: killed, officers 1, men 20; wounded, officers 11, men 130; captured or missing, men 91.

But the striking feature of the monument is the bas relief, life-size representation of Sergt. Ben Crippen. An English officer, who was with the Confederate General Hill, as a spectator, says of him: "A Yankee color-bearer floated his standard in the field and the regiment fought around it, and when at last it was obliged to retreat, the color-bearer retreated last of all, turning round now and then to shake his fist in the face of the Confederates. He was shot. Gen. Hill was sorry when he met his fate."

#### IMPORTANT TO LOCAL HISTORIANS

The State Has Issued Another Volume of the Pennsylvania Archives, Devoted Entirely to the Early Connecticut Settlement of the Wyoming Region.

On a previous occasion the RECORD has referred to the fact that there was being printed at Harrisburg, volume 18, of the second series of Pennsylvania Archives. It is now off the press and is specially important to this locality, inasmuch as it is made up wholly of documents relating to the Connecticut settlement of the Wyoming Valley. The volume is issued by the State and is edited by the State librarian, Dr. William H. Egle. Comprised in the contained matter is the following:

Minutes of the Susquehanna Company, 1753-1801, containing a list of all who subscribed to lands in Wyoming from 1753 to 1801.

Miscellaneous papers relating to the Wyoming controversy. This includes "A List of Yankee Prisoners, 1774;" "List of the Men Shut Up in the Garrison at Wyoming, 1784;" "One Hundred Persons Driven from Wyoming, 1784;" "Memorial of the Inhabitants of Luzerne, 1796;" "List of Original Proprietors, Providence Township, 1773," etc., etc.

The Dutch Records of New Netherlands in connection with the Boundaries of Connecticut (Translation).

Letters of the Pennsylvania Claimants to the State Commissioners.

Letters from the Secretary of the Land Office to the State Commissioners appointed under the act of April 4, 1799.

Letters from the Commissioners of Pennsylvania to various persons.

Book of the Fifteen Townships, with map.

Journal of the Commissioners appointed to execute an act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled an act for the purpose of adjusting the titles to lands in Bedford and Ulster townships in Luzerne and Lycoming counties. This act was passed on the 19th day of March, 1810.

An examination of the Connecticut claim to lands in Pennsylvania, 1774, with map by Rev. William Smith, D. D.

Connecticut Records as examined by the State of Pennsylvania in 1782.

#### A Phenomenal Age.

The Philadelphia papers report the death in that city of a woman, whose age is claimed to be 123 years. Her name was Mrs. Annie Bailey and she was born in Chambersburg, Pa.

## EITHER OF TWO SITES.

### CITY ATTORNEY M'LEAN DELIVERS AN OPINION

**At the Request of the County Commissioners With Reference to the Court House Site—It May be Built Either on the Present Site or on the River Common Above Union street—Mr. McLean Quotes the Law on the Subject and Goes into the History of the Sites—An Important Opinion.**

City attorney W. S. McLean last week delivered to the county commissioners an exhaustive opinion with reference to the new court house site, prepared at the request of the county commissioners.

#### MR. M'LEAN'S OPINION.

The commissioners of the County of Luzerne have submitted the following questions for decision:

1st, Has the County of Luzerne the right to occupy the Public Square of the city of Wilkes-Barre with the present court house?

2nd, Has the County of Luzerne the right to occupy the Public Square of the city of Wilkes-Barre with a new court house?

3rd, Has the city of Wilkes-Barre the right to lease the commons, or any part thereof, on the river bank between Union and North streets to the County of Luzerne as a site for the court house and public offices?

We answer the first question in the affirmative. We are clearly of the opinion that the county has the right to occupy the Public Square with the present court house. This right, in our opinion, can be sustained upon two grounds:

1, The Public Square has been occupied by the County of Luzerne with the court house and public buildings continuously since about 1791. The county was organized in 1786, and the act of assembly authorized certain commissioners therein named to procure a site for the court house and public offices. We must presume, particularly at this late day, that the commissioners selected the Public Square as a proper site and obtained the proper assurances in writing for the privilege for so occupying the Public Square, from the public authorities of that day, probably the committee of the proprietors of the town

of Wilkes-Barre. At the time of the building of the first court house the Square was held under a Connecticut claim and the borough of Wilkes-Barre had not yet been incorporated. The town plot had, at that time, been laid out, having as appurtenances thereto the Public Square, then called Centre Square, and the commons along the river from South to North streets. In 1801 the commissioners appointed under the Compromise act of 1799, offering compensation to Pennsylvania claimants, etc., surveyed and certified and issued their certificate for the Square and commons to the committee of the town of Wilkes-Barre. The successors in office of this committee in 1869 conveyed their interest in said premises to the burgess and town council of the borough of Wilkes-Barre, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in 1870, recognizing the survey and certificate of the commissioners aforesaid and the said conveyance by the successors of the committee of the town of Wilkes-Barre to the burgess and town council of the borough of Wilkes-Barre, executed and delivered her patent for the Public Square and the river commons to the burgess and town council of the borough of Wilkes-Barre. In our opinion, when the survey was made and certificate issued to the town committee of Wilkes-Barre in 1801, the county had a vested interest in Public Square, viz: The right to occupy it with the court house and public offices, presuming, of course, that the commissioners under the act incorporating the county, had performed their duties pursuant to the directions of said act in procuring a site and an assurance in writing therefor from the proper authorities. The right to occupy the Public Square with a court house and public offices was, of course, of a public nature and we must hold at this late day, nothing to the contrary appearing, that it was acquired lawfully from the same committee or their successors in office who procured the survey and certificate for the premises in question in 1801. It is not far fetched, therefore, to hold that the right, acquired by the committee under their certificate, was subject to the right on the part of the county to occupy the Public Square with her court house and public offices. If the effect of the certificate on trusts and equities, existing prior to the issue thereof, was raised exclusively between private persons, perhaps the law would be otherwise. The right on the part of the county to occupy the Square with a court

house and public buildings has also been recognized by the legislature and municipal authorities from time to time.

2. The right on the part of the county to occupy the great squares of the county towns of the commonwealth with court houses and public offices is part of the common law of our commonwealth and has so been declared by the Supreme Court of our State. Chief Justice Gibson, in the case of the Commonwealth vs. Bowman, 3 Pa. Rep. 206, delivering the opinion of the court, says: "To allow the county reasonable accommodation for its court house and offices in the great square of the county towns is one of the usages of our State which has acquired the consistence of law." This doctrine is also recognized as law in the Am. & Eng. Enc. of Law, volume 17, page 411, foot note 1.

The second question,—viz: Has the county of Luzerne the right to occupy the Public Square of the city of Wilkes-Barre with a new court house?—we also answer in the affirmative, providing, of course, that the new court house be built within a reasonable time after the old court house is torn down. The city of Wilkes-Barre succeeded to all the property rights of the borough of Wilkes-Barre, and is therefore the owner of the Public Square, subject to the county's right to occupy the same for purposes of a court house and public offices, and, on an abandonment of the use of this right on the part of the county, we are of opinion that a forfeiture might result.

The third question,—viz: Has the city of Wilkes-Barre the right to lease the commons on the river bank between Union and North streets to the county of Luzerne for a site for the court house and public offices?—we also answer in the affirmative. The commons in question, which are the commons between Union and North streets, together with the commons between South and Union streets, were set apart as public commons by the town committee of Wilkes-Barre as early as 1778 and, as already stated, they were surveyed for and certified to be town commons as early as 1801, and when the borough was organized in 1806 they became part and parcel of the borough of Wilkes-Barre. There is no evidence that they were ever dedicated to public use as public commons for the benefit of the public by private individuals. They seem

always to have belonged to the public authorities from the inception of the Connecticut claim, and have always been controlled by the public authorities as grounds set apart for the benefit of the public for air, exercise and amusement until, by permission of the legislature, part of the grounds, viz: Those above Union street, were leased and are now in the possession of the Wilkes-Barre Gas Co. These commons also, by two several acts of assembly, have been formally dedicated to public use as public commons. By the act of 1907 the commons below Union street were set apart, "as a public common and to remain such forever." By act of 1846 the commons above Union street were "set apart as a public common and to be under the control and jurisdiction of the town council." In 1852 an act of assembly was passed which authorized the council to rent the commons above Union street "for the best price they can obtain." Before the passage of this act, the commons both below and above Union street were public parks in the full sense of the term, as the commons below Union street still are, and the municipality could not use them or permit them to be used for any other purpose than for the benefit of the public and as commons are usually enjoyed. Grounds like these are regarded as easements for the benefit of the public and the local authorities have no implied power to authorize private dwellings or other private structures thereon, or to lease or to sell the same, and if private dwellings and other private structures are erected thereon, they are indictable nuisances. Commonwealth vs. Bush, 14 Pa. 186. It would seem also that the legislature even cannot permit these structures to be built on grounds of this character or authorize the municipality to lease or sell the same where they have been dedicated as public commons or parks by individuals, and where abutters, by title derived from them, have acquired vested interests. Dillon on municipal corporations, section 651. But when public commons or parks are held by a municipality for public use and are not subject to any special trust, the legislature may authorize the municipality to sell and dispose of them or to apply them to uses different from those to which they are usually devoted. Am & Eng. Enc. of Law, volume 17, page 417. The commons in question are not, in our opinion, subject to any special trust. No abutter on them can set up any right to

have them always remain commons by reason of a dedication of them to public use as public commons by any of his predecessors in the line of his title, for, as already stated, these commons were dedicated to public use by the public authorities at the very inception of the Connecticut claim and before any individual rights could attach to the same.

For these reasons, we are, therefore, clearly of the opinion that the county has the right to occupy the Public Square with her present court house, or with a new one, and that the city of Wilkes-Barre has the power to lease to the county of Luzerne, for the best rental it can obtain, the commons or any part thereof, now in the possession of the city of Wilkes-Barre, above Union street, as a site for a court house and the public offices. Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM S. McLEAN.

To the commissioners of Luzerne County.  
May 8, 1894.

## ANOTHER OPINION.

### ONE OF THE MOST PROMINENT LAWYERS

**Of the Luzerne County Bar Quotes Law and Authority to the Effect That the New Court House Cannot Be Legally Located on the Present Site—An Opinion Counter to That of City Attorney McLean.**

One of the most prominent members of the Luzerne bar sends the following to the RECORD, in which he expresses the opinion that the county has no right to use the present site.

#### THE OPINION.

I have read the opinion of Mr. McLean in this morning's RECORD with much interest. But his conclusion that because the first court house was erected upon the Public Square, that, therefore, the borough (now the city) of Wilkes-Barre holds its title subject to the right of the county to occupy the same ground for a new court house, is what in logic is known as a *non sequitur*. It does not follow that because the town authorities assented to the occupancy of the Square by

the county in the year 1787 (or whenever the first court house was built), for the erection of the public buildings, that, therefore, the town is estopped from asserting its title now that another court house is to be built. It is true, as was said by Judge Gibson in *Commonwealth vs. Bowman*, 3, Penn. St. R. 206, "to allow the county reasonable accommodation for its court house and offices in the great square of the county town is one of the usages of our State which has acquired the consistence of law." This language means what it says and no more. It refers to the usage in question as justifying the town authorities in *allowing* the county to occupy their public square. It does not assert any right on the part of the county to occupy the ground in question without the consent of the town. That this is Judge Gibson's idea is clearly shown by the context. We quote from the opinion as follows: "The Public Square is as much a highway as if it were a street; and neither the county nor the public can block it up to the prejudice of the public as an individual. . . . It is dedicated to the use of all the citizens as a highway, and all have a right to pass over it without unreasonable let or hindrance."

It is well settled that lapse of time furnishes no defense for an encroachment on a public right, such as the erection of an obstruction on a street or public square. *Commonwealth vs. McDonald*, 16 St. R. 395.

Our Public Square exists by virtue of the fact that it was set apart as such in the original town plot of 1773 made by Captain Durkee. This was the original dedication of the land in question to public use, and it was recognized as a "Centre Square" in all the old maps of Wilkes-Barre as well as by the common consent of the inhabitants of the town. It has never been sold, transferred or conveyed to any individual. It always has been and is now public property, a highway over which the people of the whole State have the right of way in the same sense that they have it over a public road or a navigable river. The county of Luzerne has no more right to obstruct this highway than she would have to erect her buildings across Main streets.

To assert that the city of Wilkes-Barre can be compelled to surrender her right and title to this square to the county for the purpose of the erection of public buildings with the result of closing it up, is to ignore the maxims of the law, as well as the adjudicated



cases on the subject. As early as 1827 our Supreme Court held in the case of *Commonwealth vs. McDonald*, 16 St. R. 392, that a town plot showing a dedication of land to public use was competent evidence of such dedication and that the courts have no authority to vacate a highway thus established. The act of 13 June, 1836, which provides for the vacating of roads says in its 22d section, "that nothing in this act shall be construed to give authority to any of the courts of this Commonwealth to vacate any lane, street or highway within any city, borough, town plot or any town or village laid out by the late proprietaries or by any other person and dedicated to the public use."

The present court house is the third one that has been placed on the Public Square. It is natural to inquire why this misuse of the highway has been submitted to for so many years. But the answer to this inquiry is to be found in the fact that it was customary to do this in the earlier years of our history, and that no one cared to object, and hence the authority of the legislature to authorize the present location of the court house was unchallenged. When population is scarce and land abundant the people do not need such open spaces in the centre of their towns. Formerly it was no uncommon thing to find house lots containing a half acre or more of land almost in the centre of the town. But our town has outgrown such luxuries, and now we must be content with land enough for a house, with a small extra space for our clothes lines. The people need squares and parks for recreation and rest. The city needs them as ornaments to its *tout ensemble*. Chicago, Washington, Newark and many other of our most prosperous communities have scattered throughout their limits small but beautiful spaces such as our square would be, and these constitute by common consent one of their most attractive features.

#### An Old House, but a Good One.

The Ziba Bennett homestead, North Main street, opposite the RECORD office, now being demolished, was built some 63 years ago. The timbers in it are perfectly sound. Both of Mr. Bennett's children (Mrs. Martha B. Phelps and George S. Bennett) were born in the house, which in its day was one of the finest in town. Workmen last week found some old papers in the garret. One was a *Christian Advocate* of 1849, George Lane and Levi Scott, publishers, and George Peck, editor.

#### President John Dickinson on Wyoming.

In the valuable volume published not long ago by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, entitled "Life and Times of John Dickinson," by Charles J. Stille, LL. D., is an interesting reference to the Pennsylvania-Connecticut land troubles of the last century. Very little of such discussion on that subject as has emanated from Philadelphia has been friendly to the Connecticut claim, but Dr. Stille does not hesitate to use strong language in condemnation of the Pennsylvania authorities. He alludes to "the disgraceful and iniquitous proceedings of parties professing to act under the authority of the State in their attempt to dispossess by force the claimants of lands which were held in the Wyoming Valley under the Connecticut title." President Dickinson's sympathies were with the Connecticut people, though he stood alone, the Supreme Executive Council (of which he was the head) and the Assembly, being against him. He vigorously remonstrated against expelling the Connecticut people, against whose claims the Decree of Trenton had decided in 1783. His remonstrance was joined to that of another governmental body called the Council of Censors, but it was utterly unheeded by the agents of the Pennsylvania landholders, who set to work to drive away from the Wyoming region the Connecticut settlers as "intruders."

Two pages are devoted, 248-249, to the report of these Censors. They deplore the fact that the Decree of Trenton had not been followed by peaceable measures on the part of Pennsylvania. "It [the Trenton Decree] promised," they say, "the happiest consequences to the confederacy, as an example was thereby set of two contending sovereignties adjusting their differences in a court of justice, instead of involving themselves, and perhaps their confederates, in war and bloodshed."

The Censors express regret that the Connecticut people, now become subjects of Pennsylvania, were not left to prosecute their claims in proper course, but that instead, troops had been sent to Wyoming, for no other apparent purpose than that of promoting the interests of the former Pennsylvania claimants; that these troops were continued there without the license of Congress, and in violation of the confederation; that these soldiers and other disorderly persons were guilty of gross cruelty, in inhumanly expelling the New England settlers, and driving them towards the Delaware through an almost impenetrable wilderness; that these soldiers had been maintained at a public cost of over four thousand pounds, without any public advantage in view; that the authority for raising these troops was given privately and entered on the secret journals of the House, and concealed after the war with the savages had ceased and the inhabitants of Wyoming had submitted to the government of Pennsylvania. They close their remonstrance as follows: "Impressed with the multiplied evils which have sprung from the improvident management of this business, we hold it up to censure, to prevent, if possible, any further instances of bad government which might involve and distract our new formed nation."

This humane remonstrance had no effect whatever upon the Supreme Council or the Assembly and they both seem, says Dr. Stille, to have been wholly under the influence of the Pennsylvania land claimants. President Dickinson, whose humanity had been shown on a previous occasion by his efforts to supply the wretched inhabitants of the valley with food when they had suffered the loss of everything by an ice-flood, and whose sense of justice and ideas of policy were both shocked by the violence committed on the Wyoming people, now interposed once more

for their relief, and protested vigorously against a continued military oppression of the Connecticut settlers. But, like those which preceded it, his impressive protest produced no change in the legislation of the State or in the action of the militia who were sent to Wyoming. Nor was peace restored until afterwards, justice, as urged by him, was done to the settlers and until the inhabitants who had fought with desperate valor for the preservation of their homes, had the defective Connecticut titles to the lands which they had bought in good faith, quieted and confirmed by the irrevocable authority of Pennsylvania.

F. C. J.

#### Incidents of 1778.

Charles M. Williams of Plaineville had a visit some months ago from an aged lady, who comes from the pioneer Stark family, and she jotted down the following narrative:

Mrs Jerusha Cooper, widow of George Cooper, whose father's name was Nathan Stark, and who had five brothers, one James Stark lived and died in Ohio. The others lived and died about Tunkhannock. She gives an interesting story of the Monockonoek Island that I never saw in print or heard before. Her youngest uncle, brother of her father, was born on the island in a small house, in which her grandfather lived with his family over one hundred years ago. She had three aunts: Mary and Nancy died in Ohio, Mrs. Lizzie Dickson, widow of Lewis Dickson, died near Tunkhannock a few years ago, aged over 97 years. Mrs. Cooper thinks Earl Carey, after whom Lake Carey was named, was a cousin to her father. They were all originally from Dutchess County, N. Y. Mrs. Cooper says her uncle, William Stark, who was on horseback, overtook the fugitives who were fleeing from the valley after the massacre, July 8, 1778. They were tired and hungry. He carried a bag of flour on his horse, which they mixed with water in the end of the bag and baked on a stone they heated for the purpose. Mrs. Cooper, though 87 years old, is quite smart and has a good memory. Her home is at Princess Ann, Somerset County, Md. She thinks she will never go back there to live, but spend the remainder of her days with her children. Her family, that is living, are Hamilton, in Nebraska; Draper, in Harrisburg, Pa.; Benjamin D., West Pittston; Henry, Chester.



Westmoreland 5<sup>th</sup> July 1778

This doth hereby certify that Lieut Elphinstone  
Levell has Surrendered his Garrison with all  
his people to Government and to remain  
in Detachment during this present contest with  
Great Britain and America, on consideration  
of which Col John Butler Superintendent  
of the Six Nations of Indians their Allies &c.  
with Hayingwaute the Chief of the Seneca  
Nation and the other Chief Warriors of the  
Six Nations do promise that they shall be  
in the quiet possession of their places with  
their Families and shall be fully protected  
from insult as far as lies in their Power  
and provided they should be taken it is  
our desire that they may forthwith be  
released

John Butler  
Hayingwaute

## WYOMING'S MASSACRE.

### THE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

Of the Memorable and Historic Battle Again Commemorated—Judge Sylvester Dana Talks About Connecticut—She Had the First Detailed Constitution in the World's History—Sidney R. Miner Describes the Indian Fury, Queen Esther, Doctor Gore of Chicago and State Librarian Egler present.

Magnificent weather favored the commemorative exercises at Wyoming July 31, 1894, and the attendance was large and enthusiastic, perhaps even larger than that of last year. The ample tent was spread and it proved none too large for the throng. The monument was hung with flags and at its base was a profusion of roses. There were seats for all and plenty of cold water. Seated alongside of President Calvin Parsons were vice-presidents Charles A. Miner and Benjamin Dorrance, also Dr. J. R. Gore of Chicago, State Librarian Egler and the participants in the program.

The occasion was graced by the presence, in a body, of a numerous delegation of the Daughters of the Revolution, under the lead of their regent, Mrs. W. H. McCartney. The Sons of the Revolution also attended in a body, wearing their badges. There were also present numerous visitors from various neighboring towns. The exercises were not too long, scarcely two hours, and they were agreeably interspersed with selections by the 9th Regiment band, present in uniform. For a little while it looked as if Professor Alexander was going to bring rain with him, but the threatening thunder clouds passed round Wyoming.

After Rev. Dr. Frear had made the opening prayer, Capt. Calvin Parsons made a brief and informal address as chairman. He alluded to his first appearance as a soldier on this spot in 1833. He was delighted that the large tent was so well occupied, and another would be had if necessary. Only few of the old men survived, but it was good to see them still coming to the monument each 3rd

of July, and with larger and more interested audiences each year.

Led by the orchestra, the audience rose and sang, with excellent effect, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," a selection that is never omitted from the 3rd of July programs. The singing was hearty and enthusiastic.

Then came the historical address by Judge Sylvester Dana, of Concord, N. H., a grandson of Auderson Dana, who perished at Wyoming in 1778, and, he stated, probably the only living grandson. Judge Dana is a well preserved man of 77 years. His subject was "The Fatherland of the First Wyoming Settlers," by which, of course, he referred to Connecticut. The address was not voluminous and was an intensely interesting historical study of the early settlements of Connecticut and of some of the institutions of that State. The address was well written and well delivered, though it dealt only indirectly with Wyoming.

Judge Dana alluded with pleasure to the fact that these organizations of a historical character are springing up and they are useful in keeping alive the fires of patriotism, already burning too low, and to hold up to the rising generations good examples for their imitation, as well as personifications of evil for their avoidance and contempt.

#### SOMETHING ABOUT CONNECTICUT.

In ancient, very ancient, times, said the speaker, the world was generally considered to be flat and that it rested on an elephant, the elephant on a turtle, the turtle on an enormous serpent. As to what held the serpent up nobody could tell. All beyond was shadowy and indefinite, and the speculations of the ancients extended no further. Now, said the speaker, I inquire what did this Wyoming world rest on? Upon the back of the elephant, Connecticut. Upon what did the Connecticut elephant stand? Upon the turtle back of old England. Now whether the English turtle rested upon the coils of a serpent of Roman, Danish or Norman origin the speaker would not inquire, but he would proceed with some considerations of Connecticut, though with little claims to originality.

He then proceeded to tell how Connecticut was settled. The Dutch from the mouth of the Hudson were in New Haven harbor as early as 1615, but they did nothing further for seventeen years, when (1633) they built a fort near the present city of Hartford, and

English emigrants passed up the same river the next year, regardless of Dutch protests, and built a fort. But all attempts of settlement prior to 1636 were practically failures.

Reference was made to the hostilities which the Massachusetts settlers experienced with the Indians, and how in 1637 the settlers turned on their implacable savage foes and ruthlessly slaughtered them, thus breaking the power of the Pequots. Reference was made to King Phillip's war in 1675, the last Indian outbreak to disturb the tranquility of Connecticut.

For a brief period there were three distinct colonies within the present limits of Connecticut—New Haven, Saybrook and Connecticut proper, though all ultimately merged for the purposes of greater protection and better government.

An element which contributed largely to the prosperity and happiness of the settlers was their system of government, which was more liberal and popular than that of any other colony in those primitive times. The people found themselves outside of visible authority, royal or proprietary and they at once instituted town organizations—elected town officers and appointed magistrates. The latter promulgated laws, in style much like military orders, and copying, to some extent, the regulations of the Mosais dispensation.

Matters went on in this way until 1639, when the people of Connecticut determined to have a written constitution in order to clearly define the rights of the people and the machinery of their government. Accordingly at their instance Roger Ludlow, assisted no doubt by Rev. Thomas Hooker, drafted the first detailed constitution that was ever established upon earth. I say detailed constitution, for I am well aware that the document drawn up on board the Mayflower, some eighteen years previously, has the credit of being the first constitution in effect. It was, however, a very brief document—associating its signers together in a body politic, but with no specific provisions as to its practical operation. Therefore to Roger Ludlow must primarily be awarded the honor of framing the first written detailed constitution or system of government that ever went into effect.

The speaker then alluded to a charter obtained from the mother country by John Winthrop, than which, a more favorable

charter was never granted any colony by any English monarch, and when the revolutionary war subsequently occurred, Connecticut people were not under the necessity of expelling a royal governor who had been appointed by the crown, and of improving a system of government, as did most of the other colonies, but they had a government already provided with a patriotic governor of their own choice, Jonathan Trumbull, "Brother Jonathan," as Washington was accustomed to call him. Indeed this charter was republican in all but the name, and so well did it operate that it was continued in force long after the revolution—down to the year 1818, before it was superseded by the formation of a regular constitution—having existed about 156 years.

Judge Dana alluded to the spirit of adventure which sent the Connecticut people out to establish settlements in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont. Nor was it surprising that they should have turned their faces toward this beautiful valley of Wyoming, where they at great cost had extinguished the Indian title and where their colony had been granted jurisdiction.

Passing reference was made to the punishment of witchcraft, but old England, too, was hanging witches and her law was unrepealed till 1786. Other colonies had similar laws and in Connecticut there was never a punishment for witchcraft. While in England capital punishment was applied to 31 crimes, it was applied to only 16 in Connecticut.

The speaker then went, in pleasant vein, into a consideration of the alleged "blue laws," which had no existence, but were the invention of an unprincipled Tory preacher named Peters. The speaker amused the audience by reading some of the more grotesque of the bogus laws. For example, doing away with juries, banishing priests, forbidding the giving of food to heretics, kissing on Sunday making mince pies, dancing, playing cards, playing musical instruments (except drum, trumpet and Jews harp) etc., etc. By being re-iterated over and over they have acquired credence in some quarters and been quoted as veritable history.

When Judge Dana took his seat he was most generously applauded.

After music by the orchestra Sidney R. Miner, Esq., read a brief paper devoted to the consideration of the Indian fury, Queen

Ether, and the part she is said to have played in the battle of Wyoming. It was an admirable study, well delivered and was received with every evidence of interest. It was particularly acceptable to the Daughters of the Revolution, who have been trying to purchase the historic rock on which the Indian squaw dashed out the brains of the prisoners, and by enclosing it save it from further vandalism.

#### WHO WAS QUEEN ESTHER?

Mr. Miner thought that the killing of the prisoners at the bloody rock by the ferocious Esther was demonstrated by the testimony of the survivors, as told in history. The speaker gave an account of Esther's life and family, with credit largely to Dr. W. H. Egle, state librarian.

I—A Frenchman by the name of Montour, who was generally called "Monsieur" Montour, and whose first name is not known, emigrated to Canada about 1665. By an Indian wife he had a son called *Jean*, a captain in the English service, and two daughters, whose first names are unknown.

II—One of these daughters, who was always called "Madame" Montour, was born about 1684. At the age of ten years she was captured by the Iroquois or Five Nation Indians, and adopted as a member of one of their tribes. She became the wife of Carondcwannan or Big Tree, a chief of the Oneida tribe, who, after the custom of the Indians, assumed for himself the name of Robert Hunter, a governor of New York. She is said by some writers to have been well educated and to have associated, to some extent, with people of refinement. She was treated with great consideration by the whites on account of her great influence over the Indians. This no doubt gave rise to the belief and statement of some writers that she, as well as her daughter Margaret and granddaughter Esther (for whom she was mistaken by Stone and other writers), was "much caressed" by the wealthy residents of Philadelphia and other places.

Madame Montour was the mother of three sons, Andrew, Lewis and Henry, and two daughters, Margaret and another sometimes called Catherine. She died decrepit and blind about 1753.

III. Margaret, commonly called "French Margaret," probably the eldest child of Madame Montour, was the wife of Peter Que-

beck or Katarionecha, a chief of the Iroquois, who is spoken of as "a man of good character." She had two sons, Nicholas and another whose name is unknown, and three daughters, Esther, Catherine and Mary, commonly called "Molly," and possibly other children.

IV. Esther, the eldest daughter of "French Margaret," became the wife of Echobund (also called Eghobund, Echogund or Echogohund), a chief of the Monsey or Wolf clan of the Susquehanna Delawares.

This clan is said to have founded the town of Sheshequin, on the site of the present Sheshequin or Ulster, Bradford county, in this State. Echobund was called the "king" of the tribe, and after his death his wife was generally known as "Queen Esther."

Esther had children probably, but only one son is mentioned—the one who is supposed to have been killed at Exeter the day before the battle of Wyoming.

She had, as I have already stated, two sisters. Catherine, whose husband was Thomas Huston or Hudson, called by the Indians Telenemut, has, like her grandmother Madame Montour, been by some writers mistaken for Queen Esther. She is supposed to have been the mother of Roland, "Stuttering" John and Belle Montour, all well-known characters in their time. Of Molly, the other sister, and the two brothers, very little, if anything, is known, except the fact of their existence.

It may strike you as odd that all the descendants of Monsieur Montour, female as well as male, bore his name. This is due, no doubt, to the custom among the Iroquois for the chief's title and power to be transmitted through the female line, together with the name, the wives of the chiefs retaining their maiden name even after marriage. The male descendants, however, did not change their names, for, as you will observe, they all retained the name of Montour as far as they have been traced.

Esther's town of Sheshequin was destroyed in the same year in which the massacre occurred, and she is said to have then removed to Long Point, New York, and to have died there, very aged, early in the present century, and to have been buried on the shore of one of the lakes.

Frank Stewart of Berwick read and recited a clever bit of original versification, "A Legend of Wild Wyoming," in which the "grasshopper war" figured.

Rev. J. Richards Boyle of Wilkes-Barre was down for a brief address, but was detained by a funeral.

Sketches of two deceased vice<sup>s</sup> presidents were read—of the late L. D. Shoemaker, by George B Kulp, Esq., and of the late Dr. H. Hollister of Scranton, by W. A. Wilcox, Esq., of Scranton. Mr. Kulp's sketch was a brief but excellent tribute. Mr. Wilcox gave an admirable sketch of Dr. Hollister, the more praiseworthy since it was only the day before that he had been pressed into the duty of filling a gap on the program, occasioned by the absence of Dr. S. B. Sturdevant.

Dr. J. R. Gore of Chicago was called on and spoke informally. He said five of his ancestors gave up their lives on Wyoming's bloody field—three Gores, Timothy Pearce and John Murphy. He was glad to be here on this anniversary occasion. When he left here as a small boy, 70 years ago, his mind was full of what he had heard from the lips of survivors of the battle and he had been afraid to be out alone at night, so dreadful were the stories he had heard. As to Queen Esther, he had never heard the stories of her cruelty doubted until a year or two ago. In his boyhood days Queen Esther was considered as real as Col Butler or Gen Sullivan. Dr. Gore is past 83 years of age, but is hale and hearty and blessed with both good sight and hearing.

After the benediction by Rev. W. A. Beecher the assemblage dismissed, some of them tarrying, however, and paying a dollar to become members of the association.

#### MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

Miss Emily Alexander, Miss Carrie Alexander, Thomas H. Atherton, Wilkes-Barre; Hon. R. W. Archbald, Scranton; George S. Bennett, Col. E. B. Beaumont, Mrs. Col. E. B. Beaumont, Wilkes-Barre; Pierce Butler, Carbondale; E. G. Butler, B. F. Barnum, George H. Butler, Wilkes-Barre; Col. H. M. Boles, Mrs. H. M. Boles, Scranton; W. L. Conyngham, Wilkes-Barre; Dr. F. Corss, Kingston; B. G. Cooper, Pittston; Col. C. M. Conyngham, J. M. Courtright, Joseph D. Coons, Wilkes-Barre; C. I. A. Chapman, Port Blanshard; Mrs. W. L. Conyngham,

W. H. Conyngham, J. N. Conyngham, Maj. C. Bow Dougherty, Dr. Charles Denison, Wilkes-Barre; Benjamin Dorrance, Dorranceston; Thomas Darling, B. M. Espy, Rev. George Frear, D. D., Hon. C. D. Foater, John D. Farnham, Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Annette J. Gorman, Pittston; Dr. J. B. Gore, Chicago; James D. Green, Mrs. Sarah Henry, Wyoming; C. P. Hunt, J. W. Hollenback, J. B. Hillard, J. S. Harding, H. H. Harvey, Wilkes-Barre; Maj. Hicks, Mrs. Steuben Jenkins, Wyoming; W. J. Harvey, Andrew Hunlock, Wilkes-Barre; Henry F. Johnson, Kingston; Wesley Johnson, F. C. Johnson, Wilkes-Barre; Miss Harriet Johnson, Parsons; W. H. Jenkins, W. S. Jacobs, Wyoming; George P. Loomis, George B. Kulp, E. R. Loop, Wilkes-Barre; Charles Law, Pittston; W. D. Loomis, Charles W. Lee, John Lanig, William Loveland, George Loveland, A. W. McAlpine, Hon. Charles A. Miner, S. H. Miller, A. H. McClintock, W. B. Mitchell, Wilkes-Barre; William S. Monroe; L. Myers, W. B. Miner, S. R. Miner, Abram Nesbitt, Maj. O. A. Parsons, Wilkes-Barre; H. B. Plumb, Peely; Mrs. Frances L. Pfouts, Wilkes-Barre; N. G. Pringle, Kingston; Calvin Parsons, Parsons; Miss Fannie Pfouts, F. A. Phelps, Charles Parrish, Wilkes-Barre; Rev. N. G. Parke, D. D., Pittston; Mrs. Charles Parrish, Miss Anna C. Parrish, Miss E. M. Parrish, Wilkes-Barre; Miss Kittle C. Parrish; Col. G. M. Reynolds, J. B. Reynolds, Sheldon Reynolds, Wilkes-Barre; Clayton J. Ryan, Wyoming; Dr. J. J. Rogers, Huntsville; Col. E. H. Ripple, Scranton; Frank Stewart, Berwick; W. R. Storrs, Scranton; E. W. Sturdevant, Richard Sharpe, Richard Sharpe, Jr., Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. W. S. Stites, Wyoming; James Sutton, Wilkes-Barre; J. Bennett Smith, Kingston; Samuel Sutton, Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Sarah Schooley, S. R. Shoemaker, Wyoming; Dr. L. I. Shoemaker, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Wilkes-Barre; W. B. Storrs, Arthur Storrs, Scranton; Theo Strong, Pittston; Isaac M. Thomas, Wilkes-Barre; T. C. Von Storeh, Scranton; George B. Wright, John G. Wood, J. B. Woodward, H. H. Welles, Jr., Ralph H. Wadhams, M. W. Wadhams, Wilkes-Barre; W. A. Wilcox, Scranton; U. M. Williams, Plains; Rev. H. H. Welles, D. D., Kingston; Edward Welles, J. Ridgway Wright, Wilkes-Barre; Hon. L. A. Watres, Scranton; George H. Welles, Wyalasing; W. L. Yarrington, Carbondale.



## REVOLUTIONARY SONS.

### EXERCISES IN THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 4th, 1894—State Librarian Egle Gives an interesting Address on Wyoming in the Revolution—He Arraigns Connecticut and Congress for Leaving the Infant Settlement to its Fate—Dr. Egle Nails as a Falsehood a Recent Statement That the Colonies Sought to Win the Indians as Allies—Other Exercises.

The local branch of the Sons of the Revolution celebrated Independence Day with a public meeting in the lecture room of the First Presbyterian Church at 9 a. m. The exercises were most interesting. The platform was decorated with bunting and the desk spread with the stars and stripes. Rev. Dr. Hodge made an opening prayer, a quartet from St. Stephen's sang patriot selections and Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones read the Declaration of Independence.

State Librarian Dr. W. H. Egle made an address on "Wyoming in the Revolution." It was not lengthy and covered in most interesting fashion the subject indicated, as would be expected from so prominent an historical writer. Here are some of his thoughts:

When the echoing thunders of Lexington rolled across the continent the settlers of this Westmoreland of yours were outspoken against the tyrannical acts of the Ministry and Parliament of Great Britain. The conflicts at Buicker Hill and Lexington aroused them to arms, and only a few weeks thereafter, in May, 1775, in "town meeting" it was voted that they would "associate," and "whatever measures were recommended by the Continental Congress they would adopt and carry into execution—that the acts of the British Parliament were arbitrary and oppressive." Patriotic as these Wyoming settlers were, a civil war was threatening at their own doors, although it was naturally to be supposed that the general cause—that of the Colonies—would alone occupy the inhabitants everywhere. The proceedings of the Loyalists who were in authority in the government of the Province of Pennsylvania, took that opportunity of diverting the at-

tention of the people by directing and ordering a military attack upon the Wyoming settlers and this was done in the face of a truce proposed by the town of Westmoreland on the 1st of August, 1775, when they resolved that they were "willing to make any accommodation with the Pennsylvania party which might conduce to the best good of the whole not infringing on the property of any person and come in common cause of liberty in the defense of America." These indeed were fair and true words, but the Pennsylvania Assembly, which was at the back of all this military array, would listen to no overtures.

The local quarrels between Yankees and Pennamites interfered greatly with the martial spirit in behalf of the great cause of independence, but at this stage of affairs, the Continental Congress succeeded in postponing the Wyoming storm and peace reigned until the Revolutionary war cloud had passed. At once the Connecticut settlers voted that "they would unanimously join their brethren in America in defending their country."

At the first, owing to the threatened attitude of the British and Tories in New York, with their hardly less brutal allies, the red savages of the Lakes, it became necessary to place their own locality in a proper state of defense. They well knew how merciless was the enemy, less than 150 miles distant, and so in the spring and summer of 1776, the inhabitants were called upon to work upon the several forts in the valley, and this they did "without fee or reward." The erection of these forts or stockades required great labor, and although nearly all the able-bodied men in the valley were away in the service, the aged men with the boys out of the trained bands, naturally exempt by law from duty, were formed into companies to garrison the same, while it was necessary for those who were capable of march and exposure to be on the scout, and thus guard against surprise. At this juncture it would naturally be expected that the colony of Connecticut, to which the Wyoming people held allegiance, would extend a helping hand in the efforts of the settlers to protect their wives and little ones—their homes, their all—from the murderous marauders. This was not the case. At the same time the Pennsylvania authorities were not asked for assistance, and hence no help was given. Connecticut, when the call was made for troops to increase the patriot army,

demand the quota from Westmoreland, and two companies were forwarded to swell that colony's martial array, in the Continental Army. Exposed as Wyoming was, the proper garrisoning of the forts required every available man. All told there was less than 500 men fit for duty in the entire settlement.

During the summer of 1776 the detachment of troops from Wyoming were in New Jersey with the little army of Washington doing vallant service. Late in the autumn, however, the officers and men were returned to the valley to recruit for three years, or during the war. Thus at the close of December we find two full companies organized under the respective commands of Captains Robert Durkee and Samuel Ransom and on duty in New Jersey. These were not all the troops Wyoming sent to the field, for several smaller detachments or levies joined the Connecticut line and being absorbed into it, lost their identity. All the Wyoming companies wintered at Valley Forge in 1777-78, and shared with the Pennsylvania line in the sufferings and privations incident to that notable cantonment.

In the spring of 1778 rumors of a threatened Indian invasion of Wyoming reached the American camp. "Defenseless," says Miner, "as their position was, knowing how exasperated the enemy were by the efforts of the people in the cause of independence, nothing could be more probable than such a design." Independent of a just regard for the interests of the people, policy would seem to have dictated the taking early and ample measures to defend Wyoming. The officers and men at the front earnestly plead and remonstrated that their families left defenseless were now menaced with invasion and adverted to the terms of their enlistment. History affords no parallel of the pernicious detention of men under such circumstances. Fully impressed with the duty they owed to themselves and the ones they loved so dearly, an effort was made to have Congress send the Wyoming Valley companies back to their homes for the protection of the borders. Either deaf to all entreaties or slow in their action, the crisis compelled Captains Durkee and Ransom to promptly resign their commands and speedily go back to their homes, in which they were joined by many of their men, either by permission or desertion for imperious necessity arising above all earthly law, consecrated the deed. The remnant of the two companies remain-

ing with the army were subsequently consolidated into one company and placed under the command of Lt. Spaulding, who had recently been promoted to a captaincy.

At this point Dr. Egle alluded to the massacre on the 3rd of July, 1778, and which the descendants of the Loyalists—Tories—of that period, recently by pamphlet and newspaper screeds seek to excuse and palliate.

It is well known that the defeat and surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga in October, 1777, had left the British without sufficient available men to carry on the regular campaign for the following year, and as the war was to be continued, the only resource left to the British Government was to employ the Indians and Tories.

He alluded to the Tory hatred of the Wyoming people as the incentive they had for joining in the expedition against the latter. Some recent historians having alluded to certain disaffected persons in Col. John Butler's command as Pennamites, Dr. Egle stated that the names as furnished by the Canada archives show they were not Pennsylvanians, but probably Dutch, from the upper Delaware.

Passing hurriedly over the battle Dr. Egle alluded to the capitulation—fair and honorable, as one reads it to-day, but which tradition and history show us was never kept. The brave and powerful had fallen, no strength remained to resist, no power to defend and the savages under Butler immediately began to rob and burn, plunder and destroy. Either Col. John Butler was insane when he signed the articles of capitulation or he was an arrant coward and had no control over his men. It has recently been stated in connection with the details of the massacre at Wyoming that the united Colonies endeavored to do what British influence and British gold accomplished—employ the red savages who dyed with crimson the field of Wyoming. This is not true. Their *neutrality* was sought for by the Colonies but not their assistance.

Reference was made to the help which came too late—Capt. Spaulding's Wyoming company, when the battle was over and the enemy gone with booty and scalps; of this company's assistance a few weeks later in destroying the Indian towns up in the Tioga region; of its return to Wyoming and building a fort, joining Sullivan's expedition the following year. In 1780 this company rejoined Washington's army.

Wyoming continued to be exposed to Tory and Indian incursions till the peace of 1783, and when peace came independence was gained, but to the people of Wyoming for many years there was contention and bloodshed.

In closing, Dr. Egle said, he was pained, in driving in Hanover township, to note that the monuments erected by the late Stewart Pearce to mark the points where some of the Indian murders in this valley took place, were being destroyed by vandals, and he hoped the Historical Society would take steps to protect these stones and prevent their further desecration.

### AN HISTORICAL SPOT.

Story of Painted Post and its Indian Associations—A New Monument Unveiled—Granite Takes the Place of the Old Post, Which was Painted in Blood. An event took place at Painted Post, N. Y., on Thursday, June 21, 1894, which is of interest to Pennsylvanians as well as New Yorkers. It was the unveiling of the Indian monument at Painted Post. The monument is twenty feet in height, the base being of granite, mounted by a life-size bronze figure of an Indian chief. We learn from the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* that the new monument is to take the place of one in the form of a tall post which, as told in legend, was painted with Indians' blood. The town of Painted Post was the first in Steuben County to be settled and in connection with it many historical facts are related. In the summer of 1779 a numerous party of Tories and Indians, under the command of a Loyalist named McDonald, and Hlakatoo, a renowned Seneca war chief, returned to the north by the way of Pine Creek, the Tioga and Cohocton, from an incursion among the settlements on the west branch of the Susquehanna. They had suffered from severe conflict with the borderers, and had with them many wounded.

Their march was also encumbered by many prisoners, men, women and children, taken at Freeling's Fort and by their own wounded.

Under the elms of the confluence of the Tioga and Cohoctons, Capt. Montour, a half breed, a fine young chief, a gallant warrior, and a favorite with his tribe, died of

his wounds. He was a son of the famous Queen Catherine. His comrades buried him by the river side and planted over his grave a post on which was painted various symbols and rude devices. This monument was known throughout the Genesee forest as the painted post. It is a landmark well known in all the Six Nations.

At the Painted Post, the first habitation of civilized man erected in Steuben county was built by William Harris, an Indian trader. Harris was a Pennsylvanian, and not long after the Revolutionary war pushed up the Chemung a cargo of Indian goods to open traffic with the hunting parties of the Six Nations, which resorted at certain seasons to the northwestern branches of the Susquehanna. Harris was known to have been at Painted Post as early as 1787. He disappeared for a time, but returned with his son to live there for a few years, when he again went back to Pennsylvania. One or two other persons have been named as the first civilized residents of Steuben county, but all evidence indicates that Harris's residence at Painted Post entitles him to the distinction.

Painted Post at present is a thriving little place of about one thousand inhabitants, and the people spared nothing to make this one of the notable events of the historical town.

### Historic Church Bells Up the River.

The Wyalusing Presbyterian Church, recently removed from the old edifice to the new one, which occupies a more central site in the village, the bell, which is said to be the largest in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The old-timer was made by Jones & Hitchcock, Troy, N. Y., in 1854, and weighs, without fixtures, between twelve hundred and thirteen hundred pounds.

In connection with the removal of this old landmark, it may not be amiss to state that the church bell which first broke the silence of the upper Susquehanna valley, was the one used in the Moravian Mission, in the Indian village, Friedenshütten, ten miles below Wyalusing, in the year 1762 or a little latter, it having been brought from Bethlehem, Pa., and conveyed through an unsettled region on horseback and by canoe the entire distance.

## EARLY MORAVIAN MISSIONS.

**Description of Efforts Made to Evangelize the Wyoming Indians Previous to the First Settlement by the Whites—Paper Read Before the Historical Society.**

Daily Record, May 19, 1894.

At the meeting of the Wyoming Historical Society last evening, F. C. Johnson read a paper descriptive of the efforts made by the Moravian missionaries from Bethlehem to plant the Gospel banner among the Indians of Wyoming Valley and the upper Susquehanna. It is a field which has not been worked up in detail by the local historians, and the essayist had a large fund of material, of which he read extracts from the more interesting portions.

The paper described Wyoming Valley's occupancy by the Indians during the score of years just previous to the coming of the first white settlers from Connecticut. The valley was considered one of the fairest garden spots in all the wide domain of the Six Nation Indians, and as such it was jealously guarded by dependent or allied aborigines stationed there for that purpose. So highly was the valley prized that for many years the Indians would not allow it to be included in any land sales made to the whites. After familiarizing oneself with the miserable modes of life prevailing among these aboriginal occupants, poverty always prevailing, it is but natural to conclude that in dispossessing the Indians the whites did them a kindness, rather than an injustice.

The earliest Indian name given by the Delaware to Wyoming Valley was Skehandowana, as early as 1728. The Iroquois called it Gahonta, or large plains.

The period of the Moravian missionary movements in Wyoming Valley was from the historic visit of Count Zinzendorf in 1742 to the arrival of the first white settlers from Connecticut twenty years later. It is more than a local study, said the essayist, and to make the most of it the scope of vision would have to include the entire colonial life of that period.

The Moravian church is pre-eminently a missionary body. The leaders hoped, though the hope was never fully realized, to make Wyoming a powerful evangelistic center for work among the Indians. Their missionary adventures are told in faithful detail in the diaries which they assiduously kept from

day to day, and which are deposited in the church archives at Bethlehem. Mr. Johnson stated that he had translations made of such diaries as relate to the visits to Wyoming Valley, and would deposit them with the Historical Society.

A description was given of Count Zinzendorf's visit in 1742. The Indians had never seen (with the single exception of John Sergeant, a Congregational evangelist, who penetrated to the Susquehanna a year previous to Zinzendorf) any white men except scouts and traders and they viewed the new comers with suspicion. Wyoming was at that time considered to be the site of valuable beds of silver and the aborigines assumed that these men were not so much messengers of the Great Spirit as seekers after the mineral treasures. So threatening were the Indians that the count withdrew after a stay of three weeks, and it is likely his party would have been butchered had it not been for the timely arrival of the government agent Conrad Weiser whom the savages knew. It was shown in the paper that while the rattlesnake story which the histories give concerning Zinzendorf was founded on fact, it was grievously distorted.

After Zinzendorf's visit three years elapsed before another effort was made to impress the Indians. The essayist read extracts from the diary of Grube and Fröhlich in 1745 and of their hardships in fording the swollen streams of April and in making their way over the mountains through burning forests. In that year Bishop Spangenberg also visited Wyoming and got consent to transfer the settlement of converted Indians there from Dutchess County, New York, but the latter were afraid to go on the ground that Wyoming lay in the path of the Six Nation Indians in their marauds to the southward and life there would therefore be attended with too many dangers. They removed, however, to present Carbon County, and between their village and Wyoming there was constant intercourse.

In 1747 there was a sore famine along the Susquehanna, and the diaries of the gospelers give graphic description of the destitution, which they relieved as far as possible. One of them, (Bishop Eitwein) notes the fact that in descending the mountain into the valley he saw a pile of stones, to which each passing Indian was supposed to add one. Also that the Indians had left their burial places, in caves and crevices, at whose

entrance stood large stones painted. Nobody now living knows of any of these things. Zelsberger records that the Wyoming Indians shot two seals on one occasion, these strange animals attracting great attention. They were believed to be sent by God and were prepared and eaten.

In 1748 Bishop de Watteville, son-in-law of Zinzendorf, visited Wyoming and his diary gives a glowing description of the natural beauties of the valley. He states that along the river the grass was growing so high as to shut out his view, though on horseback. He mentions seeing tobacco patches and a respectable orchard of apple trees. The natives gave him melons, bread and baked pumpkins in exchange for needles and thread, pipes and other articles. A curious fact, not generally known, stated in this diary, is that one Indian chief had five negro slaves.

Other journeys were noted by the essayist with varying details, together with a brief account of the interruption of the missions for six years by the outbreak of the French and Indian war, the attempts of both French and English to gain the Indian tribes as allies, the cruel border warfare and the final triumph of the English arms by which the American continent was forever lost to the French.

When the white settlers came from Connecticut in 1762 the valley was practically abandoned by the Indians, but treacherous bands continued to hover around and in the following season they fell upon the settlement and utterly destroyed it—the first massacre of Wyoming. Meanwhile the Moravians had transferred their work to Wyalusing, where a flourishing mission station was conducted until 1772, when, owing to the conflicting claims as to the ownership of the land, they again took up the march and removed to the Ohio wilderness. In 1772, the year that Wilkes-Barre was laid out, the pilgrims from Wyalusing passed down the Susquehanna in boats on their way to the Juniata and the Ohio. As the little fleet passed by the new settlement of the whites, present Wilkes-Barre, where for two decades these self-sacrificing missionaries had sought to sow the seed of the Gospel in the hearts of the Indians, there pealed out over river and forest from one of their canoes the sound of their chapel bell, the first that had ever broken the silence of the Susquehanna Valley.

The brave Moravians had done their work, and had done it well, but the savage heart, then as now, was not receptive soil for the Gospel seed. Though attended with gratifying success in certain limited quarters, there was not that widespread evangelization which the self-denying Moravians had sought for. The Indian was already disappearing by the ravages of destitution, drunkenness and disease (much of which was introduced by avaricious and unprincipled traders and settlers), but the hopeful Moravian missionary clung to him to the last and was faithful to the end. With the disappearance of the Indian and his Moravian teachers came our new civilization.

Mr. Johnson exhibited a fine engraving, presented him by a Moravian friend, showing a forest scene, in which by the light of a camp fire Zelsberger is preaching to the Indians. The engraving is one of Sartain's proofs and is a copy of the celebrated painting by Schussele in the Moravian archives at Bethlehem. Mr. Johnson also exhibited a map of the Wyoming region, a tracing from an original made by the early missionaries. The location of the several Indian towns in the valley, and of the Indian paths by which the missionaries traveled to and from Bethlehem was shown on a large map drawn by George W. Leach, Jr.

Mention was made of the fact that Zinzendorf was not the very first to preach the Gospel along the Susquehanna. A year previous to his arrival a Congregationalist evangelist had penetrated the wilderness to this locality. David Brainard, a Presbyterian evangelist, had visited the Indians at Wapwallopen in 1744, but probably did not come up to Wyoming. John Woolman, a Quaker preacher, was at Wyoming in 1763, and passed on up to the Moravian mission at Wyalusing, where he assisted for a short time.

Rev. Dr. H. L. Jones, vice president, occupied the chair. Leslie S. Bymau and Edwin H. Jones were elected to active membership and Dr. Charles J. Stille, president of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, to honorary membership. Acknowledgment was made of over six hundred donations since last meeting. Conyngham Post, G. A. R., through C. F. Kappler and I. E. Finch, presented the guidon and flag of the Wyoming Artillerists carried during the Mexican War.

### IN AN OLD CEMETERY.

Dr. Joel Gore Visited a Deserted City of the Dead and Beautifies the Graves of His Ancestors—Men and Women Active in the Days of Old Wyoming Buried in the Old Place.

Not far from the upper Port Bowkley colliery on the side of the plank road, over which runs the East Side electric road, stands an old graveyard, which was established by the Gore family early in the history of Wyoming Valley. It is almost surrounded by coal dumps. A rough fence has been recently built around it, but it has long been neglected, some of the descendants of the old families who were buried there having had their dead removed to other cemeteries. Yesterday afternoon a RECORD man who was in the neighborhood saw a little group of men with a wagon standing outside this ancient God's acre. The centre figure of the group was Dr. Joel R. Gore of Chicago, who although four years over four score of age, was there to see that the spot where his mother was buried in 1813, when he was two and a half years old, is not neglected. The old headstone had nearly shaled away, so badly that the inscription was imperfect. He was there to put one on the spot, a facsimile of the old stone as to the quality of the stone and the lettering of the inscription. The inscription read "Polly, wife of George Gore, died 1813, aged 33 years." His father, George, emigrated to Illinois, where he died aged 70 years. In a line are three other headstones bearing the following inscriptions: "Daniel Gore, died Sept. 3, 1809, aged 63 years." This was Dr. Gore's grandfather, who lost his arm in the massacre of Wyoming in 1778. His wife, Mary, died April, 11, 1806, aged 68 years. Adjoining this is the marble headstone over the remains of Theresia Carey, a daughter of Daniel Gore, born Feb. 11, 1771, died May 5, 1854, aged 83 years, grandmother of postmaster C. M. Williams of Plainsville, who was a visitor with Dr. Gore in the graveyard. A dozen more graves are in the same spot which contain the remains of pioneers of Wyoming Valley, who played their part in its preservation against the attacks of the Indians.

After the inspection of the graveyard. Dr. Gore reverted to the spot he left 71 years ago for his Western home. "Here is the road that ran beside the graveyard from the top

of the hill to the river," he said, "we crossed the river in those days in canoes, as there were no ferry boats. It was used only to visit families on the other side of the river, as they were pretty well all related. A brook of crystal water flowed below in the hollow between us and the river, which is hidden by the culm dump, and many a good day's fishing my brother and I had. It was well stocked with pickerel and other fish." Pointing to a large hickory tree, between where the old homestead stood and the graveyard, he called to mind many youthful frolics underneath its branches and many nutting excursions with the boys and girls of the settlement. Dr. Gore also remembers scores of years ago of running to the graveyard on a cold, icy day to see a funeral and falling backward on an elder stubble and cutting the back of his head. He pointed out the scar to postmaster Williams on the back of his head, which he still carried in remembrance of the event.

The old homestead site was visited. A part of the cellar wall is still in view, a part of which is now occupied by the old company barn. It was a large building with a centre chimney, and all the rooms had the old fashioned grate. He related incident after incident of days of yore. Before the party separated in the old grave yard one of the party recited:

Oh, where are the friends of my youth,  
 Say, where are the cherished ones gone,  
 Or why, have they dropped with the leaf,  
 Oh, why have they left me to mourn?  
 Their voices still ring in my ears,  
 Their visions I see in my dreams,  
 And this world like a desert is drear,  
 Like a wide spreading desert it seems.

#### Understood the Indian Problem.

Bishop J. M. Levering, vice president of the Moravian Historical Society, in mentioning the paper read by F. C. Johnson before the Historical Society (page 122), says:

"This interesting paper will find a place in our archives, where everything of this kind is preserved. I beg to express my appreciation of the manner in which the subject was treated, as indicated by the abstract. If the ideas of those missionaries had prevailed in all the dealings of authorities with them, there would be no Indian question to-day, and nothing to be ashamed of in the record our nation has made in dealing with the Indians."

### MEXICAN WAR VETERANS.

**Annual Meeting of the National Association in Mauch Chunk—Col. Robert Klotz Entertains His Old Comrades in Arms.**

The annual meeting and reunion of the National Association of Mexican War Veterans was held in Mauch Chunk May 24, 1894.

The annual meeting of the association was held in the reading room of the hotel, says the *Mauch Chunk Times*. Some thirty members were present. It was announced that Col. A. M. Munson of Indiana, the president of the association, was unable to be present on account of illness. Col. Robert Klotz, the general vice president, occupied the chair.

Col. Klotz stated that Col. A. M. Kennady, the secretary of the association, was confined to his home in Washington, D. C., with illness. Col. Jacob Adler of Philadelphia acted in his stead. He was assisted by Col. Frick of Pottsville and E. L. Rittman of Philadelphia.

A committee on organization was appointed by the president. This consisted of Francis B. Clark, of Newark, N. J.; Louis F. Butler, of Baltimore, Md.; Dr. E. N. Banks of Wilkes-Barre, Jacob R. Riley of New York, and Capt. Joseph Hilleman of Pittston. The committee recommended the re-election of all the old officers and this was adopted. Two vice presidents from each State in the Union were also named by the committee on organization and their action was endorsed by the meeting. Col. Robert Klotz of Mauch Chunk was re-elected general vice president of the national association. Jacob Adler and Francis J. Kaeffer are the vice presidents representing Pennsylvania.

On motion it was decided to hold the next annual meeting of the national association in Philadelphia.

Telegrams of greeting and sympathy were then prepared and forwarded to the president, Gen. A. M. Munson, and to the marshal, Maj. S. L. McFadden, at Logansport, Ind., and also the secretary, Col. A. M. Kennady.

The veterans were entertained at dinner by Col. Klotz, after which they were treated to a ride over the Switch Back. On this trip the local committee headed by E. F. Luckenbach, acted as escort.

The annual banquet of the association was held at the American Hotel in the evening.

The following members of the association attended the meeting: Dr. E. N. Banks Wilkes-Barre; Joseph Heilman and J. R. Ehret, Pittston; Francis Clark and Joseph Evans, Newark, N. J.; Jacob Adler, John Kritzer, George Moore, Lewis Raphael, Patrick McDonald, George H. Westcott, Casper Otenweller, B. D. Bernhard, Edwin L. Rittman, Robert C. Weer, Thomas Magee, Samuel Price and Jacob Klinger, Philadelphia; Louis F. Buhler and W. F. Jenkins, Baltimore, M. D.; Jacob R. Riley, New York; Charles Cutler, Edgewood, N. J.; Charles N. Coombs, Wilmington, Del.; Col. J. G. Frick, Col. D. Nagle, William S. Nagle, G. W. Garrett, and William Colmer, Pottsville; Frederick C. Kline, South Bethlehem and William Wilhelm and Robert Klotz, Mauch Chunk.

#### The Third Attempt on the Susquehanna River Made.

The *Bloomsburg Daily* reports that on Sunday the steamer *Columbia* ascended the Berwick Falls. Previous to this only two attempts had been made to get over these falls. The first was in 1826, when the "Codus" proceeded as far as Binghamton and returned to York Haven, pronouncing against the practicability of the navigation of the river. The next attempt was made by the "Susquehanna." She reached the falls on the afternoon of May 3, 1826, and when in the middle of the ascent the boiler burst and four persons were killed and several seriously wounded. The third and successful attempt, as stated above, was made on May 27, 1894, sixty-eight years later, by the "Columbia." The banks of the river were crowded with people.

#### Historical Society Wants Books.

The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society will be very grateful for the gift of the following volumes of the Geological Survey of Pennsylvania.

A—Ac—AA atlases of all kinds—C<sup>1</sup>—C<sup>2</sup>—C<sup>3</sup>—C<sup>4</sup>—D<sup>1</sup>—G<sup>1</sup>—G<sup>2</sup>—H<sup>1</sup>—H<sup>2</sup>—I<sup>1</sup>—I<sup>2</sup>—I<sup>3</sup>—I<sup>4</sup>—J<sup>1</sup>—K<sup>1</sup>—M<sup>1</sup>—O<sup>1</sup>—P<sup>1</sup> vols 1, 2 and 3—Q<sup>1</sup>—Q<sup>2</sup>—Q<sup>3</sup>—Q<sup>4</sup>—T<sup>1</sup>—T<sup>2</sup>—V—W—X—PP—Annual reports for 1886, 1887, 1892.

If a postal card is sent to Hon. Rtdgway Wright, librarian, or Rev. Horace E. Hayden, corresponding secretary, advising them where the books can be had either gentlemen will call for them.

**How's This for April Weather.**

From Daily Record, April 12, 1894.

Few of the older residents can conjure up recollections of more unseasonable weather than we are now having. Snow a foot thick near the middle of April, when usually the trees are budding and leafing and the air feels decidedly summerish, is certainly unusual. The snow storm that set in Wednesday morning continued with almost blizzardy fury until early afternoon. Then it ceased up a little until evening, when snow began falling again. Snow almost a foot thick lies upon the ground, but the chances are that it will not stay long. A few warm days will serve to bare the ground. Then a strong freshet may be expected, as the mountains send down their white coverings in rushing rivulets and the majestic Susquehanna is swelled. A Lehigh Valley trainman, who came from Lake Ganoga Wednesday afternoon, said the snow over there its fifteen inches deep. Farmers are not discouraged at this unseasonable weather. The snow will do no harm if the weather does not become too cold. The large gardeners on the flats did not plant many seeds during the warm March weather, and hence will no have to do their work over.

**THIS NOT AN UNPRECEDENTED STORM.**

On the 13th of April, 1857, there was a snow storm very similar to the one through which we are now passing. The files of the RECORD for that time give no details, but editor Miner remarked that more snow fell than at any one time during the winter. Several roofs were crushed, notably the livery stable of Pursel & Simons. A Mr. Betterly's roof was crushed and his daughter narrowly escaped.

The RECORD says that it was impossible to get the mails through to Northmoreland, the snow being five or six feet deep.

At Pottsville the snow on the 20th was reported eighteen inches deep. A Reading dispatch says the snow was very heavy and wet and was eight or ten inches deep and still falling.

Some one informed the RECORD at that time that in 1841 the mountain was covered with snow April 13 and that on May 3 the ground was white with snow and ice formed three-fourths of an inch thick.

In 1843 there was a killing frost on June 1.

**Evidence That Brant Was Not Here.**

In the course of a note to the RECORD, C. I. A. Chapman writes thus:

I read in the RECORD of this morning the interesting notice of Mr. Acker's paper read before the Historical Society at Hornellsville, reviving the old dispute touching the presence of the warrior Joseph Brant at the massacre of Wyoming. Mr. Miner in his History leans to the same opinion entertained by Mr. Acker that Brant was "in fact" the leader of the expedition.

Against all the theories we have the positive statement of Brant that he was not there and the following statement of Eleazar Carey (my step father). He says:

"When a lad of 14 years old I resided in the Genesee country, and in 1803 was acquainted with the family of "Kanchillaek," son of "Blue Throat." He had sons and daughters of my age and I mingled with them on intimate terms. "Kanchillaek" and "Little Beard" (who had held the rank of captain in the Battle of Wyoming) said the same thing, viz.—that "Brant was not at the Battle," and their statement was confirmed by "Stuttering John" and Roland Montour, a "half blood," who had taken my uncle Samuel Carey prisoner." The stories on both sides are "threadbare," but I fail to perceive how the "weight of authority" appears to be "in favor of the presence." C. I. A. CHAPMAN. Port Blanchard, Feb. 15, 1894.

**Relics of Wyoming's First Settlers.**

There have just been presented to the Wyoming Historical Society several valuable relics of early times by L. J. Curtis of Kingston. They were used by his ancestors, the Gallup family, and are said to have been among the implements buried by the first forty settlers in 1762. They include a brass kettle, mortar and pestle and a pair of hetchels. There are also relics of the war of 1812 and the Civil war. They were obtained through the efforts of Harry R. Deltrick.

Mr. Curtis was a soldier in the late war and kept quite a full journal of the experiences of himself and his company. His mother, who is still living, was a daughter of the late Asaph Jones and was born in Kingston. She is also a granddaughter of William Gallup, who broke in the heads of the whisky barrels in Fort Fort to keep the liquor from falling into the hands of the Indians on July 3d, 1778. The well near the front door has been doing good service since 1817.



## THE OLDEST MINISTER

### In Wyoming Valley—The Life and Work of Rev. E. Hazard Snowden of the West Side.

A visit to an old friend and resident of the West Side awakes pleasant memories of more than half a century ago, writes Dr. Urquhart. Our reverend friend although in his ninety-sixth year, is waiting the processes of time in patience and peace, and although he feels the infirmities of advanced age, and has a realizing sense of the nearness of his end, yet he is without the shadow of fear, or of painful reluctance, as he waits for the lifting of that curtain that alone separates him from the vision of his Lord.

It is beautiful, considering his age and his physical weakness, to witness in his mental constitution that the constituent and fundamental element of his intellectual character, is good judgment and an intuitive perception of consonance and propriety.

Among the priceless gifts he has bestowed upon posterity is that of character and the example of a Christian life. The memory of his example never ceases to yield satisfaction and the heart is invigorated by the contemplation of those pleasant scenes which were the charm of former days.

To think a few reminiscences of this estimable life and its surroundings could be related with unfriendly intention, would in the writer's view show more severity than knowledge.

The oldest minister in Wyoming Valley is Rev. Ebenezer Hazard Snowden, D. D., who in June last rounded out his ninety-fifth year in peace with God and his fellow man at his home in Forty Fort.

He was born on the 27th of June, 1799, at Princeton, N. J., and was the son of Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden, a pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Princeton from 1794 to 1802.

Rev. Dr. Snowden graduated from Hamilton College in 1818, and at his recent visit to that institution cheerfully acknowledged the bonds of attachment that bound him to his alma mater.

His former pastoral charge was that of the Presbyterian Church at St. Augustine, Florida, which he resigned, and coming to the Wyoming Valley in 1837, he was installed pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Kingston, and has since resided at Forty Fort.

It is difficult to realize the changes that have taken place in the Church and in society during his day, in which he has always been identified with Presbyterianism, in which his character has always been conspicuous for unpretentious geniality and candor, which gained for him popular esteem and confidence.

His prolonged life has in general been attended with the vigor of continuous health; yet extreme old age brought to him the infirmities of the general debility which inevitably gains its mysterious mastery over that fate before which humanity must in due time yield. The honorary degree of D. D., which the Rev. Dr. Snowden during the past year received from Hamilton College, is an abiding testimonial for his half a century of assiduous pastoral work.

He was free from sectarian feelings of intolerance and his manner and personality were softened by a quietness which was comely and attractive. In his professional life we have an example that is inseparable from moral principle and the Christian unity and brotherhood that evoked feelings of a kindred character.

These recollections may possess some interest in the estimation of old associates, among whom the cause of religion, virtue and morality may find an advocate in such an example, in which no means were ever sought to purchase the phantom popularity by any compliance beneath the dignity of a stalwart manhood, and justice to these past memories requires that philosophical discrimination which does not permit the eye of posterity to be blinded by the clouds which time gathers about the past.

The early pastoral labors of Rev. Mr. Snowden in this valley bring to mind many West Side residents, whose character and influence are acknowledged and respected, and whose qualities of manhood are worthy of remembrance.

In their lives and character a most potent excellence was their example for unobtrusiveness, fidelity and simple dignity, enhanced by that fine distinction of manner, which is the charm and beauty of innate courtesy. They possessed the personal qualifications in the employments and vocations of useful life, which in every community command respect and entitle to the tribute of a high rank.

The West Side companionships of Rev. Dr. Snowden's earlier life were of that large,

strong and generous type that develops in social activity a freedom beyond the constraints of aggregated social life in cities. Familiarly known to the people of this valley, he possessed an individuality distinctively his own; and the memory of such a nature in this busy and tumultuous life replaces prejudice with unfading friendship, which political concord does not enhance, nor political antagonism destroy.

Such examples teach in the catalog of virtues, that the best services which are promotive of the common good, are the maintenance of those principles which have justice for their basis and the material prosperity of the community for their practical purpose. Their memory will be honored in the emulation of their deeds, while homage and gratitude will enbalm a character replete with incidents of personal benefaction. It is instructive and interesting to contrast the Wyoming Valley now with the advent of Rev. Mr. Snowden, when its surroundings were full of nature, and its remembrances bring to mind visions of farm life, and above all the prospective unlimited output of anthracite coal.

The memory of the past affords an insight into the character of a former time, and the old time residents of this valley half a century ago possessed points of attraction and traits of goodness worthy of admiration and remembrance, especially when religious toleration, intelligence and trustworthiness were important factors in determining personal worth.

Perhaps nothing better enables us to compare one period with another than the pulpit and the periodical press. These help us to note the fluctuations of taste, to study the sentiments which at different periods meet the public approbation and to view the characters of representative men. The tendency of the moral and educational influence of both is to refine the taste and place society on a foundation that welcomes the genius and culture of progressive civilization.

The long pilgrimage of Rev. Mr. Snowden has left behind the companionships of his early life, and the images and scenes of bygone times call up associations, the interest of which nothing can efface from the mind. The circumstances of his life were favorable to the formation and development of manly character, and he grew up from childhood to know that health and competence is the legi-

timate product of effort, and the impressions from the autumnal standpoint of such a life would realize transition and improvement grand and imposing. The practical and sensible philosophy of the present age readily supplies the calls of the most urgent necessity, and in the educational and social benefaction of the progressive and cultured civilization of the closing of the present century we find the most interesting and important events of modern history.

Undoubtedly external relations bear an important part in the early formation of character, and the church has contributed a growth and development to society which may be generalized as the consummation of the best form and tendencies of social continuity. But time bears a relation to certain processes of nature, and makes us sensible of change; hence the old hospitable entertainments, the old school house, the old-time singing school, the social usages and the fireside ideas of the old homestead are only to be remembered as things that are past and gone. Railroads and culm piles now occupy fields where the green pastures then gave sounds of pleasant life. The view of the neighboring mountains was grand and impressive, when the last tints of summer combined with the first faint grays of autumn to paint the changing autumnal foliage.

In the conference of past memories, among the contemporaries of Rev. Mr. Snowden, an ideal presence comes to us in the personality of Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, who resided in Wyoming, and throughout the Wyoming Valley exerted in conjunction with the Rev. Mr. Snowden, a great moral and religious influence. His nature was full of sympathy for erring humanity, and he united a mildness and energy which adapted itself to every character and to every situation. He was renowned as a reformer and temperance lecturer, and brought to the work a courage strengthened by an unshaken conviction of the duties of the mission. He was contemporary with Father Theobald Mathew, and both exercised an immense influence over the intellectual and religious character of their countrymen; neither were wanting in the instruction of theological schools, and both possessed a zealous devotion to the interests of Christianity.

[To be concluded.]

## DEATH OF DR. CRAWFORD.

**One of the Best Known Residents of Wilkes-Barre Passes Away Suddenly at His Harvey's Lake Cottage—He Was as Well as Usual in the Morning—An Active and Honorable Career—An Eminent Ancestry.**

Dr. John Barclay Crawford of Wilkes-Barre, one of the most successful physicians and best known residents of Wyoming Valley, died October 7, 1894, at 2 p. m. at his cottage at Harvey's Lake, aged 67 years.

About one and a half years ago while Dr. Crawford was working in a garden he was prostrated by a severe pain in the lower part of the abdomen, which increased so steadily that his friends were much alarmed. The pain did not yield readily to treatment. The doctor was very fond of hunting and one day while out in the woods he accidentally discharged his gun and a number of shot lodged in one of his hands. Some of these were not extracted and as the pain seemed to run from his hand up his arm and down his side, he thought that perhaps the pain in his abdomen might be a sympathetic affection with this wound in the hand as the primary cause. He then submitted to an operation for the removal of the remaining "shot" from the hand, but no relief was experienced. It kept growing worse and the doctor was greatly enfeebled. At the beginning of the present year Dr. Kelley of Baltimore, the renowned abdominal surgeon, assisted by distinguished local physicians, performed an operation, but no organic abdominal trouble could be discovered. He recovered from the operation with good results, but the pain remained and the physicians came to the conclusion that the trouble was due to general debility. He had other severe neuragic pains and suffered also from ailments contracted during the war.

The doctor was taken to his Harvey Lake cottage and spent the summer there. He walked about the house and about the lake and did not seem to grow worse. As late as Saturday he took a long walk about the lake and felt well after the exercise.

Yesterday morning he ate breakfast and walked about the house. Towards noon he did not feel so well and lay down on the sofa. A few hours later he was dead, having been seized with an affection of the heart.

Dr. Crawford was born in Crawford, Orange County, N. Y., Jan. 2, 1828, and was a son of John B and Elizabeth (Thompson) Crawford. His ancestors were pioneers in that region. His great-grandfather, James Crawford, was with Gen. Wolfe when Quebec was captured by the British and was an officer in the Continental army during the French and English war. John Crawford, his grandfather, served with distinction in the Revolutionary war from its beginning to the end. His father, John Barclay Crawford, served during the war of 1812 with an honorable record. It will thus be seen that Dr. Crawford came of fighting stock,—men who were eminent in the service of our infant government.

When the subject of this sketch was 8 years of age he removed with his father to Moreland, Schuylers County, New York, where he attended school. Later he was placed in charge of a private tutor, where he remained until he began the study of medicine. He read medicine at Elmira and also studied at Columbia College in New York. In 1851 he began the practice of his profession at Hawley, Wayne County, Pa., and acted as surgeon of the coal company there, of which Mr. Hawley was president, who was a warm friend of the doctor. He remained there only one year and in 1852 he removed to Wyoming, this county, where he practiced medicine until 1870, when he removed to Wilkes-Barre, and practiced at his residence on North Franklin street, until his illness compelled him to relinquish active pursuit of his profession. Of late years he has occupied his cottage at Harvey's Lake during the summer.

At the breaking out of the civil war Dr. Crawford entered the army as an assistant surgeon and was promoted to be surgeon of the 52d Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserves, the late ex-Governor Hoyt's regiment. He was also medical director at Camp Curtin, and was surgeon in charge of the military department of St. Joseph's Hospital in Philadelphia. He went through the Chickahominy campaign, and was present at the siege of Charleston. After the battle of Antietam, in 1862, where Generals Mansfield

and Reno were killed, Governor Curtin, who also died Oct 7, 1864, almost the same time as Dr. Crawford passed away, appointed the doctor to look after the Pennsylvania soldier wounded who were lying in the field hospitals. Those who were able to be moved were taken to the hospital at Philadelphia, referred to above, of which Dr. Crawford was given charge. In 1864 he was mustered out of the service on account of poor health. G. W. Lung of this city served with him through the war.

In 1852 Dr. Crawford married at Horseheads, N. Y., Sarah Hammond, a granddaughter of the Hammond who escaped from the Queen Esther Indian massacre near this city. His wife died about sixteen years ago in this city. One daughter, Hattie L., was born to them, who married Dr. J. C. Rippard, and who lived with her father up to the time of his death.

Dr. Crawford was a schoolmate of David B. Hill at the academy at Havana, N. Y., and the noted politician was also a law student in the office of Dr. Crawford's brother at Watkins, N. Y. Dr. Crawford also had two brothers in Michigan and two sisters, and one brother in Kansas, who died. The three daughters of this brother came East to live with Dr. Crawford. One of them, Alice, is a teacher in the North street school building, and the other two are attending school here.

Dr. Crawford was a member of the State Medical Society, of the Luzerne County Medical Society and of the American Medical Association. He was a consulting physician of the Wilkes-Barre Hospital, served as president of the United States pension examining board and until his health failed was one of the medical examiners of applicants for pensions. In 1872 he was appointed coroner of Luzerne County by Governor Geary. He was one of the early members of the Luzerne County Medical Society and served one or more terms as president. He was also one of the censors of that society for years.

He was a modest but gifted speaker and a frequent participant in the discussions at the meetings of the medical society. His extensive clinical experience as a practitioner supplemented by his careful reading of contemporary medical literature, abundantly qualified him to discuss any and every subject which came before the society. Several of the essays read by him before the society were published in pamphlet form. One of them, on "Gunshot wounds during the Re-

bellion," was such a thorough study of that subject and such a striking presentation of statistics, that it gave him a wide reputation, and the pamphlet was called for from far and near. Another pamphlet, which won distinction for Dr. Crawford, was on "Malaria in the Wyoming Valley," in which he elaborated a most plausible hypothesis, to the effect that many of the so-called "malarial" disorders of this locality are due to the poisoning of the atmosphere by emanations from the enormous masses of coal refuse with which the mines have covered the landscape.

He was distinguished for his kindness of heart, and there are hundreds of poor persons who have had his professional skill without fee or reward. As a surgeon he was not a rapid operator but an extremely careful one, and was painstaking in everything he did. He was a deep student and was noted for his scholarly accomplishments. Socially he was the best kind of a man, and many will feel as if they have lost a brother when for a time they are deprived of his companionship. Unassuming and unostentatious in all his ways, he came and went as if at peace with himself and all the world. He found delight in the company of true and steadfast friends and loved to recount with them his experiences in the woods and by the streams, where he passed many hours with gun and rod. He suffered patiently and often told those about him that the end of his days was not far off. And so on this bright Sunday afternoon, at this beautiful mountain spot, the soul of a good man passed into unclouded sky, and an honored life is left only as a bright memory.

#### Mrs. Miner's Relatives.

In answer to H. B. Plumb in Wednesday's RECORD I find the following in my "Families of the Wyoming Valley," page 1138: "Mr. Bidlack was twice married. His first wife was Fanny Stewart, a daughter of James Stewart. (See page 836.) Mr. Bidlack married his second wife Sept 8, 1829. She was Margaret M. Wallace, daughter of James Wallace and granddaughter of William Wallace. The wife of William Wallace was Elizabeth d'Aeriz, a daughter of Francis Josephus d'Aeriz, who came from France with Gen. Lafayette and who married the daughter of Col. John Broadhead. Mr. and Mrs. Bidlack had the following children—William Wallace Bidlack, who during the late

civil war served in the field and hospital as surgeon; Mary E. Bidlack, who married Edward James Reed of Philadelphia; Benjamin Alden Bidlack, James B. W. Bidlack, who served as a soldier in the late civil war and has been for the past year medical director of the American Exposition in London; Frances B. Bidlack, Helen Bidlack and Blanche d'Arroz Bidlack. The widow of Benjamin Alden Bidlack married for her second husband the late Thomas W. Miner, M. D., of this city." GEORGE B. KULP.

## THE MAJOR IS DEAD.

**The Mantle of Death Falls Upon the Gallant Soldier and Honored Citizen and His Suffering is at an End.**

At 8:15 p. m., Sept. 6, 1894, the sorrowing family of Maj. C. M. Conyngham, surrounding his bedside, saw him peacefully pass away,—into the shadow of the valley of death, into the great beyond to meet the righteous reward of an honorable life. For two days death was near, so near that hope was abandoned and the end was expected at any moment. He suffered very much until exhaustion following the operation benumbed his senses into unconsciousness and the coming of the dread messenger was looked upon as a relief from severe bodily pain. He sank peacefully into the sleep of death,—as peacefully as he lived. Although the unseen power spoke the benediction before life's summer had faded far away, it closed a life that may stand before the world. Three score years and ten from the cradle to the grave,—not to the end of this long pathway did he tread ere he see the glory of a better land or hear diviner music beyond the spheres. Ere yet the autumn tints had touched his hair or the weight of years had bent his form he passed away, but his big heart and generous nature have long been attuned to the sympathies of the Perfect Life, and the shadows that fell along the wayside have not darkened the memory of a life well spent. Living we loved him, and dead, we love him still.

Thirty years ago while defending the flag of his country Major Conyngham was several times wounded, but at the battle of the Wilderness, after an act of particular bravery, he received a bullet wound near the thigh, which had been giving him considerable pain. A couple of months ago an operation

was performed by surgeons eminent in this city and elsewhere for the removal of the bullet. The operation was only partially successful. For awhile an improvement was noticed, and the sufferer was taken to the Glen Summit Hotel in the hope that he would be further benefited, but other complications followed, in the nature of a growth unlooked for, and he declined rapidly. Several days ago he was brought to his home in this city in a private car and another operation was performed. Since then the decline has been rapid, and the family and friends were in a measure prepared for the crisis.

Maj. Conyngham's vigorous constitution and large, manly physique were looked upon as worth many more years of life, but after years of suffering the little bullet that over a quarter of a century ago sped on its deadly mission is taking the life of this gallant soldier and honored citizen.

Maj. Conyngham is descended from ancestors who have shed lustre upon many of the walks of life and in legal attainments especially the name is as familiar as that of almost any other in the East.

He is the seventh son of Hon. John Nesbitt Conyngham (whose wife was Ruth Butler) and was born in this city July 6, 1840, being, therefore, 54 years of age, although so well preserved was he that he scarcely seemed to have attained that age. He received his education at Philadelphia, where he attended the Episcopal Academy, and later attended Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., from which he graduated as master of arts in 1862. Mr Conyngham decided to take up the legal profession and studied law in the office of Byron Nicholson and was admitted to the Luzerne County bar in August, 1862. The war breaking out at that time, Maj. Conyngham at once went to the defense of his country and never entered into the practice of the profession for which he seemed so well fitted. He entered the army as captain of Co. A, 149th Regiment Pennsylvania Infantry, the same month he was admitted to the bar. The late Gen. E. L. Dana was colonel of the regiment and George E. Hoyt lieutenant colonel. The latter was killed in 1863, and Capt Conyngham was promoted to be major. He fought gallantly in many engagements and won the commendation of all his superior officers and the entire confidence of his men. Among the battles he participated in were those of

Spottsylvania, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and the Wilderness. In the Spottsylvania engagement Col. Dana was wounded and taken prisoner, Lieut. Col. Musser was killed and the command of the regiment devolved upon the gallant major. The records show that his bravery was almost unparalleled. On May 12, 1864, the major was shot down by a rebel bullet and was so severely wounded that three months later he was discharged from the service. The disablement occurred after a most brilliant charge. The color bearer of the regiment was shot down, and Maj. Conyngham grasped the colors, drew his sword, and, heading the regiment, inspired his men with renewed confidence and loyalty.

When his wounds were sufficiently healed Maj. Conyngham returned to Wilkes-Barre and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He became interested in the firm of Conyngham, Schrage & Co., whose stores are located on Northampton street and in Ashley, and also in the West End Coal Co., whose mine is at Mocaqua, near Shickelony. Mr. Conyngham was president of this company up to the present. He was also interested in numerous other enterprises, among which are the Parrish Coal Co., the Hazard Wire Rope Works and other business institutions. He was also a director of the City Hospital, a trustee of the Osterhout Free Library, trustee of the Board of Trade, trustee of the 9th Regiment Armory Association. He was a communicant and warden of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, a member of the executive committee of the Luzerne County Bible Society, a member of the Loyal Legion, of the Society of the Potomac, of the G. A. R. and of Masonic Lodge 61. During the administration of Governor Hoyt he was inspector general of the National Guard of Pennsylvania.

Maj. Conyngham in 1864 was married to Miss Helen Hunter Turner of Hartford, Conn., daughter of William Wolcott Turner, and three children were born to them—Helen, who a couple of years ago became the wife of Charles Gifford of New Jersey; Alice, who is unmarried and resides at home, and Herbert, who is at home from school.

The name of Conyngham is more aged than the history of America and few families contain so many illustrious and distinguished members. Malcolm, Prince of Scotland, was saved from the vengeance of Macbeth by being hidden in a barn by one Malcolm,

whom the Prince, when he ascended the throne, rewarded with the thanedom of Conynghame, from whom the members of the family are descended, including Lord Conyngham of Ayr, Lord Conyngham of Fairlie, Lord Conyngham of Elinburg, Lord Conynghame of Milncraig, the Marquise Conyngham of Ireland and many others. William Conyngham was bishop of Argyll, Scotland, in 1539. One of his sons (William) was made baronet of Nova Scotia and the other son, Alexander, removed to Donegal, Ireland, in 1610. The latter had twenty-seven children. One of his sons, Alexander of Letterkenny, had a son Andrew Conyngham, from whom it is supposed that the Wilkes-Barre family descended.

Judge John Nesbitt Conyngham, father of the major, was born in Philadelphia in 1798 and was admitted to the Luzerne County Bar in 1820, being a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. In a few years after his admission to the bar he was elected judge of the courts of the county. His grandfather, (great-grandfather to the major) was Redmond Conyngham, who was rector of the old Christ Church in Philadelphia for many years and was noted as a great preacher and entered enthusiastically into the project for the erection of St. Peter's Church in that city. Among his ancestry, as heretofore noted, descendants of the titled personages referred to were several eminent churchmen of Great Britain.

Judge John N. Conyngham, father of Major Conyngham, was also a vestryman in St. Stephen's Church in this city and was also a member of the diocesan convention and in 1844 he was elected a member of the general convention of the Episcopal Church at Cincinnati. His services at this convocation were so valuable that he was elected to several successive conventions, having been placed on many important committees. In 1862 he was placed on the committee on canons, one of the most important and influential, and his colleagues were men eminent in the nation's history. In 1868 he was elevated to the position of president of the Protestant Episcopal Church Missionary Society. In politics he was also active, having been elected to the State legislature in 1849. From 1824 to 1838 he was a trustee of the old academy. After 30 years' service he resigned as judge of Luzerne County and there was universal regret, for he had the reputation

of having been one of the most learned and fair-minded wearers of the ermine that ever sat upon the bench. At the time of his death he was president of the Luzerne County Bible Society, the society in which his son has been an influential director. From 1827 to the year following, and also from 1834 to 1837 Judge Conyngham was honored by being elected burgess of the borough of Wilkes-Barre, and in 1849 and 1850 he was elected to the presidency of the borough council. In all his official capacity—as judge, as representative, as burgess and as president of council, and also in his eminent church relations, he was noted as progressive, having good judgment and the esteem of all the people. In 1829 the Wyoming National Bank was organized, and he was one of its first directors. His coolness and good judgment during financial depressions led him to be entrusted with several most important financial missions.

His death occurred in a tragic manner. While on his way to Texas to see an invalid son he fell on the railroad in Mississippi and a car passing over his legs, they were so badly crushed that he died a few hours later—Feb. 23, 1871, aged 73 years. Judge Conyngham's career at the bar and on the bench of this county at once placed him in the front rank among the legal fraternity. Some of his speeches and decisions are referred to even at this day as among the most eloquent and learned on record. Among his law students were the late Hon. Hendrick B. Wright and Ovid F. Johnson, afterwards attorney general of the State.

Judge Conyngham married Ruth Ann Butler in December, 1823, daughter of Gen. Lord Butler, whose family figured prominently in the stirring times of early Wyoming. They had seven children, six of whom grew to adult life—Col. John Butler Conyngham; William L. Conyngham, who lives in the mansion at the corner of West River street, by the side of the residence of his honored brother; Thomas Conyngham; Maj. Charles Mirer Conyngham (the subject of this sketch); Mary, wife of Charles Parrish of this city, and Anna, wife of Right Rev. William Bacon Stevens of Philadelphia, at present bishop of Pennsylvania.

Redmond Conyngham, a brother of Maj. Conyngham's father, was also a native of Philadelphia, and inherited a liberal sum from the estate of his grandfather in Ireland, where he spent his early life. His cousin, William Conyngham Plunkett, was at one time lord chancellor of Ireland. Redmond Conyngham came also to Luzerne County

from Philadelphia, and was elected representative and senator from Luzerne, Columbia, Northumberland, Union and Susquehanna counties. The village of Conyngham, in this county, was named in his honor. He died in 1846 at Lancaster.

Thus are given the antecedents of this honored man, whose death we will all deplore. We singled him out and looked up to him in life because in all his business, religious and social relations he stood upon that higher plane where men only of the greatest worth are to be found. In the busy, skeptical world of to-day men easily fall away from some or all of the virtues that characterize the ideal man. Let them be honest and prosperous in business, they are uncharitable to their suffering fellowmen. Let them be paragons in social life, they are hypocritical in the church pew. Let them be ideal in one way, in another they have serious failings. But in whatever relation one looks at the life of Major C. M. Conyngham, it seems as near to perfection as a human being can attain. Devout in religion, honorable in business, charitable to his fellowmen, what more need be said in praise of an honored career!

### NEARLY 100 YEARS OLD.

#### Death of One of the Oldest Residents of Wyoming Valley.

One of the most aged residents of the Wyoming Valley passed away Aug. 28, 1894, in this city in the person of William McDermott, who died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Ellis Chamberlain, at 139 North Washington street, aged 97 years and 3 months. Deceased was born at Schenectady, in Northampton county, in 1797, and has resided in Plymouth and this city almost ever since. He hunted game on the present site of the city when it was the heart of a wilderness.

Until within a few days of his death all his faculties were unimpaired. He is survived by six children, Mrs. Ellis Chamberlain, Josiah J. and William McDermott, of this city; Mrs. Pickett, of Plymouth; Mrs. Maria Eckenrode of Upper Lehigh and Libbie McDermott of New York. Mr. McDermott was twice married, and was the father of fifteen children.

His father, Michael McDermott, was Scotch-Irish and came to this country in 1788, entered the United States service in 1812, he was captured by the British at the battle of Lundy's Lane and held a prisoner for three years. He died at Espy town in 1837.

The funeral took place from 137 Northampton street, on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, with services at the house and interment in Hanover Green cemetery.

## DEATH OF MRS. WRIGHT.

### A Well Known Lady, Honored and Respected by All, Passes Away.

On Sept. 26, 1894, at 9 o'clock, at the mansion on South Franklin street occurred the death of Mrs. Emily L. Wright, widow of the late Harrison Wright, one of the most eminent men in Luzerne County history. Some weeks ago while at her cottage at Bear Lake Mrs. Wright fell from a chair while about to sit upon it and fractured her hip, and although she appeared to improve from the immediate results of the injury, it was too severe for one of her years and the subsequent exhaustion gradually weakened her and she fell peacefully asleep. A few weeks ago she was removed to her home in this city, 54 South Franklin street.

Mrs. Wright was 79 years of age. She was before marriage, Emily Cist, daughter of Jacob Cist, a name famous in the history of Wyoming. He was born in Philadelphia in 1782 and had a distinguished ancestry. He removed to Wilkes-Barre in 1808 and was postmaster until 1825. He was a contributor to the current magazines and periodicals and attained distinction in a literary way. He married in 1807 Sarah Hollenback, daughter of Judge Mathias Hollenback of Wilkes-Barre. After marriage Mr. Cist returned to Washington, but removed to this city a short time later and entered into partnership with his father-in-law. For three years he lived in Mill Creek and in 1811 removed to his residence on River street. In 1813, when the British squadron held both the Delaware and Chesapeake bays in blockade Mr. Cist introduced anthracite coal into Philadelphia, having seen its advantages from boyhood, and so successful seemed the innovation that later, he, with Charles Miner and John Robinson, secured a lease of coal land near Mauch Chunk and began the business more extensively. The venture, however, was disastrous financially, on account of competition with other coal and difficulty in reaching the markets, and, although the business was abandoned, Mr. Cist always harbored ideas for the development of these extensive anthracite deposits, and he contributed considerable literature on the subject of a scientific nature, showing careful research and examination of the geology of the country. In 1810

Mr. Cist aided in forming the Luzerne County Agricultural Society and took great pride in raising fruit. He was also treasurer of Luzerne County in 1816 and was one of the charter members of the old Susquehanna Bank. He was a man far ahead of his times and was continually evolving some great scientific or industrial scheme, many of which proved eminently successful. He died in 1825, aged 43 years.

His children were Mary Ann Cist (deceased), wife of Nathaniel Rutter; Ellen E. Cist (deceased) first married to Rev. Robert Dunlap, D. D., and then to Nathaniel Rutter; Emily L. Cist (who died last evening), wife of Harrison Wright; Augusta Cist, wife of Andrew T. McClintock (deceased), and Sarah A. Cist (deceased), wife of Peter T. Woodbury.

Harrison Wright, husband of deceased, was born in Plymouth in 1815, and was a son of Joseph Wright and a brother of Hendrick B. Wright, who became famous as one of the most learned men in Eastern Pennsylvania, and represented Luzerne County in the legislature and in Congress, also of Caleb E. Wright of Doylestown. Mr. Wright studied law, and became distinguished in his profession and practiced it continually with the exception of a few months in the legislature. He died Aug. 25, 1856, looked up to by the entire legal fraternity as a most learned counselor.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright had the following children:

Harrison Wright, Jr., who died in 1885, aged 35 years, after having been admitted to the bar and received an education in the best institutions of America and Europe; Josephine, wife of Arthur W. Hillman; Augusta McClintock Wright (deceased); Jesse Wright (deceased), wife of W. J. Harvey; Sarah H. Wright, wife of Dr. G. W. Guthrie and Major J. Ridgway Wright.

To those who knew Mrs. Wright there are no words of pen that can heighten their esteem for one who seemed the embodiment of all that is pure and noble in woman. To these her death will be more than a passing shadow, will cause more than a passing sigh. Hers was a life that towered high above the common plane, such as pass to the eternal land mourned by the multitude that looked up and honored and loved. She lived to be useful to others with her big heart and good nature, and wherever she appeared there was sunlight. In the fulness of years she departed this life, leaving a memory pure and sweet.



**DEATH OF AMBROSE BALDWIN.**

**Grew to Manhood in Luzerne County—Old Memories Revived by His Death.**

Ambrose Baldwin, a brother of the late Major Abel Baldwin of Huntsville, and uncle of G. L. Baldwin of Carey avenue, died at his home in Ottawa, Kansas, May 8, 1894. Mr. Baldwin was born near Huntsville, June 10, 1811, where he grew to manhood. He taught school several "quarters" in Hanover township about 1830-1. His grandfather, Jared Baldwin, came from Connecticut in 1795, and built a felt hat factory at Huntsville with the remnant of his means. He had been a quartermaster in the Connecticut line of the Continental Army, and quartermasters in that struggle put their own fortunes into supplies and trusted the government to reimburse them, but the Continental scrip became worthless. After building the hat factory and a saw mill, which stood about six rods above the county bridge at Huntsville, and a flouring mill (which was burned in 1809) on the bank nearly opposite the present grist mill, he returned to Connecticut, where he died about 1816. His son Tibbals built a log house near the little, old orchard back of Harvey Futler's present dwelling and died there. Other sons removed to Pitcher, N. Y. Jude, the father of Ambrose, continued the business at Huntsville, but died of typhus fever in 1821, as did several of his family. There had been erected a dam where that of the Wilkes-Barre Water Company now is, which overflowed an area of timber, which died in consequence, and an epidemic of typhoid and typhus fever ensued, which, when it considered the paucity of inhabitants, was virulent, indeed.

Ambrose, Lewis and Watson went to Ohio in 1832. Burr followed in 1849 and died in Williams County in 1855. Mrs. Ellenor Brown, the only sister, died in Lehman in April of last year. Ambrose again moved West, following his sons to Kansas, where for twenty-one years he was a justice of the peace. He was a conscientious Christian, a member of the Universalist Church, and few men have lived a life so nearly modeled after that of his Redeemer, to whose skirts more than three score years ago he pinned his hope of a future life. The most remarkable feature of his character was that of winning a great number of friends who ever after continued to regard him with the affection due a parent. To know him intimately was to love him dearly.

**JOSEPH E. PIOLLETT DEAD.**

**He was Well Known in This City and a Builder of Many Miles of the Lehigh Valley Railroad—Brother of Victor E. Piollett.**

Another well known man has passed away in the person of Joseph E. Piollett of Wysox, Bradford County, after a long illness of consumption, aged 74 years. His brother, Hon. Victor E. Piollett was a familiar figure upon the streets of Wilkes-Barre and was known by almost everybody, and deceased was scarcely less known in this city. Mr. Piollett, says the *Towanda Review*, was always a resident of Bradford County, having been born Aug. 30, 1819, almost on the very spot where he had always lived. A sketch of the life of this well known man is closely interwoven with that of his brother, Col. Victor E. Piollett, who died in August, 1890, as the two men were life-long partners in the extensive farming business at Wysox. They engaged largely in railroad building at different times and constructed many miles of the Lehigh Valley, and almost the entire roadbed of the Barclay railroad; they were also contractors on the old North Branch canal. At the death of the colonel, his interest in the business descended to his son Louis, who has been the partner of Joseph E. Piollett up to the present time.

The deceased was for eleven years president of the Bradford County Agricultural Society, and was at one time honored by his party with a place on the Democratic ticket as its candidate for legislative honors; and although suffering defeat at that time, Mr. Piollett ran away ahead of the rest of his ticket.

Mr. Piollett had been in failing health for some time, and had been confined to the house for most of the past year; a few weeks ago he had an attack of rheumatism, and this with the disease he had so long fought was too much for his waning condition, and he died on Thursday morning, July 19, 1894.

Mr. Piollett had a wide acquaintance throughout the State, and his demise will be received everywhere with feelings of deep sorrow.

A wife and two sons survive him; John C. is at home and for some time has been manager of his father's large farming interests; Heister is a locomotive engineer on the Lehigh Valley and lives at Sayre.

### DEATH OF RICHARD GUNTON.

**He Was Improving from a Surgical Operation When Paralysis Carried Him Off—Rose from a Farmer Lad to a Comfortable Station in Life.**

Richard Gunton died on Sunday, June 24, 1894, at his residence at 433 South Main street. Mr. Gunton was one of the best known residents of Wilkes-Barre.

He had been ailing more or less for about a year. About two months ago he submitted to a severe surgical operation from which he rallied, and was able to move about the yard at his home. About a week ago, however, he was taken with a fever which prostrated him again, but the immediate cause of death was gradual paralysis, commencing about 4 o'clock yesterday morning. The remains will be interred in Hanover Green cemetery after services at the house at 4 o'clock p. m. Tuesday.

Mr. Gunton was born in England, near Cambridge College, about 75 miles from London, in the year 1815, and was 79 years of age. He came to America in 1831, locating in Wilkes-Barre and living in this city and vicinity ever since. He worked on a farm near Wyoming for a year, and then bought some land and raised broom corn and manufactured brooms. Several years subsequently he bought a farm near Lehman on which he made many improvements, and again after seven or eight years moved to Wyoming for several years. Then he bought the Buttonwood farm near Plymouth Ferry and from there he moved 24 years ago to the residence where he died, buying the property from the Parrish family. While living on the Buttonwood farm he manufactured brooms and continued in the business for some time after moving to this city. For about twenty years, though, he has lived a retired life. He was three times married, his first wife dying while living on the farm at Buttonwood, after bearing him five children, all girls, and all living. He married his second wife at the same place and she bore another daughter. The second wife died after he moved to this city, eleven years ago. He again married but no children were born to them. His first wife was Eliza Grenawald, and the children were Mrs. Albert Foster, Hanover; Mrs. William J. Spendley, 545 South

Main; Mrs. John Dewitt, 19 Orchard street; Mrs. T. L. Gunton, Bloomsburg; Mrs. E. M. Herring, 95 Hanover street. The second wife was Mrs. Sarah Hunter (nee Frances), and the daughter is Mrs. Harry L. Hungerford of this city. The third wife was Mrs. E. A. Stark (nee Driggs of this city). Mrs. Thomas Smith of Forty Fort is a sister, and Matthew Gunton, of Greenwood, Del., is a brother.

The deceased was a member of the old school Baptist Church, attending so long as he was able in Scott Township, Lackawanna County.

Deceased of late years was not seen much in the central part of the city. He was, however, well known, and had many friends. He was a great admirer of a beautiful horse, and owned some speedy racers and roadsters.

### OBITUARY.

Adam Behee, one of the oldest residents of Wilkes-Barre, died May 16, 1894, at 10 p. m. at his home, 41 North Main street, of old age. He was 81 years of age. Mr. Behee was unwell all winter, but lately his infirmities assumed a more serious aspect and gradually the machinery of life ceased its work. Mr. Behee was well known in this city and vicinity, having been born in Hanover Township, near the Red Tavern, Jan. 31, 1813. He was a blacksmith by trade and worked at that business for sixty years, from 16 to 76. He had a shop for a long time where the electric light plant now stands. His wife died eight years ago and his daughter, Mrs. Abi Pryor, kept house for him. The other children surviving are Frank L. Behee, Hamilton H., Adelaide, wife of Harry Palmer, William, Laura, Charles, Grant, Mrs. George J. Wells, all of Wilkes-Barre, and Mrs. A. B. Miller of Orange, New Jersey.

#### MICHAEL MCCARTY.

Michael McCarty died at his home, 60 South Sherman street, May 13, 1894, at the age of 77 years after an illness of five weeks.

Mr. McCarty was born in County Longford, Ireland, in 1817, and came to this country at the age of twenty years, residing for a year in New York City. He came to this city in 1838, where he has lived ever since. Deceased was one of the pioneers in the coal mines of this valley, having been engaged in that work for fifty-six years. For thirty-five years previous to his death he was in the

employ of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company. Surviving him are his widow and six children: John W., Mrs. J. P. Sultz, Lawrence A. and Miss Katie, of this city; Mrs. Elizabeth Stevens, of Kansas City, Mo., and James, of Little Rock, Ark.

Mr. McCarty was one of the oldest residents of Wilkes-Barre, and has a very large circle of friends who mourn his loss. He was a very industrious man, always respected for his uprightness and honesty.

**MRS. MELINDA RAEDER.**

May 18, 1894, at 9 o'clock, at 50 Northampton street, occurred the death of Mrs. Melinda Wendell Raeder, wife of John Raeder and mother of attorney William L. Raeder of this city. She had been unconscious for nearly twenty-four hours, caused by a stroke of apoplexy. Mrs. Raeder had a noble ancestry.

Evert Jansen Wendell came to New Amsterdam (now New York), from Ems, Prussia, in 1642. His second son, Capt. Johannes Wendell, was agent in 1682 for Maryland, to receive the indemnity from the five nations of Indians for depredations committed in that province. He was a justice of the peace, a ruling elder of the Dutch Reformed Church, and a commissioner of Indian affairs (according to Kulp's History of the Wyoming Valley). He was in 1690 mayor of Albany. Mrs. Raeder, the daughter of Johannes Wendell and Vina Morey (the latter the descendant of Roger Williams), was born in 1828 at Lake George, N. Y. In 1847 she married John Raeder.

They lived at Ransom for a time and in 1857 removed to Pittston, coming to Wilkes-Barre in 1873. There are three children, W. L. Raeder, the well known attorney; Mrs. F. M. Rust and Mrs. Heitzman, widow of the late Fred Heitzman, who lived with her mother. Mrs. Rust spends her winters in Florida and is now on her way here. The other children and the husband, now 73, were with their mother when she died.

Deceased attended the First Presbyterian Church. She was an excellent woman and lived a life that caused no moments of regret in the final retrospection. Always devoted to her family she was in turn sincerely loved, and this devotion she carried in no small measure to the interests of her true friends. She lived for her family and her friends.

## THE FREELAND CEMETERY.

### A Historic Spot on Which Were Found Aboriginal Relics—The Wilkes- Barre Family of Birkbeck Repre- sented There.

Daily Record, August 23, 1894.

An important event in Freeland to-day is the unveiling of the G. A. R. monument. The monument is located in the handsome cemetery which was begun 52 years ago by the Birkbeck family, whose original plot is a part of the grounds. It covers 6 acres. In an article in the Hazleton *Standard* appears the following:

The point of historical interest is the finding, some years ago, of a rather rare specimen of Indian life here. It was a "banner stone," which was used by the aboriginals, as we would a banner, at their councils, and this spot seems to have been selected by the red men as a proper one in which to assemble preparatory to their march over the mountain trail leading from near here to the Wyoming Valley—the self-same trail so many drafted individuals took on their hasty trips to Canada during the late civil war. The banner stone above referred to is now in the possession of the Wyoming Historical Society, Wilkes-Barre.

In the old Birkbeck family plot rests the "father of the Birkbecks," beneath a slab bearing this inscription:

In Memory of Joseph Birkbeck.

Born in England, May 20, 1802.

Died April 10, 1873.

Aged 71 years, 9 months, 29 days.

His relict lies next, and we read:

In Memory of Elizabeth Birkbeck

Born at Buck Hill, Westmorland Co., Eng.,

February 12, 1804.

Died March 30, 1887.

Aged 83 years, 1 month, 18 days.

Midway up the hill, on a little knoll, reposes "the first merchant of Freeland." A neat monument marks the place, bearing this inscription:

Joseph H. Lindsay.

Died March 9, 1890.

Aged 51 years, 11 months, 14 days.

Just off the main gateway a monument reads:

Sacred to the memory of August Donop,

Founder of Freeland.

Born in the Republic of Bremen,

August 23, 1829.

Died February 13, 1881.

Aged 51 years, 5 months and 20 days.

Quite a number of neat and costly tributes have been erected of late years, among which are those of Evans, Powell, Holler, Davis, Lewis, Gibbon, Reynolds, Hartman and others.

Near the site of the G. A. R. monument lies the remains of Mrs. Joseph Birkbeck, late of Wilkes-Barre. She expressed the wish to be buried near the old soldiers' plot, and one of the old "vets" as he strewed flowers over the grave, upon which already rested a beautiful tribute from the Women's Relief Corps of Wilkes-Barre, to which she had belonged, said: "There lies the best woman in Luzerne county to the G. A. R."

### DESCENDANT OF THE PIONEERS

Of Wyoming Valley Dies Near Wyalusing  
—A Large Man.

Jabez Brown, who died at his home in Browntown, near Wyalusing, a few days ago, was a descendant of the pioneers of the Wyoming Valley, to which the family came from the Eastern States in those early days.

Two of his ancestors, Thomas and John Brown, were slain at the massacre. In 1780 those of the family that escaped went up the river and settled near the Moravian town, Friedenshuettten, two miles from Wyalusing, purchasing lands which have since been held and occupied by the family.

The deceased, who was 68 years of age, was one of the largest men in Northeastern Pennsylvania, being 6 feet and 5 inches tall, his frame large, his proportions symmetrical and his usual weight 265 pounds.

After fitting obsequies, held on Tuesday afternoon, the remains were laid to rest in the village cemetery, in which the stone bearing the oldest date, 1791, is said to mark the grave of Daniel Brown, a member of this pioneer family.—Daily Record, June 6, 1894.

### Some Old Fashioned Weather.

Mrs. M. E. Leonard, of Salem, Wayne County, sister of J. M. Nicholson of Klugston, recalls some weather that we do not get much of in these later days. Sept. 29, she thinks, about 1845, she was in visiting her brother, Horatio W. Nicholson, and there was snow and rain all that day, and during the night the boys went skating on the Public Square. She also remembers that on Oct. 4, 1836, snow fell to the depth of eighteen inches and stayed on two or three days. This was at Salem, Wayne County.

### MARRIED A LA MODE.

[Written for the RECORD.]

Don't ask where she met him; that's none  
Of your business; love goes where it's sent,  
At least that's what they say now it's done;  
If wrong, there's time enough to repent.  
For there are maidens and maidens galore,  
With ideas that perplex and are strange,  
Who think of the wedding day, more  
Than what it expresses in change,—

Who picture the crowds with their eyes  
Fixed on the bride and her gown,  
Who for weeks feel the joy of surprise  
That will mark the "event of the town;"  
Who rejoice in visions serene  
Of the grandeur and glory to be,  
When, the senses thrilled by the scene,  
Shall swim in an opulent sea:

A sea that is golden to view,  
Whose glory perpetual seems;  
—With girls that she played with and knew  
Forgotten, alas! in her dreams.—  
Will the papers come out in high praise  
Of her wedding, the music and stir?  
Will they speak of her tresson and raise  
In some hearts an envy of her?

Never once does she think of the days  
That lie in the future's embrace;  
Never once does she turn her proud gaze  
To the new path her footsteps shall trace  
And the man whom she married—how strange!—  
She knows very little about;  
He courted and caught, and the range  
Of her trust encompassed no doubt.

Oh, yes, she will waken some day  
From the dream that is cheating her now;  
She will learn in the not far-away,  
A truth that will wrinkle her brow.  
She will wish a thousand times over  
She never had played a bride's part,  
To one who was never the lover,  
Who bid for her gold—not her heart.

Edward A. Niven.

### John Brown's Picture.

Charles Law of Pittston brought to the RECORD office June 21 a copper plate engraving of John Brown of Ossawatimie. Mr. Law paid \$60 for the plate, from which the engraving was produced. The plate was taken from a picture given by Brown himself to Allen Pinkerton of Chicago, in 1858, when Pinkerton secreted him when a reward of \$1,500 was offered for his head by the United States Government. It is the only authentic picture in this style. Mr. Law procured the picture from Mr. Pinkerton himself.

## DEATH OF WILLIAM E. LINES.

### He Passes Away Surrounded by His Family.

#### Interesting Incidents That Prove His Undaunted Courage—Facing Death at Spottsylvania—What He Did at Gettysburg—Story of a Masonic Jewel.

At 3:35 o'clock November 16, 1894, William E. Lines, late district superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co., breathed his last at his residence, 49 Roes street. He passed away surrounded by the members of his devoted family, whose bereavement it will be hard to condone. The deceased was a past master of Landmark Lodge, 442, A. Y. M., and a member of Dieu Le Veut Commandery, K. T. He was also a comrade of Conyngham Post, 97. He was well and widely known in the community where he was reared and lived, and he will be sincerely mourned by a large concourse of friends. He endeared himself to all who knew him. He was of a kindly nature, attractive in manner, and generous almost to a fault. His many deeds of charity were executed with quiet grace, and the same modesty that distinguished him as a soldier veiled his innumerable benefactions. He was a brave soldier, an honored citizen, a kind neighbor and a devoted husband and father. What more could be said of any man who passes away with such tributes accorded him. They comprehend the highest virtues and exalt the character of him who reveals them in his daily walk, as was the case with the subject of this sketch. He leaves a wife and five children to mourn his untimely taking off. He was married to Miss Louise Hitchler, a daughter of Louis Hitchler, an old and honored resident of this city. His children are Mary, Bertha, Louise, Jane and Sterling Catlin Lines. He died of Bright's disease, which first made its appearance about a year ago.

#### HIS BIRTH AND EARLY LIFE.

William E. Lines was born May 20, 1842. He was educated in the public schools, but

left his books at the age of 15 to learn a trade. He entered the machine shops of Laning & Marshal, where he served his apprenticeship. Being endowed with strong patriotic instincts, he heard the call to arms made in the early part of 1861, and in September of that year, at the age of 20, he threw down his tools and enlisted in the 5th United States Artillery. He proved himself a faithful and gallant soldier, and within a year was promoted to sergeant. This was on the field. He marched and fought with McClellan up the Peninsula, and participated under that commander in the famous fights before Richmond. He took part in the following hard fought battles: Mechanicsville, Gaines' Hill, Charles City Cross Roads, Malvern Hill, Gainesville, Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Talopotomy Creek, Sheldon's Farm, Cold Harbor and assault on redoubts and trenches in front of Petersburg. These figure among the terrible conflicts of the great Civil War, and the fact that Sergt. Lines was wounded twice, once at Charles City Cross Roads and again at North Anna, is the best evidence of his devotion to the flag he loved and the loyal principles it maintained.

His battery was one of the most noted in the army. It was for a long time unattached, serving with varying commands, and always, by reason of its being in the regular service, occupying hazardous positions such as usually fall to the lot of the best drilled and most trustworthy troops. Sergt. Lines's soldierly qualities early attracted the attention of his battery commanders, and won for him deserved tributes of praise. He was a stalwart young soldier, faithful in the performance of every duty, and was finally promoted for bravery on the field. Had he belonged to the volunteer service his merits would have secured for him a much higher rank than he gained with the regular troops, whose officers generally came from the Military Academy at West Point. But Sergt. Lines was perfectly satisfied with the honors earned in his line of duty, and the respect he won from the educated soldiers who commanded him, was to him a reward which he dully appreciated. He served with Battery C for the term of his enlistment, three years, and was mustered out Sept. 24, 1864.

After his return from the army he was master mechanic of the Empire mines for three years. In 1870 he was appointed foreman of the Dickson Works, Wilkes-Barre, which position he left in 1873 to accept the superintendency of the Henry colliery of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. In these several important stewardships he proved to be the right man in the right place. He had an inherited genius for all that called for careful supervision, and the same courage and loyal devotion that marked his career as a soldier, were the accompanying attributes of his experience as a manager. He was still in the employ of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company at the time of his death, filling the important position of district superintendent, and was the last one of the old employes who began under the regime of the late general superintendent Fred Merour.

#### HIS MILITARY CAREER.

The military career of the deceased was always a source of instructive delight to him. Like all brave men he was modest, never exalting his valor as others with records far less commendable might. He loved the companionship of old soldiers, and in their presence exchanged with keen pleasure the stories of battle and bivouac. All knew that he who had figured in the unparalleled incident of a battery charging on breastworks and was one of only two survivors of the terrible carnage that resulted, had a right to be numbered among the heroes of the war, whose honors were achieved as an enlisted man. Deceased was a close reader of war annals, especially the history of the Second Army Corps, with which his battery served during the greater part of his term of enlistment. In a copy of this work, which is from the library of the deceased, are found marginal notes running through the descriptive accounts of battles in which his battery took part. In the attack made by the Confederate General McLaw on Humphrey's exposed flank in the second day's fight at Gettysburg, in which the tide of battle ebbed and flowed, and the carnage was frightful, Mr. Lines recorded this paragraph on the margin:

"Battery C, Fifth Artillery, was in position to meet the assault of Wright's Brigade of Georgia troops. We lost seven men killed and thirty-two wounded on the 2d."

Another marginal note referring to the advance of the 2d Corps into action on the

third day, in which mention is made of Weir's Battery as among the artillery forces engaged, reads as follows and involves information of local significance:

"This was one section of my battery, C, 5th U. S. Artillery. We went into action here under that terrific fire of artillery and infantry and did good service. Gen. Armistead, the Confederate general, was killed not twenty feet in front of my gun; that is, he fell there. He was carried to the rear of the battery by two of my men, Dan Loher and Jacob Ganguer."

As late as June 4, 1894, the deceased had written on page 365 of the history referred to this:

"Battery C, 5th U. S. Artillery, in which I was a sergeant, fought with the 2nd Corps at Gettysburg on the 2d and 3rd of July. We belonged at that time to the Reserve Artillery of the Army of the Potomac. Immediately after Gettysburg the battery was sent to New York city to quell the draft riots. It was after our return to the army that we were assigned to duty with the 2d Corps permanently and remained and fought with it until the end of the war."

#### A MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.

It was at the famous battle of Spottsylvania Court House, on May 12, 1864, that Sergt. Lines distinguished himself particularly and proved the grandeur of his undaunted courage. G. Norton Galloway, the historian of the 6th Corps, who participated in the engagement, contributed an interesting article in the *Century Magazine* of June, 1887, giving a graphic description of the fierce battle, especially the defense of what has gone down into history as the "Bloody Angle." In referring to the arrival of a section of artillery, to which Sergt. Lines belonged, he writes: "Upon reaching the breastworks (Angle) the Confederates for a few moments had the advantage of us, and made good use of their rifles. Our men went down by the score; all the artillery horses were down; the gallant Upton (brigade commander) was the only mounted officer in sight, hat in hand, he bravely cheered his men, and begged them to 'hold the point.' All of his staff had been either killed, wounded or dismounted. At this moment, and while the open ground in rear of the Confederate works was choked with troops, a section of Battery C, 5th, U. S. Artillery, under Lieut. Richard Metcalf, was brought into action and increased the carnage by opening at short range with double

charges of canister. This staggered the apparently exultant enemy. These guns in the maze of the moment were run up by hand close to the famous Angle, fired again and again, and were only abandoned when all the drivers and cannoneers had fallen. The battle was now at white heat."

In a foot note historian Galloway says:

"This is, I believe, the only instance in the history of the war of a battery charging on breastworks. It was commanded by Lieut. James Gilliss, and was attached to the 2d Corps. Sergt. William E. Lines, one of only two survivors of the section that went in on that day, and who commanded the right gun of the section, has given the writer the following facts relative to the matter. He says:

#### A THRILLING BIT OF WAR HISTORY.

"After the capture of the Confederate works we were put in position just under the hill near the small pine trees so much spoken of. We fired a few rounds of solid shot. Of course we could not see the Confederate line, but we elevated our guns so as to clear our own infantry. While we were waiting a staff officer with a 6th Corps badge rode up to Lieut. Gilliss, and I could see they had some argument or dispute, for the officer soon went away. Directly another officer rode up to Gilliss, and the same sort of colloquy took place, the officer evidently wanting Gilliss to do something that the latter would not do. This officer rode away. In a very short time Gen. Wright, who then commanded the 6th Corps, rode up to Gilliss and had a moment's conversation with him. Lieut. Metcalf then came over to the first section, and gave the command, 'Limber the guns,' 'caissons rear,' and away we went, up the hill, past our infantry, and into position. The staff officer who led us was shot before we got into position. I have often thought that it was owing to that fact that we got so close to the enemy's works. We were a considerable distance in front of our infantry, and of course artillery could not live long under such a fire as the enemy were putting there. Our men went down in short order. The left gun fired nine rounds. I fired fourteen with mine, and was assisted in the last four rounds by an officer of a Vermont regiment and by another from the 95th Penna., both of whom were shot. The effect of our canister upon the Confederates was terrible: they were evidently trying to strengthen their first line from the second

when we opened on them, and you can imagine the execution at that distance. When Lieut. Metcalf and myself could no longer serve the guns we withdrew. Our section went into action with twenty-three men and one officer—Lieut. Metcalf. The only ones who came out sound were the lieutenant and myself. Every horse was killed, seven of the men were killed outright, sixteen wounded; the gun carriages were so cut with bullets as to be of no further service, . . . twenty-seven balls passed through the lid of the limber chest while Number Six was getting out ammunition and he was wounded in the face and neck by the fragments of wood and lead. The sponge bucket on my gun had thirty-nine holes in it, being perforated like a sieve. The force of the balls can be imagined when I say that the bucket was made of one-eighth inch iron. One curious circumstance on the morning we captured the works (May 12) was, that musketry shots seemed to make such a slight noise; instead of the sharp *ding* of the shot it was a dull *thud*. This may have been an important aid to our success, as the (first) firing of the enemy's skirmishers did not alarm their men in the breastworks."

The notes made by the deceased are continued through the book, briefly marking the battles in which his battery was engaged until the end of the war.

#### A DARING RUSE AT GETTYSBURG.

An unchronicled incident of the second day's battle at Gettysburg, which reveals the daring and intrepid courage of the soldier who has gone to his last rest, is told by one who was present on the occasion. The lines of battle wavered over the bloody field like changing streams. Now the Union forces were driving the enemy, and now the Confederates, with wild hurrahs, were driving the Boys in Blue. It was during one of these recurring episodes that the men were driven away from their guns. Battery C of the 5th United States Artillery was at one time deserted by all save Sergt. Lines. Instead of falling back with the rest, he dropped down among the dead and dying and lay quietly there, simulating death. The disfigured corpse of a comrade was close beside him. On came the rushing, yelling lines of the enemy. They halted at nothing. They took no note of dead or dying, but trampled on them with careless disregard. When the last of the Confederates had passed, Sergt. Lines

raised his head cautiously to take an observation. He had not long to look before he saw the Confederates coming back. The Union forces had been reinforced and were in turn recovering the field they had lost. The sergeant resumed his place alongside of his dead comrade. On came the Confederates fighting every inch of the way. When the last line had gone over him he sprang to his feet, and rushing to one of his guns, opened fire on the retreating enemy alone. He fired several shots before the men of his command, who were hurrying up, rejoined him and took their regular places.

#### UNWRITTEN HISTORY.

In relating the stirring incidents of the Angle struggle the deceased never referred to the valiant part played by himself, but dwelt with peculiar emphasis upon the magnificent courage and stalwart heroism of his commanding officer and sole surviving companion, Lieut. Metcalf. Towards the last, when only these two were left to serve the guns, Sergt. Lines, after loading his piece, fell over the corpse of one of his men and arose covered with blood. In the fall he accidentally pulled the lanyard which fired the piece. The lieutenant, peering through the smoke mist, saw the sergeant lying among the slain and attempting to get up. Believing him to be badly wounded, he caught him up and was carrying him back to the main line, when Sergt. Lines surprised him with the query: "What are you trying to do, lieutenant? I'm all right," and with a look of joy his commanding officer dropped him, and the two hurried back together as it was useless for them to make any further attempt to work the guns. The two ran into the 61st Pennsylvania Regiment, where Sergt. Lines was greeted by a number of boys from Wilkes-Barre who belonged to that gallant command. Some time after the intrepid Lieut. Metcalf was transferred to another command and was killed in battle during the closing days of the war.

On the third day's fight at Gettysburg, Sergt. Lines ran across a wounded Confederate officer. He stopped and ascertained that he was Maj. McEwen of Georgia. He asked if he could do anything for him and the major replied that he wanted a drink of water. After the water was supplied he took from an inside pocket a package of letters and requested that they be sent to his family. In a short time he breathed

his last. Sergt. Lines kept the package until an opportunity presented itself, when he sent it South as directed. For years afterwards he received the kindest letters from Maj. McEwen's family and became a regular correspondent.

When Gen. Hancock was in command of the Middle Division U. S. Army, with headquarters at Governor's Island, many years after the war, the late Sergt. Lines paid a visit to him. Battery C of the 5th U. S. Artillery was stationed on the island, and he naturally desired to look at the new men in his old company. He found one who remembered him. He was Paul Bommer, then one of the oldest sergeants in the service. The meeting between them was an enthusiastic as well as an affectionate one. Gen. Hancock, who knew something about Sergt. Lines's record as a gallant soldier, gave him a cordial and distinguished reception.

#### RETURN OF A MASONIC JEWEL.

The deceased was made prominent by the part he took in one of those singular incidents, happening years after the conclusion of hostilities, which brought to him the thanks and good will of the Masons of Fredericksburg. The event is chronicled in the following extract taken from a historical sketch of Fredericksburg Lodge, 4, A. F. and A. M., the lodge in which George Washington was made a Mason, and in which he held the membership for life. This is the extract:

"On the 11th of April, 1884, a letter was received from brother William E. Lines, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., stating: 'I have in my possession a treasurer's badge of office, consisting of silver keys, crossed. Recent events lead me to think they belong to your lodge. If such is the case, I want to return them. . . . The jewel came into my hands in the following manner: I was a sergeant in Battery C, 5th U. S. Artillery, and was engaged in the battle of Fredericksburg, Va., December 13, 1862, with Franklin's Grand Division on the left. A few days previous to the battle some recruits joined us, but as they had not been drilled, were left in the rear at the battle, and during the time that Fredericksburg was in our hands, they took part in the looting of the town. Among the things taken was the jewel I speak of, which one of the men gave me and has been in my hands since. I was not a Mason at the time, but joined long after the war, and then learned for the first time the use of the



jewel. I wrote to the postmaster along in 1872, and once afterwards, but never had a word in reply. An extract from the *Fredericksburg Standard*, relating to the return of a jewel, met my eyes a few days ago, and I now make another effort to find the owner of the keys.' The secretary of the lodge replied to brother Lines similar to the one sent in reference to the gavel. In a short time a letter was received from brother Lines, saying: 'I send by this mail the treasurer's jewel, taken from Fredericksburg on Dec. 13, 1862, by a member of Battery C, 5th U. S. Artillery, and by him given to me the day after battle. Should this prove to be one of No. 4's jewels, and the lodge minutes show its return by me, please have the minutes so worded as to show the facts as to how it came into my possession. For obvious reasons I do not want to go upon record as a pillager of private property.' The jewel was received by the lodge, and the secretary sent a most fraternal reply with the sincere thanks of the lodge."

The *Fredericksburg True Standard*, mention of which is made by the deceased brother Lines in his letter to the lodge, reported the facts concerning the return of the jewel, and says it was the treasurer's jewel, and instantly recognized by John J. Young, who wore it several years before the war when he was treasurer of the lodge. This appeared in the *True Standard* of the date of April 15, 1884, a copy of which was preserved by the deceased and is now in possession of his bereaved family.

In connection with this event it is pleasant to state that upon the return of deceased from Florida in May last he visited Fredericksburg, and incidentally was present at a lodge meeting of No. 4, on which occasion he was most cordially received and treated with the highest consideration.

#### FUNERAL.

Dressed in the uniform of a United States artillery sergeant, with the perfume of many flowers permeating the room as a sweet incense, surrounded by as many friends as could crowd into the house—in the midst of all these evidences of honor and esteem lay the remains of William E. Lines Sunday afternoon in the home on Ross street while the services of requiem were going on. The body was confined in a handsome black cloth casket in the front parlor and the great concourse of friends and their bowed heads and

tearful eyes gave evidence in no small degree of the regard entertained in this community for a brave soldier and a good citizen. The floral tributes were unusually beautiful and profuse. Services were conducted by Rev. H. E. Hayden of the Episcopal Church and Rev. R. B. Webster of the Presbyterian Church and the addresses they made lifted the thoughts of the mourners from the world of sorrow and death to the great beyond, where sorrows never come and death has lost its sting. Among the attendants were many members of the G. A. R., Masons, officials of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. and other coal company employes. Music was by the choir of the Episcopal Church. Rev. Mr. Webster accompanied the remains to Hollenback Cemetery, where services were conducted by the Masonic fraternity, under the auspices of Landmark Lodge, 442. Henry Moore acted as worshipful master and Charles Sutherland was chaplain. The pall bearers and carriers were Charles A. Durant, Sterling B. Catlin, M. B. Haupt, Frank Corkins, James Rutter, P. L. Hoover, Major Roberts, Fred M. Chase, Robert Shoemaker, Edward Smith and Charles B. Metzger.

### EX-MAYOR M'KUNE DEAD.

**He Left This City to Gain in Health  
But the Dread Summons Came at  
Newburg, New York.**

Telegrams were received in this city Oct. 10, 1894, by Dr. Weaver, W. L. Foote, Isaac Long and others stating that Robert H. McKune of this city, and ex-mayor of Scranton, died at Newburg-on-the-Hudson, New York on Tuesday night.

Mr. McKune had been in failing health for some time, suffering with dilatation of the heart. Within the past few months he was very much enfeebled and was unable to attend to his duties as secretary of the Wilkes-Barre Board of Trade, which position he held for a couple of years. He suffered very much with neuralgia of the heart and a great part of the time was confined to Mrs. Boyd's boarding house on South Welles street, where he lived. Five weeks ago he was induced to take a change of air and left for Newburg, the home of his childhood days, but nothing could arrest the progress

of the disease and when the message was announced it was no great surprise to those who knew his condition.

Deceased was born in Newburg, New York, Aug. 19, 1823, and was, therefore, 71 years of age. His father died when he was 3 years of age and his grandfather took him to his home. He attended school until his thirteenth year and then began working as a baker. In 1839 he left for New York City, about sixty miles distant and remained there two years, returning to take Newburg to take charge of his mother's business. When he attained his majority he began the grocery business at Newburg, his grandfather having left him a small amount of money. A few years later he gave up this business on account of poor health and went to Cold Spring, N.Y., where he remained two years and then, having been seized with the Western fever, went to California in 1849 and was a participant in the gold mining excitement. After prospecting for one half year he left for San Francisco and engaged in business. On his return East he settled at Susquehanna, Pa., and a short time afterwards at Binghamton, where he was connected with the wholesale grocery trade. Here he remained for seventeen years and then removed to Wilkes-Barre. When the war broke out in 1862 he went to Scranton and occupied a position as lieutenant of the Keystone Guards, and with that organization went to the front, and assisted the Army of the Potomac at the battle of Antietam, he having charge of the advance guard on the Williamsport road on the Union right. Later he entered the Secret Bureau at Vicksburg, remaining in that service until the close of the war, when he returned to Scranton and entered the insurance business. He also served a short time in the Mexican War.

Mr. McKune was elected mayor of Scranton in 1875, the fourth mayor of the city, and at the end of his term was succeeded by T. V. Powderly. During his term as mayor he had an exciting experience. During the terrible labor troubles of 1876 Mayor McKune organized a body of vigilantes to protect the city of Scranton. On the morning of Aug. 1 mobs were upon the streets and they resolved to stop the machine shops, foundries, etc. Hollister's "History of Lackawanna County" says: "At this time Mayor McKune appeared on the streets. As he reached the

corner of Lackawanna and Washington avenues he was met by a messenger from Mr. McKinney, foreman of the railroad car shops. He and his friends went in that direction. The whole space was filled by at least 5,000 persons, who were driving away the few who were willing to work. As the mayor was opposite the main entrance of the shops the angry crowd was emerging; around him quite a multitude had gathered. The leader of the gang cried out: "Who is it!" "The mayor," some one replied. The leader then shouted: "Kill him! He has no business here!" Immediately several pistol shots were fired and the mayor was struck in the back with a club, which caused the blood to spurt from his mouth. He was also hit by a number of stones. He was promptly surrounded by workmen who strove earnestly for his safety. They were nearly overpowered when Rev. Father Dunn arrived upon the scene who, taking the arm of the mayor, proceeded towards Washington avenue. They had gone but a few steps when a man jumped in front of McKune and struck him a severe blow with a slung shot, breaking his upper jaw and fracturing the roof of his mouth. The crowd then rushed upon the unarmed mayor, but he was rescued by a posse that had been organized at the commencement of the strike."

Six years ago Mayor McKune came to Wilkes-Barre and engaged in the insurance business for the New York Life. He was the manager of the 9th Regiment armory fair, which all will remember as one of the most successful affairs ever held in the State. He was elected secretary of the board and was a hard-worker until failing health compelled him to retire. At the last annual meeting he handed in his resignation, but it was not accepted. He was also a prominent Mason.

He married at Newburg Miss Elmira Smith of Sullivan County, who died and was buried at Scranton, beside whose remains the husband will be laid.

Mayor McKune never fully recovered from the shock he received at the labor riots in Scranton and was very nervous all through his life. When in health he was energetic and ambitious. Socially he was well liked. He loved to tell a story and crack a joke and enjoyed all these pleasantries very much. He made friends easily and all who knew him were pleased with his open, generous nature.

## REV. E. HAZARD SNOWDEN.

### The Venerable Preacher Passes Away

**At the Ripe Age of Over 95 Years at  
His Home in Forty Fort—A Career  
that had Matured to Usefulness  
Before Many of Our Oldest Resi-  
dents were Born—History of an  
Honored Life.**

Daily Record, October 17, 1894.

A father in Israel has passed away. Rev. Ebenezer Hazard Snowden, who has heralded the glad tidings of the gospel in this community for more than half a century, is dead. For two generations his tall figure has been familiar on these streets, and he was nearly 40 when he came here more than fifty years ago. A long and busy life, crowded with good deeds, is at an end and a good man is gone. Who can measure the influence for good of a life so prolonged and all of it spent in behalf of his fellow men.

Though age has bowed his strong frame, he possessed a rugged constitution and his only infirmity was that he had become almost blind.

Rev. Mr. Snowden died of general debility. Up to one year ago Mr. Snowden had been in practically good health. For the past five months he has been confined to his room and could only get about with the assistance of others. In June last he was attacked with dysentery which after being checked left him so weak that he was never able to recover and yesterday morning, surrounded by a few devoted friends, as the sun was breaking through the eastern clouds he breathed his last. The end came peacefully and was a fitting close to a long life spent in deeds of kindness and Christian charity.

Rev Ebenezer Hazard Snowden was born at the old college town of Princeton, N. J., June 27, 1799, 95 years of age, and at the time of his death he was the oldest living graduate of Hamilton College, class of 1818, the valedictorian of the class having been Gerrit Smith, the noted abolitionist. He was

named for a relative, Ebenezer Hazard, who was Postmaster General of the United States. It was only last June that Hamilton College conferred the degree of doctor of divinity upon Rev. Mr. Snowden. This was just seventy-six years after his graduation. Upon being licensed he accepted a call to St. Augustine, Fla., and was installed by the Presbytery of Georgia, he being the only Presbyterian minister in Eastern Florida. Through his efforts an edifice was erected. Mr. Snowden's heart was gladdened a few years since to hear that the church established by him over sixty years ago had been made the recipient of a quarter of a million dollars, the gift of Mr. Flagler, a Standard Oil magnate, with which to erect a magnificent place of worship. The new church is a memorial to Mr. Flagler's daughter, Mrs. Benedict, who died off St. Augustine in a yacht, she having gone thither in broken health.

Graduating from Hamilton College at the age of 19 Mr. Snowden entered upon the reading of law and after three years' study at Sackett's Harbor, Jefferson County, N. Y., where his father was pastor, he passed the necessary examinations and was admitted to the bar at Utica in 1823, he being then 24 years old.

He located for the practice of his profession at Nashville, Tenn., where he had distinguished relatives, but he was troubled in conscience and determined that his duty was to preach the gospel. Accordingly he studied at the Princeton Theological Seminary and was licensed by the Presbytery of New York and ordained in 1825. He was also the oldest graduate of that seminary.

While in Florida he married Miss Elizabeth Allison Smith, daughter of the collector of the port, and seven children were born to them, of whom four survive, three daughters and a son: Mary Salina, wife of John W. Metcalf, Irish Lane, Luzerne County, Pa.; James Cassel Snowden, of Castaline, Erie County, Ohio; Mrs. J. de Sha Patton, Cleveland, Tenn., and Mrs. James Monroe Williamson, Oakland City. He subsequently married at Newburg, N. Y., Miss Caroline Adams, a relative of John Quincy Adams, who died Jan 15, 1892, at the age of 85 years. No children were born to them.

Mr. Snowden was a delegate to the General Assembly in 1835 in Philadelphia and the same year was installed pastor of the church at Brownsville, N. Y.

Mr. Snowden accepted a call to the Wyoming Valley in 1837, and an interesting narrative, by himself, appears in the *Historical Record*, volume 1, page 199, describing this place and its people at that time. His field of labor was at Kingston, and a church building was erected two or three years after his coming at a cost of \$1,900. He preached three-fourths of his time at Kingston and the other fourth at Nanticoke. His salary at Kingston was \$325, and Nanticoke, as a missionary station, gave such support as it could. During the week in those early days he preached at Plymouth, Pittston, Slocum Hollow (now Scranton), Northmoreland, Dallas, Trucksville and Lehman. He served the Kingston church as pastor eight years, and subsequently gathered a congregation at Plymouth and was instrumental in having an edifice erected. He also gathered a congregation in Larksville, and at his own cost built a church which is known as the Snowden Memorial. This was the third church Mr. Snowden had erected in Wyoming Valley.

Deceased was one of ten sons of Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden, and the latter was the son of Isaac Snowden, who was a prominent Philadelphian during the Revolutionary War and at one time treasurer of the city and county of Philadelphia. Isaac Snowden was so pronounced a Whig that his presence was particularly obnoxious to the British during their occupation of Philadelphia and he and his family were compelled to secure safety in the country.

Isaac Snowden had five sons, all of whom were graduated from Princeton College and four of them were ministers. These were Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden, [named for one of Princeton's presidents] who took the class honors and who became the first pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Princeton, N. J.; and Gilbert, Charles and Nathaniel. The family attended the Second Presbyterian Church of which Dr. McIntosh is now pastor. Isaac Snowden, Jr., (brother of E. Hazard Snowden) became an elder in that church and treasurer of General Assembly. He married Miss Clarkson.

Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden sold his farm in Princeton, N. J., about 1800 and bought one in New Hartford, N. Y., where he lived 11 years. It is still called Snowden Hill and when the church there celebrated its centennial, Aug. 27, 1891, Rev. E. H. Snowden was

present and participated in the exercises. His father went there in 1802 on a salary of \$425 and 33½ cords of wood annually. In 1815 he accepted a call to Sacketts Harbor, where both he and his wife passed their remaining years. The children of Samuel F. and Susan B. Snowden were: Samuel, Mary, E. Hazard, Arthur Henry, Susan, James Anderson, John Bayard, Robert Ralston, Sidney, Bruce and Elizabeth B.

Of Samuel Finley Snowden's family of ten children only two now remain—Arthur Henry Snowden, merchant in Stratford, Conn., and James Anderson Snowden, a planter in Kansas.

It is about six years since the death of one of the brothers, Col. Robert Ralston Snowden, a distinguished citizen of Memphis, Tenn. A sister, Mary Cox Snowden, married Dr. Roswell P. Hayes and was the mother of Hon. Samuel Snowden Hayes, an eminent Chicago lawyer, politician and friend of Stephen A. Douglas, though he once worsted the latter in a public debate in Chicago. It was during the agitation of the Missouri Compromise, the populace by an overwhelming vote sustaining Mr. Hayes's opposition to the revocation of the Compromise. The other brothers and sisters of Rev. E. H. Snowden were Samuel Breeze Snowden, Susan Breeze Snowden, Sydney Breeze Snowden, Elizabeth Breeze Snowden and John Bayard Snowden.

Rev. E. H. Snowden's mother was Susan Bayard Breeze, daughter of Samuel Sidney Breeze of Shrewsbury, N. Y. She was a granddaughter on her mother's side of Rev. James Anderson, first pastor (1817) of the First Presbyterian Church of New York City, now the Fifth avenue and Twelfth street. Mr. Anderson had come over from Scotland and settled in the Presbytery of Newcastle 1709. His granddaughter married Samuel Breeze of New York and was the grandmother of Rev. E. H. Snowden, Admiral Samuel Breeze, U. S. N.; Chief Justice Sidney Breeze of Illinois, Professor S. F. B. Morse, (inventor of the telegraph); president Woolsey's first wife and of Professor Salisbury of New Haven.

It becomes our melancholy duty to announce the death of Rev. Ebenezer Hazard Snowden, D. D., the oldest minister in the Wyoming Valley, writes Dr. Urquhart. His daughter, who remained at home with him, has devoted herself to him and left nothing

undone that would add to his comfort and happiness during the years which the infirmities of advanced age rendered necessary.

He resigned a pastoral charge at St. Augustine, Florida, and was installed pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Kingston in 1837, and preached in the Kingston Academy until the church on Wyoming avenue below Col. Dorrauce's was built in 1842. Since his installation he has resided in his present Forty Fort home. In many places in this region in the former time, necessity compelled the use of school houses for religious services, and Rev. Mr. Snowden, in the absence of resident pastors, preached frequently at Mill Hollow, Harvey's Lake, Plymouth and Nanticoke. Few men have so labored to promote religious culture in this field.

His prolonged life has generally been attended with the vigor of continuous health, yet age brought to him its feeble trembling step, and its mysterious fate which sooner or later comes to us all. The age in which he lived was an eventful one, and it is difficult to realize the changes that have taken place in the church and society during his life.

In his professional labors, extending over half a century, we have a memorial of Christian unity and brotherhood which evoked feelings of a kindred character.

Father Snowden's social life and pastoral labors bring to mind residents of the West Side whose character, influence and qualities of manhood are worthy of remembrance, they were examples of unobtrusiveness, fidelity enhanced by that fine distinction of manner which is the charm and beauty of innate courtesy, when and where religious observance and trustworthiness were important factors in determining personal worth.

Father Snowden was free from affectation, his manners without presumption or embarrassment, and his social intercourse was indicative of kindness and good will. The circumstances of his life were favorable to the development of honest, robust manhood, and in the closing years of that life are crowned the most interesting and important events of the nineteenth century.

His eulogy is written in the hearts of many persons in this vicinity, where he is revered as one who gave useful admonition

and encouragement in strengthening the purpose and guiding the seeker to a more useful and happy life.

His professional labors were directed by the suggestive experience of ecclesiastical propriety, a course which tended to secure both popular and ministerial approbation, and to give to civilization organized public opinion and religious progress. In this locality he has been identified with many of the most interesting events that have marked the pathway of the church, and it is a happiness to know that its organization and example shows the influence of high moral excellence challenging the reverence of all for labors that are born of a perfect confidence in the truth and in the promises of Christianity.

After advanced age incapacitated him for the performance of pastoral duties, he attended church regularly until during the present year. He was evidently an old man ripening for another life, yet it may be said of him he survived his years in a condition of excellent preservation. In the autumn of his life he was generally well, but often weary, which signified the wasting beauty of the fading leaf, and which was in perfect accord with the spirit of his own mind, which in the confidence of a supernatural hope was eminently natural. Though he had no fear, yet he had no desire to die. His interest in all human things was genuine and strong, and his cheerfulness was never failing, though often tinged with a pathetic wistfulness. He delighted in the reminiscences of past events and persons, and while the friends of his early years were gone, their memory was precious. It is a glorious sight to behold an old age so green and so abundant in labors, so simple and tender and affectionate, and so well prepared for an entrance into our Father's home in heaven.

#### An Old Homestead Going.

The old Blanchard homestead at Port Blanchard is in course of demolition. It was built 110 years ago by Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard and has been occupied continuously by his descendants, five generations of the family having lived there. Originally the site was one of the most beautiful in the valley, a fine grove of chestnut trees intervening between the house and the river, the road then being in what is now the rear of the house.

## OLD STAGE DRIVER'S DEATH.

### He Passed Away in This City Four Score Years of Age.

It is fifty years ago that Harrison Williamson of this city was one of the jovial coterie of stage drivers who made the time pass so agreeably for their passengers, who were conveyed over the Wilkes-Barre and Easton turnpike on their way to New York or Philadelphia, and now, the last but one of them all, has passed away at the ripe old age of 80. He died Monday, Oct. 15, 1894, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Maines, 121 South Canal street, where he had been shown every kindness during a forced retirement of several years. He leaves two sons and a daughter. For three years he was blind with cataracts, but his sight was restored by an operation by Dr. Taylor. Last fall, after his sight had been restored, C. E. Butler drove him out over the old turnpike, and he recalled the scenes and incidents of former years with the gladness of a child, every turn in the road awakening some new reminiscence. He was born seventy-nine years ago in New Jersey and lived several years in the family of Judge Ross as driver. Later when he drove stage over the mountain his companions were Dave Seaman, Elias Siglin, Stewart Rainow, John Burd, George Root and Jairus Mitchell. Only the latter is living and he was in Wilkes-Barre the other day hale and hearty at 92. Mr. Williamson was a temperate, honest, hard-working man, charitable in his judgment of others and popular with all his patrons, who had every confidence in his steadiness of nerve and who never feared that he would be out of condition to drive. During the last few years of his life, until laid aside by advancing age, he drove an express wagon in this city. During the years of age and physical infirmity he was cheerful and uncomplaining and his end was peaceful.

## THE COLONIAL FORTS.

### The Report of the Commission Filed With the Governor.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 20.—The report of the commission appointed by Governor Pattison, under the date of May 23, 1893, to make inquiry in relation to the various forts erected by the early settlers of this commonwealth prior to the year 1783 as a defense against the Indians has been formulated and will be presented to the legislature. It will recommend that a marker be placed at each of the defenses enumerated in the report, whose location has been definitely ascertain-

ed; that the markers be alike and consist wherever practicable of a substantial rough boulder of stone having one face sufficiently polished to allow of an inscription giving the name of the fort, when built, etc.; that the marker be placed where practicable by the side of a public road and that \$300 be appropriated for each marker.

## WAS HERE IN 1812.

### A Wayne County Man, who Worked Here Before Most of Our Old People were Born, is in Town.

Wayne County must have the fountain of perpetual youth, for one of her citizens is in town and he is hale and hearty and in the possession of all his faculties, at the rare age of 92. Just think of a man at that age, with an appetite for all his meals, an ability to sleep as soundly as a child, and all his bodily powers unimpaired. A little stooped, and a trifle deaf, but that is all. Reference is made to Jairus Mitchell, whose life has been mostly spent at Salem, Wayne County, but who now lives in Scranton with his son, the proprietor of Mitchell's restaurant. He came here to spend his 92d birthday (Monday, Oct. 8) with his son, C. E. Mitchell, who keeps a dining room at 43 North Main street. He was particularly anxious to spend that birthday in the modern Wilkes-Barre, as just eighty-two years ago he had spent his 10th birthday in the then little village of the same name.

Mr. Mitchell is full of interesting reminiscences. His father was living about 1801 at Spring Brook, now Lackawanna County, and when the lad was 10 years of age (1812) he was brought to Wilkes-Barre and apprenticed to Anthony Brower, whose tailor shop was then one of the important industries of the village. But young Jairus did not fancy the sitting astride his foisted legs for seven years, for his keep and schooling, and did not stay long. However, he remembers many old names, like Ross, Welles, Hancock, Slocum, Sluton, Butler, Maffett, Hillenback and others. The only way to cross the river was by ferry, kept by Mr. Heime. He well remembers the war of 1812, and when questioned if he remembered the killing at Bear Creek of Dickson, a sick Wilkes-Barre soldier, by an enraged officer, Mr. Mitchell said, "yes, and I remember who killed him. It was Sergt. Braak." Mr. Mitchell says there was a colored settlement up near the redoubt on River street. There was no coal used in those days, though he remembers finding pieces of the black rock in the bed of Spring Brook.

## SOME WAR HISTORY.

### Organization of Regiments and How they Were Decimated.

**EDITOR RECORD:** In Dr. Hakes's report to the Medical Society he was led into a slight historical error in speaking of the regiment in which the late Dr. Crawford held a surgeoncy, as the "52d Pennsylvania Reserves" instead of the 52d Pennsylvania Volunteers.

The facts of history are these: Dr. Crawford was commissioned assistant surgeon of the 12th Pennsylvania Reserves, his rank dating from June 22, 1862. Five days later he was in charge of a train of wounded from the first day's fight before Richmond. The writer distinctly remembers this, his own first experience in a train of ambulances, a mile long, filled with men torn in all conceivable ways by minnie and shell, himself one of them, on a sandy road, bordered by dense pine forests, under a noon day sun, after the excitement of his first battle and a night without rest.

Dr. Crawford resigned his commission September 18, 1862. On May 1, 1863, he was commissioned full surgeon of the 52d regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, sometimes called the Luzerne regiment. This commission he resigned May 30, 1864.

The regiments which our State sent into the service were numbered, from one to two hundred and fifteen, both inclusive. The first was commanded by Col. Samuel Yoke, whose commission bore date April 16, 1861. Col. Frank Wister, under commission bearing date April 21, 1865, commanded the last regiment organized.

It may be observed that the adjutant general of the State kept a continuous record of all the Pennsylvania regiments engaged in the late war, commencing with the first three months' troops, which bore designations from one to twenty-five, inclusive. On April 15 President Lincoln asked Pennsylvania for fourteen regiments. By the 30th of the month twenty-five regiments, numbering 21,000 men, had been sent to the front. Not as detached regiments, but as an organized army, with Maj. Gen. Robert Patterson in command, and William H. Keim, George Cadwalader, James S. Nagle and George C. Wyncoop as brigadiers. Our grand war governor was as efficient as he was patriotic. He was to Pennsylvania much that Lincoln

was to the nation. Had he and the people not been in accord such wonders could not have been wrought.

The legislature having been called in extra session authority was given to organize four regiments for three years service. These were the 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th. The 28th won distinction under Col. Geary, who became major general, and later governor of the State. Next came the fifteen regiments of the "Reserve Volunteer Corps of the Commonwealth," as it was designated in the bill authorizing its formation; or, the "Pennsylvania Reserves." This corps was commanded at first by Maj. Gen. George A. McCall, with John F. Reynolds, George G. Meade and O. E. C. Ord as brigadiers. This body of young men represented every county in the State. It was turned over to the general government on the day following the disaster of Bull Run, and hastened to the front with all speed to save the capitol from invasion. Of these regiments, twelve were musketry, one rifles, one cavalry and one artillery. The "Rifles" was the original Bucktail regiment, and was officially known as the First Rifles or the 13th Pennsylvania Reserves, and the 42d Regiment Pennsylvania Infantry. It may be observed that the Reserves included all numbers in line between 29 and 45. Their aggregate strength was 15,856, of whom about 2,600 are believed to be still living. Each arm of the service had its special system of numbers besides that of the State line. For instance, the 1st Cavalry was the 44th regiment in the line, and the 1st artillery was the 43d in the line. The 2d cavalry was the 59th in the line, i. e. it was the 59th regiment organized by Pennsylvania for the late war. Its most distinctive name, however, being "Second Cavalry," we never hear of the 59th Pennsylvania Regiment. The 11th regiment of three months troops was reorganized by its lieutenant colonel Richard Coulter, as was also the 23d by Lieut. Col. D. B. Birney, who became respectively their commanders, and, although they were reorganized between the 115th and 126th, they were permitted to retain their original regimental numbers. Hence the 11th Reserves and the "Old Eleventh" are sometimes confounded. The 190th and 191st, P. V., were organized from the veterans and recruits left of the Reserves after the muster out of that organization. A few days later they were engaged in the battle of Weldon R. B. after which there were not enough left to

be heard of. They had disappeared—melted away in the seething cauldron of domestic war—one of the grandest bodies of men that ever girded armor in the cause of human liberty. Of the 215 regiments enumerated four never completed their organization. But their numbers were quadrupled by the seventy-five new companies assigned to old regiments and the numerous independent batteries, companies and troops that went into the field.

The militia or emergency troops, called out at various times, are not enumerated among the 215 regiments. There were over 30,000 commissions issued to Pennsylvania officers from April 15, 1861, to Dec. 31, 1864.

G. L. BALDWIN.

Carey avenue, Dec. 11, 1894.

## MORE WAR HISTORY.

### Terrible Struggles of a Regiment Among Which Were Luzerne County Veterans.

**EDITOR RECORD:** In your issue of yesterday there appeared an intensely interesting article, entitled "Some War History," by G. L. B., in which he refers to the Pennsylvania Reserves and the history made by that organization during the War of the Rebellion and how what was left of the Reserves that had been organized into the 190th and 191st P. V. V., in an engagement south of Petersburg, on the Weldon R. R., were almost annihilated, "not enough left to be heard of."

In that battle, August 19, 1864, all that were left of the Reserves were either killed, wounded or captured by the enemy. Not one escaped that was in the front on the line of battle. The prisoners were taken to Petersburg, then to Libby Prison and from Libby to Salisbury, N. C., where, in that horrid stockade—Andersonville could not have been any worse—perished many of the youth, the manhood, the veterans, the bravest and the best of the little remnant of the Reserves.

At Salisbury the few officers of the Reserves still left were separated from the enlisted men and sent to Danville, Va., where they were confined in an old tobacco warehouse. From Danville they were again sent

back to Libby, where, on Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1865, they were paroled and sent through the Confederate lines into our own at Bermuda Hundred, near Gen. Butler's Dutch Gap canal.

Most of the officers were weak, helpless and could walk but a short distance. They were met by ambulances and conveyed within our lines. Some were hatless and shoeless, and some almost clothless, more dead than alive, yet the spirit of patriotism and love for the old flag had not died out of their hearts. When they caught sight of the dear old flag, their hearts broke within them, they wept tears of joy, and many thanked God for the flag that had set them free. The stars and stripes never seemed so dear and bright and beautiful as they did on that day of freedom from a long prison life.

What was left of the Reserves never got back again after being paroled and furloughed until after the surrender of Lee at the Appomattox so that the battle at the Weldon railroad was their last fight, as Drainsville, Va., was their first. It virtually wiped them out as an organization.

There were a few of the "Pennsylvania Reserves" that were on detached duty at the time of the battle on the Weldon railroad. These were afterward merged into another organization, and were with Sheridan at Five Forks and also at the Appomattox, when Gen. Lee appeared in front of the line they were on with his flag of truce offering the surrender of his beaten and crushed army. The Lord said "that Jonadab, the son of Rechab, shall not want a man to stand before me forever," and the Pennsylvania Reserves were never without a standing representative in the grand old Army of the Potomac from its organization by McClellan until its final disbandment at Washington at the close of the war.

Your honored and distinguished townsman, Col. Bruce Bicketts's brother, William A., was the first colonel of our regiment, the 6th Reserves. Of all the field officers none were more highly esteemed and loved. He was a noble, manly man, with a fine physique and commanding presence, over six feet tall, and with a voice sweet and mellow, yet strong and flexible, and a heart as tender and loving as a woman's. He was a graduate of West Point and had he lived he would have carved his name high upon the niche of fame. He was every inch a soldier. J B

6th Reserves 191st Penna. Vet. Vol.



## SHELDON REYNOLDS DEAD.

### One of Wilkes-Barre's Most Prominent Residents

Only 50 years of age, in the midst of a life of great usefulness to the community and in many pursuits of learning, Sheldon Reynolds has passed away. His death occurred Saturday, Feb. 9, 1895, at Saranac Lake, in the State of New York, whither he had gone in the hope of recovering from a serious pulmonary trouble, and where for several weeks the light of life glimmered and finally went out.

Mr. Reynolds was born in Kingston, Feb. 22, 1845, and was the fourth of five children. The family is of English extraction and is descended from James Reynolds of Plymouth, Mass. (1643). The family came to Wyoming Valley in 1769 among the first settlers. William Reynolds was slain in the massacre of Wyoming and his brother David was in the garrison at Plymouth during the months succeeding the battle. Benjamin Reynolds, son of David, was born in Plymouth in 1780 and was one of the most prominent men of his time. His wife, Lyella Fuller, was a descendant of the Mayflower family of that name. William Reynolds, son of Benjamin Reynolds and Lydia (Fuller) Reynolds, was the father of Sheldon Reynolds, the subject of this sketch. Other children of Benjamin Reynolds were Hannah, mother of George R. Bedford of Wilkes-Barre; Elijah W., father of John B. Reynolds of Kingston; J. Fuller Reynolds, father of H. B. Reynolds of the Luzerne County bar; Emily, wife of R. H. Tubbs, M. D., of Kingston, and Abram H. Reynolds.

William C. Reynolds, father of deceased, was born in Plymouth in 1801. He was educated in the old Wilkes-Barre academy and embarked in the coal business and in shipping to market the products of this region. Later the firm of Gaylord (Henderson) & Reynolds was formed and they shipped a large quantity of coal, grain and lumber by way of the Wilkes-Barre and Easton turnpike and later by canal. They also had general stores in Plymouth and Kingston and did a flourishing business. Mr. Reynolds, recognizing the difficulty of reach-

ing the markets by the ordinary means, associated himself with Mr. Gaylord, the late chief justice Woodward, William Swetland, Samuel Hoyt and others in securing a charter for what is now the D., L. & W. R. R., then proposed to extend from Sunbury to Scranton, which connected with other lines and formed continuous connection from the great lakes to the seaboard. Mr. Reynolds was president of the railroad for a long time. Mr. Reynolds was elected to the legislature from the district then comprising Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming counties for the term 1836-1838, and served with distinction, introducing many measures of benefit to the public. In 1841 he was appointed associate judge of Luzerne County's court of common pleas for five years. During the second year of Wyoming Seminary he was elected a trustee of that institution and continued for thirteen years. He was also a director of the Wyoming National Bank. His wife was Jane Holberton Smith, and their children were Sheldon Reynolds (deceased), Col. G. Murray Reynolds of Wilkes-Barre, Charles Denison Reynolds, Elizabeth, wife of Col. R. Bruce Ricketts of Wilkes-Barre, and Benjamin Reynolds of Wilkes-Barre. Judge Reynolds died in Wilkes-Barre in 1869, and Mrs. Reynolds in 1874.

Sheldon Reynolds was educated at the Luzerne Presbyterian Institute at Wyoming and at Wyoming Seminary, at the Hopkins Grammar School of New Haven, Conn., and at Yale College, graduating from the latter institution in 1867. He studied law at the Columbia Law School and then completed his legal studies in the office of the late Andrew T. McClintock of this city. He was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County Oct. 16, 1871, but did not engage actively in the practice of his profession. In 1876 Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage to Annie Buckingham Dorrance, only daughter of Colonel Charles Dorrance of Kingston. One son, Dorrance Reynolds, now 18 years of age, was born to them.

Mr. Reynolds early developed studious habits and his mind, which had received the best of training, was keenly discerning and retentive, and what he read or learned was stored away and assimilated. His papers on scientific and other subjects in which he was especially interested, show a thoroughness and thoughtfulness that indicate his deep intellectuality. As a member of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society

he prepared many papers that have commanded wide attention and have placed him foremost among the many students of that organization. He was appointed by Governor Pattison one of the commissioners to locate and identify the old forts of the State and his paper on the forts of this vicinity read at a recent meeting of the Historical Society is one of the most valuable of recent essays. Mr. Reynolds was a trustee, and, at the time of his death, president of the society and one of its most enthusiastic members. In fact much of his time of late years was devoted to literary research and writing and such scientific work as comes within the scope of the Historical Society's departments. He was also associated with numerous business enterprises, and in this line as well as in others his advice was always sought and did much to improve the corporations with which he was identified. He was president of the Wyoming National Bank, the Wilkes-Barre Electric Light Co., and until his health failed was president of the Wilkes-Barre Water Co. He was also president of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, and in 1875-1876 a school director of the Third district. He was a life member of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, Franklin Institute; member of the Virginia Historical Society, Bangor Historical, and American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 1881 Mr. Reynolds was chairman of the Democratic county committee and the reforms he introduced if they had been adhered to would have done much for the party in the county. The success with which he managed the county campaign turned all eyes upon him as a prospective candidate for State senator in 1884 to succeed Hon. Eckley B. Coxe, but he declined all political offers for office, much to the regret of the people. In 1880 he was chairman of the city Democratic committee.

Personally Mr. Reynolds was a pleasant and affable companion and greatly esteemed by those who were best acquainted with him. He became popular because of the highest merit and not because of any obtrusive characteristics. Modest and retiring, the honors that came to him were entirely unsought and were the best indication of his fitness for those positions which he graced.

#### Borne to the Grave.

The remains of Sheldon Reynolds to-day rest in Hollenback Cemetery, where yesterday afternoon they were interred with all the

marks of respect that a sorrowful and sympathizing community can show. The auditorium of the First Presbyterian Church was well filled with people as the burial service was conducted by Rev. Dr. Hodge. The quartet sang the selections, "Art Thou Weary, Art Thou Languid?" "Come Unto Me All that Labor" and "I Heard a Voice from Heaven." The services were simple, but all words that were spoken fell upon the heart and the audience was deeply in sorrow. The pall bearers were A. H. McClintock, J. Ridgway Wright, Eugene C. Frank, B. M. Espy, Joseph D. Coons, Judge Rice, Judah Woodward, W. L. Conyngham, Irving A. Stearns, George S. Bennett. The carriers were H. H. Harvey, John M. Craug, Roger McGarry, T. F. Ryan, George H. Flanagan, Thomas O'Brien, H. A. Fuller, A. G. Hoyt, Robert C. Shoemaker and C. P. Hunt.

#### Resolutions.

At a meeting of Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, held Monday evening, February 18, 1895, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, The Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, has learned with profound regret of the death of Sheldon Reynolds, a member of its advisory board,

Resolved, That in his death the society has lost a beloved friend and wise counsellor.

Resolved, That to his interest in the society this chapter is largely indebted for its formation and maintenance, and through his influence and kindness the chapter is now permitted to use the rooms of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society for its meetings.

Resolved, That we extend our sincere sympathy to his family in their affliction, that a copy of these resolutions be published in the city papers and that the secretary present a copy to Mrs. Reynolds and enter the same on the minutes of this meeting.

SARAH R. B. WOODWARD,  
MARY L. R. HAND,  
MARTHA H. CORSE,

Committee

—An interesting picture is shown in Butler's book store of the old Sinton store, on the corner now occupied by the Wyoming Bank. The old willow tree which stood alongside the store is shown and old Mr. Sinton is standing in the door-way. See page 156.

### SUCCESSFUL JOURNALIST DEAD.

#### Charles W. Foster, Formerly a Wilkes-Barre Man, Passes Away After A Brief Illness. His Humorous Writings Were Widely Copied.

Mrs. T. W. Brown has received a telegram stating that her brother, Charles W. Foster, died at his home at Redbank, N. J., Feb. 28, 1895, after pneumonia following grip. Mr. Foster was a son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Foster of Mauch Chunk, who were in Wilkes-Barre Friday night and who left for Redbank Saturday morning on receipt of a telegram announcing his illness. They did not arrive until after he had passed away. Deceased was 46 years of age and was a journalist. As a writer of humor he won a leading place and his productions were sought by the leading newspapers in New York city. Mr. Foster was well known here. Some twenty-two years ago he was in the music trade in Caboon Hall building. In 1872 or 3 he engaged in newspaper work in Philadelphia as a reporter on the *Press* and in the centennial year was managing editor of the then new *Evening News*, and subsequently of the *Call*, also new. The loss of his wife in 1885, a young writer known as "Florida Hale," was a blow which for a time crushed him in body and brain and he was an invalid for a year. He afterwards took a position on the *Omaha World*, where he won honors as a humorist that paved the way for his wider field in New York city. The *Omaha Republican* said this of him: "He is of a quiet, retiring disposition, as near a recluse as it is possible for a newspaper writer to become, and of a thoughtful, serious nature, more given to philosophy than to fun. He takes little pride in his humorous work, but it has from the first been extensively quoted, not only throughout the United States but in Canada and England."

The dead writer is survived by his sorrowing parents, two sisters—Mrs. T. W. Brown of this city and Louise of Mauch Chunk; two brothers—Asa and Harry—and by four children: Flora, aged 19; Frank, aged 16; Virginia, aged 14, and Lansford, aged 12. Lansford was adopted by his aunt, Mrs. T. W. Brown, at the time his mother died. The rest lived with their father.

### Interesting Historical Relic.

The Historical Society has an interesting scrap of paper, neatly framed, a relic that few persons have seen. (See page 157) It is the articles of capitulation by which Lieut. Elisha Scovell surrendered his garrison at Wintermoot Fort to Col. John Butler. The document was written two days after the battle and massacre of July 3, 1778. It is in the British Butler's own writing and reads as follows:

WESTMORELAND, July 5, 1778.—This doth hereby certify that Lieut. Elisha Scovell has surrendered his garrison with all his people to government and to remain neutral during this present contest with Great Britain and America, on consideration of which Col. John Butler, superintendent of the Six Nations of Indians, their allies, etc, with Kayingwaurto, the chief of the Seneca Nation, and the other chief warriors of the Six Nations, do promise that they shall be in the quiet possession of their places with their families and shall be daily protected from insult as far as lies in their power, and provided they are taken it is our desire that they may forthwith be released.

JOHN BUTLER,  
KAYINGWAURTO.  
(His mark of a turtle.)

### Five Generations Living.

Daily Record, January 17, 1895.

On Tuesday night a young daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Watkins of Shonk's Hill, Plymouth, which represents the fifth generation on the mother's side and makes Mrs. Mary Gray a great-great-grandmother at the age of 84 years. Mrs. Gray is still enjoying the best of health and would easily pass for a woman of seventy years. The great-grandmother of the child is Mrs. Elizabeth Pierson, whose age is 55; its grandmother is Mrs. Sarah A. Allen, widow of the late John Allen, who is 34 years old. The mother of the child was formerly Miss Annie Allen. She was married last spring to Daniel Watkins and is 17 years old. The living representatives of five generations are not often found and no similar case is known to exist hereabouts.

—Richard Sharpe has presented the Historical Society with some interesting tracings of epitaphs of some of George Washington's ancestors soon after 1600. Mr. Sharpe had them traced while on a trip to England in 1868.

### AN OLD-TIME CHURCH.

#### Some Points in its History and of the Veteran Who Has Been its Rector for Many Years.

One of the oldest Protestant Episcopal churches in Northeastern Pennsylvania is that of St. Matthew's, in Pike, Bradford County. The following sketch is furnished the RECORD by Rev. S. F. Hotchkiss:

William Bradford, attorney general of the United States, is commemorated in the name

In A. D. 1827, the report of Bishop White, in the *Diocesan Journal*, at a meeting at Harrisburg, reads as follows: "On September 25 (1826) I set off for Wilkes-Barre and for the beech woods, being accompanied by the Rev. Jackson Kemper (afterward bishop)" "On the 28th I preached in the borough of Wilkes-Barre, as did Mr. Kemper on the 27th, who on both of these occasions performed divine service. On the next day we entered the beech woods, being accompanied by the Hon. Judge Scott, who accommodated us by the



INTERIOR OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH.

of Bradford County, and Judge Wilmot, author of the Wilmot proviso, is buried near Towanda in the same county

A higher interest arises from the fact that the missionary, Post, who is buried in Germantown, in A. D. 1760, preached to the Iroquois Indians on Christ's birth, here. Zelsberger, the great Moravian missionary, and Jacob Schmick, dwelt with the natives at Friedensbütten, (Huts of Peace,) and the bell called to prayer. There was daily service.

furnishing of his carriage and horses on this tour. On the first evening we were at Springville, where Mr. Kemper read prayers and preached. On the next day we reached the farthest point of our destination, the neighborhood of the church lately built near Wyalusing creek, where in the evening Mr. Kemper read prayers and preached." "On the next day, being Sunday, the 1st of October, I consecrated the church. I also preached, confirmed and admitted to the communion in

it, Mr. Kemper assisting. In the afternoon the Rev. Enoch Huntington, who had joined us from Wilkes-Barre, delivered a discourse, Mr. Kemper reading prayers; who also preached in the evening, prayers being read



REV. GEORGE P. HOPKINS.

by the Rev. Samuel Marks, the minister of the place."

The next day, in returning, the bishop visited New Milford, where there was a lay-reader. The Rev. Mr. Marks journeyed with the bishop and assisted in services for some distance on the homeward road. They held service in the court house at Montrose. Bishop Onderdonk was elected assistant bishop at this convention. Bishop Kemper was active in mission work when settled at St. Peter's, Philadelphia. In June, A. D. 1823, Bishop White consecrated St. Stephen's, Wilkes-Barre, and confirmed, and also ordained Rev. Samuel Sitgreaves a priest. This year Rev. Samuel Marks was sent as a deacon to Bradford and Susquehanna counties. He was the first rector of Montrose. In 1825 the formation of a Sunday school at St. Matthews is noted. Rev. Mr. Marks was a missionary of the Advancement Society. A church building is mentioned in 1815. In 1822 Rev. Manning Roche visited the congregations in Bradford and Susquehanna counties. Rev.

Mr. Sitgreaves followed in a like visitation. His long report is historic. Some of the rectors of St. Matthews can be traced and are given in the succeeding list. Samuel Marks (1823), Samuel Lord, Freeman Lane, Richard Smith, John King, Rev. Hale Townsend officiated occasionally in 1860. Rev. Messrs. Asa B. Colton, Dewitt C. Bylesby, Hopkins and Heaton have been rectors here. Rev. Benjamin J. Douglass, when rector of Christ Church, Towanda, took an interest in St. Matthew's and sometimes officiated there, once with Bishop Alonzo Potter. The Rev. George P. Hopkins, present rector of St. Matthew's, (1895) is a cousin of Bishop J. H. Hopkins, and studied under him, and was ordained by him in Burlington, Vermont, Oct. 18, 1838. He was long rector of St. Paul's, Troy, Pa., where he worked successfully, and a beautiful new church has been built since his removal. While at Troy he held an afternoon service at Burlington. Mr. Hopkins has done a great work in Northern Pennsylvania and is yet working. His marriages and funerals and visitations of the sick and dying have been performed by traversing long distances in the diocese of Central Pennsylvania. He is the son of John and Catherine Hopkins of Philadelphia. His noble work in founding St. Paul's, Doylestown, Pa., is noted in my "Country Clergy of Pennsylvania," pages 112 and 113.

In connection with this work, he inaugurated services at Chestnut Hill and Jankintown. He had previously a mission at Lawrenceville and Toga. A church at Athens, Bradford County, Pa., was built during his incumbency. Bishops Onderdonk, Bowman, Stevens, Howe, Whitehead and Rullison have visited St. Matthew's, which lies in the diocese of Central Pennsylvania. In 1891 Bishop Rullison confirmed nine persons here. In 1861 and 1862 the work of God was highly prospered in the in-gatherings to the fold of Christ, the present rector being then in charge of the parish. St. Matthews was formerly styled "The Church Near the Creek," that is the Wyalusing. The building once caught fire and was saved with difficulty. By the exertions of Rev. Mr. Hopkins, the interior, including chancel and pews, was renewed. This as well as the recent renewal was indeed a work of faith in God, who moves hearts and hands in His blessed work. On Tuesday, April 11, 1894, the old church was reopened after late improvements. There were present the rector,

Rev. Dr. D. Webster Coxe, archdeacon of the Scranton Archdeaconry; Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones, rector of St. Stephen's, Wilkes-Barre, and Rev. Charles L. Sleight, rector of St. Clement's, Wilkes-Barre. The sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Jones. A violent snow storm prevented the attendance of other clergy. Three services were held on Tuesday. The Lord's help in restoring this church amidst circumstances most discouraging is gratefully acknowledged by the faithful rector who has aided my notes.

The interior of St. Matthew's is quaint, but the extension of the chancel has given it a new beauty. The woodwork and old-fashioned galleries are done in ash, and the walls in terra cotta. The ceiling and chancel wall are in delicate blue and silver. The chancel furniture from Geissler, N. Y., is antique oak. The windows are exceedingly beautiful additions to a country church. They resemble mosaics of precious stones. The memorial windows of Harriet C. Burrows (with its harp and forget-me-not-), and Louis L. Bosworth and his wife, Sarah A. Bosworth, (with its cross encompassed by violets), and the angel's face looking upward on the window of Helen S. J. Wells, and the founder's window (with cross and crown) on the chancel wall, are beautiful adornments of the church. A plain silver cross on the wall under this window has on the Calvary base this inscription: "In Memoriam Catherine Davenport Hopkins, mother of Rev. George Payne Hopkins, Rev., 84." It was placed here by her grandchildren. These silent memorials keep in mind the spiritual lives of departed saints.

#### An Almost Forgotten Spring Freshet.

As bearing on the December freshets the RECORD learns of a flood 87 years ago which was even higher than the present one. The fact is mentioned in a letter written May 1, 1807, by James Sinton to his friend, Steuben Butler. He says the water came up Market street and was around the horse block in front of the Sinton store, which stood on the corner of Market and Franklin, where is now the Wyoming Bank. He further says had it not been checked by a cold day and night he has no doubt it would have been much higher. This was even higher than the famous flood of 1865, when the water came to the White Horse Hotel.

Steuben Butler, to whom the letter was written, was in 1807 a lad of 17 years learning the printing trade in Doylestown, with Asher Miner. James Sinton was a son of Jacob Sinton, one of the proprietors of the old Sinton store. The letter is in the possession of C. E. Butler, son of Steuben Butler.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

### A Letter Showing that Brant Did Not Command

#### The Indians at Wyoming—Judge Woodward Elected President—Accessions to the Library and Cabinet.

The annual meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held Feb. 25, 1895, Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones, one of the vice presidents, in the chair. The meeting was largely attended, many ladies being present. In calling the meeting to order the chairman feelingly referred to the recent death of the society's president, Sheldon Reynolds, Esq. (Page 151.)

A committee comprising A. F. Derr, J. D. Coons and J. M. Crane recommended the following as officers for the ensuing year, and they were elected: Hon. Stanley Woodward, president; vice presidents, Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones, Hon. Eckley B. Coxe, Capt. Calvin Parsons and Col. G. Murray Reynolds; trustees, Edward Welles, H. H. Harvey, Hon. C. A. Miner, S. L. Brown and Richard Sharpe, Jr.; treasurer, A. H. McClintock; recording secretary, Sidney K. Miner; corresponding secretary, Rev. H. E. Hayden; librarian, Hon. J. Ridgway Wright; assistant librarian, H. B. Deltrick; curators—mineralogy, Irving A. Stearns; paleontology, R. D. Liscoe; archeology, J. Ridgway Wright; numismatics, Rev. H. E. Hayden; historiographer, George B. Kulp; meteorologist, Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge.

The only change from last year was the promotion of Judge Woodward from a vice presidency to the presidency, the election of Col. G. M. Reynolds a vice president, and the making of Major Wright curator of archeology.

Mrs. Stella D. Reynolds and Miss Helen Reynolds were elected to membership and Maynard Bixby of Salt Lake City was proposed.

Librarian Wright reported among the accessions 291 volumes, 456 pamphlets, also bound copies of RECORD and Leader and unbound copies of other local papers.

Rev. H. E. Hayden reported as corresponding secretary that his correspondence had brought many valuable gifts to the library. The Connecticut Historical Society has a number of valuable Susquehanna manuscripts and is willing to furnish this society with copies. The Massachusetts Historical Society is about to publish an index to the manuscripts of Timothy Pickering, owned by that society. There have been added to the Wyoming Historical Society's library during the past year about 1,000 books and as many pamphlets. Some 500 volumes came from the estate of the late L. D. Shoemaker, and Dr. Hakes gave 100 copies of his Columbus book for exchange.

Mr. Hayden also exhibited the document given on page 153, signed by Col. John Butler, the British leader at Wyoming, which, in Mr. Hayden's opinion, is conclusive proof that Brant did not command the Indians at Wyoming, but that they were in command of Gayningawarto, or "Old King," as he is called.

#### CONTRIBUTORS AND CONTRIBUTORS.

The following have donated their reviews and pamphlets: Smithsonian Institution, United States National Museum, Wisconsin Historical Society, Department of State, Scranton Public Library, Johns Hopkins University, Princeton Theological Seminary, Columbia College, Hartford National Bank, Archives Department Society of Internal Affairs, Chicago Historical Society, U. S. Civil Service Commission, Connecticut Historical Society, Washington Lee University, Oberlin College, University of Michigan, Rutgers College, University of Georgia, Williams College, Trinity College, Yale University, Secretary of the State of Illinois, University of North Carolina, Indiana University, War Department, Bureau of Ethnology, University of Vermont, Society of the War of 1812, Kansas University, Union Theological Seminary, U. S. Bureau of Education, Amherst College, Wisconsin State Historical Society, Pennsylvania Secretary Internal Affairs, United States Fish Commission, New York Society, Sons of the Revolution, Rhode Island Historical Society, Conyngham Post G. A. R., Michigan State Library, Geological Club of Philadelphia, American Philosophical Society, William and Mary College, Virginia Waterloo Library and Historical Society, Osterhout Library, Essex

Institute, quartermaster general U. S. A. report, Nebraska Historical Society, Wilkes-Baire reading room, Association, Iowa Geological Survey, Buffalo Historical Society, Oneida Historical Society, Princeton College, American Museum of Natural History, United States National Museum, New England Historical Society, Pennsylvania State Library, New Hampshire Historical Society, Louisiana Experiment Station, Confederate Survivors' Association, Surgeon General U. S. A., U. S. Geological Survey, Cayuga County Historical Society, Nova Scotian Institute of Science, Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, Connecticut State Librarian, State Geologist, Lackawanna Presbytery, Rhode Island Bureau of Education, Daughters of the American Revolution, Missouri Historical Society and Boston Commissioners.

Among the individual donors for the year: R. A. Brock, Richmond, Va.; Josiah Palmer, Brooklyn; Miss H. P. James, O. G. Horton, Louisa, Ky.; F. B. Heltman, Washington, D. C.; J. H. Finn, Walrus, Mass.; Henry Coppee, Bethlehem, Pa.; L. J. Curtis, Kingston; A. D. French, Boston; Rev. F. A. Douey, Scranton; Mrs. C. D. Foster, Rev. H. E. Hayden, H. J. Richards, G. S. Bennett, A. F. Derr, Dr. L. I. Shoemaker, Dr. L. H. Taylor, W. R. Bicketta, A. H. McClintock, Capt. Calvin Parsons, H. G. Pickering, Charles Parrish, C. S. Gurley, Rev. H. L. Jones, Mrs. Charles Parrish, Dr. G. W. Guthrie, Dr. H. Hakes, Frank Deitrick, F. C. Johnson, Mrs. K. S. McCartney, Dr. C. P. Knapp, C. F. Cook, E. H. Chase, Joseph Birkbeck, J. M. Buckalew, Hon. J. R. Wright, H. R. Deitrick, Louise P. Merritt, Rev. Charles I. Junkin, Eugene B. Smith, Hon. W. H. Hines, J. G. Ames, of this city; Charles J. Hadley, Hartford, Conn.; D. G. Brinton, Philadelphia; W. W. Elliott, Reynoldsville, Pa.; Will S. Monroe, California; Hon. C. W. Darling, Utica N. Y.; Charles E. Jones, Argenta, Ga.; Hon. M. S. Quay, Philadelphia.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. REYNOLDS.

The following resolutions prepared by a committee comprising Judge Woodward, A. H. McClintock and J. R. Wright were read by Mr. McClintock and were adopted:

In the evening of the 8th of February, 1895, the message that in time comes to all men came to our beloved president, Mr. Sheldon Reynolds, and with weary mind and body he gave up the bitter and exhausting battle he

had waged so long, and quietly, like a tired child, he "fell on sleep."

No announcement can be fraught with deeper meaning and more far-reaching effect to the society than this.

Not one of the many who have striven for our welfare and advancement gave more of their very essence than did he. More than any one was he the life and commanding influence of the institution, and to his zeal and intelligent foresight we are indebted for much of what we now enjoy.

His whole intellectual life, in later years, was devoted to the study and elucidation of local history and tradition, and to this pursuit he brought a mind of broad and thorough culture, trained in the best schools of modern research, and equipped in a manner that can only be acquired by years of patient and intelligent toil and preparation.

With a modesty which, to those who knew him, was even more charming than the many other graces of mind and person he had been endowed with both by nature and by cultivation, his highest aim was not his personal reputation; nor that he himself might scale the heights of fame; but that this society might stand among its fellows, known everywhere, as ranking any in the land in character and influence. Such a noble and unselfish ambition was worthy of the completest fruition, and, had he been spared to us, no one could have doubted its fulfillment.

But, in the noon-day of his labor, when all that had gone before was but the making ready for the brilliant outcome of the future, he has been taken from us, and we have only the memory of his charming personality, his unsoiled life and noble example to comfort us in our sorrow and assuage our grief.

His loss to our society is of the gravest import; he was our pride, and to him we looked for the success that seemed so well assured, trusting with confidence in his rare gifts of learning, critical insight and judgment, and his deep-seated love for us and interest in our welfare.

The influence of such a life, devoted to the highest advancement of this institution should be a never-ending inspiration to us, and should encourage us to follow in his footsteps and endeavor to promote in every way the cause for which he labored during the many years that are now passed away.

Resolved, That we extend to his stricken family our heartfelt sympathy and that a copy of this minute be sent them in the name of the society.

#### Connecticut Claim in 1786.

Following is a clipping from a Connecticut paper, in May, 1786:

At a Meeting of the proprietors of the Susquehannah purchase of Lands, legally warned and held at Hartford, May 17, 1786.

Col. G A D S T A N L E Y, Moderator.

VOTED,

THAT all persons settled under the authority of the State of Pennsylvania, and now actually inhabiting upon that tract of country on the westerly waters of the Susquehannah river, and purchased of the natives by the company call'd the Susquehannah company, be and the same are hereby fully established and confirmed in the full and absolute possession of the lands by them actually possessed under the said State of Pennsylvania.

VOTED, That this company conscious of the equity of their title to the lands aforesaid purchased of the natives, and situate upon the waters of the river Susquehannah, will support and maintain their claim to the lands aforesaid, and effectually justify, and support their settlers thereon.

VOTED, That Samuel Gray, Esq. Col. Thomas Dyer, and Col Ebenezer Gray be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee with full power and authority to make out a list of all such persons as are proprietors of said company, and have paid their taxes agreeable to the votes of said company and that all persons that have neglected and shall neglect to pay the same by the first day of September next, shall, and the same are hereby excluded from any right, interest or property within the territory aforesaid—the said list of proprietors to be completed by the first day of September next.

Extract from the Records.

SAMUEL GRAY, Clerk.

#### The Waters Receding.

Daily Record, May 23, 1894.

The river continued to rise on Monday night until Tuesday morning, when it registered fifteen feet and the flats were flooded. Street car and other traffic was diverted to the North street bridge, the roadway of which had, fortunately, just been completed, it having been replanked. There were about two feet of water on the flats, although the circus wagons were driven through it to West Side Park. At noon yesterday the water began falling and last night was fourteen feet above low water mark, having fallen one foot. Joseph Newett, the market gardener, and Mr. Norton and Mr. Beacham, who have many acres planted with vegetables, are heavy losers. The flood swept over the growing plants and destroyed most of them. This is the second flood that has ruined crops there this year.



## HIGH WATER TIMES

### Along the Susquehanna and Some Ideas With Reference to Bridging the Flats.

Much interest has recently been manifested in the matter of crossing the flats to Kingston, and good reasons given that a passage uninterrupted by high water would be a benefaction to the people of this valley. To many it is not understood whether this reference considers the undertaking of bridging the flats (the term used), or of bridging the pond holes, as they are called, and which border the flats on either side.

It is somewhat remarkable, considering the local conditions, that this matter was never urgently brought forward for popular consideration and fulfillment.

The project of bridging the pond holes is both feasible and reasonable, and if accomplished would contribute much to the business and social requirements of the rapidly increasing population of the Wyoming Valley, and without destructive tendency by increasing the river's height in time of freshet.

As the amount of water in the Susquehanna river is beyond human control, its passage should be unobstructed if the safety and convenience of those living along its banks are to have a due and proper consideration.

Past experience teaches us the safety places for building purposes by showing the border lines of the river's overflow. For this knowledge a reliable report may be obtained from the elderly citizens and observing residents of the valley.

The highest water in the Susquehanna as observed by the oldest inhabitant, was that frequently called St. Patrick's flood which occurred on March 18, 1865. Then there was great destruction of property along the river, and lumber, trees, haystacks, fragments of buildings and logs were borne down by the rushing stream, and covered the neighboring flats and river banks with wreckage of every description. The water covered the curb-stone at the corner of Market street and Faser alley, now Voorhis and Murray's, and according to Martin Coryell's report was 24.7 feet above low water mark.

The portion of the bridge spanning the mid-stream was carried several feet downward, not however, by contact with the water,

but (as observed by the writer) was moved by a large tree floating against it. This tree floated down, the roots downstream and projecting struck the bridge which moved five or six feet, the tree then sank top first and passed on down the river. It was a fearful struggle and the bridge seemed to be saved by its fastening to the abutments. The water was knee-deep on the pavement before the Wyoming Valley Hotel, and flooded all the cellars on River street. It has been generally believed that the flood of 1865 was higher than the pumpkin flood of October, 1796.

The water on the road from the bridge all the way to Kingston was navigable by small boats, and gave to the valley the view of many miles of lands overflowed with water, with many fields distinctly defined by the tops of haystacks, with the tops of small trees here and there visible. Indeed, the landscape was the index of the season, and told that spring was hiding near at hand, while Nature was waiting to crown the vale with flowers and song.

To construct a roadway that will bridge the flats between Wilkes-Barre and Kingston is a possible matter, and its importance makes it worthy of the most profound consideration. In this undertaking the question will arise, how can it be done without impeding to an objectionable extent the flow of water over the flats, which during a high flood would increase its height and cause damage to the adjoining towns. This would assuredly result by raising the present road to a high water level and preventing the flow over the flats. Bridging the pond holes would perhaps satisfy present requirements, but if future expectations are to be realized that at all times one should be able to walk dryshod from Wilkes-Barre to Kingston, then the necessity arises for either the construction of a suspension bridge or continuation of the iron bridge from Wilkes-Barre to Kingston.

As buildings are now in process of erection the suggestion is offered for the information and welfare of those having in contemplation the building of residences on the road from Wilkes-Barre to Kingston, that a high water signal 24.7 feet above low water mark be located that they may build accordingly. This would show just how high the water has been and there can be no doubt of the possibility of its being there again.

These flats are certainly beautiful for situation in summer, but there remains the lia-

bility that the spring floods will, as heretofore, bring danger and desolation hand in hand. In consequence thereof it is to be hoped the high water mark suggestion will be heeded by those who shall in the future build residences on the flats.

GEORGE URQUHART.

## TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO.

What the "Record" was Like in its First Year as a Daily—Who the Advertisers were Then and who Survive.

A friend hands the editor a copy of the RECORD of April 7, 1874, and it is interesting to note the changes that have come over the community during that time. The RECORD itself was a little six-column paper in its first volume as a daily. William P. Miner was editor and proprietor, James P. Taylor (now of the Montrose Republican) was managing editor and A. H. Oliver was city editor.

A glance at the advertising is worth while. Two architects then in Wilkes-Barre are now at the head of their profession—Bruce Price in New York and Willis G. Hale in Philadelphia. Jonas Long carried a card of three inches—now his enterprising sons often carry that many columns. Music Hall was advertised more largely than now and had no opposition. Only one railroad—the Jersey Central—was running a time table. The largest advertisers were Faser & Smith, Holbert's book store, Reading & Hunt, Vulcan Iron Works and J. Sturdevant & Co. The advertisements of this latter pioneer establishment seldom appear in these modern days. A half column of hotel arrivals were published daily.

The city officers were Ira M. Kirkendall, mayor; Charles Parrish, president of council; D. P. Ayars, city clerk; E. H. Chase, city solicitor; F. V. Rockafellow, city treasurer; W. H. Sturdevant, city engineer; G. M. Miller, tax receiver; Priestly R. Johnson, street commissioner; M. A. Kearney, chief of police; Sam Emery, high constable.

The only suburban news (now such a prominent feature of the RECORD) was from Kingston, and it bears internal evidence of

having been furnished by J. M. Nicholson, then L. & B. dispatcher, now ticket agent.

Even in that early day, when telegraphing was more costly than now, the RECORD ran a very excellent telegraph service, much better in fact than the limited income justified. The town was not ripe at that time for a daily paper, and was content to bestow its patronage upon the Scranton Republican, which had an excellent Wilkes-Barre department, prepared by O. B. Snyder, a department that is still maintained. In those days the Republican circulated over 1,000 papers in Wilkes-Barre. The establishment of local papers and the setting off of Scranton into another county had the effect, though not for some years, of largely reducing this business.

Mr. Miner was asking editorially for a better advertising patronage and more job work, as in his judgment (a judgment which experience proved to be correct) several years would pass before the paper could be made self-sustained. Those were discouraging days in establishing the RECORD, and Mr. Miner is said to have lost \$10,000 before the paper began to pay for itself.

The following, showing the advertisers of that time will be interesting:

Still in business—W. Diekover & Son, W. S. Parsons, M. H. Post, Oliver's powder, Morgan hardware, Spayd's pharmacy, Kirkendall Bros., I. W. Milham, L. Myers, Vulcan Iron Works, Jonas Long, Townend's livery, L. LeGrand, Perry Sons, Voorhis & Page (now Voorhis & Murray), I. G. Freeman, A. H. Rush, Music Hall, Wilkes-Barre Deposit Bank, Second National Bank, Rutter & Co. (now Dodge & Speece), Z. Bennett & Co. (now Phelps, Straw & Co.), Coolbaugh & Co. (now Bennett & Walter), L. Myers, Irving A. Stearns, Dr. J. H. Jones, M. B. Houpt, Murphy (baker), J. Sturdevant & Co., S. V. Ritter, F. J. Leavenworth, W. W. Neuer, Charles A. Miner, C. B. Metzger, C. P. Hunt.

Dead—Dentist Williams, Dentist Valentine, Brown & Gray, Seth Tuck, Dr. J. B. Crawford, J. C. Eagle, W. Lee & Co., A. Strauss, Martin Coryell, C. S. Gabel.

Out of Business—Faser & Smith, Rudolph's laundry, Coolbaugh & Co., Yost & Bordea, F. V. Rockafellow & Co., Thornton's manufactory, Bennett, Phelps & Co., Wyoming Insurance Company, H. C. Hirner, J. H. Norman, H. Holbert, New York Tea Company, J. C. Jeffries, John Linker, P. M. Barber, Jennings & Wells, J. I. Labagh.

### Wilkes-Barre Fire Department.

The history of the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department is fraught with interesting incidents and recollections, and shows continued progress from the time Wilkes-Barre comprised only a few wooden buildings down to the present, when she is famed for having one of the best fire departments in the country, attested by the very few fires of any account we have had in recent years. It is interesting to read and hear about those olden times when our fire department was organized at the outbreak of every fire and when the paraphernalia consisted of a lot of buckets which were used for hauling water from convenient wells or from the river to the burning structure by these impromptu bucket brigades. Men and women turned out in those times and assisted in saving property, and all classes of citizens were ranged side by side hauling along the water.

As Wilkes-Barre began to grow it was decided to make some movement for the purpose of selecting men who would consider it their duty to turn out at every fire and do all in their power to subdue it. This was the first suggestion of a fire department in Wilkes-Barre. It was on March 7, 1807, that Charles Miner and Nathan Palmer were nominated by the borough council to see about apparatus and arrange the details for the organization of a company. Progress was slow and the bucket brigade continued for some years to be the only means of fighting fires.

In 1818 the council made another move and ordered the purchase of the old Neptune engine, which had been used in Philadelphia for thirty-eight years previous. This old machine was drawn from the Quaker City by a team of horses. It was later dubbed "The Wyoming." It cost \$300 and to us at present appears a very antiquated and inadequate means for putting out even a brush heap fire. There was no steam or anything but human power, and it threw only a small stream. The best people in town then belonged to the company.

Thirteen years later the Neptune became inadequate and a larger machine was purchased in Philadelphia, costing \$650. This was the Reliance, afterwards the Protector. A new company was formed and the late chief Justice Woodward, Isaac S. Osterhout and such eminent citizens were members. The company remained together only half a year.

Until 1849 or a period of about eighteen years there was no regular fire organization but the citizens used the engines.

In the year just mentioned, after some serious fires, the need of a permanent organization was forcibly pressed upon the people and another effort was made to get together a company. A short time previous the Old Black Tavern at the corner of Public Square was destroyed with other buildings and it was believed to be of incendiary origin. It was always believed to have been caused so that a murderer, who was then confined in the jail on East Market street, where Lohmann's place now stands, could escape, but the fire did not reach the jail. In May, 1849, a new company, which included our best citizens, was organized. The old Triton engine and a thousand feet of hose were purchased and an old hose carriage from Philadelphia. The Triton was considered a marvel of genius, as it was the first suction engine in this part of the State, and it drew the water from the river or canal. The old Neptune boys became a little jealous of this mechanical wonder, and partially succeeded in making a suction engine out of their machine also. The Triton was paid for by private subscription and by the proceeds of a fireman's ball.

After running to fires for two years (as many as there were at that time) interest in the company died out and the apparatus was stored in the old market house until fire destroyed the place, which even then had an unfavorable reputation. The engine was afterwards stationed at the river bridge.

In 1855 a disastrous fire burned most of the buildings on the east side of the Square, the Exchange Hotel, the Hillard mill and private dwellings—from where Brown's grocery store now stands to the corner of East Market street. In 1859 a new company was formed with E. B. Harvey president and C. C. Plotz, a veteran fireman from another part of the State, as foreman. The old Triton engine was resurrected and named the Good Will, which was wheeled about in yesterday's parade. The Protector and Neptune companies were also organized soon afterwards and used the other engines and Wilkes-Barre had its first real fire department. The late ex-Governor Hoyt, Judge Woodward and the late Walter G. Sterling were the first engineers and assistants. The companies were soon put to a severe test. Soon after they were organized a disastrous fire broke out in the Gilder-leave building, where the Jonas Long structure now stands, and burned down West Market street to Chaboon hall and along the Square to North Main street. The com-

panies at once realized that the apparatus was deficient and improvement was necessary, although nothing could be done along that line. The department continued as then organized until 1871, other chief engineers being Henry C. Reichard and J. W. Patten.

Another serious fire occurred in 1867, when West Market street suffered. The fire started at Franklin street and burned down to where the Misses Doran's establishment now stands on the one side, and W. W. Loomis's harness store on the other side.

There was great rivalry among the old volunteers, as there is among companies at present, and each company did its best to get at a fire first. Balls and other affairs were frequently held to keep the treasury ready for the purchase of new apparatus, hose, etc. The first parade of the department was held in June, 1859, when a fine trumpet was presented to engineer (now Judge) Woodward, Hon. Caleb E. Wright making the presentation speech, the present being from ex-sheriff Puterbaugh.

In 1871 council passed an ordinance that a paid fire department be organized. Judge Woodward was made chief engineer and W. L. Stewart, C. C. Plotz and S. H. Sturdevant were his assistants. A. C. Lansing presented the department with a new steamer and the boys were very proud of it. Judge Woodward served as chief engineer for nine years, resigning Jan. 1, 1880, and was succeeded by C. B. Metzger, who served one year and was in turn succeeded by T. S. Hillard, and after his death Ernest Roth was chosen for the position, which he fills at present, but intends resigning at the end of the year.

## SHE IS 104 YEARS OLD.

**Probably the Oldest Woman in the State is Now Living at Wyoming— She Lived in the Stirring Scenes That Occured Years Before Many of Our Oldest Residents Were Born.**

Perhaps the oldest living woman in the State is Mrs. Reidy of Wyoming, mother of Thomas Reidy of that place, with whom she makes her home. Mrs. Reidy was born in England in 1790, the exact month is not known, and if she lives until next fall she will be 104 years old. She came to America about thirty years ago, making her home at Grand Rapids, Michigan, until three years ago, when she was brought to Wyoming by her son, Thomas, with whom she will spend

the closing years of her life. She is surely a most remarkable woman in more ways than one. She is in possession of all her faculties and senses and never wore a spectacle, being able at the present time to thread a small needle. She is not hard of hearing and is able to converse freely and can recall many incidents in connection with her life that have happened years before many of our oldest readers were born. What is most strange in the appearance of this grand old woman is that her hair has never changed from youth, the closest observer cannot detect one gray hair in her head. It is the same now as it was when she was a young school girl, a natural black. Then again she has always been a very industrious woman all her life and the darning needle and skein of yarn were her constant companions up to about two months ago, when she was obliged to take to her room with injuries received by a fall.

Mrs. Reidy married at the age of 17 and was the mother of ten children, all of whom have now passed away with the exception of one, mention of whom has been made. He is the youngest of her family and is over 50 years of age.

From a glance at history Mrs. Reidy has lived through many stirring events in connection with the old and new world. She was born during the reign of George III, and lived when our glorious ancestors struggled for eight long and bloody years for independence. She has lived through the reign of George IV, William IV and through most of Queen Victoria's reign and can easily recall incidents in connection with the war of 1812, the battle of Waterloo and many other things that happened in England during the forepart of the nineteenth century.

Coming closer and bringing to mind the history of our country it will be readily seen that Mrs. Reidy was 9 years old when the immortal Washington died and was born during the second year of his first administration, and though all his successors but two are dead, she still lives, but there is no doubt that she, too, before many months will have to succumb to the inevitable. She is now compelled to keep to her room on account of the fall she received, but converses freely with all and seems as bright as a person of 60 years of age.

## OLD WYOMING FORTS.

### Honor to Whom Honor is Due—One of Them Bore the Name of Blanchard.

A well known citizen of Pittston and one of its oldest inhabitants takes exception to calling the old Revolutionary fort at Pittston as Pittston Fort. He says that it was always known as Fort Blanchard. Some interesting reminiscences concerning the several forts in the valley are given in the following letter, written to C. I. A. Chapman, who hands it to the RECORD:

I see by the report of the late Mr. Reynolds that he calls the *old fort* at Pittston the Pittston Fort.

I am very positive that the old fort was always known as Fort Blanchard and was considered one of the most important in the valley as a defense in fighting the Indians.

I well recollect being at a battalion drill on the river common at Wilkes-Barre in 1835 or 1836, nearly in front of the home of Judge Conyngham. There were standing there John Davis, William Richards, Mr. Stuart (who then lived on the McLean place), Mr. Bennett, who then attended the canal lock at South Wilkes-Barre, my father and E. Blackman of "the mines," Daniel Carey of Hanover and another old gentleman (either Gen. Rose or Anderson Dana). They were having a general talk about old Wyoming. The old gentleman proposed to visit the spots where the old forts stood.

The first visit was Fort Wyoming, a short distance below the residence of Mr. Butler, corner River and Northampton. He saw them pacing off distances and came out to join them. Mr. Butler stated that those places should be marked by permanent stones, for in a few years the exact spots would be unknown. Some one remarked that the "records" would tell. Mr. Butler replied: "Years ago everybody was a surveyor and did it with a *squint of the eye*, and when the eyesight told him it was so many rods, it was so recorded, but the time is coming when the rising generation will demand *locations, lines and courses* by the fraction of an inch—then" (pointing to me) "when this boy gets as old as the oldest of us he may remember my remarks and tell them."

The party then went to the location of old "Fort Durkee," which was in the westerly side of an orchard, below the commons near

the bank of a small stream that flowed to the river at Fish's Eddy, below South street. They then went to the "Redoubt" which was intact at the time. They had intended to go to Mill Creek to locate that fort (Ogden's Block House), but the older men were tired and it was deferred. All agreed that Forty Fort, Fort Blanchard and the Shawnee Block House had been the principal defenses against the Indians. There (said they) came the Block House at Nanticoke—the Hurlbut Block House at the foot of the hill *below* the Red Tavern and Carey Town or Buttonwood Block House, near where the Buttonwood bridge crosses Solomon's Creek and then the Block House on the Square.

They also stated that nearly all of the village of Wilkes-Barre at the time and subsequent to the massacre was located below the Square, mostly on Northampton street—also that the forts on the river bank were mostly built for use in the Pennamite wars and that Forty Fort was the most important of all, as it was nearest the centre of the valley and intended for the final resort of all in the valley. Fort Wintermoot they did not consider of much consequence as a *small thing*, which I think was correct, as it stood between the two lines of battle in the principal part of the action on the fatal 3d of July, and neither party made any especial effort to occupy it.

In 1843 or '44 I was in the store of Mr. Jenkins, father of Mrs. Dr. Gorman. The store stood at (now) Patterson's lumber yard, North Main street, Pittston, on the east side of the street. A stranger came in and asked Mr. J. if he could tell him where Fort Blanchard once stood. Mr. Jenkins answered, "I will go with you in a minute and show you the very spot." I went out with them and he marked off the spot on the westerly side of Main street on the bank of the creek, which had its course at (now) the Ravine shaft. He also pointed across the river where Fort Jenkins was located. In 1852, while fishing on the west side of the Susquehanna in front of (now) Hileman's house, Mr. Jenkins (father of John S. Jenkins) came to me and we had a conversation about the old times.

I went with him on the bank and he marked the spot where Fort Jenkins stood and also the spot where once stood an old house in which he once lived or was born. He also pointed to the place where Fort Blanchard stood. I never heard it called by any other name in my youthful days.

I think it a wrong to the Blanchard family who carried themselves so bravely in the

early struggles for possession of this—one of the loveliest valleys on earth—to change the name of one of the principal forts. This it is which prompts me to write these few lines of reminiscence.

I have long expected to see something from your pen on the subject, but failing to do so I thought to wake you up a little for I have always esteemed you as one who rejoiced in the right.

I think, my old friend, that if we, whose descent is to be traced back to the days before independence and whose kin on all sides were part and parcel of that great struggle, no matter whether as high privates in the ranks, or as legislators and congressmen, if we do not strive to have justice and honor meted out where it is due, who will be the guardians? If we guard not the memorials of the past they will soon disappear and be forgotten.

AMOS STROH.

#### Pittston Fort.

Mr. Stroh, in his recent letter in the RECORD, may be to some extent correct about Pittston Fort having in his day been called Blanchard's Fort, but there is no evidence that it was so named when built, or when surrendered to Butler in July, 1778. It will be a very difficult thing to prove that Sheldon Reynolds, in his very careful and admirable paper on the Wyoming forts, has made any mistake. The only authority of any value in the matter would be that of the survivors of the massacre and Hon. Charles Miner, who drew his historical material so largely from them. Chapman, the earliest historian, says nothing of the fort at Pittston.

Miner, on page 231, says: "Early on the morning after the battle, Col. John Butler sent a detachment across the river to Pittston when *Capt. Blanchard surrendered Fort Brown* on terms of fair capitulation." Ishmael Bennett in 1839 makes affidavit as follows: "He was with his father in Pittston Fort at the time of the battle. The fort was under the command of *Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard*. After the battle the enemy came over and the fort capitulated."

Major E. Blackman made affidavit as follows: "There was a fort at Plymouth, one at Kingston, Forty Fort. (Wintermoot's, its integrity always suspected), Fort Jenkins in Exeter, one at Pittston and the fort at Wilkes-Barre." He names Jenkins and Wintermoot forts by the names of the persons associated with them, but he does not name

Capt. Blanchard in any connection with the Pittston fort.

Gen. William Ross testified as follows: "Our people built five principal forts; one at Wilkes-Barre, one at Plymouth, Forty Fort at Kingston, Jenkins fort at the ferry at Pittston, and the Pittston fort at Brown's just above the ferry on the east side of the river."

Elisha Harding and others speak of the forts but do not say one word about Capt. Blanchard in any connection. So that it is most probable that the name Blanchard as given to Pittston fort was so given long, long after the present century had begun. This conclusion does not take any honor from Capt. Blanchard. HORACE EDWIN HAYDEN.

Feb. 22, 1895.

### WYOMING VALLEY FORTS.

Recollections of Olden Times Brought to Mind by Sheldon Reynolds's Paper Before the Historical Society.

From Wilkes-Barre Record, Dec. 22, 1894.

The Historical Society listened last evening to one of the most interesting papers ever read before that body. It was prepared by the president, Sheldon Reynolds; but owing to the fact that he is ill and up in the Adirondacks the paper was read by A. T. McClintock. It is an exhaustive history of the colonial forts in northeastern Pennsylvania, their location and the part they played in the stirring events of that time. The paper, which is really a condensed but exceedingly well-written history of Wyoming Valley during that period, was prepared in accordance with instructions from Governor Pattison, who some time since appointed a commission to locate these forts and mark the site of each. Mr. Reynolds is one of the commissioners selected. This report, together with those of the other commissioners, will be presented to the legislature at the next session and will recommend that a suitable marker be placed upon the spot where each of these forts stood, the cost not to exceed \$300 each.

The forts in the Wyoming Valley, as located by Mr. Reynolds, comprise the following:

Fort Durkee, at the intersection of South River and Ross streets, this city, near what was known as Fisher's Eddy. It was finished in 1769.

Fort Wyoming, on the river common, eight rods southwest of the intersection of Northampton and River streets.

Mill Creek Fort, at Mill Creek, near the spot where the Wilkes-Barre Water Co.'s pumping station now stands. It was built in 1772.

The Redoubt, North River and Jackson streets.

Forty Fort, at the corner of River and Fort streets in the borough of Forty Fort. Erected in 1770 and rebuilt in 1777.

Wintermoots Fort, in Sturmerville, eight rods from the river. Built prior to 1776 by the Wintermoots, a Tory family, who afterward threw open its doors to the enemy.

Fort Jenkins, situated in West Pittston, near the Ferry bridge. Named from Col. John Jenkins. It was erected about 1776.

Fort Pittston, situated where Patterson's lumber yard now stands in the city of Pittston.

Fort Wilkes-Barre, on Public Square, this city. Finished in 1778.

Shawnee Fort, on the Flats road in Plymouth Township.

A vote of thanks was tendered the author and provision made for the publication of the paper.

#### EARLY SETTLER FORTS.

In connection with the above the following dispatch from Harrisburg will be of interest: Under the act of May 23, 1893, a commission was created to make inquiry in relation to the various forts erected by the early settlers of this commonwealth prior to the year 1783 as a defense against the Indians. Governor Pattison appointed John M. Buckalew of Fishing Creek, Columbia County, Sheldon Reynolds of Wilkes-Barre, H. M. Richards of Reading, George Dallas Albert of Latrobe and Jay G. Welser of Middleburg. An organization was effected by the election of Mr. Buckalew as chairman and Mr. Reynolds as secretary.

This commission was authorized to make inquiry and examination as to the number and location of the Indian forts and the propriety of erecting tablets to mark said forts. In view of the magnitude of the work and the great amount of territory embraced it was deemed advisable to divide the State into five districts, to be assigned the various members of the commission for individual research and action.

It is recommended that a marker be placed at each of the defenses enumerated in the report, whose location has been ascertained with sufficient accuracy and definiteness; that the markers, when supplied by the State, be all of a similar character, to consist, wherever prac-

ticable, of a substantial rough boulder of stone, having one face sufficiently polished to allow of an inscription giving the name of the fort, when built, for what purpose used and its exact location; that these markers be placed, as a rule, by the side of a public road, in a prominent position, as near as possible to the site of the defense which they are intended to perpetuate, no tablet to be erected on private property unless previously deeded to the commonwealth; that a sum of money not exceeding \$300 be appropriated for each marker. In those communities where a more imposing marker is desired, the commission suggests that the appropriation of \$300 may be used as a nucleus.

#### Was in the Fort at Forty Fort.

Daily Record, March 22, 1896.

A slight mistake occurred in regard to the marriage of Arthur Smith and Lois Courtright, daughter of Rick and Burton Courtright, Rick being the old Dutch nick-name of Henry. It should have been Lois Courtright, daughter of Henry and Rachel, and sister of Houghten and Burton Courtright. Rachel Courtright's maiden name was Gore, daughter of Jonathan Gore, she being in the fort at Forty Fort, at the age of 5 years, during the Indian massacre. I can well remember her taking me on her knee and telling how the red coats looked coming on horses at full speed. From the fort she went on foot, with her mother and nurse, a distance of sixty miles, through the forest to Easton.

HENRY COURTRIGHT,

Son of Houghten and grandson of Henry and Rachel Courtright.

#### Valuable Historical Pamphlet.

There is now being printed by the Historical Society a series of valuable papers bearing on the history of Wyoming, published by the United States government over half a century ago in the rare and almost forgotten public documents, not one of which is possessed either by this society or the Osterhout Library. This publication includes the various petitions to Congress of the Wyoming survivors of the massacre, asking relief and compensation for the losses by the war, with their affidavits of what they saw at the massacre. This will be preceded by a brief history of the event, with much new data, including an original document from Col. John Butler and his Indian ally, Kayingwaurto. Rev. H. E. Hayden is of the opinion that this document is proof that Brant was not in command of the Indians at the Wyoming battle, but that they were led by "Old King," Kayingwaurto.

### Redmond Conyngham's Historical Data.

A late number of *Notes and Queries*, (vol. 2, No. 1) the valuable historical publication edited by State Librarian Egle of Harrisburg, contains some interesting material on Wyoming affairs. Most of it is contained in a series of articles written by Redmond Conyngham of Lancaster in 1841 and never before published. Mr. Conyngham was evidently gathering material for a history of Lancaster County, though such project was never carried out. Dr. Egle is now printing the entire collection of data and it is of special interest in Wyoming Valley, as the history of one is closely interwoven with that of the other.

Mr. Conyngham devotes a great deal of space to the Indian atrocities in Lancaster County, culminating in the cruel killing of defenseless Indians at Lancaster and Conestoga in 1763 by Lazarus Stewart's Rangers. The Rangers justified this atrocity on the ground of public necessity, but the Pennsylvania Assembly had a different view, and undertook to apprehend Stewart and his men on the charge of murder. Fearing that he could not get justice, owing to the public mind having been inflamed against him, Stewart summoned his Rangers around him and fled to Wyoming. This was eight years after their bloody work had been done, but John Penn was relentlessly pursuing him and had offered a reward of £50 for his arrest. Repairing to Wyoming in 1771, Stewart offered the services of himself and men to the Connecticut pioneers who had attempted to settle in the valley, but who were being dispossessed by the Pennsylvania government. Having a twofold enemy to fight—Pennsylvanians and Indians—the offer of Lazarus Stewart was eagerly accepted.

Mr. Conyngham relates the encounters between the two contending forces for the possession of the valley and gives the articles of capitulation after the defeat of the Pennsylvania forces in August, 1771, and the capture of the O'nden blockhouse. This stood near the corner of South and West River streets where is now the residence of William L. Conyngham. This blockhouse played a prominent part in the subsequent struggles between Pennsylvanians and Yankees for possession of the valley, and it would seem as if West River street ought to perpetuate that early fort by bearing the name O'nden Place.

The feelings which animated the breast of Lazarus Stewart at the time he was being pursued by Pennsylvanians for an offense that he did not deem himself guilty of, are well shown in a letter (p. 32) written by the brave Ranger defining his position. "Were we tamely to look on," he says, "and see our brethren murdered? What I have done was done for the security of hundreds of settlements on the frontiers. The blood of a thousand of my fellow creatures called for vengeance. I shed no Indian's blood. As a Ranger I sought the post of danger and now you ask my life. Let me be tried where prejudice has not prejudged my case. Let my brave Rangers, who have stemmed the blast nobly, and never flinched, let them have an equitable trial: they were my friends in the hour of danger; to desert them now were cowardice. What remains is to leave our cause with our God and our guns."

The heroic part which these brave Rangers played in the troublous times which were to come to Wyoming is told in the histories.

In the same number of *Notes and Queries* is a quotation from Carey's History, edition of 1794, that "Wyoming is using coal and Pittsburg has an abundance of coal."

In Mr. Conyngham's notes, referred to above, is an account of Teedyuscung, the Delaware king, (page 26), who was burned to death in his cabin near Wilkes-Barre in 1763.

### A Saddler of 60 Years Ago.

The other day the RECORD was handed a torn-out leaf of an old day-book bearing date of 1834. It was probably from the accounts of our former townsman, Edmund Taylor, a saddler. It is interesting as showing the people and prices in that day. Chester Butler is charged with a halter ring, 25 cents; Dr. Thomas W. Miner, repairing sulky, three shillings; Henry Colt, repairing harness, 16 cents; Major Westcott Stone, halter, 75 cents; O. Porter, girth and repairs, 50 cents; Detrick & Hannis, 1 set lead harness, \$8; Commodore David Jewett, repairing breeching, 25 cents; Joshua Miner, pair suspenders, 25 cents; Rev. Mr. Hebberton, gig harness, \$30; Thomas Wall, pair quilts, \$5, 2 collars, \$3.75. Other debits are against Geo. Lazarus, Zenas Barnum, David Taylor, Michael Gruver and Geo. Koerber, Jr.

Cow! was cheaper then than now. Robert Jameson was credited with 50 cents, for a half ton of coal "at the bed." John Deshammer was credited with potatoes a 31½ cents per bushel. Piers Butler is credited with pasturing cow at 25 cents per week-



### A Historical Sketch of the Borough of Ashley.

The M. E. Sunday school room was crowded at the Epworth League on March 22, 1895, to listen to the history of Ashley by J. C. Wells. The audience was well pleased with Mr. Wells's effort and many things not generally known were told by him. The first settler we have any record of was Abner Wade, he said, who built a log hut on the site of the present residence of B. F. Tucker. The first tavern was kept by Fritz Detrick. This was a log house and stood on the site where now stand the stores of Dooley, Clinton and Connolly, and Samuel Peas had a log tavern where McKearnan's hotel now stands. These taverns were there previous to 1815. Samuel Black had the first frame tavern and the house now stands and is occupied by his family, but has undergone many changes in appearance since that time. The first school house was built of log in 1810. It stood on the bank near where the shops now stand and was used for church purposes as well as for school purposes. It soon became too small for church purposes and Daniel Frederick, Fritz Detrick, Samuel Peas, Comfort Carey and others built a frame chapel where the present Presbyterian church now stands. This was used by all denominations for years. The first store we have any record of was kept by Alexander Gray and was near the Tucker property. Mr. Gray was interested in coal mining and the old shaft lately reopened near the new school building was sunk by him and Landmesser. The coal was taken in small cars by gravity to South Wilkes-Barre, where it was loaded in boats for Baltimore market. In 1815 there was a saw mill on the creek near the first plane, built and owned by Jacob Bobb. This section was heavily timbered with oak, pine and hemlock timber. The old stone foundry and triphammer shop of Joseph Vanlear stood near the creek west of the Tucker property. They made all kinds of castings and the old style cylinder stoves for burning the newly discovered anthracite coal. This shop was destroyed by high water in the spring of 1850. The planes were completed and commenced operation in the year 1840 by the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co. and were used for handling passengers, freight and coal. The freight and passenger cars were very small and were run to South Wilkes-Barre by gravity and hauled back by mules.

Instead of wire rope being used on the plane then a steel strap six inches wide was used, but in 1850 this was replaced with wire rope. Mules were then used for hauling the cars from the head of one plane to the foot of the next. Ashley has had many names. The first was Conners, then Skunktown, Hard Scrabble, Peastown, Hightown, Newtown and Hendricksburg, so named after Hendrick B. Wright, who then was a member of Congress and was instrumental in getting a postoffice located at what is now Newtown, with Robert Killmer as postmaster. In 1863 the name was changed to Coalville, later Nantlooke Junction and in 1870 a charter was granted for the borough of Ashley. The petitioners were J. C. Wells, Dr. E. L. Diefenderfer, Charles Lehr, Rev. W. J. Day, George Dunn, J. K. P. Fenner, A. T. Joslin, Samuel Grow, E. C. Cole, J. W. Cole, William Parsons, Dr. A. D. Labar, John White, Peter Smith and others. In the year 1866 the Lehigh & Susquehanna gave Mr. Wells permission to lay out the land all around here into lots and streets, and shortly after this was done the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company located shops here and there was an immediate demand for lots. The streets were named after the prominent men connected with the railroad company. Ashley street was named after H. O. Ashley, one of the largest stockholders; Ross street after E. P. Ross, who lived in Auburn, N. Y., another heavy stockholder; Timpson street after James A. Timpson, president and treasurer of the company; and Brown street after John Brown, general superintendent and father of Mrs. Dr. E. L. Diefenderfer. In 1870 the necessity of a new burying place was apparent, as the old one which was located near the residence of Godfrey Smith, was too small and out of place, and the Ashley Cemetery Association was organized, with an authorized capital of \$12,000. Eighteen acres of land were purchased from the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company, improvements were made, and it is now one of the prettiest burying places to be found anywhere. The present officers are: Dr. E. L. Diefenderfer, president; John Bowden, treasurer, and J. C. Wells, secretary. The Ashley Savings Bank was chartered in July, 1871, with a capital of \$175,000. It was organized and opened for business on March 4, 1872, with L. C. Paine president, J. C. Wells vice president, and James M. Snyder cashier. The next cashier was L. C. Darte, followed by George

Flanagan, and he by William F. Mitchell. They continued in business until 1885. Following this, Mr. Wells gave some interesting facts regarding the building of the different churches, school buildings and principal buildings and the Coalville street railway company.

#### To Mark the Third Day's Fight.

Capt. De Lacy was in town March 6 in consultation with James M. Rutter about having a tablet placed on the battlefield at Gettysburg to mark the exact position held by the 143d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, during the third day's fight. The members of the G. A. R. have taken hold of the project.

#### Modern Instances of Slavery.

EDITOR RECORD: The following has been going the rounds of your exchanges and deserves a passing notice:

"GEORGETOWN, Ky., Feb. 11.—A novel spectacle was furnished the younger generation here on Saturday. It was the sale by public auction of two colored women, Sara Jackson and Bettie Fishback. They were convicted of vagrancy in the Circuit Court and ordered to be sold into slavery for the period of six months. The sale attracted a large crowd. The women were bought by two colored men, Henry Jackson and Richard Coleman, and brought \$1.05 and \$2 respectively."

It is highly creditable to Georgetown, Ky., that the event was a novel one and of sufficient importance to be telegraphed to all portions of the country. But it is by no means unprecedented, nor is it an uncommon occurrence in many portions of New England to-day. The custom is an old one. I take the following from the history of Westmoreland, N. H., page 509 and under date of Sept. 2, 1791.

"Voted, that Josiah Powers and widow Miller, be vouched by the selectman to the lowest bidder at this meeting. Widow Miller struck off to Joseph Buffum for 2 shillings, 9 pence per week until March meeting next. Josiah Powers struck off to Elias Gates for 1 shilling and 7 pence per week."

Within recent years I have been a spectator at one of these vendues of second-hand and cast-off humanity. As in the case of actual slavery, the power of abuse, the loss of all self-respect and all hope of an eventual betterment of condition goes with the bargain.

G. W. GUSTINE.

Feb. 18, 1895.

#### Gen. Oliver Donated It.

A direct descendant of the old elm tree, which cast its shadows over William Penn and the Indian chiefs during the famous session, when the Penn treaty was drawn up, has been planted directly on the spot which the old tree is supposed to have occupied. The old treaty elm stood on the Vandusen estate, which has since been formed into Penn Treaty Park, and shoots from the tree have been carefully treasured by the Vandusen family. The particular shoot was donated by Paul A. Oliver, of Oliver's Mills, Luzerne County, who came into its possession through connection with the Vandusen family. The shoot is healthy and is expected to thrive in its appropriate situation.—[Philadelphia Record.]

#### First School Meeting in Wilkes-Barre.

Calvin Parsons is probably the best informed man in town as to early school matters. Upon inquiry being made of him as to when the first school meeting was held in Wilkes-Barre he states as follows:

On the 6th of December, 1774, a town meeting was called and Elisha Richards and Captain Parsons, Perrin Boss, Nathaniel Landon, Elisha Swift, Nathan Denison, Esq., Stephen Harding, John Jenkins, Anderson Dana, Obadiah Gore, Jr., James Stark, Rosewell Franklin, Captain Stewart, Captain Parks and Uriah Chapman were chosen school committee for the ensuing year. This meeting seems to be the first legally warned, all others, if any, were not legal.

#### Early Montrose Papers.

Some old Montrose papers have found their way to the RECORD office. Following are some notes from them:

The *Independent Volunteer*, Jan. 27, 1832, Isaac Fuller, editor. Thermometer 20 below zero. Davis Dimock defending Baptist doctrine against Episcopalian criticism. America assisting the downtrodden Poles. Call for an anti-Masonic meeting.

The *Spectator and Freeman's Journal*, Dec. 29, 1836, A. L. Post, editor. Opposed to negro slavery. Elder J. B. Worden will lecture on universal emancipation. A meeting to be held in court house at early candle lighting to form a total abstinence from intoxicating drinks society.

The *Montrose Volunteer*, Jan. 23, 1840, published by Read & Turrell, late Fuller & Read. Apologist for slavery. Hon. John N. Conyngnam, president judge of 13th judicial district will hold Circuit Court. The issues of the same paper for Feb. 10, April 14, 1842, contain virulent defenses of slavery.

## THE WYOMING MASSACRE.

Rev. Horace E. Hayden's  
Compilation About the

Thrilling Events That Occurred in  
This Valley Over a Hundred  
Years Ago, Containing New Ma-  
terial Found By Rev. Mr. Hayden  
in Private Papers and From Other  
Sources.

The RECORD has already referred to Rev. Horace E. Hayden's latest compilation for the Historical Society, "The Massacre of Wyoming; the Acts of Congress for the defense of the Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania, 1776-1778: With the Petitions of the Sufferers by the massacre of July 3, 1778, for congressional aid; with an introductory chapter by Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden, M. A., corresponding secretary Wyoming Historical and Geological Society."

Copious extracts from Rev. Mr. Hayden's introductory chapter are given below by his permission. The younger generation knows little or nothing about the terrible massacre in the vicinity of where Wyoming monument now stands. The author incorporates into the story much material that is entirely new and has never before been printed, notably the original manuscript of Capt. John Butler's certificate of protection to Lieut. Scovell and his party, which was found among the papers of Hon. Charles A. Miner.

Rev. Mr. Hayden says:

No one with a love for the beautiful in nature can stand on the top of Prospect Rock on a summer day, and gaze upon the exquisite loveliness of the Wyoming Valley without a thrill of admiration. Nor will he wonder that Indians and white men could have battled with each other for the possession of so fair a domain.

Its beauty was doubtless far greater one hundred and thirty years ago, before art had entered to change the face of nature, when the forest was broken only here and there by a few clearings and cabins, and the silence unbroken except by the voices of nature. It

doubtless appeared a paradise to the little band of colonists who came here in 1762, and were made to suffer so sorely in the Indian massacre of 1763. Else, why did a second colony from Connecticut essay in 1769 to recover what had been so mercilessly wrested from them six years before?

Willing to endure, as they did, a series of disasters for the next twenty years or more, they settled, cleared, built and sowed with the desperate resolve to retain possession at the peril of life and fortune.

During the years preceding the Revolutionary War, from 1769 to 1775, so frequent were the conflicts resulting in bloodshed within the town of Westmoreland, that it may be said to have been in a state of continual war. It was a repetition of the experience of their New England ancestors, who went to the plow and the church with the trusty rifle slung over their shoulder.

Becoming used to dangers, however, the Wyoming people did not neglect the means of defence needed to protect their families.

During the summer of 1774 the people built five principal forts for the defense of the valley. Maj. Eleazer Blackman, who aided the building of the fort at Wilkes-Barre, enumerated them in 1838 as the "Plymouth Fort," the "Wilkes-Barre Fort," covering nearly half an acre, enclosing the public buildings, and formed by digging a ditch in which logs, sharp at top, 15 or 16 feet long, were set in on end closely together; the "Forty Fort," at Kingston, similarly planned; "Jenkins Fort," in Exeter Township, built around the house of John Jenkins, at the Pittston Ferry, west side; "Pittston Fort," at Brown's, just above the Ferry, east side; and "Wintermoot Fort," built by the family of that name near the head of the valley. Besides these there were various block houses built by individuals. The act of Congress, August 23, 1776, calling for two companies of troops to serve through the war met immediate response in the valley, and by Sept. 17, 1776, Capts. Durkee and Ransom had each filled the quota of their respective command.

Within three months after they were mustered in, December 12, 1776, Congress resolved, that the two companies raised in the town of Westmoreland be ordered to join General Washington with all possible expedition. Thus they became participators in the various actions of the Continental Army in

New Jersey during the winter. But the valley was left without immediate and adequate defence against the common enemy.

Meanwhile Connecticut was not entirely unmindful of her people on the Susquehanna. The Assembly passed an Act in October, 1776, to complete the 24th Regiment of Connecticut Militia, to be formed of Westmoreland companies and in November erected the town of Westmoreland into a county. The field officers of the 24th Regiment were: Colonel, Zebulon Butler, appointed May, 1775, succeeded May, 1777, by Nathan Denison promoted from lieutenant colonel; lieutenant colonel, Lazarus Stewart, promoted from captain, May, 1777, resigned October, 1777, and succeeded by George Lorraine, promoted from captain, October, 1777; major, John Garrett, promoted from captain, October, 1777. The captains of the regiment were: James Bidlack, Dr. William Hooker Smith, John Garret, Nathaniel Landon, Asaph Whittlesey, William McKarachan, Jeremiah Blanchard, Rezin Geer, Stephen Harding, Robert Carr and Elijah Farnam.

The situation of the inhabitants of the Wyoming Valley was therefore at this time most deplorable. The nearest settlements within the limits of Pennsylvania were Easton and Bethlehem, each 60 miles to the southward, and Sunbury, or Fort Augusta, 60 miles to the westward; their people unfriendly to the Connecticut settlers on the North Branch of the Susquehanna, whom they regarded as intruders.

To the north dwelt the Six Nations, as cruel as they were crafty, whose powerful hand had wiped out in the massacre of 1763 the Wyoming settlement of whom the Seneca chief, Old King, or Sayenguaraghton, had declared, "they have taken their land from us." Stimulated by the thirst for revenge and the reward offered by the British Government for American scalps, they only waited the fit opportunity to make a second descent on Wyoming. This opportunity soon offered. Colonel Daniel Claus, the British Superintendent of Indian Affairs, in his manuscript history of Joseph Brant, written Sept., 1778, and published for the first time in 1889, stated that after the Battle of Brandywine

"The plan of operations for the ensuing campaign was laid and Mr. Brant determined to harrass the frontiers of the Mohawk River abt Cherry Valley [illegible] while

Sakayenguaraghton took the opportunity of this diversion to cut off the settlements of Wyoming on the Susquehanna River" (Bryant 20.)

It is true that between the Wyoming Valley and the Mohawk region there were here and there white settlers. But these in 1776 had received such severe treatment at the hands of the Wyoming people that their friendship was turned to enmity, and being Tories, eager to retaliate for the wrongs they had suffered, they made common cause with the Indians against the inhabitants of the Wyoming Valley, and were doubtless important factors in the development of Brant's plan of campaign. But it is not certainly known that they had anything to do with the inauguration of the Wyoming expedition.

The Claus manuscript, which is a very important document, was discovered by Mr. William Kirby, of Ontario, Canada, among some 2,000 other papers of the Revolutionary period, in the possession of the great-grandchildren of Col. Claus. It shows conclusively that while Brant was a directing spirit of the Indian campaign or 1778, acting in council with the Old King, he was not himself present at Wyoming, July 3, 1778, and that Old King, or Sakayenguaraghton as he was known, was the leader of the Indians who participated in the Massacre. In June of that year, as the manuscript states "Sakayenguaraghton assembled his men at his Town Canadasege without calling upon any white person to join them. However the Reflections of the Officers at Niagara roused Col. Butler to march to Sakayenguaraghton's Town who at the same time reserved the command of his men to himself."

This statement of Col. Claus is significant. It confirms the assertion of Col. John Butler on the day after the battle, that he could not restrain his Indian allies from plundering the people. Miner says, that in response to Col. Denison's remonstrance, John Butler gave peremptory orders to the chief; "These are your Indians, you must restrain them;" and after an ineffectual effort he said "I can do nothing with them." (Miner 234.)

It was therefore not Brant, but the King of the Senecas, Sayenguaraghton, as Colonel Claus shows, who with a large body of the Six Nations, and a detachment of Tories from Sir John Johnston's Royal Greens under the command of Colonel John Butler, in all from

900 to 1,200 strong, appeared at the head of the Wyoming Valley, June 30, 1778, and took peaceable possession of Fort Wintermoot whose occupants were always suspected of Tory proclivities. In Fort Jenkins there were then only seventeen defenders, mostly aged persons, including the Jenkinases, the Hardings, (Captain Stephen, Stephen Jr., Benjamin and Stukeley) James Hudsall, Samuel Morgan, Ichabod Phillips, Miner Robbins, John Gardner and Daniel Carr.

On the morning of the 30th, eight of these, armed with only two guns, went to the field to work. Returning at evening, they were fired on by the Indians. Two of the Hardings were killed. Elisha Harding, in his statement says: "They fought bravely as long as they could stand, but being overpowered by numbers, were cut to pieces in the most shocking manner, many holes of the spears in their sides, their arms cut to pieces, tomahawked, scalped and their throats cut." Others were captured, thus leaving but ten persons in the fort; two of them were old men, and three boys. On the 2nd of July, when John Butler demanded the surrender of the fort, it was seen that resistance was useless and the surrender was made.

Meanwhile the news of Butler's invasion had aroused the settlers in the valley, who hastily assembled at Forty Fort, the largest and strongest defensive post in the valley. Colonel Zebulon Butler, then here on furlough from the Continental Army, was immediately placed in command. His experience as a soldier for twenty years made his services at this moment invaluable.

About 3 o'clock that afternoon the Americans left the fort and advanced in search of the enemy, their line of battle extending from the marsh to the river, a distance of about 1,600 feet, Colonel Zebulon Butler commanding the right, and Colonels Denison and Dorrance the left. The advance was made with spirit, and the British purposely held back until the Americans were drawn to a point in the field where their left wing, opposed by the Indians, was exposed to a flank movement. Then Sayenqueraghton with his savage warriors gained the rear of Colonel Denison's wing and suddenly fell upon his men. Colonel Denison at once perceived his danger, and ordered Whittlesey's company to fall back so as to form an angle with the main line. The order was misunderstood as one to "retreat." The mistake was fatal, the falling back be-

came a retreat, and retreat a panic, and the massacre followed, the Indians pursuing the flying troops and attacking them with terrible slaughter. Historians say that the British line "gave way before the galling fire of the Americans in spite of all their officers' efforts to prevent it." It is a singular fact that only two white men in Colonel John Butler's command were killed, and the casualties included about a dozen Indians. Doubtless the falling back of the British line before the fire of the patriots was a part of their plan of battle. Colonel Claus, in the document referred to, says that Brant was devastating Schoenectady and Cherry Valley,

"Sayenqueraghton at the same time put his plan in Execution, making every preparation, Disposition and Manoeuvre with his Indians himself and when the Rebels of Wyoming came to attack him desired Col. Butler to keep his people separate from his for fear of Confusion and stood the whole Brunt of the Action himself, for there were but two white men killed [illegible] And then destroyed the whole Settlement without hurting or molesting Woman or Child, wch these two Chiefs, to their honour be it said, agreed upon before they [went into] Action in the Spring."

This confirms Col. Stone's statement, viz: "It does not appear that anything like a massacre followed the capitulation." And Mr. Jenkins, in his address of July 3, 1878, acknowledges that, "So far as known to the people here, not a woman or child was slain by the enemy in the Valley."

But it does not disprove the fact that between the 3rd of July and the morning of the 4th of July, there was a massacre of the male settlers, and of the Americans engaged in the conflict of the 3rd of July, equalling anything of the kind in Indian history for cruelty and atrocity! The capitulation of the Americans occurred on the 4th of July at Forty Fort, and on the 8th, John Butler withdrew from the Valley with his command, and with 227 scalps which he reported as taken at Wyoming. These scalps, valued and paid for by the British at \$10 a piece, in all \$2,270, were not merely the scalps of men killed in actual combat. The highest estimate of the slain given by American reports, and certified by the list on the Monument, is 182, leaving forty-five of the number reported by John Butler unaccounted for.

Mrs. Jenkins, the widow of Colonel John Jenkins, in her statement made to Congress in 1838, says: "The next day (July 4th,) she went down to the battle ground \* \* \* where Phillip Wintermoot, a Tory whom she was well acquainted with said to her, 'Look, but don't seem to see.' The dead lay all around and there were places where half burnt legs and arms showed the cruel torture our poor people must have suffered."

Colonel George P. Ransom, 14 years old at the time of the battle, testified that after the battle "we went in with Colonel Butler and helped to bury the dead as soon as it could be done. The battle field presented a distressing sight; in a ring round a rock there lay 18 or 20 mangled bodies. Prisoners taken on the field were placed in a circle surrounded by Indians, and a squaw set to butcher them. Lebbeus Hammond, for many years afterward a respectable citizen of Tioga County, New York, was one of the doomed. Seeing one after another perish by her bloody hand he sprang up, broke through the circle, outstripped his pursuers and escaped."

Ishmael Bennet testifies that he was at Pittston Fort when it capitulated. "St. John and Leach were moving off with their goods, St. John was tomahawked, and Leach had his child in his arms. The Indians tomahawked him and gave the child to its mother. On the night after the battle, seeing fires under some large oaks near the river, he with his father, Squire Whitaker and old Captain Blanchard, went down to the river side, they could see naked white men running around the fire, could hear the cries of agony, could see the savages following them with their spears, it was a dreadful sight."

If to "massacre" means, as Webster defines it, "to murder with circumstances of cruelty," the question as to whether the *Massacre of Wyoming* preceded the capitulation of Fort Fort, or followed it is hypercritical. No historian has yet published the "Petition of the Sufferers of Wyoming, Pennsylvania, by depredations committed by the Indians in the Revolutionary War," presented to the 25th Congress, containing the statements of Mrs. Sarah Bidlack, Mrs. Huldah Carey, Mrs. Bertha Jenkins, Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Courtright, Edward Inman, Stephen Abbot, Geo. P. Ransom, Ishmael Bennett, Ebenezer Maroy, Jose Rogers, Eleazer Blackman, Rev. Benjamin Bidlack, Joseph Slocum, Cornelius Courtright, Mrs. Phoebe Cooper, Gen. Wm. Ross, Anderson

Dana, Elisha Harding. Many writers of Wyoming history have evidently never read this petition with its overwhelming testimony of 19 eye-witnesses. The sufferings endured by the women and children on this fateful 3d of July, and the week following it, cannot be estimated. Exaggerated as some of the early relations of the sufferings may have been, there is truth enough in the various authentic accounts and records to justify the statement, that language fails to give an adequate description of them. Could the survivors of the Massacre of Wyoming have anticipated the destructive criticism of the present day, casting doubt on so many statements of fact universally known in 1778, they would assuredly have fortified their statements with sworn affidavits. A century had not passed over the bloody field of Wyoming ere it became necessary for the grandson of Giles Slocum, in a letter now before me, to asseverate the truth of the fratricidal murder of Henry Penell, received by him from the lips of his grandfather well known as a man of cautious and accurate speech. One can find no word of denial of the narratives of Chapman or Miner made during the lives of the survivors of the Massacre. Nor did Congress in rejecting their appeal, in any way question the accuracy of its statements.

Very strong corroborative evidence of Old King's leadership at the Massacre has come into the writer's hands since the above was written, in the shape of an original document from Colonel John Butler.

It will be remembered that Fort Wintermoot was promptly surrendered to the enemy at the first demand. This fort was in command of Lieutenant Elisha Scovell, of the Seventh company, 24th Connecticut Regiment, Stephen Harding, Captain. Scovell was a patriot, but the Wintermoots and others in the fort were Tories, and the fort was surrendered to Butler through their treachery, July 1, 1778.

#### AN INTERESTING DOCUMENT.

We are in receipt of the centennial number of the Lancaster *Intelligencer*, and a very interesting issue it is. The supplement is an exact reproduction of the Lancaster *Journal* of June 17, 1795, *The Intelligencer* and *Weekly Advertiser* of July 31, 1799, and the Lancaster *Journal* of June 17, 1795. These are reproduced

in the original type and style, and the pages contain many curious announcements, characteristic of the time. Among the most interesting is a letter from Tobias Leer, private secretary of George Washington to President Adams, dated Mt. Vernon, Dec. 15, 1799, announcing the death of the Father of his Country. It is as follows:

MT. VERNON, Dec. 15, 1799.

SIR: It is with inexpressible grief that I have to announce to you the death of the great and good Gen. Washington. He died last evening between 10 and 11 o'clock, after a short illness of about twenty-four hours. His disorder was an inflammatory sore throat, which proceeded from a cold; of which he made but little complaint on Friday. On Saturday morning about 3 o'clock he became ill. Dr. Craik attended him in the morning and Dr. Dick of Alexandria and Dr. Brown of Port Tobacco were soon after called in. Every medical assistance was offered; but without the desired effect. His last scene corresponded with the whole tenor of his life. Not a groan nor a complaint escaped him, in extreme distress. With perfect resignation and a full possession of his reason, he closed his well spent life.

I have the honour to be, etc.,

TOBIAS LEER.

The President of the United States.

This letter was transmitted to Congress by President Adams on Thursday, Dec. 19. Then follows the action of the House and the proclamation of Governor Thomas McKean, dated at Lancaster the same day, announcing the sorrowful event to the State legislature. The proceedings are of unusual interest, and show beyond question the love and veneration of the people of Pennsylvania for the first President.

In another column is given in full the report of Gen. Bonaparte to the French Directory, detailing his operations in Egypt. In the same issue it is also announced that Louisiana, with all the territory west of it, is ceded to the United States by France. The whole

gives a valuable insight into the early history of the republic, and its issue is a creditable evidence of enterprise on the part of the *Intelligencer*.

#### Some Marriages Several Decades Ago.

An old resident handed the RECORD a memorandum of some marriages early in the century, performed by elder Joel Rogers:

Jan. 4, 1821—Benajah P. Bailey and Parma Parsons, at her father's house in Wilkes-Barre Township, now Laurel Run. Parma Parsons was a daughter of Hezekiah Parsons, born in Connecticut in 1803, and was a sister of Calvin Parsons. She died in Ithaca in 1826.

May 18, 1819—Jeremiah Smith and Caroline Bailey, at her father's house in Wilkes-Barre Township, now Plains. Caroline Bailey was sister of Benajah P. Bailey. After her marriage she lived where is now the residence of B. George Kulp in Wilkes-Barre.

July 13, 1819—Horace G. Phelps and Hannah Courtright, Plains. Hannah Courtright was a sister of Benjamin Courtright and an aunt of the late J. M. Courtright. Her husband was a brother of Sherman D. Phelps and uncle of the late John C. Phelps.

Jan. 23, 1820—Benjamin Courtright and Clarissa, daughter of Thomas Williams, first, Plains.

Feb. 24, 1820—Hiram Stark and Minerva Gore, Plains.

April 8, 1821—Arthur Smith and Lois Courtright, daughter of Rick Courtright, and Burton Courtright, who died at Orange a year or two ago.

May 20, 1821—Benjamin F. Bailey and Catherine Stark, Plains. She was a sister of squire John and squire James Stark and of the mother of Lawrence Myers.

Sept. 5, 1824—John Searle of Pittston and Mary Stark of Wilkes-Barre, sister of Catharine

March 17, 1825—Godfrey Jones and Elizabeth Lafferty, at John Holgate's, Laurel Run.

March 31, 1825—Elisha Blackman and Philena Searles, Plains.

July 30, 1825—Edward Bohn and Sibyl Gridley, Wilkes-Barre Borough. Her father was a cabinet maker.

Dec. 20, 1825—Daniel Searle and Joanna Stark, Plains.

Feb. 16, 1826—Lucius Utley and Catharine Kennedy, Plains.

Jan. 20, 1827—Dennis Kelley and Jemima Hogden. Mr. Kelley lived at now Five Points at that time.

Sept. 19, 1824—John Benedict and Sarah Armstrong of Pittston.

Elder Joel Rogers was the father of the present Dr. J. J. Rogers of Huntsville and grandfather of Dr. L. L. Rogers of Kingston.

He lived in North Wilkes-Barre where the Metzger or Buell block now stands, near the Jewish cemetery. He was a Baptist elder and lived here many years. He left here in 1828 and went to Huntington, where he died.

Benajah P. Bailey was a son of old Capt. Benj. Bailey of Jacob's Plains, now Plains. He had several brothers, Sydney, Benj. F., Benajah P., Avery Gore, Rev. Milton, now of Jamestown, N. Y., and Daniel G. of Trenton. Only the latter two are living.

Hezekiah Parsons, father of Calvin Parsons, was a guard at old Newgate Prison, Simsbury, Conn., in 1798-1799. One of the prisoners gave Mr. Parsons a copper plate and carved the latter's name on it. It is still in the son's possession.

#### Mr. Meginness's Historical Journal.

Such of the RECORD readers as are interested in local history will be sorry to hear that the recent effort of John F. Meginness to establish a historical magazine at Williamsport has not been met with such patronage as will warrant him in continuing its publication. Having completed volume two, the *Historical Journal* will not be continued. Mr. Meginness is a most industrious and painstaking historian and has gathered in his magazine a large quantity of important material, that will supplement his admirable history of the West Branch Valley, which not long ago appeared in new edition with much valuable material that was not in the original edition. The magazine which Mr. Meginness attempted was more elaborate and costly than a limited patronage would warrant. Perhaps if he would conduct a publication on the less expensive lines of Dr. Egle's *Notes and Queries*, which is a compilation of historical matter appearing in the *Harrisburg Telegraph*, he would find less difficulty in making the enterprise self sustaining. As to making it profitable, that is out of the question. The rescuing from oblivion of historical matter which would otherwise be lost must be its own reward. It does not earn any dollars.

#### EX-TREASURER CROCKETT.

The Late Octogenarian ex-Treasurer of Luzerne County Laid to Rest.

George A. Crockett, ex-treasurer of Luzerne County and father of county surveyor James Crockett, who died of pneumonia Feb. 25, 1895, was buried on Sunday in the Irish Lane Cemetery, near the old homestead, where he was born eighty years ago and where he has always lived. The services were held in the Irish Lane M. E. Church, Rev. J. Y. Brouse officiating. The pall bearers were Silas Lavelle, John Wandell, J. W. Seward, J. R. Seward, Bradley Harrison and Elijah Moore. Mr. Crockett was the oldest and one of the most highly respected citizens of Ross Township, and the people turned out en masse to pay a last tribute of respect. When Ross Township was organized in 1842 he was appointed justice of the peace, which office he held for many years, and his voice and influence were always strictly on the side of right. He is survived by a widow, Ann, and seven children—James, Charles, Robert P., Hannah (Shaw), Esther (Rummage), Martha (Wolfinger) and Sarah.

#### The King of Guinea's Daughter Dead.

LEBANON, Pa., Feb. 15, 1895.—Mrs. Harriet A. Eskins, whose father resigned as king of Guinea, died here yesterday, aged 111 years. She leaves two daughters, Frances J. Eskins of Williamsport and Mrs. H. A. Baker of this city, besides forty-four grandchildren, thirty-seven great-grandchildren, eighteen great-great-grandchildren and fourteen great-great-great-grandchildren.

#### The Late Mrs. Stiles.

Mrs. Rachel B. Stiles, who died on Monday forenoon, was one of the old residents of Luzerne County. She was born at Horseham, Montgomery County, April 29, 1814, and when a girl removed to Huntington Township, where she was married to Nathan D. Stiles of Town Hill. Her husband died in 1870, since which time she has lived in this city. One sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Shay, of Ambler, Pa., and three children survive her, E. W. Stiles of Duryea, Miss Martha Stiles and Mrs. J. M. Cressler of Wilkes-Barre. For three years Mrs. Stiles has been an invalid, and at times has suffered greatly. Her affliction, however, has been borne with patience and Christian fortitude. She was a faithful member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.



**Daniel J. Bardwell Dead.**

Daniel Jones Bardwell, familiarly known here as "Jed" Bardwell, a well known and highly respected citizen of Tunkhannock Township, died on Saturday morning at 7 o'clock at his home—the old Bardwell homestead—where he was born 62 years ago. He leaves a widow, six sons and two small daughters, besides a host of relatives and friends to mourn his loss. He had been in a bad way with Bright's disease for a good while but was about the house the night before, and apparently as well as for a long time past; was up and dressing himself in the morning when he called to his wife and on her reaching his side fell over, expiring in a few moments. Mr. Bardwell was the third son of Col. Daniel Bardwell, who settled about 1820 upon a piece of land one mile west of Tunkhannock, which he cleared up and made a valuable farm. Col. Daniel Bardwell raised here a family of four sons and three daughters, namely: William L. Bardwell, born Sept. 11, 1821, died in Forman, Dakota, July 2, 1884; Catherine M., wife of Charles T. Marsh, born September 11, 1823; George Harman Bardwell, lieutenant colonel 116th Pa. V., born September 11, 1827, died in Philadelphia January 23, 1886; Ann Maria, wife of F. M. Terwilligar, born March 17, 1831, died in Meshoppen, Pa., September 20, 1882; Daniel Jones Bardwell, the subject of this sketch, born March 17, 1833; Frances Elizabeth, wife of George N. Bunnell, born August 12, 1838, and Maj. H. Webster Bardwell, born June 2, 1845. The three surviving children, Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Bunnell and Maj. H. W., all reside in Tunkhannock. The deceased was a hard working practical farmer, and for many years past has conducted a milk dairy, supplying a large patronage in town. He was a consistent member of the M. E. Church, and always prominent in public affairs, where his counsels were always conservative and much respected. He was a lifelong Republican, a judicious adviser in party affairs, and was at the time of his death a member of the State central committee. Thus passes away another of the old landmarks. Peace to his ashes. The funeral took place at the M. E. Church on Monday afternoon at 2:30.

**Death of John P. Totten.**

John P. Totten, aged 76 years, died at his home in Wyoming Saturday, March 16, 1895. His health had been poor for several years, and on the 9th inst. a stroke of paralysis seized his left side, and in falling his hip was dislocated. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment at Wyoming cemetery. Rev. G. C. Lyman officiated. The pall bearers selected were R. K. Laycock, John Sharp,

Jacob I. Shoemaker, Samuel B. Shoemaker, James D. Green, Andrew J. Crouse. The deceased was well known in this valley. He leaves a widow and nine children—Samuel of Sioux City, Iowa; William of Windsor, N. Y.; Westbrook of Inkerman, this valley, and Lafayette, John and Amos of Wyoming, and Mrs. Niles, Mrs. Ridgway and Mrs. Slicker, also of Wyoming. He was born in Newburg, N. Y., son of Samuel Totten. In 1844 he married Miss Elizabeth Butler of Wilkes-Barre, who still survives. Mrs. Totten is a daughter of the late William L. Butler and was born in Wilkes-Barre.

Mrs. J. D. L. Harvey of Chicago is the only one living of the once large family.

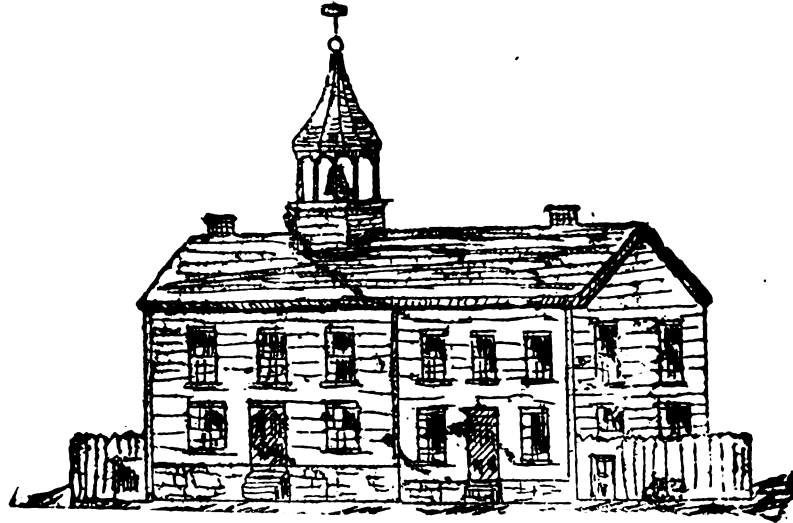
**Died at Nanticoke.**

Jeremiah Culp, an old resident of Nanticoke, died March 14, 1895, after lingering for a long time with dropsy and pneumonia. He was one of the early settlers there and could remember the time when Nanticoke had a population of only a few hundred. He was one of the charter members of Lape Post, G. A. R., and was 66 years of age. The following children survive him: George W., Andrew F., Mrs. Ellen Hawk, Mrs. Clara Boone, Mrs. Hattie Vivian and Miss Ida A. Culp.

**The Late Mrs. Day.**

Mrs. Sarah B. Day, formerly of this city, died at Burlington, N. J., Feb. 26, 1895, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. B. Howell. The funeral was held March 2 at 2 p. m. from the First Presbyterian Church of this city.

Mrs. Day had spent nearly her whole life in this city. She was a daughter of William Hibler, one of the most honored and respected of Wilkes-Barre's early citizens. She was 69 years of age and was the widow of Dr. Lawrence Day, a Wilkes-Barre physician, who died young, sincerely lamented. She was a sister of Mrs. Anna Yost of this city and Mrs. Henrietta Kutz of Philadelphia. She is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth, who has spent many years in missionary work in Brazil. She herself spent six years in Brazil engaged in missionary work. She was one of the founders some fifty years ago of the little Sunday school in South Wilkes-Barre, which developed into the Westminster Presbyterian Church, and was for years a worker in that Sunday school. She died greatly beloved by all who knew her.



### THAT OLD SCHOOL.

**The Old Temple of Learning That  
Used to Stand on the Square is Im-  
mortalized in Verse by S. H. Lynch,  
Esq.**

[The following poem appeared in the *Sunday Leader*, and is herewith printed through the courtesy of the proprietor.]

“As down the stream of time I swiftly go,  
Oft do I find me in an eddy’s flow,  
Which bears me back along youth’s sunny  
shore,  
And makes the stream seem swifter than  
before.”  
Once on a time in Eighteen-thirty-two  
When joys were plenty and when cares  
were few,  
When Hope’s bright pinions swept all  
clouds away,  
And life to me was one unclouded day,  
I found myself, a youth both small and  
spare,  
Seated in school upon the Public Square.  
How clear fond mem’ry brings the scene  
to view,  
The desks, the scholars, and the master  
too.  
Seated on high upon his splint-backed  
chair  
Behind his desk, he heard the classes there.  
Sometimes a culprit was compelled to  
stand

Close to his majesty, hold out his hand  
To meet his doom, and on his palm to  
bear  
That punishment e’en mercy could not  
spare.  
But oft the sentence would the rather be,  
“Go to your seat and learn your ‘jogra-  
phy.’”  
He ruled by love, made every duty plin,  
Was kind to all, his name was “Chamber-  
lain.”  
The ten-plate stove with oven large and  
wide  
Extending through the stove from side to  
side,  
As well adapted for a roast of pork  
As thawing ink-stands that were made of  
cork,  
Which, when they burst, as they would  
often do,  
Would make a most delicious, fragrant  
stew;  
Not quite so fragrant as the new mown  
hay,  
But much more pungent on a winter’s  
day.  
The very books in use remembered well;  
From “Webster’s Spelling Book” we  
learned to spell,  
And e’en to read, for there were fables,  
too,  
Which to our mental vision always true,  
Had each a moral, and a picture crude  
To illustrate the truth in ev’ry attitude.  
Then “Murray,” with the “English Read-  
er” came,

Goldsmith and Blair and other men of  
fame

Here reproduced in purest English prose  
And poetry, to test the skill of those  
Who, when in parsing would the lines  
transpose

To find the verb most active of the three,  
Or passive, neuter, as the case might be,  
The parts of speech, the nouns and pro-  
nouns, lest

They might not always stand the final test  
The application of Old Murray's rule,  
And not agree, in that distinguished school  
In number, person, as he says they must,  
We boys agreed the study dry as dust.

Within those ancient walls imparting  
knowledge

From A B C to fitting boys for college,  
No pens of steel were known, or then in  
use,

But simply quills from out some farmer's  
goose,

Which cut and fashioned by the master's  
skill,

Did all the writing for both "Jack and  
Jill"

From copies set to guide the pupil's hand  
Long ere we heard or knew of "Master  
Hand;"

And I remember how intensely then  
We bowed ourselves and struggled with  
that pen,

With tongue protruding and each pupil's  
face

Writhing in concert with a broad grimace,  
As if the writer using pen and ink

To follow copy would the moral drink.  
And ne'er forget, believing every word

"The pen is mightier, mightier than the  
sword."

Thus did our teachers sentiments instill,  
Or try to, through the medium of that  
quill.

And we had "Daboll" for our mathematics  
And "Blake's Philosophy" for Hydrostatics;

The former taught us figures never lie,  
As we would add, subtract, and multiply;

The latter, conversational the while  
Gave us our "physics" in a pleasing style.

And we had "Woodbridge" then, with  
"Atlas," too.

Descriptive of the earth, our interest grew  
As this we studied, for it gave us all

At that time known of this terrestrial ball.  
And then for History we studied "Hale",

That is the history within the pale  
Of our United States. For ancient lore

And higher branches, we must go next  
door,

And climb for fame up second story stairs  
Where we all thought the pupils put on  
airs,

But when in course of time we got there  
too,

We wondered how we ever thought it true.

The "Upper School", as it was called those  
days,

Was somewhat better in its means and  
ways,

For there the boys and girls were older,  
and the floor

Extended to the rostrum from the door.  
The desks along each window lighted side,

Leaving the center quite unoccupied  
Save for the old wood stoves, in number,

two,  
Which in the winter, fed with wood which  
grew

On the surrounding hills, gave grateful  
heat

Diffusing comfort to the farthest seat.  
But what with Greek, and Latin, and re-  
nown

This school considered best in this old  
town

Was occupied with Females on the right,  
And Males upon the left, so it was quite

A trial of our courage, when the day came  
round

That all the orators by law were bound  
To mount the stage and make their bow,

And "speak a piece" the best that they  
knew how,

Facing the school, and worst of all, the  
girls

With eyes of black or blue, entrancing curls,  
All staring at you, and your blushing face

And trembling limbs to add to your dis-  
grace,

And voice so weak, and memory wander-  
ing far

As you proclaimed "My voice is still for  
war,"

Or "My name is Norval, On the Grampion  
Hills

My father feeds his flocks," while the cold  
chills

Are running down your spine enough to  
freeze

Your blood, and your weak knees  
Are knocking 'gainst each other

Until you really do not know the one from  
tother.

And growing desperate with shame and  
rage

You scrape your foot and stumble from  
the stage.

On Saturday another trial came,  
To read a composition weak and lame;

'Twas easy work to write a lot of stuff  
Reflecting on the master, who was rough

At times, and we boys didn't like him,  
And this was all the way we had to strike

him.

On one occasion, the boys were well aware  
That one among us had composed with  
care

A composition, which when it was read  
Would bring down vengeance on his guilty  
head,

But conning the result, in fear and doubt  
When time was called, his courage all oozed  
out.

"I'm not prepared", he said, with guilty  
look,

And hid his manuscript within his book.  
But expectation was on tip toe now,  
And disappointed of a coming row,  
The boys proclaimed his falsehood to the  
school

And our poor author looked e'en like a fool.  
No mercy did they show, no not a bit,

"We know he has a composition writ,  
"For we have seen it with our very eyes,  
"And when he says he hasn't then he lies."  
The master bade him read it, then and  
there,

But "Charley" with a wild and vacant  
stare

Sat silent as a victim of despair.

"Will you obey me sir?" the master cries,  
And from his old armchair we see him  
rise

While anger to subdue he vainly tries,  
And rushing down with eager, hasty  
stride

He seized the poker which lay just beside  
The ten plate stove, 'twas long and stout,  
A blow from that would lay the culprit  
out.

And springing up upon the bench above,  
He looked the picture of avenging Jove,  
When raising high the weapon o'er his  
head

As though determined he would strike him  
dead.

The school transfixed with terror turned  
away

And hid their eyes upon that fearful fray  
Until they hear a voice as thunder-like  
Cry out quite tragic, "Strike, Silvester,  
strike!"

This brought the house down, and the  
master too,

And our respect for "Charley" quickly  
grew

As we acknowledged he had won the day  
Though after school the master bade him  
stay.

The ways of boys and girls in school to-  
gether,

While Human Nature, just the same as  
ever,

Revealed itself in many curious ways,  
One of which was that in those halcyon  
days

A Postoffice, which, as we now recall,  
Was simply carried on within the wall  
Of the old Meeting House across the way  
By working hard when they were out at  
play

In digging out a stone, thus leaving space  
For notes and letters—'twas a secret place  
Known to but few, but that they knew it  
well,

Both boys and girls, it were not hard to  
tell,

And many a love note, not left long alone,  
Was thus conveyed from out that wall of  
stone.

The boys were full of mischief then, as  
now,

And many a trick they played, and many  
a row.

Some teachers were so heartily disliked  
That had they been a cannon, they'd been  
spiked,

But being only made of common clay,  
The boys devised to annoy them every  
way

That deviltry suggested, one of which  
To hide the ruler or to burn the switch.

Encouraged by success, they farther went  
And to blockade the door much time was  
spent

To keep him out, but this was not enough,  
They filled the oven of the stove with  
snuff,

Which, when the fires were lighted, drove  
us out

And put the whole school in a noisy rout.  
Again they filled the stove pipe up with  
wood,

And then upon the Public Square they  
stood

To see the ending of their reckless joke  
And thus their "alma mater" end in  
smoke.

But while they waited, and all stood aloof,  
One, "Daniel Collings," mounted on the  
roof

While others passed up water in their  
pails,

And single handed, he the fire assails,  
And put it out, else that had been the last  
Of the old school, and memories of the past  
All that was left of this old house of fame  
Once "Court House," "Jail," "Academy,"  
by name.

Again did mischief, which they thought  
was fun,

Asserts itself until the deed was done,  
In sawing off the steeple posts at night,  
A deed that was too evil for the light,

And pulled it down to let the people know  
How far malicious mischief then could go.  
What pleasure they could find 'twas hard  
to see

Save vent their spite on the Academy.  
Now in our school days, holidays were  
rare,

So few, that to our minds 'twas hardly  
fair.

But half a day on Saturday each week  
Whether we studied A, B, C or Greek,  
"Old Michael" kept us up to time quite  
well,

At nine o'clock and two, he rang the bell  
On the Old Church that stood across the  
way,

And made us scurry when we were at play.  
 We might be playing mumblypag or ball,  
 He had no sympathy with us at all,  
 And so we ran for school with hardly breath  
 To cry out "Give me Liberty or Give me Death!"  
 To sit in school upon a summer day  
 And watch the flies above our heads at play,  
 Darting athwart a sunbeam back and forth,  
 Playing at tag for all that they were worth,  
 As if to tantalize our being there  
 And sitting still, while they were free as air  
 Would cause what little minds we youngsters had  
 To wander o'er the meadows, flower clad,  
 And listen to the birds, the cheerful clink  
 Of one we always loved, the Bobolink,  
 And see him raise in varied colored coat  
 From out the grass, and in the air to float,  
 Then settle down upon some slender reed  
 And swing himself, was liberty indeed.  
 But who in summer when the air was hot  
 Does like the school house, or does like it not?  
 But loves sweet liberty in which to roam  
 Along the river margin near his home,  
 And listen to the birds in sweetest song,  
 And have some boon companion go along  
 To chase the rabbits, or to fight the bees,  
 To steal a boat and sail on inland seas,  
 Mayhap to fish or else a swimming go  
 That wouldn't do it I should like to know.  
 So playing "hookey" often was our will  
 Though knowing well the penalty, yet still  
 When weighed and balanced with fun that led it  
 We always found a margin to our credit,  
 The punishment ne'er thought of while we roam  
 But the reminder came when we got home,  
 An then again, when we got back to school,  
 So twice we got a licking as a rule,  
 Yet notwithstanding all, we still would do it  
 Time and again, though well we knew we'd rue it.  
 Some from this school went forth to carve a name  
 High on the Temple of their Country's fame;  
 Still others, ere they left to enter life  
 Had carved their name with an old "Barlow knife"  
 Upon the desk or bench, without a thought or care  
 Of youthful folly that had placed it there.  
 As others too we must not overlook  
 Inscribed their name in some old dog-eared book,

Leaving a gulde-board on the title page  
 To point a moral for the coming age,  
 In this sententious warning, terse and brief,  
 Inscribed in crabbed hand on the fly-leaf:  
 "Steal not this book, my honest friend,  
 "For fear the 'gallus' be your end,  
 "And if my name you wish to see  
 "Look at page sixty-three."  
 Then closed the book and left it to its fate  
 Shut out from sight and mem'ry from that date.  
 Like some old friend of whom I set great store  
 Returned to greet me from a foreign shore  
 So does the past come back; again I see  
 The Public Square as then it used to be,  
 With church, and Court House and Academy;  
 The market house with rows of hooks and stall,  
 The old Town Pump, its handle, spout and all,  
 And never can forget the taste or smell  
 Of the foul water from that ancient well.  
 The school is gone from off the Public Square  
 And of the boys and girls once gathered there  
 How few are left to reminisce with me  
 The glories of the old Academy.

#### The Teachers from 1830.

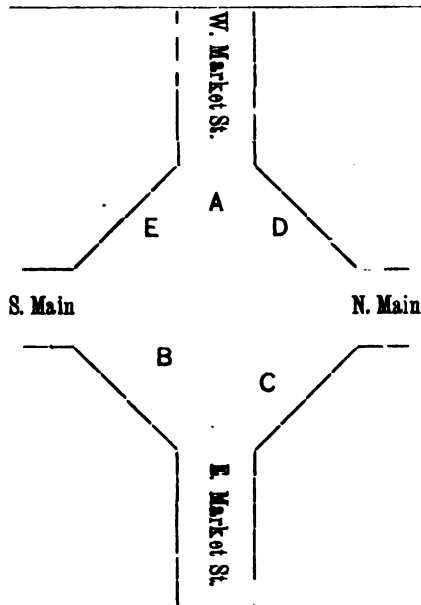
First Noah Webster's son began his rule,  
 Then "Chamberlin" succeeded to the school.  
 The next in order to assume the part,  
 Was one, the father of Professor Hart.  
 The next that I remember, too anon,  
 Was one who ruled by might, his name St. John;  
 And many will remember one e'en now  
 That faithful teacher, Jeremiah Dow.  
 Within the higher school, imparting knowledge,  
 Was Dr. Orton, fitting boys for college;  
 And Daniel Ullman, whom I often saw  
 Was afterwards distinguished in the law,  
 Then followed Siewers, Dickenson went past,  
 Then Dana, who not least, at least was last.  
 For my own pleasure, in this way I've tried  
 To see the Old Academy diversified,  
 And hope the others as I have expected  
 Be also pleased to see it resurrected.

\*The late Judge Waller, of Honesdale, Pa.

## BOROUGH MEMORIES.

### Thoughts Brought Out by the Change of Lock-up

From the Present Site on Butler Alley  
to the Side of the New City Hall  
—Former Municipal Bastiles and  
Some Historical Incidents Attached  
to Them — Old Wilkes-Barre's  
Lock-up.



A—Old market house. B—Old court house. C—Public office. D—Old academy. E—Old church.

At the last meeting of city council a resolution was adopted that arrangements be made for the purchase of the property next to the new city building so that a good and substantial lock-up building and patrol house be erected upon the site, thus vacating the

old lock-up building on Butler alley which has been in use since the organization of the borough into a city.

A RECORD reporter started out yesterday afternoon to get a history of the old Butler alley building and after interviewing a dozen of the older residents of town ran across an interesting train of recollections of old Wilkes-Barre.

Referring to the minutes of the old borough council the reporter found that on June 23, 1857, the secretary of the council was directed to fit up the basement rooms of the Academy on the Public Square for a calaboose or lock-up or station house for the borough, not to exceed \$55 in cost. This is the first recollection of any lock-up for the community. The location of the old Academy on Public Square will be noted by referring to the above diagram.

The old court house is the structure that preceded the present court house, and the "public office" to the right of it was popularly known as the "fire proof," a brick structure in which were stored the county records.

The church noted to the left was what was known as the Old Ship Zion, erected as a sort of union church. Old residents still remember the troublous times that ensued after the erection of this edifice, the various denominations striving to get possession. For a while it was used by the Presbyterians and afterwards came into the possession of the Methodists, who abandoned it along the '40s and erected a separate meeting house where the First M. E. Church now stands.

The old academy was in its time a popular institution and was attended by some of the most prominent residents of this city. One of these is Judge Woodward, who was prepared for college in the Public Square academy. The president at that time was a Rev. W. Armstrong, who later went to Harrisburg, and Mrs. Brooks had charge of the ladies' department. This was along towards 1850.

The borough lockup was located in the basement of this old academy for only a few years, from 1857. In about 1860 the first movement began for the erection of a separate lockup in Butler alley on the site of the present building.

Judge Woodward was at that time an enthusiastic member of the borough fire department, and so anxious was he for the

erection of a building in which the old engine might be kept that he himself set about raising the money for the structure, and he advanced a sum sufficient for the brick work and other material and took a bond for the amount from the borough council. The judge's engine house was built of brick and stone, and the borough lockup was moved from the old academy into this new structure in about 1858 or 1859.

July 10, 1872, the committee on public property of council verbally reported that it was impracticable to remodel the present lockup and recommended that an entirely new building be constructed on the present site. The report was accepted and a committee was authorized to procure plans and estimates and proceed at once to the construction of a building not exceeding a cost of \$8,000. Then came an agitation not unlike the present court house controversy. Some of the members of the first city council—Wilkes-Barre having then been organized into a city—advocated the erection of a more substantial building on the site where the new city building now stands at a cost of about \$90,000. Accordingly Judge Lynch, then a member of council, secured a Philadelphia architect, who made plans for a building to cost \$98,000, one which should be a credit to the prosperous young city. The scheme did not, however, materialize, and on July 20, 1872, we find a report of the public property committee, submitting plans and specifications for a new station house in Butler alley. On motion of George H. Parrieh, the committee was authorized to contract and build a station house according to plans at a cost not to exceed \$10,000, and on motion Judge Lynch, then plain Mr. Lynch, was added to the committee during the construction.

On August 31, 1872, councilman Lynch submitted proposals of M. B. Houpt at \$11,000. The proposals were accepted, the contract let and the president and clerk were directed to execute a contract with Mr. Houpt.

The same date, August 31, 1872, we find that the building committee—Charles A. Miner, Herman Frey, John Lyach, W. Sterling, C. P. Kidder and D. L. O'Neill—executed a contract with Mr. Houpt for \$11,000, to be paid as follows: 75 per cent. of the value of the work as it progresses and the remaining 25 per cent. on a note of ninety days, bearing interest at 6 per cent., the

building to be completed on or about January 1, 1873.

The land upon which the building was erected and the previous lockup and engine house was conveyed by deed made between the borough council and George W. Woodward of Philadelphia and his wife Sarah, in consideration of the sum of \$480, the date being Sept. 1, 1861.

When the new building was completed in 1873 the first mayor of Wilkes-Barre, Ira M. Kirkendall, moved into it and occupied it, together with the police force, the lockup being in the basement as now. The RECORD several months ago printed the names of the first members of the first city police force and where they are now. The mayors have been: June, '71, to June, '74, Ira M. Kirkendall; June, '74, to February, '87, M. A. Kearney; April, '77, to April, '80, W. W. Loomis; April, '80, to February, '86, Thomas Brodriek; February, '86, to April, '92, C. B. Sutton; April, '92, to —, F. M. Nichols.

### SOME LANDMARKS GOING.

#### The Old Mill Near Wyoming and the Half-Way House at Plainsville.

One of the oldest landmarks in Wyoming Valley is now being demolished, a building around which cluster many of the associations of Wyoming's most momentous times. A few days ago the old Tuttle mill near the stone bridge on the main road between Forty Fort and Wyoming fell in and workmen are taking out the primitive wooden machinery. The heavy snows of last winter crushed the roof and the building collapsed. It was to this mill that farmers from all over this and adjoining counties took their corn and wheat to grind. The products were shipped from here to Easton by stage to obtain a market. It was built by the Tuttle family over a century ago.

Another landmark built eighty years ago is the old Half-Way House at Plainsville, which is also in course of demolition. It was recently purchased by contractor Mitchell of Plainsville, who will put up a modern residence. It was the stopping place of the people of several generations past.

## LEXINGTON ANNIVERSARY

### And Daughters of the American Revolution

Joint Celebration in the Historical Society's Rooms—Eloquent Address of Dr. Warfield, President of Lafayette College—A Patriotic Commemoration of the First Blow for American Independence.

Quite a pleasant and patriotic affair was the joint anniversary of the battle of Lexington and of the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, celebrated Friday afternoon in the rooms of the Wyoming Historical and Geological society under the auspices of the Daughters.

As the seating space was limited the society could not throw the doors open to the general public, but nearly all of those who by reason of ancestral considerations or other reasons have more than a passing interest in the stirring events of infant America, found seats before the speakers, forming a distinguished audience.

The library hall was gaily decorated in a patriotic way. There were flags everywhere about the walls, suspended from the doors and forming a canopy over the head of the speaker, and beautiful flowers and palms fringed in some places the national emblem.

The Daughters of the American Revolution occupied seats on either side of the hall, and the regent of the chapter, Mrs. W. H. McCartney, occupied the seat of honor at the table.

Oppenheim's orchestra in an adjoining room played a medley of patriotic airs, blended with the soul-satisfying strains of "Home, Sweet Home," and then Rev. Dr. Hodge offered prayer, thanking Almighty God for the blessing of universal liberty and the heroic spirit of those forefathers who were nerved to strike the blow for independence.

Regent Mrs. W. H. McCartney then eloquently introduced Dr. Warfield, president

of Lafayette College, and one of the foremost scholars of the day, referring to his notable ancestral lineage, several of his ancestors having become nationally famed in the battles and struggles of the young republic, having won renown on the field and in the halls of legislation. Mrs. McCartney also referred to the battle of Lexington, fought 120 years ago Friday, and of the origin of the society of which she is an honored member.

Dr. Warfield's address chained the attention of his auditors for one-half an hour. It abounded with eloquent periods and descriptive language and will be pleasantly and profitably remembered by those fortunate enough to hear it. He started out by referring to the effort in behalf of patriotism put forth by such societies as the Daughters of the American Revolution and then dwelt for a moment upon the battle of Lexington, the first blow for American independence. He characterized it as singular that this blow should not have been struck by Americans themselves but by an invading and domineering force from the outside and upon a field which had not been intended as a field of battle.

After a few general remarks along the line of the philosophy of national government, Dr. Warfield spoke of Lexington in relation to other crises in the history of nations. He referred to Marathon and Thermopylae and their effect on the history of those times. "We look down the line of history," said the speaker, "and we see these great turning points, and the question is, do they work out rightness, righteousness and simplicity of character, or do they work for conquest merely and have their ephemeral consequences fall into decay?"

The battle of Lexington is rather to be classed with those uprisings of people where men with sober minds do what their consciences dictate and believe it to be for the good of their country. Looked at from one point of view, Lexington was simply an assertion of law and order, but on the other hand it was the effort of a united people, an effort in which all classes threw aside class considerations of wealth, social preference or other things that might make one person different from his neighbor, and all were enthusiastic in a common cause. We hear the same cry echoing over the New England hills and see all the people imbued with the same spirit and going on for peace and freedom.



The speaker referred to the trivial causes for which the battles of the ancients were fought, founded upon the whims of the knighthood of the day, and resulting in slight carnage compared with the destructive warfare of modern times. The idea that war was a mere plaything had fastened itself upon the popular mind, and it was hard to understand that here in infant America all people were fighting in a common and patriotic interest and were all on a common level.

Dr. Warfield referred to Lexington as the culmination of great forbearance. We had suffered many hardships, but we were not to strike the first blow. The consequences of the Boston massacre had demonstrated that the American people were on the side of eternal justice and eternal truth, and that they had decided to submit their cause to the judgment of the tribunal of Him whose judgment is absolute truth.

A beautiful description of the battle of Lexington was given—the little band of patriots gathered on the New England hill, who then had no thoughts of a battle, the hurried order to disperse from the opposing commander, the firm stand by the patriots, the unerring aim of the flintlock rifles of the backwoodsmen, the shot of the embattled farmers that echoed around the world, and the battle for freedom was begun. The consequences of that day were just as eloquently referred to—the retreat that became a rout, the sorrow of the sympathizers of the colonial battles in the English parliament, and the final sequel—the complete overthrow of those who endeavored to oppress justice.

He referred to the influence of Lexington upon the governments of the world and particularly to the fact that the lessons it taught prompted England to be governed by a crowned democracy, and the fact that the modern principle of arbitration has attained to such great favor, teaching nations to build the walls of a country out of the rocks that are hewn from peace and not out of the bayonets from fields of battle.

The heterogeneous complexion of our population was referred to, the degeneracy of the English language in our common schools in favor of a mixture of words of dissimilar languages, and the fact that America presents a wide field for all classes of people, who seem to look upon it from their homes of oppression and depression and seem to say

“here is a nice feast, come and let us enjoy it.” The unification of these elements, the perpetuity of American institutions, the keeping alive of the fire of patriotism depends upon the patriotic people America has reared. He exhorted the members to not let such societies as these degenerate. Let them not be for the glorification of ancestors or of the members themselves, but let the members show their appreciation of the efforts of their ancestors by glorifying the institutions of their country and working so that all citizens may become a liberty loving people.

This was the trend of Dr. Warfield's remarks.

Judge Rice then arose and referred to the eloquent and patriotic address and to the esteem entertained for the learned speaker, and moved for a vote of thanks, which was unanimously passed.

The singing of “America” and benediction by Rev. Dr. Jones concluded the occasion.

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#### April Snow in 1847.

Calvin Parsons, speaking of the weather to-day, remarked that forty-eight years ago yesterday there was two feet of snow in this vicinity. Previous to April 22 of that year—1847—there had been fine weather. Potatoes were all planted and he had peas six inches over ground. The snow did not last long, but while it remained on the ground the only logging of the season was done.—[Leader, April 23

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S. Judson Stark has come into possession, through Hiram Marcy of Nicholson Township, of a lot of relics of Revolutionary times, which formerly belonged to Zebulon Marcy, one of the first settlers in this region. They consist of a surveyor's outfit used by Mr. Marcy in making original surveys of this section and were manufactured in England for William Poyntelle, one of William Penn's surveyors, of whom Mr. Marcy learned the business, and are in so good a state of preservation that they could be used now as well as ever.

## RICHARD SHARPE'S DEATH.

### The Life of a Good Man and an Honored Citizen—A Pioneer in the Coal Business.

Richard Sharpe, aged 82 years, one of the oldest residents of this city, who died at his residence on West River street at 11 o'clock on Sunday night after an illness of about two months, as noted in Tuesday's issue briefly, will be greatly missed in the community in which he lived. A kind hearted, open handed and genial gentleman, his personality made itself felt wherever he went.

He was the son of Richard and Mary S. Sharpe and was born at Langham, Rutlandshire, England, on the 10th of April, 1813, and continued to live there until the fall of 1826.

In the old parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul at Langham, in the yard of which his ancestors for generations lie buried, the subject of this sketch was baptized. This church, a fine specimen of ecclesiastical architecture, said to have been built in 1235 by Cardinal Simon de Langham, archbishop of Canterbury, was restored about a quarter of a century ago at the suggestion of Mr. Sharpe, who, when proposing the scheme, made sure it would be carried out by contributing liberally to the fund for that purpose.



In his thirteenth year he came to this country with his father, stepmother and brother, William. He came almost directly to this valley and remained here until the year 1838, when he went to Summit Hill, Carbon County, in this State. He became bookkeeper for Messrs. Davis & Brodhead, coal operators at that place, and remained with them in that capacity for several years.

#### RICHARD SHARPE.

In 1845 he entered into partnership with Ira Courtright, George Belford and John Leisenring and engaged in the mining of anthracite coal, which occupation he pursued for a large part of his earthly career. A few years later Francis Weiss became a member of the same firm.

In 1847 he was married to Sally Patterson, daughter of Thomas Patterson of Londonderry, Ireland, and Mary Denison, who was the daughter of Col. Nathan Denison, a resident of this valley who figured prominently in the early times of Wyoming.

Early in his career deceased began to show the characteristics which brought him success—diligence, persistence, integrity and fidelity. The qualities of mind and heart which go to make the true Christian and the true gentleman he had to a marked degree. He and his partners were pioneers in anthracite coal mining, and the methods of carrying on their operations and transporting the coal to market were, when they began, of the most primitive sort. Mr. Sharpe having had an experience of half a century and more was an authority on almost all matters connected with the business, his opinion being universally respected and much sought for by other operators. During the labor troubles when the Molly Maguires were the scourge of the coal fields and struck terror to the hearts of many an operator it is said that he went quietly from place to place working diligently as he always did and seemed not to know what fear was.

In 1854 the old partnership was changed by the withdrawal of Mr. Courtright and the addition of A. W. Foster. They examined the coal lands of lower Luzerne County, and being satisfied that it was a favorable field made a long lease with the Touch Coxe estate for lands which were then an unbroken though beautiful wilderness. Subsequent events proved the wisdom of their choice. They lay in what is now Foster Township. To the village they founded, now called Eckley, they gave the name of Fill-

more. Their first colliery was called Council Ridge colliery, on account of a council once held there by Indians. This coal was widely celebrated for its excellent quality and for its careful preparation.

This firm of Sharpe, Leisenring & Co., (afterwards Sharpe, Weiss & Co.,) established an office at 303 Walnut street, Philadelphia, and this was their headquarters till their lease expired in 1874. In 1865, Messrs. Sharpe & Weiss, old friends and partners, purchased the coal lands in Newport Township, now leased and being worked by the Alden Coal Co., of which these two men owned a great part of the stock. At the time of his death Mr. Sharpe was president of this company. He was also a director of the Vulcan Iron Works and the Home for Friendless and senior warden of St. Stephen's Church.

Baptized in infancy in the Protestant Episcopal Church, he has for long years been a faithful communicant and one to whom the rector always turned for help of any sort.

While helpful in the establishment of all the charitable institutions of this city, he responded generously to the many calls both at home and abroad for aid in missionary and Christian work.

He is survived by his wife, a son, Richard Sharpe, Jr., and four daughters.

#### THE FUNERAL

Looking almost as natural as in life lay the remains of Richard Sharpe Wednesday afternoon at his residence on West River street. While the gloom of death spread its pall over all, yet the relatives and friends turned their eyes to the cofined remains with the consoling thought that a long life had been ended with the blessed benediction of the supremest faith—"well done thou good and faithful servant." And as if in accord with the beautiful life just closed, nature's purest and fairest creations were scattered profusely about—cut roses, ferns and palms—and spread a touch of brightness over the gloom. Services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones, assisted by Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge and Rev. Dr. Coxe. Rev. H. H. Welles of Forty Fort and Rev. N. G. Parke of West Pittston were also present. A quartet composed of David James, Mr. Johns, Miss DeMols and Mrs. Thomas sang. The honorary pall bearers were: W. B. Whitney, N. Butler, William Hill, Hon. C. A. Miner, Dr. J. S. Wentz, Francis Weiss, Reuben Leisenring, W. S. McLan, Charles Hunt, M. S. Kemmerer, George H. Myers and Butler

Hillard. The carriers were: K. M. Smith, B. S. Patterson, F. N. Cox, A. P. Childs, S. J. Czechoniz, Fred Moon.

Among the coal operators and others present from a distance were: Senator John Leisenring, Upper Lehigh; George H. Myers, Bethlehem; W. B. Whitney, Philadelphia; Mahlon Kemmerer, Mauch Chunk; William Hill, manager of the George B. Newton Co.; Dr. Wentz, Silver Brook; George Ruddle, agent for the L. C. & N. Co.; Francis R. Saare, Reuben Leisenring, Hazleton; Francis Weiss, Bethlehem; W. O. Kent, Philadelphia; John Ruddle, Mauch Chunk; Truman Dodson, Bethlehem. Many of the employes of the company were also in attendance.

At noon the employes of the Alden Coal Co., 110 in number, went to the Sharpe residence and filed through the room in which the body lay and viewed the remains.

## INDEPENDENCE HALL DESERTED.

Philadelphia Councils Leave the "Birth Place of Liberty."

PHILADELPHIA, March 7.—The members of select and common councils met for the last time to-day in historic Independence Hall. Since 1854 the city fathers have assembled in the old State House, but on next Thursday they will begin the occupancy of the more palatial, if not as celebrated quarters in the \$17,000,000 City Hall. As a finale, the councilmen stood with bared heads in the driving rain this afternoon while a photographer snapped "the birth place of liberty." The councilman's chambers in Independence Hall will hereafter be utilized by patriotic organizations.

### A Pioneer of this Region.

Daily Record, March 8, 1895.

Mrs. John Meginness, whose serious illness of pneumonia was noted in yesterday's RECORD, died at her home in Larksville yesterday morning at 5:45 at the ripe age of 81 years. The deceased was born in Wilkes-Barre and was the daughter of a Mr. Hoffman, one of Wilkes-Barre's oldest residents, who lived to the age of 98 years. She has lived in Larksville for upwards of sixty years. She is survived by a husband and four children—Mrs. George Ferguson of West Pittston, Mrs. J. L. Pace of Kingston and John and David Meginness of Kingston. Edward Mackin of this city is a nephew of the deceased.

## WYOMING COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION.

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### Report of Exercises at the Monument July 3, 1894.

Magnificent weather favored the commemorative exercises at Wyoming July 3, 1894, and the attendance was large and enthusiastic. The ample canvas was spread and it proved none too large for the throng. The monument was hung with flags and at its base was a profusion of roses. Seated alongside of President Calvin Parsons were Vice Presidents Charles A. Miner and Benjamin Dorrance, also Dr. J. R. Gore of Chicago, State Librarian Egle and the participants in the program.

The occasion was graced by the presence of a numerous delegation of the Daughters of the American Revolution, under the lead of their Regent, Mrs. W. H. McCartney. The Sons of the Revolution also attended in a body, wearing their badges. There were also present numerous visitors from various neighboring towns. The exercises were agreeably interspersed with selections by the Ninth Regiment Band, present in uniform.

After Rev. Dr. George Frear had made the opening prayer, Capt. Calvin Parsons made a brief and informal address as Chairman. He alluded to his first appearance as a soldier on this spot in 1833. He was delighted that the large tent was so well occupied, and said another would be had if necessary. Only few of the old men survived he said, but it was good to see them still coming to the monument each 3rd of July, and with larger and more interested audiences each year.

Led by the orchestra, the audience rose and sang, with excellent effect, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," a selection

that is never omitted from the 3rd of July programs. The singing was hearty and enthusiastic.

The speaker of the day was Judge Sylvester Dana, of Concord, N. H., a grandson of Anderson Dana, who perished at Wyoming in 1778. His subject was "The Fatherland of the First Wyoming Settlers," by which, of course, he referred to Connecticut. The address, though not voluminous, was an interesting historical study of the early settlements of Connecticut and of some of the institutions of that State. The address dealt only indirectly with Wyoming.

Frank Stewart of Berwick read and recited a clever bit of original versification, "A Legend of Wild Wyoming," in which the "grasshopper war" figured.

Sidney R. Miner's paper was devoted to the consideration of the Indian fury, Queen Esther, and the part she is said to have played in the battle of Wyoming. That she was not a myth was conclusively shown by historical data. It was an admirable study, well delivered and was received with every evidence of interest. It was particularly acceptable to the Daughters of the American Revolution, who have been trying to purchase the historic rock on which the Indian fury dashed out the brains of the prisoners, hoping to save it from further vandalism.

Rev. J. Richards Boyle of Wilkes-Barre was down for a brief address, but was detained by a funeral.

Sketches of two deceased Vice Presidents were read—of the late L. D. Shoemaker, by George B. Kulp, Esq., and of the late Dr. H. Hollister of Scranton, by Wm. A. Wilcox, Esq., of Scranton.

Dr. J. R. Gore, of Chicago, was called on and spoke informally. He said five of his ancestors gave up their lives on Wyoming's bloody field—three Gores, Timothy Pearce and John Murphy. He was glad to be here on this anniversary occasion. When he left here as a small

boy, seventy years ago, his mind was full of what he had heard from the lips of survivors of the battle and he had been afraid to be out alone at night, so dreadful were the stories he had heard. As to Queen Esther being a myth, he had never heard her reality or the stories of her cruelty doubted until a year or two ago. In his boyhood days Queen Esther was considered as real as Col. Butler or Gen. Sullivan. Dr. Gore is past eighty-three years of age, but is hale and hearty and blessed with both good sight and hearing.

Following<sup>s</sup> is the program:

1. MUSIC—March—"Old Comrade," . . . . . *Alexander*  
Ninth Regiment Band.
2. PRAYER— . . . . . Rev. George Frear, D. D.
3. MUSIC—Fantasia—"A Talc," . . . . . *Bach*  
Ninth Regiment Band.
4. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS— . . . . . Capt. Calvin Parsons
5. MUSIC—"Meditation," . . . . . *Jules Genee*  
Ninth Regiment Band.
6. HYMN—"America," . . . . . Orchestra and Audience
7. HISTORICAL ADDRESS— Judge Sylvester Dana, Concord, N. H.  
"The Fatherland of the First Settlers."
8. MUSIC—"Nocturne Die Holde," . . . . . *Grossheim*  
Ninth Regiment Band.

9. BRIEF ADDRESSES— . . . . . { Sidney R. Miner, Esq.  
Rev. J. Richards Boyle, D D.  
Frank Stewart, Esq.
10. MUSIC—"Sanctus, 12th Mass," . . . . . *Mozart*  
Ninth Regiment Band.
11. NECROLOGY— { Dr. H. Hollister, . . . . . Wm. A. Wilcox, Esq.  
Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, . Geo. B. Kulp, Esq.
12. BENEDICTION— . . . . . Rev. W. A. Beecher
13. MUSIC—March—"Return of the Troops," . . . . . *Eilenberg*  
Ninth Regiment Band.
14. "TAPS."



## HISTORICAL ADDRESS

—BY—

Judge Sylvester Dana,

OF CONCORD, N. H.,

**“The Fatherland of the First Settlers.”**

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*Mr. President of The Wyoming Commemorative Association,  
and Friends, generally :*

I know not why I have been invited to address you upon this occasion unless it be from the fact that I am a grandson of an early settler of this beautiful valley—Anderson Dana—who was a victim of the terrible massacre which you this day commemorate.

Sixteen years ago to-day I came here with thousands of others to celebrate the centennial of that event. Here I met only three others who were the grandchildren of that worthy man. To-day those three, and so far as can be ascertained, all of his grandchildren, more than forty in number, excepting myself, are sleeping the sleep of death. I alone am spared to be with you upon this occasion. Excuse this personal allusion.

Numerous associations like yours, Mr. President, have been organized within a few years in various parts of the land. Having chiefly in view the perpetuation of historical events of a local nature, and incidentally those of a wider range.

Such associations tend to keep up the fires of patriotism, already burning too low, and to hold up before rising generations good examples for their imitation, as well



as personifications of evil for their avoidance and contempt ; for, as Patrick Henry intimated, there is no way to judge of the future but by the past.

During the latter part of the last century, when the participators in our Revolutionary struggle were alive, how valuable would have been the agency of such organizations, had they existed, in reserving many important particulars of that momentous contest from oversight and eternal oblivion! Do you suppose that if such an organization had then existed and had sufficiently recognized its mission, there would be an active controversy now going on in the East as to who was the officer in chief command at the battle of Bunker Hill? Whether Gen. Putman or Col. Prescott? No, that question would have been settled by the evidence of those then upon the stage and capable by personal knowledge to give it a definite solution, and the descendants and friends of those officers would not at this late day have deemed it necessary to rush into print in order to advocate the claims of their respective favorites.

The human race in every era must preserve its history—it will not otherwise be preserved.

I congratulate this association, Mr. President, upon its activity and usefulness during the sixteen years of its existence. It has, as I understand, had an anniversary at this time every year. On such occasions there have doubtless been rehearsed the prominent occurrences of your early history—the difficulties and hardships encountered by the first settlers of this valley—their negotiations with the Indians for their title—their controversies with the Pennamites for possession—their devotion to the cause of the Revolution, and lastly and chiefly their subjection to the awful massacre of 1778—the Bartholomew of the Western Continent.

On these themes, so familiar, I do not propose to dwell.

In ancient, very ancient times, the world was generally considered to be flat or so nearly so, and that the heavenly bodies revolved around it. But what supported the earth in its position? In their belief it was a huge elephant. But what did the elephant stand upon? The back of an immense turtle. And what did the turtle rest upon? The answer was more uncertain, but many thought that it rested on the coils of a tremendous serpent. What upheld the serpent? Nobody could tell. All beyond was indefinite and shadowy, and the speculations of the ancients extended no farther.

Now to draw an illustration from these ancient theories (which I admit is somewhat far fetched), I inquire what did this Wyoming world rest upon? It rested upon the back of the elephant Connecticut, from whence your first settlers came. Upon what did the Connecticut elephant stand? Upon the turtle back of old England, from whence came the settlers of Connecticut.

Now whether the English turtle rested upon the coils of a serpent of Roman, Danish or Norman origin I will not now inquire, but will proceed to call your attention to some of the incidents in the history of the Connecticut elephant upon which the Wyoming world is supposed to have rested. This I do with the greater freedom because of the fact that I am not a native of Connecticut, although my father and grandfather were born there. I have sought for historical data wherever I could find them, and can of course, make but little pretense to any special originality.

Soon after the success of the Pilgrims in making a permanent settlement at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1620, the emigration of those of kindred faith from England to these shores received a great impetus, amounting almost to a stampede.

The first white people, however, to occupy any portion of the domain of Connecticut were undoubtedly the Dutch. In the Spring of 1615, a Capt. Black who had

been compelled by the destruction of his vessel by fire, to pass the previous Winter upon the Island of Manhattan (now the City of New York), fitted out a small yacht, and coasting along the Northern shore of Long Island Sound, discovered the harbor of New Haven and the Connecticut River.

Nothing followed, however, until the year 1632, when the Dutch erected a fort a little below the present city of Hartford on the Connecticut River, for the purpose of controlling it and holding the adjacent lands. In 1633 a party of English emigrants in a sloop, boldly ascended the river and not heeding the order of the Dutch Commander of the fort to stop, passed by it, and landed at Windsor late in that year. There they erected a fort of such formidable appearance that the Dutch did not care to attack it the following year. Late in 1635 another attempt was made by emigrants from the Plymouth Colony to settle in the Connecticut Valley. They found the land covered with snow, and the provisions being soon exhausted, they nearly perished from starvation, and were only rescued from it by gathering acorns under the snow and by purchasing small quantities of corn from friendly Indians. Upon the advent of Spring many left and returned to settlements in Massachusetts.

These and other attempts to effect settlements in Connecticut prior to 1636, were substantial failures.

In the early years of the settlement of Massachusetts the towns of Dorchester, Newtown and Watertown contained some of the most worthy and enterprising people.

For reasons which cannot now be well understood, they were not in entire harmony with the inhabitants of the other towns of that colony, and they moreover desired more elbow-room, and farms more extensive and fertile than their limited and hard fields in Massachusetts.

They were made aware that there was, towards the setting sun, a majestic river, somewhat resembling your

Susquehanna yonder, only more majestic, from whose banks extended broad intervalles not surpassed by any in fertility—not even by those of the Nile Valley.

To this Eldorado a party consisting of about one hundred men, women and children under the lead of the Rev. Thomas Hooker, emigrated from these three Massachusetts towns, and permanently founded the three towns of Weatherfield, Hartford and Windsor in Connecticut, upon the river of that name, and also the town of Springfield in Massachusetts upon the same river, which was then supposed to be within the limits of the Connecticut colony.

This emigrating party travelled through an unbroken forest, with no guide but the compass, and no adequate protection from storms. They drove before them their cattle and hogs, and were a long time in reaching their destination; indeed, this was more of an undertaking than would be the emigration of an equal number of people at the present day, with the modern conveyances of steam-ships and railways, from here to Alaska.

These emigrants to Connecticut and their subsequent associates, were fortunately exempt from any serious troubles from the Indians in their immediate vicinity. These Indians, called River Indians, were divided into small tribes, of which the Mohegans were the most numerous. They had formerly suffered much from the warlike Pequots on the East, and from the equally warlike Mohawks on the West. Thinking that the settlement of the whites upon the river would afford them some protection against their ancient foes, they warmly welcomed the settlers and ever remained their friends and useful allies.

These Indians for a very moderate consideration at different times conveyed large tracts of valuable land to the settlers, who in after years endeavored to civilize and christianize them, resulting, however, with but little success.

While these happy relations existed with their swarthy neighbors, the settlers were constantly haunted with apprehensions of hostilities from the Mohawks, and from the Pequots. The former, however, gave but little trouble. They were at considerable distance, and not likely to make a raid unless prompted to do so by the Dutch.

But the Pequots were nearer and always manifested hostility, and at different times assassinated some thirty of the settlers while at work in their fields or otherwise unprotected. At length the settlers could endure these outrages no longer. They raised a small army comprising one-third of their effective men, who, reinforced by their Indian allies, descended the Connecticut in vessels, sailed Eastward into the Narraganset Bay, thence proceeding by land, they surprised the principal fort of the Piquots, set fire to their inflammable wigwams within the fort, and made a most thorough extermination of its dusky occupants.

No human slaughter upon this continent—no, not even that in this valley in 1778, ever equalled the horrors of that eventful morning, May 26th, 1637.

From that time the power of the Pequots was effectually broken, the survivors in endeavoring to seek an asylum in the West, were followed and harrassed by the Mohegans and very few, indeed, survived to cross the Hudson.

For many years peaceable times were enjoyed by the settlers of Connecticut so far as the Indians were concerned. But in 1675, the Narragansetts living near their Eastern border, and governed by that notorious sachem, King Philip (so called), together with other Indian tribes, made war upon the whites with intent to exterminate them, and so stealthy and far reaching were there plans and movements, that many towns, chiefly in Massachusetts, were surprised and destroyed wholly or in part.

This aroused the people of the New England Colonies, and although the seat of war was outside of Connecticut, yet she furnished her full quota of troops who participated in the decisive battle, which resulted in the capture of the principle fort of the Narragansetts and the complete destruction of their power that had long been a terror.

Thenceforth no more Indian wars disturbed the tranquility of Connecticut.

At about the same time of the settlement of the towns on Connecticut river, a party of English emigrants settled at New Haven, of whom the Rev. John Davenport and Theophilus Eaton were the leading characters.

There was also another small settlement made at the mouth of the Connecticut River on land claimed by Lord Say and Seal and Lord Brooke.

Hence it was called from its proprietors Saybrook—afterwards modified to Seabrook. It maintained a feeble existence till 1644, when by consent of the people it was united with Connecticut.

Thus you perceive that for a brief period there were three distinct colonies within the present limits of Connecticut—New Haven, Saybrook and Connecticut proper.

It was quite natural, and indeed almost inevitable, that places settled by emigrants from different quarters with no special bonds of union—with poor facilities for inter-communication and with no controlling authority to interfere, should set up provisional governments of their own; but when exposed to serious dangers from Indians or from other hostiles, such communities would inevitably seek the aid of other like communities if they did not merge their entire identity with them.

These considerations had no little weight in bringing about in 1663 the union of the New Haven Colony with that of Connecticut, although it was effected after much

opposition and by other considerations that seemed imperative.

From that time (1665) the domain comprising Connecticut has included both of the other colonies—Saybrook and of New Haven, whose early history was less eventful than that of Connecticut proper.

There was an element which contributed largely to the prosperity and happiness of the settlers of Connecticut, and that was their system of government, which fortunately was more liberal and popular than that of any other colony in those primitive times.

When the early settlements were made on the river in the three towns, and also when New Haven was settled, the people found themselves outside of visible authority—Royal or Proprietary. There was nothing on the ground to interfere with their own actions, and the result was that they at once instituted town organizations—elected town officers and in every town appointed two persons to act as magistrates in conjunction with those of the other towns in discharging both the legislative and executive functions of the colony. These magistrates frequently met and promulgated laws much like military orders in their style—copying, so far as was germane, such regulations as existed under the Mosaic dispensation and supplementing them with other orders in regard to matters upon which the Bible was silent.

Matters went on in this way until 1639, when the people of Connecticut determined to have a written Constitution in order to clearly define the rights of the people and the machinery of their government. Accordingly, at their instance, Roger Ludlow, assisted no doubt by Rev. Thomas Hooker, drafted the first detailed Constitution that was ever established upon earth. I say detailed Constitution, for I am well aware that the document drawn up on board the Mayflower, some eighteen years previously, has the credit of being the first Constitution

in effect. It was, however, a very brief document associating its signers together in a body politic, but with no specific provisions as to its practical operation. Therefore to Roger Ludlow must primarily be awarded the honor of framing the first written detailed Constitution or system of government that ever went into effect.

A monument to Roger Ludlow is in order! Who was he?

He originated in the west of England—became a lawyer—was Deputy Governor of Massachusetts, previous to his removal to Connecticut, which was occasioned by his disappointment in not attaining promotion to the chief magistracy. He was a man of great importance in the Connecticut colony, became its Lieutenant Governor, and was called upon by the Legislature to prepare a code of laws, which he completed in 1649.

Notwithstanding his recognized ability, his acerbity of temper prevented his attaining popularity, and he finally removed to Virginia, where he is supposed to have died, although some writers say that he died in England.

As the author of the first detailed Constitution, his memory should be respected.

A thriving town in Vermont is honored by bearing the name of Ludlow.

In this connection it is well to allude to the Rev. Thomas Hooker, associated with Ludlow in his principal work, and who was the most prominent man at that time in Connecticut. He was a graduate of Cambridge University, England, had a large body and commanding presence and a mind capacious and far reaching. His views in regard to the rights of mankind and their capacity for self-government were far in advance of his age and exceedingly liberal. His ability and eloquence in the pulpit caused a rush to hear him whenever he preached in Boston. He was the Beecher of his generation. He died in 1647, greatly lamented, age 61.



What I have mentioned in regard to the early government of the Connecticut Colony has much application to the New Haven Colony, with, however, this broad difference. While the Connecticut people carried out the liberal views of Hooker and Ludlow, providing substantially for universal suffrage and eligibility to office, the New Haven Colony restricted the exercise of those rights to members of churches.

This restriction sometimes was the occasion of friction in the New Haven Colony, but in those early days people were too busy in looking after their material interests to pay much attention to questions of elementary rights, especially since the improvised government of that Colony was practically working well.

However, when the Colony of New Haven in 1655 was merged into that of Connecticut proper, the policy of the latter in regard to those rights extended over the united territory, and so remains to this day.

The conflicting claims to lands of various proprietors, who had been granted territory by the Royal government, within and near to the domain of Connecticut, and the apprehension of similar grants in future made it desirable to secure from the British Crown a charter, which should make certain the boundaries of the Colony, and perhaps other indefinite matters

Accordingly, a humble petition was drafted, and having been approved by the magistrates, was forwarded to England by their agent, John Winthrop (a son of the distinguished governor of Massachusetts of like name) and a very shrewd diplomatist. His success at the corrupt court of Charles II was certainly wonderful.

The King signed a charter which provided for the election of officers, including the Governor, by the people; the enactment of their own laws by the General Assembly without even the supervision of the Crown, and

also defined the boundaries of the Colony which had previously been very uncertain.

Never was a charter so favorable to any Colony granted by an English monarch, and when the Revolutionary war subsequently occurred, Connecticut people were not under the necessity of expelling a Royal governor who had been appointed by the Crown, and of improving a system of government, as did most of the other Colonies, but they had a government already provided, with a patriotic governor of their own choice, Jonathan Trumbull, "Brother Jonathan," as Washington was accustomed to call him. Indeed this charter was republican in all but the name, and so well did it operate, that it was continued in force long after the Revolution, down to the year 1818, before it was superseded by the formation of a regular constitution, having existed about 156 years.

The boundaries of Connecticut, as defined by its charter, were the Narragansett Bay on the east, the southerly line of Massachusetts on the north and by the "South Sea," alias the Pacific Ocean on the west.

They included the colony of New Haven, (which reluctantly yielded up its identity) and it also included parts of the present states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, (here is where Wyoming valley came in) Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon and California, and a part of the territory of Utah!

Never, since this world was set rolling, was there such a geographical blunder!—the chartered limits being at least forty times longer than their width. A piece of tape one-half inch wide and 20 inches long illustrates the absurdity.

It is quite evident that King Charles II and his advisers, as well as other occupants of the British throne, knew but little about the geography of this continent, and worse still, they did not seem to care; for how upon

any other hypothesis can be accounted for the conflicting grants which were made during that as well as other reigns? They clashed everywhere, and the lapping of the grant to Wm. Penn upon that previously granted to Connecticut, was no exception and entirely characteristic.

But this extensive domain of Connecticut at different times had to be immensely curtailed. On the east, a compromised line gave a portion of it to the colony of Rhode Island, on the west a portion to New York, and near the end of the Revolutionary war Pennsylvania obtained what she claimed, and soon afterwards, all west to the Pacific was surrendered to the general Government, Connecticut reserving only the avails of sales of land in what is called the Western Reserve in Ohio, which she has constituted a school fund.

In 1687 King James II, Pharaoh-like, regretted that so liberal a charter had been granted to Connecticut, and he desired to have that, and the charters also of all the New England colonies surrendered, and to have a governor appointed by the crown with suitable assistants to govern those colonies *absolutely*. Connecticut did not yield to the demand, and finally Andros, the newly appointed governor of New England with a retinue of sixty officers and soldiers, visited Hartford and renewed the demand upon the Governor and Assembly of the colony. A discussion followed, which was prolonged to the evening, when the box containing the charter was brought into the room and placed upon a table. Suddenly the candles were put out, and after a moment's darkness they were relighted, and then it was found that the box and the charter were gone, and although a most diligent search was made, they were not discovered.

It afterwards became known that during the moment of darkness a Captain Wadsworth had seized the box and charter and had deposited them in the hollow of a neighboring oak tree. There or elsewhere they remained

for some two years until the accession of William and Mary to the throne of England was followed by the downfall of Andros and the complete restoration of the chartered government in Connecticut.

In the old French wars, prior to the Revolution, Connecticut more than filled the requisitions made upon her for troops, in one instance to the number of 5000. They were present in large numbers at the taking of Louisburg, Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

A circumstance somewhat amusing transpired in 1758. On a dark, cloudy, dismal night in July, the inhabitants of Windham, Connecticut, had retired to rest and for several hours all were wrapped in profound repose—when suddenly, soon after midnight, the peaceful inhabitants were disturbed by a most terrific noise in the sky overhead, which to many seemed the yells and screeches of infuriated Indians. Others accounted for the awful sounds by supposing that the day of judgment had certainly come—the uproar in the air seeming to them the precursor of the last trumpet. Others still supposed that a raid was being made by the French, who were then at war with the mother country. At intervals many thought they heard the names of prominent persons called out—"Col. Dyer and Elderkin, too," which increased the general terror. The whole population rushed into the street, forgetting, in their consternation, to don their ordinary garments. At length some of the bolder spirits, who apprehended an attack by the Indians, sallied forth with loaded guns and pitchforks to meet the invading foe on a hill near the village. There they discovered that the sounds proceeded from that quarter, and not from the skies. They advanced no farther, and the sounds gradually died away.

The night had been very still, when suddenly, as if by a preconcerted signal, every frog on one side of the ditch raised the war cry—"Col. Dyer, Col. Dyer,"—when from

the opposite side resounded the adverse shout of, "Elderkin too, Elderkin too."

Owing to some peculiar state of the atmosphere these awful noises and cries appeared to the distressed Windhamites to be directly over their heads.

In the morning the cause of the distressing alarm became apparent. A "frog pond" some three-fourths of a mile from the village, owing to a severe drought of many weeks, had become nearly dry, and the bullfrogs, with which it was densely populated, fought a pitched battle on the sides of a ditch which ran through the pond for the possession and enjoyment of the little fluid remaining in it. Long and obstinate was the contest, and many thousands of defunct frogs were found on the sides of the ditch.

The foregoing occurrence has been the cause of much pleasantry and of considerable poetry at the expense of the good people of Windham.

Far back before the Revolution the people of Connecticut having filled their original hive, sighed, as did Alexander of old, for other worlds to conquer. They ascended the Connecticut River—settled Hadley and other towns in Massachusetts—pushing on still farther up that river, they settled many towns in New Hampshire and Vermont, giving to them Connecticut names. Hence in Vermont are towns christened Hartford, New Haven, Windsor, Weathersfield, Norwich, &c., while in New Hampshire are to be found New London, Plainfield, Lebanon, Enfield and others. Indeed in both of those States there are some sixty towns bearing names similar to those in Connecticut, although probably less than one-half were actually settled by emigrants from there.

And was it surprising that the people of Connecticut in search for a country to found their homes, should have turned their faces towards this beautiful Wyoming valley, where at great cost they had extinguished the Indian title

and where their colony had been granted the earliest jurisdiction? But upon all this I forbear.

The laws of Connecticut provided for the punishment of crimes—among which was the crime of witchcraft—a crime punishable in other colonies and in old turtle backed England itself, under whose laws two females for alleged conjurations were hanged so late as 1716.

Those laws of England remained unrepealed until 1736.

Similar laws against witchcraft existed in Virginia, New York and Massachusetts, but notwithstanding the statute in Connecticut, no person was ever punished there for witchcraft, so far as can be ascertained, and the criminal laws generally in that colony were administered in a spirit comparatively free from intolerance. While the death penalty in Connecticut applied to but fifteen crimes, in England it applied to thirty-one crimes at the same time, and subsequently to 243.

But the Blue Laws of Connecticut!

Did you never hear of them?

Prior to the Revolution one Samuel Peters, a native of Hebron in Connecticut, and a graduate of Yale College, became rector of a small Episcopal Church in his native town. He was one whom a late Indian Chief, Sitting Bull, would call an "infernal liar."

Shortly before hostilities commenced he offensively manifested his Tory propensities. Being remonstrated with, he promised not to meddle in public affairs; but he soon committed another offense of a similar kind, and was then more seriously remonstrated with and threatened. In his fright he fled to England and in 1781 he published a book called a "General History of Connecticut" in which he dealt more particularly with what he called the Blue Laws of the Dominion of New Haven, before its union with Connecticut proper.

Here I quote from the Peters' forgery as given in Trumbull's "Blue Laws, True and False," pages 302-3-4-5-6-7-8:

7. Whoever says there is a power and jurisdiction above and over this Dominion, shall suffer death and loss of property.

9. The judges shall determine controversies without a jury.

14. No food or lodging shall be afforded to a Quaker, Adamite, or Heretic.

16. No Priest shall abide in the Dominion; he shall be banished, and suffer death on his return.\* Priests may be seized by any one without a warrant.

18. No one shall run on the Sabbath-day, or walk in the garden or elsewhere, except reverently to and from meeting.

19. No one shall travel, cook vituals, make beds, sweep house, cut hair, or shave, on the Sabbath-day.

20. No woman shall kiss her child on the Sabbath or fasting-day.

23. A person accused of trespass in the night shall be judge guilty, unless he clear himself by his oath.

24. When it appears that an accused has confederates, and he refuses to discover them, he may be racked.

31. Whoever wears cloths trimmed with gold, silver, or bone lace, above two shillings by the yard, shall be presented by the grand jurors, and the selectmen shall tax the offender at £300 estate.

33. Whoever sets a fire in the woods, and it burns a house, shall suffer death; and persons suspected of this crime shall be imprisoned, without benefit of bail.

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\* "In 1750, an episcopal clergyman, born and educated in England, who had been in holy orders above twenty years, once broke their sabbatical law, by combing a discomposed lock of hair on the top of his wig; at another time, by making a humming noise, which they called a whistling; at a third time, by walking too fast from church; at a fourth by running into church when it rained; at a fifth by walking in his garden, and picking a bunch of grapes. For which several crimes he was complained of by the grand jury, had a warrant against him, was seized, brought to trial, and paid a considerable sum of money." —Peters, p. 305. It is needless to add, that the "episcopal clergyman" and his trial, are as apocryphal as the "blue law" which he violated.

35. No one shall read Common-Prayer, keep Christmas or Saints'-day, make minced pies, dance, play cards, or play on any instrument of music, except the drum, trumpet, and jews'-harp.

43. No man shall court a maid in person, or by letter, without first obtaining consent of her parents; £5 penalty for the first offense, £10 for the second; and for the third, imprisonment during the pleasure of the Court.

45. Every male shall have his hair cut round, according to a cap.

Now all that I have read from the book are downright falsehoods. No such laws ever existed in Connecticut or elsewhere in this world, yet from these and kindred falsehoods perpetrated by that unscrupulous man, and enlarged upon by others, all the talk and scandal in regard to the alleged Connecticut Blue Laws have originated.

Although they met with little credence among the intelligent people of England at the time—one of their prominent editors then saying that they were “altogether unworthy of public attention”—yet by being reiterated over and over, they have acquired in some quarters credence and been quoted as veritable history by those who ought to have known better.

In the Revolution the part performed by Connecticut was most honorable. She drew freely upon her resources—being exceeded in that respect by only one other State. She raised and equipped twenty-five regiments, of which number twenty-two at one time were in service outside of the State at the most busy season of the year—leaving the women, with the aid of old men and boys to gather the harvests.

Nor has the spirit of the fathers been less patriotically manifested in the history of their descendants, who, in the late struggle to preserve the nation's life, performed their duty most valiantly upon land and upon ocean.

The people of Connecticut at the outset manifested a lively interest in the subject of education—provided for an



excellent system of common schools for all children and at one time there were only thirty persons in the State who could not read and write. With the dawn of the last century they laid the foundation of Yale College—the most prosperous and useful on the whole of any college in the land.

In later years two other like institutions of respectable standing have arisen—Trinity, at Hartford, and Wesleyan, at Middletown.

In addition there now exist in that State numerous institutions devoted to instruction in Theology, Law, Medicine, Science, Art, and one for the Deaf and Dumb, besides Academies and special schools.

But the people of Connecticut did not confine their enthusiasm in behalf of education to their own boundaries. The venerable Wheelock founded there a school for teaching Indians, which he soon removed to New Hampshire, where it blossomed out into Dartmouth College, which has done a vast amount of good during the 125 years of its history—much more however to the Whites than to the Indians. Numerous other institutions South, West, everywhere have received aid from, and been successfully administered by, natives of Connecticut.

The high standard of education in Connecticut has no doubt stimulated the genius of some of her people to invent many things important and useful. Hence the steamboat of Fitch, (the predecessor of that of Fulton) the cotton gin of Whitney, the rubber improvements of Goodyear and the sewing machine of Howe have added not a little to the comfort, health and happiness of the civilized portion of mankind.

Likewise has education, supplementing natural gifts, given to natives of Connecticut a prominence in political life unequalled by that of any State of like size—for remember that it contains only 4750 square miles of land.

In one of the early Congresses there were forty-seven natives of that State in both houses—being about one-fifth of the whole number.

The late John C. Calhoun once remarked that the natives of Connecticut together with the graduates of Yale College came within five of constituting a majority of the National House of Representatives.

To go back to the time of the formation of the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. Calhoun declared in the Senate of the United States, that it was owing mainly to two States,—Connecticut and New Jersey,—that we have, as a nation, “the best government instead of the worst and most intolerent on earth. Who are the men of the States to whom we are indebted for this admirable government? I will name them,” he said,—“their names ought to be engraved on brass and live forever: They were Chief-Justice ELLSWORTH, ROGER SHERMAN, and Judge PATTERSON of New Jersey. \* \* \* To the coolness and sagacity of these three men aided by a few others, not so prominent, we owe the present Constitution.”

The character of the climate and soil of Connecticut has done much to form a healthy and robust population which has been all the more marked by their industry and steady habits.

It must be admitted that the intelligence, strength of character, high standard of morals and patriotism as well as religious tendencies of the people of Connecticut are largely attributable to the examples and instructions of the clergy. They were with few exceptions in the earlier period the educated class, and by their interest in the common welfare, their purity of life and devotion to their profession, commanded the respect, deference and love of the community. They stamped their impress upon their generation, and even those now upon the stage

owe much to their efforts in the development of the cardinal virtues and all that is good among people of our republic.

I close by quoting a remark of Bancroft, the historian, than whom no one was better informed :

“There is no State in the Union, and I know not any in the world, in whose early history, if I were a citizen, I could find more of which to be proud, and less that I should wish to blot.”

Long live Connecticut, the fatherland of the first settlers of the Wyoming Valley !

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### ADDRESS BY

## Sidney Roby Miner,

“Queen Esther at Wyoming.”

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*Mr. President, Members of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, Ladies and Gentlemen :*

We are not assembled here to celebrate a great victory, though there was much to be proud of in the conduct of the patriots who fell and those who escaped on that fatal Third of July, 1778. The result of the contest, though no cause for shame to the vanquished, was disastrous to the brave settlers fighting for their homes.

We cannot praise the wisdom or prudence of those brave men whose acts we commemorate to-day, for it may be said that their departure from the fort at that time, was a fatal mistake.

But we are here to commemorate the bravery and patriotism which prompted the little army to march forth from their place of safety to meet the enemy in the open field.

It might have been better for them if they had remained in the fort, but they preferred to go forth and, by checking the advance of the enemy, to stop his depredations and avoid the possibility of danger to their wives and children. In the language of one of Wyoming's historians, "to attack and defeat the enemy was the only hope of salvation for the settlement." They could not foresee the terrible defeat and the ignominious rout. They, no doubt, expected to drive back the enemy whose numbers they had so under-estimated, before they could get near enough to harm the helpless occupants of the fort. Moreover, we do not forget that while they were fighting for home and loved ones, they were on the side of American liberty, and did what they could to help throw off the yoke of England.

But why should it be necessary for us to remind each other of the events which occurred here one hundred and sixteen years ago? Is not the story of the contest recorded in a hundred books? Is not that monument a sufficient reminder of the sad events, and are not the names of the fallen inscribed upon its tablets?

True, we do not need to be reminded, but it is our duty to honor those long-suffering but persistent pioneers and keep their memories green, not only on account of any inheritance we may enjoy or any other material benefits we may have reaped as the result of their labors, but also and especially as patriotic citizens, on account of the services they rendered their country in the time of its oppression and need.

It is likewise our duty to teach newcomers to honor our flag, to respect our institutions, to value the rights which they acquire in becoming citizens and excite their interest in the past history of the country, by observing ourselves, the anniversaries of the events which secured to us our freedom and showing our own veneration for the institutions we wish them to respect.

Besides these principal objects, there is an important secondary reason for these annual gatherings and another purpose they may serve. Of all the histories scarcely one is accurate in every point. Some are full of errors and fabrications, and many contain misstatements of important facts. For example, in many articles and books published since the Massacre, it has been stated that Joseph Brant, the Mohawk chief, led the Indians that laid waste the valley on that fatal day. It may be safely said that there is room for grave doubt on this subject.

Many of you heard and will doubtless remember the fiery and eloquent address,\* two years ago, wherein the speaker refuted the slanderous statements of some persons unknown to me, derogatory to the character and bravery of the Wyoming patriots. The statement had been made that the brave little army which marched forth to meet the combined forces of the Tories and Indians, owed their courage and spirit to the spirits they had imbibed earlier in the day.†

These are but examples of the erroneous views which have been held on some subjects, and these examples suggest the idea that at least a part of the time spent at these annual gatherings might be profitably used in clearing up some doubtful points in the local history. I think the subject of Queen Esther's connection with the Massacre is such a point, and a proper subject for investigation at this time. I have recently heard doubt expressed as to the existence of Queen Esther, her presence at Wyoming and at the slaughter of the prisoners. The difficulties encountered in finding that interesting relic has given rise to the belief in the minds of some people, that Queen Esther's Rock was the creature of the imagination.

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\* Benjamin Dorrance's address, "Do we owe these men anything?"

† On this subject see "History of Luzerne County," H. C. Bradshy, (1893) p. 123.

If they need proof that the prisoners were actually arranged in a circle around the rock and tomahawked one by one, with ghastly ceremony and heathenish incantations, we have it in the statements of the survivors. Attached to a "Petition of the Sufferers of Wyoming, Pa., by depredations committed by the Indians in the Revolutionary war," dated the 18th of February, 1839, are the statements of Col. Geo. P. Ransom, Wm. Ross and Elisha Harding, all of which will give convincing proof of these facts to any who will read them.\*

The incidents which took place on the day of the Massacre are so well known that only the briefest account of them is necessary at this time.

On the morning of the eventful day Col. Z. Butler called a council of war. After considering the question from every side, it was deemed best to advance upon the enemy and attack them at once. The time of day chosen for the attack (about four in the afternoon) was the best time for the Americans on account of the direction of the sun's rays. At that time the Americans would have the sun at their backs shining directly in the faces of the enemy. Accordingly Col. Butler marched his forces up the road to about this point (where the monument now stands) and arranged his line of battle with yonder steep bank on their right flank, and a wooded marsh on their left. After the first few volleys, the British line fell back, drawing the Americans further into the trap the enemy had prepared for them. The Indians, who had been placed in the swamp, now outflanked the American left wing. Col. Denison, observing this, ordered one of the companies on the left to fall back, so as to face the Indians. In the confusion, the order was misapprehended by the

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\* "The Massacre of Wyoming." The Acts of Congress for the Defence of Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania, 1776-1778: with the Petitions of the Sufferers by the Massacre of July 3, 1778, for Congressional Aid. With an Introductory Chapter by Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden, M. A., Corresponding Secretary Wyoming Historical and Geological Society (Seal). Printed for the Society. Wilkes-Barre, Pa., (1895.) pp. 59, 61, 70.

undisciplined troops and they began to retreat. The fate of the American forces was now settled, and the battle ended. In the retreat to the fort many were killed and scalped and a number of prisoners were taken. I will not enter into the bloody details of the pursuit and massacre but turn now and consider the fate of the Yankee prisoners. A number of them, variously estimated at from fourteen to twenty, were taken a short distance up the river bank, placed in a ring around "Bloody Rock," and executed by a "squaw,"\* with a war club or tomahawk. The merciless executioner, supposed to have been Esther herself, passed around the circle singing a death song, and each time she made the circuit sent one of the prisoners to eternity. Nine prisoners were treated in a similar manner in another ring farther up the river.†

Two of the prisoners, Lebeus Hammond and Joseph Elliott,‡ escaped from the larger circle around the Bloody Rock. Unfortunately as far as I have been able to discover, the statement of neither of them is now extant. Both of them, however are known to have returned and reported the facts to their friends. The survivors whose statements I have already mentioned, must have been well acquainted with Hammond and Elliott, and no doubt learned the details from their own lips. Moreover the acts of the savages in this massacre were, it is said, plainly visible from the other side of the river, and it is from eye witnesses that many of the stories of the atrocities committed after the battle were obtained.

It may be of interest and seems appropriate at this point to give some account of Queen Esther, and to inquire into the question of her presence at the scenes I have just described.

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\* Idem, (Petition of the Sufferers, etc.,) p. 51.

† "On what is now the Fair Ground." Pearce's Annals of Luzerne County, p. 130.

‡ Mrs. W. H. McCartney, of Wilkes Barre, informs me that Joseph Elliott's son was at Wyoming in 1878, and went to visit the rock from which his father escaped a hundred years before.

It is not generally supposed that Indians know much of their antecedents, or that their pedigrees can be traced more than a generation beyond the living members of a tribe. But the pedigree of Esther Montour is quite clearly traced through three generations.

When I decided to investigate this subject, I supposed that with two large libraries, one of them devoted principally to the history of this country and the Wyoming Valley, I should not have far to go to find all the published authorities. But, if it had not been for the cheerful and kindly proffered assistance of my friend the Rev. Horace E. Hayden, I should have been obliged to give up the task, until such time as I could myself gather together the books and pamphlets, of which his library contains an almost complete collection.

After I had consulted all the authorities which I could find in Mr. Hayden's library and elsewhere, an account of Esther's life and family was placed before me, the writer of which,\* the author of a "History of Pennsylvania," we now have with us, as an honored guest. That account summed up the facts connected with the history of her family, as far as they are obtainable, in so much better language than I could tell them myself, that I wish I could quote it here. But time is not given me now to give more than a short sketch of herself, and a short *brief*, as it were, of her ancestry.

I. A Frenchman by the name of Montour, who was generally called "Monsieur" Montour, and whose first name is not known, emigrated to Canada about 1665. By an Indian wife, he had a son called *Jean*, a captain in the English service, and two daughters, whose first names are unknown.†

II. One of these daughters, who was always called "Madame" Montour, was born about 1684. At the age

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\* W. H. Egle, M. D., "Notes and Queries," 3d Series, Vol. I, p. 73.

† See Appleton's Encyclopaedia of Am. Biography, Vol. IV, p. 374.



of ten years she was captured by the Iroquois or Five Nation Indians, and adopted as a member of one of their tribes. She became the wife of Carondowanna or Big Tree, a chief of the Onedia tribe, who, after the custom of the Indians, assumed for himself the name of Robert Hunter, a Governor of New York. She is said by some writers to have been well educated and to have associated, to some extent, with people of refinement. She was treated with great consideration by the whites on account of her influence over the Indians. This, no doubt gave rise to the belief and statement of some writers, that she, as well as her daughter, Margaret, and grand-daughter Esther, (for whom she was mistaken by Stone\* and other writers) was "much caressed" by the wealthy residents of Philadelphia and other places.

Madame Montour was the mother of three sons, Andrew, Lewis and Henry, and two daughters, Margaret, and another sometimes called Catherine. She died, decrepit and blind, about 1753.

III. Margaret, commonly called "French Margaret," probably the eldest child of Madame Montour, was the wife of Peter Quebeck or Katarionecha, a chief of the Iroquois, who is spoken of as "a man of good character." She had two sons, Nicholas and another whose name is unknown, and three daughters, Esther, Catharine† and Mary, commonly called "Molly," and possibly other children.

IV. Esther, the eldest daughter of "French Margaret," became the wife of Echobund, (also called Eg-hobund, Echgohund or Echogohund,)‡ a chief of the Monsey or Wolf clan of the Susquehanna Delawares. This clan was, according to Gen. Clark,§ at one time

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\* Idem, Vol. IV, p. 374. "History of Brant," Vol. I, p. 340.

† "Sullivan Centennial," pp. 111 and 130.

‡ "Notes and Queries."

§ Gen. J. S. Clark, "Auburn, (N. Y.) Spectator," 31 May, 1880,

under the protection of the Senecas, which perhaps accounts for the fact that Queen Esther has sometimes been spoken of as a member of that tribe.

This clan is said to have founded the town of Sheshequin, † on the site of the present Sheshequin or Ulster, Bradford County in this State. Echobund was called the "king" of the tribe, and after his death, his wife was generally known as "Queen Esther."

Most of the other members of her family and immediate ancestors were much better known than she. This may be accounted for however, by the fact that, unlike most of the Montours, she did not mingle with the whites, but remained aloof. Though she may have been, as her mother is said to have been, a "a living polyglot of the tongues of the West," yet she so thoroughly adopted the ways and feelings of the savages, that she seldom met the whites except as an enemy. Her ancestors and other descendants of Monsieur Montour, on the other hand, were frequently employed by the whites as interpreters and often taken to Albany and other large cities when treaties were to be made, and councils to be held, with the Indians.

Esther had several children probably, but only one son is mentioned,—the one who is supposed to have been killed at Exeter, the day before the battle of Wyoming. ‡

She had, as I have already stated, two sisters. Catherine, whose husband was Thomas Huston or Hudson, § called by the Indians, Telenemut, has, like her grandmother Madame Montour, been by some writers, mistaken for Queen Esther. She is supposed to have been the mother of Roland, "Stuttering" John and Belle Montour, all well-known characters in their time. Of

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† See Sullivan's "Indian Expedition," p. 350, *note*.

‡ "Sullivan Centennial," etc., p. 111, *note*.

§ Sullivan's "Indian Expedition," p. 363, *note*; also "Sullivans Centennial," pp. 111 *note*, and 130 *note*.

Molly the other sister, and the two brothers, very little, if anything, is known, except the fact of their existence.

It may strike you as odd that all the descendants of Monsieur Montour, female as well as male, bore his name. This is due, no doubt, to the custom among the Iroquois for the chief's title and power to be transmitted through the female line, together with the name; the wives of the chiefs retaining their maiden name even after marriage.\* The male descendants, however, did not change their names; for, as you will observe, they all retained the name of Montour as far as they have been traced.

Esther's town of Sheshequin was destroyed in the same year in which the massacre occurred, and she is said to have then removed to Long Point, New York, and to have died there, very aged, early in the present century, and to have been buried on the shore of one of the lakes.

There can be little doubt that Esther was at Wyoming on the *Fourth* of July, 1778, though perhaps it is not certain that she was there the day before. About the only argument advanced in contradiction to this view is Mr. Stone's—that she could not have been the savage she would have to be, in order to play the part attributed to her in the massacre.† It is of little weight however, because the person he had reference to, whom he describes as handsome, genteel, of polite address‡ and associating with the best society of Philadelphia,§ must have been not Esther, but Madame Montour, Esther's grandmother. On the other hand we have the statement of Charles Miner,|| that Queen Esther came into the fort with the Indians, and recognizing Col. Denison, spoke to him, call-

\* Pennsylvania Magazine of History, Vol. IV, p. 221.

† Miner, "History of Wyoming," p. 232 *note*; Stone, Life of Brant, I, p. 339.

‡ Life of Brant, I, p. 340.

§ Idem p. 339, also William Ketchum's Hist. of Buffalo, I, p. 325.

• "History of Wyoming," p. 232, Appendix, p. 54.

ing him by name, and that she was rebuked by Col. John Butler. These facts must have come from the survivors, for it is an acknowledged fact that Charles Miner derived his information from the best source—the participants—and he refers to Col. Franklin, Lebeus Hammond and Joseph Elliott,† as his authorities. General Clark,‡ who says Esther was at Wyoming, states that Roswell Franklin “was well acquainted with her when living on the Susquehanna.” The testimony of such witnesses cannot be easily rebutted and no attempt has been made, as in the case of Brant, to prove an *alibi*.

But who was the “squaw,” who tomahawked the prisoners at the Bloody Rock? In the absence of proof to the contrary, we have every reason to believe that it was Esther. Joseph Elliott escaped from the fatal ring and must have known whether it was she or not. It is true we have not his statement that Esther killed the prisoners, but in his sketch of Joseph Elliott,§ Mr. Miner says that she did. He heard the story from Elliott’s own lips, and quotes him as to the reason for Esther’s exasperation and consequent cruelty. It is hardly possible that the historian could have been mistaken when he said that Esther was the priestess of those diabolical rites.

If we could have stood here on Wyoming’s “Dies Iræ” and looked upon that short struggle, that confused retreat, that awful massacre, the mangled remains left scattered on the field and the red demons swarming around us, I think we should have said something like this: “The survivors have little to live for, let us leave this earthly Hades, never to return.” Thank Heaven! the hardy settlers did not say that, and they did not do it. They returned, bringing their friends with them to endure more hardships and losses.

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† “History of Wyoming,” p. 232.

‡ Gen. J. S. Clark, “Auburn Spectator,” 31 May, 1880.

§ “History of Wyoming,” Appendix, pp. 53-55.

Who, when looking upon the peaceful happiness and prosperity of their descendants and successors, the fields of ripening grain, the smoking factories and the dusty breakers, sending their tons upon tons of anthracite to the markets of the world, who would say he was sorry they returned?

Peace be to your ashes, brave forefathers. We thank you for blessings we now enjoy.

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OTHER REFERENCES:—*Pennsylvania Magazine*, III, page 79. Geo. A. Perkins, "Early Times on the Susquehanna," page 46. O. N. Worden, "The Athens, (Pa.) Gleaner." Rev. S. J. M. Eaton and Gen. J. S. Clark, in "The Venango, (Franklin, Pa.) Spectator," 8 April, 1880, and 31 May, 1880. Also J. S. McCalment, 15 April, 1880, Isaac Craig, 20 May, 1880, and S. D. J., 23 May, 1880. Hon. Henry M. Hoyt, "Brief of Title in 17 Townships."

Many other authorities were consulted, but none of them were of much use in this connection.

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## NECROLOGY.

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### DR. HORACE HOLLISTER,

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BY WILLIAM A. WILCOX, ESQ.

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Dr. Horace Hollister, one of the vice-presidents of this association, died at his home in Providence, city of Scranton, Friday noon, December 29, 1893. He was of the Connecticut family of Hollisters represented here since the earliest settlement, though his parents were themselves later emigrants from that state. His father, Alanson, (seventh in line of descent from John Hollister who emigrated to Weathersfield, Connecticut, about 1642,) was born in East Glastonbury, February 28, 1799, and his mother, Sally, daughter of Seth Goodrich, was born in South Glastonbury, September 24, 1799. The Goodriches came to Salem about 1800 and the Hollisters a few years later. Alanson and Sally were married at Salem in 1819.

Dr. Horace Hollister, the eldest son, (second child) was born at Hollisterville, Salem Township, Wayne

County, Pa., November 2, 1822. He attended the public schools of his native town and afterwards (1840-43) enjoyed such academic advantages as were afforded at Bethany and Honesdale. His fifteenth and sixteenth summers, (1837-38) he found employment on the North Branch, Union and Schuylkill Canals, where he had charge of a boat. The winter of 1838-9 he taught the district school at Jones Lake, boarding around, as was usual, carrying dinner and building his fires. He has told of having usually to start before daylight in order that the wood fire in the huge open fire-place might sufficiently warm the room before the arrival of the scholars.

About this time he began his medical studies under Dr. Charles Burr, of Salem, continuing under Dr. Ebenezer T. Losey, of Honesdale.

In the winter of 1843-4 his older sister, Harriet Gertrude ("Stella of Lackawanna,") wife of Lewis G. Watres, afterwards of Scranton, was sick with pneumonia, and Horace came over to her home at Mt. Vernon, near what is now Winton, to assist in caring for her. Here he made the acquaintance of Dr. Benjamin H. Throop, then recently located at Providence in the practice of medicine, and there sprung up at once between the young doctor and the student a friendship which has been interrupted only by Dr. Hollister's death.

The following summer he was captain of a canal boat between Wilkes-Barre and Philadelphia. The year 1845 he spent as a student under Dr. Throop and attended a course of lectures at Albany Medical College. He took his degree in medicine from the medical college at the University of the City of New York in March 1846, and at once began practice in Providence, where he has resided continuously since.

In his profession he was a physician rather than a surgeon, avoiding the duties of the latter when he could. But as a physician he was very active and was deservedly held in high regard as well by his professional brethren as by those to whom he ministered. None in Providence has been more sought after or more uniformly successful than Dr. Hollister.

His kindness and sympathy were as frequently shown toward the poor as towards the rich, indeed it is said that

he would brave fiercer storms, ride farther and suffer greater personal inconvenience to attend a patient so poor as to preclude the hope of fee or reward, than for any wealthier patient, because the need of the poor was presumably greater.

His literary reputation rest principally on his History of Lackawanna Valley of which five editions have been published; the first in 1857, the second in 1869 and the fifth in 1885. The second, third, and fourth differed only in imprint. The fifth, printed from the same plates, has new portraits and an extensive appendix. Some of the rather candid expressions of the first edition have been softened in the later ones. He also prepared over one hundred pages of historical matter published with Galatian's Directory of Scranton for 1867; an unpublished history of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company; Coal Notes; Recollections of our Physicians; and a number of articles and series of articles printed in the newspapers, among them a series entitled "Life on the Lackawanna," printed in the "Scranton Truth" in 1887. In his historical work the Doctor was not always thorough or exact, but he did an important work for the Lackawanna Valley and his book will always be recognized as a valuable contribution to local and Wyoming history.

The following extracts from two brief sketches prepared by himself are characteristic:

"He is a shrewd, industrious and eccentric character; has devoted much time to literary pursuits and historical research and is really destined to make a mark upon our times which will be remembered long after every physician now residing in Northern Pennsylvania is dead and forgotten. Dr. Hollister has an extensive and lucrative practice; is the author of the History of the Lackawanna Valley; is proprietor of a batch of family medicines, and last though not least, has gathered together a large and valuable collection of Indian relics, the last remaining trace of the red man once existing in our midst." (Scranton Directory, 1867.)

Again, after speaking of himself as "a somewhat eccentric character, blunt and even rude in his manner, yet kind, true and benevolent," he says, "The doctor is a great student and lover of archæological matters and has

given assiduous attention to collecting and arranging the Indian relics of the country. His immense collection, open and free to the public is acknowledged to be the largest and most complete in America or Europe and embraces 20,000 pieces of stone, burnt clay, bone and copper, representing every known weapon of Indian warfare, and every variety of stone implement once used by the savages. The collection is valued at \$10,000 and Prof. Henry of the Smithsonian Institute at Washington and his successor, Prof. Baird, made repeated and unsuccessful efforts to obtain it for that institution. Dr. Hollister affiliates with no church, accepts no creeds, dogmas or doctrines recognized by the majority, believes in the golden rule, and looks carefully and gratuitously after the physical needs of all ministers of the gospel, indigent widows, and children living within his precinct." (Hollister Genealogy.)

Perhaps nothing that he ever did, more entitles him to the gratitude and respect of the community than the part he had in reforming the Providence poor house in 1872. The people of the district entrusted the poor farm affairs to the directors, who, it would appear, had little appreciation of their privileges and responsibilities, and were content in permitting the continuance of a state of affairs which would almost have disgraced the worst debtors' prison of London fifty years ago. The Doctor was the family physician of the resident superintendent, but learning the condition of affairs at the farm, he called attention of the Editor of the "Republican" to it and the urgent need of reform. Hon. John E. Barrett went with the Doctor to the farm and made a full investigation, the result of which was printed at length. The state board of charities as well as the people of the district were interested at once, and a thorough and lasting reform was instituted. Financial and other reasons would have constrained the Doctor to toleration and silence but his sympathetic nature and tender heart impelled him to this effort which resulted so beneficially.

Dr. Hollister was one of the projectors of the Wyoming Centennial celebration of 1878, and was among the most active in carrying it to a successful end. His collection of Indian relics, admirably arranged and displayed,



was noticeable feature of that event. When this association was incorporated he was made one of the vice presidents. He attended one or two of the annual meetings but was, about 1880, stricken with paralysis and thereafter confined to his chair. His patriotic, earnest letters always read here, have testified his unimpaired brain and his continued interest in our gatherings; they were noticeable also as breathing that cheerfulness which, notwithstanding his affliction, never failed him.

Dr. Hollister was married November 2, 1847, at Wilkes-Barre, to Mary E. Goff, daughter of Ex-Sheriff Goff of Luzerne County, who survives him. He leaves also three daughters: Frank, Mrs. H. C. Albright, of Utica; Gertrude, Mrs. Lackey, of Minneapolis; and Bessie, Mrs. W. E. Anderson, of Scranton.

This sketch cannot be better concluded than in the words of his friend, Hon. John E. Barrett: "Dr. Hollister combined with great tenderness of heart and open handed generosity a brusqueness of manner as candid as the mountain breeze. He was absolutely without guile and his extreme frankness was sometimes mistaken for harshness by those who were not acquainted with him, but those who knew him best recognized in him one of the kindest and gentlest of natures."

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## HON. LAZARUS DENISON SHOEMAKER.

BY GEORGE B. KULP, ESQ.

Hon. Lazarus Dennison Shoemaker, a name long familiar and well known to the people of this valley, lies in yonder cemetery; his voice hushed forever—silent in death. He had earned the sobriquet of "The Old Settler." No person in this presence had a more honored name—or more illustrious ancestry. He was a worthy son of Revolutionary sires. But a short distance from us his grandfather—he whose name he bore, died on the field of battle, fighting the foes of his country; ennobling his name with his heroic blood. He, the patriotic citizen, the Christian gentleman, the friend of the masses, the

Senior Vice-President of this Association; he whose voice was often heard in the Senate of the state and in the Federal Congress at Washington, never dishonored the name he bore, through all the years of his pilgrimage.

His maternal grandfather gallantly led the left wing of the American army at the ever memorable battle in honor of which we meet to-day to commemorate the virtue, the heroism, and the bravery of those of our ancestors who fell on that fatal July day, one hundred and sixteen years ago.

He had the blood of the Mayflower Pilgrim in his veins. His ancestor had fought with Cromwell for Constitutional liberty in England.

Lazarus Denison Shoemaker is no more. He has fought his last fight; he has finished his course; he kept the faith. No more shall we be guided by his counsel—no more shall we receive his approbation for honoring *his* ancestors and ours.

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# The Historical Record

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO

## The Early History of Wyoming Valley

AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY

WITH

### NOTES AND QUERIES

BIOGRAPHICAL, ANTIQUARIAN, GENEALOGICAL



EDITED BY F. C. JOHNSON.

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AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY

WITH

NOTES AND QUERIES

BIOGRAPHICAL, ANTIQUARIAN, GENEALOGICAL



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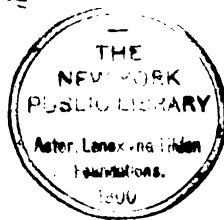
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# The Historical Record

VOL. VI.

No. 1

## 117 YEARS AGO.

### Recalling the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming.

**The Exercises at the Monument At-  
tended by an Even Larger Throng  
Than Usual—Well Known Partici-  
pants in the Order of the Day.**

Daily Record, July 4, 1895.

Persons who used to predict that the commemorative exercises at Wyoming Monument would last only a few years proved themselves neither prophets nor the sons of prophets. The gatherings on the third of July have gone on waxing greater each year until the seating capacity will have to be increased and the big canvases will have to be enlarged next year. The gathering was a large and representative one. The weather was perfect. The monument was beautifully decorated with flowers sent by Benjamin Dorrance. The Daughters of the American Revolution were present in a body, wearing the insignia of their office, as were the Colonial Dames and the Sons of the Revolution.

The wooden door on the monument has been replaced by a handsome bronze door, about 6 feet by 3, the gift of Mrs. Ellen A. Law of Pittston, one of the charter members of the Wyoming Monumental Association, the organization in which the title of the site is vested. The door bore a suitable inscription and was much admired.

The Ninth Regiment Band was present in full force, and Professor Alexander's men delighted the assemblage with its patriotic and classic selections, interspersed throughout the program.

President Calvin Parsons, in his informal preliminary remarks, asked any present who attended the laying of the corner stone sixty

years ago to rise. Those who responded were William Dickover, Edward S. Loop, Mrs. Mary F. Pfouts, Calvin Parsons. One or two others said they had relatives at home who had been present. George H. Welles of Wyalusing, not present, sent a letter referring to his having been at the corner stone laying.

A. Clark Sisson of La Pinne, who bears a striking likeness to Horace Greeley, was called on for a song and gave "The Sword of Bunker Hill" so pleasingly that the assemblage insisted on his singing again. He then gave a selection by Bayard Taylor entitled "Gen. Scott and Corporal Johnson." Mr. Sisson is a believer in patriotic songs and related the visit of some young American singers abroad who were called on for some of their national songs and did not know a single one. Mr. Sisson is well advanced in years, but his robust vocalism was a strong feature of the day. Announcement was made by Benjamin Dorrance of the following deaths in the membership since the meeting a year ago:

Aug. 21, 1894.—Samuel Sutton.

Sept. 6, 1894.—Col. C. M. Conyngham.

Dec. 27, 1894.—Rev. George Frear, D. D.

Feb. 8, 1895.—Sheldon Reynolds.

April 21, 1895.—Richard Sharpe.

June 3, 1895.—Col. Franklin Stewart.

Mr. Sisson read a biographical sketch of the late Rev. Dr. George Frear.

#### MR. BEECHER'S ADDRESS.

The speaker of the day was Rev. Thomas K. Beecher of Elmira, N. Y., a brother of the distinguished Henry Ward Beecher. Rev. Thomas K. Beecher is the last of several brothers, all of whom were preachers. A brief sketch of him appeared in yesterday's RECORD. Dr. Beecher is forceful and at times eloquent. He is witty, sparkling and a fascinating speaker. Dr. Beecher, who spoke without notes, began by alluding to the British and Indian invasion of Wyoming Valley from Elmira and Tioga Point 117 years ago and facetiously referred to his own visit as an invasion from that same Elmira, by way of that same Tioga Point, an invasion which the assemblage might regret ere he had finished, and I fear me much that you

will send your invitation next year reading thus: "Send us a mild massacre, but spare us the mouldy minister." But you have brought it down upon yourselves.

We celebrate, to-day, or rather we commemorate, a massacre, the details of which were so familiar that he would not recount them. Massacres, he said, are no novelty in this world. If a monument were set up to commemorate every massacre of the world the globe trotter would fancy himself in a stone yard looking at the handiwork of the cutter. In Europe crosses are set up to mark the spot where murders are said to have taken place. The speaker alluded to the avenging of Wyoming by the sending of Gen. Sullivan to crush the Six Nations, the expedition taking much life and destroying many homes and vast acres of tilled fields. True, this devastation was upon Indians, but Indians are men. The infamy of the massacre of Wyoming is heaped upon the Indians. The Indians have no champions.

Mr. Beecher said he was not here to champion the Indian, but he made a plea for him on the ground of humanity. We talk of the white man's wrongs but we overlook the red man's wrongs. On the ground that there were no good Indians but dead ones, our forefathers tried hard to turn them into good ones by killing them. Who can tell what kind of a man an Indian would be if he had never seen a white man? When the white man's weapons were added to the Indian's native cruelty he was a destructive being, and the Indian was not wholly responsible.

We celebrate massacres all the world over, for man is a fighting animal. I have stood on the field of Gettysburg and wondered what the boys in blue and the boys in gray would say to each other when they meet in the heavenly place and grasp each other by the hand. The speaker thought the first question by both would be what were we fighting about? Gettysburg is covered with so many monuments to mark the slaughter that they lose their significance by their very number.

Mr. Beecher dipped into political economy and remarked that the greed of gain had been the cause of nine-tenths of all the bloody conflicts the world has ever seen. The discovery of America and its conquest was in the pursuit of gain. Allusion was made to the practice which the European

monarchs had of selling tracts of land in America, which they did not own, and to the struggles growing out of the conflicting claims.

The primitive colonization of this land was under the impulse of acquisitiveness. All the explorers were looking for gold. Senator Sprague said: In the history of this cruel world, I have found nothing so cruel as a million dollars, except two million. The desire for gain has caused all the troubles of this world. When we rise above the brute beast the lust of life becomes the love of property. The Declaration of Independence says all men are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, but the modern demand seems to be for life, liberty and property. The perils which overlie our land is the question of property. Ask yourself what constitutes a just title in the sight of God? How much property may each man own? How can he dispose of this property? The Apostle Paul says: I am a debtor to all men, but the natural man says all men are debtors to me.

The Indians were often cheated out of their title. Into the injustice of the white man's title the Indian infused his cruelty. Let me remind you that the monument which is to draw all people toward it is the cross. The battle of industry is harder to fight than the battles of war. Peace hath her victories no less than war. Fight the good fight of faith in this fair valley and you will gain your reward.

#### A WYOMING HEROINE OF THE REVOLUTION.

A paper by Mrs. Miles L. Peck of Bristol, Conn., of the Daughters of the American Revolution, entitled, "Wyoming Heroine of the Revolution" by invitation of the chairman, was read by Mrs. Katherine Searle McCartney, regent of the Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. A synopsis is appended:

"A year ago, July 3, 1894, a company of ladies met in Bristol, Conn., and held exercises commemorative of the Wyoming Massacre. They represented the Daughters of the American Revolution and in accordance with a custom which prevails in Connecticut of naming their chapter after some woman who had lived during the revolution, they named the Bristol Chapter for Katherine Gaylord, a fugitive from the Wyoming massacre, a brave pioneer mother who lost her husband in the battle, gave up her only



son to the military service and endured many privations. There must of necessity, says the essayist, be many names upon the monument which represent to you who read them, nothing but the fact that they were actors in that desperate struggle on July 3, 1778. Two of those names, however, represent to us in Bristol something more than this. They were from our town, their descendants still live among us. These were Aaron Gaylord and Elias Roberts.

"Aaron Gaylord was born in Bristol in 1745, the son of one of its first settlers. He married Katherine Cole and three children were born to them in Bristol,—a son and two daughters. After serving five years in the Revolutionary war he and his family removed about 1776 to the Wyoming Valley to join the Connecticut colony. He was killed in the battle of Wyoming. His wife, Katherine, joined the throng of fugitives who set out across the almost pathless mountains for their old Connecticut homes. She and three children started early on the morning of July 4, but none too early, for before the sun arose they could see that the savages had set the torch to their homes. Day after day and night after night they made their way through the wilderness in constant peril from wild animals and from even more savage Indians, and in imminent danger of starvation. They were several weeks on this wearisome journey to Connecticut. His 13-year-old son, Daniel, afterwards served in the war, returned to Wyoming, married, and ultimately removed to Illinois.

"Elias Roberts was one of the earliest settlers in Bristol. He and his son, Thomas, were among the Connecticut people who settled Wyoming, and both were there at the time of the battle. The father was killed. Elias was the father of Gideon Roberts, a Connecticut volunteer who was one of the pioneers in the clock business in Bristol—those Yankee clocks now known all over the world."

Mrs. Peck's paper and its graceful reading by Mrs. McCartney elicited many compliments. It is a pleasing fact that the ladies of Bristol have raised funds for a monument to the memory of Katherine Gaylord, the Wyoming heroine, and the same was to have been dedicated yesterday, but the exercises have been postponed until autumn.

Mrs. McCartney read the paper with ex-

cellent effect, and accompanied the reading with some forceful and patriotic remarks of her own, which were warmly applauded.

#### SUFFERINGS OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY.

Rev. S. S. Kennedy read a brief paper descriptive of his paternal grand parents and their flight from Wyoming after the battle. Rather than give it in a condensed form the RECORD will hold it for insertion in a subsequent issue. Of three brothers one was killed by the Indians, as were his wife and five children; another was carried into captivity and never again heard of, and the third, the speaker's grandfather, succeeded in getting his family to safety. He and his family ended their days in Adams County. They owned their land in Wyoming Valley, but never returned to claim it.

Rev. David Craft of Lawrenceville made some impromptu remarks, in which he defended the Wyoming settlers from certain aspersions that had been cast upon them. True it was, they made a mistake in going out to give battle instead of acting on the defensive, and they would never have made the attack had they known the overwhelming strength of the combined force of British, Indians and Tories. They were only plain farmers, not a trained military force, and some of the greatest soldiers we know of, men trained to war, made mistakes just as serious. Mr. Craft is as charming a speaker as he is a writer on historical subjects and this brief address was no exception. He said he claimed an interest in Wyoming, not by inheritance of his own, but by that of his wife.

#### COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS.

President, Calvin Parsons.

Vice presidents, Garrick M. Harding, William L. Conyngham, Benjamin Dorrance, Charles A. Miner, Dr. J. R. Gore, Milton Bailey.

Secretary, F. C. Johnson.

Corresponding secretary, George H. Butler, Treasurer, Dr. Harry Hakes.

Librarian, William A. Wilcox.

Committee on grounds—Benjamin Dorrance, Robert T. Pettibone, William H. Jenkins,

Committee on program—William A. Wilcox, H. H. Harvey, Sidney R. Miner.

#### THE MEMBERSHIP.

The appended persons paid the membership fee of \$1 (some of them contributing

larger amounts for the expense fund) during either 1894 or 1895 or both:

Wilkes-Barre—Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Ather-ton, Miss Emily J. Alexander, Miss Carrie M. Alexander, W. Murray Alexander, George S. Bennett, Col. and Mrs. E. B. Beaumont, E. G. Butler, George H. Butler, W. L. Conyngham, Mrs. W. L. Conyngham, W. H. Conyngham, J. N. Conyngham, Joseph D. Coons, Col. C. Bow. Dougherty, Harry R. Deitrick, Andrew F. Derr, B. M. Espy, Rev. George Frear, D. D., Hon. C. D. Foster, Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden, Abram G. Hoyt, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hunt, J. W. Hollenback, J. S. Harding, H. H. Harvey, Andrew Hunlock, Wesley Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Johnson, Miss Ruth Johnson, Frederick Green Johnson, Robert M. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. George B. Kulp, George P. Loomis, E. S. Loop, W. D. Loomis, John Laning, George Loveland, A. W. McAlpine, Hon. Charles A. Miner, W. B. Miner, S. R. Miner, Col. Asher Miner, Stephen H. Miller, W. B. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. McClintock, L. Myers, Maj. O. A. Parsons, Miss Fannie L. Pfouts, Mrs. Mary F. Pfouts, George S. Pfouts, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Phelps, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Parrish, Miss Anna C. Parrish, Miss E. M. Parrish, Miss Kittle C. Parrish, J. B. Reynolds, Col. G. M. Reynolds, Mrs. Stella D. Reynolds, Miss Helen M. Reynolds, Schuyler L. Reynolds, Dorrance Reynolds, Mrs. Sheldon Reynolds, Richard Sharpe, Richard Sharpe, Jr., James Sutton, Samuel Sutton, Dr. and Mrs. L. I. Shoemaker, Dr. L. H. Taylor, George R. Wright, John G. Wood, Mrs. Stanley Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Woodward, H. H. Welles, Jr., Ralph H. Wadhams, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Welles.

Seranton—T. C. Von Storch, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Wilcox, Mrs. W. H. Heath, Mrs. E. F. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Potter, Judge R. W. Archbald, Col. and Mrs. H. M. Boles, William H. Freeman, Horace E. Hand, Mrs. Mary E. Hollister, Mrs. Thomas E. Jones, Jason H. Welles, Hon. L. A. Watres, Roswell H. Patterson, Col. E. H. Ripple, H. W. Rowley, W. R. Storrs.

Pittston—B. G. Cooper, Mrs. Annette Gorman, Charles Law, Rev. N. G. Parke, D. D., Mr. and Mrs. K. J. Ross, Miss Jessie Ross, Miss Marianna Ross, Theo. Strong, Milbourne Urquhart.

Wyoming—James D. Green, Anna M. Hutchins, Robert Hutchins, Mrs. Sallie Henry, William H. Jenkins, Mrs. Stauben

Jenkins, C. J. Ryman, S. R. Shoemaker, Mrs. Sarah Schooley, Mrs. W. S. Stites, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Polen.

Kingston—Dr. F. Coors, William Loveland, Abram Nesbitt, N. G. Pringle, J. Bennett Smith, Rev. H. H. Welles, D. D., Henry F. Johnson, Benj. B. Tubbs.

Plymouth—Edwin Davenport.

Dorrance—Benjamin Dorrance, George E. Fancourt.

Parsons—Mrs. Harriet Johnson Dunstan, Calvin Parsons.

Carbondale—Pierce Butler, Harry C. Butler.

Forty Fort—Hon. John B. Smith.

Catawissa—Mrs. Martha Polen Seesholtz.

Chicago—Dr. Joel R. Gore.

Jamestown, N. Y.—Milton Bailey.

Bellefonte—Judge James A. Beaver.

Philadelphia—Mrs. Florence Jenkins.

Peely—H. B. Plumb.

Wyalusing—George H. Welles.

Huntsville—Dr. J. J. Rogers.

Berwick—Frank Stewart.

Plains—C. M. Williams.

LaPlume—A. Clark Blason.

#### NOTES.

Rev. Dr. Parke was down for the benediction, but between the music, the giving of some announcements and the beginning to disperse, it had to be omitted.

S. Judson Stark of Tunkhannock wrote that he had been unable to prepare for this meeting a sketch of Old Putnam, one of the seventeen townships, but he hoped to be able to attend next year and to bring with him the Putnam record and survey, also the old compass used in the survey—which is an interesting relic.

The Historical Society has during the last year obtained a document, the surrender of Wintermoot's fort, signed by the British Col. Butler and by the Indian chief, Old King, showing conclusively, as many believe, that it was the latter and not Brant, who commanded the Indians during the battle and massacre of Wyoming.

Two new vice presidents of the society are Dr. J. R. Gore of Chicago and Milton Bailey of Jamestown, N. Y. They are descended from the Gore family, of whom five were killed in the battle.

After the exercises a young woman was seen passing her fingers over the marble slab in the monument, which bears the names of the victims. This was Miss Lily M. Bonfield of West Pittston, a blind girl.

## CALVIN PARSONS,

About Whose Life Cling the Memories of Old Wyoming.

The RECORD presents herewith a portrait of Calvin Parsons, who presided July 3, at the annual monument exercises of the Wyoming Commemorative Association. Mr. Parsons is one of our oldest residents, though he does not look it by a decade or two. He reached his 80th birthday in April last. He celebrated his golden wedding eight years ago and if he and his estimable wife are both spared they will celebrate the fifty-eighth anniversary of their marriage next month, Aug. 17, 1895. Mr. Parsons wooed and won his wife at a time when the



only facilities for courting her were those afforded by a horseback trip from Wyoming Valley to Connecticut and back. Their married life has been a long and happy one, such as is vouchsafed to but few. Mr. Parsons has spent his entire life at the old homestead in the borough of Parsons, known in years gone by as Laurel Run. He was one of the projectors of the Wyoming Commemorative Association and can always be relied on to attend the meetings. The blood of the Connecticut pioneers flows in his veins. His maternal grandfather, Stephen Whiton, and his great-grandfather, Anderson Dana, both fell victims to British and Indian cruelty on July 3, 1776. The flight

of those made widows and orphans, and of their perils in crossing the almost pathless wilderness to Connecticut, is graphically told in the histories. On this terrible flight more than one woman was seized with the pangs of maternity, and thus it was that the mother of Mr. Parsons was born.

Mr. Parsons is a man of public spirit and though an octogenarian he is not an "old foggy" in any sense of the word. On the contrary he is progressive to a marked degree. He possesses a constitution and a degree of health that speaks volumes of his prudent habits of life. He has been a total abstainer from intoxicants since early manhood and has held the highest position in the Sons of Temperance, with which he is still affiliated. He has been a life long member of the First Presbyterian Church, and a frequent delegate to the general assemblies of that great organization. He is an officer of the Historical Society, a director of the Wilkes-Barre Water Co., and of the People's Bank, probably of other local institutions. At the ripe age of 80 years he is as young as ever in purpose and personality and his mental and bodily powers are unabated. His step is as elastic as that of a man of 50 and his advice and counsel is as much sought as it was 10, 20, 40 years ago. May he long be spared to his family and to the community.

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### An Old Heirloom.

W. C. Creasy, residing on North Main street, is the proud possessor of a Masonic heirloom which money cannot buy. It is a razor, supposed to be over 200 years old. The blade, which is still in fine condition, has engraved upon one side several Masonic emblems representing all the degrees known in America, and many others with which the owner is not familiar. Mr. Creasy inherited it from his grandfather, William Clark, who died twenty years ago at the age of 82. He received it from his grandfather. The present owner is the fourth grandson who has come into possession of the razor, the rule being that the oldest grandson should inherit it.

Mr. Creasy has had several tempting offers for the historic blade from prominent Masons, but has refused them all. It will descend to his oldest grandson.

**WYOMING'S THIRD OF JULY.**

Daily Record, July 3, 1895.

To-day we commemorate an event which figures in every history of the country—the battle and massacre of Wyoming. One hundred and seventeen years ago our forefathers marched out from Forty Fort to meet a combined foe of British, Tories and Indians and so overwhelming was the invading enemy that he won the day with comparatively little loss, while the brave defenders of home and kindred were almost exterminated.

The event was of more than local significance, for it practically sounded the death knell of Indian power in the colonies. President Washington sent Gen. John Sullivan to avenge the deed and in the following summer the dreaded Six Nations were crushed in their stronghold, and except from scattering bands of redskins the frontiers were ever after rendered safe.

But white winged peace was not to brood for long upon this favored region. The British were gone, indeed, and so were their treacherous sympathizers, the Tories and their savage allies, the Indians, but Wyoming was called upon to deal with a foe almost as cruel and as blood-thirsty as the others—a foe of her own household. The Connecticut settlers' title to the land was disputed by claimants under Pennsylvania, and for thirty years the domestic war raged with greater or less intensity, many valuable lives being lost on both sides. The story of the Pennamite War is told in histories and it is well worth knowing.

It seems preposterous that British monarchs should have been so unbusiness like as to deed the same soil to two different parties, but it was done more than once and strife and bloodshed followed as inevitably as disaster follows when in our day two locomotives try to pass one another on the same track.

It is well that we recount the brave deeds of our ancestors. We, their descendants, who live in luxuriant times need to contrast our condition with theirs lest we become weak and effeminate. The story of those days which tried men's souls is not told often enough and it is more than sentiment which prompts a few patriotic men and women to meet at the Wyoming monument each year and strive to learn some of the lessons which come down to us from that gory past.

If the celebration of these memorial days which tell of Lexington, Bunker Hill, Concord, Saratoga, Yorktown, Bennington, Stony Point, Valley Forge, the Declaration, and Wyoming, does not cause our pulses to throb more quickly, then is history written for us in vain and we are unworthy to have the blood of the patriotic men and women of the Revolution coursing in our sluggish veins. Let us, as we review the past, strive to reach a higher ideal of our glorious inheritance and of our privileges and responsibilities—let us determine that the comfortable ease of the nineteenth century shall not rob us and our children of our virility, but on the other hand that we may each and all prove ourselves worthy of those suffering men and women who died that we might live.

F. C. J.

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**That Lancaster Relic.**

A noted relic of Revolutionary times discovered at Lancaster, a few days ago, is the field and camp order book in which General Sullivan made record of his march in the summer of 1779 from New York to Wyoming and up the Susquehanna Valley. The book was found among some papers that had belonged to Captain Meyer, who was General Sullivan's orderly in that campaign.—[Evening Leader.]

The above item is correct, though instead of a few days it was found over a year ago, as published in the RECORD at the time. It was an interesting relic and was sold to the National Government to be placed in the archives. The finder was J. C. Leamon, who came across it among the effects of his grandfather, a Revolutionary rifle-maker of Lancaster.

## SONS OF THE REVOLUTION.

### The Only Formal Celebration in Town.

**Excellent Address by Rev. Dr. Andrews of Guilford, Conn., a Well Known Student of History—Reviews the Declaration of Independence and Incidents Preceding and Following the Signing.**

Daily Record, July 5, 1895.

The only local celebration of Independence Day in Wilkes-Barre was that of the Sons of the Revolution. The exercises were held in the Historical Society building at 10 a. m. The assemblage was large, representative and enthusiastic in its patriotic manifestations. The Colonial Dames were also present and the Daughters of the American Revolution wearing badges and many others. Rev. Thomas K. Beecher of Elmira, who made the address at Wyoming monument the preceding day, was present as a guest. The room was decorated with flags and with the blue and yellow of the Pennsylvania Sons.

A quartet comprising Mrs. Freudenberg, Miss Sliak, Richard Williams and Fred R. Smith sang patriotic hymns, Professor Alexander accompanying on organ. Rev. Dr. Hodge made the invocation and Rev. Dr. Jones read the Declaration of Independence.

Rev. Mr. Hayden announced that the society would offer a prize of \$10 for the best essay on a Revolutionary topic, to the pupils of the local schools.

Charles F. Rockwell, a member from Honesdale, presented photographs of three aunts of his, daughters of a Revolutionary soldier, Jabez Rockwell. Their names are Mrs. Phebe Gainfort, Ellenville, N. Y., 10th child, born 1805; Catherine Bowden, Stroudsburg, 12th child, born 1812; Lucinda Valentine, Brooklyn, N. Y., born 1816.

The speaker of the day was Rev. Dr. Andrews, of Guilford, Conn., a well known student of history and a college classmate of

Rev. Dr. Hodge. He was listened to with the closest attention and with every evidence of appreciation.

The speaker began by saying that he doubted whether any theme could better accord with the time and the place than the charter of Connecticut and the Declaration of Independence. He would try to show how the information given in the charter to the people by the king, helped to prepare for the people's accession, announced in the declaration, to a throne loftier than a king's.

The charter of Connecticut was granted in 1662, and the territory which it gave to the free-men of the colony was very much larger than his majesty's kingdom, Great Britain and Ireland. It extended from Narragansett Bay across the continent to the Pacific and roughly speaking, occupied the space between the forty-first and forty-second parallels of latitude. Narrow as this ribbon of land was when we consider its enormous length of 2,700 miles, and nearly impossible as it is was that the whole of it should ever be controlled by one local government, there is much which kindles the imagination in the king's grant to Connecticut. There is a strange fascination in the thought of the jeweled zone clasped by a monarch's careless hand across the virgin continent and carelessly labeled Connecticut.

But King Charles II was really doing far more than he dreamed of; he was yielding the immemorial claim of kings to the ownership of the earth. The charter begins by reciting, as the motive for granting it, the acquisition of the soil which grantees occupied, by purchase and conquest and its subjugation and improvement by them. That is to say, the king was giving the colonists their own; he was making confession that those who had redeemed the wilderness for civilization were its rightful possessors. The charter in effect declared that the Connecticut belt belonged to the people of that time and of all times. The king's claim gave way to the people's claim forever.

The speaker went on to show how poor a guardian did the king prove of the territorial rights which he conceded so royally, and how he began robbing his subjects, not only of what they had received as his grant, but of a large part of the soil which they themselves had won from nature. How (in 1674) the royal brothers, Charles and

the Duke of York, again illustrated the turpidity of the Stuarts by the issue of a patent which once more invaded Connecticut territory. This dismemberment, which an armed force actually attempted to accomplish, the colonies successfully protested against, acting as its rulers naturally said, "In faithfulness to our royal sovereign and in obedience to his majesty's commands in his gracious charter to this colony." Thus did they proclaim their fidelity to the sovereign who was so false to them. How false he was and how much value he set upon an instrument bearing his own kingly seal was shown once more in 1681, when he gave away five degrees in longitude of the territory which he himself had made Connecticut soil, lying west of the Delaware. William Penn was a far worthier recipient of royal bounty than James Stuart, but the transaction sufficiently completes the illustration of the insecurity which charters, as grants of territory, enjoyed in the keeping of the crown. Perhaps the most prominent result of royal action in partitioning American soil has been disputes about boundaries, barely ended to-day.

On the Fourth of July, 1776, a new sovereign, not then quite clearly recognized as such, assumed the essential rights and powers of the king of England. The signers of the Declaration of Independence spoke in the name and by the authority of the good people of these colonies," and the People had become royal. The People declared the thirteen colonies independent States, and the People had nearly won independence for the States, before, in 1871, the Articles of Confederation assumed to transform a nation into a league of sovereignties.

Two-thirds of the royal land grants had been practically void from the outset. The demand for the surrender of nearly all the rest, now urged by Congress, not in the name of the States but of the Union, that is of the American people, was reasonable and just. It rested on the principle underlying the Connecticut charter, that the land belonged to those who had won it and could effectively occupy it. And when Connecticut in 1780 offered to cede the larger part of what she claimed west of Pennsylvania, while seeming to relinquish chartered rights she in fact maintained the spirit of the charter. That instrument had virtually transferred control over the territories from

king to people. Connecticut and her sister States now recognized the new power, the new sovereignty, freely indeed, yet royally. The formal concession of the land in question was delayed for some years longer (1786), but the offer was, and was felt to be, a sufficient pledge that the people's demand would be respected.

Far more significant of the new order which the Declaration of Independence opened, and of the fact that a new king had been therein proclaimed, more completely master of the American soil and ruler over the American commonwealths than any king of England ever was, was what took place in November 1782. The articles of confederation had meantime gone into effect, and in them Bancroft says that "America had seated anarchy deep in the very source of legislation;" the States were separate sovereignties and the articles furnished scarcely any central authority at all. Yet those articles had provided that Congress should be the last resort on appeal in all disputes between States. And under this provision the United States, that is the people of America, took away from Connecticut what was left of her claim under the charter, alike as to territory and jurisdiction.

In those earlier instruments the monarchs of England had unconsciously evoked a sovereign in America whose word of power was heard in the later one and thenceforth the bodies politic erected by a distant ruler felt that the throne of a king was among them, but far more interesting and important than any grants of territory is the erection by charter of those bodies politic; especially interesting and important is the recognition of political rights given in the charter of Connecticut. It was a recognition rather than an original grant, for those rights were already in use, but it was marvelous that a Stuart king seeing them in use should not rather have snatched them away. Instead of that he solemnly established in the body politic called Connecticut, a nearly independent republic of the most Democratic type. Its people chose all their local rulers. Every function of government was theirs, in every form short of absolute sovereignty, and the charter of Charles II had in fact recognized the State as a true political society.

The speaker continued his subject, giving a most interesting study of the development of government in Connecticut, and of the colonies in general and of the changes leading up to the Declaration of Independence.

## OVER THE TURNPIKE.

### Along the Route to Stoddartsville.

#### Memories of Pioneer Times Suggested by Scenes Along the Route — The "Shades of Death" Now a Beautiful Country.

##### I.

A rather hard place to get to is Stoddartsville, but once you are there you feel amply repaid for the eighteen or twenty miles ride over the mountains from Wilkes-Barre. It is eighteen miles by the old road through Oliver's Mills, but by the new turnpike it is a couple of miles longer, though the greater distance is fully compensated for by the comparative freedom from hills. One drives out of Wilkes-Barre through Kidder street, crosses Coal Brook by the new bridge, leaves the borough of Parsons to the left, climbs the hills past the old Baltimore mines by an easy grade, crosses the back track of the Central on a pretty rustic bridge, and just before dropping the valley from sight one comes to the toll gate. It is a pretty little house, rustic in effect, not yet finished, and the traveler pays 10 cents to ride over the turnpike one way. Three miles from Wilkes-Barre the traveler finds himself in a rocky gorge through which tumbles the pretty little mountain stream, Laurel Run. The mountain to the right is the one on which Mountain Park is located a short distance away, and around this abrupt curve the Jersey Central trains are dashing by, high overhead. If one were to follow the stream it would bring one to Oliver's Mills, but the road leaves Laurel Run at this point and a good stiff hill a mile long has to be climbed. On the opposite side of the gorge from the Jersey Central tracks is the Lehigh Valley cut-off, and here the view is a particularly pretty one. Not far away is the scene of the mountain murder and the cave in which "Red Nosed Mike," who afterwards hung for his crime, hid the paymaster's money. All along are pretty rustic bridges. Here and there is a pine

tree, though but few are left where once was a luxuriant pine and hemlock forest. Crossing the Valley cut-off by an iron and rustic bridge, the summit is reached and here is a rustic tower, from which may be had a wide mountain view and a last glimpse of Wyoming Valley, the borough of Parsons in the distance.

The turnpike strikes the old main road to Bear Creek a little beyond Barney Bearfoss's, known to many as Seven-Mile-Jack's, a country hotel in great favor with fishermen and with travelers generally. This is the spot where a pioneer family named Bullock lived at the time of the Wyoming massacre in 1778 and was where the fugitives who fled from the valley on the morning after the carnage passed their first night. The occupants had fled, thinking the Indians would soon be upon them, but left a store of provisions which served the sorry fugitives a good purpose. At this time there was little more than a bridle path from the Wyoming settlements across the wilderness to the Delaware and Connecticut, in after years substantially adopted as a highway by the Wilkes-Barre & Easton Turnpike Co.

The following year (1779) Gen. Sullivan's army cut a road through the forest from Easton to Wilkes-Barre and though it corresponds with the general line of the present road the two are entirely different. Traces of the Sullivan military road may still be seen by observing woodsmen, who say its course is marked by a growth of scrub pines, nowhere else seen.

There can be no finer drives than the shale roads which have been constructed through the liberality of Gen. Oliver, Albert Lewis and others, but after passing Bear Creek the traveler leaves them and strikes ordinary country roads. In places they are very rough, either from stones with which they have been filled or from logs, the remains of an old time corduroy road. There are few dwellers along the road, though here and there are abandoned houses, also clearings from which almost all vestiges of human occupancy have disappeared. For what was once a flourishing lumber region relapsed into wilderness with the disappearance of the timber. Forest fires have added to the desolation and what should now be vast stretches of second growth timber are nothing but

barren wastes. People who have lived here all their lives say that within a generation they have seen second growth pine twenty inches in diameter, but this has nearly all been destroyed by forest fires.

Much of the region between Bear Creek and Stoddardsville was known to the pioneers as the "Shades of Death." It was a low, swampy region abounding with an almost impenetrable growth of timber, in which the sun could scarcely penetrate, even at noon day, and here the fleeing fugitives experienced many hardships, some perishing of hunger and exhaustion.

Stoddardsville has an interesting history, but it must be reserved for another chapter. Once a flourishing town with brilliant prospects, it is now only a country cross roads hamlet, of three or four families. It has beautiful natural advantages that recommend it as a delightful resort for summer seekers after rest and change, and if it had railroad accommodations would bound into speedy favor.

It is on the border line between Luzerne and Monroe counties. Though the Lehigh river separates the two counties, yet by some curious freak of the engineers who made the survey the river at Stoddardsville is entirely in Luzerne county, so that Monroe evades any responsibility as to bridge construction.

Stoddardsville is the only village in Buck Township except Gouldsboro. Lewis Stull has been postmaster ever since he first came here thirty-eight years ago, through all political administrations. He says the Democratic presidents appointed him for being a Democrat and the Republican presidents appointed him to punish him for not being a Republican. There is a daily mail from Gouldsboro station, sixteen miles distant, on the D., L. & W. R. R. The nearest point on the W.-B. & E. R. R. is Wagner's Station, six miles distant, though as yet trains do not stop nearer than Stauffer's, ten miles distant.

Buck Township has thirty-six registered voters and it is a Democratic stronghold. At the last presidential election there were twenty votes cast (an unusually big turnout) and of these Cleveland got all but three. Across the river in Monroe it is said there are some voters who are still shouting for Jackson.

In the little burying ground at Stoddardsville lies George Buck, after whom the town-

ship is named. He died in 1831 and his grave-stone says he was about 105 years old. If these figures are correct he was much older than his wife, who according to her grave-stone was only 64 at the time of his death. He was one of the Hessian troops employed by Great Britain during the Revolution. Though he came to America to help whip the Americans he liked the country well enough to make it his home for the rest of his days. He was the first tavernkeeper in Buck and for many years kept the mountain inn remembered as Terwilliger's and now known as Tucker's, the resort of many Wilkes-Barre fishermen.

In this burying ground repose some of the Stoddards, relatives of the Wilkes-Barre Stoddards. A grave stone knocked from its base and lying almost concealed by earth and weeds marks the resting place of the father of ex-sheriff Whitaker of Wilkes-Barre.

The interesting story of the rise and fall of Stoddardsville will be told in another article.

F. C. J.

## STODDARDSVILLE.

### Memories of Early Times in That Region.

#### The Enterprise of a Philadelphia Merchant to Establish a Big Business in a Wilderness—Can the Latent Power in Its Falls now Going to Waste be Utilized?

• II.

In a former article Stoddardsville was mentioned as a place of great expectations three quarters of a century ago, but that its hopes were blasted and it is now a hamlet of less than half a dozen houses. It has no hotel, store or school house and at such times as a doctor must be had—occasions rare in so salubrious a locality—he comes from Wilkes-Barre, and his fee for his forty mile trip over the mountains is considerable, usually \$25. A doctor can be had at White Haven, eleven miles distant, for proportionately less. But the elevation is some 1,500 feet, the air is balmy and pure, the water beyond suspicion,



and the people seldom require either pills, powders or potions. In case of sickness, ordinary home remedies and good care usually suffice to bring the sufferer safely and speedily around.

Stoddartsville lies on the direct road to Easton on

#### THE PATH FIRST LOCATED

by the Wyoming pioneers, approximately followed by Sullivan's army in 1779 and permanently adopted by the Wyoming & Easton Turnpike Co. This company was chartered in 1803 and after some four or five years in construction was completed to the Delaware at a cost of \$75,000. The turnpike proved so profitable that several 5 per cent. dividends were paid. During the War of 1812 the farmers of Northampton county were unable to procure land plaster from the seaboard, owing to the embargo on American shipping, and were compelled to use New York plaster, which was conveyed down the Susquehanna on arks to Wilkes-Barre and thence in sleds and wagons over the turnpike. This thoroughfare proved of great importance for many years and there are scores of people who remember it in its palmy days as a stage and commercial line.

In the early days of turnpike travel, Luzerne county was an agricultural district but as there was no considerable home market it had to look to Philadelphia for purchasers. Easton was the market point for Luzerne county grain but—in these railroad days we can scarcely realize it—there was no route thither except over the turnpike:

#### IT IS JUST HERE THAT

The story of Stoddartsville and its splendid water power begins. John Stoddart was a wealthy merchant of Philadelphia and he thought he saw a great business opportunity. The falls of the Lehigh would furnish the power for a great milling industry and the grain of Luzerne county would no longer have to be hauled in wagons to Easton but would be ground at his mills and be conveyed to Philadelphia easily and cheaply by the navigation company's slack-water canal system. He saw that he could save Luzerne county farmers the greater part of the 60-mile haul to Easton by buying their wheat at the Lehigh and the project was a safe and judicious one, but force of adverse circumstances strangled it in its infancy.

Mr. Stoddart accordingly laid out a town at the falls in 1815 and it bears his name to-day, though he projected a city instead of the hamlet that it has since become. He built an extensive grist mill and a busy little mountain village opened up. Had the original plans of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co. (which did so much to develop Northeastern Pennsylvania in the early part of the century), been carried out Mr. Stoddart's venture would have been successful, but a radical change in the navigation plans took place and the Stoddartsville project became a failure which almost ruined its enterprising projector. According to the charter Stoddartsville was to have been the head of navigation, but by some means or other the navigation company decided to make White Haven the head of its canal system and this action, which Mr. Stoddart could not possibly have foreseen left Stoddartsville away off in the pine forests, a dozen miles away from that great commercial highway of the navigation company, which was to float the flour of Luzerne County to Philadelphia. Mr. Stoddart bravely undertook to fight against fate by hauling his flour to Easton by wagon, but it took only two or three years of this kind of business to wreck his enterprise completely.

While his Stoddartsville venture was being wrecked by local causes his Philadelphia mercantile establishment, one of the largest in that city, was completely destroyed by the financial stringency growing out of the ruinous embargo acts and other evil effects of the War of 1812, which carried down so many of our American merchants. His fortune was swept away and he was never able to regain it and was compelled to end his days as a clerk in a commercial establishment.

He never spent much time at Stoddartsville himself, but placed in charge his son Isaac who built a splendid home here and

#### DAZZLED THE COUNTRY FOLK

by bringing his bride in a coach and four. The young wife was Miss Lydia Butler, whose grandfather was Col. Zebulon Butler, who led the Wyoming soldiery on the fatal 31 of July, 1778. Her great-grandfather was Rev. Jacob Johnson, who was the pioneer pastor at Wilkes-Barre. The married life of Isaac Stoddart and his wife proved a long and happy one and was blessed with eleven children.

The house, occupied many years now by Lewis Stull, indicates the broad ideas which the Stoddarts possessed. Its rooms are large and the ceilings high. In the generous fire places log fires blazed in the old days and probably do yet when the winter nights are long and drear. The mantles were of elaborate carving and the folding doors were so high as to reach the ceiling. All the parts of the house, except the rough lumber, were hauled on wagons from Philadelphia.

After this lapse of time it is a place of beauty to-day. It stands on a slope, shaded with maples and fir and balsam, and at the foot is the Lehigh, the murmur of whose roar, heard summer and winter, sounds strangely like the wash of the sea. Across the road is the store building recalling the busy lumbering days of half a century ago. Over the Corinthian pillars is the sign of Malone & Buckman, the letters of which are as black as if painted only last year. Down by the stream is the four and a half story ruin of the stone mill, which swallowed up so much of John Stoddard's money long ago. The mill stones were idle for forty years after the bursting of the navigation hopes, and in 1857 the big structure was destroyed by fire. It was at this time occupied as a part of the lumber making plant of Mr. Stull, which was again making Stoddartsville so busy a hive of industry. Then came

#### THE GREAT FRESHET

of 1862, which swept away the navigation company's improvements in the Lehigh below White Haven and for the second time left Stoddartsville off by itself in the forest. This flood resulted in the drowning of fully 100 persons along the Lehigh.

After the failure of Mr. Stoddard's milling project, owing to the making of White Haven the head of navigation, Stoddartsville fell into decay until the region began to be invaded by the hardy lumberman in the 30's. Then the whole country became alive with lumber camps and saw mills were running day and night in all directions.

At Stoddartsville a dam was built on the falls and the back water created a pool similar to that at Bear Creek, extending up stream for a considerable distance. The hemlock and pine logs from up country were floated down to the boom at the pool. The

#### SCENES DURING THE FRESHETS

When the logs were carried on the dam

with a mighty rush and roar are described with great vividness by persons who were here at that time. In order to get rafts past the falls, the product of saw mills further up stream at Gouldsboro, Drinker's and other points, there was constructed of timber and planks, a chute, or as it was called, a plane. The rafts of lumber, 12 feet wide and 64 feet long were run from the pool into the chute and then a flood gate was opened and the raft was washed down into the slack water below the falls, known as Dam One. There were several of these dams between Stoddartsville and White Haven, and the improvement was the property of the Upper Lehigh Navigation Co. They were used until the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co.'s dams were swept out by the flood of 1862. After that time the lumber of the Gouldsboro region was hauled to the D., L. & W. R. R. So long as any timber remained in the Stoddartsville region it was floated down on spring freshets to the mills at White Haven.

As if Stoddartsville had not had misfortune enough it was nearly

#### DESTROYED BY A FOREST FIRE

In May, 1875. The fire began near White Haven and cut a swath a mile or more wide for a length of thirty miles. It was only stopped near Gouldsboro by the Sand Cut of the D., L. & W. R. R. on the Pocono Mountain. The loss of timber was tremendous. At Stoddartsville the heat and darkness were appalling and the inhabitants were threatened with extreme peril but luckily they escaped with their lives, except one woman, though several buildings were burned. The fire cut a clean path and licked up everything of a combustible character, the fire spreading by the intensity of the heat as well as directly by the flames.

This was the last of the lumbering industry in this region, which had covered the period from about 1835 to 1875.

Mention has already been made of Isaac Stoddart, who was his father's manager at Stoddartsville. Another son of John Stoddart, Joseph, is still living and though a resident of Philadelphia he has a cottage in Stoddartsville and passes his summers there in comfortable retirement. He is the father of Mrs. George H. Butler. He was partially disabled by a stroke of paralysis ten years ago, but he is a man of unbounded energy and by systematic exercise he has largely regained his powers. He has a fine outfit of

woodworking tools and busies himself in making useful articles which he either presents to his friends or gives to churches to be placed on sale. The only thing to mar his quiet retreat is the growing illness of his wife, whose presence used to lend so rare a charm to summer life in Stoddartville. From a slightly bluff on Mr. Stoddart's grounds can be had the most picturesque view of the region. The tract is kept as far as possible in a state of nature, pines and rhododendrons and other denizens of the forest having been left undisturbed.

As a Philadelphia Stoddart (Isaac) had gone to Wyoming Valley to marry a Butler in those early days, so it was both interesting and fitting that a Wyoming Valley Butler (George H.) should in recent years go to Philadelphia and bring as his bride a Stoddart, a niece of that same Isaac, and thus return a compliment in kind.

William and Harry Stoddart, present prominent wholesale merchants in Wilkes-Barre, are cousins, and are grandsons of the pioneer John Stoddart's brother Leonard, who came came from Northumberland and kept the public house at Stoddartville many years. William Stoddart is a son of Henry Stoddart, who succeeded his father in the hotel and Harry's father was the late John Stoddart.

The falls of the Lehigh at Stoddartville would furnish a

#### MAGNIFICENT WATER POWER

for some industry, and there are persons who believe it would be feasible to harness them for furnishing electricity to Wilkes-Barre. The Lehigh in the course of a few rods has a fall of some thirty-five feet, and a competent engineer who has figured on the volume and velocity of the stream estimates that 290-horse power is constantly going to waste twenty-four hours a day, and of course if this water were dammed so as to prevent waste this power could be vastly increased.

A word as to the destruction of the timber. Friends of forest preservation tell us that the destruction of the timber noticeably diminishes the water supply of a region. Persons now living who knew the Lehigh falls when the timber was standing say the volume of water was fully twice what it is now.

#### THE BOGUS CITY OF ROME.

The story of the fall of Stoddartville would not be complete without reference to a gigantic swindling scheme which was set

afoot early in the century by a party of Philadelphia speculators. The Great Swamp near Stoddartville was purchased in 1810 by this dishonest syndicate and laid out as the "City of Rome." A city government was organized and mechanics of various trades were deluded in buying lots and removing thither. The swindle was at length exposed by Charles Miner in his newspaper, the *Wilkes-Barre Gleaner*, but not until, as Pearce says, many poor men had invested their means and removed to the "Shades of Death." 100 miles from the sea board, a dark and gloomy swamp through which fled the fugitives from Wyoming after the massacre of 1778.

F. C. J.

#### HER NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY.

The nineteenth birthday anniversary of Mrs. Sarah Jackson was observed July 8, 1895, by a family party at the residence of William H. Jackson of West Pittston, with whom she has made her home for several years. Those constituting the party were Mrs. Pamela Frantz of Carverton, who also celebrated her seventy-fourth birthday anniversary at the same time; Rev. and Mrs. Wrigley of Carverton; G. L. C. Frantz, Mrs. Hubert Frantz and Mrs. Daniel Frantz, Mrs. C. F. Sutherland, George T. Sutherland and Miss Ina Sutherland of Wilkes-Barre, and Mrs. Frank Patten of West Pittston. Mrs. Jackson was unfortunate in getting a very severe fall a week before and was unable to appreciate as fully as she otherwise would have the presence of her friends, although the gathering was a very pleasant one. Mrs. Jackson was previous to her marriage to the late Samuel Jackson of Carverton Miss Sarah Phenix of a family noted for its longevity, her father having lived to the age of 108 years, and retaining his mental vigor to the last. She is herself a remarkably well preserved woman, requiring no assistance in taking care of herself. Her sight and hearing are good, and unless taken off by some severe illness bids fair to celebrate her hundredth anniversary.

#### FROM THE DAYS OF OUR ANCESTORS.

Postmaster C. M. Williams of Plainsville was recently presented with a wooden hinge taken from the old homestead built by Capt.

Jeremiah Blanchard in 1787 on the bank of the Susquehanna River at Port Blanchard. The landmark has been recently demolished. It was a one and a half story building and was no doubt one of the handsomest in the valley at that time. The hinge was made of white oak and was fastened to the cellar door with hand made nails. The crossbar of the hinge is three feet long and the upright strap twelve inches. The only thing about it made of iron is the nails. On the site of the old building which was taken down by Ebenezer Blanchard, a grandson of the builder, a handsome modern residence is being erected. Jeremiah Blanchard, the builder of the house, was an uncle of O. M. Williams.

Mr. Williams was also presented with an old fence post axe recently dug up in the cellar of the old Halfway House, a celebrated midway tavern between Pittston and Wilkes-Barre. The axe is very narrow and is hand-made and was used to make notches for fence posts when augers and other tools were too dear to be used by farmers.

#### EARLY ORPHAN'S COURT RECORD

In the battle of Wyoming July 3, 1778, one of the victims was Major John Garrett, the story of whose life and death has recently been told in a pamphlet by Rev. H. E. Hayden. From the latter it appears that nearly ten years afterwards, John Cary, of Wilkes-Barre, was granted by the Court of Luzerne county, September 11, 1787, letters of administration on the estate of Major John Garrett, bond £500, Nathan Cary and Solomon Avery, sureties; Eben Bowman and John Scott, witnesses. An inventory of the estate was made Aug. 29, 1788, and the administrator's account rendered May 31, 1790, but they are both lost.

In 1788 Cary confirmed the reported destruction of Major Garrett's personal property in his application to the court for power to sell real estate:

"To the Honorable the Orphans' Court of the County of Luzerne. John Cary, administrator of the estate of John Garrett, late of Wilkes-Barre, deceased, Humbly sheweth, That there is no personal estate of the deceased to be found, the same having been lost or destroyed in the general destruction of the settlement in 1778. That the debts exhibited against the estate appear to

amount to the sum of one hundred and twenty-six pounds, three shillings and four pence, one farthing, besides the charges of administration. Wherefore your petitioner prays for an order of the Court for the sale of the whole real estate of said deceased for payment of said debts and charges of administration. JOHN CARY.

Wilkes-Barre, Sept. 1, 1788.

The Court authorized the sale on the same day. It was advertised to take place Oct. 7th, 1788, at the house of Abel Yarrington, in Wilkes-Barre, but the property was not conveyed until June 15th, 1790.

#### A VETERAN FROM SOUTH DAKOTA.

J. Taylor Bennett of Egan, Moody County, South Dakota, in renewing his Record says that there are plenty of Indians near him but they are well educated by the government and are good mechanics. He says the potato bugs have all left Dakota. He drops into history as follows:

I am 84 years old and my wife is 82 and we do all our own work.

In my boyhood I knew many of the old settlers who escaped from the massacre of 1778. On my mother's side the men were all killed.

My great grandmother and her three children escaped from the valley through Solomon's Gap with eighty fugitives and only one man to pilot them through the "big woods" to Easton.

My grandmother was a Benedict and married John Taylor, that is where I got my name. The Benedicts lived a mile and a half southwest of Hyde Park. When I was a small boy I went to Slocum Hollow (now Soranton) to mill.

#### BROUGHT THE FIRST PRINTING PRESS.

B. H. Howard of the Mansfield State Normal School is visiting Henry W. Merritt of Plains. Mr. Howard was a member of the class of '88, and last year finished the scientific course. He was also one of the organizers of the S. S. Society of that school. His great-grandfather, Charles Howard, brought the first printing press into Wilkes-Barre, hauling it all the way from Bridgeport, Conn., with a team of oxen.

## OLDEST BOOK IN TOWN.

Several books have been mentioned in the Record as being probably the oldest in town, but they all have to take a back seat for one that is owned by Mrs. A. R. Brundage, to whom it has descended from her ancestor, Eliphalet Bulkeley. It is a copy of the famous breeches bible and is 302 years old. It derives its name from the fact that the verse in Genesis saying that Adam and Eve made themselves "aprons" out of figleaves, is translated so as to make their apparel "breeches" instead of figleaves. It is one of the rarest editions of the early bible and was printed in 1593. It is copiously illustrated and is in two volumes. It has a great many blank pages on which its pious owners have made references to their theological handbooks. It has a book-plate reading:

Eliphalet Bulkeley  
Ejus Liber  
June, 2, 1764.

Its title page is curious enough to bear reprinting:

THE  
NEWE TESTA-  
MENT OF OVR LORD  
JESVS CHRIST, TRANSLATED  
OVT OF GREEKE BY  
THEOD. BEZA.

(Here follows description of contents).

Englished by L. Tomson.  
Imprinted at London  
by the Deputies of Christopher  
Barker, Printer to the  
Queenes most excellent  
Majestie,  
Anno 1593.  
Cum Privilegio.

## ANOTHER CURIOUS OLD BOOK.

John Wilson of Plains has a valuable old book entitled "A Commentarie or Exposition Upon the five first chapters of the Epistle to the Galatians penned by the godly learned and ludicrous Diuine Mr. William Perkins. Now polished for the benefit of the Church and continued with Supplement vpon the sixt chapter by Raife Cudworth Bachelour of Diuinitie. Printed at London by John Legatt Printer to the Vniuersitie of Cambridge 1617."

This makes it 272 years old, or 28 years older than Dr. Urquhart's and 19 years older than Mr. Cook's. The book is bound in leather and is in excellent condition. On one of the fly leaves in

part of a family record are given the births of five children:

"Hooster Hadnot born June the 14

in the year 1717 at 5 a clok in the morn.

"Samuel Hadnott born June the 10 at 4 a clok in the morning 1719.

"Ann Hadnot born Dec. 27 at 10 clok in the morning 1720.

"Mary Hadnott born Oct 28 at 6 a clok in the morning 1720.

"Rebeckah Hadnott born Oct the 18 at 4 a clok in the morning 1724."

## HARD TO BEAT THIS.

All the books reported in the Record are juveniles compared with a lot in the library of the late Harrison Wright. The catalog shows that his valuable collection, gathered in Germany, contained not only scores of books printed prior to 1600, but no less than 25 prior to 1500. The oldest of these is dated 1471, at Nuremberg, and thus antedates the discovery of America 20 years.

This specimen dated 1471 is one of the very oldest printed books. Printing was not introduced into England until 5 years later, and into Scotland 30 years later. The first printing press set up in America was by the Spaniards in Mexico in 1536 and the first press in the present limit of the United States was brought over the ocean by Harvard College in 1638.

The art of printing from moveable types was invented just a little prior to that time, but historians make conflicting claims as to time and even the country.

## CURIOUS OLD INDENTURE.

Following is a copy of an indenture of a girl who was "bound out" in the last century, as printed in the Leader: Of the people mentioned Benjamin Bailey lived up on the Plains. The paper here copied was in the custody of Col. Zebulon Butler, grandfather of C. E. Butler, its present possessor:

(Copy of Indenture.)

This indenture made the 24th day of November, 1756, witnesseth that Caleb Newman, of Putnam, in the county of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania father and natural guardian to Dorothy Newman, who is a minor, doth by these presents bind out Dorothy Newman as an apprentice to Benjamin Bailey and Elizabeth, his wife, both of Wilkesbury, to dwell and live with them until she shall arrive at the age of eighteen years, which will be August 9, 1786, during which

term s'd apprentice her master and mistress shall faithfully serve, shall keep their secrets, she shall obey their lawful commands. She shall do her master and mistress no hurt, nor wilfully suffer others to do it, but shall forthwith notify her s'd master and mistress; she shall not waste, lend or embezel their goods; she shall not commit fornication nor enter into matrimony; she shall not leave master or mistress, nor at any time absent herself from them without their leave granted. She shall in all things demean and behave herself as a good and faithful apprentice ought to do, during the said term of her apprenticeship. And the master and mistress shall teach or cause to be taught their apprentice to read English, so as to read the Bible, s'd master and mistress shall clothe their apprentice in a decent manner during s'd term and when her apprenticeship is finished they shall give her a new suit of apparel together with a new bed and bedding, and during her s'd apprenticeship master and mistress shall find and provide for her proper meat, drink and lodging.

Signed and sealed in presence of Putnam Catlin and Newton Smith.

Caleb Newman,  
Benjamin Bailey.

#### FOUND INDIAN RELICS.

(Daily Record, July 8, 1895.)

J. Frank Smith in excavating along his property on Wyoming avenue, Forty Fort, unearthed the stone work of a cellar which seems to be a mystery. The stone work seemed well preserved and in the wall he found Indian moccasins, arrows, hatchets, and other Indian equipments. Mr. Smith prizes his find quite highly.

#### HARRISBURG'S NOTES AND QUERIES.

A new number, (No. 5, Vol. 2, 4th series) of Dr. W. H. Egle's Notes and Queries, published at Harrisburg has been received at the Record office.

On page 277 reference is made, (in a valuable series of articles devoted to the history of Sullivan county) to one Isaac Williams, who was taken prisoner by the Indians at the Wyoming Massacre, and kept in captivity six years. His grandson, Benjamin Tripp, was a Luzerne, (now Lackawanna) county man, who settled Pleasant Valley, Sullivan county, in 1855, whose children still reside in that county.

In same series, reference is made to another Luzerne county man who was a prisoner in Sullivan county. This was ——— Wilson, of Huntington who, in 1823, visited the headwaters of

Muncy Creek and afterwards located in the Elk Lick settlement. He was joined by others from Huntington. They engaged, among other things, in making maple sugar.

#### AN OLD TIME WATCH LABEL.

Upwards of fifty years ago our townsman William S. Wells who was a jeweler and watchsmith at that time, made it a custom to place inside the cover of every watch which he sold or repaired a little reminder of the owner's duty to his timepiece. There are some of our older people who still remember these lines and Mr. Wells is often spoken to on the subject. The inscription, which was of his own composition, was as follows:

William S. Wells,  
Clock and Watch Maker.  
Wind me with care and use me well,  
And let me have fair play,  
And I to you will try to tell,  
The precise time of day:  
If from some cause I chance to stop  
And fail to give the hour,  
Then take me back to Wells's shop  
And he will give me power.  
Wilkes-Barre,  
Pa.

#### DR. DAVIS'S DEATH.

Suffering with a rare disease which he knew to be incurable, Dr. Rees Davis of South Washington street has for many months been confined to his home awaiting, with a resignation and fortitude that robbed death of all the terror it has for some, the summons that came on Saturday morning, Aug. 10, 1895, at 7 o'clock.

Up to the time of his illness Dr. Davis was the picture of rugged health and he looked good for many years of life. After the death of his daughter Maude in 1892 he seemed weighed down by a sorrow that neither time nor circumstances could lighten and his closest friends attribute his illness to this extreme grief. His ailment was progressive muscular atrophy—a gradual wasting away of the muscles. About a year ago the disease manifested itself, attacking the muscles of the arms and neck and then those of the feet. The doctor continued, however, in the active practice of his profession until his condition became such that he could no longer manage to visit his patients. He then confined himself to office prac-

tice and continued for several months. About three weeks ago he was compelled to take to his bed and since then, conscious all the time, without uttering a word of complaint, and keeping those about him as cheerful as possible, he has awaited the end. His last public act was that of a good citizen, and was performed last November, when he went to the polls and cast his ballot. He was not out of the house since that time. His mind was bright and clear to the last. Ten minutes before he



drew his last breath Mrs. Davis was by his side and placed her hand upon his wrist. "You are counting my pulse," said the doctor. "No, that was not my intention," she said in reply. "Well, do so and let me know how it is." Mrs. Davis counted rapidly, as the pulse was then very high. The doctor noted its rapid action, and stopped her from counting. He understood the meaning. Ten minutes later he was dead.

Dr. Davis was 58 years of age, and was born at Warren, Bradford County, July 5, 1837. After being educated in the common schools of that place he prepared for college at Owego Academy and the Susquehanna Collegiate Institute at Towanda and attended Marietta College in Ohio for one year. He graduated at Hamilton College, in Clinton County, New York, in 1863. He then attended the medical department of the Michigan University for one year, and graduated at Bellevue Medical College in New York City in 1867. Dr.

Davis located in 1867 in Le Raysville, Bradford County, removed in 1869 to Scranton, and practiced there two years; settled in Wilkes-Barre in 1871, where he has practiced his profession ever since.

Deceased was a son of David and Elizabeth Davies, who were natives of Llanguicke, near Neath, Wales, and who emigrated to this country in 1831, and settled on a farm at Warren, Bradford County, Pa., where the old homestead still stands. The following children were born at the old home: John Davies, resides at Neath, Bradford County, Pa.; Mary, wife of Rev. John Davies of Dodgeville, Wis.; Philip Davies of Neath, Pa.; Evan H.; Annie, now the wife of Hon. H. Howell of Neath, Pa.; Hon. W. T. Davies, ex-lieutenant governor of Pennsylvania; Thomas, killed in a railroad accident at Mahanoy in 1881; Dr. Rees Davies of Wilkes-Barre; Elizabeth and Catherine Davies, who reside at the old homestead. David Davies, the father, died in 1882, and Elizabeth, the mother, died in 1856. Both were buried at Neath, Bradford County.

Dr. Davis married, in 1867, Maggie E. Williams, daughter of Philip and Harriet Williams of Pike, Pa., and four children were born unto them: Maude (died in 1892), Walter, now a medical student in the University of Pennsylvania; Harriet and Bessie.

Deceased was one of the most active members of the Luzerne County Medical Society, of which he has been president; was a member of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society, of which he was president in 1887; was a member of the Lehigh Valley Medical Society, and an honorary member of the Philadelphia Obstetrical Society. He has served as one of the staff of physicians of the Wilkes-Barre City Hospital from the time of its organization until his death. He has always been very active in elsteddfodlc matters and was one of the prime movers in the Oratorio Society and was president for six years of the Mendelsohn Society, which at one time flourished in Wilkes-Barre. He was chairman of the committee of the mammoth elsteddfod held in the old market house in 1875, and engaged Eos Morlais, the great tenor from Wales, to sing at that time and to give forty concerts throughout the country.

Dr. Davis was of such a quiet and retiring disposition that there are

many who have no idea of the real eminence to which he attained. He had a great mind—thoughtful, analytical and full of knowledge, and his brothers of the medical profession and others with whom he came in close contact have always regarded him as a man among men. Had he forced his way to the front, as others have done who have been prominently before the public, his name would undoubtedly have been heralded from one end of the country to the other. These are not the words of exaggerated post mortem eulogy, but are a well founded and truthful tribute to real worth and real genius. Said a prominent physician of this city last evening: "Without detracting from the eminence of this city's noted physicians living or dead, I must say that Dr. Davis, as a surgeon and as a physician, stood at the head of his profession." He was one of the leading surgeons of his time and was in some respects a pioneer in abdominal surgery for this part of the country. Not many years ago he performed a very delicate operation along this line, the first that had ever been attempted, and the results, although the chances were very desperate, were of the best. The notes of this operation, which Dr. Davis published in a pamphlet, were translated into many languages and gained for him an international reputation. He was recognized by leading specialists as worthy of the greatest distinction. He was also especially eminent as a diagnostician, both in medicine and surgery, and his opinion in serious cases was always regarded with supreme respect by those members of the profession who sought his assistance in consultation.

Dr. Davis took considerable interest in sanitary matters and one of his last commendable works was his telling efforts in behalf of water filtration in this city. He was appointed by the Luzerne County Medical Society one of the committee to urge upon council the necessity for filters for the city's water supply and he worked with great enthusiasm until the ordinance was passed in the face of stern opposition.

Those who enjoyed intimate acquaintance with Dr. Davis found delight in conversing with him. Not only in medicine, but upon a variety of scientific and other subjects he was well booked and reasoned with great intelli-

gence. Those who knew him best know how best to cherish his memory. Dr. Davis was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

The funeral will take place on Tuesday at 2:30 p. m. The remains will be taken to the First Presbyterian Church, where services will be conducted by Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, assisted by Rev. E. J. Morris, pastor of the Puritan Church.

## GEN. SAMUEL MEREDITH.

(Daily Record, July 10, 1895.)

Mrs. S. M. Meredith Graham of Tunkhannock has the distinction of being the granddaughter of Gen. Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States, and a man who figured prominently in the stirring events of young America. The Merediths are natives of the county near Carbondale and recently when the agitation was at its height for the formation of a new county with Carbondale as the county seat Mrs. Graham addressed the mayor of that place setting forth some reasons why the new county should be called Meredith.

The letter Mrs. Graham wrote she has handed to the RECORD and is quite interesting as it stirs up incidents of historic value. She says:

"I am the granddaughter of Gen. Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States, appointed by Washington, and the daughter of Maj. Thomas Meredith, who lived at Meredith Cottage, near Carbondale, and wife of Capt. W. G. Graham. I have no doubt there are some still in Carbondale who remember me as Sarah Maria Meredith. My father got the charter for the D. & H. railroad you have in your midst, years before it was used. I am much pleased that you should think of naming your new county after the general that fought for his country in the revolutionary war; was our first treasurer, who on his health failing retired to live so near you, at Belmont Manor, in Wayne County, near Pleasant Mount; and there is buried the friend of Washington when friends meant something, who aided and supported Washington in every way, paid the soldiers and clothed them out of his own purse, for he was wealthy and our country was poor. He gave \$10,000 in silver to carry on the war, he also loaned \$190,000



to the new government, which he never got back and we owe to him much of our standing as a free government. Samuel Meredith was born in Philadelphia in 1741 and was educated in Chester. His services date from 1765, when he attended the meeting of the merchants of Philadelphia to protest against the importation of teas and other goods which were stamped. He signed the resolutions which were adopted Nov. 7, 1765. On the 19th of May, 1772, he was married to Margaret Cadwalader of Philadelphia, daughter of Dr. Thomas Cadwalader, chief medical director of the Pennsylvania Hospital. He joined the "Silk Stocking Company" in 1775, and was made major. He distinguished himself in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and October, 1777 was commissioned general of the 4th Brigade Pa. Militia. The troops under Gen. Meredith performed excellent service at Brandywine and at Germantown. At the close of the war he was twice elected from Philadelphia County to the Pennsylvania Colonial Assembly. The Merediths—Reese, Samuel and Thomas—were trusted friends of Washington. Samuel Meredith and his brother-in-law, George Clymer, each contributed \$25,000 towards the support of the government, and that government, after all he has given to it, his life, money and statesmanship, has not even placed a monument over his remains. He was next appointed surveyor of the port of Philadelphia, served till September, when he resigned to accept the appointment of treasurer of the United States urged upon him by Washington. Treasurer Gen. Samuel Meredith entered upon duty at a time when the financial standing of the country was anything but encouraging; improvised by the expenses of war. The treasury was in a condition to need the most careful and conservative management, but Gen. Samuel Meredith's fitness for the trust was recognized by not only President Washington, but others prominent in the establishment of the government of the people. The following extract from a letter of Alexander Hamilton received at the time of Gen. Samuel Meredith's acceptance of the office is characteristic of the times, indicating the esteem in which the new treasurer's attainments were held: **TREASURER'S OFFICE, New York, Sep. 18, 1789.**

DEAR SIR—Permit me to congratulate you on your appointment as treasurer of the United States and to assure you of the pleasure I feel in anticipating your cooperation with me, in a station in which a character like yours is truly valuable. With sincere esteem I am ever your obedient servant.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON,  
Sec'y of the Treas.

To SAMUEL MERIDITH, Treasurer of the United States.

Gen. Samuel Meredith served under the administrations of Washington, Adams and Jefferson, until October 31, 1801, when on account of his health he was obliged to relinquish the office and seek seclusion and rest. He retired to his country seat, Belmont Manor, a home situated on the hill side, about a mile west of the village of Pleasant Mount. There, surrounded with all the comforts that could be had in those times, with his dear wife and children, the patriot passed the closing years of a life of activity, amid peaceful surroundings. Belmont Manor was famed among the social lights of the young government for its hospitality, and there quietly they laid him to rest.

My father, Major Thomas Meredith, was born in Philadelphia in 1779. He was the only son of Gen. Samuel Meredith. He studied law with his brother-in-law, John Read, and was admitted to the Philadelphia bar in 1805. He was prothonotary, register of wills and deeds for Wayne County from 1821 to 1823. He married in 1822 Sarah Gibson, and after his father's death on account of mother's health removed to Carbondale, where he built Meredith cottage a short distance from Carbondale. There he made his home till his death, which took place in Trenton while visiting my sister, Elizabeth Meredith Mynde.

Bishop Potter, when visiting us at Meredith Cottage, spoke to me of my father in a way I shall never forget. I was so proud to have him appreciated. Father, when a young man, visited Gen. Washington in Virginia and the general came to the door to see him off and urged him to come soon again. Father was in the war of 1812 and made major. My patriotism showed itself in giving my husband to the service in the last war. He was returned to me just alive. I think my country has had all from me that should be required,

and I have a right to ask why in these times when it is the rage to remember our generals and statesmen, why don't Pennsylvania remember her general who was born in Philadelphia, served his country so faithfully and was such a great statesman?

An unknown friend has just expressed my feelings, so I will add his mite—a great deal in a few words: "The grave of the friend of Washington, the patriot whose memory should be honored by every true American citizen with reverence almost equal to that accorded to the name of the father of his country, is to-day neglected and forgotten."

S. M. MEREDITH-GRAHAM,  
Tunkhannock, Pa.

#### WYOMING MONUMENT PLOT.

It is not generally known who is the owner of the land on which is located the Wyoming monument. Originally on the farm of Fisher Gay it was set apart for monument purposes, and in 1864 the surface was deeded to the Wyoming Monumental Association, an organization of patriotic and public spirited women of the valley. The association was duly incorporated April 3, 1860, by the legislature and is perpetual, though no meetings have been held for many years. The association is powerless to dispose of the land under any circumstances. For several years the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society has maintained that the monument grounds belonged, in equity, to that organization, although the title had been made to the ladies of the Wyoming Monumental Association.

As a dozen or more of the original charter members of the latter organization are living, they are invited to meet at the monument on July 3 and renew their corporate life in whatever way seems best. As it has been practically a defunct organization, and as the Historical Society is likely to be permanent, it would be desirable to merge the two in some way, so that the Historical Society could be the actual custodians of the property. To be sure, still another organization, the Wyoming Commemorative Association, has since the centennial observance of July 3, 1878, kept the grounds in order, but it makes no claim of ownership and merely assumes the care of the monument grounds, as a part of its annual commemorative exercises.

The original charter members of the Wyoming Monumental Association, (in whom the title is vested,) are the following:

Catherine M. Jenkins,*	Elizabeth Hancock,
Jane E. Schooley,*	Sarah J. Atherton,
Maria Angell,*	Joanna Gore,
Emily Sturdevant,	Caroline Pettebone,*
Maria Shoemaker,	Mary Sweetland,
Ellen M. Jenkins,*	Ann Hunt,
Sarah Tripp,	Sarah Bellay,
Falla Breese,	Stella Shoemaker,
Catherine B. Sharps,	Susan Dorrance,
Sarah E. Atherton,*	Matilda Bennett,
Sarah Polen,	Sarah A. Schooley,*
Eunice Perkins,	Elizabeth Carpenter,*
Sarah Crawford,	Catherine Jones,
Phebe Jacobs,	Lydia Nolen,
Mary E. Jenkins,	Mary J. Coray,
Mary Bishart,*	Jeannette Crawford,
Anna Hutchins,*	Caroline Goodwin,
Parmelia Church,	Mary E. Breese,
Mrs — Case,	Mrs. — Dennison,*
Ellen A. Law,*	Cornelia E. Huribut,*

Those marked with a star are known to be living and there may be others. At a recent meeting of the Commemorative Association it was unanimously voted that the survivors of the Monumental Association be invited to participate in the exercises on July 3, 1895.

#### WHO OWNS THE MONUMENT?

EDITOR RECORD: It is well that the RECORD has called the attention of the public to the ownership of the Wyoming monument. The legal title of the property is now in dispute. The land was granted in 1812 to Fisher Gay. Gay in 1865 transferred the land to Payne Pettebone reserving the monument half acre for the Wyoming Monumental Association, which association built the monument in 1841 and transferred its rights in equity in 1888, with its funds to the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. Pettebone conveyed this land with the same reservation, in favor of the Wyoming Monumental Association to Moses Wallis Woodward, April 29, 1856. Four years later the Wyoming Monumental Association, which now claims the monument, was incorporated, April 3, 1860. It had no existence when Pettebone made his conveyance to Woodward. But April 30, 1864, Woodward transferred the monument with the half acre of land to this new organization, called the Wyoming Monumental Association, under the reservation made by Gay

and Pettebone, thus "leaving out in the cold" the rightful owners of the monument, the organization of 1841. It requires no more than ordinary sense to see the character of this transaction, and one can hardly doubt that when the matter is placed properly before the Wyoming Monumental Association proper restitution will be made. The Historical Society side of the matter was made the subject of a very full report January, 1883, by the committee appointed by the society, viz: E. P. Darling, W. P. Ryman and Dr. Harrison Wright, three of our best lawyers, who declared that the *equitable* title to the monument has been vested in the Society for twenty-five years. (See publication of the Historical Society, No. 6, 1883, pages 21-33.)

#### WYOMING.

It should be said that there is nobody "now claiming the monument site," and if the ladies are "unlawfully" holding possession, of course "restitution will be made." The ladies of the Wyoming Monumental Association have probably forgotten there ever was such an organization until reminded by the Record's recent article. The good ladies of the Monumental Association who survive are not avaricious and doubtless if there is any defect in title which they can correct they will be only too glad to do so. They certainly cannot do better than meet at the monument on July 3.—Editor Record.

#### WYOMING MONUMENTAL ASSOCIATION REORGANIZED.

In West Pittston July 9, 1895, five of the twelve surviving members of the original Wyoming Monumental Association met for a conference. They were Mrs. Schooley of Wyoming, Mrs. Schooley of West Pittston, Mrs. Charles Law, Mrs. Stephen Jenkins and Mrs. Carpenter. The association was organized in 1866, and it is the intention to reorganize it and hold yearly exercises.

Mrs. W. H. McCartney, regent of the Daughters of the Revolution, of this city, was present. After the meeting the party went to Queen Esther's rock at Wyoming, where C. I. A. Chapman staked out a piece of land surrounding the rock, which had been bought by the Daughters of the Revolution. It is proposed to place a steel fence around the rock to preserve it from relic hunters and to mark the place with a bronze plate.

#### AN INDIAN CAVE FOUND.

(Scranton Republican, July 29, 1895.)

It is many years since the red man bade good bye to Wyoming County, but scarcely a year passes that some relic of his former presence among its forest trees and around its mountain lakes are not unearthed. The latest find was at Lake Winola, where a cavern, the floor of which yielded arrow-heads, pestles and other flinty implements, was accidentally discovered. It is located directly under the bluff upon which the Winola House stands, with an entrance near the lake front and is reached by a narrow passage just wide enough to allow one person to pass comfortably. The passage runs into the rocks for about eighteen feet direct, then makes a sharp turn to the right six feet, where it opens into a rock bound room, the dimensions of which are 40x6 and eight feet high.

Even the oldest residents have no recollections of this cave, although the Princess' cave figures conspicuously in the Indian lore of that section, but was always thought to be a small jut in the rocks, which stands a few feet from the newly discovered cave.

An employe of the Winola House was making some improvements near the place when he was surprised to see his bar, with which he was removing stones and dirt, disappear from view. The matter was reported to landlord Frear, who immediately ordered a force of workmen to unearth the place, resulting in the discovery of the passage and the cave. Imbedded in the dirt that had been washed upon the stone floor was found instead whole and pieces of arrow heads and half of a pestle, or corn cracker. Six of the arrow heads were perfect types, but the others were broken or incomplete.

Manager Frear proposes to have the cave cleaned out and this fall he will make a close search for other openings which are thought to exist because of the hollow sound given forth by the surface rocks.

#### INDIAN RELICS AT WINOLA.

A letter from Lake Winola says that in making an excavation on the grounds of the Winola this week a large cavern extending over 100 feet has been found. It has been visited by throngs of people and created considerable excitement. Many Indian relics of the ancient tribes who once dwelt here have been found.

#### HAKES FAMILY REUNION.

The Hakes family reunion was held this year at Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 18, 1895, and more than 100 members of the family were present.

The president is Dr. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre; secretary, Mrs. Gertrude Hakes Roath, of Norwich, Conn.; assistant secretary, Ola Hakes, Cortland, N. Y.

Solomon Hakes, who arrived in Rhode Island and was adopted one of the freemen in 1709, was the first American representative of this large and distinguished family. The immediate descendants of Solomon Hakes remained in New England and New York until about 1800 to 1820, when some of them came to Bradford, Pa. To-day representatives of the Hakes family may be found in every State in the Union except Maine and New Hampshire.

The largest numbers are in New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Kansas and California. The family on both paternal and maternal sides is of English stock. In 1887 Dr. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre, of the fifth generation, published the genealogical record of the family (eight generations), having 1,500 names in the male line alone. The female line probably exceeds this number.

The longevity of the family in the male line for the last 150 years is exceptionally high. The list contains 35 who lived to 75 years, 26 to 80 years, 14 to 85 years, 9 to 90 years, 2 to 95 years, and 1 to 103 years. Nine out of a possible ten were soldiers in the war of the Revolution, twelve were soldiers in the war of 1812-15, and more than half a hundred in the war between the States.

Dr. Hakes, more than any one else, has been instrumental in inaugurating these reunions, and they have come to be extensive affairs. The first reunion was held at Niagara Falls nine years ago.

Dr. Harry Hakes delivered a lengthy address on the day of the reunion, referring to the relations of kinship, touched upon the future life, spoke about the end and aim of life, and expressed his thoughts in excellent language.

Webster Hakes of Chicago also made an admirable address.

There was music, a fine dinner and general family enjoyment.

#### CLARK FAMILY REUNION.

John Clark and wife came to Wilkes-Barre about 1783 or 1784, and lived about seven years on what is now North Main street, near Union. In 1791 he moved to Plains Township and settled on the farm where he died. His six children settled in different parts of the country—Aaron in New York State, Philemon at Bowman's Creek, in Wyoming County, on the farm where Orcutt's Grove camp meeting is now held, George in Ohio, Sybil, wife of David Doty, in Huntington Township, Luzerne County; Sally, wife of John Osborne, in New Jersey; John, Jr., in Plains Township, where he died in 1878. There are a large number of descendants of these settlers living in Wyoming, Lackawanna and Luzerne counties, who held a family centennial on the old Clark farm, in Plains Township, in 1891. John M. Clark, of Beaumont, Wyoming County; Lucy A. Kocher of Harvey's Lake and others of the family have arranged to have a family reunion and picnic at Harvey's Lake on Saturday, Sept. 7 this year, where the older members of the family may renew memories and the younger members become acquainted with each other and see their numerous "cousins."

#### UNPUBLISHED ANECDOTE OF LINCOLN.

The telegraph reports the death at Chicago, Ill., of Senora Maria de Burton, widow of General Burton of the United States Army, and a claimant to vast estates in Mexico. There may be some Wilkes-Barre people who remember that shortly after the war General Burton and his wife spent a few months in Wilkes-Barre. Isalah M. Leach recalls a story which was told him by the late Col. A. H. Bowman, who knew them intimately. There was a presidential reception in the White House, and in the throng were the general and his Spanish wife. The latter seized a favorable opportunity when President Lincoln was not engaged, to ask him to appoint some friend of hers to a place in the public service. "Why, dear madam," replied Lincoln, "it is really impossible. Places are very scarce, and I haven't been able to find any for my own relatives." "Oh, Meester Pres-e-dent," broken in the

army officer's wife, by way of repartee, "maybe zey were not com-pe-tent." "By Jove," exclaimed the great Lincoln, his eye flashing with good humor, "you've hit the nail on the head the first time."

#### AN OLD STAGE DRIVER.

John Pruner of Tunkhannock celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday anniversary Sept. 6, 1895. Old timers will remember him as one of the best drivers of the stage line from Tunkhannock to Wilkes-Barre. The stage line was for many years the only public conveyance between the two places, supplemented later by the North Branch Canal, and now superseded by the Lehigh Valley R. R. Mr. Pruner is still vigorous, and can give many interesting reminiscences of the past in which he figured. He was an uncle of the late Gen. E. L. Dana of this city, and has many relatives in Wyoming and in Wilkes-Barre. He still thinks the stage superior to the railroad as a means of transit, although not so rapid, and is just as fond of a good horse as in the old days. He is Tunkhannock's oldest citizen, and wears his honors gracefully and modestly.

#### TWO BROTHERS 118 YEARS APART

Moses Chamberlain, now living at Milton, Pa., enjoys the distinction of being a brother of a man who was killed in battle 118 years ago. Such a thing would seem impossible at first thought, but it is a fact. Mr. Chamberlain is 83 years old, and was born 35 years after the battle of Germantown (1777), in which his brother, aged 18, lost his life. The latter was the oldest of 24 children, and Mr. Chamberlain is the youngest

### THE OLD STEAMER CODORUS.

The following is an article, somewhat condensed, from the York Gazette. The boat is referred to in our local histories, but Mr. Jordan's sketch throws much new light on the subject:

Some time ago, in the columns of the York Gazette, I gave a brief account of Phineas Davis and of his invention of the first coal burning locomotive steam engine ever constructed. In this account I incidentally mentioned the part he took in the building of

the first steamboat used upon the Susquehanna, called the Codorus. In response to numerous inquiries for a more specific account of the steamboat, I have since then made diligent search among records, and inquiry among the older inhabitants, and am thereby enabled to give the following original records of the steamboat called the Codorus:

The first public mention of the steamboat, Codorus, I find in the Gazette of Nov. 8, 1825, which says:

"The steamboat constructing of sheet iron, at this place, will be ready to launch this week. The boat has sixty feet keel, nine feet beam, and is three feet high. It is composed entirely of sheet iron, rivetted with iron rivets, and the ribs which are one foot apart are strips of sheet iron, which by their peculiar form are supposed to possess thrice the strength of the same weight of iron in the square platform. The whole weight of iron in the boat, when she shall be finished, will be fourteen hundred pounds. That of the wood work, deck, cabin, etc., will be two thousand six hundred pounds, being together two tons. The steam engine, the boiler included will weigh two tons, making the whole weight of the boat and engine but four tons. She will draw, when launched, but five inches, and every additional ton which may be put on board of her, will sink her one inch in the water.

"The engine is upon the high pressure principle, calculated to bear six hundred pounds to the inch, and the engine will be worked with not more than one hundred pounds to the inch. It will have an eight-horse power, and the boiler is formed so that the anthracite coal will be exclusively used to produce steam. The ingenuity with which the boiler is constructed, and its entire competency for burning the Susquehanna coal are entitled to particular notice, and the inventors, if they succeed in this experiment, will be entitled to the thanks of every Pennsylvanian.

"The boiler is so constructed, as that every part of the receptacle for the fire is surrounded by the water intended to be converted into steam; and thus the iron is preserved from injury by the excessive heat produced by the combustions of the coal. Its form is cylindrical; its length about six feet, and it will be placed upright in the boat, occupying with the whole engine,

not more than ten feet by six feet.

"The engine is nearly completed, Messrs. Webb, Davis and Gardner being its constructors. The boat, which is the work of Mr. Elgar, is in great forwardness. The whole cost of the boat and engine will be three thousand dollars."

On Nov. 15 the boat was finished, and was the occasion of not a little enthusiasm on the part of the citizens of York. The Gazette of this date says:

"The steamboat, which was built at this place, was drawn through our streets yesterday morning, on her way to the Susquehanna. She is placed on eight wheels, and such was the interest felt on the occasion, that notwithstanding being in weight more than six thousand pounds, the weather rainy and disagreeable, the citizens attached a long rope to her, and about sixty or seventy taking hold, drew her from the west side of the bridge to the upper end of Main street, amidst the shouts and huzzas of a multitude, such as used to dangle at the heels of Lafayette.

"She has been named after the beautiful stream on whose banks she was brought into existence—Codorus—a name, that should her destiny be prosperous, that will not in future be pronounced without associating the most pleasing recollections in the minds of the citizens of this place."

On the 22d of November following we find her launched in the Susquehanna.

"The steamboat, Codorus, is now in the Susquehanna with her machinery on board. A trial of the engine and works has been made, by which it is ascertained that by giving her only half the steam power, the boat is propelled against the current, and a strong wind, about five miles an hour. In the draught of water the calculation of the builders were correct, with forty persons on board her draught is not more than eight inches."

She next appeared at Harrisburg as stated in the Harrisburg Oracle, Dec. 3, 1825.

In the following Spring on April 12 we find the Codorus reaching Wilkes-Barre, an account of which is thus

given in the Wilkes-Barre Democrat of April 14, 1826:

"On Wednesday evening last, just as the orb of day was hiding in the West, we were greeted with the appearance of the steamboat, Codorus, turning the point below the borough. The discharge of cannon and hearty cheers of the people, mingling with the sound of martial music, and the peals of several bells, proclaimed the approach of the first steamboat that ever visited the shores of Wyoming. She cast anchor opposite the borough, a little before dark, in the presence of a crowd of spectators, who assembled to witness her arrival. Next morning a company of about sixty gentlemen boarded her at Wilkes-Barre, and sailed up to Squire Myers's at Forty Fort, about three miles distant. In the journey it had to encounter nearly a half a mile of strong ripples, and what is called falls. It performed the trip in one hour and eighteen minutes. After tarrying a short time she returned to Wilkes-Barre in thirty-three minutes, against a severe wind, with an increased number of passengers. At 11:30 she again anchored at Wilkes-Barre, and about 3 o'clock, Mr. Elgar, the principal of the boat, and seventy or eighty citizens, sat down to an excellent dinner, prepared by O. Porter. It is but justice to say the dinner was good, it was sumptuous. After dinner a number of appropriate toasts were drank, which will probably be published next week.

"This experiment entitles Mr. Elgar to much credit and esteem, and we heartily wish him a pleasant journey to the head waters of the Susquehanna, the place, we believe, of destination.

"The greatest difficulty to be encountered is in procuring wood, people along the river should have this article in readiness. Dry pine and pine knots are best and are plenty.

"Mr. Elgar, we understand, intends tarrying here until Monday, which will afford the inhabitants generally, an opportunity of witnessing the movements of a steamboat on the waters of the Susquehanna."

On May 8, 1826, she reached Bloomsburg, where her captain and crew were met by a committee who escorted them to the town, welcomed them with an address and a feast.

From May 8, 1826, until July 25, 1826, I can find no records of the movements of the Codorus. On the latter date we

find her again at York Haven and moored in the canal. Her captain had been employed for four months in voyages of exploration, presumably in the Susquehanna River without any fruitful results.

The anticipations of the promoters of this enterprise were not only unrealized, but so dissatisfied were the stockholding investors that it became a question among them to what use the steamboat could possibly be put in order to bring them any revenues at all.

On April 5, 1827, two years after her first launching, one of the stockholders writes to the Gazette as follows:

"Between \$2,000 and \$3,000 have been expended upon the construction of this boat, and from the use, or rather no use being made of it, after it was built, the question may rationally be asked for what purpose has this large sum been expended, or what was the object of building the boat? But I am in hopes some better use might be made of it, than suffering it to be dismantled, and becoming a pray to the corrosions of time. Suppose some of the stockholders were to employ some of the armen to tow it down to tide, where perhaps it might be applied to some useful purpose. Something could perhaps be obtained for it to be used as craft in the bay.

What ultimately become of the Codorus, I have been unable to find.

JOHN C. JORDAN.

#### Further Details.

Subsequent to the publication of the above the following letter of J. H. Morrison of New York, to the editor of the Gazette says:

"I have read your article and as I have been engaged for about fifteen years in writing a history of American steam navigation—both mechanical and commercial—believe I can fill the void your correspondent says exists, as to the whereabouts of the vessel between May and June, 1826.

"In June, 1826, the vessel had ascended as far as Oswego, and at a later date in the same month was at Binghamton, while about the last of June or early in July, she had ascended to the upper water of the Susquehanna as far as Tloga.

"There does not seem as though there was any record left whether this vessel was fitted with side wheels, or with a stren wheel similar to those on the Ohio river, though I am of the opinion the

later was the means of propulsion. The use of anthracite coal under the boiler does not seem to have been successful, as we find they were burning wood a few months after placing the vessel in service. Anthracite coal was not used for marine purposes with anything near approaching success for many years after the vessel was built."

A Baltimore paper in April, 1830, published under the head of "The First Iron Steamboat" the following regarding the Codorus:

"We have two or three times during the past year endeavored to set history right in regard to the place at which the first iron steamboat was built in America. The steamboat Codorus was the first iron steamboat built in the United States as has been repeatedly stated in this and other papers, and that boat was built some twelve or fourteen years since at York, Pa., by Messrs. Davis, Gunter and Webb, and John Elgar. The boat was intended to ply on the Susquehanna river and with that special object in view was so constructed as to draw about twelve inches of water with all her machinery on board. It was built at York, the hull altogether of iron, mounted upon wheels, and thus transported by horse power to the river and there launched, opposite Marietta. It made one or two voyages under Captain Elgar to the head waters of the Susquehanna, but small as was its draft of water it was too great at certain seasons for the bars and shallows of the river, and the enterprise was abandoned. The first iron steamboat, the Codorus, was afterwards brought to this city where after remaining some time was taken farther South to ply on some small river. Of its after destinies we have no information."

#### Ultimate Fate of the Codorus.

Ex-Mayor D. K. Noell of York writes this to the Gazette:

Editor Gazette:—Your correspondent the other day says he does not know what became of the iron-hulled steamboat Codorus after it had ceased running up and down the Susquehanna. I saw its ruins in 1831, lying on the banks of the river at York Haven just below the outlet lock of the canal at that place. The hull was in pretty good condition but the wood work had all been torn away. The boat was launched at Wrightsville and not at Marietta as your correspondent says.

D. K. NOELL.

## WILKES AND BARRE.

Persons visiting the Historical Society building will be interested to see at the entrance a pair of rare engravings more than a century old. One portrays the English statesman from whom Wilkes-Barre is named, "the right honorable John Wilkes, Esq., Lord Mayor of the city of London," published in London in 1774 from a painting by R. E. Pine. The other shows the right honorable Isaac Barre, painted by C. G. Stuart, 1785, engraved by John Hall, engraver to His Majesty, and published in 1787.

Some photographs are these: The old Sinton corner, where the Wyoming Bank stands; Fort Rice, in Northumberland County, built in 1779; house on site of Fort Jenkins in Columbia County; Market street bridge built in 1820 and blown down in 1824; also later photographs of the bridge before the present structure was built. Portraits of Isaac S. Osterhout, Gen. E. L. Dana and Dr. C. F. Ingham; photograph of the magazine at Fort Augusta (Sunbury) as it now appears, together with a brick therefrom. In a note the donor, John M. Buckalew, says the brick for the magazine were hauled from Philadelphia to Harris's (now Harrisburg) in 1758, boated from there in batteaux to Shamokin (now Sunbury) same year and laid up as lining in the magazine of the fort by Col. Burd. The brick presented was taken out during the present year.

## NEW EDITION OF BURNS.

A "Centenary Edition" of Burns, edited by Mr. W. E. Henley and Mr. T. F. Henderson, is to be printed by Messrs. T. and A. Constable of Edinburgh, and published in that city. It will fill four volumes, issued at intervals, of about three months in the course of this year and next. The first will consist of "Poems Published by Burns;" the second of "Posthumous Poems," and the third "Songs," all equipped with notes and illustrations. The fourth, "Songs, Doubtful Pieces, Addenda, Glossarial Index and General Index," will contain an essay on "The Life and Genius of Burns," by Mr. Henley. The text is the result of a collation of manuscripts and original editions, and the pieces will, as far as

possible, be arranged according to the dates of publication in their author's lifetime. The large accumulation of history, commentary and legend—much of it irrelevant—which has gathered about Burns's life and work will be reduced within narrow limits and relegated to a place apart.—London Athenaeum

## CLYMER INFORMATION WANTED.

Editor Record: Will some one kindly inform me through the Record where stood the house of Henry Clymer? He resided here prior to 1820, was the son of George Clymer, the signer of the Declaration, a grandson of Thomas Meredith and a son-in-law of that Thomas Willing, who being twice invited, was twice moved by his conscience and his oath of loyalty to his king to decline to sign the Declaration of Independence. George Clymer, a brother I think of the foregoing, was a member of the first board of the Wilkes-Barre bridge directors, and a promoter and director of the first bank. G.

Sept. 3, 1895.

## THE ANTI-MASONIC CRUSADE.

If old Elijah Worthington, who started an anti-Masonic newspaper in Wilkes-Barre sixty-three years ago, could have been in town Sept. 1, 1895, in the spirit, he would perhaps have been horrified, though maybe not, to find his son a full-fledged Mason. On Sunday a train load of Knights Templar returning from the Boston conclave were delayed in Wilkes-Barre several hours, in an effort to trace their baggage—a special carload of which had somewhere gone astray.

Among the pilgrims was C. M. Worthington, of Sterling, Ill., son of the Wilkes-Barre anti-Masonic editor of more than half a century ago. The son was greatly interested in the home of his father's labors.

The Anti-Masonic Advocate was started, as its name implies, at a time when the country was wild over the alleged abduction and murder of Morgan by the Masons, who, it was claimed, were driven to this step by the effort of one Morgan to expose the mysteries of the order to the gaze of a curious world. It is not at all certain that the Masons did abduct or kill Morgan, but they got the odium of it, and for several



years the country was torn asunder, socially, politically and financially, by the mad effort to disrupt the order. Mr. Worthington established his paper in 1832, and for four years it bitterly assailed the ancient fraternity. In 1838 Amos Sisty bought it, dropped the anti-Masonic feature and made it the organ of the Whig party. Mr. Sisty died in 1843, and was succeeded by Sharpe D. Lewis, who in 1853 sold it to William P. Miner, who changed its name to the Record of the Times, the title which the weekly Record still bears.

A copy for June 23, 1836, is before the writer of this article. There is nothing to show its antipathy for Masonry except the title and the fact that the editor carries at the masthead the ticket of the "Democratic Anti-Masonic Party of Pennsylvania," William Henry Harrison for President. The only advertiser of that date now advertising was the Wyoming Bank, which was announcing, as it has done twice a year ever since, for sixty-three years, that it was ready to pay its half-yearly dividend of 5 per cent. William H. Alexander, hotelkeeper, was advertising oats; A. O. Chahoon 500 sides of Spanish leather; Dr. E. L. Boyd had removed; C. B. Drake wanted fifty bushels of clean, white beans at \$1.50 a bushel; John Lawler (poor John of later years), wanted to dispose of a horse and wagon; F. Van Fleet wanted two apprentices for the hatting business; Chauncey Sherwood was informing the public that he had opened a "store at Buttermilk Falls;" Miss Sal-Hé Jewett had returned from New York with ladies' hats "of the latest fashions;" Isaac S. Osterhout had a "cash store, corner of Main and Market, near the old meeting house;" Jacob Sinton and C. B. Drake both had "new goods;" a runaway slave was being advertised; Thomas Davidge wanted five or six journeymen shoemakers, "near Doct. Christel's Hotel;" Sylvester Dana, graduate of Yale, was in charge of the Wilkes-Barre Academy; "2,500 Mechanics and Labourers" were wanted on the Lehigh Navigation; Stephen P. Hill had spring and summer goods, also "the choicest liquors."

The papers in those days contained little or no home news, and this particular copy is no exception. The only bit of home news is the formal notice of the death of "Mary, only child of Martha and E. W. Sturdevant, aged 2½ years." Fortunately for the bereaved

parents, other little ones came to brighten their home in after years, and are now honored residents of town.

#### OLDEST BRICK BUILDING IN TOWN.

As to which is the oldest brick house in town, opinion varies as to whether it is the Perry building at the corner of Main and Northampton or the building occupied by Brown's book store on Public Square. The probability is in favor of the former. It is claimed to have been erected in 1806, while the other was not built till 1807.

#### AS TO THE OLDEST HOUSE.

(Daily Record, Sept. 6, 1895.)

Editor Record: In reference to the matter in yesterday's Record as to the Perry home, corner of Main and Northampton streets, being the oldest brick house in Wilkes-Barre, and probably built in 1808, it should be remembered that the Isaac Fell house, corner of Washington and Northampton streets, was the building where Lodge No. 61, F. and A. M., after being instituted in Wilkes-Barre, February 19, 1794, held its meeting February 27, 1794, continuing there until 1804, when it rented a room in the court house, and then ceased to hold its meetings at the house of Judge Fell. In 1808 Jesse Fell, who was a member of Lodge No. 61, F. and A. M., having constructed a wrought iron grate, and set it with brick and mortar in his fire place, in the house now standing at the corner of Washington and Northampton streets, invited the members of the Masonic lodge to witness the remarkable discovery that anthracite coal would burn in the draught of a chimney. He wrote the following memorandum:

February 11th of Masonry, 1808—Made the experiment of burning the common stone of the valley in a grate in a common fire place in my house, and find it will answer the purpose of fuel, making a clean and better fire, at less expense than burning wood in the common way.

Jesse Fell.

February 11th, 1808.

#### WILKES-BARRE'S FIRST BRICK HOUSE.

With reference to the recent item in the Record concerning the first brick house in Wilkes-Barre, the following communication has since been received.

The date of the erection of the Perry house was learned from the late Miss Eliza Perry during her lifetime, her father being the builder of the house:

Editor Record: The brick house at the corner of Main and Northampton streets was built the next year after Mr. Slocum had built his house on the Public Square. The latter dates from 1806. Mr. Samuel Smith says 1808, but this must refer to its occupancy by the owner. The claim that the brick was brought from England may be received with grave doubts. Probably that used in the construction of both buildings in question had a common origin at Easton. Such was the source from which the brick was obtained during the construction of the Jenkins homestead at Prompton, built at the same period, or a trifle later, and they would not have hauled from Easton if it could have been obtained at Wilkes-Barre, neither would Messrs. Slocum and Perry have imported material if, as was the case, it could have been purchased at Easton. The dates 1806 and 1807 may be with perfect safety associated with these two oldest brick buildings in the city of Wilkes-Barre.

G. W. G.

#### THE MONTHLY HISTORICAL REGISTER.

This monthly gazette of all the patriotic hereditary societies for August is a beautiful number of 200 pages, and it shows a decided advance in merit since it started upon its career, just a year ago. The frontispiece is the beautiful insignia of the military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, done in proper colors and embossed. The initial article is the continuation of "Lafayette's Visit to the United States in 1824-25," told in a sprightly way, with half-tone illustrations of some of the private houses at which he was entertained and portraits of his hosts on his way to visit Boston. It is a pleasure and relief to find a magazine devoting so much space to one who did so much for America, and was our friend in time of need and the nation's guest in later years, rather than taking the "Napoleonic fever." "The Traditions of Fort Jenkins," by Mrs. Mary Jenkins Richart, (wife of a former editor of the Pittston Gazette) tell again in a

new way the horrors of the Wyoming Massacre. The September number will contain the objects and requirements for membership of all the patriotic hereditary societies. The Historical Register Publishing Co., Philadelphia. Subscription price, \$3 per year.

#### QUEEN ESTHER'S ROCK.

The historic boulder at Wyoming, known as Queen Esther's Rock, was bought not long ago, together with a small piece of ground on which it stands, by the Daughters of the American Revolution. In order to prevent what little is left of it from being carried off by relic-hunting vandals, it is to be enclosed. Through the efforts of Charles Law, a steel cage has been constructed and donated by E. E. Hendricks, mayor of Carbondale. The cage is 6½ by 3½ feet, 3 feet high, and will properly protect the stone. In order that the cage itself may not be carried off it will be fastened, as iron fences are fastened, by iron rods running down into blocks of stone below the frost line. These anchoring appliances are donated by Pannel Bros., of the Capouse foundry, Scranton. It seems a pity that the stone should not be removed to the monument enclosure, where it could be conveniently seen by visitors. Of course its site is historic, but as it is in a farmer's barn yard the environment is not particularly inspiring, even when all possible sentiment is added.

#### FIRST BICYCLE IN WILKES-BARRE.

Editor Record: In regard to John Tyler being the first bicycle rider in this county or the first to own one I would say that such was not the case.

The first owned and ridden in Wilkes-Barre was made and ridden by A. J. Louder and the idea was taken from the Scientific American. It had a wooden back bone and wheels. The foregoing were made by the writer from drawings made by Mr. Louder. He also made for his brother Frank the first tricycle owned in Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Louder learned the machinist business at the Vulcan Iron Works and afterward became a practicing physician. I can furnish abundant proof that both of these wheels were made and used before Mr. Tyler's wheel came to Wilkes-Barre. Honor to whom it is due.

J. B. E.

#### BRANCHES OF THE GENEALOGICAL TREE.

A pleasant reunion of the Handricks family was held at the home of Mrs. Steven Tuttle at Springville, Susquehanna County Aug. 17, 1895. There were sixty-seven members of the family present among whom were Col. E. S. Handrick of Tunkhannock and R. T. Handrick, Frank Handrick and Miss Arline Handrick of Wilkes-Barre. The colonel is proud of the fact that of the sixty-seven of the Handrick blood present, ranging in age from 5 years upwards, all were able to register their names. The party enjoyed a great day of feasting and visiting and intend having their reunion annually hereafter.

#### DEATH OF MISS EMILY C. BUTLER

Early in the morning, Aug. 19, 1895, occurred the death of Miss Emily Cist Butler, at the home of her brother-in-law, Judge Stanley Woodward. She had been an invalid for several years, and has been seriously ill with anaemia for several weeks. Deceased was born in November, 1841, at the corner of South River and Northampton streets, the old Butler homestead, and was the youngest child of John L. and Cornelia Richards Butler. After the death of her parents she went to live with her sister, Mrs. Woodward. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and exemplified during life the beauty of an ideal Christian character.

#### AN HONORED CITIZEN.

(Daily Record, July 22, 1895.)

One of the most familiar figures on our streets is William S. Wells. From the fact that for twenty years he served as judge on the election board in the Fourth Ward, everybody calls him Judge Wells. He was born in Greenfield, Mass., eighty years ago, and came to Wilkes-Barre nearly sixty years ago. He was at that time in Northfield, a place that has since become famous by reason of evangelist Moody's school. He had learned to make brooms and jewelry in Massachusetts, and having a job offered him in a broom factory in Kingston, Pa., he set out, accompanied by two companions. As there were no railroads they clubbed together and bought a horse and wagon for the trip. Leaving

their horse at Fishkill, opposite Newburg, they took boat for New York to see the city. Judge Wells says that as he remembers Broadway it was not nearly so lively as are Wilkes-Barre streets on a Saturday night nowadays. Returning to Fishkill they resumed their journey, and from Port Jervis to Hyde Park (there was no Scranton then) was a vast wilderness. Between those two points they stopped over night at a tavern, and the landlord



apologized that he had no meat, although he could give them venison, deer being plenty. The meat was a novelty to them, and they ate it with a relish. Arrived at Kingston, they were astonished to see the people breaking black stone with a hammer and burning it for fuel. They had never seen coal before. Coming on to Wilkes-Barre they found only three brick buildings. In one of them, Hollenback's store, now Coal Exchange, Nathaniel Rutter was clerking.

Soon after, Mr. Wells married Jane A. Jackson of Kingston, a native of England. Her sister married Arnold Taylor of Kingston, a brother of Judge Edmund Taylor. The latter learned the saddlery trade from this brother, who was a victim of the prevailing epidemic of dysentery. The broom indus-

try was of short duration. Mr. Wells then engaged in the jewelry business and followed it ever after, until recently, when his modest little store had to give way to the march of improvements. He then settled down to a well earned rest.

Though an active Republican, he never aspired to office. He served for a while in the town council, was for three years jury commissioner, and during the census of 1890 he was appointed to collect the statistics of the manufacturing enterprises in Wilkes-Barre.

Judge Wells tells an interesting story about Rev. Father Hunt, who was so actively engaged in temperance work some thirty or forty years ago. Father Hunt was a Presbyterian and wanted to lecture in the Presbyterian Church, but as some of the leaders in the flock were selling whisky, permission was refused. He then applied to the Methodists, who also refused him, as "they considered themselves just as good as the Presbyterians." Judge Wells then offered Father Hunt the use of his second story porch, building adjoining present Ben Dilley's, and as the lecture was given in court week, there was an audience which blocked Market street from the Square to Franklin. It is needless to say that Father Hunt handled his subject without gloves. There was a protest against Mr. Wells's course, but he insisted that the cause was a good one and that Pappy Hunt should have a chance to be heard. He had been warned not to lend his aid in the matter, else his place would be rotten-egged or smashed in. However, he did not frighten, and when the lecture came off he stood up beside the speaker.

Mr. Wells has always been a temperance man, and he says he thinks it has added twenty years to his life, besides saving him money. He has never spent any money for tobacco or liquor and thinks it would be fair to allow about a dollar a day as the average amount spent by persons so using. This would be \$21,900 in sixty years, and at compound interest would be an enormous sum. But he never identified himself with any temperance society, church or other organization, though in sympathy with them all.

When the war broke out he was past the age for military service, but he took an active part in enlisting soldiers. He called a public meeting, had bills printed at his own cost, and posted

them about town, calling for enlistments. The court house was packed to overflowing and stirring speeches were made by Judge Conyngham, Col. Wright, Judge O. Collins, and others. It was a great uprising. He also got up a company of home guards, made up of men too old for enlistment. Among them were himself, Judge Conyngham, John Faser, Judge Collins and others, some forty in all, ready to march if duty called.

Judge Wells has lived to see not only his children grow up about him but his grandchildren, and even a generation of great-grandchildren, all of whom brighten and make glad the old age of himself and his good wife. May they long be spared.

The photograph from which the cut is made was taken several years ago and is therefore not as satisfactory as it would otherwise be.

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#### VALUABLE COLLECTION OF INDIAN RELICS.

Many of our readers will recall the fact that H. C. Wilson of Mt. Vernon, O., formerly of Wilkes-Barre, was an enthusiastic collector of Indian relics, many of which were presented by him to the Wyoming Historical Society. At the time of his death he had some 4,000 valuable relics of the stone age, gathered by him during the years 1891 and 1892 in Knox and Licking counties, Ohio. His son, Dr. Edwin F. Wilson of Columbus, O., has lately presented the entire collection to the Ohio State University, which will now have upwards of 25,000 specimens, making it one of the largest in the country.

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#### A HERO OF WYOMING.

An interesting pamphlet of recent publication is one from the pen of Rev. Horace E. Hayden of this city. Its purpose is to secure for one who gave up his life in the massacre of Wyoming such credit as has partially been denied him by reason of a distortion of his name. The hero who has had his name thus confused by the later historians is Major John Garrett, who is properly recorded on the monument in the list of the slain, but who in several of the more recent local histories is described as Jonathan Waite Garrett. The officer

who aided in the command of the right wing on that fatal 3d of July day was Major John Garrett, and he perished there along with his lieutenant colonel and five captains. Major Garrett was born in West Simsbury, Conn., in 1727 and was therefore 51 years old when he met his death. Nothing is known of his early life, beyond the fact of his marriage and the names of his children. He first appears in the annals of Connecticut as an officer in the militia in the town of Westmoreland. Owing to the many conflicts on the Wyoming frontier, claimed by Connecticut as a part of her domain, Connecticut in 1775 erected the town of Westmoreland into a county and created the 24th regiment of militia for its protection. As a full and accurate list of the companies and officers of this regiment, as organized in 1775, has never yet been published in any local history, the author reprints the full and correct list, as taken from the Colonial Records of Connecticut.

In 1776 when Congress called for two companies from Wyoming for service in the Continental Army, numerous changes in the 24th became necessary, as indicated in Mr. Hayden's pamphlet.

It has been often charged that Congress was oblivious to the perils which threatened Wyoming, and certainly there is just ground for that charge when we consider the withdrawal of the two home companies in 1778 for services at the front, but Mr. Hayden shows that in August, 1776, Congress voted to send ammunition and provisions to Wyoming for the companies of Ransom and Durkee, a fact not mentioned by the historians.

Major Garrett's first appearance in Wyoming was as one of the defenders against Plunkett's invasion in 1775, he having been dispatched by Col. Zebulon Butler with a flag to communicate with Plunkett as to the meaning of his hostile approach. At the battle of Wyoming in 1778 he nobly fell and his widow was one of the throng of fugitives who fled down the Susquehanna on rafts or in boats.

Mr. Hayden's pamphlet closes with several pages devoted to the genealogy of the Garrett family. It is a valuable contribution to local history and will serve to keep the future historians from treading the beaten path of their immediate predecessors and aid them in doing justice to one of the heroes of Wyoming.

#### WYOMING VALLEY.

Have ye heard of the valley, the valley serene,  
Where the magic of nature is viewed in each scene,  
And where to each scene more enchantment hath  
sprung  
From the tales and the songs that her children  
have sung?

I will go to the vale, to the beautiful vale,  
Where the notes of the wild bird are heard in the  
gale,  
Where the soul of the flower and the herb and the  
pine  
Will strangely and sweetly commingle with mine.

I will go to the fair Susquehanna and glide;  
Forgetful of care, on the breast of her tide,  
Where the wavelets that beat on her green shores  
along  
Will sing to my heart a sweet lullaby song.

I will go to the monument there by the stream,  
Where the heroes of old in the solitude dream,  
Where the sombre-plumed evergreens mourn o'er  
the biers,  
And sigh, and weep forth bright dewdrops for  
tears.

I will go to the mountains and climb the high steep  
Of wild Campbell's Ledge, where the clouds lie  
asleep,  
The abode of the thunderer, from whence he  
awakes  
When his arrows of fire o'er the valley he shakes.

I will go to the friends of my heart that have played  
In the vale of Wyoming with me, and have strayed  
At my side o'er the scenes that we loved and ad-  
mired,  
Whose light from my bosom hath never expired.

Again shall we haunt as we haunted of yore,  
The mountains and hills and the river's green shore;  
And whatever betide in the time yet to be,  
Oh, the friends and the scenes of Wyoming for me!  
—Richard T. O'Malley.

[The author of the foregoing stanzas is a young blind poet of Avoca and contributes frequently to the *Home Journal* (New York), to the *Pathfinder* (Washington, D. C.) and to several other similar publications. He is also author of a book of poems entitled "Wyoming and Indian Melodies," and is now about to launch forth another book entitled "Sonnets, Ballads and Other Poems."—Ed.]

#### EARLY AUTHORITY FOR POWDER MAKING.

In 1776 the Connecticut Assembly gave John Jenkins, of the town of Westmoreland, leave to build a powder mill within the limits of the county, then Litchfield.

## WYOMING COUNTY RETROSPECT.

The re-indexing of the old deeds of the county has started innumerable inquiries among the curious, to which the following will be in part an answer:

James Brown was commissioned the first prothonotary and clerk of courts of Wyoming County by Governor David R. Porter, Nov. 12, 1842, and his bond, with Henry Stark and Jabez Jenkins as sureties, was approved by Judges William Jessup and Perrin Ross Nov. 26, 1842.

The first register and recorder was Ziba Smith, and he was commissioned and his bond, with Miner Kelley and Samuel Stark as sureties, approved at the same time with the prothonotary. Both were sworn into office by Isaac Bowman of Luzerne County, who was commissioned by Governor Porter for that purpose.

The first sheriff was Thomas Osterhout, who was commissioned Dec. 2, 1842, his bond, with David A. Bardwell, John Jackson and P. M. Osterhout as sureties, having been approved Nov. 28, 1842.

Washington Stansbery was commissioned coroner and his bond, with Samuel Stark and John Jackson as sureties, approved on the same dates with the sheriff.

William S. Jayne and Perrin Ross were commissioned as the first associate judges Feb. 25, 1843.

The first treasurer was Archibald Bannatyne, whose bond was approved March 28, 1843.

The first deed recorded in Wyoming County was from Thomas T. Slooem and Ann D., his wife, of Wilkes-Barre to Henry Stark for lots 38, 40 and 42 in Tunkhannock Borough for the consideration of \$400.

On the 8th day of March, 1843, the deed for what is now the court house square was executed by Thomas D. Slooem and Ann D., his wife, to Gordon Pike, William R. Robinson and Henry Roberts, commissioners of Wyoming County, and their successors in office in consideration of \$1. The plot includes all the space between Warren and Slooem streets and between Marion and Washington streets. This was deeded "for the use and occupancy of the county" so long as it should be desired for use by them and no longer."

The first commission as justice of the peace in the county was issued to the late Dr. John V. Smith of Tunkhannock Borough April 11, 1843, and on April 15, 1845, Squire Sampson,

father of our present townsman of that name, was also commissioned a justice of Tunkhannock Borough

On the 24th of November, 1848, Hon John Jackson, now a well preserved gentleman in his 85th year, living at Lagrange, was commissioned the third sheriff of the county. Gen. Jackson has been prominent in the affairs of the county ever since its organization. He was elected a member of the House of Representatives in 1876, and feels quite equal to filling the place again.

## DIED IN TIOGA COUNTY.

Col. Gabriel T. Harrower, father of David C. Harrower of Wilkes-Barre, died Thursday, Aug. 15, 1895, at his home in Lawrenceville, Tioga County. The Herald of that place says:

Col. Gabriel T. Harrower was born in the town of Guilford, Chenango County, Sept. 25, 1816, but in his childhood moved with his parents to Lindley, Steuben County, N. Y., where the greater part of his active life was spent. The proverb "Blood will tell" never found a better illustration than in the case of Col. Harrower. His grandfather, Rev. David Harrower, emigrated to this country from Scotland, just prior to the Revolutionary War, was an earnest and successful Presbyterian clergyman who missionated largely in New York and Pennsylvania, while his father, Benjamin Harrower, was largely engaged in farming and lumbering and widely known in business circles throughout the country, whose wife, the colonel's mother, was a daughter of Joshua Mercereau, a descendant from the French Huguenots, and served in the Revolutionary War under Washington and Lafayette. Mr. Harrower became in early life interested in the business of his father and as he grew to manhood developed great muscular strength and physical activity, which with an iron constitution enabled him to accomplish a vast amount of hard labor. As he reached his majority he became identified with the political questions of the day and in 1852 was elected by the Democrats sheriff of the county, serving the term of three years with great acceptance and efficiency. At the close of his term he returned to Lindley and resumed the manufacturing of lumber which, pushed by his tireless energy soon grew into an extensive and successful business. Under the old military law of the State he had been appointed colonel of a militia regiment and had become considerably skilled in the affairs of the "citizen soldiery." On the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion he was deeply interested in the maintenance of the government, and in 1862 was active in raising the 161st Regiment of New York Infantry, of which he was commissioned the colonel and assigned to the department of the Gulf, where his regiment shared in the perils

and fatigues of the famous Red River expedition under Gen. Banks. The settlement of his father's estate requiring his personal attention, he resigned his commission and returned home, bearing with him the esteem of his superior officers and the respect and confidence of his men as a brave, efficient and capable leader, some of whom were present at his funeral and bore in their arms the body of their old commander to its last resting place. In November, 1871, he was elected by the Republicans of his district to the State Senate, where he served a term of two years, at the expiration of which he resumed his former business. He subsequently removed to Elkland, Pa., where for a few years he engaged in farming; from there, on account of the increasing infirmities of age and failing health, he removed to Lawrenceville, where his last days were spent, beloved and honored by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, who were warmly attached to him for his whole-souled generosity, his large-hearted hospitality, his strong friendships, his genial spirit, his honest, upright life, his unswerving and unquestioned integrity. Even in his comparative retirement he kept abreast of the great questions and movements in public affairs and held the wide acquaintance with men cultivated in the days of his activity. Col. Harrower kept fast hold of the faith of his fathers, and had been for years a communicant in the Presbyterian church. When at home and until prevented by failing health, he was always in his place on Sunday. In his last sickness he was sustained by the patience of hope and the assurance of faith in that Almighty One in whom he trusted. His wife, four sons, Elijah S. and Frank of Antrim, Pa.; Gabriel T. of New York and David C. Harrower, a lawyer of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and two unmarried daughters at home survive him.

On Saturday afternoon, Aug. 17, a large number of neighbors, friends and companions-in-arms assembled at his home and devoutly carried his body to its burial.

#### THE LATE SILAS FINCH.

Silas Finch, an old and well known resident of this city, died Tuesday, July 2, 1895, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. P. L. Hoover, on Susquehanna street. Mr. Finch was 82 years of age.

Mr. Finch was one of the pioneers of Wyoming Valley and came here with his parents when this part of the country was inhabited by only a few people. He was born in Albany, N. Y., in December, 1812, and when he was two years old the family made the journey to this county partly by wagon and partly on foot. The father was Darius Finch. Deceased attended the school of Mr. Dowe, at the corner of South and Franklin streets, where Dr. Young's

residence now is, until he was 14 years of age, when he left school to learn the stone mason trade, which occupation he followed until about eighteen years ago, when he took charge of the freight hauling business formerly conducted by his son-in-law, William H. Shepherd. Mr. Finch continued in this business until 1888 or 1889, when he disposed of it to H. H. Hookenberry, since which time he has lived a retired life.

Mr. Finch was married in 1833, to Miss Minerva Horton, and they had the following children: Edwin Wallace, captain of the Wyoming Artillerists, who served throughout the war, returning with the rank of lieutenant; Mrs. William H. Stephens, Irvin E. Finch, the well-known boatman; Mrs. P. L. Hoover, and Mrs. Adelaide M. Finch. The last three survive.

Deceased was a member of the M. E. denomination since he was 16 years old and died a member of Central M. E. Church. His religious convictions were deep and he lived in accord with the best and purest in life.

#### DEATH OF CORNELIUS ROBBINS.

Cornellus Robbins, a life-long resident of Wyoming Valley and a resident of Kingston for forty-eight years, died at noon Wednesday, Aug. 7, 1895, at the advanced age of 85 years. He enjoyed good health until this spring, when his health began to fail.

The deceased was born in Hanover Township on Jan. 21, 1810. In 1830 he was married to Miss Hannah Wiggins of the same place, who died in 1873. After his marriage he removed to Owego, N. Y., where he resided until 1847, when he removed to Kingston. In 1861 he enlisted in the 58th Regiment, P. V. He served three years, when he was taken with yellow fever and sent to a hospital in North Carolina, from where he was discharged in 1866. He was the father of five children, of whom one son, John Robbins, died while serving his country in the late war. The surviving children are: Abner of Scranton, Elias and Mary of Kingston and Mrs. Etta Pierce of Green Ridge. He was a member of Conyngham Post, 97, G. A. R., of Wilkes-Barre.

Cornelius Garrison, Mr. Robbins's grandfather on the maternal side, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was a native of Alsace and came to this country in 1776 as a French soldier. After the revolution he came to Han-

over and settled. Here he met and married Miss Mary Snover and they made their home on the back road near Sugar Notch. In 1825 he was killed by being thrown from his wagon in a runaway.

#### THE LATE MRS. SLOCUM.

Mrs. Ann Dennis Slocum, widow of the late Thomas Truxton Slocum of Tunkhannock, Wyoming county, died at her home, Platte Canon, Colorado, on Monday, July 1st, 1895, after an illness of over eight months, aged 82 years, as already stated in the RECORD. Mrs. Slocum was the eldest daughter of the late John Jacob Dennis and Abi Kirk Fell of our town. She was born November 1, 1813. She leaves four children, Mrs. Abi Titcomb, Benjamin Slocum, Ellen Maria Strauss and Norman James Slocum, all married and living in Colorado. John Jacob Dennis, her father, was a native of Berks county, Pa., and a great grand son of Hon. Samuel Dennis of Woodbridge, New Jersey. He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1800 and there married Abi Kirk Fell, daughter of Jesse Fell, associate judge of Luzerne county.

#### OVER A HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

Garfield, Md., Aug. 11, 1895—Planner Crockett died on Sykes Island yesterday. He was 102 years old and his wife is 96. He was never sick a day and never took medicine. He was the father of fourteen children, five of whom survive him.

#### FIFTY YEARS A MINISTER.

(From the Scranton Truth, Aug. 2, 1895)

Rev. G. M. Peck, the venerable pioneer Methodist minister of this valley, will on next Sunday celebrate the semi-centennial of his work in the ministry, and will preach at the Providence M. E. Church. There are few other men in this vicinity who can so well tell from actual experience the changes that have taken place in Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys in the half or rather three-quarters of a century.

Rev. George M. Peck was born April 17, 1820, at Forty Fort, over seventy-five years ago. His father, Rev. Dr. George Peck, was the pioneer Methodist minister in this section of the State. Mr. Peck was the eldest son of Dr. Peck, and when 5 months old he was taken by his mother to Salem, Wyoming County, where Dr. Peck had then assumed a new charge. This was

in the days before steam roads were known, and the three, father, mother and child, traveled in a Pennsylvania wagon with a canvas cover, the customary equipage of those early days.

When 7 years of age his father removed to Wilkes-Barre, where he assumed charge of a church. When 9 years of age he first saw a railroad. It was the old gravity road at Waymart, and it was the days of the Stourbridge Lion, the first locomotive that was ever run in the United States. Mr. Peck studied theology at the Methodist Theological Seminary in Cazenovia, N. Y. In 1839 he left Cazenovia and came down the valley back to Forty Fort. He was stationed at his father's place, where the Harry E. colliery is now. This was the western end of the property of his grandfather, Phillip Myers, who settled there after the Revolution. In this year he married Miss Sarah Butler, of Pompey, Onondago County, N. Y.

On Aug. 4, 1845, he joined the United Conference of the Methodist Church, which then met at Utica, N. Y. From the lower end of this the Wyoming Conference was formed seven years later. He was assigned to Salem and made the same journey from Forty Fort over the same road, where twenty-five years before he was taken in his mother's arms. Mr. Peck was for two terms stationed at Salem and spent seven years in Wayne County. In 1852 he was sent to Pittston. At that time his father was stationed at Wilkes-Barre and both father and son administered to the spiritual needs of all the Methodists from Nanticoke to Scranton. Dr. Peck's charge reached from Nanticoke to Plains and his son's from Plains to Scranton.

Mr. Peck was subsequently stationed at Providence, where he was for two terms. During his first term his charge included Dunmore also. He now, since his retirement, worships in the Providence Church.

Rev. Mr. Peck was stationed for one term at Carbondale and subsequently spent two years at Green Ridge and Park Place charge. It was at Green Ridge in 1882 that he closed his active work in the ministry. Since then he has not entirely retired from the Master's work, but occasionally even now preaches at the many churches where he is invited and where he is anxiously sought after.

In 1866, '67 and '68, Mr. Peck was presiding elder of the Lackawanna District. He is therefore familiar with all



the churches in this section of the State and is held in the highest esteem and veneration by all the Christian people of this valley.

During these many years of his active life Rev. Mr. Peck has seen great and wonderful changes in this city.

In those days the circuits were larger than they are now. At one time Mr. Peck drove thirty miles in the afternoons of three successive days every other week. After services he drove to his home. This necessitated pretty fast driving. "When a young man," Mr. Peck said, "I always liked to drive a fast horse; and I could not see why in doing the Lord's work I should not be just as anxious to drive as fast as when I rode for business or pleasure."

Mr. Peck with his estimable wife and his devoted companion in all these years of service in the vineyard of the Lord, enjoy the quietude of his later days and the rest from his long labors in his pleasant home at Green Ridge. Not far distant live his two sons—William H. Peck, cashier of the Third National Bank, and Luther W. Peck, cashier in the Globe store. Another son, Merit B. Peck, resides at Indianapolis. His brother, Rev. Merit B. Peck, also a retired minister, lives at 203 Chestnut street.

Though in his seventy-fifth year, Mr. Peck is yet active and ambitious to further the work of the Lord. He has spent his energies in doing good, in consoling the afflicted, in comforting the unhappy and in bringing the light of God's truth to those wandering in the darkened ways of error and of sin.

#### EARLY POSTAGE RATES.

Postage was a luxury in 1816. It cost 6 cents to send a letter 30 miles; from 31 to 80 miles, the charge was 10; from 81 to 150 miles, 12½ cents; from 151 to 400 miles, 18¾ cents; and over 400 miles, 25 cents. These rates were in force until 1845, when Lysander Spooner of Boston decided to run a mail route between Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore in opposition to the government. He contended that the government had no constitutional right to prevent private individuals from carrying the mails, so he established his route, charging 5 cents per letter.

The legal part of the question seems never to have been decided, but congress appears to have reduced the postal rate chiefly to avoid competition. Un-

der 300 miles 5 cents; over 300 miles, 10 cents, and drop letters 2 cents.

This rate held for six years, when the 3-cent prepaid rate for 3,000 miles was established. If the postage was not prepaid 5 cents was collected of the person who received the letter. For a distance of over 3,000 miles the rates were doubled.

In 1883 letter postage was again reduced to 2 cents per half ounce, and in 1885 to 2 cents per ounce.—Kate Field's Washington.

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, was held Feb. 25, 1895, Judge Woodward presiding. The committee on memorial on the late Sheldon Reynolds was continued.

The corresponding secretary read a letter from John M. Buskalew of Fishing Creek, one of the commissioners appointed by the governor to locate the Revolutionary forts; also sending a photograph of Fort Rice, Northumberland County, and another of the house standing on the site of Fort Jenkins, Columbia County. The former, built in 1779, is the best preserved specimen of Revolutionary forts in existence in Pennsylvania.

Voted that the society consider the matter of publishing Mr. Reynolds's history of Wilkes-Barre, published in the United States census.

Voted that the corresponding secretary and librarian be appointed to secure preparation and reading of historical and scientific papers at the meetings.

Voted to correspond with the Connecticut Historical Society relative to Susquehanna manuscripts in the latter society's possession.

Acknowledgment was made of a valuable set of publications of the Canadian Archives, having references to the history of the Six Nation Indians.

The corresponding secretary read a letter relative to a conference at Hartford in May, 1763, between the Connecticut authorities and deputies of the Six Nations, who were protesting against the proposed settlement of the Susquehanna region. The writer of the letter, Cyrus S. Bradley, of Southport, Conn., is seeking information about the conference in question, it not being referred to by any of the historians, so far as appears. Following is an extract:

On May 28, 1763, there was a conference at Hartford between deputies from the Six Nations, who came to protest against the proposed settlement of the Susquehanna lands, and the governor, council and assembly of Connecticut Colony. I have now in my hands for publication the minutes of that conference and I wish to obtain all the information which has been preserved concerning it. I have been able to find thus far but one direct reference to the matter and that is in a letter of Sir William Johnson, who sent an interpreter with the Indians. (Documents rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y. VII, 522). Letters of Sir William Johnson and Rev. Eleazer Wheelock (Documents IV, 203, 206) and a note in Palfrey (Hist. of N. E. V, 302) throw some light upon the subject.

The following persons were elected to membership: Burton Voorhis, Miss Grace Derr, Gen. E. S. Osborne, Mrs. Stella H. Welles, Miss Emily Oist Darling, R. Van A. Norris, Edward W. Sturdevant, Charles W. Lee, P. Butler Reynolds, Col. E. B. Beaumont, Thomas Darling, Dr. W. S. Stewart, George P. Loomis, Mary L. Bowman, G. M. Harding, Frank Puckey, A. G. Fell, George B. Hillman, J. B. Woodward, Moses W. Wadhams, Dr. H. Newton Young, Alexander Farnham, William Sharpe, Mrs. Josephine W. Hillman, Col. C. Bow Dougherty, William F. Dodge, George H. Flanagan, Anna Miner Oliver, Miss Ellen E. Thomas, Edwin H. Jones, R. C. Shoemaker, C. J. Shoemaker, Charles F. Murray, Jennie DeW. Harvey Maynard Bixby.

#### HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING.

After being closed for the summer, the Historical Society building will be open to the general public hereafter, on Wednesdays from 2 to 5 and on Saturdays from 7 to 9. During the summer Rev. H. E. Hayden, who is now in charge of the building, has made numerous changes in the interior arrangements. Persons entering the building will notice that the portrait of Dr. Harrison Wright has been given a more prominent position in the audience room, and in its place have been put rare old engravings of the two English statesmen of the Revolutionary period for whom Wilkes-Barre is named. Near them is a portrait of the Chevalier de Luzerne, for whom our county is named, together with his castle in France. Donated by the late E. B. Coxe.

Among other curios are these:

\* \* Watch imported from London, 1709, made by John Waters, London, and owned by Rev. Eliphalet Adams, ancestor of present owner, Mrs. A. R. Brundage.

\* \* Check on the Bank of the United States, Conyngham, Nesbitt & Co., 1799, the firm that donated Washington a shipment of pork for his starving army at Valley Forge. The Conyngham was David H., father of the late Judge John N. Conyngham. Presented by P. M. Carhart.

\* \* Guidon of the Wilkes-Barre Grays, 1861, carried by Hendrick B. Wright, Jr., loaned by George R. Wright.

\* \* A manuscript volume, being the daily orders issued by Gen. Washington, as written by Lieut. Thomas Hayden, adjutant of the 17th Regiment, colonial troops under Col. Jedediah Huntington, 1776, and an officer under Col. Zebulon Butler in 1777. The same is accompanied by Lieut. Hayden's watch, worn by him in service and the ink horn from which the orders were written. Also five commissions and discharges of Lieut. T. Hayden.

\* \* Portrait of Col. Timothy Pickering, first prothonotary, register, recorder, clerk of court of Luzerne County, 1787 to 1790, and member of Washington's cabinet.

\* \* Portrait of Gen. William Ross (1761-1842) who was with Zebulon Butler at Exeter July 2, 1778, private in Col. John Franklin's company, 1780, general in militia and State senator; the sword in the portrait is that given him by the Council of Pennsylvania for gallantry in rescuing Col. T. Pickering in 1788, at which time Gen. Ross was severely wounded in the conflict between the Pennamites and Connecticut people.

\* \* Picture of the house built by Col. Zebulon Butler about 1779 and taken down in 1867 to make room for the present residence of Judge Stanley Woodward. In this building the first court was organized.

\* \* Photograph of the old Hollenback corner, built 1817-19 and now the site of the Coal Exchange.

\* \* Engravings of Lord Butler and Ann, his wife. Loaned by Miss Julia Butler.

\* \* Portrait of Rev. Nicholas Murray, D. D., (1802-1861) pastor of the First Presbyterian Church from 1829 to 1833, and brought into prominence by his "Kirwan" articles.

## DEATH OF ECKLEY B. COXE.

In the death of Hon. Eckley B. Coxe at Drifton Monday morning, May 13, 1895, Luzerne County not only loses one of its most prominent citizens, but the State and the nation lose a patriotic and whole-souled citizen, a benefactor to mankind in more ways than one, and one of those men whose immense wealth does not rob them of the noblest attributes. By the man of wealth as well as by his humblest working-man he was looked up to and esteemed, and however great his responsibilities his presence was always like a ray of sunshine. He passed through crises such as have brought many a capitalist into supreme disfavor, but he emerged from them all retaining the good will of all those about him.



Mr. Coxe was 56 years of age—in the prime of manhood. Ten days ago a cold he contracted developed into muscular rheumatism, which later became complicated with pneumonia, and although the eminent physicians at his bedside did not regard his illness seriously until a few days ago, he became steadily worse until the pall of death fell not only upon the household in which he was

greatly loved, but upon the whole community as well.

Deceased's ancestor, Dr. Daniel Coxe, came from England in 1702, and was married to Sarah, daughter of Judge Eckley, of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Dr. Coxe subsequently became governor of West Jersey, and died in 1730. His son, Col. Daniel Coxe, was born in 1683 and died in 1734; his son, William, was born in 1723 and died in 1801; his son, Hon. Tench Coxe, was born in 1755 and died in 1824, and his son, Judge Charles S. Coxe, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Philadelphia, July 31, 1791, and died November 19, 1879. Deceased was born in Philadelphia, June 4, 1839. Hon. Tench Coxe, grandfather of deceased, was commissioner of internal revenue under President George Washington and was well known as a statesman, author and financier.

Eckley B. Coxe graduated from the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia in 1858, and supplemented the classical course with one in the sciences. He then spent six months in the anthracite coal fields booking himself on mining, and then went to France and studied the mines of that country, going also to Saxony, England and other European countries and studying the mining methods in each.

Having thus had as thorough a preparation for the work of his life as a man can have, he returned to the United States, and with his brothers formed the firm of Coxe Bros. & Co., which has become the largest individual mining firm in the coal fields. When coal was discovered, and even when a majority of people doubted the utility of the black, stony material that was very hard to burn, Hon. Tench Coxe, grandfather of deceased, bought nearly 80,000 acres of land in the vicinity of Mauch Chunk and Hazleton, where coal was known to exist, and these immense tracts of land, richly underlaid with the dusky diamonds, were inherited by the young brothers when they set to work mining. The works were started in 1865 and coal was first shipped in June of that year from Drifton. A second breaker was built at Drifton in 1876 and in 1879 mines were started in Black Creek Valley, Derringer, Tombleken, Gowen. In 1881 mines were opened at Beaver Meadow; in 1886 at Eckley; in 1887 at Stockton and Onelda. The operations having assumed immense proportions the firm, in 1890, began

the construction of a belt line railroad, the D., S. & N., to tap all of its collieries, and this was completed five years later, being over fifty miles in length. This gave the firm advantages independent of the railroad companies and was a great stroke of enterprise. The equipment of the road is one of the best in the country. Within the last year arrangements were made with the Valley Co. by which the Coxe Bros. used their own cars and locomotives in hauling their coal to tide, going on the Valley tracks where their own line terminated. The machine shops at Drifton are as complete as any in the country, the company manufacturing every piece of machinery used at the mines and on the railroad except some of the locomotives.

Several months ago Mr. Coxe, desiring more freedom and wishing to be relieved from some of his multitudinous responsibilities resigned the presidency of a number of the companies with which he was connected and the affairs were given in charge of an experienced man from New York.

In other walks of life Mr. Coxe attained quite as much prominence as in the physical development of the coal trade. He was one of the most noted members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers and was its president from 1878 to 1880, was a well known member of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers and of the American Society of Civil Engineers. In 1872 he published a translation of Muchbach's Science of Engineering and Construction of Machines, and his lectures on scientific subjects did much for those interested in those branches.

As an inventor Mr. Coxe also attained distinction. He was always experimenting with a view to simplifying the methods for mining coal, and his patents along this line number many. Principal among them are a device for separating coal from slate, doing away with slate pickers; a grate for burning culm, etc. He built the first iron breaker in the coal fields at great cost. His chemical and mechanical engineering experimental works, and his scientific library room, containing over 12,000 volumes and nearly 6,000 rare manuscripts and pamphlets in English, French and German, together with some rare old books, are objects of interest at his Drifton home.

Had Mr. Coxe chosen to enter more actively into the domain of politics he would probably have made for himself an enduring reputation in this line also, but the offices he did accept were filled with credit to himself and to his constituents. In 1880 he was elected to the State Senate from this district as the Democratic candidate but declined to take the oath of office on account of the article in the State constitution relative to necessary campaign expenses. His action created much surprise, but his address of Jan. 4, 1881, in which he gave his reasons for acting as he did, was entirely satisfactory to his constituents and so much confidence did they have in him that they re-elected him to the office in 1881 by a majority more than three times as large. Many prominent politicians in 1882 urged him to be a candidate for governor, and although he permitted his name to be used before the convention he withdrew it and urged his supporters to go over to Robert E. Pattison, who received the nomination. He was a valuable member of the Democratic State committee, and in 1884 was chairman of the Pennsylvania delegation of the national Democratic convention at Chicago which nominated Grover Cleveland. He was always an enthusiastic supporter of the Democratic party.

Mr. Coxe made his home at Drifton for many years in the midst of his thousands of employes, by whom he was honored and respected as few men are. One of the advantages he placed before his employes was the establishment about a year ago of a mining and mechanical institute at Drifton for the purpose of educating young men for scientific and mechanical pursuits. It is estimated that his individual wealth amounted to at least \$3,000,000 and he was liberal with his means. During the year he gave \$10,000 to the State hospital at Hazleton, besides making improvements; gave \$5,000 for an addition to the Laurytown almshouse and gave large sums to many institutions, especially Lehigh University, of which he was a director. Mr. Coxe was also appointed by Governor Pattison president of the commission to report some device for utilizing culm and he submitted an important report recently. He was vice president of the Mining Congress held in Paris in 1889 and was a director of the Philadelphia & Reading R. R.

Mr. Coxe was married thirty-seven years ago to Miss Sophia G. Fisher of Philadelphia, who survives him.

## DEATH OF J. W. ENO.

J. W. Eno, a member of one of the oldest American families and one of Wyoming Valley's most prominent citizens, died at his home in Plymouth Tuesday, June 11, 1895. Mr. Eno has been ill the past year, but only a few weeks ago he had to take to his bed. Last Saturday he rallied somewhat and his family began to entertain hopes of his recovery, but on Sunday night he was taken suddenly worse.

During Mr. Eno's long and eventful life he has been identified with all of Plymouth's earliest industries and was always a leading mover in anything that would promote the welfare of the town or its people. Squire Eno, as he was familiarly known, was a Republican in politics, though not partisan. He was many times named by his party and in 1861 served as internal revenue assessor under the martyred President Lincoln.

Josiah W. Eno was born Feb. 23, 1820, in Simsbury, Conn. He was a son of Chauncey Eno, and descended in the sixth generation from James Eno, who emigrated to Windsor, Conn., in 1646, and later settled at Simsbury. Josiah remained on the farm, which was an original grant to his ancestors, until he was 16 years of age. Not caring for rural life, he went to New York, where he secured a position in a wholesale dry goods house, the proprietors of which were Amos R. Eno and the late John J. Phelps, two of the best known merchants in the metropolis. In 1842 he came to Wilkes-Barre and engaged in the mercantile business about where the Marx Long property now stands. He was also the first tenant of the building now occupied by W. M. Miller & Co. A few years later he went into the coal mining business at Pittston. It was about this time that the canal was opened and he was consequently one of the pioneer coal operators of Wyoming Valley. In 1855 he moved to Plymouth and engaged in various mining industries with Hon. John J. Shonk. In 1857 he built the coal breaker in that section, which is now known as the D. & H. No. 4, and operated it until 1861, when he was appointed internal revenue assessor by President Lincoln. In 1866 he engaged in the real estate business and was one of the organizers of the organization known as the Plymouth Land Co. Land where the principal

business places of Plymouth now stand was purchased by this company for speculation and it proved a profitable investment for the speculators. Mr. Eno was held in the greatest esteem by the Republicans of the town he did so much to build, and in 1867 was elected justice of the peace, which office he held until 1894, when on account of falling health he was forced to resign. He was also one of Plymouth's first burgesses, serving four terms in that office. He was a leading spirit in religion, and always took a keen interest in anything appertaining to the welfare of the church. He was a charter member and for many years trustee of the Presbyterian Church of Plymouth.

Mr. Eno was married Jan. 23, 1851, to Louisa B. Glassell of Virginia, who still survives him. There are also surviving two children, W. G. Eno of this city, secretary of the traction company and a member of the insurance firm of Bidle & Eno, and Mrs. Palmer Campbell of Hoboken, N. J. Mr. Eno has one brother living, Chauncey Evelyn Eno, of Simsbury.

## DEATH OF D. G. SLIGH.

Sunday, Aug. 25, 1895, at 1 o'clock occurred the death of D. G. Sligh, an old and respected resident of this valley, at the home of his son Frederick, 75 North Main street. The deceased was born in Wellsboro, Tioga County, Sept. 24, 1816. In 1843 he removed to Carbondale, thence to Archbald and Hyde Park. In 1858 he located at Kingston, where he resided until the death of his wife two years ago. Since then he has resided with his son in this city. For the past three years he has been in poor health. He was one of the oldest living Odd Fellows and Free Masons in Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys. He was a charter member of Archbald Lodge, I. O. O. T., which was organized in 1845. He became a member of the Masonic order in 1849. On May 20, 1838, he was married to Susan Fuller at Carbondale and they lived happily together for 55 years. The deceased is survived by one son, Frederick Goodwin Sligh, with whom he lived.

## ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS.

Mrs. Mary Meixell, mother of Mrs. Lewis Morgan of Luzerne Borough, died at the home of her daughter Wednesday morning, Aug. 28, 1895. Mrs. Meixel was 98 years of age and for the past nine years has made her home with her daughter. She was always active and enjoyed good health until ten days ago, when she was seized with inflammation of the lungs and suffered greatly.

## DEATH OF MRS. SARAH ATHERTON HENRY.

Mrs. Sarah Atherton Henry died at her home in Wyoming July 23, 1895, at the ripe age of 80 years. That one so old should not be closer to the original pioneers than great-grand-daughter seems strange, yet Mrs. Henry sustained that relationship on both her maternal and paternal sides. On her father's side her great-grandfather James Atherton, was one of the early settlers in Wyoming. He came with the first party that came in 1763, nearly all of whom were slain by the Indians the same year. James had a son, also James, whose son Elisha was the father of Mrs. Henry. The Athertons are of English extraction, the family tracing its lineage back fully 800 years. They have been in this country 260 years, the first to come having been Humphrey Atherton, from whom Mrs. Henry is seventh in descent.

On her mother's side she was the daughter of Zibia Perkins, who was the daughter of David Perkins, who was the son of John Perkins, who during the Revolution was killed by the Indians in Wyoming Valley. He was an enlisted soldier in Capt. Spalding's company Jan. 1, 1777 to July 6, 1777, on which latter day he was killed by the Indians.

Mrs. Charles A. Miner of this city is a half sister of Mrs. Henry, the latter being a daughter of Elisha Atherton by his first marriage, Mrs. Miner a daughter by a second marriage, to the widow of Samuel Maffet.

Mrs. Henry, who was born in Wyoming Valley was the widow of William Henry, whose name is indissolubly connected with the development of the coal, iron and railway interests of Scranton. His death occurred at Wyo-

ming in 1878. William Henry was the son of Judge William Henry and the grandson of Judge William Henry, member of the Continental Congress, and a distinguished inventor, who preceded Fitch and Fulton in the application of steam as a motive power to propel boats.

Mrs. Henry, who was attached all her life to the Presbyterian Church, is survived by two children, Mrs. W. Scott Stites of Wyoming (whose husband is pastor of the Presbyterian Church there), and Mrs. Thomas Henry Atherton of Wilkes-Barre.

## ANCESTORS WERE PIONEERS.

In the death of Mrs. Sallie Henry of Wyoming at the advanced age of 80 years, another of the few links which yet bind us to the early decades of this century is broken. Mrs. Henry has passed her entire life in this valley and her charming rural home in Wyoming is a part of the bloody field over which our forefathers fought the combined foe of British, Indians and Tories, 117 years ago. Near by is the monument which commemorates that historic event and at its base Mrs. Henry has been wont to meet in years gone by on each 3d of July when the battle was commemorated. This year she was absent for the first time since the mid-summer exercises have been held.

She came from patriot stock, who sealed their devotion to their country and to Wyoming by laying down their lives in this valley.

On her paternal side, Atherton, she was the great-grand-daughter of James Atherton, who was one of the original settlers of this valley in 1763, and who narrowly escaped the massacre of that year. The family was less fortunate in the massacre of 1778, two of the Athertons losing their lives on that fearful day.

On her maternal side she was the great-grand-daughter of John Perkins, an early settler in Wyoming, who was killed by the Indians while working on his farm in the valley.

Mrs. Henry's husband, William Henry, was a pioneer in the development of the resources of Lackawanna Valley, and it is to his energy and far-seeing enterprise that Scranton owes so much of her prosperity to-day, even if she does not recognize him as her

founder. He was one of the first to appreciate the hidden mineral wealth of that region, and to introduce railroad facilities. The county seat of Lackawanna can point with pride to such figures as Mr. Henry, the Scrantons, Mr. Mattes, Mr. Grant and others, who dugged deep and strong for her foundations half a century ago.

It is nearly 20 years ago that this grand man was gathered to his fathers at the ripe old age of 82, but his widow's life never lost its sunshine, in spite of her bereavement, and her charming country home has always been an abode of delightful Christian hospitality. She was spared the physical decrepitude of advanced age and her mental powers, too, were unabated up to the very last. Consequently, though her life was in the past, she lost none of her interest in the present. Women of such godly life as hers are a benediction and the community meet with a loss when at last, in God's good time, they are called hence.

#### DEATH CAME SUDDENLY.

George M. Stark of Wyoming, a citizen well known in this section of the county, died very suddenly of heart disease early on Saturday morning at his farm near Dallas. He had been suffering with cholera morbus for a few days but the fatal complication was entirely unlooked for. Mrs. Dr. Warner of this city is a sister of deceased. His wife was with him when he died but the rest of his family was at Lake Carey.

Mr. Stark was born in Plains Township Sept. 11, 1842, and was a son of John M. and Sarah (Davison) Stark. He was educated at Wyoming Seminary and for one summer worked on the canal with his father. In 1859 he was employed by the Pittston Gas Co. and remained for three years. In 1862 he enlisted in Battery M, Second Pennsylvania Artillery, and served until the close of the war. He then returned to Franklin Township and worked on his father's farm for a year and a half, when he engaged in mercantile business in Moosic for six years, at the end of which time he moved to Wyoming and operated a general store four years. In November, 1885, he engaged in business with the Pittston Iron Roofing Co., of which

he was secretary and treasurer. He was married, Oct. 10, 1867, to Miss Albertine, daughter of Dr. Alford and Catherine (Van Loon) Brace, natives of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively.

Deceased was popular among all those who knew him and had a wide acquaintance.

Deceased leaves no children. He is survived by the following sisters: Mrs. M. Coolbaugh of Pittston, Mrs. Miles Stevens of Pittston, Mrs. W. H. Shoemaker of Wyoming, Mrs. Dr. Warner of Wilkes-Barre and Mrs. Frank Mosier of Pittston.

#### OVER 90 YEARS OF AGE.

Thursday, Aug. 1, 1895, at 9 o'clock Mrs. Christian Campbell, one of the oldest residents of the county, passed away at the home of her son, Cyrus Campbell, in Pittston. She was 91 years of age and died of general debility. Deceased was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittston, and until a short time ago was a faithful attendant. Her home in early life was in Lancaster. In 1822 she was married to Brooke Campbell, who passed away in 1847. Since 1853 she has made her home in Pittston. The following children survive: Charles H. West Pittston; Brooks, Scranton; John, master mechanic at Buffalo; E. W., California; Elizabeth, at home, and Cyrus, the dry goods merchant of Pittston.

#### VISITS HERE ONCE AGAIN.

Columbus J. Baldwin of Norwalk, O., whose *no de plume*, "Mountainer," was familiar to every reader of the Record of the Times a third of a century ago, accompanied by Mrs. Baldwin and their daughter, arrived in this city Aug. 6, 1895, and visited his brother on Carey avenue. "Mountainer's" pen was a trenchant one and did yeoman service for the cause of freedom in the formative period of the Republican party. Mr. Baldwin was elected clerk of the courts of Luzerne county in 1858 by a majority of six hundred against an adverse Democratic majority of 1,500. And those were days when money did not buy nominations and elections on the Republican ticket, and taking the oath of office carried with it no suspicion of perjury. Mr. Baldwin was re-elected clerk in 1861 by the aid of the

soldier vote, which the Supreme Court decided unconstitutional, hence he was obliged to step down and out, but was immediately appointed United States assessor by Judge Jessup, for the west side of the county, which office he filled acceptably until 1866, when he removed to Ohio. It is now twenty-one years since Mr. Baldwin removed from Luzerne and eleven since his former visit. He notes the many wonderful changes in the valley and is impressed by the fewness of familiar faces. Indeed very few men are in active business life for so long a period as thirty years. Those remaining of Mr. Baldwin's old friends will give him a hearty welcome.

#### THE RAVAGES OF TIME.

C. J. Baldwin, a former Wilkes-Barrean, who moved to Ohio thirty years ago, is visiting friends in town for a few days. In the course of a communication to the Times he says: "The writer was elected clerk of the courts in 1858, was an occupant of the old stone "fire proof" building for one month. Then, on Jan. 1, 1859, the offices were moved into the then, new court house. We are startled by the fact that the writer is the only person living who occupied a position in the court house at that time. John N. Conyngham was judge of the courts; J. B. Stark sheriff; David L. Patrick, prothonotary; Thomas M. Atherton, register of wills; Edmond Taylor, treasurer; Wesley Kunkle, recorder; Benjamin F. Pfouts, John Blanchard and Stephen Davenport, commissioners; Sidney Elcke, court cryer, and Charles Behler, janitor, all of whom have joined the great army of the dead. Garrick M. Harding was prosecuting attorney at that time, but did not occupy a room in the court house.

"We call to mind the following named attorneys, who were then living but now dead, to wit:

"Charles Denison, Volney Maxwell, L. D. Shoemaker, Caleb F. Bowman, H. B. Wright, C. E. Wright, E. L. Dana, David Randall, W. W. Ketcham, E. B. Chase, A. T. McClintock, Lyman Hakes, H. M. Hoyt, S. P. Longstreet, E. B. Harvey, Stephen Winchester, Lyman Nicholson, Charles Pike, Judge Handley, W. P. Miner, Steuben Jenkins, Angelo Jackson, Daniel Rankin, David L. Patrick, E. P. Darling, Oristus Collins, Stewart Jierce and Byron

Nicholson. What an array of names. They not only honored their profession but distinguished themselves, whether on the judiciary, in the halls of congress, in the chair of State or on the field of battle."

#### THE FIRST AND THE LAST WRIT.

Port Blanchard, Aug. 13, 1895.—Editor Record: In your interesting "Resume" founded on the visit to town of Mr. Baldwin, I notice it said of him that he is the only person living "who occupied a position in the court house in 1858." On the said Jan. 1, 1859, I was in no "position," but was temporarily helping Mr. Patrick as clerk, and in that capacity issued the last "writ" which went from the old "fire-proof," and the first "writ" which went from the new office in the present court house on said date.  
C. I. A. Chapman.

#### LUZERNE PIONEER DEAD.

David H. Taylor, one of the pioneers in the lumber industry of White Haven, died at Morrisville, Pa., Monday, Sept. 2, 1895. He came to Luzerne County from Bucks County and settled at White Haven, and engaged in a saw mill enterprise in the year 1840. He was prominently identified with the early history of lower Luzerne, and will be well remembered by our older citizens. Deceased was an uncle of Mrs. William Stoddart and Mrs. Charles Kern of this city. He participated in the erection of White Haven into a borough, and was elected a member of the first borough council.

#### THE LATE DAVID H. TAYLOR.

The death of David H. Taylor recalls many old time memories of White Haven. No man was better known or more respected. Mr. Taylor was unpretentious, dignified, was well fitted for a position of usefulness in the social or business community as was shown by his influence in White Haven during the formative period of its existence and at a time when its future could not be forecast. In the early settlement of White Haven Mr. Taylor exercised an efficient energy and influence in shaping its development, when men were valued for what judgment and perseverance could accomplish, and when they wisely utilized to the best advantage every obtainable experience. In Mr. Taylor's early day the



trade in anthracite was in its swaddling clothes, and the vicinity of White Haven was heavily timbered with hemlock and pine; when there was but little land cleared White Haven was a small pioneer post-town; was incorporated in 1842 and the Lehigh Valley R. R. and the Central R. R. of New Jersey pass through it. The present White Haven is evidence of the ingenuity, industry and personal worth of such men as David H. Taylor.

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#### OVER A HUNDRED YEARS.

UNIONTOWN, July 18, 1895.—John Murray, aged 102, died at his mountain home, near Wimp's Cap, this county, Sunday. He was the oldest man in the county and had a very interesting history. He was born in Maryland, but came to this State at the close of the war of 1812. He marched with the American army across Licking Creek. A short time before his death he transferred his property to John Burnham and his sister-in-law, who had taken care of him and also rode to Bruneton, W. Va., and ordered his coffin, a black walnut casket, Murray never had any children but raised fourteen orphans, all of whom will attend his funeral.

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#### DEATH OF COL JAMES A. SNOWDEN.

A brother of the late E. Hazard Snowden, Col. James A. Snowden, died at his home in Mississippi on April 23, 1895, aged 89 years. He was a son of the Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden and was born in Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., May 24, 1806. He had passed his entire life in the South. His wife, who has been dead nearly fifty years, was Miss Sarah S. Holder, descended from the Virginia Holders. He was naturally a Southerner during the war and had four sons in the Confederate army, he being too old for service.

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#### DISTINGUISHED JURISTS LIVED THERE.

The property of the Hugh Murray estate on Northampton street, between the residences of Agib Ricketts and Dr. Stewart was sold on Aug. 10, 1895, to Dr. G. T. Matlack. The doctor, who now has his office and residence on

Washington street, nearly opposite St. Nicholas Church, will take possession in the fall, building an office on the side toward Franklin street.

The Murray house was once the home of Chief Justice John Bannister Gibson, who resided in Wilkes-Barre from 1813 to 1816, at which time he was presiding judge of Luzerne County. It was also at one time the residence of Chief Justice George W. Woodward, and the latter's son, Judge Stanley Woodward, now presiding judge of Luzerne County was born there in 1833. The latter's mother was also born there. The latter's mother was also born there, she being the only daughter of Dr. George W. Trott.

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#### NOTES ABOUT NEWSPAPERS.

Samstag Abend, Robert Baur & Son's German weekly, came out in a special edition Aug. 24, 1895, with a full illustrated account of the battle of the Sedan, the anniversary of which will be celebrated by Germans this week. The edition is a stroke of enterprise on the part of Baur & Son.

There are two old-timers in the editorial profession in this State who took an active part in supporting old "Tippecanoe" Harrison for President in 1840, says the Allentown Chronicle. Judge Schoch of the Stroudsburg Jeffersonian started that paper during that memorable campaign, and has continued it without interruption to the present time. He is the senior newspaper publisher and editor in Pennsylvania, and probably the oldest in the United States. The other one is E. H. Rauch, the senior of the Mauch Chunk Daily News, who made his first public speech at Mullica Hill, N. J., during the same campaign of 1840, when he was 20 years of age. His newspaper business dates from 1831.

The claim that the Pittston Gazette is the oldest newspaper in northeastern Pennsylvania, having been published for forty-five years under the same name, brings out a reply from the editor of the Montrose Democrat, who says his paper can beat that by eight years, being now in its fifty-third year. This claim in turn causes the editor of the Honesdale Herald to say that his paper has had a continuous existence for seventy-seven years, and the present editor's name has been at its mast head for thirty-six years.

## JOHN BROWN'S RAID.

Postmaster C. M. Williams of Plainsville, who was a soldier in the years 1855 and 1856 in Kansas, Aug. 29, 1895, received the following note from Col. R. W. Howard, the only living survivor of John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry. The note was written at Cowesett, R. I., and says:

"I was in Kansas in 1855 to 1859. I knew most of the men you have mentioned in your letter. Did you ever know one Capt. Henry who lived at Topeka? He came out to reinforce Brown's army towards the Nebraska line. The extreme cold killed him before he returned and he was buried on the way back."

It was generally supposed that when Owen Brown died in Pasadena, Cal., in 1890, the last participant in John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859 had passed way. The idea is incorrect, as Col. Howard, the writer of the note above, turns up as the only survivor of the foray. He lives in Cowesett, R. I., and at the age of 60 is hale and hearty. Howard was 24 years old at the time of Brown's attack on the old arsenal. He was born in Rhode Island and emigrated to Kansas, where he met Brown and Kagi, Brown's right hand man. He aided them in some of their raids into Missouri after slaves, and was made acquainted with all their plans. A constitution was drawn up in Canada, and under it Brown was chosen commander in chief, and J. Henry Kagi, secretary of war. Mr. Howard has still a copy of this constitution in cipher, but has never worked it out. The story of the rendezvous at the Kennedy farm and Brown's life there previous to the attack, as related by Mr. Howard is interesting. He says: Brown expected men and arms from all over the country, and in fact some aid was approaching when he made the fatal attack. This attack was ten days earlier than was planned owing to the fear that there was a traitor in the ranks.

To secure 150,000 rifles which Brown supposed were in the arsenal at Harper's Ferry was the point of the assault. The twenty-two men, five of whom were blacks, took their places in the night and met with little resistance. A train came along, however

unmolested, and the engineer took the news to Baltimore. Had Brown taken what arms his adherents could carry and retreated to his rock bound retreat, Howard thinks all would have been well, for the Kennedy farm was a place as easily defended as Thermopylae. The second day the troops arrived and the little band was shut in like rats in a hole. After being driven out of the arsenal Kagi and five others, Howard among them, tried to hold a dugout on the river bank on the Virginia side. The fire became too hot for them and they started for a rocky island in the middle of the river. Kagi and the other four men were killed, a half a dozen bullets striking Kagi at the same time. Howard escaped in an almost miraculous way. He says further: "When 200 men are firing at five it is a narrow chance. Troops were coming in on the trains and that was the reason we took to the rock. So much lead came down all about me that I got into the river. I went under the water and kept under, coming up only once or twice. I went with the current and when I got out far enough I paddled a little faster. When I floated the current helped me a little. I saw dead bodies floating down and the troops thought I was killed with the others. When I reached the land on the Maryland side I went to the Kennedy House, from there to St. Louis and thence back to Rhode Island."

John Brown and six of the captured men were hanged at Charleston, Va., for treason and murder. Howard would have shared their fate if he had been captured. He kept quiet until the war broke out when he enlisted in the 9th Rhode Island Regiment. Howard is confident that if the attacks had been delayed the result would have been altogether different, as they would have had thousands of men to aid them in their scheme of liberating the Virginia slaves. Howard says he knows where Brown's papers are buried. Howard was impressed with Brown's deep religious spirit, the strict obedience of his sons and the confidence he had in the ultimate success of his scheme and he resents any attacks upon the man's sincerity or sanity.

## REUNION OF 143d REG'T, P. V.

(Daily Record, Aug. 29, 1895.)

The twenty-sixth annual reunion of the 143d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers was held at Shickshinny Wednesday. The town presented a regular holiday appearance, the streets being thronged with people gathered from the country for miles around. The hotels as well as the private houses were profusely decorated with flags and bunting. When the train bearing the survivors of that loyal old regiment from Scranton and intermediate points pulled into the station it was met by the committees from Shickshinny Post, 257, G. A. R., and the Sons of Veterans. They formed rank and, headed by the Glenburn Drum Corps, which accompanied the Lackawanna delegation, marched to Riverside Park, where the exercises of the day were held. By the time the park was reached it was almost noon, and the business meeting, which was scheduled for 11:45, was postponed, and the veterans and their wives sat down in the large pavilion and partook of a hearty meal, which consisted not only of the prescribed pork and beans, but also of substantial and viands of all kinds.

The table were presided over by the pretty daughters of Shickshinny's veterans, and the hospitality with which they received the 143d and its friends will not soon be forgotten.

After the boys had satisfied their appetites they repaired to a large platform in the rear, where the business meeting was held. This was called to order by the president of the association of the 143d, Capt. P. De Lacey, of Scranton.

Rev. Mr. Mickie, pastor of the Shickshinny Presbyterian Church, and a son of a veteran, offered prayer.

The secretary called the roll of the survivors of the regiment, which showed 104 present.

Among those present from this vicinity were:

Kunkle—Samuel Hess, C. D. Kunkle, Charles Kunkle.

Pittston—Rudolph Fenner.

Moscow—Lieut. O. E. Vaughn.

Luzerne—Ira Hardy, George W. Engle, George W. Keller, James Hoover, J. D. Willis.

Glenburn—C. A. Sherman, William Knorr.

East Benton—Alvin H. Colvin.  
 Meshoppen—Edward Shoemaker.  
 Waverly—Milo Stone, T. C. Kennedy.  
 Cambra—J. H. Gearhart.  
 Muhlenburg—E. Roberts.  
 Harveyville—O. M. Campbell.  
 Beaumont—John Rood, Thomas Bar-  
 ringer, Andrew Hilbert.  
 Dorranceton—Capt. H. M. Gordon.  
 Scranton—M. L. Blair, Capt. DeLacy.  
 Shickshinny—Alexander McDaniels,  
 James Kester, Jacob Hobbes, Amos W.  
 Lanning.  
 Ruggles—J. B. Hobbes.  
 Bloomfield—S. M. Blanchard, J. W.  
 Rood, John Rood.  
 Plymouth—James Renard, James  
 Atherton, Ira Ransom, William Schoo-  
 ley and Nicholas Warmouth.  
 York City—John E. Hoff.  
 Sweet Valley—William M. Rummage,  
 Thomas Shaw, Silas Nevil, C. L.  
 Moore.

Kingston—C. J. Turpin.  
 Georgetown—Aaron Porter.  
 Silkworth—George Lamereaux.  
 Ashley—David Davis, George Bellas.  
 Wilkes-Barre—James Stetler, Isaac  
 Jones, George N. Reichard, James M.  
 Rutter, Charles S. Shotten, Charles D.  
 Hoover, E. H. Groff, Asa Gardner,  
 Aaron Freeman, Singleton M. Goss,  
 Charles Westover.

West Nanticoke—Jacob Bonewitz.  
 Dorrance—John Vandermark, Henry  
 Reinhammer.

Beach Haven—C. H. Campbell.  
 Town Line—Almon W. Rood.  
 Irish Lane—John M. Culver.  
 Pritchard—Alfred Groff.  
 Dallas—W. S. Randall.  
 Maple Run—J. F. Moss.  
 Pike's Creek—Josiah W. Wolfe.  
 Huntington Mills—Benjamin Bellas.  
 Berwick—Josiah Kemer.

The roll call showed that the follow-  
 ing have died since the last reunion:  
 Maj. Charles M. Conyngham and  
 Charles Gabel, Wilkes-Barre; L. J.  
 Curtis, Kingston; W. W. Johnson,  
 Peckville; Hugh Donnelly, Dunmore;  
 Elijah Robbins, Luzerne Borough;  
 Daniel Hawes, Susquehanna County;  
 William S. Downs, Maple Run; Cor-  
 nellus Blobbett, Nicholson; S. D. Bur-  
 nett, West Auburn.

The history of the 143d Regiment, P.  
 V., records one of the bravest com-  
 mands of the war. No regiment that  
 left Pennsylvania left so many brave  
 men behind. Out of 1,300 men taken to  
 the front, 363 is all that returned to  
 tell the story. Another regiment with

such a record as this would be hard to find. The regiment was organized at Camp Luzerne in October, 1862, with Col. E. L. Dana, Lieut. Col. George E. Hoyt and Maj. J. D. Musser in command. In November it went to Harrisburg, thence to the fortifications around Washington. Feb. 17, 1863, they went to the front attached to the 2d Brigade, 3d Division, 1st Corps. April 29 they were under artillery fire on the Rappahannock just before the battle of Chancellorsville. Their first great engagement was at Gettysburg. The 143d was the first infantry to reach the field and formed a support of Buford's guns. Gen. Reynolds, corps commander, was killed at the outset, also Col. Stone and Wister. The command of the brigade then devolved upon Col. Dana of the 143d. During the awful struggle of the brigade Sergt. Ben Crippen, the color bearer, was shot and the colors fell. Maj. Conyngham shouted to rally around the colors. They did and the colors were recovered. During the day the 143d lost in killed, wounded and prisoners 252 out of an enrollment of 465. The second and third day they were in the Union line on Cemetery Hill under Hancock, occupying part of the depression between Little Round Top and Cemetery Ridge. They supported Sickles in the disastrous operations in the peach orchard and wheat field. The third day they rushed out on Pickett's flank and helped break his charge into disorder. Their next bloody struggle was in the Wilderness in May, 1864. Col. Dana was wounded and captured as also was Capt. Little and Gordon with part of their companies. Lieutenants John C. Kropp and Musser were killed.

At the battle of Laurel Hill in the Wilderness campaign the 143d took part in a number of heroic charges and suffered terribly. May 13 Maj. Conyngham was severely wounded. The battles of the Wilderness and Gettysburg reduced the 143d to such small numbers as few regiments can claim. The command had some lively work before Petersburg and did hard service in the fall and winter of '64. At the lively fight of Hatcher's Run in February, '65, where Capt. Asher Gaylord and a number of brave fellows of the 142d were killed, the command saw about the last arduous service of the war. Three days later they were sent

North and stationed at Hart's Island, New York. June 12 they were ordered to Harrisburg to receive pay and muster out, and on this journey they came through Wilkes-Barre, receiving an ovation.

#### THE 143D AT GETTYSBURG.

The following poem was read by John S. McGroarty at the 143d Pennsylvania Vols. reunion at Shickshinny.

Up from the valleys desolate in the track  
of bitter war,  
From their wasted hopes and ruined  
homes and lonely graves, afar,  
The cries of women, comfortless, above  
the silent slain  
Echoing still upon their ears in moans of  
endless pain,  
In deep despair of heart and soul, with  
sword and sweeping flame  
Northward to Pennsylvania's fields Lee  
and the Lost Cause came.

Out like the shades of darkness from the  
gloom of sulen flight,  
Ghost of a mighty, vanished dream in  
the misted morning light,  
Scarred and worn from the dreadful strife  
the old battalion stood,  
Like tigers baffled from their lair by the  
hungering scent of blood,  
Girded for one last onslaught, they  
crossed the hills to throw  
The last fierce chance upon the fields of  
Gettysburg, below.

But well for the blue that battled 'gainst  
the onslaught of the gray,  
The patient North had sent its tried and  
truest men that day,  
And well for the Union banner its own  
were brave and true  
And never a craven heart beat there in  
all the ranks of blue,  
And glory to every man of all who fought  
and would not yield,  
And glory to fair Wyoming's sons, the  
first to reach the field.

For they were the first at Gettysburg—  
the men of Wyoming's vale—  
The first to bear the shock of the fight  
in that storm of leaden hail,  
The first to plant the Union flag in the  
face of the rebel foe,  
The first to give for its stars their blood  
in the battle's bitter throes,  
The first to strike, the first to die, their  
blood baptized the fray,  
While the winding river of their youth  
sang glory, far away.

Brave men were on that bloody field, but  
ours the bravest still;  
'Twas Dana led—the lion heart, the  
dauntless soul and will.  
His sword had drunk of foe-man's blood  
in many a fight of old  
When the Spaniard hordes of Mexico

had flung their challenge bold.  
 'Twas he who won El Pinal's pass, and  
 Vera Cruz could tell  
 Tales of Wyoming's Volunteers and  
 Dana's shot and shell.

But never, of all their battles, fought they  
 as on that day  
 At Gettysburg, when Reynolds fell be-  
 fore the daring gray;  
 Thrice went our colors down—'twas Crip-  
 pen bore them on—  
 And thrice through fire and blood and  
 death the flag again was won;  
 'Though Crippen fell his soul ne'er left  
 the battle's fierce confines,  
 And like a bugle Dana's voice rang cour-  
 age through the lines.

Some pressed were they in that dread hell  
 of agony and pain,  
 The foe-man's hand was at their throats,  
 fast fell their comrades slain;  
 On head and limb the saber stroke, and  
 deep the cannon's roar  
 Hushed the last moan of lips that would  
 speak tenderly no more;  
 And ne'er again the dead's dull ears  
 would hear, when done that day,  
 The winding river of their youth sing to  
 them, far away.

But so they fought at Gettysburg—the  
 first to reach the field—  
 And so they faced the foe and bled and  
 died, but did not yield.  
 Few came they back—the many sleep  
 among the hallowed dead.  
 'But fame has wreathed its laurels fair  
 for every hero's head.  
 And when they speak of Gettysburg in  
 ages, far away,  
 They'll marvel much at Dana's men  
 whose blood baptized the fray.

#### THE OLDEST ENGINEER.

(Bethlehem Times, Sept. 5, 1895.)

Peter Styers, whose claim of being the oldest running locomotive engineer in the United States was not disputed, died Thursday morning at his residence in Bethlehem of gangrene, hastened by paralysis. He fallooaded for nearly half a century, and ran a locomotive for nearly forty-six years. In all this time he was never in a collision and was the cause of no accident. This is remarkable when it is stated that his brother railroaders have computed that he has run steam engines a distance equivalent to forty-one times around the globe. Mr. Styers was one of the best known locomotive engineers in the State. He was a native of New Jersey, and was born on Sept. 22, 1824. He was one of ten children, the fifth son of the late John and Mary Styers. He went to boating

at the age of 16 and was employed on the Delaware Canal for a year or two, when the family moved into the Pennsylvania coal regions. Mr. Styers then drove a stage coach at Catawissa and when he attained his majority he found employment on the Schuylkill Valley R. R. At the time there were no engines on this road. He started in to drive teams that pulled the coal cars.

On March 27, 1846, he married Miss Sarah Moyer, daughter of the late John and Eva Moyer of near Steinsville, Berks County. They went to house-keeping at Cressona and Mr. Styers got work on the old Mine Hill branch of the Reading R. R. In four years he worked his way up from driver to trackman, to brakeman, to fireman, and in 1849 he pulled open the first throttle on a locomotive as an engineer. He was wont often to talk about the engines of that day. There was only a piece of weather boarding for the engineer's cab.

Then came the canvas awning. He witnessed all the advancements that the builders of locomotives made. From the weather board cab to that of the luxurious cab of to-day, he has experienced it all. Subsequently he ran on the North Penn road, and was one of the first engineers on that road. Thirteen years he engineered there. Then he ran on the Valley, and in 1866 he secured a position on the Jersey Central, remaining continuously in that company's employ until Jan. 5 of this year, when he was forced by illness to resign. Twenty-three years ago he moved his family to West Bethlehem from Odenweldertown. On Aug. 2, 1869, his son William was taken on his engine as fireman. Father and son rail-roaded side by side ever since, the son succeeding the father at the throttle when he was forced to retire owing to illness. The Styerses were placed in charge of the Bethlehem shifter when it was first put on the road, and old 202 would have wept this morning, if it were a possibility, at the news of its old engineer's death. Mr. Styers was known as a careful engineer. Escaping without an accident in forty-six years is an enviable reputation. He was held in high esteem by his fellow railroaders. He was a good, kind hearted man. He is survived by his widow, two brothers—Jacob, of Mt. Vernon, O., and John of Catawissa—and a sister—Mary, wife of Levi Snyder, of Harmony, N. J. Of

his eight children, a son—William H. Styers, and a daughter—Mary E., widow of the late Alexander S. Miller, are living, together with five grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and an adopted son, John Stewart, of Philadelphia.

#### HISTORIC OLD ELM.

Early on Sept. 5, 1895, several men began cutting down the historic old elm tree situated on Elm Hill, Plymouth. This tree is one of the oldest landmarks in the valley and around it cling many historical recollections of old Shawnee. For over two centuries this stately old elm has withstood the blasts of the elements and it remained for the hand of man to bring its long lease of life to a close. The descendants of the old families of Shawnee looked upon this tree as an heirloom of their forefathers and they are loathe to see it destroyed. For the past few years it has had very few green boughs and as it is an unusually large elm, Rev. Thomas McKay, who now occupies the house in the rear of it, fearing that if a heavy wind storm came up the old tree would topple over on his home, decided to pull it down.

When it became known to the people of Plymouth that this historical old tree was being felled a large number of them gathered about it and no sooner had the first branch fallen than they began to cut pieces from it to keep as souvenirs. No less than a wagon load of the tree was carted off. The pieces will be made into gavels, mallets and various other articles to be kept as relics.

Much of the early history of Plymouth and of the pioneers of Shawneetown is clustered about this tree. From the historical sketches of Plymouth by Hendrick B. Wright we find that the tree served as the town sign post and from a copy of the old town journal it is found that the following resolution was passed in March 2, 1774:

"It was voted at this meeting that for ye present ye tree that now stands northerly from Capt. Butler's house shall be ye Town Sign Post."

The sign post, the historians tell us, was in those days a very important

thing. It was here where all public meetings were held, the business of the town transacted, the place for posting notices, the public whipping post, the auction mast, the recruiting depot and place where elections were held. Election day was a day of jubilee and amusement. While the voting population would be electing their officers, the young men would engage in feats of physical strength, such as wrestling throwing the bar and foot racing.

The selection of this tree did not seem to satisfy the residents on the east side and a strife grew up between the sides. A vote was taken, in which the west side came out victorious and the sign post was changed, being removed to a certain tree in Kingston ten rods north of the house of Mr. Ross. Afterwards a compromise was effected and the two sign posts remained.

The town poor were always sold at the public meetings held at the sign post until Judge Burnside caused the overseers of the poor in some district to be indicted in his court and imposed on this offense. Later in the history the historian says that no records remain of the later meetings and he is uncertain as to where the first triumvirate, Phineas Nash, Capt. David Martin and J. Gaylord, held their court.

Mr. Wright in conclusion says: "I have but little doubt, therefore, that the old school house upon the hill was in the early days the forum of justice, and the old elm, the public sign post and whipping post of Plymouth ninety-eight years ago. (This would be about 1775).

Mr. Wright closes a lengthy article on the historical associations of the old elm by saying: "Will you spare it? It stands there now, erect, green and vigorous, a glorious landmark of the early days of Plymouth and it is to be hoped that it may be permitted to remain. The eyes of our ancestors rested upon it in days ago. To me it is a pleasant reminder of the plain and primitive days of the town."

It might be well to say that the old elm which in the above Mr. Wright makes such a deserved plea for preserving has stood until by age and time and weather it has become so decayed that to allow it to stand would be unsafe. But there is no doubt that the spot where it stood will always be cherished by the residents of old Shawnee and their descendants.

#### A TREE'S MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

It has been supposed that a certain tree on the river bank, planted by the late Martin Coryell in front of his residence, was a mahogany tree, but that the supposition was an error is shown by the following from the "National Stockman and Farmer:—"

A North American forest tree known only in limited districts, but worthy of more attention than it has received in ornamental planting, is the Kentucky coffee tree. It is (as one has said) a combination of the peculiarities of many trees. Planted by itself, it strikes the eye of the beholder at once; in summer, by its large and abundant foliage; in winter by its long, thick, cane-like shoots which seem wholly destitute of buds. This peculiar appearance after the leaves fall has given it its generic name *Gymnocadus*—literally, naked branch. The common name, coffee tree, is said to have come from the fact of its seeds having been used by the early settlers as a substitute for coffee.

It is a monotypic genus, there being but the one species known, *G. canadensis*.

The leaves are bipinnate, and very large, many single ones on thrifty young trees being three feet in length and nearly two in width. Each main leaf-stalk bears four to seven compound leaves, each of which is composed of six to eight leaflets, in size about three inches by five-eighths, so that one main leaf-stalk often has over a hundred and fifty leaflets.

Like the Osage orange, the Kentucky coffee tree is dioecious, the staminate and pistillate blossoms being borne on different trees. This accounts for a tree which stands at a distance from others rarely or never bearing seed. Flowers white, borne in short, terminal racemes, coming out from May to July.

The bark on the trunk is particularly rough and broken transversely.

Recently a newspaper item, copied somewhat extensively, stated that a mahogany tree of fine size and appearance was growing near Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Leaves from this tree and a shoot of the present season's growth, kindly sent at our request by Mr. F. C. Johnson, of the Wilkes-Barre Record, shows that it is the Kentucky coffee tree. The mahogany is indigenous in Central America and the West India Islands. Technically it is known as *Swietenia*, after a Dutch botanist and author of the last century named Swieten. The value of the wood in the manu-

facture of fine furniture is well known. In the North the tree can be grown only under the most favorable artificial conditions, failing entirely in the open ground.

The coffee tree can be multiplied by seeds, which often do not vegetate the first season after planting; and also by cuttings of the roots. It is perfectly hardy, standing the most severe winters as well as an apple tree. Just why it has been called mahogany, in more than one instance, too, and in Maryland and Virginia as well as Pennsylvania, is not clear. It may probably be traced to some person who furnished the young trees for planting forty or fifty years ago.

#### ANOTHER COFFEE TREE IN TOWN.

Referring to the fact recently stated in the Record that there was a coffee tree growing on the River bank, Professor Solly writes as follows:

Editor Record: There was and probably is yet a good specimen of the coffee tree, *Gymnocladus Canadensis*, standing in the grounds of the property of the late Reuben Downing in the northwest corner formed by the crossing of the Pennsylvania R. R. at Hanover road. During the year this property was occupied by me, the tree bore abundantly of its peculiar leguminous fruit, which would seem to indicate, the species being dioecious, that there were other trees in the vicinity or else that pollentization may occur either by the aid of insects or otherwise at much greater distance than is usually supposed.

This property was formerly owned by Mr. Harkins, a florist, and I am inclined to believe that the tree was set out by him.

W. J. Solly.

Philadelphia, Oct. 3, 1895.

#### THAT COFFEE TREE.

Editor Record: In reply to the article in Saturday's Record in reference to the Mexican coffee tree planted by the late Daniel Harkins at his residence on the Careytown road, will say that the tree was taken from among others in his nursery and planted on his lawn. It was a slow grower, but when matured made a very attractive tree on account of its perfect shape and graceful foliage. The tree bore fruit when quite young, and bore abundantly while Mr. Harkins still retained the place some thirteen years since. Mr. Harkins

planted on this place a choice selection of trees and shrubs, nearly all of which have since died of exposure and neglect.

The Mexican coffee tree on the river bank mentioned some time ago in the papers, was planted by Mr. Harkins also. Mary Harkins.

#### KINGSTON IN 1814.

Following is a list of advertised letters as taken from a local paper of 1814. It would seem strange that such well known people should have absented themselves from the post office so long as to make it necessary to advertise these letters:

Letters in the postoffice, Kingston, July 1, 1814:

James Atherton,	David Perkins,
Ellisha Atherton,	Thomas Patterson,
Jacob Bedford,	Joseph Swetland,
Wm. Bassett,	Daniel Swetland,
Isaac Carpenter,	Josiah Squires,
Benj. Dorrance,	Isaac Shoemaker,
James Hughes	Belding Swetland,
Alexander Jackson,	Phillip Shaver,
Harris Jenkins,	Henry Tuttle,
Abraham Johnston,	Calvin Wadhams,
Wm. Loveland,	Elnathan Wilson,
Phillip Myers,	Thos. Wall,
Ebenezer Parish,	Henry Young.

H. BUCKINGHAM, P. M.

#### DEATH OF JUSTICE STRONG.

Lake Minnewaska, N. Y., August 19, 1895.—Justice Strong died at 2:15 to-day.

Ex-Justice Strong had been critically ill for some weeks, here, suffering from a stroke of paralysis, affecting the left side of his body. He had also catarrhal fever, and for the last forty-eight hours was unconscious.

William Strong, son of Rev. William Lighthouse Strong, was born in Somers, Tolland County, Conn., May 6, 1808. He was educated at the Plainfield Academy and Yale College, graduating at the age of 20 years. After a brief career as school teacher, he returned to New Haven and graduated from the law school of Yale. Removing thence to Philadelphia, he was admitted to the bar in 1832. The young lawyer chose Reading, Pa., for his home, and entered upon the practice of his profession in 1847. Having taken an active interest in politics, he was elected to represent the district in Congress, and served two terms. He then returned to the practice of his profession, and in 1857 was elected a judge of the Supreme Court of the State of Pennsylvania for a term of fifteen years. On Oct. 1, 1868, he resigned that position and resumed his practice at the bar.

While a member of the Supreme Court of the State, the deceased justice won a reputation for judicial learning that extended far beyond its limits, and when, in 1870, President Grant transmitted his name with that of the late Justice Bradley to the Senate for confirmation as associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, there was a general feeling of satisfaction among the members of his profession. On Jan. 15, 1872, Justice Strong announced the decision of the court affirming the constitutionality of the legal tender acts, and Justice Bradley concurred in a lengthy opinion. But the legal tender question was not the only one of importance growing out of the war, in the settlement of which Justice Strong took a prominent part. The constitutional amendments intended to crystallize and preserve the results of the war, and the congressional legislation necessary to give these constitutional provisions force and effect were before the court and he read the opinion of the court in a number of cases of much importance.

Justice Strong was designated by the electoral commission act of 1877 as one of the judicial members of the famous tripartite tribunal which passed upon the contested presidential election of 1876. In 1880, Justice Strong, having reached the age at which, under the constitution, retirement from the bench after ten years of service thereon is permitted, retired, and had since then made his home in Washington. Justice Strong was a prominent citizen of Washington, taking an active interest in benevolent and religious projects.

He was a ruling elder in the Church of the Covenant and a leading officer in the Bible Society and in the American Tract Society, usually presiding over their annual gatherings. In these lines he will be sadly missed.

In 1836 Justice Strong married Priscilla Lee at Easton, Pa., by whom he had a family of one son and several daughters. The son died in 1892; two of the daughters are married and reside in Pennsylvania; two unmarried daughters have been their father's intimate companions since the death of their mother some years ago.

The remains were taken to Reading, Pa., where funeral services were held and interment was made.

#### CHARLES MINER ONCE OWNED IT

The West Chester Village Record, one of Chester County's oldest newspapers, is offered for sale by its proprietor, S. Edward Paschall. The price asked is \$5,000, and the old weekly boasts of not having missed an issue since 1809. It is still published in the old three-story building on Church street, from which so many apprentice boys have gone out to success and fame. It was the apprentice day home of Bayard Taylor, the poet, and of many afterward distinguished jurists and journalists,



and its files are the best history of Chester county ever written. The paper was valued a few years ago at \$80,000, and ought to find a quick purchaser at the low price at which it is offered. The proprietor boasts that it has been only three times in the market the present century. Linotype composition can be had at 18 cents a thousand.

The Village Record is interesting to Wilkes-Barre people as having been owned nearly eighty years ago by Charles Miner, the historian of Wyoming, father of the late William P. Miner, the founder of the Wilkes-Barre Record. The young Yankee printer, ridiculed by the Democracy of Chester as a "Yankee tin peddler," won his way to the esteem and confidence of the plain and practical members of the Society of Friends in that fine old county; and in 1824 he was elected to congress. Two years later he was re-elected, serving four years. Charles Miner returned to Wilkes-Barre in 1832, and died in 1865. In accordance with his wishes his resting place in Hollenback Cemetery is marked with a monument of native mountain stone, constructed within a comparatively short time.

#### DEATH OF MRS. McCLINTOCK.

After suffering for a week with pleurisy and pneumonia, Mrs. Augusta, widow of the late A. T. McClintock, died at 7:45 o'clock, Sept. 24, 1895, at her cottage at Bear Creek,—fell asleep as peacefully and as happily as she had lived. Mrs. McClintock was taken ill a week before with pleurisy, which did not yield readily to treatment, and when pneumonia set in a few days later, her family and friends feared the worst.

Deceased was 79 years of age and was a daughter of the late Jacob Cist, one of the most eminent men whose deeds grace the pages of Wyoming's prolific history. Her mother was Sarah, daughter of the late Judge Matthias Hollenback, also of this city, and also one of the most noted men in early Wyoming. In the death of Mrs. McClintock, the last of the noted Cist family has passed away,—a family that has given to this valley some of its most esteemed, most cultured and most honored residents. The children of (Daily Record, Sept. 30, 1895.)

Jacob Cist, now all deceased, were Mrs. McClintock; Mrs. Emily Wright, wife of the late Harrison Wright; Mrs. Nathaniel Rutter; Ellen E., wife of the late Rev. Dr. Durlap, who also became

the wife of Nathaniel Rutter; Sarah A., wife of Peter T. Woodbury.

Surviving Mrs. McClintock are a boy and daughter—Andrew H. McClintock, the well known attorney, and Mrs. J. V. Darling. Children deceased are: Miss Helen, who died in 1894; Miss Jean, who died in 1890; and a child that died in infancy. Her husband, A. Todd McClintock, one of the most prominent attorneys in the country, died Jan. 14, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. McClintock were married in this city May 11, 1841.

Those who were fortunate enough to know Mrs. McClintock will weave a garland to her memory whenever they think of her. A nobleness of heart, a nobleness of mind, an unselfish devotion to the higher ideals of life,—these were her characteristics and these are attributes that live on with the soul. In her death the community has occasion to mourn.

Jacob Cist, father of Mrs. McClintock, was one of the most accomplished and most active men of his time. He was born in Philadelphia and was educated at the Moravian Seminary at Nazareth, Pa. After his school days he assisted his father in his printing office in Philadelphia and came to Wilkes-Barre in 1808 and was postmaster, an office which he retained until his death in 1825. His spare time he devoted to literature and painting, arts in which he was exceedingly accomplished. He was married to Sarah, daughter of Judge Matthias Hollenback, in Wilkes-Barre. After his marriage he went to Washington for a short time and then returned to Wilkes-Barre in 1808 and entered into partnership with his father-in-law under the name of Hollenback & Cist, a partnership which existed for a number of years.

In his early days Mr. Cist's attention was attracted to the use of anthracite coal and he often watched his father's experiments. He studied the coal measures and spent considerable time investigating the embryo mines at Plymouth and especially the old Lord Butler opening. In 1814 he introduced coal in Baltimore and Philadelphia, but the country was then still disturbed and people had not much time to experiment with the new fuel and the business was a failure. The year following he resolved to try it again and sent a large cargo to Philadelphia and met with fair success. In December of that year Jacob Cist, Charles Miner and John Robinson se-

cured a lease from the old Lehigh Coal Mine Co. of its property near Mauch Chunk, and the fuel was sent to the cities by way of the canal. The firm impressed upon the people the value of the fuel by sending out handbills liberally and casting models of coal stoves and distributing them. The business continued to prosper, but soon Liverpool and other coal came in competition and the people did not take kindly to the Lehigh anthracite. The business was later abandoned. Although Mr. Cist was no longer actively engaged in the coal business, he had so much faith in the future of the industry that his mind was constantly devoted to perfecting methods for using anthracite. He was a thorough geologist and studied the geology of this region more than any other person and his pamphlets were recognized as authority. In this line he also became noted. Mr. Cist was one of the founders of the Luzerne County Agricultural Society and became an authority as well upon fruit and fruit culture. He was treasurer of Luzerne County in 1816, was treasurer of the Wilkes-Barre Bridge Co., a charter member and first chashter of the old Susquehanna Bank. His geological investigations led him to believe that iron ore abounded in this vicinity and he was instrumental in forming an organization for establishing an iron works at Shickshinny. He founded a glass works at Washington and tried to have one built in Wilkes-Barre, but the plan failed. He died on Friday, Dec. 30, 1825, aged 43 years, and left a memory that will live as long as old Wyoming.

#### DEATH OF MRS. JANE LEE.

Mrs. Jane Lee, of 116 North Street, died at 10 o'clock p. m., Sept. 26, 1895, of heart disease and dropsy, aged nearly 80 years.

The funeral was held Sept. 27th from her late residence on North street. The pall bearers were: William Dickover, M. H. Post, Theron Burnett, John Hessel, O. M. Brandow and B. M. Espy. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Mills, and Rev. W. J. Day of Plymouth made an address concerning the life of the deceased.

Mrs. Jane (Lines) Lee was a native of Newport Township, and was 79 years, 9 months and 10 days old. She was a descendant of Conrad and Mary (Fairchild) Lines, pioneer settlers of

Hanover and Newport Townships. Feb. 10, 1834, she was united in marriage to Stephen Lee, son of James Lee, also a pioneer settler of Newport Township. After their marriage they moved to Delaware County, Ohio, where they resided for six years. At the expiration of this time they returned to Luzerne County and Stephen Lee engaged in lumbering in Wright Township. Wright Township was formed from Hanover Township April 12, 1851. Stephen Lee opened the first store in the township, and was the pioneer blacksmith, his shop and store being near Samuel B. Stivers's place. In 1858, Stephen Lee was elected justice of the peace for that township. In 1865 the family moved to Newport, on the Middle Road, as it was then called. When 19 years of age, just after her marriage, she was converted and united with the M. E. Church. They were earnest members of the M. E. Church. When old age came, and they removed to Wilkes-Barre, they lived happy years, enjoying the fruits of their honest toil and thrift, and rejoicing to see their children blessed and prosperous. In June 12, 1874, the husband passed away at the age of 62 years. Their marriage was blessed with seven children: John R. Lee, Conrad, Mary, Priscilla, Amanda, Samuel, Washington. Five survive their mother: John R. Lee, Wilkes-Barre; Conrad Lee, Wilkes-Barre; Mary E. Lee, Wilkes-Barre; Priscilla, Mrs. M. S. Roberts, Lenoxville, Pa.; Amanda, Mrs. Edward Lutsey, Clarke's Green, Pa.

#### CROSSING OF THE DELAWARE.

Doylestown, Pa., Oct. 6, 1895.—The dedication of the monument erected near Taylorsville, this county, to mark the spot where Washington crossed the Delaware River before the battle of Trenton, on Christmas evening, 1776, will take place under the auspices of Bucks County Historical Society, Tuesday, Oct. 8. The monument comprises two square blocks of Jersey brownstone, the gift of Mrs. Letitia Twining of Yardly. It is six feet in height and weighs five and one-half tons. Upon one side will be cut an inscription.

At the conclusion of the exercises on the Pennsylvania shore the Society of Cincinnati of New Jersey will unveil a memorial tablet marking the spot of Washington's landing on the Jersey shore, which will be attended by the Pennsylvanians.

## DANIEL COXE KILLED.

(Daily Record, Sept. 7, 1895.)

No greater shock could have been felt by the communities of Drifton, Free-land and others in that vicinity than the announcement Friday evening that Daniel Coxe, a member of the noted Coxe family, had been killed at his home at Drifton. Couriers were sent to the home, and when the news was confirmed business in those places was at once suspended, flags were placed at half mast, emblems of mourning were displayed and the people gathered in groups on the principal streets and discussed the sad event.

Daniel Coxe was a mechanical genius, and when not occupied with the duties of his position as general superintendent of the D., S. & S. R. R. (the Coxes' road of about fifty miles in length, encircling their collieries in the Hazleton region), he was working out some mechanical device of his invention. Giving scope to his mechanical bent, he had constructed in the rear of his residence at Drifton a narrow gage railroad several miles in length, and upon this placed a miniature locomotive of about five horse power, which he himself constructed and had on exhibition at the World's Fair at Chicago. With this locomotive he frequently studied the effect of new machinery and mechanical devices, and frequently seated himself in the cab and sent it over the small road.

Daniel Coxe was born in Philadelphia Nov. 1, 1866, and was 29 years of age. In early life he removed to Drifton with his father, Alexander E. Coxe, who is a brother of the late Eckley B. Coxe, and pursued his education under private tutorship. He showed a special aptitude for the mechanic arts and studied hard along those lines. He supplemented his education by extensive tours of Europe and visited all of the large mechanical establishments in the old country. Soon after the death of his uncle, the lamented Hon. Eckley B. Coxe, May 13 last, deceased was made superintendent of the Drifton, Schuylkill & Susquehanna R. R., and also had supervision of some of the Coxe mines in the Hazleton region. His father, Alexander Coxe, a brother of Hon. Eckley B. Coxe, is one of the

owners of the extensive interests of the family and is general superintendent of those interests.

Deceased was recently appointed by Governor Hastings one of the trustees of the State Hospital at Hazleton. He was married last October to Miss Margaret White of Drifton, whose father, J. B. White, is superintendent of the Coxe collieries. The unfortunate young man's growth was interrupted when quite young, when a nurse who was carrying him let him fall and partially fractured his spine.

He was very popular in the Hazleton region and all of the Coxe employes, as well as others, admired him for his kindness, his goodness of heart. He mingled with the men and made their interests his own and thus gained their good will and highest esteem. In fact it has always been said that no citizen in the lower end has been more popular than young Daniel Coxe.

He was the only Republican in the large family, his uncle, Eckley B. Coxe, having been a Democratic ex-State senator, and all the other members of the family having followed the Democratic faith. His influence in politics was felt with great power during the late Quay and Hastings contest, as he, with Congressman John Leisenring, had charge of the Hastings interests in the Fourth District and succeeded in having a Hastings delegate elected when such a result was scarcely dreamed of. His career in politics promised to be very interesting.

Deceased's ancestor, Dr. Daniel Coxe, came from England in 1702 and was married to Sarah, daughter of Judge Eckley of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Dr. Coxe subsequently became governor of New Jersey and died in 1730. His son, Col. Daniel Coxe, was born in 1663 and died in 1734; his son William was born in 1723 and died in 1801; his son, Hon. Tench Coxe, was born in 1755 and died in 1824; his son, Judge Charles S. Coxe, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Philadelphia, July 31, 1791 and died Nov. 19, 1879; his son, Alexander Coxe, father of deceased, was also born in Philadelphia and removed to Drifton where he now resides. Hon. Tench Coxe, great-grandfather of the deceased, was commissioner of internal revenue under President Washington and was well known as a statesman, financier and author.

## FINDING INDIAN SKELETONS.

(Daily Record, Sept. 9, 1895.)

Firwood in South Wilkes-Barre, the beautiful spot thrown open for the sale of lots by the Firwood Land Co., was evidently an Indian burying ground and has many historical associations clustering around it, judging by the number of Indian skeletons that are being unearthed by workmen who are excavating for cellars and making streets. A few weeks ago a number of Indian bones were dug up, but a few days ago contractor W. G. Downs's workmen came across three or four skeletons close together. The bones were in a good state of preservation and the fact that they were those of Indians was shown by the general formation of the skull and the prominent cheek bones. One of the skeletons was that of a woman. The frames were not lying horizontally but were in a sitting posture, the skulls being about four feet from the surface and the feet about ten feet. This was Indian custom of burial.

Near one of the skeletons was a pipe. It is made of stone, the bowl being perforated and worked around with rings, in the usual manner of Indian pipes. It is now in the possession of John Hull, one of the owners of the plot.

One of the skulls is now in the possession of John James of South Wilkes-Barre, a medical student. The other was taken by a young man whose name cannot be learned. It is probable that in a few days they will be given to the Historical Society.

Historians tell us that it was at Firwood or near it that the famous "grass-hopper" controversy took place between Indians attached to Queen Esther, who figures so prominently in the history of Wyoming Valley, and other tribes and that many were killed. It is quite probable that more skeletons will be unearthed.

## HE WAS BORN IN NEW JERSEY.

The late Wilson Swayze, who died at his residence in Plains Sept. 23, 1895, was born in Warren County, New Jersey, in 1821, and moved to Luzerne County in 1858. His wife, who was a daughter of John Allbert of Warren County, New Jersey, died Nov. 19, 1875, and was buried in the Union Church grave yard at Hope, Warren County, New Jersey. His remains were laid beside those of his wife. He leaves a grown up family of two sons and six daughters.

## CARROLLTON OWNED LUZERNE LANDS.

An article in the Library Newsletter, by Rev. E. H. Hayden of this city, on "Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence," has been reprinted in pamphlet form. It is an interesting sketch of that eminent Revolutionary patriot and contains some facts not heretofore published. Though a Maryland man, Mr. Carrollton owned 27,000 acres of land in Pennsylvania, of which a thousand acre tract was in Bradford County. This was in 1815.

## CURIOUS OLD INDIAN AXES.

In 1887 there were found in Forty Fort some Indian relics. The Record is shown a memorandum made by the late Steuben Jenkins at the time:

Wyoming, Pa., Nov. 16, 1887. \* \* \*  
Some two or three months since I called at Isaac Tripp's at Forty Fort, and he and his son showed to me an axe, with loop head and long bit, known as the Biscay axe, because a large number of like shape and fashion were made by the French at Biscay, and taken among the Indians in Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania, about Chautauqua Lake, N. Y., French Creek, Conneaut Lake, Cussewago Creek and Venango, about two hundred years ago. The French had an idea that they could get the Indians to clear and cultivate the land and become a settled people, and these axes were furnished them to enable them to cut down the forests. The Indians, however, took different view of the situation and made use of the axes for tomahawks. The English soon found it necessary, that they might successfully compete with the French, to furnish the Indians in their interest with the same kind of axes; hence these axes are found scattered all over the country of New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, of either the French or English make. I have four of them, two large and two smaller,—two found here and two from French Creek, Crawford County. I think the Tripp axe is English. It was said to have been found in digging near Joseph Smith's, on the site of the old fort. Samuel Smith, in the U. S. Rev. Office, is a son of Joseph Smith.

Steuben Jenkins.

## A POET PRESIDENT.

### Two Poems Written for Former Wilkes-Barre People by President John Quincy Adams — Anti- Masonic Days Recalled.

Among the accomplishments of John Quincy Adams was his gift as a writer of poetry. There are no less than two autograph specimens held by Wilkes-Barre people.

When Hon. Charles Miner, the historian of Wyoming, was in Congress, (1824 to 1830) he formed the acquaintance of many distinguished contemporaneous men, among them John Quincy Adams. Mr. Miner was a mason, a member of Lodge 61, Wilkes-Barre, and when the wave of anti-masonry swept the land and carried Mr. Adams from the side of his old political friends, he wrote a lively letter to Mr. Miner, deprecating any estrangement or breach of personal friendship on that account, and enclosed some verses, as follows:

"To Charles Miner, Esq., 18 October, 1831:

'Idem velle alque idem nolle, ea demum firma Amicitia est.'—Cataline in Sallust.

'Amicus Socrates, Amicus Plato, sed magis Amicus Veritas.'—Cicero.

Say, brother, will thy heart maintain  
The Roman's maxim still;  
That nothing brightens Friendship's Chain  
Save Unity and 'Will.'  
Ah no. Unhallowed was the thought;  
From perjured lips it came,  
With Treachery and with falsehood  
fraught  
Not Friendship's sacred flame.

To 'Roman' Virtue shall we turn,  
To kindle Friendship's fires?  
From purer sources let us learn  
The Duties she requires.  
To Tully's deathless page ascend  
The surest guide of youth,  
There shall we find him Plato's Friend,  
But more, the friend of truth.

And thou to me, and I to thee,  
This maxim will apply;  
And leaving Thought and Action free  
In Friendship live and die.  
Be thine the Compass and the Square  
While I discard them both,  
And thou shalt keep and I forbear,  
The 'Secret' and the 'Oath.'"

These interesting verses never became public property until Charles Miner's son, the late William P. Miner, founder of the Wilkes-Barre Record, published them in the issue of April

22, 1876. He wrote the following editorial in explanation:

"When John Quincy Adams was 64 years old he was elected to Congress on the flood-tide of anti-masonry. The death of Morgan, who had been accused of revealing the secrets of masonry, brought down on that order the fiercest attacks, as murderers whose oaths bound them to take the life of any one so offending. The connection of the ex-president with the anti-masons was, of course, distasteful to his old friends in the order who had faithfully supported his administration, which had so recently terminated. It is not likely that Mr. Adams believed the charges against the masons. Mr. Wirt, who had been nominated for president by the anti-masons national convention at Baltimore in 1831, wrote to the convention: 'I was myself initiated in the mysteries of free masonry, and although I discontinued my attendance at lodges it proceeded from no suspicion on my part that there was anything criminal in the institution or anything that placed its members in the slightest degree in collision with their allegiance to the country and its laws.' Mr. Wirt advised them to consider their action and if they had made a mistake to change the nomination. Charles Miner then resided in West Chester, Pa., and was a member of the masonic fraternity. Often he told of the blending of political opinions in the friendly meetings of Lodge 61, in Wilkes-Barre, all party discord being excluded. In Chester the anti-masons were particularly bitter, and the contest between the National Republican friends of Mr. Clay and the anti-masonic supporters of Mr. Wirt was as fierce as it could be. In Luzerne Chester Butler and Col. Beach, with many others who had acted with the anti-masons, were supporting Mr. Clay. Perhaps the fight was not anywhere more desperate than in Chester County, as patronage was with the anti-masons for a time. Whether Mr. Miner had as editor of the Village Record, come in contact with his old friend, Mr. Adams, we do not remember. Mr. Miner had served in Congress during his administration, and was one of his warmest supporters. Among the papers and letters left in his secretary we find a long letter from Mr. Adams, dated Quincy, 18th October, 1831, in which in many subjects, general, political and personal, he concludes: 'Having wasted so much of my time

in the composition of rhyme as to have acquired some faculty in tacking syllables together, I have chiefly confined myself to translation, with now and then a few original lines for a young lady's album or such as these herewith enclosed, which, as they happen to please or displease you, may be put on the file or in the fire.'

The verses are still 'enclosed' and have not before been published that we can find. We give them as original."

\* \* \*

#### Another by Mr. Adams.

A second local poem by the ex-president is in the autograph album of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Beaumont Collings (died Jan. 20, 1886), who when a young miss of 20 was in Washington with her father, Hon. Andrew Beaumont, who was then serving in Congress. Her family all inherited much talent, and this was supplemented by the best education obtainable. To Miss Beaumont's ready mind was added the gift of rare conversational powers, and she at once became a society favorite in Washington, when she accompanied her father there during his official residence. It was whilst there that she met all the statesmen prominent in "the thirties," and her autograph album contains bits of sentiment from President James K. Polk and Andrew Jackson and a poem of four stanzas by John Quincy Adams, besides the autographs and good wishes of scores of other names well known in the political history of the country. The following is the autograph poem of Mr. Adams:

#### To Miss Elizabeth Beaumont.

Fair maiden, when the sacred page  
The words of kindness would impart,  
The Friend, the Lover, Father, Sage  
Speaks, says the volume, to the heart;

But how shall one in life's decline  
Laden with three score years and ten,  
Speak to the tender heart of thine  
Or greet thee with an iron pen?

Let thine own heart, fair maiden frame  
The words thyself would most desire,  
Fraught with a lover's fervent flame,  
Chaste with a father's holiest fire.

Then to thyself the words apply,  
Believe them from my heart to flow,  
Yet shall they not one-half supply  
The bliss my wishes would bestow.

John Quincy Adams.  
Washington, Jan. 25, 1837.

\* \* \*

After her return to Wilkes-Barre,

Miss Beaumont was one of the leading society women, and was finally wooed and won by Hon. Samuel P. Collings, at that time a prominent journalist, and afterwards one of the leading politicians of the valley. President Pierce appointed Mr. Collings consul to Tangiers; thither she went with him to reside a year, when he died of African fever.

At the time Mr. Adams wrote the above verses he was 70 years of age and a poor broken-down man, whose life had been embittered by his failure to secure a re-election to the presidential chair. He was, however, elected to Congress and so valuable were his anti-slavery services that he was returned every term thereafter until his death in the speaker's room of the House in 1848.

#### WAR REMINISCENCES OF JOHN DOWLING.

John Dowling, a veteran of the war for the Union, and an ex-member of Co. D, 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Army of the Cumberland, is quite ill at his home, 51 Regent street.

Mr. Dowling was on detached duty at headquarters Department of the Tennessee as a courier during Gen. Sherman's campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and was honored by being intrusted to carry Sherman's final message to Gen. Slocum, commanding 20th Army Corps, at Sandtown, after the line had been severed, the 20th Corps having been withdrawn across the Chattahoochee River. This movement led the Confederates to believe that Slocum had abandoned the siege of Atlanta, hence the preparation for jollification in the doomed city that evening. However, while Gen. Slocum of the 20th Corps was executing his orders, Gens. Sherman, Thomas and Howard were moving rapidly direct southwest with the main portion of Sherman's army. By this strategic move the enemy was deceived, and did not discover until too late that Sherman, with the major part of his army, was twenty-two miles to the rear, near Jonesboro. However, Gen. Hood, the Confederate commander, made a desperate effort to save his communications by giving battle at Jonesboro, where the rebel army was defeated and cut in twain, one part southwest and the other east of Sherman. Thus Atlanta, the gate city of the South, fell into Union hands, after months of severe campaigning and many hard

fought battles, in which the Union Army lost 37,000 men from the commencement of the campaign at Chattanooga to the fall of Atlanta.

Rock Faced Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, Altoona, Kenesaw Mountain, Chatahoochee, Peach Tree Creek, Jonesboro and Atlanta were the principal engagements of this memorable campaign, which prepared the way for marching through Georgia to the sea, and later through the Carolinas and the final winding up of the greatest rebellion of modern times.

When Mr. Dowling was asked some questions relative to the part Luzerne boys took in Sherman's campaign, he became quite enthusiastic, and in speaking of his regiment, the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry, stated with apparent pride that it was the only mounted squadron of Pennsylvanians that marched with Sherman down to the sea, and spoke in a very complimentary manner of the men from his native county, naming a few, as follows: The gallant Maj. Hancock, who commanded a battalion at the battle of Averysboro, N. C., lost a leg in that memorable engagement; Lieut. C. Walter, commanding Co. D in same battle, was a brother of the present sheriff of Luzerne County; the sedate Capt. Mac-knight, commander of Co. B, now resides at Plains, and the heroic Capt. George Smith of Co. L, whose horse was pierced by a bullet while the captain sat in the saddle, was a brother of Lieut. Fred Smith of Co. D, present treasurer of the Vulcan Iron Works; bugler Fred Cappler of Wilkes-Barre, of Co. D, entered the service early in 1861, and did duty until the last gun was fired in 1865. He has scars on his person that plainly indicate that he was at the front. Sergts. John Sorber and William Lape, who were captured at the battle of Spring Hill, Tenn., and held by the enemy for months, were distinguished members of Co. D from Luzerne. Lieut. William Pritchard, "The Sage of Hunlock," was Luzerne's war correspondent, and an honored member of the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry from beginning to the end of the regiment's service. Sergt. James Brady of South Main street, and present yardmaster for the D. & H. Canal Co., served with distinction through all the campaigns in which the 9th Cavalry participated. Here we will leave the survivor to tell his own tale among the people, of his triumphal march through Georgia, of his privations at Savannah, of his struggles through swamps in-

habited by alligators, and over the broad rivers of the Carolinas; of the fights, fires, explosions, doubts and triumphs suggested by Griswoldville, Branchville, Aiken, Congaree, Columbia, Cheraw, Fayetteville, Averysboro and Bentonville.

Let us now cast a glance back to 1861. We see a stalwart body of young men assembled on South Main street, near the old Wyoming House, prepared for the march to Kingston depot, where a train is in waiting to convey them to the regimental rendezvous, in the vicinity of Harrisburg, where the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry is organizing. Can we suppose for a moment that any one of this gallant band realizes the fact that many of them will never return to Luzerne. These facts have long since been verified, and the bones and dust of many now lay scattered through six different States of the South, traversed by the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry—Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas. All have a portion of these remains, sacred to the memory of this noble group of young men from Luzerne.

#### HISTORICAL LECTURE COURSE.

(Daily Record, Oct. 5, 1895.)

At the request of many citizens of different church affiliations, the chapter of St. Andrew's Brotherhood connected with St. Stephen's Church has engaged the services of Rev. Dr. W. G. Andrews, rector of Christ Church, Guilford, Conn., to deliver a course of three lectures in St. Stephen's parish building, on Tuesday, Nov. 12, Friday, Nov. 22, and Tuesday, Nov. 26. The general subject of these lectures is the Evangelical Revival of 1740 and American Episcopallans. As announced in the program of the Connecticut Society for University Extension, they deal with the characteristics of the revival of the Colonial Church of England; George Whitfield and the missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; historical position and functions of the Protestant Episcopal Church as affected by the Evangelical movement. Dr. Andrews will be pleasantly remembered by those who had the privilege of attending the exercises in the rooms of the Historical Society on the last Fourth of July, by invitation of the Sons of the Revolution, as being an attractive gentleman, broad-minded Christian, and well-equipped student of church history.

## AN HONORED CITIZEN.

It is hardly necessary to say that the Record heartily endorses every word of the following tribute to Marx Long, which appeared in Tuesday's Leader:

It is seldom that a man who has been so actively engaged in business maintains his years with such degree of good health as the veteran merchant, Marx Long, of Public Square, who today celebrates his 78th birthday. Mr. Long came to Wilkes-Barre in 1842, when what is now a thriving and prosperous city, was but an insignificant town, scarcely any industries worth mentioning and a population which could almost be numbered among the hundreds. But he saw the possibilities of the future and settled in business, and for fifty-three years he has been a foremost retail merchant of Wilkes-Barre. He witnessed the growth of our city, saw the immense coal beds open and develop, watched the progress of travel from canal and stage to railroad, and electric car, and at all times looked after an immense and growing business.

For fifteen years he has been an active member of the poor board, and every trust reposed in him has been conscientiously fulfilled. He has ever been an upright, honest citizen, a good sound Democrat, and withal a man esteemed by everybody. He is the father of Leo, who succeeds him as manager of his business, and Isaac E., the veteran newspaper man on the Record.

Mr. Long's health is excellent and today he has been receiving the congratulations of his numerous friends. He promises to live long and that he may remain with us for many years to come is the wish of his numerous friends.

## AN INTERESTING SUIT.

Philadelphia, Sept. 23, 1895—Argument was under way to-day before Justice Shiras and Judges Acheson and Butler in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in the suit of William Dugald Stuart, of London, England, a descendant of William Penn, against the city of Easton and county of Northampton to recover ground on which the former court house in Easton was situated.

The ground, which is 80 by 80 feet, was dedicated to Easton by Penn for a court house. After it had been used for that purpose the court house was

abandoned, and the site became a public park in the centre of Easton. Because the use was abandoned it was claimed for Mr. Stuart as having reverted to the Penn possessions. The record of title starts from the granting by Charles II. of the province of Pennsylvania, in 1681, to William Penn and his heirs, down to the death of William Stuart in July, 1874. The Stuarts descended from the marriage of Sophia Margaret Penn, a daughter of Thomas Penn, with William Stuart, archbishop of Armagh.

Upon the death of Thomas Gordon Penn in 1689, the remainder of the general Penn estate in Pennsylvania vested in William Stuart, oldest son of Sophia Margaret Penn.

The various private estates in land in Pennsylvania vested in him under the act of April 27, 1855, representatives only being allowed as far as children of uncles and aunts. The grandfather of the claimant married Henrietta, daughter of Admiral Sir Charles Pole. His will said: "I give, devise and bequeath all my real estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever, of which I have any power of distribution, and all my personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever to my eldest son, William Stuart, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns absolutely."

The will was approved in London, Sept. 26, 1874, and recorded in Philadelphia, Dec. 28, 1876.

For the plaintiff it is urged that he has vested in him all rights of the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, both under the entail and will.

In the Circuit Court a verdict for the defendant was taken. There was no testimony heard for the defense, but the verdict was rendered under instructions from Judge Dallas.

The case originally came up six years before, and at that time a verdict was also rendered for the defendants. After the trial in 1889, which took place before Judge McKennan, the case was taken before the Supreme Court, and after considerable delay that tribunal decided that the record was imperfect, because the plaintiff was described as a citizen of London, England, instead of an alien and a subject of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. The case was remanded to the Circuit Court, with leave for application to be made for amendment and for further proceedings. The verdict before Judge Dallas was founded upon the original proceed-



ings that were sent to the Supreme Court, and put the matter in shape to show that the Circuit Court had jurisdiction.

In the history of the case presented for the plaintiff it is stated that this was an action of ejectment. It was brought by the heir-at-law of the Penns, the former proprietaries of Pennsylvania. The question turns upon the construction of the grant of Sept. 28, 1764, and it is recited that "By an Act of General Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania, passed March 11, 1752, the upper portion of Bucks County was erected into a separate county called Northampton.

"At that date counties were not possessed of full corporate powers, and hence the act named John Jones and others trustees of said county, with power under Section 6 to acquire a lot in some convenient place in the town of Easton in said county for the purpose of a court house and prison.

"On July 9, 1762, Thomas and Richard Penn, the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, issued a warrant to John Jones and others, the above named trustees, for a lot eighty feet square in the centre of the great square at Easton.

"Subsequently a survey of said lot was returned into the land office, and on Sept. 28, 1764, a patent was issued by said proprietaries to John Jones and others for said lot.

"The grant was for a nominal consideration of five shillings and the reservation of an annual rent of a red rose

"The premises of the patent, after reciting the act of assembly, proceed: 'Now know ye that for the further encouragement and better promoting the public benefit and service of said town and county, and for and in consideration of the yearly quit rent (one red rose), hereinafter reserved, and of the sum of five shillings, we have given, granted, released and confirmed, etc., unto the said trustees, John Jones, etc., and their heirs, the said lot.' "

Among other matters submitted for the plaintiff, it is stated that "the present case was tried in 1888 in the Circuit Court of the United States for the eastern districts of Pennsylvania before Judge McKennan and removed by a writ of error to the Supreme Court of the United States, where it was argued at length in January last. In the pleadings the then plaintiff was described as a citizen of London, Eng-

land, instead of as an alien. For this reason, after hearing full argument upon the merits, the Supreme Court before further disposing of the case, ordered the record to be returned to the Circuit Court with instructions to permit an amendment. Such amendment was duly made, and the case retried on the same evidence, and for the purpose of appeal, the same rulings and binding instructions were given as at the first trial, as will appear by the opinion of Judge Dallas. An application was then made to the Supreme Court to hear the case, which was refused upon the ground that a writ of error must be first taken to this court.

"As the facts are the same with the exception of the son of the plaintiff for the original plaintiff, who died during the pendency of the suit, it has been deemed wise to present the same brief."

Attorneys C. Berkley Taylor, A. T. Freedley and W. Brooke Rawley appeared for the plaintiff, and Aaron Goldsmith and Edward J. Fox of Easton for the defendants.

(William Dugald Stuart, the plaintiff in the above case, recently began actions in eviction in the courts of this county to recover several tracts in the lower end of Plymouth Township, which formerly were a part of the Manor of Sunbury).

#### PRIZE FOR HISTORICAL ESSAY.

The Wyoming members of the Pennsylvania Society Sons of the Revolution offer a prize of \$10 to the pupils of the public schools in Luzerne County for the best written essay on the subject of Pennsylvania in the Revolutionary War.

This essay must contain not less than 1776 words, a little less than a column and a half of the Record. It must be written in a clear hand on one side of the paper, then enclosed in an envelope without the name of the author, but with a fictitious name and sent to the secretary, Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden. The author's name must, however, be sent in a separate and sealed envelope with the essay. The sealed envelope must also contain a certificate from the principal of the school in which the writer may be a pupil, stating that the contestant has been a pupil during the session.

This essay must be sent to the secretary before April 1, 1896, when all will be submitted to a committee for examination and award.

#### A MONUMENT OF THE OLD INDIAN WARS.

The first permanent white settlement in Steuben County was made at the Painted Post in 1786 by Samuel Harris, an Indian trader. There was at that time an important village of Seneca Indians established on the banks of the Conhocton River, near the junction of the waters of the Tioga, Canisteo and Conhocton rivers, which here form the Chemung and pass on to the Susquehanna. Beyond a doubt the Six Nations appreciated the strategic importance of the Painted Post, where three long valleys came together, bringing water, which leaves no trail. Through this gateway the war cloud from the Genesago, or Shining Valley, descended in July, 1778, upon an errand of savage vengeance to the Wyoming. By the same route, as well as by the waters of the Conhocton, the former lords of the soil retreated from the battlefield of Newtown, where Gen. Sullivan and his yeomanry on Aug. 29, 1779, dealt a deathblow to the power of the great Indian confederacy.

The first white man found a name made to order for the place, and that name still remains the most interesting feature of the locality. The advantages of river and valley have dwindled away before the superior enterprise and courage of men who many years later settled in the narrow bottoms at Corning, two miles distant. The latter is now a city of 12,000 inhabitants, while Painted Post has been incorporated a village with a population of 1,800 persons.

The present painted post stands at the southeast corner of the cross roads. It is about 18 feet high and octagonal in shape painted red. It is 8 inches in diameter, tapers at the top and is surmounted by a sheet iron Indian chief grasping a tomahawk and bow and dressed in a red jacket and buckskin trousers. The original post stood near the center of the present highway leading from Painted Post to Corning and a few rods east of the "Four Corners" and the sight of the present post. It was an oak post 10 to 12 feet above the ground and from 10 to 14 inches in diameter. It was square to a height of four feet above the ground and then octagonal to the top.

Samuel Cook of Lindley thus described it to the late Charles H. Erwin of Painted Post, as detailed by the latter in his manuscript "A History of

Painted Post and Other Towns," now in the hands of his executors: "When in 1792 I saw it for the first time, it had no marks or paint upon it, and it had the color of a weather beaten oaken rail. There was neither mark nor carving upon it. I have many a time sat near it and with others talked about it and speculated about its history." It stood on the banks of the Conhocton River at the side of a well beaten trail from the village to Tioga Point (Athens, Pa.)

This post remained until 1801 or 1802, when it is said to have been dug up and carried down the Chemung River two miles to Knoxville, whether for the purpose of founding a museum or for the more serious object of purloining the fame which encircled the oak post is not clear. It was afterward returned, but in the meantime a new oak post had been erected by the whites in the settlement near the original site. What became of the old post is not known for certain. It is said to have remained in the garret of the first log tavern, and chips from it were furnished to relic hunters until one day in a moment of impatience Col. Erwin, the landlord of the tavern, adjudged it a nuisance and ordered it thrown into the river.

In the course of the next 20 years the new post, which was much larger than the old one, was chipped to pieces by relic fiends, and a few years later a new post was raised with a sheet iron Indian at the top.

The generally accepted legend concerning the post makes a very pretty story. It is said that Capt. Roland Montour, a half breed and a son of Queen Catharine of Wyoming fame, was seriously wounded in the fight at Newtown and died on the retreat up the Conhocton. He was buried under a large elm tree, and the "Te-can-nes-to," as the post was called by the Delawares, was set up as an imposing monument to his memory. This legend was confirmed by the statement made by the Seneca Chief Cornplanter to Capt. Samuel Adams in an interview had at Cornplanter's Eddy on the Alleghany River in 1833.

Cornplanter, being asked about the post, said through his interpreter, as related by Capt. Adams, that a great chief and brave was there taken sick, died and was buried under the shade of an elm on the north side of the Conhocton River (at the same time mapping it out on the ground floor and

## THE PITTSTONS IN '44.

The Year in Which Rev. Dr. Parke  
Began Work There.

### INTERESTING STORY OF DAYS PAST.

**Historical Address Delivered by Rev. Dr. Parke Before the Wake Robin Club, of West Pittston, at the Home of Hon. Theo. Strong, on Monday Evening, February 16th.**

From Pittston Gazette, Feb. 21, 1896.

I saw Pittston for the first time on the Monday succeeding the first Sabbath of June, 1844. I fix the date by the fact that during the week previous I learned that James K. Polk had been nominated by the Democratic party as a candidate for President of the United States. I had spent the Sabbath in Wilkesbarre, where I supplied the pulpit of the Rev. Dr. Dorrance, who was absent attending a meeting of the Presbyterian General Assembly, and on Monday morn'ng came here on horseback, having traveled in this way during the previous week about two hundred miles from my father's. I stopped at a public house kept by George Lezaru, where I was properly cared for. After dinner I looked up Theodore Strong, to whom I had letters of introduction and recommendation from Princeton Theological Seminary, having come here under the care of the Board of Home Missions to labor "in the Lackawanna valley and surrounding country."

Pittston was then, as now, "beautiful for situation" and environments, but without either coal breakers or culm piles to detract from its charms, at the confluence of the Lackawanna and Susquehanna rivers, where the Wyoming valley ends and the Lackawanna begins. Mrs. Sigourney,

in a beautiful little poem, speaks of Lackawanna as Susquehanna's "du-ky bride." This may have been a very happy union at the time the union took place, but the impression prevails that the bride in these latter days has very greatly degenerated.

Of what I found here in 1844, I am asked and expected to speak, and this will be my text. I cannot make mention of all I have found since coming here. That would be a record too extended for the occasion, a record of more than half a century of active life, interwoven with almost every department of Pittston's history. Here I did my first work, and in connection with Pittston I have done all my life work. I propose to speak of "the town" and "men and things," as they were when I came here. What they were previously we may know from history, as Professor Winchester, who has been entertaining the people of Wilkesbarre, knows the London of a hundred years ago. What Pittston now is, the young people of the Wake Robin Club know as well as I do.

#### PITTSTON FERRY.

On a Philadelphia paper that I subscribed for soon after coming here, the address is, unless it has been changed very lately, "Rev. N. G. Parke, Pittston Ferry." That was the name of our city fifty years ago. An attempt was made to change it to Port Mallory at one time, but it failed. There were no bridges connecting the East and West sides of our river, except occasional ice bridges that served a good purpose. There was a Pittston Ferry by which the traveler could "get over" if he could call loud enough to make the ferryman hear; and this ferry was one of the oldest, if not the oldest, in this part of the State. With this name, Pittston Ferry, Pittston is not second to Wilkesbarre in point of age. From the time the Susquehanna Land Company came here from Connecticut and led out the valleys into

seven townships, of which Pittston was one, people from Connecticut and the East, going to Exeter and Kingston and Plymouth, came down the valley through Providence and crossed the Susquehanna at Pittston Ferry, and returning they crossed the same ferry. The route from the Delaware River to the valley was through Pittston, rather than Wilkesbarre.

On my arrival here I found two public houses, one kept by John Sax, at the foot of Parsonage street, and the one at which I stopped, and at which the stage connecting Carbondale and Wilkesbarre stopped. This was a two-horse stage. It carried the mail and passengers when there were any to carry. It was the only public conveyance in the valley, and its arrival at Pittston was the sensational event of every day. There were no saloons in the town. It was as free from them as West Pittston is now, and a drunken man on the street, except on public occasions, was rarely seen. There were not to exceed half a dozen foreigners, and these were from England, Scotland, Ireland and France. The father of Thomas Ford, of West Pittston, was from England, James McFarlane was from Scotland, Squire Redding was from Ireland, and the father of R. D. Laro, who has made for himself a national reputation at the Smithsonian Institute, was from France. The people were for the most part "to the manor born." There was, so far as I remember, no poor house in the county and no call for one. Very rich men and paupers are usually found in the same locality. Neither of these classes was represented here. There were two stores. One was kept by the postmaster, a thrifty, intelligent Irishman, Mr. Redding, who opened his snuff box to all his customers. His store stood near where the Windsor Hotel now stands. The other store, which stood near the foot of the

plane, was superintended by Theodore Strong for the Butler Coal Company. These stores received and paid out very little money. They were largely stores of exchange. For butter and eggs and chickens, the farmers could buy sugar and tea and tobacco. The merchants did not pay cash for anything, for the best of reasons—they did not have it. An old country letter, which cost twenty five cents, to be paid for on delivery, was sometimes left in the postoffice some days, for want of money to take it out. The preacher's salary, which amounted to fifty dollars a year, was paid in trade. In fact, everything was paid in trade, except marriage fees, and they were sometimes paid in promises. There was but one bank in the county, the Wyoming Bank, of Wilkesbarre, and that discounted sparingly. Nothing but "gilt edged" paper would Cashier Lynch look at. This bank had the monopoly of the banking business in this part of Pennsylvania.

There was one shoemaker in the north end of town, James Helm; one tailor, Mr. McConeghy; one undertaker, Eliha Blackman, and one blacksmith, Thomas Benedict. These were the Pittston manufacturers fifty years ago. Harris Jenkins, a justice of the peace, was a representative man in Pittston, and his daughters, Anne ta and Mary, were among the prominent and attractive young ladies of the town. There were two doctors, whose homes were in Pittston, and who practiced in the surrounding country, Dr. Nathaniel Giddings, who came to Pittston from Connecticut towards the close of the last century, and Dr. Curtis. Dr. Underwood had not up to this time commenced work here. These doctors were usually kept very busy in the autumn, dealing out quinine to "fever and ague" patients, who, it was said, "expended force enough in shaking to run a saw mill."

The chief occupation of the people in and around Pittston was farming, and they literally lived off their farms. There was no market for their produce short of Easton, seventy miles away. Peter Petty and Peter Wagner cultivated the "big farm" at the foot of Campbell's Ledge. They were both intelligent men and industrious farmers. They raised wheat, converted it into flour and carted it to Carbondale, where the D. & H. Coal Company were commencing operations, for which they received some money. Wilkesbarre was very much more of a town than Carbondale, but it was abundantly supplied from the Plymouth and Kings' on farms with everything in the line of grain. Mr. Zenus Barnum, who owned the land on which the Barnum shaft was sunk, did some farming. He was a bright, enterprising man. There were few more pleasant homes in the valley than his, and few more attractive girls than his daughters. Richard Brown and Peter Nagle, who lived further up the valley; Nathaniel Giddings, who had a large farm in Upper Pittston; Jacob Lance, Adam Teach, Newman Brown, John D. Stark, John Blanchard, 'Squire Winters and William Apple were representative farmers in the community. There were others. These I became acquainted with very soon after coming here. James W. Johnson and Abel Bennit were enterprising men who had taken up their abode in Pittston. They had purchased the land where the Miners' Savings Bank now stands, and as far south as Railroad street. They were really the projectors of East Pittston. They built and occupied the cottage that stands back from the street, now owned by Mr. Outler, and among the very few houses that remain of those that were here in 1844. This cottage was tastily painted. They sunk the first coal shaft put down in Pittston, and shortly after sinking this sold out to the Pennsylvania

Coal Company. The venerable Capt. J. B. Smith was the only stone mason and brick layer in Pittston in 1844. There were no butchers, or bakers, or plumbers, or wagon makers, or engineers, or house painters, or brewers, or barbers, or millers, or bankers, or brokers, or lawyers, or gas men, or book agents, or druggists, or insurance agents, or dentists or printers. The result was, there were few bills to pay and that, under these circumstances, was a fortunate thing.

There was one, and but one, coal mine in Pittston. It was operated by men residing in Wilkesbarre, John and Lord Butler. It was back from the town some distance, at what is now known as the "burning mine." The coal was brought by rail to the top of Butler Hill, near where Mr. Anderson and Mr. Craig reside, and let down to the canal by a plane. This colliery never paid its owners any dividends, but swamped them financially.

There was no house of worship in the township of Pittston. Neither was there a resident minister of the Gospel here. Elder Miller, of Abington, and Dr. Dorrance, of Wilkesbarre, buried the dead and married the young people. There was preaching once in two weeks by Elder Mott, who resided in Hyde Park, in a small school house near the Junction. There were not to exceed a dozen professing Christians in the town. These represented different denominations, but they all worshiped together happily. There had been church organizations at an earlier day, but they had all disappeared. There were none at this time. There was a Sabbath School in the school house where Elder Mott preached, conducted by Mr. Strong, with which some of the grey-haired men and women of today were connected.

There were not to exceed over two hundred people living in Pittston at this time, between Sebastopol and the Junction.

They resided for the most part along the Main street. The houses were "few and far between"—magnificent distance, but not magnificent houses, and as orderly arranged as stumps in a clearing. There certainly was not much that was tempting to one who was looking for a place to make a nice, cozy home for himself. On Main street, which was crooked as a ram's horn, the houses were so scattered that some one who was travelling to Pittston from Wilkesbarre did not know he was in town until he was through it. At the head of the canal he enquired for Pittston. There were no sidewalks here, and in muddy weather the pedestrians "waded." Cows and swine and geese had perfect freedom to wander where they pleased, with none to make them afraid. On one occasion one of our prominent citizens had a free ride on the back of a huge porker that attempted to run between his legs, possibly "to escape a mud hole."

There was really nothing here to make the town grow, nothing to stimulate the spirit of improvement. The time had not come for "shedding its old coat." The sleeping coal measures in the valley of Wyoming that have made it one of the richest valleys in the State of Pennsylvania, if not in the world, had not been aroused. A canal had been constructed connecting Pittston with the Chesapeake Bay at Havre-de-Grace, but the cost of transportation was so great and the price of coal so low that there was absolutely no money in the coal business. There certainly was no money here. I had reason to know this as I had something to do in a financial way with building the first church erected in the township. The people generally felt kindly toward the enterprise. They were pleased with the idea of having a sanctuary, but the funds necessary for erecting the church came very largely from abroad.

Two years after I came here, in 1846, about the time the first church building was dedicated, business began to brighten, and it has grown brighter ever since. Enterprising business men came here with their families, and they have transformed Pittston Ferry into a city and built up a town in West Pittston of six or seven thousand inhabitants that is as inviting as a place of residence as any town in Pennsylvania, where in 1844 were only farms. While East and West Pittston are entirely separate municipalities they are united by bridges that gracefully span our beautiful river. To all intents and purposes they are one, as Pittsburg and Allgheny, and New York and Brooklyn are one. Here we now have elegant churches and growing and intelligent congregations and Sabbath schools, and Christian Endeavor societies, and Y M C. Association, representing all denominations, and palatial homes and first class public schools, and manufactories, and bars, and Music Halls, and, last but not least, a Wake Robin Club, of which any city might be proud. In fact we have a city equipped with all the appliances for comfort and improvement and progress that belong to any city. The transformation that has been effected here in the past half century, to those who were familiar with it at that time, appears like the work of a magician's hand.

Personally I am glad that I came here when I did, that I knew this valley in its comparative youth and beauty. We have grown together, and every stage of growth has been like the new picture that comes in the turning of the kaleidoscope. The great rivers that excite our admiration as they sweep toward the ocean and bear on their bosoms the commerce of the world, had their charms in the mountain streams they left before they were prepared for their burdens. The Pittston of fifty years ago is to the Pittston of today, as the mountain streams to the majestic rivers. I have had no reason to regret coming here.

(Continued from Page 60)

marking with his knife the place of the grave,) and that he (Cornplanter) was one of the council that placed over the grave a post, stained with the juice of the wild strawberry, to make the spot. He would not state the name or tribe of this great chief.

It was not Capt. Montour, for he, with his brother, John, appeared at the military post of Maj. Taylor, near Pittsburg, in December of the same year. Two years later the two brothers were with Col. Broadhead on the Muskingum, in Ohio.

Charles H. Erwin, in a pamphlet published as late as 1874, accepts Capt. Montour as the hero and martyr, but in his more recently prepared manuscripts cites the facts which show that the captain and his brother were active in the flesh for several years later at least.

Mr. Erwin in his latest work scouts the idea that the post was intended as a monument at all. Such a tribute to the dead was contrary to Indian nature and to any known custom among them. It seems highly improbable that so unusual an exception should be made very shortly after a battle in which the Indians had been worsted and when their white enemy might be expected to appear among them at any time. It is true, however, that excavations for cellars or wells in the neighborhood of the post have frequently unearthed Indian bones and relics.—New York Times.

#### ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS.

A number of relatives of James Mitchell were entertained at the home of his son, H. V. Mitchell, in West Pittston, Oct. 6, 1895, in honor of his ninety-third birthday anniversary. At 2:30 the guests, forty-five in number, sat down to a fine repast. One of the features of the afternoon festivities was the singing of old familiar songs by Mr. Mitchell and his four sons. Mr. Mitchell is hale and hearty, and is remarkably active for one of his age.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. William Hollister, Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Mitchell, Hollisterville; Mrs. Fred Bidwell and children, Dunmore; Miss Eva Whalte, Ariel; Palmer Hollister and daughter, Peckville; Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Mitchell and son, Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Long and son, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Rockafellow, Mrs. D. A. Rockafellow, Miss Vanchie

Mitchell, Emmett Mitchell, Scranton; Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Moore and daughter and Elmer Mitchell of Luzerne Borough, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wolf, Pike's Creek; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Mitchell and daughters, Misses Jennie, Ollie and Mattie Mitchell, of this city.

## HISTORIC FORTS.

(Daily Record, Oct. 5, 1895.)

A meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held last evening, Judge Stanley Woodward presiding, and a good attendance of members and friends. The feature of the evening was a paper by Capt. John M. Buckalew of Fishing Creek, Columbia County. That Capt. Buckalew was not a participant in the famous Fishing Creek Confederacy is shown by the fact that he fought in the Union army four years. He is one of the commissioners appointed by the governor to locate the various revolutionary forts in the State and report thereupon. The territory assigned him was the Sunbury region. Capt. Buckalew proceeded to read an interesting abstract of the report he has prepared for the State.

#### Fort Augusta.

Fort Augusta was built in 1756, at the forks of the Susquehanna, at present Sunbury. It was built on lands owned by the Indians, whose title was not extinguished until the Fort Stanwix treaty of 1768. The English and French were in the height of their contest for supremacy in North America. Braddock had been defeated the year before the fort was built, and the tribes professedly friendly to the English required careful handling to keep them so. The French held Canada and the lakes and now had their eyes on the forks of the Susquehanna, as a strategic point, which once held, would enable them, aided by their Indian allies, to desolate the English settlements then in easy reach.

It was the friendly Indians who first comprehended the importance of securing the forks and urged the English to make it a defence. Government approval having been secured the governor of Pennsylvania sent Col. William Clapham, an English officer, with a force of 300 men, and he built the fort in 1756. There is a tradition that they were none too soon, for that the French

sent a detachment to take possession of the forts, but that after descending the West Branch as far as Montoursville they learned of what the English had done and accordingly withdrew. Col. Clapham, who built the fort, was afterwards killed, and his family, in western Pennsylvania.

In 1777, the Indians being now particularly troublesome, Gen. Washington, on appeal from the authorities at Fort Augusta, ordered a line of forts to be built in this region. There were 11 of these. It was from Fort Augusta that Col. Hartley's expedition to Queen Esther's town was planned, resulting in the destruction of the place and the defeat of the Indians on the north branch above Wilkes-Barre. It was here that Col. Plunkett organized his expedition against Wyoming.

#### Fort Jenkins.

This was situated on the Susquehanna, midway between present Berwick and Bloomsburg. It was a log stockade built in 1777, garrisoned by 30 soldiers. It was the center of numerous engagements with the Indians.

#### Fort Wheeler.

It was built on Fishing Creek, about three miles from its mouth, by Lieut. Moses Van Campen, the well known Indian killer. It was here that in 1780 his father, brother and uncle were killed, and Moses Van Campen, Peter Pence and others taken prisoners by the Indians. While in camp near Wyalusing the prisoners succeeded in freeing themselves and killing their savage but sleepy captors.

#### Fort McClure.

About one mile above the mouth of Fishing Creek, at present Bloomsburg. It was built by Lieut. Moses Van Campen in 1781, as a support to Fort Wheeler.

#### Bosley's Mills.

In the forks of Chillisiquaque Creek, present Washingtonville, Montour Co. The mills were stockaded and garrisoned.

#### Fort Freeland.

Four Miles east of present Watontown. Probably built in 1777. Nearly all the Freeland family were killed by the Indians here. The stockade was captured by a force of 300 British and Indians in 1779.

#### Fort Rice at Montgomery's.

Built in 1779. It is well preserved to this day, and was a formidable defense, resisting in 1780 an attack of 300 British and Indians.

#### Boone's Mills,

Between Watontown and Milton, built and fortified by Capt. Hawkins Boone, who was detached from duty with the Revolutionary army to assist in defending the frontiers and who was killed by the enemy.

Other forts touched on by Capt. Buckalew were:

Fort Schwartz, near Milton.

Fort Menninger, in Union County.

Fort Brady, near Muncy.

Fort Muncy, near Hall's Station.

Fort Antes, opposite Jersey Shore.

Fort Horn, near McElhattan.

Fort Reid, present Lock Haven.

Of all of these Capt. Buckalew had many interesting things to say. His paper was not lengthy and was written from memory from the formal report sent by him to Harrisburg.

A vote of thanks was tendered him and after the meeting many persons gathered round to question him further.

The following persons were elected to membership: John J. Hines, D. C. Harrower, Mrs. Stanley Woodward, Mrs. Priscilla L. Paine, A. A. Sterling, D. A. Fell, Jr., Miss Mae E. Turner, Mrs. Annette Jenkins Gorman, William C. Shepherd, J. C. Bridgman, Rev. H. H. Welles, D. D., Mrs. Mary F. Pfouts, Dr. F. Corss, W. Murray Alexander, W. V. Ingham, Mrs. Louise Dana Davis, Mrs. I. A. Stearns, Dr. J. T. Howell, Ira M. Kirkendall, Mrs. Katherine Umsted, Mrs. A. M. Maffet, Mrs. A. Farnham, Dr. E. U. Buckman, H. A. Fuller, Pierce Butler, B. Dorrance, F. W. Wheaton, Mrs. A. R. Brundage, L. D. Stearns, Mrs. M. B. Phelps, Miss Anna B. Phelps, R. P. Brodhead, C. W. Bixby, E. A. Rhoads, Miss Lucy B. Ingham, Leslie Ryman, H. J. Dennin, J. H. Timpson, P. M. Carhart, Mrs. J. W. Hollenback, C. H. Alexander, J. C. Paine, Miss Martha Bennet, Mrs. R. B. Hillard, Miss Julia Butler, Hon. A. Darte, Isaac M. Thomas, Galus L. Halsey, John S. Harding, Cyrus Straw, Mrs. Sarah Parsons, Mrs. W. Scott Stites.

Elected to honorary membership—President Warfield of Lehigh University, Dr. Samuel A. Green, Bishop Rullison, J. P. Lesley, Dr. Samuel Hart. Elected to corresponding membership—Henry W. Pickering, John M. Buckalew, John W. Jordan, W. M. Samson, George S. Conover, F. B. Gay.



**AARON WHITAKER RETIRES.**

Ex-Sheriff Aaron Whitaker, whose name has been synonymous with the tury, retired from active business Sept. 30, 1895. He will be succeeded by Gottterday. He will be succeeded by Gottlieb Baum, proprietor of Stegmaier's Hotel, who will take charge of the restaurant which he has conducted since he sold out his interest in the hotel.

Mr. Whitaker is over 70 years of age, and having become rather feeble in health, desired to retire from business. He has been in the hotel business twenty-three years, five years in White Haven, and eighteen in this city in the Exchange Hotel, with the exception of the past six months. He then took out a license for his present stand adjoining the Exchange Hotel and called it the Exchange House. While in business at White Haven, in 1871, he was elected sheriff of Luzerne County, which position he filled with credit to himself as well as the people who elected him. He bought the interest of the Shimer estate in the Exchange Hotel in 1877. In 1886 he rented the adjoining building and had it annexed. This was reserved when he sold it to E. M. Smith, the present proprietor, July 1, 1894.

**WHEN PAPER WAS SCARCE.**

Paper was so scarce when the American army entered Philadelphia upon the evacuation of the British troops that there was a want of paper for the construction of cartridges. It was advertised for and but a small quantity procured. An order was then issued demanding its instant production by all the people in that city who had it.

This produced but little more, very probably on account of its scarcity. A file of soldiers was then ordered to make search for it in every place where any was likely to be found. Among other places visited in July was a garret in the house in which Benjamin Franklin had previously had his printing office.

Here was discovered about 500 copies of a sermon which the Rev. Gilbert Tenant had written—printed by Franklin—upon "Defensive War" to arouse the colonists during the French troubles. They were all taken and used as cases for musket cartridges and at once sent to the armory. Most of them were used at the battle of Monmouth. The requisites in cartridge paper were, of

course, thinness, strength, pliability and inflammability, and such paper then was necessarily scarce.

In 1871 paper was so scarce that in New York the journal of the second session of the assembly was not printed, the printer being unable to procure the necessary paper. Horner, in his "Bibliotheca Americana"—1789—informs us that "at this time the people of North America manufactured their own paper and in sufficient quantities for home consumption, but the price of labor was so high as to discourage publishing beyond their own laws, pamphlets and newspapers." Some two years after this date David Bull, postmaster of Troy, N. Y., published the following homily under the head "Please Save Your Rags."

"The press contributes more to the diffusion of knowledge and information than any other medium. Rags are the primary requisite in the manufacture of paper, and without paper the newspapers of our country, those cheap, useful and agreeable companions of the citizen and farmer, which in a political and moral view are of the highest national importance, must decline and be extinguished. The paper mills of the State, would the poor and the opulent, the farmer and the mechanic, be persuaded into the laudable frugality of saving rags, would turn out ample supplies of American paper to answer all demands.

"The people of Massachusetts and Connecticut, with true American zeal, have introduced this exemplary saving into the economy of their houses. The latter, by fair calculation, makes yearly a saving of rags to the actual amount of \$50,000. The ladies in several large towns display an elegant workbag as part of the furniture of their parlors, in which every rag that is used in the paper mill is carefully preserved. Were this example imitated this State would not be drained of its circulating cash for paper and other manufacturers which American artists can furnish.

"The poor by the mere saving of rags may be enabled to procure paper and books for schools and family use and more agreeable articles of dress and consumption. The rich who regard the interest of their country will direct their children or domestics to place a bag in some convenient place as a deposit for rags, that none may be lost by being swept into the street or fire, the sales of which savings will

reward the attention of the faithful servant and encourage the prosperous enterprise of prudence and frugality."

The industries of the country grew so fast that in 1810 the number of paper mills in the United States was estimated at 185, of which 60 were in Pennsylvania.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

### WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

#### No. 1.

The following patriotic lines were written in 1868 by Rev. Joshua Peterkin, D. D., an Episcopal clergyman of Richmond, Va., on the occasion of a visit to Wilkes-Barre, his wife being a sister of Mrs. Fred Mercur. His son, the Right Rev. George William Peterkin, is the present bishop of the diocese of West Virginia:

Here let me rest, by fair Wyoming's side,  
Where Susquehanna's placid water's glide,  
While sparkling streams 'mid meadows  
    rolling free,  
Pay willing tribute to the distant sea.  
Upon this spot where ninety years ago  
The patriot settlers met their savage foe  
In vain defense, and dyed the shrink-  
    ing flood  
With rich libations of their patriot  
    blood,—  
Amid these scenes my fancy roams afar  
And brings me back anew the din of war.  
I hear the war whoop as it rolls along  
The vale made famous by the poet's song,  
The shriek, the shout, the yell, the dying  
    groan,  
All sounds discordant mingled into one.  
Old Albert too, and Gertrude now arise,  
And Walgrave's manly form to greet my  
    eyes,  
And Outalissi, with his descendant wild  
Sung amid sobs, as for an only child.  
But these all vanish, and I stand alone  
Beside a simple monument of stone,  
Raised to commemorate their deeds and  
    tell  
The passing stranger how they nobly fell  
Defending altars, homes and cultured  
    soil—  
The cause of man, of freedom and of God.  
'Tis well—such monuments there ought  
    to be  
To keep in mind the thought of Liberty—  
To warn the invader, whencesoe'er he  
    comes  
With fire and sword to desolate our  
    homes,  
That though his stronger arm may now  
succeed,  
And virtue sink o'erwhelmed by force  
    and greed,  
Though might 'gainst right may for a  
    time prevail,  
Despite the widow's tear, the orphan's  
    wail—

Yet future ages will redress the wrong,  
Embalm the patriot in the poet's song,  
Collect with pious care each mouldering  
    bone,  
And grave its record on the eternal stone.  
Meanwhile the proud oppressors' name  
    shall be  
Sunk, with their crimes, to lasting  
    infamy—  
To stern contempt and bitter scorn con-  
    signed  
As foes to peace, to God and to mankind.

### AN HISTORIC TOWN.

Athens, Pa., Aug. 27, 1895.—The historic town of Athens (Tioga Point) is one of the most beautiful in location in the State. The north branch of the Susquehanna and Chemung meet at the Point. A person on the main street can throw a stone in either river. Spurs of the Alleghenies rise on either side, clothed with green fields and dense woods. It is also one of the oldest towns in that section—a quarter century older than Elmira. John Arnot first made his home at Tioga Point (Athens). Unfortunately for the place, however, he subsequently located at Elmira, contributing to the prosperity of that place, his great wealth and business ability developing as germs of activity were added. His sons were worthy successors of an honored father.

This Point was a favorite resort of the Indians as history recorded it. Between the rivers the tribes met to make treaties with the pale faces and tribes from other camping grounds. The writer recollects his grandparents and parents speak of these meetings. Athens is among the growing prosperous towns of the State, more than doubling in population and wealth in the past ten years. The beautiful houses, large manufacturing establishments, with an agricultural business for miles around give it a stir and energy that imparts life like that in the city. The school building just erected is one of the finest in the State, costing upwards of \$70,000, while the church structures are second to none in all the given varied attraction and convenience in keeping with modern thought and skill. Within a few years, Mrs. Louise Murray and several other spirits of like sentiment and desire have organized an historical association, having purchased the old academy to use as a place for preserving relics and holding meetings, etc. It is surprising how many articles of interest they have gathered in so short a time, and each week adds new trophies. Men of wealth who left Ath-

ens for new homes and associations, helping generally toward the object, and others with articles of appropriate value seeking relics for the museum. Williamsport should bestir herself and establish an institution of like object and aims.

A half day was well spent in examining old records and relics. One of the most interesting relics was a large case containing the remains of an Indian, evidently, by the surroundings, a prominent character. The skeleton was all there, and around it were implements of war and other articles that were dear to the Indian life. One of the most impressive was a stone with excavations wherein was red paint and spoon. The color was deep red, and it was just as it was when the body was discovered. Those removing the remains placed sheets of iron under, taking up all the earth containing the relics just as they were when the tons of stone were removed. More than a thousand people gathered to witness the resurrection, and skilled men placed the whole in a strong box with glass cover, not moving a single article. It is worth, alone, a visit to the museum. The ground was evidently a burial place as upwards of thirty bodies have been taken up and many utensils.—(Letter in Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin.)

#### WARNING FOR A PROPRIETORS' MEETING.

The original of the following call, or warning, for a meeting of the proprietors, is in the possession of the Wyoming Historical Society. The fort referred to was Fort Wyoming, which stood on the river bank, near Northampton street, across the street from the present residences of Judge Stanley Woodward or Charles Parrish. On the back is a tally list, probably the vote for the moderator of the meeting, of which "Capt. Butler" received 21 and "Capt. Gore" received 8:

These are to Warn all the Proprietors Belonging to ye Susquehanna Purchase to meet at ye Fort In wilkesbarre on wednesday ye 18th day of this Instant november (1772) at twelve a Clock on sd Day—

1st. to se what meathod is Best to come into for our Guarding & Scouting this winter Season.

2ly. to se what shall Be Done with those Persons that Complaint is made against their not attending their Duty when called upon—

3ly. to appoint a collector to Receive in those Species that was signed by the Propriators and Setlers for ye Suport of ye Revend Mr. Johnson, ye year Insuling—

4ly. to notify those Persons that Holds Rights and Have ye care of sd Rights to acquaint ye comtee forthwith who (managed?) sd Rights.

5ly. to se what this Company will Do further in Cutting & Clearing a Rode to Delaware River &c:—

6ly. to act upon any other Business that Shall Be thought Proper to be Done Ralative to the settlement of sd Lands &c:—

Zebulon Butler  
Ezekiel Pierce  
Stephen Fuller

Commtee.

N. B. as their is Some Business of Importance to be acted on at sd meeting it is Hopeful you will Give your attendance.

#### DESCENDANTS MEET IN REUNION.

The descendants of the late Ammi and Sarah Harrison met at the old homestead near Town Line Oct. 8, 1895, it being the 100th anniversary of the settlement of the place by William Harrison, one of the pioneers of Huntington Valley. The home coming was indeed an enjoyable one and many were the pleasant recollections recalled. After dinner a visit was made to the family cemetery where reminiscences of sadness for a time dispelled the joyousness of the otherwise happy gathering. The family is one of the most honored of the early settlers and the descendants, although scattered far and near, are recognized in their several communities as men and women of worth and character. Aside from a few neighbors the family was represented by the following:

Hazleton—Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Laubach, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Laubach, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Utt, Misses Lula and Edna Stevens, Vivian and Bartell Laubach and Master Charles Williams.

Buffalo—Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Barton.

Wilkes-Barre—Dr. and Mrs. N. E. Bowman, Mrs. C. A. Harrison, Miss Gertrude and Arthur Harrison.

Ashley—Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Harrison and son, Stanley.

Town Line—Mr. and Mrs. Nathan

Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. William Davenport, Mrs. J. W. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Davenport, Ralph and Charles Harrison and Miss Lizzie Meeker.

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MONUMENT OF THE 143D DEDICATED.

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Oct. 15, 1895, at Gettysburg was dedicated the monument of the 143d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, on the site on Cemetery Ridge occupied by that famous regiment during the awful struggle.

Capt. De Lacy of Scranton presided, Rev. Asa Warner of Co. H offered prayer and E. A. Niven read a poem. The tablet was unveiled by Miss Edith Wynn Blair, daughter of Capt. Blair.

The oration of the day was by A. J. Colborn, Jr., of Scranton and his effort was an excellent one. Mr. Colborn spoke of the heroism that impelled men to forsake their homes and battle for their country and confined many of his remarks to the terrible ordeal experienced by the 143d and to the bravery of its members. Among other things he said:

"We are here to-day, with living witnesses, to mark the position of the 143d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers in the grand final repulse; witnesses who have helped beat back the tidal wave of the rebellion. Histories of this great battle have been written, and more will have to be written ere the true story of this mighty struggle can be given to the world. Official reports written hastily, and while the smoke of battle was still hanging over Gettysburg, have been the chief source of information from which writers have gleaned the facts for "history's golden urn." Safer, and more reliable than all these reports, is the testimony of the men now living who participated in that awful contest, who bared their breasts to the enemy, and who fought side by side with death."

After the oration the formal transfer of the tablet to the commissioners of the Gettysburg Battlefield Association by Col. George N. Reichard of Wilkes-Barre was made.

In proportion the monument is much like that erected for Ricketts's battery. It is 5½ feet high and 6 feet by 4 at the base.

Col. George N. Reichard of Wilkes-Barre, chairman of the tablet committee presented a report of collections, etc., received: C. D. Kunkle, Dallas,

\$5; C. H. Sherman, Glenburn, \$4.40; George W. Engle, Luzerne, \$6; D. C. Graham, Tunkhannock, \$7; P. DeLacey, Scranton, \$11; M. B. Parigo, Burchersville, \$12; James T. Rennard, Plymouth, \$23; Rudolph Fenner, Pittston, \$46; J. M. Rutter, Wilkes-Barre, \$270; Capt. S. S. Simpson, Jeansville, \$14.50; total \$398.

Paid for tablet properly inscribed and placed at Gettysburg by Miller & Laycock, \$312; other expenses, \$27; total, \$339; whole amount received to date, \$398.90; whole amount paid out to date, \$339; leaving a balance in hand of \$59.90.

Other members of the tablet committee are Capt. H. M. Gordon, Lieut. O. E. Vaughn, Capt. M. L. Blair and James M. Rutter.

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THE MEMORIES OF '76.

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Trenton, N. J., Oct. 15, 1895—The monument at Taylorsville, Pa., and the tablet at Washington's Crossing to mark the spot where the father of his country crossed the Delaware the night before he routed the Hessians in Trenton, were dedicated with interesting ceremonies to-day. The crossing is about two miles above this city, and at the present time the scene of a pretty village. Notwithstanding the air was raw and chilly, a large assemblage of people gathered, and school children from Pennington, Hopewell, Doylestown, Titusville and Washington's Crossing were present. The children all wore the national colors and participated in the exercises by singing patriotic songs. The monument at Taylorsville was erected by the Bucks County Historical Society. It is a block of gray granite, set upon a granite base and bearing the following inscription: "Near this spot Washington crossed the Delaware on Christmas night, 1776, the eve of the battle of Trenton."

The monument is about 100 yards above the Yardley bridge, and stands on the property of Dr. Griffe, between the river road and the Delaware.

The exercises took place in front of Dr. Griffe's residence. All about American flags were flying and patriotic music stirred the emotions of the spectators. Gen. William W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, Pa., president of the Bucks County Historical Society, made the introductory remarks, followed by Rev. Alphonzo Dare of Pennington. Gen. William Stryker of Trenton then delivered an historical address, after which the monument was unveiled by

Mrs. Elizabeth Twining of Yardley.

The orator of the day was Dwight M. Lowrey of Philadelphia, who spoke eloquently of the heroes of the Revolution and their work. Children in concert recited a song poem written by Miss Harcourt Clarke of New York, and then sang "America," the exercises on the Pennsylvania side of the river being brought to a close with the benediction pronounced by Rev. E. M. Jeffreys of Doylestown.

The tablet at the crossing was unveiled by Miss Ada Byron Nelson, daughter of Dr. Adonis Nelson, of Neshanic, N. J. It is of bronze, and bears this inscription: "This tablet is erected by the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey to commemorate the crossing of the Delaware River by Gen. Washington and the Continental Army on Christmas night, 1776."

#### THE WYOMING VALLEY IN 1787.

The Record has seen an interesting though brief diary of a journey made from Philadelphia to Wilkes-Barre in 1787 and many of our older readers will be glad to see it in print. Though unsigned it has the internal evidence of having been written by the father of the late Judge John N. Conyngham, who was David Hayfield Conyngham. The latter was a Philadelphia merchant during the Revolutionary War, a member of the firm of Conyngham, Nesbitt & Co., who rendered substantial aid to Washington's suffering troops. At the time of this visit to Wilkes-Barre, whither he came to inspect certain lands claimed by him under Pennsylvania, he was 31 years old.

It is curious to note that the journey, which occupied him four days, we can now take in as many hours.

That first impressions are not always the best is shown by the diary. We of to-day cannot agree that Wilkes-Barre is either badly situated or "on poor soil."

In the little book are numerous entries intended as reminders of one kind or another of the Philadelphia business. For example:

Took from J. N.'s Money 7 crowns & 11d. Put in a ½ Joe.

Wrote N. & W. Johnson of Bordeaux introducing Stephen Higginson. Dated Phil'a May 3, signed C. N. & Co.

Fitzgerald has a brig called the Betsey of 1660 bbls., agreed to load her at 35s per bbl.

R. H. & Co. have on hand 5,000 bush'ls; if they can secure a Vessel & fill her immediately with wheat agreed to take first cargo at 6s 8d on board, to hear from at Balt'e.

Directed W. H. if he saw an opening to strike for wheat & flour provided the price does not exceed 26s per bbl.

Mr. Deakins offered bills on London for 300 stg.

Rec'd of Franklin & co.,

in specie	51	18	0
paper	34	10	0
	—	—	—
	£86	8	0

#### The Diary.

Left Phil'a July 8, 1787, with Mr. Meredith. Arrived on the 10th at Bethlehem. Breakfasted next morn'n at Nazareth & went on.

7 miles to Hellar's Gap. (Note 1)

16 do. to Learn's, slept there. (Note 2)

12 to Tobyhanna.

6 to Lehi. (Note 3)

12 to Kelly's, slept there. (Note 4)

7 to Wioming. Put up at John Hollowbank's. (Note 5)

Latitude of Wyoming 41 14 40, 78 W. (Note 6)

Distance from Phil'a 123 miles. (It is 144 by L. V. R. R.)

Observations—The river remarkably beautiful; the town of Wilkes-barre badly situated, on a poor soil. Shawnee flats (Plymouth) appear the most fertile of all of them, badly cultivated. Jacob's plains (Plains) are well diversified and think the back land valuable. Nanticoke pleases me most and the settlers there appear better advanced than any others. Abram's plains (Wyoming) lay well & the crops on them are as good as any I see. The whole appears to be claimed by the Yankees (Note 7) & there are many turn coats now ready to come forward with claims; how they will support them I know not. J. P. Schott is a bad man. (Note 8) The road up to Lackawanna on the west side is a remarkable good one; the country there seems rude but am informed the land is pretty good & gets good as you go up the headwaters of it & Tunkhannock.

Col. Pickering (Note 9) came in on tuesday, the 17th, the other commissioners (Note 6) not coming made the settlers uneasy. Franklin (Note 10) on the 18th had a meet'g at which we were told he distributed fresh grants of land; unless somewhat spirited is done he will keep the settlement always in trouble.

Saw Marsy whose land was taken from him by the half-right men as they

are stiled. heard of several acts of violence of theirs;

Lotts in town sell for 140 to 50 d'rs; Meadow Lotts at £3 per acre; whole lotts at 200 to £275 per lott of 300 acres.

Doct. Spralg (Note 11) very communicative—not much to be depended on.

Marssy informs me the claims only touch about 100 acres of our lands up Tunckhannock. Spralg claims a lease of one of them from a promise of C. Stewart's.

Caught 4 doz'n trout up Laurel Run.

A rough country—Yankee claims do not reach Nescopock. The whole settlement has the appearance of Poverty & was it not for the near approach of harvest many must suffer. Bread scarce, obliged to feed our horses new Rye at 5s. per bushel.

\* \* \*

All the matter within the parentheses is inserted by the annotator.

\* \* \*

Note 1—Heller's tavern (present Hellersville, Monroe Co.) at the southern opening of the Wind Gap, a beautiful pass in the Blue Ridge, 53 miles from Wilkes-Barre.

\* \* \*

Note 2—Learn's log tavern, n. w. of Stroudsburg, 28 m. from Easton. On the 3d of July, 1781, Mr. Learn and his son George were killed and scalped by the Indians, who carried off his wife and her 4-months-old infant. Not wishing to be encumbered with the baby they dashed out its brains. Mr. Learn's son John had meanwhile escaped after killing one of the Indians.

\* \* \*

Note 3—Falls of the Lehigh, present Stoddartsville, 19 miles from Wilkes-Barre.

\* \* \*

Note 4—Present Searfoss's, or known formerly as Seven-Mile-Jake's. This was the first house after leaving Wilkes-Barre for Easton and at the time of the Wyoming Massacre was occupied by a family named Bullock. It was the first place the fugitives could find refreshment. The Bullocks had fled, however, and they probably never returned. When Sullivan's army reached here it was met by Col. Zebulon Butler and his troops who had built a road from Wyoming as far as Bullock's and together they marched into the valley.

\* \* \*

Note 5—John Hollenback is meant, a younger brother of Matthias Hollenback, whose name is so prominently

identified with the development of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

\* \* \*

Note 6—In the Historical Record, vol. 1, p. 121, is a contribution by the late Steuben Jenkins, in which he quotes these figures of Mr. Conyngham. It speaks well for the accuracy of whoever made the observation, that it varies only four-tenths of a second from the observation made in recent years by the geological survey with its far superior instruments. Some earlier observations are given by Mr. Jenkins, one in 1755 being 41, 14, 17, and another in 1770 being 41, 14, 27.

\* \* \*

#### The Pennamite War.

Note 7—This year 1787 was a tumultuous one in Wyoming. The valley was torn with the dissensions incident to the disputed jurisdiction of Pennsylvania and Connecticut. The Decree of Trenton had given the jurisdiction to Pennsylvania and in 1786 Luzerne County had been erected. But peace was not yet. The Connecticut settlers were divided. One wing was willing to submit to Pennsylvania jurisdiction without a guarantee, the other had no confidence in Pennsylvania promises, so often had they been broken. Among the families willing to trust to the honor of Pennsylvania for a continuation of their land titles were those of Butler, Denison, Hollenback, Ross, Gore, Carey and Nesbitt. Among the opposition were the Franklin, Jenkins, Slocum, Satterlie and Dudley families. The first election of Luzerne County was held in February, 1787, the Col. John Franklin party bitterly opposing it. A month after this exciting election the Assembly of Pennsylvania endeavored to conciliate the "Wild Yankees," as the Connecticut claimants were dubbed, by passing a Confirming Law, under which rightful Connecticut claimants were to have their titles confirmed. This law provided that Timothy Pickering, Joseph Montgomery and Peter Muhlenburg were appointed commissioners to sit at Wilkes-Barre and pass upon all claims. By agreement of both factions a public meeting was held at Forty Fort to discuss the recent confirming law, but so bitter were the contentions that it almost broke up in a row, though a vote was finally taken to accept the law. This was the situation at the moment of Mr. Conyngham's visit. The commissioners appointed under the law entered upon their duties but being

threatened with violence they adjourned in August after a brief session. This confirming law would have forever settled the controversy, but through the jobbery of land speculators in Philadelphia the beneficent measure was repealed and the Commonwealth had broken faith with the suffering Connecticut settlers. For a dozen years longer the Assemblies labored with the Wyoming question and it was not until 1799 that the settlers were finally quieted in their titles. Thus had Wyoming Valley been scourged for 30 years with an internecine strife, which nothing short of the Revolutionary War was strong enough to interrupt.

\* \* \*

**Capt. John Paul Schott.**

Note 8—It would be interesting to know what prompted this criticism. Probably it was Schott's hostility to the Pennsylvania title. John Paul Schott was a Prussian who had served in the army of his native land and who upon offering his services to Congress had been commissioned as captain. Among the troops stationed at Wyoming during the Revolution was Capt. Schott's rifle corps and in 1780 he was married to Miss Naomi Sill, the occasion being one of great joy in the settlement. He lived in a little red house on River street above South, about where E. H. Chase's residence is.

\* \* \*

**Timothy Pickering.**

Note 9—Pickering was at this time 42 years of age. He was an officer in Washington's army and at the organization of Luzerne County he was a veritable Pooh-Bah, he being elected to nearly all the county offices simultaneously. He became Postmaster-General under Washington in 1791, was Secretary of War and Secretary of State in 1795 under Washington, as well as Secretary of State under Adams in 1797. He was a most remarkable personage. While living in Wilkes-Barre he owned the McCarragher farm, corner of present Hazle and Park avenues, and Sidney Tracy, afterwards of the firm of Sinton & Tracy, used to say that he built many a rod of rail fence for Mr. Pickering.

\* \* \*

**Franklin and His Bloody Oath.**

Note 10—Capt. John Franklin was one of the most prominent of all the opponents of the Pennsylvania government. It was he who in October, 1874, when attacked by a Pennsylvania party, swore

on the bloody rifle of a companion who had been shot, "that he would never lay down his arms until death should arrest his hand, or Patterson and Armstrong be expelled from Wyoming and the people be restored to their rights of possession and a legal title guaranteed to every citizen."

At the time of this first election in 1787 he was especially opposed to it. He visited all the settlements and urged the people not to commit themselves either by voting or taking the oath of allegiance until they should first be quieted in their titles. He boomed the Connecticut title to the utmost and succeeded in making a good deal of trouble for the Commonwealth. So much so that Timothy Pickering engineered a movement by which he was kidnapped (in front of the present Ross house) on South Main street and he was kept in jail at Philadelphia nearly two years. During this time his adherents retaliated by capturing Pickering and running him up into the forests of Wyoming County.

\* \* \*

Note 11—Dr. Joseph Sprague, the first physician in the settlement. An interesting account of him is given in Historical Record, vol. 3, p. 165.

\* \* \*

The old diary is in the possession of C. E. Butler of this city, who has many other interesting manuscripts of early days. F. C. J.

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**DESCENDANTS OF BLACKLEACH BURRITT.**

A prominent pioneer in Hanover Twp., Luzerne Co., was Blackleach Burritt and a full account of him and of his family is given in a paper read by M. D. Raymond of Tarrytown, N. Y., before the Fairfield County (Conn.) Historical Society, the same appearing in their published proceedings. Burritt, (whose father bore the same name and was a distinguished patriot preacher in Connecticut) was away from Hanover at the time of the massacre but his wife was here and was among the fugitives. His son-in-law, Cyprian Hibbard, was killed. The latter's widow, Sarah, married Matthias Hollenback, who was in the battle but escaped. Her daughter by her first marriage, Hannah D. Hibbard, was only 15 days old at the time of the massacre. She became the wife of John Alexander, grandfather of the Misses Emily and Carrie Alexander of

this city. Hannah Hibbard Hollenback by her second marriage had:

1. Mary Ann Hollenback, married Laning; three sons and three daughters.

2. Ellen J. Hollenback, born 1788, m. Charles F. Welles, father of Rev. H. H. Welles, Edward Welles and John Welles Hollenback.

3. Sarah, m. 1st Jacob Cist, 2d Chester Butler.

4. George M. Hollenback, b. 1791, d. 1866.

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#### HISTORY OF OLD TIME FOLKS.

Daniel K. Cassel of Germantown, Philadelphia, has just published a comprehensive family history, which will interest many members living in this section of the State. The title is: "The Kulp Family History," being "a genealogical history of the Kolb, Kulp and Culp family and its branches in America with biographical sketches of their descendants from the earliest available records from 1707 to the present time, including Dielman Kolb in Germany." This is a handsome book of 584 pages, just from the press. The history includes descendants of Martin, Jacob Henry, Johannes and Dielman Kolb, who came to America and settled at Germantown in 1707 (with the exception of Dielman, who came in 1717) afterwards moved to Skippack, in 1709, and were among the first Mennonite preachers in Skippack. Out of a family of six brothers, four were Mennonite ministers. The name of Martin Kolb appears on the deed of the Germantown Mennonite Meeting House lot, as a witness, with that of Dirk Keyser, and the names of many of the Kolbs appear on the list of members of the congregation, and many are buried there.

The Kolbs came from Palatinate (Pfaltz) in Germany, from the vicinity of Mannheim and Wolfshelm, where their father, Dielman Kolb, and his wife, daughter of Peter Schumacher, are buried; also a brother, Peter, and a sister, Ann. The other five brothers came to America.

The Kolbs were early and conspicuous in the ministry of the Mennonite Church. They were devout followers of the teachings of Menno Simons, who was born in the village called Witmarsum, in Friesland, in the year 1492, and died in the year 1659, on the 13th of January. Dielman Kolb the younger brother, was also a well educated man and a Mennonite minister. After emigrating to America he, in connection

with Rev. Henry Funk, supervised the translation of Van Bragt's "Martyr's Mirror" from the Dutch to the German, and certified to its correctness.

This book is the great historical work of the Mennonites and the most durable monument of that denomination, in tracing the history of those zealous Christians back among primitive churches. No German translation existed, and the larger portion of those here who were interested in it could read only that language. It was not long, however, before a desire for a German edition was manifested. Consequently on the 19th of October, 1745, a letter on the subject was sent to Amsterdam asking for aid, signed by Jacob Godshall, Dielman Kolb, Michael Ziegler, Yelles Kassel, Martin Kolb and Henry Funk.

The Kolbs took a leading move in this undertaking. As no aid was promised from Amsterdam, and Dielman Kolb was well-to-do, the work was taken up in the community by unanimous consent. They found a competent translator and procured a hand printing press (in 1745), which is now in the Pennsylvania Historical Society; the work was commenced, the paper made, and the printing started. Heinrich Funk and Dielman Kolb had such a great love for this work that they both, with common consent, gave their time and labor to it. As the sheets came from the press they went over them one at a time, comparing them with the Dutch, and in this work have not omitted a single verse. The first part was completed in 1748 and the second part in 1749, the whole containing over 1,500 pages, and took fifteen men three years to finish it.

It is the record and history of these Kulp families that Daniel K. Cassel, who is a descendant of Martin Kolb, has endeavored to prepare, and, through his historical researches, he has rescued many important facts connected with the said family and with Philadelphia's early settlement. It also embraces many prominent men in the Kulp family and their descendants.

Mr. Cassel in his introduction, speaking of the Kulp family, says: "It graces every walk in life. It is represented in every profession. It has won high favors among men. It has made its mark in business, in the school room, in journalism, in medicine, at the bar, in the army, on the platform and in the pulpit."



The work contains portraits of the following members of the family: Nicholas Rittenhouse, Sr., Mrs. Mary Smith, Daniel K. Cassel, the author; Samuel K. Cassel, Dr. Jacob K. Cassel, Samuel N. Kulp, Nicholas M. Rittenhouse, Jr., Horace F. McCann, publisher of the Germantown Independent; A. H. Fetterolf, president of Girard College; George B. Kulp of this city, Dr. Henry Geiger, Rev. Moses Godshall, Rev. William S. Godshall, Rev. N. B. Grubb.

The price of the book is \$2, bound in cloth; 20 cents additional if it be mailed or expressed. The issue is limited, the greater portion of which is already ordered.

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### WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

No. 2.

#### "The Wyoming Valley."

(Which were written for the Scranton Republican in January, 1894.)

The author of the following lines was led into this chain of thought from the idea he had formed after a close inspection of the locality where the Susquehanna and the Lackawanna rivers meet near Pittston. The writer is of the opinion that the Lackawanna is the older river of the two, and that its original course was straight on by the northern side of the mountain range which now forms the northern boundary of the Wyoming Valley, and that the waters of Otsego Lake and of all its tributary basins were let out by a break or upheaval of volcanic origin at the above mentioned place, of which Campbell's Ledge shows abundant evidence.

And further that the mighty rush of this great body of water, the Susquehanna, striking those of the Lackawanna at right angles to that of its original course, carried them with it to and around the base of the southern hills, and thus the original river bed of the Lackawanna became a lake or broad sheet of water which in time becoming filled up with the rich deposits of fine silt and mould, aided by the washings from the mountain sides, at last became the famous Wyoming Valley.

Far back in dim and distant ages,  
So speak the satchems and the sages  
Of the ancient Lackawanna's margin  
When this world was young and virgin.  
A noble stream was the Lackawanna  
Long before the Susquehanna  
Had joined its placid water,  
Flowing on in rippling laughter  
Like a maiden coy and fleeting,  
Now advancing, now retreating,  
As she plies her witching art  
To snare admiring suitor's heart.  
Now ruffled, foaming, fretting,  
Now eddying, swirling, or coquetting,

Dancing sunbeams on her bosom,  
Glancing silvery rays of Moosom  
From her clear and limpid stream  
Like a visioned fairy dream.

Such was life with Lackawanna  
When first beheld by Aqualana,  
Aqualana, spirit of the water,  
Who claimed her as her first-born daughter.

Hark! to my voice thou gentle maiden  
Spake the spirit with wisdom laden;  
Thou hast a brother, gentle river,  
'Tis thine the gift and I the giver,  
A brother born amidst the snows  
Of Arctic north—where fox and crows  
Turn white with frost, feathers and fur,  
Where also grows the Juniper.  
Born in broad Lake Otsego,  
Lake of fishes and wildgana,  
I will bring him to thy side  
And thou shalt be his virgin bride;  
I will cause the god of thunder  
To rend the hills and break asunder  
The mountain ribs of Allegana,  
To have them join the Lackawanna.  
No sooner said than it is done,  
The darkening clouds obscured the sun,  
The earth by Thou was made to quake  
The mountain ribs of stone did break  
And through the gap at Campbelliana  
Came rushing forth the Susquehanna  
To meet his bride the Lackawanna,  
The marriage blessed by Aqualana,  
And when the nuptial rites are ended  
In peaceful flow their lives are blended,  
Bringing riches from afar  
Where gazes down the polar star.  
And from the East where rising sun  
Had blessed them in each brook or run.  
The finest silt, the richest soil  
They hold in store as on they toil,  
Depositing in finest mould,  
More rich than all the mines of gold,  
And laid them peacefully at rest  
Beneath the flowing river's breast.  
Deep down below with patient care  
They lay their treasures, layer on layer,  
Like corals of the ocean deep  
They slowly rise and upward creep,  
'Till lo! a vision like a dream  
Up to the surface of the stream  
Enchanted lands now rise in view  
From out the depths of waters blue.  
An Eden of the Central West  
With all the good of life and blest,  
A land of trees and blooming flowers,  
Of fairy dells and shady bowers,  
Where birds of melody and song  
Sang their praises all day long,  
A paradise, a heavenly home,  
That from the skies had seemed to come.

Ten thousand moons had come and gone  
'Ere Aqualana did return  
To view the land that had been born,  
The fairest land beneath the sun.  
With queenly grace stood Aqualana  
And looked with pride on Susquehanna  
And smiled on daughter Lackawanna,  
Then viewed with wonder and surprise  
This goodly land, this Paradise.

What shall we call this new born land?  
The parents asked in accents bland;  
The spirit mused from morn till gloaming

Then uttering this one word—Wyoming  
 Slowly upward to the skies  
 On spirit wings was seen to rise,  
 And as she floats in upper air  
 Her voice re-echoes faint, but clear—  
 This fills my joy—this ends my roaming,  
 I've seen the paradise of earth—Wyoming!  
 Wyoming!

William Noble.

#### RIVER STEAMBOATS OF 1826.

Editor Record: I was much interested, for reasons apparent further on, in the Historical Column of your issue of Sept. 6, 1895, under above title, and seeking for further information referred to Dr. Egle's history of Pennsylvania (Harrisburg, 1877) and found under title "Columbia County, Berwick," as follows: "It was at Berwick May 3, 1826, that the steamboat Susquehanna, Captain Collins, of Baltimore blew up, ascending Nescopeck Falls."

Now, whatever the name of the boat or the time of the explosion, my father, Asa L. Foster, then a resident of Bloomsburg, was on board, blown into the river and narrowly escaped with his life. I have heard him relate the incident frequently and the "Codus" has always been associated in my mind as the name of the boat. Is it possible that there were two boats experimenting at the same time for steam navigation of the Susquehanna?

I remember that in my boyhood the word "Codus" was locally in use to convey the idea of a breakup or failure and I associated that also with the explosion of the boiler of the Codorus. Those having access to the files of the local newspapers of 1826 and 1827 may be able to settle the question whether it was the Codorus or some other boat which "blew up."

If it was the Codorus the several paragraphs which you published can all be reconciled with the exception of the date and name given in Dr. Egle's history as follows:

The Codorus finished and tried Nov. 22, 1825, when it was found to work satisfactorily and that "with 40 persons on board her draft is not more than eight inches."

Dec. 3, 1825, the boat is at Harrisburg.

April 12, 1826, it is at Wilkes-Barre. Received ovation; dinner at Porter's; toasts, speeches, etc.; here to remain until Monday, and then as Ed. of the "Democrat" is informed, expects to proceed up the river.

This part of the program seems to have been changed, for May 3, 1826, the boat is at Bloomsburg and received another ovation, toasts, speeches, etc., but in latter part of June, 1826, it is at Oswego, Binghamton and Tioga.

July 25, 1826, it is back to Lock Haven.

As during the time of low water in summer it was probably thought impracticable to navigate the Susquehanna northward it is possible that the boat went down the river and to Baltimore, as stated in the extract from the Baltimore paper of April, 1830, but instead of going further South returned, as in April, 1827, a "Stockholder" writes to the York Gazette suggesting that if it cannot be used for the purpose it was intended, it had better be towed down to tide water, "where perhaps it might be applied to some useful purpose."

This communication may have led to another effort to ascend the river and if it was the Codorus that blew up at Nescopeck Falls it must have been in the spring of 1827, probably May 3, 1827, instead of as stated with reference to the steamer Susquehanna May 3, 1826.

Something more than ordinary wear and tear had happened to the Codorus, as Mr. D. K. Noel says he saw the ruins in 1831 lying on the bank of the river at York Haven "the hull in good condition but the woodwork torn away."

Hoping we shall hear something definite from old residents of Columbia County or others, I remain

Very respectfully,

T. L. Foster.

Mauch Chunk, Pa., Sept. 9, 1895.

#### ANSWER TO MR. FOSTER.

By reference to the Historical Record, vol. 1, p. 215, Mr. Foster and any others interested will find the matter fully treated. The steamer which burst its boiler May 3, 1826, was the "Susquehanna," as correctly stated by Dr. Egle. A pretty full account of the fatal trip is given at the place referred to. The ill-fated craft left York Haven April 27, 1826, having in tow a large keel boat capable of carrying a thousand bushels of wheat. She arrived at Nescopeck May 3, and while trying to ascend the rapids the explosion occurred. Two were killed outright and at least two fatally hurt. Asa L. Foster, mentioned above, was among those slightly injured.

The files of the papers for 1826 show that in the spring of that year both the Codorus and the Susquehanna were attempting to navigate our river and both attempts resulted in failure.

#### GENEALOGICAL JEWELS.

[Daily Record, Oct. 29, 1895.]

Mrs. Helen Boyd Headley of Morristown, N. J., is visiting Wilkes-Barre relatives and friends after an absence of twenty years. Mrs. Headley is the possessor of some unique jewelry that not only possesses a considerable intrinsic money value made up as it is of gold and diamonds, but is of rare historic interest. Mrs. Headley traces her lineage from the Mayflower Aldens and the jewelry is all associated with the history of the family. It was designed by Mrs. Headley, and comprises locket, earrings, sleeve buttons, stickpins, etc., all resplendent with diamonds. The first is a locket, dependent from a true-lover's-knot engraved with the names of John and Priscilla, the Alden progenitors, dated Plymouth Rock, 1620. On the obverse is the Mayflower with arbutus blossoms, the first flowers that greeted the pilgrims, with the names of the descendants down to the present. Thirteen stars set in diamonds border the locket, representing the years of the pilgrimage. The center is made up of a piece of Plymouth Rock, polished.

A brooch tells the story of Major John Mason and his extermination of the Pequot Indians in 1637, to save Hartford from destruction. Mary Mason wedded Prince Alden, the great-grandson of John the Pilgrim and they found a home in Wyoming Valley. Other Puritan ancestors of hers are given—Thomas and James Fitch, Thomas and Matthew Sherwood and John and Abram Thomas; also the names of Scotch-Irish ancestors, the Jamesons, represented by eleven diamonds.

The reverse of the locket shows the revolutionary period. Two golden obelisks are shown, one commemorating Wyoming massacre, the other Stony Point, with the eagle of the Cincinnati between.

John Jameson was one of the Wyoming emigrants in 1769. His wife was Abigail Alden. He served in the Revolution under Washington and was slain by the Indians near Wilkes-Barre in 1782. He was the last Indian victim in

Wyoming Valley. Stewart Pearce's painting of this savage atrocity can be seen in the Historical Society rooms.

Lazarus Stewart was a brave soldier in the French and Indian wars and fell at Wyoming in 1778.

A third ancestor given is John Boyd, a revolutionary officer.

John Bull, revolutionary officer.

Samuel Headley, surgeon in Revolution.

The fourth set of jewelry represents the Centennial and the Columbian exposition, three golden bells with diamond clappers, modeled after the famous liberty bell.

Mrs. Headley is an industrious student of American history and has a right to feel proud of the valuable articles that so beautifully perpetuate the deeds of her ancestors.

[Daily Record, Nov. 2, 1895.]

Mrs. Helen Boyd Headley, of Morristown, N. J., whose genealogical jewelry was described in the Record, met with the Daughters of the American Revolution this week and made a pleasant address on topics which the jewels suggested. Mrs. Headley is a sister of Mrs. Washington Lee.

#### OLDEST CHURCH IN BERKS CO.

Stroudsburg, Oct. 28, 1895.—The corner-stone for the new Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church, at the eastern end of this village, was laid yesterday with appropriate services. The congregation is with absolute certainty the oldest in Berks County, and it disputes the palm with New Hanover, Montgomery County, Germantown, and another in the State of New York, as being the oldest Lutheran Church in the United States.

There was an organized congregation here as early as 1727, if not earlier. It is to be regretted that there is not more definite information in regard to the first church, which was erected in 1727. A second church was built in 1744, which remained standing for ninety-three years, when the present stone edifice was erected on the site in 1837. This will hereafter be used as a chapel.

The new church will have a frontage of 100 feet. The main building will be seventy-three by forty-two feet. Communion services were held yesterday morning in the old church.

#### A FORGOTTEN BURYING GROUND.

It used to be a saying of Henry Ward Beecher, in alluding to the transitoriness of mundane things, that in a few years even the grave yards, in which we are buried, will be forgotten. It is not often that this is literally true, although many grave yards with which we are familiar have given way to the demands of business. Yet there is a grave yard which our pioneer fathers began in the troublous times of 1778, which has entirely passed from even the memory of any except the oldest. A sketch of it is furnished the Record by Samuel R. Smith, and it is as follows:

#### HUNTING FOR A GRAVE YARD.

The following story of one of the oldest grave yards in the valley was given to me by Mrs. Elizabeth Bennett Polen of Wyoming, daughter of Andrew Bennett and granddaughter of Thomas Bennett, who was the boy who was captured with Hammond by the Indians. The story of how they untied themselves at night and brained the sleeping Indians is the delight of the old and young alike.

Mrs. Polen is 84 years old, well preserved and possesses those splendid mental and physical traits and strength of character that distinguished the old stock, now rapidly disappearing.

The story is as follows: After the massacre and before the little band of fugitives started on that sad flight back to New England, a little party went and hunted up the bodies of near relatives and carried them to a spot which is located next to Laycock's hotel and buried them. The little plot contained about one-eighth of an acre and the road now running back to the mountain runs over part of it, as the road formerly was but a narrow lane. The corner lot below the hotel is over what the street does not cover.

After the settlers came back they used this plot for the burying ground for the families in that section and it was called the Eomig (pronounced Emmig) burying ground. It was used until about 1800, when Thomas Bennett gave a plot at Forty Fort for the Forty Fort grave yard. After this time the little plot at Wyoming was unused and uncared for. It grew up with briars and the few old, rudely-carved head stones became lost to sight in the vegetation, while the sunken graves became pools. The plot never had a fence and was

reverted as a common. It has been in the possession of Jesse B. Schooley since about 1850 and he claims title by having occupied it twenty-one years. Most of the dead were never removed and few people, as they pass over this spot, know that they are walking over graves where our forefathers sleep, forgotten in forgotten graves. None of the histories record the fact.

Mrs. Polen showed me an old tin lantern that Thomas Bennett carried in the early days, and a pewter platter that was buried with the dishes in the fort in a chest belonging to Thomas Bennett that was hid in the sand along the river until the settlers returned. The chest is now in the possession of William Myers and should be given to the Historical Society. It has on it the letters T. B., the initials of its owner.

I give this story as it was given to me, without comments. Thomas Bennett owned six hundred acres of land, reaching from the mountain to the river, extending from Tuttle's Creek to what is now Vaughn's Corner.

The descendants of the old stock of Bennetts, who were Thomas and Ishmael, who came here from New England, are numerous. Ishmael was my great-great-grandfather, and Thomas was the same relation to the present generation of the Myers family, though this has nothing to do with the grave yard.

#### HISTORIC HOTEL BURNED.

Phoenixville, Oct. 21, 1895.—The old Seven Stars tavern in East Vincent Township, about six miles west of this place, with the stables, was burned this evening. The Seven Stars tavern was built long before the Revolution, and it was a famous stopping place for travelers going from Philadelphia to Baltimore. Washington and his generals often stopped at the Seven Stars. Near by is a monument that marks the graves of many soldiers of the Revolution, who died in the old Pike Island Church when it was used as a hospital.

#### SEVERAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

A recent important event at Utica, N. Y., was the laying of a corner stone for a building for the Onelida County Historical Society. It is the splendid gift of Mrs. Helen Munson Williams, whose husband was one of the founders of the society, nineteen years ago. The society is fortunate not only in coming

into possession of a fine permanent home, but in having as its leading spirit such an enthusiastic historian as Gen. Charles W. Darling, its corresponding secretary.

That people are interested in their local historical societies is shown by the fact that a few weeks ago the Bucks County Historical Society held a meeting which was attended by at least a thousand persons. The exercises were held on the top of Buckingham Mountain, the assemblage being the guests of Col. Henry D. Paxson, who had made elaborate preparations for the event. Several interesting papers on historical subjects were read.

Gen. C. W. Darling, corresponding secretary of the Onelda Historical Society, has sent a parchment in Hebrew found in the tomb of Absalom, a monolith cut in the solid rock, and yet standing in the valley of Jehoshaphat. This parchment scroll contains the book of Esther, in Hebrew, without the points, and the scroll bears evidence of extreme age. The characters are perfect and written evidently with great care as well as skill, and the ends of the cylinder upon which the scroll is rolled are turned apparently by a lathe. The lathe was known in early times, and its invention has been ascribed to Theodore of Samos, 740 B. C.

#### VALUABLE HISTORICAL PUBLICATION.

The American Historical Register (the organ of the patriotic-hereditary societies), for October, has an attractive table of contents. A local feature that has been running through several numbers is a series of articles by Mrs. Mary Jenkins Richart (whose husband formerly published the Pittston Gazette) her subject being the traditions of Jenkins Fort, which of course gives her opportunity to weave in a good deal of Wyoming Valley history.

The historic tour of Lafayette through the United States in 1824 is continued. This number tells, with scores of appropriate illustrations, of his trip up the Hudson, and visits to West Point, Newburg, Albany, Troy, etc. Maj. J. G. Rosengarten gives much that is new about Gen. Comte de Rochambeau, illustrating his entertaining article with numerous portraits. Some of the monthly returns of the adjutant of the 1st Regiment Pennsylvania Line, 1782, are printed for the first time and show much information

that is curious. An interesting sketch of Gen. Adair, a poem by H. H. Harrison, and many pages of news of the patriotic societies make up this very readable number, the frontispiece of which is the insignia of the Society of the Cincinnati, done in proper colors and embossed. The Register is published at 120 South 6th street, Phila.

#### DEATH OF MRS. H. B. HILLMAN.

[Daily Record, Jan. 6, 1896.]

Mrs. Josephine Hillman, the beloved wife of H. Baker Hillman of 81 South Franklin street, died at 11:30 last night. On Dec. 14 she suffered a stroke of apoplexy, and was making a good recovery when a second attack yesterday morning rendered her unconscious, and she passed away in that condition. The news of Mrs. Hillman's death will be received with genuine sorrow. She was a woman of many virtues, and since she came to this city had gathered about her a circle of warm friends, who loved her for her genuine worth, and esteemed her for the many acts of Christian charity with which she brightened the lives of others. She leaves to mourn her a husband and two sons, Fred and George, and a sister, Cornelia E. Hillman, who resided with her. Another son, the eldest, Harry, died in 1886 at the age of 20. He was a particularly bright and promising young man, and his death was a crushing blow to his parents. He was a student at the Wilkes-Barre Academy at the time, and in order to perpetuate his memory his father endowed the Harry Hillman Academy perpetually.

Mrs. Hillman was 59 years of age. Her maiden name was Josephine A. Hillman, daughter of Joseph Hillman, of Nazareth, Pa., and later of Easton, where he served as sheriff of Northampton County. On Feb. 19, 1862, she was married to H. Baker Hillman, and the union was one of the happiest. Mr. Hillman is one of the most prominent citizens of Luzerne County. He was born at Mauch Chunk, April 24, 1834, and has been engaged in the coal business since reaching manhood. He is also president of the Harry Hillman Academy, a director of the People's Bank; secretary and director of the Vulcan Iron Works; vice president and director of the Glen Summit Hotel Co., and a director of the Electric Light Co. In 1871 he was a councilman in this city.

The thirty-four years of married life of Mr. and Mrs. Hillman have been

marked by the serenest conjugal affection. The death of the mother darkens the home to-day. She has gone to her beloved son, and the tears that fall unbidden from the eyes of the husband and children lose much of their bitterness when they realize that she is with that son for whom her mother-heart ached during the long years. And the friends as they gather about to look their last upon the sleeping form may well say that a woman lies dead before them whose life work has made the world better and whose passing leaves vacant a place which cannot easily be filled.

#### A PECULIAR FIND.

[Hazleton Sentinel, Dec. 5, 1895.]

Much interest was excited among the residents of East Diamond avenue by a discovery which Daniel Gallagher and Michael Ward made. While the pupils attending No. 3 school were leaving for home, Ward, who was coming from the direction of the breaker, noticed one of the children stumble in the field. Upon reaching the place he saw that there was a hole of peculiar shape. Gallagher, who was with him, came up by this time and together they began to dig. A wooden box two feet square was encountered. The top had rotted away and the earth fell into the space, the boy's foot caused a small cave. The young men were deeply interested in the find and laid bare the entire box. Upon examining the inside of it they found a small tin box six inches square. The lid was easily cut away, and the sight which met the gaze of the young men greatly astonished them. On a bed of down, a pair of earrings, a finger ring, a locket, and a child's shoe. The box and the contents were given to the teacher, John O'Donnell, who now has them in his possession. The rumor of the find soon circulated and many are the explanations which are being heard.

#### DEATH OF GEORGE A. PEHLE.

Few men in Luzerne County were better known than George A. Pehle, who died Oct. 16, 1895, at his home in Warrior Run of typhoid fever.

He was born in Wilkes-Barre, and by industry and ambition raised himself to considerable prominence. Mr. Pehle was once a bootblack and newsboy in this city. Later he entered the store of Peacock & Lafferty, where he entered the drug business. He has been a resident of Warrior Run for over twenty

years, where he has been engaged in the mercantile and drug business. He was the first postmaster in that place, being appointed by President Grant. The postoffice is named after him. He was the first charter member of Rhys Lodge 5, Independent Order of Good Templars, urer, as well as having passed through the other chairs. He was a deacon of Nanticoke Presbyterian Church for several years, walking twice every Sunday from Warrior Run. Since his marriage he has embraced the Baptist faith. He has been the superintendent of the Union Sunday School for the past fifteen years. He leaves a wife and one daughter, Deborah. His two sisters, for whom he has always cared, also survive.

In the Prohibition party Mr. Pehle was looked upon as one of its most prominent members in this section, and was frequently honored with the nomination for important offices. In church work he labored zealously, and did more than any other man for the up building of the Baptist Church in Warrior Run. His characteristics were such as commended him to the good will and esteem of his fellow men, and the memory he leaves is one that will be cherished.

#### DEATH OF WILLIAM SLOCUM.

On Saturday, Oct. 19, 1895, at his home in Exeter Borough, occurred the death of William Slocum, aged 66 years, of heart disease, one of the best known men in this section of the county. Mr. Slocum followed the occupation of market gardener and was about his work when taken ill.

Mr. Slocum was born in the old Slocum homestead at Exeter, Jan. 9, 1829, and was 66 years of age. He was a son of Layton and Grateful Slocum. He studied at Wyoming Seminary, kept a store in Pittston for a short time and in 1851 went to California, attracted there by the gold excitement. In 1854 he returned East and was employed for five years in Fuller's drug store at Scranton and in 1864 was an officer in the recruiting service at that place. He married Mary, daughter of Abel Hoyt of Osceola, N. Y., and they have lived in Exeter for many years. He was a member of Dr. Parke's church in West Pittston. His grandfather was the second sheriff of Luzerne county when it included the territory comprised in several counties now adjoining. His widow and one son, W. G. Slocum, survive, also a brother, Senator James Slocum, and sister, Mrs. Frances Oakford.

#### DEATH OF ANDREW JACKSON RASMUS.

Andrew Jackson Rasmus, aged 51 years, died at his home in Ashley at 2 o'clock on the morning of Oct. 21, 1895, after an illness of ten months of cancer of the face. The remains were taken to Dorrance Corners, where interment was made.

He was born June 1, 1844, in Columbia County, and for the past twenty-four years has resided in Ashley. In his early days he was driver in the employ of the government. He enlisted in a regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers Feb. 20, 1865, receiving his discharge Aug. 17 of the same year at Lucyville, Kentucky.

#### INDIAN RELICS BEING DISCOVERED.

Maj. J. Roberts, Jr., is discovering many traces of that "vanishing race" in grading the plot of ground he recently purchased on Carey avenue, near Division street. A few feet below the surface the jaw bone of an Indian was unearthed, also a lot of blue beads, rings and arrow heads, which the aborigines no doubt prized highly. The lower part of the city was an Indian burying ground a hundred years or so ago, and is no doubt strewn with the bones of poor Lo. A couple of skeletons are also being unearthed.—[Daily Record, Oct. 24, 1895.

#### DEATH OF MRS. COONS.

On Saturday, Oct. 26, 1895, at her home, 53 North Washington street, occurred the death of Mrs. Hannah, wife of Joseph Coons, after an illness of three weeks of paralysis. Death came suddenly, but she fell painlessly asleep, and the ending of her long life was a peaceful benediction.

Mrs. Coons was born in Neuhaus, Bavaria, March 28, 1815, and came to America in 1837. On Sept. 19, 1840, she was united in marriage with Joseph Coons, the ceremony taking place in this city.

Five daughters and four sons were born: Mrs. Carrie Williams, Mrs. Abraham Kline of this city, Mrs. Henry Tuchman of Germany, Mrs. Max Rosenbluth and Miss Emma Coons, also of this city; David J. Coons of this city, Samuel J., who died here in 1883; Willard F., of Nanticoke, and Joseph S. of the firm of J. S. Coons & Co. of Public Square.

Joseph Coons, her husband, was one of the pioneer merchants of Wilkes-Barre. He started in business on Public Square in 1839, and in 1863 established a business in Philadelphia. In 1877 he returned to this city and reopened a store and continued in business until four years ago, when he retired to spend the remainder of his days in the quiet and peace of his home. He is now 78 years of age, and one of our most highly honored citizens. He is the oldest Mason in Wilkes-Barre, having joined old Lodge 61 in 1842.

The real worth of such a woman as was Mrs. Coons is known only to those with whom she comes in contact. Those noble qualities that make of life one grand sweep of harmony she had in their fulness. Her deeds of charity were many, and her sweet disposition made her a favorite with all who knew her.

#### DEATH OF MISS FRANCES M. THOMAS.

Died, at Morristown, N. J., Frances Mary, daughter of the late Abraham Thomas of Wilkes-Barre. For the past twenty years she has lived with her sister, Latona Alden Thomas, at Wyoming cottage in Morristown, named in honor of their early home, in a quaint little cottage replete with relics of ye olden time.

The remains were brought here for burial on Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1895, to rest with her ancestors. She was a lineal descendant of John Alden in the seventh generation, of John Mason in the eighth generation, of John Jameson and Lazarus Stewart in the third generation, names distinguished in our colonial and revolutionary history.

#### DEATH OF MRS. MARY E. DORAN.

A life of 88 years full of the sunshine of noble deeds was closed Monday, Nov. 4, 1895, when Mrs. Mary Eyre Doran of West Market street passed into the peaceful sleep of death. Her last moments seemed to foretell a happiness that passeth understanding. To the following children she leaves a blessed heritage more to be prized than the wealth of the world: James S. Doran, of Philadelphia, Ellen D. Bowdle of Cincinnati, Susan E., Anna M. and Elizabeth E. of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. R. A. Hutchison of Kingston.

Mrs. Doran was born in Philadelphia in 1807, and married William S. Doran,

who died in Wilkes-Barre in March, 1873. She was a relative of the noted novelist, J. Fenimore Cooper, and her father, Isaac Eyre, was of the well known firm of shipbuilders of Philadelphia, Eyre & Landell. Mr. and Mrs. Doran came to Wyoming Valley in 1852 and moved to Wilkes-Barre from a farm about twenty-five years ago. Mrs. Doran's ancestors were prominent in the religious sect known as the Society of Friends.

Those who knew Mrs. Doran will ever cherish her memory. Her purpose and aim in life seem to have been to cast sunshine about her and her heart and hands were ever held out in aid of distressed humanity. Her nature was in unison with all that is good and true and noble and her life stands out as a shining example of such high ideals, that others may gather inspiration to emulate it.

#### LOWEST IN SEVENTY YEARS.

Hudson Owen of Berwick is now about 85 years old. He has been superintendent of the Pennsylvania Canal Co. for over sixty years and for about seventy years has made it a practice to marking a certain stone in the river every year at low water time. He says the river is one and one-half inches lower this year than any year during his observation.—(Daily Record, Oct. 31, 1895.

#### DEATH OF GENERAL TRAFFIC MANAGER TAYLOR.

John Taylor, general traffic manager of the Lehigh Valley R. R., died on Saturday, Nov. 2, 1895, at his home in Bethlehem, from a paralytic stroke. Two years ago he suffered his first stroke and spent several months in Europe. Feeling recuperated, he resumed work upon his return, and enjoyed fairly good health until he was again stricken down. With his family at his bedside, he passed away peacefully. Thomas Taylor and Mrs. E. H. Chase of Wilkes-Barre were brother and sister of Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor had a world-wide acquaintanceship. He was born of English parents in Wilkes-Barre, Jan. 16, 1832, attended the schools of town and obtained such an education as boys got in the country schools of fifty years ago. He left home early, and obtained a position in a hardware store in New York city, but desiring a more active life, applied to L. F. Chapman, who had been placed

in charge of one of the engineer corps engaged in construction of the Lehigh Valley R. R., and secured the position of rodman. This was late in the summer of 1853. Mr. Taylor remained with his corps until the road was completed in September, 1855.

Mr. Taylor's activity and affable manners made him many friends and attracted the attention of the management of the road and he was put in charge of the Mauch Chunk station, the northern terminus of the road, where he was installed as freight and passenger agent, remaining there some years, gaining steadily the confidence of the officers. He was made general freight agent of the company in 1862. When the railroad began to spread north and south, east and west, and a man was required to meet with the freight agents of its various connecting railroads and arrange freight and passenger tariffs, covering the entire country, Mr. Taylor was selected as general traffic manager. In a few years he became universally known and respected. When the Philadelphia & Reading R. R. leased the Lehigh Valley the president, Mr. McLeod, made it a condition that Mr. Taylor was to remain in the service. When the lease fell Mr. Taylor returned to his first employer, and remained until his death one of its most valued officers.

Mr. Taylor in 1858 married Miss Anna Esser of Mauch Chunk, daughter of the late George Esser. From this union came a family of three daughters and six sons, who, with his widow, survive him. Mr. Taylor continued to reside in Mauch Chunk until the summer of 1891, when he removed to Bethlehem.

#### FATHER OF THE LATE JOHN TAYLOR.

The father of John Taylor, Lehigh Valley traffic manager, who died in Bethlehem a few days ago, was Edmund Taylor, a prominent Wilkes-Barrean, and was commissioned associate judge of Luzerne County January 15, 1850. He emigrated to this country in 1818, locating in this city the same year, where he remained until his death in 1881. Edmund Taylor was married December 28, 1828, to Mary Ann Willson of Connecticut. Judge Taylor was also treasurer of Luzerne County from 1857 to 1859. By trade he was a saddler and carried on that trade in this city from 1828 to within a few years of his death.



### HER EIGHTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY.

A surprise party was held at the home of Rachel Pace in Larksville October 30, 1895, to celebrate Mrs. Pace's eighty-sixth birthday anniversary. Mrs. Pace is one of the descendants of Peggy Lark, the oldest resident who ever lived in Larksville. Mrs. Lark died at the age of 106 years, and Larksville takes its name from her. There were four generations present at the party. Money and handsome presents were brought and a general good time was had.

### THE LATE EMILY CIST BUTLER.

At a meeting of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution held Oct. 28, 1895, the committee on resolutions—Stella D. Reynolds, Ellen Wright Graeme, Augusta D. Farnham—submitted the following, which was adopted:

This chapter has suffered a painful loss by the recent death of one of our best loved members, Miss Emily Cist Butler, who died on the 18th day of August, 1896, after a long illness, during which her friends had many alternations of hope and despair as to her recovery. It is with peculiar sadness that we are affected by Miss Butler's death. She was not only one of the charter members of the chapter, but she may be considered as being, in some respects, its originator here, as it was through her and by her that local attention was at first directed to the subject of its organization. So unobtrusive, however, so shrinking from anything like publicity, was her nature, that she could not bring herself to the point of taking prominent action in the work and she gladly passed it into the hands of others to carry it through to consummation.

Aside from these considerations, there are others, pertaining to Miss Butler's personal qualities which require special remark. Her unobtrusiveness had already been mentioned and while this, in the eye of strangers, might be regarded as being almost a negative quality, in the estimation of those who well knew her it was one of the virtues of her character. It was not from want of interest or sympathy that she refrained from taking prominent part in active work. She was full of both. It was from her feeling that others were better able and could accomplish more. Her heart went out in all good and charitable work, but it was in the private relationship of "friend" that she appeared pre-eminent. Nobody could be truer; none more steadfast; none more sincere. Loyalty to friendship was of the very essence of her nature, but it was not a blind loyalty, for

she had a love of truth, with sincerity and modest candor in its expression. She was, moreover, of devout and Christian spirit. She had grown up in this community and died on the very spot of ground on which she had always lived and was born. It is no wonder, therefore, that, with these traits of character and belonging, as she did, to one of the historic families of the valley, her circle of friendship should be large and her personal worth be so well known and appreciated. It is most fitting that we who survive her should lay this tribute upon her bier. We therefore recommend the adoption of the sentiments expressed by this memorial and also the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the members of Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution have learned with deep regret of the death of their fellow member, Miss Emily Cist Butler. Miss Butler was a valued and loved member of the chapter and her memory will always be fondly cherished by it.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, with the accompanying expression of the sentiment of the chapter, be furnished to the family of our deceased friend, and that we tender to them our condolence upon the sad loss which they have sustained.

Resolved, That these resolutions, with the accompanying memorial be published in the leading city papers.

### WELLES FAMILY REUNION.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 9, 1895.]

The following taken from the Towanda Republican refers to some of the most prominent families in this vicinity. Those mentioned were all born in Wyalusing, the old homestead, now occupied by George H., one of the brothers of this distinguished family: "Matthias Hollenback Welles of Elmira, N. Y., George Hollenback Welles of Wyalusing, Raymond M. Welles of Towanda, John Welles Hollenback and Edward Welles of Wilkes-Barre, met at the residence of R. M. Welles in this place on Monday last, the occasion being the 70th birthday anniversary of one of the number. Rev. Henry H. Welles of Forty Fort was unable to be present on account of illness. Of the six of the family four have attained or passed the age of 70 years. The father of the Welles brothers was the late Charles F. Welles, who at the time of the organization of this county was appointed prothonotary, register and recorder and clerk of the Orphans' Court, which position he filled with credit for several terms."

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 9, 1895.]

In order to awaken an interest in the work of the Wyoming Historical Society it has been arranged to give a series of informal socials in the handsome building which the organization is so fortunate as to occupy for a home. The first of these occasions was last evening, and there was a large and interested gathering. The president, Judge Stanley Woodward was in the chair and no business was transacted, the meeting being purely social. Judge Woodward recalled the modest organization of the society and some of its later vicissitudes, comparing them with the very encouraging and promising present.

A paper was read by Dr. F. C. Johnson descriptive of a Moravian vesper and a visit to Nazareth, Northampton County. The vesper is the annual meeting of the Moravian Historical Society, and it is held every September in the Whitefield house, a venerable structure begun a century and a half ago by George Whitefield, the famous evangelist of the middle of the last century. Whitefield had gone to Georgia in company with John Wesley, they being sent out as missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Owing to the outbreak of the war between Spain and England, which imperilled the work of missions in Georgia (Wesley, who had been deeply influenced in his theological views by his contact with the Moravians) returned to England in 1738, in which year Methodism, as we know it historically was born. The next year his companion, Whitefield, went North in company with his Moravian friends, they settling in Pennsylvania. Both these men had a profound influence on the religious life of both England and America during the year that followed. Though differing materially in certain doctrinal points, they cut loose from the Established Church and played an important part in laying the foundations of what was destined to become the great Methodist Church. Whitefield, or Whitfield, as he is called, had it in his mind to establish an orphanage for negro children, and he accordingly engaged the Moravians to erect a large building for him on a five thousand acre plot which he had bought at Nazareth. He did not carry out his purpose and sold the building to the Moravians, who

have occupied it ever since. It has for some years been the permanent home of the Moravian Historical Society, and in it are displayed the portraits, relics, curios, coins, etc., of that organization.

In September of each year the annual meeting is held in this venerable and ivy covered stone structure, and it is called a vesper. The large interior is occupied by parallel rows of tables, spread with white linen and covered with various dainty viands, conspicuous among which is Moravian sugar cake and coffee. The former is a delicious article, its brown and buttered crust being plentifully sprinkled with cinnamon and sugar. The sexes sit apart, after the ancient custom. After taking place at table all rise and sing a grace, the bishop presiding. After the vesper meal, which is enlivened by pleasant social intercourse, the plates are pushed back—banquet fashion—and the men light their cigars and the women busy themselves at knitting, embroidery or needlework. While thus pleasantly engaged historical papers are read. The occasion is a novel and interesting one and the day is an important one in Nazareth.

The essayist said that at the vesper he sat alongside the Rev. Robert de Schweinitz, who was full of reminiscences about Wilkes-Barre boys who were fellow pupils of his upwards of 60 years ago—now all dead: N. Miller Horton, 1830; L. D. Shoemaker, 1831; William H. Butler and Thomas Brodrick, 1832. The school at Nazareth is a venerable one, dating back to 1755. It used to have a good many pupils from Luzerne County before our own excellent preparatory schools were established.

Dr. Johnson's paper then touched upon the early history of Nazareth and the important part it played in the French and Indian wars of the middle of the last century, its Rose Tavern having a place in colonial history. It was an asylum for fugitives from Indian barbarities on the Susquehanna and Delaware. Its sign bore a red rose, the emblem of the baronial fealty of the owners to the Penn family, for Nazareth was a barony and its owners were required to pay the Penn family or their heirs a red rose in June of every year. The Moravians still acknowledge the obligation if demanded, though it is no longer demanded. Mention was made by the essayist of the old burying ground at Nazareth where the dead are buried in the order of their departure, on the

principle that death brings all to a common level. Incidental reference was made to the Easter and Christmas festivals and other Moravian observances.

#### THE PENN ESTATE LITIGATION.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 6, 1895.]

Some months ago the Record published a history of the claim of Reverdy Penn Davis, of Washington, D. C., as an heir to the William Penn estate. Reference was also made to the claim of William Dugald Stuart, who claims to be the sole heir, for the ownership of a square of ground in the city of Easton once belonging to the Penn family. The Easton case has just been disposed of by the Supreme Court of the United States. This tribunal reverses the Circuit Court of the United States, on the ground that while Stuart was described in the Circuit Court proceedings as a citizen of London, England, his alienage was not shown. This action of the Supreme Court throws the case back into the Circuit Court, and if the defect is so trivial as it would appear, Mr. Stuart stands a good show of being a winner yet. Readers of the Record will remember that he also lays claim to several tracts of land in Luzerne County, as an heir of the Penns. Following is a formal transcript of the decision, which will interest persons who are affected by the litigation:

Supreme Court of the United States.  
No. 161 October Term, 1894.  
William Stewart, Plaintiff in Error,  
vs. The City of Easton and County of Northampton.  
Circuit Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

(January 21st, 1895.)

The Chief Justice: Plaintiff in error is described throughout the record as "a citizen of London, England," and the defendants as "corporations of the State of Pennsylvania." As the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court confessedly depended on the alienage of plaintiff in error, and that fact was not made affirmatively to appear, the judgment must be reversed at the cost of plaintiff in error, and the cause be remanded to the Circuit Court with leave to apply for amendment and for further proceedings.

Judgment reversed.

#### SOME OLD PEOPLE.

[Scranton Republican, Dec. 12, 1895.]

At LaGrange, Wyoming County, the other day three old gentlemen met whose aggregate ages figured up 240

years. They were Gen. John Jackson, aged 84; David Osterhout, 79, and Jeremiah Osterhout, 77 years. The oldest person in Tunkhannock is Phoebe Osterhout, who is in her 85th year. Lemon, the adjoining township, has three old people, Orval Ball, 88 years; Hallstead Stark, 84, and Francis Patterson, also 84 years of age. The old gentleman Ball is the youngest of them all, having the other day ridden bare back seven miles to town and transacted business, and mounting his colt without any help went riding back again. Mrs. Seth Stark, who died recently in Nicholson Township, was in her 80th year.

#### EARLY CHURCH HISTORY.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 13, 1895.]

The course of three lectures under the auspices of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, opened Tuesday evening in the parish building of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, in the presence of a good sized audience. Two other lectures by the same gentleman, Rev. W. G. Andrews, D. D., of Guilford, Conn., will follow, Nov. 22 and Nov. 26. The lecturer, who is a classmate of Rev. Dr. Hodge, spoke here last July before the Sons of the Revolution, and is an accomplished student of history, and the lectures of the present course are those prepared by him for delivery in New England under the auspices of the University Extension.

The characteristics of the Great Awakening of 1740 were given, the change which religious opinion underwent from dependence upon good works to dependence upon faith in God, from the idea that salvation could be earned to the idea that it was a heavenly gift, from the idea that God was a terrible and cruel judge to the idea of his fatherhood. Mention was made of the narrowness of conversion, the arousing of men's fears and the bringing them under the influence of excitement, and the seeking, not so much a higher life as a longer creed. The speaker said the great revival had a kind of withering effect, from which Connecticut did not recover for sixty years. Allusion was made to the labors of John Wesley and George Whitefield and the protest of Jonathan Edwards, the greatest revivalist of his time, against undue excitement, and who advocated that what was wanted was experimental religion rather than feeling. The speaker thought it strange

that his strong appeal should not have saved New England from the emotional idea. People were turned into spiritual hypochondriacs, forever fingering their pulses.

The Church of England in the colonies was pretty fully considered. There were congregations in all the colonies, but spiritual life was sluggish, particularly in Virginia and Maryland. In the latter the work was greatly hampered by the presence of unworthy and ungodly rectors, religious adventurers, who had left England in order to get away from the restraint of their bishops, and who were exercising a pernicious influence in the colonies. The lecturer then traced the work of that great organization, the Society of the Propagation of the Gospel, and its influence in remedying matters by supplying men actuated with pure missionary zeal. The church in the colonies was under the direction of commissaries. Mention was made of the missionary labors of John Sargent and David Brainard. The Episcopal Church furnished what the children of the Puritans wanted—the sacraments. An interesting account was given of the conflicts over the matter of the sacraments, the adoption of the half-way covenant and the gradual unsettlement of theological ideas on these subjects, and the friction between the Episcopal Church (which was coming to be looked upon as a foreign institution) and the other religious bodies around it.

#### DEATH OF MRS. RUTH B. HILLARD

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 20, 1895.]

The announcement of the death of Mrs. Ruth Butler Hillard at Atlantic City early Tuesday morning has caused deep sorrow among all her friends in this city. Mrs. Hillard had been ill for some time, although her ailment was not considered of serious consequence until last summer. Some time ago she left for Atlantic City in the hope that her health might be benefited and just before she left she was able to entertain her friends.

Her daughters, Mrs. Robert Sayre, Jr., and Miss Josephine Hillard, and her son, L. B. Hillard, were with her when she died.

Mrs. Hillard's husband, William S. Hillard, who died several years ago, was a son of Oliver Hillard. E. G. Butler of this city is a brother of deceased and Mrs. Eugene Ayres of Audenried, a sister. The late Zebulon

Butler was a brother.

Mrs. Hillard was a daughter of the late Lord Butler, one of the most prominent men of his time. He did much important work as a civil engineer on the old canal and on the Lehigh Valley R. R. from White Haven to the top of the mountain, and was also a pioneer coal operator at Pittston with his brother, Col. John L. Butler, and his brother-in-law, Judge Mallory. He died Nov. 27, 1861, in the brick house now occupied by Brown's book store, on Public Square, which was built by his father-in-law, Joseph Slocum, in 1807 and was one of the first if not the first brick building erected in Luzerne County, and the first three-story building in the county. He was a member of the Wilkes-Barre council, a trustee of Wyoming Seminary and was prominent in the First M. E. Church. His wife was Abi S. Slocum, who was descended from a family distinguished in the exciting incidents and hardships of early Wyoming. The Butlers of Wyoming Valley were descended from Zebulon Butler, who was born in Connecticut in 1731 and came to Wyoming Valley in 1769. He, as well as some of his descendants, was distinguished in military life and his name is often mentioned in the early history of Wyoming.

The husband of deceased, William S. Hillard, was a well-known business man in this city. Mrs. Hillard was a woman of many graces of character. She inherited the energy and other traits that made many of her ancestors so prominent and combined with these the qualities of a true and noble womanhood.

#### A DISTINGUISHED ANCESTRY.

There is living in Tunkhannock a granddaughter of Gen. Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States, who did the country such valuable service in the dark days of the revolution. Her name is Mrs. S. M. Meredith Graham, wife of Capt. W. G. Graham.

The Record recently printed a letter from Mrs. Graham in which she gave a history of interesting incidents in the life of her illustrious grandfather.

The Grahams of Tunkhannock recently received invitation cards, accompanied by a warm personal letter, from Mrs. Graham's cousin, Gen. Meredith Read, to attend the marriage of the general's daughter, Miss Marie Draphine Meredith Read, to Count Max de Foras, whose civil marriage took place in Paris, France, Nov. 4, the religious ceremony following the next day at the Church of St. Philippe du Route.

The Reads are an Anglo-American house of antiquity and distinction. One of them married a cousin of Queen Elizabeth. Col. John Read purchased large manoral estates in Maryland and Delaware, and was a prominent figure in colonial and revolutionary periods, contributing largely to the foundation and subsequent consolidation of the government of the United States. The Reads with their relatives have furnished seven signers to the Declaration of Independence, five signers of the constitution of the United States and five signers of the "Compact" on board the Mayflower in 1620. Senator John Read married Gen. Samuel Meredith's daughter, Martha Meredith. He was a son of the signer of the Declaration of Independence, and distinguished himself as a leader of his party, held various high offices, and opened his purse and exposed his life during the yellow fever plague in Philadelphia in 1793. His oldest son, Chief Justice John Meredith Read, distinguished as a jurist and statesman, was eminent in public life for fifty years, and was prominently mentioned in 1860 for the Republican nomination for the presidency of the United States. Gen. Meredith Read is his only son, and is now living in Paris, France. He was consul general of the United States at Paris during the Franco-German war, and for his distinguished services during the siege and the commune received the thanks of the French and German governments and of the President of the United States in his annual message to Congress. He represented the American government at the court of Athens for seven years, rendering important service to the king and to the Hellenic nation, for which he was created a knight of the Grand Cross of the Redeemer.

Mrs. Graham of Tunkhannock has been in feeble health for some time past, being confined to the house much of the time, and was, of course, unable to attend the wedding. She has been interesting herself in an effort to secure the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of the first treasurer of the United States, whose grave, near Honesdale, Wayne County, has been allowed to go almost unmarked, and hopes when the condition of affairs is understood by Gen. Meredith Read, to secure his cooperation in behalf of their common ancestor.

#### DIED IN CLINTON COUNTY.

Lyman Flick, a former resident of Dallas, died at North Bend, Clinton county, Pa., recently. Mr. Flick was born near Dallas and resided there until the war broke out, when he enlisted in Capt. Jack Rice's company and left Dallas on Sept. 1, 1861, for the front, and served during the war in Co. F, 53d Pa. Vols. — [Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 27, 1895.

#### WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

##### No. 3.

The following tender lines are taken from the Wilkes-Barre Advocate of fifty or more years ago. Does anybody know the author?

For the Advocate.

TO E. L. T.

I've read of peris, fays and sprites,  
And such like elfin things,  
That sport the sweet mid-summer nights,  
Aroud their grassy rings;  
And I have heard a poet rant,  
As though his lady-love  
Had just come down, an emigrant,  
From some bright world above.

But in my homely way of thought,  
These extra-mundane creatures  
Have fewer charms, tho' fancy wrought,  
Than some with human features;  
For earthly beauty (such as thine)  
Needs no celestial fixins;  
And when we call the girls divine,  
We only mean they're vixens.

It's said the seraphs ring their harps  
To gentle themes above;  
But can they come the flats and sharps  
That chequer woman's love?  
I reckon not. They can't begin  
With living flesh and blood,  
To win a heart—to sew or spin,  
Or cook a steak as good.

No, no, dear girl—thy sunny smile,  
So life-like, warm and real,  
Out-charms the blandest fairy wile,  
In all the realms ideal.  
And wert thou more than what thou art,—  
A lassie young and fair,  
With winning brow and gentle heart,  
You'd find the beaux more rare.

—J. D. G.

[Since the above was printed the Record has learned from Miss Mary Bowman that the author was Dr. Thomas Drake, a young practicing physician here. The initials "J. D. G." stood for a nickname borne by him when a boy, "John D. Grimes."]

#### STRANGE INDIAN DANCES.

Salamanca, N. Y., Sept. 21, 1895.—As the harvest season approaches and the farmer begins to think of his harvest supper and the good times and the good things that are to come at the season of the "harvest home," just so the dusky red men living on the Cattaraugus Reservation begin at this season of the year to look forward to their green-corn dance, that annual celebration in which young and old, squaw and brave, join together.

Down among the hills of Cattaraugus County, through which the Allegany

River winds in long curves, the Seneca Nation of Indians has dwelt for centuries. Here was the home of the noted Mary Jimerson, and here have her descendants lived since her time in peaceful seclusion. Very little of the old fighting stock remains, although sometimes you may see one of the older generation travel about, clad in a long robe and wearing moccasins upon his feet. Perhaps he has also a turkey feather stuck in his hat, and struts about among his brethren, the envy of all the younger "bucks." He can tell them stories of battles fought in his younger days, and, if he can speak English, his white brethren are often regaled with hair-raising stories of bloodshed and massacre that he witnessed when he was young.

Although the older generation is fast passing away, and with their disappearance is coming a more intelligent and more thrifty class, the Seneca Indian has been found at all times to be especially tenacious in holding to the traditions of his nation. The Indian schools and the Indian churches have done inestimable good in raising the red men on the Cattaraugus Reservation. But there are customs among them that have their source in the religious ideas of the people that bid fair to last from year to year, while the Seneca Nation preserves its present republican form, and by far the most interesting of these is the Indian's "green-corn dance." No Indians live who can tell when this custom originated. It is an annual thanksgiving ceremony to their deity in return for the crops. No matter whether the harvests have been plentiful or scanty, the celebration is held. The Indian is proverbially a philosophical being, and neither rain nor snow disturbs his peace of mind. Consequently, it comes about that there is little danger of a miscarriage in this event.

The middle of September is the time usually set for the event. About two weeks before the date of the green-corn dance a courier fantastically dressed is sent throughout the length and breadth of the reservation to notify the people of the coming event. His coming is hailed with joy, and he is fasted and dined all along the route. Nothing in the possession of the Indians is too good for the distinguished visitor, and he is listened to with the greatest reverence and respect while he delivers his proclamation.

The green-corn dance on the Catta-

raugus Reservation is held each year at the council house at the town of Cornplanter. This place is about twelve miles from the town of Salamanca, and down the course of the Allegany River from the latter town. The council house is the building where the meetings in which the whole nation is interested are held. It is a plain building, or rectangular shape, with two stories, and has a row of benches extending around the whole of the interior. Other than this the building contains no furniture except what is carried there on the occasion of celebrations. The date of the event having been noised abroad, the Indians bring to the council house, a few days before the time set, whatever they deem necessary to make the feast complete. Some bring along a good fat dog, others corn, beans, cabbage, chickens, or whatever fancy leads them to select.

On the day set for the beginning of the celebration the whole tribe flocks to the house. About 1 o'clock in the afternoon the celebration begins. Inside of the building are gathered the more sedate of the Indians, while many remain outside, lolling about upon the grass or sitting on the fences. About the interior of the council house are seated the "squaws" and "bucks" of the tribe, the "squaws" at one end of the building and the "bucks" at the other. They sit solemnly in their places, the "bucks" making monosyllabic remarks to each other in their native tongue. As one enters, an Indian brother accosts him with the salutation, "Hus-kee-nuh," (How are you?) and he responds, "Yah-guh," (Very well.)

The exercises begin with addresses delivered by several of the older men of the tribe in the Indian dialect. Their remarks are listened to with great attention, and approbation is expressed by low grunts at frequent intervals. The speakers talk in a chant, and at various points in the addresses their looks and gestures are wild in the extreme. The addresses concluded, the men and women drop out of the expectant and listening attitude in which they were and the audience begins to disperse through the door and windows. It is a noticeable fact that during the last of the addresses the auditors are very restless, and fidget about in their seats, the women casting sidelong glances at some gay ribbon or string of beads

that another wears, and the men engaging in a low guttural conversation. The Indian loves a feast, and the amount which he eats is only limited by the amount that is set before him. The reason for this restlessness is thus seen. The feast which immediately precedes the green-corn dance is about to begin.

The Indians soon appear, each bringing a tin pail or some other small receptacle. In the centre of the room are four large caldron kettles. One of them is filled almost to the rim with cooked dog meat. The meat is immersed in an ocean of gravy, and this delicacy is especially pleasing to the palate of the red man. In another kettle is a compound of turnips, squash and other vegetables. Another kettle contains a cabbage stew with a liberal amount of gravy. In another kettle is the succotash, the Indians being almost as partial to this as to the dog meat. The "toastmaster," who is always an elder of the tribe, presides at the feast, and at first serves out the eatables to each man or woman who comes up. But at last, when the crowd becomes more importunate he allows them to help themselves. This each one does by thrusting his dish into the kettle and bringing out as much as it will hold. As soon as one of the tribe has received his allowance of food he goes out of the council house and lies in the shade of the bushes or of the building. When it is all eaten they settle back and sleep off the effects of their meal.

About sundown the people begin to collect in the council house for the dance. As soon as the arrangements are completed the musicians strike up. The orchestra consists of two men with a drum. The rattles are made by taking the horn of an ox, putting in some shot or pebbles, and plugging up the open end. Another favorite "rattle" is made by taking the body of a swamp turtle and dressing it. The neck is then stretched out and splints fastened around it to make the neck rigid. Some bullets or pebbles are put into the body, and then the skin is sewed up. The result is an excellent "rattle." The drum is made by stretching a piece of skin over a hoop about eight inches in diameter. The drumstick is a piece of wood with metal at the end, the metal being covered by a thick piece of skin. When the drum is struck a dull sound is thus produced.

The oldest man in the tribe, who still retains the old pagan ideas, leads the

dance. He is dressed in leggins and moccasins and his head is ornamented with feathers. He starts off in a circle about the players. As more and more of the braves and squaws join in the dance the circle becomes larger and larger. The musicians become warmed up in their work, and the dancers enter more into the spirit of the occasion. Their steady tramp, tramp, tramp around the orchestra becomes quicker, the leader gives out his long, piercing yell more often, and his followers join in more quickly. He executes more and more fancy steps. The musicians rise to their feet, and strain every muscle to keep the long procession dancing around in perfect line. Finally a long wail from the lips of the leader proclaims that this number is over, and the dancers retire to their seats to rest for another number. This is continued again and again until they are all thoroughly tired out and can dance no more. It is usually nearly daybreak when the leader rises and starts off the last dance, and in that time it has been necessary to change the musicians about many times. The same course has been pursued from year to year among the Indians on the reservation, and will, without doubt, be the last custom that will be lost by the Seneca Nation of Indians.—New York Times. [See p. 93.—Ed.]

#### EARLY WYOMING SETTLERS.

Mahlon S. Brink, who died in Smithville, Minnesota, Nov. 21, 1895, having formerly lived in New Jersey and Bethlehem, Pa., came from ancestors who figured prominently in early Wyoming.

His ancestors on his father's side emigrated from Holland more than 200 years ago and settled in the vicinity of Middletown, N. Y. During the revolution and the war of 1812 the Brinks took a prominent part in the defense of this country. His grandfather, Daniel Brink, moved with his large family from New York State to Wilkes-Barre, some time before the Indian troubles in Wyoming Valley. At the time of the Wyoming massacre Daniel Brink took part against the Indians. His wife made her escape by riding a horse from Wilkes-Barre, through the wilds, to Stroudsburg, carrying a child in her arms. One of the children, a girl, was made captive by the Indians, but subsequently rescued alive.

On his mother's side his grandfather, William Wright, emigrated from the

north of Ireland, settled in Philadelphia, and about 1783 he married Sarah Ann Osbourne, who was a native of Philadelphia, of Quaker descent. They subsequently moved to Wilkes-Barre, where they both taught school. This being about the time of the Indian troubles near Kingston, some of the family were killed by the Indians. Three of Mahlon Brink's mother's brothers on the Wright side were prominent in the United States army, as were their sons and sons-in-law.

#### GEOLOGY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

[Phila. Press, Nov. 18, 1895.]

The summary of the geology of Pennsylvania, which is now issuing from the State press, has reached volume III, part 1, which deals with the carboniferous formation. The most important feature of this volume is the report on the anthracite region of Pennsylvania by A. D. W. Smith, [now located in Wilkes-Barre, son of J. Bennett Smith] which is as exhaustive as this most valuable industry of the State could warrant. The figures that accompany the report are startling in their magnitude. Since 1820 820,362,995 tons of anthracite have been shipped from the mines in a production of 902,000,000 tons. It is estimated also that while 2,255,000,000 tons have been used up in getting out the coal shipped to market, there are still 17,245,000,000 tons left in the ground. These few figures give an idea of the vastness of the coal supply that overlies the Pocono formation of Pennsylvania. Mr. Smith's treatise covers the whole ground, and as it brings the work down to 1893 it makes the report of extra value.

#### DEATH OF MRS. JOHN B. SMITH.

Monday, Nov. 25, 1895, occurred the death of Mrs. Eveline Keeler Smith, wife of Hon. John B. Smith, one of the oldest and most widely known residents of the valley, at her home in Forty Fort, aged 70 years. The deceased had been quite feeble for the past year, but death was not expected. The previous Thursday, with her children and grandchildren about her she celebrated the seventieth anniversary of her birth and was in the best of spirits. On Saturday she was seized with a pain in her left side, in the region of the heart, and it continued to grow worse until the end came.

Mrs. Smith was a companionable lady

and a devout Christian. Early in life she identified herself with the M. E. Church and since then has always been a leading spirit in church work.

She was born in Keelersburg, Wyoming County, in 1825, and was a daughter of Asa Keeler of that place. She was married to Mr. Smith in 1850, being his second wife. They lived in Plymouth until 1867, when they removed to Forty Fort, where they have since resided. She is survived by a husband and two children, Miss May Virginia, who resides at home, and Mrs. Harvey Yeager of Forty Fort. There are also two step-children, R. N. Smith and Mrs. Dr. Rickard of Plymouth.

Mr. Smith, although in his seventy-seventh year, is still enjoying good health. He was born in Plymouth in 1819, where Smith's Opera House now stands. He started out in life a poor boy, but is now one of the largest real estate owners on the West Side. He takes a great interest in agricultural pursuits, and for a number of years has been a member of the National Agricultural Association.

#### FORMER WILKES-BARRE LADY DEAD.

Mrs. Frances N. Laverty, widow of William Laverty, died in Elizabeth, N. J., on Nov. 18, 1895.

Mrs. Laverty had been a resident of Elizabeth for years, and is mourned by a large circle of admiring friends, in whose esteem she held a prominent place. She was 74 years of age, and had survived her husband thirty years.

She is survived by three sons, all residents of Elizabeth, William K. Laverty, Cyrus G. Laverty and Charles D. Laverty.

Mrs. Laverty was the daughter of Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre seventy years ago, and sister of W. C. Gildersleeve, for many years a leading merchant of this city. She was born in the old stone house on River street, which was at the time occupied by her father as a parsonage, and still stands as a monument of what Wilkes-Barre once was. When at the age of 10 years Mrs. Laverty moved to New Jersey, where at the age of 19 she married. Her home since her marriage has been in Elizabeth, N. J., where her children were born and where she did her life work.



## AN ANCIENT CRUCIFIX.

An interesting relic was unearthed the other day on the tract of land at the lower end of the city now being laid out into lots by Maj. J. Roberts, Jr. It is a crucifix and was found in an Indian grave by Wm. G. Downs, who presented it to Col. W. J. Harvey. In the same grave with it were perhaps a quart of beads. The crucifix is apparently of brass, nearly two inches long. On one side is Christ on the cross, below is a skull and cross bones. On the other side is a female figure, probably the Virgin.

What a story this old relic would tell if it had the power of speech. How long ago it was buried there along with its aboriginal owner we can only conjecture. All Indians had abandoned the valley when the first white settlers arrived in 1769, which is 121 years ago, and the pioneers left no record of any Indian burying grounds in the valley. So this crucifix must antedate the first settlement many years. How did it come here? The Jesuit fathers were in Canada a century and a half before Wyoming Valley was settled, and their influence ramified all through New York and Pennsylvania. Was this dusky warrior who took his last sleep along the Susquehanna a convert to those intrepid French missionaries, or had he taken it from some enemy while taking the latter's scalp? or were these crucifixes sold among the tribes by hardy traders of whom we know two were in Wyoming Valley as early as 1737? These and other inquiries come to mind, but we can get no answer.

The land on which the crucifix was found was an extensive burying ground and many relics have been found thereabouts. Unfortunately they have not fallen into hands where they will be treasured, but have been carried away piece-meal. It is said all the skeletons lie with their head toward the west, and some have been found in a sitting posture. One skeleton was gigantic in size. It is hoped that when the novelty of possession is past that the owners will turn over their interesting finds to the Historical Society. Maj. Jacob Roberts found a fine string of blue beads, said to be made of Scotch stone.

## A LIKENESS OF THE LATE JUDGE ROSS.

There has been a perfect epidemic in the way of donating portraits to the Historical Society lately. A recent presentation is a crayon of the late Gen. William Sterling Ross, crayoned by George W. Leach, Jr., and presented to the Society by Hon. Charles A. Miner, one of the trustees, whose wife is a relative of the subject. The portrait is life-size and an excellent likeness.

Judge Ross was one of the pioneers in the organization of the Historical Society and it was he who gave the organization a big early boost nearly forty years ago by buying the Chambers collection of curiosities at a cost of \$2,000 and donating it to the Historical Society as a nucleus for its present splendid cabinet.

Judge Ross was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1802 and died here at the age of 66 years. His birth and death occurred in the same room of the same building—what used to be called the Pickering house, and more lately the Ross house. The building is now 108 years old, but does not look it. It was built by the famous Timothy Pickering in 1787, and from it John Franklin, the Connecticut leader was kidnapped by the Pennamites during the land war and carried captive into the Northern wilderness.

Though a college graduate (Princeton) Mr. Ross spent his life mainly in agricultural pursuits. He was much interested in local military affairs and passed through all the promotions until he became a brigadier general. For thirty years he was the acknowledged head of the volunteer system in Luzerne county. He was associate judge for several years and figured prominently in all the political and other activities of Wilkes-Barre. He was elected both Representative and Senator and became speaker of the Senate. He was a man of large charities and the Home for Friendless Children was helped by him to the extent of \$10,000. He left no children.

## WHITFIELD, THE REVIVALIST.

Rev. Dr. Andrews of Guilford, Conn., gave the second of his lectures at St. Stephen's Church Friday evening, Nov. 22, 1895. It was a continuation of the former lecture on the New England revival of 1740 and had to do especially with George Whitfield and the missionaries of the Society for the Propagation

of the Gospel. Dr. Andrews gave a vivid word painting of the life and character of the great revivalist of the last century. Though a wonderful orator he was strangely fanatical and intolerant, alienating himself from the Episcopal communion and accusing his brother missionaries of all kinds of wrong teaching to say nothing of charging them with downright vice and immortality. Dr. Andrews attributed his singular action to the inexperience of youth, he being only 24 years old at the time the conflict was at its height. The lecturer showed that Whitfield's charges were not sustained by the facts; that the missionaries sent out by the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel were to the extent of more than 90 per cent. godly men, the equal of their brethren in the other communions. Even Whitfield afterwards admitted that he had been misinformed though he never made much of an effort at repairing the wrongs which he had done to the reputation of his brethren

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#### THE ATHERTON REUNION.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Dec. 3, 1895.]

On Thursday last, at the home of H. F. Atherton, paymaster of the Delaware & Hudson Co. at Scranton, occurred one of those most enjoyable occasions, in the nature of an old-fashioned Thanksgiving family reunion and dinner, as already noted in the Record. The central and most revered personage of the occasion was the venerable J. H. Atherton, the father of the family, now in his 86th year, who came to Wyoming Valley from Vermont early in the forties, soon after, however, removing to Hyde Park, and thence to South Montrose, where he owned and tilled one of the finest farms in that section for over forty years, but during the past year has been living with his son, J. L. Atherton, of Scranton, his wife having died some thirty years ago. His descendants now living comprise six children—H. F. Atherton, the host; J. L. and B. B. Atherton, superintendents for the D. & H. Co.; Mrs. T. H. B. Lewis of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. David Sherer of South Montrose, and Mrs. H. T. Lake, of Binghamton, N. Y.; twenty-three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Of course the Athertons were very much in evidence at the reunion and very largely in the majority, the eleven people who have intermarried with them being a conspicuous minority. When, however,

the company came to view the elaborate spread of good things provided it was evident that one of this minority, the handsome and charming hostess, had contributed by far the largest part to the entertainment.

There was a profusion, delicately prepared and elegantly served, of all the components of a Thanksgiving feast, including as well the substantial which alone graced the tables of our ancestors as the modern fancies of flowers and confections that so adorn and season a feast, and also dainty souvenirs beautifully decorated by the artistic hand of Miss Carrie, one of the daughters of the house. In the midst of the feast also an unexpected pleasure was contributed in the reception of an official notice from the president of the D. & H. Co. that John R. Atherton, son of the host, had the day before been appointed assistant paymaster at Scranton.

With such a numerous commingling of relatives of all ages, from infancy to age, it goes without saying that with reminiscence and anecdote and the jollity of youth the hours sped fast and merrily.

It was one of those occasions which mark eras in the life of a family, and for which those participating will hold in grateful remembrance H. F. Atherton and family for providing so generous and graceful an entertainment.

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#### DEATH OF EX-COUNTY COM'S'NER SAMUEL LINE.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Dec. 7, 1895.]

One of the most distressing accidents recorded in some time was that which befell ex-county commissioner Samuel Line of Carey avenue, father of letter carrier Line at Newport station last Friday afternoon, when part of his face was almost blown off by his own shot gun.

Mr. Line went hunting on Thursday morning and visited a cousin, Edward Line, near Hildebrant's, from which place he and his companion, Henry Vetter of Carey avenue, started to hunt.

They reached Gruver's hotel, near Triangular Lake, yesterday afternoon, and after dinner they started for Newport station of the Lehigh Valley R. R., about two miles from Triangular Lake. While in the station they started to eat lunch about 6 o'clock last evening. Mr. Line was sitting on a bench, holding

his gun between his knees. Mr. Vetter heard the train coming down the mountain and started for the platform, calling to Mr. Line to follow. In an instant there was a loud report, and Mr. Line was found upon the floor, a dreadful sight meeting the eyes of Mr. Vetter and the station agent. It is thought that when he attempted to get up he pulled the gun up also, and the trigger caught in a hook in his gun boots. The charge entered on the right side of the chin and came out near the left ear, causing an ugly wound.

The body was brought to this city at 7 o'clock last evening. The family was waiting for Mr. Line to return home from his hunt, and when they heard the men with the body they thought it was he coming towards the house. Instead the body was carried in, and the family was prostrated with grief.

Samuel Line was born in Hanover Township on April 18, 1830, and was the youngest child of a family of ten children, James, late of Hanover Township; Abram, late of Kingston; Henry of White Pigeon, Mich.; Mrs. Margaret Pell, late of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Martha Fairchild of Nanticoke; Mrs. Maria Robbins of Montgomery County, Kansas; Samuel of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Elizabeth Mills, wife of George Mills of Laporte, Ind.; Mrs. Julia Ann Beaty, wife of James Beaty of Stephensburg, N. J.; Mrs. Catherine Ralseley, wife of Daniel Ralseley of Butler County, Pa., all deceased except the last three.

The parents were Henry and Annie E. Line, pioneer settlers of that township. Deceased followed farming in Hanover Township until 1876, when he was elected county commissioner, since which time he has been a resident of this city. He married Emma E. Butz of Easton, Pa., Oct. 27, 1859, and they had a family of seven children, six of whom survive: Mrs. Florence I. Robbins of Hazleton, M. L. Line, a letter carrier in Wilkes-Barre postoffice; L. W. Line, assistant money order and register clerk in Wilkes-Barre postoffice; Harry E. Line, bookkeeper for Farmers' Dairy Co., this city; Minnie M. Line and Mamie E. Line. Mrs. Line died Feb. 14, 1891. Mr. Line was well known throughout Luzerne County and had a good reputation. While in the commissioners' office he was considered one of the most conscientious and economical commissioners the county

ever had. He also held all the important elective and appointive positions in Hanover Township. During the war he was commissioned enrolling officer of Hanover Township. In 1863 he was a member of Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia, Co. A, under Capt. Woodward.

When Nanticoke Borough was organized he was elected councilman, school director, director of Central poor district, and was a charter member of Warrior Lodge, 873, I. O. O. F., and encampment, and was treasurer of the lodge for several years.

About two years ago he had an attack of the grip, from which he never recovered and was constantly falling. He broke up housekeeping about four years ago and has since resided with his son, L. W. Line, 183 Carey avenue.

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#### DOG MEAT IS NOT USED.

The following note has been received from Professor A. W. Potter:

I have read with interest the article in your historical column [p. 89] on the "Strange Indian Dances." I enclose clipping of letter printed in the New York Sun, which seems to contradict some of the statements made in your report, especially in reference to the "Feast of dog meat." This letter, written by a chief of the Iroquois Indians, and a woman of education, throws a different light on the habits and civilization of the Indian nations of New York, than some newspaper writers would have us believe. You may use this clipping as you see fit.

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#### THE LETTER OF EXPLANATION.

To the editor of the Sun—Sir: Among the misrepresentations in your article, "The Seneca Corn Dance," I note one flagrant error, which, in justice to my friends, the Seneca Indians, I ask of you to correct. Your Salamanca correspondent writes: "The feast is a sight for an epicure. In the center of the hall are placed four large caldrons filled with choice Indian delicacies. One of these contains cooked dog meat, for which the fattest dogs on the reservation have been sacrificed. The fourth kettle is filled with a curious mixture of vegetables flavored with a single taste of the dog meat."

As a friend, sister and chief of the

Iroquois Indians, I must enter a protest against this record. The Seneca Indians have never eaten dog meat, nor has it been used by them in any manner save in the celebration of their New Year festival. In the "old times" as the type of a faithful friend, a white dog was, mercifully, put to death and religiously burned as a sacrifice to the Great Spirit. This national eucharistic symbol has existed among all peoples, as in the religious offerings of the ox, goat, lamb, etc. The Iroquois Indians have never sacrificed a human life in any of their religious observances.

I attend annually the various feasts of the Iroquois Indians. Our meat, which is purchased from the little hoarded store of the nation, is the very best of beef that can be obtained. The soup is not "flavored with dog," but the bit of salt pork that is cast into the kettle of corn and beans renders it deliciously wholesome and savory.

According to the last census statistics, the majority of the Iroquois are good farmers. The Indian lands at Salamanca are, in the greater portion, barren and fruitless, and many of the Senecas there are compelled to sustain themselves by berry picking, root digging, basket making and daily labor.

The "pale faces" at Salamanca have succeeded in wresting from the Senecas the fairest of their lands, which, by the late "ninety nine years' lease," will never be restored to them.

I spend a great portion of my time with these people, and in my intimate observance of their domestic and public life will add that their morality exceeds that of the white people. Intemperance among the Indians does not prevail to as great an extent as among the whites. As to their general honesty, I refer to the prison records. Inclusive of the 5,300 Indians in the State of New York in 1892 there were but sixteen criminals, and these were of minor, not serious, offenses. By the same census there were but four paupers among the Iroquois tribes, and these were supported by the charity of the Indian people themselves.

It is a regret and sorrow to see that it has become the habit among writers of Indian stories for the press to treat these people of dignified descent with a depreciating flippancy and untruthfulness that are neither history nor fact.

Chief Ya-le-wa-noh.

(Harriet Maxwell Converse.)

Cattaraugus Indian Reservation,  
October 1.

## WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

### NO. 4.

The lines accompanying this item were dedicated to Lieut. James Munroe Bowman of this city who was a son of Gen. Isaac Bowman. He was one of four brothers, of whom three were soldiers: Francis L., an organizer of the Wyoming Artillerists and later was a captain in the United States army; Samuel Bowman was a colonel in the late war and was one of the first prisoners captured by the Confederates. James Munroe, or Munroe, as he was called, died in the far West in 1839 of typhoid fever while attached to the 1st United States Dragoons. His sister, Miss Mary Bowman, has several letters written him by Jefferson Davis, who was a young officer contemporary with him.

The author of the verses was Dr. Thomas Drake, the initials standing for his nickname, "John D. Grimes." Mr. Drake was uncle to William Drake Loomis of this city; his brother, George M., became a doctor of divinity. He married Regina Barton of Bloomsburg. His sister, Harriet Drake, married James, son of Ebenezer Bowman. The verses are taken from a Wilkes-Barre paper of 1839:

(From the Republican Farmer, 1839.)

### LINES

On the death of Lieut. James M. Bowman.

He sleeps where the sunbeams love to play,  
On the lonely flowery plain,  
And the bugle's blast, the charger's neigh,  
Will call the soldier in vain.  
He rests in his dreamless bivouac,  
Far, far from his own lov'd home,  
In the land where first his sword gleam'd back  
The light of the welkin dome.

The eagle glance of his daring eye,  
Has gone to the starry light  
That shines where his country's banners fly,  
Where she breasts the foeman's might.  
A star in the pathway of the brave,  
Who bled for their home's renown,—  
The patriots meed—a glorious grave,  
The tear and the laurel crown.

He sleeps where the note of the muffled drum  
And his comrades' farewell shot,  
Have peal'd the dirge on his earthly tomb,  
And hallow'd the lonely spot.  
Oh! long and well may the laurel grow  
In fadeless green around it.  
And fair the wreath on his gallant brow,  
As the spirit hand that bound it.

—J. D. G.

### AN HISTORICAL GAVEL.

The Allegheny County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution has a new gavel. The gavel was made from the wood of a mulberry tree to which was bound in 1720 the great-grandfather of Mrs. Hogg, John Harris, of Harrisburg, and from whom the city took its name. John Harris, as the record states, was bound to a tree to be burned to death by the Indians because he refused to sell them rum.

### HISTORICAL REGISTER.

The American Historical Register of Philadelphia for November has for its frontispiece a beautifully colored and embossed reproduction of the insignia of the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States of America. The whole style of the number is good and attractive and the illustrations—reproductions of old family portraits and olden-time American views—are particularly fine, half tone work. The magazine in every respect appears to be growing better with each number.

### AN HISTORIC HOUSE.

By S. R. Smith.

The historical shrines in the valley are being swallowed up by the open jaws of the new epoch which swallows up with smiling ease every trace of those who occupied the familiar fields and streets of this valley.

One of the old shrines about which little is known by the general public was partly destroyed by fire not long ago. This was at the close of the last century considered a mansion. It stands on South Main street, below Northampton, on the right hand side going down. It is a long two story building that has for years been occupied on the ground floor by four different shops, as the building has four front doors and large double windows. This is the old Hollenback house.

About 1771 Matthias Hollenback came here from Virginia to gain fame and acquire a fortune—a dream which he realized by his talent and industry. He became in Northeastern Pennsylvania what Stephen Girard was in Philadelphia and vicinity, both in influence and wealth. He was associate judge for forty years, a great factor in the material prosperity, social and political life for two generations of this

section and his heirs and descendants maintain the prestige of the family. The story of the Hollenback family which we are now considering, begins with the store that Judge Matthias Hollenback built on the farm he owned, which extended from the west side of Public Square down below Northampton, extending over to Franklin street; also some land on the south side of Main. Where the car house of the traction company stands (on Northampton street) was an orchard, and in it he had a milk yard for his cows. His first store was built on the corner of South Main and Public Square. His property extended to the plot now occupied by the Welles and Laning buildings on Public Square. This store was burned the day after the massacre in 1778 by the invaders and his stock of goods destroyed. After his return to the valley (subsequent to his flight with the fugitives) he built the old house that is now standing on South Main street. This was where he began house keeping and here probably his three daughters and one son were born. From this building he carried on the largest business in this part of the State, for he had a number of large branch stores along the Susquehanna, extending up into York State. Millions of dollars worth of goods have been packed in the store room in the upper end of the building and hundreds of casks of Madeira and whisky found their way to the cellar to be shipped by Durham boats to his branch stores or to be sold to local merchants or retailed to the local trade. Here he accumulated a fortune that ranked him as one of the wealthiest men of this county.

This building became the most noted of any building in the valley. Strange as it may sound to us it was then the Hollenback mansion. We may wonder at this for the ground floor is so low that you can reach up and touch the ceiling and the second floor is so low that there is but little space above your head to the ceiling.

Judge Hollenback died there in 1829 and his widow lived there several years after his death. The second daughter, Ellen, lived the longest at home. She became Mrs. Welles (Ellen Jones Welles) and was the mother of several children, among them John Welles Hollenback, Edward Welles and C. F. Welles. She was married in 1816; lived a few years in Towanda and for about fifty years in Wyalusing, Pa. Sarah, the youngest daughter, married Jacob Cist and after his death she married

Chester Butler. There were five daughters from her marriage with Jacob Cist. Two of them married Nathaniel Rutter. Mrs. Harrison Wright, Mrs. Andrew T. McClintock and Mrs. Woodbury were the other daughters. There was one son, Chester Butler, who died in young manhood. Mary Ann, the oldest daughter of Judge Hollenback, married John Laning and lived in Owego, N. Y. John Laning is a grandson. George M. Hollenback was the youngest child and the only son. When he became a young man he built a store and residence where the Coal Exchange now stands. He opened the store in 1819.

A. C. Laning lived in this old Hollenback house many years and there John Laning was born. My parents lived there and I was born there.

Here was kept the first postoffice in Wilkes-Barre. It was the oldest frame building in Wilkes-Barre with the exception of one on South River street.

#### NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY'S NINTH ANNUAL DINNER.

Nearly two hundred descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers sat around the board at the ninth annual dinner of the New England Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania, in the Hotel Terrace, Scranton, Friday evening, Dec. 20, 1895. Representative men from almost every town and city embraced by the society were present and these included some of the brightest men in this part of the State. The dinner was preceded by an informal reception at 7 o'clock, and shortly after 8 the guests took their places. The tables were arranged in a hollow square, while the dining room was tastefully draped with the national colors. This society is celebrated for its menus and this was no exceptional occasion.

It was nearly 10 o'clock when the president Hon. Theodore Strong of Pittston, arose to deliver the opening address. It was a strong and eloquent exposition of the principle which animated the pilgrim fathers when they sundered home ties and sought freedom of worship in a distant and unknown land. It was more than that. It was an earnest plea for the purification of our political system, the uplifting of the people of our cities and towns and the inculcation of sound moral principles among the rising generation. Mr.

and was frequently interrupted with applause.

In the absence of Rev. Dr. G. Parsons Nichols of Binghamton, who found it impossible to attend, Rev. Dr. C. E. Robinson of the Second Presbyterian Church, Scranton, spoke to the toast "New England thought in the religious life of our country." The doctor is a fluent and at times an eloquent speaker, who punctuates his more serious periods with flashes of telling wit. He told many amusing stories that set the tables in a roar, but through his address there was a strong current of deep religious and patriotic feeling expressed in the choicest diction. The greatest blessing ever given to man, in his opinion, is the right to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience. If he (the speaker) had absolute sway over the minds of men he would not for a moment think of forcing them to embrace any creed through fear or compulsion. He does believe that we can legislate men into the kingdom of heaven. He would give them the open bible and have every one of them free to interpret it according to his own reason.

Hon. C. D. Foster of this city, who is a capital after dinner speaker, followed. He responded to the toast "New England thought in our jurisprudence" and delivered an unusually able address.

A. J. Colborne, Jr., spoke to the sentiment "New England thought in the history of our nation." The son of "The bald eagle of the Alleghenies" has a silver tongue. He is a natural orator who is rapidly achieving reputation as a public speaker. His effort on this occasion was fully up to the standard of his former achievements in that line.

Theron G. Osborne read an original poem, which was heartily received and highly commended.

E. B. Sturges closed with a fine address upon "New England thought throughout the World." Being somewhat of a globe trotter he had many interesting things to say of the New Englanders and their descendants in foreign lands.

The singing of "The Star Spangled Banner" concluded the evening's festivities.

During the dinner an orchestra rendered such patriotic selections as "Hail Columbia," "America," "Red, White and Blue," "Marsillaise," "Yankee Doodle," "Star Spangled Banner." Included E. H. Chase, C. O. Perkins, H. H.

Harvey, Isaac M. Thomas, I. P. Hand, Calvin Parsons, C. D. Foster, Major O. A. Parsons.

The officers of the society are: Theodore Strong, president; E. B. Sturges, vice president; J. H. Fisher, secretary; A. C. Fuller, treasurer.

Committee of arrangements—Edward L. Fuller, Homer Greene, J. Alton Davis, Archibald F. Law, James H. Fisher.

Trustees—Frank E. Platt, Isaac L. Post, Augustus G. Gilmore.

Letters of regret were received from Thomas B. Reed, speaker of the House of Representatives; William W. Stryker; president of Hamilton college; Geo. S. Kimble, Arlington Heights, N. J., Thomas H. Atherton, Wilkes-Barre; Everett Warren and H. A. Fuller.

#### DR. BOW MINER.

There doubtless are people in town who will recall the Christmas occasion on which the following stanzas were recited by the late Thomas M. Keeler, then a youngster of perhaps 10 years of age. They were written by the late Dr. Bow Miner, as he was called, for whose lamented father, Dr. Thomas W. Miner, young Keeler was named. The verses are taken from a local paper of the time, and we are sure many of our readers will be glad to see them reproduced:

Lines written for T. M. Keeler and delivered at the M. E. Sunday School celebration on Christmas Day, 1868.

We meet to-day to celebrate the birth  
Of Him who stands the Savior of the earth;

We meet, our hymns and joyous songs to raise  
To Him whose wondrous love demands our praise.

We come a Sunday school, a little band,  
In a far corner of our mighty land,  
Yet every village, city, hamlet, town,  
Sends forth its ranks to mingle with our own.

From the far North where wild Ontario lies,  
To where bright Mexico reflects the Southern skies;  
From the Atlantic cities which deck our Eastern coast  
To far off Eldorado, our country's Western boast;

From East to West, from North to South, we hear  
One general outburst rise upon the ear.  
Two thousand years have nearly passed away,  
Since Christmas first was hailed a natal day.

Two thousand years since upon Bethlehem's plain  
Angels announced to man a Savior's reign.  
The message came not to the wise nor great  
Whose wealth could spread, or wisdom give it weight;

It came not to the lofty halls of kings,  
Where mad'ning mirth or wild debauchery rings;  
No learned doctors skilled in legal lore  
Received that message which the angels bore.

Nor Pharisee, or Saducee, entrenched  
in hollow pride,  
Might hope to bear the tidings adown  
Time's coming tide.

Nor came it to the cities, for there the  
vices meet,  
And want and filth and penury all times  
each other greet;  
There, nightly, lust and gluttony and  
reveling far and near,  
And mad men's songs, and harlots' laugh,  
fall harshly on the ear.

The towns could not receive it, for tho' of  
lesser state,  
They bore upon their booms the same  
great dead'ning weight.  
No—it came to the country, where God  
sits throned in might,  
Where nature shows in purity, and men  
stand up for right;

Where stern old mountains rear their  
heads, and virgin forests rise,  
Bearing our thoughts above the earth,  
and pointing to the skies.

Years have rolled by since this took place,  
and still the message goes,  
Spreading, still wider spreading, until the  
bitter foes

Who disbelieved a Savior's love, and ques-  
tioned whence He came,  
Are throwing down their banners and  
yielding to his name.  
The earliest proof of truth we have is  
through the trials passed,  
When in its infancy it stood against the  
Roman blast;

Old Nero hur'd his thunders down, and  
Trojan opened wide  
The Coliseum's portals to stem the rush-  
ing tide.  
The fierce Numidian lion was loos'd upon  
his prey,  
And gladiator swords cut down the faith-  
ful day by day.

The catacombs received them when driven  
from their homes,  
And there, amid those mighty vaults,  
have thousands laid their bones.  
Yet through all these great trials, the  
message safely pass'd,  
And Rome's proud eagle falter'd and fell  
in dust at last.

Throughout the middle ages, when darkness reigned supreme,  
The church alone held up a torch, lit by the Gospel's beam;  
That little gleam kept flickering on, tho' slight as finest wire,  
And burst in Wickliffe's steady blaze, and Luther's tongue of fire.

In our enlightened modern day the work goes bravely on,  
And prince and peasant own the power of God's incarnate Son;  
His wisdom and His mercy are themes on every tongue,  
And in all lands of Christendom are Jesus' praises sung. E. B. M.

#### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The regular meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held at the society's rooms Dec. 13, 1895, with Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones in the chair, Judge Woodward, the president being detained at a conference with Judge Lynch. Several amendments to the by-laws were proposed and formally acted upon. Eighteen new members were elected as follows:

Resident members—Dr. Charles Long, S. M. Parke, E. W. Mulligan, William F. Hessel, Miss E. H. Rockwell, D. J. M. Loop, Benjamin R. Tubbs, Jesse T. Morgan, Dr. F. Lee Hollister, W. J. Trembath, Charles O. Perkins, Rev. Dr. L. L. Sprague, A. S. Van Wickle, Hazleton; R. B. Brundage, Mrs. E. H. Emory, F. M. Kirby, John A. Turner, D. D. Brodhead, Abram G. Hoyt, Mrs. A. H. Dickson.

Corresponding members—Maj. Harry P. Ward, Columbus, Ohio; William P. Murray, Athens, Pa.

The rapid increase in membership and the unusual interest manifested in the work of the society by members and others during the past year is very flattering to the officers. The society is now in better position than ever before to carry on its work. Among the contributions which were acknowledged by a vote of thanks were a fine old crayon and an antique waffle iron from Mrs McClintock; the records of the old Triton Fire Company, from Augustus Constine; a seal of the Wilkes-Barre Bridge Co., from George S. Bennett; a portrait of Gen. William Sterling Ross from Hon. Charles A. Miner, and one of the late Sheldon Reynolds, by Mrs. Reynolds; a portrait of Isaac S. Osterhout is also promised the society, as well as one of Judge Conyngham. During the past six months 666 volumes and pamphlets have been received and 55 pictures and other articles.

It was decided to invite the president, Judge Woodward, to deliver the address at the next annual meeting, which will be held on Feb. 11.

It was also decided to request Dr. F. C. Johnson to reprint in the Historical Record from the newspapers of that period the reports of the meetings of the society from 1858 to 1880.

#### ARNOLD CLARK SISSON.

The subject of this sketch came from good Puritan stock. The first of his family, Richard Sisson, was born in 1608, and died in 1684. The place of his birth and date of immigration to this country have not yet been ascertained. He is believed to have located first at Dartmouth, Massachusetts, and later at Portsmouth, R. I., where he was admitted a freeman May 17th, 1653. The line of descent from this ancestor is as follows:

2. George Sisson, born 1644, married Aug. 1st, 1667, Sarah Lawton, daughter of Thomas Lawton. She died July 5th, 1718. He died Sept. 17th, 1718. He was a slaveholder and willed old negro man Abraham and Wife, Lucy, to his son James.

3. James Sisson, of Portsmouth, R. I., born July 26th, 1690, married April 17th, 1712, Deborah Cook, daughter of Joseph and Susannah (Briggs) Cook.

4. Barnet Sisson, of Portsmouth, R. I., and later of Richmond, R. I., was born January 24th, 1713.

5. Rodman Sisson, of Richmond, R. I., born June 3rd, 1744, married first Ruth Clark, who died December 29th, 1803, second, Hannah Tillinghast, daughter of Pardon Tillinghast, of West Greenwich. He died Sept. 28th, 1810. His children were Clark, George and Barnet.

6. George Sisson, born June 1st, 1774, probably at Richmond, R. I. Married June 2nd, 1796, Esther Lillibridge, who was born Nov. 12th, 1776, and died July 29th, 1836. He died Nov. 14th, 1863. Their children were Ruth and Rodman.

7. Rodman Sisson born June 8th, 1800, probably in Exeter, R. I., married Dec. 23rd, 1819, Ruth Ellis, daughter of Arnold Ellis, of West Greenwich, R. I. He died Dec. 17th, 1876, and his wife Nov. 10th, 1877. Their children were Esther, Arnold Clark, and Frances Mary.



8. Arnold Clark Sisson was born Oct. 8th, 1826, at Hampton, Windham County, Conn. His father, Rodman, and grandfather, George Sisson, moved from Exeter, R. I., to Hampton, Conn., in April, 1821. They bought a farm there and occupied it about ten years, and Rodman's three children were born in the same house on that farm. About 1831 they sold this farm and Rodman bought another farm in the same township, Hampton, Windham County, Conn., about three miles from Hampton Hill and two miles from Jericho. To this farm he moved his family while his father, George, moved to Abington, Luzerne County, Pa., where he had bought a large tract of land of Meredith and Clymer. This farm is still in the possession of the family, and is located in the borough of La Plume, near the post-office and station. The Rodman Sisson farm in Hampton, Conn., adjoined that of Joseph Grow, father of Hon. Galusha A. Grow, and the family intimacy then established has been maintained to this day.

In May, 1836, Rodman Sisson with his wife and three children moved from Hampton, Conn., to Abington, Luzerne County, Pa. They came by water from Norwich, Conn., to Newburg, N. Y., expecting to go by canal as far as Honesdale, Pa., but finding the canal not yet opened they stored their goods at Kingston, N. Y., and came by stage from Newburg to Mount Pleasant, Wayne County. There they rested a day and night with a relative, Jalrah Mumford, who kept a hotel at Mount Pleasant. Next day Mr. Mumford hitched his team to a lumber wagon and carried the family to the home of George Sisson in North Abington, now La Plume Borough. Here George Sisson's only daughter, Ruth, who had married Isaac Tillinghast, had settled, and the family were all again united.

Arnold Clark Sisson was ten years old when his father moved with his family to Pennsylvania. His early life was like that of most boys brought up on a farm in a new country. The school facilities at first were meagre. His first teacher was his oldest sister, Esther, a girl fifteen years of age. She taught the school located in that part of Abington then known as Bailey Town, about a mile from her father's farm, and at that time the residence of Squire Benjamin F. Bailey, who later moved to Wilkes-Barre with his family. In 1838 he attended a select school at Bailey Town, kept by Emily Leighton, sister of Andrew Leighton, of Glenburn, and who

afterward married Leonidas R. Green.

In 1843 Madison Academy was organized in the house of Charles Bailey, in what was then known as Abington Center, now the borough of Waverly, and Mr. Sisson attended this school in the winter season, taught by the well-known educator, Gilbert S. Bailey. In 1844 the Academy building was erected and Mr. Sisson was there the school-mate of Hon. G. M. Harding, G. Byron Nicholson, George Smith, and others who attained positions of eminence in later life. Mr. Sisson's oldest sister, Esther, who married Hon. John Stone, kept the Academy boarding house from November, 1844, to August, 1847. After leaving the Academy Mr. Sisson was a clerk in the store of William Thompson, of Carbondale, for a year or two. Then he returned home and worked on his father's farm, and was married there Nov. 25th, 1847, to Isabel Capwell Green, daughter of William Green, and granddaughter of Benjamin Green. He remained on the farm till 1850, when he accepted a position as clerk for the firm of Stone, Patterson & Co., of Abington Centre. Here he remained for a number of years and acquired the habits of business which served him so well in all his subsequent career. Returning to the farm which his father relinquished to his entire care he began to put into practice advanced ideas which his active mind either suggested or readily adapted from the teachings of others. He devoted himself largely to fruit culture, and was the first in his neighborhood to prove that greater returns could be made from a few well cultivated acres than from large farms conducted on the old time plan of general farming. His berries soon acquired a reputation in the markets that made their sale at once easy and profitable. He was never satisfied with present attainment, but continued to experiment with new varieties and modes of culture, thus widening his field of practical knowledge, and helping others with his experience. During the last few years of his life he was connected with the State Board of Agriculture, and as a speaker at Farmers' meetings he made friends and acquaintances throughout many portions of the Central and Eastern part of the State. He became well acquainted with Governors Beaver, Pattison and Hastings, Secretary Edge, and all the members of the State Board of Agriculture, and by all of them he was highly esteemed.

He was a man of a most genial nature, and his memory was stored with anecdotes ever ready to illustrate points under discussion and his facility in telling stories made him a most entertaining companion. His musical talent also added charm to his other powers of entertaining. This talent he inherited from his mother, Ruth Ellis Sisson, and his maternal grandfather, Arnold Ellis, who were both fine singers. In his early married life he conducted singing school in his neighborhood, and helped to spread the love of singing and the cultivation of musical taste among his neighbors. When the Musical Alliance was formed in Lackawanna and Wyoming counties he was its active promoter, and as its President from its inception, 1886 till 1892, and as a member till his death he labored with zeal and love to make it the success it became. He reckoned Dr. Palmer, of New York, the conductor of many of its best concerts, as one of his dearest friends.

Mr. Sisson was also deeply interested in the cause of education. From the foundation of Keystone Academy at Factoryville he was an earnest and efficient worker, contributing both time and money to bring it up to its present efficient standing. He was secretary of the corporation from February, 1873, to February, 1895, when he declined a reelection.

Mr. Sisson was a consistent Christian and a member of the First Baptist Church, Factoryville, Pa. For many years he was superintendent of the Sunday school connected with that church and was clerk of the church from Jan. 1st, 1875, to Jan. 1st, 1890. He was also clerk of the Abington Baptist Association from 1869 till his death, or twenty-six successive years.

Mr. Sisson had, until a short time before his death, enjoyed exceptionally good health. He was a picture of strong vigorous manhood. He stood five feet eleven inches in height, and weighed about 240 pounds. He was troubled at times with rheumatism, but his active, laborious life held that dread disease in tolerable check. When at home he labored on the farm and garden from daylight till dark, and his garden, filled with choice fruits and earliest and best varieties of vegetables, was his special pride and delight. He cared little for wealth and the vanities of the world

and never aspired to political preferment, but accepted, like the good citizen he was, his due share of township and borough offices with their duties and responsibilities. He was also jury commissioner of Lackawanna County for the years 1886, 1887 and 1888.

His judgment and prudence were well esteemed by the courts of Luzerne and Lackawanna counties, and he was frequently appointed on juries of view and commission to determine damages made by public improvements.

Mr. Sisson's death was sudden and caused a great shock to his family and numerous friends and acquaintances. On Saturday, Jan. 11th, 1896, he was returning home from a lecturing tour in the southern part of the State, stopping off at Scranton while waiting for a train and walking on Adams avenue, opposite the Halstead block, he slipped on the icy pavement and ruptured a large muscle attached to the knee cap. This caused him very little pain, but necessitated close confinement to the house. Here he suffered from a chill with congestion of one of the lungs, and the enforced idleness, so contrary to his usually active habits, brought on a complication of disorders, including defective heart action and death resulted suddenly from heart failure. Thus passed from life to death a kind husband and father, a true and devoted Christian, and a citizen whose place in the State and community it will be hard to fill.

He left to survive him a widow and three children: (1) Edgar Allan Sisson, a farmer, living at Padilla, Skagit County, Washington, on the shore of Puget Sound; he has three children, Pearl, aged eighteen; Nettie, aged fifteen, and Grant, aged ten. (2) George Sisson, who resided with his father and assisted in the management of the farm when not engaged in clerical work at Scranton. At present he is filling a position in the Third National Bank at Scranton. He married Laura M. Dean, daughter of Myron Dean, and they have three children, Robert, aged six, Earl, aged three, and Ruth, aged one. (3) Nettie E. Sisson, wife of A. D. Dean, Esq., a practicing lawyer of Lackawanna County, now residing in the borough of Waverly. They have four children, Carroll Sisson, aged thirteen, Russell, aged eleven, James Davis, aged eight, and Miriam Isabel, aged two years.

# The Historical Record

VOL. VI.

No. 2.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held Feb. 11, 1896. There was a large attendance. Rev. Dr. H. H. Welles offered prayer. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Hon. Stanley Woodward.

Vice presidents, Rev. H. L. Jones, Capt. Calvin Parsons, Col. G. Murray Reynolds, Rev. Dr. Hodge.

Trustees, H. H. Harvey, Edward Welles, Hon. C. A. Miner, S. L. Brown, Richard Sharpe, Jr.

Treasurer, Dr. F. C. Johnson.

Recording secretary, Sidney R. Miner.

Corresponding secretary, Rev. H. E. Hayden.

Librarian, Hon. J. Ridgway Wright.

Assistant librarian, Rev. H. E. Hayden.

Curators, mineralogy, I. A. Stearns; paleontology, R. D. Lacoë; archeology, Hon. J. R. Wright; numismatics, Rev. H. E. Hayden.

Historiographer, G. B. Kulp.

Meteorologist, Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D.

Treasurer A. H. McClintock reported receipts for year \$1,255, and balance in treasury \$261.

Rev. H. E. Hayden reported as corresponding secretary. The membership has doubled—there having been 117 persons elected to regular membership and 16 to honorary. Reference was also made to the various accessions in the way of portraits, &c., and to the several papers read. Two of the papers are to be published by the State as part of the archives—those of the late Sheldon Reynolds and Capt. J. M. Buckalew on the Revolutionary forts of Pennsylvania. John W. Jordan of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania is to read a paper on April 10, and one will be read later by Hon. Charles A. Miner on the old mills of Wyoming Valley.

The librarian's report showed 1,133 books and articles received during the year.

A vote of thanks was given to Andrew H. McClintock for ten years' service as treasurer, he being unable to hold the office longer.

A resolution was passed touching the deaths of Mrs. A. T. McClintock and Mrs. Ruth B. Hillard.

Following members were elected: R. H. Laning, Rev. Dr. Parke, O. M. Brandow, Laning Harvey, Judge John Lynch, Archie D. Smith, E. H. Chase, Elizabeth M. Sharpe, Dr. A. C. Shoemaker, Miss Mary Harvey, L. B. Hillard, Dr. O. F. Harvey. To corresponding membership, Bishop J. M. Levering, president of the Moravian Historical Society, and Granville Henry of the same society.

Mr. Hayden said that the society now has portraits of all the former presidents except of Dr. W. F. Dennis and one of him is much desired.

A vote of thanks was extended to R. D. Lacoë for gifts.

It was voted to invite Chief Justice Charles E. Rice to deliver the address at the annual meeting a year hence.

The address of the evening was made by the president of the society, Judge Stanley Woodward, one of the four survivors who founded the society in 1858.

In his introduction the essayist said that no portion of American history is richer in its lights and shadows—its romantic adventures, and its eccentric departures from the ordinary and the common-place, than that of this beautiful valley of Wyoming.

The struggle during the latter part of the eighteenth century between the Connecticut colonists, and the representatives of William Penn, for the possession of the valley of Wyoming, when viewed from a present point of time is, in some of its aspects, most interesting and unique. To comprehend it accurately requires a review of certain historical facts and conditions, which underlie the epoch in which it happened, and disclose its true character. [Here followed such review. Alluding to the mound builders the essayist said:]

What became of these people who preceded the Indians by many centuries, can only be surmised. Suffice it to say, that this continent was peopled by inhabitants who possessed many of the arts of life, before the earliest date of authentic human his-

tory. They disappeared and in their place appeared a savage people, without culture or art, who have left no monuments, whose remnant is to-day the American Indian of our far West frontier.

It is an interesting fact that no traces of the pre-historic people—reliably such—have ever been found in the Wyoming Valley. It is claimed that in 1769, the remains of an ancient fort were found near Toby's creek in Kingston Township, and another in what is now known as Plains Township. But this claim seems to have been based on the fact that large trees 700 years old, were found within the enclosures. But as medals and coins of the time of King George I were also discovered at the same place—it would seem more reasonable to suppose that, while the trees were old, the forts were of much later date. So far as shown by facts which are well established, it seems clear that this region of country was originally peopled by tribes of Indians, who roamed its surface unrestrained by any law except that of self preservation, and who left no monuments to their memory.

Then followed a review of the historical process of events which resulted in the colonial settlements of this portion of North America, together with a reference to England's conflicting charters which afterwards gave rise to the Connecticut-Pennsylvania controversy. Facetious reference was made to the English policy of making all other interests secondary to colonization. The prodigious capacity of John Bull to swallow and absorb has become a proverb, said the speaker, who touched in pointed manner on the Monroe doctrine, which he described as a national instinct the world is bound to respect.

Coming down to the time of the first settlement in 1762, reference was made to the destruction of the infant settlement by the savages. No attempts at settlement were now made for six years.

During these years the Penn government had not been idle. Commissioners had been appointed by the proprietary government, who had surveyed the lands along the Susquehanna and divided them into two grand manors, the river being the dividing line. The land on the east of the river was called the Manor of Stoke, that on the west the Manor of Sunbury.

The distinction between the two titles of Connecticut on the one side, and of William Penn on the other, is worthy of notice. The former rested on a royal charter granted first to the Plymouth company, and then to the colony. The title of Penn grew out of a direct grant by the king in payment of a debt which the English government owed to Admiral Penn, the father of William, who had been a distinguished officer in the English navy for many years. The settler under the Connecticut title became the absolute owner of the land in his possession. The settler under the Penn government, on the contrary, was merely a tenant, paying a nominal rent and agreeing to hold the land against hostile intrusion. The title of the Connecticut owner was allodial, that is, in the nature of a freehold estate. The Pennamite held his lot by a title resembling that of the feudal tenure of the Middle Ages, rendering services and paying tribute to a sort of a lord paramount—the Quaker William Penn. And both parties claimed to have secured the Indian title.

Thus early in the year 1769 we find the Pennamite and the Yankee located in Wyoming, each claiming the right of possession, and each with a colorable title to the soil. Nothing was left but to fight it out, and thus began the struggle which became that quaint episode in our local history, known as the Pennamite and Yankee war.

Judge Woodward briefly touched on the important events of this internecine strife which raged for thirty years, except during the Revolutionary War, when both parties for the time ceased their local contention that they might engage in the defense of their common country.

As Westmoreland was at this time a Connecticut town, the men who went from here into the Continental Army, were mustered into Connecticut regiments. Two companies commanded respectively by Captains Durkee and Ransom, were promptly raised and mustered into service. The devastation of Wyoming, and the expedition of the mongrel force of Tories and Indians which swept down upon the devoted valley in 1778 from the Canadian frontier would never have occurred, if the gallant Yankees who had volunteered their services to the country under Durkee and Ransom had been permitted, as they should have been, to

stay here and garrison Wyoming. No more touching and heroic poem was ever written in the dry formula of human history than the appeal made by the Wyoming people to their government to send home their husbands and sons to protect them from savage massacre, and the malevolence of the Tory miscreants, who loitered along the edges of the settlement, spying out its weak and vulnerable points, and keeping the enemy well advised of the situation.

The speaker passed over the oft-told tale of the battle of Wyoming with the remarks that the names on the monument are New England names. The Yankee and not the Pennamite fought that battle and ran the gauntlet of the scalping knife of the warrior and the torture of Queen Esther at the Bloody Rock.

When the Revolutionary War was ended and the colonies were free the question as to the ownership of Wyoming again recurred. But it was to be settled not by war and bloodshed, but by the calm judgment of a judicial tribunal, to which Pennsylvania and Connecticut agreed to submit. With this decision, known as the Decree of Trenton, the jurisdiction of Connecticut in Wyoming ceased.

The speaker alluded to the fact that a minority were not willing to submit and how, aided by Ethan Allen of Ticonderoga fame, a formidable effort was made to organize an independent State out of the Wyoming country.

A new civil war seemed imminent, but this new danger was averted chiefly through the sagacious diplomacy of Timothy Pickering, a Philadelphia lawyer of New England origin, who persuaded the people to abandon the new State project, and who was instrumental in securing from the legislature of Pennsylvania several quieting enactments, the most important of which was the compromise law of 1799, under which, and its supplements, the Pennsylvania claimants were compensated, and the equities of the Connecticut settler recognized, where actual settlements had been made prior to the Decree of Trenton, in any of the seventeen townships as originally laid out under the Susquehanna company. To these actual settlers certificates were issued by commissioners appointed for the purpose, which were followed by patents issued to the certificate holders, under the broad seal of

Pennsylvania. And thus ended the Pennamite and Yankee war.

In a well turned peroration Judge Woodward contrasted the aboriginal life with our modern civilization and said that in Wyoming Valley lies buried more real value than can be found anywhere on the globe, within similar territorial limits. Wyoming now is furnishing to the country and to the world heat, and power, and light, as well as history, and poetry, and romance. The shriek of the locomotive awakens now the echoes from the hills which once responded to the Indian war whoop. And here are the representatives of all the nations of the earth. The Yankee and the Pennamite have been merged, and almost lost, in this cosmopolitan composite, which now makes up the mass of our people. To leaven this mass, and to assimilate its many and somewhat discordant elements, into a harmonious and peaceful whole, is the problem of the new era.

#### DEATH OF MRS. JAMES HUGHES.

Mrs. James Hughes of Luzerne, Pa., died Jan. 13, 1896, after a short illness. Mrs. Hughes was born in Yorkshire, England, February 7, 1816, and was 80 years of age. She came to Wilkes-Barre in 1830 with her mother and John Linskill, her stepfather. Mrs. Hughes was twice married. Her first husband was George Houghton of Holliston, Mass., with whom she had four children—William, living at home, Mrs. Josephine Smith of Denver, Col., Cyrus of Luzerne and Mrs. Sarah Eastwood of Phoenix, Ariz. The children of the last marriage are Mrs. Ellen Evans, deceased, Mrs. Maria Bishop, deceased, George Hughes of Luzerne and Miss Caroline Hughes, who lives at home. Mrs. Hughes lived in the village, now Luzerne Borough, during her entire married life and was well and favorably known by all the older residents. She retained her faculties until the last and took active charge of her household until less than a week before her death.

#### STATUE OF JESSE FELL.

[Saturday Reporter, Feb. 1, 1896.]

Over a year ago the suggestion was made in this paper that a statue be erected in Wilkes-Barre to Jesse Fell, the first man in this region to discover to what domestic uses anthracite coal could be put. The city has nothing of

that sort to mark the achievements or discoveries of its people. Down in Allentown there is a movement on foot to erect a magnificent bronze statue to David Thomas as being the first man to solve successfully the problem of using anthracite coal to smelt iron ore. One has only to look in the mouths of the immense furnaces of Catasauqua with the tons of molten iron, liquid with heat, to understand the greatness of the work of David Thomas and gaze with admiration upon the monument to his memory. Why not then have something of the sort at the home of anthracite itself? It is understood that a fund has been raised to build a statue to George Washington, a man whose figure has been put up in so many places that it has ceased to have any significance, so common has it become. The late father of his country has been well taken care of at the capitol, which is the proper place for him. Other places, particularly Wilkes-Barre, should have some of their own achievements worked out in marble and bronze.

#### IN A REMINISCENT VEIN.

[Carbondale Herald, Feb. 10, 1896.]

The fourth chapter headed "Carbondale a City" of J. R. Durfee's reminiscences written twenty years ago reads as follows:

When we commenced our two former letters on Carbondale we little thought our bubbling pen would run on so far, but the Delaware & Hudson Company and the business people of Carbondale are so nearly identified with each other that we see as yet no stopping place. In endeavoring to enumerate in connection with the Delaware & Hudson Company, the business people of Carbondale forty years ago and later (depending entirely upon memory) we find that we have omitted quite a number of prominent citizens, men who were there then and soon after—S. B. Hathaway, teamster, trader and builder, now of Wilkes-Barre. Jesse Williams, remarkable for the kindly feelings which he always seemed to possess, for a number of years a merchant, went to Pittston, where he died much respected and beloved by all. His brother, Joseph Williams, also remarkable for his large heartedness, removed to Wilkes-Barre, where he died some years ago. Mr. Cox, who carried on the bakery business, we have no knowledge of. Mr. Prosser, his son-in-law, died some years ago; the last we knew of his widow she

was living in Pittston. Stephen Rogers, for a number of years carried on the shoemaking and tanning business, a lover of the Church of England, moved to Susquehanna County. Gilbert Burrows, for a number of years one of the justices of the peace in Carbondale, died at Wilkes-Barre; his brother, the harnessmaker, I have no knowledge of. Abraham Peck, for a number of years merchant, teacher and surveyor, is now a wealthy farmer in the western part of Michigan. Hon. S. S. Benedict came to Carbondale when young and engaged as teacher; was afterwards publisher and justice of the peace, and has for a number of years been the successful editor and publisher of the Carbondale Advance, also a member of the legislature. Lewis Higgins was for a number of years a merchant tailor, but of late a very useful man in the company's employ and in the city generally.

#### PENN PROPERTY CONVEYED.

The recorder's office received Feb. 13, 1896, a deed conveying the remains of the Penn property in this county. The deed bears an English stamp of ten shillings engraved into the paper and it is a reminder of our own war days when all conveyances had to be stamped. The conveyance, which is simply a deed of gift, from father to son, for the nominal sum of \$1, has already been recorded in Philadelphia. Its record here is to preserve a record of the transfer of rights to the manor of Sunbury, alluded to the other evening by Judge Woodward in his address before the Historical Society. This property lies in Plymouth Township, along Harvey's Creek and has never been out of the ownership of the Penn family, descendants of William Penn. The grantee, William Dayald Stuart, is a lineal descendant of William Penn. The Record has on several occasions alluded to the Penn property in this vicinity.

#### THEY CLAIM OIL CITY.

Harrisburg, Feb. 10, 1896.—Among Governor Hastings's callers to-day were Andrew John and March Pearce, Seneca Indians, one from Southern New York and the other from Warren County, Pa. Pearce is a grandson of Cornplanter, the Seneca chief, and is a cousin of Solomon Obail, who came to the legislature with Andrew John last

winter with a request that legislation be enacted restoring to Cornplanter's descendants all the land on which Oil City now stands. The general assembly appointed a committee which investigated the matter and reported that there was no ground for action.

The Indians brought with them today important letters and papers, the existence of which were unknown last winter, but which have been in Pearce's possession for a long time. They comprise the original treaty between the Senecas and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the original survey and grant of the land claimed, together with a copy of the map and other important documentary evidence. The governor referred the Indians to chief clerk Gearhart of the State Department, who will lay the matter before the secretary of the commonwealth, Reeder.

#### CORNPLANTER'S HEIRS WERE DEFRAUDED.

Harrisburg, Feb. 11, 1896.—Chief Clerk Gearhart of the State Department to whom was referred the cases of the Seneca Indians, descendants of Cornplanter, who claim the site of Oil City, stated to-day that he has carefully examined the papers in the matter and that there is no doubt but that the Indians have been shamefully treated. He cannot, however, find any ground for action by the State any more than in any other case of sale. Mr. Gearhart explained that the commonwealth granted the land to the Indians by patent, and then its right in the matter ceased. The Indians sold a large portion of valuable land to a man named Connelly and took his note in payment. Not being versed in technical law they had no mortgage made out to them and all they received in payment was the notes. The matter is declared to be deserving of rectification, but it seems to be outside the jurisdiction of the State and Mr. Gearhart is of the opinion that the Indians should bring suit against the present holders and contest the title in the courts of eVnango County. They desire to go to Philadelphia to consult with Herbert Welsh, president of the Indian Rights Society in relation to their case, but they are without the necessary funds.

#### INDIANS HAVE A GOOD CLAIM.

Harrisburg, Feb. 12, 1896.—Secretary of the Commonwealth Reeder, after seeing the Seneca Indians, who, as descendants of the chief, Cornplanter, lay claim to the site of Oil City, to-day gave them a letter to Herbert Welsh of Philadelphia, president of the Indian Rights Society, in which Mr. Reeder set forth their undoubted claim. The necessary funds to take the Indians to Philadelphia have been raised.

#### BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

One of the pleasantest treats of the present winter is the University Extension course of lectures on Representative Americans, at the high school building under the auspices of the pupils, the board contributing to the cost. The lecturer is Dr. Edward T. Devine, who four years ago gave a course of enjoyable lectures on economics.

The assembly room of the Union street building was entirely filled in the evening, the course opening with "Benjamin Franklin." It was supplemented with stereopticon views of portraits of Franklin and of various places and people connected with his life and work. Dr. Devine prefaced his lecture by saying that his Wilkes-Barre experience was exceptional, inasmuch as it was the only centre he had visited where he had been given the assistance of a fully equipped and well managed public library and where the superintendent and school board had made University Extension a distinct feature.

The lecture proper lasted an hour and was a comprehensive view of the life of the distinguished printer, statesman, philosopher, journalist and scientist, who occupied so commanding a place in American history. Regarding the recent strained relations between England and America he thought the former had been slow to recognize what merit the latter and her statesmen possessed. He thought England ought to accord a full measure of greatness to Franklin, Washington and Lincoln as to Pitt, Wellington and Wilberforce. Yet she has a special prejudice against Franklin, who was the first American statesman and citizen to achieve world-wide greatness. There are four great documents in American history—the Declaration of Independence, the alliance with France, the treaty by which England recognized the independence of the colonies and the constitution. And Franklin is the only man whose

name was signed to them all. He was the last man to be forgiven by England for his part in the revolt of the colonies.

Mention was made of his English ancestry, his birth in 1706 and of the fact that at the age of 10 he had read all the books that were obtainable. How his father noticed his bent for reading and apprenticed him to a printer at the age of 12 and how he ran away on account of cruel treatment by his employer, who was his brother. He founded the Philadelphia Library at the age of 25. Ten years later, when he had become a publisher, he started a monthly magazine but it failed. All this time he was busy in the matter of various internal improvements for Philadelphia, as he was distinctively an economist or utilitarian. His great effort was to surround men with influences that would make them more comfortable and therefore happier. He was derided as the bread and butter philosopher, but he accepted the derision and believed that food and clothes were of more importance to people than champagne and ices. He believed in working hard and avoiding temptation. He was not a Christian, but he was a believer in one God, and he has left on record numerous prayers which he was wont to offer to the Supreme Being for help in life's struggle. His religion was not of a spiritual character, but it concerned itself rather with man's temporal welfare and comfort. His Poor Richard almanac was of the greatest service in educating the people to industry, thrift, morality and frugality, and it probably had wider circulation than any other publication which has ever been printed. He ever sought to promote the public interest. He discovered electricity. He published the best newspaper in the colonies, though Rev. Cotton Mather denounced it as the vehicle of all that was vile. He organized the postoffice system. He introduced into Philadelphia the paving, cleaning and lighting of the streets. He invented a stove. He advocated ventilation of public halls and houses. He established the first school in Philadelphia, was a leading spirit in the University of Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia hospital, and did numerous other beneficent things which the lecturer enumerated. His distinguished services in the Revolution were enumerated—his fruitless effort to win England to the cause of colonial liberty after a residence of ten years there and his insulting treatment at last by the Privy

Council; his success in winning France to the cause of the colonists, thus turning the scale in favor of victory; his wonderful influence in successfully financiering the war by borrowing powers, his equipping ships and directing naval movements while in France; his service in the Continental Congress,—all these and numerous other important facts were graphically related by the speaker.

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#### DEATH OF REV. THEOPHILUS JONES.

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After an illness of nearly two years, during the last five months of which he was confined to his bed, Rev. Theophilus Jones, the oldest Welsh preacher in the United States, died Feb. 13, 1896, of general debility and paralysis, aged 86 years, at the home of his son, attorney D. M. Jones, 51 Sullivan street. Deceased was born in January, 1810. He survived his wife a little over two years. After her death at Kingston he gave up housekeeping and has since resided with his son. He was one of the powerful preachers of his day, and when he warmed to his subject, or as the Welsh put it, "in the hwy!" he always carried the audience with him spell-bound. He was in early youth apprenticed to the weaving business and worked as a weaver at Pontmorlais, Merthyr Tydvil, Wales, but being of a religious turn of mind he studied hard and was converted at a Cymanfa of the Welsh Baptist denomination in 1827, at Caerphilly, under the preaching of the late Christmas Evans, who was one of the greatest preachers of the century in Wales. He was to have been baptized by this celebrated divine, but on account of the latter's age, he appointed a younger minister to do it in his presence.

Deceased was a preacher at 17 years of age and was ordained when he was 20 years of age, and up to the time of his illness was a worker in the vineyard of the Master. He married in 1843, and took charge of the Welsh Baptist church in the metropolis for several years. He received a call to Morans Hook, Chester County, and later to Scranton and Minersville, Pa., coming to Wilkes-Barre in 1870, where he became pastor of the First Welsh Baptist congregation, which then worshipped in Sutton's hall on Public Square. He was then in his prime and his eloquence as a preacher soon filled the hall with hearers and the member-



ship so increased that they had to seek larger quarters. Senator Williams built a hall over a store at the corner of Sherman and Market streets, and the church held services in it for several years. This also became too small and a handsome church was built on Sheridan street. He received a call to a new church at Edwardsville, which also grew under his pastorate. He was known and had calls to hold special services all over the country.

He was married prior to his leaving Wales to Miss Morgan of Rhosmean, Llandilo, Wales. She was the sister of Col. Dr. John Morgan of the British navy, who on one occasion visited his sister in this city.

#### DESCENDANT OF JOHN ALDEN.

The following clipped from a Philadelphia paper, will interest many people in this section: "The old house of the Aldens, at Danbury, Mass., built about 1650, is now occupied by the ninth John Alden in direct descent from the John whose pretty love story is so well known. He has a little daughter, Priscilla Mullins, too, says a writer in the Boston Transcript, but her brother the seventh John Alden, was killed by lightning last summer, so the line of John Aldens is now broken." At Russell Hill are now living descendants in the direct line from the Mayflower John, and John is the name of the head of this family also. He is a descendant of Prince Alden, who settled here several generations ago, and the name John is not likely to die out in the family. Our John is one of our substantial farmers. —[Tunkhannock correspondence of Wilkes-Barre Record, Feb. 17, 1896.

#### HOW A CANAL WAS BUILT.

R. C. Ettlinger of Allentown has in his possession a copy of the Aurora, published in Philadelphia Feb. 1, 1804, ninety-two years ago. It contains an interesting advertisement, which shows the manner in which the money was raised to build the Lehigh Canal. The advertisement reads as follows: "Positively will commence at the State House in this city, on the second of Monday of March next, Lehigh Navigation Lottery, second class, \$5,000 the highest prize. The prizes will be paid 30 days after its conclusion, of which public notice will be given. Such as are not considered as relinquished for the benefit of the navigation.

"The managers depend principally upon the proceeds of the lottery for finishing the navigation of the Lehigh. This will open an intercourse by water to Philadelphia of about 400 miles, including only 12½ miles portage near its junction with the Susquehanna at Wilkes-Barre, thereby forming a new source of trade, affording a plentiful supply of coal, lumber, etc., the advantages of which will be immense; and an easy conveyance to the owners of the lands and farmers in the vicinity by which they can send their produce to market. Tickets can now be had at \$5 and on the 20th they will be \$5½." Signed William Blackburn, Edward Stow, James Gilentworth, Michael Doran, George Taylor.

The prizes ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 are then mentioned and the close is: "The prizes are subject to a deduction of 15 per centum. The prizes in the last class of the Easton Delaware Bridge, St. Augustine Church Lottery, etc., will be received in payment. The Holy Trinity Church and the Bustletown Academy Lotteries will commence drawing soon after the conclusion of this."

Besides the above the extra contains nearly four pages of the names of properties that were seized by the State as the properties of John Nicholson of Luzerne County.

#### THE FIRST TO TUNNEL FOR COAL.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Feb. 19, 1896.]

Mrs. J. D. Bachman has returned from Watsonstown, where she attended the funeral of a relative, Mrs. Harriet B. Mast, wife of Thomas Mast, and daughter of the late Freeman Thomas. The latter in the year 1828 commenced driving the "Grand Tunnel" of Plymouth into the mountain side, with the purpose of striking the coal. This was the first experiment of tunneling through rock in the Wyoming Valley. He labored assiduously for several years before the object was accomplished. His neighbors regarded the enterprise as Utopian, but amidst all obstacles, and against the counsel and advice of his friends to abandon the tunnel, he moved steadily and persistently on, and after three or four years of persevering labor, and with his credit almost sunk, he struck the big Red Ash vein.

In the toiling years which he devoted to the excavation of the tunnel he constantly encountered the opposition of his friends; and many of them, falling in argument to convince him of what

they called his error, would laugh at and deride him, as the last means of driving him from his determined purpose. But to all this he meekly submitted, still holding on to his own convictions, and finally proved to them all that the error was with them and not with himself.

Freeman Thomas used to predict that they (meaning the people of Plymouth) "would live to see 50,000 tons of coal shipped yearly from the Plymouth basin!" If the old gentleman had said 50,000 weekly he would have approached more nearly the result.

Freeman Thomas lived to a good old age. He died in 1867 at his home in Northumberland County in his 88th year.

#### SOCIETY OF THE WAR OF 1812.

Philadelphia, Feb. 18, 1896.—The Society of the War of 1812 held its annual meeting in Independence hall to-day. About forty members were present. The following officers were elected: President, John Cadwalader; vice presidents, Col. John Biddle Porter, Appleton Morgan, LL. D., Brig. Gen. Adolphus W. Greely, U. S. A.; Capt. William Bainbridge Hoff, U. S. N.; Capt. Henry Hobart Bellas, U. S. A.; registrar, Edward Rutledge Shubrick; treasurer, Adam Arbuckle Stull; secretary, James Varnum Peter Tuaner; assistant, Henry Douglas Hughes. This evening Cyrus K. Remington, the historian, read a paper on "The Fort of Lake Erie."

#### THE LATE JOSEPH ANDERSON.

[W.-B. Leader, Feb. 24, 1896.]

In an humble way Joseph Anderson, whose recent death at Harvey's Lake has been noted, was possessed of widely diversified accomplishments, accomplishments, too, which required not a little natural talent and a thorough premier bear hunter of this region and bear hunting and trapping was his chief delight during the winter season. During the past season he trapped and brought home alive no less than four black bears, and shot as many more. As a deer hunter, too, he was unusually city of that noble animal in our forests. As a fisherman he was an authority, and when "Old Joe Anderson" couldn't catch fish from Harvey's Lake they were not biting for anyone else. He loved to have about him, alive, the trophies of the chase and of

his piscatorial skill, and for that purpose built a large pond in his door yard where he kept brook trout, lake trout, black bass and pickerel, which he delighted to feed and watch grow. He also erected a large bear pen wherein he kept the bear he brought home alive.

Mr. Anderson was also a great wild bee hunter and always had on hand a large supply of wild honey as the reward of his peculiar skill in that direction.

He is best known to Wilkes-Barreans as the "tree-remover from the Harvey's Lake." Thousands of the beautiful maple and elm trees that adorn and provide shade for our streets and front yards were removed and ylated by him.

In 1887 he entered the Methodist ministry and by his indefatigable efforts a little church was finally erected at the west corner of the lake, where he dispensed to his humble flock of God's holy word.

For many years he was a justice of the peace in Lake Township, and a search of the criminal records will prove that both as a teacher in the house of the Lord and as a mediator in the house of justice he was alike successful. So great was the confidence of his neighbors that he was generally called upon as a neighbor, rather than as a justice of the peace, to adjust their differences. He was a school director in the district for many years, and also supervisor. He was also a contractor and builder in a small way, and took contracts to fill ice houses and to build water-walls, boat landings and boat houses about the lake.

Preacher, justice, supervisor, school director, contractor, fisherman, bear hunter and bee hunter, he was a "man of many parts" in the vicinity where he lived, and was equally successful in all. In a number of ways, few men of this section are better known than Mr. Anderson.

#### PATRICK HENRY.

[W.-B. Record, Feb. 27, 1896.]

The second lecture in the University Extension course was given by Professor E. T. eDvine in the high school building before a large audience. Patrick Henry was described, in addition to his being the greatest orator of modern times, as the originator of political bossism in this country. He was not a great American, but he was a great Virginian. In early life he was lazy

and unbusiness-like so that he made a total failure in storekeeping and farming and at 23 was a bankrupt. This was the end of his failures, however, and henceforth he was to achieve great triumphs and after a month's study of law he was able to pass examination so brilliantly that he gained admission to the bar. Although for three years thereafter he assisted his father in keeping a tavern and spent a great deal of time in hunting and fishing, he was able to build up a lucrative country practice. At the age of 27 he was brought into great prominence by reason with his connection with the Parsons suit. This was the most interesting suit in all the annals of Virginia, and although Patrick Henry was made famous by it, it did not reflect the greatest credit on him, as she was on the unrighteous side of the cause, by reason of its injustice to the Virginia clergy, who were deprived of what was their due. In this cause he sounded an early alarm against the aggressions of Great Britain, but none the less was injustice done to the clergy. Under the influence of Henry's eloquence the king's veto was defied and treason was disguised as a legal remedy. Virginia's act was the States until they had earned the contempt of countries of Europe, which had befriended them. Those early years were dark ones. There was not a united demand for separation. In Pennsylvania Howe's army had no trouble to get all the food it wanted while Washington's army was starving and freezing at Valley Forge.

The second great event in his life was his moving of resolutions against the stamp act of 1765. This was the precipitation of the crises, the beginning of the Revolution.

The third great event was in 1775, when he moved that Virginia be put into a state of defense. Strangely enough there had been no declaration of war, but this speech of Patrick Henry's was practically such a declaration of war, and he became pre-eminently the patriot, the revolutionist, the separatist. Henry as having given greater importance to liberty than to union. He was a revolutionist, but he did not represent stable government. On the contrary he reflected what is the darker stood for State sovereignty as against the centralization of federalism. The union had to contend with the turbulent, anarchistic elements which the revolution set loose. The financial vice of the revolution was repudiation of debts, both public and private. There was a

lawlessness and recklessness which in a loose colonial society needed no encouragement at all. There was an exceedingly low social vitality. The union had no proper organs. The newspapers of Pennsylvania libeled Washington in villainous manner. Their libellous utterances on Washington make the newspapers of to-day seem tame to an extreme degree. The great faults in the public affairs of the United States at this time, as Sumner says, were indolence, negligence, absence of business-like system and carelessness as to credit. Henry represented these faults. The speaker eulogized Henry as a pattern in his domestic and private life.

◆ ◆ ◆  
AN OLD PAPER.

[Reprinted from the Record of Aug. 30, 1875.]

We hereby acknowledge the receipt of an old copy of the Luzerne Federalist, dated Wilkes-Barre, Friday, May 22, 1807, from C. S. Coburn, of Tloga Centre, Tloga County, N. Y.

The paper was published by Charles Miner, Esq., and printed in old style small plea type. The following notice appears at the head of the editorial column:

"A disappointment in not receiving paper this week obliges me to print on a writing paper sheet. Advertisements and a quantity of other matter are unavoidably omitted until our next."

The act establishing the Wilkes-Barre Academy is published and designates Rev. Ard Hoyt, Lord Butler, Jesse Fell, Matthias Hollenback, William Ross, Rosewell Welles, Ebenezer Bowman, Samuel Bowman, Charles Miner, John P. Arndt, Arnold Colt, Peleg Tracy, Mathew Covell, Joseph Slocum, Benjamin Perry, Thomas Graham and Thomas Dyer, the first trustees of the new institution.

The paper is faded to almost the color of manilla wrapping paper but the printing is as bright and clear as the day it was printed, showing that the ink used at that time was of a good quality and there has been no chance to improve upon it since.

◆ ◆ ◆  
THE KENNEDY FAMILY.

[Read at the meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, July 3, 1895.]

My grandparents participated in the events which we commemorate to-day. They came from Derry Township in

1775, then Northumberland, but now Columbia County, Pa. There were three brothers, Samuel, John and Thomas Kennedy, who bought adjoining lands in Wyoming Valley on which they settled in 1775. Samuel and his wife and five children were murdered, scalped and burned with their house by the Indians, at the time of the massacre.

Thomas, the youngest brother, was a single man, and was taken prisoner by the British and Indians and carried to Canada, and his relatives saw him no more. Rev. Jacob Kennedy, a Baptist minister, who died in South Eaton, Wyoming County, Pa., a few years ago, was a grandson of this Thomas Kennedy.

Just previous to the sad events which we commemorate to-day, there was a cry made that the Indians were coming, and the people were warned to flee for their lives. My grandfather, John Kennedy, took a wagon load of his household goods and conveyed them to a hill and left them with an acquaintance, some miles distant toward the intended place of retreat; then started back to bring his wife and three children. It was in the afternoon, and during his absence his wife began hoeing a patch of corn which he had ploughed in the forenoon, and an Indian spy fired at her from an ambush and the rifle ball struck the handle of her hoe. Dropping the hoe and flying to the house, she hastily caught up her infant daughter and ran toward their wheatfield, followed by her other two children. The field was large and the wheat stood tall and thick and afforded them a place of concealment for the night. Her children were Samuel, aged 5 years; Jane, aged three years, and Mary, aged 9 months. As night came on the Indians gathered about and burned their house and barn, and murdered their neighbors. The sky was bright with the flames of the burning buildings and the air was filled with the shrieks of the dying people, and the terrible war-whoops of the fiends who were reveling in a carnival of blood.

It was evening when my grandfather returned, and when he came in sight of his house and saw that it was on fire and surrounded by merciless savages, he supposed that his family were all murdered. He concealed himself till morning. As daylight approached the Indians had departed, and he cautiously crept to the spot where his house had stood and examined the ashes, search-

ing for the remains of his wife and children. But finding none, there came into his crushed and aching heart a gleam of hope that they might yet be alive; but this hope was soon followed by the fear that they might be prisoners in the hands of the savages. So, in great agitation and fear, he walked up and down, weeping and calling aloud, "Betsy, Betsy;" and she knew his voice and answered from the wheatfield and came to him, bringing the three children; and in a moment his loved ones were again in his embrace. But sad as well as joyful was the meeting. They were not safe and could not tarry by the charred remains of their once peaceful home, but had to leave everything and flee for their lives.

Weeping for joy, and trembling with fear, they hastened to the place where the horses and wagon were concealed; then went for the few articles left with the friends on the hill; then hastily began their dreary flight over the mountains in the direction toward York County, Pa. During their sad journey their anguish and sufferings were great; but being provided with a vehicle and team of horses, they traveled with much less fatigue than many in their company, who fled on foot, some of whom perished in the wilderness.

These fugitives from unhappy Wyoming, paused in their journey on the southern border of Pennsylvania, and purchasing land, they settled in what is now Adams County, where they raised a large family, and peacefully ended their days.

Their home in the Wyoming Valley was nearly paid for, and was, I presume, located between Wilkes-Barre and Pittston on the east side of the Susanna but they never returned to claim it. They were Scotch-Irish Protestants, and my grandmother's maiden name was Elizabeth Wiley. My grandfather, John Kennedy, served his country in the American Army in the Revolutionary War; and there is a tradition in the family that he had been drawn away from Wyoming into the army and was absent on duty at the time of the Indian troubles, and had reached home just in time to rescue his family from destruction. The little boy, Samuel, who had lain hid in the wheat field all night with his mother, died May 11, 1866, aged nearly 93 years, at his residence in Huntingdon Township, Adams County, Pa. He remembered that in going to the place where the horses and wagon were concealed in the woods,

his sister, Jane, had fallen from a foot-log into the stream and was nearly drowned. That stream, I suppose, was Mill Creek.

Around these facts, heretofore unpublished, there exists an interesting history of one hundred and twenty years. Much of this history is in my possession, and more could be recovered from my relatives who are numerous in Southern Pennsylvania.

S. S. Kennedy, Waverly.

#### INFORMATION DESIRED.

Information is desired concerning Jesse Allen, who settled in Wysox Township, Bradford Co., Pa., before 1787. He was a revolutionary soldier. It is said that he enlisted in New Jersey, and served throughout the war. Mr. Craft's "History of Bradford County" speaks of him on page 455.

#### WALLIS FAMILY.

[W.-B. Record Feb. 25, 1896.]

John Jacob Wallis married Elizabeth Lukens, daughter of John Lukens, the surveyor general of Pennsylvania. They appear to have gone to Wilkes-Barre—or some of their children were there. The names of the children of John Jacob Wallis and his wife Elizabeth were:

1. John Lukens Wallis, m. Catherine ——. He died in 1863.
2. Grace Wallis, b. 1777; m., 1797 Evan Rice Evans.
3. Sarah Wallis, m. Daniel Smith.
4. Elizabeth Wallis, m., 1804 John Evans. They had seven children born in Wilkes-Barre. She d. 1817.
5. Gaynor Wallis, m., 1801 Enoch Smith.
6. Thomas Wallis (M. D.), m. ———
7. Joseph T. Wallis, b. 1789; m., 1813 Catherine Schaffer.

Where did this Wallis family come from? John Jacob Wallis may have been a surveyor also.

The John Evans (husband of Elizabeth) named above came from Clay Creek, Maryland, and was probably a Baptist. It looks as if it was the Evans family and not the Wallis family who lived in Wilkes-Barre.

#### WALLIS FAMILY.

[W.-B. Record March 20, 1896.]

The person making inquiry through a recent issue of the Record can obtain

some of the desired information in the last number of Dr. Eggle's "Notes and Queries," vol. 2, No. 6, page 316.

Evan Rice Evans (Evan, John, John), (b. 1763, d. at Sunbury 1813) was a prominent lawyer. In 1797 he m. Miss Grace Wallis (b. 1777, d. 1804.) Had three children:

Elizabeth, b. 1798, m. Henry Shippen.  
Margaret, b. 1800, m. Rush Reese.  
Sarah, b. 1802, m. Gen. Hugh Brady.  
John Evans (Evan, John, John), was a brother of Evan Rice Evans. The two brothers married Wallis sisters. John m. Elizabeth 1804 and moved to Wilkes-Barre where he practiced law. Issue:  
Grace, b. 1805, m. Morgan T. Rhees.  
Elizabeth Margaret, b. 1807, m. John Cooper, Jr.  
Mary, b. 1809, m. William Erwin.  
Thomas Wallis, b. 1811, m. Annie D. Homar.

Margaret Garrett, b. 1813, m. Miller Fox.

Cassandra, b. 1815, died unm.  
Jane, b. 1817, m. Dr. Henry L. Aitken.  
All the above children were born in Wilkes-Barre.

Further information of this Wallis family given in "Notes and Queries," 4th series, vol. 1, p. 399.

#### EARLY NORTH BRANCH SURVEY.

During the month of January, 1896, the Wyalusing Rocket published an interesting series of articles that will add materially to the historical information concerning the early settlement of the portion of the north branch of the Susquehanna all the way from Danville to Athens. It appears that A. E. Cooper of Coopers Plains, N. Y., discovered among the old papers of his father, the late John Cooper, the notes and journals of an old-time surveyor, Jesse Lukens, the son of John Lukens, the surveyor-general of Pennsylvania, prior to the Revolution, who was the great-great-grandfather of Mr. Cooper. These surveys were made in 1774, and Mr. Cooper presented a copy to Rev. David Craft of Lawrenceville, Pa., who caused them to be published in the Rocket. Mr. Craft added many notes which will be found scattered throughout the history enclosed in brackets.

Mr. Cooper is entitled to the thanks of the local historians in bringing to light these valuable records. Jesse Lukens, who was one of Plunkett's invaders, was killed at the lower end of Wyoming Valley by the Connecticut settlers Dec. 25, 1775, who were then con-

testing the title of Pennsylvania to the lands occupied by them.

The Record hopes to make some extract in later issues. In a letter to the Wyalusing editor Mr. Craft, who is the leading historian of the upper Susquehanna region, says:

Dear Sir—I enclose the greater portion of the Jesse Lukens field notes. I would have given a good deal to have had them when writing the history of Bradford County. They establish several important historical points. (1.) That the Pennsylvania government did make actual surveys of all the best land in the valley of the North Branch as far north as Towanda. (2.) The estimated value of the land surveyed. (3.) The location of a number of the early settlers, as John Seacord, Moses Mountz, the Phillipes, etc., and established the fact of their being on the ground in 1774. (4.) The signification of the Indian name of many of the streams. I have made some notes on this latter subject as I came to them. Yours truly,

David Craft.

#### LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The officers for 1896 are as follows: President, F. E. Platt; first vice president, A. W. Dickson; second vice president, W. F. Smith; the officers and the following to constitute the board of trustees, W. D. Kennedy, E. B. Sturges, B. H. Troop and L. M. Gates; recording secretary, J. H. Fisher; corresponding secretary, W. A. Wilcox; treasurer, J. W. Phillips.

Several letters have passed between Mrs. Dr. Hollister and the curator in regard to the purchase of the interesting Hollister collection of Indian relics.

#### FRONTIER FORTS.

Readers of the Record are familiar with the fact that the State, in order to put in permanent and convenient form all the available historical material relative to the Revolutionary forts of Pennsylvania, undertook such publication. The State was divided into sections and the following commissioners were appointed to prepare the matter, they all being men of recognized standing as investigators of local history:

The region between the north and west branches of the Susquehanna, including Fort Augusta at Sunbury, John M. Buckalew.

The Wyoming Valley region, Sheldon Reynolds.

The region between the Delaware and the Susquehanna rivers, south of the Blue Mountains, Henry M. M. Richards of Reading.

Juniata and Cumberland valleys, Jay G. Welsler.

The work is in two large, handsome volumes of over 600 pages each. It is enriched with numerous illustrations in colors, and there are also valuable maps. In the portion devoted to Wyoming Valley there is a colored picture of Forty Fort as it was during the Revolution and of Stewart's block house in Hanover Township.

The subjects occupy variable space. Wyoming Valley has only forty pages while Capt. Buckalew's section has 68, Mr. Welsler's 150 and Mr. Richard's 350, but the giant share is awarded to Western Pennsylvania which occupies an entire volume.

The sections prepared with great care by the late Sheldon Reynolds and by Capt. Buckalew were fully reported in the Record at the time they were read before the Historical Society.

Both these sections will appear in the published proceedings of the society, the State having furnished sufficient printed sheets for that purpose.

The two volumes contain a vast amount of history, much of it heretofore unpublished.

#### MEMORY OF WAR TIMES

War memories are recalled by a poster shown in Hagenbaugh's window on North Franklin street. It is as follows:

#### LUZERNE REGIM'T!

Rally [eagle's picture] For Our Country.

#### CAPTAIN W. J. HARVEY

Will Recruit a Company for This Regiment Now in Camp at Harrisburg.

Subsistence will be furnished from date of enrollment. Uniforms provided upon arrival at Camp. Recruiting offices for this Company will be found at Wilkes-Barre, Kingston and Plymouth.

#### MEN ENLISTING

in this regiment are entitled to all THE BENEFITS of the Acts of Assembly of Pennsylvania, in addition to the pay, rations and bounty provided by the United States.

WM. J. HARVEY,  
September 18, 1861. Captain.

## ABOUT OLD WILKES-BARRE.

[Daily Record, Feb. 15, 1896.]

To sit down occasionally and muse over by-gone days, especially those that are fraught with pleasant memories, is a pastime that is always agreeable. Particularly is it so when thinking of old Wilkes-Barre,—the happy homes of those with whom I was familiar—its grand men and women—the boys who were companions of my youth, and the girls, God bless them, whose frolicsome glee, so often made life a bright and beautiful reality; and I never think but with feelings akin to love for the old town. There should be no patience with those who would speak disparagingly of Wilkes-Barre. Though our lines may run differently in some directions, it should beget nothing but a generous spirit of rivalry. Anything more is wholly uncalled for. We were children of the same mother county—Old Luzerne's great men and their achievements were ours, and though separated now by a legal line, social ties need not be severed, and we should rejoice that the old borough has ripened into a substantial and prosperous city, dominated by a conservative, cultured and hospitable people.

The time of which I write is between forty and fifty years ago. There was no railroad to get there, hence I will take a seat on top of the old four-horse coach and with my visiting friend once more live over again, a trip down through the beautiful Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys. The home of old Uncle Jo Griffin is soon passed, presently coming to Capt. Albert Felts who lived on the brow of the steep hill which the drivers always dreaded. On we go through the Atherton neighborhood, down past the Knapps, John Stewart and Erastus Smith, finally reining up in front of the well known tavern of Charles Drake. Here a stop for a few minutes to give the horses a slight rest, and some water. "All aboard" is heard, the driver cracks his whip and away we go down by Babb's store, the Marcys, Browns and on top of the hill to the left the farm house of that well-known citizen Zenas Barnum. Soon the head of the North Branch is reached, where Tom Benedict has been making quite extensive improvements. Dr. Curtis's stone house is passed and presently we are stopping by the Sax tavern in Pittston. The mail bag is left at the postoffice to be overhauled;

nevertheless the stay is quite limited and the driver hurries on. Acting in that capacity was either Harvey Nash or John Kennedy; than whom no two men were better known or more respected between Carbondale and Wilkes-Barre. Pittston was a straggling village. The Butler colliery was in operation; but whoever left at this time, and perchance should return in 1896, would scarcely find a land mark in the flourishing and go-ahead city. We probably take the river road, pass Blandhard's, Courtright's, the Searles's, Stark's, all noted families; then stop at Sperring's tavern to refresh the horses. Again under way, the old Hollenback mill is passed, and the big hill climbed, and in a short distance we are on the streets of Wilkes-Barre. We have been on the coach between three and four hours and gladly alight at the Phoenix Hotel, kept by that prince of landlords, P. McC. Gilchrist. Here was always a welcome for the traveler. If one wanted a good bed to sleep on, or good things to eat, here they were. Even the thirsty soul could slack its thirst with old rye or cognac, and Schnapps of the very best quality. How well I recall that wooden structure standing there on the banks of the Susquehanna, and from whose porches there was such an extended and beautiful view of Wyoming Valley. Here frequently congregated some of the ablest men of the town, my friend notices one now, whose fine appearance and address evidences no ordinary man. He is entertaining a coterie of congenial spirits. That is the popular and whole-souled Henry M. Fuller, an able man and good lawyer, whose residence and offices is just below the hotel. But we must go out and take a stroll about the town. A short distance on the river and we turn to go up Market street. Here on the corner is the Hollenback store, old fashioned, but chuck full of merchandise. Do you see that short, heavy set man coming down the street? That George M. Hollenback, by far the wealthiest man of the town. on this very spot his ancestors traded with the Indians and laid the foundation for the immense wealth which his son has so wisely managed. With it all he is good, universally respected, and one of the most affable of men. On either side of the street we notice little else than low wooden buildings. Now my friend's attention is arrested by a large, remarkable looking man who is walking

down on the other side. There is a man whose big proportions are not confined to the physical development. His intellect is massive. It is George W. Woodward, one of Wilkes-Barre's oldest lawyers and now president judge of one of the interior districts. He is undoubtedly returning to his home so cosily situated on the side of the hill below Kingston. That young man who is waving a salutation to me is his son Stanley. He must be home on a vacation from college where he stands among the first of his class. And here comes another fine looking gentleman, leisurly walking down towards his office, which we have just passed. This is the eloquent and aggressive Col. Hendrick B. Wright, one of the best of jury lawyers. He is paying a great deal of attention to politics and will no doubt be heard from in the national legislature. There, do you see coming towards us that small, black eyed man? It is William C. Gildersleeve one of the successful merchants, notorious as a great abolitionist, and who not a long time ago was visited with attempted personal violence on that account. Here we are at the Public Square, and on which, directly facing Market street, is the old market house. Close by is the Academy. That large wooden building with the tall spire is the Methodist Church. Opposite on the southerly side stands the court house; a very ordinary structure you say for a rich county. On the easterly side is the stone house where the county records and offices are kept. Around this square are most of the shops and business places, and we will walk on the northerly side up as far as Main street and step into Steele's new brick hotel. There is sheriff George P. Steele, one of the most indefatigable and shrewdest of Luzerne's Democratic politicians. His amiability and kindness of heart are proverbial. Just above the hotel is the hardware store of Ziba Bennett, another of the rich merchants, one of the most reliable and estimable men of the town. There he stands in the door and that young man who is talking with him is his confidential clerk, Charles Parrish. Over on the other corner is the residence of Lord Butler, one of the first citizens of the place. Down about half way on the easterly side of the square and we come to Maj. S. H. Puterbaugh's hotel. He is a very jolly and popular landlord. Below the square on East Market street

stands the jail. Such an institution is never an inviting place, and this one in particular we will give a wide berth. Do you see that three story brick on the South side of the square? We notice it because such buildings are scarce. It is the residence of Joseph Slocum, one of the oldest and most respected residents. He was a boy when the Indians invaded the town and carried off his little sister Frances, about whom there is such a romantic history. We pass along and see just turning the corner down South Main an old man bent with the weight of ninety years. This is the old lawyer, Thomas Dyer, whose opinions on questions of law are universally repeated by the attorneys. He carries us away back into the past. Born before the revolution, he recollects distinctly the birth of our Republican government. What a world of memories cluster about that old man. Who is that coming towards him and taking his hand with a friendly grasp? That is Senator William S. Ross just coming up from his well cultivated fields but little more than a quarter of a mile below, where he lives like a prince.

Court seems to be in session and we will step in. Not a very imposing room you say; nevertheless it has been the scene of many an intellectual contest that would have done honor to any court room on earth. Presiding there is that loved and eminent jurist, John N. Conyngham. Evidently there is an important case on, for sitting at one of the tables you see Harrison Wright, Warren J. Woodward and Andrew T. McClintock. At the other Judge Oristus Collins, Lyman Hakes and Edmund L. Dana. You can scarcely get together a greater array of legal giants. Undoubtedly McClintock on the one side, and Judge Collins on the other, are there for the wise and conservative counsel. Now watch Hakes; he has made an objection and is urging it with all the argumentative ability of which he is so complete a master. The judge is evidently inclined to assent to his proposition. But wait, Harrison Wright is to reply, and if there is any best lawyer at this bar this is the man. You can see that he feels that he is right. Those black eyes peering out from under his gold glasses are flashing fire as he flials away at the position of his antagonist and the seeming judicial acquiescence, until an array of facts and authorities are presented that are irresistible. Now you



will see the action of a great judge. Never influenced by preconceived notions or by vehement language addressed, he calmly sees the error and is man enough to acknowledge it. However interesting, we cannot tarry here; but before leaving will take a peep into the bar office where wit, hilarity and law very frequently hold high carnival. Sure enough, we are lucky, for there sit among others Garrick M. Harding, Henry M. Hoyt and Byron Nicholson, a galaxy of brilliant young lawyers. Garrick, I call him that because everybody else does. He is named after that great lawyer Garrick Mallory and has set out to add fame to the reputation of his distinguished prototype. He is telling a story, at which he is a great adept. It must be a good one, for it has provoked a ghostly smile on the face of Nicholson, and Hoyt laughs immoderately. That oldish gentleman sitting back there is Volney L. Maxwell, one of our most reliable office lawyers. Not a muscle of his face moves, but if you should perchance see him on the street to-morrow, more than likely he would break out into a hearty laugh; and it would all be over the story to which he has just been listening. This would be a good place to stay, but time forbids. Out upon the street again the first man we meet is a gentleman whose long gray locks bespeak that he has for many years passed the meridian. That is the venerable and respected Charles Miner, the eloquent historian of Wyoming. His name will live so long as the valorous deeds of her noble men and women shall be read by the student of history. You ask who those two men are so earnestly engaged in conversation. The tall man, who has just taken a pinch of snuff, is Samuel Collings, editor of the Democratic paper and one of the most incisive and able political writers of the State. They are evidently trying to settle some question of party politics, for the other gentleman is Andrew Beaumont, who has made a national reputation in Congress, and a man of undoubted integrity and ability. Dr. Miner comes along; a very able physician and withal an orator of the best type. Fortunately we shall be able to get a look at another celebrity. Watch that humped back man as he approaches. He lives about four miles out, but is frequently seen on the streets of Wilkes-Barre. It is the Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, who has electrified audiences from one end of the country

to the other, on the subject of temperance. They call him "Pappy" Hunt for short, and he can tell an anecdote equal to the best of them. John Butler, a descendant of the revolutionary patriots and one of our honored representative men, is crossing over on purpose to meet him. If we were near enough we could hear some first-class joking. There are other noted people whom it would be a pleasure to point out—in fact, there, across the square, are Judge Kidder, H. W. Nicholson, and in another direction Revs. John Dorrance, Pearne and Nelson, all distinguished in their different callings,—but the stage horn is blowing and we must haste to take our departure.

Thus ends these musings—they are suggestive of many and conflicting emotions—pleasure to look upon the faces of those who in the long ago were helping to manage and move the destinies of our adored country,—sorrow to think that of all the number herein mentioned, but three are left with us. Though gathered to their fathers, it is gratifying that there are still many left who delight to cherish and honor their memory.—E. Merrifield, in *Scranton Sunday News*, Feb. 2, 1896.

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#### CURIOUS WELSH RELIC.

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An interesting relic of the landing of the French army in Abergwaun, Pembrokeshire, South Wales, in 1797, is now in the possession of Levi Gibbons, 184 Stanton street. It is a red shawl that his great-grandmother wore, she being one of the women who paraded around a hill under the command of an old soldier to represent the British army at a distance. Seeing no end of them coming around the hill the French thought the place swarmed with Redcoats. They made for their ships as fast as possible, but in their return they encountered a terrible storm which drove them back shipwrecked on the Welsh coast again. After being fugitives through the country for several months they were compelled through hunger to do something and worked with the farmers. The shawl is of ordinary size, trimmed with black ribbon around the edge and is in good condition. There are two more of them kept as relics in a Cardiff historical museum.

### EARLY WYOMING COUNTY NEWS-PAPERS.

The first paper ever published at Tunkhannock was the Luzerne Democrat, whose publication was begun in May, 1841, by William S. Jayne and Dr. J. V. Smith. This first journalistic venture lived six months. Tunkhannock was then in Luzerne County. Wyoming County was created in 1842, and in July of that year William Bolton, whose daughters Kate and Frances still reside here, originated the Wyoming Patrol, another Democratic paper. Mr. Bolton seemed to understand the people and their needs, and continued to publish the Patrol until he contracted the gold fever in 1849, when he sold the Patrol to S. S. Winchester, a bright young attorney of this place. Mr. Winchester in April, 1849, changed the name to the Wyoming County Democrat, and continued to manage it under the new name until Dec. 13, 1853, when Alvin R. Conklin became the proprietor for a few months to an issue of half a sheet and in August of the same year went out. The first Whig paper was started Sept. 25, 1844, by O. N. Worden. It was called the Wyoming County Record. Mr. Worden was a man of considerable ability, and continued to publish the Record until 1848, when it ceased to be self-supporting, and its publication was discontinued. From its ashes phoenix-like, sprung the Wyoming County Whig, under the management of C. E. Lathrop. This journal was issued regularly until Dec. 23, 1852, when it, too, died for lack of nourishment.

One of the potent causes of the demise of the Democrat was the birth of a new paper called the North Branch Democrat, on Feb. 15, 1854, under the management of D. A. Yarrington and Dr. J. V. Smith. November 29 of the same year Dr. Smith became sole owner and continued to publish the paper until May 21, 1856, when he sold it to A. R. Conklin, B. M. Shannon and F. G. Osterhout. Shannon sold his interest Aug. 27, 1856, to the other two partners, and evidently made a good sale, for on the 19th of the November following he appears again as sole owner and proprietor. He published the paper until May 13, 1857, when he sold the material and good will to George A. Chase, J. J. Osterhout and C. H. Osterhout. The Fourth of July number of that year came out in the national colors, the first sheet being published in red ink, the

second in blue ink. July 15, 1857, Mr. Chase bought the interests of his other partners, but held them only until he found a buyer in the person of the late John Day. Mr. Day purchased the paper Aug. 19, 1857, and October 14 following sold a half interest to his brother, Alvin Day. It was published by John and Alvin Day until Dec. 26, 1860, when it was sold to eBenjamin F. Emory, a Methodist minister, and an ardent Republican. Mr. Emory changed the name to the Wyoming Intelligencer, and the North Branch Democrat went out, done to its death by purchase of its foes. The new Republican paper made it lively for the Republican paper which preceded it. Its first issue was dated Jan. 16, 1861, its last was Nov. 20 in the same year, at which date it was absorbed and passed into the Wyoming Republican, owned and managed by G. L. and H. E. Tiffany. In the same year an effort was made to rehabilitate the North Branch Democrat. The late Col. D. C. Kitchen, a writer of considerable ability, issued Aug. 14, 1861, a new paper with the name North Branch Democrat—new series. The colonel got out just four numbers, the last dated Sept. 11, when he disposed of it to the late Harvey Sickler, who published it under the name given above until Aug. 7, 1867, when he enlarged it and rechristened it the Wyoming Democrat. Aug. 2, 1871, Mr. Sickler sold the paper to Alvin Day, who published it until March 3, 1880, when he took in Charles E. Terry as a partner. April 29, 1881, Mr. Terry disposed of his interest to Mr. Day. On December 2 of the same year Mr. Terry was again admitted as a partner, and the Democrat was published by Day & Terry until Dec. 5, 1884, when James F. Day purchased the interest of Mr. Terry, and since that time the journal has been conducted by Day & Son.

The Wyoming Republican was started Feb. 8, 1860, by our Nicholson attorney, S. L. Tiffany, who has always had a strong and decided bent for literary pursuits, and who withal is a clever thinker and a terse writer. Wishing to be relieved of the business management of the paper, so as to devote his time to its literary make-up, he sold Jan. 23, 1861, a half interest to H. E. Tiffany. They continued its management together until Nov. 26, 1862, when they sold the paper to William Burgess. Two years after, on Nov. 23, 1864, Mr. Burgess placed the paper in charge of the late Ira Avery, and himself went to the front in the service of his country. Mr. Avery

made the press speak in no uncertain tones in favor of the most thorough prosecution of the war. The war between the two newspapers published here, the Republican, managed by Mr. Avery, and the Democrat, published by Harvey Sickler, was as fierce and uncompromising as that waged by the government against the States in rebellion. The issues of the war were canvassed as thoroughly in Wyoming, and the participants of each side were as bitter as any county in the commonwealth. Mr. Burgess returned Aug. 30, 1865, after the close of the war, and stood at the helm again. He published the paper for eighteen months after his return, but the list fell off and he stopped publication with the issue of Feb. 26, 1867. In August of the same year A. F. Yost made an attempt to revive it. His first issue was Aug. 22, 1867. There were six weekly issues of the paper—then came the seventh—a half sheet, made classic and famous by Mr. Yost's valedictory, which was subsequently published in full in Harper's Editor's Drawer—Vol. 36, page 270. It is so unique that we reproduce it: "With this half sheet, dear reader of the Republican, it is our intention to bid you a sorrowful farewell. This may surprise and disgust you, for we are vain enough to believe that our paper has been a welcome visitor—not up to the standard, in any respect, but it was our design to improve as we went along—and you are loth to see it go under. Yet such, you see, is its manifest destiny. We are flat broke—so completely strapped that if 100-acre farms were selling at 25 cents apiece we couldn't muster enough to buy a wild plum tree. That is why we are compelled to stop. Our people had a wrong conception of us, we fear. Understand we were born pretty much in the manner children are born now—a good while ago, it is true, but that don't affect the truth of our statement. Being born in the flesh, we are too material, we fear, to get quite fat on promises, with glimpses of success in the future, and nothing to appease the clamorous demands of the present. When we came into this beautiful world money happened to be very scarce, and we knew by intuition that we were to be the architect of our own fortune—were bound to hew our way through the awkwardest material and under the roughest circumstances, but we are not prepared to weather it in Wyoming County. There don't appear to be enough of the true Christian element among you—you are too selfish, don't want to get acquainted with any-

body but yourself—allow a friendless stranger to seek his company among the low and vulgar, or if he is too refined for that he may mould and rot in his own individuality. You are not sociable enough. We might possibly give you some advice, but we forbear. Look at your rickety town with your eyes open. Rid yourselves of some of the rich fossils of the last century, and it will do you incalculable good. Elect men to fill your borough offices who are enterprising, and if you haven't them, import them. Devote more money to the cause of education. Build a respectable institution of learning in an inhabitable spot, and in advance of all pay your debts and do not suffer the sheriff to settle with your creditors. This advice won't be included in any one's bill. We came into the county two months ago with the full intention of keeping the Republican running or bust. We go back with the not very plous but quite forcible legend of 'Busted, by —' fearfully and painfully distinct upon every part and parcel of us. Our professional brethren will let us down easily as possible under the circumstances. We are sorry that in our retirement we will not be able to subscribe for all of our exchanges. If any have words to comfort and consolation to administer to us in our 'critical condition' we will be glad to know it, and if any feel like dropping a tear, we say, quite parenthetically, let it drop. If any have a jog for us, please address us at Bloomsburg, Pa. To our readers we also say farewell, and though we have never seen very many of you, we feel just as friendly toward you. We regret that our relations are thus abruptly suspended, and that you owe us so much money, but your easy consciences will fix that all right, we have no doubt. We then slowly vanish from public view like foam upon the ocean—a little heavier, but as beautiful—and lose ourself once more in our quiet and happy family, and become plainly A. F. Yost.

In spite of Mr. Yost's sad and somewhat withering farewell to Wyoming County, he stayed away only two years and came back announcing that he had come to give it one more trial. Aug. 5, 1869, the Tunkhannock Republican came to life, with Perry Marcy as proprietor and A. F. Yost as editor. In the first issue Mr. Yost made his apology for coming back. The paper jogged along with this management as a temperance Republican paper until Nov. 26, 1872, when Col. Marcy sold the outfit to F. J.

Furman and the business was carried on under the firm name of Yost & Furman. Dec. 9, 1874, Mr. Yost bought Furman out and handled it alone until Sept. 29, 1875, when Col. Marcy again became proprietor. He kept it this time only a few months, and Jan. 5, 1876, he sold the material and good will to Cyrus D. Camp, now of Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Camp, with his characteristic energy, took hold of the Republican, which had been for some time running on the down grade, increased the subscription list, improved the general appearance of the paper and made it the organ of its party in the county. Mr. Camp conducted the Republican successfully for over five years, and on July 22, 1881, passed it over in better condition than it had ever been, to G. S. Baldwin and C. M. Chapman. It was managed by them in the name of Baldwin & Chapman until April 30, 1886, when it passed into the hands of George S. Baldwin, who has continued as editor and publisher until the present time. Of the papers now published in Tunkhannock the Wyoming Democrat is the oldest, having received its name Aug. 7, 1867. The Tunkhannock Republican comes next, dating its birth from Aug. 5, 1869.

The Standard was launched as a Democratic paper on March 29, 1879, by Garman of Wilkes-Barre, who was principal of the Tunkhannock high school at that time. It goes without saying that the Democracy of the Standard was of the most lucid and lurid type during the eight months that John was on guard. On November 14 of that year the paper was sold to G. Decatur Bacon, who took his son, Cecil R. Bacon, a practical printer, into partnership and under the name of G. D. Bacon & Son the Standard was continued in the line indicated by the slashings made by Mr. Garman.

During the Greenback times, the advocates of our national money feeling the need of an organ in the county, gave such expression to their wishes that A. R. Merrick came here from Tioga County and associating with himself Mason Stark of this place, issued a new Greenback paper, sending out the first number on Oct. 15, 1881. For two years four papers were published and sent out from Tunkhannock.

After a time Bacon & Son, of the Standard, and Mr. Merrick, of the Worker, on account of a lack of nourishment, or from other good and sufficient causes, became weary and wanted to become private citizens. Mason Stark, however,

had not had enough of journalism, in fact, he desired to follow up its mysteries even to its inner and sacred shrine. He reached out both hands—taking the Standard in his right and the Worker in his left—and with all his force brought them together with a dull thud. They fused, combined and consolidated and intertwined into something new and different from either, an independent paper with strong Democratic leanings. This new production was called the New Age. Its first issue was dated April 19, 1883. Mr. Stark kept up his enthusiasm and handled the New Age in a very able manner for three years and more. Wishing then to retire from the exacting requirements of Wyoming County Journalism, he sold his entire interest in the paper on Oct. 7, 1886, to George J. Young and Victor H. Lyman. This partnership lasted only a year, Mr. Young retiring and disposing of his interest to B. L. Lyman on Oct. 6, 1887. Since that time the New Age has been published by Messrs. Lyman Bros., who have made it a very creditable journal.

There are two religious papers which emanated from Tunkhannock and they deserve more than a passing notice. The Baptist Messenger, which was edited by Rev. A. Bergen Browe and printed at the office of George J. Young on Warren street, issued its first number in July, 1889. It was a religious paper issued monthly in the interest of the Baptist Church of this place, of which Rev. Mr. Browe was the pastor. It was published and distributed gratuitously for over a year, the advertisements defraying the expense of publication. It was an experiment and under the able management of Mr. Browe accomplished all it was intended for.

The Methodist was the result of the unaided efforts of Norris, the 11-year-old son of passenger agent J. Selden Swisher. The first number was issued in 1894 and was all written with pen and ink by the enterprising editor, who had not the necessary outfit for printing it. He continued to publish it monthly, writing out the full contents of each number for each subscriber for nearly a year. The number for June, 1895, was put in cold type, and its subsequent issues have all been printed. The proprietor likes type better, as the subscribers can't kick about his handwriting, and he finds that he can keep up better with the demands of his increasing circulation. The paper is diminutive in size, but is neatly printed in an original manner.

## HISTORY OF AMERICAN COALS.

In a series of articles on "American Coals," running in the Coal Trade Journal and written by William Jasper Nicolls, the following is noted:

Only a general idea can be given of the locality in which the red ash and white ash coals occur, as they frequently overlap in the several fields of Pennsylvania anthracites, but roughly the high coals come first in hardness and density, and have a white ash. This includes the Green Mountain, Black Creek, Hazleton, Beaver Meadow and Panther Creek.

These coals have always been, and are now, the standard of excellence amongst the many varieties of anthracite, and are so recognized in the trade. Many a ton of inferior coal has found its devious way to the consumer, under the password 'Lehigh,' which never saw the region, but, to paraphrase a familiar proverb, 'It's a wise piece of coal that knoweth its own origin.' These coals are generally of the 'white ash' variety.

The next are the Wyoming coals, including Carbondale, Scranton, Pittston, Wilkes-Barre, Plymouth and Kingston, many of which are white ash, while some are semi-anthracite.

A recent writer in the Juniata Herald gives the following interesting account of the first struggles of 'Wyoming' coal for recognition:

Coal was first discovered in the Wyoming Valley in 1805 at Plymouth, Pa., by John and Abijah Smith, two brothers, who had come from Derby, Conn., in 1805. In 1807 they shipped their first boat-load of coal to Columbia, Pa. Anthracite coal at that time was not fully understood as to burning in an open grate, but was used in blast furnaces, where artificial blast was employed to produce combustion. The Smith brothers accompanied this load of coal, and also took along a stonemason, with all necessary tools to set up grates in houses, in order to demonstrate its excellent qualities for heating purposes. Several houses in Columbia were supplied with grates, in which 'stone coal,' as it was then called, were made, and careful instructions were given in regard to maintaining the fires. Notwithstanding the thorough arrangements and preparations made for the introduction of coal for domestic purposes, it was only after a struggle of several years that they were able to gain a profit on their enterprise.

Mr. Pierce is authority for the statement that 'up to 1820 the total amount of coal sent from Wyoming is reckoned at eighty-five hundred (8,500) tons,' and the same au-

thority says that Col. Washington Lee in 1820 'mined and sent to Baltimore one thousand (1,000) tons, which he sold at eight dollars per ton.'

The North Branch Canal was completed to the Nanticoke dam in 1830, and opened in 1831. The first boat, the Wyoming, was built by Hon. John Koons. It was launched and towed to Nanticoke, where it was loaded with ten tons of coal, a quantity of flour and other merchandise destined for Philadelphia. The Wyoming passed down the river to Northumberland, where it entered the Pennsylvania Canal, and proceeded by way of the Union and Schuylkill canals to Philadelphia. On her return she brought back a cargo weighing fifteen tons, was frozen in the ice at New Buffalo in January, 1831, and arrived at Wilkes-Barre three months after the date of her departure. Thus it is proven that the shipment of coal from this region was commenced earlier than is reported in the statements of the coal productions of the different regions.

In 1843 the completion of the Lehigh and Susquehanna R. R. from Wilkes-Barre to White Haven opened up a new avenue for taking the Wyoming coal to market. From this time on the history of the coal trade of this region is well known and its greatly increased production may be seen by a glance at the tables published for each year.

The coal deposits of the Wyoming Valley lies in one large basin, about 54 miles long and an average of about three and one-half miles in width—a deep subsidence, shaped like a huge boat, lying between the Wilkes-Barre mountains on the south side, and the Kingston and Capouse mountains on the north side. The aggregate thickness, at the deepest point, is about ninety feet, divided into ten separate seams. The greatest depth is in Hanover Township, midway between Wilkes-Barre and Nanticoke, where the 'red ash' (the lowest seam) is 2,200 below the surface.

The "red ash" coals are generally found in the Schuylkill region, and include Lorberr, Lykens Velle, East Mahanoy and Shamokin.

The efforts made by Col. Shoemaker and others in 1812 to introduce this coal into Philadelphia, which nearly resulted in his arrest and imprisonment as a common impostor and swindler, have already been related. It remains only to add that the men who obtained a writ from the Quaker City authorities denouncing the colonel as 'a knave and a scoundrel' for trying to impose rocks on them for coal, were the very men to whom he had given the coal for nothing!"

In the following article Mr. Nicolls becomes somewhat reminiscent.

"We can imagine our country before the 'prospector' occupied the land. The discoveries of coals and other minerals were the chance happenings of accident, and often of ignorant observers who were unable to take advantage of the things revealed to them. We have heard the oft repeated tale of the upturned tree in the forest with chunks of pure anthracite clinging—like potatoes—to the mass of roots, and the profound astonishment of the individual who first made the remarkable find. In like manner we have heard of the poverty-stricken farmer who built miles and miles of stone fence of purest coal in dense ignorance of the blissful fact that his rocky old goat pasture was nothing more or less than a bank, 'full forty feet deep,' of the black diamonds. Also various other legends and folk-lore, handed down from one generation to another, until by mere persistence the naked fiction has been clothed with the mantle of truth and becomes a fact in the annals of history. That accidental discoveries have happened in the history of American coal is barely possible, but highly improbable. Geologists and the science of geology did begin with the history of coal development in the New World, and the trained prospector at that time was abroad in the land, thoroughly equipped for his work and inspired with enthusiasm at the magnitude of the task before him, with the experience of workers in older fields to guide and direct him.

"Pages could be filled with the interesting accounts of the various coal discoveries, pages of matter that have done service in each succeeding account since the beginning; but it is necessary to draw the line at romance or tradition with the accounts already given in the preceding chapters and continue the story in its various lines of development.

"The geologist points out the path, the prospector with the instinct of his profession follows it until the coal is found. In his search no trifling appearance of the surface escapes his penetrating eye. Carefully he follows the winding course of the streams, the banks of the rivers and dark ravines, industriously collecting evidence with which to convict Dame Nature of secreting treasures. The naked sides of the beetling mountain cliffs expose their seamy contours to the practical vision of the prospector in apparent frankness of expression, but he is too wary to trust entirely to appearances, the line of black smut, however, having been found, points with unerring dis-

tingness to the coal seam beyond. The condition in which the coal seams underlay the surface was for a time misunderstood. In 1570 George Owen left in manuscript a 'History of Pembrokeshire,' in which he mentions the idea of an orderly arrangement of the coal strata, but he was evidently not aware of their uniform continuity in beds or seams, and improperly designates them as 'veins.' It is to the Welsh miners that we owe for the word *gwythyen*, or vein, but 'Coal is never found issuing in veins from the interior of the planet,' says Professor Lesley, 'like gold and silver, or filling irregular cross crevices in limestone, like lead; nor spread abroad in lakes of hardened lava, like basalt and greenstone; nor embedded in clay, crystallizing upward from the walls and bottoms of the deep, wide fissures, as bunches of grapes, or in bundles of pipes like the hematite iron ores; nor lying exposed upon the surface in blocks, like native copper, or meteoric iron, but always as a thin sheet or stratum, extending through the hills as far as the hills extend, and enclosed between similar sheets of other kinds of rock.'

" 'There are, no doubt,' continues Mr. Lesley, 'few native business men of Philadelphia who cannot remember the panic occasioned by the news that the miners had reached the bottom of the Mauch Chunk Summit mine. . . . Men were terrified to learn that Mauch Chunk Mountain was not a solid mass of coal, but had to learn that one-sixth or eighth of the United States was underlaid by beds of it.' Even at that time men were ignorant of the fact that coal is not contained in veins but in thin beds or seams, enclosed by many hundreds of feet of other rock.

" The geological specimens' contained in almost every country house are given due consideration by the searcher for coal, and many a discovery made in ignorance by the unlettered forester or ploughman is made genuine by the decision of the geologist, without whose knowledge the 'discovery' would have remained as though it had never been made. For if these specimens should contain fossils—the branching, fern-like sphenopteris, the regular impressions as though made by a seal of the sigillaria, the more ornate and graceful tracing of the lepidodendron, the broad leaf of the neuropteris, the star-like asterophyllites or the pointed sections of the calamites—he would know that the rock came from the typical coal measures and therefore he would have good prospects of finding coal in the

neighborhood from whence the specimen came.

"It is only, however, under certain conditions that the coal seams can be located by the topographical or surface indications. The great amount of drift comprised of soil or alluvial often completely hides the coal outcroppings and the positions of the coal strata from view. How often the discouraged prospector has wished for the faith that could move mountains, if only for one brief moment, so that he could view for an instant the uncovered and naked seams of coal!

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#### HER EIGHTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY.

[From Dallas Post.]

Another of those pleasant gatherings that add so much to life's enjoyments took place Monday, Feb. 10, 1896, at the home of Mrs. Susannah Warden, of this place, it being her 87th birthday anniversary. For several years it has been the custom of her children, grandchildren, nephews and nieces to gather on that day and celebrate the birthday of their aged parent.

Quite early in the morning the friends began to assemble and before noon the house was almost filled with the happy guests, whose presence seemed to produce a joyful effect on the hostess, and she appeared to enjoy the occasion.

Those present were all her children that are living, their names being as follows: Mrs. A. S. Orr and husband, of Highland farm; Mrs. Smith Irwin, of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. A. M. Roushey of Dallas; Mrs. Joseph Atherholt, of Dallas; Mrs. H. B. Major, of Hanover; Miss Susie A. Warden, a home; D. M. Warden and wife, of Wilkes-Barre.

There were also present Mrs. W. R. Garinger of Wilkes-Barre, Miss Mame Atherholt of Dallas, William Orr and wife of Highland farm; Misses Susie and Millie and John Warden of Wilkes-Barre, all being grandchildren of Mrs. Warden. There were also present the following great-grandchildren: Master Marion and Myrtle and Althea Garinger of Wilkes-Barre and Margaretta Wilson of Binghamton, N. Y.

Besides the above there were present: P. N. Warden, wife and daughter, the former being a nephew, all of Dallas; Miss Carrie Reed of Dallas, Mrs. James D. Seacrist of Hanover, Mrs. U. K. P. of Wilkes-Barre, and Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shaver of Shaverown.

#### THE WYOMING ARTILLERISTS.

[W.-B. Record March 5, 1896.]

The following facts about the historic, but now defunct organization, were written by the late Wesley Johnson in 1877:

The artillerists have a history; for the Susquehanna, that has been flowing to the sea for ages, is still the same old river, so this is still the same old organization which Francis L. Bowman commanded in 1842, and Capt. Edmund L. Dana marched with to the triumphant close of the Mexican war.

In a little work before us, by Lieut. Col. D. C. Kitchen, we learn that the company was organized in 1842, with Frank Bowman for captain, E. L. Dana first lieutenant, Martin Long second, and Aaron Brown third. It had W. W. Wallace for first sergeant, Eleazer B. Collings for second, S. H. Puterbaugh for third, and William Sharpe for fourth. The corporals were William Dickover, G. A. Davis, John Wolf and John Millheiser. Of the rank and file there were many of our well known citizens, viz: Adam Behee, John C. Frederick, S. H. Lynch, Andrew Kesler, John B. Smith of Pittston, E. E. Le Clerc, Samuel Bowman, Joseph Murray, M. B. Hammer, Conrad Kilple, Charles Lehman, C. B. Price, William H. Alexander, Charles Westfield, E. P. Lynch and others.

In 1845 the company mustered in a grand encampment at Lewisburg, and by this time had added to its roll A. H. Emley, Thomas Blake, Lewis Hitchler, Charles Roth, Edward G. Mallory, H. C. Anhliser, Henry Titus and other well remembered citizens. On the 6th of December, 1846, the company set sail in a canal boat to join Gen. Scott's forces, destined for the subjugation of the country of the ancient Aztecs. Dana was captain, E. B. Collings was first lieutenant, F. L. Bowman second, and A. H. Goff and Jacob Waelder were seconds by brevet. Bowman was elected major and Joseph W. Mines elected to fill the vacancy. Goff was assassinated at Perote by a captain of a Georgia company named Foster, but all the other commissioned officers returned alive. While in Mexico the company numbered in its ranks as correspondent of the "North American" of Philadelphia, William C. Toby, one of the liveliest and raciest newspaper correspondents of the day. The company participated in many battles, among them, their first baptism of fire at their

landing at Vera Cruz, where the coolness and courage of Maj. Bowman, while receiving the first fire, was conspicuous. They were in Gen. Pillow's brigade at Cerro Gordo, where some heavy fighting was done. They also did some heavy drinking of pulque and aguardiente while on the march through Jalapa and on to Perote, where Lieut. Goff was killed. They sustained a protracted siege at Pueblo, enduring great privations. After the war was over we all remember the grand ovation given to the survivors in the field opposite the house of Mrs. Ruth Ross, on South Main street, upon their return, the observed of all observers and the heroes of the hour. Some of them have fallen on other fields, and some have been raised to positions of distinction and honor in the land. [Of those who were in the company at the close of the Mexican War, only three are now (1896) living. These are William Dickover, Charles Roth and Samuel H. Lynch.—Editor Record.]

The company was afterwards commanded by Captains E. B. Collings, E. B. Harvey, Samuel Bowman, N. Pierson and A. H. Emley; under the last it served in the three months' service, the captain being promoted to colonel of 8th Regiment under Gen. Patterson. In July, 1862, the artillerists were again mustered into the 143d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers under Capt. George N. Reichard and served during the war of the rebellion as a valiant and worthy company. In 1870 the company was reorganized, with John Espy for captain, who was succeeded by E. W. Finch. In 1876 the company was re-officered through the efforts of T. C. Parker, and at the suggestion of Maj. Gen. Osborne, Joseph E. Ullman was elected captain. Capt. Ullman soon resigned, and the company is now (1877) in command of its Senior First Lieut. G. E. Ross, conjointly with Lieut. T. C. Parker, who afterwards became captain. Lieut. Parker has been ten years in service with the company.

The reminiscences of Col. Kitchen, from which we obtain the most of the above facts, is well written, as is almost anything that emanates from his facile pen; and as he details facts that came within his own observation, may therefore be relied on as correct. To any one who knew the most of the actors in the scenes, and their immediate friends, the colonel's book should possess a deep interest, and will sup-

ply some links in our local history not obtainable elsewhere to the future gatherer of unconsidered trifles. The scenes and incidents of camp life in Mexico are very vividly portrayed, and bring to mind many similar ones in the memory of the writer hereof.

[W.-B. Record March 6, 1896.]

Editor Record: I wish to add a word or two to the history of the Wyoming Artillerists, mentioned in yesterday's issue. I was a member of it when commanded by Capt. Pierson and Capt. Harvey. In the three months service I was with it as first lieutenant under Capt. Finch, and immediately after being mustered out I recruited it as the Wyoming Artillerists, for the three years' service, and had thirty-two of its former members and was mustered into service as Co. "L," 23rd P. V., (Birney's Zouaves) and after five months was transferred and known as Co. "D," 61st P. V. Now if Col. Reichard's company of the 143d was also the Wyoming Artillerists, we are very happy to know that its Mexican reputation, (and ours) was so good as to recruit another namesake so long after the first and second was in the field. I will add that after the rebellion I remained a member of the Wyoming Artillerists until it was disbanded and personally turned over its cannon and equipments to the Adjutant General at Harrisburg. It ought to be in existence to-day.

Butler Dilley,  
Late Captain Co. "D," 61st P. V.,  
(Wyoming Artillerists.)

#### LIST OF MAYFLOWER PILGRIMS.

The information is often desired by students of genealogy as to where can be found lists of the Pilgrims who came in the Mayflower and those who were with Penn on board the Welcome. The Record is able, through the kindness of State Librarian Egle of Harrisburg, to give the desired information, as follows:

The list of the Mayflower's passengers is to be found in the Massachusetts Historical Collections, volume three of the fourth series.

The names of the emigrants who came with William Penn on board the Welcome in October, 1682, are given in Westcott's History of Philadelphia, volume one, pages ninety-nine and one hundred.



## DEATH OF JOHN M. STARK.

[W.-B. Record March 16, 1896.]

John M. Stark, a life long resident of Wyoming Valley, and a member of one of the oldest families, was found dead in bed at his home in Wyoming on Saturday morning at 6 o'clock. He had been suffering from indigestion for some time, but was always able to be about. He was feeling well on Friday afternoon, and informed a friend, whom he met on his way to the post office, that he felt better than he had felt for several days. He was in good spirits all day and before retiring at 8 o'clock he ate a hearty supper. He was always an early riser and as he was not down stairs at 6 o'clock, Mrs. Stark, thinking that perhaps he was not feeling well, went to his room to see if any thing was wrong. She went to his bedside and called to him. He did not answer and she took hold of him to shake him, but was horrified to find that he was cold in death. She informed the remainder of the family and Dr. Knapp made an examination and found that he had been dead several hours, heart disease being ascribed as the cause.

The deceased was 77 years old and throughout his long lease of life enjoyed the best of health. During his career he held many responsible positions and filled them always with credit to himself and in a manner satisfactory to his employers. For ten years he was superintendent of the North Branch Canal, and for eight years was superintendent of the Pennsylvania Coal Co. At the time of his death he was president of the Stark Land Co. of Pittston, and director of the People's Savings Bank of the same place. Deceased was the son of James and Mary Stark and was born in Plains Township, Feb. 23, 1819, a lineal descendant of the Stark family referred to in Bradsby's History of Luzerne County, as follows:

"Christopher, James and Henry Stark were buried side by side in a cemetery one mile south of Pittston. Those three were father, son and grandson, and the paternal estate in 1845 was occupied by James and John M., and George M. Stark, the son, grandson and great grandson of the three first named. In 1845 James Stark was aged 50, and at that early day could point side by side to the three generations of his ancestors. Miner thought at that time there was not another instance where there was a great grandfather buried in the county. The Starks came in 1771, when Christopher

Stark must have been a very aged man; both he and his son died before the Wyoming battle. Two of the Stark names appear in 1772—Aaron and James; the former sold his land claim to James and settled in another part of the valley. Three brothers came from England, and a descendant of one of the brothers was the Gen. John Stark of immortal fame—the hero of Bennington. James Stark, son of James and brother of Henry, was a member of one of the independent companies. In the Wyoming battle (fought July 3, 1778) were three brothers—Daniel, Aaron and James; the last only escaped with his life. A grandson of the slain Aaron, John D. Stark, became a prominent citizen of Pittston." (Conrad S. Stark, Esq., of Pittston, now deceased, a prominent member of the Luzerne bar, was a son of John D. Stark.)

Deceased is survived by his wife and five children. They are: Harriet E., wife of Moses Coolbaugh of Pittston; Joanna, married to M. H. Stevens of West Pittston; Mary L., wife of W. H. Shoemaker of Wyoming; Ellen S., wife of F. C. Mosler of West Pittston, and Jennie E., wife of Dr. J. N. Warner of this city. There were two sons, now deceased: Benjamin, who died July 27, 1882, and George M., July 27, 1895. Both of these were prominent citizens of the valley at the time of their deaths.

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 WILKES-BARRE PAPER OF 1843.

L. W. Rice of Lehman was a caller at the Record office on Saturday and left a copy of the Wilkes-Barre Advocate of Dec. 20, 1843. It was published by Sharp D. Lewis on Market street, in a building opposite Voorhis & Murray's. Of the several advertisers of that day only two survive the wear and tear of fifty-five years, Samuel McCarragher and William S. Wells. Advertisers whose deaths have occurred comparatively recently are, L. D. Shoemaker (law), H. C. Wilson (blacksmith). This paper was the predecessor of the Record.

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 ANOTHER INDIAN RELIC.

Carney, Pa., March 20, 1896.—Editor Record: I saw in the Record an account of an axe-pipe, which prompts me to say that Jackson Champion has one, I think, just like the one found in Bradford. This was found in North Branch Township, Wyoming County, some fifteen years ago. It is quite a place for Indian arrows and clay pottery. J. H. Champion.

## THE MEXICAN WAR.

Wilkes-Barre, March 15, 1846.—Editor Record: I notice in your historical column an article on the Wyoming Artillerists and it reminded me that I have in my possession the original roll of this company offering their services to go to Mexico. The roll or rolls are in four separate sheets of paper, four of which have a heading prescribing the purpose of the roll to which the signatures are attached. These several rolls were evidently put in circulation by the officers of the company to secure the names of the members of the company (at that time attached to the militia of the State) and any others who would enlist, with their offer to enter the service of the United States as volunteers. The papers are yellow with age and apparently were handled considerably when circulated, as finger marks and blots of ink attest the carelessness attendant in their circulation. Three of the headings are in the handwriting of Capt. E. L. Dana and one in the handwriting of Eleazer B. Collings, first lieutenant of the company. Capt. Dana's heading for the first sheet with names attached is as follows:

To E. L. Dana,

Capt. Wyoming Artillerists.

Sir: The undersigned members of the Wyoming Artillerists report themselves to you in readiness to enter the service for the Mexican War whenever your orders therefor may be received, agreeably to general orders No. 6 of the date of Nov. 18, 1846.

\*Arnold Lewis,  
A. Beaumont, Jr.,  
Wm. S. Kutz,  
\*Geo. Collings,  
Edward M. Flynt,  
\*E. B. Collings,  
\*F. L. Bowman,  
\*C. W. Lutes,  
\*D. C. Kitchen,  
Geo. F. Slocum,  
A. J. Baldwin,  
A. D. Jones,  
\*Geo. W. Fell,  
E. T. Cooper,  
\*John Howard, Jr.,  
\*William Diamond,  
William A. Dripps,  
Joel Smith,  
John Muer (?),  
William Kelley,  
\*Thomas J. Wright,  
\*Lyman P. Kidder,  
John Johnson,  
\*Aaron Gangawere,  
\*Luke Floyd,  
John Frace,  
\*John Sliker,

\*E. L. Dana,  
\*J. W. Myers,  
\*John B. Vaughn,  
\*Danl. W. Weltzell,  
H. T. Vaughn,  
\*Hiram Spencer,  
Wm. St. John,  
\*A. H. Goff,  
H. Titus,  
Chas. Bennet,  
\*Wallace Belding,  
\*M. H. De Burger,  
Edward Hughes,  
Bernard Hose (?),  
T. S. Hilard,  
\*David H. Howard,  
\*J. C. Garey,  
James Smith,  
William Spencer,  
Chas. Seefrit,  
\*Hemriah Hovenbof (?),  
Nicholas Fell,  
Samuel Wiggins,  
Wm. H. F. Owen,  
Uriah Bonham,  
\*Charles Tripp,

The next roll with heading, made out in the handwriting of E. B. Collings, reads as follows:

To Cap. E. L. Dana,

Sir: The undersigned agree to hold themselves in readiness for your orders and consider themselves members of the Wyoming Artillerists and will obey your orders in accordance with Adjutant General G. W. Bowman's order No. 6.

Nov. 28, 1846.

T. M. Horton,  
\*Dk. Devany,  
Abram Gilpin,  
Wm. Evans,  
\*Patrick Gilroy,  
\*Thompson Price,  
Thomas Huffman,  
James C. Higgins,  
Patrick Fallon,  
\*Patrick O'Donnell,  
H. S. Larrison,  
Morgan Jones,  
Henry Jones,  
\*Alfred Bentley,  
Thomas Nelson,  
Joshua Jenkins,

The other two rolls are made up and signed to the following heading written by Capt. Dana:

To Capt. E. L. Dana,

Sir: We hereby volunteer our services for the Mexican War and propose our names for membership in the Wyoming Artillerists.

\*Wilson E. Sisty,  
Walsingham G.  
Ward,  
\*J. W. Potter,  
James B. Clark,  
Hiram Moore,  
Wm. Willis,  
James McGinnis,  
\*John Smith,  
\*Patrick King,  
John Sisk,  
\*Jas. H. Stephens,  
\*James F. Dill,  
Patrick O'Brien,  
William Vanderbark,  
Samuel Hunt,  
\*Charles Johnson,  
James Megan,  
O. P. Hart,  
\*Frederick Lehman,  
Chas. Maeyer (?),  
\*Gershon B. Vangordon,  
\*Grannis Abel.

The names with a question mark are not plainly written, but they are given as nearly as they can be deciphered.

The names marked with an asterisk (\*) are those who went with the company to Mexico under Capt. Dana. Of the ninety-one who volunteered to go, only forty-two enlisted for the service. It must of course be understood that the Wyoming Artillerists at this time was a regularly organized and equipped military organization and the men above named who did go with the company are those who were either members of the company or who were selected to fill up the ranks. A number of those who volunteered were in some cases too young to be enrolled or their parents would not give consent to their going.

Taken together with the men already enrolled as members of the organization, it shows a spirit of patriotism upon the part of those who volunteered for this arduous service in responding to their country's call.

The company mustered ninety-six strong, including officers, when it embarked on canal boats for Pittsburg on the 6th day of December, 1846, during a fierce snow storm. Previous to their departure that morning they marched to the old church on the Public Square to the music of bands, and the streets were thronged with wives and sweethearts, brothers and friends. The company filed into the church, which quickly filled to overflowing. The farewell address to this band of patriots was delivered by Dr. Thomas W. Miner—some of whom would never look again upon their beloved haunts or hear the voice which upon this occasion cheered them with encouraging words and thrilled them with eloquence and touched their hearts with the pathos of that sad farewell.

At Pittsburg the company was assigned as Co. I to the First Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, which was composed of six companies from Philadelphia, one from Pottsville, one from Wilkes-Barre and two from Pittsburg, commanded by Col. F. M. Wynkoop of Pottsville.

The following is the muster roll of the Wyoming Artillerists in the Mexican War with the recruits who joined at Puebla in September, 1848. [The letter R indicates that they returned with the company.]

Capt. Edmund L. Dana, R.  
 1st. Lieut. E. B. Collings, discharged at Vera Cruz.  
 1st Lieut. F. L. Bowman, elected major.  
 2d. Lieut. A. H. Goff, killed at Perote.  
 2d. Lieut. Jacob Wælder, R.  
 1st. Sergt. Arnold C. Lewis, appointed  
 2d. Lieutenant, R.  
 2d. Sergt. Joseph W. Potter, discharged at Perote.  
 3d Sergt. Dominick Devanny, R.  
 4th Sergt. Joseph W. Miner, elected 1st lieutenant.  
 1st. Corp. Wm. H. Beaumont, appointed 1st sergeant, R.  
 2d Corp. D. W. C. Kitchen, wounded at Cerro Gordo and discharged.  
 3d Corp. Chas. W. Stout, appointed lieutenant 11th Infantry.  
 4th Corp. John B. Vaughn, discharged at Jalapa.  
 Drummer Wilson B. Connor, discharged.  
 Fifer Wallace J. Belding, discharged.  
 Privates.  
 Grandison Abel, R.  
 Joseph Alward, R.  
 John Barnes, left sick at Cincinnati.  
 Alfred Bentley, died at Jalapa.  
 Luke Burke, R.  
 Obed C. Burden, R.  
 William Bachman.  
 Lloyd M. Colder, died at Perote.  
 George Collings, appointed corporal, R.

Jacob L. Cooper, R.  
 Wm. H. Carkhuff, died at Perote.  
 James F. Dill, died at Perote.  
 Thomas G. Dripps, appointed, sergt., R.  
 M. M. Deberger, discharged at Vera Cruz.  
 John C. Drinkhouse, do.  
 James Ellis, do.  
 Levi Emery, R.  
 George W. Fell, R.  
 Luke Floyd, wounded, R.  
 Samuel Fox, discharged at Jalapa.  
 Frederick Funk, R.  
 Joseph C. Garye, dis. at Vera Cruz.  
 Patrick Gilroy, dis. at Vera Cruz.  
 Aaron Ganagawere, R.  
 Magnus Gonerman, died at Perote.  
 John Goodermoth, died at Puebla.  
 Henry Hernbroau.  
 Peter Hine, discharged at Vera Cruz  
 Nathaniel G. Harvey, died at Perote  
 Alexander Huntington, R.  
 John Hunt, discharged at Jalapa.  
 John Howard, R.  
 David H. Howard, R.  
 Anthony Haberholt, R.  
 Charles Johnson, R.  
 Patrick King, R.  
 Lyman C. Kidder, discharged at Jalapa.  
 Frederick Lehman, dis. at Vera Cruz.  
 Joseph Leopard, R.  
 Samuel A. Lewis, R.  
 Charles W. Lutes, dis. at Vera Cruz.  
 John W. Myers, died at Perote.  
 John Morehouse, R.  
 David R. Morrison, killed at Cerro Gordo.  
 Walker B. Miller, dis. at Vera Cruz.  
 Samuel Marks, R.  
 John B. Price, died at Jalapa.  
 John Preece, killed at siege of Puebla.  
 Jules Phillips, R.  
 Isaac Rothermell, died at Vera Cruz.  
 James W. Rigg, R.  
 John Shadell, R.  
 Levi H. Stevens, R.  
 James Stevens, dis. at Vera Cruz, wounded.  
 John Swan, R.  
 Hiram Spencer, discharged at Perote.  
 John Sliker, died at Perote.  
 James Sliker, R.  
 Thompson Price, discharged.  
 Wilson E. Sisty, discharged at Perote.  
 Charles Tripp, died at siege of Puebla.  
 George Tanner, died at Perote.  
 William C. Toby, discharged at Jalapa.  
 John Smith, died at Perote.  
 Norman Vanwinkle, dis. at Perote.  
 Holden P. Vaughn, dis. at Jalapa.  
 Gershon B. Van Gordon, died at Perote  
 Edmund W. Wandell, R.  
 Walsingham G. Ward, dis. at Vera Cruz.  
 Thomas G. Wilson, died at Jalapa.  
 William Vanderburg, R.  
 William H. Whitaker, R.  
 Thomas J. Wright, R.

Armon Westhoren, R.  
 Daniel W. Witzell, R.  
 William T. Wilson, R.  
 Daniel W. Yarlott, R.  
 William Diamond, dis. at New Orleans.  
 Elias Klinger, died at sea.  
 Patrick O'Donnell, died at New Orleans.  
 Samuel Knorr, lost, supposed killed.

Recruits at Puebla.

Augustus Ehles, R.  
 Lanlan Fist, R.  
 John Gaul, R.  
 Charles Gordon, R.  
 Ernest Gordon, R.  
 William Hillsman, R.  
 Frederick Musler, R.  
 John McKeoun, R.  
 Anthony Verneet, R.  
 Michael Wolfstein, R.  
 Henry Wehle, R.  
 Adam Robinholt, died on Ohio River.  
 George O'Craft, lost, supposed drowned.

Total, 109, of whom 51 returned with the company.

Of all this number who served in the war with Mexico the writer has knowledge of only one who is alive to-day—Wallace J. Belding, now a resident of Washington, D. C. Of the 109 who went to the front 51 returned with the company. From their landing at Vera Cruz through the long siege of that city, at Cerro Gordo, Molina del Rey, to the City of Mexico, they fought bravely and well. Many of them fought their last fight under the tropical sun of Mexico, whose rays long ere this have whitened and withered their bones to dust and ashes.

It is to be regretted that the organization of the Wyoming Artillerists has not been kept up. From 1842, through the rebellion, until 1882, it has an almost continuous organization and not long since after the disbandment of the platoon of Battery A, N. G. P., which was located at Wilkes-Barre (known as the Wyoming Artillerists) an effort was made in the 9th Regiment to have one of the companies to attach by proper adoption the name of the Wyoming Artillerists, but for some reason the matter did not take final action.  
 C. Bow Dougherty.

LECTURE ON ANDREW JACKSON.

[Daily Record, March 26, 1896.]

The lecture on Wednesday in the high school building by Dr. E. T. Devine, under university extension auspices, was on Andrew Jackson, the Democrat. The lecture was interesting throughout and was supplemented at the close with stereopticon views.

The lecturer referred to his birth on the boundary between the two Carolinas, his family being extremely poor. He had little schooling and became a lawyer at the age of 19 after two years of not very close study. He passed from one success to another until he had filled stations in both houses of Congress and had become judge of the supreme court of Tennessee. None of his decisions have been preserved. He resigned this position and went into business and farming, where he made a reputation for successful industry and integrity, his promise to pay being as good as gold.

Mention was made of his marriage to a brilliant and good woman who mistakenly supposed herself divorced, and of the embittering of Jackson's life by the cloud which this cast over him. How he went around for twenty-eight years, ready to shoot on sight any one who taunted him on the affair, and how in 1806 he killed Dickinson in a duel for making unpleasant reference to the subject.

Jackson's brilliant military services were narrated—his part in the Creek War, the defense of Mobile, battle of New Orleans, and Seminole War. Description was given of his defeat for the Presidency in 1824, of his successful effort to reach the Presidential chair four years later, and of his declining a third nomination, even with certain success ahead if he had accepted.

The lecturer said Jackson's term was just midway between the old revolutionary system and the boss system. He was opposed to internal improvements carried on by general government and his fight against the United States bank and the removal of the government deposits therefrom practically brought about the panic of 1837.

DEATH OF MRS. J. B. STARK.

[Daily Record, March 31, 1896.]

Yesterday morning at 10:40 o'clock, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Edward W. Sturdevant, 93 South River street, occurred the death of Mrs. Frances R., widow of Jasper B. Stark. Death was due to heart disease and the end was calm and peaceful. Mrs. Stark was 70 years of age. She is survived by two children, Mrs. Sturdevant and J. Byron Stark of New York City.

Mrs. Stark was a daughter of Capt. Charles and Ruth Godfrey Smith and was born in Wurtsboro, N. Y., on Jan. 20, 1826. Her ancestors were of English descent and were among the earliest

settlers of Connecticut. Her father, who attained the rank of captain in the war of 1812, died at Carbondale in 1866. Her grandfather was Capt. David Godfrey, who received his commission direct from Gen. Washington. Mrs. Stark was a sister of John B. Smith, former president of the Pennsylvania Coal Co.

Mrs. Stark was well known in Wilkes-Barre and the Wyoming Valley and was generally esteemed. She was a member of the First M. E. Church and her consistent Christianity was shown in her every day life. Her nature was generous and charitable and many hours of her time were given up in the relief of poverty and distress. Her delight was in doing some good to others and on this account she earned the gratitude of many.

#### REV. DR. UMSTED'S DEATH.

Rev. Justus Thomas Umsted, D. D., of Coatesville, near Philadelphia, father of attorney T. C. Umsted of Wilkes-Barre, and a descendant of one of the old Pennsylvania families, died March 27, 1896, of a complication of diseases, after a three months' illness.

Deceased was born in Brandywine Township, Chester County, Jan. 22, 1820, and was, therefore, 76 years of age. He received his collegiate education at the University of Pennsylvania and his theological studies were pursued at Princeton. His fields of pastoral labors in the Presbyterian church have been as follows: 1848-9, South Bend, Ind.; 1850-3, Muscatine, Iowa; 1855-8, Keokuk, Iowa; Selma, Ill.; 1860-72, Faggs' Manor; 1872-6, St. George's, Del.; 1877,, Smyrna, Del. He accepted a call to White Haven in 1887 and remained until 1892. During his pastorate at Faggs' Manor, Dr. F. B. Hodge, now of this city, was stationed at Oxford, six miles distant from Faggs' Manor, and a warm friendship sprang up between them. Rev. Dr. Umsted performed his last ministerial labors in White Haven, retiring from active service on his removal to Coatesville, on account of old age and declining health. He preached his last sermon Nov. 13, 1895. He received his degree of doctor of divinity from New Windsor College, Maryland, in 1884.

Rex, Dr. Umsted was a class-mate of Rev. Dr. William M. Paxton, who was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of New York for upwards of twenty years, and who is now professor of theology in Princeton Seminary. Dr.

Paxton told Rev. Dr. Hodge that Dr. Umsted was the best preacher in his class at Princeton Seminary.

Dr. Umsted was of old Dutch ancestry, his forefathers having come to this country in the year 1765. They settled in Montgomery County and were of the State and the historical incidents connected with the country at that period.

In 1846 Dr. Umsted married Isabella McMinn Wilson of Philadelphia, and by this union three children were born, who, with their mother, survive. The children are Catharine, now Mrs. T. W. Bellville, of Pottsville, Pa.; Eleanor (Mrs. Ed. Riebold of Delaware City, Delaware), and T. C. Umsted of this city.

The father of Mrs. Umsted, John Wilson, was a resident of Philadelphia and was principal bookkeeper in the Presbyterian Board of Publication until his death. He was a lieutenant in the war of 1812.

#### "OLD JIM BENNETT."

Wilkes-Barre, April 1, 1896.—Editor Record: Sir—An editorial in your paper of above date closes with the following paragraph: "The (N. Y.) Herald is a great news gatherer, but it is also a great toady. It is the Jenkins of American journalism and as such its opinions deserve no consideration from real Americans."

Knowing the Herald thoroughly I hold the above truths to be self-evident and think perhaps a reminiscence of the elder Bennett and the Herald may not be out of place in this connection. When the war of the rebellion broke out old "Jim" Bennett, who was always on the wrong side of every question, was a pronounced copperhead. He had, so the story went, a Confederate flag ready to fling to the breeze should public opinion render it safe to do so. But the first shot at Sumpter set the people's patriotism on fire and it was not safe. In fact crowds ran about the streets ordering people to show their colors. The Herald had no flag out and a big mob collected in front of the office, then at the corner of Fulton and Nassua streets and actually threatened to hang Bennett if he didn't show the Stars and Stripes. It was said at the time that the flag was borrowed for the occasion. Be that as it may, one was promptly hung out and the mob departed.

I can vouch for the above for I was one of the mob. Mr. Jingo.

### A VETERAN DIES IN MEXICO.

[Daily Record, April 8, 1896.]

A letter was received in this city yesterday announcing the death of John Bauman, an old resident of this city, in Tobolodampo, Sinaloa, Mexico, on March 10, of a complication of diseases. Mr. Bauman was well known to the old residents of this county. He was born in Zurich, Switzerland, about seventy-five years ago. Before the war of the rebellion he settled in Hazleton, and for some time had charge of the Pardee Mills at that place. At the beginning of the war he enlisted in Co. G, 8th Regiment, Penn. Vols., Capt. John N. Reichard, for the three months' service. He was honorably discharged at the close of his enlistment, and again enlisted in Co. B, 7th Regiment, Veteran Reserve Corps, and was corporal under Capt. Morse. He was mustered out of service June 22, 1865. Deceased was an expert miller, and at the close of the war he removed to Wyoming, where he conducted the Shoemaker Mill for over twenty years. About seven years ago he went to Mexico, returning to Wilkes-Barre about three years ago. He remained here about a year, and returned to Mexico, where his death occurred.

Mr. Bauman is survived by his widow and six children, who reside in this city—Mrs. P. R. Raife, Charles, Frederick, Julia, Mrs. John Dobson and Anna.

### THE PIONEER PREACHER.

[Written for the Record.]

The horrible deeds of the massacre on the 3d day of July, 1778, and other atrocities, left reminders throughout the whole valley, most of which time has obliterated, yet there still remain a few and Wilkes-Barre has landmarks to which this writing will refer.

The next day after the massacre, the British colonel, John Butler, demanded the surrender of Forty Fort, and by arrangement met Col. Nathan Denison and others in the cabin of Thomas Bennet, within the fort. The Rev. Jacob Johnson was invited to act as secretary, and the articles of capitulation were written by him, and after being signed by Butler and Denison, the fort and surrounding country was surrendered to his majesty's forces.

I give herewith a short sketch of the pioneer preacher, Jacob Johnson, drawn principally from the account published

by the Wyoming Memorial Association in 1878.

He is first noticed as a tall, dark-haired, studious boy, living with his mother in the town of Groton, Connecticut. He grew to manhood honoring the teachings of his pious mother, who designed him for the ministry. After his graduation at Yale he became pastor of the little church at North Groton, and from thence went to other churches. Forming the acquaintance of Sampson Occum, a Christianized Indian preacher, he became imbued with a desire to work in that wider field, and knew no rest until he had entered the great wilderness, the home of the Iroquois, and proclaimed the truths of the gospel of love and peace to the red man in his native forest.

Then we hear of him at Canajoharie, Fort Stanwix and Oneida Castle. He learned the language of the Mohawk, which served him well. He had received the protection of Sir William Johnson and gained the confidence of Brandt.

In 1770 he was appointed as a pioneer preacher by the "Connecticut Susquehanna Land Company" to preach the gospel in the Westmoreland Colony. Here he labored, unduring all the hardships of frontier life.

In 1772 he received a call from the settlers at Wilkes-Barre, and there preached in the new log court house that was erected in the public square.

When the British and Indians under Col. John Butler were pouring down through the north gap and spreading terror and dismay in the plain below, he, with other non-combatants, sought shelter in the little stockade, Forty Fort.

He was always somewhat eccentric, and as age crept upon him his eccentricity became more fully apparent. The proprietors of the town, in consideration of his faithful services as a gospel minister, granted him a tract of fifty acres of land, extending from Main street along North street—that of later years is known as the Bowman property.

In selling this, he reserved near the head of Franklin street, a piece five rods long and four rods wide, for a family burial lot. In the spring of 1791 he claimed to have a warning that upon a certain day, near at hand, he would die, and with feeble hands he prepared his own grave. It seems that his prophecy was fulfilled, and at the appointed time he fell asleep in death and his remains were deposited in the

grave in accordance with his instructions. Upon this burial lot now stands the beautiful Memorial Church, erected by the late Calvin Wadhams in memory of the children he had lost by death.

At the south corner of Main and North streets, directly opposite the Bowman corner, is the original Slocum property—where it is said Jonathan Slocum resided, and from which little Frances Slocum was taken into captivity by the Indians—a sad story that is familiar to most of your readers (\*).

Here I will note a coincidence that forms, as it were, a connecting link between that transaction in Forty Fort on the 4th day of July, 1778, and the present day.

A few hundred feet from, and almost within the shadow of the lofty stone spire, near which was laid the body of the Rev. Jacob Johnson, there is a residence (\*\*), within which now stands the table upon which he wrote, and upon which was signed those articles of capitulation that was to govern the matter of surrender. Moreover, this residence stands upon the original Slocum land, and upon, or very near, the supposed site of the home from which Frances Slocum was so mercilessly abducted. An illustrated description of this table is given in "Peck's History of Wyoming," on page 162.

Thus, 117 years after that eventful day, when all of humanity then existing has mouldered into dust, this simple household article remains in a fair state of preservation to remind us that we should cherish and keep alive the memory of our patriotic ancestors who endured such fearful trials and sacrifices in our behalf. Charles Myers.

Peoria, Ills.

Notes by the Editor.

\* It is true the corner indicated was on the Slocum property, but it is now accepted that the Slocum house from which little Frances was stolen by the Indians stood on another portion of the property, near the corner of North and Canal streets, about where stands the Lee planing mill. Reference to this matter will be found in Historical Record, volume 4, page 74.

\*\* The table is now in the possession of P. H. Myers, 133 North Main street, a brother of the writer of the above communication.

#### AN OLD SOUTHERN PAPER.

Speaking of old newspapers, J. A. Dorr, the Forkston lumberman, has an old one, so old in fact that it is claimed to be the first newspaper published in the United States south of the Mason and Dixon line. It is the first number of Vol. 1 of the Maryland Journal and the Baltimore Advertiser, dated Aug. 20, 1773. In making his bow to the public W. Goddard, the publisher, says: "I was aware when it was first proposed to me to undertake a newspaper in this town, that although it possessed many advantages in point of situation, yet it was impracticable to print such a one the Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and sometimes the British and Irish papers, and be enabled to publish the Journal with the freshest advices." Those "advices" would be pretty stale nowadays. As the first issue was published in dog days, one would naturally search for a snake story, and found the following:

"A few weeks ago a large rattle-snake was killed on a gentleman's plantation, in the neighborhood of this town, in the belly of which was found three middle sized rabbits. The snake had ten rattles, and was supposed to be about thirteen years old. That story differed from the rabbits only in being more than "middle sized."

Among the advertisements are Thomas Breton, commission and insurance broker, "has now for sale a packet of good hops, a 10-inch cable, and wants to buy a negro girl about 12 years old."

Another advertisement headed Mount Vernon, in Virginia, and signed George Washington, in which he calls attention to his having obtained patents for 20,000 acres of land in Ohio and Great Kan-hawa, and that he proposes to divide the land into any sized tenements and lease the same upon moderate terms, allowing a number of years rent free, only requiring a certain number of acres to be cleared each year. In his advertisement he says: "It is more than probable that the seat of government will be fixed at the mouth of the Great Kanhaw."

Ten pounds reward is offered for the return of an Irish servant, Owen Mc-

Carty by name, who had run away. The same reward was offered for the return of a negro, Prince, who had also made his escape.

### THREE NOTED MEREDITHS.

Mrs. S. M. Meredith Graham, wife of Capt. W. G. Graham of Tunkhannock, has written a concise history of the three Merediths noted in the history of the country.

Rees Meredith came to this country in 1730 and made the acquaintance of Gen. Washington in 1755.

Samuel Meredith was the only son of Rees Meredith, born in Philadelphia in 1741, became intimately associated with Gen. Washington in the struggle for independence, distinguished himself in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and in October, 1777, was commissioned general of the 4th Brigade Pennsylvania Militia. He served as treasurer of the United States under the administration of Washington, Adams and Jefferson, until Oct. 31, 1801, when on account of infirmity and falling health he resigned his office. Samu'el Meredith in 1774 purchased large tracts of land in what are now the counties of Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wyoming, Bradford and Wayne, and many property owners in these counties trace their titles with much satisfaction to the Meredith estate. Samuel Meredith while Treasurer of the United States lent to the government almost his entire fortune, \$140,000, and this sum was never repaid to him or his heirs, and this generous and unselfish patriot lies buried in an unmarked grave near Honesdale. The granddaughter, Mrs. Graham, with most commendable loyalty to her dead ancestor, is urging upon the people the propriety of recognizing Samuel Meredith's services to his country in her hour of need by erecting a suitable monument to his memory. It is to be hoped that this act of tardy justice to the memory of a good man may be done and done soon.

The third Meredith was Maj. Thomas Meredith, son of Samuel Meredith, and father of Mrs. Graham. He was admitted to the Philadelphia bar in 1803. He removed to Carbondale and was prothonotary and register and recorder of Wayne County from 1821 to 1823. He was in the war of 1812 and received the title of major in that war. The granddaughter's appeal to the patriots and sons of the Revolution is a touching and worthy one.

Mrs. Graham's appeal and history cover a neat pamphlet of seven pages. She has sent out a number of these little leaflets to prominent men, and among those who have responded and asked for additional copies to distribute among their friends are Daniel March Morgan, the present Treasurer of the United States, and Col. Nicholson of the Loyal Legion of Philadelphia. This appeal to the sense of justice of our people should not be in vain, and soon a granite shaft, pointing heavenward, should mark the spot where sleeps the first Treasurer of the United States.

### JOHN BROWN OF OSSAWATOMIE.

The story of John Brown was graphically related in the University Extension course by Dr. Devine at the high school building Wednesday. This hero whose soul has been marching on in the songs of the people for a generation, was a New Englander, born in Connecticut in 1800. He was described as a representative of New England Puritanism, he being a direct descendant from one of the Mayflower pilgrims. He had an honorable ancestry and New England honored him. Probably no other man ever lived who more completely embodied the thing for which Massachusetts Puritanism stands. While his acts cannot be justified, he himself meant right, he embodied an inherited Puritan hatred of slavery and he gave his entire life to an effort, vain though it proved, to overthrow the accursed institution. His father before him was an abolitionist and he inherited the same hatred of slavery so thoroughly that not only at the age of 12 did he swear eternal war with slavery, but later he rallied his entire family around him in the heroic attempt to bring about abolition. He was religiously inclined and would have become a preacher but his eyes failed him. After that he successfully engaged in various occupations and lived in half a dozen States. He was bankrupted by the panic of 1837 and once or twice later, though never dishonestly so. In 1858 he turned his back on civilization and went to join Gerrit Smith's negro colony in the Adirondacks. He was developing the great plan of his life, he believing that he was called of God to strike the first blow for the liberty of the slaves. He sought retirement, in order to be away from the fire-eaters of the South and



the doughfaces of the North. He hoped for co-operation from the negroes, but was disappointed. At this time he wrote considerably for publications, and some of his writings are strongly similar in style to the Poor Richard of Franklin.

The speaker then considered the Kansas troubles, that territory being the first theatre of action, and Brown and his sons entered into a genuine war—a war for liberty in the face of the fugitive slave law and other iniquitous measures. His almost Quaker principles gave away to Puritan wrath and he and his sons took up the sword, some to perish by it. Popular sovereignty was defeated by frontier ruffians who crossed the border from Missouri and out-was lost to liberty.

An account was given of the conflicts at Lawrence, Black Jack and Ossawatimie, and of the executions of the border ruffians at Ossawatimie, his own sons sharpening the knives for this bloody purpose, justified by them as a measure of self protection.

Going North he got influential friends to support his movement to take an armed squad into Virginia and run off parties of slaves. He hoped to be aided by the blacks and by the underground railroad people, but was disappointed. He was told that his plan was treason, both to Virginia and to the general government. He showed Garrett Smith and Sanborn in 1853 that he had the men and the arms and all he wanted was \$300 and silence. He got the aid, and if what we know now had been known at that time several who subsequently became conspicuous would have shared the gallows with him.

Here the speaker gave a graphic account of his attack at Harper's Ferry in 1859, his capture of the town and the United States arsenal with a dozen men or so, and the helplessness of the citizens until Capt. Robert E. Lee arrived with a company of marines and captured the arsenal. The speaker told of the trial and conviction of Brown and his men, the vain efforts all over the country to have the government of Virginia commute the sentence to life imprisonment. Even slave apologists wanted his life spared, not out of mercy to him, for he deserved hanging, they said, but for fear it would increase the growing hostility to slavery. During the six weeks which intervened between his sentence and death on the gallows, he made such burning speeches and wrote such stirring sentiments that

he did more to throttle the accursed institution by crystallizing public sentiment than in all his previous life. Under the shadow of the gallows he predicted that the curse of slavery could only be wiped out with blood.

How his prediction was verified will be told in the closing lecture a fortnight hence, when Dr. Devine will consider Abraham Lincoln.

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#### ACCOUNT OF THE SUGARLOAF MASSACRE.

For the following interesting contribution to the history of this region the Record is indebted to H. M. M. Richards of Reading, secretary of the Pennsylvania-German Society:

##### The Sugar Loaf Massacre.

That we have entered upon an era of renewed love and pride of country, the sure proof of a true and proud patriotism, is evidenced by the general desire to know more of its history, and the search for details in the events especially of that period which gave birth to it as a nation.

Amongst these events is one of great interest to Luzerne County, but which has heretofore not received the attention it deserves, nor been given the publicity it needs. Although it seems to herald but the massacre of a handful of patriotic soldiers from Northampton County, under the command of Capt. Klader, yet this very tragedy was instrumental in ridding the locality of many who were secretly aiding the British cause, much to the detriment of their more loyal neighbors.

It need hardly be said that when the colonies revolted against English authority there were still many who remained firm in their allegiance to the crown, and even took up arms against their former friends. They were the so-called "Tories." Others, again, with fully as much sympathy for the royal cause, were deterred from openly aiding through cowardice, because of religious principles, as with many of the Quakers, or for various other reasons. These reasons, however, did not prevent their giving secret aid and information to the enemy, thus rendering them even more dangerous and difficult to deal with. They were wolves, but in sheep's clothing.

Where the flourishing towns of Bloomsburg and Catawissa now stand were then settled people of both the classes just named. That they affiliat-

ed with the enemy, gave them succor when needed, and furnished them constantly with information detrimental to the cause of independence, as well as hurtful to their neighbors, seems beyond doubt, as their plantations and homes stood unharmed, their property, produce and cattle remained untouched, and their wives and families went peacefully about their daily work when everything else about them was a scene of desolation, ruin and murder. Then, too, it must be remembered that the aid rendered the enemy by the one meant not only danger to the other, but, often, death for himself and those he loved, with a total destruction of all his means, because the loyal patriot had there to contend but rarely, if ever, with the civilized British soldier alone, but rather with his auxiliary, the barbarous savage. After suffering this state of affairs for some years we are not surprised to find that, in the latter part of the summer of 1780, the loyal settlers determined to put an end to it and to make a demonstration against the Tory settlement. Acting upon their complaints to the council of safety for Columbia County, as well as President Reed himself, at Philadelphia, and, probably in accordance with orders to that effect send him, Col. Hunter, at Fort Augusta, Sunbury, the commanding officer of the district, decided upon aggressive operations, and arranged with Capt. D. Klader of Northampton County, to join him in the enterprise. Unfortunately the Tories, through their spies, were enabled to learn of this design, and, still more unfortunately, were, by chance, enabled to impart it to their friends, the enemy, in the following manner:

On Sept. 6, 1780, a body of British and Indians, numbering some 250 or 300, appeared before Fort Rice, in Lewis Township, Northumberland County, on the headwaters of the Chillisquake, some seventeen miles from Fort Augusta at Sunbury, of which the two-story stone building is still standing, and made a vigorous attack on it, which, however, was gallantly repulsed by Capt. Rice, of Col. Weltner's German Battalion, who, with twenty men, occupied it. Col. Hunter immediately ordered the garrison at Fort Jenkins, on the North Branch of the Susquehanna, midway between Berwick and Bloomsburg, in Columbia County, and other troops, to their relief, at the same time warning the settlers of their danger, who, thereupon abandoned their plantations and

accompanied the soldiers. Upon the arrival on the scene of Col. Kelly with 100 men, and Col. Purdy, from the Juniata, with 190 more, the enemy broke up into smaller parties and retreated in different directions, destroying everything in their path. To one of these parties, numbering not less than forty British and Indians, was the information given by the Tories of the movements of Capt. Klader and his design upon their settlement. Leaving Fort Rice, they proceeded, by way of Knob Mountain and Cabin Run, to Fort Jenkins, which had been abandoned, where they applied the torch, not only to the fort itself, but to everything in its vicinity. The well inside the fort was filled with the charred remains of the logs and buildings, and everything destroyed except a young orchard planted by James Jenkins and just beginning to bear. The enemy then proceeded up the river to the site of the present town of Berwick, where they crossed over and followed the path leading from the Susquehanna to Northampton, a distance of about seven miles from Nescopeck. Here, in Sugarloaf Valley, southwestern part of Luzerne County, they lay in ambush, awaiting the arrival of their unsuspecting victims.

In the meantime Capt. D. Klader, with his command, comprising a detachment from Capt. John Van Ethen's company of Northampton County volunteers, after toiling laboriously to the summit of the Bucks Mountain, had taken the path leading by the "old toll house," thence down the side of the mountain, through a ravine, over the farm of N. Wagner and across the creek below, until they came to what had been a Scotch settlement, but now, because of the border troubles, wholly deserted. To their great delight they saw before them open and cleared fields, covered with a luxuriant growth of grass and beautiful with wild flowers. Weary as they were with the fatigue and hardship of their long march, when for days they had been tearing their way through thickets and bushes, and clambering over logs and stones, they voted the Free Soil advocates. Kansas seemed to have entered upon a veritable paradise. It was noontide of the 11th day of September, 1780. Knapsacks were immediately unslung, and they entered upon the enjoyment of the hour. The very beauty of their surroundings lulled to rest all thought of danger. No one seemed to realize the necessity of watchful care. Each roamed about

as best suited his fancy. Their guns were scattered here and there, some stacked, some leaning against stumps or logs, others lying flat on the ground. The position of the men resembled that of their firearms. Some were on the ground indulging in a smoke, one man was leaning against a tree with his shoes off cleaning them out, others had gone for grapes, which grew there in abundance, of which party one had climbed a tree and was picking and eating the grapes from the vine which entwined it.

Suddenly, whilst in this condition, a volley of musketry was poured in upon them from an unseen foe, and, with it, rang out the terrible war whoop of the savages who, in a moment more, were in their midst hewing down their victims with the murderous tomahawks. Some escaped, and one or two were taken prisoners, but most of them were killed. A great uncle of the Engle brothers, now living in Hazleton and vicinity, escaped over Nescopee Mountain. Abram Klader, brother of the officer in command, concealed himself in Little Nescopee Creek, by clinging to a tree that had fallen across the stream, and keeping his face only above the water until the enemy had disappeared when he emerged from his concealment and succeeded in reaching home. Frederick Shickler also escaped on Buck Mountain by avoiding the Indian trail, leaving it to his right, and keeping out of sight of the Indians, whose yells he could hear as they followed on in pursuit. Lieut. Myer, Ensign Scoby and a private soldier were taken prisoners; the lieutenant escaped whilst the other two were taken through to Niagara.

The man in the tree after grapes was shot and fell heavily on the ground beneath. Some were killed in one place and some in another as they fled and were overtaken by the merciless tomahawk of the savage. One soldier, whose name cannot now be designated, escaped part way up the ravine in the mountain, down which the troops had marched, and there hid himself, but, unfortunately, his too faithful little dog, that had followed him, barked and revealed his hiding place to the enemy by whom he was slain. A comrade, hid in a tree top near by, was a witness to the occurrence.

As soon as the result of this action became known Col. Ballet, with a large company of men which was immediately raised, proceeded to the spot and buried the bodies of ten who lay slain

in close proximity to each other, all of which had been very much disfigured by the Indians. Capt. Klader, himself, did not succumb until after performing deeds of valor which caused his name to be viewed with feelings akin to veneration. He is said by some to have killed four and by others, seven of the enemy before they finally slew and scalped him.

Later on Col. Hunter directed Van Campen to take a company of men and see what further discoveries could be made. He scoured the entire field and decently interred the remaining bodies found, which were in such an advanced state of decomposition as to make it impossible to handle them. Stretchers were made of blankets fastened to poles on which the bodies were carefully rolled, carried to the graves prepared for them and lowered or rolled into the same.

C. F. Hill of Hazleton, to whom I am under obligations for much valuable material in this sketch, says: "The body of Capt. Klader, with others of his party, lies buried on what is now the farm of Samuel Wagner, about half a mile from Conyngham. We visited Wagner's farm, not long since, in the company of S. D. Engle of this borough, and were conducted by Anthony Fisher, a man whose locks are whitened by the frosts of ninety winters, to the spot where the brave Klader rests, but no traces of the grave can now be seen. The oak tree, under whose branches he lay, and upon which were the initials of his name—D. K.—was sacrilegiously cut down seventeen years ago, and even the stump is decayed and gone. Mr. Fisher, many years ago, was intimately acquainted with John Wertz, who had belonged to the party that buried the slain, and marked their leader's grave by cutting the initials spoken of above. As the old man leaned on his staff and surveyed the spot, he gave expression to feelings of deep regret that the tree was not permitted to stand as a memorial of the heroic deeds of those by-gone days."

The following names comprise the list of soldiers lost in the Sugarloaf massacre, as taken from Capt. John Van Etten's muster roll bearing date Fort Penn (in the present town of Stroudsburg, Monroe County), January 15, 1781. This is probably but a partial list, as it gives but fourteen killed and three taken prisoners, whilst it is claimed that the total loss ran up to twenty-two.

It will be noticed that the name of Abraham Clider (Klader) is included. This is a mistake, as already explained. He escaped whilst his brother, the captain, was slain:

Killed.

Capt. D. Klader—Exact location of his grave is known by several persons still living.

John Weaver.

Baltzer Snyder.

Samuel Bond (corporal).

John Kouts.

Abraham Clider (Klader)—Incorrect, as explained.

George Peter Reinhart (Reinhart).

Peter Croom.

George Shilhamer.

Paul Neely.

Abraham Smith.

Jacob Arndt.

Phillip George.

James McGraw.

Jacob Row.

Prisoners.

John Meyer—Second lieutenant, acting as commander after Klader's death, was captured, but escaped.

James Scoby—Ensign, to which grade he was advanced on Sept. 1, just ten days before capture.

Peter Tubalt Coons.

For more than a century the bones of these brave men, who gave up their lives for their country, have lain neglected and almost forgotten. They were called upon to suffer much. May the day soon come when a tablet will mark their last resting place, and, on each Memorial Day, a few flowers be strewn on their graves, as well as those of their comrades of other wars.

This massacre thoroughly aroused the inhabitants and the military authorities. Col. Hunter decided to put an end to the intrigues of the Tory Settlement, and directed Capt. Robison to take his company and bring in its people, saying: "If they were not friendly to the British cause it would be better for them to be removed, and if they were it was vastly important they should be taken from a point where they had the opportunity of causing so much mischief to the country."

The reader will readily understand Col. Hunter's position. Whilst there was no doubt as to the guilt of these people yet they had, so to say, never been caught in the act, and their guilt had never been proven. Under these circumstances the only action which could be taken was of a lenient character, such as proposed. To entirely justify the expedition, however, it was most

desirable to prove that the suspicions of the authorities and loyal people were not unfounded. To this end, when the troops had reached Mahoning, crossed the river and proceeded as far as Roaring Creek, on their march to the Settlement, Ensign Moses Van Campen, with the consent of his captain, disguised himself as an Indian, and, accompanied by his friend, Capt. Salmon, likewise disguised, who was serving as a volunteer on the expedition, started for the Tory Settlement with the intention of testing the inhabitants. The first house they reached was that of a hunter named Wilkison, upon whom they rushed with uplifted tomahawks as though intent upon his instant death. He at once dropped upon his knees and begged for his life, assuring them that he was "a king's man and a friend to Indians." As they still appeared sullen, though they lowered their weapons, he prepared a meal for them to further ingratiate himself with them, and, while they were eating it, he informed them that the settlement, which lay before them, "belonged to king's men who were friendly to the Indians, having often supplied them with provisions." The pretended Indians then expressed their pleasure at the fact, and, in broken English, asked to be taken to all who were their friends. This was done, and, in each case, a kind reception given them. Informing the people that they belonged to a large party of warriors who were in need of provisions they were supplied with all they could carry, and, still accompanied by Wilkison, who aided them in carrying their packs, they retraced their steps. Of course, in a short time they were captured by Capt. Robison's command and Wilkison was threatened with death if he did not guide them back to every one who had supplied them with provisions. This he did, which resulted in the seizure of all the "king's friends," who were duly confronted by their former Indian guests, in proper apparel, and their guilt proven.

Having thus successfully accomplished his object, Capt. Robison returned to Northumberland with his prisoners, where their case was laid before Col. Hunter, who, being disposed to leniency, released them upon their pledge to leave the frontier settlements and not return until the close of the war.

H. M. M. Richards.

Reading, Penna.

[Persons interested in the Sugarloaf massacre will find further information in the Historical Record, vol. 2, p. 125 and p. 167.—Editor.]

### MILITARY HOSPITALS OF THE REVOLUTION.

[Daily Record, April 11, 1896.]

The "Military Hospitals of the Revolution" was the title of an address made last evening before the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. There was a large attendance and John W. Jordan, who is an officer of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and of the Sons of the Revolution, was listened to with marked interest. The address was scarcely more than half an hour's length, but in that short space presented a great deal of interesting history. The particular military hospitals of the Revolution described by Mr. Jordan were those located in Bethlehem, Northampton County, this State. The paper told how the reverses of the American army had compelled the taking of the hospitals away from the smiting seat of war and how Bethlehem was chosen by reason of its extensive buildings belonging to the Moravians, which could be converted into hospitals. Besides this it was surrounded by a fertile country, rich in supplies. Mention was made of the Sun Inn at Bethlehem which sheltered Washington, Lafayette, Steuben and other distinguished officers, and reference was made to the removing of the famous liberty bell from Philadelphia to Bethlehem to prevent its falling into the hands of the British, then about to capture the city. There are no records of these hospitals at Bethlehem. There were as high as 700 sick and wounded there at one time and the mortality was so great from exposure incident to inadequate conveyances and to infectious fever that there were at least 500 deaths. Quite a number of the surgeons and attendants lost their lives with the fever. There was also an outbreak of small-pox. The mortality was so alarming that the facts were suppressed lest the distressing state of affairs should discourage the soldiers in the field.

The following persons were elected to membership: Jane A. Shoemaker, W. S. Carpenter, Esther S. Norris, George S. Ferris, Alice McC. Darling, W. D. White, John Laning, William Stoddart.

After the address the Sons of the Revolution held a meeting for the consideration of routine business.

### THE PENN TREATY TREE.

Philadelphia, April 10, '96.—Arbor Day was fittingly celebrated here to-day notwithstanding the inclement weather. The most important of the celebrations was the planting by Governor Hastings on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania of a shoot from the old elm tree under which William Penn made a treaty with the Indians. The planting was part of an interesting program prepared by the Forestry Association of Pennsylvania. The governor, who is president ex-officio of the board of trustees of the university, planted the sprig in honor of the first governor of this Commonwealth (William Penn.) The old elm stood on the banks of the Delaware River in this city until 1810, when it was blown down. Later the ground on which the tree had stood came into possession of the ancestors of Gen. Paul A. Oliver of Wilkes-Barre. Here they found a shoot which had sprung up where the old tree stood and this they removed to a farm at Bay Ridge, N. Y., where it grew for fifty years and became almost as large as the original tree. Gen. Oliver several years ago removed the tree entirely from Bay Ridge to his place on the Wilkes-Barre Mountains and it is from this tree Governor Hastings was handed a shoot to-day. Provost Harrison of the University of Pennsylvania and other prominent persons took part in the exercises. Tonight in Drexel Institute addresses appropriate to the occasion were made and a reception was tendered Governor Hastings. The day was also observed by public scholars and teachers and by members of the civic clubs.

### A VENERABLE LADY.

[Daily Record, April 16, 1896.]

Mrs. Lucretia Ferrin, who makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Salmon Lewis, at Mt. Zion, in Exeter Township, on Wednesday reached her 103d birthday anniversary, and the event was celebrated in a quiet way, many of her relatives and friends from West Pittston and neighboring places calling to pay their respects to the venerable lady, says the Pittston Gazette. Mrs. Ferrin's general health continues good, and she is able to be about the house and to converse freely. Her sight, however, is failing.

Mrs. Perrin was born in Andover, New Hampshire, April 15, 1793, as recorded in her old family bible. Her father, Joshua Danforth, was a Revolutionary soldier, and served throughout the war, a term of seven years and five months. When quite a young girl she removed to Queensbury, Warren County, N. Y., near Saratoga Springs. She was married when about 20 years old to Ablathar Shippey, who was some five years her senior. They had a family of thirteen children. Mrs. Perrin's first husband died in 1840, and three years later she was married to Calvin Perrin of Northmoreland. He died some thirteen years ago at the age of 90.

Three years ago, upon the occasion of Mrs. Perrin's centennial anniversary, members of her family to the fourth generation assembled to the number of about eighty and celebrated the rare event.

#### ONE OF THE OLD SETTLERS.

Miss Lydia Keithline, who died April 3, 1896, was born Dec. 16, 1810. Andrew Keithline, her father, came to the valley in the year 1804 from New Jersey, and her grandfather, Charles Keithline, with two brothers, came from Germany before the Revolution and served in that war. She is survived by one brother, of La Porte, Ind., and the late Mrs. A. Mill was her sister.

#### DEATH OF COLONEL MERCUR.

Col. James Mercur died April 21, 1896, at Fortress Monroe in Virginia. Col. Mercur was about 50 years of age. He was the son of the late Henry S. Mercur of Towanda, who was in the coal business in Pittston; a nephew of the late Judge Ulysses Mercur of Towanda, whose died last week, and a brother of E. G. Mercur of West Pittston, and was related to the Mercurs of Wilkes-Barre. He was graduated from West Point Academy early in the sixties, and afterward received a commission in the regular army. For several years past he has been located at West Point as a professor in the department of the engineering. During the past year Col. Mercur had suffered much from dyspepsia and two weeks ago, when an unusually severe attack came on, he went to Fortress Monroe in hopes of recovering his health. That he was in a dangerous condition was not realized by his relatives and the news of his death was therefore all the more distressing.

#### THE PARTY OF JEFFERSON.

Charlottesville, Va., Ap'l 13, '96—Under the auspices of the National Association of Democratic Clubs the 153d anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, the founder of the Democratic party, was celebrated to-day at Monticello, where the author of the Declaration of Independence lived and died.

At 12 noon the special train from Washington, D. C., arrived bringing a distinguished party of national Democrats. Among these were Vice President Stevenson, Postmaster General Wilson, Attorney General Harmon, Secretary of the Navy Herbert; Senators Jones of Arkansas, Faulkner of West Virginia, Pasco of Florida, George of Mississippi, Martin of Kansas, Mitchell of Wisconsin, White of California and Roach of North Dakota; Representatives Sulzer of New York, Washington of Tennessee, Clardy of Kentucky, Livingston of Georgia, Swanson of Virginia, Tucker of Virginia, Pendleton of Texas, Tyler of Virginia, Patterson of Tennessee, Williams of Mississippi, Lawson of Georgia, Turner of Georgia and McGuire of California.

The formal proceedings began with an address by the Hon. Chauncey F. Black, whose enunciation of the sentiment of Jefferson, that the primary principle of Democracy was "absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority," was heartily applauded.

Ex-Governor Russell of Massachusetts was received by the crowd with ringing cheers. His many patriotic allusions and points were rapturously applauded.

When Senator Daniel of Virginia arose to speak his popularity in his native State was made plainly apparent by the enthusiasm with which he was received. He pictured to his audience in eloquent periods the prominent traits of character of Virginia's gift to the national Democracy—Thomas Jefferson.

After his eulogy of Jefferson, Senator Daniel referred to the speech of Governor Russell, and said he must be excused if he failed to see anything in Jefferson's teachings which summoned us to abandon the bi-metallic money system which Jefferson himself helped to establish. He concurred with Governor Russell that Jefferson would never have made an issue between Colorado and Wall street, or between a debtor and a creditor class, or upon any geographical division, but he asserted that it was the Republican party, and not the party of Jefferson, that did

that very thing in 1873, in stripping silver of its equal coinage right with gold; that it was Wall street and Lombard street that were the aggressors, not Colorado, nor the West; not the debtor class. But, said the senator, I am not going to stay at odds with our distinguished friend at the grave of Jefferson. There was one thing that Jefferson said about money which we will concur in, and that is "that one warm thought is worth more than money," and giving him the warm thoughts that one upon his native hearth should feel for an honored guest, I would venture to say to him, as Falstaff said to Prince Henry: "No more of that Hal, as thou lovest me." Indeed, we will have here to-day the free coinage of warm thoughts on the double standard of Massachusetts and Virginia, and I am willing to amplify the code of our Democratic comrade, Tim Campbell, of New York, and say for to-day at least: "Neither money nor the constitution ought to come between friends."

#### PASTORS OF FIRST M. E. CHURCH.

The following list of ministers who have served the Franklin M. E. Church during the period from the time the congregation moved from Public Square to Franklin street, together with the years of appointment, has been prepared by Theron Burnett:

- Rev. Thomas H. Pearne, 1848, 1849.
- Rev. Nelson Rounds, 1850, 1851.
- Rev. George Peck, 1852, 1853.
- Rev. William Wyatt, 1854.
- Rev. Henry Brownscombe, 1855, 1856.
- Rev. John M. Snyder, 1857, 1858.
- Rev. Zachariah Paddock, 1859.
- Rev. Jacob Miller, 1860, 1861.
- Rev. John A. Wood, 1862, 1863.
- Rev. Young C. Smith, D. D., 1864, 1865, 1866.
- Rev. Henry Brownscombe, 1867, 1868.
- Rev. Thomas C. Reese, 1869, 1870, 1871.
- Rev. Albert Wyatt, 1872, 1873.
- Rev. W. H. Olin, D. D., 1874, 1875, 1876.
- Rev. J. E. Smith, D. D., 1877, 1878, 1879.
- Rev. Samuel Moore, 1880, 1881, 1882.
- Rev. J. O. Woodruff, D. D., 1883, 1884, 1885.
- Rev. A. H. Tuttle, D. D., 1886, 1887, 1888.
- Rev. W. L. Phillips, 1889, 1890.
- Rev. J. R. Boyle, D. D., 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895.
- Rev. W. H. Pearce, D. D., 1896

#### SON OF A REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIER.

In the early part of April, 1896, occurred the death at Hartleton, Union County, Pa., of John Hoffman, who before his death was believed to have been the only living son of a Revolutionary War soldier in this State. His age was 97 years. He was an uncle of Mrs. Charles Fegley of Orwigsburg, Schuylkill County, who is the mother of County Treasurer Reed of Luzerne County. Mr. Reed has spent considerable time in looking up the military record of Cornelius Hoffman, father of the deceased. Cornelius Hoffman was a private in Capt. Bowers's company, 6th Regiment of the Continental line, in the War of the Revolution. The regiment was commanded by Col. Josiah Harmen. He enlisted Sept. 10, 1777, in Capt. Bowers's company, and served faithfully during the war, being discharged in 1783. He died Jan. 3, 1832, aged 87 years, in Orwigsburg.

John Hoffman, his son, whose death is above mentioned, had a couple of sons in the War of the Rebellion. Shortly before his death he visited his niece in Schuylkill County, and had intended to come to Wilkes-Barre, but was prevented from doing so on account of illness.

Treasurer Reed's greatgrandfather on his father's side was also a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was buried in Womelsdorf, Berks County.

George E. Ransom says there are now living in Jackson Township, Luzerne County, Ira Ransom, and at Elkhorn Grove, Carroll County, Ill., Miner Ransom, sons of George Palmer Ransom, who enlisted in his father's company at the age of 14 and served during the Revolution. Ira Ransom was born Oct. 11, 1822, and served in the War of the Rebellion in Co. D, 143d Regiment, Pa. Vol. Infantry.

#### MILITARY ORDER OF FOREIGN WARS.

Benjamin F. Dorrance of Dorrance-ton was recently elected a member of the Pennsylvania Commandery of the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the George Dorrance. This is a patriotic order composed of the lineal descendants in the male line only of commissioned officers who served in the various foreign wars of the United States ie., the war of the revolution, war of

1812, war with Tripoli and Mexican war. It was founded by Generals G. W. Smith, Fitz John Porter, Pinto, Webb, Hatch, Viele and others. Its insignia is the eight-pointed star, having in the center the American emblem and the motto "Deus et Libertas." It has veteran and hereditary companions and is an invitation society.

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#### LEXINGTON'S ANNIVERSARY.

[Daily Record, April 21, 1896.]

It certainly takes the women to do things up in fine style, as was demonstrated last evening, when the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated the anniversary of the opening engagement of the Revolution—that at Lexington and Concord. The exercises were held in the Historical Society building and the room was packed full—too full for a hot night. The hot interior was made hotter by emblazonment of American flags so numerous as to almost shut out the atmosphere. The draping of the flags was very prettily done, and from the ceiling hung a Pennsylvania coat of arms flag. On mantels, window sills, library tops and floors were pots of palms and from the incandescent light red, white and blue globes blazed over the assemblage. A vase of roses stood on the regent's table. It was a particularly patriotic occasion. The members of the patriotic societies—the several tribes of Daughters and Sons, were present in their glittering badges and all who could not trace descent from someone who fought in the Revolution were sorry for themselves.

After singing of "America" by the audience, Oppenheim's orchestra accompanying, the regent, Mrs. Katherine S. McCartney, read a carefully prepared historical study of the condition of the colonies just prior to the outbreak of hostilities with the mother country, and the causes which led to the Revolution, following these with a graphic picture of the opening engagement at Lexington and Concord. Mrs. McCartney's effort was particularly enjoyed.

Paul Revere's historic ride from Charlestown to Lexington, to alarm the patriots with the message flashed out from the lantern of the old North Church that the British had marched to attack the settlements was recited by Miss E. B. Guile, teacher of literature in the high school.

At this point the award was made for the best original essay on Benjamin Franklin, for which the Daughters had offered a prize of \$15. There were eight entries. Col. G. M. Reynolds reporting for the committee, stated that the essays were all so meritorious that a decision had been most difficult. However, the committee awarded the prize to "Scholasticus," though "Mayflower" was a close second. On opening the sealed envelopes containing the names of the contestants it was found that "Scholasticus" was W. H. Swift, Jr., of Honesdale, son of Rev. W. H. Swift, first pastor of Memorial Church. Young Swift, who is a pupil of Harry Hillman Academy, was present, and was called up to receive the award amid enthusiastic applause.

The prize essay was then read by Mrs. G. M. Reynolds. It proved to be an admirable study, not only presenting the facts in the thrilling life of America's greatest statesman, but commenting thoughtfully on his character and his varied influence upon the world.

The committee on award, through Alexander Farnham, yielded to a request that the names of all the competitors be announced, the list being as follows:

"Mayflower"—Catherine May Brooks.  
 "Frances Linn"—Louise Park Atherton.  
 "Quasiter"—John G. Smyth  
 "Catherine Lea"—Alice Rhone.  
 "Civitas"—Lewis Harmon Hitchler.  
 "Molly Pitcher"—Henrietta Hartman.

"Jued Ecnal"—Julia Edith Lance.  
 The girls are pupils of the institute and the boys of the academy.

It was mentioned as an interesting incident that among those who heard the essay on Franklin was a great-great-grandson, Rev. Dr. Franklin B. Hodge.

Some vocal selections by Mrs. H. H. Harvey added to the zest of the occasion.

After the benediction by Rev. Dr. H. L. Jones the gathering became informal in character and the company was refreshed with apollinaris lemonade, served from a capacious punch bowl.

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#### DESCENDED FROM PENN.

Readers of the Record are more or less familiar with the reference from time to time to the claims set up for the ownership of certain lands in Luzerne County originally belonging to William



Penn. One of these claimants is Reverdy Penn Davis of Washington, and he is now in town with his attorney, R. Dorsey Trundle, of the Washington bar. The land claimed by Mr. Davis is near Nanticoke and is a part of the Sunbury Manor laid out by the Penns in the last century. It is located at the mouth of Harvey's Creek and is on both sides of that stream, running back up to the mountain. Mr. Davis and his lawyer did the Alpine act yesterday by climbing up the precipitous approaches of the mountain and taking a survey in their minds of the valuable tract they hope to occupy. On this tract is the Nanticoke Water Co.'s reservoir and the Harvey mines. Mr. Davis once wrote a letter, which appeared in the Record, that awakened the people who are on the old Sunbury manor tract, and they were so much impressed with his claims that some of them proceeded to make leases with him. Mr. Davis claims that the Penn estate never disposed of such Luzerne County lands as he is claiming. He maintains that he is the nearest living relative of William Penn, a great-great-great-grandson, and consequently the heir of the historic founder of Pennsylvania.

In addition to his extensive interests here, Mr. Davis claims that he is heir to the valuable tract of land known as "Hope's Lot," which lies adjacent to the city of Baltimore. Among other curious papers in his possession, Mr. Davis has a deed bearing the signature of his great - great - grandfather, the first owner of "Hope's Lot." This was John Penn, a grandson of William.

Mr. Davis is a son of Charlotte Penn, who, in 1866, crossed the Atlantic in a bark. For more than a month the vessel was tossed about at sea, and about the time that Mrs. Davis's American friends were mourning her as dead, the plucky woman was entering her claim for the Penn pension. At that time the British government was distributing £4,000 annually to the heirs of William Penn, but she never got any of it, and in the course of a few years, probably because the government assumed the heirs had run out, or the pension had run enough, the same was discontinued. An excellent picture of this lady is now in the possession of her son, Reverdy Penn Davis, and is looked upon by him as being more valuable in establishing his claim to the Penn estates than any of his legal proofs and genealogical records, as she strikingly resembles the family pictures of her famous ancestors.

Following in his mother's footsteps,

Mr. Davis, with his attorney, will visit England in about two month's time for the purpose of securing his property there, as his titles to his claims will, he hopes, be settled prior to that time. Despite his noble extraction, Mr. Davis is quite an unpretentious citizen, and, unlike most Americans who can lay claim to such distinguished ancestry, he is entirely un-English. Mr. Davis is employed in the Department of Agriculture at Washington.

As far as his rival claimant, William Dugald Stewart, is concerned, Mr. Davis has little to say, except that his claim to heirship is no stronger than his claim to be an officer in the British army, it is not very strong. There is no such officer on the army rolls, nor is there any record in Great Britain of any such heir to the Penn estate as William Dugald Stewart. Mr. Davis claims for himself that he can from living witnesses prove that he is a great-great-grandson of John Penn, and by documentary evidence that the latter was a grandson of William Penn. If he can to this he will be all right.

#### HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING.

The Historical Society held its quarterly meeting at the rooms of the society May 8, 1896. In the absence of the president, Judge Woodward, who was unexpectedly called away, Rev. Dr. Jones occupied the chair.

The secretary reported that since the last quarterly meeting 177 volumes and pamphlets had been received and properly classified. Many of these were of decided value to the society.

The following were elected to active membership: John D. Farnham, E. E. Hoyt, E. Constine, Alexander B. Cox of Drifton, Sterling Ross Catlin, Mrs. C. D. Foster, William Loveland of Kingston, J. H. W. Hawkins, Mrs. Dr. Guthrie.

Mrs. William Griffith of Pittston was elected an honorary member and William Griffith of Scranton and J. K. Griffith, of Latrobe, Pa., corresponding members.

#### PLYMOUTH'S OLDEST RESIDENT.

[Daily Record, May 4, 1896.]

Mrs. Elizabeth Rickard, who was the oldest living resident of Plymouth and a descendant of one of its first families, died Sunday morning at 10:30 at the home of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Dr. E. G. Rickard, in that place. The de-

ceased had reached the advanced age of 88 years and 5 months, having been born Dec. 4, 1807. Throughout her long lease of life she always enjoyed good health until the past year. From youth she had been a member of the Christian Church and until weakened by age took an active part in church work. The deceased was born in that part of Plymouth which is now known as Lance Hill and all her life she has spent there. She lived to see Plymouth develop from a sparsely settled village to one of the most prosperous town in the coal region. What is now the principal business and resident portion of the town was in her youth mostly a swamp.

Deceased came from old Revolutionary stock. Her grandfather, Jacob Gould, emigrated to the valley in 1772 from London, Richfield County, Conn., and settled at Plymouth. Her father, also named Jacob Gould, was born on the emigrant train while crossing the Wilkes-Barre Mountain. At the breaking out of the Revolutionary War he enlisted in the Second Independent Company for revolutionary service under Capt. Ransom and fought with distinction. The family has been noted for longevity. Mrs. Rickard was one of a family of seven, four brothers and two sisters, and was the last survivor. All of them lived to attain an age of not less than 76 years.

The deceased was married in 1826 to John Rickard and their union was blessed by three children, two of whom died in infancy. Mr. Rickard died in 1841, which left Mrs. Rickard a widow fifty-five years. Their only surviving child, Dr. E. S. Rickard, who was a leading physician in Plymouth for years, died in 1883. The nearest relatives of the deceased now living are her grandchildren of whom there are five, all residents of Plymouth. They are John B. druggist, and Misses Stella, Daisy K., Mary V. and Emma Gould Rickard. There is also one great-grandchild, Helen Rickard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Rickard.

#### BETHLEHEM'S OLDEST CITIZEN.

[Bethlehem Times, April 25, 1896.]

Bethlehem's oldest citizen, John W. Lynn, whose death occurred yesterday morning at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. J. F. Walp, was born in Germany on May 23, 1805, and was the fifth of ten children—eight son and two daughters—of the late John Lynn and his wife Catherine, m. n. Wasser.

When he was 1 year old the family came to America and located in Lower Saucon. There he followed farming until he took to learn the carpenter's trade. In those days an apprentice worked from sunrise to sunset. On Oct. 9, 1831, he wedded Miss Matilda Bachman, who was the daughter of the late farmer Solomon and Elizabeth Bachman, who was one year his junior. The ceremony was performed by the late Rev. Mr. Brobst of Easton.

Mr. Lynn and his bride located near Shimersville, where he carried on the undertaking business for a number of years and engaged in the contracting and building business. He superintended the razing of the old homestead in Lower Saucon and erected on the site a more modern edifice, which stands to this day. From 1826 until 1871, a period of forty-five years, he was in the contracting business and erected many fine homes hereabouts.

Early in the seventies Mr. Lynn and wife moved to Bethlehem. He shortly afterwards retired from business. His wife preceded him to the grave, departing this life at the ripe age of 81 years and 4 months. Up to a year ago Mr. Lynn enjoyed good health. He was active—very active—at the age of 90 years. Early last spring he suffered a stroke of apoplexy, which rendered him bedfast. It was a severe attack and yesterday resulted in his death.

The deceased was esteemed and respected by all who knew him. He was the father of eight children—a son, Thomas Lynn, died twenty years ago, and a daughter, Miss Louisa Lynn, departed this life a year before the death of her mother.

His surviving children are: Elias B. Lynn of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. John F. Walp and Mrs. Joseph H. Moyer of Bethlehem, Benjamin B. Lynn of Catauquaque, Mrs. Albert Laubach of Freemansburg, and Milton B. Lyonn, Bethlehem's well known house painter. There are living besides fourteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

#### A WYOMING CAPTIVE.

In 1846, John F. Watson, author of the "Annals of Philadelphia," and member of the historical societies of Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts, published his "Annals and occurrences of New York City and State in the olden time," a copy of which is now in

the Osterhout Library. Among many "incidents and memories" may be found the following:

"It was my happiness to have had the advantage of being accompanied along the Mohawk in the year 1828 by Mr. Parrish, many years the Indian interpreter and agent. He had been captured near the Wyoming settlement, in Pennsylvania by the Indians, when he was a lad of 11 years of age, and had been led along with the army of predatory Indians and Tories, who destroyed the settlements along the Mohawk in the Revolutionary war. Having thus seen with own his eyes the things there done and being 7 years a captive, he was qualified to give abundant information of all the things then passing under our notice in travelling on as far as Canandaigua, where he resided. He spoke five Indian languages, was given up at Fort Stanwix to his liberty, was afterwards for thirty years interpreter and has left a fortune honorably attained. He was a fine looking, large man, of gentle manner and disposition. He had a ready manner of imitating all the Indian manners and ways. He died in March, 1836."

#### DEATH OF SQUIRE MARCY.

At his home in Duryea, Marcy Township, May 4, 1896, occurred the death of squire John S. Marcy, one of the best known residents of the county, at the age of 75 years. Deceased has been ailing for about three years with a complication of diseases, although he was about much of the time.

Deceased was born in Marcy Township Nov. 21, 1821, and was a son of Ebenezer and Susanna (Ajams) Marcy, who lived in Marcy Township, but were descendants of a New England ancestry. They were among the earliest settlers in Luzerne County. Deceased was educated in the common schools and worked on his father's farm for some years, then accepting a position in a Wilkes-Barre store for a year. He returned to the farm until 1860 and then went into the grocery business. A year later he joined Co. G, 52d Pennsylvania Volunteers, and participated in many of the engagements of the civil war. In 1864 he returned home and again settled upon the farm, which has been in possession of the family for 120 years.

Deceased was united in marriage August 7, 1843, with Mary F., daughter of Lieut. Peter and Eleanor (Jacobs) Coolbaugh, and their union has been blessed

with nine children, three of whom are living—Joseph W., Gertrude J., Bertha E. Those deceased are: Sarah A., born 1844, died Dec. 2, 1889; Martha Rose, born 1846, died April 30, 1872; Edwin B., born 1850, died Aug. 11, 1883; Charles S., born 1852, died Aug. 10, 1855; Hannah F., born 1856, died Dec. 13, 1879.

#### THE LIPPINCOTT FAMILY.

Mrs. Catherine Lippincott, a former well known and esteemed resident of Wilkes-Barre, died April 27, 1896, at Joliet, Ill., at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H. K. Knowlton. She was born June 26, 1807, near Towanda, Bradford County, Pa. She was the daughter of Henry Salisbury, who was an officer of New York militia during the revolutionary war. She was married to Joseph Lippincott at Mauch Chunk, Feb. 18, 1832, who was of a Philadelphia family. Their wedding was an event in the early days of Mauch Chunk, and attended by Asa Packer, founder of the Lehigh University; George Law, the Leisenrings, and many others whose names have since become famous in that vicinity. They made their home in Mauch Chunk for nearly twenty years. Then, after four years abode in Ithaca, N. Y., they removed to Wilkes-Barre, where they resided until Mr. Lippincott's death in 1877.

Mrs. Lippincott was a member of the Episcopal Church, always active in church work, and in various charitable organizations. In Wilkes-Barre she was a charter member of the board of the Home for Friendless Children. During a great part of this century, she has witnessed in church and State, and with great interest, every step in progressive civilization, having lived in the present and in the long ago. She leaves the memorial of a well spent life, the heritage of a good name, the blessed memory of a faithful wife, a loving mother and sister, an earnest Christian beloved by all, while her life has been to her family and friends a benefaction.

#### THE WYOMING FOLLETS.

An interesting contribution to Wyoming history is a volume, the title page of which reads as follows:

"The Follett-Dewey, Fassett-Safford ancestry of Capt. Martin Dewey Follett (1765-1831) and his wife Persis Fassett (1767-1849), being a compilation of family records and extracts from various

histories, official records and genealogical publications relating to the Folletts of Windham, Salem, Wyoming Valley and Vermont. \* \* \* together with accounts of the settlements of Wyoming Valley and Vermont, the Wyoming Valley massacres, \* \* \* by Henry Parker Ward, Columbus, Ohio, 1896."

The author, Capt. Ward, is a member of various historical and patriotic societies, including the Wyoming Historical Society, and his book will be greatly enjoyed by students of history. It comprises about 250 pages, and is enriched with illustrations. Some of the latter are local to the Wyoming Valley, including Forty Fort in 1778, Wyoming monument, and a map of the valley in 1778.

The oldest Follett noted is Robert, of Salem, Mass., born about 1625. He had a son Benjamin (1676?-1752), who had a son Benjamin, born about 1715, at Windham, Conn., died in Wyoming Valley in 1788 or a little prior thereto. He was married in 1736 to Hannah Woodward, who died in 1757. They had nine children, of whom Elphalet, born 1741, was killed in the battle of 1778.

It is said of Benjamin Follett that he was one of the original members of the Susquehanna Company in 1753 and took an active part in the first settlement of Wyoming. He was one of the first 40 settlers. All the histories mention him in connection with the early settlement, as being a member of important committees. He figured just as prominently, too, in the long Pennamite controversy.

His son Elphalet was 37 years old at the time he was killed in the massacre of 1778. While endeavoring to escape in the frenzy of defeat Elphalet was pursued into the river by a tory who shot him dead. The widowed mother and her six children struggled through the wilderness to Vermont. They never returned to Wyoming. The children at the time of the massacre ranged in age from 13 years to 2 years. One of them died from the exposure of the flight and the mother had hardly terminated this fearful journey through the wilderness than she gave birth to a child.

Elphalet had a half brother, Frederick, who was 17 years old at the time of the massacre. In an Indian attack on the settlement subsequent to the massacre, probably in 1779, he was shot, stabbed seven times and scalped, but under the skillful treatment of Dr. William Hooker Smith he astonished everybody

by getting well. One spear thrust had penetrated his stomach and his recovery seemed impossible. Of all the Wyoming Folletts Capt. Ward's book gives much interesting information, as also of all the other families included in this interesting volume.

Capt. Ward has gathered a great deal of valuable data, not only drawn from various histories, but from original sources. It might be criticised by genealogists as not conforming to conventional customs. For instance, in referring to individuals the very convenient method of using figures to denote the generation, the author uses the years of birth and date parenthetically, a method which is awkward, to say the least. But it is a pity such an otherwise valuable work should be marred by lacking an index. In these days of historical research any unindexed book is behind the times. If Capt. Ward should issue a second edition it is to be hoped he will add an index and thus make his interesting and valuable material more available to students of history. The price of the volume is \$4.

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#### IN MEMORY OF TAMINA.

[Daily Record, May 12, 1896.]

To-day among the Red Men will be celebrated what is known in the order as Tamina Day.

Tamina was a famed Indian hunter and warrior, whose death occurred presumably between the years 1683 and 1685; for in the former year the first treaty for the purchase of lands by William Penn with the red men was concluded and is dated April 23, 1683. In that treaty Tamina and Metamequam relinquished their right to a tract of land lying between Pennypack and Meshanning creeks. In the treaty dated May 30, 1685, the name Taminend does not appear. By some the wigwam of Tamina has been located where Princeton College now stands. Tradition has it that long before the discoveries of Ferdinand De Soto or La Salle, Tamina and his people inhabited all the land west of the Alleghany Mountains and northward of the Ohio River, besides the land included by Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The legends tell of this great chief waging war for many years with his mortal enemy, the Evil Spirit, and from the waters of the rising sun, and from the father of waters, the great Salt Lake in the land of the setting sun, his deeds

were recounted at every council fire—the tales concerning his prowess and courage exceeding if possible the myths related in song and story concerning the Grecian Hercules. Tamina's government was patriarchal, mild, but firm. His people looked up to him as their father, and referred their disputes to him. His decisions were always law. Plenty pervaded his land, and his people were contented and happy. Many of the most beautiful ceremonies and symbols of the Improved Order of Red Men are adopted from the legends of Tamina and his people, and this day is observed in celebration of the primitive purity of the people under his sway.

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THEN AND NOW.

Charles Law of Pittston sends an interesting reminiscent letter to the Carbondale Leader. In the course of this letter he says:

"In 1842 my father went down from Carbondale to Wilkes-Barre to get his final papers of citizenship, and I often contrast the condition of transportation in this valley then and now. He went down on Len Searles's stage on Monday so as to be in court on Tuesday. Bue the stage went down Monday and back Tuesday a. m. so a passenger on court business could not get back on the stage until Thursday. Well now we can start every twenty minutes on the electric or every ten from Pittston alternately on either side of the river by electric roads and we have eighty railway trains a day on the steam railways between Pittston and Wilkes-Barre. At that time he visited the opening of the 28-foot vein of the Baltimore Coal Co., at that time the largest known. I heard him make the prediction that the time would come when Wilkes-Barre would be the 'centre of the anthracite coal trade, for nowhere on the known earth was there anything like the Wyoming coal basin with the giant 28-foot vein of fine anthracite.' When I first saw it ten years after it looked like a mountain standing on pillars. Now the great enemy of the anthracite mines, fire, has burned out the old place, and Rodgers's Geology of Pennsylvania has a frontispiece cut of it as it was then.

"I often think what a contrast there is between a modern pay car with its corps of clerks and the elder James Archbald with his moleskin suit walking over the road from Carbondale to Honesdale with the money in his inside vest pocket and paying the men at work

along the road, when he was the judge, jury and lawyer to settle the disputes between neighbors who had differences of opinion about things. They deferred to him, having implicit confidence in his honesty and judgment, and the community was better off a long way than in these days of extended litigation. There were some of the old Scotch families, the Douglas, Maxwell, Campbell, Bryden, Clarkson, Archbald, Law, Watts and later Vannan and Nichols that have left their posterity to carry on the work of building up the Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys. I am glad to say most of them are true sons of the old stock and help along the world's work. The old have passed away, but the new era of progress is with us and old Carbondale holds her own with the others in the front rank."

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WYOMING CONFERENCE 44 YEARS OLD.

On the 7th of July, 1896, the Wyoming Conference of the M. E. Church was forty-four years of age, for on July 7, 1852, at Carbondale, Pa., its first conference was held with Bishop Scott presiding and N. Rounds secretary. At its opening session sixty-two members responded to the roll call. Of these there are yet living Revs. G. M. Peck, H. R. Clark, C. V. Arnold, Asa Brooks and G. W. Leach.

At the conference Y. C. Smith was received on trial, while C. L. Rice and Jasper W. Hewitt were admitted into full connection. Three districts constituted the conference—Newark, Susquehanna and Wyoming. Wyoming district consisted of twenty-four charges and embraced a territory extending from Newark on the south to Beech Pond and Pleasant Mount on the north and from Lackawaxen on the east to Skinner's Eddy on the west, being territory now belonging to the Wyoming, Honesdale and Owego districts. The presiding elder of this, then territorially great, district was Rev. D. A. Shepard and his salary was \$568.

Wilkes-Barre paid its one pastor a salary of \$550, that being the largest salary paid any pastor in the whole conference, the next highest being \$500 paid by the First Church of Binghamton, N. Y.

## DEATH OF MRS. SPERRING.

[Daily Record, May 18, 1896.]

Mrs. Jane Ann Sperring, widow of William H. Sperring, died on Saturday morning at 8:25 o'clock at her home, 65 Ross street, of peritonitis, aged 65 years.

Mrs. Sperring for some years had been an invalid and since the death of her husband in 1882 had not gone out much.

The children who survive are Mrs. L. J. Fogel, Mrs. Dr. Mebane and Misses Mary, Helen and Blanche Sperring. Mr. Sperring was a prominent grocer for a number of years, his store being on the Square.

Deceased was born Jan. 19, 1831, at Plains, and was the daughter of Thomas and Catherine Ann (Hartman) Stocker. Her father was born in Forks Township July 29, 1800, and was a son of John and grandson of Adam Stocker, of German stock, prominent citizens and land owners of Stockertown, Pa. In 1816 he removed to Luzerne County and was married in 1821. His father at one time owned 200 acres of valuable coal lands which were purchased for an old shotgun. Because Mr. Stocker did not know their value they were permitted to be sold for the taxes. Thomas Stocker worked as a carpenter and by his industry saved enough to purchase considerable real estate. He was noted far and wide as a successful hunter. He was reared in the German Reformed faith, but he, with his family became identified with the First Presbyterian Church, this city, in which he was an elder, and later with the church at Plains, which was erected largely at his expense. He was charitable and beloved by the poor, especially the miners living in his neighborhood, many of whom sought his advice and counsel. He died Jan. 7, 1878, and his wife passed away Jan. 24, 1880. They had four daughters—Mrs. William Sperring, Mrs. Helen Stark, deceased; Mrs. D. D. Wilcox and Miss Tammie Stocker, Plains.

Mrs. Sperring was a woman of many graces, and was loved and esteemed by all who knew her. The best interests of the family and friends were always near to her heart and she was always industrious in performing kindly acts. She was especially endeared to her family and the domestic ties were ideals of happiness.

## GIFTS TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

[Daily Record, May 23, 1896.]

A most valuable collection of Indian relics has been presented to the Wyoming Historical Society by Mrs. Andrew J. Griffith of West Pittston and the same

was brought to town Friday by Rev. Horace E. Hayden and F. C. Johnson, officers of the society. The specimens were so numerous as to make a whole wagon load. The represent many years patient collecting by the late Mr. Griffith and are with a few exceptions all local to the Wyoming Valley. It is undoubtedly one of the largest collections ever made in this region, yet Mr. Griffith was so modest concerning it that few persons outside his family ever knew there was such a collection. The specimens include stone axes, ceremonial stones, deer skinners, arrow and spear points, net sinkers, lapstones, pestles, Indian paints, beads, pipes, fragments of pottery, and probably others not included in the above notation. There is a fine specimen of a pot, unfortunately in fragments, but they are in such good condition that they can probably be restored. Some of the spear points are splendid specimens.

Besides the Indian relics there is a collection of geological specimens from what is called drift. They are water-washed stones found along the Susquehanna River, full of many curious fossils, all of which have been washed down the river from the State of New York. No such specimens are native to Wyoming Valley, but they have been found by Mr. Griffith in considerable profusion. While such specimens are not rare, yet it is doubtful if any collection of them has ever before been made. If this be true, the collection will have great value. They are to be submitted to Professor Heilprin of the State Geological Survey for classification.

There are also many other interesting specimens, among them pieces of peat from the marsh on which the Scranton court house is built, the same having a layer of what looks like pure anthracite coal, but which when found was of the consistency of jelly. Still other interesting specimens are of mineral charcoal, in which there is a combination of anthracite coal and charcoal, the grain of the wood being unmistakable.

In arranging this splendid collection for exhibition the society will be fortunate in having the help of Mr. Griffith's son, William Griffith, of Pittston, the well known mining engineer whose recent scholarly articles on coal have been running in the Record. Mr. Griffith is a graduate of Lehigh University, class of 1876.

## EARLY DAYS OF WILKES-BARRE.

Men now living, a very few, call to mind with the ease with which age remembers by-gones, many curious and quaint features of the beginnings of Wilkes-Barre. Some who have passed ahead, through private correspondence, have left a legacy of reminiscence which is peculiarly interesting and valuable.

The late Rev. David Jewett Waller of Bloomsburg was a correspondent and friend of the writer. His latest communication, written in September, 1893, just previous to his death, contains much that I presume has never appeared in print. To tie up these recollections in the budget where they belong and also to interest and please many readers and friends of the daily Record, I take this letter, three closely written fool's cap pages, and a few other scraps available, as a fountain from which to draw some brief sketches of early days in Wilkes-Barre.

The old church on the Square, a fair reproduction of which is here given, was the first building erected mathematically in Wilkes-Barre and probably in Northeastern Pennsylvania. It was built for the settlement as a place for general public gatherings, mainly of a religious character. It occupied one of four triangles at the intersection of Market and Main streets, which were then continued through the Square from east to west and from north to south. The other segments were occupied by the public buildings, which were cheaply constructed and of modest appearance, and the old Academy, which had great fame as an educational centre. "Old Slip Zion" had a wonderful steeple which was noted far and near, and from it rang the curfew, proclaiming silence throughout the village every night at 9 o'clock.

About 1824, says Mr. Waller, Anthony Dow was a classical student in the Academy, and his cousin, Robert Blennerhasset, was among the younger pupils. Mrs. Dow and Mrs. Blennerhasset (the latter a famous woman of a quite famous family, prominent in Colonial history) lived at Moyallen, on the elevation on the road to Solomon's Falls. The sisters were notable characters in Wilkes-Barre, residing here temporarily for the education of their sons. They were ladies of fine physique, with handsome fresh countenances and were great walkers, appearing to enjoy the wildness and picturesqueness of adjacent scenery greatly. Often the town boys

tracked them by the clogs they wore which made circles in the sand or mud wherever they went. They afterward returned to England or Ireland.

Early in the century and in the days of brightest fame of the old Academy, Phineas Waller, father of the "Waller boys," drove from Wilkes-Barre to Washington City to visit his brothers-in-law, Abram and Phineas Bradley, who were then first assistants, and the first ever appointed, to the Postmaster General of the United States. They were born in Hanover, below Wilkes-Barre, and were in office until the administration of Andrew Jackson.

Wilkes-Barre was then regarded superior to Washington in educational advantages and Dr. Phineas Bradley sent his two daughters by Mr. Waller to Wilkes-Barre to attend school. Sally Hollenback, daughter of Matthias Hollenback, became a crony of the Bradley girls and later visited them at their home in Washington, where she met a young clerk in the postoffice department named Cist—Jacob Cist—a Russian by birth. It was a love affair of first order, but the differences in their social positions appeared to be an insurmountable barrier to matrimony. Dr. Bradley sympathized with Sally and with his zealous clerk and sent Jacob to Wilkes-Barre, with a commission as postmaster. Mr. Hollenback could not object seriously to a government officer as a prospective son-in-law, and Mr. Waller quaintly says, "guess the sequel."

Since Jacob Cist was the father and Sally Hollenback the mother of Mrs. A. T. McClintock, recently deceased, and they have still descendants who are honored among us, the little romance is not without interest even after the flight of many years.

The contrast between the present appearance of "the old town," as it is often called, and the period of 1820 and thereabouts, when the now progressive city was but a small borough, is striking indeed.

Let no one imagine, however, that there was slowness or crudeness among the population, or that it was anything else but a live town, with business hustlers and social conditions of a superior character.

The men who were the pioneers of Wilkes-Barre were brainy men, and the common testimony is the ladies of that period were ladies indeed, who could

shine for their worth and their culture and their beauty anywhere. Their style may seem quaint to us, but as history repeats itself that very quaintness comes again to the front and the fair daughters of the present scan them admiringly and exclaiming, "Oh, isn't it lovely—perfectly lovely!"

Said one of the remnants of the long ago to the writer not long since—her bright eyes sparkling with mischief as she spoke—"Strange that those mothers and fathers who were so simple minded and whose misfortune it was to live in those benighted times, should have such smart sons and daughters."

Those who know know that those days were not benighted, and that Wilkes-Barre was a centre of highest culture when the nineteenth century was in its babyhood. Even in colonial days, it should be borne in mind, that the settlers of Wyoming Valley were from the cultured homes of New England and that they brought with them and made a part of their new life that refinement which has been the honor of New England from the landing of the Pilgrims.

It is not invidious to mention among the leading spirits of early Wilkes-Barre Thomas Cooper, an early president judge, George Griffin, Thomas Burnside, Rensselaer Wells, Ebenezer Bowman, John Banister Gibson and Thomas Dyer, shining lights of the bar in those days. These and many others, contemporaries and more recent, are samples of learning and social influence not easily surpassed. We may add to them Garrick Mallery, Daniel Scott, Luther Kidder, John N. Conyngham, George W. Woodward, and other names still familiar to the generation now living, yet honored among us. And then, of physicians, Drs. Whitney, Covell and Cray; of clergymen, Jacob Johnson, Ard Hoyt, Cyrus Gildersleeve, Nicholas Murray, and John Dorrance; James Campbell, George Lane, Gaylord Judd and George Peck; Samuel Sitgraves, Enoch Huntington and James May.

But those were Puritan days. Witness the following excerpt from the court records:

December term, 1782. "Mary Pritchard is found guilty of unnecessarily going from her place of abode on the Lord's Day, on the 10th of November last, therefore that she pay a fine of five shillings, lawful money, to the town treasury and costs."

The corner of Northampton street and South River was in the early days the center of life and business. It was in line with the Easton pike, whose stages came direct to the popular hospitality of Judge Jesse Fell. The travel was then continuous, by ferry from foot of Northampton street, across Kingston flats, a long since abandoned road. Local records are silent concerning the bridge controversy of this period. It was nevertheless an epoch in Wilkes-Barre history. Mr. Waller says Josiah Lewis, Gen. William Ross, Matthias Hollenback, Judge Gibson, Josiah Wright, Lord Butler, John G. Arndt, "The Wyoming Herald," the Philadelphia Bank, the stage headquarters and old Michael, with other weighty citizens, were for a bridge at Northampton street, while the Court House, Judge David Scott, Isaac Bowman, Jonathan Hancock, Peleg Tracy, Judge Burnside, Arnold Colt and "all the accretions of centrality" were drawing towards Market street. Probably the higher ground on the west side had much to do with the final decision, which changed the tide of events and left Northampton street and vicinity to beautiful homes, while Market street became the business thoroughfare. George M. Hollenback, with keen business foresight, in the midst of this agitation and suspense, built his dwelling and store at the corner of Market and River streets, which from that day has been the most valuable business location of the town. The site of the Hollenback store is the present Coal Exchange. Dr. Edward Covell, Thomas Dyer, Thomas Moffat and "The Susquehanna Democrat," with an equal eye to the main chance, located on South Main street as certain of a desirable location. It must be remembered that the Northern and Southern suburban lines were not far distant from these two leading streets, and that the canal and railroads and vast coal interests which have made Wilkes-Barre what it is and gave its future promise were then an unknown quantity.

River street, with its extended frontage upon the Susquehanna, it was thought by everybody, would be the face of the greater Wilkes-Barre, and since it was here that a ship building scheme was inaugurated; here that river navigation promised so much; and here that coal shipping by arks and barges initiated the great coal trade of



the Wyoming region, no wonder. The first stone dwelling in Wilkes-Barre (and there were no brick buildings at that time) was built on South River street by Jacob Cist, who is said to have been one of the most progressive citizens of his progressive generation.

Coal introduced itself. It may be said of the present coal trade, it was born in Wilkes-Barre. If we couple with it the prophesy that some one has made that Wilkes-Barre is destined to be the greatest coal city of the future the fact may some time have a greater significance. The first discovery of coal in Pennsylvania properly belongs to the Indians, but, like the whites who came after them and succeeded not only to their discovery but to their land, they knew nothing of its value. It was about as difficult to demonstrate the worth of our anthracite in the beginning of the present century as it would be now to convince the world of the value that lies buried in the rocks and stones, which the Eastern farmer considers himself cursed with.

"No, I don't own all this land," said one of this sort concerning lands now worth a thousand dollars per acre. "I am not as poor as you think I am."

In the beginnings of Wilkes-Barre many a denizen of the beautiful Wyoming Valley was "land poor."

The first coal was found along Nanticoke Creek, where the waters had cut their way through and the black diamond was exposed like any other stratum of rock. It was called in the beginning stone coal. The Nanticoke Creek vein was seven feet thick. A nine-foot vein was found at Plymouth, on Ransom's Creek. Other veins were located at Pittston and points along the Susquehanna and Lackawanna rivers. There were newspapers in Wilkes-Barre then and in two flourishing towns, Dundaff and Bethany, but the enterprising reporters never mentioned these discoveries. Coal was for years regarded more as a curiosity than an article of utility. Blacksmiths were the first to use it as fuel. Probably Judge Jesse Fell of Wilkes-Barre first used it successfully in an open grate. Judge Fell was a keen spirit, up to and ahead of his times. The writer has seen and read much of his correspondence, but in coal literature his memorable entry in an old Masonic hand book, now the property of the Historical Society, ought to have first place. We give its language exactly:

"February 11th, of Masonry 5808, made the experiment of burning the common stone coal of the valley in a grate, in a common fire place in my house, and find it will answer the purpose of fuel, making a clear and better fire, at less expense, than burning wood in the common way.

Jesse Fell."  
"Borough of Wilkes-Barre, February 18, 1808."

The late John Torrey of Honesdale, shortly before his death, which occurred in March, 1894, described to me his own experience in making the stuff burn. Somebody had brought to the home of his father, Jason Torrey, in Bethany, a load of this stone coal, but it was no good and was dumped at the roadside as useless, and there it lay for years. Young John paid a visit to his kindred in Wilkes-Barre, and while roaming the country with the boys, George Woodward, Amzi Fuller and others, he came upon a blazing fire in an open grate near a coal mine, which was being attended by a workman. Mr. Torrey says he stopped, while the rest of the company went on. "Is that stone coal burning like that?" he said. "Yes, young mister," said the genial workman, "and it's a fire to warm a fellow up, I can tell you." "Show me how you do it," said young Torrey, thinking all the while of the despised heap at Bethany. The secret was found to be a good draft and no poking. Mr. Torrey found his way back to his quarters in Wilkes-Barre alone, the other boys having wondered why he skipped them. Next day he hastened homeward, and soon had a coal fire of the refuse heap, which was the first successful use of the stuff in the then flourishing town of Bethany. I do not know that he made any record of the transaction, but it is hardly a tradition, for I had the story from the lips of Mr. Torrey himself.

The first cargoes of coal to reach Philadelphia from these regions were two ark loads, thirty tons, in 1803. It found no market and could not be even given away. Instead of burning it those who gave it any heed at all declared that it put the fire out, and it was broken and scattered upon the streets for gravel. Several parties were threatened with arrest for imposing upon the people, and the ridicule which was heaped upon them was well nigh unbearable.

Still they persisted, but it was more than twenty-five years before the coal trade was really born.

It was Wilkes-Barre grit that won the day. Col. G. M. Hollenback, Charles Miner and Jacob Cist, with other determined spirits, soon began to see the fruits of their faith. The flat boat was superseded by canals from 1828 to 1856. Until about the beginning of the war of 1861 such a thing as a railroad, other than gravity roads, carrying coal was unknown.

We need not say what hath God wrought? It is not irreverence to say, What hath man wrought?

F. A. Dony.

#### COAL IN NEW YORK FORTY YEARS AGO.

W. K. Humphrey, a veteran in the coal business, has furnished to the Ithaca Journal an interesting account of the introduction of coal as fuel in Central and Western New York. In 1851 Ithaca was the distributing point for Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo and points West, the coal being shipped by canal. All over this section of the State the fuel burned was wood, and the coal men found it very difficult to introduce coal. Mr. Humphrey recalls the fact that in October, 1851, shortly after the first load of coal arrived in Ithaca, he shipped to Mr. Barker, in Buffalo, 300 tons of coal. The coal was taken to Buffalo by canal by Captain B. L. Johnson. After it arrived there he received word from Mr. Barker stating that the coal had arrived, but that there was no market for it. This coal had been invoiced to Mr. Barker gratis, he having only to pay the canal charges. It was so valueless to him, however, that he would not even do this. Mr. Humphrey directed Captain Johnson to deliver the coal to Mr. Barker without any charges whatever, and that man unwillingly accepted it. It remained in his possession nearly a year, during which time he managed to ship a part of it to Western cities.

In Syracuse they knew nothing of coal. Mr. Humphrey shipped a lot of coal to Syracuse, and to introduce it got one of the hotel men to use it. In order to gain this concession Mr. Humphrey bought a coal stove of Treman, King & Co. and presented it to the hotel man, and he burned coal all that winter.

Rochester was an extremely hard city to introduce coal into. The coal was shipped from Ithaca to an agent there. The agent had to give away stoves, and, further, had to show the people how to start the fire. Some would fill the stove

with coal, put a piece of paper on top, light it and expect it to burn, and when it failed to ignite send word to the agent to come and take back his stove and coal, as it was no good.

Mr. Humphrey states that the first coal train rolled into Ithaca over the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R. on Oct. 15, 1851. Word that the train would arrive had spread around the city, and when it reached there over 1,000 people were at the station to see the train and the coal. The people swarmed around the train and took pieces as curiosities, the major portion of those present never having seen coal. In these days it was called stone coal. The canal men termed it mineral coal. In Ithaca very little coal was used before that time. Mr. Humphrey used some at his office, which was brought to him by canal men at his special order.—Coal Trade Journal.

#### AFTER A HALF CENTURY'S ABSENCE.

[Daily Record, June 13, 1896.]

"Backward, turn backward, Oh Time in your flight,  
And make me a boy again just for to-night."

In the days "lang syne" Thomas H. Morgan was the landlord of the "Old Arndt Tavern," on the present site of the Darling house on South River street. The family was a large one—three daughters and four sons. The eldest daughter, Ann, married David Wilmot and removed to Towanda. All the family are now deceased except John, the oldest son, who visited in this city yesterday, after an absence of over fifty years. He is now 75 years of age. He found a few of his old playmates, and was astonished at the growth and prosperity of his boyhood home. E. S. Loop, C. E. Butler and S. H. Lynch were his most intimate companions in the days when the old stage coaches left his father's hostelry in the early morn, with George Root on the box, for Easton. To say that the reunion was a pleasant one and that the past was raked over and old stories and incidents brought to light, making them boys again, would be but a faint portrayal of the joys that they tasted while comparing experiences and plying the catechism of memory to revive the charming reminiscences of boyhood's halcyon days.

## AN ANCIENT SURVEY.

[Daily Record, June 10, 1896.]

There was entered for record in the recorder's office yesterday a certified copy of an ancient map of Wyoming Valley, the original being in the State archives at Harrisburg. The survey was made in 1768 for the Penns, who had laid out two manors here, one on the West Side, 20,000 acres, called the Manor of Sunbury, the other on the East Side, about half as large, including present Wilkes-Barre, called the Manor of Stoke. The Manor of Sunbury was about nine miles long, and extended from the mouth of Harvey's Creek, present Nanticoke, to a point a little above a point opposite Mill Creek. Fronting on the Susquehanna, it reached back over the Kingston Mountain. The Manor of Stoke was not quite so long, and reached back from the river about two and one-half miles.

The map has many interesting features. For instance, at the mouth of Toby's Creek on the west side of the river below the island, is marked "stone coal," showing how early the presence of anthracite was known. It had been exposed to view by the spring freshets which washed out the bank at the sharp bend of the river near the present Woodward breaker. It should be noted that the island has undergone great change in form. At that time it was a double island, the larger one, at the mouth of Toby's Creek, having now been washed entirely away. The smaller island, about one-third as large, is as we see it to-day.

Wilkes-Barre of course was not on the map, though a village, noted as Wloming, is located about where the Harry Hillman Academy now stands. It was on the lower side of a small stream which flowed into the river at what has of late years been known as the Ice pond, in front of the academy. There was a store of some kind, as one is marked at a point at what is now the foot of Northampton street, as shown by its being directly opposite in line between certified Kingston and Plymouth townships. Leading from this store, out present Northampton street, is the "path to Wind Gap."

At the Plymouth Island on the west side is an old Shawnee Indian town, and a couple of miles further down, across the river, is an old Nanticoke Indian town, a little below Butzbach's Landing.

The streams are all shown with great accuracy, Mill Creek, Moses (now Solomon's) Creek, as also unnamed streams bearing the modern names of Toby's Creek, Harvey's Creek and Laurel Run. The site of Plymouth was occupied with a pine woods.

Following along the west side of the river is a path leading from present Sunbury to Wialusing. The falls at Nanticoke are noted as Wloming Falls.

The map is being placed on record by E. H. Chase, who is attorney for William Dugald Stewart, whose claim, as an heir of the Penns, to certain lands in Wyoming Valley, has been published in these columns. As the matter is still in the courts, the copy of this ancient map at Harrisburg is being recorded here for greater convenience. The Penn lands were confiscated by Pennsylvania during the Revolution, on account of their being Loyalists, but a tract of 2,500 acres of the lower end of the Manor of Sunbury, lying along Harvey's Creek, was restored to the family, who have continued to hold it down to this day.

An order accompanying the map is addressed by John Penn to John Lukens, surveyor general, and is dated 29th October, 1768, in the following words:

"By the Proprietaries.

"Pennsylvania ss.

"These are to authorize and require you to survey and lay out for our use in right and as part of our tenths the quantity of twenty thousand acres of land on North West Side of the River Susquehanna opposite to Wyoming, to include all the low lands, and make return thereof into our secretary's office, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant. Witness John Penn, Esq., Lieutenant Governor of the said Province, who by virtue of certain powers from the said Proprietaries hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the Land Office to be applied this 29th day of October, A. D. 1768."

Attached is a plot of the ground surveyed, with a certificate upon it signed by William Sculle that the same was surveyed on the 8th and 9th days of December, 1768. The endorsement upon the order to survey shows that it and the map were filed in the land office 7th February, 1769.

## A SURVEYING PARTY OF 1816.

The following letter describing a surveying trip of 1816, is given as dealing with names more or less familiar. The journey of this Philadelphia land owner from Wilkes-Barre to Philadelphia occupied four days. The mode of living in the country of Buttermilk Falls was decidedly primitive. The letter is handed the Record by John W. Jordan of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The appended notes were furnished by Charles I. A. Chapman:

Thursday, June 11, 1816, left Wilkes-Barre on horseback 10 miles to Searle's Tavern (Note 1) at the mouth of the Lackawanna creek. Here we stopped to water. From thence we proceeded to Cane's Tavern, 12 miles from Searle's. Here we dined on such as the country afforded, and then proceeded to Ben-olite Stone's 8 (Note 2) from Cane's. Here we slept in a log cabin, there being but one room, the family consisting of Mr. Stone, his wife and two children, in one bed (there being two in the room, if they could be called beds) and myself in the other. Josiah Lewis, surveyor, (Note 3) William Drinker and William Henderson laid themselves down on the dirt floor with their feet towards the fire and in company with the geese and ducks. We slept pretty sound till daylight, at which time our feathered companions called all hands and would allow no more sleep..

June 22—After breakfast we pursued our journey towards Buttermilk Falls, passing P. Allen's, Westcoat Stone — Weatherby, Elder Miller, Jonathan Wall, William Wall (Note 4). Here we staid all night. Mrs. Wall prepared an excellent supper, but through fatigue and weariness I had lost my appetite and went soon to bed, and believe me, I never slept sounder in all my life.

June 13—Rose at daylight, being very much refreshed. Partook of a comfortable breakfast which Mrs. Wall had prepared for us and proceeded towards Buttermilk Falls, passing a burnt saw mill and at meridian arrived at the Buttermilk Falls and put up at the house of John Osterhout and staid all night.

14—Took an early breakfast and proceeded to survey two adjoining tracts of land (Note 6) patented in the name of Jeremiah Parker and Richard Parker laying in the Buttermilk Falls Valley. Returned in the evening and lodged at Osterhout's. (Note 5).

15—Continued the survey which we

finished before night.

16—Started from Mr. Osterhout's after breakfast and arrived at Wilkes-Barre in the evening, Sunday.

17—Paid Josiah Lewis his bill for surveying the 2 tracts, \$25.15, including chain bearers, a man, provisions and liquor.

18—Paid Welles and Mallory their fees for prosecuting Thomas Morgan for cutting and stealing the timber from off the above said land ten dollars (\$10), 117 rods from the most westerly corner of the above 2 tracts stands a white oak tree, initials D. M. cut with a hatchet.

June 20—Proceeded homewards and on the 24th arrived at Philadelphia.

Note 1—Searle's old tavern stand—site now occupied by Twin shaft and L. V. Junction Pittston, with D. L. & W. R. R.  
Note 2—Benolite Stones—Now "Elstons," foot of Narrows.

Note 3—Josiah Lewis, one of Wyoming's earliest surveyors, a compatriot (though older) of John Bennet, Elias Hoyt, George Haines and Isaac A. Chapman; a man of unvarying suavity, infinite humor and playful jest; brother of Sharp D. Lewis, first editor of the Wilkes-Barre "Advocate." Few of our city's remaining "oldest" but can yet tell of his wonderful stories and practical jokes.

Note 4—Wm. Wall's, opposite "Keelers," much celebrated in the early coaching days of Wyoming County.

Note 5—"John Osterhout's," the old tavern long known as the "Falls Tavern," "Sickler's," "McKune's," "Twins," &c., now Buttermilk Falls station, L. V. R. R.

Note 6—"Two adjoining tracts of land," probably the places now occupied by the Sicklers and Stephen Clark and the beautiful meadows just above.

## FATHER OF SHARP D. LEWIS.

Editor Record: I notice in Note 3 in Record of July 2, following article on "Early Surveys" Josiah Lewis, Sr., is spoken of as the brother of Sharp D. Lewis, which is incorrect. He was the father of Shap D. and Josiah Lewis, Jr., and came from a distinguished family. William Lewis, his father, was admitted to practice in the Court of Common Pleas at Philadelphia in 1773, was elected a member of Pennsylvania legislature in 1787 and was appointed attorney for the United States by George Washington in 1789 and appointed judge of the District Court of the United States in 1781. He married Margaret Delaney, daughter of Sharp Delaney, also a distinguished family of Philadelphia for whom the late Sharp D. Lewis, his son, was named.

Veritas.

## ALEXANDER HAMILTON'S LIFE

[Daily Record, March 12.]

In spite of the snow storm last night a good-sized audience attended the University Extension lecture in the high school building. Dr. Devine spoke of "Alexander Hamilton" and at the close threw on a screen stereopticon views associated with Hamilton and his brilliant career. Not an orator like Patrick Henry, not a politician like Jefferson, not a man of the varied ability or foreign acquaintance of Franklin, Hamilton was pictured as pre-eminently a creator, an originator, a statesman. Though not born in this country, he was the forerunner of that American spirit which has made naturalists of us all. Coming to America in boyhood from a British colony at a time when the Revolutionary War was about to commence, he at first hesitated as to whether his duty lay with the crown or with the colonies. His presence at Boston, however, in 1774 and his attendance at a public meeting in behalf of liberty left him no room for doubt, and though only 17 years old he got consent to speak and made a powerful appeal in aid of the struggle to throw off the yoke.

Early in the struggle he exerted powerful influence by reason of his essays, then a favorite method of appealing to the attention of the public. These essays written by a youth just coming of age were so profound that they were attributed to the leading statesmen of the day. As an essayist and pamphleteer he had no equal. At 20 he was made lieutenant colonel in the continental army and private secretary to Washington. Though charming in private life, he was proud, impatient, dignified, unyielding and at times chafed under the restraint of his secretaryship, and finally goaded by a perhaps deserved rebuke from his chief he resigned his place in Washington's service, though remaining in the army. He was a brave soldier and proved himself an adept in the art of war, earning the plaudits of Lafayette. His life has been divided into three periods, the first, his soldier life, ending at Yorktown. The second period was that in which the constitution was organized, and to Hamilton must be given the chief credit for bringing order out of the chaos and weakness which succeeded the war. The Continental Congress was unequal to the emergency. It was forever borrowing money which it never paid, forever making promises which it never fulfilled. It was practically powerless. There was a generally demoralized condition of the finances—the speaker graphically pictur-

ing the confusion growing out of the varying financial standards of the several States—manufactures were in a deplorable condition, the States were jealous of one another, society was demoralized, public and private debts were repudiated. The only man who did most of all to regenerate these discordant elements was Hamilton. It was the golden opportunity of his constructive genius.

Allusion was made to the hostility to the Loyalists after the revolution. They were hunted and hounded and in some instances killed like dogs. A hundred thousand of them were driven from the country, they taking refuge in the British colonies to the north of us. In the opinion of the speaker this persecution of the Loyalists is liable to make us trouble yet, as the hostility sometimes shown from Canada comes from the descendants of those Tories whom the victorious patriots banished from the new republic.

Professor Devine went into a consideration of the constitution period and the important part Hamilton played in it. James Madison was spoken of as the father of the constitution. A powerful agent was the series of anonymous essays which together form the *Federalist*. They were the work of Hamilton, Jay and Madison, the former writing by far the greater number. No student of American history should neglect to read the *Federalist*. It is the profoundest study of the constitution in literature.

The third period of Hamilton's life was that following the adoption of the constitution, during which he held the highly important position of secretary of the treasury in Washington's first cabinet. It was Hamilton's profound constructive genius which originated the national bank idea, the reformation of the currency, the protective tariff, the commercial treaty with England, the enforcement of national authority. His report on manufactures and on the public credit are corner stones of our government to-day. He was a believer in a strong central government—stronger even than that provided for by the constitution. It was pre-eminently he who thought out the details of the union. His was a lofty national ideal, with faith in a government when administered by the people.

The speaker had to pass hurriedly over the later events of Hamilton's life, his killing by Aaron Burr at the age of 48 being only casually referred to.

It is unfortunate that so much has to be crowded into a single hour. The life of Hamilton furnishes abundant material for several evenings rather than a single one.

### JOHN NELSON.

Is there any reference in the local histories to one John Nelson? There is a tradition in his family that he and his family were at Wyoming and only escaped massacre by being warned by friendly Indians.

### FIRST TWINS IN LUZERNE.

[Daily Record, June 10, 1896.]

The Record is informed that the first twins born in Luzerne County of which there is any knowledge were Henry and Harris Colt, sons of Arnold Colt, first sheriff of Luzerne County. They were born in what was known later as the Ingham residence, corner of River and Union streets. The house was built by Rev. Jacob Johnson prior to 1800. Henry Colt is still living, in Allentown.

Hunlock's Creek, June 15, 1895.—Editor Record: Seeing an article in your paper on the twins, first born in Luzerne County, I think that there were born in Exeter twins that were older than Harris and Henry Colt. They were daughters of Andrew Mantanye and were born previous to 1800, date I have not. Their names were Jenny and Nancy. Jenny married Mathew Dymon of Dymon Hollow, Exeter, and raised a large family in Northumberland Township, now Wyoming County. Their oldest son, Elihu, is nearly 80 years old and lives now near Falls, Wyoming County. Nancy married Alexander McMillan of Exeter and also raised a large family. Their oldest son, Andrew McMillan, lives in the State of New York, and their daughter, Lydia, married Roger Miller and lives on South Main street in Wilkes-Barre, near Le Grand's wagon factory. The dates of births and deaths I have not. The Dymon, Mantanye and McMillan families would make quite a history of Exeter, for they were among the early settlers of the township.

Relative.

### IN WILKES-BARRE 92 YEARS AGO.

[From the Carbondale Herald.]

Saturday April 18, 1896, Alanson Yarrington died suddenly at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Adam Kagler. He had not enjoyed good health during the past year, but was able to be about. When he retired he appeared as well and cheerful as usual. At half past 1

o'clock a slight noise was heard in his room which awakened some of the family. When they reached his bedside, he was breathing his last. His death was due to old age.

The deceased was a brother of the late Dilton Yarrington. He was born in Wilkes-Barre ninety-two years ago, and moved to Dundaff when a young man. He resided there several years. He came here in 1860 and was engaged in the lumbering business for a number of years. During his many years' residence in this vicinity he won the respect and esteem of many acquaintances, and his death will be greatly regretted.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Benjamin Gearey of Dunmore, who is the last of the family. His surviving children—Mrs. Adam Kagler and Mrs. Christopher Schultz of this city, H. C. Yarrington of Forest City and Mrs. Ann Munson of Waterbury, Conn.

### IN PURITAN TIMES.

Though Puritan children had but few recreations and amusements, they must have enjoyed a very cheerful, happy home life. Making sugar in its season was looked forward to with very agreeable anticipations by the farmers' sons and daughters. Toil in that was more than figuratively sweetened.

Thurlow Weed says: "When your troughs were dug out of basswood—for there were no buckets in those days—your trees tapped, your wood cut, and your fires fed, there was leisure either for reading or 'sparking.' Who will ever forget the transparent and delicious streaks of candy, cooled in snow, while 'sugaring off?' Many a farmer's son has found his best opportunity for mental improvement in his leisure moments while tending sap bush. At night you had only to feed the kettles and keep up your fires, the sap having been gathered and the wood cut before dark. I remember in this way to have read a history of the French revolution. I remember also how happy I was to borrow the book after a two mile tramp through the snow shoeless."

An old time New England expression, "getting the mitten," meaning getting your offer of marriage rejected by your "best girl," has an origin in the custom of the earlier days. One hundred years ago gloves were unknown in the country towns; mittens were knitted and worn in all families. If a young man going home from singing school with the

girl of his choice was holding her mittened hand, to keep it from getting cold, and took the opportunity to urge his suit, if the offer proved acceptable, the hand would remain; if otherwise, an effort to withdraw the hand would leave the mitten. So the suitor would get the mitten, but not the hand.

There were large families in those days. Sir William Phipps was one of twenty-six children. Benjamin Franklin was one of a family of seventeen. They rejoiced in some very singular names. These are the names of one family: Experience, Waitstill, Preserved, Hopestill, Wait, Thanks, Unites, Desire and Supply.

It is interesting to note that the dinner hour was gradually moved from the forenoon until evening. The word dinner is believed to be a corruption of six hours, or 2 o'clock, the hour at which the Norman conquerors ate their principal meal. A young man from the Maine woods New York on a schooner and wrote home thus: "Hardly anybody here eats dinner at noon. Most of the folks eat theirs at 6 o'clock. The rich don't eat theirs until after 7 or half past, and the real upper crust don't dine until some time next day." He had evidently been brought up to think 12 o'clock the proper hour.

Saturday night was the beginning of the Sabbath. The quiet hush that pervaded the very atmosphere of the house suppressed the boisterous spirits of youth, and early planted a reverent love for the New England Sabbath. Everybody was expected to go to meeting and stay through both services. Some of the stanch men rode in the saddle, the good wife on a pillion, with the baby in her lap, and the next older child in front or behind. Every first Sabbath of the month the deacon could be seen cantering up the long road with the consecrated jug for the sacramental wine dangling from his saddle. It must have been a pleasant sight on Sunday morning to stand by the church and watch the worshippers as singly, two by two, or in families, they seemed to rise out of the hills, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south, for Sabbath morning all paths led to church, as all roads lead to Rome. In summer time the boys and girls carried their shoes and stockings in their hands, to save them from the wear and tear of the bushes and the long, sandy paths. Among the duties of the sexton was to turn the bourglass. The sermon

was expected to close with the last sands of the glass. How the children, and perhaps the grown people, watched the glass! But they were sometimes disappointed, for the old minister had great gifts of continuance. Their wigs were full of learning, and as freely as they had received freely they gave.

In 1635 each meeting house had the appendage of stocks and whipping post, and in some places they voted "That all persons who should stand out of the meeting house during the time of divine service should be set in the stocks."

It was also ordered that profane swearing should be punished by sitting in the stocks three times; telling lies, a fine of ten shillings or sitting in the stocks two times. In 1865 an unfortunate benedict was fined for keeping house alone. A man was fined for driving a yoke of oxen five miles on the Sabbath day.

As long ago as 1745 it is said there were bad boys, and tithing men were appointed to see that they did "not play in meeting," and to keep the dogs out of the meeting house.

Mrs. Stowe gives a picture of the old meeting house, which is the best I have found. "To my childish eyes our meeting house was fashioned on the model of Noah's arc and Solomon's temple. Its double rows of windows, of which I knew the number by heart; its doors, with great wooden quirks over them; its belfry, projecting out at the east end; its steeple and bell, all inspired as much sense of sublime as Strasburg cathedral itself. How magnificent to my eyes seemed the turnplike canopy that hung over the minister's head, hooked by a long iron rod to the wall above! How I wondered at the panels on either side of the pulpit, carved and painted as a smiling red tulip. The area of the house was divided into large, square pews, finished with a balustrade ten inches high. Through these loopholes the children could watch each other and report discoveries."

The meeting houses were not warmed, but the old and delicate carried foot stoves, and between the services they all repaired to a small building outside to eat their lunch and warm their nearly frozen limbs. The ministers were settled for life, and they were looked up to with great respect, and well they might be, for they were really the only educated people.

In the very early days neighbors usually paid friendly visits during the

winter season. In summer they were too busy. The men talked over their family affairs and the prices of what they had for sale. The wives and daughters chatted freely about their yards of homespun linen and linsey woolsey while they were busily knitting. It would have been regarded as quite disgraceful for any woman to sit idle. All were regaled with good doughnuts, cheese, fine cider or homemade beer.—American Monthly Magazine.

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#### PIONEER SHIP BUILDER.

[From the San Francisco Examiner.]

Benjamin Franklin Williams, who died at his home in San Francisco in May, 1896, was the pioneer shipbuilder of the Pacific coast connected with the Central Pacific Co., and subsequently with the Southern Pacific Co. He built the steamer Washoe thirty-five years ago, and constructed the once noted bay and river steamers North Pacific, Capital, Pride of the River, Onward, Aurora and San Joaquin. In 1866 the Alameda ferry steamer was constructed under his direction—said to be the first of its kind on the coast. Subsequently he constructed the El Capitan, Oakland, Piedmont and other ferry boats.

Mr. Williams's forefathers fought in the war of the revolution. He was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in 1829, and came to this coast in the early days. A widow and one son, F. D. Williams, survive him. The decedent was a prominent member of the Order of Sons of Revolutionary Sires.

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#### OLDEST FREE MASON DEAD.

Dr. Salmon, the oldest Free Mason in the world, died in London May 11, 1896, at the age of 106.

There appears to be no room for doubting the accuracy of the report of Dr. Salmon's age, for he had in his possession, in addition to other documentary evidence, the diary of his mother, in which his birth on March 4, 1790, is duly recorded. More than 100 years of his life was passed in Cowbridge, Glamorganshire, where he had a fine estate, which came to him by marriage.

He was educated as a physician, but never practiced spending much of his early life in foreign travel. He was on

the continent in the stirring days of Waterloo, and possessed a great fund of interesting historical anecdotes.

He was one of the best known men in South Wales, and is known to hundreds of the residents of Wyoming Valley as one of the oldest county magistrates in Glamorganshire.

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#### BORN HERE MANY YEARS AGO.

The Free Press, published at Montour Falls, Schuyler County, New York, says: "Died, in this village, May 10, 1896, of general debility, Andrew Ayers, aged 78 years, 3 months and 25 days.

Mr. Ayers was born in what is now Exeter Township, Luzerne County, Pa., June 15, 1818, and came to Montour Falls in 1842. He was married to Susan Clauharty in 1845, and has since resided here.

"In addition to his sister, Mrs. Timothy Goble, of Earlville, Ill., he is survived by his wife and the following children: William E. of this village, Samuel E., chief mailing clerk of the Wilkes-Barre, Pa., postoffice; Mrs. James Dun, of Elmira, N. Y.; Frank, superintendent of Government Hospital Farm, Washington, D. C.; Arthur, of Pen Yan, N. Y.; Henry, employed on the Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester, N. Y., and Mrs. Arthur Almy, of Pen Yan, N. Y.

"Funeral services were held at the Baptist Church on Wednesday, May 13, Rev. Mr. Slocum officiating; burial in Montour Cemetery."

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#### LADIES AT WYOMING MONUMENT.

The old original Wyoming Monument Association, established in 1860, held a meeting on Saturday, May 9, 1896, at the home of the president, Mrs. Catherine Jenkins on Wyoming avenue, says the Wyoming Monitor. The association holds the deeds for the monument grounds at Wyoming and is making arrangements to take part in the annual 3d of July exercises. The original members, and those who represent original members, present were: Mrs. Catherine Jenkins, Mrs. Sharps Carpenter, Mrs. C. I. A. Chapman, Mrs. John Sharps, Mrs. Annette Gorman, Mrs. Benjamin Dorrance, Miss Annie Dorrance, Mrs. Henry Coward, Mrs. Samuel Urquhart, Mrs. Samuel Fear, Mrs. W. A. Wilcox, Mrs. J. D. Green, Miss Ruth Polen, Mrs. William Jacobs and Miss Emily Jenkins.



### ANOTHER OLD STAGE DRIVER GONE.

[The Danville Intelligencer.]

John W. Sheriff, one of our old and most highly respected citizens, departed this life on Thursday morning. Mr. Sheriff died Thursday, March 26, 1896. Mr. Sheriff some two years ago sustained a stroke of paralysis. Since that time he has been confined to his residence in a nearly helpless condition.

The deceased was born in Erie County, this State, in 1822. He came to Danville in 1842. He clerked in a general store for fourteen years and later ran a stage line from Danville to Pottsville, Northumberland to Wilkes-Barre, and Danville to Williamsport and Blossburg, taking in all the villages on the route, carrying passengers and the United States mail. For several years with a partner he ran a packet boat on the canal, abandoning the mercantile business, after which, until the time of his illness, he was employed as bookkeeper in the coal office of R. H. Woolley.

### AN OLD WILKES-BARRE THEAT- RICAL COMPANY.

Remembrances of the boys of the sixties in Wilkes-Barre were conjured up yesterday in the Roth building at the corner of North Main and Union streets, which is now being remodelled. Mr. Roth, in speaking of the past, stated that the following young men formed themselves into an amateur theatrical company: Al Montayne, S. L. Barnes, Ernest Roth, Isaac E. Long, and the following, who have passed into the great beyond: Ed. Smith, A. Clapsaddle, Charles Robertson, Andrew Lewis and others. They prepared several selections and gave the farce "Box and Cox" in Chahoon Hall on West Market street, July 3, 1863. They had a fair audience and the receipts were given to the Ross Street M. E. Church Sunday School to form a nucleus for its library fund. The day after the performance Governor Curtin issued a call for men, and most of the amateur actors responded and went to the front, which broke up the company. Mr. Roth, Sr., gave the boys the use of his hall on the third story of his building free for them to carry on their schemes. It was in this hall that they painted their scenery, among other pieces being a kitchen scene and a rural scene. They were painted on muslin hung on the white wall. The paint saturated through and left a perfect im-

print after the canvass was removed. This latter was covered up with paper after the hall was partitioned off for a flat. Yesterday as the workmen were tearing down the paper the scenery of thirty-two years ago was brought to sight as clearly as it appeared when put there.

### DEATH OF REV. CHARLES CORSS.

[Daily Record, May 21, 1896.]

Rev. Charles Corss, father of Dr. Frederick Corss of Kingston, died suddenly yesterday afternoon at 1:30 at his home in East Smithfield, Bradford County. The deceased was well known to the older residents of the valley. Sixty years ago he was pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Kingston. The church was then in its infancy and the congregation small and scattered. The older residents of Kingston still living have many pleasant recollections of Rev. Mr. Corss. He was noted for his piety and zealous labor in the cause of religion and helped to lay the foundation at Kingston of what is now one of the most flourishing Presbyterian churches in the county. Had he lived until next Saturday he would have been 93 years old. During his long and useful career he was always blessed with good health. He possessed to a remarkable degree during the closing years of his life all the intellectual power which he possessed in his earlier days. The deceased came from old Revolutionary stock. He was born at Greenfield, Mass., in 1803, and was a descendant of James, who fought in the historic battle of Bunker Hill. Besides Dr. Corss he is survived by one daughter, Mrs. William F. Church of Kingston, and another son, Charles Corss of Lock Haven.

### OLD PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER.

Rev. Charles Corss was said to be the oldest member of the Lackawanna Presbytery, his age being 93. Since his death it is probable that Rev. Thomas Thomas, now of Wyalusing, is the oldest member of this Presbytery, his age being 84. Rev. Mr. Thomas is the only living member of class '43 of Lafayette. In his college days the journey from his home in Neath, Bradford County, to Easton and return was always made on foot, his walk in making these trips averaging forty miles a day. He is now in full possession of his faculties, barring a slight deafness, and in the en-

ship, Montgomery County, and Tacy joyment of a green old age, having as he does a comfortable home with modern accessories, the household duties being wisely managed by an affectionate daughter, a lady of culture and an extensive traveler, having twice visited Europe.

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 REV. W. J. KEATLEY DEAD.

[Daily Record, June 8, 1896.]

Rev. William J. Keatley dropped dead at his home on Maple street, Kingston, last evening at 7 o'clock, while preparing to go to church. He had been apparently in good health and had made no complaint of not feeling well.

Deceased was a superannuated minister of the Wyoming Conference of the Methodist Church and was stationed in the Wyoming district.

The deceased was born in Ireland sixty-five years ago. He came to America in early manhood and was educated and prepared for the ministry at Wyoming Seminary, which he left in 1859. His first charge was at Newport, where he was stationed in 1859 and 1860. The other charges he filled were as follows: Plansville, '61-'62; Shepherd's Creek, '63-'64; North Danby, '65-'66; Barton, '67-'68; Slaterville, '69-'70; Van Ettenville, '71; Little Meadows, '72-'74; Rome, '75-'76; Herrick, '77-'79; Northmoreland, '80-'81; Yatesville, '82-'83; Larksville, '84-'86; West Nanticoke, '87-'89; Wanamie, '90-'92; Pringleville, '93. In 1894 he was made a superannuated minister, owing to his advanced age.

He is survived by a wife, who before her marriage was Elizabeth Swallow, sister of Rev. Miner Swallow of Kingston, and two sons, Edward C., a civil engineer in Virginia, and Rev. William J., Jr., a member of the Newark Conference.

Rev. Mr. Keatley was an earnest man of God and worked enthusiastically in the Master's vineyard. He was highly esteemed and greatly beloved wherever he lived.

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 FAMOUS CLASS OF '71.

[Daily Record, June 15, 1896.]

Dr. Olin F. Harvey has gone to Easton to attend the commencement exercises of Lafayette College, but more especially to take part in the quarter-century reunion of the class of 1871, of which he was a member.

For the reason that this was the first

large class to enter and be graduated from the college—thus, in one respect, marking the beginning of the institution's period of prosperity which has continued to the present time; because of the high grade of scholarship maintained by the members of the class during their college course; and because, since graduation, so many of those members have occupied prominent and important stations in life, and have been successful men of affairs, the class has been known in the annals of Lafayette as "the famous class of '71."

Three graduates of the class were from Wilkes-Barre—Dr. Olin F. Harvey, Oscar J. Harvey and John Scollay (who for a dozen years prior to his death in 1889 was a prominent lawyer in Philadelphia.)

Alexander Bryden of Pittston, the well known mining engineer, and James P. Dickson of Scranton, lately president of the Dickson Manufacturing Co., were also members of the class. Three of the class have been professors in the college, one a tutor, and one a member of the board of trustees for twelve years.

Two others were elected to tutorship, but did not accept.

W. B. Owen, professor in Latin in Lafayette; John Meigs, principal of the "Hill School," Pottstown, Pa.; Hon. A. S. Swartz, president judge of the courts of Montgomery County, Pa.; Dr. J. M. Crawford, United States consul general to St. Petersburg, 1889-'93; William McMurtree, the well known chemical expert, New York; J. E. Watkins of the Smithsonian Institution, were members of the class.

Oscar J. Harvey, who is the class historian, was recording secretary of the college alumni association for eight years, and for ten years maintained "the Harvey prize"—an annual prize of \$20, given for excellence in English studies during the junior year.

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 THE LATE BENJAMIN MORGAN.

Benjamin Morgan, the last remaining brother of Charles Morgan of this city, who died at his home at Willow Grove, Montgomery County, this State, on Tuesday, June 9, 1896, arrived at the advanced age of 34½ years. He lived in that county during his entire lifetime, while for more than 200 years his family have been residents of the same county and identified with its history and progress.

Benjamin Morgan was the son of Benjamin Morgan of Whitpain Town-

Stroud, previously of Motherkill, Delaware. They were married in the year 1800, having complied with the requirements of the Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, of which they were both members. As the quaint marriage certificate says, "according to the good order existing among them."

The senior Benjamin Morgan was the son of Morgan Morgan, who was the son of Edward Morgan and Margaret Rittenhouse, all of the county of Montgomery. Margaret Rittenhouse was the sister of David Rittenhouse, the astronomer, who was the first director of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Throughout its entire history in this country, and for some time prior to its emigration to America, this family have been members of the Society of Friends, Charles Morgan of this city still retaining his membership.

The funeral of Benjamin Morgan was held at the Horsam Friends Meeting House on Sunday, June 14, at 1 o'clock p. m., and was attended by a very large gathering of relatives and friends. The interment was made in the burying ground adjoining the meeting house.

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#### HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATION.

[Daily Record, June 22, 1896.]

After a long interval the Wyoming Historical Society has issued another pamphlet proceedings. It comprises forty-eight pages and is a reprint of that portion of the recent State publication devoted to the Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, written by the late Sheldon Reynolds, descriptive of the forts in Wyoming Valley. The printed sheets were furnished by courtesy of State librarian Egle and the same is enriched with certain illustrations from the *Annals of Luzerne*, all the electros of which have lately come into possession of the society. There is also a reduction of Stewart Pearce's map of the valley, showing the forts, villages, etc., during the Revolutionary period.

In his study of the forts of Wyoming Valley Mr. Reynolds took occasion to review, briefly, the entire history of the Revolutionary period and the same gives the reader a comprehensive glance of those most thrilling times.

Included in the pamphlet is a memorial sketch of the deceased author, by Andrew H. McClintock, as also a four page appendix giving the bibliography of the historical society.

#### THE BLUE MOUNTAIN FORTS.

Reference has already been made to the State publication devoted to the Revolutionary forts, and to the sections pertaining to this region. A third section, more or less connected with Wyoming Valley, deals with the portion of country between the Susquehanna and Delaware rivers, and was performed by H. M. Richards of Reading, secretary of the Pennsylvania German Society. Among other things he says:

"Upon the occurrence of the first murders, block houses were erected by the settlers themselves, or farm houses used as such, which were located where the danger seemed most imminent and without respect to any general plan. In 1756, however, the provincial government took the defense of the people into its own hands. A chain of forts was established along the Blue Mountains, reaching from the Susquehanna to the Delaware, at distances of from ten to fifteen miles apart, depending upon the comparative situation of the prominent gaps, which gateways were invariably occupied.

"Almost without exception they were composed of a stockade of heavy planks, inclosing a space of ground more or less extensive, on which were built from one to four block houses, pierced with loopholes for musketry, and occupied as quarters by the soldiers and refugee settlers.

"In addition to these regular forts it became necessary at various points, where depredations were most frequent, to have subsidiary places of defense and refuge, which were also garrisoned by soldiers and which generally comprised farm houses, selected because of their superior strength and convenient location, around which the usual stockade was thrown, or occasionally block houses erected for the purpose. The soldiers who garrisoned these forts were provincial troops, which almost without exception were details from the 1st Battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment, under command of that brave and energetic officer, Lieut. Col. Conrad Weiser.

"When, by 1758, the fury of the first Indian outbreak had somewhat spent its force and the terrors of Pontiac's war, which broke out in 1763, belonged as yet to the unseen future, the government deemed it wise to abandon all but the larger and most important of the stations in the chain of defense, there-

by materially reducing their number.

"It is with these Indian forts of the Blue Mountains I have to do, of which in this year of our Lord, in 1894, but the slightest traces remain of a couple only, and of which the true location of many others had become a matter of mere conjecture, and, in the briefest time, would have been entirely lost to history, by so slender a thread did an authentic knowledge of their situation hang, had it not been for the wise appointment of the commission whose labors have just been completed."

The forts described by Mr. Richards are as follows: Fort Harris on the Susquehanna, Harrisburg; Fort Hunter, six miles north of Fort Harris, Manada Fort, at Manada Gap, in the Blue mountains, twelve miles from Fort Hunter; Brown's Fort,\* at Hanover, Lebanon County; Fort Swatara, in the vicinity of Swatara Gap, in the Blue Mountains; Fort Henry, twelve miles east of Fort Swatara, the most important fort between the Lehigh and the Susquehanna rivers, owing to the fact that it was about equally distant from each, and also because it was on the main road to Shamokin and protected the most populous portion of the entire region; Fort Northkill, at the base of the Blue Mountains;; Fort Deltrich Snyder, on top of the Blue Mountains, on the road leading to Pottsville; Fort Franklin,, about nineteen miles from Fort Lebanon; Fort Everett, near Lynnport, in Lehigh County; fort at Lehigh Gap; fort three miles South of the gap; Deshler's fort on the north bank of the Coplay Creek; Ralston Fort, about two miles southwest of the present town of Bath, and five miles west and north of Bethlehem; Fort Allen, where the town of Weissport now stands; Fort Norris, fifteen miles east of Fort Allen, between that and Fort Hamilton at Stroudsburg; fort near Wind Gap; Peter Doll's block house, close to the southern base of the Blue range, between Little Gap and Smith's Gap; Nazareth stockade at Nazareth; the stockaded mill at Friedensthal, on the Bushkill farm; Christian's Spring, a house of refuge; "The Rose Inn," about one and one-quarter miles north by east from old Nazareth; Fort Hamilton, in the Western section of the present town of Stroudsburg, not then, however, in existence; Fort Hyndshaw, ten miles above Depue's; Depue's fort on the Delaware, and Shawnee, in Monroe County, near Stroudsburg; Fort Penn, located in the eastern section of Stroudsburg.

This completes the list of the Indian forts and houses of refuge along the Blue range, whose record, as Mr. Richards says, "leaves behind it a trail of blood such as, we trust, the fair fields of our beloved State may never again be called upon to witness. The old forts have crumbled away, never more to be re-built, and the peaceful plow has long since leveled to the ground the little mounds which marked the line of their stockades."

#### DEATH OF JOHN D. HOYT.

John D. Hoyt, a life long merchant of Kingston and one of Wyoming Valley's most prominent citizens, died June 16, 1896, at 3:30 p. m. at his home in Kingston. Mr. Hoyt's illness dates back to two years ago, but it did not take on a serious aspect until one year ago, since when, although able to be about the street and circulate occasionally among his close friends at times, he had been under the constant care of a trained nurse. His affection was a disease of the heart, angina pectoris, being the immediate cause of death. Although his family had been in fear of death its coming is a great shock. He died happy and was surrounded by his family. It was a fitting close to a well spent life. No one could pay a higher or more deserved compliment to a man than Rev. Ferdinand Von Frug pays to the deceased. He says: "He was a man of remarkable soundness and perfection of character. He was modest and retiring in his disposition—not in any sense ostentatious or self asserting, and yet no man in the entire community exerted an influence more deciding or more healthful. It was simply the result of his great and good character, which everybody knew to be genuine and true, and which was felt in every circle in which he moved. Coupled with this was a clear mind, a sound judgment and an honest purpose to do right. He was with all and above all a Christian, a firm believer in God and His word. No man was freer from human frailties than John D. Hoyt—no one in whose everyday life there was exhibited more of the nobleness of genuine manhood—plain, straightforward, honest and true. He was a model man and his life a benediction to those who knew him best."

With the exception of Mrs. Abram H. Reynolds deceased was the last survivor of the family of which ex-Governor H. M. Hoyt was a member. Although Mr. Hoyt took a keen interest in

public questions he never sought political honors. He was as content with exercising his might as a citizen, in sympathizing with the suffering and helping the needy. In the church he was especially prominent and most of his life has been an active worker in the Kingston Presbyterian Church, of which he was one of the promoters. Mr. Hoyt was born in Kingston Aug. 13, 1819, and was a son of Ziba and Nancy (Herbert) Hoyt, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Luzerne County, both being of New England origin. He was educated in the common schools and at Lafayette College. He was twice married. His first wife was Martha A., daughter of Abraham L. and Sarah (Myers) Goodwin. For his second wife he married Elizabeth Goodwin. Each of these unions was blessed with three children, all of whom are living. They are: Ann Elizabeth, wife of George Shoemaker of Forty Fort; Abram G., Kingston; Martha, wife of Dr. Frederick Corss; Augusta, who lives at home; Edward E., also at home, and Henry M., a lawyer at Spokane, Washington. The deceased followed farming most of his life.

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#### DEATH OF MRS. TUBBS.

[Daily Record, June 12, 1896.]

Mrs. Emily R. Tubbs, widow of the late Dr. Tubbs, died at her home in Kingston Thursday at 5 o'clock. The deceased had been in feeble health for some time, but acute pneumonia was the immediate cause of death. Mrs. Tubbs was a member of one of the oldest families of the valley. She was the daughter of Benjamin and Lydia Reynolds and was born in Plymouth in April, 1822. She had six brothers and two sisters. They were: William C., Elizabeth W., Chauncey A., J. Fuller George, Abram H., Miss Clara and Hannah, wife of the late Dr. Bedford. The brothers are all deceased. Mrs. Tubbs resided at Plymouth until her marriage, when she removed to Kingston with her husband, residing there since. She was a kind mother and a devoted Christian. All her life she had been a member of the Presbyterian Church and in her younger days took an active part in church work.

She is survived by one daughter, Mary Covell Tubbs, and one son, Benjamin R. Tubbs.

#### QUEEN ESTHER'S ROCK.

[Pittston Item, June 13, 1896.]

Some time ago negotiations were completed for the purchase by the Daughters of the American Revolution of the plot of land at Wyoming on which Queen Esther's Rock is situated. The object was to protect the rock from relic hunters, whose delight it was to chip off a piece of the stone and carry it away.

A sort of iron cage has been constructed which protects the rock from injury, but permits a view of it. Upon this cage will be placed a tablet bearing the following inscription:

UPON THIS ROCK  
The Indian Queen, Esther, Slaughtered  
the Brave Patriots Taken in the  
Battle of July 3, 1778.  
Presented by the  
WYOMING VALLEY CHAPTER  
of the  
Daughters of the  
AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
1895.

The tablet is 26¼x18 inches, and is of a non-corroding metal.

The plot of land purchased has a frontage of fifteen feet on Susquehanna avenue. It is fifteen feet in depth and ten feet wide at the rear. This will be enclosed by a strong and handsome iron fence, which it is expected will be completed by July 3, the date on which the commemorative exercises will be held at the monument.

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#### DECORATE ON FLAG DAY.

[Daily Record, May 18, 1896.]

American Flag Day, commemorating the adoption by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777, of the memorable resolution "that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation,"—will be observed this year on Monday, June 15, (the 14th falling on Sunday) by decorating of public buildings and private dwellings, and many others, with the stars and stripes, and in many of the public schools of the United States with patriotic exercises. Some schools will combine a suitable program with their closing exercises on June 12. "The American Flag, its origin and symbolism" (Whitmash) and "A National Patriotic Exercise" (Lundy) are good books to be found in the Osterhout Library.

### IN HER EIGHTIETH YEAR.

[Daily Record, July 1, 1896.]

At the Old Ladies' Home yesterday noon there died Mrs. Rosina D. Rogers. Her birth place was in Wayne County, May 17, 1817. She entered the Home in December, 1894. She was well and strong until attacked by pneumonia four or five days before her death. The old lady is well remembered by hundreds as the widow of Thomas M. Rogers, for many years superintendent of Hollenback Cemetery, and who died in October,

### AN OLD RECORD SUBSCRIBER.

One of the oldest readers of the Record is J. Taylor Bennett, who resides at Egan, Moody Co., South Dakota. Mr. Bennett is a native of Luzerne county, and though absent for many years he has never lost his love for the old home. Here is his picture, which the Record has had made to show his old Pennsylvania friends how he looks after a lapse of many years.

J. Taylor Bennett was born July 24, 1811, in Hanover township, Luzerne



county. His father, Josiah Bennett, was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1786, and died in 1857, and his mother, Sarah Taylor, was a native of Danbury, Conn. He is a brother of Silas W. Bennett, of Wilkes-Barre, and was twice married, first to Hannah Miller in Wilkes-Barre in 1832, they having seven children. Four of them are buried in Wyoming Valley.

Hannah Miller was granddaughter of John and Rachael Crosley, natives of England, who were in this country during the Revolutionary war. His second wife, Henrietta Shiner, is now enjoying good health at the good old age of 83 years. Five children were born to them and they have numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. Both these marriages were in Wilkes-Barre, his second wife being a native of Sugar, Loaf Valley.

Mr. Bennett's grandfather, Ishmael Bennett, was a native of Rhode Island, but moved to Connecticut and emigrated to Wyoming about 1770. He married for his second wife the widow of Philip Weeks, who was killed in the massacre of July 3, 1778. Ishmael attained the remarkable age of 104 years, his death occurring in Ohio. Ishmael had a son, Ishmael, who became almost as old as his father, his death occurring in Pittston in 1859 at the age of 98.

J. Taylor Bennett was a carpenter by trade and sixty or seventy years ago he knew every man in Wilkes-Barre. He helped his uncle, Henry Blackman, build the First Presbyterian church, now the Osterhout Library, in 1832. He built Sylvester Dana's academy in 1839. In 1831 he was converted and joined the M. E. church, which was then worshipping in the Court House, but afterwards bought the Presbyterian interest in Old Ship Zion for \$1,000. Twenty years later the Methodists sold back to the Presbyterians for \$400 and built a brick church on Franklin street. The brick work was done by Thomas H. Parker, and the carpenter work by Ashbel Bennett, Earl Barnes and Daniel A. Fell.

J. Bennett Smith's mother is a sister of Mr. Bennett and the late Mrs. H. B. Plumb was his niece. Mr. Bennett and his good wife, although advanced in years, are able to do their own work and it would not be surprising if they would yet make a visit to Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Bennett has taken the Record many years and thus has kept in touch with his native valley.

### WAS A PIONEER RESIDENT.

[Daily Record, July 7, 1896.]

Mathias Gangwere, one of the oldest settlers in Weatherly, died on Friday night. He was born 75 years ago in Lizard Creek Valley, and was among the first settlers to hew the forest which now comprises Laurytown Valley. Mr. Gangwere and his wife conducted the

boarding house for the lumber camp, procuring their provisions with great difficulty from many miles distance. Later on they lived in Penn Haven, where he was employed as a carpenter in the boat yards. From here he moved to Weatherly in the early 60's, where he resided continuously up to his death. His wife died about a year ago. He is survived by the following children: William, a well known Lehigh Valley engineer, Thomas F. of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. Lewis Lambert of Catasauqua, Mrs. Ephraim Miller, Mrs. John Nuss, Jr., and Mrs. Washington Young of Weatherly.

#### DEATH OF MR. HUGUS.

[Daily Record, July 8, 1896.]

The summer residents at Glen Summit were shocked Tuesday afternoon to hear that N. P. H. Hugus of South Franklin street was alarmingly ill, and before the shades of night had come he had passed away from earth. His illness dates back only a few days, and was attributed to indigestion, but judging from later conditions it is probable death was due to some heart trouble. On Friday evening he had gone for a horse-back ride with Edwin H. Jones and becoming heated from the riding he experienced a chill. But his illness did not assume an alarming form at once, in fact the day before his death he went down to Wilkes-Barre to look after his business. During the early hours of Tuesday morning Dr. Frank Woodbury was sent for and he found Mr. Hugus in another chill, and with some heart disturbance, though the symptoms were not alarming. However a change set in suddenly and in a few moments he had breathed his last.

Nicholas Philip Hacke Hugus would have been 50 years old next September. He was the picture of health, never having been sick, and only a few weeks ago was accepted as a desirable risk by an insurance company. He was a practical believer in insurance and his friends say he was carrying thirty thousand dollars.

He was born in Allegheny City and was the son of William Hugus, whose business at the corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street was long a commanding one in Pittsburg. Deceased lost his father when only 9 years old. When the war was in progress he was a student at Oberlin College in Ohio, and at the age of 17 he enlisted in the army,

though his life as a soldier was brief, Lee's surrender coming three months later.

He began the axle business with the Liggett spring and axle works in Pittsburg, and just twenty years ago he married a daughter of Mr. Liggett, who survives him, as do their three children—William Orth Hugus, Frank Liggett Hugus and Paul Guthrie Hugus.

His mother is living at Springfield, Ohio.

Nine years ago Mr. Hugus came to Wilkes-Barre as general manager for the Sheldon Axle Co., his experience at Pittsburg having brought him to the favorable notice of Mr. Sheldon, who made no mistake in considering him a valuable factor in the axle business. Mr. Hugus proved so thoroughly capable that in addition to his being general manager he was afterwards honored with the post of vice president, he holding both positions at the time of his sudden demise.

He was one of the most genial and companionable of men, carrying sunshine everywhere, and being an extensive reader he was possessed of a fund of information on many subjects. He had a smile and a kind word for everybody. He was a devoted husband and an affectionate parent, and in his unexpected death our city sustains a severe loss. As a manager he was a model of fairness and was a general favorite with his employes. At Glen Summit, where he and his family have spent their summers for half a dozen seasons, he was a universal favorite and there is deep mourning at his untimely taking off.

#### LECTURE ON VENEZUELA.

[Daily Record, June 17, 1896.]

The meeting of the Luzerne County Historical and Geological Society Tuesday was one of exceptional interest. It was held in the parish building of St. Stephen's Church, owing to the large attendance, and there was not only a large number of the active members present, but a good sprinkling of outsiders as well. The president, Hon. Stanley Woodward, occupied the chair. After the regular business had been transacted, Rev. Horace E. Hayden announced that he was ready to award the two prizes offered some time ago by the Sons of the Revolution for the best essays on the subject "Pennsylvania in the American Revolution." These prizes were offered for competi-

tion among the pupils of the public schools. The judges of the contest were John W. Jordan of the State Historical Association, Dr. Egle, the State librarian, and F. C. Johnson of the Record. These gentlemen, after a careful consideration of the essays submitted, were unanimous in awarding the first prize, \$10 in gold, to Earl O. Chamberlain, a pupil of the Kingston high school, and the second prize, a handsome medal, to Claude Ralfe of the Wilkes-Barre high school. Rev. Mr. Hayden voiced a deserved compliment to these young men for the excellent manner in which they treated the subject, and when they came forward to receive the prizes they received also a hearty round of applause.

J. B. Austin, late of Venezuela, was then introduced and he delivered a thoughtful and interesting lecture upon "Venezuela," in which country he has spent some time. It was illustrated with maps and stereopticon views which made it take an additional interest. The speaker's language was choice and elegant, his powers of observation manifestly great, for the descriptive passages were of unusual interest and held the closest attention of the audience. He gave a minute description of English, Dutch and French Guiana, the various watersheds in that part of the South American continent, the general topography of the country from the mouth of the Orinoco to the interior; the trackless, impenetrable jungle that stretches away into unknown regions for thousands of miles; the rank luxuriance of the foliage; the thousands of strange birds with dazzling plumage that flit about in the virgin forests, as well as the thousands of wild animals and dangerous reptiles that flourish there, were all described in the simple, but graphic, manner of a traveler who has used his eyes to good advantage and knows how to tell of the things he has seen in an interesting and instructive way. The manners and customs of the people were also touched upon, as well as the boundary question which has aroused so much interest in this country and Great Britain, and both were treated in admirably lucid and concise manner.

At the conclusion of the address the speaker was given a vote of thanks by the society.

### EARLY MINE EXPLOSION.

[Daily Record, July 14, 1896.]

The death of Nicholas Lamb at Miner's Mills on Wednesday morning removes from earth the last victim of the earliest mine disaster in the Wyoming Valley, that of the then Thompson shaft, but better known to-day as the Pine Ridge colliery of the Algonquin Coal Co., says a writer in the Sunday Leader. The explosion occurred in November, 1867, and was the most terrific and at the same time most disastrous known in the coal regions up to that date, and mine experts from all over the anthracite region hurried to the scene to study the situation and offer their services.

The old Thompson shaft is located in Miner's Mills. Its early name was given to it in honor of the contractor, a man by the name of Thompson, but the mine itself was owned by Charles Parrish of this city, then a vigorous young man in the commencement of his career as a coal operator. The shaft had been sunk to the lower vein—the desired point—and a tunnel had been started from that vein to the one above, a distance of possibly two hundred feet. Gas was so prevalent in every part of the mine that the men were compelled to work by the dim light of safety lamps and strict orders had been issued to fire no shots, but prosecute the work with pick only. As in hundreds of instances since, the men, understanding the danger and discouraged at the slow progress made with the pick, determined to chance a blast. Fatal decision! The firing of the blast ignited the feeders and these in turn set fire to the coal, and despite the united efforts of the workmen, the fire gained so rapidly that it was deemed necessary to resort to other means to conquer the flames. A consultation of the officials was held and they unanimously concluded that there were only two methods left by which to fight the fire, namely, either to smother it or flood the shaft. The first was considered the cheaper and was adopted. The fires were drawn from beneath the boilers, stoves were taken out of the engine house and every vestige of fire was removed from around the mouth of the shaft. Then the opening of the mine was firmly planked, every crevice calked, and when it was thus hermetically sealed the shaft was abandoned for nine days, expecting that at the expiration of that time the fire in the mine would be extinguished.

On the tenth day Nicholas Lamb, Ned McCabe, Patrick Walsh and a man named Bertley were ordered to remove the cover-



ing from the shaft, and amid much trepidation on the part of the officials and miners they commenced their work. It was a dark, dismal day in November, 1867, and the four men began their work, watched from a safe distance by a crowd of their comrades. Suddenly there was a low, rumbling noise as if distant thunder, followed almost instantly by a fearful explosion that shook the earth for miles around. The air was filled with dust, dirt and flying timbers, and those who had gathered near the mine ran for their lives to the nearest point of safety.

After a few minutes the braver among the miners, led by old Jimmy Lafferty, now deceased, hurried back to the shaft and commenced their search for Lamb and his companions. Before they were rewarded with any success the gas had again gathered in the shaft and a second explosion occurred, but fortunately none of the brave rescuers were hurt. They resumed their search, and at last came upon Lamb and McCabe lying beneath the big spool drum of the hoisting engines, where they had been thrown by the force of the concussion, fortunately both were living. McCabe was not hurt much, but Lamb was badly broken up. One arm was broken, one thigh was badly splintered, and his throat was cut from ear to ear, narrowly escaping the jugular. Both were carried to their homes, and while on the way two more explosions occurred. The last was fatal to one of the sight-seers, a man named McDonald, whose skull was crushed by a flying timber.

After waiting long enough to assure themselves that the gas extinguished itself, the rescuers went back and resumed their search for Bertley and Walsh, the two men who had been at work with Lamb and McCabe when the first explosion occurred. The searchers looked in every conceivable place and at last were rewarded with finding a shoe with a foot in it hundreds of yards away from the shaft. The mine was flooded and months after the bones of the two men were found stripped of flesh in the bottom of the shaft. They were gathered together and interred in the City Cemetery.

After lying long months in his bed Nicholas Lamb recovered and was given the position as night fire boss in the same mine. This he continued to fill until five years ago, when a change was made, and poor Nicholas was discharged to make way for a favorite of the new superintendent. He had grown old in the service of the company, had worked industriously, lived economically, but a series of deaths in his family, together with hard times,

prevented him from saving a competency, and with the siver of time on his locks, the infirmities of age and early injuries preying upon his frame, he was compelled to return to the breaker, where he ended his days as a slate picker. Thus is seen another instance of the heartlessness of corporations.

But Nicholas Lamb lived a life that was an open book. His neighbors esteemed and loved him, and he died tenderly watched over by his faithful wife, loving children and sorrowing neighbors.

#### OLDEST NATIVE OF WILKES-BARRE.

James D. Laird, who so far as he knows is the oldest native of the city of Wilkes-Barre, was 79 years old on July 13, 1896. There are older men, but they were not born here, although Calvin Parsons was born in the township, now the borough of Parsons.

Mr. Laird has always lived here except during two years when he went to Newark, N. J., to learn the saddlery trade, which he has followed ever since. He has always been an ardent Republican and in former days he used to make campaign speeches. Mr. Laird has known what it was to suffer bereavement, he having buried his wife, six sons and three daughters. He has three daughters yet, Mrs. James Hughes of this city, with whom he lives; Mrs. Daniel F. Loderick of Plymouth and Mrs. Lee Stanton of Pittston. His wife was Patience Jackson, whose sister is Mrs. W. S. Wells. Mr. Laird's parents were Gilbert Laird and Charlotte (Watley) Laird.

Mr. Laird was born in a house standing on Franklin above Market street, got his schooling there in after years and still later, on getting married kept house twelve years in the same building. His teacher was Miss Trott, mother of the late Chief Justice George W. Woodward.

#### BRAVE UNTO DEATH.

Editor Record: In wandering over the country gathering up the fragments of personal heroism that are fast going down in the soldier's grave, we run across emanations of the human mind that appear divinely inspired and are truly sublime and should not perish.

The letters of wounded soldiers and officers from the battlefields of the South are among the most touching mementoes of the late war.

One of the most affecting of all the letters was that written by Col. Thornton Brodhead, commanding the First Michigan Cavalry, to his wife from the fatal battlefield before Washington, when Gen. Pope was defeated through the treachery of Fitz John Porter:

"My Dearest Wife: I write to you, mortally wounded, from the battlefield. We are again defeated, and ere this reaches you your children will be fatherless. Before I die let me implore that in some way it may be stated that Gen. Pope has been outwitted and that Fitz John Porter is a traitor.

"Had they done their duty as I did mine and had led as I led, the dear old flag would have waved in triumph. I wrote to you yesterday morning.

"To-day is Sunday and to-day I sink to the green couch of our final rest. I have fought well, my darling, and was shot in the endeavor to rally our broken battalions. I could have escaped, but would not till all hope was gone and was shot, about the only one of our forces left on the field. Our cause is just and our generals, not the enemy's have defeated us. In God's good time he will give us victory.

"And now good-bye, wife and children. Bring them up in the fear of God and love for the Savior.

"But for you and the dear ones dependent I should die happy. I know the blow will fall with crushing weight on you. Trust to Him who gave manna in the wilderness. Dr. Nash is with me. It is now after midnight and I spent most of the night in sending messages to you. Two bullets have gone through my chest and directly through the lungs. I suffer but little now, at first the pain was acute. I have won the soldier's name and am ready to meet now as I must the soldier's fate. I hope that from heaven I may see the glorious old flag wave again over the undivided Union I have loved so well.

"Farewell, wife, babies and friends. We shall meet again. Your loving

"Thornton."

This noble man who thus died that his country might live was the son of a New England clergyman, born in New Hampshire in 1822. He graduated at Harvard Law School and served in the Mexican War as an officer of the 15th United States Infantry, in which he was twice breveted for gallantry in battle. Sustained by love of God and country, his last letter to his dear ones at home is another of the many glorious tokens of how cheerfully the Christian can die. T. D. McGillicuddy,

March 19, 1896. Military Historian.

#### DEATH OF MRS. SOPHIA CURTIS.

[Daily Record, July 20, 1896.]

Sunday morning at 5 o'clock occurred the death of Mrs. Sophia Jones Curtis, a life long resident of the valley, and a descendant of its first settlers, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. James Hayward, in Kingston, at the advanced age of 83 years. The deceased was a member of a historic family. Her maternal grandfather, Col. William Gallup, emigrated to the valley with the first Connecticut settlers and was present at the massacre of Wyoming. It was he who emptied the storage whiskey barrels at the approach of the Indians, lest the latter would get possession of it and become more infuriated and bloodthirsty. His daughter, Hannah (Gallup) Jones, mother of the deceased, was also present at the fort and was captured by the Indians. She was set at liberty, however, in a short while.

The deceased was married to Charles Ransome Curtis, grandson of Capt. Samuel Ransome, the noted Indian fighter. The Curtis family, many of the members of which achieved military distinction, emigrated to the valley from New London, Conn. The Curtises took a prominent part in the revolution, one of them taking part in the famous battle between the Constitution and the Guerriere. The Curtis family possess one of the original forty grants, section 2, in Kingston Township. Some of this section is still in the family's possession, notably the old graveyard near the D. L. & W. R. R., Kingston, where the mother of Mrs. Curtis is buried.

Mrs. Curtis was the mother of two children, Mrs. James Hayward and Lorenzo J. Curtis. The latter served in the civil war with distinction and died in January, 1895.

Mrs. Curtis had been a devoted member of the Methodist Church all her life.

The funeral took place Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. H. C. McDermott will officiate. Interment will be in Forty Fort Cemetery.

#### ANOTHER OLD RESIDENT DEAD.

[Daily Record, July 22, 1896.]

William Heisler, an old and well known resident of Mt. Zion, in Exeter Township, died on Monday night after a long illness. Had he lived until October next he would have been 84 years of age. His wife died fifteen years ago, but three sons survive—John of Orange, Coray and William of Mt. Zion.

## DEATH OF MRS. PERRIN.

[Daily Record, July 22, 1896.]

Only the most healthy and vigorous people nowadays exceed the allotted three score years and ten. The pathway of life is so treacherous that few indeed travel it for a greater distance. But it is the duty of the Record this morning to note the death of one who braved the storms of over a century and who has at last laid down the burden and gone to a well earned rest and reward.

Mrs. Lucretia Perrin, whose interesting record as one of the oldest residents of this section of the State has attracted wide attention from time to time, passed away at 3 o'clock Tuesday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Salmon Lewis, at Mt. Zion, in Exeter Township, back of Wyoming, being over 103 years of age.

The cause of death was simply old age. Her relatives say there were no evidences of any particular disease. The aged lady's time for departure had come, and she passed away peacefully without aches or pains. Up to within three or four days of her death, Mrs. Perrin had been able to be about the house, says the Pittston Gazette, and up to the very end she retained her faculties and was conscious of what was going on around her. All of her daughters were at her bedside and she recognized them and conversed intelligently. She realized clearly that the end was near, and protested against taking medicine. Then, just as day was breaking, her spirit took its flight to the eternal regions.

Mrs. Perrin was born in Andover, New Hampshire, April 15, 1793, as recorded in her old family bible, and was therefore 103 years, 3 months and 6 days old. Her father, Joshua Danforth, was a Revolutionary soldier, and served throughout the war, a term of seven years and five months. When quite a young girl she removed to Queensbury, Warren County, N. Y., near Saratoga Springs. She was married when about 20 years old to Abiathar Shippy, who was some five years her senior. They had a family of thirteen children, of whom four are still living, as follows: Esther, wife of Daniel Biddleman of Factoryville, born Nov. 18, 1820; Lewis A. Shippy of Exeter Township, born June 1, 1833; Mary, widow of Charles Montayne of West Pittston, born June 1, 1833, being a twin of Lewis; Clarinda, wife of Salmon Lewis of Mt. Zion, born March 26, 1836.

On the occasion of Mrs. Perrin's centennial anniversary a family gathering was held at the Lewis home in Exeter, when all but two of the seven children then surviving were present. The eldest then, Mrs. Olive Whitlock, was in her eightieth year, but she has since died, and the aged mother was able to attend the funeral. Representatives of five generations attended the centennial anniversary, and the number of her own living blood relation was then found to have been 145.

Mrs. Perrin's first husband died in 1840, and three years later she was married to Calvin Perrin of Northmoreland, who died thirteen years ago at the age of 90. There were no children by the second marriage. Mrs. Perrin's second husband served in the war of 1812, and she was up to the time of her death a pensioner of the United States government.

To the editor of the Gazette, on a visit which he made to Mrs. Perrin shortly after she had passed her 100th birthday anniversary, she related with interesting detail the story of her conversion at Glen Falls, N. Y., about the year 1816. She was baptized by Elder Swayne and united with the Baptist Church at the time mentioned. She spoke earnestly of her trust and blessed hope in Christ. She said she moved from New York State to Carbondale with her first husband in 1819. The latter built the first house there, she said, and helped build the Delaware & Hudson road from Carbondale to Honesdale.

Although her eyes appeared bright she had little sight and was able only to distinguish forms, but she readily recognized many acquaintances and old friends by their voices. Since her residence in Northmoreland and Exeter Mrs. Perrin has been a member of the Northmoreland Baptist Church and attended divine services regularly as long as she was able to be driven to the church.

Arrangements have been made for the funeral of Mrs. Perrin to take place on Thursday afternoon, with services in the Mt. Zion Church at 2 o'clock and interment in the Mt. Zion Cemetery. Rev. Abel Wrigley of Carverton will have charge of the services and he will be assisted by Rev. J. S. Lewis of West Pittston.

The death of Mrs. Perrin leaves Mrs. Reidy, who lives near her, the oldest person in Luzerne County, and the only person over 100 years old. Mrs. Reidy is said to be 105 years old.

## FAMILY NOTED FOR LONGEVITY.

[Pittston Gazette, July 26, 1896.]

A few evenings ago there was a gathering of the relatives of the late Mrs. Lucretia Perrin, who died last week, aged over 103 years, at the home of Salmon Lewis in Exeter Township, when the number of Mrs. Perrin's living descendants were counted up. It was found that there are 63 grandchildren, 148 great grandchildren and 21 great great grandchildren. Add to these the number of Mrs. Perrin's children, including their husbands or wives—nine in all—and the total is 241. The descendants are divided as follows: Mrs. Olive Whitlock—seven grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren and eleven great great grandchildren; Mrs. Cinderella Capwell—eleven grandchildren, thirty-four great grandchildren and seven great great grandchildren; George Shippy—five grandchildren and two great grandchildren; Mrs. Esther Bidleman—thirteen grandchildren, thirty-three great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren; Mrs. Sarah Capwell—nine grandchildren, twenty-four great grandchildren and one great great grandchild; Lewis Shippy—eight grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren; Mrs. Mary Mantanye—four grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren; Mrs. Clara Lewis—six grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

## OLD WHITE HAVEN RESIDENT.

[Daily Record, July 23, 1896.]

One of the oldest and best known citizens of White Haven, A. F. Peters, died on Wednesday morning at 5 o'clock, after an illness of four weeks. Mr. Peters had been afflicted with a stomach trouble, which was in a sense aggravated by the hot weather of the past two weeks. The deceased had been a resident of White Haven for over fifty years, having taken up his residence there in 1844, coming from Lehigh County, this State, where he was born.

He was a son of Abram and Elizabeth (Fritzinger) Peters. Deceased at 15 years of age worked on a farm and continued this until 1837, when he learned the tailor's trade and worked at that for six years. When he came to White Haven in 1844 he worked as a tailor for one year and then worked for two years in Reuben Schuler's general store. Then he followed boating for one year and then rented a saw mill from Reuben Schuler and in 1869 purchased the mill

and until 1888 did a large business. He then retired, owing to the fact that lumber became very scarce. Mr. Peters was married in May, 1848, to Miss Savina, daughter of John and Mary (Houser) Kleckner, natives of Pennsylvania.

Deceased was aged 76 years, and during his long residence at White Haven was an active and far-seeing business man. His well-known conservatism and the sense of business honor he always displayed in his dealings with those with whom he was associated, as well as the zeal with which he practiced the teachings of the golden rule, gained for him the universal respect of the community. The fruit of his energy and foresight is a large estate, undoubtedly the most valuable of any of White Haven, which he leaves to his family. For many years he was a director in the Allentown National Bank, and at the time of his death was a director in the water company, president of the White Haven Savings Bank, and a leading member and officer of the Presbyterian Church. His business interests were principally in the lumber line for many years, and besides his numerous holdings in this county he was largely interested in Western matters. While living the deceased had a dread of his remains being interred in the earth. He was one of the promoters and a director of the Laurel Cemetery at White Haven, and a number of years ago he caused to be erected, at a cost of about \$15,000, a large granite sarcophagus. The interior has twelve copper enclosures, or shelves, each of which after becoming the receptacle of a body will be hermetically sealed. His remains will be the first to be deposited within one of its recesses. He leaves a wife and three children, one daughter, Miss Mina, having married William Hoffercker, of Elizabethtown, N. J., who is master mechanic of the Jersey Central R. R. at that place. Another daughter, Adella, married J. J. Becker, Jr., a prominent druggist of White Haven, while the only son, M. G. Peters, survives and conducts the various business interests of the deceased. He was a brother of Mrs. Hiram Beers of Stanton street, this city, and W. D. Beers, the merchant, is his nephew. The many acts of unobtrusive charity to unfortunate neighbors performed by Mr. Peters were greatly appreciated, and the judgment of the community in which he so long lived is that it has lost a leading citizen and an honest Christian man.

## ANOTHER PENN SUIT.

[Daily Record, July 31, 1896.]

William Duguld Stuart, claiming to be the only living heir of William Penn, has brought action against Jacob Bryant, and claims \$19,000 damages. The plaintiff bases his action upon alleged acts of trespass committed at various times between 1890 and 1896, in which the defendant in charged with breaking into a certain grove in Plymouth Township, known in the last century as the manor of Sunbury and cutting down trees and pollards of the plaintiff. The damage claimed is as follows: Five hundred pine trees valued at \$2,500; five hundred oak trees valued at \$1,500; five hundred hemlock trees valued at \$1,500; and 500 other varieties of trees valued at \$1,000.

The plaintiff is the alleged heir of William Penn, who recently came from England to look after various tracts of land in Pennsylvania which had been held by the Penn family and heirs since the time the illustrious William secured the land from the Indians by the Penn treaty of 1682.

## OLD MORAVIAN CHURCH.

[Daily Record, July 28, 1896.]

The 149th annual love feast of the Moravian congregation of Emaus, Lehigh County, was observed on Sunday, says an exchange. The services were conducted by Rev. P. F. Rommel, the pastor, and were of a very impressive character. The interior of the church was handsomely decorated with evergreens and flowers. This is the 149th time that this feast has been observed by the congregation, which has a history of unusual interest.

As early as 1741 Count Zinzendorf preached at Emaus, but it was not until July 30, 1747, that a regular congregation was founded. It had no regular pastor, but was supplied by missionaries from Bethlehem. Not long after a school house was built there the education of the children was begun. It was here that the nucleus of what is now the Moravian Seminary, Bethlehem, was formed. In 1758 the Indians in the vicinity of Emaus became very troublesome and the school children were removed to Bethlehem.

In 1776 the second church was built, which, like the first, was of logs. In 1833 the present church edifice was side of it. The congregation also main-

erected, as also the parsonage along-tains a cemetery near the church, where people have been buried for 150 years.

During the 149 years' history of the congregation it has been served by forty pastors, the present pastor, Rev. P. F. Rommel, having been called five years ago. Next year the 150th anniversary of the church will be celebrated with much ceremony.

WHAT THE TERM "CERTIFIED"  
MEANS.

The Record has been shown an article by Charles I. A. Chapman, in which he gives a most satisfactory account of the origin of the word "certified" as applied to road lines and tracts within Luzerne County. Going as it does, quite deeply into the history of the land contest between Connecticut and Pennsylvania, the article transcends the limits of a moderate newspaper article. After tracing the subject down to the Decree of Trenton in 1783, Mr. Chapman concludes thus:

"The State of Pennsylvania viewed with great displeasure the growth of a colony within her borders which refused to acknowledge her jurisdiction. She applied to the Continental Congress requesting the appointment of a tribunal which should be authorized to determine all matters in dispute.

"A tribunal was accordingly appointed and notice of its meeting given—the same to be held at Trenton, New Jersey.

"Before this tribunal appeared Messrs. Dyer, Johnson and Root for Connecticut, and Messrs. Bradford, Reed, Wilson and Sargent for Pennsylvania. After mature deliberation of five weeks the board, on 30th December, 1782, pronounced their opinion as follows: 'We are unanimously of opinion that the State of Connecticut has no right to the land in controversy. We are also unanimously of the opinion that the jurisdiction and preemption of all lands lying within the charter bounds of Pennsylvania and now claimed by the State of Connecticut do of right belong to Pennsylvania.'

"The inhabitants at Wyoming considered the question before the court at Trenton to be a question of jurisdiction only, not one in any way affecting the right of soil. They considered that the State of Connecticut had conveyed her interest in the soil to the Susquehanna Co. and had, therefore, strictly in the language of the court, 'No right to the land in controversy.' They, therefore,

cheerfully acquiesced in the decision and at once memorialized the General Assembly of Pennsylvania in an address closing as follows: 'By this adjudication we are under your jurisdiction and protection. We care not under what State we live if we live protected and happy. We will serve you, we will fight your battles, but in mercy, justice, wisdom and every other great and generous principle leave us our possessions, the pledge of brothers, children and fathers, which their hands have cultivated and their blood enriched.'

"This touching appeal produced no effect upon the heartless speculators who were now controlling the affairs of the State of Pennsylvania.

"Two companies of Pennsylvania militia were ordered to Wyoming and commenced ousting the Connecticut men from their farms and tenements. These violent proceedings continued without abatement and were the cause of untold suffering; for the householder saw his barns on fire, his stock driven off and himself and family consigned to a state of wretchedness hitherto unknown in the colonies.

"The resistance on the part of the settlers was such that orders were issued by the Pennsylvania council for the enlistment of three hundred light infantry and fifteen light dragoons to be officered and directed by the Hon. John Boyd and Col. John Armstrong, commissioners—to march at once for the 'reduction of Wyoming.'

"The cruel reprisals and conflicts of this predatory warfare continued with varying success on either side until March, 1787, when the Connecticut settlers, hopeless of justice towards their claim, made a proposition of compromise to the General Assembly, proposing that if 'there should be granted to them the seventeen townships which had been laid out and partially settled previous to the Trenton Decree they would on their part relinquish all claim to any other lands within the limits of the Susquehanna purchase.' These seventeen townships were the townships now embraced in the Valley of Wyoming and in addition Huntington and Bedford on the south, Providence and Exeter on the north, and above, in the Valley of the Susquehanna, the towns of Northmoreland, Putnam, Braintrim, Springfield, Claverac and Ulster, now constituting large portions of Wyoming, Susquehanna and Bradford counties.

"This proposition of compromise, together with the action

of what was known as the 'Council of Censors' (a body constituted under the State of Pennsylvania to examine at intervals all acts of oppression), brought the sufferings of the oppressed settlers strongly before the view of the rest of the State. An act was passed erecting all territory north of the 'Nescopec Falls' into a county called 'Luzerne.' From this time Wyoming was represented in the Pennsylvania legislature and the fate of the vana legislature and the fate of her

"On the 28th of March, 1787, an act was passed complying with the request of the inhabitants. Commissioners were appointed to cause a re-survey of the lots claimed by the settlers and to give them "certificates" of the regularity of their claims. This commission, composed of Timothy Pickering, William Montgomery and Stephen Ballot (subsequently Peter Muhlenberg), proceeded to Wyoming and entered upon the duties of their appointments. Although a very large proportion of the inhabitants resided within the "seventeen townships" yet many owned farms and lived without those bounds and being not reached by the terms of the act of December, '86, and March, '87, they made a determined opposition to a settlement which would apparently leave them without hope. Under the smart of these feelings and anticipations occurred the "abduction" of Pickering, the subsequent arrest of John Franklin and other violent proceedings. But at length the cool common sense of the settlers prevailed. At length both sides becoming weary of farther conflict and estrangement and the rights of the settlers becoming well understood at Harrisburg, an act was passed in April, 1789, providing for a final settlement of the controversy. Under this act a board of commissioners proceeded to divide the lands into four classes, according to quality, and to confirm the titles. Also to resurvey all the lands claimed under Pennsylvania titles which should be released by the Pennsylvania holders, to issue patents to all thus satisfied and placing themselves under the spirit and terms of the compromise law, and finally, to arrange every matter in the most just and satisfactory manner possible under all circumstances.

"The provisions of this act were fully carried out and peace and harmony ensued. Such, my dear sir, is the history, told as briefly as possible, of the celebrated Wyoming Civil War of 1770-90.

It was a contest for the principles of eternal justice and right waged against "spiritual wickedness in high places" backed by the usurped power of a mighty Commonwealth. Let the people of Pennsylvania and the other great States of the confederacy beware lest we now (1896) plunge again into a similar labyrinth of contention.

C. I. A. Chapman.

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#### JASPER PARRISH'S FAMILY.

Some time ago the Record contained a brief item about one Parrish who was captured by the Indians "near Wyoming." Some further details will be interesting.

This Parrish family lived at the Wallenpaupack settlement in what is now Pike County, as will be seen in Miner's history of Wyoming, page 470. The dreadful news of the massacre of Wyoming, July 3, 1778, was conveyed to the Wallenpaupack people by Lebbeus Hammond, who, it will be remembered, was one of the two prisoners who escaped from the Indian Queen Esther's rock. The inhabitants prepared for immediate flight to the settlements further East as they knew the Indians would come their way next, which they did. Capt. Zebulon Parrish, his son Jasper, and Stephen Kimble hastened to warn their neighbors of the Lackawaxen settlement, but in making this attempt they fell into the hands of some prowling savages and were taken to the State of New York, where they were held captive until the Revolutionary war was ended. After peace was made Capt. Parrish returned to his family. His son Jasper was able to turn his captivity to advantage, for having acquired the Indian language he was appointed an interpreter by the government and was employed in intercourse with the Six Nations until his death in 1836, which occurred at Canandaigua. Young Kimble died in captivity.

Capt. Zebulon Parrish had another son, Stephen, who was also captured by the Indians about the same time as the flight from Wallenpaupack. While in captivity he ingratiated himself into the affections of the Indians and was taught by them the mysteries of their medical practice. He was released when the war closed, practiced herb doctoring and died near Canandaigua. He was known as Doctor Parrish.

#### FORMED A CHAPTER AT LAKE CAREY.

[Daily Record, Aug. 4, 1896.]

The Record's Tunkhannock correspondent sends the following:

A dinner party was given last Friday by Mrs. Alvin Day and Mrs. James W. Piatt at the cottage of the latter at Lake Carey, at which the following guests were present: Thomas Ford and wife, Joseph Langford and wife, Samuel Fear and wife, George Johnson and wife, Mrs. Fannie Urquhart, Mrs. Annette Gorman, Howard Fear, Burton Towner, Mrs. C. I. A. Chapman, Mrs. J. W. Nimmo of Pittston, Mrs. Steuben Jenkins, J. D. Green and wife of Wyoming, William A. Wilcox and wife of Scranton, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Seeley and son Paul of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Mrs. Esther Hice, Miss Nellie and Robert Morgan of Wilkes-Barre, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley W. Little of Towanda, Misses Sadie and Estella Hallock of Campville, N. Y., and Mr. and Mrs. S. Judson Stark of Tunkhannock. The occasion which brought this company together was the forming of a chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution. The company did not take any decided steps towards organization. Eligibility of members was discussed and it is probable that a society will be organized. There is a similar organization in Wilkes-Barre. One of the requisites for membership is to be able to trace one's ancestry back to the defenders of youthful America. These organizations are for the purpose of keeping fresh in mind the brave deeds of those who fought for our independence.

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#### LARGE FAMILY TREE.

Frank Helme, Sr., one of Kingston's most prominent residents, reached the eightieth milestone in his journey through life Aug. 7, 1896, and the event was appropriately observed. All of the members of his family were present, as well as a number of his nieces and nephews from a distance. Mr. Helme, although an octogenarian, was one of the merriest in the throng and entered freely into every discussion that was brought up during the day. The afternoon was pleasantly spent. At 4 o'clock dinner was served. The dining room was tastily decorated with palms and flowers and the tables were adorned with sweet peas. The parlors were

also given a pleasing appearance by floral decorations. In one corner was a pretty floral horseshoe, on one side of which was the date of Mr. Helme's birth and on the other "1896."

Mr. Helme has been a life long resident of this valley. He is a son of Major Oliver Helme, who fifty years ago was one of the most prominent citizens of the county. He was at one time sheriff of the county. Major Helme came from Rhode Island to the valley. He was born at South Kingston, Rhode Island; raised at North Kingston and died at Kingston, Pa. He was of English descent on his paternal side and French Huguenot on his maternal.

Mr. Helme, in whose honor the day's celebration was given, was born on Ross Hill, now Edwardsville, Aug. 7, 1816. His parents removed to Wilkes-Barre when he was quite young. As a Wilkes-Barre boy he was contemporary with Charles and George Parrish. In 1832 the family removed to Montrose, remaining there three years. At the end of that time they came back to Kingston and have resided there since.

Mr. Helme has been an active business man and farmer all his life. He has been one of the most intelligent, systematic and successful farmers of the valley and by his industry has accumulated considerable real estate. He never took other farmer's theories, but always experimented for himself. For his age he has wonderful vitality and hardly ever knew what it was to be sick. The only physical weakness he has is his eyesight, which is growing dim. He has always been an uncompromising Republican and even that day did not miss an opportunity to get in a word for sound money, protection and McKinley. Mr. Helme's wife died eighteen years ago. He has two children, Frank, who resides at home, and Mrs. P. M. Carhart of Kingston.

Among the members of the family at the celebration were: Mrs. Thomas Hooven of Englewood, N. J., Mr. Helme's only sister; Mr. and Mrs. George D. Helme, Helmetta, N. J.; Joseph Greason, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Carhart, Belvidere, N. J.; Dr. and Mrs. Horn and daughter, Mauch Chunk, and Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Carhart, Kingston, and Frank Helme.

Mr. Helme received a number of handsome presents.

### HIS GRAVE REMAINS UNMARKED.

The Record a couple of times alluded to the fact that near Honesdale lies buried the remains of Gen. Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States and a patriot who was one of the first to lift his voice for independence and to contribute liberally to the nation's coffers out of his private purse when money was most urgently needed, not a cent having ever been returned to him or his heirs. The fact has also been alluded to that his grave is neglected and is marked by only a worn flat stone. A writer in the *Scranton Truth* revives the subject and says:

"Our country is rich, as it should be, in monuments to Washington. Every pretentious municipality has one or more memorials in living stone to the Father of His Country, but the most magnificent one is in the city which bears his name. It is the loftiest artificial structure in the world. The base is fifty-five feet, one and one-half inches square. Five hundred feet from the grounds the four sides of the monument are thirty-five feet wide and this square forms the base of a pyramid which terminates in a point constructed on the largest piece of aluminum ever made. The lower portion of the pyramid is blue granite and the upper part is of marble. In the interior are 100 memorial stones, the gifts of States and cities of the United States and of foreign countries and societies. This is the world's greatest cenotaph. 'From turret to foundation stone' it stands 592 feet and Gen. Lew Wallace says the prospect from the top of it is 'beautiful beyond conception.' So much for the nation's finest tribute to the greatest hero, Lincoln not excepted, who ever breathed.

"In among the foot hills of the Moosic Mountains in our own State of Pennsylvania, in our own county of Wayne, and not far from our sister village of Pleasant Mount, lie the remains of the first treasurer of the United States and one of the heroes of our revolutionary war, Gen. Samuel Meredith. His grave is marked only by a time-worn, moss-grown, mouldering marble slab, simply inscribed and giving not the faintest hint of the history of him who lies there. 'Samuel Meredith,' is all it says, 'Died Feb. 10, 1817 in the 76th year of his age.' That is all the tombstone tells, but that is more than the country at large knows of Samuel Meredith. Yet it was the protestations of such as he that led to the formation of the Boston Tea Party, the party that spilled the 'tea that brews forever.' He was one of the celebrated Silk Stocking Company.



As major he took part in the battles of Princeton and Trenton, acquitting himself so bravely that he was made general of the 4th Brigade, Pennsylvania militia. At the head of that brigade he fought at Brandywine and Germantown. It is good to fight bravely in a great cause, and Gen. Meredith did so. He followed the flag wherever it led and he heard the death shot hissing, but in the spring of 1780 he gave hardly less substantial proof of his patriotism when he contributed \$25,000 to the support of Washington's suffering soldiers. When the war was done he was twice elected from Philadelphia County to the Pennsylvania colonial assembly. In 1789 he was surveyor of the port of Philadelphia, but Washington called him from there to be the first treasurer of the United States and Alexander Hamilton, the secretary of the treasury, wrote to him as follows:

"Permit me to congratulate you upon your appointment and to assure you of the pleasure I feel in anticipating your co-operation with me in a station in which a character like yours is so truly valuable."

"The funds of the nation were impoverished by the war. It was no easy task therefore to which Samuel Meredith was called, but he manifested such a high order of ability in the discharge of the delicate work that President Adams and after Adams, Jefferson retained him. In 1801 he resigned his office, whereupon the Sage of Monticello wrote him, and after expressing positive sorrow over his resignation said:

"I testify in your favor that you have conducted yourself with perfect integrity and propriety in the duties of the office you have filled, and I pray you to be assured of my highest consideration.

"Thos. Jefferson."

"This is, in brief, the statement of his claim on posterity. He gave his blood and brains and purse to his country's service. Freely, gladly he laid his young manhood, his best time and talents on her altar, but republics are sometimes ungrateful. Today only the sight-seeing tourist or peripathetic patriot visit his quiet resting place. The mourning maples overhead are his only requiem; the stars on their nocturnal rounds look sadly down on that lowly sepulchre, but not a flower decks it and only

"The night dew that falls as in silence it weeps,  
Nurtures with verdure the grave where he sleeps."

"\$1,500,000 for the single cenotaph of Washington and not one cent to garnish the grave of him who should be held in

reverence second to the Father of His Country, him who was Washington's co-worker, counsellor and friend. It is a black blot on the nation's name and our representatives at Washington should do something to erase it."

#### SCHOOLEY'S BATTERY ANNUAL REUNION.

Battery M, better known as Schooley's Battery, held its twenty-eighth annual reunion at the Eagle Hotel parlors at Pittston Aug. 19, 1896. There was a gratifying attendance of the survivors of the battery. There was a warmth and cordiality in the greetings of the veterans that no other associations can muster up, and as the reminiscent narratives were recounted they made each heart beat quicker.

At 6 o'clock the association held a business meeting, at which officers were elected for the year. The meeting was presided over by W. H. Shaver, the president, of Kingston, B. J. Evans of Pittston acting as secretary. Nominations were made and election resulted as follows:

President, Evan J. Evans of West Pittston; secretary, B. J. Evans of Pittston; treasurer, John Barnes.

A committee consisting of John F. Tench and William Gee was appointed to select a meeting place for the next reunion.

At 8 o'clock the company repaired to the dining room of the hotel, where a banquet was in order. The tables were weighted with seasonable delicacies. At the conclusion of the repast a surprise was in store for the guests. Rev. Dr. W. G. Parke, who was a guest of the association, quietly arose, and on behalf of Mrs. Kate L. Rippard, a nurse in the Presbyterian General Hospital of New York City, presented to president Shaver, for the Battery Association, a costly crayon portrait of her grandfather, Rev. T. P. Hunt, now deceased, the chaplain of the battery. Rev. Dr. Parke's address glowed with happy words eulogistic of the nobility of the soldier's life, of the eminent service of the battery and of its personnel. Having personally known the greater part of the recruits, he spoke feelingly of their military labors. Capt. W. H. Shaver, on behalf of the association, accepted the gift and expressed the heartfelt appreciation of the battery for the kind remembrance. Others of those present were called upon for remarks

and a number of brief talks were given by the banqueters.

Those in attendance at the banquet were: W. H. Shaver and wife, Kingston; C. M. Blackburn, Avoca; J. J. Barber and wife, Chris Van Clerberg, Wilkes-Barre; Merritt Tompkins, Scranton; Jeffrey Hufford, Lake Winola; William Sanders, Avoca; E. S. Powell, Kingston; F. M. Girton and daughter, Miss Anna, Plymouth; Mrs. Margaret Bragg, Daniel Howell and wife, C. Blackwell and wife, George Archer, Pittston; J. B. Anderson, Nanticoke; G. Chamberlain and wife, Pittston; J. M. Alexander, Carbondale; W. Spangenberg and wife, Dunmore; William Linklepaugh and wife, Pittston; Thomas Jenkins, Plymouth; Mercur M. Smith, Forty Fort; Charles H. Dorr, Pittston; B. H. Embleton, Sayre; P. M. Sutton and Wife, John Barnes and wife, James Orr, wife and daughter, Joseph Frederick, Pittston; David Thompson, Scranton; C. D. Sanders and wife, Avoca; Evan J. Evans and daughter, Samuel T. Davis, John A. Stone, William Gee, Pittston; L. H. Wint and wife, Scranton; B. J. Evans, A. J. Eggleston, Pittston; Capt. Schooley, U. S. A., Luzerne Borough.

Battery M has a most creditable record in service. It was wholly recruited from the flower of Pittston's manhood. Early in 1862 Battery M, with 144 men, marched toward the front, volunteering its service. The members were at once sent forward and were assigned to duty at Fort Delaware, just below Philadelphia. For two months they remained there and having labored assiduously in the manual of war, were at that time anything but raw recruits. Their service of sixty days there virtually prepared them for their next work, assisting in the defense of Washington, at which point they were stationed until May, 1864, from whence they went to the front, joining Gen. Grant's army. They participated in the battle of Cold Harbor and won for themselves merited praise from the commanding officers for their courage and valor. Being connected with the Army of the Potomac they assisted in all the engagements in which the division of the Potomac took part. For seventy-one days they joined in the siege of Petersburg.

The Battle of the Crater, which practically was incidental to the Petersburg siege, saw them in the front fighting fearlessly and with the same intrepidity did they acquit themselves at the later engagement at Chapin's Farm, Sept.

29, 1864. Many of their members died at these several engagements. From that time on they were participants in the service in and about Petersburg and Richmond incident to the fall of the Confederacy. During the service 352 men were enrolled on the battery's membership and only seventy-five came back when the battery was mustered out, although some were serving with other sections. The officers of the battery when leaving Pittston in 1862 were: Captain, David Schooley; first lieutenant, U. S. Cook, deceased; second lieutenant, William Gee; first sergeant, A. P. Barber, deceased.

When mustered out in July, 1865, those in command were: Captain, A. P. Barber, vice Schooley, promoted to major; first lieutenant, William Gee; first sergeant, L. H. Wint. Many of the survivors are now substantial and prominent citizens of Pittston and vicinity.

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#### ANOTHER LANDMARK GOING.

[Daily Record, Aug. 11, 1896.]

One of the oldest stone houses in Wilkes-Barre, known as the Dr. Mayer residence on South River street, next to the residence of John N. Conyngham, is being torn down to make room for an addition to the Conyngham lawn and possibly for a new house some day. The house was built in 1803 by John W. Robinson and at that time was considered a fine residence, being one of two houses on the river front, the other being the residence of Jacob Cist.

The house remained a part of the Robinson estate for sixty years and was sold to Dr. Mayer about 1868 for \$6,000. After Dr. Mayer's death it was sold to the Laning estate and a few years ago to Mrs. W. L. Conyngham for \$25,000. John W. Robinson, the builder, came to Wilkes-Barre from Susquehanna county in 1800 and married a daughter of Col. Zebulon Butler. When the turnpike was completed from Easton to this city over the Pocono mountain Mr. Robinson and John P. Arndt kept the leading hotel in Wilkes-Barre, the site being that now occupied by the Darling residence on South River street.

## DESCENDANTS OF LORD LOVAT.

The newspapers have recently reported the death of Rev. Horace Fraser, a retired Presbyterian minister, who died on his farm near Westtown, Orange County, N. Y. He was of a historic family, dating back into the thirteenth century.

Mr. Fraser was until his death the oldest living representative of the descendants of Alexander Fraser, his great-grandfather, who came to this country from Scotland on account of political troubles, and settled in Guilford, Conn., in 1745.

Alexander Fraser, the great-grandfather of Horace, who settled in Connecticut, was the second son of Simon Fraser, the Scottish chieftain, known in history as Lord Lovat, born about the year 1676, who was the second son of Thomas Fraser, third son of Hugh, seventh Lord Lovat. Lord Lovat's mother was Sybilla, daughter of the chief of the Macleods. The Frasers were of Norman origin. A Pierre Fraser went to England with William, the Conqueror. His grandson settled in the south of Scotland, whence the family branched off into Aberdeenshire and Invernesshire, the latter branch furnishing most of the Frasers of this country, who now number about 7,000. Simon Fraser was Lord Lovat the twelfth. In the insurrection of 1745 he was charged with trying to play a double game, by sending forth his clan, under the command of his son, to fight for the Pretender and deeply plotting for that cause, while he professed to be a loyal subject. He was a special object of the vengeance of the government, and after a trial by his peers was beheaded on April 9, 1747. It was on account of these political troubles that the son Alexander came to America.

It appears from the Bath (N. Y.) Plaindealer that the Horace Fraser recently deceased was born Feb. 9, 1808, at Steuben, Oneida County, and was one of a family of five girls and four boys. The oldest brother became a Methodist minister, and Horace and his twin brother Oris were Presbyterian clergymen. In 1837 Horace Fraser married Miss Sarah Dey, after whose grandfather Dey street, New York City, was named. Of their six children two only survive, namely: Spencer Lee, of Peoria, Ill., and Mary, who lived with her father.

It may be mentioned that there are numerous descendants of Sir Simon Fraser in Wyoming Valley. The mother of the late Wesley Johnson was Hannah Fraser, one of whose sons, Ovid Fraser Johnson, was attorney general of Philadelphia fifty years ago, and whose son, bearing the same name, is a Philadelphia lawyer. Henry Fraser Johnson of Kingston and Dr. Edwin Fraser Wilson, of Columbus, Ohio, are grandsons of Hannah Fraser.

## THE PATTERSON FAMILY.

The following, of historical interest to the friends of the Patterson family, is taken from a letter written to Mr. Dennis Wiant by Ezekiel Patterson No. 4 (now deceased) dated New Brunswick, N. J., May 4, 1883. 1st Archibald Patterson, 2d Ezekiel Patterson, son of Archibald Patterson No. 1. 3d, Thomas Patterson, son of Ezekiel No. 2, married Mary Denison, daughter of Col. Nathan Denison, the first white man married in Wyoming Valley, Pa., at Wilkes-Barre. 4th Robert S. Patterson, son of Thomas Patterson No. 3, and Mary Denison Patterson, married Minerva Trescott, daughter of Robert S. and Minerva T. 27d. 1857. 5th Susan Alice Patterson, daughter of Robert S. and Minerva T. Patterson, married Horace Wiant No. 4, son of Dennis Wiant No. 3, in Huntington Township, Luzerne County, Pa., 12m., 21d. 1882. The letter also gives the genealogy of the Wiants for four generations, the Trescotts and Harrisons for five successive generations.—Shickshinny Echo.

## KINGSTON'S NEW SCHOOL.

[Daily Record, July 6, 1896.]

On Saturday morning Kingston's handsome new school building was dedicated, in the presence of 3,000 people, with exercises appropriate to the occasion and the day. The dedicatory exercises were in charge of the P. O. S. of A., and to the untiring efforts of the members of that organization is due the success of the day's program. Previous to the dedication a parade took place.

The dedicatory exercises were held at the west side of the building, where a large platform was erected for the accommodation of the speakers and school directors.

The exercises opened with the patriotic selections, "America," "Hall Columbia" and "Red, White and Blue" by

the Jr. O. U. A. M. Band of Wilkes-Barre. The school children joined in singing "Freedom's Flag." Miss Lulu Morgan followed with an essay, "Beauties of my theology," the theme on which she won a prize at the graduating exercises. Frank D. Cooper gave a declamation, "Abraham Lincoln," also a prize winner at the commencement exercises. A selection by the Mollieux Quartet, "Columbia," by Rev. D. D. Jenkins of Uniondale was well received.

The first address was by Dr. Frederick Corss of Kingston. His subject was "Public school progress." The doctor detailed the several stages of the development of the public school in an intelligent manner. The address was divided into two sections. First, who and what are the people who fashioned our schools? Second, what have been the material provisions for schools? Third, what have been the results? He gave a lengthy review of the settlement in Connecticut, where our educational system had its origin, and told of the territory we now occupy. The doctor exhibited a copy of the charter granted April 20, 1662, by Charles the Second to the Connecticut colony, conferring the right to govern the territory from the Narragansett River to the southwest forty leagues. Thence westward to the "South Sea." On March 4, 1681, a charter to William Penn—from New Castle to forty degrees north latitude and westward five degrees longitude—covered this same territory previously granted to Connecticut. At Wyndham, Conn., on July 18, 1753, about 600 of the inhabitants of the Connecticut colony voluntarily associated themselves under the name of the Susquehanna Company for the purpose of planting a colony within the bounds of the mother colony. On July 11, 1754, the Susquehanna Company paid the Indians \$10,000 for lands, in which this valley was included, and which they had already sold to Penn. In 1755 they petitioned the assembly for incorporation, but, not having the power to incorporate or confirm, the assembly simply approved the project and referred the petitioners to the King. Failing to obtain loyal recognition officially they proceeded without it.

The speaker referred to the meeting of the Susquehanna Company at Hartford on Dec. 28, 1768, when the five townships of Wilkes-Barre, Hanover, Kingston, Plymouth and Pittston were granted to forty settlers each. Kingston was the first township occupied. The lands were divided into rights of 400

acres, three whole rights or shares being reserved for the public use of a gospel ministry and schools.

Our public school system began on Sept. 1, 1769, when forty settlers, led by Zebulon Butler, arrived and laid out the land, setting apart the church and school shares.

Under the act of assembly of 1799, lot 9, Third division of Kingston, was surveyed and patented to Elisha Atherton, and this new building stands on a part of this plot. He referred to the establishment of the Wilkes-Barre Academy by act of March 19, 1807, and stated that in 1812 the citizens of Kingston built a two-story frame building above the present residence of John B. Reynolds for an academy. The first teacher was Thomas Bartlett and later W. H. Bissell, the Republican governor of Illinois.

The doctor had a copy of the first edition of the old Webster speller and the old English reader, and he spoke of them as being most excellent school books. He also showed a letter written fifty or sixty years ago by a school girl 15 years of age. He said it did not contain a misspelled word, a misplaced capital letter or a misuse of quotation marks. He ventured the assertion that there was not a girl of her age in the schools today who could do as well. The letter was written to a school mate.

The first course of study adopted for the public schools of Kingston was shown. It was adopted on Aug. 24, 1875, and was the beginning of the present graded school system and the date from which the progress has been so much in the public schools of Kingston.

#### FIFTY YEARS IN WILKES-BARRE.

July 14, 1896, was the fiftieth anniversary of Simon Long's coming to Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Long was born in Pretzfeld, Bavaria. He, with his sister, Lena, mother of attorney Coons, sailed from Bremen on a small merchant vessel and were on the water forty-nine days before they landed at Castle Garden, New York. They started the next morning for Wilkes-Barre, over the Easton turnpike. They remained in Easton over night and the following night, between 8 and 9 o'clock, came to their journey's end, having taken two days to come by stage over the mountains. For one year he worked as a clerk in the store of Martin Long & Bro. On Nov. 1, 1847, he began business for himself under the name of Simon Long & Co., near the old postoffice, then located on Public

Square, near the hotel now kept by Mr. Featherstone. Mr. Collins was then postmaster. In 1851 Mr. Long married Miss Yetta Coons and by the union there were four boys and five girls, who are respectively: Mrs. Carrie Ullman, Salisbury, Md.; Mrs. Edith Schwartz, Waterbury, Conn.; Mrs. Lena Ullman, Salisbury, Md.; Mrs. Hannah Coons, Mrs. Rosa Schloss, Isaac S. Long, Dr. Charles Long, Millard F. and Gus B. Long of this city. Besides these there are twenty-three grandchildren. On August 8 Mr. Long was 69 years old.

When Mr. Long came to Wilkes-Barre fifty years ago the population was only about 1,800 and there was only one coal mine, the old Baltimore, off from Scott street. There were comparatively few business houses. Where the Wyoming Valley Hotel now stands was the principal hotel of those times, the Phoenix, with Mr. Gilchrist as landlord. The principal stores were kept by Ziba Bennett, Martin Long & Bro., George M. Hollenbach and Mr. Sinton. Joseph Coons and Mr. Meyer kept the only exclusively clothing stores previous to Mr. Long.

Mr. Long has seen Wilkes-Barre grow into a large modern city and has interesting stories to tell of the march of progress. His own business has increased from a small one to one of the largest in this section of the State.

#### DIED IN NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.

Joseph Lynn, who died in Freemansburg, Northampton County, on July 11, 1896, of a tumorous growth in the stomach, aged 53 years, was for a while a resident of Wilkes-Barre. After learning the trade of a printer, he purchased the Carbon County Democrat in 1865 of W. H. Hibbs, who retired from that paper and returned to Wilkes-Barre and purchased the Luzerne Union. In 1869 he disposed of the Democrat to William F. Frisley of Lock Haven, and came to Wilkes-Barre to enter into partnership with Mr. Hibbs in the Luzerne Union, but abandoned his enterprise here and returned to Mauch Chunk and resumed the proprietorship of the Democrat. When he sold out the Democrat he returned to Freemansburg, and has since resided there, carrying on the lime manufacturing business.

Mr. Lynn was married to Miss Alice Cooper, daughter of the late Congressman Cooper of Coopersburg, who survives him with two sons, Carl and Harry.

#### A CHAUTAUQUA FOUNDER DEAD.

On July 21, 1896, there died at Jamestown, N. Y., one of the founders of the great Chautauqua Assembly, and as he was born in Wilkes-Barre and has many friends here, the Record gives some space to a sketch of his life. Reference is made to Milton Bailey, who was a cousin to W. F. Bailey and a boyhood friend of Calvin Parsons, who is not so old by three years.

Milton Bailey was born near Wilkes-Barre, Feb. 13, 1812, being next to the youngest in a family of nine children and the only survivor. Up to manhood his life was that common to the families of pioneers in the early years of the century. From the vocations of school teacher and accountant he entered active business life for himself and from that time until a few years previous to his death he was engaged in business as a manufacturer or merchant and was ceaseless in his activity, possessing an energy which knew no cessation. In 1863 the subject of this sketch was ordained a lay minister in the Methodist Church at Ashtabula, O., of which denomination he had been a member since 1840.

During the years following his ordination he performed much ministerial work, his last sermon having been preached within the past three years.

In 1864 Milton Bailey moved with his family to Jamestown from Corydon, in the western part of Pennsylvania, where he owned lumber mills and from that time until his death his residence was at Jamestown. Mr. Bailey is survived by his wife, Fanny Andrews Bailey, to whom he was married in 1856, and three sons, Lieut. Charles Justin, B. Milton and William S., one daughter, Mary, having preceded him to rest nine years ago on the very date of his death. Mrs. C. F. Shindel and Mrs. K. E. Van Arnum, daughters by a previous marriage, also survive his death. One son by this marriage was lost in the Rebellion.

He was a son of Benjamin Bailey, who came to Wilkes-Barre at an early day and his mother was a sister of George Gore, also one of the pioneers. Dr. Joel R. Gore, of Chicago, is a near relative and it is interesting to note that both are vice presidents of the Wyoming Commemorative Association and both were present at the exercises two years ago. Dr. Gore, aged 83, and Mr. Bailey, aged 82. It is only a few weeks ago (June 8) that Mr. Bailey wrote to the secretary of the association, remitting

his dues, and after alluding to the fact that he had met with some financial reverses, and was therefore unable to subscribe as much as he would wish, he remarked:

"But I will risk the impropriety of my saying that I am more independent than some men with a dozen farms. The good Creator sent three sons to my happy home who, though neither of them owning a fortune, are as good to me as if they each were in ownership of competence of worldly goods in full. I should delight to be present at the services on the grounds on July 3d inst., but that will be impossible. The monument stands within two miles of the place of my birth. The old Susquehanna rolling between and the whole location and surroundings are classic grounds to me. I hope to send you the paltry sum of \$1 a year from now, but indications too plainly impress me that before the twelve short months that make up the passing year shall come and go I shall be on the other side of the narrow stream that separates this good land from the glorious and better land beyond. I am only waiting for the welcome summons to step across. Very sincerely yours,

Milton Bailey."

He was one of a large family, his brothers being Sidney, Benajah, Frank, Avery and Daniel. His brother Benajah married Calvin Parsons's sister, Parna.

The following editorial tribute in the Jamestown Journal (from which paper some of the biographical facts are taken) shows the high esteem he was held during a more than thirty years' residence in that city:

"The death of Milton Bailey removes a rugged character who will be missed by the community. Of blameless life and strong convictions, he stood for courage of principle, indomitable purpose and tireless energy. He was a venerable and respected landmark whose sincerity and high purpose were conceded by those who differed from him. Mr. Bailey was identified with the early history of our public school system, and he was for a number of years a member of the board of education. He was one of the party which went from this city to select a camp meeting site on the shore of Chatauqua Lake. They picked out the spot originally known as Fair Point and afterwards merged into the Chatauqua assembly grounds. Mr. Bailey was one of the founders of the Chatauquan.

These publications by reason of the spread of the Chatauqua movement attained world wide prominence. Mr. Bailey was one of Chatauqua's firmest friends. He was fully alive to the duties of citizenship and never shirked responsibility. The claims of charity were never unheeded by him and his faith in humanity was too generous for his own success. He was a good man and leaves the heritage of an honest name."

#### CLARK FAMILY REUNION.

[Daily Record, Sept. 7, 1896.]

John Clark moved from New Providence N. J., to Wilkes-Barre in 1783 and to Plains Township in 1791, at which latter place he died in 1818. On Saturday, 5th inst., Mrs. descendants to the number of 125 met at Harvey's Lake for their second annual reunion. The rain interfered somewhat with the arrangements, but an enjoyable time was had by all. Stephen Clark and wife of Falls, Wyoming County, each 80 years old; Calista Clark of Beaumont, Wyoming County, past 78; Jane Clark of Beaumont and John Williams and wife of Plains Township, over 70, enjoyed the meeting equally with those of younger years.

The family meeting was held at 2 p. m. in one of the pavilions on the picnic ground and addresses were made by various members of the family. Orcutt's Grove camp ground (on the old Philemon Clark homestead) was agreed upon for next year's meeting. John M. Clark of Beaumont was elected president of the association and G. J. Clark of Luzerne Borough secretary. No deaths have occurred in the family since the last meeting. The reunion closed with all joining in singing "God Be with You Till We Meet Again."

The following were in attendance: Sidney Mears, Scranton; Mrs. J. R. Meredith of Dagus Mines, Elk County; Mrs. Melissa Farr of Forkston, Wyoming County; Miss Mary Newton, East Orange, N. J.; Mrs. Frank Shaw and family of Sayre; Mrs. Melissa Major and family of Dorranceton; Mrs. Judson Pace of Mayfield, Pa.; Stephen Clark and wife and Mrs. Lizzie Turn and family of Falls, Wyoming County; Mrs. George Cook and family of Tunkhannock; George Orcutt and family, Mrs. Lyman Lutes, Hiram Mosier and wife and daughter of Bowman's Creek; William Jackson and family, E. H. Clark and family, Mrs. Jane Clark, Mrs. Calista Clark, G. F. Clark and son, John M. Clark and family, Ellisha Mathers and family, S. G. Freeman and family, Mrs. Eurania Richards and family of Beau-

mont; Joseph Winters and family of Centremoreland; Frank Gay and family, William Gay and wife and William Brace and family of Franklin Township; L. D. Kocher and wife and Lewis Kocher and family of Ruggles; Hamilton Kocher and wife of Harvey's Lake; George B. Schooley and wife, Mrs. Frank Holschuh, U. G. Jaquish and family, G. J. Clark and family and James Turner of Luzerne Borough; E. D. Schooley and family and D. S. Clark and family of Kingston; R. B. Huff and family and Warren J. Baker and wife of Town Hill; E. H. Clark and family of Plains; George Clark and family, John Williams and wife and Sybil Clark of Plainville; Arthur Clark and family of Forty Fort; John F. Clark and family of West Pittston; Miles Vantuyl and family of South Eaton; Mr. and Mrs. Van Sickle and child of Pittston. Letters were read from J. B. Doty of New Columbus, Mrs. R. M. Rowland of Forrester, Ogle County, Ill., and John W. Clark of Scranton.

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#### PROTECTED FROM RELIC HUNTERS.

The Wyoming Commemorative Association has been compelled to protect the Wyoming Monument from the practice of chipping pieces from it by having erected a substantial iron fence, placed around the base of the monument. It is about six feet high and about twenty-five feet square. At the rear is a gate which will be secured by a lock.

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#### A RELIC OF THE WAR OF 1812.

[Wyalusing Rocket.]

G. G. Jackson of Terrytown has a souvenir of the war of 1812, of which he is very proud and which is worthy of the high place in his esteem in which it is held. It is an officer's sword captured by his grandfather from Gen. Reil at Lundy's Lane. The grandfather Jackson was on picket duty at that place, and during the evening the British officer while on his rounds came to his post when Mr. Jackson made him "stand and deliver," at the bayonet's point, his arms. This sword he brought home with him and it has been handed down from father to son and is now one of Mr. Jackson's most prized trophies.

#### EXERCISES AT THE MOUNTAIN MONUMENT.

[Daily Record, Sept. 14, 1896.]

The readers of the Record have already been apprised of the fact that Mrs. Martha Bennett Phelps has erected a monument on the Wilkes-Barre Mountain to mark the spot where several Revolutionary officers and men were ambushed and slain by Indians in 1779. The dedicatory exercises took place on Saturday afternoon and were most enjoyable in character. The 1:15 p. m. train took up a hundred or more persons, mostly members of the patriotic societies, as shown by their badges. On arriving at Oliver's Mills a heavy rain was falling, but the company found shelter in the station until the storm, which was only a summer shower, had passed. It had been intended to have the exercises at the monument, but owing to the wetness of things the plan was changed and the guests were taken in conveyances to Wyndcliffe, the summer home of Mrs. Phelps, on the summit of the Wilkes-Barre Mountain.

The monument is near a spring along the roadside about half way between the railway station at Laurel Run and the top of the Wilkes-Barre Mountain, on the left side as you go up the mountain. It is of mountain red-stone, a substantial square column as high as a man's head, bearing this inscription: "Near this spot, April 23, 1779, Capt. Davis, Lieut. Jones, Corp. Butler and two privates, belonging to an advance guard of the expedition under Maj. Gen. John Sullivan were scalped, tomahawked and speared by the Indians.

"Their bodies were buried here.

"Those of the two officers were disinterred and buried in Wilkes-Barre, July 29, 1779."

The other face bears this inscription: "This stone is given to the care of the Sons of the Revolution and Daughters of the American Revolution of Wilkes-Barre, Pa."

Wyndcliffe with its generous interior and spacious porches proved ample to accommodate the assemblage, and all were given a cordial greeting by Mrs. Phelps and her several sons and daughters and their families. These were Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Phelps, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Phelps, Mr. and Mrs. Z. B. Phelps, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Platt, Miss Anna Phelps. The mantels, doorways and windows were beautified with a

profusion of bright colored autumn leaves. From the front porch could be had glimpses of the Wyoming Valley through the shifting clouds, and in the opposite direction could be seen the borough of Oliver's Mills and the Five Mile Mountain.

On the front porch was stationed Alexander's band. The exercises were brief and informal. Led by the band and J. B. Woodward, the assemblage sang patriotic airs, and a prime feature of the occasion was the address by the hostess, Mrs. John C. Phelps. It gave a graphic account of the historical incident there commemorated. It was not long—occupying, if published in full, about three columns of newspaper space. The master of ceremonies was Mrs. Phelps's son, William G. Phelps, of Binghamton. The paper was read by another son, Francis A. Phelps; and the presentation of the monument was made by still another son, Z. Bennett Phelps of Binghamton.

The invocation was pronounced by Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, the monument to the solemn pomp and gloomy splendor of the display. A rude stone, but the best and neatest the condition of the country allowed them to obtain, was erected by the Masons at the head of the graves in Wilkes-Barre burying ground, with a suitable inscription."

After giving the accounts of historians Chapman, Stone and Pearce, the essay quoted from several of the diaries of the officers in Sullivan's army:

Lieut. Col. Henry Dearborn, commanding the Third New Hampshire Regiment, June 21, 1779: "Enter'd what was gracefully accepted on behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution by Mrs. Katherine S. McCartney, regent of Wyoming Valley Chapter, and by Rev. Horace E. Hayden on behalf of the local section of the Sons of the Revolution. All of the several addresses were brief, hearty and patriotic. Mr. Hayden mentioned that as these Revolutionary officers had twice received Masonic burial, it was gratifying for him to receive the monument not only as a Son of the Revolution, but as a Mason.

Refreshments were then served. The ice cream attracted special attention, it being molded into cannon, soldiers and other figures suggestive of war.

The gentlemen and ladies then returned to the train, stopping on the way to read the inscription on the monument.

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Among those present:

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Atherton.  
Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Brown, Miss Ella Bowman, George H. Butler, Miss Mary Bowman, Pierce Butler, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Butler, the Misses Elsie, Abi and Carrie Butler, A. Beaumont, Mrs. G. S. Bennett, daughter and son; George R. Bedford, Miss Edith Brower, Miss Julia Butler, Mrs. C. F. Bowman, Pierce Butler of Carbondale, Mrs. Augusta Bennett.

William L. Conyngham, Herbert Conyngham, B. Harry Carpenter, Mrs. Clarke, Miss Ethel Chase and friends, M. H. Cook, Mrs. J. R. Coolbaugh.

Judge A. Darte, L. C. Darte, Miss Dorrance, B. Dorrance, Col. C. B. Dougherty.

Mr. and Mrs. Farnham, Miss Farnham, Liddon Filck.

Mrs. W. G. Graham, Tunkhannock; Miss Bessie Greene, Mrs. Mary Gross. Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Hillard, T. R. Hillard, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hunt, Mrs. T. S. Hillard, Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, Oliver Hillard, John S. Harding, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Harvey.

Miss Mary Ingham.

E. H. Jones, Mrs. Henry L. Jones, Miss Hattie Jones, L. B. Jones, Carl Jones and friend, Miss H. P. James, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Kulp.

Mrs. W. Leavenworth, Miss Bessie Loveland, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lee, Mrs. Arabella Lewis.

Miss McClure, Mr. and Mrs. Asher Miner, Dr. C. H. Miner, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. McClintock, Mrs. Katherine McCartney, Miss Ella McCartney, Rev. Dr. Mogg and wife, Mrs. W. M. Miller, Miss Martha Maffet.

Mr. and Mrs. R. V. A. Norris, Mrs. T. C. North, Miss Ruth Nicholson.

Miss Fannie Prouts, Hon. H. W. Palmer and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Parrish and daughter.

Mrs. and Miss Rockafellow, Mrs. B. Reynolds, Mrs. G. M. Reynolds, Judge C. E. Rice and wife, Miss Jennie Reynolds of Scranton.

John Sturdevant, Capt. Straw, Miss Bessie Straw, W. C. Shepherd, Miss Mary Slosson, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Sayre, Miss Martha Sharpe, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Sea of New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac M. Thomas, John Turner.

Mrs. Kittle M. Umsted.

Rev. Dr. H. H. Welles, Miss Charlotte Welles, Miss Wadhama, Mrs. Sarah Wood, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Woodward.



The address was to the Wyoming Historical Society, the Sons of the Revolution, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Colonial Dames, neighbors and friends, and following is a synopsis:

We have met this day to dedicate a stone to the memory of Capt. Joseph Davis of the 11th Pa. Reg., Lieut. William Jones of a Delaware regiment, and as some accounts state it, Corporal Butler and three privates, belonging to a detachment of soldiers of the Revolutionary army under the command of Major-Gen. John Sullivan. Perhaps some of you will ask,—are you sure any bones of Revolutionary soldiers lie near this place? Is this the spring near the Laurel Run, where the savages waited in ambush for the gallant little band? In order to prove our right to erect the memorial on this spot we must bring the testimony of many witnesses:

"It is a matter of history, that Gen. Washington had determined to send a force into the Indian country sufficient at one blow to break up the savage haunts where these great barbarities were planned, and the depredators were harbored. Gen. Sullivan was ordered to rendezvous at Easton, and there prepare his command for their march through the wilderness. He sent to Wyoming from Easton a German regiment of 200 to 300 men under Major Powell, following a few weeks later with the division under his own command."

"The state of affairs in the Valley of Wyoming was better than it had been at any time since the battle of July 3, 1778. A small force consisting of the Wyoming militia under Capt. John Franklin, the Wyoming Company under Capt. Simon Spalding, with two companies of Col. Hartley's regiment (Eleventh Pennsylvania), all under the command of Col. Zebulon Butler, had wintered at Wyoming. Col. Butler, being reinforced also by a German regiment of about three hundred men, was enabled, not only to defend his position, but to clear the open portions of the valley of his cruel and insolent visitors, but small parties of Indians still hovered around Wyoming like wolves around a sheep-fold. They waylaid the passes through the mountain, and occasionally exhibited extraordinary instances of courage and audacity."

The author of the paper said she would indulge in a few personal recollections. In quoting the account of the ambushade as given in Miner's History, Mrs. Phelps alluded to him as follows:

Our venerated historian, the Hon. Charles Miner, whom I remember well as an honored guest at my father's house, where he was almost sure to come in June—often with his blind, though most attractive daughter, Miss Sarah, bringing a bunch of delicate pink roses to my mother, telling her he called the rose the "Lady Bennett," and gallantly comparing it to the blush on her cheek.

"Maj. Powell, commanding two hundred men of a regiment, which had been much reduced by losses in the battle of Germantown, having been ordered to Wyoming, arrived at Bear Creek, about ten miles from the fort, on the night of the 18th of April. Deeming themselves out of danger from a surprise by the Indians, orders were given that officers and men should dress in their best apparel, their arms be newly burnished, and everything be put in order to appear respectably on entering the valley. As was the fashion of the day, the officers wearing ruffles, were also powdered."

Can you imagine the state of the ruffles and powder on the march in this great wilderness, through which the soldiers were cutting their way, and these ruffled officers were turning aside to hunt the deer, on this 23d of April, 1779? But the account runs thus:

"As was the fashion of the day, the officers wearing ruffles, were also powdered. The music, partaking in the excitement of the hour, played their liveliest strains as the party advanced. Deer were reported to have been seen by the vanguard, when Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones, armed with rifles, immediately hastened forward. Near the summit of the second mountain, by the Laurel Run, and about four miles from the fort, a fire was opened upon them by the Indians in ambush, by which Capt. Davis, Lieut. Jones, a corporal by the name of Butler and three men under his command fell."

Mr. Miner adds in a foot note that "the bodies of the two officers, hastily buried, were exhumed the July following, and reinterred with military honors by the brethren of Gen. Sullivan's army and the regiments of Coles. Proctor and Hubley. A band of music, the first whose soul-arousing strains were ever heard in Wyoming, added interest is called the Great Swamp, proceeded 20 miles thro' a horrid, rough, gloomy country, the land covered with pine, spruce, laurel bushes, and hemlock. We eat breakfast at a stream call'd Tunkhannak, we passed another call'd Toby-

hannah, & another the Leahigh. We likewise pass'd what is call'd the Shades of Death; a very gloomy thick part of the Swamp. 22nd.—We marched but 5 miles to a desolate farm, 7 miles from Wyoming. 23rd.—We march'd to the Fort at Wyoming, 7 miles, where we found several reg'ts incamp'd, which are part of our army, our course the 2 last days has been N. West. The whole country from Easton to Wyoming is very poor & barren & I think such as will never be inhabited it abounds with deer & Rattlesnakes.

Dr. Ebenezer Elmer, surgeon in Second New Jersey Regiment: The journal begins June 18th, 1779, as the army under Gen. Sullivan leaves Easton. These items are the only mention of this part of the route. June 21st.—"Marched at Sunrise and about 6 o'clock Came to the great Swamp which is interspersed with barren, piney spots throughout, very stony. There are three or four Brooks which run thro' it being branches of the Leahigh. In some places the timber is very tall and thick, mostly white pine and hemlock, with some birch, Maple & Locust trees. Many of the white pines are 150 foot clear of any limbs. The last vale of this swamp is called the Shadow of Death. Having come so great a distance, in such bad roads, the waggons did not get in till late in the evening and several broke, some left behind, many horses tired, some died & others lost. We lay all night in a bushy spot among the pine knots, by ye edge of the swamp called the Fatigue Camp. 23rd.—About 12 o'clock we came to our encamping ground on ye banks of the Susquehannah at Wyoming, 65 miles from Easton. The place does by no means answer my expectations, yet it must be acknowledged that the points, & in some places a depth of such a beautiful river running thro it, navigable for boats, makes it much more agreeable."

Daniel Livermore, captain in the Third New Hampshire Regiment: Wednesday, June 23rd.—"This morning the troops march at seven o'clock, and pass the Bear Swamp and a place called the Shades of Death, by its being a dark, lonesome place. The sun is scarcely to be seen for the trees and bushes. Not far from this place is where Capt. Davis & Lieut. Jones from Pennsylvania, were inhumanly murdered April 18th, 1779 by the savages. During the whole of our march from Easton, we travelled through the most barren part of the country I ever saw, for so far together. At about two P. M.

we arrived at Wyoming. Here is a fertile country. There are 250 widows in the place, whose husbands were slain in Col. Butler's battle.

Lieut. John Jenkins, Lieutenant in Capt. Spalding's company:

"April 23—This day Maj. Powell, with a party of men coming in, were way-laid by the Indians near Laurel Run. Capt. Davis, Lieut. Jones and three men were killed and two others missing. About the same time, Indians drove off six cows from Shawnee." Lieut. Jenkins served with Gen. Sullivan as guide to the army, and received thanks of the general in general orders for services rendered. The original manuscript was in the hands of his grandson, Hon. Steuben Jenkins, Wyoming, Pa.

Rev. William Rogers, D. D., chaplain in Hand's Brigade, gives us such a glowing account that we have copied descriptions of three days' march from his journal:

Monday, June 21, 1779—"This day we marched through the Great Swamp and Bear Swamp. The Bear Swamp, which is eleven or twelve miles through, contains what is called in our maps the "Shades of death," by reason of its darkness; both swamps contain trees of amazing height, viz: hemlock, birch, pine, sugar maple, ash, locust, etc. The roads in some places are tolerable, but in other places exceedingly bad, by reason of which three of our wagons and the carriages of two field pieces were broken down. This day we proceeded twenty miles, and encamped late in the evening at a spot which the commander named "Camp Fatigue." The troops were tired and hungry. The road through the swamps is entirely new, being fitted for the passage of our wagons by Cois. Courtlandt and Spencer at the instance of the commander-in-chief, the way leading to Wyoming being before only a blind, narrow path. The new road does its projectors great credit, and must, in a future day, be of essential service to the inhabitants of Wyoming and Easton.

Wednesday, June 23—"The troops prepared themselves for Wyoming, from which we were now distant only seven miles. This day we marched with regularity, and at a distance of three miles came to the place where Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones, with a corporal and four privates, were scalp-

ed, tomahawked and speared by the savages, fifteen or twenty in number; two boards are fixed at the spot where Davis and Jones fell, with their names on each, Jones's being besmeared with his own blood. In passing this melancholy vale an universal gloom appeared on the countenances of both officers and men without distinction, and from the eyes of many, as by a sudden impulse, dropt the sympathizing tear. Col. Proctor, out of respect to the deceased, ordered the music to play the tune of Roslin Castle, the soft and moving notes of which, together with what so forcibly struck the eye, tended greatly to fill our breasts with pity, and to renew our grief for our worthy departed friends and brethren. Getting within two miles of Wyoming, we had from a fine eminence, an excellent view of the settlement. It lies in a beautiful valley, surrounded by very high ground, the people inhabit up and down the banks of the river and very little back. There were in this settlement, last summer, a court house, a jail and many dwelling houses, all of which, excepting a few scattered ones, were burnt by the savages after the battle of July 3, 1778, which took place near Forty Fort. At present, there are a few log houses newly built, a fort, one or two stockaded redoubts and a row of barracks; the settlement consists of six or more small townships. At the battle before spoken of about 220 men were massacred within the space of an hour and a half, more than a hundred of whom were married men; their widows, afterward, had all their property taken from them, and several of them with their children were made prisoners. It is said Queen Esther of the Six Nations, who was with the enemy, scalped and tomahawked with her own hands, in cold blood, eight or ten persons. The Indian women in general, were guilty of the greatest barbarities. Since this dreadful stroke they have visited the settlement several times, each time killing, or rather torturing to death, more or less. Many of their bones continue yet unburied where the main action happened. Thursday, June 24th—Was introduced to Col. Zebulon Butler, the gentleman of whom much has been said on account of his persevering conduct in opposing the savages. Being St. John's day, a number of Free Masons met at Col. Proctor's marquee; at his request (though not one of the fraternity my-

self) read for them the Rev. Dr. Smith's excellent sermon on Masonry."

The essay then gave an account of how Sullivan's officers, on their arrival at Wilkes-Barre, sent back to Laurel Run, and after exhuming the bodies of the two officers gave them an impressive Masonic burial in the village burying ground. Full particulars of this interesting event are given in the Historical Record, volume one, pages 48 and 68.

The mouldering bones lay undisturbed until 1867 when the growing borough of Wilkes-Barre required the abandonment of the burying ground. Again the bones were exhumed and conveyed to Hollenback Cemetery, where they lie in a lot near the main entrance. The ceremonies were again under Masonic auspices and the historical address was made by Sidney Hayden, Esq., of Wyalusing.

The committee from Lodge 61 consisted of E. L. Dana, S. D. Lewis, E. B. Harvey, H. B. Wright, Dr. Urquhart, A. M. Balley, W. L. Stewart. The procession to Hollenback Cemetery was in the

Marshal C. C. Plotz.

Veteran Zouaves.

Veterans of the Rebellion.

Veterans of the Mexican War.

Veterans of 1812.

Scranton Band.

Masonic body consisting of these lodges: Shickshinny; Schiller, of Scranton; Hyde Park; Plymouth; Peter Williamson Lodge of Scranton; Waverly; Union, of Scranton; Carbondale; Lodge 61, of Wilkes-Barre. These comprised over 500 Masons.

Clergymen.

Hearse.

Pall bearers: Cols. H. M. Hoyt, S. H. Sturdevant, William Brisbane, Lieut. Cols. E. S. Osborne, T. C. Harkness, G. N. Reichard, C. M. Conyngham, Oliver Parsons, George Smith. On the way to the cemetery the air "Roslin Castle" was again played, as it had been sixty-eight years before.

Capt. Joseph Davis of Pennsylvania was appointed ensign of the Pennsylvania Musketry Battalion, March 27, 1776; first lieutenant January 15, 1777, transferred to the Ninth Pennsylvania Regiment, Continental line; captain, June 5, 1778, new Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment; killed near Wyoming April 23, 1779.

Tradition has always called this spring, where the ambuscade took place, "Indian Spring." A word for the old Wilkes-Barre and Easton Turnpike, that was for years, to many of us, our

highway into the world beyond the mountains. Our ancestors built it, with much personal care and expense, working out some of their taxes—with their men and teams every year on the old road. It was as great an achievement to them as our railways are to our generation. My father, the Hon. Ziba Bennett, was its last president, and wound up the affairs of the turnpike as a toll road. My grandfather, Hon. Joseph Slocum, who was for many years president of the old turnpike, said in his last days: "They are building a plank road to Slocum Hollow to get to a railroad, and they say a man can go from Wilkes-Barre to New York in a day. It is almost beyond my belief." Then he added sadly: "I wonder what will become of the old turnpike. There is no more use for the old man and the old road."

I have thought if he could return to earth, and ride with us over the fine shale roads, built by our neighbors, Gen. Oliver and Albert Lewis, he would be more surprised and pleased than he would be at the railroads, where trains of loaded cars with their iron horses are daily mounting the steep grade. When a child I took my first journey in the stage coach to Philadelphia, and I remember the strangeness of leaving home in the night. The coach left between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning. I remember how tall and dark the trees were in the vale called the "Shades of Death," and how frightened I grew at the darkness, and how pleasant it was to ride out of the gloom into the sunlight, and after a long drive of four hours in the early morning to find breakfast at Terwilliger's, now Tucker's.

Isaac A. Chapman in his History of Wyoming says: "After the battle of July 3rd, many of the inhabitants were driven from the valley, and compelled to proceed, on foot, sixty miles through the great swamp almost without food or clothing. A number perished in the journey, principally women and children, some died of their wounds, others wandered from the path in search of food and were lost, and those who survived, called the wilderness through which they passed the Shades of Death—an appellation which it has since retained." Only the name of "Shades Creek" and a few weak scions of the mighty trees are left to tell where these wonders grew, which astonished the soldiers, when they cut their way through the great swamp, more than 100 years ago.

Four months after the battle of Wyo-

ming, on the 2nd of November, 1778, Frances Slocum, a little girl of 5 years, was stolen by the Indians, never to be seen again by her mother—and by her brothers and sisters only when she was a woman 64 years of age. About forty days after her abduction, Isaac Tripp, her grandfather, and Jonathan Slocum, her father, were speared, tomahawked and scalped by the savages. They were members of the Society of Friends, and had been unmolested by the Indians until Mr. Slocum's eldest son, a boy of 17 years, had joined the band of patriots on the memorable 3d of July; then the family seems to have been a shining mark for Indian vengeance. These being our ancestors, is it not a duty for us to erect this memorial stone to those who helped to make our beautiful valley a safe home for its long suffering inhabitants?

Neighbors and friends, let us make this spot sacred to the immortal memory of these heroes, who were murdered while marching to deliver our ancestors from the savage foe, and who have fallen here in the defense of American liberty.

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#### PORTRAIT OF JOHN SMITH.

[Daily Record, Sept. 15, 1896.]

In the window of Henry C. Tuck & Co.'s drug store, 9 South Main street, may now be seen a good portrait of the late Dr. John Smith of Wilkes-Barre, painted by his granddaughter, Mrs. Carrie Smith Fowler.

The older Wilkes-Barreans will remember Dr. Smith, who was a native of this valley; born at Forty Fort about the year 1789.

His ancestry was highly respected, his grandfather, Timothy Smith, being one of the original "Forty," whose prominent manhood and heroism gave name and historical consequence to that far-famed fortress and well known locality.

Dr. Smith was a son of Benjamin Smith, and married Mehetable Jenkins, a descendant of an old and respected family of the Wyoming Valley.

Nine children were born to them, of whom only two, Thomas N. and Caroline, survive.

The mother of this family died in Wilkes-Barre in 1864; and the father died in 1869, aged 80 years.

Historical mention is made of Dr. Smith, as practicing medicine in the Wyoming Valley in 1820, which makes

the measure of his professional life half a century.

Then the population of Wilkes-Barre was about one hundred times less than it is at present, and in contrast there was very little use or knowledge of anthracite coal.

The progress since made in civilization and the arts, records events which make the past interesting, and gave to Dr. Smith's busy professional field a wide range, occupying the principal part of the Wyoming Valley, including several adjoining towns.

The construction of the North Branch Canal was largely due to the mining of anthracite coal; and the sad experience of the miner, who was an essential factor, brings to remembrance heart rending scenes of which the doctor was an important witness and benefactor, when but little provision was made by organized charity or hospitals for the care and need of the poor miner. Dr. Smith was a man ever ready for the fulfillment of professional duty, and when necessary, his characteristic charitable nature served the requirements of the needy.

The essential characteristics of American life were found in him, and having an energetic nature, in his early and unpretentious life he improved such educational advantages as the school room afforded.

Dr. Smith's life and labor brings with its recollection the benign influence of beneficence, which gave grace and beauty to that life, in which the exhibition of good will and charity made a good and lasting impression upon those who came within the circle of his professional service.

It will afford a better appreciation of Dr. Smith's influence and labor to remember that seventy-five years ago the people were unaccustomed to a course of life that would be followed by pains and penalties, and necessitate the doctor's frequent attendance. Then the garret was a herbarium, liberally supplied with "roots and herbs," carefully and methodically arranged by the matron of the establishment, whose province it generally was to prepare, apply and administer them. This was a necessity, as then apothecary shops were scarce, and consequently far apart.

It was also customary for physicians to dispense their medicines, carried in that green bag. These medicines were somewhat limited as to number and variety, but in their fre-

quent, necessary and sometimes compulsory use, their unwelcome taste was always held in remembrance.

It is, however, satisfying to know that the longevity of human life is increasing, and that while the average duration of life in the eighteenth century was twenty years, in this century it is thirty-six.

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#### THE ALLEN FAMILY REUNION.

[Daily Record, Sept. 14, 1896.]

The fifth annual reunion of the Allen family and descendants convened at Harvey's Lake picnic grounds Sept. 5. The first reunion convened at the Albert Lewis grounds Sept. 3, 1892, the number present being about ninety, composed of four generations. Five generations back, Otis Allen settled at the base of North Mountain (now Loyalville) with his five sons and three daughters, the sons being George, married Jane Bronson; William, who married Lydia Kunkle; Lewis, who married Eliza Husted; Curtis, who married Mary Ann Holcomb, and Otis, who married Lydia Callendar. Of that family survives Lewis and wife, Lydia, wife of William; Jane, the wife of George, and Otis Allen. Also Sarah Edwards of Pleasant Hill, Lucinda Mullison, who lives in the West, and Mary Ann Allen Chandler, wife of Curtis Allen, in Williamsport. Nearly all of the last named were present on Saturday.

Others of those present at the last reunion were W. G. Allen of Nanticoke and brother Collins, also Ethan, son of Lewis Allen; Corey and family of Pleasant Hill, Ed and family of Loyalville, and Walter and family of Lake, sons of Otis Allen; Benton and family of Meeker, Sterling and family of Hanover, and Charles Allen's family, of Lee Park, Wilkes-Barre, sons of George Allen. Others were Irving Booth and family, Loyalville; John K. Williams and family of Noxen; John Williams, Jr., of Loyalville, L. D. Williams's family, Henry Delong and family and Miss Eva Elpper, Mrs. L. M. Elpper of Lehman and Miss Leora Allen of Pleasant Hill. The elder ones of this race claim to be descendants of the famous Ethan Allen, hero of Ticonderoga, and hold his memory as a cherished souvenir. The next meeting was appointed to be held at the same place the first Saturday in September, 1897.

### HAKES FAMILY REUNION.

[Daily Record, Sept. 19, 1896.]

The banquet room of the Vanderbilt was the scene of a very interesting family gathering on Wednesday afternoon, says the Syracuse Standard. About seventy-five members of the Hakes family met at the festive board and discussed an elaborate menu, the chef d'oeuvre of which was baked hake, the fish from which the family derived its name. The genial president of the Hakes family association, Dr. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre, who is an enthusiastic genealogist and who takes a deep interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the family, presided at the banquet. He delivered a happy response to the toast "The Hakes Family in War."

"Of the Hakes boys," he said, "who were able to bear a gun at that time nine



out of every ten of them fought in the revolution. In the war of 1812 the name of Hakes can be found on the muster roll of nearly every company that went to the front. About fifty members of the Hakes family fought in the rebellion and distinguished themselves on several battlefields."

Charles Billings of Billingsbridge, Ont., responded to the toast, "The Hakes Family in Peace." He reviewed the history of the family during the periods between the wars and in closing said that the Hakes family was "peaceable in peace and terrible in war."

Frank P. Hakes of Cortland and Chauncey D. Hakes of Albany made graceful responses to the toast, "The Ladies."

L. D. Blanchard of Norwich, editor of the Earlville Standard, gave a brief history of the formation of the Hakes family association in the toast "Our Annual Reunions."

After the banquet an enjoyable hour was spent in social intercourse and the greeting of new members. In the morning a business session was held, at which president Harry Hakes made the opening address. He reviewed the changes which had taken place in the family during the past year and said that there had been twenty births and sixteen marriages. During the year but four members had died, each of whom had reached 70 years of age. By a unanimous vote it was decided to retain the present officers. It was also decided to create the office of vice president and Chauncey Hakes of Albany was chosen to fill this position. The other officers are: Harry Hakes, Wilkes-Barre, president; Miss Gertrude Hakes-Roath of Worcester, Mass., secretary; Miss Oia Hakes of Cortland, first assistant secretary; Miss Grace Reynolds of Albany, second assistant secretary.

Charles Billings of Billingsbridge, Ont., who is the historian and genealogist of the Billings family, of whom there are 10,000 members, delivered a brief address at the morning session. He said that the Billings family was related to the Hakes Solomon Hakes, the founder of the Hakes family in this country, came here in 1709. His descendants now number 3,500 and are well represented in the professions, at the bar and in the pulpit.

It was decided to hold the next reunion at Saratoga on the third Wednesday in August. This committee was appointed to complete all arrangements for that reunion: Chauncey D. Hakes of Albany, John G. Hakes of Gilbertsville and Frank D. Hakes of Cortland.

### MAILS IN THE EARLY DAYS.

[Daily Record, Sept. 24, 1896.]

"In Washington's first term an effort was made to speed the mails—to move them at the rate of one hundred miles in twenty-four hours," writes Ex-President Harrison in his "This Country of Ours" article in September Ladies' Home Journal. "This would have been a notable advance, for the carriers were then taking nearly thirty hours between Philadelphia and New York. The roads were bad and there were many slow ferries. \* \* In 1776 there were only twenty-eight postoffices in the Colonies; in 1795 there were four hundred and fifty-three, and in 1895 there were 70,064. The rates of postage when the department was organized under the Constitution were high: For thirty miles, 6 cents for one letter sheet; for sixty miles, eight cents; for one

hundred miles, ten cents, and so increasing with the increased distance to the maximum, twenty-five cents for distances over four hundred and fifty miles. Stamps were not in use in those days, nor was the sender of a letter required to pay the postage in advance. The postage, six cents or twenty-five cents, as the case might be, was written by the postmaster on the letter, and if the sender paid the postage the word 'paid' was added; if he did not the postage was collected of the person to whom the letter was addressed. These rates soon yielded a surplus over the cost of the service spite of the franking privilege which the law gave to Congressmen and the heads of departments. \* \* \* The demand of the newspapers and periodicals of every class for cheap postage, seconded by their subscribers, has led to a reduction of rates greatly below the actual cost to the government. In his report for 1892 the Postmaster General, after stating that the present letter rate pays twice the cost of the letter mail, says that the book and newspaper mail is carried at a loss of six cents a pound. In recent years the Postoffice Department has been characterized by a very progressive spirit, and it is now rendering, not a perfect service, but a high class service. No other department has more nearly kept pace with the marvelous development of our country."

The Postmaster General is authorized by and with the consent of the President to conclude postal treaties with foreign countries. Under this power in 1891 the United States became a party to a convention signed by the representatives of over fifty distinct powers, including all the great powers and their dependencies, and very many minor ones, revising the previous conventions, and establishing, under the name of the "Universal Postal Union," a single postal territory for reciprocal exchange of articles of correspondence between their postoffices. A uniform rate of postage which can be prepaid to destination is fixed, and every facility of their mail systems is extended by each country to the mails of all the others. An accounting takes place at stated intervals to adjust the balances. The Universal Postal Union is not only a great agency for the promotion of commerce, but by facilitating the exchanges of thought is a potent agency in the promotion of peace and good will.

#### FLAG DAYS.

In order to commemorate prominent events in the nation's history the Historical Society will hereafter display its flag on the following days:

Jan. 17, 1781, Battle of the Cowpens, S. C.

Feb. 2, 1732, Washington born.

March 15, 1776, Battle of Guilford.

April 19, 1775, Battle of Lexington.

May 10, 1781, Camden; 1776, Ticonderoga.

May 30, 1870, Memorial Day.

June 14, 1777, Flag Day.

June 17, 1775, Battle of Bunker Hill.

July 3, 1778, Wyoming Massacre.

July 4, 1776, Independence Day.

Aug. 6, 1777, Oriskany.

Aug. 16, 1777, Battle of Bennington.

Sept. 11, 1776, Battle of Harlem Plains.

Sept. 16, 1776, Battle of Brandywine.

Oct. 4, 1777, Battle of Germantown.

Oct. 17, 1777, Saratoga, Burgoyne's Surrender.

Oct. 19, 1781, Yorktown, Cornwallis's Surrender.

Nov. 30, 1782, Independence recognized.

Dec. 26, 1776, Battle of Trenton.

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#### DEATH OF DR. A. KNAPP.

Dr. Avery Knapp of West Pittston, for many years a prominent citizen of that place, died Oct. 4, 1896, at the home of P. M. Barber, with whom he boarded. The immediate cause of death was a stomach trouble, but for many months he has been ailing with the infirmities of advanced years.

The deceased was descended from a family that crossed the Atlantic in 1630 and lived under Governor Winthrop, settling in Connecticut. His grandfather, Joseph Knapp, and father, Zephaniah Knapp, were in the service in the wars of the Revolution and 1812, respectively.

Dr. Knapp was born near Minooka on the 25th day of May, 1815, his father's family having moved there in 1798 from New England. He was, therefore, in his 82d year. Early in life he graduated from Geneva Medical College and began the practice of medicine at White Haven in 1846. After a residence there of nine years he went to Pittston in 1855 and at once embarked in the drug business, retiring therefrom in 1892, since when he has enjoyed a well earned rest. In 1848 he was married to Frances, daughter of the late Elisha Black-

man, who passed to her rest in March, 1882. Two children were born—Charles, now professor of electrical studies in Girard College, Philadelphia, and Mrs. Charles Babcock, of Canton, Ill. He was a member of the West Pittston M. E. Church and Pittston Lodge, 941, I. O. E. F.

In botanical, geological and local historical research none were more proficient, he being considered a local authority upon these subjects. Being an extensive reader and close student in his younger days, his range of knowledge was extensive. In charity he was always generous, always mindful.

#### DEATH OF JOHN RAEDER.

Death has removed another familiar figure from our streets in the person of John Raeder, who has long been a resident of this city, one of our most esteemed business men. He passed peacefully away at 9:25 p. m. on Saturday, Oct. 3, 1896, at his home, 111 West River street, aged 78 years. He had been confined to his bed the principal part of the week, having first contracted a severe cold, but the direct cause of his death was a complication of diseases. The deceased was possessed of a particularly happy disposition, especially during his declining years, and the past summer had been notably enjoyable for him. During the spring he removed from the Washington Hotel, which had served only as a residence for him since retiring from the business some five years ago, to a pleasant home on West River street, where, surrounded by his two daughters, Mrs. F. M. Rust and Mrs. F. M. Heitzman, they entertained friends and relatives. Mr. Raeder was one of the youngest persons in any gathering and it was often remarked that he was possessed of a most happy and contented disposition. Thus in the fullness of years and surrounded by loving children he passed away peacefully. He was known and esteemed by an extensive circle of friends throughout this section. His reputation was untarnished and he never turned a deaf ear to calls for assistance from those who were worthy.

John Raeder was of German origin. He was a son of John Raeder, a native of Heppenheim, Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, who died in this city Jan. 14, 1866. His mother's maiden name was Anna Katrina Sallheimer, of Fromesheimer, Greiss Alzey, Hesse Darmstadt. John, the subject of this sketch, left

Havre in July, 1841, and made the voyage to New York in twenty-eight days, which was considered quick time when an ocean trip usually occupied from 60 to 100 days. He located first at White Haven and worked at Wilkes-Barre and Ransom. In the fall of 1841 he worked on the Lehigh Canal at White Haven under Charles Gilbert. In 1842 he removed to Ransom and in 1846 to this city and took charge of the old Wyoming House for Jacob Bertels.

In 1850 he worked as a mason on the North Branch Canal. In 1857 he removed to Pittston from Gardiner's Ferry and in 1862 he purchased the old Union Hotel property, where he remained until 1873, when he bought the Washington Hotel, which he occupied until recently.

Mr. Raeder was commissioned second lieutenant of the Pittston Yaegers in the 2nd Brigade, 9th Division, Uniformed Militia, Pennsylvania. He was at one time director of the Pittston street railway, a director of the People's Bank, Pittston, a member of the Pittston borough council and a member of the Eagle Hose Co. The children survive: Attorney W. L. Raeder, Mrs. F. M. Rust and Mrs. F. M. Heitzman. His wife was Melinda Wendell, a descendant of Everet Jansen Wendell, one of the early settlers of Albany, N. Y. He was a member of Thistle Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Pittston, and Falling Spring Lodge, 236, Knights of Pythias, Pittston.

#### FOUND A GIGANTIC BONE.

[Mt. Carmel News, Oct. 2, 1896.]

George Darker, while getting a load of sand on Locust Mountain yesterday, not a hundred yards from the Ashland road, made an interesting discovery. His shovel struck something hard, dry and white, and after three hours' work he succeeded, with the aid of a crowbar, in unearthing a large bone, which probably weighs 400 pounds.

Those who have examined the bone are firm in the belief that it is an animal of prehistoric age, and that it is the remains of a mammoth, one of those huge monsters which wandered about the earth. The remains of the mammoth have been found in different parts of the country, and also in England and Scotland. It is possible that further digging may result in the finding of the whole skeleton of the big animal, of which the bone found yesterday was a part.



### QUEER CHANGES IN INDIAN NAMES.

[Dr. W. M. Beauchamp in the *Syracuse Journal*.]

The American Association for the Advancement of Science last year recommended the adoption of Indian names locally and geographically, perhaps with little knowledge of their meaning, and there is an increasing interest in the subject. They are not always satisfying, and often are only names to us, while our own may convey some ideas. Yet I am glad, as many have been retained. Outside of Syracuse, our nineteen towns have but three of these, but half our States have Indian names, while 724 of our principal streams on our Eastern and Southern coast have the same. The Iroquois names especially are favorites, although mostly confined to New York.

It seems a pity that Seneca has superceded the old Indian name of Thi-o-hero, or River of Rushea, applied to one of our first streams. This name of the Senecas is an old one, although not their own, first appearing on the Dutch maps of 1614-16, and having been given them by the Algonquin tribes near the coast. These spoke a radically different language. In their tongue Sinne meant to eat, and the form is still found in the Ojibwa, as in *We-sin-ne*, we eat. It was variously spelled by the Dutch, the most common form being Sinneke, or Sinneque, and the old spelling hardly suggests to the eye the Latin form so easily derived from it by the ear. Mr. Hale says that Sinako means stone snakes in the Delaware, and that Mr. Squier was told that, as applied to this nation, their enemies, it meant mountain snakes. This does not seem as well supported as the other, and the more reasonable interpretation is thought to be the devourers or eaters of men, actually or figuratively. All the early Iroquois had a terrible reputation in this way. Literally they were devourers of their enemies.

The early Dutch and English traders and colonists took the names of the interior tribes from the Algonquins, whom they first met along the coast. Thus the Mohawks were called by names which they themselves could not pronounce, there being no M or other labial sound in the Iroquois dialects. The Dutch thus termed them Maguas, or Bears, and this was gradually modified into Mohawks, also expressive of man-

eat-ers. Roger Williams says that the "Mauguauogs, or man-eaters, that live two or three hundred miles west from us, make a delicious monstrous dish of the heads and brains of their enemies." This reputation added to the fears inspired by these brave warriors, they accepted the title of Bears in a degree, and to make it more emphatic sometimes called a Mohawk by a name expressive of the more terrible she-bear.

By these two early Algonquin names, different in sound, but similar in meaning, the Dutch and English long designated all the Iroquois, the Maguas, or Mohawks, being one part, and the Sinnekes comprising all the rest. The French, brought into closer relations, distinguished each of the Five Nations by its own proper name in 1635, and Corlaer, among the Dutch, obscurely did this in his journal of the same year, but otherwise the French were far in advance of all in this respect.

Much might be said about our Indian names. In an account of over 600 Onondagas I have the Indian names of nearly 500. Rev. Albert Cusick has given me 900 common words in addition to the hundreds I have in other ways. My list of those persons among the rest of the Six Nations, whose Indian names are preserved, must be upward of 1,500, while the local Indian names of the State are over 1,200 in number. In this county about seventy are extant.

Generally an Iroquois word is accented on the next to the last syllable, but there are a few exceptions. We use the word Skaneateles, accenting the antepenult, but this is the Mohawk form, the Onondagas not using the "i," which the Mohawks and Oneidas largely employed. With nearly the same spelling, the Oneidas and Tuscaroras emphasize the next to the last syllable. The Senecas, Cayugas, and Onondagas may be said to do the same, by obscurely uniting the last two, as in the Onondaga word "Skaneaties," the long lake. On our maps of the Seneca country this became "Skaneatice," as applied to a lake, "Canadice," for the town. In the Onondaga word "A-keeso-tah," applied to our grandfathers of the continuous voices, the Thunders, the last syllable is accented, and there are a few other exceptional examples. Thus in "Ska-none-chie-ka," to the place of peace, equivalent to the place of souls, the second syllable has the accent. "Ohn-kwa-nes-hen-tuk-kwah," our ancestors, has the third syllable accented.

"A-nek," the hickory, and "Ske-non-to," the deer, are accented on the last, but such instances are rare.

The letter R is almost obsolete among the Onondagas, while L takes its place among the Oneidas. A large number of our local names have Mohawk or Oneida forms, partly because these nations were first accessible to the English and Dutch as interpreters and partly because the Mohawk closely resembles the Huron, with which the early Jesuit missionaries were familiar. They readily and confidentially conversed with the numerous Huron captives in the Iroquois villages, many of whom were their old friends, and learned the names of places from them.

In forming descriptive words the adjective is variously used. Kanata is a village or town; simply add gowa or gona, meaning large, and we have the large village or town. The form changes in Kanatenah, "she leads the town," and in other combinations this derivative word appears among the women's names. Ka-na-tah-no-wen is the name of one, and Ka-na-tah-koch-kah-use—"tearing down the town" is that of another. In the last, the syllable next to the last is commonly omitted.

In the Huron, lake is Ontare; in Mohawk Ganiatore; by adding or changing to Io, we have Ontario, the great or beautiful lake. Io is now commonly used for beautiful, but its primitive meaning was great, as in Onodia, the great mountain. The gradual change may be traced in the Ohio.

Most of our local Indian names are of a trivial and unpoetic character. For our use the personal names are better. Here is a little boy's name, Hi-yeah-he. Sa-ha-ahga—a spreading path—would fit nicely in some situations. O-so-kne-te-yu—a beautiful cedar swamp—would suit others. A fishing lodge, with its big stories, might take the name of O-chun-te—a whole fish. I fancy the ladies will like this: Twen-na-wen-ach—the echo of a voice over the hills—but whether any lovelorn swain will call his cottage So-go-yah-tis-soks—he is anxious for her—may be doubted. For a camp some of these personal names might be used, as So-dean-tonk—sitting down again. Te-hat-kah-tous—looking both ways (or all around)—would suit a cottage on a point, and the official name of Captain George and others, No-we-ya-te—gone out of sight—might apply to one more retired. I forbear giving more examples.

Allow me to make some corrections, Kai-yahn-koo does not belong to the Green Lake near Jamesville, as stated by Clark and others, but to the one nearest Kirkville, and means a resting place, with the idea of smoking while resting. The pond west of Jamesville is Tue-yah-das-soo—hemlock knots in the water. A misprint in "Onondaga's Centennial" makes Seneca River Miohero, when it should be Thi-o-he-ro—the river of rushes. I followed Clark in speaking of Qulehook as an Indian village at Oswego Falls, mentioned in the Relation of 1655. The name really belongs to Chittenango Creek, and was first mentioned in 1700. Similarly, Kachna-waacharege, said to have been mentioned in the same relation as a fishing place near Cross Lake, first appears on Chittenango Creek in 1700. This statement includes another erroneous date and name. The name of Cross Lake is Teu-nen-to—at the cedars. Clark made this to mean the ha, but his name is far from signifying the wise man. Charlevoix's map is the oldest on which this lake is named, and he called it L. Tlocton. On the same map Skanateles appears at Lac Seanaiatores, not Scaneteres, as in Clark, which is but a slight error. Another more serious is in saying that Father le Mercier located at Onleda village near Brewerton, calling it Ganayhsaragey. This was the Tuscorora town of Canaseraga of 100 years later. Nor was Kanunda located near Brewerton, but at the head of Onondaga Lake.

#### THE PAXTON INCIDENT.

St. Paul, Minn., Oct. 3, 1896.

Mr. Editor: I have long felt that there is an important event in Luzerne history that needs to be honestly, fairly and correctly written up, and I was delighted to receive a letter from Dr. William H. Egle containing the following statement: "I have had in contemplation for a number of years the preparation of a little volume on the 'Paxton boys' affair. But it seems that I do not get much time for my own special work. I hope, however, before long to do just exactly what you have suggested, having all the data in my possession."

People who do not take the pains and trouble to inquire into the true facts in regard to this affair are misled and deceived by false statements. My righteous indignation was aroused to the highest pitch by reading the two

chapters relating to Pennsylvania colonies in Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge's recent book on American colonies. Most of these statements are deliberate lies. No Pennsylvanian will, for one moment, admit the correctness of his statements.

It is not my purpose to review this portion of Mr. Lodge's book, but I want to do my duty in trying to defend the fair fame and memory of our brave and noble ancestors against such false and unjust accusations. Fine writing does not make history, although it comes from the pen of such a prominent and able writer as Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge.

Some of his statements relating to the "Paxton boys" could be corrected by having Dr. Egle, State librarian, publish his contemplated work on this affair.

I sincerely hope everyone who is interested in perpetuating the early history, specially relating to Hanover Township, will assist and encourage him in his noble efforts.

To have this record made up by such an able and reliable historian is well worthy of considerable effort from us.

Yours truly,

John Espy.

#### DR. PARKE BEFORE THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

[Daily Record, Oct. 10, 1896.]

The quarterly meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held at the society's rooms Friday evening, the president, Hon. Stanley Woodward, occupying the chair. The attendance was quite large. The secretary, Rev. Horace E. Hayden, reported a total of 573 additions to the library and cabinet, of which about 500 were for the library. He also reported that the Harrison Wright fund now amounts to \$700, leaving only \$300 more to be subscribed. Murray E. Poole of Ithaca, N. Y.; Jacob Roberts, Jr., and Dorrance Reynolds were elected members of the society.

The paper of the evening was by Rev. Dr. N. G. Parke of Pittston, who has been preaching in Wyoming Valley upwards of fifty years. His subject was "Wilkes-Barre's old church bell," and a synopsis is herewith appended, though it presents only a part of the many interesting things narrated:

#### WILKES-BARRE'S OLD CHURCH BELL.

The bell of which I have been asked to write, that was heard for many years

in Wyoming Valley and the surrounding country from the tower of the "Old Ship Zion," is now in the possession of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, after more than half a century of faithful service and a somewhat migratory experience.

#### WHEN BROUGHT HERE.

The exact date of its purchase in Philadelphia? Who bought it? And how it was conveyed here, over the mountains or by water, are matters we do not know. The probabilities are that the bell must have been brought to Wilkes-Barre shortly after it was cast. The casting was in August, 1811, and sometime in 1812, shortly after the building of the church was completed, the bell entered on its work of "sounding and resounding" to call the people to the sanctuary. This date corresponds with that given by Pearce in his Annals of Luzerne County. He says that the church was completed in 1812, and that the ringing of the "curfew bell" commenced the same year, probably immediately after the hanging of the bell.

The church that stood on the Public Square, where the Wilkes-Barre court house now stands, was the first church erected in Wilkes-Barre, and the bell that hung in the tower of that church and for almost half a century called the people to worship was the first bell that was heard within the bounds of what is now the counties of Luzerne, Wyoming, Lackawanna and Susquehanna.

#### THE CONGREGATIONS IT SERVED.

As the church on the Square was a union church, all Christian denominations represented in the town used it for worship. The venerable Nathaniel Rutter, who came to reside in Wilkes-Barre in 1825, and at that time worshipped with the Episcopalians, says: "When I came here there were three congregations worshipping in the old church, which was the only church in the town, viz., the Presbyterians or Congregationalists, the Methodists and the Episcopalians, and the same bell served them all."

#### CURFEW BELL.

Besides this service for these congregations, it was the curfew bell for the town. Its voice was heard every evening at 9 o'clock, virtually saying to young men and maidens who were out, that it was time they were at home. Young men who courted their wives in Wilkes-Barre fifty or sixty years ago, when the Puritan spirit prevailed to a

greater extent than it does now, were not always pleased with this signal "to leave," after which the window shutters were closed. After ringing at 9 o'clock every night it gave the day of the month. Besides this, it tolled at every funeral and gave the age of the person who was being laid to rest.

#### OLD MICHAEL.

The sexton of the church whose duty and privilege it was to give direction to the service of the bell for some thirty years, was known as "Old Michael." He was a native of Geneva, Switzerland, and came to Wilkes-Barre in 1802. Michael had his idiosyncracies, but he was marvelously faithful in all his work; and of no part of his work was he more faithful than in ringing the bell, of which he was official guardian, and its voice was seldom heard except at his bidding. No lighthouse keeper on our Atlantic coast is more watchful of his lamp than Michael was of this old bell, now in the custody of this Historical Society.

#### THE PRESBYTERIANS MOVE.

The Presbyterians of Wilkes-Barre left the church on the Square and built for themselves a house of worship on Franklin street during the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. Nicholas Murray, between 1829 and 1833. The new church cost them their pastor. The congregation of Elizabeth, N. J., to which Mr. Murray was sent to solicit funds to build the new church was pleased with the young preacher and called him and he accepted the call. Going into the new house did not relieve the old bell from service for the Presbyterians. It continued to be the only church bell in Wilkes-Barre, so far as we know, until 1851, when the Presbyterian congregation moved into the house now used and owned by the Osterhout Library. The Methodists, about this time, completed a new brick church on Franklin street, the predecessor of the elegant church in which they now worship. The Episcopalians had some years previously, in 1822, withdrawn from the old church on the square and erected a small frame house on Franklin street, where their commodious and well appointed sanctuary now stands.

As a result of these progressive movements on the part of the churches, the

mission of the "Old Ship Zion" and its bell, so far as Wilkes-Barre was concerned, was at an end, and in 1857 they were sold. The Presbyterians of Pittston, who had just completed a new house of worship and were feeling the hard times of 1857 and 1858, bought for their new sanctuary this damaged bell. There it did good service until after the sanctuary in which the Presbyterians now worship on Franklin street was completed. Then it came back to Wilkes-Barre. The Osterhout Library Association purchased of the Presbyterians their church building. They did not purchase the bell that hung in the tower, but they (the Presbyterians) did not propose to hang it in the tower of their new church, and it was for sale.

#### RETURN TO WILKES-BARRE.

It then occurred to the pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Pittston, the speaker of the evening, that the way was now open to return the old bell to the home of its youth. He communicated with Judge Dana, at that time president of this society, and proposed to present the bell to the society. The result you know. The Wilkes-Barre bell, taken from the Osterhout Library building, which the building committee of the Presbyterian Church generously offered to sell for less than half its value, was purchased and placed in the tower of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittston, where it is now doing service, and the bell of the "Old Ship Zion" came back to Wilkes-Barre.

#### ENVIRONED BY SENTIMENT.

To those who will visit these historical rooms in days to come, descendants of the Wyoming pioneers whom we delight to honor, this bell will have nothing to say orally any more than the Sphinx that looks out over the Valley of the Nile, but it will be a reminder of the fact that their fathers, whatever others may have thought, had faith in God and in the Son of God, to whose service it was dedicated before it was born and to whose service it was most faithfully given.

The doctor was tendered a unanimous vote of thanks for the excellent paper, after which the meeting adjourned and the members and guests went upstairs to look at the historic bell, around which cluster so many memories of the early days of Wilkes-Barre.

## LORD CORNWALLIS.

The Daughters of the American Revolution observed the surrender at Yorktown with an interesting celebration Monday, Oct. 19, 1896, in the Historical Society building.

The hall was elaborately decorated with American flags in various designs. The globes of the electric lights were red, white and blue. On the flag covered table of the chairman was a vase of chrysanthemums and on the mantel and elsewhere were potted palms. In front of the audience hung a large map of the Atlantic States from New York City to Charleston, S. C., showing the operations of Cornwallis, particularly his fatal march from Charleston to Yorktown, Va. An orchestra was present.

The election of officers resulted thus:  
Regent—Mrs. Katharine McCartney.  
Vice regent—Mrs. Sarah Butler Woodward.

Recording secretary—Miss Ella Munroe Bowman.

Corresponding secretary—Miss Mary Covell Tubbs.

Treasurer—Mrs. Marie Orton Beaumont.

Registrar—Miss Mary A. Sharpe.

Historian—Mrs. Marie Fuller Rice.

Board of management—Mrs. Stella Dorrance Reynolds, Mrs. Grace Fuller Reynolds, Mrs. Elizabeth Reynolds Ricketts, Mrs. Mary Richardson Hand, Mrs. Annie Dorrance Reynolds, Miss Stella Wadhams, Mrs. Augusta Dorrance Farnham, Mrs. Sterling Loop, Miss Elizabeth Rockwell, Mrs. Clorinda Shoemaker Stearns, Mrs. Frederick Corss, Miss Mary Slosson, Miss Anna Phelps, Miss Mary Harvey.

The address was by Charlemagne Tower, LL. D., of Philadelphia, his subject being "Lord Cornwallis," whose surrender of the British army at Yorktown is familiar to every American, old and young. Dr. Tower is an agreeable reader and his address was a most satisfactory one in every way. Not only did he give a graphic pen picture of the distinguished English officer, but the narrative was so ingeniously woven that along with the story of his life went a comprehensive yet concise history of the Revolutionary struggle that few people have an opportunity of listening to. His hearers felt that their knowledge of that great contest had been wonderfully brushed up, while many felt that they had never before

had quite so satisfactory a birdseye view of the war for American independence.

Dr. Tower is a warm admirer of Cornwallis, yet he does not spare criticism where it is deserved—and it was deserved on several occasions. Cornwallis was only 37 when the war broke out, he having been born in 1738. He was educated for the army, he having chosen a military career when only 17 years old. At the outbreak of the war he was experienced in military life, having served more than a dozen years in the army. In 1762 he had succeeded to the earldom and estates of his father, he being the oldest of six children. He had early been chosen to a seat in Parliament (1767) and two years later he took his place in the House of Lords. In public life he was distinguished by inflexible integrity. He was opposed to the policy of England of taxing the colonies and did not favor a war against America, though after war was declared, when ordered to take command of a division he obeyed orders and fought to win. His sympathies with the colonies had been so forcible as to attract attention, but he won the esteem of all his critics by his open and manly course. He accompanied his troops to America, the voyage to North Carolina occupying eighty-two days. He plunged into the activity of the field and so chafed under the sluggish movements of Lord Howe in the North, several strategic movements having been lost, that in December, 1776, he sought to be recalled to England. But circumstances compelled him to remain in active service. However, he did return to England in 1778 and took his seat in the House of Lords, evidently not intending to return. He remained four months, during which time the Lords were engaged in hot discussions as to the American policy. He was then sent back to the colonies, bearing a dormant commission, appointing him to the command of the British forces in the event of the death of Gen. Clinton. This fact was intended to be kept secret, but Gen. Clinton learned of it and it aroused in him a feeling of jealousy toward Cornwallis that not only lasted during the war, but which broke out afterwards in published malignant criticism. When Cornwallis found that Sir Henry Clinton was determined to evacuate Philadelphia, a measure which he did not approve, the relations became even more strained and Cornwallis asked the king to recall him, but

the request was refused on the ground that the public service required his presence with the army. The profligacy of the British army, luxuriating in Philadelphia amid the silly scenes of the *Meschianza*, while Washington's troops were freezing at Valley Forge, so near at hand that they could easily have been annihilated by the superior British force, completely disgusted him. The degeneracy of the troops, their drunkenness, their gambling, their idleness—all these stirred him to the depths and he resolved to return to England. The serious illness of his wife furnished the opportunity and he hastened home, only to find that his wife was dying of grief at his prolonged absence. She lived only a few weeks and then he returned to America. Clinton had hoped he was rid of Cornwallis and he was so chagrined at his return that he asked that himself be relieved of his command, though the request was refused. The pill had, however, been made somewhat less bitter for Clinton to swallow, Cornwallis's dormant commission having been canceled by the king, Cornwallis being placed second in command. As Clinton had chafed under the fact that Cornwallis had been closer to the court than he, he now felt less resentful and as far as the official correspondence indicates, their relations were not openly unfriendly.

The government now changed its policy in the conduct of the war. Heretofore it had attempted to weaken the colonies in the North by shutting them off from one another. For this purpose the British had endeavored to hold the Hudson River and make this the dividing line. The policy had been such a failure that at the end of three years' hostilities the British had gained substantially nothing.

The new policy was to cut off the South from the North. To leave a force at New York just large enough to maintain possession and then to open hostilities in Virginia and the Carolinas. It was believed that there were enough Tories in these colonies to materially strengthen the British arms and to furnish the latter with a strong base of supplies. In this they were mistaken. The Southern colonies contained more patriots than Tories and the hope that all the colonies south of the Chesapeake would return to Great Britain was doomed to disappointment.

An expedition was sent in 1780 to occupy the Carolinas, and Charleston fell into their hands. Sir Henry Clinton put Cornwallis in command, instructing him to pursue such campaign as his judgment indicated, but to hold Charleston at all hazards. Whether Cornwallis obeyed orders or not furnished material for acrimonious controversy for many years after the war. Leaving a garrison at Charleston he marched northward. At first he was victorious. He soon encountered Gen. Greene and defeated him, but he was not able to maintain the advantage. He met with other reverses after this, and instead of falling back on his base of supplies at Charleston he led his army across to the coast, where he hoped to be reinforced, by sea, though in this he was disappointed. In the meantime he had accomplished nothing and had aroused the opposition of the people to the British arms.

Washington was quick to see the opportunity. France in the hour of our greatest need had sent ships and troops and money, and he determined to mass his army in Virginia and prevent Cornwallis from escaping. Washington took chances and left the entire North exposed to Clinton, but the latter was too busy looking out for the king's army under Cornwallis to give any attention to the defenseless North. He hastened to relieve Cornwallis. But he was too late. Cornwallis was caught in a trap from which he could not escape. Yorktown was besieged. The cause was hopeless, and while Sir Henry Clinton's fleet was hastening down the coast, all too slowly, Cornwallis was compelled to surrender and America was lost to England.

Cornwallis was not disgraced by this calamity. On the contrary he afterwards attained to the highest honors, both in military and civil life. He died in India in 1805, aged 67, he being governor general.

The foregoing rapidly drawn picture of the lecture gives but a feeble idea of what was a fine study of one of the picturesque figures of the Revolutionary War.

After the lecture a rising vote of thanks was given Dr. Tower. He is the guest of Col. and Mrs. G. Murray Reynolds.

### LIVED HERE 70 YEARS AGO.

One of the oldest settlers of this region passed away at his home in West Pittston, Friday, Oct. 9, 1896, in the person of Bradley Downing, aged 72 years. Mr. Downing was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1824 and removed to Pittston in 1850 and became foreman in the building of the Pennsylvania R. R.'s gravity road. Then he took a position as foreman of the Pennsylvania R. R.'s water lines. Deceased is survived by his wife and the following children: Edward, of Kansas; Mrs. C. F. Watrous, Jr., of West Pittston; Norman W., of Trenton, N. J.; James L., of Newark, N. J., and John T. Mr. Downing was a member of the M. E. Church, of the Odd Fellows and the Royal Arcanum.

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### PENN HEIR SUES.

[Daily Record, Oct. 24, 1896.]

Papers in a suit to recover \$200 damages were filed yesterday by George K. Powell, attorney for William Dugald Stuart, against John Hall. The plaintiff, who claims to be a direct heir of William Penn, states that he is owner in fee simple of certain land in Plymouth Township, which is part of the Manor of Sunbury. On or about Jan. 1, 1894, he alleges the defendant unlawfully entered upon the land and quarried and removed 1,000 loads of building and paving stones, which is valued at 20 cents per load, or \$200.

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### MRS. E. H. CHASE'S DEATH.

Mrs. Edward H. Chase died at her home on South River street on Saturday morning, Oct. 24, 1896, her demise being sudden and unexpected, though Mrs. Chase had not been in good health for some months.

Mrs. Chase was a devoted wife and mother and a good neighbor. She was a life long member of the First Presbyterian Church and was always ready to do her part in any work of benevolence or charity that came in her way. Home was her sphere and she made her home so bright and attractive that the members of her household counted it the best place of all. Mrs. Chase was a charming entertainer, as all who have ever partaken of her hospitality can testify. In her death the community sustains a genuine loss.

Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor Chase was born in Wilkes-Barre sixty-three years ago, where now stands the Harvey block on Franklin street, and spent her entire life here. Her father was Edmund Taylor, the veteran saddler of this city, who in 1850 was appointed an associate judge of Luzerne County and died in 1881 at the age of 77. Mrs. Chase is survived by two brothers—Thomas Taylor of this city, Edmund Taylor of New York, and a sister, Mrs. Samuel White, who resides at Lawrence, Mass. The late John Taylor, general traffic manager of the Lehigh Valley R. R. Co., was her brother. Mrs. Chase is survived by her husband, Edward H. Chase, Esq., and by two sons, Harold T. Chase, editor of the Topeka (Kas.) Capital-Commonwealth, and Samuel C. Chase, and two daughters, Ethel H. and Frances B.

On her mother's side Mrs. Chase came from pioneer stock. She was a granddaughter of Elnathan Wilson, a revolutionary soldier, who came from New London, Conn., to Wyoming Valley at an early day. He located in Forty Fort and was married there in 1798 by Rev. Anning Owen, to Betsey Baker, the daughter of a Connecticut pioneer. Betsey Baker's mother was a sister of the celebrated American traveler, John Ledyard, who was with Capt. Cook when the latter was killed by the Sandwich Island savage. Elnathan Wilson's hospital home in Kingston was a favorite resort for the itinerant Methodist preachers. An interesting account of the pioneer experiences of the Wilson and Baker families can be found in the Historical Record, vol. 4, page 109.

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### DEATH OF POLLY CAREY.

The death of Polly Carey occurred on Wednesday, Oct. 28, 1896, at 1 a. m. at her home in Ashley, after a severe illness of one month in the 82d year, 9th month and 14th day of her age. Death was a welcome visitor.

Mrs. Carey was one of the original settlers of that vicinity. She comes from an old Bennett ancestry, she being a sister of George Washington Bennett. She was the widow of the late John S. Carey, and is survived by three sons—Hiram, Stuart and Nathan, and one daughter, Susan, of Chicago. She has always been industrious and she and her husband leave a valuable tract of land. The estate is worth \$35,000.

## FIRST VISIT IN SIXTY YEARS.

[Daily Record, Oct. 29, 1896.]

William C. Miles of Springville, Susquehanna County, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Hamlin of Carey avenue. Mr. Miles, who is now 83 years old, used to raft lumber down the Susquehanna something over sixty years ago, and, as this is his first visit to Wilkes-Barre since that time, he is much impressed by the change in the appearance of this city since his last visit.

## RECORDS ARE SOMETIMES UNCERTAIN.

Mrs. W. H. McCartney had this pleasant mention in the New York Times of Oct. 24, 1896. "The date of birth is the one important date in every life which no one can verify from recollection. Records, even family records, are very uncertain things, genealogists say, so there seems to be no really good reason why a person can not set his or her age at a figure which seems to him or her to be reasonable. There is always a possibility that there may have been a mistake in dates. 'Why, I have known church and town records to vary twelve years as to a birth,' says Mrs. William H. McCartney, who has made the subject a special study. Mrs. McCartney is the widow of Gen. McCartney. She is the founder and regent of the chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., her home, but she is for the present giving her service as assistant librarian to the Genealogical Society in its new quarters, 226 West Fifty-eighth street. Since her husband's death Mrs. McCartney has been a professional genealogist. She was brought up on family genealogy as a child, took a graduate course in hunting up the family records of the members of her chapter in Wilkes-Barre, and any statement she may make on the subject is authoritative. 'It is the most difficult thing in the world to get accurate dates,' she says. 'Why, even the family Bibles don't tell the truth. The records in them are often put down from memory that is not always to be relied upon. I depend more upon the town and church records than anything else, and, as I said, they vary. You can't tell much by gravestones. They are often incorrect. Why, even my own greatgrandfather is made on his stone to die four years later than he did; 1836 was engraved on the stone instead of 1832, and the error, which was the stone-

cutter's, could not be rectified. You know a person has died when you see a gravestone, and that is about all.' With all these uncertainties, it would seem that a person might only be as old as he pleases. All the records may be wrong and only a genealogist would go to work to verify them."

## THE KEELER ESTATE.

At Keelersburg, Northmoreland Township, Wyoming County, along the Susquehanna River, is located the estate, originally of Asa Keeler. Mr. Keeler was born in Connecticut and when about 12 years of age was bound out and learned the saddler's trade. After learning to make his first saddle he ran away and took up life for himself. He landed at Wilkes-Barre and helped to cut down trees that stood where the court house now stands at that place. Later he bought 200 acres of land at what now is L. & B. Junction, at Pittston, and which is underlaid with coal. The ground was too poor to raise white beans, so he gave it up and went to Great Bend, where he married. He put his wife and his little belongings in a canoe and set forth down the Susquehanna River to find him a home. As they neared the point on the river where Keelersburg now is he was struck with it, as there was a bay, a running stream and a valley from the hills beyond, which was bound to become a business point. He landed there and in time came to own all the land in that immediate region. It was there he built what came to be known as one of the best stage taverns along the river and he erected saw mills, grist mills, a store and a postoffice, of which he was made postmaster in 1806 and continued as such up to his death in 1867, when he was the oldest postmaster in commission in the United States. Succeeding him as postmaster came his son Heister, who died twenty years after, in 1887, and he was succeeded by his wife, who is now succeeded by H. Harrison Keeler. That postoffice has been in the family for the past ninety years and it is doubtful if there is such a record in the Union to-day like this. The property there has increased in value as years have gone on. The old man Asa raised a large family of children and distributed much property during his time. The old manor house, store, postoffice, etc., passed to Heister Keeler, who made disposition of his per-



sonal property by will, and the real estate; now that Mrs. Heister Keeler is dead, comes on to be divided. The heirs are ex-county superintendent Asa S. Keeler, Mrs. Benjamin Thompson of Luzerne, Mrs. Dr. E. F. Avery, H. Harrison Keeler and Mrs. Henry Luchsinger of West Pittston.—Scranton Republican.

#### AN OLD LAND CONTRACT.

The following article from the Bath (N. Y.) Plain-Dealer gives an interesting account of where a good portion of the business on the Susquehanna River came from in the early days, when railroads had not yet penetrated the interior:

\* \* \*

When Col. Williams took charge of the great land purchase of William Pulteney and others in Western New York, in 1792, sales were made of tracts of land to purchasers, and deeds were given by the colonel. In case they were unable to pay down the purchase price they gave a mortgage on the land, payable in the future, as security for the money unpaid.

It was found that this mode was not altogether satisfactory, so instead of a deed and mortgage, a contract of purchase was resorted to and found to be more convenient. We have before us one of these contracts, executed on the 1st day of January, 1826, made between David Cathcart, commonly called Lord Alloway and Masterton, then trustee under the will of Sir John Lowther Johnson, the heir of Henrietta Laura Pulteney, by their attorney and agent, Dugald Cameron and Benjamin Wygant by which the first parties sell a parcel of land in the town of Urbana, in Steuben County, containing 114 acres of land, at the price of \$3 per acre, payable in eight equal annual installments after the 1st day of January, 1829, with annual interest. It does not appear that any money was paid down. The purchaser was to enter upon the land and clear and fence five acres each year. He was not permitted to assign his contract without the consent of the agent and cut any more timber than was necessary for fire wood and improvements. Dugald Cameron was to warrant the title. This clause was a portion of the contract:

"It is agreed that clean, merchantable winter wheat, delivered at the head of Crooked Lake as the above respective

payments become due, will be accepted in payment at \$1 per bushel."

There was a blank space to insert the place of delivery. This wheat became a legal tender for the payment of the Pulteney lands in Steuben County and consequently virtually fixed the price of wheat at \$1 per bushel. At that time there was little money in the country.

There were no banks, nor any money to loan. Settlers who brought money with them usually paid it to the land office for their land, and it was sent to the English proprietors. The chief staples were wheat and lumber. There were no means of transportation except by the Susquehanna River to Baltimore, the only accessible market, and that was only available during the spring freshets. The farmers generally would not raise to exceed 400 or 500 bushels besides what was necessary for family use. The capacity of the arks in which the grain was transported was from 1,200 to 1,500 bushels. The ordinary producer was, therefore, not able to market it for himself; he must needs dispose of it to one in the produce business. The merchants would take it in exchange for goods, but would pay no money. The land office, in the course of the winter, would receive at their warehouses in different parts of the country, a large quantity, which would be shipped to Baltimore in the spring.

#### DEATH OF MRS. POLLY RICE.

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 1896, at 4 p. m., occurred the death of Mrs. Polly Rice, mother of the late Hon. Hubbard Payne, at her home in Kingston, at the advanced age of 86 years. Mrs. Rice, previous to her marriage was Miss Polly Pierce, and was born in New York State on June 22, 1810. She was married to Bester Payne on Dec. 4, 1834, and removed to Kingston in 1836. This marriage was blessed with three children, two of whom died in infancy. The third was Hon. Hubbard Bester Payne, who died in September, 1892, and was one of the foremost lawyers at the Luzerne Bar and one of the most distinguished citizens of the valley at the time of his death. Bester Payne died on April 3, 1866. Mrs. Payne was married again on Dec. 10, 1867, to Isaac Rice, and he died on March 26, 1884. The family resided at the old Payne homestead near the D., L. & W. R. R. for a number of years. Deceased was one of the best known residents of the West Side, and for over half a century she had enjoyed the good

will and esteem of the people of Kingston. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church all her life, and until enfeebled by age took an active part in church work. She is survived by three grandchildren, Louise S. Payne of Philadelphia, Hubbard Barker Payne, a member of the Luzerne County Bar, and Paul D. Payne, a student at Penn Charter, Philadelphia. She has also one brother, Daniel Pierce of Sycamore, Ill.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA NOTE 119 YEARS OLD.

L. C. Darté has recently come into possession, through a relative, of one of the finest specimens of a South Carolina colonial note in existence. This note, or bill, is for £1.12.6, and was issued at Charles-Town, South Carolina, in 1777, "according to an act of General Assembly passed at Charles-Town the 23d day of December, 1776." Printed thereon are the words: "Death to counterfeit." It has the pen written signatures of "John Dart" and "J. Wakefield" thereon, and for a bill or note issued 119 years ago is in fine condition. The fact that it is signed by an illustrious ancestor of Mr. Darté renders it unusually valuable and interesting, and it is one of his most highly prized possessions.

#### ANCESTORS IN WYOMING MASSACHUSETTS.

[Daily Record, Nov. 6, 1896.]

The Wyalusing correspondent of the Record sends the following: Mrs. Mary Taylor Ingham died at her home in Sugar Run on Wednesday afternoon, after an illness of seven months, her ailment being paralysis. The deceased was born in Moravia, N. Y., being a daughter of the late Rev. George Taylor, a Presbyterian minister, whose ancestors were in the memorable Wyoming massacre. About half a century ago she married J. W. Ingham and settled at Sugar Run, where she passed the remainder of her life, it having been one of activity, usefulness and a full exemplification of the Christian grace. She is survived by an only son, George T. Ingham, a druggist in this place, and her aged husband, a gentleman well known in these parts, he being a descendant of Revolutionary stock, and his family among the earliest settlers of Wyalusing.

Though engaged in farming and milling, Mr. Ingham is a writer of more than local fame, being a contributor to the metropolitan press, particularly the New York Tribune.

#### EARLY METHODISM IN WILKES-BARRE.

[Daily Record, Nov. 9, 1896.]

Yesterday morning's sermon at the Franklin Street M. E. Church was made pleasant by the appearance of a pastor who occupied the pulpit many years ago. Notwithstanding the downfall of rain the church was well filled. The sermon was by Rev. Dr. Pearne of Cincinnati, who forty-eight years ago was pastor of the church. He is a man of strong physique and is still robust and in good health. His beard is snow white, but the hair on his head is still dark.

The pastor, Rev. Dr. W. H. Pearce, introduced Rev. Dr. Pearne, after which he briefly made a statement of his mission, that of raising funds for the education of the poor black and white population of the South. He was not there to ask just then for a collection, but would make the statement and would leave the matter to the congregation for future consideration.

He stated that only a few of those who formed this congregation nearly a half century ago were present. Most of them had left it to join the greater congregation above. His text was a general one and his sermon was a general gospel discourse, full of religious fervor. The sermon was one of profit to all who heard it. Many of the members of the congregation remained to speak with the veteran pastor.

The veteran pastor, Rev. Dr. Thomas Pearne, of Cincinnati, O., who addressed the children of the First M. E. Sunday school on Sunday afternoon, gave an entertaining talk of the early history of Methodism in Wilkes-Barre. Rev. Dr. Pearne is 77 years of age, but does not look to be over three score. He spoke of his parterate here forty-eight years ago. His first charge in this city was in the Old Ship Zion, which stood on Public Square and during his parterate the First M. E. Church that stood on the site of the present church was erected in 1849. When the workmen were excavating the cellar he remembered a little boy carrying there his

little red wheelbarrow to help in the work of taking away the earth. That boy was George S. Bennett, the present superintendent of the Sunday school, who was then 3 years of age.

The present handsome edifice was erected thirteen years ago during the pastorate of the late Rev. Dr. J. O. Woodruff. The venerable Bishop Foster preached the dedication sermon.

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#### WILKES-BARRE POSTMASTERS.

[Daily Record, Nov. 9, 1896.]

In view of the fact that the postoffice is to be removed it will be interesting to recall the list of postmasters and to tell where those various officials have held forth. From an article published by Stewart Pearce in 1870, in a sheet called the Postoffice Advertiser, of which Vol. 1, No. 1, is in possession of the Record, the following facts, somewhat modified as to the names of places, are taken. The only postmaster prior to 1870 now living is Edward H. Chase. It may be mentioned that Mr. Pearce never issued a second number of the Advertiser.

Lord Butler, appointed 1794, kept the postoffice on the site of the present residence of Judge Stanley Woodward, River street, corner Northampton.

John Hollenback, appointed in 1802—Thomas Dyer, deputy—kept the office in the latter's residence, Main street.

Ezekiel Hyde, appointed in 1805, kept the office on the corner of Market and Franklin streets, diagonally across from the Wyoming Bank.

Jonathan Hancock, appointed in 1805, kept the office on the site of the present Bennett building.

Jacob Cist, appointed in 1808, kept the office for several years in M. Hollenback's store, Main street, below Northampton, and afterwards removed to a building on the site of the residence of A. H. McClintock, Esq., River street.

A. Beaumont, appointed in 1826, kept the office in the old fire-proof, in centre of Public Square, and also on site of W. M. Miller & Co.'s store, Market street.

William Ross, appointed in 1832, kept the office on the site of Lazarus Brothers' store, South Main street.

David Collings, appointed in 1835, kept the office on the Public Square, late W. J. McLaughlin's.

A. O. Chahoon, appointed in 1835, kept the office on the site of Chahoon Hall, Market street.

J. P. La Clerc, appointed in 1843, had the office at 78 Public Square.

E. B. Collings, appointed in 1845, kept the office on the site of 80 Public Square, lately McLaughlin's.

Steuben Butler, appointed in 1849, kept the office on the site of Shupp's jewelry store, Market street.

John Reichard, appointed in 1853, kept the office on the site of 80 Public Square.

Jacob Sorber, appointed in 1854, kept the office in the same place part of the time, and then removed it to the site of the Bristol House.

E. B. Collings, reappointed in 1858, kept the office in the last named place until 1861.

S. M. Barton was appointed in 1861, when he removed the office to the east side of Public Square.

E. H. Chase, appointed in 1865, kept the office at the same place.

Stewart Pearce, appointed in 1869, also kept the office in the same place until April, 1870, when he removed it to Market street, where is now Theiss's insurance office.

Douglass Smith, appointed in 1877, removed the office to Music Hall building, where it has ever since remained.

A. S. Orr was postmaster from 1881 to 1885.

Joseph K. Bogert from 1885 until his death in 1887.

Mrs. J. K. Bogert from 1887 to 1892.

L. B. Landmesser, 1892 to 1896.

E. F. Bogert from June 1, 1896.

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#### HISTORIC HOUSE PURCHASED.

Washington, Nov. 10, 1896.—Under the operation of a law passed at the last session of Congress the United States to-day became possessed of the house opposite the old Ford Theatre where Lincoln was carried after the assassination, and died. The house will continue to be occupied by the Lincoln Memorial Association as a museum of relics of the martyred President.

### IN FAVOR OF THE PENN HEIR.

[Daily Record, Nov. 14, 1896.]

Two preliminary cases involving the ownership of the land comprised in Manor of Sunbury in Plymouth Township, claimed by William Stewart, heir of William Penn, were decided by arbitrators P. H. Campbell, Byron Hahn and W. J. Trembath yesterday. The cases were brought by Jacob Bryant, alleged owner of the land, against Lloyd Lamereaux and Samuel Hunter, tenants, and were heard before magistrates, one before alderman Bulkeley of this city and the other before squire Young of West Nanticoke. Both were brought into court on appeal and tried under the compulsory arbitration act. The claim of the former suit was \$300 damages for cutting timber, and in the latter suit \$31.24, value of timber carried away. Bryant claimed ownership in each case through occupation of the land and the defendant tenants set up the claim that the land was owned by the Penn heirs. The evidence satisfied the arbitrators that the Penn heir is the real owner and decided for the defendants. Next week the real issue will be tried in the case of William Stewart, Penn's heir, vs. Bryant, who claims possession.

### INTERESTING SKETCH OF NATHANIEL RUTTER.

[Daily Record, Nov. 14, 1896.]

This day (Nov. 14, 1896) is the ninetieth anniversary of the birth of Nathaniel Rutter, an estimable and well known citizen of Wilkes-Barre.

In Mr. Rutter we see a hale and genial person, whose residence of seventy-one years in Wilkes-Barre binds the present to the past, and enables him to appreciate the change and progress that in Wilkes-Barre has increased its population about seventy fold.

It is pleasant and profitable to contemplate the conditions and lines of life that led to the progressive civilization of the present, as it will revive the memories of the past and cheer, by bringing to our thoughts, events and circumstances that were the charm of former days.

The retrospection of a well spent life gives to the thoughts and affections a moral flow and in a measure enables a person to realize and appreciate his position and to profit by the experiences of the past.

It may also benefit by showing the sentiments which at different periods met with public approbation.

It is a present happiness to know individualities that in a former time were distinctively marked by a feeling of general interest, of dignity, of unobtrusiveness and of social manner, that were charming characteristics of the time and best illustrate its domestic history.

Reference is here made to a manhood that has occupied a prominent place



NATHANIEL RUTTER.

for seventy-one years in the social and business circles of Wilkes-Barre, one who scorned what was base, whose nature found its happiness in doing good, and whose influence has been a benefaction to the Christian church and whose example was that of an honest, conscientious and successful man in all the relations of life.

His long continued residence in Wilkes-Barre gives Mr. Rutter, in its miraculous change, that personal knowledge and that interesting and instructive experience that are requisite in local matters to fairly contrast the Wilkes-Barre of 1825 with that of 1896.

At the former time the great Wyoming coal field was but a promising productive industry, while as a chronol-

ogical period; progressive civilization seems then to have shifted to the lines it is following.

Mr. Rutter, whose well known personality will long be remembered here, was born at Pequea Valley, fourteen miles below Lancaster City, Pa., Nov. 14, 1806, and impelled by a desire to prosper in the pursuits of life, came to Wilkes-Barre in 1825, it being then a small village of much less than 1,000 population, and bounded by North, South, River and Back (later Canal) streets. Then there were no paved streets, street lights, flagstone pavements, railroads, gas, electricity as a motive power, or a public water supply. Then the intersection of Market and Main streets divided the Public Square into four parts and the west side of Main street from Baur's printing house to the Christel Tavern, now occupied by the Boston Store and other immense establishments, was a cultivated field. Arks and rafts laden with salt, plaster, shingles, lumber and agricultural products passed down the river, which also furnished an abundance of shad.

Then, within the present limits of this city, were great fields, where children played and fathers toiled, and the brown footpaths that stretched so far and wide, awake pleasant memories of departed years.

About sixty years ago, Mr. Rutter was associated with Mr. George M. Hollenback in the business of general merchandise at the corner of River and Market streets. The management of the business was entrusted to Mr. Rutter until the death of Mr. Hollenback, Nov. 7, 1866. Afterward Mr. Rutter, at the corner of Franklin and Market streets, carried on a hardware store until 1888. In business matters Mr. Rutter's manner was self-possessed, while his nature was responsive to consideration for the welfare of those associated with him, and calculated to engender confidence and command respect.

His life and influence are associated with service and companionship in social life, wherein are found the mental, moral and personal qualities which are essential factors in moral and religious life. In him were united a keen perception and a practical judgment, that secured for him popular confidence and favor, while his sincerity of purpose and upright intention have placed him in responsible positions, the memory of which will defy the march of time.

Mr. Rutter has been identified with

the march of progressive civilization which has so increased the growth and consequence of the place, that the life and methods of former times bears little resemblance to the present.

Unassuming in all the relations of life, the spirit of religious culture which he improved by diligent observation took deep hold upon his nature and enabled him as a Christian to fulfill in the community a most beneficent purpose. His example would tend to exalt the dignity of man, and raise him in the scale of virtue, while his social and domestic life, his religious character, will ever be a blessed memorial.

His life, prolonged in health, affords an instructive proof how serene and happy old age can be made by the recollection of well directed labors, by the possession of well deserved esteem, by the resources of religious thought and action, and an unshaken confidence in the heavenly will and in the promises of Christianity.

In a reminiscent sketch of Mr. Rutter, interest is added in the brief mention of his marital relations, having been twice married, the wives sisters, from well known and esteemed parentage. Their parents were Jacob and Sarah Hollenback Cist, the mother being a daughter of Matthias Hollenback. Mr. Hollenback was born near Jonestown, Lancaster (now Lebanon) County, Pennsylvania, Feb. 17, 1752. He was an attorney-at-law and generally known as Judge Hollenback; was a man of rare judgment and influence, made large and profitable investments in coal and lumber lands, and died in Wilkes-Barre Feb. 18, 1829.

Jacob Cist, Mr. Rutter's father-in-law, was born in Philadelphia, March 13, 1782, and was a person possessed of rare general information in matters pertaining to geology. His practical knowledge and appreciation of the importance of anthracite coal in the interests and requirements of civilization was far in advance of his time. We have the fulfillment of his prediction, made eighty years ago, that the deposit of anthracite coal here would necessitate the opening of mines, and the building of numerous towns and villages throughout the Wyoming Valley, from the Nanticoke Falls to the Lackawanna River. Mr. Cist was furthermore an accomplished linguist, and renowned for his proficiency in drawing and painting; also a popular contributor several literary journals.

"In 1828," says Hazard's Register, "the Valley of Wyoming and its valuable beds and veins of coal have been correctly described in the Journal of Science by Mr. Jacob Cist, an able naturalist, whose recent death is lamented by all acquainted with his merits."

He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1808, was appointed postmaster, which office he retained until his death, Friday, Dec. 30, 1825.

Jan. 13, 1831, Mr. Rutter entered into the bonds of matrimony with Mary Ann Cist, who was a niece of his friend, George M. Hollenback.

Mrs. Rutter was an important factor in social circles, and in the church her's was a character and influence known for its excellence and usefulness; in these her memory is inseparable from earnest work, in which we have an example of discretion which was the fruit of sound judgment and elevated morality.

In behalf of the needy Mrs. Rutter's nature was instinctively charitable and sympathetic. She was sedate, fixed in her estimate of religious truth, while her tenderness was a hallowed companionship in the home circle.

Mr. Rutter also married Ellen, a sister of his former wife, and widow of Rev. Robert Dunlap, D. D., late pastor of a Presbyterian church at Pittsburg, Pa. Mrs. Rutter's tastes were suited to the social position that devolved upon her, and in her example there is a faithful adherence to the requirements of duty.

She was a woman of fixed principles, her methods marked by an air of refinement that is remembered for the spirit of Christian kindness and sympathy which crowned her life. Unwearying in her sympathy, it was to her a pleasure to make her ministrations to the needy and suffering a benefaction throughout the community in which she lived. Mrs. Rutter died Sept. 20, 1880.

The memories of this valley during three score years and ten brings to Mr. Rutter, in the activities and companionships of life, friendships and picturesque scenes, which in the affections have exercised an influence in forming the character and shaping the destiny of one who has witnessed great change and progress in Wilkes-Barre within that time.

He has had abundant opportunity to witness the relation which time bears to the processes of nature, and were he

impressed or influenced by the grandeur of geographical features, the mountain side, intervalle, and river, which beautify Wilkes-Barre and its surroundings, may have given impress to a character which was inseparable from moral principle, as exhibited in the life, character and example of Nathaniel Rutter.

G. Urquhart, M. D.

#### A REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Nov. 11, 1896.

To the Editor of  
The Record:

My Dear Sir—

From my early boyhood I have been accustomed to regard the "Record" as the natural depository of such family muniments and documents as may touch upon the history of the valley, or upon the lives and careers of those who themselves or through their descendants have contributed to the welfare or glory of the community—a community which promises to become the greatest in point of wealth and numbers and is the greatest in fame and story within the borders of the old commonwealth, and it being, that by means of your "art preservative" you can embalm in your files such matter as if given to the usual guardianship of the family desk or chest would soon by negligence or accident be lost and gone, I beg that you will print the following letter. The writer, Captain Andrew Lee, was, I am assured by Dr. Egle, the present State librarian—as set forth in the Pennsylvania archives—a captain of the line in Hazen's noted Pennsylvania regiment. Certain it is also that he was one of the Paxtang boys, of whom the same Dr. Egle is the veracious historiographer. The letter is certainly of more concern to Capt. Lee's descendants than to the general reader, and yet the allusions in it to events and names renowned in the early history of the valley and the country lend it an interest to those who care to recall the story of the sacrifices and sufferings endured by our forefathers for that liberty which to-day many of us are too apt to treat as lightly as if it were a matter of course, and the common heritage of mankind. The date of the letter, while thirty years after the close of the Revolutionary War, preceded by seven years the battles of Waterloo and of New Orleans. At its date the woeful terror, the bestial directory and the reactionary consulate, has but just given place in France to the splendid pomp of the military empire. The imperial eagles had perched within the gates of every capital in Western Europe, save one, and in

perfidious Albion this year was laying the keel of the fateful Bellerophon, that keel which shortly was to grate upon the shores of St. Helena. In our own land, the Sage of Monticello sat in the seat of the mighty, and down in Richmond the slayer of Hamilton was stoutly fighting for a safe deliverance from the charge of high treason. While in Tennessee attacking Jefferson and lauding Burr, harangued a hot head, one Col. Andrew Jackson, who shortly was to make much tumult in the world, and incidentally to try conclusions with one Gen. Packenham in our newly acquired province of Louisiana. And although ninety years seems no great matter, yet so far back in the hoary past seems the year of grace 1807 with the long stretch in its wake of great discoveries, inventions, improvements and betterment of those things which go to make worth living these in the century years that to my mind it would have been more in keeping if this writing had been inscribed upon papyrus in hieroglyphics rather than in fair flowing English upon paper hardly yellow with time. Col. Timothy Pickering, the addressee of Capt. Lee's communication, was a man who played many parts.

Originally from Massachusetts, he settled in Wilkes-Barre and as we all well known, took an active part in the Pennamite War. Joining Washington's army at the beginning of the struggle, he became adjutant general, then quartermaster general. He filled in civil life, after the close of the war, many offices of distinction, Federal Senator from Massachusetts, Postmaster General, Secretary of State, Congressional Representative and finally rounded out his days and career as a member of the executive council of his native State.

It only remains for me to add that the letter was received by me from Mrs. Priscilla Lee Bennett, a grand-daughter of the writer.

Yours very truly,

W. L. Paine.

Wilkes barre, Novr. 10, 1807.

Dear Sir:

I now take the liberty of soliciting those services which you were so good as to tender me when last in Wilkes barre. I had intended troubling you last Session but postponed it from time to time until it was too late. I am indeed fearful that it is too late to derive much advantage from any application or information I can lay before you. However my situation and circumstances in life being much reduced from what I had once reason to expect from prospects of earlier life, I am induced to make another exertion to recover what I consider very justly due to me.

In order that you may see the justice and equity of my claims, I will go into as full a detail as my memory will permit me, I cannot recollect dates &c as all my papers relative to this business were lodged in the war office and were together with many others of this same nature consumed by fire when that office was burnt. I must therefore relate from memory entirely. I entered service under General Montgomery, was wounded at the taking of St. Johns, and was sent down to Albany with the prisoners that were taken there with a recommendation from Genl. Montgomery for a commission in the army, which recommendation I presented to Colonel Moses Hazen who gave me the appointment of a lieutenant in his Regt. in Nov 1776. In a little more than a month I had seventy-five men recruited, I then received orders from Genl. Schuyler to march to Phila., the then place of rendezvous, but while on the way Genl. Washington, hearing of troops advancing, sent one of his Aids to me, from whom I recd orders to march to Trenton, where I accordingly went and recd there Arms and Ammunition for my men and were at the taking of the Hessians with whom we marched to Phila. We there recd cloathing and were fully equlpt, I then took sick and lay in phila till Spring of '77 when I recd orders from Genl. Hazen to march up the Susquehannah after deserters. I afterwards joined the regt at Princeton New Jersey and served that campaign commanding a company till Genl. Hazen appointed his Nephew Moses White captain of that same company (formerly had been commanded by Capt. Joseph Tary who was promoted to a majority) I being dissatisfied with that appointment gave in my resignation to Genl. Sullivan to whom I also assigned my reasons. Genl. Sullivan however would not receive my resignation—he told me I must serve the campaign and in the meantime should have justice done—he shortly after ordered a party out to Staten Is'and, where I had the misfortune of being made a prisoner and where I continued as such two years. I made my escape from there and recd a parole from Genl. Washington untill the affair should be settled, which was done by a board of british officers who sat for that purpose and who relinquished all claim to me. Having returned to Head Quarters Genl. Washington ordered me to join my regt at Cohoaz. I there found Genl. Hazen had struck me off the muster rolls, but notwithstanding gave me the command of a company, which I marched to Head Quarters, I there lodged a complaint before Genl. Washington and he gave me a separate company and of picked men out of the whole line

of the army to act under the command of Col Lee who commanded the horse, until my rank should be settled. Unfortunately about the time a board of Genl. Officers sat for that purpose I recd a wound in the Battle of Springfield and was unable to attend, the consequences of which was that my rank never was settled; which prevented my accepting an appointment in Col Lee's Legion of horse. I was ordered to basketridge hospital where I had to pay all my own expenses. I was afterwards removed to Albany hospital where Lord Sterling commanded, who appointed the Superintendent of that hospital where I remained till the close of the war, when I joined my regt. Genl. Washington then ordered me to take command of the three years men in our Regt. which I commanded till we took possession of New York.—the war being then over, the men under my command, petitioned for their discharge, which I signed and handed to Genl. Washington, who told me I was disbanding myself, to which I consented. He afterwards recommended me to Congress for a pension, which I declined applying for, conceiving it to be unnecessary provided I could get arrearages of pay and the amount of my expenses while recruiting, to do which I attended at the sitting of Congress in New York three months for the purpose of having these accounts adjusted, but unable to obtain my object through the absence of Mr. Pierce the pay master—I attended likewise in Phila. where Col. Hartley and Mr. Kittera members of Congress advised me to petition anew—which was referred to a committee of which Mr. Tracy was chairman and after waiting for several weeks Mr. Tracy advised me to return home, and in the mean time Mr. Montgomery should inform me of any occurrence which should happen. I accordingly returned home and received a letter from Mr. Montgomery, mentioning that my claim was just but could not be allowed owing to the enormity of Demand on Congress, for all would have an equal right to be allowed their demands with me.

A few years since Genl. Hanna then a member of Congress from this State took the trouble of examining the offices, the result of which examination you will perceive by the enclosed letter—

I must beg some information on another subject i. e. some Military Warrants which I gave a certain Robert Finley to have located. he has sold them and I since find that they have been located by a Mr. Mathews or Ormsby returned into the Register Genls. office at Washington. You would oblige me much by informing me what measures be necessary to pursue

in order to get possession of the Warrants again—or whether Finley's receipts for same are not sufficient to entitle me to this land.—the number &c of the Warrants are as follows. One in the name of John Beatty late a soldier in the Pennsylvania line calling for 100 Acres No 8961—one in the name of John Waggoner late a soldier of Hazens' Regt. for 100 Acres No 13895. One in the name of Lieut Andrew Lee of Hazens Regt. calling for 200 acres No 1330 One in the name of John McKinney late a soldier in the Pa line for 100 Acres No. 10113. I likewise enclose you a Deed for 500 Acres of land in the great Bend of Tennessee River. I know not whether the title is good or if it is, I may lose it for taxes—the members of Congress from that State, would be able I should suppose, to give the necessary information concerning this. Thus Sir, I have laid before you every circumstance which I conceived important. Should there however be any further information necessary to further my views Be so good as to let me know as soon as convenient. And your attention to the above shall ever be held in the most grateful esteem by Dear Sir

Your obliged Humble Servt.  
Andrew Lee

Hon Timothy Pickering  
Washington.

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#### ICE AGE LOCALIZED.

At the meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society Nov. 13, 1896, Dr. Frederick Corss of Kingston read an interesting paper on the glacial period and its relations to the valley of the Susquehanna River. The doctor prefaced his essay with some remarks about the geography of the Susquehanna Valley as shown by the maps of the geological survey, its crookedness, the territory it and its tributaries drained and the distribution of the great terminal moraine stretching across several States. At Tioga Point Dr. Corss estimated the Susquehanna derived its waters from a watershed of about 5,000 square miles. Doubtless changes in elevation have in some cases changed the course of some of the Susquehanna's tributaries, but the present general drainage is probably very ancient.

The watershed of the north branch as far south as Beach Haven was once glaciated and the drift mounds are probably vestiges of the flooded river epoch. The ice sheet which overspread this region was probably several thousand feet in thickness in some parts. The glacier encroached upon soil and possibly upon



standing trees, upon broken rocks and crumbling ledges remaining from the preceding great upheaval.

The great ice sheet from the north covered all the hills of the upper Susquehanna. In Wyoming Valley no doubt the ice rose higher than the present tops of surrounding mountains, as shown by the glacial markings on the exposed rocks. The melting of this continental ice caused the flooded river epoch. Present channels were too small to carry off the flow and mountain torrents broke over the lower summits. In the deeper lakes the waters deposited a sediment of fine mud. Where there was a chance for the water to find a lower level, there was a torrent loaded with broken ice, rocks and soil. Very fine hydraulic effects must have followed the bursting of great ice dams at Campbell's Ledge and similar points. The sudden breaking of such a dam would move an enormous amount of rock and soil.

The speaker then went on to give what he called his purely amateur observation.

An account was given of the location upon the river drift of Athens, Sayre and South Waverly. In the central portion of this plain is a large mound of gravel, boulders, sand and clay, called Spanish Hill. The essay then gave a vivid description of how it and similar deposits were probably formed.

The glacier which covered the whole watershed of the upper Susquehanna has retreated under the increasing warmth as far as Southern New York. The whole region is swept by an enormous torrent of water loaded with mud, ice and boulders. Confined by the narrow gorge from Ulster to Towanda the descending flood is checked. Perhaps the whole narrow pass is obstructed by immense bodies of ice brought down from the face of the glacier, real inland icebergs. So the swift onward rush is stopped and the whole valley of Athens becomes a somewhat tranquil lake, the water pouring over the tops of the lower surrounding hills as is still evident from water grooving in many places. The cobble stones and coarser gravel settle first at the head of the valley and the finer sediment and sand at the lower part (Tioga Point). The stratified sediment gradually becomes deeper until the whole valley is filled up to the level of the top of Spanish Hill. After years the great flood subsides, the winter freezing is less severe, the ice gorge

gives way and the water sweeps through their present channels and slowly carry with them the drift material which has filled the valley.

The whole Wyoming Valley is a drift plain and the village of Wyoming stands on a large mound which is beautifully terraced in many places, as may be seen south of the monument. Apparently the surface was once the bank of the river as in fact it is now during high freshets.

The large mound in Plymouth called Welsh Hill was formerly covered with masses of conglomerate rock. Evidently the ice torrent swept up Poke Hollow and planed off the top of the mountain at Judge Rhone's farm, and rushing over, deposited the rocks and other debris in the gorge where is now the dam of the Plymouth Water Company.

The outer crest of Kingston Mountain presents many evidences of glaciation, all the way to North Mountain. The speaker considers the whole Lehman plateau to have been covered by the flooded Susquehanna. Description was given of an interesting drift mound in Luzerne Borough, on which the 143d Regiment had its encampment in 1861 at the outbreak of the war.

The essayist ventured the opinion that the buried river bed in Wyoming Valley, described by geologists, may not be a continuous bed, but only a series of pot holes like those in Watkins Glen.

In closing the speaker remarked that the drift mounds of the Susquehanna appear to be the records of a flooded river epoch and show by their position and structure the source and method of construction.

The following persons were elected to membership: Mrs. Andrew F. Derr, Miss Anra M. Hunt, Mr. Fred M. Chase, Mr. Byron G. Hahn, Mr. R. P. Robinson, Mrs. Isaac P. Hand, Dr. Charles H. Miner, Pon. F. M. Nichols, Mr. Felix Ansart, Mr. Elmer E. Buckman.

#### ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

[Daily Record, Nov. 18, 1896.]

The Daughters of the American Revolution and their friends met in the Historical Society rooms last evening and listened to the closing part of the address by Wesley E. Woodruff on Alexander Hamilton, the first part of which was given a fortnight ago. As at that time, the address was much enjoyed and the speaker won many compliments for the clever and scholarly handling of an interesting subject.

The speaker briefly summarized the scheme of the first lecture which dealt in detail with Hamilton's career as a college student, pamphleteer and soldier. Then he took up the sketch at the entrance of Hamilton into Washington's cabinet and showed why Washington had turned instinctively to Hamilton as the first Secretary of the Treasury, though all his great advisers of the perilous time had told him that Hamilton was the only man who could untangle the financial tangle. Reference was made to the Report on Public Credit, which outlined the financial policy of the country on a basis that established the honor of the young country at home and abroad; to the Report on National Banks, which brought into play the implied powers of the constitution and made that document a living instrument; to the Report on Manufactures, which established the principle of protection to the nascent industries of this country. This famous state paper has for the past century been the granary to which all the politicians have gone for arguments concerning the protection theory, and not anything of account has been added to the subject as it was first presented to Congress by Hamilton. The circumstance of Hamilton asking Congress permission to appear and speak to that body on one of his proposed measures was alluded to and the observation made that the refusal of Congress to consider anything but a written communication established the precedent of making reports to Congress in writing—a custom that has ever since prevailed. The log rolling agreement between Hamilton and Jefferson was responsible for the assumption of the State debts by the National Congress and for the establishment of the national capital on the Potomac. The quarrel between the two, Hamilton the Federalist and Liberal Constructionist and Jefferson the Anti-Federalist and Strict Constructionist, formed the middle part of the address and it was given in some detail. This detail involved also a résumé at the attitude of Jefferson while minister to France and while governor of Virginia during the revolution. One of the most interesting portions of the talk was the summary of reasons for the close intimacy of Hamilton and Washington and for the complete confidence of the great chieftain in his Secretary of the Treasury. Hamilton's nationality was cited as the strong governing force of his public services—a nationality that yielded every necessary sacrifice and that used all the means that nature had given him to insure the undying glory of the infant republic. As a preface to the duel recital the speaker gave

a glance into the antecedents and the character of Aaron Burr and he detailed the causes for that awful affair and the reasons why Hamilton did not see his way clear to decline the challenge.

In summing up Mr. Woodruff called attention to the fact that Hamilton was a master in every field he entered—as a student, an orator, a pamphleteer, a soldier, a statesman, a financier, a lawyer. The genius of the constitution was his and he was the greatest intellectual product of this great country. As long as republics shall endure or the United States remain one nation, so long will the name of Alexander Hamilton be held in lasting remembrance and gratitude.

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#### THIS BIBLE 300 YEARS OLD.

[From the Allentown Call.]

Rev. Jared Fritzingler is the owner of a bible printed in Germany in 1596—making its present age 300 years. With the exception that a few leaves are imperfect in form, it is in good condition. The print is plain, the letters well formed and the paper of a coarse but substantial quality. It is printed in chapters, and has a number of illustrations. The volume, however, looks awkward by comparing it with modern publications, and plainly sets forth the progress and extension in the art of printing since the venerable work came from the press. It came to Rev. Mr. Fritzingler as a present from a German born aged widow at Liberty, Tioga County, Pa., in 1851, where he served his first charge soon after admission to the Reformed ministry. Very naturally the ancient sacred volume is prized very highly and no money could induce him to part with it.

The first printed edition of the bible was commenced in 1444 and finished in 1460. The first edition of the whole bible, strictly speaking, was, however, the Complutensian Polyglot of Cardinal Ximenes, issued in 1517, so that Rev. Mr. Fritzingler's volume is a very early edition. The next oldest bibles in the country the Morning Call knows of are a collection of six owned by Dr. Daniel Yoder of Catasauqua, they bearing the dates of 1630, 1714, 1734, 1735, 1736 and 1759. One of these bibles was used for many years in the pulpit of Rev. John Conrad Yeager, who was pastor of the Lutheran congregations in Allentown, Freidenville, Shoenersville and Dryland until 1832, when he was succeeded by his son, the late Rev. Joshua Yeager of this city. The oldest bible now known of in Pennsylvania is in the possession of Dr. Charles H. Haeseler of Pottsville, and was

handed down in the family from father to son for a period of 341 years, it having been printed and purchased in 1555. Several years ago a Gutenberg bible, printed in 1455, was sold at public sale in the city of New York for \$8,000.

#### THE LATE LEWIS ALLEN.

[Contributed.]

Lewis Allen was born in Plymouth Township March 20, 1819, and his last day upon earth dawned Nov. 14, 1896.

His father was Otis Allen. Because of the large family it was found necessary to allow the young boy to go out into the rough world and begin to carve for himself a destiny and to earn somewhat for the home circle by laboring for his uncle, Peter Allen. Here he spent six years of his life. Lewis was then apprenticed to Fayette Allen, of whom he learned the carpenter's trade.

After completing his apprenticeship, he went to the public works on the Lehigh River, building locks, docks, etc. After about one year of service he was obliged to return home before the work was finished, but consented to oversee the rest of the work after the foreman was killed. Shortly after this he married Miss Eliza Husted, settling at Allentown, Lake Township. Mr. Allen was one of the pioneers, his nearest neighbor being four miles distant. He was a life-long farmer, and yet as a millwright he was considered one of the best. When about middle life he was converted, was appointed class leader and for years was a member of the official board.

In 1861 he was stricken with typhoid fever and his case was considered to be hopeless. After this severe illness he was attacked with sore eyes and spent one year in New York under treatment.

#### RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT WASHINGTON.

The Record's Tunkhannock correspondent sends the following:

Mrs. Squire Sampson of this place received the other day from George W. Harrah, a friend residing in England, a copy of the London Times of the date of Wednesday, Nov. 9, 1796. The paper speaks editorially of "The resignation of President Washington," and publishes in full what it denominates his "Address on the occasion of his resignation," having reference doubtless to Washington's address to the American

people on declining a third term as President. The editorial is of general interest as showing the sentiments of the English people towards us a hundred years ago. It says: "We are sorry to announce the resignation of George Washington, Esq., of his situation as President of the United States of America. This event was made known yesterday by the arrival of the Belvidere, from New York, with letters from thence on the 27th of September. Notwithstanding the intention of General Washington had long been announced, it was expected that the solicitation of his friends would have prevailed upon him to continue in office for the peace of America. He has, however, declined all further public business, and in resigning his station, has concluded a life of honor and glory. His address in resigning his office is a very masterly performance; and we shall give it at length. It is expected that Mr. Adams will be chosen his successor."

#### WYOMING PIONEER PREACHERS.

[Daily Record, Nov. 24, 1896.]

The Methodist ministers at their meeting yesterday listened to a most interesting paper by George B. Kulp, Esq., on the ministers of Wyoming Valley prior to the year 1800. The subject included not only Methodist preachers, but ministers of other denominations. "They were the men," said the essayist, "who ministered in holy things in Wyoming prior to the year 1800. These were the men who laid the foundations deep and enduring. They were the men who labored for our Christian civilization. Their only thought was Christ. They now rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

Appended is a synopsis:

There is nowhere on the face of God's green earth a section of the country in which a more indefatigable missionary labored harder and shed more tears than in this valley and the vicinity in which we have dwelt. Even before the white man had a habitation the Moravian missionary was laboring up and down these valleys. Like Paul they were determined not to know anything save Jesus Christ. The most prominent among these missionaries were Bishop Cammerhoff, John Martin Mack, David Zelsberger, Adam Grube, Frederick Post and Baron John Watteville, the latter having been a

son-in-law of Count Zinzendorf, who was preaching the gospel to the Indians in 1742.

It is said that in the year 1741 Rev. John Sergeant, founder of the Indian training school in Stockbridge, Mass., came to the Wyoming Valley and preached to the aborigines; also that Rev. David Brainard and his brother, Rev. John Brainard, visited this valley and preached to the Indians before the French war. That faithful Quaker, John Woolman, was also a missionary to the Indians in this valley.

Among the earliest acts of the Connecticut-Susquehanna Land Company was a regulation providing support for a minister who should accompany the first emigrants to Wyoming Valley in 1762. Rev. William Marsh, a pastor of the Congregational Church, was selected. He and about twenty others were murdered by the savages in the lower part of our city on Oct. 15, 1763. Rev. George Beckwith, of Lynn, Mass., was chosen to succeed him, and he arrived at Wyoming with the First Forty (as the second colony was called) Feb. 8, 1769. For the support of schools and the orthodox gospel ministry, the company now appropriated three shares of land in each township.

In 1770 the company engaged Rev. Jacob Johnson, of Groton, Connecticut, to take the place of Mr. Beckwith. He remained but a few months when he returned to Connecticut, leaving Rev. Elkanah Holmes in charge. Rev. Bernard Page of London was assigned to the Wyoming parish in 1772; he was in Wilkes-Barre the previous year and was doubtless the first minister of the Episcopal Church in Wyoming. He came as a stranger uninvited, with no one to receive him, but animated, nevertheless with the spirit expressed in the Master's words: "Go ye and preach the gospel to every creature." At the time of his arrival the Pennamite war had been going on for three years, and he was subjected to much inconvenience and confronted with serious obstacles. He wrote letters to both contending parties. The suspension of active hostilities was doubtless due in part to Mr. Page's intervention. He left Wyoming temporarily and arrived in London Aug. 24, 1772, where he was ordained and licensed by the Lord Bishop, after which he returned to the scene of his former labors. The Wyoming parish contained an extensive territory and much of his time was taken up in

charge of his mission in parts remote from Wilkes-Barre.

Rev. Jacob Johnson in October, 1772, accepted a call to Wyoming, and asked for dismissal as pastor of the Groton Congregational Church. The organization of the Congregational Church in this valley may date from the meeting, Aug. 23, 1773, inviting him to Wyoming. It subsequently became Presbyterian under Rev. Nicholas Murray. On Dec. 8, 1773, Kingston and Plymouth agreed to relieve Mr. Johnson of the part of his duty in preaching to them. Mr. Johnson continued in his position as pastor until advancing age and increasing infirmities prevented further labors. He died March 15, 1797.

About 1773 a Dutch or German Reformed Congregational minister named Von Benschotten arrived in the valley from the Hudson. He was very zealous and established the First Congregational Society in Hanover Township. In 1792 Von Benschotten was succeeded by Rev. Andrew Gray, a Scotch-Irish preacher of considerable ability. Shortly after assuming his pastoral duties he married one of the thirty communicants, Miss Mary, daughter of Capt. Lazarus Stewart. He, with Mr. Johnson of Wilkes-Barre and Mr. Wadhams of Plymouth, who came to the valley in 1772, constituted the entire clerical force of the Congregational Church. Mr. Gray removed to the State of New York, where he preached for many years, while Mr. Wadhams died in Plymouth in 1806.

As early as 1773 there were Baptists in Kingston Township. In 1786 special efforts were made in Pittston Township, and in the fall of that year a congregation was organized there by Rev. James Benedict. In 1793 a Congregational Church was established in Exeter Township. Rev. Peter Drake was the minister. Mr. Benedict was succeeded by Rev. James Finn and he by Rev. William Bishop, who settled in Luzerne County in 1794. The latter was a zealous and successful preacher. In 1790 Rev. Samuel Sturdevant emigrated from Danbury, Conn., and settled in Braintrim, then in this county. The same year Rev. Jacob Drake and Rev. Roswell Goff emigrated to Luzerne from New England. They, with the others, preached in Wilkes-Barre, Plymouth, Pittston and other places.

Those present at the meeting are: Rev. Messrs. Warner, Transue, Peck, Madison, Sumner, Labar, Armstrong, Hawley, Hiller, Severson, Treible, Van

Hoesen, Reasoner, Wrigley, Murdock, Jones, Dr. Pearce and Dr. Sprague. Among the visitors were: Rev. Azh Derlian of Armenia, Rev. Mr. Broushe of Central Pennsylvania Conference, Calvin Parsons, and Mrs. Safford of Kingston.

#### MRS. GREGORY DEAD.

[Daily Record, Nov. 24, 1896.]

There passed away at the Old Ladies' Home yesterday one who has been a familiar figure in Wilkes-Barre for many years—Mrs. Sarah A. Gregory. For the last eight or ten years she has not been so familiar a figure, for during that period she has been blind. For the last ten years or so she has been comfortably cared for as a boarder at the Home through the kindness of a niece in a Western State, who has been glad to thus reciprocate for favors shown her in other days by Mrs. Gregory, who raised and educated this niece.

Mrs. Gregory was born in Florida eighty-four years ago. For many years she taught music here, both privately and at Wyoming Seminary, as also at the Bloomsburg Normal School. Her maiden name was Smith, and she was a sister-in-law of the late Mrs. Hannah Cora Smith. Mrs. Smith's husband, Dr. Waters Smith, was a surgeon in the United States Navy, whose career was short, but brilliant.

Mrs. Gregory was a sister of the late Rev. E. H. Snowden's first wife, both being daughters of the collector of the port at St. Augustine. It was at the latter place that Mrs. Gregory was born. She married a Mr. Gregory, who was a law student in her father's office. He was a native of Montrose, Pa., and had come to Florida for his health. Their married life was happy but brief, death claiming him in a few months. The young widow then came North to fight the battle of life alone, and it is fully fifty years since she located in Wyoming Valley.

Coming herself from a high born family, she was justly proud of her ancestry. She was a lineal descendant of Sidney Smith, the distinguished diner-out, and her father was a first cousin of Abigail, first wife of President John Adams. Her mother was an Allison, and came from the distinguished Scotch family of that name.

She was given a thorough education and her mind was thus stored with information that made her a charming

companion. Instead of being taught Greek and Latin and heavy mathematics, as our girls are taught now, she was taught the polite accomplishments of music and dancing and belles lettres. She spoke the Spanish language, and some French. Many of our ladies can recall her as their earliest teacher on the piano.

She was aristocratic, but not offensively or uncharitably so. She was high spirited and quick to resent an injury, yet she was quick to forgive as well. She was accomplished, proud, picturesque, kind, generous, noble.

She was full of sympathy for those in sorrow, as many bereaved ones can testify. Here is a case in point. Her physician, to whom she was devotedly attached, lost his daughter not long ago, and it was Mrs. Gregory's grief that she could not have taken the little one's place and left the doctor's home circle unbroken.

Mrs. John W. Metcalfe, who lives at the homestead of the late Rev. E. H. Snowden in Forty Fort, is a niece. Other nephews and nieces are these:

James Glassel Snowden, Castaline, O.; Mrs. J. de Shea Patton, Cleveland, Tenn.; Mrs. James M. Williamson, Oakland, Cal. It will be remembered that her brother-in-law, Rev. Mr. Snowden, died two years ago at the ripe age of 95 years. The intermarriages of nearly all her relatives were into distinguished families.

Mrs. Gregory was a communicant of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and passed away in the consolations of that communion. She was not a sufferer from any particular malady, the machinery of life was simply worn out.

#### VISITING THE OLD HOMESTEAD.

[Daily Record, Dec. 1, 1896.]

Henry Cooper, of Chester, Pa., came up to spend Thanksgiving with W. M. Wagner of Plainsville. Mr. Cooper is a man of three score years and was born at Port Blanchard, which place he left forty years ago. His parents and grandparents were among the early settlers. His great grandfather was born on Monocknock Island, which has been washed away, with the exception of a very small area. The Cooper burying plot near Port Blanchard, which is in a sadly neglected condition, is named after his ancestors and they lie at rest there. It is ten years since he visited

## POLITICS IN 1832.

The Record has been handed by Samuel H. Lynch a copy of a local paper of Sept. 26, 1832, the Wyoming Herald, published by Asher Miner & Steuben Butler. The only person mentioned in its columns, now living, is Nathaniel Rutter, who was a member of the vigilance committee in the interest of Henry Clay for President. The paper is full of politics, and tariff was the uppermost topic. Cincinnati merchants were offering to buy their winter pork at \$2.50 per hundred if Clay should be elected President and only \$1.50 if Jackson should be elected.

It was believed the Democrats had carried Maine, but by reduced majority.

The Indian war in Wisconsin was ended and Black Hawk was a prisoner in custody of Lieut. Davis. This young officer was Jefferson Davis, afterwards president of the Confederacy.

Cholera was epidemic in Washington.

Mrs. Evans, who kept a candy shop where Loomis building now stands was advertising "a quantity of ready-made coarse and fine shirts and shirtees." The latter are evidently obsolete.

The packet boat North America was running the canal from Wilkes-Barre to Northumberland, leaving Wilkes-Barre twice a week at 3 a. m., arriving at Northumberland the same day. Fare four cents a mile. Freight \$5 a ton each way.

Grocery, dry goods and hardware stores were advertised by James Wright (Tunkhannock), Joseph P. Le Clerc and Smith & Osterhout. All carried whisky "in large quantities."

Andrew Jackson was being handled without gloves for having vetoed the measure to recharter the United States Bank. He was accused of being in league with the Wall street shylocks. This superannuated President, as he was called, governed by his kitchen cabinet, had overthrown the main pillar of the constitutional edifice. He had defied the Supreme Court, his act being particularly dangerous, as Georgia disavowed the court and was virtually in a state of rebellion, and South Carolina was determined to nullify the tariff. Jackson was charged with having made an attack on the constitution of the most virulent character—the act of a madman throwing fire-brands amongst combustible matter. Oh, those were stirring times. Here is a striking extract:

"Let the Supreme Court be prostrated and the fiends of rebellion and nullification will ride triumphant through the land, the war cry will be heard from Maine to Georgia—the Union will become a rope of sand, and the States now bound together in the closest bonds of harmony and brotherly love, cemented by self-interest, will soon exhibit the same hostile inveterate spirit that characterised England and Scotland in the days of Bruce and Edward.

"Dissever the Union, we not only lose our national character at home and abroad, but become the objects of foreign intrigue, the victims of foreign diplomacy, and at last, after internal wars and the shedding of our best blood, we shall sink in provinces and dependences of France and England. Are the people prepared for that result?

"Are they determined to become their own executioners?"













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