

Vol. VI.

No. I

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.

WILKES-BARRE, PA.

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J. W. RAEDER, Bookbinder for the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, also for Osterhout Free Library, 7-11 Market Street, Anthracite Building, Wilkes-Barre.

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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 Attended by an Even Larger Throng Than Usual—Well Known Participants 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 canvass 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The wooden door on the monument has been replaced by a handsome bronze door, about 6 feet by 3, the gift of Mrs.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 Diekover, Edward S. Loop, Mrs. Mary F. Plouts, 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 Plume, 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 sailors 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 Floga Point 117 years ago and facetiously referred to his own visit as an invasion from that same Elmira, by way of that same Floga Point, an invasion which the assemblage might regret etc. 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 moody 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. Katharine 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 Katharine 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, Katharine, 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 Katharine 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. Conyngnam, 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. Pettebone, 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

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.

P. C. J.

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. Froudenberg, Miss Sill, 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 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 turpitude 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 today.

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 1571, 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 1789 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 created 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 marvellous 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.

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 Bulkley. 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 1533. 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 Bulkley
Ejus Liber
June, 2, 1764.

Its title page is curious enough to bear reprinting:

THE
NEW TESTA-
MENT OF OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST, TRANSLATED
OUT 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 judicious Divine Mr. William Perkins. Now polished for the benefit of the Church and continued with Supplement upon the sixth chapter by Ralfe Cudworth Bachelor of Divinitie. Printed at London by John Legatt Printer to the Vniversitie of Cambridge 1617."

This makes it 272 years old, or 23 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:

"Hosier Hadnot born June the 14 in the year 1717 at 5 a clock in the morn."

"Samuel Hadnott born June the 10 at 4 a clock in the morning 1719.

"Ann Hadnot born Dec. 27 at 19 clock in the morning 1720.

"Mary Hadnott born Oct 28 at 6 a clock in the morning 1720.

"Rebeckah Hadnott born Oct the 18 at 4 a clock 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, 1788, 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 8, 1788, 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 271 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 1822, 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:

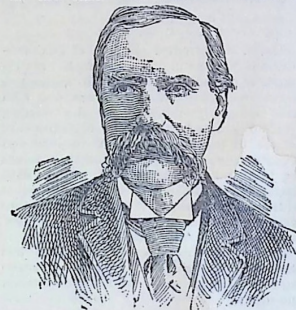
William S. Wells,
Clock and Watch Maker.
Wind me with care and use me well,
And let me have fair play,
And I to you will try to tell
The precise time of day;
If from some cause I chance to stop
And fail to give the hour,
Then take me back to Wells's shop
And he will give me power.
Wilkes-Barre,
Pa.

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 eisteddfodic matters and was one of the prime movers in the Oratorio Society and was president for six years of the Mendelssohn Society, which at one time flourished in Wilkes-Barre. He was chairman of the committee of the mammoth eisteddfod 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 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-versed and reasoned with great intelligence.

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, 1893.)

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. 13, 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 MEREDITH, 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 1773. 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. MERRITT-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 Swetland,
Ellen M. Jenkins,* Ann Hunt,
Sarah Tripp,* Sarah Reilly,
Falla Brees,* Stella Shoemaker,
Catherine B. Sharps,* Susan Dorrance,
Sarah E. Atherton,* Matilda Bennett,
Sarah Folsen,* Sarah A. Schooley,*
Eunice Perkins,* Elizabeth Carpenter,*
Sarah Crawford,* Catherine Jones,
Phoebe Jacobs,* Lydia Nolan,
Mary E. Jenkins,* Mary J. Coray,
Mary Richart,* Jeannette Crawford,
Anna Hutchins,* Caroline Goodwin,
Parmella Church,* Mary E. Brees,*
Mrs. — Case,* Mrs. — Dennison,*
Ellen A. Law,* Cornelia E. Hurlbut.*

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.)

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 O. 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 40x8 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 nineteen 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 dwell 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, 25 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. Isaiah 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 13, 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 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 thousands 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 Port, 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 drunk, 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 disappointed 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 prey to the corrosions of time. Suppose some of the stockholders were to employ some of the arkmen 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 Toga."

"There does not seem as though there was any record left whether this vessel was fitted with side wheels, or with a stern 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 1778; 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 some-where 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 F. 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 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 He 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. E. Drake both had "new goods;" a runaway slave was being advertised; Thomas Davidge wanted five or six journeymen shoemakers, "near Doct. Christie'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 Pennell 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, 1811, 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 1880 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 \$21,000 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.

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.

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 Walte Garrett. The officer

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 bleas,
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 shade 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 perished
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.

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 in 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 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 probatory 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 Judge 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 probatory. 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 Shansbery 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. Slocum and Ann D., his wife, of Wilkes-Barre to Henry Stark for lots 35, 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. Slocum 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 Slocum 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, 1842, 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 missionized 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 1832 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, 1813, 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. Dows, 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. Hookerberry, 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 Artillery, who served throughout the war, returning with the rank of lieutenant; Mrs. William H. Stephens, Irvin E. Finch, the well-known hostman; 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.

Cornelius 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 1863. 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'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 Tankbanhook, 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, 1893.)

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, 1839, 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 1859 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, Philip 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 263 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 50 miles, the charge was 10; from 51 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. Under

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 1833 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. Buckalew 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 reference 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, 1769, 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. Eleazar 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 Clat Darlow, 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 8. 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. Cox.

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.

- * * * Guldron 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 1887 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. Cox 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 workman 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. Cox 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 physician 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 Cox, came from England in 1702, and was married to Sarah, daughter of Judge Eckley, of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Dr. Cox subsequently became governor of West Jersey, and died in 1730. His son, Col. Daniel Cox, was born in 1693 and died in 1734; his son, William, was born in 1723 and died in 1801; his son, Hon. Tench Cox, was born in 1755 and died in 1824, and his son, Judge Charles S. Cox, 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 Cox, grandfather of deceased, was commissioner of internal revenue under President George Washington and was well known as a statesman, author and financier.

Eckley B. Cox 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 Cox 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 Cox, 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., 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. With in 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 Muebbach'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 employees, by whom he was honored and respected as few men are. One of the advantages he placed before his employees 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 failing 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 Biddle & 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. Meixell 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 Ellsha 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 250 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 Ellsha 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 Wyom-

ing 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 digged 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 Mosler 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 Brooks 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, "Mountaineer," 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. "Mountaineer'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

solder 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. Prouts, John Blanchard and Stephen Davenport, commissioners; Sidney Eicke, court crier, 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. E. 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 Jerce 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.

OVER A HUNDRED YEARS.

UNIONTOWN, July 16, 1895.—John Murray, aged 102, died at his mountain home, near Wympe's Gap, 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 Bruceton, 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.

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.

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 Hannister 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.

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 away. 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

challenge bold.
Pinal's pass, and
Volunteers and
(Daily Record, Aug. 25,

The twenty-sixth annual reunion of the 143d Regiment of Pennsylvania was held at Shickshinny, Pa., yesterday. The town presented a holiday appearance, the streets thronged with people gathered from all country for miles around. The hotel 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 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 164 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.

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, Lehigh County. They went to house-keeping at Cressona and Mr. Styers got the old Milne Hill branch of the Lehigh R. R. In four years he lay and way up from driver to York City brakeman, to fireman, Sweet Valley, pulled open the first Thomas Shick locomotive as an engine. Kingston—C. J. went often to talk Georgetown—A. R. that day. There Silkworth—George I. father boarding Ashley—David Davis, young. He Wilkes-Barre—James St. starts that Jones, George N. Reichard, From Rutter, Charles S. Shotten, Cl. of the Hoover, E. H. Groff, Asa G. Aaron Freeman, S. J.leton M. Charles Westover.

West Nanticoke—Jacob Bonewitz.

Dorrance—John Vandermark, Henry Reinhammer.

Beach Haven—C. H. Campbell.

Town Line—Almon W. Rod.

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 Kemmer.

The roll call showed that the following 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; Cornelius Blodgett, Nicholson; S. D. Burnett, West Auburn.

The history of the 143d Regiment, P. V., records one of the bravest commands 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

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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 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. Mickle, 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.
Cambria—J. H. Gearhart.
Muhlenburg—E. Roberts.
Harveysville—O. M. Campbell.
Beaumont—John Rood, Thomas Baringer, Andrew Hilbert.
Dorrancton—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 Schooley 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, S. S. Sington M. Goss, Charles Westover.
West Nanticoke—Jacob Bonewitz.
Dorrancton—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 Kemel.

The roll call showed that the following 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; Cornelius Blodgett, Nicholson; S. D. Burnett, West Auburn.

The history of the 143d Regiment, P. V., records one of the bravest commands of the war. No regiment that left Pennsylvania left so many brave men behind. Out of 1,300 men taken to the front, 353 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 232 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 143d 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 sullen 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 foeman'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 before the daring gray;
Thrice went our colors down—'twas Crippen 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 courage through the lines.

Sore pressed were they in that dread hell of agony and pain,
The foeman'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 railroaded 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 railroaded 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. Or

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 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 Shawnee-town 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 *Gymnocladus*. 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, falling 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 pollenization 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.

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,
Elisha 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,	Philip Shaver,
Harris Jenkins,	Henry Tuttle,
Abraham Johnston,	Calvin Wadhams,
Wm. Loveland,	Elnathan Wilson,
Philip 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 that 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 legal tender acts, and Justice Bradley concurred in the constitutional validity of the legal tender acts. 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 merican 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 1808. 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 prentice 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 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. Dunlap, 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 chaslier 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 50 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 E. 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. Hanover Township was formed from 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 the 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 Cox, a member of the noted Cox 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 Cox 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 Cox 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. Cox, who is a brother of the late Eckley B. Cox, and pursued his education under private tutelage. 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. Cox, May 13 last, deceased was made superintendent of the Drifton, Schuylkill & Susquehanna R. R., and also had supervision of some of the Cox mines in the Hazleton region. His father, Alexander Cox, a brother of Hon. Eckley B. Cox, 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 Cox 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 Cox employees, 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 Cox.

He was the only Republican in the large family, his uncle, Eckley B. Cox, 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 Cox, came from England in 1702 and was married to Sarah, daughter of Judge Eckley of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Dr. Cox subsequently became governor of New Jersey and died in 1730. His son, Col. Daniel Cox, was born in 1663 and died in 1734; his son William was born in 1723 and died in 1801; his son, Hon. Tench Cox, was born in 1755 and died in 1824; his son, Judge Charles S. Cox, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Philadelphia, July 31, 1791 and died Nov. 19, 1879; his son, Alexander Cox, father of deceased, was also born in Philadelphia and removed to Drifton where he now resides. Hon. Tench Cox, 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 1853. His wife, who was a daughter of John Albert 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 alique 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 F. 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's desk 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, 1889, 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:

By: 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,
Fought 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. 22, 1857.

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 his 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 entrusted 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 justification 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, Chattanooga, 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 Aversboro, 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, Aversboro 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, 1885.)

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 Episcopallians. 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 75th 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. 23, 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, 1782, 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 Conchocton River, near the junction of the waters of the Tioga, Canisteo and Conchocton 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 Genesee, 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 Conchocton, the former lords of the soil retreated from the battlefield of Newtown, where Gen. Sullivan and his yeomanry on Aug. 28, 1778, 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 Cornplanter, 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 1,500 persons.

The present painted post stands at the southeast corner of the cross roads. It is about 16 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 Cornplanter and a few rods east of the "Four Corners" and the site of the present post. It was an oak post 10 to 12 feet above the ground and from 10 to 16 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 1782 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 Conchocton 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 hunters, 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 Katharine of Wyoming fame, was seriously wounded in the fight at Newtown and died on the retreat up the Conchocton. He was buried under a large elm tree, and the "Te-can-neg-to," as the post was called by the Delawareans, 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 Allegheny River in 1823.

Cornplanter, being asked about the post, said through his interpreter, as relayed 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 Conchocton 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 10th.

From Pittston Gazette, Feb. 21, 1896.

I saw Pittston for the first time on the Monday succeeding the first Sabbath of June, 1814. 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 morning 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 Lazarus, 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 1814, 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.

PITTSION 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 log 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 Parsons 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. Lavo, 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. McConaghy; 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 and Mary, were among the prominent and attractive young ladies of the town. There were two doctors, whose homes were in Pittston, and who practised 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 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 Kingston farms with everything in the line of grain. Mr. Zenas 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 Teasch, Newman Brown, John D. Stark, John Blanchard, Squire Winter, 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 Bennie 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. Cutler, 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 reeled for the most part along the Main street. The houses were "few and far between"—magnificent distances, 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 ewes 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 his 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, it is 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 prices 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. A. association, representing all denominations, and palatial homes and first class public schools, a manufacturing, 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 pictures 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 channels in the mountain streams they left before they were prepared for the rounders. 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 Whitte, 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 Vanchle

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 light 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 Wyandoming 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 Chillisquaque Creek, present Washingtonville, Montour Co. The mills were stockaded and garrisoned.

Fort Freeland.

Four miles east of present Watons-town. 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 1773. 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 Watons-town 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. Dorance, 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. Dart, Isaac M. Thomas, Gaius 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 Rulison, 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 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"—1788—tells 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 1863 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 Mercer. 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 waters glide,
While sparkling streams mid meadows
rolling rise,

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,
Embalming the patriot in the poet's song,
Collect with pious care each moldering
bone,
And grave its record on the eternal stone.
Meanwhile the proud oppressors' name
shall be
Snak'd with their crimes, to lasting
and 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 wilkes-barre 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 & Scout-ing 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 Proprietors and Settlers for ye Suport of ye Revend Mr. Johnson, ye year Insuing—

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 MEETIN 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.

MONUMENT OF THE 143D DEDICATED.

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 1½ 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. Farigo, 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.

THE MEMORIES OF '76.

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 Neshaug, 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 1600 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 28s 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 Hol-

lowbank'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. F. 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 Marssy whose land was taken from him by the half-right men as they

are stilled, heard of several acts of violence of theirs:

Lots in town sell for 140 to 50 d's; Meadow Lots at 23 per acre; whole lots at 200 to 225 per lot of 300 acres. Doct. Sprag (Note 11) very communicative—not much to be depended on.

Marsy informs me the claims only touch about 100 acres of our lands up Tunkhannock. Sprag claims a lease of one of them from a promise of C. Stewart's.

Caught 4 don't trout up Laurel Run. A rough country—Yankee claims do not reach Nescopeck. 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 1s per bushel.

...
All the matter within the parentheses is inserted by the annotator.

...
Note 1—Heller's tavern (present Helleville, Luzerne Co.) at the southern opening of the Wind Gap, a beautiful pass in the Blue Ridge, 13 miles from Wilkes-Barre.

...
Note 2—Learn's log tavern, N. W. of Scrubbsburg, 21 m. from Easton. On the 24 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 Soudburysville, 19 miles from Wilkes-Barre.

...
Note 4—Present Seabrook's, or known formerly as Seven-Mile-Take's. This was the first house after leaving Wilkes-Barre for Darton and at the time of the Wyoming Massacre was occupied by a family named Bullock. It was the first place the fugitives could find refuge. 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 who ever 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 1760 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, Denton, Hollenback, Ross, Gore, Carey and Nesbitt.

...
Among the opposition were the Franklin, Jenkins, Slocum, Satterlee 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 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, 1774, 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. 2, p. 155.

...
The old diary is in the possession of C. E. Butler of this city, who has many other interesting manuscripts of early days.

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. 1896.

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 1701 (with the exception of Dielman, who came in 1717), afterwards moved to Skipack, in 1709, and were among the first Mennonite preachers in Skipack. 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 1539, on the 12th 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 Braght'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 Kuls 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. Pettegolf, 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.

WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

No. 2.

"The Wyoming Valley."

(Which were written for the Scranton Republican in January, 1834.)

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 sages 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 piles 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's arms,
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 Campbellana
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 "Codorus" 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 "Codorus" 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 8, 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 Tiora.

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, 1826, 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 cornerstone 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 Eonig (pronounced Emmig) burying ground. It was used until about 1800, when Thomas Bennett gave a plot at Forty Fort for the Forty Fort plot at Wyoming was unused and uncared for. It grew up with briars and became lost to sight in the vegetation, while the sunken graves became pools. The plot never had a fence and was

regarded as a common. It has been in the possession of Jesse B. Schooley since about 1850 and he claims title by spirit. 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 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 Onondaga 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 Bucking-ham 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 Onondaga Historical Society, has sent a parchment in Hebrew found in the tomb of Absalom, a monarch cut in the solid rock, and yet standing in the valley of Jehosaphat. 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 Theodores 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 No. 5, Independent Order of Good Templars, 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 Oscela, 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 yesteryear.

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 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 83 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 1817, 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 dis- tressed 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 55 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 Wil- son 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 108 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, 1895, 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, 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 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, 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 Wy- lusing, the old homestead, now oc- cupied by George H., one of the brothers of this distinguished family: "Matthias Hollenback Welles of Elmira, N. Y., George Hollenback Welles of Wy- lusing, Raymond M. Welles of To- wanda, 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 ill- ness. 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 hands of some 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 imperiled 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 1735. 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 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 alienship 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. 151, October Term, 1894.
William Stewart, Plaintiff in Error, vs. The City of Easton and County of Northampton.
(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, 73, 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 Drepheine Meredith Read, to Count Max de Foras, France, 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 manorial 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 services 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, 63d Pa. Vols. — [Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 27, 1895.]

WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

No. 2.

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 fixings;
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 checker 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

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 I, 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 820,362,955 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 18 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 brouder 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.

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.

DEATH OF EX-COUNTY COMMISSIONER 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 Hildebrand'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, Md.; L. 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 failing. He broke up housekeeping about four years ago and has since resided with his son, L. W. Line, 183 Carey avenue.

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.

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 1750 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 old-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 associated 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 retailers 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 a 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."

cluded 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. Kesler, 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 Kesler 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. Kesler and delivered at the M. E. Sunday School celebration on Christmas Day, 1888.

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 hear 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 revelling 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 bosoms 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 questioned 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 rushing tide.
The fierce Numidian lion was loosed upon his prey,
And gladiator swords cut down the faithful 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 Wick'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 Winkle, 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, Jairah 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 schoolmate 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 Hallstead 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 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.

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