HISTORY OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, PA.

with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches
of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers.

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Josephine Reed Garzelloni and Carole Lyn Carr - January to April, 1998
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and they deserve our hearty thanks! I have transcribed this work from the many text files I found on the web into one Adobe Acrobat file, so that other researchers will be able to use and print this wonderful resource from their own computers more easily. The pages correspond with their original page numbers, so the Everyname Index which starts on page 391 is useable. However, this made formatting the pages a nightmare, so I did my best and tried not to worry about it. Enjoy!

Paul Welcomer - 5/21/2001
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Introduction

In preparing the following work for publication information has been sought from every available source, and it is believed that many of the facts recorded have been preserved from oblivion by being thus rescued from the failing memories of those who will soon pass away.

It is hardly possible that in a work like this no errors will be found; but it is confidently hoped that if inaccuracies are discovered the great difficulty of preventing their occurrence will be considered, and that they will be regarded in a charitable rather than a censorious spirit.

The publishers desire to acknowledge the kindness and courtesy with which their efforts to obtain the facts recorded here have been almost uniformly met. To the press, and especially to the editors of the Minors' Journal, of Pottsville, and the Shenandoah Herald, for free access to the files of their journals; to Colonel Hyde, the gentlemanly librarian of the Pottsville Athenaeum, for the privileges of the library; to county and borough officers, for assistance in examining their records; to the pastors of nearly all the churches in the county, for assistance in preparing the religious history; and to secretaries of numerous societies and lodges, for data furnished, their grateful acknowledgments are due.

The following books have been freely consulted: Sherman Day's and Dr Egle's histories of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Archives, Rupp's history of Schuylkill county, Dewees's and Martin's histories of the Mollie Maguires, the history of the Pennsylvania volunteers, prepared under the authority of the State by Samuel P. Bates, LL.D.; and the Memorial of the Patriotism of Schuylkill County, by the late Francis B. Wallace, from which last the lists of the soldiers of the Union from Schuylkill county were taken.

Of those who have aided in the preparation of the work, or furnished valuable information, it is a pleasure to the publishers to name the following, besides the authors of sections of the work who are named in connection with their contributions: The intelligent octogenarians, Abraham Pott, who came here at the age of ten, and Jeremiah Reed, who was born here; Judge David B. Green, Judge E.O. Parry, F.A. Mortimer, O.J. Airgood, clerk of the courts, J.B. Kaercher, C.D. Arters, D.E. Miller, Christopher Little, John P. Bertram, William L. Whitney, John A.M. Passmore, George R. Kaercher, Jesse Hawley, Rev. Dr. Bellville and George W. Smiley, Revs. G.A. Hinterleitner, Edward J. Koons, J.B. Stein and B.F. Patterson, J. Wallace McCool, Charles Tanner, W.B. Staller, Jacob S. Longacre, H.H. Brownmiller, F.G. Faust, H.S. Strong, A.L. Boughner, W.H. Zeller, John Anthony, Edward T. Filbert, Rev. E.S. Henry, John Jacob Schnoke, J.O. Roads and Richard Harington.
CHAPTER I

THE DISCOVERY OF THE DELAWARE PENNSYLVANIA GRANTED TO AND ORGANIZED BY WILLIAM PENN

The first discovery of Delaware bay, and the river which forms a portion of the eastern boundary of the State of Pennsylvania appears to have been made by Hendrick Hudson, an Englishman in the service of the Dutch, in 1609. In August of that year he entered the bay, and after a short cruise in it left and preceded to the mouth of the Hudson river, which stream he ascended as far as Albany.

It is said that Lord Delaware visited the bay in 1610; hence the name by which it and the river are known. It was called by the Dutch South river, the Hudson being termed by them the North river.

Another Dutch navigator, Captain Mey, visited the bay in 1614; but Captain, or, as he was termed, skipper Cornelius Hendrickson first ascended the river as far as the mouth of the Schuylkill, in 1616.

A short lived settlement was made on the east bank of the Delaware under the auspices of the Dutch West India Company in 1623, under the direction of Captains Mey and Tienpont. Another settlement was made on the bay, farther down, in 1630; but this was soon destroyed by the Indians, whose enmity the colonists had indiscreetly incurred.

Maryland was granted to Lord Baltimore in 1632, and the territory on the west side of the Delaware was claimed by him, and the disputes arising out of this claim remained unsettled during many years.

In 1638 a settlement was made on the west bank of the Delaware by a colony of Swedes, under the patronage of Queen Christina. This colony was under the direction of Peter Minuit, a Hollander, who had been a director in the colony of New Amsterdam. Several Swedish governors followed Minuit in succession; prosperous settlements sprang up along the west bank of the river, and a thriving trade was carried on by the Swedes. They were watched with jealousy by the Dutch, who set up the claim of jurisdiction by reason of former occupation, and instituted intrigues and plans to dispossess the Swedes. In 1655 a force of seven vessels and six hundred men was sent up the Delaware for that purpose. The Swedish government had been kept in ignorance of this expedition, and it was easily successful.

William Penn was the son of Sir William Penn, an admiral in the royal navy, who at his death left a claim of
sixteen thousand pounds against the government of Great Britain. Though in early life he was a soldier of some distinction, he afterwards became a Quaker, and was several times imprisoned because of his religious faith. Having become, as before state, familiar with the region on the Delaware, and with the schemes for its colonization, he conceived the plan of founding a colony there on the broad principles of equality which his faith taught. Accordingly, in 1680, he petitioned King Charles the Second for a grant of a tract of land west from the Delaware river and south from Maryland, in liquidation of the claim which he had inherited from his father. After the discussion and arrangement of the preliminaries the petition was granted, and a charter signed by the king in 1681. Penn at first desired that the province might be called New Wales, and when objections were raised against this he suggested Sylvania. To this the king and his counselors prefixed Penn, for the double reason that the name would appropriately mean high woodlands, and that it was the name of a distinguished admiral, whose memory the king desired to honor. A royal address was at once issued informing the inhabitants that William Penn was the sole proprietor, and that he was invested with all the necessary governmental powers. A proclamation was also issued by William Penn to the people of his province, setting forth the policy which he intended to adopt in the government of the colony. A deputy was sent in the spring of the same year, with instructions to institute measures for the management of affairs and the temporary government of the province. In autumn of the same year he sent commissioners to make treaties with the Indians, and arrange for future settlement.

South from the province of Pennsylvania, along the Delaware bay, the Duke of York was still the proprietor of the country. Foreseeing the possibility of future annoyance to the commerce of his province, Penn was desirous of acquiring this territory; and accordingly entered into negotiations with the Duke of York for it, and in the autumn of 1682 he became the proprietor of the land by deeds, which, however, conveyed no political rights. In the autumn of 1682 Penn visited his province in the new world, took formal possession of the territory along Delaware bay, proceeded up the Delaware and visited the settlements along that river. During this year the celebrated treaty between William Penn and the Indians was made, it is said by some historians, under a large elm tree at Shakamaxon. By others it is insisted that no evidence exists of any such treaty at that place; but that the accounts of it that have passed into history were drawn largely from the fertile imaginations (sic) of early writers. Whether a treaty was held there or not, it is almost certain that during that year treaties were made between Penn and the Indians, and it is a historical fact that between the Indians and Quakers perfect faith was kept. Voltaire said of the treaty which was said to have been made at Shakamaxon: "It was the only one ever made between savages and Christians that was not ratified by an oath, and the only one that was never broken."

The three principal tribes of Indians which then inhabited Pennsylvania were the Lenni Lenapes, the Mingoes and the Shawnees. Their relations with the Swedes had been of a friendly character, and the pacific and kind policy of Penn and his Quaker colonists toward them bore fruit in strong contrast with that which the dishonest and reckless policy of other colonies, and of the United States government in later times, has brought forth.

The plan of the city of Philadelphia, which had been laid out by the commissioners that had preceded the proprietor, was revised by him, and the present beautiful and regular plan adopted, and even the present names given to the principal streets.

In the latter part of the year 1682 the first legislative body in the province was convened by the proprietor, who, though he was vested with all the powers of a proprietary governor, saw fit, in the furtherance of his original plan, to adopt a purely democratic form of government. This body was a general assembly of the people, and was held at the town of Chester, which was first called by the Swedes Upland. This assembly continued in session from the fourth till the seventh of December; during which time they enacted three laws, one of which was called the great law of Pennsylvania. It was a code of laws consisting of between sixty and seventy subjects or chapters, that had been prepared by the proprietor in England, and it was intended to cover all the exigencies which were deemed likely to arise in the colony. It secured the most ample religious toleration to all those faith agreed with that of the Friends-and only punished others by fine and imprisonment; thus exhibiting a marked contrast with the bigoted and intolerant Puritans in some of the New England colonies. It guaranteed the rights and privileges of citizenship to all tax-payers, guarded personal liberty, secured, as far as possible, by punishing bribery, the purity of elections, abolished the English law of primogeniture, discarded the administration of religious oaths and affixed the penalty of perjury to false affirmation, and established marriage as a civil contract. Drinking healths, drunkenness, or the encouragement of it, spreading false news, clamorousness, scolding, railing, masks, revels, stage plays, cards and other games of chance, as well as evil and enticing sports, were forbidden and made punishable by fine and imprisonment. It is a curious fact that all these laws have either been superseded by others or become obsolete.

The wise, just and generous policy which the proprietor adopted in the government of his province rendered him exceedingly popular, and the tide of immigration set so strongly toward this province that during the year 1682 as many as twenty-three ships laden with settlers arrived. During this year the proprietor divided the province into the three counties of Bucks, Philadelphia and Chester; and the territory, as it was termed, which he had acquired from the Duke of York, into Kent, New Castle and Sussex. In these counties he appointed officers, and made preparations for the election of a representative Legislature, consisting of a council of eighteen members, and an assembly of fifty-four. This Legislature assembled
CHAPTER II

GERMAN IMMIGRATION
THE ADMINISTRATIONS OF WILLIAM PENN AND SIR WILLIAM KEITH

As has been before stated, the first settlements in the province were made by Swedes, who occupied the country during about half a century previous to its purchase of William Penn. In all that time they made little progress toward developing the resources of the country. In the language of Watson: “They seem to have sat down contented in their log and clay huts, their leather breeches and jerkins and match coats for their men, and their skin jackets and linsey petticoats for their women; but no sooner has the genius of Penn enlisted in the enterprise than we see it speak a city and commerce into existence. His spirit animated every part of his colony; and the consequence was that the tame and unaspiring Swedes soon lost their distinctive character and existence as a separate nation.

Immigration was largely increased during 1683 and 1684. Settlers came from England, Ireland, Wales, Holland and Germany. Of those from the latter country many came from Cresheim and founded the village of Germantown. They were nearly all Quakers, and the settlement which they made was the nucleus around which collected so large a German population in after years that Pennsylvania became a German province, notwithstanding the large immigration from the British islands at first.

In 1683 and 1684 the controversy with regard to boundaries was renewed by Lord Baltimore, and the Marylanders were guilty of some acts of aggression. The province had come to number some 7,000 inhabitants, and it was a matter of importance that the boundary dispute should be settled. To accomplish this settlement, and for other reasons, Penn during 1684 sailed for England, after giving to the provincial council the executive power. Not long after his arrival in England Charles the Second died, and was succeeded on the throne by his brother James, Duke of York, between whom and Penn a strong friendship existed. The proprietary, therefore, easily obtained a favorable decree. In 1688 a revolution in England dethroned James and placed the regal power in the hands of William and Mary. This change destroyed the influence of Penn at the English court, and the friendship which had existed between him and James caused him to be regarded with suspicion. Slanders were circulated and believed concerning him, and he was even accused of treason and compelled for a time to go into retirement. In his absence discord and dissensions arose in the province, and these were made the pretext for depriving him of his proprietary government in 1693. He was, however, honorably acquitted and exonerated from suspicion, and reinstated in his proprietary rights in 1694. Dissensions in the province continued, however, till after the return of the proprietary with his family in 1699; and even his presence failed to wholly restore harmony.

Because of the increasing power of the proprietary governments in America, the plan had, since the accession of William and Mary to the crown, been entertained of purchasing these governments and converting them into regal ones. In 1701 a bill for that purpose was introduced in the House of Lords, and Penn revisited England for the purpose of endeavoring to prevent its passage. Before his departure a new constitution was adopted, and a deputy governor and council of State provided for and appointed. On his arrival the project of purchasing the proprietary government was dropped. In 1702 King William died, and was succeeded by Queen Anne, who entertained for Penn a warm friendship. Though the danger of being dispossessed of his proprietary government were not more harmonious. The disaffection on the part of the people in the lower counties, which he had endeavored to allay, led to a separation in 1703, and the departure a new constitution was adopted, and a deputy governor and council of State provided for and appointed. On his arrival the project of purchasing the proprietary government was dropped. In 1702 King William died, and was succeeded by Queen Anne, who entertained for Penn a warm friendship. Though the danger of being dispossessed of his proprietary government were not more harmonious. The disaffection on the part of the people in the lower counties, which he had endeavored to allay, led to a separation in 1703, and the return of the proprietary with his family in 1699; and even his presence failed to wholly restore harmony.

The Queen died in 1714, and was succeeded by George the First. Among the early acts of Parliament in the reign of this King was one extending to the English colonies a previous act disqualifying Quakers from holding office, serving on juries, or giving evidence in criminal case. Charles Gookin, who had been provincial governor since 1709, construed this act to be applicable to the proprietary government, and a disfranchisement of the Quakers in the province. This construction of the law of course called forth the indignation and opposition of the council, the Assembly, and the people, and led to the recall of Gookin in 1717, and the appointment of Sir William Keith in his stead. The latter was affable and courteous, cunning and crafty, and in all matters of
difference between the crown or proprietary, on one side, and the people on the other, he espoused the popular cause.

William Penn died at the age of seventy-four, in the summer of 1718. History will ever point to him as one who accomplished more for the cause of civil and religious liberty than any other man of his time, and to the provincial government which he founded and administered as the first successful experiment in the broadest liberty of conscience which had then been conceived, and the nearest approach to a government of themselves by the people that had ever been attempted. He was the representative of a despised and proscribed sect; but by his wise and liberal administration of the government of his province, in accordance with the principles of that sect, he did more to bring it to the favorable notice of the world than could otherwise have been done.

The American colonies at that time presented a curious spectacle. Maryland, a colony of Catholics, who were stigmatized as the most bigoted and intolerant sect in Christendom, had been established under a constitution the most liberal and tolerant of all that had been granted by the government of Great Britain; and Pennsylvania, a province of Quakers, whose tenets were almost the reverse of the Catholics, had added to this almost universal tolerance the largest civil liberty that had ever been enjoyed by a people; while the Puritans of the New England colonies, who professed to have fled from religious persecution in England, and to have sought an asylum where each could worship God, the common Father of all, according to the dictates of his own conscience, in the language of Egle, "excluded from the benefits of their government all of their government all who were not members of their church, and piously flagellated or hanged those who were not convinced of its infallibility." Almost two centuries have Penn established his colony in America, and except in those governments that are purely secular, or nearly so, in their character-political science has developed little that is essential to the welfare and happiness of humanity that was not embodied in his system.

The estate of William Penn passed at his death to his family, who inherited both his property and his proprietary government. He had made a will, previous to his agreement with Queen Ann, for the sale of his province; and his agreement was decided to be void because of his mental incapacity to consummate it. The proprietary government, therefore, devolved on his widow, as executrix of his will and of his property during the minority of his children, and it has been said of her that she manifested much shrewdness in the appointment of governors and general management of colonial affairs. It is said by Day: "The affection patriarchal relation which had subsisted between Penn and his colony ceased with his death; the interest which his family took in the affairs of the province was more mercenary in its character, and looked less to be establishment of great and pure principles of life and government."

The administration of Sir William Keith was quite successful. The favor with which he was regarded by the people enabled him to promote among them that harmony which is so essential to prosperity; and the colony was prosperous. There was a large influx of population, the character of which was more cosmopolitan than in former times. The persecutions of the Quakers in England had relaxed somewhat, and fewer, relatively, of them sought homes here; while people from other regions, and notably from Germany, came in great numbers. The popularity of Keith was such that he was able to accomplish two measures that had been looked on with great disfavor by the assembly—the establishment of a Court of Chancery, of which he was the chancellor; and the organization of a militia, of which he was the chief. On the other hand, by his good offices, "the Quakers, to their great joy, procured a renewal of the privilege of affirmation in place of an oath, and of the cherished privilege of wearing the hat whenever and wherever it suited them." He was deposed in 1726, through the influence of James Logan, the leader of the proprietary party. Franklin wrote of him: "If he sought popularity he promoted the public happiness, and his courage in resisting the demands of the family may be ascribed to a higher motive than private interest. The conduct of the Assembly toward him was neither honorable nor politic; for his sins against his principles were virtues to the people, with whom he was deservedly a favorite; and the House should have given him such substantial marks of their gratitude as would have tempted his successors to walk in his steps."

Keith's successor was Patrick Gordon. His administration continued during ten years, or until his death in 1736. Tranquility prevailed in the province during this time; the population, which in 1727 was more than fifty thousand, received large accessions, especially from Germany; internal improvements were prosecuted, and foreign commerce increased largely. Two of the proprietaries, John and Thomas Penn, came to the province; the latter in 1732, the former in 1734. John returned to England in 1735 on account of the aggressions of the Marylanders under Lord Baltimore, but Thomas remained in the country eight years longer. The demeanor of the latter was not such as to endear him to the people.

The first public library ever established in the province was projected in 1731 by Benjamin Franklin, and was incorporated in 1742. During the two years following the death of Mr. Gordon the president of the council, James Logan, was the executive officer of the province. The celebrated fraud known as the "Indian Walk" took place in 1737. That an unscrupulous Indian trader should be guilty of thus swindling ignorant savages would be no matter of surprise; but that the province of Pennsylvania should be a party to such a transaction is almost incredible. It is certain that it never would have received the sanction of William Penn, and it is equally certain that it was the foundation of an enmity that broke out in open hostility afterwards.
CHAPTER III

THE QUESTION OF TAXING THE PROPRIETARY ESTATES
WARS WITH THE FRENCH AND INDIANS

The proprietaries in 1738 appointed George Thomas governor, and the position was held by him till 1747. In the war between Great Britain and Spain which was declared in 1739 the assembly did not take measures to furnish the men required, and the governor was compelled to raise the quota of the province by his own exertions. In 1744 war broke out between France and England, and the aspect of Indian affairs in Pennsylvania and on its borders became threatening; but the storm was averted by the good offices of the Iroquois, who held the Delawares in subjection.

An unhappy condition of affairs existed at that time, and during some years afterwards, in the province. The proprietaries had little sympathy with the people, but as they grew rich by the enhanced value which the activity and enterprise of these people gave to their estates, they preferred the pomp and luxury of aristocratic life, and regarded the people with a measure of contempt. Under such circumstances it was not a matter of wonder that the people, through their representative, should not respond with alacrity to the demands of the governors appointed by these proprietaries. Governor Thomas resigned in 1747, and after an administration of two years by Anthony Palmer, president of the council, James Hamilton became lieutenant governor in 1749. The condition of things at that time cannot be better described than in the language of Sherman Day:

"An alarming crisis was at hand. The French, now hovering around the great lakes, sedulously applied themselves to seduce the Indians from their allegiance to the English. The Shawnee had already joined them; the Delawares waited only for an opportunity to revenge their wrongs, and of the Six Nations the Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas were wavering. The French were fortifying the strong points on the Ohio. To keep the Indians in favor of the colony required much cunning diplomacy, and expensive presents. In this alarming juncture the old flame of civil dissension burst out with increased force. The presents to the Indians, with the erection of a line of forts along the frontier, and the maintenance of a military force, drew heavily on the provincial purse. The Assembly, the popular branch, urged that the proprietary estates should be taxed as well as those of humble individuals. The proprietors, through their deputies, refused, and pleaded perogative, charter, and laws. The Assembly in turn pleading equity, common danger, and common benefit, requiring a common expense. The proprietaries offered bounties in lands yet to be conquered from the Indians, and the privilege of issuing more paper money; the Assembly wanted something more tangible. The Assembly passed laws laying taxes and granting supplies, but annexing conditions. The governors opposed the conditions, but were willing to aid the Assembly in taxing the people, but not the proprietaries. Here were the germs of revolution, not fully matured until twenty years later. Dr. Franklin was now a member and a leader in the Assembly. In the meantime the frontier were left exposed while these frivolous disputes continued. The pacific principles, too, of the Quakers and Dunkards and Mennonists and Schwenckfelders came in to complicate the strife; but as the danger increased they prudently kept aloof from public office, leaving the management of the war to sects less scrupulous."

Robert H. Morris, the successor of James Hamilton, became governor in 1754, and his successor, William Denny, in 1756. The same want of harmony between the proprietaries and the people continued during their administrations, but finally, through the efforts of Franklin, the royal assent was given to a law taxing the estates of the proprietaries. Settlements were made on lands to which the Indian title had not been extinguished, especially by the not over scrupulous Scotch Irish, and the result was a desultory Indian war, which kept up a very insecure feeling among the people of the province.

Such was the condition of the province at the breaking out of the French and Indian war a few years after the treaty of Aix-LaChapelle, which really was scarcely more than a temporary suspension of hostilities. It is well known to every one connected with American history, that at this time the French attempted to connect their possessions in Canada and Louisiana by a chain of military posts extending from Presque Isle, now Erie, to the navigable waters of the Ohio, and along that river to the Mississippi. In furtherance of this design they sent, in 1754, 1,000 men to the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers, where they built Fort DuQuesne, afterward, Fort Pitt; now Pittsburg. Against this was sent the disastrous expedition of General Barrack, a minute account of which cannot, for want of space, be given here. It may briefly be said, that by reason of his self conceit and obstinacy General Barrack sustained the most overwhelming defeat that an European army had ever met in America, and that he was mortally wounded in this action. General-then Colonel-George Washington greatly distinguished himself in this battle.

The dispute between the proprietaries and people continued, notwithstanding the country was suffering from the horrors of an Indian war. The proprietaries insisted on the exemption of their estates from taxation, and the Assembly yielded when the public safety was in jeopardy. Several councils were held with the Indians, and efforts were made through the interposition of the Six Nations, whose aid the authorities of the province invoked, to secure peace, with only partial success. In 1756 three hundred men under Colonel Armstrong crossed...
the Alleghenies and destroyed the Indian town of Kittanning; thus inflicting a severe blow on the savages, and driving them beyond the Allegheny river.

In 1764 General Gage instituted measures to drive the Indians from the frontiers by carrying the war into their country. He sent a corps under Colonel Bradstreet to act against the Wyandots, Chippewas and Ottawas, in the vicinity of upper lakes; and another, under Colonel Boquet, to go to the Muskingum and attack the Delawares,

In 1758 a change in the ministry in England was made, and under William Pitt the war was prosecuted with great energy. An expedition consisting of about 9,000 men was organized and sent against Fort DuQuesne. On the approach of this army the French burnt the buildings, evacuated the fort, and blew up the magazine. It was rebuilt and named Fort Pitt. This terminated hostilities in the valley of the Ohio. A series of successes followed in 1759 and 1760 at the north and west, which terminated the war, though a feeble effort was made by the French to retrieve their losses in Canada. The result was the final extinction of the French dominion in the Canadian provinces, which was confirmed by the treaty of Fontainbleau in 1762. The Kyasuta and Pontiac war, so called from the chiefs who planned it, broke out in 1763. Kyasuta was a Seneca, and Pontiac an Ottawa chief; and the scheme which they devised, for a war of quick extermination against the colonists, would have been no discredit to the ability of educated military chieftains. The savages had looked with approval on the construction by the French of a chain of forts from Presque Isle to the Ohio; for they saw in them a check upon the progress westward of the tide of settlement which threatened to dispossess them of their broad domains. When they saw these forts fall into the hands of the colonists, and thus cease to be a barrier against their aggressions, they became more alarmed for their own safety; and these wily chiefs conceived the project of attacking and overpowering the different defenses on the frontier simultaneously, and then rushing upon and exterminating the defenseless inhabitants in the settlements, and thus, by the terror which they inspired, preventing future encroachments. The time of harvest was chosen for this attack, and the plan was laid with such secrecy that the first intimation of it was the appalling war whoop with which it was commenced. So nearly successful were the savages that eight of the eleven forts attacked on the western frontier were taken. Scalping parties overran the frontier settlements of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, and the terror stricken inhabitants fled before them. Fort Pitt was invested, after the Indian fashion, during about three months, but was relieved by force under Colonel Boquet. About thirty of the settlers in Wyoming valley were killed by the Delawares, in revenge for the murder of Teedyuscung by a party of Iroquois, the latter having persuaded the Delawares that the murder was committed by the whites. Although there were, after the first eruption of hostilities, no large organized bands of hostile Indians, the frontier settlements were continually harassed by the authorities in the province against these marauding parties was insufficient. The pacific disposition of the Quakers, who controlled the government, was such as to call forth the remark that they were "more solicitous for the welfare of the bloodthirsty Indian than for the lives of the frontiersmen." Parkman says of them: "They seemed resolved that they would neither defend the people of the frontier nor allow them to defend themselves; and vehemently inveighed against all expeditions to cut off the Indian marauders. Their security was owing to their local situation, being confined to the eastern part of the province. "They seemed resolved hat they would neither defend the people of the frontier nor allow them to defend themselves; and vehemently inveighed against all expeditions to cut off the Indian marauders. Their security was owing to their local situation, being confined to the eastern part of the province.

John Penn, a grandson of the founder of the province, came to Pennsylvania in 1763 in the capacity of lieutenant-governor. His father and his uncle were then the proprietors and resided in England. The Penn family had all ceased to be Quakers, and had no conscientious scruples against defensive or aggressive war. General Gage had become commander of the military forces of the province, and Governor Penn vigorously seconded his efforts. He even, in 1764, offered by proclamation the following bounties for scalps, Indians, etc.: "For every male above the age of ten years captured, $150; scalped, being killed, $164; for every female Indian enemy, and every male under the age of ten years, captured, $130; for every female above the age of ten years scalped, being killed, $50."

The apathy which was manifested by the Assembly in 1763, and the insecure condition of the settlers toward the frontier, led to the formation of an independent organization known as the Paxtang Boys or Paxtang Rangers; so named because they were mostly inhabitants of Paxtang, or Paxton, and Donnegal, in Lancaster county. Such was the feeling of insecurity in advanced settlements that men were compelled to keep their rifles at their sides while at work in their fields, and even while attending divine worship. These rangers, by their vigilance and activity, and by the severe punishments which they inflicted on the savages, became in turn a terror to the m. They were mostly composed of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, between whom and the Quakers no very friendly feeling existed. The latter strongly censored what they termed the barbarities of the rangers; and fierce dissensions arose between them. The Paxtang men finally fell upon a small tribe of Indians at Conestoga, in Lancaster county, and put many of them to death, because as they alleged, they had discovered that these Indians, while professing friendliness, were secretly harboring their hostile brethren, and furnishing them with information and supplies of ammunition, etc. They also insisted that the Christian or Moravian Indians were guilty of the same treachery, and the latter were compelled to flee to Philadelphia to avoid their vengeance. These acts of rangers called forth the still more vehement protests of the Quakers, and even at the present day historians are not agreed as to whether or not their action was justifiable. None of them were ever convicted in the courts of the province.

In 1764 General Gage instituted measures to drive the Indians from the frontiers by carrying the war into their country. He sent a corps under Colonel Bradstreet to act against the Wyandots, Chippewas and Ottawas, in the vicinity of upper lakes; and another, under Colonel Boquet,
During the ten years between 1765 and 1775 two questions of boundary were settled. One, that of the line between Pennsylvania and Maryland, had long been entered into for its settlement. In 1763 Thomas and Richard Penn and Frederick Lord Baltimore entered into an arrangement for the establishment of this line, and commissioned Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon to survey and mark it. This work they completed in 1767, having surveyed and marked with milestones of oolite (brought from England) the southern boundary of Pennsylvania, except about twenty-two miles at its western end, where they were prevented by the Indian proprietors. Thus originated the celebrated "Mason and Dixon's line." The other boundary question was raised by Lord Dunmore, of Virginia, who claimed the territory that now includes the counties of Fayette, Greene and Washington, and even a portion of Allegheny. He encouraged settlers to take from Virginia the titles to their lands there, and even sent an agent to take possession of Fort Pitt, when it was evacuated by General Gage. The settlers were a bad class of men; and by reason of the lawless acts of some, especially two named Cresap and Greathouse, a frontier Indian war occurred. The Virginia claim was promptly repelled.

At the conclusion of the Indian war of 1763 and 1764 the old controversy concerning the taxation of the proprietary estates was revived, and Dr. Franklin at once became the champion of the popular cause in the Assembly. That body became so indignant at the conduct of the governor that they resolved to petition the King to purchase the proprietary jurisdiction, and place the province in direct relation with the crown. "Here", says Day, "was a most important step toward the Revolution. To break down the feudal power, and bring the people and the crown in direct communication, is, in all countries, the first great step toward popular freedom, and prepares the way for the next step-the direct conflict between the crown and the people. It so happened, however, that, in this case the avarice of British ministry outran the anti-feudal propensities of the people, and brought the colonies at once to the last great struggle between the people and the crown." Dr. Franklin was sent by the province to London to urge before the ministry the measure of relief from the proprietary dominion; but on his arrival he found that the conflict was with the very power the protection of which he had come to invoke.

The wars which had raged in the colonies, and in which the home government had assisted, had called the attention of the ministry to the rapidly increasing wealth of those colonies. The plan was conceived of making that wealth available her exhausted treasury and securing the exclusive control of the colonial trade. The accomplishment of this double object involves the question of taxation without consent and without representation in the legislative body imposing the tax. This was the point of which the American Revolution turned. Parliament insisted on its right to tax any part of the British dominions, and the colony is held that they were not safe if they might thus be despoiled of their property without their consent, and by a parliament in which they were not represented. In view of this momentous question the contentions with the proprietaries were forgotten. In 1764 an act was passed imposing duties on certain articles not produced in his majesty's dominions. This was followed the next year by the odious stamp act, which declared instruments of writing void if not written on stamped paper on which a duty was paid. This was resisted and the paper refused in the colonies, and the determination was formed by the colonies to establish manufactories, to the end that they might not be dependent on the mother country. By reason of the consequent clamor of English manufacturers, and the impossibility of executing the law without a resort to force, the stamp act was repealed was coupled with a declaration of the absolute power of parliament over the colonies.

The next offensive act was the imposition of duties on goods imported from Great Britain; but this was resisted by the colonists, who would accede to nothing which involved taxation without consent. A circular was addressed by Massachusetts to her sister colonies recapitulating their grievances, and the arguments against the oppressive acts. Governor Penn was ordered by the colonial secretary in London to urge upon the Assembly a disregard of this, and, in case this advice was not heeded, to prorogue it. The Assembly asserted, by resolution, its right to sit at its own pleasure, and to consult with the other colonies concerning matters pertaining to the welfare of all; and it gave a cordial assent to the recommendation by Virginia for a concert of action in order to peacefully obtain a redress of their grievances. The impost was reduced in 1769, and in 1770 abolished, except that on tea, which was continued at three pence per pound. The colonists, however, were opposed to the principle on which the tax was based, and not to its amount, and their resistance to the importation of taxed goods was concentrated on the tea tax. In Pennsylvania one chest was imported and the duty paid; but generally the nonimportation policy prevailed. Under these circumstances the ideal right of taxation was asserted and no collision was provoked. In order to make a practical
application of this right, however, East India Company was encouraged by parliament to send a consignment of tea to each of the principal ports in the colonies, to be disposed of by the agents appointed by the company, and thus to force it on the people. The colonists in all the provinces were indignant at this insidious attempt.

"The course of Pennsylvania was from the first firm, but temperate. A meeting at Philadelphia passed resolutions denouncing the duty on tea as a tax without their consent, laid for the express purpose of establishing the right to tax; and asserting that this method of providing a revenue for the support of government, the administration of justice and defense of the colonies, had a direct tendency to render assemblies useless and to introduce arbitrary government and slavery; and that steady opposition to this plan was necessary to preserve even the shadow of liberty. They denounced all who should aid in landing or selling the tea as enemies to their country, and enjoined the consignees to resign their appointment." Under such a pressure the consignees declined to receive it. In Charleston it was landed in a damp warehouse and permitted to rot. At New York a vigilance committee forbade the pilots to bring the vessel having the tea on board into the harbor, and escorted a captain who attempted to bring in some as a private venture out of the harbor, after airing and watering his tea. At Boston the vessel having the tea on board was boarded by a party of men disguised as Indians, and the tea thrown overboard. In consequence of these proceedings measures were adopted by the British government to coerce submission on the part of the colonists. Upon Massachusetts, which had manifested the most violent opposition, the vials of British wrath were most freely poured out.

In 1774 the act known as the Boston port bill, by which the port of Boston was closed and the custom house removed to Salem, was passed. This was soon followed by an act vesting the appointment of colonial officers in the crown; by another, authorizing the extradition for trial of persons charged with capital offences; and by still another, for quartering soldiers in the inhabitants. All the colonies sympathized and made common cause with Boston and Massachusetts, though in each colony there were some people who sympathized with the crown. These were termed tories, while the advocates of colonial rights were called whigs—names by which the two parties were known throughout the Revolution.

The province of Pennsylvania did not waver at this juncture in its adhesion to the colonial cause. On being requested to convene the Assembly Governor Penn of course declined, and a meeting consisting of about eight thousand people was held, at which a general colonial congress was recommended and a committee of correspondence appointed. Subsequently a convention of delegates from all the counties in the province assembled, at which a series of temperate but firm and patriotic resolutions were adopted, asserting both their loyalty and their rights, and reiterating the recommendation for a general congress. The convention also adopted instructions to the Assembly that was about to convene. These written by John Dickinson, one of the foremost patriots in the province. The following extracts are quoted to show the animus of these patriots: "Honor, Justice and Humanity call upon us to hold and transmit to our posterity that liberty which we received from our ancestors. It is not our duty to leave wealth to our children, but it is our duty to leave liberty to them. No infamy, iniquity or cruelty can exceed our own if we, born and educated in a country of freedom, entitled to its blessings and knowing their value, pusillanimously deserting the post assigned us by Divine Providence, surrender succeeding generations to a condition of wretchedness from which no human efforts, in all probability, will be sufficient to extricate them; the experience of all States mournfully demonstrating to us that when arbitrary power has been established over them even the wisest and bravest nations that have ever flourished have in a few years degenerated into abject and wretched vassals. * * * To us, therefore, it appears at this alarming period our duty to our God, our country, to ourselves and to our posterity, to exert our utmost ability in promoting and establishing harmony between Great Britain and these colonies, on a constitutional foundation." "Thus," says Sherman Day, "with loyalty on their lips, but with the spirit of resistance in their hearts, did these patriots push forward the Revolution."

The Assembly appointed delegates to the Congress, which met in September at Philadelphia. This Congress adopted resolutions approving of the resistance of the people of Massachusetts, and took measures to prohibit imports from or exports to Great Britain, unless grievances were redressed. It also adopted a declaration of rights and enumeration of grievances, an address to the people of Great Britain, another to the people of British America and a loyal address to the crown. It also adopted articles of confederation, which act may rightly be considered the beginning of the American Union. A bill was adopted by parliament prohibiting the people of the provinces from fishing on the banks of Newfoundland, and at about the same time an ingeniously framed act, which made apparent concessions, but retained the doctrine against which the colonies contended, and which was intended to divide them. Pennsylvania was the first colony to which this proposition was presented, and the first colony to which this proposition was presented, and the Assembly, to whom it was presented by Governor Penn, promptly rejected it; declaring that they desired no benefits for themselves the acceptance of which might injure the common cause, "and which by a generous rejection for the present might be finally secured for all."

Another provincial convention was held in Philadelphia in January, 1775, at which resolutions were adopted recommending the strict enforcement of the non-importation pledge, and the production and manufacture of every thing required for the use of the inhabitants; enumerating many of the articles to be produced or manufactured, including gunpowder, which was said to be necessary for the Indian trade.
CHAPTER V

REVOLUTION IN THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
PENNSYLVANIA A STATE-BATTLES OF 1776 AND 1777
INDIAN WARFARE

In 1775, hostilities commenced. The battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill were fought, and a British army invaded the country. Congress met and organized an army, at the head of which General Washington was placed. At the same time that it thus provided for the public defense, it adopted a "humble and dutiful petition to the King," which was presented but to which was given no answer. A military association, having branches in each county, was formed, with a full code of rules for its government. The Assembly met and made provision for raising four thousand three hundred troops-the quota of the province. In view of the troublesome position which the Quakers occupied, the Assembly enacted that all able-bodied men who refused to bear arms (ministers and purchase servants excepted) should contribute an equivalent for the time and expense of others in acquiring the necessary discipline.

A committee of safety was appointed which assumed executive functions. A provincial navy was equipped, and measures were taken to protect Philadelphia against any naval force ascending the Delaware river. Later a continental navy was established.

The Continental Congress during its session of May, 1775, recommended to those colonies where no government sufficient to meet the exigencies of the times existed, to adopt such governments. It was determined by the whigs, in pursuance of this resolution, to throw off the proprietary government, by which they were hampered. The conservatives and Tories opposed this, but the times were revolutionary and the whigs prevailed. It was resolved that the new government should emanate from the people, and that the Assembly, the members of which were shackled by their oaths of allegiance to the crown, should have no voice in its formation. A convention consisting of delegates from all the countries, for the formation of a new constitution, was called, through the committee of conference and observation of Philadelphia. In the choice of delegates to this convention no one was permitted to vote who refused to abjure all allegiance to the King of Great Britain, or who was suspected of being an enemy to American liberty.

The Declaration of Independence was adopted July 4th, 1776, and this convention assembled on the 15th of the same month. It not only entered on the task of forming a constitution, but assumed legislative powers and appointed delegates to Congress. It may here be remarked that such of these delegates as had not already done so affixed their signatures to the Declaration of Independence.

The work of the convention was completed on the 28th of September, and the new-formed constitution committed to the keeping of the council of safety until the meeting of the General Assembly of the State. The provincial Assembly met on the 23rd of the same month, and quietly expired, with a feeble denunciation on its lips of the assumed legislative power of the convention. Thus, at about the same time, the proprietary government in Pennsylvania ceased by the action of the people in the province, and the colonies cast off their allegiance to the crown of Great Britain.

The population of Pennsylvania was about 300,000 at the time when it became a State and assumed its position among its sisters States in the American Union. The Declaration of Independence had been made, but that independence was to be maintained; and, as subsequently proved, by the sacrifice of many lives and the expenditure of much treasure.

The limits of this sketch will not permit a detail of Revolutionary events that occurred beyond the boundaries of the State, though many of those events were important factors in the history of the State at that time, and of the events of which Pennsylvania was the theatre little more than a brief mention can be made.

December, 1776, found General Washington on the west bank of the Delaware near Trenton. He had crossed New Jersey before the advancing army of General Howe, who was posted on the opposite side of the river, waiting for the formation of ice on which to cross, that he might move on Philadelphia. General Washington had secured all the boats on the river, and on the night of the 25th of December he recrossed the river with 2,400 men twenty pieces of artillery, attacked the Hessians in Trenton and defeated them, capturing six cannon and 900 prisoners, with whom he again crossed into Pennsylvania. The loss of Americans in this action was two soldiers killed and two who perished by cold. General Washington at once returned to Trenton, where he was joined by about 3,000 Pennsylvania militia under General Mifflin and Cadwallader. The battle of Princeton was fought soon afterward, and the army went into winter quarters at Morristown, New Jersey. The next summer, after some manoeuvring (sic) in New Jersey, evidently for the purpose of drawing General Washington from his position, General Howe embarked his forces at New York, intending to attack Philadelphia by way of the Delaware river. After entering Delaware bay he returned to the ocean, sailed up the Chesapeake bay and landed near the head of Elk river. On the sailing of the British army from New York General Washington moved his army into Pennsylvania, and encamped near Germantown to watch the development of General Howe's plans. General LaFayette joined General Washington at that time, and shared with him the hard ships and privations of camp.

The army of General Howe advanced toward Philadelphia and was met by that of General Washington at
the Brandywine, where a battle was fought the 11th of September, and the American forces suffered a defeat and retired to Germantown. Washington soon afterward crossed the Schuylkill and prepared for battle again, but a heavy rain storm prevented the action. General Howe entered Philadelphia with a portion of his army, and the balance encamped at Germantown. Upon this force Washington made an unsuccessful attack while a portion of it was assisting the British shipping to effect a passage through the Delaware river. This was early in October. On the 22nd of the same month an attack was made on Forts Mifflin and Mercer, commanded the Delaware opposite the mouth of the Schuylkill. After an obstinate garrison the action was compelled to evacuate them. In this affair the enemy lost two ships by reason of the effective service of the Pennsylvania Street fleet. After the surrender of General Burgoyne at Saratoga the army of Washington was reinforced by that of General Gates, and it encamped in a strong position at Whitemarsh. From this position the British commander endeavored to draw General Washington, but without success. The American army finally went into winter quarters at Valley Forge, a place which will ever be noted as the scene of the most intense suffering which the Revolutionary patriots were called on to endure during their struggle for independence. While they were shivering barefooted and half naked in their huts at this place, the British soldiers were snugly quartered and well fed and their officers feted and feasted by the tories in Philadelphia.

In the spring of 1778 an attempt was made by the English government through commissioners to effect a reconciliation. Whether or not an honorable reconciliation was desired may be judged by the fact that they offered Joseph Reed, one of the delegates in Congress from Pennsylvania, f10,000 and the best office in the colonies to aid them in their purposes. His reply should be remembered:-"I am not worth purchasing, but such as I am the King of Great Britain is not rich enough to do it."

It was in the spring of 1778 that French entered into a treaty with the Americans, and sent four frigates and twelve ships to the Delaware. In consequence of this Sir Henry Clinton, who had succeeded Lord Howe in command of the British, army decided to evacuate Philadelphia, which he did, marching his forces across New York. Washington pursued, and engaged the enemy at Monmouth and compelled them to give way. Philadelphia again became the capital in the latter part of June, 1778. Some trials were had for high treason, and several of those convicted were executed, greatly to the alarm of the tories and Quakers. They had been emboldened by the temporary success of the British arms, and these examples seemed necessary to inspire them with terror and prevent future treasonable acts, as well as to appease the vengeance of the whigs who had suffered at their hands.

By the evacuation of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania ceased to be the theater of important warlike events. The English government had, however, induced the Indians of the Iroquois nations in New York and those of the territory west from Pennsylvania to engage in hostilities against the people of the struggling States. This warfare was waged in accordance with their "known rule." Incursions were made, defenseless settlements attacked, and people of every age, sex and condition" were ruthlessly murdered. The settlements in many regions were left unprotected, because nearly all the men capable of bearing arms had responded to their country's call and joined the Revolutionary army. In 1777 the northern frontier on New York was the scene of many of these savage irruptions, and the frontier settlements of these States were scarcely troubled by marauding parties. They doubtless enjoyed this immunity because of the proximity of troops, which could be quickly sent to protect these settlements. In 1778 the storm of Indian warfare burst on them. A descent was made on the Wyoming valley by a force of British, tories and Indians, commanded by Colonel John Butler. Many of the inhabitants were cruelly massacred and the valley was devastated. A descent was also made on the branch of the Susquehanna by a force of Indians, tories and British, under Colonel MacDonald. The frontier settlements in Westminster county also were ravaged by scalping parties. A force under General McIntosh was sent to protect the western frontier, which was done by the erection of forts and by expeditions into the country of the hostile savages.

The Indian villages at Wyalusing, Shesequin and Tioga were destroyed by a small force under Colonel Hartley. In order to punish the most audacious of these savages, and prevent, if possible, future depredations by them, General Sullivan was sent with a sufficient force in the summer of 1779 up the Susquehanna into the Genesee valley, the heart of the country of the Senecasthe most powerful and warlike nation of the Iroquois-with orders "to cut off their settlements, destroy their crops, and inflict on them every other mischief that time and circumstances would permit". This work was thoroughly accomplished. A battle was fought on the Chemung river at Newtown (Elmira), in which the Indians, under the celebrated Mohawk chief Brant, and the tories, under Colonel John Butler, were routed. The valley of the Genesee was devastated, forty towns were burned, orchards were cut down, corn fields were ravaged, and one hundred and sixty thousand bushels of corn destroyed. From this blow the warlike Senecas never recovered. Though marauding parties continued to go forth, they were not afterward able to send out any large force.

Colonel Brodhead, at about the same time, went on an expedition against the Indians on the west branch of the Allegheny and destroyed the crops and villages there, and cut off a party of forty who had started on an expedition to the frontier of Westmoreland county.
CHAPTER VI

LATER EVENTS OF THE REVOLUTION
WAR WITH THE WESTERN INDIANS
CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

During the year 1780 much difficulty was experienced on account of the depreciation of the paper currency, which the exigencies of the war had made it necessary to issue. Efforts were made by the Assembly to relieve the State from this embarrassment, with only partial success. In 1781, in accordance with a plan of Robert Morris, who justly earned the title of “the financier of the Revolution,” the Bank of North America was chartered by Congress, and charters were also granted to it by Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. The effect of this was immediately beneficial to the commercial and financial interests of the country. The Pennsylvania charter was revoked by the Legislature in 1785, but was restored in 1787.

During 1780 the Legislature enacted a law reorganizing the militia system of the State, in order that any sudden emergency might be promptly met. In view of the exigencies of the times authority was vested in the executive to declare martial law during the recess of the Assembly, so far as should be necessary under circumstances that might arise. It was resolved, also, that in extraordinary efforts that were found necessary to obtain supplies, discrimination might be made between the friends of the country and those who had shown themselves to be otherwise. To guard against spies, authority was given to arrest all suspicious persons and prevent the admission of strangers indiscriminately. The horses and other property of domestic enemies were seized, and the houses of Quakers were searched for arms.

The entrance into New Jersey of the British army under Sir Henry Clinton was the cause of great alarm, but this army did not advance on Philadelphia. Soon afterward four thousand of the militia were ordered out to assist in a projected attack on New York, but by reason of the non-arrival of the French troops the project was abandoned, and the militia force, which had its rendezvous at Trenton, was disbanded.

The treason of Benedict Arnold occurred in the autumn of 1780. Awhile in command at Philadelphia in 1778 General Arnold became allied by marriage with a distinguished tory family in that city, and the intimacy with British officers into which this relation threw him, together with the sting which his sensitive nature received by being court-martialed for some irregularity, may have led him to his fatal error. Soon after the receipt of the news of his treason in Philadelphia, his effigy was paraded through the streets and hanged, his wife was ordered to leave the city within fourteen days, and his estate was confiscated. Still more rigorous proceedings were instituted against the Tories and Quakers, one of whom was convicted of high treason and hanged.

In January, 1781, a revolt occurred among the Pennsylvania troops, who were in winter quarters at Morristown, under command of General Wayne. About thirteen hundred of the disaffected left the camp and established their quarters at Princeton. The causes of this mutiny were depreciation of the currency in which the men were paid, arrearages of pay and suffering for want of money and clothing, and the retention in the service of some beyond the terms of their enlistment. There was nothing treasonable in their revolt. On the contrary, two emissaries who were sent to them with large offers from the commander of the British forces were seized, delivered to General Wayne, tried as spies, convicted and executed. An investigation was instituted by General Wayne and President Reed, their grievances were redressed, and they returned to their duty.

In the spring of 1781 the Pennsylvania troops under General Wayne joined the force of La Fayette, and marched to join the force of General Greene. Fearing an attack upon Philadelphia by the troops from New York, Congress recommended the calling out of three thousand militia. They were ordered to rendezvous at Newtown, in Bucks county, where they remained till the departure of the British troops from New York for the relief of Cornwallis allayed all fear for the safety of Philadelphia, when they were disbanded.

In October, 1781, the army of Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, thus virtually ending the war of the Revolution. Pending the negotiation of a treaty of peace, which was signed November 30th, 1781, the Assembly of Pennsylvania unanimously adopted a resolution disapproving of a reunion with Great Britain on any terms; against the conclusion of a treaty of peace with England without the concurrence of France, and against the revival of the proprietary family privileges. Such had been the bitter experience of the people of Pennsylvania under the propriety government and the British yoke that they were determined to guard against everything that could lead to a recurrence of that experience.

Although the chartered boundaries of Pennsylvania were settled before the termination of the Revolutionary war, the Indian title to all the territory within those limits had not been extinguished. Purchases from the Indians had been made in 1736 and previously, in 1749, in 1758 and 1768. These amounted to about two-thirds of the chartered territory. The balance, lying in the northwest part of the State, was purchased from the Iroquois at the treaty of Fort Stanwix in October, 1784, and the purchase was confirmed by the Delawares and Wyandots at Fort McIntosh in January, 1785. Notwithstanding this purchase the Delaware and Wyandots kept up a barbarous warfare against the settlers, and in addition to the expeditions that had been sent against them, among which was that of the ill fated Crawford in 1782, Charmer in 1791 and Wayne from 1792 to 1795 conducted campaigns against them. The last in August, 1795, concluded a treaty with them which terminated hostilities. “Besides these expeditions,” says Sherman Day, “there was an undercurrent of partisan hostilities.
constant'y maintained between the white savages on the frontier and the red, in which it was difficult to say on which side was exhibited the greatest atrocity." It has been said that a State constitution was adopted in 1776 to supersede the proprietary government. Under this constitution an assembly elected annually was the legislative department; a council of twelve persons was chosen for three years and by joint ballot of the assembly and council a president was elected, which constituted the executive department. It also provided for the choice septennially of a council of censors to revise the doings of the Legislature and executive, pass censures, recommend repeals, etc. This constitution was defective, though an improvement on the proprietary government.

In December, 1779, the royal charter was annulled by an act of Assembly, and the proprietaries were granted f130,000 sterling to compensate them for their lost privileges, they retaining their real estate and rents. In 1780 the act for the gradual extinction of slavery was passed. In recommending this action the executive council said: "Honored will that State be in the annals of mankind which shall first abolish this violation of the rights of mankind."

In 1787 the convention which framed the constitution of the United States sat in Philadelphia. It concluded its labor on the 18th of September, and on the 12th of the following December a convention called for the purpose by the Assembly ratified it, thus placing Pennsylvania first on the list of Estates which adopted it. After the adoption of the federal constitution the defects of the State constitution of 1776 were more than ever before apparent. Chief Justice McKean had said of it: "The balance of the one, the few and the many is not well poised in the State; the Legislature is too powerful for the executive and judicial branches. We have now but one branch; we must have another branch, a negative in the executive, stability in our laws and permanency in the magistracy before we shall be reputable, safe and happy."

In accordance with a resolution of the Assembly, delegates were chosen at the October election in 1789 to frame a new constitution. They assembled in November of the same year, and after a long session completed their labors, and the constitution which they formed was adopted in September, 1790.

In this the general plan of the Federal constitution was followed. The executive department was vested in a governor, elected by the people; the legislative in a Senate and Assembly, while the judicial system was not greatly changed, except that the tenure of office of the judges of the higher courts was during good behavior instead of seven years, as before. The supreme executive council and the council of censors were of course abolished.

In 1837 the constitution was revised by a convention assembled for that purpose and the changes which were recommended were adopted the next year. Among these were alterations in the tenure of offices, an abridgment of the powers of the Legislature, the taking away of nearly all executive patronage and an extension of the elective franchise.

Another revision of the constitution was made by a convention for that purpose in 1873, and the amended constitution was adopted the same year. This constitution abolished especial legislation, changed the time of annual elections, altered the tenure of the judiciary, modified the pardoning power, provided for minority representation, for biennial sessions of the Legislature, for an increase in the number of both branches of the Legislature, and made other important changes.

In 1794 an attempt was made to lay out a town where the city of Erie-then called Presque Isle, from the peninsula which shelters the excellent harbor at that point-now stands. The small triangle necessary to secure this harbor was purchased from the Indians in 1789, and from the United States in 1792. Resistance to this settlement by the Seneca Indians was apprehended, by reason of a misunderstanding on the part of the latter, and the matter was postponed to the next year, by which time matters were arranged with them. The western tribes were at that time hostile.

CHAPTER VII

THE PENNAMITE WAR--WHISKEY INSURRECTION
"MOLLY MAGUIRE" OUTRAGES--THE RIOTS OF 1877

What has always been known as the Pennamite war, arose out of the conflicting claims of the colonies of Connecticut and Pennsylvania to the territory included between the forty-first and forty-second parallels of latitude-now in this State.

In 1662 King Charles the Second confirmed to the colony of Connecticut the title which it had previously, acquired to this territory; and in 1681 the same monarch granted a portion of the same territory to William Penn. In 1762 settlers from New England took possession of lands in the Wyoming valley, and during that and the succeeding year made some improvements there; but in the autumn of 1763 they were driven away by the Indians.

They returned in 1769, but about the same time parties claiming titles under the Pennsylvania grant took possession of a portion of the same territory. An attempt was made by the Connecticut settlers to forcibly eject these, and thus was inaugurated a contest and a series of conflicts, which, though they were suspended during the Revolutionary war, were renewed after ward, and were not finally settled till about the year 1800.

What has usually been termed the whiskey insurrection assumed somewhat formidable proportions in 1794. In 1684, 1738, 1744, 1772 and 1780 duties had been
imposed on domestic spirits by the Assembly of the province, but after a time the acts imposing these duties were repealed. In 1791, by
act of Congress, an excise of four pence per gallon was laid on all distilled spirits. This tax weighed heavily on the people of western
Pennsylvania, where in some districts a sixth of fifth of the farmers were distillers, and nearly all the coarse grain was converted into spirit
and this sent across the mountains or down the Ohio river to market. A majority of the inhabitants of this region were Scotch-Irish of their
descendants, and their recollections or traditions of resistance to the excise laws in the "old country" inclined them to follow here the
eamples of their fathers. In the year of the passage of the act resistance to its enforcement commenced, and meetings were held, at which
resolutions were passed denouncing all who should attempt the enforcement of the law, and excise officers were tarred and feathered and
otherwise maltreated. This resistance continued during the succeeding two or three years. People who were suspected of favoring the law
were proscribed, socially and otherwise, and open resistance to its execution, by violence to the persons and injury to the property of those
attempting to execute it, was practiced. This was the condition of things in the counties of Allegheny, Fayette, Washington and Westmoreland.
In 1794 Congress amended the law, but nothing short of absolute repeal would satisfy the malcontents, whose successful resistance had
greatly emboldened them. Armed and organized mobs assembled, attacked the houses of excise officers and burned their buildings, and
several persons were killed in these riots. Finally a large force assembled and marched on Pittsburg, determined to burn the house of an
excise officer there; but by adroit management they were prevented from doing any harm beyond burning a barn. These lawless proceed-
ings were reported to the authorities, and the President of the United States and the governor of the State issued proclamations command-
ing the insurgents to disperse, and calling for troops to suppress the insurrection. In obedience to this proclamation a force of about 13,000
was raised in Virginia, Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania, and under the command of Governor Henry Lee, of Virginia, marched to
the insurrectionary district. This averted the insurgents into obedience and no further trouble was experienced.

In 1798 the Fries insurrection, or "hot water war," as it was called because of the method adopted by the women in resisting the collection of the "house tax," occurred in Bucks and Montgomery counties. Troops were called out; Fries and others-leaderswere arrested, tried, and convicted of treason, but subsequently pardoned.

The Erie Railroad war, which occurred in the winter of 18534, is still fresh in the recollection of many. This arose out of the
opposition of the people of Erie to the action of what is now the Lake Shore Railroad Company in laying a track of uniform width through the
city. The track was torn up and bridges were destroyed by a mob encouraged by the city authorities, and travel was embarrassed during
several months. Order was finally restored, and Erie has since been widely known as the "peanut city."

About the year 1862 a reign of terror was inaugurated in some portions of the mining regions in the State of Pennsylvania, by the
discovery that there existed among the miners an organization of desperadoes who set the law at defiance, and aided and protected each
other in the blackest crimes known. This organization is popularly known as the Mollie Maguires, and it was transplanted in this country
about the year 1854 from Ireland. It was an organization for resistance to the landlords in that country, and took its name from a desperate
woman, who was very active and efficient in shooting landlords' agents. In this country it is said that it never existed as a distinct
organization, but that the secret acts of lawlessness and crimes that had characterized the Mollie Maguires came to be tolerated and even
sanctioned and abetted by the "Ancient Order of Hibernians," a benevolent institution which had long existed and which, in some States,
was incorporated. When they first attracted attention they were termed "Buckshots," and, although troublesome, they were not considered
very dangerous. Their crimes came to be more frequent and audacious. They resisted the enrollment for the draft in 1862. Arson, and the
assassination of those who incurred their displeasure, came to be a real terror in those regions. At length a skillful detective succeeded
in gaining admission to their order and obtaining a knowledge of its secret workings, and of the perpetrators of the many murders which
had been committed. The results was that many of these murders were brought to justice, and the order was rendered impotent by the
exposure of its dangerous character.

In the summer of 1877 what is known as the great strike occurred. This commenced in the city of Baltimore, among the employ-
ees of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, and rapidly extended the entire length of the road. Three days later, July 19th, certain
employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company also struck, or refused to work. The immediate cause or pretext for the strike at
Pittsburg was an order from the superintendent of the road extending the trip of a "crew:" thus-as it was saidrendering a smaller number of
men necessary and depriving a portion of their employment.

The exigencies of was of 1861-65 brought about unhealthy condition of things throughout the country. The currency was in-
flated; business acquired an abnormal activity; the prices of produce, of manufactured articles, and of labor were greatly enhanced, and a
general expansion took place. This engendered among all classes a degree of reckless extravagance unknown before, and when, after the
lapse of a few years, business gradually
came to be established on a more healthy basis, people found it difficult to adapt themselves to their changed surroundings, to practice the more rigid economy which those surroundings necessitated, and to appreciate the increased and steadily increasing value of a dollar. When, therefore, by reason of a depreciation in the prices of produce, a lessened demand for manufactured goods, and a consequent which the profits of manufacturers, it became necessary to reduce the price of labor, many labors, finding it hard to submit to these inevitable changes, and failing to appreciate the necessity for them, sought by the exercise of lawless force to compel producers, manufacturers, or carriers to continue the prices which they paid in more prosperous times.

Such was the condition of things at the commencement of this strike. At first certain railroads employees, who considered themselves aggrieved, refused to work, and sought by intimidation and force to prevent others from doing the work which they refused to do. At Pittsburgh these were joined by the idle, vicious and reckless who were not in the employ of the railroad company, and at once became more and more disorderly and defiant. The authorities were called on to protect the company's property, but the force failed to control the mob. The militia were called out, and some of the soldiers fraternized with the rioters, and others proved inefficient by reason of a mistaken aversion to firing on them, and finally allowed themselves to be driven from their position. The citizens took no measures to repress disorder, but rather looked on approvingly.

Under such circumstances the crowd constantly augmented, and became more and more desperate. Incendiaryism and pillage came to be the order of things, and property to the amount of millions of dollars was destroyed. Proclamations were issued by the governor, more militia were called out, and at last the citizens awoke from their apathy when they became aware that the city itself was in danger of destruction, and the riotous proceedings were finally quelled.

Meantime the strike had extended until it had become general along the Pennsylvania Railroad. Violence was resorted to and property destroyed at various places along the line of the road, but nowhere was there such a reign of terror as at Pittsburg. At Philadelphia the authorities took such ample precautions, and the police acted so promptly and efficiently when the riot broke out there, that it was at once put down. The governor visited riotous localities along the line of the road in person, accompanied by troops, and regular soldiers were furnished by order of the President and Secretary of War, on application of Governor Hartranft, to aid in restoring order.

At Reading riots broke out on the 22nd of July. The militia were called out, but proved inefficient, though one regiment, without orders, poured a volley into the assailing crowd, killing ten and wounding forty and scattering the rioters for the time. The presence of 300 regular troops finally awed the mob and restored order.

By the 24th the strike had extended to the mining regions, and was extensively participated in by the miners. Riots occurred at Pottsville, Shamokin, Bethlehem, Easton, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and elsewhere. Work in the mines was arrested, some mines were flooded, railroad property was destroyed and many lives were sacrificed in the riots and the efforts to quell them. The greatest destruction of property, however, was at Pittsburg, where the citizens have since been punished for the tacit encouragement which they at first gave the rioters, by being compelled to pay for the property destroyed.

CHAPTER VIII

HARRISBURG MADE THE CAPITAL
THE WAR OF 1812
INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS-SCHOOLS

The project of removing the capital of the State to a more central location began to be agitated during the last decade of the eighteenth century. In 1795, 1796 and 1798 efforts were made to accomplish such removal, but they failed for the want of concurrent action in the two branches of the Legislature. Carlisle, Reading, Lancaster, Wright's Ferry and Harrisburg were unsuccessfully proposed.

In 1799 Lancaster was selected, and the Legislature met there for the first time in December of that year. By an act of the Legislature in 1810 it was in 1812 removed from Lancaster to Harrisburg; and the sessions of the Legislature were held in the court-house at that place till the completion of the public building in 1821.

The war of 1812 had its origin in aggressions against the United States by Great Britain, which were continued during many years, notwithstanding the earnest protests of this nation. The rights of the United States as neutrals were disregarded during the Napoleonic wars, and among other encroachments the English government claimed the right to board and search American vessels, and authorized its officers to examine their crews, seize all those whom they chose to regard as British subjects, and force them into service. All remonstrances were unavailing. The English in enforcing this right of search committed great outrages, and the practice became so obnoxious as to demand some decided measures for its suppression. Under these circumstances there appeared no alternative but war; and Congress having authorized it, war against Great Britain was declared on the 19th of June, 1812. The measure was not universally sustained. The Federal party, then in the minority, opposed it; and their political opinions being apparently stronger than their patriotism, they loudly denounced it. The Federalists in New York and New England were most prominent in their opposition, and if they did not directly aid the enemy their conduct was discouraging.
and injurious to those who were periling their lives in their country's cause. This opposition was, however, quite impotent in Pennsylvania.

At the commencement of the war Governor Snyder issued a patriotic call for fourteen thousand volunteers; and such was the alacrity of the response that three times the number required tendered their services, and money was readily offered for the places of those who were accepted.

During this war Pennsylvania was not the scene of hostile operations, although her frontier was threatened. A force of British and Indians appeared on the north shore of the lake, opposite to Erie, in July, 1812; but the prompt measures that were taken for the defense of the port prevented an attack. The mouth of the Delaware was blockaded in 1813, and most of the foreign commerce of Philadelphia was cut off; but the river had been placed in such a state of defense that it was not invaded. A thousand men were sent to protect the shores of this river, and an equal force sent to guard the harbor of Erie, where vessels of war were in process of construction and equipment. The brilliant victory of Commodore Perry on the 10th of September, 1813, was the result of the fitting out of this naval force.

The ravaging of the shores of Chesapeake bay, and the burning of Washington, in 1813 and 1814, and the threatening attitude if the enemy after these depredation, induced Governor Snyder to issue another call for troops to defend the State against the peril which menaced it. In compliance with this a force of five thousand established a rendezvous on the Delaware, and although the soil of Pennsylvania was not invaded this force did good service in marching to the relief of Baltimore when it was attacked, and aiding to repel the enemy. It is worthy of note, as showing the difference in the patriotism of men from different sections of the country, that four thousand New York troops under General Van Rensselaer refused to cross the line into Canada, but that, soon afterward, a brigade of Pennsylvanians, consisting of two thousand, under General Tannehill, crossed without the slightest hesitation, glad to be able to meet the enemy on his own soil and do battle for their country. A treaty of peace between the two nations was ratified on the 17th of February, 1815.

The extensive system of internal improvements which has swallowed so many millions of money in this State was commenced about the year 1790. The first efforts were directed to the improvement of navigation in the rivers of the State; then as time went on, construction of a system of canals and turnpikes was entered on, and prosecuted beyond that of any other State in the Union. The grand project of securing the trade of the West, through a connection between Philadelphia and the waters of the Ohio at Pittsburg, by a line of public works, was realized in 1831. In order to secure the influence and votes necessary to authorize this it had been found necessary to construct other canals in various parts of the State, the inhabitants of which desired to participate in the benefits of the system of internal improvements, and thus that system in this State came to exceed in magnitude that of any other.

It was not possible, however, for the wisest of those who projected and promoted this system of improvements to foresee the rise and rapid progress of another system, which was to take the place of and wholly supersede that which, at such an enormous expense, they inaugurated and carried forward.

In 1827 a railroad, nine miles in length, the longest then in existence in America, was constructed from Mauch Chunk to some coal mines. Only two had preceded this-one, with a wooden track, at a stone quarry in the country of Delaware, Penn., and another, having a length of three miles, at a quarry in Quincy, Mass. Since that time the railroad system of this country has developed to its present magnitude. A majority of the canals are dry, many have been converted into railroad beds, and even the rivers and lakes of the country have dwindled into comparative insignificance as avenues of travel or transportation. In 1857 the principal line of public works between Pittsburg and Philadelphia was sold to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for a fraction of its cost, and measures were at once taken for the sale of the other works belonging to the State thus do systems, one after another, develop and pass away, and no prevision can point out what is to come.

While it is true that in some of the States of the Union the present system of internal improvements, which has been fostered and encouraged by those States, has proved to be almost the ruin of their best interests, the reverse is true in Pennsylvania. The development of the immense mineral resources of the State required the construction of these avenues of transportation, and the cost of those built by the State, though they were afterward sold for only a part of that cost, was returned many fold in the increase of wealth which was the direct result of their construction. When the first canal was projected the use of anthracite coal was hardly known, and the cost of its transportation to market was so great as to preclude the possibility of its profitable use. With every increase in the facilities for the transportation of this important mineral it has been cheapened to the consumer, and its production has been rendered more profitable; and now large areas which have no value for any other purpose are sources of immense and constantly increasing wealth.

Previous to the year 1834 many acts were passed by the Legislature pertaining in some way to the subject of education. Some of these were local in their application, and some were little more than resolutions in favor of education. Isolated schools were established in various localities, in most of which provision was made for the education of their children of the poor. The people of the different religious denominations made provision for the education of their children, often establishing parochial schools. This was the case with the Quakers, the Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, the German Lutherans, the Mennonists, the Moravians, the Dunkards, etc. Nothing having the semblance of a public school system was established previous to the adoption of the constitution
of 1790, which required that provision should be made by law for the general establishment of schools wherein gratuitous instruction should be given to the children of the poor. From that time till 1827 efforts were from time to time made to establish a system in accordance with this requirement, but with only partial success, the radical defect in all being the distinction between the children of the rich and poor. In 1827 earnest and systematic efforts began to be put forth for the establishment of free schools for all, and in 1834 the foundation of the present common school system was laid, in the enactment of a law for the maintenance of schools by a tax on all taxable property. This law, which was at first imperfect, was revised and amended in 1836, 1849, 1854 and 1857, in which last year the present system of normal schools was established.

In 1863 the Pennsylvania Railroad Company donated to the State $50,000 for the education of soldiers’ orphans. In 1865 the Legislature added to this an appropriation of $75,000. Schools and homes were established for these wards of the State, and during several years an annual expenditure was made for this purpose of half a million of dollars. At these homes and school soldiers’ orphans were boarded, clothed, educated and taught habits of industry, and at a proper age were placed in situations to acquire trades or professions.

In 1749 an academy was established by subscription in Philadelphia "for instruction in the Latin and English languages and mathematics." This was the foundation of the University of Pennsylvania. This and Dickinson College, at Carlisle, which was founded in 1783, were the only colleges in the State previous to the commencement of the nineteenth century. There are now twenty-seven, of which five are purely secular or non-sectarian. There are also seventeen theological institutions, ten medical schools and one law school.

CHAPTER IX

PATRIOTIC ACTION IN THE MEXICAN AND CIVIL WARS
GOVERNORS OF PENNSYLVANIA

In 1846 war was declared by this government against Mexico, and by virtue of authority vested in him by Congress, the President called on Pennsylvania for six volunteer regiments of infantry, to hold themselves in readiness for service during one year, or to the end of the war. Such was the alacrity with which the citizens responded to this call, that within thirty days a sufficient number of volunteers had offered their services to constitute nine full regiments. Of these, between two and three regiments were sent into the country of the enemy, and their conduct at Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Chépultepec and the city of Mexico was highly creditable to themselves as well as to the State which they represented.

The promptitude with which Pennsylvania responded to call of the federal government in 1812 and 1846 was fully equaled by the readiness with which her citizens flew to arms at the breaking out of the great Southern rebellion. In anticipation of that event the citizens of Pittsburg had refused to allow arms to be taken from their arsenal and sent south by traitorous government officials; and, when the storm of war burst upon the country, the patriotism of the citizens of this State was aroused to such a pitch that, in response to the call for Pennsylvania's quota of the 75,000 first called for, fourteen regiments, enough for twenty-five, offered themselves.

A place of rendezvous, called, in honor of the governor of the State, Camp Curtin, was established at Harrisburg, and on the morning of April 18th, 1861, six days after the attack on Fort Sumter and three days after the proclamation calling for 75,000 men was issued five companies of volunteers left Harrisburg for Washington. They passed through Baltimore amid the jeers and imprecations of the mob, that followed them and hurled bricks, clubs and other missiles at them as they boarded the cars, and arrived at Washington on the evening of the same day. They were the first troops that reached the national capital, and for this prompt response to the call of their country, and for their coolness and courage in passing through the mob, they were afterward thanked, in a resolution, by the House of Representatives. Within twelve days, or before the first of May, twenty-five regiments, amounting to more than twenty thousand men, were sent from this State to the field. The expense of clothing, subsising, arming, equipping and transporting these troops was sustained by the State.

By the advance of General Lee toward the southern border of the state in September, 1862, an invasion of its territory was evidently threatened, and Governor Curtain, by proclamation, called for fifty thousand men to meet the emergency. These not only marched to the border, which they covered, but most of them crossed into the State of Maryland, and by their presence assisted in preventing the advance northward of the rebel army.

Another emergency arose in June, 1863, to meet which Governor Curtin issued a proclamation calling out the entire militia of the state. By reason of a lack of concert in the action of the State and National authorities, only a portion of this force was brought into service previous to the battle of Gettysburg. Of that battle the limits of this sketch will not permit a detailed account. It was the result of the second attempt to invade northern territory and it was a disaster to the rebels from which they never recovered.

The territory of the State was again invaded in July, 1864, and all the available troops in the State were sent forward to repel the invasion. The inhabitants along the southern border were considerably annoyed and injured by this invasion, and the town of Chambersburg burned. More than two hundred and fifty houses were burned.
fired by the rebels and the town was entirely destroyed involving a loss of about $2,000,000. It was an act of wanton vandalism.

Of Camp Curtin, there was established at the commencement of the war, it may be said that it was not only a place of rendezvous for soldiers and of deposit for military stores, but a depot for prisoners and a hospital for the sick and for the wounded after some of the great battles, especially the battles of Gettysburg and Antietam. It was early placed under the control of the federal government, and so continued till the close of the war.

A brief mention should be made of the part which the loyal women of the State bore in this conflict. Not only did they part with their husbands, sons and brothers, who went forth to do battle for their country and the preservations of its institutions, and in many cases to lay down their lives, but they put forth their efforts to provide and send forward to those who languished in distant hospitals those comforts which the government could not furnish; and many a sick or wounded soldier had occasion to bless his unknown benefactress for some delicacy or comfort of which he was the recipient.

During the continuance of this war the State of Pennsylvania furnished for the army two hundred and seventy regiments and many detached companies, amounting in all to 387,284 men. The following quotation from a special message of Governor Curtin, at the close of the war, is a well deserved tribute to the self-sacrificing patriotism of the people of this State:

"Proceeding in the strict line of duty, the resources of Pennsylvania, whether in men or money, have neither been withheld or squandered. The history of the conduct of our people in the field is illuminated with incidents of heroism worthy of conspicuous notice; but it would be impossible to mention them in the proper limits of this message, without doing injustice or perhaps making invidious distinctions. It would be alike impossible to furnish a history of the associated benevolence, and of the large individual contributions to the comfort of our people in the field and hospital; or of the names and services at all times of our volunteer surgeons, when called to assist in the hospital or on the battle field. Nor is it possible to do justice to the many patriotic and Christian men who were always ready when summoned to the exercise of acts of humanity and benevolence. Our armies were sustained and strengthened in the field by the patriotic devotion of their friends at home; and we can never render full justice to the heaven-directed, patriotic, Christian benevolence of the women of the State."

The following is a list of the governors of the colony, province and State of Pennsylvania, with the years of the appointment or election of each:

Under the Swedes: 1638, Peter Minuit; 1641, Peter Hollandare; 1643, John Printz; 1653, John Pappegoya; 1654, Johan Claudius Rysingh.

Under the Dutch: 1655, Peter Stuyvesant (Deryck Schmidt pro tem.); 1655, John Paul Jaquet; 1657, Jacob Alrichs; 1659, Alexander D. Hinyossa; 1662, William Beekman; 1663, Alexander D. Hinyossa; 1673, Anthony Colve (Peter Alrich's deputy).

Under the Duke of York: 1664, Colonel Richard Nichols (Robert Carr, deputy); 1667, Colonel Francis Lovelace.

Under the English: 1674, Sir Edmund Andross:

Under the proprietary government: 1681, William Markham, deputy; 1682, William Penn; 1684, Thomas Lloyd, president of the council; 1688, five commissioners appointed by the proprietor Thomas Lloyd, Robert Turner, Arthur Cook, John Symcock, John Eckley; 1688, John Blackwell, deputy; 1690, Thomas Lloyd, president of council; 1691, Thomas Lloyd, deputy governor; 1693, Benjamin Fletcher, William Markham, lieutenant governor; 1695, William Markham, deputy, 1699, William Penn; 1701, Andrew Hamilton, deputy; 1703, Edward Shippen, president of the council; 1704, John Evans, deputy; 1709, Charles Gookin, deputy; 1717, Sir William Keith, deputy; 1726, Patrick Gordon, deputy; 1736, James Logan, president of the council; 1738, George Thomas, deputy; 1747, Anthony Palmer, president of the council; 1748, James Hamilton, lieutenant governor; 1754, Robert H. Morris, deputy; 1756, William Denny, deputy; 1759, James Hamilton, deputy; 1763, John Penn; 1771, James Hamilton, president of the council; 1771, Richard Penn; 1773, John Penn.

Under the constitution of 1776 (presidents of the supreme council): 1777, Thomas Wharton; 1778, Joseph Reed; 1781, William Moore; 1782, John Dickinson; 1785, Benjamin Franklin; 1788, Thomas Mifflin.

Under subsequent constitutions: 1790, Thomas Mifflin; 1799, Thomas McKean; 1808, Simon Snyder; 1817; William Findlay; 1820, Joseph Heister; 1823, John Andrew Schultze; 1829, George Wolf; 1835, Joseph Ritner; 1839, David R. Porter; 1845, Francis R. Shunk; 1848, William F. Johnston; 1852, William Bigler; 185(-), James Pollock; (note: (-) is transcribers for illegible.) 1858, William F. Packer; 1861, Andrew G. Curtin; 1867, John W Geary; 1873, John F. Hartranft; 1878, Henry M. Hoyt.
IMPORTANT NOTE: THERE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE A PAGE 26 TO THIS BOOK. TABLE OF CONTENTS SKIPS FROM PAGE 25 TO PAGE 27 AND THERE WAS NO PAGE 26.
HISTORY OF
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

CHAPTER I

ANCIENT INHABITANTS-BERKS COUNTY

The Indians that inhabited eastern Pennsylvania at the time of its settlement by the whites were the Lenni Lenapes, or Lenapes as they termed themselves. They were called by the whites Delawares, after the name given to the river which forms the eastern boundary of the State. Of their traditions concerning their origin and migrations hither from the west, it is not necessary here to speak. When found here by the first settlers they were under the domination of the Mingoes or Iroquois, the warlike Six Nations, whose remarkable confederation had enabled them to conquer and reduce to subjection the tribes inhabiting a large extent of territory. They had, to use their form of expression, made women of the Lenapes. The latter were not permitted to engage in war, they could not sell their lands without the consent of their conquerors, nor could they even occupy them except by permission of their masters.

The almost fanatical admiration of Heckewelder for the Lenapes led him to credit the statement that they were not conquered, but that their submission was voluntary, or rather the result of intrigue on the part of the Six Nations. Other historians insist that the subjugation of the Lenapes was the result of conquest and was complete. When the Six Nations were called on in 1742 to remove the Delawares from lands that had been purchased, the chief, Canassatiago, in his celebrated speech at Philadelphia, said: "We conquered you, we made women of you; you know you are women; we charge you to remove instantly; we don't give you liberty to think about it." The noted Delaware chief Teedyuscung many years afterward said: "I was styled by my uncles the Six Nations. A woman in former years and had no hatchet in my hand, but a pestle or hominy pounder."

At the commencement of the French war, about 1755, the Iroquois brought to the Delaware a war belt and a piece of tobacco, and said to them: "Remember that the English have unjustly deprived you of much of your land, which they took from you by force. Your cause is just; therefore smoke of this tobacco and arise; join with us and our fathers, the French, and take your revenge. You are women it is true, but we will shorten your petticoats, and though you may appear by your dress to be women, yet by your conduct and language you will convince your enemies that you are determined not tamely to suffer the wrongs and injuries inflicted on you.

The Revolutionary was put an end to the power of the Iroquois, and terminated the relation of master and vassal which had subsisted between them and the Delawares.

Probably this region was never the permanent habitat of any Indian tribes. The Delaware on the east and the Susquehanna on the west afforded greater attractions for the savages. They were plentifully stocked with fish, and their broad bosoms were thoroughfares over which parties in their canoes could easily move from place to place. Their valleys also gave facilities for the rude agriculture of these, that the narrow valleys of the Schuylkill and its tributaries, in which flourished a thick undergrowth of laurel, did not afford. Thought the region was visited by straggling parties of hunters, because of the abundance of game with which the mountain forests were filled, no evidences are left here of any permanent settlements or even camping places. Traditions says that there was an ancient Indian village on or near Sculp Hill, in the vicinity of Orwigsburg, but no trace of its former existence now remains. The plough rarely turns up a trinket, and seldom is an arrow point or spear head found on the mountain side.

Schuylkill county was included in what was originally Chester, then Lancaster, then Berks, from which it was mostly taken. Chester was established in 1682; Lancaster in 1729, and Berks in 1752, from parts of Philadelphia county on the east of the Schuylkill river, and of Chester and Lancaster on the west side of the same. In 1772 a portion of its extreme northern part was annexed to Northumberland county.
The first settlements in what is now Berks county were made during the first decade of the eighteenth century, by some English Quakers, French Huguenots and German Palatines, who settled at Wahlink or Oley. About 1715 a few Swedes settled at Amity. In 1723 about fifty families of Palatines from Schoharie, in New York, settled on Indian lands at the head of Tulpehocken creek; followed soon afterward by fifty other families from the same region, and in 1729 by another considerable accession, among whom was the historic Conrad Weiser.

Although Berks county was mainly settled by Germans, other nationalities were represented in it. Swiss immigrants settled in Berne; Welsh in Brecknock, Carnarvon and Cumi; English and Welsh Quakers in Maiden Creek and Robeson; Dutch (from whom the Potts descended) in Pike, and a colony in Hereford township known as Schwenkfelders, from Casper von Schwenkfeld, a Silesian, who founded the sect, of whom about three hundred families still remain.

From 1744 till 1778, when the Indians were finally driven from the region, and especially between 1744 and 1764, the inhabitants of Berks suffered much from the incursions of marauding bands of these savages, who came oftentimes from the direction of the Blue mountain. To protect themselves against these the inhabitants constructed forts along the Blue mountain at a distance of fifteen or twenty miles from each other, so that rangers from one could easily reach the other by a march of a day.

One of these, which is known as Fort Franklin, was erected in 1756 on Lizard creek, an affluent of the Lehigh. Fort Lebanon, otherwise called Fort Bohundy or Fort William, was built in 1754 on a branch of the Schuylkill. Both these were north from the Blue mountain chain, in what is now Schuylkill county. A stockade called Fort Snyders was on the present line between Berks and Schuylkill counties, west from Schuylkill river; another, named Sichtes or Sixes fort, was south of the Blue mountain, in the western part of Berks; and still another, Fort Henry, south from the mountain chain, on an affluent of Swatara creek, in Lebanon county. Traces of some of these forts are still discernible.

The antecedents of the immigrants and their descendants in Berks county were such as to incline them with great unanimity to the side of the colonists in the Revolutionary struggle. The Quakers, of course, because of their religious scruples, maintained an apparent neutrality, and doubtless here as elsewhere the royalty of many tories was concealed under broad brimmed hats and shad bellied coats. It is said that Berks, at the end of the year 1776, numbered about four thousand effective men.

The historian Sherman Day says: "The desolating track of the Revolutionary war did not reach Berks county, although many of her sons were engaged in the struggle. Since that event the history of the county possesses interests. Farms have been cleared and improved large stone houses and larger stone barns have been built; sons and daughters have been reared and in their turn have reared others; the annual crops have been gathered; roads and turnpikes and canals and railroads and abridges have been constructed; banks have been established and have failed, and manufactories have been put in operation; churches and school houses have been erected (but not enough of either), and the country has immensely increased in wealth and population."

CHAPTER II

FIRST SETTLEMENTS AND PIONEER LIFE IN SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

BY R.A. WILDER

The outward movement of the frontier wave line of civilization is always attended by traditions of a phenomenal nature from which it is nearly impossible to deduce anything like historical facts. There is a remarkable likeness in the impelling causes of these movements in all ages, and among the people of all nations, but the individualism that exists among early settlers in any particular locality, the absence of family records, and the along period of time that elapses before the constituted authorities reach them, prevent the collation of reliable data, and leave the means of tracing persons and events in the mists of uncertainty.

The proneness of posterity to make heroes of ancestors who have shouldered the knapsack, the ax, and deadly rifle, and gone alone into the depths of the forests to hew out and guard a home for themselves and their progeny is common to every rank of life. The story of individual prowess is transmitted from parents to children by the winter fireside, when storms howl around the lonely cottage, and the winds sweep down from the hills with mournful cadence, as the sorrowful tale of affire and carnage, involving the death of the innocents as well as those of mature age by the tomahawk and scalping knife, comes down from the hills of time. Every green spot by sheltering hill and bubbling spring and sunny stream, where the ruin of the first settler's hut is shown, becomes in these winter tales a "dark and bloody ground." Unfortunately for the pioneers in this country, in their westward progress they have paid the penalty for their encroachments upon aboriginal claims, in constant warfare with the savage tribes, all the way from the shores of the Atlantic to the Pacific slopes. Many a one who entered the forest to secure his future home was seen no more, but the curling hair, which was the pride of a mother or some dearer relation, was made a trophy to ornament the lodge of some dusky warrior. Where the grass wears a darker green, and the wild flowers bloom
in greater luxuriance, is the spot where he sleeps unknown; but his memory is kept alive by all who ever heard his name, in the traditions that are the unwritten history of every town and county. No portion of any State or Territory has been exempt from these hardships and privations, these terrible experiences. But there has been a compensation for it all in the growth of individual courage, of greater power of endurance, and of a restless enterprise that has impelled successive generations to move onward and onward, wave after wave, bearing everything down that obstructed their progress.

It cannot be determined with certainty when the first residents crossed the Kittatinny and established themselves in the valley of the Little Schuylkill and of the main streams above the gap. Whether the advance was made by the settlers on the Tulpehocken or from Allemingle is equally uncertain. The purchase of the lands on the Tulpehocken by Thomas Penn in 1732, and those north of the Kittatinny from the Susquehanna to the Delaware in 1749, gave them the right to the soil, which they had not before possessed; and it is probable that many adventurous spirits took advantage of this additional security against marauding Indians to become permanent settlers along the streams north of the Blue mountain. The want of roads and the absence of all means of transportation by wagons would prevent them from going far from settlements, and there is no very authentic evidence that any one had penetrated the wilds as far as the head waters of the Schuylkill, for the purpose of settling there, till after the close of the French and Indian war. Indeed, up to that time only a few families occupied the land along the streams and in the valleys just above the Kittatinny, and they had made but little progress in clearing the lands for agricultural purposes. The pioneer usually has scant means at his disposal; his effort is more for a living than accumulation; consequently he clears at first only enough to plant such seeds as will give to him and the family he hopes to rear the most substantial support.

Corn, potatoes, turnips, and a few things to fill the little patch he calls a garden, constitute the crops that fill the measure of his harvest hopes. When he first arrives at the place where he intends to build his future home, he looks about for a sunny exposure, and a cool, unfailing spring which his practiced eye is not long in discovering among the ferns that grow rank and green among the old forest trees in the little ravine that its waters have eroded from the sloping land. Here at first he erects a cabin to shelter himself from storms, that are always sudden and severe in the primal forests, and protect his little stores from predatory animals that scent them from their dens in the hills or their lairs in the dense undergrowth of the swamps. The cabin is formed by placing a pole in the forks of upright saplings of suitable height from the surface, either of natural growth or planted in the ground a few feet apart. Other saplings are cut and leaned against this ridge-pole, at a slope which gives a breadth of base sufficient for a small room, in which he is to sleep, cook, and keep his supplies. The openings between the poles are closed with clay, bark, or anything that will keep out at least a portion of the searching rain and cold. His bed is at the end, which has been closed by driving stakes into the ground and binding them to the slopes with withes made of young hickory, and consists of sticks laid together on supports a few inches from the ground, upon which are laid the aromatic hemlock boughs, and the skins of such animals as his trusty rifle has enabled him to take for food and other uses. Having secured a place of shelter, he next attacks the sturdy oaks, tall pines, and other trees that densely cover the land. The heavy blows of his keen ax are heard afar in the still morning air, and at high noon, and when the sun is low, and the dews fall and the stars come out. He does not go to his toil at the sound of a bell or horn, nor does he take note of the passing hours. He works till hunger prompt him to stop and eat, or thirst leads him to the head of the hollow stream that runs by his cabin door. Here, as he stoops to drink from the little pool he has made, he sees his dishevelled and uncropped beard, and wonders how soon he may venture to bring to that lonely place the one who is to be the partner of his life, and whose uncropped beard, and wonders how soon he may venture to bring to that lonely place the one who is to be the partner of his life, and whose
windows which were to have had sash and glass are closed with a shutter only. The cracks between the logs were at some future time to be covered with weather boards, but the clay remains till the logs decay and the whole falls into ruin, to be pointed out with honest pride by the descendants of the pioneer, dwelling in the capacious farm house on the broader slope of ground, covered with orchards of pear, apple, and cherry trees, intermingled with peaches and plums. On one side are the Swiss barns, already nearly filled with the surplus stores from former harvests, while the broad fields surrounding the whole are covered with grass and grain nearly ripe, and ready for the modern implements that have supplanted the scythe and sickle, the straw bands, hand rake, and fork, and other old time tools of the early settlers, as the stately mansion overshadows the ruins of the log cabin.

The furniture of the pioneer was as rude as his dwelling; luxurious beds and sofas were not dreamed of in that day of small beginnings. If he had a chair or table from the cabinet maker in town it was reserved for state occasions. A block sawed from a log of suitable length and set on end made a seat; if more room was required for the increasing numbers in the family, counted by little flaxen heads, holes were made with a large augur in the end of a plank from the distant saw-mill, or more probably by splitting a log, smoothing the flat side and inserting four around sticks for legs, and this would seat a row of children. One or two broader pieces would make a table which the frugal meal would taste as sweet and be as thankfully received as though it had more luxurious appointments. In most cases all these provisions were made before the wife and children, if any, were removed to the new home. Not unfrequently all the comforts of the rude homestead were supplied before the pioneer was united to the one who had filled his dreams, and the double life was commenced. The journey to the forest home could have none of the incidents and surroundings of a higher civilization, but the all powerful sentiment of love was as strong in the bosoms of these humble beginners of life's long journey as in the highest of the land. So they entered the humble home and took up the work before them, and toiled till the end came, and they were laid to rest in a sunny spot on their own land, where the lilacs bloomed, and the sassafras waved its fragrant leaves with a low murmur above their dreamless sleep.

The natural effect of the construction of the earliest wagon roads, including the "old Sunbury road," was to draw a more adventurous population into the region through which they ran, and we find that during the next ten years the population had increased considerably in the valleys contiguous to the main Schuylkill valley. In the latter, improvements of a more permanent character had been made, such as the erection of saw-mills and grist-mills for the accommodation of those who were raising grain for breadstuffs more extensively then had been attempted by the first settlers in the valleys. Lumbering attracted the attention of many persons entering the region and quite a traffic was carried on by means of the river, when the rains fell in sufficient quantity to produce a rise in the stream that would float a raft or flat boat over the shallow palaces. The melting of the winter snows, which fell in greater quantities than now, was sure to make a spring flood that took out the lumber made through the winter. Supplies were brought back from the city by means of flat boats and canoes, propelled by poles, and at times towed by horses, moving in the water along the shore and crossing from side to side to obtain the best channel. It is not probable that this return traffic amounted to much at that early time, but it gave the settlers such supplies as were absolutely necessary to their existence in the forest, and sometimes a few of what were, by them, deemed luxuries, but which are now common to the poorest families, so greatly have the improved means of transportation sided the distribution of every article of commerce to the remotest corners of the country, and placed them within the reach of all. At that period of time, salted meats, rum, sugar, salt, a supply of coarse cloths, and powder and lead, were the most essential commodities of frontier life. These supplies were very limited in the sparse settlements, and even the small colonial forts established by the proprietary governments along the Kittatinny, for the protection of the inhabitants against marauding Indians, had barely enough at one time to keep the few soldiers a week. Speckled trout were abundant in every mountain stream, and large fish were always to be had, in their season, in the rivers and creeks. Bears, wolves, panthers, and deer inhabited the forests; and quail and ruffled grouse, with occasional flocks of wild turkeys, could be found in every locality. From these sources fresh supplies were obtained to make up any deficiency in permanent stores. Every household had its garden of early vegetables, and the broader fields yielded abundance of corn for roasting, and for bread or cakes; and later on turnips and cabbages were added to the homely meal; while in due season that great tickler of German palate, "sauerkraut," came steaming hot, with ribs of pork, upon the rude table. Among the rural population of the present time the mode of living has not materially changed. Coffee has been added to the variety of luxuries in general.

The early church edifices were as plain as the rude dwellings of the people. It was customary for some real estate owner to donate a piece of ground for church and burial purposes. The conveyance was made to trustees, who had charge of the building, when erected, as well as the lot. In many instances a farm would be given for the support of the society. The prevailing sect was Lutheran, although the "Reformed" denomination grew to have considerable strength, and often they were found united with the Lutherans in the possession of such donated property. As there were no villages at that early period the churches were erected in the country. Sometimes trees were left to shade and ornament the place, but too frequently everything was
The influences of nature are all-powerful in forming the character and destinies of mankind. Where the mountains are covered with ever-green foliage, and the crisp air is laden with the health-giving odors of forest pines; where deep gorges widen into broad valleys as they slope away in gentle undulations from the rugged steeps, and mountain torrents grow to sunny streams meandering through meadows, groves, and pastoral towns; where the cooling breeze sports with the most beautiful forms of nature, and earth yields her fruits and hidden treasures only in exchange for hardest toil, man is inspired by the loftiest sentiments of liberty. There he rears to freedom her grandest white-domed temples, and is ever willing to die in sight of her glittering spires, which point upward to where center his highest hopes and aspirations. It is not probable that men will soon be called upon again to bear the burdens and sacrifices of the past. Peace, as taught by Him who was the highest type of humanity, was along buried in the selfishness, brutality, and superstition of the dark ages of the world, but it arose from the grave of those centuries, white-winged and beautiful, to shed its benign influences upon the hearts and pursuits of men. Its shrines are in all mountain homes, and there they will remain forever, guarded and cherished by those born and reared in the light of liberty they cast abroad upon the world.
CHAPTER III

TOPOGRAPHY OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

BY R.A. WILDER

Nowhere else in Pennsylvania are the surface features so peculiar and full of interest as those presented by the topography of Schuylkill county. Beginning at the Kittatinny or Blue mountain, the crest of which bounds it on the southeast, it consists of a succession of hills and valleys and mountain chains, nearly parallel with each other, and ranging northeast and southwest throughout its whole extent. These hills and valleys are generally a group of grand telluric waves, forming synclinal and anticlinal axes of the strata, and they appear to have been caused by the immense upheaving forces commencing at the ancient coast line of the ocean, and pressing forward toward the northwest with such tremendous power as to throw most of the then horizontal strata into a vertical position for a great distance inland, till they began to weaken in strength, and finally ceased to act, and left, with their expiring throes, the great convolutions which enfold the wealth of an empire.

These ranges of hills and mountains have local names to distinguish them from each, and though they may vary to some extent in different parts of the country, it is easy to trace any one of them. Following the course of the Schuylkill river from where it breaks through the gorge of the Blue mountain, and of its tributaries to their sources in the plateau of the Abroad mountain, and the still smaller streams which run into them through the valleys formed by the parallel hills, at nearly right angles to the general courses of the principal ones, which flow through the dark ravines of the mountains, we find the causes which have operated to change the uniformity of the great convolutions into diversified scenery of surpassing beauty and grandeur. The whole county is eroded to an unusual extent, and the work of denudation has not been confined to the streams; frost and vapors, charged more or less with sulphuric acid, have disintegrated the rocky strata where the rains of centuries have washed them bare of their earthy coverings, and the sand and gravel thus formed, together with the earth washings, have been precipitated into the valleys, elevating them and depressing the mountains and hills to an extent which cannot be estimated, because vast quantities have been moved onward by the floods and finally found a resting place in the new coast line of the ocean.

Between the Blue mountain and the Second mountain there are no elevations of importance; Summer hill, below Schuylkill Haven, is a clearly defined range extending for several miles. Lime ridge, crossing at Schuylkill Haven, is easily traced through the county from west to east, but does not attain any considerable elevation at any place.

Second mountain is the first of the principal mountains of the county, and rises from five to seven hundred feet above the bed of the streams that break through it or from twelve to thirteen hundred feet above mean tide at Philadelphia. This mountain has in many places two crests, caused by the eroding effects of springs near the summit upon the loose red shale which has been washed down into the streams flowing through the gap. This characteristic has suggested the local name of "Gobel Berk," or Fork mountain.

The next considerable elevation is the Sharp mountain, which rises about six hundred feet above the bed of the streams breaking through it. It is rendered more interesting than any other of the ranges of mountains, by being the southern boundary of the anthracite coal field; though the coal seams found in it are thin and broken, owing doubtless to the tremendous pressure that turned the underlying strata to the north of the vertical line, or caused the carbonaceous material to slip back into the basin below while the terrible convulsion was in active operation. It is a clearly defined wall or dike extending across the county from west to east, and presents no break in the uniformity of its crest except where the Swatara, the west branch of the Schuylkill, the Schuylkill and Little Schuylkill have gradually deepened and widened some primal fissures to the superficial base of the wall; but this occurred long after the denudation of the mountains had covered the carbonaceous strata so deeply as to prevent any wastage of coal from this cause, except the portions of veins stretching across the present gorges.

From the Sharp mountain to Mine hill, which is the next regular range of elevation, there are no ridges of importance, except the one known as Red mountain, extending from the west branch of the Schuylkill to the western line of the county. There are undulations of the strata which have, to a considerable extent, shaped the surface and added to the beauty of the topography in rounding the angles of elevation and softening the contour of the interwinding valleys. Mine hill is the great anticlinal axis of the Schuylkill coal field. It has been forces upward through the whole superincumbent strata, and shows in many denuded places the great conglomerate floor of the carbonaceous structure. At the gap north of Minersville a grand arch of conglomerate extending from the southern to the northern base of the mountain is presented to the observer. The Swatara, Middle creek, Little Swatara, Muddy Branch, West Branch, Mill creek, and some smaller streams to the east, which have their sources in the narrow valleys between the Mine hill and Broad mountain, break through this solid wall of hardest rock at as many different points, and fall in picturesque cascades, and over boulders that have rolled ages ago from the crest, in a manner to make them very attractive to visitors, and the scene of many a summer picnic. But the great practical utility of these deep gorges is the advantage they present for
passing the rocky barrier, without tunnels, with railroads to transport the products of the northern mines.

Broad mountain is an elevated plateau about sixteen to eighteen hundred feet above tide, and contains an area of seventy to eighty square miles in Schuylkill county. It is the great watershed of the region for the Susquehanna, the Schuylkill, and the Lehigh rivers. The Mammoth and some smaller veins of coal underlie its southern slopes, but with the exception of a few small narrow basins, not very reliable on the summit, it contains no other coal or mineral of any kind. It is the source of numerous small streams which will become very valuable in the course of time for supplying the wants of a rapidly growing population, in a district where so much of this essential element is poisoned by impregnations of the mines. For a long time this mountain presented an impassable barrier to the products of the middle coal field, but finally it was crossed by railroads, with a system of inclined planes, which have proved very economical and efficient. Fifty years ago this mountain was covered with a dense growth of heavy timber, consisting of yellow pine, hemlock, and oak; but this has long since been transferred to the support of the rude galleries of the coal measures, and used in the erection of structures for colliery purposes. It is not probable that it will ever cover with a second growth, for the soil is not fertile, and the forest fires sweep over it, as over all the other mountain ranges in the spring, with relentless fury. The north slope of this plateau is much steeper than the southern, and this face is deeply indented by small rapidly eroding streams which flow toward the Susquehanna, and break it into numerous spurs. At the eastern end of the county the waters from this mountain drain into the Little Schuylkill, and the tributaries of the Leigh. Its characteristics are not there as clearly defined as at the middle portion just described, and which is made more interesting by the passage of the railway systems that develop the middle coal field.

The Mahanoy mountain is next in order of succession, and becomes interesting as the southern wall of the middle coal field. It is lower than the Broad mountain, and in general features bears a striking resemblance to Sharp mountain, which is the southern wall of the Pottsville basin. It has but two gorges in the county, both near Ashland, where the Mahoney creek and Big run have broken through and eroded it to its bases. Leaving the line of Schuylkill county it sweeps off to the west and unites with Big mountain in Northumberland county, which forms the northern edge of the sharp pointed, canoe-shaped basin of the middle coal field. The strata of Mahoney mountain are nearly vertical, and, as it contains the great vein of the coal measures, this position has made it difficult to work, and a vast amount of waste has resulted; but the quantity of coal taken out above water level has been greater than from any other mountain range, and below water level its yield is still very great. Between this and the Locust mountain, several ridges have been thrown up, bearing the local names of Locust ridge, Bear ridge, etc., but they do not extend very far, and may be regarded as spurs, formed out of the higher range by erosion. They have no other distinction than as favorable sites for collieries.

The Locust mountain extends from Northumberland county into the northern portion of Schuylkill, where it soon acquires the local name of North Mahanoy, and forms the northern boundary of its coal. Many valuable collieries are located upon its southern slopes, near Shenandoah city, from the royalties of which the Girard Trust derives a large income annually. The lands of all this section of the county are only valuable for the coal they contain. No other mineral deposits have ever been found, and they have long since been stripped of their timber which, thirty years ago, was exceedingly heavy and valuable. The washings from the mountain slopes were mostly carried away by the swollen floods, and left no fertilizing properties in the soil for the agriculturist. The same is true of all the southern coal fields. From the Second mountain north there are not a dozen farms worth cultivating as an investment, and the great wonder is that any man could ever be induced to enter the region for such a purpose; and it is more than probable that the few who have made agriculture a business were attracted here first by other considerations. Between the Second and Blue mountains, and beyond the bounds of the coal formation, in the extreme western and northern angles of the county, the valleys are wider, and the streams which flow through them less turbulent, and there the farmer has some hope of reward for his labor; but if all he has expended were charged against the land, and it were credited with it has produced, the average balances to profit and loss would be on the debtor side.

The streams of this county are numerous, and some of them, like the Schuylkill, the Little Schuylkill, the Swatara and Mahanoy, have wide beds of sufficient depth to carry large bodies of water; but while the rainfall is equal to or greater than that in many parts of the State, the sources are near, and at great elevations, and the accumulations from rainfalls and melting snows are suddenly precipitated into the beds of the streams and carried away in floods, and the fall is nearly as sudden as the rise. Under such conditions no water power can be utilized for extensive manufacturing, and none has been attempted. Saw-millsand grist-mills, and here and there a powder-mill, and a small manufactory of woolen goods, are the only industries utilizing the vast bodies of water flowing from the water sheds of this county. Some portion of the surplus waters has been s--red up by the erection of the Tumbling run and Silver creek reservoirs, to supply the Schuylkill canal with sufficient water to keep the coal tonnage afloat during the dry season which usually prevails every year, from the causes here stated; and also in the smaller ones built to secure the necessary quantity for the towns and the great numbers of steam engines employed in mining, preparing and transporting anthracite coal. In geological structure this county belongs to the Upper Silurian and Devonian systems, and above these is the
Carbonaceous formation, which makes it one of the richest areas in the world. The eroding action of the streams bursting from the mountain asides, while carrying away a vast amount of the rich deposits, opened to the eye of the casual observer the seams of coal, and afforded the most economical means of getting it out and transporting it to market. Through all the earlier years of mining operations, the explorer was governed in his choice of location entirely by topographical considerations. The indention of themountain slopes, caused by the melting snows and frequent rains of the early spring, when the ground is rendered porous by upheaving frosts, and easily cut away, showed him where to begin his "drift" upon a vein of coal with a certainty of development by the least expenditure of capital.

From what has been said here it will be seen that the topography of Schuylkill county has resulted mainly from its geological structure. The mountains and valleys are not eroded from some vast plateau through the lapse of the immeasurable time, like the topographical irregularities of the great western slopes, but were suddenly moved forward and upward from the depths of the ocean by the tremendous forces of the earth's internal fires; and when these were expended, and the foldingstrata had settled into a state of comparative rest, the outline of the elevations and depressions appeared much as at present. The process of rounding their sharper angles, and clothing them with wild, impenetrable forests and the beautiful flora that made the early summer rosy and charming, was the work of after ages.

Standing upon the rocky edges of almost any one of the deep gorges, the observer has grand and sublime scenery in his immediate presence; and before him, looking east and west, there are long stretches of beautiful landscape, diversified by low hills studded with trees whose green foliage stirred by the passing breeze shimmers in the summer light; by quiet homesteads and cultivated fields waving before the eyes of the husbandman the glad promise of reward for fruitful labor, and here and there by the glimmer of meandering streams.

CHAPTER IV

GEOLOGY OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

By P.W. Sheafer,
Geologist and Mining Engineer, Pottsville, Pa.

Schuylkill County lies east and south of the center of the state, and in the eastern belt of the Appalachian system of mountains. Its irregular boundaries enclosed an area of about 767 square miles, an area as uneven and varied as can be found in Pennsylvania.

The topography of this region is marked by several mountain chains, rising from six hundred to eleven hundred feet above the valleys, or to a height of one thousand to seventeen hundred feet above tide, broken in their continuity by gaps completely intersecting them at irregular intervals. Between these ranges are lower elevations, or hills, more or less nearly parallel with them, and these, united to each other by cross ridges, give to the surface an extremely broken and rugged appearance.

The most southern of these ranges is the Kittatinny or Blue mountain, which, forming the entire southern boundary of the county, runs in a northeasterly direction, broken only at the Port Clinton gap, where the Schuylkill river has worn its way through the massive rocky strata.

An undulating valley, varying in width, separates this range from the double crested chain of Second mountain. Still further north, across a narrow red shale valley, is the third range, Sharp mountain. These two ranges, everywhere within the county limits, run parallel to the Blue mountain; but beyond the eastern boundary, along the Lehigh, and beyond the western, along the Susquehanna, they turn back, or double sharply on their courses, receiving other names, and again pursue a northeasterly direction.

Broad and Locust mountain are the continuations of Sharp mountain, in its sweep around the southern coal field, and Mahanoy mountain is but an extension of Broad, as it zig-zags around the middle coal field. North of these last ranges the mountains are more broken and show less distinctly the general course. A remarkable feature of these ranges is the uniformity of level of their crests.

The gaps in these mountains form prominent and important features in the general landscape; narrow, steepsided and rocky, with but room enough for streams and roads at their bottoms, they either cut through the entire thickness of mountain wall, or penetrate so far into the rocky mass as to afford a practical grade to the summits of the highest elevations.

As before mentioned, there is but one break in the Blue mountain with in the county limits, through which flow the waters of the Schuylkill. This is the only practicable pass for the immense traffic of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, and the Schuylkill Navigation Company's Canal. But proceeding northward we find these natural gates to increase in number, there being no less than five in Second mountain, and eight in Sharp mountain, along the south edge of the southern coal field on this county.

The drainage of the county is into the Schuylkill, Susquehanna and Lehigh rivers. The first named stream, through its main and west branches, and the Little Schuylkill, drain the great middle area of the county, including the greater portion of the southern basin; the Swatara, Wiconisco, Mahantongo and Mahanoy creeks, tributaries of the main branch, and the Catawissa, an affluent of the north branch of the Susquehanna, the western and northern parts; and the Lehigh, by means of Nesquehoning, Mahoning and Lizard creeks, a
small area along the eastern edge of the county. The streams which flow in a northerly or southerly direction, thus cutting across the strike of the formation, expose to view the rock strata, and afford the geologist excellent opportunities for studying their character and measuring their thicknesses. The valley of the Schuylkill from Port Clifton to Pottsville is lined by rock exposure, and in this distance of sixteen miles nine great formations are crossed.

The geological structure of the county can be best indicated by describing, in a general way, a cross section drawn through Pottsville, from the Blue mountain, on the south, to the Cutawissa valley, on the north. Beginning at the south, we find a shallow basin bounded by the north dipping rocks of Blue mountain, and on the north by a prominent anticlinal axis, passing through Orwigsburg and Schuylkill Haven, which gradually dies out, both to the east and west.

Between Schuylkill Haven and Pottsville we encounter only the north dips of this axis, standing vertically, and in Sharp and Second mountains, overturned slightly, so as to show a south dip. Then we cross the broad basin of the southern coal field, with its many subordinate flexures, which is separated from a more shallow trough by the great anticlinal of Board mountain. North of this basin is a broad and undulating elevation, traversed by several parallel minor axes. Sections through other parts of the county would show local variations from this general structure, but there would remain the prominent features of three parallel basins, separated by two more or less elevated anticlinals.

The geological formations of Schuylkill county are confined to the Silurian, Devonian and Carboniferous ages of the Paleozoic system, and embrace from No. IV to No. XIII inclusive, of the following table, which shows the subdivisions of this system in Pennsylvania:

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The surface geology can be best described by beginning at the southern limit of the county and going north, thus following a geographical line which, at the same time, shows the formations in their regular order, from the older to the more recent, and culminating with the Carboniferous, the most important of this region.

No. IV.(Levant of Rogers; Medina and Oneida of New York.)-This formation, in the central portion of Pennsylvania, is divided into three distinct parts in order of deposition—the Oneida Conglomerates, red and gray Medina sandstone. In this district, however, the middle or red is wanting. The Blue or Kittantinny mountain, whose crest is the southern boundary of this county, is formed by the outcrop of the massive strata of the Medina Sandstone and Oneida Conglomerate. The area of the outcrop of these rocks is a limited one, being confined to these mountains; and the formation here dips beneath the surface, not to appear again within the county limits. Professor Rogers, in his geology of Pennsylvania, records no measurements of these rocks within the county; but at the Lehigh Water Gap fixes the following thickness and description:

"Oneida Conglomerate. Alternations of coarse quartzose conglomerate and fine-grain white and gray sandstones—four hundred feet."

"Medina White Sandstone. A thick succession of alternating white sandstones and olive shales, the upper sandstones being mottled red and white, and containing characteristic marine vegetation—seven hundred and sixty feet."

These thicknesses and descriptions apply equally well to this county. No minerals or ores of any value occur in this formation, while the fossils are confined to impressions of large articulated marine plants.

No. V.(Surgent, Rogers; Clinton, New York.) This formation consists of alternating deposits of red and olive shales and slates, separated by red sandstones, forming a characteristic red group of rocks of about fifteen hundred feet in thickness in this district. The lower belt of sandstones is called the "Ore Sandstones," on account of the beds of fossil iron ore it carries in the central part of the State. No such deposit of ore has been found within this county. Fucoids are common in some portions, while marine animal fossils characterize other parts. This group flanks the Blue mountain on the north, forming the foot hills of this range throughout its northeastern and southwestern course in the county. At the western end its north dip is steep so that it covers in width but a small area. To the eastward it gradually widens, changing from a monoclinal north dip to a succession of rolls, a mile in width. At Port Clinton it follows the flexures of the Blue Mountain and widens out in a series of sharp rolls, beautifully exposed on the east bank of the Schuylkill river as far north as McKeansburg and Orwigsburg. The most northern flexure of this series carries a narrow band of this formation as far west as Schuylkill Haven, beyond which point the decline of the axis forces it beneath the surface. The western limit of these rolls lies to the east of Pine creek, which enters the Schuylkill at Auburn. East of McKeansburg the belt of this formation again becomes narrow, and
follows the course of Blue mountain to the county line.

No.VI.(Scalent and Pre-Meridian, Rogers; Onondaga and Lower Helderberg, New York.)-This consists of two distinct groups, the lower composed of variegated marls and water lime cement beds, and the upper of a group of shaly and cherty limestones. The formation varies in thickness, at some points reaching twelve hundred feet, and at other places seems to be absent. The whole group is fossiliferous. The position of this formation in Schuylkill county is indicated on the geological map of the first survey of Pennsylvania, as a narrow belt overlying No. V, running parallel to the Blue mountain, as far east as Port Clinton, where its outcrop, influenced by the series of flexures which cross the Little Schuylkill river, runs northward, in a broken line, for some five miles. Here the Orwigsburg anticlinal carries the outcrops of both its north and south dips westward through Schuylkill Haven, until they join and disappear beneath the surface at Friedensburg. East of Orwigsburg, its north outcrop follows the line of the Blue mountain, defining the area of the red rocks of No. V, on the south side of Lizard Creek valley. The only member of the group which the first State survey recognizes and describes in this county is the Scalent, or cement limestone. It has been quarried at McKeansburg, Orwigsburg, where it is twenty feet thick, and at Schuylkill Haven.

No.VII.(Meridian, Rogers; Oriskany, New York.)-The Oriskany is described as a "coarse, yellowish, calcareous sandstone, graduating near its upper limit into a fine-grained quartzose conglomerate, and becoming in its lower beds a coarse arenaceous limestone, characterized by Atrypa elongata, Spirifer arenosus, and other remarkable brachiopod shells."

In the central portion of the State, near McVeytown and Huntingdon, it contains deposits of glass sand, and also, at places, an iron ore bed.

In Virginia, the top of this formation is marked by the well defined and valuable "Bluff" iron ores. The Oriskany is variable in thickness, and in many places seems to be wanting. The maximum thickness, on the Juniata, is one hundred and fifty feet.

Although No.VII has been recognized in Lehigh county, it has never been discovered or identified in Schuylkill county. Its place in the series is immediately over the limestone group of No. VI. This sandstone was much sought after, at one time, on the Lehigh, as it was well adapted to use in hearths of iron furnaces.

No.VIII.(Post-Meridian, Cadent, Vergent, Rogers; Upper Helderberg, Hamilton, Portage, Chemung, New York.)-This formation, as shown in the foregoing table, includes several well defined groups of rocks, and consequently is very thick, reaching six thousand feet or more. The lowest member of the Post-Meridian group in New York is composed of the Cauda Galli and Schoharie Grits, but is not recognized in Pennsylvania. The upper Helderberg limestone is a blue, fossiliferous and, at times, sparry limestone, including cherty bands. In the center of the State this reaches sixty feet in thickness, but it has not been found in this county, or along the Blue mountain west of the Delaware. The Cadent, or Hamilton group, consists of an upper and lower highly bituminous black slate deposit, separated by a mass of bluish, brownish and olive argillaceous shales, sometimes becoming an argillaceous sandstone, and has a thickness in the valley north of the Blue mountain of over one thousand feet. The Vergent flags, or Portage group, are composed of thin layers of fine grained gray sandstones, while the Vergent shales or Chemung group, consists of gray, blue, and olive shales and sandstones.

These two groups abound in marine vegetation. The Vergent rocks on the Lehigh measure seventeen hundred and fifty feet. The black slates of No. VIII are, as before mentioned, highly bituminous and bear impressions of Carboniferous plants, and often times include beds of slate, resembling those of the true coal measures, thus leading many to make useless search for coal. The upper, or Chemung rocks of this formation, are those which enclose the famous Bradford oil sand of northwestern Pennsylvania, from which the greater part of the American petroleum is now obtained. There is, however, no evidence that the oil is coextensive with the formation; and, besides, the present belief is that the oil is only found where the rocks have been but little disturbed from their original horizontal position. In this county the formation is much flexured and broken, and therefore would not warrant one in drilling for petroleum. Some strata of these rocks furnish flags of excellent quality for building purposes.

This formation in Schuylkill county is confined to the great valley lying between the Blue and Second mountains, and to a small area along the north branch of the Mahantongo creek, in the extreme northwestern corner of the county. The narrow valley between the above mountain ranges at the western county line widens rapidly to the eastward, increasing to four miles at Pine Grove, and five miles at Friedensburg. Here the Orwigsburg anticlinal, rising to the eastward, brings the rocks of No. VI to the surface, and divides the Chemung valley into two parts, the more southern of which, carrying a small area of Ponent rocks in the center, ends in the hills west of the Little Schuylkill. The narrow northern valley of Chemung continues east of Schuylkill Haven, and beyond McKeansburg, where the several axes of the Tamaqua mountain spread it over the valleys of Mahoning and Lizard creeks. This area, forty miles in length, with a width varying from two to six miles of hills and valleys, underlaid by the shales and sandstones of Nos. V, VI, VIII, and IX, is the farming region of the county, embracing the townships of Pine Grove, Wayne, North and South Manheim, East and West Brunswick, and the southern portions of Blythe, Schuylkill and Rahn. It contains no minerals of commercial value.

The steep north dip of the northern out-crop of these rocks carries them far beneath the surface, only to appear again, as before mentioned, in the Mahantongo valley.
No. IX. (Ponent, Rogers; Catskill, New York.)—This group of red shales and massive red and gray sandstones marks the end of the Devonian age, and is the second red formation of Pennsylvania. On account of its being covered by the hard sandstone of No. X, it usually forms a part of a mountain ridge, often making one of the crests. In this section of the State, it is at least five thousand feet thick. It contains no valuable ores, and but few organic remains. The Catskills, in this county, is first found in the center of the synclinal between the Blue mountain and the Orwigsburg axis, where it covers a narrow belt, extending from the old canal tunnel, south of Landingville, west along the Swatara hills, to within five miles of Pine Grove. With the exception of the small area on the north flank of Mahantongo creek, the remainder of the area covered by the Catskill is confined to the flanks, mainly the southern, of Second and Mahoning mountains.

Beginning at the west county line, we can follow it eastward along the southern crest and side of Second mountain, to the Little Schuylkill and beyond to the head waters of Lizard creek; thence around a series of sharp folds to where it again takes its easterly course, forming the north wall of the Mahoning valley.

No. X. (Vespertine, Rogers; Pocono Gray Sandstone, Lesley.)—This formation begins the Carboniferous age, being the first to show any defined coal beds, or to contain workable coals. Rogers describes it as composed of "white, gray and yellow sandstones, alternating with coarse silicious conglomerates, and dark blue and olive colored slates. It frequently contains beds of black carboniferous slate, with one or more thin seams of coal." Plant remains are its only fossils. In Virginia it includes several workable beds of anthracite coal. But in Pennsylvania no coal beds of value have been found. The Pocono rocks, as well as the Ponent, are well exposed in the gaps of the Schuylkill, in Second mountain, standing vertically, or with their north dip overturned. The Pocono here, is eighteen hundred thick, and increases westward, beyond the Susquehanna. The geographical extent of the Pocono is the same as that of the Catskill, already described, since it forms with it the Second and Mahantongo mountains. Flanked on the one side by the red rocks of No. IX, and in the other by the red shales of No.XI, it surrounds the coal basin with a picture turesque red and white wall.

No. XI. (Umbral, Rogers; Mauch Chunk Red Shale, Lesley.)—This, the third red formation of Pennsylvania, consists of red shales, and sandstone, often containing beds of olive and green slate, and in some portions of the State a limestone belt. In this county it is composed mainly of red argillaceous sandstones and shales, and has a thickness of three thousand feet. It often shows, the presence of carbonate of lime, and thin streaks of poor limestone, but contains no division which can be compared with the mountain limestone of the South.

The area of this formation in Schuylkill county is large, as it borders the outcrop of the conglomerate of No. XII. Beginning at the western end of the county, it forms a continuous valley to the east, known under the local names of Indian run and Tumbling run, between Sharp and Second mountains, forming the foothills of the latter, and outcropping high up on the south flank of the former.

At Mauch Chunk it swings around the end of the southern coal field and again enters this county, forming Locust valley. Near Lebanon county, west of Gold Mine Gap, it follows the conglomerate, surrounding the prongs of the coal basin, and appears again in the county at the head waters of Wiconisco creek, and still further north, in the valleys of Long Pine creek and Deep creek, south of Mahantongo mountain. Sweeping still northward, it forms the valley of the Little Mahanoy creek. North of the Mahanoy mountain, it shows in the valleys of the Catawissa and its tributaries. Small patches of it also are brought to the surface in Broad Mountain, by rolls in the conglomerate.

The fossils of this formation are mainly of marine plants, though some footprints of marine animals have been found. Mr. Isaac Lea, of Philadelphia, has described, in an elaborate memoir, the footprints of a Sawropees Primaerus found at Amount Carbon.

No. XII. (Seral Conglomerate, Rogers; Pottsville Conglomerate, Lesley; Millstone Grit, England.)—This formation, immediately succeeding the red shales of No. XI, is very important, as it forms the base of the coal measures of Pennsylvania and contains the lowest workable beds. Its thickness of hard conglomerates and sandstones, underlying the soft and friable coal slates and shales, has formed the barrier which protected our wonderful deposit of anthracite coal from erosion. It is so easily recognized that it furnishes a basis for intelligent search for coal. It is composed, as before indicated, of massive gray quartzose conglomerates, interstratified by bands of brown sandstones, and a few thin streaks of coal slates, which, in some localities, develop into well defined and profitable coal beds. The character and thickness of this formation vary somewhat in this county from east to west along Sharp mountain. At Tamaqua it is eight hundred feet thick, and the massive beds of coarse silicious conglomerates, containing pebbles from the size of an egg, or larger, down to that of a pea, predominate over the beds of coarse and fine sandstone. At this point it contains two or three imperfect coal beds. At Pottsville it reaches the maximum thickness of ten hundred and thirty feet here the massive conglomerates are thinner and near the top of the mass, while the sandstones, especially the argillaceous layers, have thickened. Several thin beds of coal slates and at least on bed of impure coal are embraced within its limits. At Lorberry Gap it is reduced to a thickness of six hundred and seventy-five feet, and consists of five or six ribs of coarse conglomerates, separated by beds of coarse sandstone, and three or four seams of poor coal. On the western portion of the county in Stony mountain, and western extension of Broad mountain, the poor coal beds develop.
into the celebrated Lykens valley red ash coals, so extensively worked at the Wiconisco, Williamstown, Bookside, Kalmia, and Lincoln
collieries. In the Mahanoy valley, at Ashland, this formation is exceedingly conglomeritic, the pebbles being large and siliceous. It
measures, from the lowest coal to the red shale, six hundred feet, or, including a bed of egg conglomerate overlying this coal, eight hundred
feet. At Trevorton, at the west end of the Shamokin basin, it consists of a series of conglomerates and sandstones, with four bands of slate
and shale, each of the latter bearing a valuable coal bed. The above descriptions, taken from Roger's report, give the reader a general idea
of the construction of this silicious mass. As this formation is bed rock of the coal fields, the tracings of its outcrop will define the coal
basins of this county.

From the Lehigh almost to the Susquehanna, a distance of fifty miles, this conglomerate mass, standing vertical in Sharp moun-
tain forms the southern boundary of the Pottsville or southern coal field. Descending to a depth of at least three thousand feet at Pottsville,
it rises, after making a series of subordinate rolls, and appears again in the beautiful anticlinal flexure of Mine Hill, only to disappear again
beneath the Heckscherville and New Castle basin. Coming to the surface it makes the wide conglomerate area known as Broad mountain,
and further east the narrow ridge of Locust mountain. West of Tremont, the steep, dipping rocks of Sharp mountain, after making a narrow
synclinal, appear in Stony mountain, and then follow round the fish tail of the western end of the coal field, till it merges into the
conglomerate outcrop of Broad mountain, forming Short and North mountains. Farther north this conglomerate includes in its deep fold
the Second basin, bounding it on the north by Mahanoy mountain, and beyond the Catawissa creek forms the Green and Spring mountains.

No. XIII. (Coal. Measures.)—This is the most important formation of this county, as well as of Pennsylvania. The conglomerate,
as already described, serves as the floor upon which the three thousand feet or more of coal bearing strata have been deposited, is the
protecting mass which has preserved to us our black diamonds, and in some places may be considered really a part of the coal measures.
The rocks enclosing the beds and coal slates consist of gray and bluish siliceous and argillaceous sandstones, shales and slates, with some
massive conglomerates. The shales often contain nodules of silicious iron ores, and the slates at times enclose bands of carbonate ore,
resembling the famous "Blackband," of Scotland. The slates accompanying the coal beds contain numberless impressions of ferns, Stigmaria,
Sigillaria and Lepidodendron, and are the records of the ancient life in the Carboniferous age. Professor Leo Lesquereaux's memoirs, in
the collection of the Pottsville Scientific Society, a list of all the known species of the coal flora of the coal fields. Evidences of animal life
are rare, only a few mollusc shells having been found.

The coal beds are not always compact masses of pure carbon, but are composed of layers of coal separated into benches by bands
of slate or bony coal. The beds are usually underlaid by a tough, sandy slate or fire clay, which was the ancient soil upon which the plants
and forests grew.

Owing to the many flexures and squeezings in the soft rocks of these formations, it is difficult to arrive at an exact measure of
their thickness. In the Southern basin, which is the deepest, it is estimated at least three thousand feet and includes perhaps thirty coal beds,
of which fifteen are workable and over three feet thick. The series can be separated into three divisions, by the color of ash of the coals: a
lower or white ash group, middle or gray ash and an upper or red ash. Including the beds in the conglomerate, we have a still lower group
of red ash coals.

The accompanying section gives the order and succession of these workable beds, from highest to lowest, together with their
average thickness and color of ash:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Thickness</th>
<th>Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandrock bed, red ash</td>
<td>3 feet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gate</td>
<td>7 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Tracy bed</td>
<td>3 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Tracy</td>
<td>6 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond</td>
<td>6 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Orchard</td>
<td>3 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orchard</td>
<td>6 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primrose</td>
<td>10 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holmes</td>
<td>5 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seven-Foot</td>
<td>7 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammoth</td>
<td>25 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skidmore</td>
<td>6 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buck Mountain bed</td>
<td>9 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lykens Valley, upper bed</td>
<td>8 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lykens Valley, lower bed</td>
<td>3 &quot;</td>
<td>Conglomerate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total coal,............................. 107 feet

The two intra-conglomerate beds, known as the Lykens Valley coal, are very free burning and much valued for domestic and
other uses. The next bed
The greatest number of coal beds, and consequently the greatest aggregate thickness of coal, are found in the most populous and wealthy counties of our State. It is to the coal bearing strata, covering so much of the northern part, that we must ascribe our economic importance and our position as one of the great coal regions of the world. The deposits of iron ore, so abundant in other parts of the State, seem here to be of little or no economical value, aside from that of furnishing a soil fitted for agricultural purposes.

The formations of that part of the county south of Sharp mountain, although including in other portions of the State valuable deposits of iron ore, seem here to be of little or no economical value, aside from that of furnishing a soil fitted for agricultural purposes. It is to the coal bearing strata, covering so much of the northern part, that we must ascribe our economic importance and our position as one of the great coal regions of the world. The deposits of iron ore, so abundant in other parts of the State, seem here to be of little or no economical value, aside from that of furnishing a soil fitted for agricultural purposes.

The details of structure, embracing the description of the many subordinate anticlinals and synclinals, the variations in the several coal beds, the thickening and thinning of the rock intervals, cannot be discussed in a paper of this length, and for these the reader is referred to Professors Rogers and Lesley's reports on this basin. The main points of the structure, however, can be indicated. Sharp mountain forms the southern boundary of this coal afield, extending from the west end of the county to beyond Middleport, in almost a straight line, its rocks having in this distance a vertical or overturned north dip. Beyond this point, however, the mountain swings to the north in three distinct flexures, and then continues to Tamaqua, and beyond, as a steep, vertical monoclonal ridge. The coal measures flank the mountain, conforming to the dip of the conglomerate; then, making a deep and sharp basin, roll away to the north in distinct flexures, lessening in depth, crop out on the south side of Mine Hill, and next appear in the narrow north Mine Hill basin.

The basin, as a whole, may be regarded as one deep synclinal, enclosed by the converging dips of Sharp mountain of the south, and Broad on the north, with an undulating bottom forming parallel subordinate basins. The vertical, or, at times, overturned dips of the coal measures on the north side of Sharp mountain, make a deep and narrow synclinal whose south dip is formed by an axis, which runs from the bend in the mountain, east of Middleport, west to where it splits the basin into two prongs beyond Tremont. The State survey recognized between this and the axis of Mine hill at least seven distinct anticlinal axes, running in a generally

The Holmes bed occurs about one hundred feet above the Mammoth, and is from four to six feet of hard, compact, short-grained white ash, suitable for furnace purposes. One hundred yards above the Mammoth there is the celebrated Primrose coal. It is a nine feet bed of grey ash coal, being the transition from the red to the white ash. In irregular distances above these beds occur, in their regular order, the several red ash coals, known in the locality of Pottsville as the two Orchards, Diamond, Big and Little Tracys, Gate and Sandrock beds, ranging from three to six feet in thickness of good red ash coal. These were the first developed coals and first introduced into market from this county. The workings were abandoned when exhausted above water level, when the larger and more productive lower coals were found.

The coal area of the county is confined to the Southern and Middle coal fields, and a few isolated patches on the Broad, Green and Spring mountains, covering some two hundred and ten square miles. The greater part, or about two-thirds of this area, lies in the southern field, which, like an ill-shaped shark, with its nose resting on the Lehigh, at Mauch Chunk, extends southwestward as a great valley, bounded by Sharp mountain on the south and Locust and Broad mountains on the north, gradually increasing in width, until, west of Tremont, it subsides into two prongs, the northern one reaching westward to Wiconisco, in Dauphin county, and the southern one to within six miles of the Susquehanna, at the town of Dauphin. Its length in the county is about forty miles, its width from to five miles and the total area in this county one hundred and forty-three square miles.

The portion of the Second or Middle coal field within Schuylkill county extends eastward from Ashland, bounded by Broad and Mahanoy mountains for twenty miles, and embraces an area of sixty-three square miles. The depth of this coal field is much less than that of the first, and consequently the upper or red ash coals are confined to the centers of the deep basins. Between the two basins, and separating them, lies the elevated conglomerate-covered Broad mountain, which carries in some of its synclinal rolls small areas of coal measures. The principal one of these small basins is that of New Boston, six miles in length and less than one-half mile in width. The coals are those of the lowest group, including the Mammoth, Skidmore and Buck mountain beds.

The small isolated basins in the northern part of the county, about the headwaters of Catawissa creek, are part of the Lehigh system of basins and are included in the middle coal field. They are shallow and hold only the lower coals.

The formations of that part of the county south of Sharp mountain, although including in other portions of the Estate valuable deposits of iron ore, seem here to be of little or no economical value, aside from that of furnishing a soil fitted for agricultural purposes. It is to the coal bearing strata, covering so much of the northern part, that we must ascribe our economic importance and our position as one of the most populous and wealthy counties of our State.

The southern coal afield, as has been already mentioned, contains the greater part of the coal area of the county, and also includes the greatest number of coal beds, and consequently the greatest aggregate thickness of coal. The southern wall of this field in this county is broken by four gaps, through which flow the Little Schuylkill, the main and west branch of the Schuylkill and the Swatara, which receive not only the surface drainage but also that of the mines. The railways run through these narrow passes, and follow the streams and their tributaries to the very openings of the mines.
parallel direction, most of them marked by a line of narrow hills. These axes, it will be noticed, do not consist of straight, but of a series of broken lines, having the same general direction.

Mine hill is an arm of Broad mountain, which separates from the main ridge west of Forestville, and extends as far eastward as Patterson, in the Schuylkill valley, a distance of sixteen miles, where it dies away. The basin of North Mine hill, is bounded by this ridge on the main southern field, only merging into it at its eastern extremity.

The main basins, as well as the subordinate ones, are not equally deep at all points of their synclinals, but exhibit the canoe-shaped structure, the bottoms rising gradually towards the eastern and western extremities. The deposit of the coal measures is very thick in the region about Pottsville, but westward the thickness decreases, so that at the western end of the field, the upper red ash coals have disappeared, and the lower coals alone occupy the comparatively shallow troughs. The same feature is noticed to the eastward. Thus at the deep shafts of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co., near Pottsville, the Mammoth bed lies at a depth of nearly two thousand feet below the surface, or some thirteen hundred and fifty feet below tide, awhile west, at Tremont, it is not over one thousand feet, and east, at Mauch Chunk, it is much less. On account of this depth, the early working in this county were confined to the thin upper or red ash veins, which crop out in the gaps and hill sides, easily worked above water level. Then the Mammoth and other lower veins were attacked in the northern part of the field, where the gradual rising of the measures towards Broad mountain brought them near enough to the surface to be worked with profit. Later, the opening up of the Second basin, with its more accessible veins, transferred the greater part of the mining industry north of Broad mountain. Although the southern basin covers a much greater area, yet it contains but fifty-three collieries. But the day is not far distant when this field will be the busy one. After the more shallow basins are exhausted, the millions of tons of Mammoth and other coals, held in reserve in its deep folds, will be brought to the surface, and forwarded to market. Anthracite is now a necessity and here is its greatest store house.

The Shenandoah basin is comparatively shallow, with a gentle south dip and steep north one, which, at times, is folded back, so that it appears as a south dip. Several miles west of Shenandoah the rise of this basin brings its bottom to the surface and it ends there; but still further west it appears again.

West of Girardville some of the minor axes become more prominent and change the details of structure. In this coal field the lower or white ash beds are especially well developed and are the ones principally worked. The great Mammoth bed is often a solid stratum forty feet in thickness, and at times appears in two or three splits, separated by fifth feet or more of rock. The Buck Mountain, Skidmore, Seven-Foot, Holmes and Primrose are all worked, and more extensively as the Mammoth is exhausted.

This region, now full of thriving towns and collieries, with their ponderous machinery for bringing the coal to the surface and preparing it for market, thirty years ago was covered with forests of pine and hemlock.

The position of this field relative to the outlets of the southern one, its mountain barrier, pierced by so few natural outlets, were some of the obstacles to its early development. Stephen Girard, in 1830, commenced his railroad of planes and levels into this basin, under the direction of Moncure Robinson, but abandoned it in 1836, after a shipment of but 13,347 tons. In 1854 the Mine Hill Railroad was continued across Broad Mountain to Ashland; and in 1856 Messrs. Patterson, Bast and Conner shipped the first coal, 178 tons, from this region. The building of this road was the result of the great labor of Schuylkill county's prominent citizen Burd Patterson, whose energy also urged to completion the East Mahanoy railroad and tunnel, and also the Broad Mountain Railroad, under George B. Rogerts, its chief engineer. Now the many branches of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad and Lehigh Valley roads on the east tap all parts of this district.
The development of the mines of Mahanoy and Shenandoah valleys, in the few years of its history, has been wonderful, and its production of coal has increased at a very rapid rate.

A table accompanying Chapter IV shows the entire production of the Schuylkill and other districts, from their beginning to January, 1881.

The areas of the anthracite coal fields, confined to a few counties of our State, are so well defined that we need be in no doubt as to their extent; and this limited area admonishes us that we should carefully husband our inheritance, and not waste it. The fact is well established, that for every ton shipped to market, two are wasted. The loss in the operations of mining, the pillars left to support the roofs of the mines, the loss in preparation, each contributes to this great aggregate. How to prevent these losses, by use of improved machinery, and by more through methods of working the mines, should be the study of our mining superintendents and engineers. Several suggestions, with a view to a partial remedy, present themselves.

• First.-The owning of the land by the operators would make them careful to mine all the coals. As tenants for a limited term of years, their object is merely to take out that coal, and in such a manner as will cost them little, and bring them much.
• Second.-If the lands are to be leased, the term should be long enough to enable them to mine all the coal beds covered by the lease.
• Third.-The lease should contain clauses subjecting the methods of mining, ventilation and drainage to the supervision of the owner's mining engineers; limiting the lengths of "breast," to seventy yards, or less; forbidding the use of monkey rolls, or the rebreaking of coal; providing for the dumping in separate heaps of the coal dirt and the slate and rock.
• Fourth.-We need larger collieries, and fewer of them, with perfected machinery, for hoisting, pumping and breaking.
• Fifth.-More capital is required to open the mines for extensive and exhaustive working, by driving the gangways to the extreme ends of the territory, and then mining towards the outlet, so as to obviate the necessity of retracing our steps and robbing the pillars.

In Schuylkill county we are specialists. We are dependent upon one substance: coal is king. There is no gold, silver, lead, copper or other valuable metals. Though we have good iron ores, they are so disseminated as not to furnish us one workable bed. Yet we largely help Pennsylvania to furnish nearly half the iron manufactured in the United States. We have a large farming area well cultivated by our industrious and frugal German farmers. Our convenient location to the great markets of the Atlantic seaboard, our canals and abundant railroad facilities, our great commodity, always give a promise and an attitude among the great counties of our grand old commonwealth, which we are ever proud to realize.

CHAPTER V
DEVELOPMENT OF THE COAL PRODUCTION AND TRADE
IN SCHUYLKILL COUNTY
By P.D. Luther

In the year 1749 the proprietaries of Pennsylvania obtained from the Indians, for the sum of $500, their title to the lands between Mahanoy creek, on the east side of the Susquehanna river, and the Delaware river north of the Blue mountain; embracing in whole or in part the counties of Dauphin, Schuylkill, Northumberland, Columbia, Luzerne, Monroe, Carbon and Pike. The space comprehends the lands between the Blue or Kittatinny mountain range to the south, the Susquehanna river to the west, and a line drawn from the point of the mountain at the mouth of Mahanoy creek to the mouth of Lackawaxen creek, at the New York State boundary, and at the junction of that creek with the Delaware river: being one hundred and twenty-five miles long and thirty miles in average breadth. Within this territory of 3,750 square miles is comprehended the entire group of anthracite basins, usually styled the southern and middle coal fields.

In his work on "Statistics of Coal," R.C. Taylor gives the following eloquent description of the great depositories of anthracite coal in Pennsylvania:

"The physical features of the anthracite country are wild; its aspect forbidding; its surface broken, sterile, and apparently irreclaimable. Its area exhibits an extraordinary series of parallel ridges and deep intervening troughs. The groups of elongated hills and valleys consist of a number of axes, all or nearly all of which range in exact conformity to the base of the Alleghany mountains. When viewed from the latter, they bear a striking resemblance to those long rolling lines of surf, wave behind wave in long succession, which break upon a flat shore. In the year 1748 a large portion of this region had received upon the maps the not unapt title of the wilderness of St. Anthony. three-fourths of a century after, when the greater part of this area was still in stony solitude—when this petrified ocean, whose waves were sixty-five miles long and more than a thousand feet high, remained almost unexplored—a few tons of an unknown combustible were brought to Philadelphia, where its qualities were to be tested and its value ascertained."

The wheels of time revolve unceasingly in their course, events multiply rapidly, the expectation of to-day becomes the commonplace reality of to-morrow; and so the period arrived when the "stony solitude" of the wilderness of St. Anthony was to be aroused from its lethargy, and the treasure embedded in its hills utilized in the cause of civilization, commercial and manufacturing progress, and the wants of an increasing population. The birth of a great productive industry may be dated from the year 1829, when 365 tons of anthracite were sent to Philadelphia from the head waters of the Lehigh river. From that time the capitalists with their millions
and the miners with their implements of toil penetrated the wilderness; canals and railroads were built, furnishing transportation for the "unknown combustible" to the markets on the seaboard; colliery after colliery was established; until in the year 1847, Mr. Taylor says, the "surprising amount of three millions of tons of anthracite was mined, or an aggregate of nearly nineteen millions of tons within a quarter of a century, and 11,439 vessels cleared from the single port of Philadelphia, loaded with a million and a quarter of tons for the service of the neighboring States." A quarter of a century later, in the year 1872, the three millions of tons production which had astonished Mr. Taylor had been increased to nineteen millions of tons annual production, and an aggregate of two hundred and thirty-seven millions of tons in half a century. The development of the coal fields continues with unabated vigor; the volume of the trade continues to expand; railroads above and below ground ramify in every direction; the shriek of the locomotive and the roll of the cars resound on every hillside and valley; the green slopes of a thousand hills are blotted with the debris of the coal mines; the density of the population, the growth of cities and villages, the large domestic trade and commerce, all testify to the great importance and magnitude of an industry in which anthracite sits enthroned.

**FIRST SUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO USE COAL**

Having made these preliminary observations, we will now turn our attention exclusively to the coal trade of Schuylkill county. The existence of anthracite coal in the southern and middle coal fields must have been known or suspected prior to 1770. In Sculls map, published in that year, some localities are indicated, especially about the head waters of the Schuylkill, and stretching thence westward to those of the Swartara. The first observation of anthracite coal in Schuylkill county, of which we have particular record, was awarded to Nicho Allen, a lumberman who lived on the Broad mountain. Allen led a vagrant kind of life, and in one of his expeditions, in the year 1790, he camped out over night and built a fire among some rocks, under shelter of the trees. During the night he felt an unusual degree of heat upon his extremities, and waking up he observed amid the rocks a mass of glowing fire, he having accidentally ignited the outcrop of a bed of coal. This was his first experience of stone coal. He never profited by his discovery, and after having for a considerable time advocated the value of anthracite, and of his important service to the region in discovering it, without receiving substantial reward, he left the region in disgust, for his native State in New England.

The introduction of anthracite coal into general use as a fuel was attended with great difficulty in Schuylkill county, as well as in the other coal fields. In the year 1795 a blacksmith of the name of Whetstone used it successfully for smithing purposes. In the year 1806 coal was found in cutting the tail-race of the Valley Forge, on the Schuylkill, and was used successfully by Daniel Berlin, a blacksmith, which led to its general use by the smiths in the neighborhood. Its introduction for household purposes was only accomplished after years of persistent and arduous labor. Its hardness and the difficulty of igniting it, compared with wood, commonly used, involved all the prejudice and opposition to novel appliances usual upon such occasion. The erroneous impression that it required an artificial blast to produce combustion, the superabundance and cheapness of wood throughout the country, the distance from the seaboard and centers of population, and the entire want of transportation facilities to market, made its introduction for many years entirely impracticable, except at its places of deposit. Judge Fell first experimented with it in the Wyoming region, using a common wooden grate in his efforts to produce combustion, arguing that if he succeeded in burning up his wooden grate he would then be warranted in making an iron one; which he afterward did, making the grate with his own hands in his nephew's shop. This interesting and successful experiment was made in 1808. The following memorandum was made by the judge at the time:

"February 11th, of Masonry 5808.-Made the experiment of burning the common stone coal of the valley in a grate, in a common fire place in my house, and find it will answer the purpose of fuel, making a clearer and better fire, at less expense, than burning wood in the common way.

"JESSE FELL"

**FIRST USE OF COAL IN A ROLLING MILL**

About the year 1800 William Morris, the owner of a large tract of land near Port Carbon, sent a wagon load of coal to Pennsylvania, but was unable to bring it into public notice. dissatisfied with the result, he sold his lands, and abandoned mining operations.

The first successful attempt to introduce anthracite coal in the Philadelphia market was made in 1812, by Colonel George Shoemaker, subsequently the proprietor and house of the Pennsylvania Hall, in Pottsville, then as now one of the principal hotels in the place. The colonel loaded nine wagons with coal from his mines at Centreville, near Pottsville, and hauled them to Philadelphia for a market; but the good people of that city denounced the colonel as a swindler and impostor for attempting to impose "black rocks" upon them for stone coal. The following extract from a report of the Board of Trade of the Shuylkill County Coal Association, drawn up by Samuel Lewis, Esq., is the most authentic account of the enterprise of Colonel Shoemaker that has come down to us:

"In the year 1812 our fellow citizen Colonel Shoemaker procured a quantity of coal from a shaft sunk on a tract of land he had recently purchased, on the Norwegian, and now owned by the North American Coal Company (1833) and known as the Centreville tract. With this he loaded nine wagons and proceeded to Philadelphia. Much time was spent by him in endeavoring to introduce it into notice, but all his efforts proved unavailing. Those who deigned to try it declared Colonel Shoemaker as a swindler and impostor for attempting to impose "black rocks" upon them for stone coal. The following extract from a report of the Board of Trade of the Shuylkill County Coal Association, drawn up by Samuel Lewis, Esq., is the most authentic account of the enterprise of Colonel Shoemaker that has come down to us:

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Shoemaker to be an impostor for attempting to impose stones on them for coal, and were clamorous against him. Not
discouraged by the sneers and sarcasms cast upon him he persisted in the undertaking, and at least succeeded in disposing
of two loads for the cost of transportation, and the remaining seven he gave to persons who promised to try to use it,
and lost all the coal and the charges on the seven loads. Messrs. Mellon & Bishop, at the earnest solicitation of Colonel
Shoemaker, were induced to make a trial of it on their rolling mill in Delaware county; and finding it to answer fully the
character given it by him, noticed its usefulness in the Philadelphia papers.

"At the reading of this report Colonel Shoemaker was present by invitation, who fully confirmed the foregoing
statement and furnished some additional information, among which was that he was induced to make the venture of
taking the coal to Philadelphia from the success attending its use at Pottsville, both in the blacksmiths' fire and for
warming houses; and that he could not believe that so useful an article was intended to always lie in the earth unnoticed
and unknown. That when he had induced Mr. Mellon to try the coal in the rolling mill he (Shoemaker) accompanied the
coal to the mill, arriving there in the evening. The foreman of the mill pronounced the coal to be stones and not coal, and
that he was an impostor in seeking to palm off such stuff on is employer as coal. As a fair trial of it by this man or the men
under him could not be expected it was arranged between Shoemaker and Mellon, who was a practical workman, that
workmen came. They accordingly repaired to the mill in the morning, and kindled a fire in one of the furnaces with
wood, on which they placed the coal. After it began to ignite Mellon was inclined to use the poker, against which
Shoemaker cautioned him. They were shortly afterward called to breakfast, previous to which Colonel Shoemaker had
observed the blue blaze of the kindling anthracite just breaking through the body of the coal, and then he knew all was
right if it were left alone, and he directed the men left in charge not to use the poker or open the furnace door until their
return. When they returned they found the furnace in a perfect glow of white heat. The iron was put in and heated in
much less time than usual, and it passed through the rolls with unusual facility, or, in the language of the workman, like
lead. All, employers as well as workmen, were perfectly satisfied with the experiment, which was tried repeatedly and
always with complete success; and to crown the whole, the surly foreman acknowledged his error, and begged pardon
of Colonel Shoemaker for his rudeness the preceding evening".

Thus Colonel Shoemaker had the honor of establishing the fact—a fact of incalculable importance—that the "black rocks" of
Schuylkill county were combustible, and that as a fuel they were combustible into general use for household purposes. This was very
gradually accomplished, both because of the abundant supply of wood and of the want of the proper appliances for the combustion of coal.
The invention and manufacture of grates and stoves adapted to the purpose was the first requisite.

At the time of the remarkable adventure of Colonel Shoemaker with his "black rocks" in Philadelphia the mountainous region of
the Schuylkill coal field had been only partially explored. Its sparse but hardly population depended in great measure upon the game which
abounded in the forest, and upon the sale of lumber, for the supplies required for their necessities and comfort. The lumber cut during the
winter was formed into rafts, and sent down in the spring, when the freshets made the river navigable. Before the completion of the
Schuylkill canal, in 1825, the products of the county were always sent to market by this precarious and unreliable navigation.

SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION

In the year 1812 Messrs. White & Hazzard and other individuals made an application to the Legislature of Pennsylvania for an
act of incorporation to improve the navigation of the Schuylkill river, upon which occasion the senator from Schuylkill county rose in his
place and said that there was no coal in Schuylkill county; there was a kind of black stone that was called coal, but it would not burn. In
consequence of this observation the act of incorporation was not granted at that time; but, notwithstanding the opinion of many people that
the project of making a canal into the wild, mountainous region of Schuylkill was a chimerical scheme, the charter was granted in 1815,
and the work finished sufficiently by the year 1825 to accommodate the coal trade. The originators of the project, with a few exceptions,
did not count upon the coal trade to promote the success of the undertaking. They looked forward mainly to the agricultural products
below the mountains, the lumber of Schuylkill county, and the grain and other products of the counties bordering on the Susquehanna
river, for a tonnage that would ultimately afford dividends to the stockholders. A division of trade from the north branch of the Susquehanna
to the head waters of the Schuylkill was a favorite idea at that time. Stephen Girard had that object in view when he promoted the
construction of the Pottsville and Danville Railroad, which was completed to Girardville—a gigantic enterprise for those days, which only
served the purpose of a public curiosity. Colonel Paxton had the same object in view in his devoted advocacy of the Catawissa Railroad—a
road whose tortuous alignment through formidable mountain barriers and stilt-like trestling over frightful chasms were the terror of all
travelers.

The first shipments of coal by canal were made in the year 1822, when 1,480 tons were poled down the line, the tow-path being
yet unmade. In an address of the managers in 1817, they predicted that the day would come in the history of the Schuylkill Navigation
Company when ten thousand tons of coal per annum would be shipped by canal. So little idea had the most sagacious capitalists of that day of
the enormous future growth of the coal trade. In some of the early reports of the presidents of the company we meet with statements
possessing a curious interest. For example, in the report of Cadwalader Evans in reference to the operations of the year 1812 he says:

"There have been completed on the upper section of the river since the report of last year the tunnel and the canals and
locks at that time com-
Boats carrying eighteen tons traversed this part of the canal during the fall, and transported "produced of the upper county and large quantities of coal to the neighborhood of Hamburg, where it was deposited, and the coal sold to the county people at and near that place." No toll was charged during the fall, as the company wished "to encouraged experiments in this novel kind of navigation."

It appears that the worthy president of the navigation company had no other designation for Pittsville than "John Pott's, at the coal mines." The tunnel referred to was situated above Port Clinton. The excavation of it was regarded as a prodigious undertaking, and it was a great curiosity in its day. Many persons came by stage coach or private conveyance from Philadelphia and other places to see the great tunnel and to witness the spectacle of the passage of boats under and through a mountain. The wonder and admiration with which our ancestors regarded this work-so simple and commonplace in our day-afford a striking elucidation of the great advancement since then in civil engineering. This tunnel was the first driven in North America. It was commenced about the year 1818, and was completed, as before stated, in 1812. It was originally 450 feet in length, arched 75 feet from each end. It was reduced in length and enlarged from time to time until at length, in 1855-56, it was made a through cut.

The capacity of the canal was gradually increased by deeping the channels, and by other improvements, and the tonnage of the boats, which had been only eighteen tons in 1825. In the year 1846 an enlargement and reconstruction of the canal was accomplished, and the tonnage of the boats increased to 180 or 200 tons.

Incorporated without mining or trading privileges, it was the interest of the Schuylkill Navigation Company to invite tonnage from every available source. The canal was designed for a grand avenue for the conveyance of the products of the mine, the afield and the forest; a free navigation to all who chose to participate in its facilities. Entering the southern coal field at its centre, it afforded an outlet for most of its territory. The projectors of this valuable improvement were the pioneers in inland navigation in this country, and to them is due the credit of commencing works of this nature. Their enterprise contributed largely to subdue the wilderness and to unfold the mineral treaure hidden in the wilds of the Schuylkill coal region.

INFLUX OF OPERATORS AND SPECULATORS

An outlet having been provided by the Schuylkill Navigation Company for a regular supply of anthracite coal, public attention was strongly attracted to the southern anthracite coal field. The developments already made in this region being quite convincing as to the extent of the deposits, and its evident advantages in regard to location and nearness to tide water conduced greatly to this result. The disappearance of the forests in the vicinity of the large towns, and the consequent appreciation in the price of wood-which in 1825 was already more expensive than coal-crystallized public opinion in favor of the long despised "black diamonds." The superiority of anthracite over every other description of fuel was at length becoming demonstrated. Its great convenience, and the cheerful, flowing warmth it imparted, secured a comfort to the domestic fireside that had never been experienced before. Suitable appliances for its combustion were gradually introduced into public and private houses. Manufacturers were beginning to appreciate its superiority to bituminous coal in power and economy. The fact was dimly dawning upon the minds of the people that they were at the portals of a great and wonderful productive industryan industry of supereminent power and influence-which would ameliorate the condition of mankind, prove a valuable accessory to all mechanical and manufacturing operations, stimulate every branch of trade and commerce, promote the prosperity of and diffuse inestimable benefits upon the country generally. The apathy, the incredulity and the prejudice which had so long dominated the minds of capitalists and consumers were gradually removed, and golden visions of prospective fortunes captivated their imaginations.

A few years after the inauguration of the Schuylkill coal trade (1825), when anthracite was recognized in commerce as a staple article, the Schuylkill coal region became the theatre of a wild spirit of speculation and adventure, somewhat similar to the frenzy which prevailed in the oil regions not many years since. There was a rush to Schuylkill county of a promiscuous crowd of capitalists, adventuriers and fortune hunters, who were inspired with the delusive phantom of suddenly becoming millionaires in the new El Dorado. This was the first speculative era (in 1829) of the Schuylkill coal trade. Pottsville, the center of the movement, overflowed with strangers, for whom there were very limited accommodations and lodging provided; a share of a bed was a fortunate circumstance; a chair to repose in was a cause for congratulation or envy; and, inasmuch as strangers had liberty to sleep on the floor, there was a lively competition for the softest plank. A few provident travelers, having special regard for their bodily comfort, carried their beds on top of the stage coach, ready for any emergency. The mirth their arrival created while unloading at the hotel can be readily imagined. In this assemblage of solid men and spirits there was not wanting a representation of the silk glove gentry, with fast horses and dashing turnouts, who did not fail to astonish the natives. City swells and sporting characters, whose profession says, added to the demoralization of the place.

The mountains were scarified by pits and trial shafts sunk by enthusiastic prospectors, traces of which yet remain. Having no knowledge of the geology of the coal formation, they "went it blind," trusting to chance; and
many of them dug the graves of their sanguine hopes and their small capitals in the vain search for anthracite.

RAPID GROWTH OF TOWNS AND APPRECIATION OF COAL LANDS

After such failures the mysterious disappearance of fast teams with their owners, without the formality of paying their bills, was not an uncommon occurrence. Other and more successful explorers revealed the existence of a great number of veins of coal, extending over a vast stretch of county and abounding with a seemingly inexhaustible quantity of the combustible. These discoveries fanned the flame of excitement; lands were bought with avidity; roads were laid out in the forest, mines were opened and railroads projected, and innumerable town plots decorated the walls of public houses. The demand for houses was so great that the lumber for quite a large number was framed in Philadelphia and sent by canal to the coal region, ready for the joiner. The spectacle was presented of a city coming up the canal in boats—a forest moving to make way for a thriving town. Whole villages along the roadside thus sprang into existence like mushrooms. The opportunities of promising land speculations were almost unexampled, and many fortunes were made by shrewd and enterprising capitalists. Tracts of land that had been offered for sale at twenty-five cents per acre, and others which could have been bought a few years before for the taxes that had been paid on them, advanced a thousand fold. Within a period of six months from the beginning of the speculative movement—which continued with varied activity for three years, culminating in 1828–29, nearly $5,000,000 had been invested in the coal lands of Schuylkill county; yet so little appreciation had the owners of the real value of these lands that some properties which had been sold in 1827 for $500 were again sold in 1829 for $16,000. The Peacock tract, belonging to the New York and Schuylkill Coal Company, bought in 1824 for $9,000, was sold in 1829 for $42,000; a tract of 120 acres on the Broad mountain, sold in 1829 for $12,000, was bought nine months before for $1,400; one-fourth of another tract sold in 1829 for $9,000, the whole tract having been purchased six years before for $190; a tract on the west branch, which brought $700 was sold nine months afterward, in 1829, for $6,000. Another, tract sold for $16,000, was bought nine months before for $1,000. These transactions indicate the advance of the speculative movement, and the entire ignorance of the property holders in early times of the intrinsic value of their elands. It is questionable whether at any time during the excitement elands were sold at more than their real value as an investment, except in those instances where the purchasers incautiously selected barren tracts, or through ignorance crossed the boundary line of the coal field and located in the red shale. Speculators who invested at the comparatively high prices of 1829, with the view of a quick operation, were, many of them, caught two years afterward in the first revulsion of the coal trade, and, not being able to hold their properties, were obliged to sell them at a sacrifice.

PRIMITIVE MINING AND TRANSPORTATION

The mining operations in the early days of the coal trade in the Schuylkill region were conducted in the most primitive manner, all the arrangements being rude and simple. The leases embraced a run on the outcrop or strike of the veins of about fifty to one hundred yards, with an allowance of sufficient space on the surface to handle the products of the mines. The plan first adopted was to sink pits on an elevated position, from which the coal was hoisted in buckets, with a common windlass, worked by hand; and when the water became too strong to be hoisted, which occurred at a depth of thirty to forty feet, the pit was abandoned and a new one started from the surface. The yield under this system was very trifling and unsatisfactory, which led to the application of the gin worked by horse power—generally a wheezy or decrepit animal, unfit for other service—and it increased the product very much, being considered at the time a great improvement; but as the shaft became deeper the water would increase in volume, and eventually drown out the mine. The operators, although inexperienced in mining, were intelligent, enterprising and energetic men, who were not content to follow old ruts or beaten tracks. They soon discovered the advantages of opening the veins from the ravines, at the foot of the hills, by drifts. The leases were then made with longer runs, the water was removed by natural drainage, and the pitch of the veins facilitated the mining and loading of the coal. For a short time the coal was taken out of the mine in wheel-barrows, and afterward railroads were laid in the gangways, and the coal hauled out by horse or mule power. These changes effected a great economy in the whole process until the coal was delivered outside of the mine.

The contrivances on the surface for handling the coal were at the beginning of the trade equally rude and simple with those of the mining department. The modern appliances of breakers, machinery and steam engines did not exist at that time. The pick, the hammer, the shovel, riddle and wheelbarrow were all the implements in use. The removal of the dirt and slate from the coal was all the preparation it was subjected to. The transportation to the wharves or landings on the canal was made in the ordinary road wagons. This was a slow and very expensive operation, the charge for hauling being about twenty-five cents a ton per mile. In the year 1829 the production amounted to 79,973 tons, nearly all of which was hauled in wagons over the common roads of the county. Taking one week for an example June 19-251,831 tons of coal were hauled through the streets of Pottsville, over roads that had the aspect of rivers of slimy mud. No wonder the introduction of railroads was hailed as a happy deliverance.

EARLY RAILROADS

In the year 1829 the following railroads from the
• The Schuylkill Valley Railroad, commencing at Port Carbon, the head of navigation, and terminating at Tuscarora, a distance of ten miles, with fifteen branch railroads intersecting it, the distances combined amounting to ten miles. This road was in partial operation during the year 1829.
• The Mill Creek Railroad, extending from Port Carbon up the valley of Mill creek four miles, with about three miles of branch roads intersecting it. This was the first road completed and was in operation part of the year 1829.
• The Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, commencing at Schuylkill Haven and terminating at Broad mountain, having a length, including the west branch, of fifteen miles. There were also about five miles of branches intersecting it.
• The Mount Carbon Railroad, commencing at Mount Carbon and extending up the east and west branches of the Norwegian creek; length of road seven miles.
• The Little Schuylkill Railroad, from Port Clinton to Tamaqua, twenty miles in length, was likewise projected this year.
• The superstructure of all these roads was a wooden rail strapped with flat bar iron.

The Schuylkill Valley Railroad was completed on the 12th of July, 1830. Soon afterwards, as an experiment, twenty-one cars were loaded with coal by Aquilla Bolton, the proprietor of the Belmont mines, about two miles above Port Carbon, and hauled to the landing with great ease by three horses, the cars being under perfect control of the brakes, so as to stop at the weigh scales and move on again without assistance. It would have taken fifty horses to haul the same quantity of coal over the common roads in wagons. In the year 1830 19,426 tons of coal were passed over the road.

The Mount Carbon Railroad was completed in the spring of 1831. Transportation commenced on the 19th of April, on which day the interesting spectacle of a train of cars loaded with anthracite was seen descending the road for the first time. The coal with which the care were filled was mined by Samuel J. Potts from the celebrated Spohn vein. This event ended the road wagon transportation of coal through the town of Pottsville.

The Little Schuylkill Railroad was completed a few weeks before the close of navigation in 1831. On the 18th of November of that year the opening of the road was celebrated at Tamaqua. A grand entertainment was given. On Monday, March 11th, 1833, a novel and interesting spectacle was presented on the road. A trial trip was made by a locomotive engine, running from Port Clinton to Tamaqua. It excited considerable interest, as it was the first locomotive introduced in Schuylkill county. The superstructure of the railroad was too light for the engine, which spread the rails and tan into the river. It was used afterward as a shifting engine at Tamaqua. It is said that the engine was shipped from Liverpool to Philadelphia, where it was loaded on a wagon used for hauling marble, and with sixteen horses hauled to Schuylkill county.

During the progress of the coal trade the railroads noticed above had been greatly extended, and after the completion of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad they were reconstructed, with a wider gauge and an iron rail.

It is a notable circumstance that to Abraham Pott, a pioneer coal operator, belongs the honor of having built the first railroad in Schuylkill county, in Pennsylvania, and perhaps in the United States. A railroad which was about half a mile in length, and extended from the junction of Mill creek and the Schuylkill river to a point in the Black Valley, was built by him in 1826. It had an entirely wooden superstructure, and was successfully operated. Mr. Pott was the first to use drop bottom cars, with wheels fixed to the axles. He erected a steam engine in 1829 to drive a saw-mill the first steam engine in the county. To him belongs the credit of being the first to use anthracite coal for the generation of steam for a steam engine.

EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRADE

The coal trade from 1825 to 1829 inclusive had been very encouraging to the operators. All the coal that could be mined found a ready market at fair prices. The following is a statement of the number of tons shipped from the Schuylkill region during these years, with the price per ton obtained at Pottsville: 1825, 6,5000, $3.08; 1826, 16,767, $2.80; 1827, 31,360, $2.80; 1828, 47,284, $2.52; 1829, 79,973, $2052.

This result inspired a buoyant feeling among the producers at the beginning of the year 1830 in contemplating the prospects of the trade for the ensuing season. The market was in a healthy condition. The superiority of anthracite as a fuel for domestic, for manufacturing and for steam generating purposes was gaining recognition, and its popularity was enhanced with its introduction into more general use. All the indications pointed to a greatly increased consumption in the near future, and it seemed to warrant the preparation made to meet the probable demand. The Schuylkill canal was in order for business on the first of April. The coal operators were felicitating themselves upon their glorious prospects. At no previous period had they indulged in greater expectations. The turmoil of business resounded in the streets of Pottsville. Coal wagons, in a continuous train, were conveying the treasure of the mines to the landings; the wharves presented an enlivening picture of activity; there was talk of having relays of horses on the canal to hastened the transit of anthracite to the markets where it was so anxiously expected. Great impatience was displayed at the snail-paced way of dragging along on the canal, with one horse, and that only in the daytime. Coal was king, and all the people in the coal region were his worshipers.

FLUCTUATIONS AND EMBARRASSMENTS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 1830

To this impulsive enthusiasm there was, unfortunately
The movement of the trade had but fairly started when a series of misfortunes occurred on the canal; leaks and breaches and damaged locks interrupted the navigation. The shippers because vehement with impatience at the supposed tardiness of the superintendents who had charge of the repairs, and at the inefficiency and parsimonious policy of the managers of the navigation company, who could not be made to appreciate the exigency of the occasion. At length on the 17th of May the navigation was restored, but complaints that the canal did not afford sufficient accommodation for the trade continued to be made throughout the season.

The sequel to all this outcry and protestation was an overstock market at the close of the season. The amount sent from the Schuylkill region was 89,984 tons; an increase of 10,011 tons over the supply of the preceding year. The aggregate supply from all the regions was 175,209 tons, being an increase of 63,126 tons over the supply of 1829. The actual consumption of anthracite coal in 1830 was 126,581 tons, or 48,628 tons less than the supply. The prices of coal were fair in the spring, and they averaged for the year $2.52 per ton at Pottsville and $5.50 to $6 per ton at Philadelphia. As the season advanced prices receded, and before the following spring they were as low as $4.50 per ton in Philadelphia by the cargo.

The year 1831 forms an important epoch in the Schuylkill coal trade. It was then it met with its first serious reverse, induced by overproduction. The market was broken down by an excess in the supply of the previous year of not over fifty thousand tons. Half a century afterward an excess of millions of tons would be required to produce an equal effect. Truly, the trade was in its infancy. Prices of coal declined to $1.50 per ton at Pottsville and $4 per ton in Philadelphia. Miners’ wages were reduced to $1 per day, laborers’ to 82 cents. All together the situation was deplorable. It was the first serious revulsion the trade had encountered, and it was destined to become the first of a long series of periodical inflictions.

In the meantime the low prices of coal had affected almost insensibly a greatly augmented consumption, especially for household purposes. In the beginning of autumn the demand became unprecedented. The miners and boatmen, who had sought other employment during the stagnation of the trade, could not be brought back in time to mine and transport coal enough to supply the market. The scarcity of workmen caused an advance in wages. Canal freight rose from $1.12 to $2.50 ton to Philadelphia, and from Philadelphia to New York from $1 to $2 per ton. On the 3rd if December Schuylkill coal was selling at $9.50 in New York, advancing to $17 by the 26th of the same month.

The business of the year 1832 was distinguished by unvarying and unexampled prosperity—it was an oasis in the trade, affording unmingled and general satisfaction. The first boat of the season was shipped by the Schuylkill canal on the 28th of March. Loud cheers and several salutes of fire-arms testified to the satisfaction of the spectators. The amount of coal sent from the Schuylkill region in 1832 was 209,271 tons, an increase over supply of the preceding year of 127,417 tons. The average price of coal during the year was $2.37 at Pottsville, against $1.50 in 1831.

An embarrassing feature of the coal business in 1832 was the great scarcity of boats. Freight, which started at $1.50 per ton to Philadelphia (which was deemed a fair rate), advanced to $3075 per ton before the close of the season. The prevalence of the Asiatic cholera in Philadelphia during the summer alarmed the boatmen, and many boats were withdrawn from the trade during the worst stage of the epidemic. The boatmen who continued were only induced to remain by the increased wages they received. The dealers, becoming uneasy in regard to their supplies, instructed their agents to forward their coal as soon as possible, without a limit to freights. From this time may be dated the origin of an element in the trade which became very harassing and uncontrollable. The freights on the canal, whenever there was a good demand for coal or whenever boats were scarce, were advanced at a rate beyond the bounds of moderation or fair dealing. The boatmen were sharp and unscrupulous, and they quickly took advantage of every circumstance which could be made to inure to their benefit. It became a common practice for the shippers or his agent to travel down the towing path ten or fifteen miles, if necessary, to charter boats, which could only be secured by an advance in freight at the expense of the consignee, and a bonus of five or ten dollars at the expense of the shipper. This intolerable practice was not entirely broken up until the navigation company became the owner of a majority of the boats and was enabled thereby to control and regulate the freights in the canal.

**COAL MINING ASSOCIATIONS**

In the month of January, 1832, the "Coal Mining Association of Schuylkill County" was organized. It was composed exclusively of master colliers, and those immediately connected with mining. In the roll of its members can be found the names of pioneers in the coal trade, who were distinguished for force of character and superior enterprise. The following is a list of the officers in 1822: President, Burd Patterson; vice-president, John C. Offerman; Treasurer, Samuel Lewis; secretaries, Andrew Russel and Charles Lawton. In connection with the association there was a board of trade, composed of the following prominent gentleman, who were identified with the anthracite coal trade and its early history: Benjamin H. Springer, Samuel Brooke, Samuel J. Potts, M. Brooke Buckley, James E. White, Thomas S. Ridgway and Martin Weaver. In the first report of the association, the board estimated the amount of capital invested in the Schuylkill coal trade up to that time as follows:

The cost of the railroads, including the Mill creek, Schuylkill valley, Mount Carbon, Mine Hill and Schuyl-
kill Haven and the Little Schuylkill, was about $656,000; the amount invested in coal lands and building in the county was estimated at $6000,000; the amount expended in opening veins of coal, in building fixtures; cars, etc., connected with mining, was $200,000; to which may be added 500 boats, averaging $500 each, $250,000; and the total investment is shown to have been $7,106,000. The saving in the cost of fuel since the introduction of anthracite coal was estimated by the board as being then $6,000,000 annually. Not an individual miner engaged in the business since its commencement was supposed to have realized a cent of profit.

ANTI-MONOPOLISTS

An earnest and increasing opposition to incorporated coal companies in the Schuylkill region, which had agitated the public mind for some time, culminated in 1833 in public meetings, in communications to the press, in memorials to the Legislature, and in well sustained public and private argument and discussion. It was contended that acts of incorporation were unnecessary, all the transactions of the coal trade coming within the scope of individual enterprise. In the year 1833 and a number of years subsequently, coal mining operations in the Schuylkill region were conducted with rude simplicity and economy, very little capital being required for their successful prosecution. The workings were all above the water level, no machinery being required for water drainage or for hoisting the coal to the surface. Coal breakers and other expensive fixtures and appliances for the preparation of coal had not then been introduced. There were at the time were many rented mines properly and successfully worked, which had not at any time required or had expended upon them a capital of five hundred dollars each. There were many operators sending from five thousand to six thousand tons to market annually (which was then considered a respectable business) that had not at any time a capital employed of as many thousands of dollars, including the first purchase in fee simple of the coal mine. It was confidently asserted that it did not require as much capital to buy a piece of coal land and open the coal mines upon it as it did to buy a decent farm and stock it did not require as much capital to work a coal mine as it did to establish a line of stages or transportation wagons. Hence the granting of acts of incorporation with associated capital was unnecessary for mining purposes, and they were only procured for stock gambling purposes, and they were only procured for stock gambling purposes. On the 19th of March, 1833, a committee was appointed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania "to investigate the present state of the coal trade within this Commonwealth and the history of mining operations generally, with a view to ascertain the effect the incorporated companies, with mining and trading privileges, will have on the progress of the business and the improvement and prosperity of the State; and also to inquire what further legislative provisions will be necessary to protect, facilitate and encourage this branch of industry." Samuel J. Parker, the chairman of the committee, made a very able, lengthy and exhaustive report. It took decided ground against the incorporation of coal companies, especially when combined with the control of railroads and canals.

CRUDE VIEWS CONCERNING COAL DEPOSITS

To what extent the coal seams extended downward was a matter of great curiosity and speculation in 1833. Although it was believed that the beds above the water level would not be exhausted during that generation, the North American Coal Company, Robert Young, M. Brooke Buckley, and Blight Wallace & Co., more as a matter of experiment or convenience than necessity, and as a mean of ascertaining the relative expense of operating above and below water level, were engaged in sinking shafts to a considerable depth. Beside the fact that the coal did descend to an unknown depth, their experiments, it is fair to presume, were not of much utility, the means adopted being entirely inadequate to the purpose intended. The undulation of the seams, forming basins and saddles, was not understood. Every outcrop was regarded as a distinct vein, but whether they ran through to our antipodes, or wedged out in Gnomes’ land—the sphere of the guardian of mines and quarries—was a mooted question among the miners. That the veins should stop their descent and return to the surface in another locality was never dreamed of in their philosophy.

"Nearly twenty years since," said Henry C. Carey, the great writer on Political Economy, at the McGinness testimonial presentation in 1854, "Mr. Burd Patterson and myself were associated in sinking the first slope, by help of which our people were made surrounded. Until then, strange as it may seem, it was universally believed that the coal stopped at the water level—that the seams did not penetrate far down; and that idea had been apparently confirmed by the unsuccessful result of an attempt at going below the level, that had been made by the North American Coal Company. We were then laughed at; but we proceeded and thus established the fact that the quantity of coal was ten times greater than had ever been supposed." The slope alluded to by Mr. Carey, the sinking of which was promoted by himself and Burd Patterson, was sunk by Dr. Gideon G. Palmer, the practical work being under the superintendence of George Spencer.

The belief that the coal above water level would not be exhausted in that generation proved a delusion to many of the operators. Already in 1835 preparation were being extensively made to sink to lower depths for a continued supply. Several slopes were under progress in that year, among the number one on the Black mine, within the limits of the borough of Pottsville; one on the tract of land known as the York farm, one at St. Clair and another about three miles east of Port Carbon. The American Coal Company had sunk two slopes, one of which was in operation, the other was waiting the erection of a steam engine.
VICISSITUDES OF THE TRADE

The coal trade opened in the year 1834 under less favorable auspices than had distinguished it for some years previously. The general stagnation of business incident to a financial panic and a grave political convulsion, such as then agitated the nation, precluded the possibility of large shipments or great activity in the business. The amount of coal held over on the 1st of April from the supply of the preceding year was estimated at 120,000 tons, which was about one-fourth of the total production. This fact, together with the diminished consumption by manufacturers during the first half of the year, had a tendency to seriously check the demand. The effect, upon the laboring classes in the coal region, of this blight upon this great industry was severely felt. About one thousand workingmen were thrown out of employment in the Schuylkill region alone.

The opinion was very generally entertained that the prospect of the trade for the year 1835 wore a favorable aspect. A continued increase in the consumption for household and manufacturing purposes could be relied upon with confidence; and the recent application of anthracite coal to the purpose of steam navigation could be reasonably expected to greatly extend its use. The belief was in fact warranted that the demand and consumption for this year would be commensurate with the expectations of those who would derive advantage therefrom. The incentives to enterprise and industry were irresistible to the coal operators, who were naturally inclined to see a silver lining to every cloud, and who were generally under the influence of the fascination which characterized the pursuit of mining; a pursuit the hazards and precariousness of which gave it additional zest and piquancy, in view of a possible bonanza.

The expectations of the operators were happily realized in this instance. The shipments of coal from the Schuylkill region show a gain over those of the preceding year of 119,796 tons, all of which had been consumed by the first of April, 1836.

THE BOATMEN'S STRIKE

Among the notable events of the coal trade of 1835 the turnout of the boatmen and the demonstrations made by them produced the greatest sensation. In May intimations were given of the intended combination to raise the freights on the Schuylkill canal. In June the conspiracy culminated in coercive measures and acts of violence; the movements being animated by the crews of forty or fifty boats. Hamburg was made the centre of operations, the base of its supplies, and the field for obstructive measures against the movement of the coal trade. Boats were stopped and contributions extorted from their crews to meet the expenses incurred by the strikers. Acts of violence were committed, outrages perpetrated, and by force of intimidation the business on the canal was almost entirely suspended. Finally individuals were assailed with stones and other missiles; a reign of terror prevailed at Hamburg and its vicinity, and the mob pursued its insurrectionary measures with impunity. The civil authorities connived at the lawless proceedings of the rioters, and by their culpable apathy afforded them encouragement. The interruption to the trade on the canal became at length a very serious and intolerable evil, involving severe loss and suffering to thousands of people, who were interrupted in their daily avocations by the closing up of the only avenue to market for the produce of the country. An attempt was made by some prominent citizens of Pottsville to pass up a boat, with a view of testing the accuracy of the reports of the conduct of the boatmen. They were resisted by a formidable force and violence committed upon their persons. This led to the arrest of seventeen of the principal offenders. A descent was made upon Pottsville by about three hundred of the rioters, headed by a band of music and with banners flying. They met with a warm reception; several of the leaders were arrested, while others made their escape, being hotly pursued for several miles by the sheriff. Thus after nearly three weeks interruption to the trade the boatmen's rebellion was subdued. At the November term of the court in Reading ten of the offenders were arraigned on a trial for conspiracy. They pleaded guilty to the charge, and, at the request of the prosecutors not to fine or imprison them, they were sentenced to pay a fine of one cent and the costs of prosecution.

FLUCTUATIONS IN 1836

The fluctuations in the coal trade were remarkably exemplified in year 1836. The movement of coal commenced unusually late in the spring, after a severe winter. The market was bare of coal, and the demand for it was active and urgent, from the beginning of the boating season to its close by frost, at an earlier period than usual. During the first half of the season the prices of coal were moderate, ranging from $2 to $2025 per ton at Pottsville. After that time an apprehension of a short supply included redoubled exertions to increase the yield of the mines. The usual result followed. Miners became scared and their wages rose rapidly. A supply of them and of laborers of every description could not be procured, and those already employed became demoralized by the high wages they were receiving. They became exacting and unreasonable in their demands, and aggressive in conduct toward their employers. Another difficulty encountered was a scarcity of boats. All the boat builders on the line were fully employed, but they could not keep pace with the growth of the trade. Freights advanced from $1.25 per ton to Philadelphia in the spring to $2 per ton at the close of the season. Runners were employed on the line of canal to secure ascending boats, and day and night a sharp and vigilant competition prevailed. In sympathy with the rise in prices of other commodities, and the increased cost of its production, anthracite coal advanced in price to $3 per ton at Pottsville before the close of navigation.

The production from the Schuylkill region in 1836 was 448,995 tons, a gain over the shipments of the pre-
Although the Delaware and Raritan canal had been completed and in navigable order since fall of 1834, no steps had been taken to use the facilities it afforded for transportation to New York by the Schuylkill coal trade up to the year 1837. At length Colonel John M. Crossland, a boat builder in Pottsville—a man of spirit, energy and dash—conceived the idea of making an experimental voyage by this route, with a view of testing its practicability and if successful of bringing its advantages into public notice. Accordingly, having built a boat for the purpose which he named the "Adventurer"—an open boat without deck covering, furnished with a mast, sail, cordage, windlass and anchor—he departed from Pottsville on the 30th of August, 1837, with a cargo of coal bound for New York. It being the initial voyage by this route, great interest was taken in the enterprise, and fervent hopes were entertained that its issue would be prosperous; for, in the event of its success, it would probably be followed by regular shipments of coal by the same route.

From some cause not fully explained the voyage was ended at New Brunswick, where the cargo was sold and discharged. It was the full determination of Colonel Crossland, however, to make another trial. Having been kindly provided with a cargo of coal by Messrs. T.& I. Beatty, he again, about the middle of October, started off on his adventure. He encountered adverse winds, dense fogs and innumerable vexatious delays. With wonderful audacity he neither employed a steamboat to tow the "Adventurer" or a pilot to direct her course, depending altogether upon his sail, his pluck and his star for the issue. After an absence of thirty-eight days our voyager returned to Pottsville. He had not been "round the world" but he saw something of it, and he delivered the first cargo of coal from the Schuylkill region to New York direct and without transhipment. In the year following Colonel Crossland's experiment, Messrs. Stockton & Stevens had a fleet of boats built expressly for the direct trade to New York.

COAL TRADE IN 1837

The short supply and high prices of coal in 1836 induced a strong effort to be made in Congress to remove the duty on foreign coal, under the pretext that a supply of the domestic article could not be obtained. This circumstance stimulated the coal operators to make extraordinary preparations throughout the winter of 1837 to meet an increased demand. Day and night they labored with indefatigable industry and enterprise to increase the productive capacity of the mines, at the same time stacking the banks on the surface with mounds of coal, in anticipation of a large consumption and to demonstrate that a supply could be furnished without foreign importations. Scarcely had the shipments attained their full volume, in the month of April, when there occurred a financial panic, which deranged all branches of business. Its immediate effect upon the coal trade was disastrous. Orders were countermanded to a degree that involved the necessity of suspending operations at a large number of the collieries. The operators at this juncture held a public meeting, and issued an address to the operators at this juncture held a public meeting, and issued an address to

DEPARTURE FROM POTTSVILLE

On the first of April, 1838, the stock of anthracite coal in the market remaining over from the preceding year was estimated at 200,000 tons. A considerable depletion of the market was required before a demand for the new product could be expected. The shipments, consequently, were very light until about the first of June, and after that period the general and protracted depression in almost every branch of business, and especially the diminished consumption of coal by manufacturers, cast a cloud over the trade, and it dragged sluggishly along until the close of navigation. The supply of coal from the Schuylkill region was 94,332 tons less than in 1837.

FIRST MINING COMPANY INCORPORATED

During the session of the Legislature of Pennsylvania in the winter of 1838 the coal operators, the miners and laborers at the mines, and the citizens generally of Schuylkill county were very much exercised upon the subject of incorporated coal companies. The occasion of this excitement was a bill introduced in the Senate by the Hon. Charles Frailey, the member from Schuylkill, for the incorporation, with the usual exclusive privileges, of a company entitled the "Offerman Mining and Railroad Company," to be located in the Schuylkill coal region. The indignation of the people was intensely wrought upon; not only because they were opposed in principle to conferring such grants, but they believe they
were being betrayed by the party to the application and the senator who was its champion, who had on former occasions stood by them
shoulder to shoulder in opposition to similar measures. The covert, insidious and persistent manner in which this bill was pressed upon the
Legislature provoked energetic opposition and implacable hostility. First it was introduced-at a former session-as incorporating the "Cata-
rant Company," and failed. It next appeared as establishing the "Buck Ridge Railroad and Mining Company," with a capital of $350,000
and a term of twenty years. It stood at the head of ten other-so called-monopolies, all incorporated in the same bill. It was logrolled through
both houses, and at length found its way to the governor, who put his veto upon the whole batch, including the famous "Buck Ridge." It
was supposed this blow would destroy the monster forever. Not so, however. It was hydra-headed, and appeared again under the title of
"Offerman Mining Company." In opposition to this bill a memorial signed by two thousand persons was sent to the Legislature in charge
of a committee. The voice of the coal region was heard in earnest remonstrance, but it was all of no avail. The bill passed both houses, was
vetoed by the governor and passed over the veto.

The charter thus obtained never became operative under the title bestowed upon it was buried out of sight for a time, to be
resurrected at some future day under another name.

ANTHRACITE FOR SMELTING IRON ORE

The discovery of the process for smelting iron ore with anthracite coal was as event of transcendent importance in the manufac-
ture of iron in Pennsylvania, and, as a resulting consequence, in the production of anthracite coal. The impulse it gave to the trade in both
commodities diffused inestimable benefits upon commerce, navigation, manufactures, and every industrial pursuit. The construction of
furnaces along the main channels of navigation, especially in the valleys of the Schuylkill and the Lehigh rivers, had an almost magical
effect upon, the development of the natural resources of the country, enhancing its mineral and agricultural wealth, its internal trade,
commerce, manufactures, and every description of business and industry; all of which was made manifest by the increase and spread of
population, and the aggregation of towns, villages and cities. The consumption of anthracite coal affords a fair index of the consequential
results of the manufacture of anthracite iron. For example, its consumption on the line of the Schuykill above Philadelphia in the year
1839, at which time the first anthracite furnace in the United States-the Pioneer, at Pottsville-was put in blast, was 30,290 tons. Ten years
afterward it had increased to 239,290 tons, in the year 1859 to 554,774 tons, and in 1873 to 1,787,205 tons. A large proportion of this rapid
expansion of the coal trade on the line of the Schuylkill can be fairly attributed to the iron works, which so greatly stimulated every
business enterprise.

FLOODS

The navigation of the Schuylkill canal, which had been impeded by the low stage of water in 1838, was seriously damaged by an
ice freshet of extraordinary magnitude on the 26th and 27th of January, 1839. The ground being frozen hard and impervious to water, the
streams were soon overflowing by the heavy rain, the ice broke up, and the torrent with the force of a deluge swept crushing and roaring
through the valley of the Schuylkill with fearful impetuosity, carry along with resistless force every obstacle or obstacle or obstruction that
it encountered. The water rose in a few hours in many places twenty feet above its usual level, sweeping away bridges landings, canal
boats and dams, and doing great damage to the works of the canal in exposed situations. In Philadelphia the freshet caused the greatest
inundation ever known in the Schuylkill. The wharves were entirely submerged, and the entire eastern shore of the Schuylkill, extending
from the Market street bridge over a mile toward the Naval Asylum, presented a scene of chaotic confusion, wreck and ruin. Not a single
vessel of any kind was left afloat after the water had subsided. Barges, boats, sloops and schooners were lying ashore, and some of them
had been lifted by the rising water over vast heaps of coal, and deposited in a situation from which they could only be extricated with great
difficulty. By extraordinary exertion the Schuylkill canal was repaired in time for the usual opening of navigation to the coal trade.

The coal business of 1839 was unsatisfactory and unrenumerative. Starting in the spring with 150,000 tons of coal in the market,
the trade languished throughout the year. Many of the collieries were idle part of the time, although coal was offered at less than the cost
of putting it into boats. Many miners for want of employment were forced to leave the region. This deplorable estate of affairs was caused
by overproduction, by a want of vessels to pressure of the money market. It may be truthfully said that the trade was sufferin g because of
the underconsumption of coal, for if the country had remained in its normal condition of prosperity all the coal that could have been
produced would have found a ready market.

The aggregate supply of anthracite coal from all the regions during the twenty years of its production-commencing with the year
1820, and ending with the year 1839-was 5,723,997 tons. Of this amount the Schuylkill region furnished 3,346,413 tons, or 58 per cent.
To this preponderance of coal production was added superiority in the development and improvement of the region, Schuylkill surpassing
the other regions in population, in all industrial and trade pursuits, and in every indication of prosperity. This can be easily accounted for.
The Schuylkill region had an advantage in distance to tide water, in the accessibility and facility of development of its coal beds, and it was
open to the enterprise of all who chose to enter. The Schuylkill Navigation Company was incorporated without mining privileges, and it
was consequently the interest of the
company to invite tonnage from every source. Hence public attention was strongly attracted toward the southern coal afield. In the Lehigh region an overshadowing monopoly controlled the coal trade, and for many years repelled all competition. Consequently the trade was restricted, and the growth of the country and the development of its resources retarded. The same observations had not yet been opened.

The great depression in coal trade continued throughout 1884, without a noticeable improvement in its condition. On the 8th of January, 1841, there occurred an ice freshet of unexampled violence, in the Schuylkill and Lehigh rivers, which had a marked influence upon the coal trade. The Schuylkill at Reading was higher than it had been for fifty-five years. It caused unusually heavy damage to many portions of the Schuylkill Company's works, particularly in the mountainous section above Reading. Measures were promptly taken to repair the damage sustained. It was not until the middle of May that all was in readiness to open the works throughout for the accommodation of the trade. The consequences of the flood on the Schuylkill were trifling, however, compared with the devastation on the Lehigh, for there it assumed the proportions of a terrible and deplorable calamity. Contemporary writers describe it as awful and tremendous. The obstruction to navigation caused by the flood gave rise to an apprehension of a short supply of coal, and it stimulated the demand throughout the year. The great prostration of the trade during the two previous years had crippled the resources of the Schuylkill region to an almost ruinous extent, and a serious crisis in their affairs was only averted by the disaster on the Lehigh. How often has the coal trade been rescued from ruined and disaster by providential visitations interposing checks to overproduction. Just when the producers were disposed to abandon a pursuit that afforded more disappointment and worrisment than satisfaction and remuneration a good year would be interjected and fresh happy stroke of fortune gave a fascination to the business that always kept the ranks of its devotees full. The demand for coal was pressing and the season short. Great activity and energy were displayed in supplying the market. The urgency of the condition of affairs developed a troublesome element in the trade, which was a marked feature in the year's operations. We allude to the extravagant rates of freight on coal on the Schuylkill canal. The freight from Pottsville to Philadelphia range from $1.10 to $2 per ton, the average for the whole season being $1.50; and the freight from Pottsville to New York commenced at $2.75 per ton, and rose as high as $4.40, averaging for the season $3.42. The great competition among shippers in procuring boats, and the pernicious expedients restored to, were the cause, mainly, of the rise in freights. The weekly shipments from the Schuylkill region in 1841 were larger than they had ever been before, and the shipments for the year showed a gain over those of the previous year of 127,161 tons. The average price of Schuylkill white ash lump coal by the cargo at Philadelphia was $5.79 per ton during the year. This was an advance of 88 cents per ton over the average price of the previous year.

STATISTICS

At a public meeting of persons engaged in the coal trade of Schuylkill county held at Pottsville January 31st, 1842, a report on the coal statistics of that county was made, by which it appears that the value of the real estate and personal property, and the cost of the public improvements dependent upon the coal operations of that district, were as follows: 65 miles incorporated railroads $650,000; 40 miles individual railroads, $90,000; 40 miles individual railroads, underground $40,000; 2,400 railroad cars, $180,000; 1,500 drifts cars, $45,000; 17 colliers below water level, with steam engines, etc., $218,000; 9 steam engines for other purposes, $14,000; 100 colliers above water level, $150,000, 80 landings at shipping ports, $160,000; 850 boats, $425,000; 900 boat horses, $54,000; 80,000 acres coal land, at $40 per acre, $3,200,000; working capital, $200,000; towns, etc., in the coal region, $2,500,000; Schuylkill canal, $3,800,00; Philadelphia and Reading railroad, cars, etc., $5,000,000; Danville and Pottsville railroad, $800,000. Total, $17,526,000.

Population engaged in or entirely dependent on the coal trade, 17,000; number of horses employed in boating and at the collieries, 2,100; agricultural products annually consumed, $588,572; merchandise consumed annually, $918,352. At that time there were in use in the county thirty steam engines, amounting to upwards of 1,000 horse power. Twenty-two of these engines were manufactured in the county.

The market created in the coal region for the produce of the farmer had more than double the value of the farms in the county of Schuylkill, and materially enhanced the value of some portions of adjoining counties.

The rents paid to the owners of coal lands, for coal and timber leave, amounted to $200,000 in 1841; the average rent on coal alone was about twenty-five cents per ton.

The greatest depth attained in mining below the water level in 1842 was 153 feet perpendicular below the level of the Schuylkill river in dam No.1 of the navigation; and at that depth the coal was found to be as good in quality and as thick in the vein as at the surface.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD

In the progress of our sketch, we have reached an epoch in the history of the anthracite coal trade of Schuylkill county of paramount interest and importance-the opening of a new avenue to market from the Schuylkill coal field, by the completion of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. The commanding influence this rail road has had, and must continue to have, upon the
On the first of January, 1842, the first locomotive engine and passenger train-with the officers and directors of the company on board-came through from Philadelphia to Mount Carbon. On Monday and Tuesday, the 10th and 11th January, a grand excursion party of citizens of the coal region passed over the road to Philadelphia and back by invitation of the directors. On the evening of the 11th a public dinner and ball was given at Pottsville which closed the ceremonies of the opening of the road.

The immediate effect of its completion was a reduction in the cost of transportation. An immediate rivalry was instituted between the canal and railroad companies for the coal traffic, resulting on the reduction in the cost of transportation of $1.11 compared with the rates of 1841 by canal to Philadelphia. But this reduction was of no benefit to the producers, who, in the ardor of competition, instead of advancing the price of coal proportionately with the reduction in freights, lowered them twenty-five to fifty cents per ton on board boats at the landings. Never before had prices been so low. Coal was a perfect drug in the market. So sluggish was the movement of the trade, so short the demand, that it was impossible to keep the collieries running with any regularity. The prices of coal declined to so low a figure that it was ruinous to all engaged in the business. Unquestionably the most disastrous year of the trade since its commence ment was 1842. The operatives at the mines, with low wages and only partial employment, were reduced to great suffering and distress. Wages had fallen to $5.25 per week to miners and $4.20 to labors, payable in traffic. There was scarcely cash enough paid out at some mines to bury the dead. It was a sore grievance to the workingmen that they did not receive money for their little earnings instead of "store orders." The excuse for the payment of the men in traffic was that the exigencies of the trade made it unavoidable, and the "half a loaf was better than no bread." Such an attempt at vindication only made more conspicuous the utter demoralization of the trade. There could be no logical justification for depriving the laboring man of the satisfaction of drawing the amount of his earnings-after deducting charges voluntarily contracted-in the currency of the country. The continuance of the practice led to deplorable consequences. The dissatisfaction gradually increased until it culminated in the first general strike in the region.

**STRIKE IN 1842**

On Thursday, July 7th, 1842, a meeting of miners and laborers was held at Minersville, about four miles from Pottsville, at which the grievances of the workingmen were discussed, and measures for their redress decided upon. It does not appear that any conference was held with their employers, or complaint made by committee, preliminary to the inauguration of forcible measures. Through the influence of some of the turbulent spirits who swayed their councils they were incited to violence, intimidation and outrage as a first resort. Accordingly, on Saturday afternoon, the 9th of July, the first demonstration was made. The citizens of Pottsville were startled by the appearance in the town of several hundred men, begrimed with the dust of the mines and armed with clubs and other weapons. They come down the Norwegian Railroad, passed hastily along to the landings at the Greenwood basin, driving the laborers engaged there away by force, and hence to Mount Carbon, where the laborers were likewise driven away. This invasion was so unexpected that the outrage was perpetrated before the citizens were prepared to prevent it, or to make any arrests. In the evening of the same day two companies of volunteers were ordered to Minersville for the protection of the citizens, who were alarmed for their safety on account of divers threats and demonstrations of intended violence. On Monday the sheriff ordered the Orwigsburg and Schuylkill Haven volunteer companies to march to Pottsville and aid in suppressing any disturbance that might ensue. On the some day about a thousand of the disaffected workingmen met in the Orchard at Pottsville, when they were addressed by the District Attorney, F.W. Hughes, who explained the law to them. The behavior of the men throughout the day was characterized by order and decorum. There were about fifteen hundred men engaged in the strike, many of whom were dragooned into it by force of intimidation. After having committed numerous acts of violence and outrage at the collieries, and spent several weeks in idleness, those of them who could obtain employment were glad to accept it upon any terms.

The Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad was the first road in Schuylkill county put in conditions for the passage of the cars of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. On the third of March, 1842, eighteen cars passed over it from the mines of Gideon Bast, at Wolff creek, and were forwarded by rail to Philadelphia.

On the 17th of May, 1842, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad was open for transportation to the wharves at Port Richmond, and on the 21st of that month the
first train, of fifty cars, containing 150 tons of coal from the mines of Gideon Bast, was forwarded to that point. The train left Schuylkill Haven at four o’clock in the morning, and the coal was discharged into a vessel which set sail for an eastern port in the evening of the same day. This transaction presented a striking contrast to the slow movement by canal, and it gave the trade an idea of the facility with which the coal business could be conducted by rail when all the arrangements were completed.

On the 8th of August, 1842, the information was given to the public, in the Philadelphia Evening Journal, that eight barks, four brigs and eight schooners were counted at the wharves at Port Richmond, loading with and waiting for cargoes of anthracite coal. The reporter of this intelligence did not dream that the day would come when 225 vessels could be loading at those wharves at the same time, when 28,000 tons of coal would be shipped theren from in one day, 95,858 tons in one week, 2,720,027 tons in one years, and that their capacity for shipping would be 4,000,000 tons annually. Yet all of this came to pass within thirty-five years.

The average price of coal in 1842 on board vessels at Philadelphia was $4.18 per ton, a decline of $1.61 per ton compared with the average price of the preceding year. The average price in 1843 was $3.25 per ton, a further decline of 93 cents. The reduction in the price by the cargo in Philadelphia since the opening of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad,—two years—was about $2.50 per ton.

**DISCOURAGEMENT**

The result of the operations of 1843 in the Schuylkill region was of course very unsatisfactory. It was a repetition, somewhat exaggerated, of the previous year. They were both very distressing years, when every species of property was alarmingly depreciated and every description of business appeared to be paralyzed. But, notwithstanding the dark shadows of the past and the gloom of the present, there was a remarkable infatuation throughout the region to rush into the coal business. Storekeepers, mechanics, and others who had been enabled to save a little money could not rest contented until they had lost it in a coal mine. Labor was cheap, they argued, and then was the propitious time to develop the mines, and be prepared for the good times coming. The older operators, however, who had pinned their faith upon the trade, and who had so long relied upon the coming tide “which taken at the flood leads on to fortune,” began now to realize that there was something radically wrong in the conduct of the coal business. Every year those persons engaged in it became poorer, and many had lost all they formerly possessed in this hazardous pursuit. A very few only, who had superior mines and advantageous locations, were enabled, with economical working, to realize any profit at the close of the year. The opportunities which nature had so lavishly provided for the attainment of business success were frittered away by a system of empirical mining and reckless competition. The richness of the coal deposits in the Schuylkill region, and their great accessibility, seems to have invited a superfluity of delvers, who like bungling reapers destroyed the harvest they had not the skill and wisdom to garner. Overproduction, from the commencement of the trade, has been the main cause of failure in colliery operations. In 1843 there were many operators, the product of whose mines was so small that a handsome profit per ton mined would not have paid the salary of the superintendent. Many operators were so cramped in their circumstances, in consequence of previous losses and a want of capital, that they were evermore “tiding over” a pressing crisis in their affairs by forces sales of their coal, ending in their own ruin and the demoralization of the trade generally.

**PRIMITIVE METHOD OF PREPARING COAL-BREAKERS**

The original method of preparing anthracite coal for market was simply to divest it of slate and other impurities and of the fine coal and slack. It was passed over a schute with longitudinal bars about two inches apart, and all that passed over the bars was merchantable coal, and all that passed through them was rejected. There was consequently much coal deposited on the dirt banks, which at the present time is considered of full value; also much left in the mines as unmerchantable on account of its small size. The market would not accept any coal that would not pass for lump coal. After a number of years, however, it was suggested that coal for household purposes ought to be broken at the mines, and John White, the president of the Delaware Coal Company, paid fifty cents per ton extra for coal broken down to a size suitable for burning in grates. The coal thus prepared was known in the market as "broken and screened" and it commanded fifty cents per ton more than lump coal. Finding this mode of preparation received popular favor, the system was extended. Screens were manufactured of iron rods (subsequently of wire) with meshes of various dimensions, which assorted the coal into the sizes now known in commerce. This refinement of preparation, resorted to by the operators to captivate their customers, added greatly to the cost of the coal, for which they were not remunerated, and it cultivated a fastidious fancy for a uniformity of size, which was impracticable and of no advantage. Indeed, the caprice of the consumers in the demand for the different sizes of coal, and the fluctuations from one size to another in their preferences, have been a fruitful source of expense and annoyance to the operators every since the introduction of the system.

The first method of breaking coal-on the pile, with hammerswas slow, wasteful, expensive, and laborious. After being broken it was shoveled into a revolving screen to remove the dirt, and it was then shoveled into barrows and dumped into the cars. The coal was then hauled to the landings with horses or mules on the railroad, dumped on the wharf, screened and assorted into the various sizes and deposited on a pile, ready to be wheeled into the boat. The whole process was crude,
primitive, expensive, and compared with the present system, absurd.

About the year 1842 the breaking and preparation of coal became the subject of great cogitation among the operators, and many improvements were suggested, resulting in the adoption of what became known as the penitentiary; which was a perforated cast iron plate, through which the coal was broken with hammers, the coal falling into a hopper, and from thence into a circular screen worked either by hand horse power, or by steam. It was an improvement on the old system, but it did not meet the requirements of the business.

The first attempts to break coal by machinery were made at Pottsville, we believe, by Mr. Sabbaton, and by Mr. Larer, but, not proving as successful as was anticipated, they were afterward abandoned.

In 1844 the first coal breaker, after the patent of Joseph Batten, of Philadelphia, was erected as an experiment at the colliery of Gideon Bast, at Wolff Creek, near Minersville. So superior was this improvement that it was soon generally adopted through out the coal regions. The machinery constituting the breaker was driven by a steam engine, generally of fifteen to forty horse power, and it consisted of two or more cast iron rollers with projecting teeth, revolving toward each other, through which the coal was passed; and the coal thus broken was conducted into revolving circular screens, separating the different sizes and dropping the coal into a set of schutes or bins, ready to be transferred, by the raising of a gate, into the railway cars. Sufficient elevation above the railway to the dump schutes above the rollers was always secured to carry the coal by gravity through all the stages of preparation into the cars below. Such is the modern coal breaker, which enables the operator to handle an amount of coal that was impossible before its adoption, some of these structures having a capacity of one thousand tons per day. The reader can form no idea of these huge structures from a written description. In a few years they became the conspicuous and striking feature of every colliery of any importance in the several coal fields.

IMPROVEMENTS IN RAILROADS

The average price of white ash lump coal by the cargo in Philadelphia in 1844 was $3.20 per ton, which was the lowest figure it had ever been sold at. This reduction was caused entirely by the low ration of transportation, induced by the active competition between the canal and railroad interests. The prices of coal at the shipping ports in Schuylkill county ranged from $2.00 to $2.25 per ton, and were fairly remunerative. The demand was good throughout the season, and the result of the year's business was very satisfactory. A great impetus was given to manufactures and all industrial interests by the operation of the tariff of 1842, causing an increased consumption of anthracite coal. The increase in production in the Schuylkill region over that of 1843 was 166,002 tons.

The shipments of coal in 1845 show an increase of 270,003 tons over those of 1844 in the Schuylkill region. The region had doubled its production since 1842, and still maintained the position it had held since 1832 of supplying more than one-half of the amount of anthracite coal sent to market. From the commencement of the trade in 1820 to the end of 1845 the total amount sent from all sources was 13,629,393 tons, of which the Schuylkill region furnished 7,673,163 tons, an excess over all others of 1,716,933 tons.

At the completion of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad in 1842 to Mount Carbon, which was then it terminus, it had merely progressed to the entrance gates of the great southern coal field. Before the heavy coal tonnage for which the company was aiming could be secured there was much more to be done. All the railroads in Schuylkill county, leading from the landings or shipping ports on the canal to the collieries were in their superstructure wooden roads, strapped with flat bar iron; they were not adapted to the movement of the heavy cars of the Reading Railroad company and it was entirely impracticable to run locomotive engines over them. Moreover, there were connections only with the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven and the Mount Carbon Railroads. A bridge was required at Port Clinton to connect with the Little Schuylkill Railroad; and a new road was required to connect Mount Carbon with the Mill Creek and Schuylkill Valley Railroads at Port Carbon. These lateral railroads were owned by different incorporated companies, who levied tolls on the coal transported over them, of from tow and a half to four cents per ton per mile. In connection with these roads were many short branches, belonging to individuals. All of these roads had to be reconstructed to comport with the changes made in coal transportation.

Before the close of 1845 the lateral railroads had all been reconstructed, and they were operated, with some exceptions, by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. The introduction of the company's cars on said roads produced a complete revolution in the management of the coal business. When the canal was the only avenue to market the operators had their own cars, and they furnished their own transportation to the terminus of the lateral road, when motive power was used, was reduced from fifty to sixty-six per cent; but they were dependent upon a transportation company for facilities to conduct an essential part of their business, and had thereby lost control of the amount of their production. A short supply of cars became a great grievance, and it crippled many operations. Although the railroad company had been increasing its rolling stock every year it had been unable to keep pace with the demand of the trade for cars. In 1845 the company was overwhelmed with complaints, both of the short supply of cars and of their unfair distribution. The attention of the president of the company having been directed to the abuses of the distribution, he manifested a disposition to extend every accommodation in his
power. On the 5th of March, 1846, he addressed a circular note to the operators, requesting them to attend a meeting at Pottsville on the 10th of that month, to devise means to insure an equitable distribution of cars during the ensuing season. The meeting was largely attended, embracing all the operators in the region, a number of landholders, and a large representation of shareholders at Port Richmond. The interest felt in the proceedings was earnest and absorbing, many of those present believing that their business interests had been inexcusably trifled with, and improved regulations were adopted.

**IMPROVEMENT OF THE SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION**

The Schuylkill Navigation Company had learned, after a few years' experience and competition with its formidable rival, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, that it was in danger of losing the bulk of its coal tonnage, and that to preserve it decided measures must be adopted immediately and put into execution to improve the facilities of the navigation, to enlarge its capacity, and to generally increase its advantages and attractions as an avenue for the transportation of coal. An enlargement of the canal, increasing its capacity so as to float boats of from 180 to 190 tons burden, was determined upon, and the work was completed in 1846.

In order to bring this improved navigation into active employment the company directed its attention to the new arrangements required at the shipping ports in the coal region. The old landings were not adapted to the large cars made necessary by the wide gauge of the reconstructed railroads and the use of locomotive power upon them; and the old docks were to contracted for the large barges adapted to the enlarged navigation. New docks, new wharves and landings were consequently required. Prior to the enlargement of the canal and the reconstruction of the lateral railroads, the shippers provided their own landings or rented them from the owners, and they furnished their own cars; nor was it uncommon for the shippers to furnish or partially furnish their own boats. The extension of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad into the region, and the facilities offered to the trade by it, changed the situation, and it devolved upon the navigation company, in order to keep pace with its rival, to furnish the cars in which to transport the coal from the mines to the canal, and to provide all the shipping facilities. It is due to the managers to acknowledge that this enterprise was performed in a manner highly satisfactory to the trade. The new landings were admirably contrived for the purposes intended, combining every essential for convenience, economy and dispatch.

The coal operators regarded the improved and enlarged navigation with unmingled satisfaction. The presumed ability of the navigation company, in its improved condition, to cope with its powerful rival would, it was believed, inure to the advantage of the trade.

The amount of coal sent from the Schuylkill region in 1846 was 1,247,202 tons, a gain of 121,408 over 1845. The trade was reasonably prosperous, the prices fair and well maintained. There were 110 operators in the region and 142 collieries. Thirty-two operators sent to market in round numbers 990,000 tons, leaving only 247,000 tons as the product of seventy-eight operators. There were 107 collieries above and 35 collieries below water level. Twenty-two collieries were in a state of preparation, 12 of which were above and 10 below water level. There were 106 steam engines, of 2,921 horse power, employed at the collieries, 38 of which were built during the year.

Great expectations of the future of the Schuylkill coal trade were entertained at this period. The Miners' Journal, of Pottsville, remarked upon the prospect as follows:

"When we consider the indomitable spirit of perseverance and enterprise which pervades our business community; the two splendid avenues to market, now completed; the numerous railroads penetrating through and almost encircling our region, all of which are now or will soon be relaid with heavy iron rails; the immense steam power, equaling the capacity of more than 14,000 men, with its iron sinews and unwearied toil, employed in raising, breaking and screening coal; the extent and capacity of the region, the varieties of its coal and its geographical position—it must be clear to the minds of all that Schuylkill county is destined hereafter to increase in wealth and prosperity to an unexampled degree, and far to outstrip her competitors."

The supply of anthracite coal from all the regions in 1847 was 2,977,400 tons, an excess over that of the preceding year of 686,623 tons. This was the largest annual increase that had ever occurred. Of this excess 398,721 tons were from the Schuylkill region, notwithstanding there were complaints of a want of transporting facilities during the whole year. This condition of affairs afforded strong evidence of the great preparations that had been made, within a year or two, in increase the yield of the mines; and it presented another example of the irrepressible tendency of the coal producers to overstock the market.

**RIVALRY IN TRANSPORTATION**

The Schuylkill Navigation Company transported only 222,693 tons of coal in 1847, the first year after the enlargement, which was attributed to a deficient equipment and an injudicious tariff of tolls, which repelled the line trade.

The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company was deeply impressed with the folly of continuing the war which had characterized the business of 1845 in the struggle with the Navigation Company, and it was anxious to enter into an amicable arrangement with the latter company, of mutual advantage, whereby harmonious relations might be established and perpetuated. Early in 1847 an attempt at negotiation between the two companies was made. Believing that the canal would be capable of carrying the increased production, the railroad company made no preparation to extend its business, and it conceded 400,000 tons of the coal tonnage for the ensuing year to the Navigation Company. The latter company rejected this offer with disdain, insisting upon
The stock of coal remaining over in the market on the 1st of April, 1848, was estimated at 275,000 tons; a burden under which the trade dragged heavily during the whole year. In connection with this circumstance the prostration of business diminished the consumption and checked the demand for coal. The result was a breakdown in prices and a great demoralization in the trade. The production in the Schuylkill region showed an increase of only 89,297 tons.

An agreement entered into between the railroad and navigation companies for the government of the transportation of coal during 1849 had for its basis the principle that the toll and transportation from Pottsville to Philadelphia. The transportation of one-third of the coal tonnage was conceded to the canal, which was estimated to 600,000 tons for this year—the amount actually transported being only 489,208 tons. The tolls for 1849 were adjusted so as to average $1.70 per ton by rail, and 75 cents per ton by canal. These rates were regarded as too high for the languishing condition of the trade—they did not admit of a competition in the market on an equality with other regions. It was not apparent to the average understanding why the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company should charge $1.70 per ton for a service that cost no more than 65 cents, or why the Schuylkill Navigation Company should charge 75 cents per ton for a service that it performed without loss before the "enlargement" at 50 cents per ton. How, it was asked, about the great advantages over all other lines of the Reading railroad, with itsorable and uniformly descending grades, in favor of the trade? How about the great reduction in the cost of transportation that was to be accomplished by the improved, the enlarged, the magnificent Schuylkill navigation?

The low prices at which coal was offered in 1849, by the dealers in Philadelphia, about the first of March—prices that would not net the operators the ruinous rates of the previous year—caused great excitement in Schuylkill county. A very large meeting of the operators was held at Pottsville on the ninth of March, at which a remarkable unanimity was exhibited and a stern resolution manifested to maintain the prices of coal at a remunerative rate, notwithstanding the sinister arts of the parasites who had fastened themselves upon the vitals of the trade. The co-operation of all the operators in the region was earnestly solicited in the adoption of such measures for their mutual protection as the exigency required. A committee appointed at a former meeting reported substantially that the people of Schuylkill county were strongly urged to form an efficient organization without unnecessary delay. The principle was asserted that the only legitimate protection as the exigency required. A committee appointed at a former meeting reported substantially that the people of Schuylkill county had been brought to the verge of bankruptcy by a bold and novel system that had been devised in the previous year, and had been again introduced at that time. Some speculative persons enter the eastern markets in advance of the producers, and by offering coal—which they had not yet bought—at prices below the cost of its production they secure all the orders for immediate delivery. The nature of mining requires that the daily product shall have an uninterrupted sale and removal from the mines. Having thus all the orders in their hands, these forestallers avail themselves of this peculiarity in the business, and the want of union for common protection against such a scheme, to alarm the small colliers, and thus to break down the market prices to suit their purposes. In this way a barrier was created between the forestallers and the consumers, keeping them effectually apart. To put a stop to this unjust system the colliers of Schuylkill county strongly urged to form an efficient organization without unnecessary delay. The principle was asserted that the only legitimate regulation of prices is the relation between supply and demand, with some reference, of course, to the cost of production.

SUSPENSION AND STRIKE

It was then resolved, with the concurrence of the operators representing three-fourths of the tonnage of 1848, to suspend the shipment of coal to market from the 19th of March to the 7th of April, both inclusive, except to iron works. This suspension was subsequently continued from week to week until the 2nd of May, making all together seven weeks. On the 2nd of May, the day appointed for a resumption of work at the mines, the operators were confronted with an organized strike by the miners and laborers for an advance in wages. As usual upon such occasions this movement was attended with demonstrations of violence, the object being to compel their fellow laborers who were disposed to work to join their ranks. Where the men had made terms with their employers and had gone to work, they were driven from the works by large bodies of man armed with clubs and other weapons. The whole difficulty would have been promptly arranged had it not been for the interference of self-constituted leaders, styling themselves a central committee, who arrogated despotic power. The collieries were all in operation again by the 21st of May, but the demand for coal was very moderate, and in a few weeks there were symptoms of a drooping market. To prevent an overstock another suspension of work, for two weeks from the 23rd of June, was determined upon. A lethargic feeling in the market continued to the end—no improvement took place, and prices were not maintained.

During the period of the suspension of mining much salutary discussion was had in regard to the morbid condition of the trade, and the reckless disregard of sound business principles and judicious regulation and control, with which it had been suffered to drift along, to the inevitable ruin of all embarked in it. It was estimated
that the operators in the Schuylkill region had sunk in 1849 $250,000 on their current business alone, without considering interest on investment.

**GENERAL CONDITION OF TRADE TO 1850**

The aggregate quantity of anthracite coal sent to market from the several coal fields in Pennsylvania during the first thirty years of the trade—from 1820 to 1850—was 25,230,421 tons; of which there was derived from the Schuylkill region 13,990,050 tons, or 55.45 per cent. The supply of the last ten years included in the above—from 1840 to 1850—included from the Schuylkill region 10,655,567 tons, or 54.63 per cent.

It will be observed in the above statements that the statements that the supply from the Schuylkill region exceeded that of all the other regions combined, and this was the result, mainly, of individual enterprise in competition with large incorporated companies endowed with special privileges. But while the Schuylkill region greatly surpassed all others in production, the conclusion was not so satisfactory in regard to remuneration for capital invested and time and labor expended. There were weak points in the management of the business which had a very unfavorable influence upon it. The profits realized in favorable years were immediately invested—often with as much more capital or credit as could be secured—in making improvements on lands in which only a leasehold interest was held; instead of requiring the landowners to develop and improve their own properties. In this way all the risk was assumed by the tenants, of the condition of the seams of coal when opened and of the value of the colliery when complete; while large sums of money were expended which were needed in the commercial routine of the business, and especially in marketing the coal without the aid of intermediary factors, who usually absorbed all the profit derived from its production.

Another injurious element in the Schuylkill trade was the large number of small operators, many of whom were without sufficient capital to conduct their business properly, and were soon financially embarrassed and caught in the toils of the "middlemen," to whom they sold their coal at reduced prices, under the vain hope that something would turn up opportunity in their behalf. They were in a great measure the cause of the ruinous prices that so frequently prevailed. Subsequently to the period now under review Mr. Cullen, then president of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, was reported to have remarked that the mining of coal in the Schuylkill region would not become profitable until the small operators were broken up.

The Schuylkill coal operators, however successful in attaining a large production generally, failed in an essential part of their business—the marketing and sale of their product. Without organization or unity for the conservation of their interests as producers and venders of coal, they rushed into the market in destructive competition with each other, over one hundred in number, as though their object was to break down the market, or to produce a larger tonnage than their neighbors, or perchance to raise money to pay their hands and life some promissory notes. It was only when their affairs became desperate, when a crisis was nearly impending, that a call was made to halt and a spasmodic effort made for self preservation. Under such management, or rather want of management, the periodical distress of the trade was inevitable.

During the ten years ending with 1849 there were only four years of prosperity in the Schuylkill trade. On 10,655,567 tons of coal sent to market from the region during that period there was not probably, on an average, any profit realized by the operators. But if they derived no emolument from their business, other interests in the region, dependent upon the coal trade, flourished and prospered in an eminent degree. As an evidence of this, we need only state that the population of Schuylkill county was 29,072 in 1840, and in 1850 it had increased to 60,713 or over 200 per cent, in ten years.

**FLOODS IN 1850**

In the spring of the year 1850 the Schuylkill coal trade wore a gloomy aspect. It was universally conceded that unless something was done to arrest the downward tendency of the trade the operators must sink under the difficulties with which they were contending. An appeal to the landowners and to the transporting companies for aid was in contemplation. A disastrous crisis was closely impending. The sheriff had already closed out some of the colliers, and others were "hanging on to the willows." This deplorable condition of affairs continued until the 19th of July, when by the interposition of Providence a great flood swept down the valleys of the Schuylkill and the Lehigh, which suspended navigation for a period, restricted the supply of coal and changed the whole aspect of the trade. Hope again lent its inspiration to the operators; and when on the 2nd of September a still greater flood descended than the first, rendering it certain that the prices of coal must advance, they felt that their situation had been affirmed.

The storm of the 18th and 19th of July, 1850, was of an extraordinary character for that season of the year, and it was particularly severe in the valley of the Schuylkill. Property to a vast amount was destroyed. The boatmen suffered heavily by the loss of boats, the coal operators by the loss of coal and the inundation of the mines. The damage to the Schuylkill canal was considerable. It was not until the 28th of August that the navigation was restored.

Only five days after the movement of loaded boats had fairly commenced—on the 2nd of September—a second flood descended, which destroyed the Schuylkill navigation for the remainder of the year. The destructive force of the flood was tremendously augmented by the bursting of the Tumbling run reservoir, and, as a consequence, the breaking away of the numerous dams in the Schuylkill river. The reservoir covered twenty-eight acres of ground, was forty-two feet high at the breast of the embankment, and contained over 23,000,000 cubic feet of water. The effect of suddenly precipitating such
an immense volume of water into an already swollen and angry flood, roaring and dashing through a narrow mountain gorge, is beyond imaging. It was the highest freshet, and the most destructive to life and property, known from memory or tradition to have visited the Schuylkill. At some places the river rose twenty-five feet above its ordinary level, and covered the Reading railroad track at several points for the depth of three to five feet. In referring to this freshet the president of the Schuylkill Navigation Company says:

"A flood with which nothing that has hertofore occurred in the valley of the Schuylkill within the memory of man can be compared. In the great elevation of the waters, in the destruction of property and life, and indeed in all it accompaniments, no living witnesses have seen its parallel. The most stable buildings were compelled to yield to the fury of the raging waters, and the very foundations of the mountains in many places were actually swept out."

After the September freshet the prices of coal on board vessels at Port Richmond advanced $1 per ton, which prices were maintained until the close of the season. The cars and machinery of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company were taxed to their utmost capacity, day and night, to supply the urgent demand for coal after the September flood. The amount of coal transported by the company during 1850 was 1,351,507 tons, an increase of 253,745 tons over the tonnage of the preceding year. From the Schuylkill region, including the Lykens valley, there was an increase in the supply of 59,677 tons compared with that of 1849.

**RIVAL MARKETS AND TRANSPORTATION LINES**

The antagonism in the New York and eastern markets of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, and the Pennsylvania Coal company, to the Schuylkill coal operators and dealers assumed a determined shape in 1851. It was alleged that a combination had been formed by those companies to conduct their sales so as to command the whole market as far as possible, leaving the Schuylkill region to supply only so much coal as the combination might be unable to mine or transport. An effort was made to secure a mutual good understanding with these parties in reference to charges for transportation and to the quantity to be mined, but they were determined to lend no hand to effect an arrangement. The Schuylkill region had hertofore supplied more than one-half of the anthracite coal consumed, and the parties interested in the mining and transportation of coal from that region were not willing to submit to or acquiesce in a policy by which they would be unable to maintain their accustomed position, and command their usual proportion of the trade. The managers of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company resolved to adjust their charges so as to meet the occasion and command a fair proportion of the trade. Before, however, giving publicity to the course upon which they had determined, arrangements were made with the parties occupying the wharves at Port Richmond to secure the large tonnage of the year. This covert movement excited the suspicion of the managers of the Schuylkill Navigation Company, who believed the canal was being deprived, by some underhanded measure, of its portion of the trade, and that the terms of the arrangement between the two companies were being violated. Instigated by these impressions, the managers, with great precipitancy, made such extraordinary reductions in the tolls on the canal that the whole trade was thrown into confusion. The results of these complications were unprecedentedly cheap transportation, a spirited demand for coal at low prices, a greatly augmented production and supply, and the introduction of anthracite coal into new markets. Over one half the supply was furnished, as previously, by the Schuylkill region. The supply of anthracite from all the regions in 1851 was 4,428,919 tons, an increase of 1,151,554 tons over the supply of 1850. The increase in the supply from the Schuylkill was 535,654 tons over the supply of 1850.

**INCREASED CONSUMPTION**

It was a cause for wonder and surprise that the heavy supply of coal in 1851 had almost disappeared by the opening of spring in 1852, and the market was seeking with avidity a fresh supply. The notable increase in the consumption of coal was due to the relief of the business depression, the resumption of operations at the iron works and other manufactories that had been totally or partially suspended 1852, and the market was seeking with avidity a fresh supply. The increase in the consumption of coal was due to the relief of the
coal trade in 1853. In the fall of 1852 a decline in prices of coal occurred and some loss was sustained by dealers on their stocks laid in before the decline. Mistrusting that the same condition would occur in 1853, they delayed making their purchases in the spring and influenced others to pursue a similar course, and as a consequence, the production fell off largely. Until after the first of June the trade moved sluggishly and prices ruled low. After that the demand for coal improved, and by the middle of July it became importunate and could not be satisfied. Frequent local strikes by the miners, who had become demoralized by the advance in wages previously paid, reduced the yield of the mines and proved the fact that the higher the wages the less the percentage of production.

In the mean time the demand for coal for steamers, iron works and other manufacturing purposes became so great that coal, which sold at $1.80 at the mines in the spring, was run up to $2.50 and $3 before the close of the season. The consumption of coal had apparently overtaken the capability of the mines for production, and the supply was decidedly short, as was made quite apparent the following year.

A PERIOD OF PROSPERITY

The year 1854 is remembered by those engaged in coal mining at that time as the "good year." It was indeed an extraordinary year in the history of the coal trade; extraordinary for the demand and high prices for coal, for the high rates of transportation, the high prices of provisions, the high prices of labor, and the stringency of the money market. Every department of business connected with the production and transportation of coal was distinguished for its prosperity.

The trade opened in the spring under the most auspicious circumstances. Coal was in great request. The market was in a depleted condition. The rush and struggle for coal which soon ensued surpassed the expectations of the most sanguine. The operators were masters of the situation, and they would have been censurable in view of losses in the past, had they not availed themselves of the rare opportunity to improve their fortunes. The demand continued pressing, almost without pause, until the close of avigation, prices reaching $3.50 per ton at the shipping ports in the coal region.

The cost of the transportation of coal to tide water and the coastwise freights advanced in a proportional degree with the price of coal at the mines. Freight from Port Richmond to Boston advanced from $2 to $3.80 per ton.

Labor, and every material entering into the cost of coal, advanced in price in as great or a greater degree than that product, as will be seen by the following quotations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1853</th>
<th>1854</th>
<th>1853</th>
<th>1854</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flour per bbl</td>
<td>$5.50</td>
<td>$9.50</td>
<td>.07</td>
<td>.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn per bushel</td>
<td>.70</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>.08</td>
<td>.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats</td>
<td>.42</td>
<td>.66</td>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>.45</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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</table>

Iron advanced ninety and miners' wages from forty to fifty per cent.

One of the most interesting events in 1854 was the presentation at the Mansion House at Mount Carbon, on the 11th of October, by gentlemen of Philadelphia interested in the coal deposits of Schuylkill county, of a tea service of silver to Enoch W. McGinnes as a token of their appreciation of his invaluable service to the region in the development he so successfully made at the Cartey shaft at St. Clair. Mr. McGinnes sunk the first perpendicular shaft in the Schuylkill region, and demonstrated the fact that the great white ash coal veins of the Mine hill and Broad mountain ranges ran under the red ash series of the Schuylkill basin. He established the face of the accessibility for practical working of the white ash coal measures throughout the entire basin.

OPENING OF MAHANOY VALLEY

The extension of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad to the Mahanoy region at Ashland was completed in September, 1854. This was the first practicable and effective railroad to penetrate the great Mahanoy coal field. In anticipation of the approach of the railroad a number of collieries were in a state of preparation, a large number of houses had been erected, and a considerable population had centered at Ashland and vicinity during 1854. The first car of coal sent over the road was from the mines of Conner & Patterson, and was consigned to John Tucker, the president of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. Neither the branch railroads nor the collieries were ready for business, and the regular shipments of coal did not commence until the following spring.

The amount of coal sent to market from the Schuylkill region in 1855 was 3,513,860 tons, 417,958 more than in the preceding year. Judging by the amount of the production a superficial study of the trade of this year would indicate a satisfactory condition of prosperity. But a closer examination reveals the fact that the great volume of the business was the mistake and the misfortune of the trade; the operators were stimulated to make improvements and extensive preparations for an enlarged business, instead of nursing their resources and accumulating for a year or two. The consequence was overproduction, a plethoric market and low prices.

Impressed with the folly of the recklessness of the past, and smarting under the losses sustained in their business, a determined effort was resolved upon by a number of the leading Schuylkill operators to bring the coal business within the control of safe and rational principles. Early in February, 1856, a coal association was organized, with Samuel Sillyman, a man of sound judgment and large experience, as president. Meetings were held every Tuesday and Friday to deliberate upon the condition and prospects of the trade in the near future, to promote unity and steadfastness of action, and to devise measures for mutual protection and benefit.

Among the most effective causes of a drooping market in the spring of 1856 was the opening of new sources of
The new avenue to market from Scranton to New York had a malign influence on the trade; not so much by what could actually be accomplished by that route as by its high pretensions and boastful promises. With all these blatant pretensions the total amount of Scranton coal sent to competitive points in 1856 was only 85,668.

The rates of transportation to tide water for the year were of vital importance to the Schuylkill coal operators, and not the promulgation of the new programme was looked for with great solicitude. The influx of coal from the Lackawanna region by a new avenue, and the candidature of the Lehigh Valley Railroad company for a proportion of coal tonnage to its new road, made it of great consequence that a conflict between the transporting companies should be avoided and an equitable adjustment of rates be established. The miners of coal who were without transporting facilities of their own had become deeply sensible of the disadvantage they were laboring under in being forced into competition with large corporations possessing mining and transporting privileges, who could when so disposed sacrifice all profit in the mining to secure profit on the transportation of their product.

MORE RIVALRY

About the first of May the president of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, John Tucker, having discovered that the tolls to Port Richmond were equivalent to the prices of the New York companies in the New York market, but were fifteen cents too high for the eastern markets, concluded to make a drawback of fifteen cents to the latter points and not disturb the rates to other points; because if he did the Pennsylvania Coal Company assured him they would reduce their prices for coal. This arrangement it was supposed would remove all difficulty, and restore animation to the Schuylkill trade. Frederick Frailey, the president of the Schuylkill Navigation company, was no sooner apprised of this measure than he, either misapprehending the object or suspecting a design to take advantage of the Navigation Company, immediately announced a reduction in the toll by canal to Philadelphia of fifteen cents per ton—from 80 to 65 cents. This surprising movement unsettled the whole trade. The Reading Company, in order to maintain its relative position with the canal in the New York market, was obliged to reduce the toll on the road fifteen cents per ton, and the New York companies reduced the price of coal in a corresponding degree. This reduction, so far from being of any service to the trade, added to the evil it was already suffering from. It created an impression abroad that there might be another season of destructive competition among the transporting companies; and dealers and consumers withheld their orders in anticipation of still lower rates. The reduction did not benefit the operators—the only parties really suffering—as it was deducted from the price of coal at tide water; and it proved an unnecessary sacrifice of profit on transportation, without increasing the consumption. The result of the year's business was a decline of nineteen cents per ton in the price of coal at the mines below the low rated of 1855.

The amount of coal sent to market from the Schuylkill region in 1856 was 3,437,245 tons, a decrease of 76,615 tons compared with the supply of the preceding year. The supply from the Schuylkill region in the 1857 was 273,376 tons less than that of 1876, and it was the first year since 1832 that this region did not furnish over half the entire supply of anthracite coal from all the coal fields. The position then lost has not since been recovered, even with the accession of the Mahanoy region.

The market at the opening of canal navigation in 1857 was sufficiently stocked to supply immediate wants, and the demand was consequently very sluggish, and so remained for several months. The depression in business generally caused an interruption to the usual percentage of increase in the consumption of coal, and the capacity for production in the different regions was consequently greatly in excess of the requirements of the market. The large New York companies entered into a desperate struggle and rivalry for the market, initiating their proceedings by a reduction of about fifty cents per ton in the prices of coal, as compared with the prices of the preceding year. The trade progressed in a languishing way until September, when the ever-memorable monetary convulsion took place, paralyzing industry, destroying confidence and credit, bankrupting thousands of business men and producing a general contraction or collapse in business transactions. Many of the operators had reached that condition when an additional feather's weight would break them down, and they now succumbed.

EFFORTS TO ACQUIRE CONTROL OF THE COAL TRADE

The Schuylkill coal operators early in 1857 entered into an arrangement with John Tucker, who had resigned the presidency of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, to assume the regulation of the Schuylkill coal trade. Mr. Tucker by his long acquaintance with the movements of the trade, the official intercourse he had held with the representatives of the different mining and transporting companies, and his ready tact, superior management and ability, was admirably qualified for the position. After due deliberation it was determined to give a plan submitted by Mr. Tucker a fair trial. Operators representing over three millions of tons subscribed to the new arrangement. Mr. Tucker became the head of the coal association and assumed the duty of controlling the supply of coal, so that it could not fall below a paying price to the producer. His utmost skill and energy were applied to this work, but he must have ascertained that it was more difficult to manage the Schuylkill coal trade than the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. The effort to regulate the trade and make it prosperous was a failure. The time was inauspicious and the trade incorrigible. After the financial crash in September every operator was left to his own devices. Sales were made at the best prices that could be obtained. The result of the year's business was a great disappointment.
TRADE DURING THE FIRST FORTY YEARS

The supply of anthracite coal from all the regions during the first forty years of the trade—from 1820 to 1860—was 83,887,934 tons. Of this amount the Schuylkill region furnished 42,719,723 tons, or 50.93 per cent. In the decade ending with 1849 the Schuylkill region furnished 54.62 per cent of the whole supply; in the decade ending with 1859 it furnished 49 per cent. Comparing the shipments from each region during the ten years ending with 1859 with the shipments of the ten preceding years, we find an increase from the Schuylkill region of 18,047,106, or 169.62 per cent.; from the Lehigh region of 7,359,920 tons, or 170 per cent.; from the Wyoming region of 12,531,661 tons, or 285.72 per cent.; and from the Shamokin region of 1,185,402 tons, or 809 per cent. The aggregate increase from all the regions was 39,151,089 tons.

The supremacy heretofore held by the Schuylkill coal trade was gradually departing. The tendency of the trade was alarming, and it invoked the profound solicitude of the intelligent operators, whose fortunes were involved in its prosperity or adversity. For a number of years investigations and interchange of opinions had been made in regard to the characteristics of coal mining in the Schuylkill region—the errors committed and the remedies best to be applied. Proud of their achievements as individual operators, in contrast with incorporated companies, yet there was a decided change of opinion manifested about this time (1860) in regard to the wisdom of the system upon which their mining operations had so far been conducted. The mistakes of the region were becoming manifest, and their consequences obvious to all. It was becoming more and more evident that associated capital was essential for the development and improvement of the region thenceforward. Since the trade first sprang into importance, very nearly all the money made in it was invested in improvements upon leasehold properties, of insufficient area for durable operations. In a paper read by P.W. Sheafer before the Pottsville Scientific Association in 1858, he says:


"It is doubtless unfavorable to the profitable working of our coal beds that there is frequently both a want of capital and of the proper concentration of that which exists. Certainly no method of mining coal can be less economical than to fit out a number of separate operations upon comparatively small estates, with all the necessary engines and other improvements, instead of selecting a suitable point from which the coal of several adjacent tracts could be worked by one large operation equipped in the best manner. This policy was only carried out effectively by the union of the proprietors of adjacent tracts. Indeed the pursuit of the coal below the water level, requiring increased capital, has already tended to the concentration of the business of mining in fewer hands; and as the necessity of shafting to the lower coals becomes more apparent, the discussion, among those interested, of an enlightened system of harmonious action is more and more frequent."

CONDITION OF SCHUYLKILL OPERATORS

The Schuylkill coal operators were scarcely ever without a grievance. Being subject to the arrangements of the transporting companies for the movement of their product, they were as a consequence peculiarly exposed to measures of a grievous tendency. They had no voice in the regulation or control of one of the most important elements of their business-transportation to market. The tolls imposed were inexorable and they were cunningly devised to stimulate production of tonnage without promoting the prosperity of the producer. In the Schuylkill, as in the Lackawanna and other regions, the coal mining interest was reduced to a subservient vassalage to the transporting interest. The operators, instead of being recognized by the carrying companies as patrons or customers, whom it was politic to cultivate, were regarded as machines to provide tonnage for their lines, which it was their interest to keep in good running order-that and nothing more. The coal operators might have asked with great propriety whether individual enterprise in coal mining, with hired transportation, could ever compete with the large companies possessing mining, trafficking and transporting privileges.

The particular grievance with the Schuylkill operators in 1860 was that the rates of transportation did not place them on an equality with the producers from other regions in the New York and eastern markets. The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, in the report of the managers, showed that the quantity of coal transported in 1860 was 1,878,156 tons, and the receipts for tolls on coal were $2,328,157.52. A comparison with the coal business of the road in 1859 shows an increase of 245,224 tons carried; an increase of $444,472.40 in receipts and an increase of $367,742.86 in profits. The net profit on the general business of the company, after deducting all expenses and the renewal fund, was $1,625,984.67. The dividend fund after deducting interest on the bonded debt was $894,863.67 as against $388,329.42 in 1859. The report makes a very favorable exhibit to the stockholders, but at the same time it seems to justify the complaints of illiberal exactions in the charges imposed.

In 1861, for the first time in the history of the trade, the supply of coal from the Wyoming region exceeded in quantity that from the Schuylkill, and this supremacy it has held ever since, except in 1865 and 1866. The entire supply of 1861 was 595,001 tons less than in the preceding year. The falling off in the Schuylkill region was 653,903 tons. The war excitement interfered seriously with the movement of the coal trade, and many of the collieries were crippled by the departure of numbers of miners and laborers, who had enlisted as volunteers in the army. The general depression in business that prevailed this year, and the prostration of the iron trade and other industrial pursuits of a peaceful character especially, induced a greatly diminished consumption. Competition, always excessive, was double intensified, and prices of coal depressed almost beyond precedent. The general result of the year's business was consequently even less favorable than in 1860.

The same disadvantages and inequality under which the Schuylkill trade struggled in 1860 were again imposed by the transporting companies in 1861. The loss in coal tonnage of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad was 417,324 tons, and of the Navigation Company 173,118 tons, compared with the tonnage of the previous year. The operators felt that they had become the pack horses to bear the burdens of the trade for the benefit of the carrying companies. They believed that the consequence of the iron trade and other industrial pursuits was but a temporary confusion which would inevitably overtake every one engaged in the trade unless some effective remedy was promptly applied.

The extraordinary action of the Pennsylvania Coal Company in reducing the prices of coal in the spring of 1862, about fifty cents per ton below the opening rates of the preceding year, elicited a burst of indignation in all the coal regions. The promulgation of their circular paralyzed the trade. But the depression caused by that action proved to be the finale of the gloomy period in the history of the coal trade.

DAWN OF BETTER TIMES

The increasing consumption of anthracite coal by the United States government for war purposes, and by manufacturers of war material, gave an impetus to the trade that was gradually improving its condition, and would have been quicker and more decided in its effects had it not been for the folly of some of the producers. It required the intervention of Providence to administer a quick and effective remedy for the ills of the trade, and this was applied on the 4th of June, 1862, by a flood of unexampled violence and destructiveness. The navigation of the Schuylkill was interrupted about three weeks, of the Lehigh until the 4th of October. One of the consequences of the freshet was a diminution of nearly a million of tons in the supply of coal for the year. Prices of coal, of transportation, and of labor rose rapidly. The price of coal on board vessels at Port Richmond advanced from $2.65 in April, to $5.75 before the end of the season, and averaged for the year $4.14, against $3.39 in 1861.

After the June freshet the miners became exacting. Frequent acts of violence were committed and unlawful
demonstrations made by men on a strike. Before the close of the season numerous turnouts took place, and a number of collieries were forcibly stopped.

The project of building a railroad direct to New York was revived in 1862. On the 15th of July books for subscription to the stock of the Schuylkill Haven and Lehigh Railroad company were opened at Philadelphia and a majority of the stock taken. On the 5th of August following the company was organized, engineers employed to locate the road, and a vigorous effort made to carry out the project. After the road had been put under construction the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company succeeded in stopping it.

The following railroads were leased by the Philadelphia and Reading and taken possession of at the periods named: Schuylkill Valley and Mill Creek railroads, Sept. 1st, 1861; Swatara, April 1st, 1862; Mount Carbon, May 16th, 1862; Mahanoy and Broad Mountain, July 1st, 1862; Union Canal, July 25th, 1862.

The Mahanoy and Broad Mountain Railroad was completed late in May, 1862. The first car of coal passed over the road on the 30th of May, from the mines of Connor and Patterson, consigned to Charles E. Smith, president of the Reading Railroad, Philadelphia. On the 4th of June occurred that memorable flood by which the road was so seriously damaged that three months were required to make the necessary repairs.

The demand for coal throughout 1863 exceeded the most extravagant calculations made early in the season, and was greater than the producing and transporting companies could supply. Prices consequently ruled higher than ever known before. The season opened with a bare market. Notwithstanding there was an increase of 1,747,445 tons in production during the year, the consumption was so great that no stock in first hands was left over for sale in any of the great markets. The prices of coal on board vessels at Philadelphia in 1863 advanced from $5.38 per ton in January to $7.13 in December; averaging for the year $6.06, as against $4.14 in 1862.

The cost of producing coal increased at a greater ratio than did its cost to consumers in the leading markets of the seaboard. The following comparison of the cost of the items named in November, 1862, and November, 1863, is taken from the books of a large operator.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>1862</th>
<th>1863</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laborers per week, $6, $12,</td>
<td>miners, $7.50, $18; powder per keg, $4, $4.75; whale oil per gallon, $90; corn per bushel, 60, 90; oats per bushel, 45, 90; hay per ton, $12, $30; lumber per thousand feet, $12, $28; mules each, $150, $240; miners by contract per day, $2, $5.</td>
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Mollie Maguires

The high wages received by miners caused considerable dissatisfaction among those engaged in other pursuits. The remuneration to skilled mechanics, to experienced accountants, to mining engineers, to learned professional men, was far below that of the uneducated miner. The anomaly was presented of muscle, applied six to eight hours per day, receiving better reward than brains, exercised from the rising to the setting of the sun. And yet those pampered miners demanded still more. The coal regions were rendered hideous by violence and outrages committed in the enforcement of their importunate and unreasonable demands. The lives of the superintendents and agents of the operators were threatened in written notices, conspicuously posted, couched in execrable language and hideously embellished with drawings of pistols and coffins. Nor did they hesitate to use their pistols upon any slight pretext or occasion, with the feelings and in the spirit of hired assassins. Their fellow workmen who were well disposed were forced to acquiesce, at the peril of their lives, in this reign of terror. To prevent the anthracite coal regions from sinking into a state of barbarity—to prevent the center of a great industry from becoming a pandemonium for outlaws—and to secure to the government a supply of coal for war purposes, it became necessary to occupy the coal fields with national troops. The rioters were controlled by a number of imported professional agitators, whose business it was to sow dissension, to cultivate discontent, and to organize conspiracies.

The coal regions also became the harbor of another class of immigrants. These were confirmed and hardened criminals, the scum of foreign lands. Desperate and unscrupulous, they were the terror of every neighborhood, and exercised a fearful domination over their fellow workmen. These were the Mollie Maguires, the men to waylay and murder superintendents, to burn coal breakers, and to commit every description of outrage.

PERIOD OF GREATEST EXPANSION

The year 1864 was a period of overflowing and bountiful prosperity. It was notable for the high standard of values of all staple commodities, and in the anthracite coal trade for the wonderful expansion in all its branches—with high prices for coal, high prices for labor, high rates for transportation, and a great appreciation in value of every material entering into the cost of the production of coal. It was also notable in the coal regions for the aggravated nature of the aggressions of labor against capital, and for the turbulence, violence and flagrant outrages committed with impunity by numbers of workmen employed at the mines. Such was the contemptuous disregard of the restraints of law and civilization, and such was the subdued meekness of capital in its relation to labor, that a true and faithful narrative of the events of that and subsequent periods will scarcely be credited after the lapse of not many years.

The year was notable for the large fortunes suddenly acquired by the sale of collieries, as well as by the profits in mining; by the extensive sales of coal lands; and by the organization of numerous coal corporations. The exceptional times of 1864 afforded a number of coal operators an opportunity to retire from the business, with a competency who had been on the brink of bankruptcy. Of these a few were wise enough to embark in safer enterprises. Many more returned to their first love, and were
The commencement of the year was distinguished by a fresh installment of trouble in Cass township, at the mines of the Forest Improvement Company, which had commenced in 1863. On the 16th of February Generals Couch and Sigel visited the region to make inquiry into the state of affairs, which resulted in the beginning of April in stationing a portion of the 10th regiment of New Jersey in Cass township. This event was not consummated until some years after the period under consideration, but is alleged that the events of 1864 precipitated the revolution.

Very extensive sales were made of coal lands in 1864 at prices ruling much higher than ever before, though some of the estates then sold commanded better prices subsequently, when the pulse of the capitalist beat in its normal condition. The purchase and sale of coal lands and collieries in 1864 were followed by a furor for acts of incorporation. In the Schuylkill, Mahanoy and Shamokin regions alone about fifty coal companies were organized in that year. Many of them were organized for speculative purposes alone, and they had but an ephemeral existence. Others, with substantial assets and healthy organizations, embarked in the business of mining and selling coal under favorable auspices, followed by considerable success.

The price of anthracite coal on board vessels at Port Richmond in 1864 ranged from $7.25 per ton in January to $11 in August, declining to $8.50 in December. About the middle of September the trade became dull, with receding prices. Shipments fell off heavily, and prices declined $2 per ton in one month. In August coal retailed in New York at $13 to $14 for 2,000 pounds.

The commencement of the year was distinguished by a fresh installment of trouble in Cass township, at the mines of the Forest Improvement Company, which had commenced in 1863. On the 16th of February Generals Couch and Sigel visited the region to make inquiry into the state of affairs, which resulted in the beginning of April in stationing a portion of the 10th regiment of New Jersey in Cass township, which restored order in that district.

BOATMEN'S GRIEVANCES AND TURNOUT OF RAILROAD EMPLOYEES

A difficulty occurred between the boatmen and the Schuylkill Navigation Company, growing out of the fact that the fluctuations in the freights had heretofore been an obstacle in making contracts for the delivery of coal by canal. The navigation company proposed to enter into contracts with the boatmen to carry coal at fixed rates of freight during the year, or at least for stated periods of time, which would enable dealers to make contracts for the delivery of coal by canal at fixed sums, the company collecting the freights, who would account to the boatmen. The boatmen, however, regarded the project with great hostility, and became very much excited upon the subject. They contended that it would be giving all their privileges as individuals to the navigation company, and they declared that a combination had been formed between the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company and the Schuylkill Navigation Company, by which their interests were made identical. The rivalry between them ceased, they alleged, because the business was sufficient for both-the necessity for competition had passed away. The only obstacle to excessive charges for freight, they believed, consisted in the fact that the boatmen of the Schuylkill canal, being owners of the boats, could, upon the payment of the tolls, as limited by the charter of the navigation company, carry the coal at such rates as they deemed proper, and thereby enter into competition with both the canal and the railroad company.

The boatmen's idea of entering into competition with the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company—"that voracious and devouring monopoly"—for the conservation of the coal trade was magnanimous, it was chivalrous. But even then it was too late. The fiyat had gone forth—although not fully revealed—that for weal or for woe the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company was destined to own and control the Schuylkill coal trade, from the minutest filaments of the roots to the topmost branches of the tree. The obstacles attempted to be interposed by the boatmen to the plans of that ambitious and powerful company were never felt, and the boatmen, before many years, were dependent upon that company for employment, protection and support. There was a time when the boatmen exercised considerable influence upon the coal trade. They were not so conservative then. They exacted the last dollar from the trade that it would bear. The most annoying branch of the business at that time was the freighting of boats on the canal. But it is not generous to visit the sins of the fathers upon even the second generation, and this second generation had been subjected to such a crucial ordeal in past years as to merit public sympathy.

In the first week of July, 1864, a turnout of the engineers and brakemen on the lateral railroads suspended the coal trade in the Schuylkill region. In consequence of the interruption to the supply of coal for government use the Reading railroad and its branches were seized for the military service of the United States, and a new set of hands sent on from Washington to work the lateral railroads. After two weeks demonstration of their strength—with parade and flourish of banners, accompanied with music of drums and fife—the old hands resumed their positions without having obtained the object of the strike.

PATRIOTIC OPERATORS

The great central fair for the Sanitary commission held in Philadelphia in 1864 afforded an opportunity to
the liberal minded citizens of this country to show their patriotism, benevolence, and charity. To Colonel Henry L. Cake, of the St. Nicholas Colliery, in the Mahanoy region, belongs the honor of having originated and set the example of making contributions in coal to this great charity. No sooner was it known that he had set apart Saturday, May 14th, as his contribution of a day's production of coal from his colliery for the benefit of the fair than he was notified that the freight and toll would be remitted for its passage over the Reading Railroad and the Little Schuylkill Railroad, so that the good cause would receive the whole proceeds of the sale of the coal. The coal-forty cars, containing 210 tons—was sold at the Corn Exchange rooms in Philadelphia on Monday, the 16th of May. The proceeds amounted to $1,605.20. The largest contribution made was by Davis Pearson & Company, being half the proceeds of the sale of 101 cars of coal, amounting to $1,830.61. In addition to the above we find the following reported from the Schuylkill region. The total amount contributed from the anthracite regions was $62,003.46. The employes of the following houses contributed the sums mentioned: St Nicholas Colliery, $200; Wheeler, Miller & Co., $124.53; J. & E. Sillyman, $125; Hammet, Vandusen & Co., $305; George W. Snyder, $314.75; William Milnes, Jr., & Co., $511.50; J.M. Freck & Co., $154.85; T. Garretson & Co., $248.69. There were donated by T. Garretson & Co. 41 cars of coal; J. & E. Sillyman added $200 to the gifts of their employes mentioned above.

**FLUCTUATIONS IN TRADE**

That the inflated prices of all commodities in 1864 should recede as the rebellion faded away was natural, and a transition state of trade generally was revealed in 1865. The immediate effect of the restoration of peace was a partial paralysis of the iron trade, and of the manufacture of cotton and woolen fabrics; and a long list of supplies for the army and navy received a check to their manufacture. This was followed by a stagnation in the coal trade, and a decline in prices to a point below the cost of production. The demand from the government almost ceased, and from manufacturers it was very much diminished, at a reduction in prices of over $2 per ton. To meet this great change, a new basis of operations was necessary. A reduction in expenses was essential. Labor was the principal element in the cost of producing coal, and the wages of labor were out of proportion to the value of its productions. A reduction was proposed of twenty-five to thirty-three per cent. in wages, which was resisted. A partial suspension of work at the collieries followed. Not until after two months times were the terms of the reduction generally accepted.

The depression in the trade continued until about the 1st of August, when business began to revive, the demand for coal improved and prices advanced. The turnout in the Lackawanna region, which caused a total cessation of mining for about ten weeks, alarmed consumers during its progress, and stimulated the demand to a degree that overtaxed the productive and transporting capacity of other regions and again ran up the price of coal and labor. The loss in the supply of coal, compared with that of the year 1864, which was over a million of tons on the 1st of August, was reduced at the end of the year to 625,896 tons. So rapid was the advance in wages that by the 1st of October they had risen $5 a week to laborers, and about 55 cents a wagon for cutting coal by the cargo at Philadelphia opened at $8.38 in January, declined to $6.03 in July, and advanced to $8.93 in October, averaging for the year $7.86, as against $8.39 in 1864.

The supply of coal from all the regions in 1866 was 12,432,835 tons—an excess of the extraordinary amount of 2,945,079 tons over the supply of the previous year. Of this excess 923,918 tons were from the Schuylkill region. Notwithstanding the large production, the Schuylkill operators, in consequence of the high rates of transportation and the great shrinkage in the price of coal, did not find their business profitable. At the auction sales in New York the prices of coal declined between January and December over $400 per ton, and at Port Richmond the decline was during the same period $3 per ton. The usual consequences of an oversupply affected the market after the first of September. The operators were unable during this year to reduce the cost of coal in proportion to its shrinkage in value. The high prices of all the necessaries of life made it impossible to reduce the wages of common labor, and the miners offered a resistance, combined and powerful, to any reduction. The reduction in the price of coal, having been greater than on any other article, bore heavily on the operators.

The downward tendency of the prices of coal continued through 1867. Sales at Port Richmond averaged for the year $4.37 per ton, as against $5.80 in 1866. The auction sales in New York averaged for stove coal $2 less per ton than in the previous year. The market for Schuylkill coal at competitive points was reduced to a supply of what other regions could not furnish, unless furnished at a loss which reduced the trade to a deplorable condition. The effect of the adverse condition of the trade was a loss of coal tonnage during the year of 592,645 tons by the transporting companies from the Schuylkill region.

The gloomy prospects of the Schuylkill trade in 1867 caused great concern and apprehension among the operators early in the season and a renewal of interest in a new, direct and independent outlet to the New York and eastern markets. The "Manufacturers and Consumers'Anthracite Railroad Company" was chartered in March, 1866. A powerful effort was made in its behalf, but failed of procuring the necessary support.

The occurrence of a turnout in the Schuylkill region, beginning about the 1st of July, 1868, and ending about the 1st of September-the object being the establishment of the eight hours system of labor-saved the trade of that year from disaster by curtailing the supply of coal during the suspension about 600,000 tons. At the New York auction sales the price for stove coal was
$5.05 in July, and in October it was $9.05, receding in December to $6.50. The speculative and extravagant price for stove coal manipulated at the auction sales of Scranton coal taxed consumers heavily and proved detrimental to the permanent interests of the producers. It created an excitement in the trade, and induced the operatives at the mines to demand prices for work that could not be afforded for any length of time, and which once granted could not be easily reduced to a fair basis after the prices of coal had receded. The men claimed participation in every rise and exemption in every fall. The strike for the eight hours system of labor—which meant eight hours' work for ten hours' pay, and amounted to twenty per cent. advance in wages—was conducted with mob demonstrations, by raiding through the region, driving men from their work, and stopping collieries. The movement was a failure, the ten hours system prevailing, but an advance in the price of coal having resulted from the suspension of work, a corresponding advance in wages was paid.

WORKINGMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

The organization of the Workingmen's Benevolent Association on the 23d of July, 1868, followed very closely the violent demonstration made on the eight hour question, and the conception of such a combination was no doubt due to the excitement growing out of that event; it was then made apparent to the designing men who manipulated the whole affair that a union of the working classes could be formed, through which great power, influence, and pecuniary profit could be made to accrue to themselves by arraying labor against capital. The title assumed by the association was a misnomer and a deception to begin with; the true object being not benevolence, but a purpose to establish and maintain a high standard of wages, to get control of the property and the management of the mines and to give effective force and aggrandizement to their proposed aggressive movements against the coal operators. Had their object been to extend beneficial aid to their members who were sick, disabled, or unfortunate, it would have been a very exemplary charity, worthy of commendation; but we believe the only contributions made by it in support of the members were during the strikes precipitated by the leaders, when small sums were doled out in order to prolong the contest. The power lodged in the officers was in its exercise deleterious and oppressive to the laboring classes, a blight upon their industry, a tax upon their earnings, a hindrance to their comfort and welfare, and a fruitful source of poverty, privation, and distress. The aggressiveness of this association against the rights of the proprietors of the collieries was practiced unceasingly; one exaction after another was imposed; the control of the mining department of the business was usurped by the “committee men,” and their constant interference and frequent interruption of the works entailed a great loss to the operators. They were unable to sustain themselves against the successive strikes of the miners instigated by the leaders of the association, and in two years many of them were virtually driven out of the business. The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company was compelled by the destructive tendency of the acts of the miners to engage in the business of mining, in order that the production of coal might continue to be carried on without interference from the “committee men.”

The year 1869 was notable for the excitement and agitation that prevailed throughout the anthracite coal regions, induced by the aggressive movements of the Workingmen's Benevolent Association or Miners' Union. This state of things caused prolonged interruptions in mining, threatening a short supply of anthracite. The measures introduced by these leaders were a suspension of mining for three weeks, with the ostensible object of depleting the market of the stocks of coal lying over, and the establishment of the "basis system," by which wages were to be regulated by the prices of coal. In attempting to adjust the basis a difficulty was encountered between the men and their employers, the miners demanding more for their work as a starting point, than the prices of coal would warrant, in the opinion of the operators. On the 29th of April, 1869, the executive committee of the Workingmen's Benevolent Association ordered a general suspension of work, to take place on the 10th of May. The design was to suspend through all the regions and to continue three weeks, but the men in the Lackawanna region did not join the movement, the effect of which was to prolong the suspension. On the 9th of June, the general council of the association ordered that on and after June 16th “all districts and branches which can agree with their employers as to basis and conditions of resumption do resume work.” The result of the suspension was a removal of the excess of coal in the market compared with the supply of the previous year, with a deficiency of 105,809 tons. The curtailment amounted to 818,541 tons, of which 469,363 tons were from the Schuylkill region. If the average value of this coal at the shipping ports in the region was $2.70 per ton, the loss to the Schuylkill region was $1,267,280.

The Schuylkill operators, not knowing the practical operation of the basis system, agreed to try it as an experiment, providing that there should be no "illegitimate interference with the working of the collieries." The conditions of resumption having been agreed upon by the parties, and an assurance having been given on the question of interference that no such right was claimed by the miners' association, work was resumed in the Schuylkill region. The basis accepted by the operators was proposed to them by the leaders of the Miners' Union, and it met with considerable opposition from many
operators; but as all other efforts to control the trade had failed, and it might be the means of preventing the chronic strikes which had operated so disastrously, it was concluded to try the experiment. Thus, virtually, the operators surrendered the control of their business by accepting the participation in its management of the men in their employment. The three large companies in the Lackawanna region persisted to the last in refusing to confer with their men on the question of a basis. In their opinion the only question involved in the issue was whether their property should be controlled and the policy of the companies determined by the owners, or whether they should be committed to the care and direction of an irresponsible organization. The Miners’ Association failed after a four-months strike, extending from the middle of May to the middle of September, to establish the basis system in that region, but they compelled the companies, by the action of the other regions, to make large advances in wages. The effect of these interruptions to the trade was to run up the price of coal to consumers, without benefiting the producers. Under the operation of the basis system, the interference with the working of the collieries continued through the local committees, who dictated who should be employed and who discharged.

ANTHRACITE BOARD OF TRADE

The anthracite board of trade of the Schuylkill coal region was organized on the 19th of November, 1869, with William Kendrick as president. It represented 4,437,000 tons of coal, and acted thereafter in all negotiations with the workmen.

Upon the resignation of Charles E. Smith, Esq., on the 28th of April, 1869, as president of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, Franklin B. Gowen was elected as his successor. The election of Mr. Gowen met with the hearty approbation of the Schuylkill operators, and we believe of every person connected with the Schuylkill coal trade. From his knowledge of the coal business, his enlarged and liberal views of men and things, his eminent ability and great business capacity, the most exalted anticipations were indulged in as to the characteristics and success of his administration. A strong hope was inspired—which was not disappointed—that under his administration the producing interest of the Schuylkill coal region would receive that consideration and fostering support which had been withheld from it for many years.

From the commencement of the anthracite coal trade to the 1st of January, 1870, the quantity of anthracite coal sent to market from all the regions was 190,058,685 tons, of which from the Schuylkill region, 82,030,232 tons; the Shamokin region, 6,584,523; the Lehigh region, 36,564,177; the Wyoming region, 64,879,753; total, 190,058,685.

A comparison of the quantity of anthracite coal furnished by the different regions in the decade ending with the year 1859, and the decade ending with the year 1869, shows that the Schuylkill region furnished 12 per cent. less of the whole supply in the latter decade, than it did in the former, although its tonnage was augmented 36 per cent. When we consider the disadvantages of the Schuylkill coal trade during the ten years prior to 1870, the formidable and somewhat adventurous and speculative competition encountered in the market, the oppressive and illiberal policy of the transporting companies and the baleful influence of the so-called Workingmen's Benevolent Association, it is surprising that its position in the trade was so well sustained.

The year 1870 was one of the most unfortunate years in the Schuylkill coal trade since the break-down in 1857. Mining operations were suspended from the first of April to the first of August, while negotiating for a basis of wages. The miners claimed the wages of 1869, based upon $3 per ton for coal at Port Carbon, as a minimum. The operators declared that experience had proven conclusively that the basis of $3 per ton was entirely too high to permit Schuylkill coal to compete with the large companies in the Lackawanna region. Mr. Gowen, at the request of both parties, settled the difficulty under the terms of what became known as the "Gowen compromise," which was the $3 basis, but sliding down as well as up with the change in the price of coal. The price averaged for the year $2.45 at Port Carbon, and the wages fell below the rates offered by the operators in February. The loss in production, compared with that of the previous year, was 782,578 tons.

LEASE OF THE SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION

Upon the 12th of July, 1870, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company leased the Schuylkill navigation.

On the 7th of November, 1870, the committees representing the Anthracite Board of Trade and the Workingmen's Benevolent Association met in Pottsville to arrange the terms of a basis for wages in 1871. An agreement was signed and ratified, based upon $2.50 per ton as the price of coal at Port Carbon. It was a judicious arrangement, which had it been adhered to, would have operated beneficially to all interests involved; but it was repudiated subsequently by the leaders of the Miners' Union, in order that the association might join in the strike of their fellow members in the Lackawanna region. A general suspension was ordered by the general council of the association, to commence on the 10th of January, and on the 25th of January the delegates of the association in Schuylkill county resolved to adhere to the $3 basis. This course was in violation of good faith, and it satisfied the public that the leaders were unworthy of confidence. Great opprobrium was brought upon the association and its officers. The union could be no longer regarded as a protection to labor, but as an engine for its oppression. Its iniquities became known of all men, and the necessity for its suppression, as an enemy to the business interests and prosperity of the coal regions, became generally acknowledged. The suspension of work continued for four months, the region being kept in a state of agitation and excitement in the mean-
while. All other efforts to make an arrangement having failed, the difficulty was referred to a board of arbitration, with Judge William Elwell as umpire. On the question of interference with the working of the mines the umpire rendered a decision adverse to the claims of the miners, and on the question of wages a scale of wages was adopted based upon $2.75 per ton for coal at Port Carbon.

**PHILADELPHIA AND READING COAL AND IRON COMPANY**

The average price at Port Carbon for the eight months of the year after the adoption of the $2.75 per ton basis was $2.61 per ton. In 1870 the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company was organized as an auxiliary of the railroad company. The new company purchased during the year seventy thousand acres of coal lands in Schuylkill county. "The result of this action has been to secure and attach to the company’s railroad—a body of coal land capable of supplying all the coal tonnage that can possibly be transported over the road for centuries."

The amount of coal sent to market in 1872 was 19,371,953 tons, an excess of 3,579,475 over the supply of the previous year. From the Schuylkill region the supply was 5,355,341 tons, 81,130 more than in the previous year. There was no interruption to the production in 1872 by strikes. The basis of wages was arranged on the 6th of January and adhered to throughout the year. The arrangement was based upon $2.50 per ton at Port Carbon, and the wages were not to go below that with a decline in the price of coal except in April and May, and then not below the rates based on $2.25 per ton. The arrangement operated unfavorably to the operators. The average price for the year was $2.14 per ton, or 46 cents per ton less than in 1871, while the wages were higher than in that year, with a $2.75 basis. The "basis" adopted for 1872 amounted virtually to a surrender of their business interests by the operators, to a formidable and antagonistic labor combination. The consequence was that they crippled themselves, while they invigorated their enemies. So reduced did many of them become that the Reading Railroad Company, to enable them to continue their production and supply the railroad with tonnage, found it expedient to advance money on mortgage to them.

"Our first intention," said Mr. Gowen, "was never to mine a ton of coal. The idea was that the ownership of these lands would be sufficient to attach the tonnage to us, and that we could get individuals to mine the coal at a rent. That was the policy inaugurated by the company, and to develop it they expended eight or nine hundred thousand dollars, simply in loans to individuals to enable them to get into business. We built collieries, rented them to individuals and advanced money on mortgage; and had it not been for the terrible demoralization of labor in the coal regions, resulting in strikes, individuals would have been able to do all that we wanted. But we had, during the time I speak of, a succession of strikes which entirely destroyed individual enterprise. There was no man who had the capital to stand up against them; six months out of a year they were idle, and we saw that we had to take the bull by the horns and go into the business of mining ourselves. There was nothing else for us to do. We tried honestly and sincerely for nearly eighteen months to develop these lands and work them by individual enterprise; nay, more than that, when we found that would not do, in several instances we opened the collieries and associated men of know experience with us as partners in mining, and let them have the business; but that was also unsuccessful, and we had to take hold of the coal trade as we took hold of the railroad—establish ourselves in it as a large corporation, with fixed rules."

In no previous year was the anthracite coal trade so judiciously and systematically governed as in 1873. Indeed it may be said that never before had the trade been governed in union and harmony, and with the co-operation and accord of the great representative interests in all regions. The trade, heretofore so capricious and ungovernable, was subjected to complete discipline and control. Under the title of the "Associated Coal Companies" an organization was formed, composed of the large mining and transporting companies, for the purpose of proportioning the supply of coal at competitive points to the demand, and to regulate the prices of coal during the year so as to secure remuneration to the producers. The plan was to establish prices at the opening of the spring trade in March at the lowest rates on board the "Associated Coal Companies" an organization was formed, composed of the large mining and transporting companies, for the purpose of proportioning the supply of coal at competitive points to the demand, and to regulate the prices of coal during the year so as to secure remuneration to the producers. The plan was to establish prices at the opening of the spring trade in March at the lowest rates on board vessels at the shipping ports, and to raise the prices ten cents per ton every month until the close of the year. By virtue of this arrangement the coal trade remained prosperous throughout the year, with prices fully maintained, notwithstanding the monetary panic, the opposition of the coal brokers and the clamor of the press against the "combination."

The question of wages in the Schuylkill region for the year 1873 was arranged on a basis of $2.50 per ton at Port Carbon as a minimum. It operated well, because the Associated Coal Companies prevented coal from receding below the basis price. The price of coal averaged for the year $2.58 per ton, or forty-four cents per ton more than in the preceding year. The production of coal in the Schuylkill region was 314,081 tons in excess of that of the previous year.

In 1873 the consolidation of coals at Port Richmond for shipment known as the "pool" was put into operation. By this system which was a commingling of coals from different collieries to save expense in handling and vending—the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company undertook, at a greatly reduced cost, the shipping and selling of the coal of the producers. In the same year the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company embarked in the retail coal business in the city of Philadelphia, having built yards and depositories of great capacity.

The following were the essential features of the programme of the Associated Coal Companies for the government of the anthracite coal trade to competitive points.
in 1874: Tonnage to competitive points for ten months from February 1st to November 30th inclusive to be 10,000,000 tons, and to be distributed among the six interests in the same proportion as that adopted in February, 1873, for the business of that years, viz.: To the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, 2,585,000 tons; Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, 1,598,000; Central Railroad of New Jersey, 1,615,000; Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, 1,837,000; Delaware Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, 1,380,000; Pennsylvania Coal Company, 985,000. It was recommended that prices should open in March, 1874, at an average of fifteen cents per ton above the opening prices of 1873, and thereafter advance as follows: say in April five cents, May ten cents, and July, August, September, October and November each fifteen cents per ton.

The great depression in all manufacturing industries in 1874, and especially of the iron trade, diminished the consumption of coal for manufacturing purposes and caused considerable stagnation in the coal trade. Of the 662 furnaces in existence in 1873 only 410 were in blast on the 1st of January, 1874, and only 382 at the close of the year, showing the great prostration of that interest. The coal trade moved very sluggishly from the start, and the Associated Coal Companies soon found it necessary to curtail the allotment of tonnage to competitive points. Instead of 10,000,000 tons there were only 8,248,928 sent to competitive points. In the mean time the programme was carried out in regard to advancing prices. In the Schuylkill region, the basis of wages for 1873 was continued. The average price at Port Carbon for the year was $2.60.

**REDUCTION OF WAGES AND THE "LONG STRIKE"**

The supply of anthracite coal in 1874 from all the regions fell off 774,333 tons from that of 1873; of this decrease 327,382 tons was from the Schuylkill region.

A general reduction of wages was determined upon in all anthracite regions in 1875 by virtue of imperative necessity. The shrinkage in value of nearly all commodities since the crisis of 1873 had produced a corresponding reduction in the wages of labor; coal could not be made an exception to the general rule to enable the producers to pay war prices to their operatives; the time for short hours and $5 a day had passed away, and the miners like other men were required to be industrious and frugal. A reduction of ten per cent. in wages had already been made and accepted in the Lackawanna region. The coal operators in the Schuylkill region, after careful study of the situation-the market being overstocked with coal., one half the furnaces in the country being out of blast, and manufacturers of all kinds running half or quarter time if at all-concluded that to reduce the price of coal, as was demanded to start the furnaces and manufactories, there must be a corresponding reduction in wages. Accordingly the following scale of wages for the year 1875 was decided upon as an ultimatum: Outside wages-first class, $1.50 per day; second class, $1.35; all inside work to be on a basis system-basis $2.50 per ton at Port Carbon; inside labor and miners' wages to be reduced ten per cent. below the rates of 1874; contract work to be reduced twenty per cent.; one per cent. on inside work to be paid in addition to the basis rate for every three cents advance in the price of coal above $2.50 per ton; and one per cent., to be deducted from the basis rate for every three cents decline in the price of coal below $2.50 per ton at Port Carbon. No maximum and no minimum.

The wages in 1874 were: for miners, $13 per week; inside labor, $11 per week; outside labor, $10 per week, when the price of coal was $2.50 per ton at Port Carbon and to rise one cent to every three cents advance in the price of coal above $2.50 per ton. These terms were submitted to a committee of the Miners and Laborers' Benevolent Association on the 1st of January, 1875. After some discussion they were rejected, and an order issued by the officers of the association that work at the mines should be stopped immediately. Thus was inaugurated the celebrated "long strike" of 1875. The conflict of labor against capital, which had been prosecuted so aggressively through the agency of the Workingmen's Benevolent Association ever since its organization, reached a decisive issue this year, after a six months; struggle of the most determined character that had yet taken place, culminating in the overthrow of the miners' combinations and the permanent rescue of the property of the proprietors of the collieries from the arbitrary control of an irresponsible trade union; as well as the emancipation of the workingmen themselves from the power of the political and professional agitators who had so long controlled them. In this prolonged and bitter contest the workingmen—or those who assumed to act for them—resorted to their usual methods during strikes, of intimidation, violence, outrage, incendiarism and assassination. A reign of terror prevailed, unchecked for a period, throughout the anthracite coal fields. The pernicious combination of the miners had fastened itself like an incubus upon the coalproducing interest, and the individual operators were too weak to cast it off; but the strikers now had to contend with the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company as well.

At the end of the strike, in the middle of June, there was a deficiency in the supply of coal, compared with that of the previous year to the corresponding period, of 2,400,000 tons, nearly all of which was made up by the end of the year. The decrease from the Schuylkill region, however, was 689,011 tons. The prices were maintained, with monthly advances, by the Board of Control of the Associated Coal Companies. The prices in November, compared with those of November, 1874, show a reduction of fifty cents per ton on lump, steamer and broken sizes, twenty-five cents on egg and thirty-five cents on stove. The wages of the men working on the sliding scale varied from two to six per cent. above the basis of $2.50 per ton for coal at Port Carbon.

Mining operations were brought to a close in the Schuylkill region in 1875 on the first of December, the
market being fully supplied, and the wharves at Port Richmond and all other depositories overflowing with coal. Before the trade of 1876 could begin to move a large depletion of the stocks on hand was absolutely necessary. Consequently, there was very little coal mined until the following April, and in two months afterward such stagnation prevailed that suspensions were ordered every alternate week by the Coal Exchange, and the Board of Control of the Associated Coal Companies reduced the monthly allotments. The peculiar condition of the coal trade this year, arising from the underconsumption of coal, caused by the general prostration of industrial interests, seemed to indicate the necessity for a regulating and controlling power in the management to a greater degree than had ever existed before, and it was with unconcealed apprehension that the coal operators received the intelligence of the dissolution of the organization called the Associated Coal Companies, on the 22nd of August. Following the disruption of the association was the sacrifice of half a million of tons of coal at public auction, at prices that would not pay the freight to deliver it, and about $2.50 below the August circular rates. New schedules of prices were announced, based on an approximation to this great reduction; transportation was lowered correspondingly, and the wages of the operatives were reduced fifteen twenty-five per cent. to meet the changed circumstances. Operators worked their collieries experimentally, to solve the problem whether the loss would be greater to work or to stand idle.

FREE COMPETITION VS. ASSOCIATION

The average price received for coal during 1877 on board vessels at Philadelphia was $2.41 per ton, or about $1 per ton less than the lowest prices previously known, and about the value of the coal in the coal region. The only compensation to be expected from these low rates was the extension given to the consumption of anthracite coal, by its entrance into new markets and by the stimulus it afforded manufacturing industries. The amount of anthracite sent to market this year was 20,828,179 tons, an excess of 2,327,168 tons over the supply of the previous year. The amount sent from the Schuylkill and Shamokin regions was 8,195,042 tons, 1,973,108 more than in the previous year. The coal tonnage of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, including 152,742 tons of bituminous coal was 7,255,317 tons, an excess of 1,660,111 over that of the previous year. These figures represent a heavy trade, and they likewise represent a heavy loss to the producer. So dissatisfied were the producers with the result of "free competition" in 1877 that another combination was formed on the 16th of January, 1878, for the government of the trade of that year. The immediate effect was to advance prices of coal fifty cents per ton. A large curtailment of production was determined upon during the winter months, which was effected by suspension of work at the collieries. The following percentages of the coal tonnage were allotted to the several interests: Philadelphia and Reading, 28.625; Lehigh Valley, 19.75; New Jersey Central, 12.905; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 12.75; Delaware and Hudson, 12.48; Pennsylvania Railroad, 7.625; Pennsylvania Coal Company, 5.865. The trade was very dull, and the association of coal companies was unable to secure for coal a sufficiently increased price to compensate for the great restriction of production found necessary, and consequently the anticipations formed of profits to result from the combination were not realized. The operation of restricting the production of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, and its effect upon the business of that company and the railroad company, is exhibited in the following table:

The above table indicated that in open competition for the market, with the admitted excellence and great variety of Schuylkill coal, and no restriction imposed upon production, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company had no cause to fear any of its competitors in the coal trade. But it does not follow that the restrictions imposed upon production in 1878 were not necessary and beneficial to the trade generally. The benefits resulting from the "combination" were the actual consumption of all surplus coal and the ability to secure fair prices in the future, which it was impossible to obtain so long as the large production kept the market overstocked.

The amount of anthracite coal sent to market in 1878 was 17,605,262 tons, a decrease of 3,222,917 from the supply of 1877. The amount of coal sent to market from the Schuylkill, Mahanoy and Shamokin regions in 1878 was 6,282,226 tons, a decrease of 1,912,816 from the supply of the preceding year. The decrease in the coal tonnage of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company in 1878 compared with that of 1877 was 1,346,177 tons.

The restriction of production in 1878 made room for and rendered profitable the extraordinary production of 1879. In the latter year the trade was much improved, the demand active at low prices, and the consumption largely increased; but the supply of coal was excessive, and the result of the year's operations afforded another example of the irrepressible tendency of the producing interest to over production. In 1879 the Schuylkill region produced 8,960,329 tons, 2,678,103 more than in 1878; the Lehigh region 4,595,567 tons, an increase of 1,358,118 over 1878; and the Wyoming region 12,586,293

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The average price received for coal during 1877 on board vessels at Philadelphia was $2.41 per ton, or about $1 per ton less than the lowest prices previously known, and about the value of the coal in the coal region. The only compensation to be expected from these low rates was the extension given to the consumption of anthracite coal, by its entrance into new markets and by the stimulus it afforded manufacturing industries. The amount of anthracite sent to market this year was 20,828,179 tons, an excess of 2,327,168 tons over the supply of the previous year. The amount sent from the Schuylkill and Shamokin regions was 8,195,042 tons, 1,973,108 more than in the previous year. The coal tonnage of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, including 152,742 tons of bituminous coal was 7,255,317 tons, an excess of 1,660,111 over that of the previous year. These figures represent a heavy trade, and they likewise represent a heavy loss to the producer. So dissatisfied were the producers with the result of "free competition" in 1877 that another combination was formed on the 16th of January, 1878, for the government of the trade of that year. The immediate effect was to advance prices of coal fifty cents per ton. A large curtailment of production was determined upon during the winter months, which was effected by suspension of work at the collieries. The following percentages of the coal tonnage were allotted to the several interests: Philadelphia and Reading, 28.625; Lehigh Valley, 19.75; New Jersey Central, 12.905; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 12.75; Delaware and Hudson, 12.48; Pennsylvania Railroad, 7.625; Pennsylvania Coal Company, 5.865. The trade was very dull, and the association of coal companies was unable to secure for coal a sufficiently increased price to compensate for the great restriction of production found necessary, and consequently the anticipations formed of profits to result from the combination were not realized. The operation of restricting the production of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, and its effect upon the business of that company and the railroad company, is exhibited in the following table:

The above table indicated that in open competition for the market, with the admitted excellence and great variety of Schuylkill coal, and no restriction imposed upon production, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company had no cause to fear any of its competitors in the coal trade. But it does not follow that the restrictions imposed upon production in 1878 were not necessary and beneficial to the trade generally. The benefits resulting from the "combination" were the actual consumption of all surplus coal and the ability to secure fair prices in the future, which it was impossible to obtain so long as the large production kept the market overstocked.

The amount of anthracite coal sent to market in 1878 was 17,605,262 tons, a decrease of 3,222,917 from the supply of 1877. The amount of coal sent to market from the Schuylkill, Mahanoy and Shamokin regions in 1878 was 6,282,226 tons, a decrease of 1,912,816 from the supply of the preceding year. The decrease in the coal tonnage of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company in 1878 compared with that of 1877 was 1,346,177 tons.

The restriction of production in 1878 made room for and rendered profitable the extraordinary production of 1879. In the latter year the trade was much improved, the demand active at low prices, and the consumption largely increased; but the supply of coal was excessive, and the result of the year's operations afforded another example of the irrepressible tendency of the producing interest to over production. In 1879 the Schuylkill region produced 8,960,329 tons, 2,678,103 more than in 1878; the Lehigh region 4,595,567 tons, an increase of 1,358,118 over 1878; and the Wyoming region 12,586,293.
tons, 4,500,706 above the production of 1878; total 26,142,189 tons, an increase of 8,536,927 over 1878. The coal tonnage of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad in 1879 was 8,147,580 tons, an excess of 2,238,440 tons over that of 1878.

The aggregate amount of anthracite coal sent to market from the year 1820—the beginning of the trade to the 1st of January, 1880, was 384,023,046 tons. Of this amount 155,693,353 tons were from the Schuylkill region; 7,415,446 from the Lehigh region, and 156,903,247 from the Wyoming region. In this statement the Schuylkill region is credited with all the coal sent to market and reported from the Southern or Schuylkill coal field (except the eastern end of the basin, which has its outlet by the Lehigh), from the Mahanoy district, and from Columbia and Northumberland counties; the Lehigh region is credited with all the coal sent to market and reported from the eastern end of the Southern coal-field and from the detached basins in the middle coal field; the Wyoming region is credited with all the coal sent to market and reported from the Northern coal field. The amount of anthracite coal produced and not reported was at least 20,000,000 tons, making the aggregate production 404,012,246 tons. According to the estimate of Professor P.W. Sheaffer we still have, after allowing sixty-six per cent for waste, 8,786,858,666 tons to send to market. By the year 1900 we will reach our probable maximum annual production of 50,000,000 tons, and will finally exhaust the supply in 186 years. At the rate of production in 1879 the Northern coal field is being rapidly exhausted: the Middle coal field will cease extensive mining in about twenty years; and the source of supply beyond that period will be largely from the Southern coal field in the deep basins of Schuylkill county.

CHAPTER VI

**LAND TITLES IN SCHUYLKILL COUNTY**

**THE FIRST SETTLERS AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS**

The title to the soil in Schuylkill county cannot be traced farther back than to the time when Hudson first entered the Delaware bay, or to the time when, seven years later, skipper Cornelius Hendricksen ascended the Delaware river as far as the mouth of the Schuylkill.

By reason of priority of discovery the Dutch claimed both political jurisdiction and the title to the soil, and the English set up a counter claim of priority because the first discoverer, Hudson, though in the service of the Dutch, was born in England. Both acted under the assumption that the heathen who possessed the country had no rights which Christians were bound to respect.

In 1681, King Charles the Second of England, for a consideration of $16,000, granted to William Penn by charter the title to what is now the state of Pennsylvania. It is recorded of the devil that he once proposed on certain conditions to grant a title to the kingdoms of the earth, when his right to do so was considered quite as questionable as was that of King Charles afterward to sell this region. William Penn and his successors in their dealings with the natives treated the charter which he had received from the king of England as a grant of the right of pre-emption only, and by treaties and purchases at different times extinguished the Indian title to such portions of the province as were required for settlement by reason of the influx of immigrants.

In 1732, by a deed to John, Thomas and Richard Penn, the title was acquired to all the lands "lying on or near the river Schuylkill or any of the branches, streams, fountains, or springs thereof," between the "Lechaig hills" and the "Keekachtanemin hills" (Blue or Kittatinny mountains), and between the branches of the Delaware on the eastern and those of the western side; and in 1736 a deed was executed to the same proprietaries of the Susquehanna river and all lands on both sides of it "eastward as far as the heads of the branches or springs which run into the Susquehanna, and all the lands lying on the west side of the said river to the setting of the sun, and to extend from the mouth of said river northward up the same to the hills or mountains called in the language of the said (Six) nations Tyannutasacha or Endless hills, and by the Delaware Indians the Kekkachtanamin hills."

These deeds included the territory between the affluents of the Delaware and the Susquehanna rivers below the blue or Kittatinny mountains, which form the southern boundary of Schuylkill county. By a deed executed August 22nd, 1749, by representatives of the six nations and the Delaware, Shamokin and Shawnee Indians of Pennsylvania, the territory which includes Schuylkill county (excepting the northern part of Union township, which was included in the purchase of 1768) was conveyed to the Pennsylvania proprietaries for $500 "lawful money of Pennsylvania." the trace was thus described:

"Beginning at the hills or mountains called in the language of the five nation Indians the Tyannutasacha or Endless Hills, and by the Delaware Indians the Keckachany Hills, on the east side of the river Susquehannah, being in the northwest line or boundary of the land formerly purchased by the said proprietaries from the said Indian nations by their deed of the eleventh day of October, Anno Dom, one thousand seven hundred and thirty-six; and from thence running up the said river by the several courses thereof to the first or nearest mountain to the north side of the mouth of the creek called in the language of the said five nation Indians Cantagny, and in the language of the Delaware Indians Maghonioy; and from thence extending by a direct or straight line to be run from the said mountain on the north side of the said creek to the main branch of Delaware river at the north side of the mouth of the creek Sechawchsin; and from thence to return across Sechawchsin creek aforesaid, down the river Delaware by the several courses thereof to the Kekachtam hills afore-
In 1776 the people of the province of Pennsylvania threw off the proprietary government and adopted a state constitution; then, by a series of acts the last of which was passed January 28th, 1779, the estates of the proprietaries under the charter were vested in the commonwealth, and the feudal relation which the charter created was entirely sundered. This act was similar in its character to the Declaration of Independence, and like that declaration its force depended on the success of the Revolution. It appears that manorial lands had been held and sold in this county prior to the Revolution, and that individuals had acquired titles to other lands from the proprietaries; but the titles to most of the lands in the county were obtained from the State by procuring warrants directed to the surveyor general and by him transmitted to the deputy surveyor of the district, authorizing a survey of the lands described in the applications for the warrants. On the return of these warrants and compliance with all the prescribed conditions patents or letters patent (open letters) were granted, conveying the title in fee simple to the patentee. This has been the usual method of acquiring titles from the State. It is hardly necessary to speak of titles acquired by location, by settlement or by improvement. Warrants were not granted to one person at the same time for larger tracts than four hundred acres, but to evade this regulation, speculators often made applications for lands in different names and made the necessary transfers afterward, thus acquiring titles to large tracts.

Before the mineral wealth that lies beneath the surface here was known many lands were sold for arrears of taxes. Of these some that were purchased at two or three cents per acre have now a value per acre of $1,000 or more.

When the first settlers penetrated the region north from the Blue mountain, or who those settlers were, is not known. It has always been true that the pioneers of civilization have pushed forward in advance of treaties, and located at their own peril where advantages of soil, climate, or other circumstances served to invite. The region south from Blue mountain, now Berks county, had many settlers previous to the extinguishment of the Indian title in 1736, and that portion of Schuylkill between Blue and Second mountains is known to have been settled by many whites before its purchase in 1749. Early in that year a grand council of the Six Nations at Onondaga had a deputation of chiefs from each of these nations go to Philadelphia and represent, among other things, that settlements had been made by the whites on this side of the Blue mountain. They said:

"As our boundaries are so well known and so remarkably distinguished by a high range of mountains we could not suppose this could be done by mistake; but either it must be done wickedly, by bad people, without the knowledge of the governor, or the new governor has brought some instructions from the king or the proprietaries relating to this affair whereby we are to be much hurt. The governor will be pleased to tell us whether he has brought any orders from the king or proprietaries for these people to settle our lands; and if not we earnestly desire that they be made to remove instantly, with all their effects, to prevent the sad consequences which will otherwise ensue."

North from Second mountain there was nothing then to invite settlement. The existence of coal was not known. No demand had arisen for the lumber which that region was capable of affording, and the surface was too rugged and mountainous for successful agriculture. Here and there might be found the solitary cabin of an adventurous hunter, whom the abundance of game had attracted hither, but nothing more.

Of the early settlers in that part of Schuylkill county south from Second mountain it is known that George Godfried Orwig and Glora, his wife, had come from Germany in 1747 and settled at Sculp Hill, a short distance south from Orwigsburg, which was founded by Peter Orwig, a son of this pioneer couple, in 1796. Some of the descendants of this family still reside in the region. Of other early settlers it is known that Thomas Reed came as early as 1750, a family named Yeager about 1762, and that Martin Dreibelbis had erected a saw-mill and grist-mill at what is now Schuylkill Haven just before the Revolution.

But one dwelling house is known to have been erected in the last century in what are now the coal districts of the county. This was the log house of a Mr. Neiman, whose family was massacred by the Indians about the close of the Revolution. A sawmill was erected at Pottsville prior to 1800, and another near St. Clair by George Orwig. This was operated without the establishment of a residence there. Provisions for a week were taken to the mill by the workmen, who were thus enabled to manufacture all the lumber which the exigencies of the times required. Probably other mills were built and operated in the same way.

As before stated, the population north from Blue mountain was very sparse at the time of the Revolutionary war, and no revolutionary history of the region if preserved. There are traditions of a few Indian murders and massacres, which are noticed in the histories of the localities where they occurred; but aside from these the region which Schuylkill county includes was not the theatre of hostile operations. What was termed the "Tory path" traversed the county from southeast to northwest. Possibly it may have been an old Indian trail, but its name is suggestive of its use during the Revolution.

In the war of 1812 Schuylkill was represented in the armies of the country by many recruits, but accurate lists of them cannot now be obtained.
An act of erecting a part of the counties of Berks and Northampton into a separate county was approved March 18th, 1811, by Governor Simon Snyder. The preamble to this act recites that "the inhabitants of the northern part of Berks and Northampton counties have, by their petitions, set forth to the General Assembly of this State the great hardships they labor under from being so remote from the present seat of justice and the public offices." The first section of the act reads: "Be it enacted * * * * that all that part of Berks county lying and being within the limits of the following townships, to wit: the townships of Brunswick, Schuylkill, Manheim, Norwegian, Upper Mahantongo, Lower Mahantongo, and Pine Grove, in Berks county, and the townships of West Penn and rush in Northampton county, be, and the same are, according to their present lines, declared to be erected into a county, henceforth to be called Schuylkill."

The townships of Brunswick, Manheim and Lower Mahantongo have been cut into other townships and boroughs, consequently their names do not now exist. The division lines and territories of North Manheim and Norwegian townships were changed and confirmed by the Court September 14th, 1861.

By an act passed March 3d, 1818, the territory bounded as follows was annexed to Schuylkill county as Union township: "all that part of Columbia and Luzerne counties lying within the following lines, viz.: beginning at a corner in the line dividing the County of Columbia from the county of Schuylkill; thence, extending through the township of Catawissa, north ten degrees east, four miles and a half, to a pine tree on the little mount; thence, extending through the townships of Catawissa and Mifflin, north forty-five degrees east, five miles, to a stone on Bucks mount and in a line dividing the township of Schuylkill from the County of Luzerne; thence, through the township of Sugar Loaf, in the County of Luzerne, south seventy degrees east, eight miles, to the line between the County of Schuylkill and the county of Luzerne; thence along the said line and the line between the County of Columbia and the County of Schuylkill, to the place of beginning."

As thus constituted, the county has a length of about 30 miles, an average breadth of 24 1/2, and an area of about 745 square miles.

The act provided that until a court-house was erected the courts should be held at the house of Abraham Reiffnyder, in the township of Brunswick. In accordance with this provision the first court was held in the east room in this house (then, as since, a tavern), on the third Monday of December in 1811. Judge Porter, of the third judicial district, which consisted of Wayne, Schuylkill, Berks and Northampton counties, presided at this court, and George Rausch and Daniel Yost sat as associate justices. The constables in attendance were Christian Kaup, Brunswig; Jacob Emrich, Manheim; Isaac Reed, Norwegian; Christopher Barnhard, Pine Grove; Peter Rahrl, Upper Mahantongo; Joseph Keffer, Lower Mahantongo, George Olinger, Schuylkill. William Green, then high sheriff, returned the precept duly executed, and the following persons were sworn as the first grand inquest: B. Kepner, George Body, Jacob Houser, A. Yost, P. Fegley, Tobias Wagner, Isaac Yarnell, P. Kaup, Con. Roeder, D. Fenstermacher, D. Bensinger, P. Albright, Joseph Hecke, Joseph Old, A. Hoffer, John Hock, D. Graeff, George Hillegas, A. Gilbert, P. Siedel, and Conrad Yeager.

The following attorneys were admitted: George Wolf, Charles Evans, Fred. Smith, William Witman, James B. Hubley, John Spayd, John W. Collins, M.J. Biddle, Samuel Baird, and John Ewing.

It is remembered that Frederick Hesser, father of Henry Hesser of Schuylkill Haven, was the crier of the court, which continued to be held at this house till the erection of a courthouse. He had been a drummer boy in the Revolutionary war, and he was accustomed to announce the assembling of the court by beating his drum under the window of the court room.

The act made Berks and Schuylkill a legislative district, and Berks, Chester, Lancaster and Schuylkill counties a Congressional district. It also provided for the appointment by the governor of three commissioners, not citizens of Berks or Northampton, to fix the location of the seat of justice. Governor Snyder appointed as such commissioners J. Andrew Schultz, Daniel Montgomery, and Mr. Clark.

McKeansburg, Schuylkill Haven, and Orwigsburg were rival candidates, with claims nearly equally balanced. It is said that Peter Frailey, Daniel Graeff, John Kobb, John Dreher, Phillip Hoy and others induced the owners of saw-mills on the Mahannah creek, which runs near the borough, to detain the water in their mill ponds for a time; and when the commissioners were at Orwigsburg, at a preconcerted signal (the blowing of a horn) they hoisted their flood gates, and the stream, swollen in consequence, so strongly impressed the commissioners with the manufacturing facilities of the place they they decided in its favor.

The population of Schuylkill county when it was erected, in 1811, was between 6,000 and 7,000. In 1820 it was 11,311; in 1830, 20,744; in 1840, 29,053; in 1850, 60,713; in 1860, 89,510; in 1870, 116,428; and in 1880, 128,784. The increase by decades is thus seen to be: from 1811 to 1820, about 5,000; 1820-30, 9,433; 1830-40, 8,309; 1840-50, 31,660; 1850-60, 28,797; 1860-70, 26,918; 1870-80, 12,356.

At the time of the incorporation of the county the only avenue of travel and transportation, except the old Sunbury road, was the Center turnpike, which was then little more than passable. It was rapidly improved, and
soon became an important thoroughfare. The river was utilized for the transportation of lumber. About the year 1825 the Schuylkill navigation was completed, and in 1842 the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad was extended to Pottsville, affording still greater facilities for the transportation of the rapidly increasing product of the coal mines.

By reference to the foregoing statement of the increase of population, it will be seen that the greatest rate of increase was during the decade following 1840, in which the number was more than doubled. The influx of people during those years resembled that of adventurers to the oil regions of this State, or to the gold mines of the west.

During this rapid increase of population the project was conceived of forming a new county. The Miners' Journal of January 30th, 1841, stated: "petitions have been presented to the legislature for the formation of a new county out of parts of Schuylkill, Dauphin, and Northumberland. The new county will embrace the two Mahantongos. We go in for the new county. The Mahantongos have always been an expense to Schuylkill, and the sooner they are cut off the better."

In 1853 the project was agitated of forming a new county, to be called Anthracite, out of the eastern portion of Schuylkill and southern part of Luzerne. At a meeting held at Tamaqua a committee was appointed to circulate for signatures petitions for the erection of such a county.

Judges.-From 1811 to 1851 the judges were appointed by the governor. Robert Porter, Samuel D. Franks, Calvin Blythe, James M. Porter, Anson V. Parsons, Nathaniel B. Eldred and Luther Kidder were appointed consecutively. Charles W. Higgin, elected in 1850, died, and Edward Owen Parry was appointed. During James Ryan's term the act providing for an additional law judge went into effect. Henry S. Souther filled that office by appointment until the election of Thomas H. Walker, 1871. An act of Assembly in 1867 established the first district of criminal jurisdiction, including Schuylkill, Dauphin and Lebanon counties, and Colonel D.B. Green was appointed to preside. In October, 1867, Judge Green was elected as his own successor, judge of the court. When this court was abolished by the constitution of 1871 Judge Green was made judge of common pleas of Schuylkill county for the remainder of his term. Cyrus L. Pershing was elected president judge in 1872; O.P. Bechtel second additional law judge in 1877.

Other county officers and representatives have been elected as follows:

Sheriffs.-William Green, 1811; Frederick Hesser, 1814; Benjamin Christ, 1817; George Rahn, 1820-1831; Matthias Dreher, 1823; John Rausch, 1823; Samuel Huntzinger, 1825; Charles Frailey, 1828; Henry Rausch, 1834; Peter F. Ludwig, 1837; J.T. Woolison, 1840; Jeremiah Reed, 1843; John T. Werner, 1846; Christian M. Straub, 1849; James Nagle, 1852; William Matz, 1855; John P. Hobart, 1858; John Rausch, 1861; Michael Horan, 1864; George C. Whykoop, 1867; Charles W. Pitman, 1870; James I. Pitman, 1871; J. Frank Werner, 1874; William J. Matz, 1877.

Prothonotaries.-James McFarland, 1811; Philip Frailey, 1817; Jacob Dreibelbies, 1819; Henry W. Conrad, 1821; Peter Frailey, 1824; Jacob Hammer, 1827; Lewis Aduenreid, 1836; George Rahn, 1839; Charles Frailey, 1842-1860; Christian M. Straub, 1845; Thomas Mills, 1848; John Harlan, 1851; Samuel Huntzinger, 1854; Daniel H. Shoener, 1857; Joseph M. Feger, 1863; Thomas J. McCamant, 1866; William J. Matz, 1869; Hiram Moyer, 1872; Thomas F. Kerns, 1875-1878.

Treasurers.-Daniel Graeff, 1812; John Hammer, 1815; Jacob Huntzinger, 1818, 1822; John Schall, 1819, 1825, 1832; Joseph Hammer, 1828; Joseph Ottinger, 1834; John M. Briel, 1838; Jacob Huntzinger, Jr., 1840; Henry Shoemaker, 1844; Henry Krebs, 1846; B.C. Christ, 1848; F.B. Haercher, 1850; George D. Boyer, 1852; Isaac Ward, 1854; Samuel K.M. Keepner, 1856; William Bickel, 1858; James R. Cleaver, 1860; Joseph H. Ruhards, 1862; Henry J. Hendler, 1864; William B. Rady, 1866; Ondad Seltzer, 1868; Edward Bradley, 1870; George A. Herring, 1872; Daniel Barlow, 1874; Cyrus Moore, 1876; Louis Sstoffregen, 1879.

Commissioners (term of office three years).-Abraham Angstadt, John Ruth, and John Zebner, elected in 1811; John Hammer, Conrad Kernsler, George Kimmel, 1812; George Orwig, 1813; Benjamin Christ, 1814; Henry Straub, Christopher Boyer, 1815; Daniel Focht, 1816; Christian Brobst, 1817; Jacob Hehn, 1818; Philip Foegly, 1819; John Pott, Abraham Reifsnider, 1820; John Seltzer, 1822; John Reed, Abraham Angstadt, 1823; John Gehner, 1824; Henry Shoemaker, 1825; Ludwig Berger, 1826; John Matz, 1824; Henry Ege, Samuel Haine, 1829; David Turner, 1831; George Reed, 1832; William Mortimer, 1833; John Brans, 1834; John Shoener, 1835; Philip Osman, 1836; Adam Focht, 1837; Abraham Boughner, Benjamin Pott, 1838; Benjamin Lantzer, Edward O'Conner, 1839; George Seitzinger, George Boyer, 1841; Samuel R. Medlar, 1842; George Moser, 1843; Henry Zimmerman, 1844; Frederick Beck, William Wagner, 1845; George H. Stichter, 1846; Lewis Rhee, 1847; Isaac Betz, 1848; William Frailey, 1849; Michael Fritz, 1850; Thomas Foster, 1851; George Hartline, 1852; Jacob Kline, Isaac Straub, 1853; Andrew H. Wilson, 1855; David Lengle, 1856; Philip Boyer, 1857; Edward O'Conner, 1858; Samuel Kaufman, 1859; Evan J. Thomas, 1860; Daniel B. Althouse, 1861; Robert Wall, Edward O'Conner, 1862; David Foley, Charles Springer, 1863; Elijah Zeiglar, 1863; Benjamin Evert, George Wilson, 1866; Edward Kerns, 1867; Patrick Dormer, 1868; Peter Miller, 1870; Valentine Benner, 1872; Moses Hine, 1873; Patrick Conry, 1874; Morgan W. Fehr, Lewis Blass, Patrick Collins, 1875; Samuel Garret, Daniel Beyer, A.J. Shorttall, 1878.

Register of Wills, clerk of the Orphans' Court, and Recorder offices combined until 1857.-James McFarland, elected 1811; Philip Frailey, 1818; Jacob Dreibelbies, 1819; Francis B. Nichols, 1821; Peter Frailey, 1824; Charles Frailey, 1831; Samuel Huntzinger, 1833; Joseph Morgan, 1836; Jacob Hammer, 1838; John H. Downing, 1842; Samuel Guss, 1845; Daniel Kercher, 1848; Lewis Reeser, 1851; Joshua Boyer, 1854.

Recorders.-Levi Huber, 1857; Dennis Maher, 1860; Benjamin F. Griffith, 1863; Martin Schaefer, 1866; Ernst F. Jungkurtz, 1869; J. Webber, 1872; Adam Hartwig, 1875; John A. Reilly, 1878.

Register of Wills and clerk of Orphans' Court.-Jacob
Feger, 1857; Joseph Bowen, 1860; Adolph Dohrmann, 1863; Charles McGee, 1869; Benjamin F. Cranshan, 1872; Richard Rahn, 1873, 1878.

Clerk of the Courts.-This office was combined with that of prothonotary until 1857. Since 1857 Charles A. Rahn, James Glenn, Charles F. Rahn, and O.J. Aregood have served.

State of Representatives (Schuylkill and Berks one district from 1812 to 1828, since then Schuylkill one district).-Jacob Krebs, 1812, 1813; Jacob Dreiblebis, 1814; Christian Haldeman, 1815; Michael Graeff, 1816, 1825; John W. Roseberry, 1819; Jacob Rhan, 1820; William Audenreid, 1822, 1823; George Rhan, 1824, 1826, 1829; Samuel Huntziner, 1830, 1831, 1832; Charles Frailey, 1833, 1855; Henry D. Conrad, 1834, 1835; Jacob Hammer, 1836, 1844, 1853; Daniel Krebs, 1834; William Mortimer, 1838; Augustus Holmes, 1840; John Deaver, 1841; Christian N. Straub, 1842, 1844; Abraham Hubner, 1843; James Taggart, 1845, 1846; George Boyer, 1845, 1846, 1848; Samuel Kaufman, 1847; Alexander W. Leyburn, 1847, 1848; John A. Otto, John W. Roseberry, 1849; Nicholas Jones, 1850; William J. Dobbins, 1850, 1851; John S. Struthers, 1851; Stephen Ringer, Bernard Reiley, 1852; John Horn, jr., 1853, 1854; Samuel Hipple, 1854, 1856; Benjamin Christ, 1855; William R. Lebo, 1856, 1857; George Wagonseller, 1857; Charles D. Hippie, 1858; Michael Weaver, 1858, 1864, 1865; T.R. L. Ebur, 1858; Cyrus L. Pinkerton, 1859, 1860; John S. Boyer, 1859, 1860; P.R. Palm, 1859; Joseph R. Maurer, 1860; Henry Huhn, Daniel Koch, Lit Bartholomew, 1861; James Ryon, 1862; Lewis C. Dougherty, 1862; Adam Wolf, 1862, 1863; Edward Kerns, 1863, 1864; Conrad Graber, 1863, 1864; John Dormer, Joshua Boyer, 1865; Kennedy Robinson, 1866, 1867; John M. Crossland, 1866; P.F. Collins, 1866, 1867; Philip Breen, 1867, 1869; Edward Kearns, Michael Beard, 1868, 1869; D.E. Nise, 1868, 1869; James Ellis, 1870, 1871; J. Irvin Steele, 1870, 1871; F.W. Snyder, 1870; Francis McKeon, 1871; Wallace Guss, 1872; Charles F. King, 1872, 1873; W.H. Uhler, 1872; Thomas Egan, 1873, 1874; Benjamin Kaufman, 1873; John W. Morgan, Frederick L. Foster, 1874. After 1874 the following members of the House of Representatives were elected for two years, under the new constitution: 1875-1st district, John W. Morgan; 2nd, Charles J. Loudenslager; 3d, Joshua Boyer; 4th, S.A. Losch, William J. Lewis, Frederick L. Foster; 1877-1st, John W. Morgan; 2nd, David J. McKibben; 3d, Willoughby C. Felthoff; 4th, John M. Kauffman, Decius H. Wilcox, W. Ramsay Potts; 1879-1st, Patrick Conry; 2nd, John F. Welsh; 3d, I.T. Shoener; 4th, S.C. Kirk, C. Palsgrave, Clay W. Evans.

State Senators (Schuylkill and Berks one district 1812-35; Schuylkill and Columbia, 1836-43; Schuylkill, Carbon, Monroe and Pike, 1844-49; Schuylkill, 1850-74; and since then two districts).-Peter Frailey, 1812, 1816; James B. Hubley, 1820; William Audenreid, 1823; Jacob Krebs, 1828; Charles Frailey, 1836, 1850; Francis W. Hughes, 1844; George Rahn (to fill vacancy occasioned by the resignation of F.W. Hughes), 1845; John Hendricks, 1853; Christian Straub, 1856; Robert M. Palmer, 1859; Richard Reilly, 1862; William M. Randall, 1865, 1868, 1871; Oliver P. Bechtel, 1874; John P. Cobhan, 1875; Luther R. Keefer, 1877; William L. Torbett, 1877; John Parker, 1879.

In 1812, Schuylkill and Berks constituted a Congressional district; in 1822, Schuylkill, Berks and Lehigh; in 1832, Schuylkill and Lehigh; in 1842, Schuylkill, Dauphin and Lebanon; in 1852, Schuylkill and Northumberland; in 1862, Schuylkill and Lebanon; and in 1874, Schuylkill alone. From this county the following congressmen have been elected; Edward B. Hubley, 1834, 1836; George N. Eckert, 1846; Charles D. Pitman, 1848; Christian M. Straub, 1852; James H. Campbell, 1854; Myer Strouse, 1858, 1860; Henry L. Cake, 1863, 1868; James B. Reilly, 1874, 1876; John W. Ryon, 1878.

CHAPTER VIII

PUBLIC BUILDINGS-REMOVAL OF THE SEAT OF JUSTICE
THE COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

As elsewhere stated the first courts in Schuylkill county were held at the tavern of Abraham Reiffschneider, in Orwigsburg. The first court-house was erected in that borough, in 1815. It was of brick, two stories high, about 40 by 50. The court room was on the first floor, and the jury rooms and public offices in the second story. The mason work was done by John Kreter, the joiner work and painting by William Wildermuth and the plastering by John Downing. The cost of the building was $5,000. The first court was held in it in the spring of 1816. A bell was presented by Samuel Bell, of Reading, and it still swings "in its ancient turret high," where it does duty by calling the hands in a shoe manufactory to their work and announcing the hours to the people of the borough. It bears the inscription "Thomas W. Levering, founder, Philadelphia, 1817."

In 1827 a building for the public offices was erected. It was of brick, about thirty feet in the rear of the court-house and it had about the same dimensions. It contained two fire-proof vaults. In 1846 an extension was added to the court-house, filling the space between it and the public offices. Thus covering the whole into one building.

By the terms of the act of removal the public buildings in Orwigsburg were to be held by the borough for school purposes. In 1854 an academy called the Arcadian Institute was established, and the court-house was used for this school. The institute having failed, an act was passed by the Legislature in 1870 appointing S.R. Midlar, Christian Berger and S.H. Madden commissioners to sell or lease the old court-house and public offices. In accordance with the provisions of this act these commissioners in 1873 leased this building for the term of 99 years to the Orwigsburg Shoe Manufacturing Company.

According to the terms of the act of removal the citizens of Pottsville were to erect or cause to be erected a court-house and public offices within three years from the passage of the act. On the first of February, 1848, a meeting of the citizens was held, and Solomon Foster, Samuel Sillyman, Samuel Thompson, William Major and Abraham Meisse were appointed a committee to superin-
tend the erection of the court-house and to give to the county the security required by law. At a subsequent meeting the project was
discussed of purchasing the Methodist church for a court-house, but this was abandoned, and it was resolved to build on the site selected
by the commissioners named in the act. A lot was purchased in the north part of the borough, between Second and Third streets, from the
estate of George Farquar; and the work of demolishing the buildings thereon and making the necessary excavations was entered on in
October, 1849. Contributions in work and materials, as well as money, were received, and all the work was done under the superintend-
dence of Isaac Severn.

The total cost of the structure, including a bell of 1,623 pounds and a town clock, was about $30,000. The building is 123 by 37
feet; two stories in height. The second story is divided into a court room 87 1/2 by 54, and 21 feet in height, and four jury rooms, a
consultation room and a library. The judges of the court in May, 1851, certified to the commissioners the satisfactory condition of the
court-house, and in December, 1851, the grand inquest reported the new court-house built by the citizens, every way satisfactory. They
particularly commended the court room for its neatness of finish and workmanship, and suggested some important additions to the plan of
the room and the arrangement of the grounds. The removal of the public records from Orwigsburg to this house was completed December
12, 1851.

The project of removing the seat of justice to Pottsville was agitated as early as 1831. At a meeting held at the Exchange Hotel,
November 19th of that year, it was set forth in a preamble that the location of the county seat at Orwigsburg subjected the people in some
parts of the county to inconveniences, and that a majority would be accommodated by its removal to Pottsville. It was therefore "resolved
that it is expedient to take measures immediately to effect the removal of the seat of justice to Pottsville." another resolution appointed
Benjamin Pott, Burd Patterson, Thomas Silleryman, Jacob Seitzinger and John C. Offerman a committee to solicit subscriptions to defray
the expense of erecting public buildings. At another meeting, December 3d, this committee reported that a sufficient sum was ready.

At a meeting held in the court-house in Orwigsburg January 21st, 1832, resolutions were adopted opposing and denouncing this project of removal by the "the Idlers" and "lot holders" of Pottsville. No definite action was taken and the project slumbered during ten
years. It was revived in 1842, after the establishment of railroad communication between Pottsville and Philadelphia, but no definite
action was then taken.

Early in 1847, in compliance with the prayer of many petitioners, the Legislature passed an "act concerning the removal of the set
of justice of the county of Schuylkill from Orwigsburg to the borough of Pottsville," and the act was approved March 13th, 1847. It
provided for submitting the question of removal to the qualified voters of the county who had resided therein during six months next
preceding the election in 1847. It also provided that unless the citizens of Pottsville should within three years erect a suitable buildings of brick or stone, for a court-house and public offices, no removal should take place. It directed that a new jail should
be erected at the public expense, the old one having become insufficient for the increasing wants of the county. It provided for the
disposition of the public buildings at Orwigsburg when those at Pottsville be occupied.

William F. Sanders, Augustus Holmes, Joseph F. Taylor, James B. Levan and Joseph Fertig were named in the act commissioners
to "select and procure a suitable lot or lots in the borough of Pottsville" on which to erect the court-house and public offices.

As the time for the election in 1847 approached the advocates and opponents of removal put forth Herculean efforts, the former
to accomplish and the latter to prevent such removal. Meetings were held in various parts of the county, addresses were made, resolutions
were adopted, local prejudice, pride and interest were appealed to, and all the means that could influence voters either way were used. The
result of the vote on the question at the election was 3,551 for removal and 3,092 against it. In accordance with the wish of a majority of
the voters of the county, as expressed at this election, a bill to remove the seat of justice from Orwigsburg to Pottsville was enacted. This act was deemed proper because, although the former law provided for such removal, doubts as to its constitutionality were entertained.

In 1855-6 a conditional contribution was made by the county, in addition to a private subscription by members of the bar, for the
establishment of a law library.

The nucleus of the present collection was formed in the spring of 1856, when a committee of attorneys purchased some four
hundred dollars' worth of books. Acts of Assembly in 1861 and 1867 directed the appropriation of portions of fines and forfeitures for the
purchase of books for this library, under the direction of the judges.

In 1871 an act was passed appointing "the law judges of the courts and three members of the bar, appointed by them, a board of
trustees, with authority to purchase books each year to the amount of $3,000. At the next session of the Legislature a supplementary law
was enacted, on the recommendation of the bench and bar, limited the annual expenditures to $1,000.

The present number of volumes is about 2,000. The board of trustees consists of Hon. Cyrus Pershing, president judge of the
court; Hon. Thomas H. Walker, additional law judge; Hon. Oliver Bechtel, judge of common pleas; James Ellis, Esq., Guy E. Farquar,
Esq., and Christopher Little, Esq., the last being secretary of the board.

Previous to the erection of a jail in Orwigsburg prisoners were kept in the cellar of Reiff's tavern. This cellar was made
in the side of a declivity, and a stump was left at one end. To this stump a ring was
attached by a staple, and slippery prisoners were fastened to it. The stump, with the ring attached, remained till 1850. This cellar proving insufficient a portion of Judge Rausch's house was used for the same purpose, and there it is said prisoners were sometimes fastened to a ring in one of the apartments.

The first jail was built in 1814, by Jacob George and Peter Kutz. It was of field stone, about 32 feet square, two stories in height. By a subsequent addition its length was made some 75 or 80 feet. Some years since, in accordance with the provisions of the act of removal, it was converted into a school-house, which it has since continued to be.

The act for the removal of the seat of justice provided for the erection of a prison in Pottsville at the expense of the county. Early in the year 1850 the commissioners commenced preparations for carrying out this provision of the law. Four lots on Market street were purchased for a site, at a cost of $7,000, and a "water lot" was also purchased, at $500. Plans, specifications and estimates were made, and work was commenced on the building lot, and a reservoir was constructed on the water lot.

In January, 1851, the site on market street was exchanged for that on which the prison stands, in the rear of the court-house, on Sanderson street.

A new plan by Mr. N. LeBrun, the architect for the prison, was adopted, and the work was commenced in the spring of 1851. Isaac Severn was the superintendent of the work. The contractors for the mason work were Hotem & Schoenhar, of Reading; iron work, Thomas, Roson & Johnson, of Norristown, and Linue Egoff, of Hamburg. The commissioners at the commencement of the work were William Frailey, Michael Fritz and Thomas Foster; while it was in progress Messrs. Hartline and Strauch. The total cost was about $70,000.

In 1852 the court decreed that the prison was ready for the reception of prisoners, and the sheriff was ordered to remove hither such as were in the jail at Orwigsburg.

Twenty-four years later, or in 1876, an extension was added to this prison which trebled its capacity. Mr. LeBrun was again the architect. The contractors were: Joseph Dolan for excavation, Samuel Anman for masonry, Fernster & Co., cast and wrought iron, and William Benchley, carpenter work. The extension was completed and occupied in the summer of 1877. The area of ground enclosed by the jail was is two acres and forty-eight perches.

The prison and court-house were supplied with water from the reservoir which was built by the county till 1855, when the pipes and privileges were sold to the Pottsville Water Company, which has since supplied them. July 30th, 1870, the company purchased from the county the water lot, with the reservoir, for $600.

In the eighth annual report of the Board of commissioners of Public Charities, August, 1877, it is said of the Schuylkill county jail:

"This prison has been enlarged and greatly improved. To the 38 cells in the original jail, 86, exclusive of the 6 dungeons in the basement, have been added in the extension built during the past year, making the present cell capacity 124. The new cell block, with the entire interior arrangement built under the direction of Mr. N. LeBrun, the architect of the original prison, surpasses anything I have yet seen in prison architecture in the State. Modeled after the style of the Eastern Penitentiary, the new cell block extends diagonally backwards a distance of 250 feet. The corridor is 15 1/2 feet wide and 10 feet high. The cells are 14 by 9 feet, with a height of 10 feet. Those on the second tier are somewhat higher. The length of the new and old building is nearly 500 feet. The corridors are well lighted by skylights from the top, and their floors are laid in concrete in particular. The floors of concrete in the cells are covered with wooden floors. They have long horizontal windows, by which ample light is secured, and are arranged with corner movable shelf, a seat, registers for heat and ventilation, two doors (one barred one solid), gas lights, iron stairs to second tier and balustrades of the same.

"A quarantine building or hospital has also been erected in the jail yard. It is securely built and is arranged in the best manner. It is two stories high, built of brick, the upper floors being divided into fourteen rooms or cells, the doors and windows of which are arranged in prison style and contain all the conveniences usual in penal institutions. The basement is arranged for laundry work.

"It may with truth be said that the elegant and commodious extension, including the hospital, now finished and occupied, will make this prison complete in every particular.

"The cost for the eighty-six cells and the hospital, including accommodations for assistants, store rooms and steam heating, both for the old and new buildings, is stated to be $116,582, equal to an average cost of $1,618.50 per cell.

"This jail has always been classed among those that are arranged in the best manner. Separation to the largest extent has always been enforced. Cleanliness and good order are enforced. The financial condition is shown to be favorable. The average cost of maintenance per day for the year 1876 is reported to have been sixteen cents."

"There are in this prison twenty-two looms for weaving carpets, and from ten to fifteen convicts constantly employed in making shoes."

Previous to the incorporation of Schuylkill county as a poor district the poor of each township or borough were let out to the lowest bidder to be cared for, as was the practice in many other counties.

By an act of Assembly approved April 4th, 1831, the county of Schuylkill was made a poor district, and John C. Offerman, Michael Graeff, Samuel R. Kepner, John Barr, John Hughes, Simon Marborger and William Griff were named in the act commissioners to select and purchase a site for a house of employment for the poor of the district.
On the 9th of April two hundred and twenty-six acres of land on the Center turnpike, in North Manheim township, about one mile
north from Schuylkill Haven, were purchased from Charles Christ for $6,000. To this were added in 1835 forty-two acres purchased from
Benjamin Pott at $1,000, and by subsequent purchases and transfers the farm has come to include about two hundred and eighty-three
acres.

When the farm was first purchased there stood on it a hotel or tavern house (still standing), which was used as an alms-house till
the main building was erected in 1833. This was of brick, 90 by 48, three stories in height. In 1850 a wing used as a nursery, also of brick,
three stories in height, 42 by 32, was built in the rear of the main building, and in 1873 another story was added to the latter.

A stone building two stories in height, 28 by 65, was erected in 1842. It was formerly used for the insane, but it is now a
quarantine, or place for the care of contagious diseases. The infirmary, 80 by 40, of brick, three stories in height above the basement, was
built in 1859. Its apartments are occupied as medical and surgical wards. It possesses the requisite conveniences for institutions of this
kind.

The building for the insane was erected in 1869. It is of brick, three stories high, and covers an area of 82 by 42 feet, with a wing
in the rear 25 by 20 feet. It has some 338 rooms, arranged with special reference to the care of insane cases, and the basement has rooms
for lodging vagrants and tramps. The bakery and laundry, also of brick, two stories in heights, was erected in 1872.

The estimated value of the farm is $34,270, of the main building $50,000; insane department, $28,000; infirmary, $21,000;
laundry and bakery, $5,100; quarantine, $1,200; out buildings, $4,600; total, $144,170.

The barn was erected in 1874. It covers an area of 65 by 120 feet, and has a height of 20 feet above a basement of ten feet. It was
built as a cost of $23,000 plus the expense of boarding in the county prison the commissioners under whose superintendence it was
erected.

Shops of various kinds are standing on the grounds, and airing yards are enclosed for those who are liable to wander. All the
buildings are supplied with water from a reservoir some two miles distant. The barnyard is surrounded by a substantial wall seven feet in
height.

The farm is in an excellent state of cultivation, and everything about the establishment gives evidence of the able and careful
administration of all its affairs. The average number of inmates for 1879 was 614.

The steward of the almshouse is Frederick Beck; matron, Mrs. Frederick Beck; clerk, Benneville Stauffer; physician, Daniel
Decheil, M.D.; keeper of insane, James J. Grant; nurse, Edward Dolan; shoemaker, J.J. Shanbacher; baker, George Huntzicher; superin-
tendent of farm, Uriah Walburn.

A school is constantly taught, under the supervision of the county superintendent. In this school instruction is given to pauper
children in the common branches. The average number of scholars is about thirty.

The first directors of the district were John Snyder, Henry Shoemaker and John A. Offerman. The present directors are James
Bellagher, James Grant and George Kauffman.

CHAPTER IX

WATERWAYS OF THE COUNTY -- LUMBERING AND RAFTING
SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION -- THE UNION CANAL

The timber which constituted the original forest south from Sharp mountain was principally chestnut and white oak. Beech,
birch, maple, poplar and gum were also found, and occasionally a few acres were covered with white pine or hemlock. In the mountainous
regions farther north the valleys were covered with spruce or hemlock, with a thick undergrowth of laurel; then the mountain sides for
about one-third or one-half their height produced white pine. Farther up chestnut, white oak, beech, maple, birch, etc., were found, and on
the very summits of the mountain ridges yellow or pitch pine was the prevalent timber.

The pine and hemlock timber was valuable for lumber, and the first settlers of the region, except a few hunters, came hither to
avail themselves of this source of wealth. Saw-mills were erected at convenient points on the streams; the pine timber was sawed into
boards twelve or sixteen feet in length, and the hemlock mostly into what were termed rails. Fifty years since more than 100 saw-mills
were known to be running in the county. This lumber was arranged in rafts on the sides of the streams, and allowed to lie there ready for
a start when a "fresh" favored.

These rafts were made by laying the boards or other lumber in alternate layers crosswise, each joint or link in the raft having a
length of twelve or sixteen feet, a width of twelve feet and a depth of from twelve to fifteen inches, securely fastened together. On the top
of these links shingles and lath were frequently loaded. From ten to fifteen of these links, or more if they were no more than twelve feet in
length, were fastened together with hickory withes, and the raft thus formed was furnished with a long oar at each end for guiding it
through the windings of the stream. On the occurrence of a favorable freshet the raftsmen, usually two to a raft, hurriedly filled their
wallets with provisions and started on their trip. The distance from the vicinity of Pottsville to Reading was frequently made in seven
hours, and much skill and care was requisite in the management of the rafts. Accidents did not often occur. Below Reading the current was
less rapid and slower progress was made. The rafts were usually sold to lumber merchants at various points between reading and Manayunk.

The completion of the Schuylkill navigation put an end to rafting. The mountains and valleys were long
since denuded of their valuable timber, and nearly all the sawmills have gone to decay. But for the existence of this timber the settlement of Schuylkill county would have been long delayed; for the mineral wealth of the region was not then known and the rocky, rugged mountains and narrow valleys certainly did not invite the labor of the agriculturist. A few hunters only would have been attracted by the abundance of game and fish.

The Schuylkill Navigation Company was incorporated by an act of Assembly approved by Governor Simon Snyder March 8th, 1815. The purpose of the company was, by the combination of a system of canals and slack-water navigation, to utilize the water of the Schuylkill river between Philadelphia and this region for the transportation of lumber, merchandise, produce, etc., which passed over the Center turnpike, and the coal which some then though would become an important article of trade.

In the act James McFarland, John Pott, Daniel Graeff, George Dreibelbis and John Mollowney, of the county of Schuylkill, were appointed members of the commission for opening books and receiving subscriptions to the stock of the company. The act provided that books should be opened in Orwigsburg and kept open ten days, or till one thousand shares of fifty dollars each were subscribed.

Work was commenced and the first dam built on this navigation at Mount Carbon, in the spring of 1817. Many of the first dam were built by Lewis Wernwag under contract. Some of the locks were constructed by employees of the company under its engineer and superintendents. The excavations for the sections of canal along the river were usually done by contract. During the summer of 1817 the canal and slackwater was made navigable between Mount Carbon and Schuylkill Haven. Niel Crosby, John Curry, ----Crowley, James Lanigan and George Duncan are remembered as contractors on this portion of the work.

In the spring of 1818 a freshet carried away the dams and destroyed the inlet locks that had been built the previous season. The work of rebuilding these was done under an engineer named Cooley, who adopted a plan different from that of his predecessor; and though his dams were injured by the great freshet of 1850, they were not carried away. The locks were built under the superintendence of Jacob Beck. During the spring and summer of 1818 work was commenced along the entire line through the county. Among the contractors who did work in this county are remembered. Ritter, Christian and Klein, who excavated a section below Auburn; Chope and the brothers Job, Sampson and Solomon Judge, who cut the tunnel near Auburn—a work that was said at the time to require patience, strength and wisdom; one Crowley, also below Auburn and several places above; Lord, a dam and piece of canal near Port Clinton; and Archton and Peard, two dams above Port Clinton.

The work was not completed so that navigation to any extent was practicable till 1821. During that season what were termed "flats" ran as far as Hamburg in the canal and river, and from there to Cooley's dam, five miles below Reading, they floated in the river, which was too shallow to carry canal boats. Below this dam, which was twenty-two feet in height, the river was used again to Phoenixville, below which the canal was completed to Philadelphia.

It was not till 1824 that the work was completed so that boats ran the entire length. As late as 1826 no horse or mule power was used for towing boats. Through the canals boats were towed by men at the end of long lines. Sticks were fastened by the middle to the ends of the lines, and these were places by two men against their breasts or shoulders, and thus they towed the boats, in place of the teams that were afterwards used. In the river the boats were propelled by oars or setting poles, and a trip from Mount Carbon to Philadelphia and back often required six weeks for its accomplishment.

It is a remarkable fact that in 1824 Abraham Pott took a load of coal—28 tons—to Philadelphia, and on offering to pay the toll at Reading it was found that, although rates were fixed on every other article, even to a bushel of hickory nuts, coal was not named in the list, and he paid no toll bill afterward.

In 1827 the work of extending the navigation to the mouth of Mill creek was commenced, and it was completed in 1828. In a pamphlet published under the sanction of the managers in 1852 it was stated:

"The works originally constructed were, of course, in accordance with the supposed wants of the trade. The whole line of navigation was completed of sufficient capacity to pass boats of 28 to 30 tons burden.

"Increase of business obligated the managers afterwards to extend their plans. The canals and the slackwater pools were deepened from time to time; the locks originally constructed were replaced by larger ones and an entire double set was made, so that boats of 80 tons could pass freely through the whole line. This was substantially the condition of the works as early as 1832. The single item of coal tonnage had then increased to over 200,000 tons, and the annual receipts of the company to over $280,000.

"For the next ten years, from 1832 to 1842, the affairs of the institution were in the full tide of prosperity. The business gradually swelled to over 500,000 tons and receipts to four, five and six hundred thousand dollars. Ample dividends were made, and shares which cost originally $50 were sold as high as $175 and even $180.

"Another enlargement was made in 1846, under the belief that it cost just about as much to bring down a boat laden with 80 tons as it would to bring down one laden with 180 or even 200 tons."

The two memorable floods of 1850 did such injury to this navigation that legislative action was deemed necessary, and on the 7th of April, 1852, an act was passed for the protection of the creditors of the Schuylkill Navigation Company. The preamble to the act set forth that "by reason of the devastations of floods the said company is unable to meet its liabilities, and the creditors thereof have petitioned for such legislation as will justly and equitably protect all the creditors for their respective claims," and the act appointed the president and managers trustees of the corporation.
This navigation was during many years the only avenue of transportation between the anthracite coal fields and tide water; and within the limits of its corporate powers the company was able to control the transportation and influence the trade of the region. The original charter fixed such limits to these powers that the interests of the people were well guarded, but the company early sought to procure legislation that would extend and enlarge their corporate privileges and enable them more and more to control the increasing trade and industry of the region in their own interest. With a wise prevision of the evils that would result from granting the coveted extensions of the company's franchises the people for many years successfully resisted these efforts, although some of the original restrictions with reference to tolls and dividends were removed.

By a supplement to their charter, passed February 1st, 1821, the company were prohibited from purchasing coal lands, entering into the coal trade, or engaging directly or indirectly in the transportation of merchandise, lumber, coal, grain, flour, or any other article, or creating any monopoly of such trade or transportation.

It was not till 1845 that the persistent efforts of the company to obtain an extension of their chartered privileges were rewarded with partial success. By an act approved February 14th of that year, the company were empowered to "build, or procure to be built, and own boats for the transportation of freight upon their navigation, and to sell or rent such boats to individuals." They were by this act prohibited from owning boat-yards or workshops or from becoming themselves transported.

Fourteen years later, or in 1859, another concession was made. A supplement, approved April 5th of that year, authorized the company "to contract for the transportation of anthracite coal and other articles upon their navigation, and to and from points beyond the same, and to include the charge for such transportation in their charge for tolls."

Finally it was enacted, March 21st, 1865, "that from and after the passage of this further supplement the president, managers and company of the Schuylkill Navigation Company shall have power to build in their own shops all such new railroad cars as may be needed for the transportation in their charge for tolls." So strong was the conservative sentiment of the people in Schuylkill county, and so carefully did they guard against the encroachments of the monopolies that have since absorbed many important interest, that nearly half a century was required for the acquisition by this company of the powers which it finally came to possess.

In 1870 the navigation was leased for the term of 99 years to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, and in 1878 that portion of it between the mouth of Mill creek and Schuylkill Haven was abandoned. The navigation has a capacity downward of 2,000,000 tons per year.

The Union canal, which was designed to connect the waters of the Susquehanna and Schuylkill, and through the latter to make a connection with the Delaware, was one of the earliest chartered corporations in the State.

In 1828 the project was conceived of constructing a dam across Swatara gap for the purpose of a reservoir for this canal. The citizens along the Swatara creek objected that this dam would destroy their facilities for rafting lumber to Jonestown, which was then their market. In order to obviate this objection it was proposed to make a slackwater navigation in the Swatara from Pine Grove and pass the dam by a series of locks. In attempting to execute this project it was found more practicable to construct a canal along the Swatara in Schuylkill county, and it was accordingly done, with the exception of about two miles of slackwater near the county line, in what was the little dam. Work was commenced on the dam in the gap in the fall of 1828, and during the year 1829 operations were prosecuted along the entire line. The canal was so far completed that boats passed through it to Pine Grove November 22nd, 1830, and on the 3d of December the same year the first boat left Pine Grove for Philadelphia. No dams, except for feeders, were built above the little dam spoken of. Between Pine Grove and the slackwater above the little dam there were four locks, with an aggregate fall of about thirty-two feet.

Difficulty was experienced in obtaining possession of the stream to construct a dam for the upper feeder, and the citizens turned out with their teams on a Saturday night, and, out of straw, hemlock brush, stones and earth, made a dam, which they completed before midnight. It is a remarkable fact that, though floods have carried away the other dams on this stream, the remains of this are still to be found.

This canal as first constructed was capable of bearing boats with a capacity of 28 tons, which was at first found to be sufficient for the trade of the region. As the coal production increased greater facilities for its transportation were required, and in 1851 the canal was enlarged so as to float boats of 80 tons burden.

The year previous to this enlargement, or in 1850, another dam was built across the Little Swatara, to form an additional reservoir for the Union canal. This was a high dam, and it flowed an area of several hundred acres. In June, 1862, a freshet carried away all the dams and greatly damaged the canal. The dams were never rebuilt, but by an act of the legislature the canal was afterward vacated and the right of way was sold to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company.
CHAPTER X

EARLY WAGON ROADS
CONSTRUCTION OF THE CENTER TURNPIKE
STAGE LINES

The old Sunbury road, which was established in 1770, ran between Reading and Sunbury. It was the route over which people occasionally passed between Fort Augusta and Philadelphia. It could hardly be dignified by the name of a road, for it was scarcely passable except on horseback. From Port Clinton it ran to Schuylkill forge, some two miles; thence in a serpentine course to Orwigsburg; then to Schuylkill Haven; thence to Pottsville over nearly the route of the Center turnpike, thought it crossed the river only seven times; then through Minersville to Deep Creek valley, about five miles west from Ashland; thence over Locust mountain toward Sunbury. The commissioners appointed by the council "to view and lay out this road" through Schuylkill (then Berks) county were "George Webb, Jonathan Lodge, Henry Miller, Henry Shoemaker, John Webb, Isaac Willets, and Job Hughes, or any four of them." It was never much improved or cared for beyond making it barely passable by voluntary labor. It is said that in very early times a curious plan was adopted for "braking" wagons in descending the sides of the mountains or hills on this road. Brakes such as are now used were not then known, and the result of "chaining the wheel" was the speedy grinding away and destruction of the tire. To accomplish their purpose the teamsters adopted the plan of cutting trees of a suitable size at the tops of the mountains or hills and fastening them to the rear of their wagons, and by dragging them down not only relieving their teams from the labor of holding back the loads but preventing accidents. Large accumulations of these trees were often seen at the bases of mountains on this road.

At Deep Creek valley a road branched from this and pursued a crooked course to Pine Grove and thence to Lebanon. Like the Sunbury road, it was barely passable except for horseback travelers.

Except these there were at the time of the construction of the Center turnpike, and for many years afterward, scarcely any roads worthy of the name in the county. People went on horseback over bridle paths, or oftener on foot, always taking with them their rifles to be ready for any game they might encounter. It is remembered that when, in 1827, a party of men went from Pottsville to Mauch Chunk to witness the operation of the railroad that had just been built there, they were obliged to thread their way over bridle paths on horseback, because there were no roads between the two places. In 1829 an act of Assembly authorized the construction of a state road between Mauch Chunk and Pottsville, but it was never built. As late as 1830 or 1831 passengers could for the first time be conveyed between the two places, but nineteen of the thirty miles were traveled by railroad. Many state roads were about this time projected, but only a few were built.

On the 21st of March, 1805, by an act of Assembly, a company was incorporated "for making an artificial road by the nearest and best route from the borough of Sunbury, in the county of Northumberland, to the borough of Reading, in the county of Berks." By another act, passed March 21st, 1809, the governor of the state was authorized to subscribe for six hundred shares of the stock. By an act March 30th, 1812, the governor was authorized to subscribe for three hundred shares in addition to the six hundred subscribed before; and by an act March 26th, 1821, $35,000 was to be subscribed, provided $30,000 should be applied to the payment of a judgment in favor of the Bank of Pennsylvania.

In 1809 the road had been opened through, but its condition was very imperfect. The limit of four years prescribed in the original act for the completion of the road had not expired. Very much of the work of construction was done between 1807 and 1812.

In the county of Schuylkill this road passes from Port Clinton through the townships of West Brunswig, North Manheim, Norwegi-an, New Castle and Butler; through the boroughs of Orwigsburg and Pottsville, in which last it constitutes Center street; through the towns of New Castle and Fountain Spring and the borough of Ashland, on the line between Columbia and Schuylkill.

This road was an extension of the turnpike that had been constructed between Philadelphia and Reading, and constituted a portion of the great thoroughfare between Philadelphia and Sunbury.

It is remembered by Abraham Pott and Jeremiah Reed, both octogenarians, that in 1808 this turnpike, though open from Port Clinton, was hardly passable. Between Schuylkill Haven and Pottsville it had not long before crossed the river by fords nine times. Many hands were then engaged in the construction of this turnpike, and no toll was charged here till 1811. In 1811 or 1812 a weekly stage was run between Philadelphia and Sunbury by Robert Coleman. The driver brought the settlers' newspapers and left them at the houses along the road, but at that time all letters were received at the post-office in Orwigsburg.

From the time of its construction to the establishment of navigation along the Schuylkill this road was the thoroughfare over which all the commerce between Sunbury and its vicinity and Philadelphia was carried on. Trade was then conducted on a plan quite different from the present. There was but little money in the country and every merchant was a dealer in produce of all kinds, which he received in exchange for his goods and sent over this road to Philadelphia in wagons, which brought back his merchandise; and of course, as the regions along the route and near the terminus of this turnpike became more thickly settled, this carriage of produce and goods increased.

Houses of entertainment, or taverns, were kept along
CHAPTER XI

THE RAILROAD SYSTEM OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

The railroad system of Schuylkill county embraces a network of roads more extensive and intricate than that of any other region of equal extent in the country. These roads ramify in all parts of the county where coal is mined, follow the windings of the streams through the many valleys and ravines, climb the mountains, over planes or by winding along their sides, or pass under them through tunnels. They enter the mines, to all parts of which they extend; and it is a well known fact that a greater number of miles of railroad run beneath the surface than above it in this county. Like the ramifications of the vascular system of an animal, these branches unite in a few main lines, which carry to the different markets the immense amounts of coal that are brought to them from the mines to which the branches extend.

The development of the railroad system in this county has kept even pace with the growth of the mining interest. As elsewhere stated, the Schuylkill navigation was projected with the view, mainly, of affording an outlet for the lumber which had before been taken to market from this region in rafts, and a means of transportation, in connection with the Center turnpike, of the commerce between the Susquehanna region and Philadelphia. The coal trade was then in its infancy; and the most sanguine did not dream of the growth which it was to acquire, or look forward to the time when it would constitute more than a considerable item in the business of the naviga-
A few of the projectors foresaw an increasing trade; and in 1817 the managers, in an address, stated that probably "coal might one day be carried along the Schuylkill to the amount of ten thousand tons per annum;" but, in the absence of any prevision of the importance which the coal trade has since assumed, many prudent men looked on the scheme as a visionary project, that would be beneficial to a few speculators and stock gamblers, but not a permanent source of advantage to the public, or of wealth to the stockholders.

For a few years after the completion of the navigation the coal which was carried over it was brought to the boats in wagons by teams. In 1827 a railway nine miles in length was built, to connect some coal mines with the Lehigh navigation at Mauch Chunk. It had wooden rails, and the cars running on it carried each 1 1/2 tons of coal. It proved a success; and after it had been in operation some two years the place was visited by some of the managers of the Schuylkill navigation to see the new method of carriage. Mr. P. had thirteen cars loaded, ready to take to the canal. When they saw him fasten a single horse to the foremost car, they asked him if he proposed to "draw a ton and a half with one horse." When they saw this one animal easily move the train of thirteen cars, with about twenty tons, to the canal, their astonishment was great. Mr. Potts told them that in ten years they would see coal taken from these mines to Philadelphia in cars over a railroad. They replied that if he came to the city they would find a place for him in an insane asylum, for he was certainly crazy. Eleven tears saw the fulfillment of the prediction. It may be remarked here that the cars which Mr. Potts used were unloaded through the bottom, instead of by dumping, and that the wheels were fixed on the axles. He was the originator of both these plans, which have since been almost universally adopted.

As soon as the practicability of railroads for transporting coal from mines to the navigation came to be demonstrated such roads began to spring into existence. After the completion of the Schuylkill navigation other navigation companies were chartered, for the utilization of the waters of other streams, but supplementary acts authorized railroads instead of these navigations, and nothing was done under the original charters. In 1826 the first act authorizing the construction of a railroad in this county was passed. This was followed in 1828 and 1829 by others, and in the latter year portions of several were in operation. These roads were operated by horses or mules, and by the conditions of their charters were highways, over which the cars and freight of any one might be taken, on the payments of the tolls, which were prescribed or limited by the charters. In 1833 two locomotives, named the Comet and the Spitfire, were placed on the Little Schuylkill Railroad, and afterward locomotives came into use on other roads. On roads where motive power was used the law prescribed regulations for the tolls on freight drawn by the locomotives of the company or individuals. It was not at first the design of the people through their representatives to grant these railroad companies privileges of exclusive transportation on their roads, but these companies have come to exercise and even claim that privilege, without the sanction of legislative enactments.

Of the reciprocal influence upon each other of the coal and railroad interests in this county it is hardly necessary to speak; for it is evident to every one that neither could have been developed, to its present extent, without the other. It is also unnecessary to allude to the combination of these interests, and to the effect of such combination on the prosperity of the county; for these subjects are before the people here in a practical form. During many years there have been in this county a growing tendency toward the combination or concentration of capita in important branches of trade and industry, and the smothering of healthful competition.

The following history of one of the most important roads in this county, by one whose relation to it gave him a thorough knowledge of everything pertaining to it, will, at the same time, illustrate the development of the railroad system here, the experiences which the builders of railroads have encountered, and the improvements which have been made since the first rude and somewhat awkward structures were built. Comparatively little will be said of other roads that would not be repetition of portions of this history. Nearly all the roads in the county have, by purchase, lease or otherwise, been absorbed by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company.

**MINE HILL RAILROAD**

By R.A. Wilder

What are known as the lateral railroads of Schuylkill county were first constructed to accommodate the Schuylkill canal with a coal tonnage from the district south of the Mine hill and east of the west branch, covering an area of between sixty and seventy square miles. Previous to the construction of the laterals, the coal openings had been made in the immediate vicinity of the canal; no one was more than half a mile distant, and the tracks running to the loading place were no more than an extension of the mine roads a short distance beyond the mouths of the drifts. The mine tracks were very primitive. They consisted of notched cross ties (sleepers) on which a wooden rail, three by four or four by six inches, was laid and fastened by wooded keys driven in by the side of the rail. The gauge of the track was made to suit the fancy of the owner, but the average was forty inches. The mine cars held about a ton of coal and slate, and the wheels were loose upon the axle, like those of a wagon. There was usually a platform upon which the coal was dumped for the purpose of separating the impurities before loading, as breakers had not then been introduced. The pure coal
accomplished, and then efforts were made to obtain subscriptions to the whole capital stock of $25,000. The managers took it individually,

was paid into the treasury. With this small sum of $13,000 the company began the construction of a road that ultimately covered , like a

amendments and supplements have been made since to meet the expanding trade and provide facilities for moving the tonnage, that grew

could not continue, and the managers availed themselves of the power conveyed in the charter to increase the capital stock to

individuals in this country; they endorsed the notes of the company and were obliged to protect then individually when they fell due. This

but soon found it to be entirely inadequate to the undertaking, and then restored to the plan that has wrecked so many enterpri ses and

the projectors of the work and such engineers as laid out the line. In the eight months following April, 1831, seventeen thou sa nd five

of curves of small radii, simple and compound, with a few connecting tangents. The bridges were frequent, and consisted of  untrussed

as now to induce investments in the stock or loans.

were made to obtain subscriptions to the whole capital stock of $25,000. The managers took it individually, but soon found it to be entirely inadequate to the undertaking, and then restored to the plan that has wrecked so many enterprises and individuals in this country; they endorsed the notes of the company and were obliged to protect then individually when they fell due. This condition could not continue, and the managers availed themselves of the power conveyed in the charter to increase the capital stock to $100,000, by a vote of the stockholders; a part of this additional stock was taken by parties interested in the completion of the work, but a large amount of money was still needed, and capitalists were invited to make up the requisite sum on the security of a mortgage upon the road. With the funds thus obtained the road was finished, and in April, 1831, the first coal passed over it. The cost of the loan at this time was $185,783.02, of which $68,450 was stock and $117,333 was borrowed money. Of course this amount was far beyond all estimates of the projectors of the work and such engineers as laid out the line. In the eight months following April, 1831, seventeen thousand five hundred and fifty-nine tons of coal were transported over the road, which was esteemed a food beginning; and one sanguine gentleman predicted the time when as much as a hundred thousand tons would be carried, and was laughed at as a visionary. More than two millions per annum have since been carried as an earnest of his prophecy.

The engineers of that period had little knowledge of railway construction, and it was well they had not, for few of the early lines would have been built. An estimate of $50,000 per mile would have scared the capitalists more than an attempted burglary. Such estimates as they did make were wide of the mark, and consequently the construc-tion proceeded by degrees, and funds were obtained in the same way, and each succeeding effort encouraged to more vigor, till finally the line would be opened to traffic and rosy reports circulated then as now to induce investments in the stock or loans.

The line followed the sinuous valley of the west branch, and as near grade as possible: consequently it was altogether a succe-sion of curves of small radii, simple and compound, with a few connecting tangents. The bridges were frequent, and consisted of untrussed stringers placed four or five feet above the water. The railroad track was made by laying cross-ties four feet apart, and placing in the notched ends an oak rail, three by seven inches, on which was spiked a strap of iron about fifteen feet long, and one and a-half inches wide by three-eights thick, which was designed for the wearing surface. The locomotive had not then entered into the dreams of those builders, and horsepower was employed to haul the cars. The road soon reached the highest expectations of the owners, and in the second year the tonnage equaled 65,420 tons. All doubts vanished, and a dividend of seven per cent. was declared from the surplus after paying interest and all indebtedness. All the loans that could be converted were changed to stock. The capital was increased to $2000,000 by an act passed in January, 1831, and all the indebtedness was allowed to take the form of stock. The year 1833 was also very prosperous, and the tonnage increased to seventy-seven thousand tons, which served to increase the sanguine views of the owners to a greater extent than ever before. But the following year brought great commercial embarrassment and heavy losses to nearly every department of trade, and as a conse-quence the traffic of the Mine Hill Railroad was reduced to 42,616 tons, the income from which was barely sufficient to pay
Mr. Roberts was appointed chief engineer of the Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad (now Pittsburg and Fort Wayne), and left the field work commenced of the 25th of May, 1848, at the summit between Rattling run and Dyer’s run. The surveys were Many land owners in the Middle coal field had petitioned the company to open their coal field to the eastern market by continuing their coal cars and locomotives, and in substituting heavier rails to support the greater weight upon the wheels and increased speed. The Tremont extension was finished in 1847; and in May, 1848, a much more extensive project was undertaken by the company. Many land owners in the Middle coal field had petitioned the company to open their coal field to the eastern market by continuing their main line up the west branch and across the Broad mountain, at a point about 1,520 feet above tide at Philadelphia. The surveys were commenced of the 25th of May, 1848, at the summit between Rattling run and Dyer’s run.

S.W. Roberts, Esq., of Philadelphia, was chief engineer, and R.A. Wilder principal assistant. Soon after the beginning of the work Mr. Roberts was appointed chief engineer of the Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad (now Pittsburg and Fort Wayne), and left the field work in charge of the principal assistant. The surveys covered the region between the Schuylkill and the water sheds of the Susquehanna a few miles below Shamokin, where connection was made with the old Sunbury and Pottsville Railroad, which was the western portion of the Girard Railroad before referred to. The crest lines were about ten miles in length on the Broad mountain. At that time the whole region was densely wooded, and, with the exception of a few farm houses here and there, miles apart, uninhabited. The work of the surveying parties was exceedingly laborious on account of the long distances walked morning and evening to and from the lines. It was necessary to finish the surveys within a specified time required by the terms of the supplement to the charter, so that the company could determine the question of accepting, or not, the provisions of the act. The preliminary work for an accurate topographical map had consumed much of the time, and the final location had to be pushed in a manner very exhausting to the party. An approximate estimate of the cost showed that the authorized capital was inadequate, and the company concluded not to accept the supplement.

This line had two inclined planes on the north of the mountain to hoist the loaded cars by stationery machines. The ascending grades to the summit along the southern slope were an average of eighty-four feet to the mile. This line followed the underlying strata of the coal measures, and consequently avoid the danger of the cavities on the coal seams which have given so much trouble on the line built a few years later and which is now being operated.

Edward F. Gay was appointed engineer of construction, and in April, 1852, began a resurvey of the line located in 1848. Unfortunately for the company his desire to reduce the former estimates of costs induced him to increase the grades to ninetythree per mile in order to diminish the distance to the summit, which brought his line on the outcrop of the veins of coal in the vicinity of Glen Carbon for a long distance. The results has been disastrous in the extreme. Frequent falls of the surface have taken place at various points, causing interruptions to the traffic, and entailing heavy expenditure for repairs, litigation, and re-location of the road. The line was...
opened on the 16th of September, 1864, by passing an engine and train of coal cars, with one small passenger car attached, from Cressona to the terminus at Big Mine Run. The machines for hoisting and lowering cars at the inclined planes were not ready, and the descent was made down these steep inclines by the use of brakes on the cars, and iron shoes placed under the wheels of the tender and fastened by chains to the frame of the locomotive. The vertical descent of the two planes is seven hundred and twenty feet, but the train was taken down without accident. The return was made by separating the train and hauling single cars up the planes with mules. The opening of the road in this imperfect manner was rendered necessary by the requirements of the charter, which limited the period for finishing the line.

Mr. Gay resigned his connection with the work at this time. While the tracks were in a condition to be run over, the most important parts about the planes were unfinished. The chief engineer of the company began at once to make the needed alterations and improvements of the work, and in the course of the next two years the whole was remodeled upon plans that have been successfully used since. The first hoisting machinery was imperfect in design and construction, and after many efforts to adapt it to the wants of the trade it was abandoned, and that in present use was designed and patented by Mr. Wilder. The hoisting wheels of the Mahanoy and Broad mountain planes, and also of the Wilkes-Barre planes belonging to the Lehigh Navigation Company and operated by the New Jersey Central Railroad Company, are of the same construction. The pushing cars (Barneys) attached to the wore ropes had at first telescopic axles to enable them to be drawn together, after descending the planes on the same rails as the coal cars run, to enter the pit at the foot of planes, while the train passes over them. Frequent accidents rendered it necessary to lay another track of narrow gauge between the main rails, and run upon it a “pusher, “of “Barney,” with wheels made fast to a shorter axle, that would enter the pit without danger of getting off the track. A new method of ballast for the tail rope was also devised. Owing to the length of the planes the method of signals on common use to communicate between the head and foot of the planes was found to be impracticable, and a simple electro-magnetic bell signal was arranged and put in use successfully in 1856. This has worked so well since that not even the telephone has supplanted it. The various new devices introduced cheapened the cost of movement over the planes to such an extent as to reduce it to the sum charged on any other part of the road, viz., two and a half cents per ton per mile. The blocks of wood inserted in the perimeters of the wheel, in which the groove to the circumstances, a conflict began between the rival

In 1856 an extension of the Tremont branch was made to Mt. Eagle under a charter creating the Mt. Eagle and Tremont Railroad Company. This road opened the lands owned by Hon. Henry K. Strong, who procured the authority to build the line while he was a member of the Legislature. A large amount of coal was transported from the property, but in this case, as in many others in the anthracite coal fields, the cost of the road was too great for the tonnage supplied, and taken by itself it never was profitable to the company. Indeed, all the branches running into the lands in the vicinity of Tremont never paid a large percentage. As a rule, land-owners and operators are sanguine men, and lavish in promises which are seldom fulfilled. In the same year (1856) the Big Run branch was built as far as Locust Dale, about three miles from the foot of the planes, to open new mines at that point. In 1860 the Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company made application for an extension of the Big Mine Run branch to the basin north of the Locust mountain. The elevation of the valley was three hundred feet above the terminus of that branch; and as the only method of overcoming the heights by a graded line was through a long switch-back, involving heavy and very expensive work, it was deemed advisable to make a self-acting or gravity plane, where the descending load raised the empty cars. This was done at a comparatively small cost, and a new system of machinery, specially adapted to heavy and rapid working, was invented and put in use, and is still in good order after twenty years of heavy service. During the same year the Big Run branch was extended from the terminus of the portion constructed from the foot of the planes westward through the Big Run valley to Locust Gap, where it connected with the Shamokin Valley and Pottsville Railroad. By this line the railway system of Schuylkill county was connected with the western and southern railroads through the Philadelphia and Erie and Northern Central railways. The opening of this branch, on the 18th of October, 1860, was celebrated by an excursion train from Philadelphia to Sunbury, participated in by the Schuylkill Navigation Company, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, and the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad Company, and their guests. Six passenger coaches, with other five hundred persons, were hauled by a single locomotive, weighing thirty tons, across the Broad mountain at a speed of twenty-five miles an hour. This was considered quite a feat at that time, and probably no engine of equal weight has ever done better on ascending grades of one hundred and ten feet per mile. The train was taken down the planes (two cars at a time) without delay or accident.

An extension of the Mill Creek branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad into the Mahanoy basis, via the old Girard line, or the immediate vicinity of it, by the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain Railroad Company, was put under contract at this time, with George B. Roberts as chief engineer. The road was intended to be a rival of the Mine Hill Railroad in that region, and the charges for transportation over it were reduced below those of the latter company, to the serious detriment of its aggregate income. As was perfectly natural under the circumstances, a conflict began between the rival
interest, and litigation of a very unsatisfactory character continued for more than a year, resulting in nothing more than a confirmation of what had been suspected from the beginning, that the Philadelphia and Reading Company had been the instigator of the whole movement, for the purpose of obtaining ultimately a control of the Mine Hill road, and through it crippling the canal as a coal carrying line.

The next movement was to withdraw the eastern tonnage from the Reading company, which had previously received more than one-half the coal passing over the Mine Hill Railroad, and send it to New York by a new connection with the Lehigh Valley and New Jersey Central railroads. A charter had been granted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania for a railroad, entitled the Schuylkill Haven and Lehigh River Railroad, in 1856, and in October and November of that year a preliminary survey of the line was made by Alexander W. Rea. At the session of 1850 the charter was extended and amended to include members of the Mine Hill Company among the commissioners to open books and organize the company. On the 15th of July the books were opened at Franklin Hall, Philadelphia, and 8,000 shares, or a majority of the stock, were taken by the Mine Hill Company. The commissioners met on the 5th August and completed the organization of the company. The surveys were rapidly made, and the work placed under contract on the 5th of December following. The grading and masonry were pushed ahead as fast as possible through the winter, which was favorable for the contractors, and by spring had advanced so much as to convinced the managers of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company that at an early day they would have to encounter a competition for the eastern traffic far more formidable than they had thought it possible to effect; and when they learned that the whole superstructure and rolling stock had been contracted for, they sought at once to stop the construction of the road by opening negotiations for the lease of the Hine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad and its dependencies for a period of 999 years. As a preliminary to this the new company was to be merged in the old, under a general law providing for such action between corporations, after which the terms of the lease began to be discussed by committees of the two companies. A meeting was finally held on April 24th by the directors of the Schuylkill Haven and Lehigh River Railroad Company at their office in Philadelphia to take action upon the Reading offer, and they resolved to accept it, stop all work upon the line, go into a liquidation of the contracts, and settle all claims for damages that had been incurred during the progress of the work. In the meantime an appraisal of the rolling stock and loose property of the Mine Hill Railroad was made, and the property scheduled in the lease, with the option by the Reading Company to take it at such estimated value. Many things occurred to retard the final transfer of the property, and the officers of the company continued to operate the line all through 1863 and during the early apart of 1864, dividing their time and energies between the transportation of coal and movement of troops stationed at various points for the protection of the region, and to aid the enrolling officers to make the draft for the army.

Few will ever know the extent of labor and anxiety involved in the railway service of this period, not to say anything of the personal peril that daily and nightly followed the movements of officers. The loyal men and youths of the mining population were in the field doing noble work for their country, whether by birth or adoption; the disloyal remained at home, and they far outnumbered the former, and carried with them everywhere the means of destruction to properties of immense value in themselves, and of still greater value to the government in its hour of greatest peril; because from the anthracite mines came the power of supremacy over the blockade runners that used bituminous coal, the black smoke from which signaled their presence from along distances to their foe, unseen save perhaps by a doubtful wreath of steam rising upon the frosty air. To guard these properties, and keep the reckless population in check by kindness, by vigilance that knew no rest, and, when necessary, by the dark mouthed cannon and glittering bayonets, was a work of no ordinary character, and could have no recognition, and no reward but the consciousness of duty.

At length the contracts were signed, and on the 16th of May, 1864, the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad was formally transferred to the officers appointed by the lessee to receive it. The chief engineer and superintendent was retained by the old company till January 1st, 1865, when he asked to be relieved, and closed his connection with the road, after a continuous service of nearly seventeen years, during which time he had never been absent from duty for any purpose except when absolute necessity called him away.

A general review of the status of this company results in an impression of profound regret that the stockholders ever permitted the control of it to pass from them. They had always received large dividends in their investment, and had they availed themselves of the recommendation of those fully qualified to judge the condition of things impartially they would have found no cause to apprehend financial difficulties in the future. The terms offered by the Lehigh Valley Company and the Central Railroad of New Jersey were such as would have given them all the benefits of a through line, and would also have put those companies in a position to defy competition; and the crisis through which each has since passed, bringing disaster to one and great reduction in the value of the other, would probably have only been drawn and executed at once, as suggested by the chief engineer, all these results evils would have been avoided, and the region would have remained in a comparatively flourishing condition. The great corporation which to-
day is floating, an unwieldy wreck, on a sea of trouble, threatened with utter ruin by every financial wave sweeping over it, would have been the safe investment its patrons believed it in years gone by. At the time of the change the road had a reputation abroad for its progressive spirit, and on no one were greater advances made in the department of machinery and road fixtures. Its hoisting machinery for inclined planes was excelled nowhere in this or any other country; its locomotives were the most powerful of all then constructed, and the accommodations furnished the numerous collieries of the various branches have never been equaled. In the local management great vigilance was exercised: no trains collided, no engines exploded, and few men in the long term of years were killed or injured. And yet in the very midst of a prosperous career, with a full corps of energetic men to aid them in an expansive policy, with a prestige that would have commanded any amount of capital, and the co-operation of men whose views of our railway system were constantly widening, they suffered a work that cost $4,000,000 to pass away from their control, and became the passive observers of the decline of a system they had created, to the mere shadow of corporate authority. All the elements of a greater system still exist, and may be combined in the future to make the road what it should have been in the past, ere the desire for personal aggrandizement and corporate agreed had paralyzed its energies. The present organization is no more than a mere agency for the distribution of semi-annual rentals among the stockholders.

UNION CANAL RAILROAD

This was the first railroad chartered in the county. It was incorporated by a supplement to the several acts incorporating the Union Canal Company, which supplement was approved March 3rd, 1826. It authorized the company "to construct a railway or railways branching from said navigation to any point or points which may be required for the communication between the said Union canal and the coal mines of the Swatara and the country west and northwest thereof."

In accordance with the provisions of its charter it was constructed to the junction of Lorberry and Swatara creeks, and used mainly for the transportation of coal. It was operated by horse power till about 1848, when motive power was brought into use on this and the roads that had been built beyond it.

LITTLE SCHUYLKILL RAILROAD

A supplement approved on the 14th day of April, 1828, to the act incorporating the Little Schuylkill Navigation Company, empowered that company to construct a railroad in place of the canal and slackwater navigation which the original act authorized; or in lieu of any part of such canal and navigation, from a point at or near where the Wilkes-Barre state road crosses the Little Schuylkill to a point at or near the foot of Broad mountain.

Though the work was commenced early several acts were passed extending the time for its completion. In 1833 its completion was extended to 1838, in 1842 till 1847, and in 1847 five years from the date of the act.

Locomotives were placed on this road in the spring of 1833. Of one of these the Miners' Journal said at that time: "It is able to travel at the rate of ten miles an hour, leading a train of fifteen cars, each carrying three tons. Now, allowing two trips a day for an engine, this would be equal to 90 tons a day; or 540 tons per week."

This company were transporters only, at first, but subsequently, like many others, they came to be owners of coal lands, and operators. An act passed in 1832 gave exclusive privileges of transportation; and at a public meeting in McKeansburg, in 1833, a resolution was adopted recommending the circulation of petitions for the repeal of this act. The resolution stated that this "monopolizing policy is daily practiced to the great injury of individuals in that section of the commonwealth." At that time there existed a strong feeling of opposition to the creation of charter companies, with exclusive privileges.

By the connection which was formed with the Catawissa railroad this road became a link in the through line between Philadelphia and Buffalo and Niagara Falls; and thus became an important passenger road.

A branch of this road was extended west from Tamaqua about a mile and a half, connecting with the Mountain Link railroad. Other short branches were constructed to different collieries along its course.

SCHUYLKILL VALLEY RAILROAD

This was chartered March 20th, 1827, as a navigation company; and on the 14th of April, 1828, a supplement passed which authorized he construction of a railroad from near the mouth of Mill creek to a point at or near the mill of George Reber, Esq.

An extension of six miles was authorized by a supplement passed April 12th, 1844. January 24th, 1845, the time for completing the second track between Middleport and Tuscara was extended till the annual tonnage of coal over the first track should amount to 1,000,000 tons; and in 1849 it was extended to the 24th of March, 1853.

March 8th, 1859, a road from Tuscara to Tamaqua, to be completed in eighteen months, was authorized; and April 2nd, 1860, the time was extended twelve months from the date of the act.

The progress of construction of this road is indicated by the supplements to the charter, passed from time to time, as above stated.

It is noteworthy that the supplement of April 12th, 1844, provided that the company should charge no more than one cent per mile for transporting loaded cars, and should return them empty without charge; and that it should make no charge for the locomotives of others, used for this purpose, on its road.

Near Tamaqua this road connects, by means of the
Mountain Link Railroad, with a branch of the Little Schuylkill; and through it with the system of railroads running out from Tamaqua. A number of short branches run from this road at various points along the Schuylkill valley to the collieries on the southern slope of Mine hill.

**MILL CREEK RAILROAD**

An act authorizing the incorporation of the Mill Creek and Mine Hill Navigation and Railroad Company was passed February 7th, 1828. This highway was to extend from near the mouth of Mill creek to a point on the Center turnpike near the foot of Broad mountain. The time for its completion, which had been fixed at February 7th, 1863, was, by act of May 28th, 1840, extended to February 7th, 1845. It was partially built in 1829, and at that time only connected with some coal mines and the head of Schuylkill navigation. It was a 40-inch single track road, built with wooden rails covered with strap iron, and operated by horse power. It was an important avenue of coal transportation, and continued to be used mainly for that purpose many years.

In 1847 a supplement to its charter empowered it to build branches to accommodate its business, and another in 1857 authorized it to construct branch roads to the Mahanoy coal region.

**MOUNT CARBON RAILROAD**

This road was incorporated by an act approved April 29th, 1829. Its location, according to the act, was to be from "the lower landings at Mount Carbon, in the county of Schuylkill, thence up the river Schuylkill to the mouth of Norwegian creek, and the west branch thereof, to the south side of the Broad mountain in the said county; and also a single or double railroad from the forks of Norwegian creek, up the east branch thereof, to the south side of Mine Hill."

April 8th, 1833, the time for completion of this road was extended to April 1st, 1838; and on the 17th of March, 1838, it was further extended to April 1st, 1848. April 11th, 1848, it was empowered to construct laterals, not to exceed one mile in length.

The road was constructed in accordance with the provisions of its charter, and in the style of early railroads. Many branches to collieries were built, but the company never extended the main lines beyond their original chartered limits.

About 1848 the wooden track was superseded by the T rail, but, although the locomotives of other companies occasionally passed over it, mule power continued to be used till February, 1862, when the road was leased by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company for the period of 999 years. It has been operated since by the P. and R. company, and it is used almost exclusively for the transportation of coal. In 1868 or 1869 a switchback was built at Mount Laffee, the terminus of the west branch of this road, in order to reach the Beech-wood colliery.

**CATAWISSA RAILROAD**

The Little Schuylkill and Susquehanna Railroad, to extend from the terminus of the Little Schuylkill Railroad, as designated in its charter, along the valleys of Messer's run and Catawissa creek to a point on the north branch of the Susquehanna, at or near Catawissa, was incorporated March 21st, 1831.

In 1833 the time for commencement was extended three years, and for completion six years. By a supplement of February 26th, 1846, the time for completion was extended five years, and the construction of lateral branches to mines authorized; the owners of those mines to have the privilege of transporting the products in their own cars, with their own motive power.

March 20th, 1849, the name was changed to the Catawissa, Williamsport and Erie Railroad, and the time for completion further extended to December 1st, 1855. In 1860 an act was passed concerning the sale of the road; and in 1861 the time for completion was further extended to 1871, and branches and connections to coal mines and iron works authorized.

This road was commenced not long after the date of its charter; but by reason of financial embarrassments the work was suspended during several years. It was afterward resumed, and the main line completed about 1854.

The road has two tunnels; one under the Mahanoy mountain at the summit of grade having considerable length. The other is a shorter, curved tunnel, which passes under a spur of the mountain jutting into the Catawissa valley. This road constitutes a link in the chain of roads between Philadelphia and the great lakes.

A peculiarity of this consists in its uniform grade of about 30 feet to the mile from the Susquehanna to the summit tunnel. This uniformity necessitated the erection of seven timber viaducts, from 90 to 130 feet in height, and of various lengths up to 1,100 feet.

**SWATARA RAILROAD**

This was chartered as the Swatara and Good Spring Creek Railroad, April 2nd, 1831. It was to run "from the northern end of the Union Canal Company's railroad, up the Swatara river to its junction with the Good Spring creek, and thence up the said creek to a point most suitable in the heart of the coal region. March 25th, 1841, its name was changed to the Swatara Railroad Company."

By supplements to the charter the time for construction was several times extended, and by other supplements the company was authorized to construct branches, make extensions and form connection. By a supplement passed April 6th, 1848, the use of locomotive power on the road was authorized, and locomotives were soon afterward placed on the road.

In 1863 the road was leased by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, and afterward purchased by that company. About six miles had been built when it was leased, and a branch from Tremont up Middle creek partly graded. The road has been extended by the Philadelphia and Reading company.
On the 20th of March, 1838, an act was approved empowering the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company "to extend their said railroad from its present termination in the borough of Reading to some suitable point in or near the borough of Pottsville in the county of Schuylkill," or to connect with the Mount Carbon road if deemed expedient. The act required the work to be commenced simultaneously at both termini of the road within a year, to be completed between Mount Carbon and Port Clinton within two years, and through its entire length within four years.

The road was constructed in accordance with the terms of the act; and the first train of cars passed over it on the 19th of January, 1842.

By a supplement, approved March 29th, 1848, the company were required to extend their road into the borough of Pottsville and establish a depot there. The required extension was made through the Mount Carbon Railroad. Previous to the completion of this road the net work of railroads in this county had been used for the transportation of coal from the mines to the Schuylkill navigation. The establishment of this through line to the city of Philadelphia not only furnished an outlet for the products of the mines during the winter season, but relieved but relieved the navigation of a portion of its tonnage during other seasons of the year. By reason of increased facilities for transportation the development of the coal trade was more rapid, and other avenues were opened. In order to maintain itself against the rivalry of these, the Philadelphia and Reading Company inaugurated and carried out the policy of absorbing, by lease, purchase, or otherwise, the control of the various lines in this portion of the coal region. In this they succeeded; and all the principal roads in the county, except the Lehigh and Mahanoy, came under their control. By lease of the Schuylkill navigation their control of the means of transportation to Philadelphia became complete.

Under their charter the company had not the power to carry on mining operations, and their control of the avenues of transportation did not enable them to control the trade, or prevent the construction of other avenues. To accomplish the latter a corporation first known as the Laurel Run Improvement company was chartered, and the name was soon changed to the "Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company." It was owned, and its operations were directed by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company; and it was a separate organization only in name. Many millions of dollars were expended in the purchase of coal lands, and the purchase and establishment of collieries, and for these purposes an immense debt was incurred. Under this company mining operations were carried on to a very great extent in this county; and during many years the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company were able almost wholly to control the coal trade and the transportation of this county. At length, for reasons which it would not be proper to discuss here, these corporations, or rather, in fact, this corporation, which had grown to such gigantic proportions, collapsed. President Gowen was appointed receiver, but an influential party of stockholders opposed his management, and secured the election of Frank S. Bond as president, who on the 21st of April, 1881, issued a circular announcing his assumption of the duties of the office. Mr. Gowen immediately stated that the points involving the control of the road would be appealed to the United States Supreme Court, pending whose decision he intended to retain the management.

MOUNT CARBON AND PORT CARBON RAILROAD

This road was incorporated by an act of Assembly approved July 16th, 1842. The route designated in the charter was from "the lower landings at Mount Carbon, at or near the termination of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad;" thence to pass across the river Schuylkill to Port Carbon. By a supplement passed April 14th, 1843, the time for its commencement and completion was extended to one and three years respectively from the date of the supplement.

It was built as provided by its charter, and connected with the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad at Mount Carbon, and with the Mill Creek and Schuylkill Valley railroads at Port Carbon. The first locomotive and cars passed over it in November, 1844—a year after its commencement. It was empowered to construct branches to mines, furnaces, etc., of other companies by an act of April 25, 1854.

May 5th, 1855, an act was passed authorizing the sale of this road; and in accordance with the provisions of this act it was sold to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company.

SCHUYLKILL AND SUSQUEHANNA RAILROAD

On the 25th of April, 1844, the Fishing Creek, Swatara and Schuylkill Railroad, commonly called the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Railroad, was incorporated. It was to run from Fishing Creek gap in the Sharp mountain, near the junction of Fishing creek and Baird's run, in Pine Grove, along the valley between Sharp and Second mountains, to the Swatara; and thence, by a favorable route, to the summit between Little Swatara and Bear creeks; and by the valley of the latter to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, at some point near the mouth of Bear creek. In 1847 the time for commencement was extended to 1850, and in 1850 to 1855.

This road runs from Auburn to the county line in Tremont township, via Pine Grove, and extends thence to Dauphin, where it connects with the Northern Central, and through it with the northern and southern systems of railways.

EAST MAHANOY RAILROAD

This was incorporated April 21st, 1854, to run from a point where it would connect with the "Little Schuylkill Navigation Railroad and Coal Company," about five
miles north from Tamaqua, and thence by a route considered favorable by the directors to "any point or points in the Mahanoy second coal field, with
suitable branch roads thereon not exceeding in the whole twenty-five miles in length."

An act of April 11th, 1859, authorized the leasing of this road to the Little Schuylkill Company; and another of April 21st in the same year
revived the charter and extended the time for commencement of construction five years.

It was constructed, in accordance with the provisions of its charter, to the southern base of Mahanoy mountain at a point about four miles from
Mahanoy City. It passes under the mountain through a tunnel some four thousand feet in length. It was extended to Mahanoy City and there connected
with the railway system in the eastern part of the county.

The road was built under the patronage of the Little Schuylkill Railroad Company, and after its completion was leased by that company.

LEHIGH AND MAHANOY RAILROAD

The charter of the Quakake railroad was granted April 25th, 1857, and authorized the construction of a road from the Beaver Meadow railroad,
at the junction of Quakake and Black creeks, westwardly up the Quakake valley, and thence to make connection with the Catawissa railroad between its
two summit tunnels in the township of Rush.

A supplement, approved March 22nd, 1859, authorized the extension westwardly of this road to the head waters of and down the Mahanoy
creek, "as far as may be deemed expedient;" with authority to make connection with any railroad in the valley, and to construct branches.

Under this charter and supplement the Lehigh and Mahanoy Railroad was built, and completed as far as Mount Carmel in 1865. In 1866 it was
merged in the Lehigh Valley Railroad, by which it has since been owned and operated. It has a branch to Ashland, and branches to various collieries.
The grades on this road are very heavy. It connects at Mount Carmel with the Northern Central, and through that road with the southern and western system
of railways. It connects with the collieries of the Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company, in which the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, in which the
Lehigh Valley Railroad Company owns half interest. This company also owns the collieries on the Girard coal lands, formerly owned by the Philadelphia
Coal Company. The shops of the Lehigh and Mahanoy railroad are located at Delano, in the township of Rush.

MAHANOY AND BROAD MOUNTAIN RAILROAD

The charter for this road was granted March 29th, 1859; and the route prescribed was from a point in Mahanoy or Butler township, and
"thence, by the most expedient and practicable route, to connect with the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, or any of its tributaries, with the privilege
of making lateral roads into the Mine Run, Shenandoah, Mahanoy, and New Boston coal basins."

In 1860 this road was constructed, with its terminus at the terminus of the Mill creek railroad on the south, and a point near Ashland on the north.
Subsequently it was extended; and connections were made with the Mine Hill railroad at Big Mine Run and Locust Dale. On the northern slope of the
Mahanoy mountain, near the old Girard plane, this road was an important plane, with an elevation of about 380 feet. It is what engineers term a
reciprocating plane; and its annual tonnage is about two millions of tons. The expense of this tonnage is not more than one-fifth of what the cost of the
same would be over a route and grade that would dispense with the plane. If, by any accident, the plane should become useless for a time, the tonnage
of the road could be carried away through interconnecting branches.

NESQUEHONING VALLEY RAILROAD

This was chartered April 12th, 1861. By the provisions of its charter it was allowed to form connections with many other roads at the option
of its directors.

It extends from the line between Carbon and Schuylkill counties to Tamaqua, and coal lands in its vicinity. It was leased and operated by the
Lehigh Navigation Company, which was subsequently leased by the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey.

MOUNTAIN LINK RAILROAD

Between the terminus of the Schuylkill Valley Railroad at Tuscarora and the Little Schuylkill Railroad at Tamaqua was a space of about four
miles, over which passengers passed in stages during many years. No railroad was built over this route, by reason of a want of cordiality on the part of
the two companies. When the Philadelphia and Reading had acquired control of both these roads of course this antagonism ceased; and in 1864 and 1865
a road was constructed and put in operation by that company across this space, and railroad communication was thus established between these places.

The road passes over the watershed, or divide, between the head waters of the Schuylkill and Little Schuylkill rivers, and this necessitates
grades, in some places, of about 100 feet to the mile. The connection which it established over this height rendered its name-Mountain Link-quite
appropriate.

THE PEOPLE’S RAILWAY

was incorporated April 4th, 1865. It might extend "from and in the borough of Pottsville to any point or points in any direction, in the county
of Schuylkill, not exceeding six miles in length, as the direct-ors may select, and through any streets of boroughs, or roads, or by any routes they may
deem advisable.” The powers conferred on this road were extraordinary. April 28th, 1871, the time for completing the work was extended till 1874, and
the company was empowered to use dummy engines instead of horse power, to which it was restricted by the
original charter. March 4th, 1873, it was authorized to use locomotive engines.

The road was opened in 1872 between Mount Carbon and Fishbach, and used as a street railway. Early in 1873 it was opened from the head of Market street, in the borough of Pottsville, to Minersville; and it has since been operated between those points with motive power. From Mount Carbon to the head of Market street to Fishbach it has been discounted, and the rails have been removed.

CHAPTER XII

EDUCATION IN SCHUYLKILL COUNTY
THE FIGHT FOR FREE SCHOOLS
ORWIGSBURG ACADEMY

The following sketch is condensed from a report made in 1877 by Jesse Newlin, who has been during many years county superintendent.

For a long time after the first settlements were made in the southern or agricultural portion of the county no schools were established, and only the children of a portion of the scattered settlers received instruction in the primary branches from their parents. In their youth these people had been by their parents and clergymen in their native country, and they did not deem an education necessary, beyond the ability to read the Bible and catechism, and keep their accounts. They did not conceive mental discipline to be of any advantage, and they believed an education, beyond the rudimentary one which they had received, inclined its possessor to indolence and vice. It was not till the commencement of the present century that they began to gather their children in schools—at first in private rooms and afterwards, when settlers had multiplied sufficiently, in rude log school-houses. These were built by voluntary contributions of materials and labor, and were quite in harmony with the other pioneer surroundings of the people. In these instruction was given in reading, writing, the rudiments of arithmetic, sacred music, the catechism, etc., and the pastor was usually the teacher; and in many of the German districts this religious instruction is continued to the present time. This curriculum of instruction continued in general use up to the time of the acceptance of the common school system, or more than half a century, in the townships of Brunswig and West Penn, which were the first to establish these primitive schools and the last to accept the common school system.

In all the agricultural districts, which are situated between Second mountain and the Blue hills, the German settlers entertained the same views concerning the utility of education and the amount necessary to enable people to accumulate property and learn the simple tenets of their religious faith.

The only higher institution of learning in the county was the Orwigsburg Academy, of which a history is given elsewhere. The academy was succeeded in 1824 by the Arcadian Institute, which was established in the old court-house by Professor W. J. Burnside. He was succeeded by Elias Schneider, A.M., and he by Rev. Mr. Fries. The institute became defunct in 1864, and the building was afterward converted into a shoe factory.

Although many of the German districts in this county were slow to adopt the school system of 1834, to Schuylkill belongs the honor of first moving in the direction of free education. Mr. William Audenreid, who represented Schuylkill and Berks counties in the Senate in 1825, was the first to propose and earnestly advocate the establishment of the fund which has since become the foundation of the present school system. He was the leading advocate of English schools in his own town (McKeansburg).

At a meeting of county commissioners and delegates from the districts in the county at Orwigsburg in 1834, the provisions of the school law, owing to the prejudices of the German population, then constituting four-fifths of the inhabitants of the county, were accepted by only four districts in the county. These were Orwigsburg, Pottsville, Norwegian and Schuylkill; and of these Schuylkill refused to elect directors favorable to the enforcement of the law. In opposing the new system the rich complained of a law that compelled them to pay for schooling the children of the poor and thereby make them the intellectual peers of their own; and politicians were, of course, found to espouse the cause of ignorance as long as it remained popular.

In Orwigsburg the free school system was almost unanimously adopted, and since 1865 graded schools have been maintained. In 1829 Abraham Pott, of Port Carbon, built at his own expense the first and only school-house in the town prior to the acceptance of the new school system, of which he was one of the most prominent champions. Norwegian and the townships that have been formed wholly or in part from it have always availed themselves of the full benefits of the school system and amply remunerated their teachers. In 1834 Tamaqua belonged to Schuylkill township, which then included the districts of Blythe and Mahanoy, and parts of Butler, New Castle and East Norwegian. In Tamaqua the friends of the new system prevailed; and in the vote on its adoption in 1835 they outwitted and defeated the dull opponents of educational progress, who perponderated in the rural part of the township, by reserving a body of voters till near the closing of polls, when the other party were leading and had concluded they need not exert themselves. Tamaqua then elected directors who at once put the system into operation. Among the first directors we find such men as the Honorable Benjamin Heilner, Doctor D. Hunter, A. H. Deuel, and others of like intelligence. The latter was secretary of the first board. Judge Heilner and Doctor Hunter served in the
Tamaqua school board over thirty years. In Schuylkill township there were two pay schools, in log houses, where children were taught at fifty cents per month till 1837, when the school system was adopted. In 1838 it was adopted in Manheim. Out of this, which in 1838 had eight schools, five districts have been formed, with thirty-nine schools. Pine Grove unanimously rejected the system in 1834. Pine Grove village organized an independent district in the spring of 1835; north Pine Grove in 1843, and west Pine Grove in 1845. The remainder of the township was without public schools till 1847.

In Rush, which included what are now Rush, Rahn, Ryan and Klein townships, a school was opened in 1810, through the instrumentality of John Faust, who became a resident of the township in 1806. It was taught by Francis Keenly in an unoccupied log house. Mr. Faust's son Jacob subsequently built and furnished three houses for school purposes at his own expense; and when the school system was introduced built a school house and presented it and the lot to the township as a contribution to the common school cause. These houses, and a school kept in an old sawmill, were the school facilities of Rush till 1851, when the court, on petition of Mr. Faust and a few others, ordered the common school put into operation. Jacob Faust procured the use of the English language in the schools, which has latterly been employed exclusively. From four schools in 1851 the number in all the districts has grown to twenty-six.

In Brunswig the first school in the county was established about the year 1777 at the "red church," followed by others at McKeansburg. New Ringgold, and one near what is now Moser's hotel. In 1838 the friends of the free schools here beat their opponents through the latter voting for "common" schools under the impression that they were the existing schools, whereas they were the very thing the obstructionists thought they were voting against. In 1849, when two more independent districts-South Brunswig and Center-were formed a school was opened in each. These were soon followed by other sections forming themselves into independent school districts as soon as a majority favored the system. West Brunswig was the last to yield to the system, and only acquiesced when compelled by order of the court. East and West Brunswig townships now include fifteen school districts, with twenty-six schools, supervised by ninety directors. Ten of these districts have each but one school. The annual school term has never exceeded five months. In Upper and Lower Mahantongo the common schools were not accepted till 1850, when Eldred township and what is now Lower Mahantongo made the advance movement. These were followed by others, until 1868, when what was left of Upper Mahantongo brought up the rear through a peremptory mandate from the court. The original territory now embraces the school districts of Berry, Eldred, Porter, Hubley, Hegis, Kessler, and Upper and Lower Mahantongos. They have thirty-eight schools, with an annual term of five months.

West Penn was forced into accepting the common schools in 1868 by the court appointing Peter Seiberling, Reuben F. Lerby, John S. Longacre, Ludwig Berner, Thomas Zimmerman, and William Backert school directors. They at once organized the board, located and built fifteen school-houses, and opened the schools four months. Some of these were men of business, and suffered very materially for a few years by the withdrawal of much of the patronage of the opponents, who outnumbered the school men three to one. The opposition has almost entirely disappeared. Previous to the formation of Butler, in 1848, there had been one "pay school" in the territory which it includes. Miss Mary Savage was the teacher, and the school was supported by A.H. Wilson, Samuel Boone, Peter Seitzinger, and R.C. Wilson. In 1877 Butler had fortyeight schools, with a term of nine months Barry accepted the school system in 1852, Wayne in 1841. 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In Mahanoy township twenty years ago there was not a single school of any kind. In 1858 it commenced with three free schools; to-day it has within its original limits ninetyfour public schools-more than in any one of the counties of Montour, Union, Sullivan, Pike, Fulton, Forest, Elk and Cameron. These schools are nearly all graded; have an annual school term of nine months, and paid in 1876, for teaching alone, $34,155,88. It has two high public schools, that furnish the children of the miner, as well as those of the wealthy operator, a first class academical education. It has also a number of excellent grammar schools.

The first teachers' institute in the county was held at Pottsville in 1851, under the instruction of P.G. Angle, A.M., D.G. Rush, N. Olmstead, B. Bannan, A.K. Brown, A.H. Ludlow, and S.E. Carr. Fifty-seven were in attendance at this session; among whom were many who have subsequently attained high rank as teachers, or in other walks in life. Semi-annual institutes were held till 1859; then they were held annually till 1875, in which year the institute numbered four hundred and forty-eight teachers.
This institution was incorporated March 29th, 1813. Daniel Graeff, William Green, Jr., James McFarland, Jacob Krebs, Barnet Kepner, Jeremiah Reed, Abraham Reiff'schneider and Philip Hoy were named in the act as trustees. Their successors were to be elected two each year, at the general election in the county, and their powers and duties were defined. They were authorized to receive donations, and the income applied to the payment of the compensation of teachers. In consideration of this endowment four indigent children were to be taught gratis in the school each year. The yearly value of the property owned by the corporation might not exceed $2,000.

A supplement to this act, passed in 1823, required the gratuitous instruction of as many indigent children as the resources of the institution would permit.

The only record concerning this academy that can be found is the treasurer's book, containing entries from 1826 to 1853, except for the years between 1831 and 1840. From this it appears that under the charter a school was established before the academy building was erected. The first entry in this book (January, 1826) is an order in favor of Jacob Shelly for making a desk for the academy. This is followed by similar entries in favor of John Kreter for work done, and Joseph Rambo for repairing stove in academy. From allusions in other entries to previous settlements it appears that a school had been established before 1826, but at what date can not be learned. During this and several succeeding years various amounts were paid "for teaching poor children," to Silas Hough, John St. Clair, Charles Loeser, John McClennen, P.W. Jackson and William Clark. These were probably teachers employed in the academy. In April, 1829, twenty dollars were paid for a lot on which to erect an academy, and Daniel De Frehn was the contractor for building it. The mason work was done by John Kreter, and the building was completed in December at a cost of $1,316.96. It was planned and its erection supervised by Colonel John Bannan. It was of brick, two stories in height, and it covered an area of about 24 by 35 feet. Under an act of Assembly passed in 1870 it was sold, and it has since been taken down.

But few statistics can be gleaned from the meager records that are left. It appears that the $1,000 endowments granted by the State was loaned to the county, and that during a portion of its existence the institution received from the State an annuity of $125.

The names of only a few of the teachers in this school are preserved. Among them are found, in addition to those already named, Charles Loeser, F. Landebrun, James Ottinger, P.B. Carter, William H. Burns, Amandus Schmidt, S.F. Penfield, William Hammer, Thomas Shoener and probably G.H. Melabe, George H. Hart, Joseph Hammer, Jacob Diebert and Charles A. Wyeth.

CHAPTER XIII

MEDICAL, RELIGIOUS AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

THE MINERS' HOSPITAL

At a meeting of allopathic physicians of Schuylkill county held at Pennsylvania Hall, in the borough of Pottsville, January 15th, 1845, the preliminary steps were taken for the formation of a medical society. At another meeting, February 22nd of the same year, a permanent organization was effected by the adoption of a constitution and by-laws and the choice of the following officers: President, George Halberstadt; vice-president, James S. Carpenter; secretary, William Housel; treasurer, G.G. Palmer.

The original members of the organization, as appears from the record, were Drs. George Halberstadt, James S. Carpenter, Thomas Brady, G.H. Knobel, William Housel, Enos Chichester, Pottsville; John G. Koehler, Samuel Shannon, Schuylkill Haven; George W. Brown, Port Carbon; S. Morton Zulich, Orwigsburg; R.H. Phillips, New Castle.

This society took part in the formation of a State medical society at Lancaster in April, 1848, and it has been represented in every meeting of that society since. Its members have been honored by positions in the State Medical Society as follows: President, Dr. James S. Carpenter in 1852, Dr. Andrew H. Halberstadt 1855, Dr. John T. Carpenter 1878; recording secretary, Dr. John T. Carpenter 1860, Dr. A.S., Chrisman 1875.

Many of the most valuable papers in the State Medical Society transactions are contributions of members of the Schuylkill county society. In the transactions of the American Medical Association for 1878 is published a paper by Dr. John T. Carpenter on the identity of hospital gangrene and diphtheria.

The society has for a long time comprised the best medical talent of the county. The University of Pennsylvania has accepted its examinations in place of those of its own faculty for admission to the medical department.

The presidents of the society have been: George Halberstadt, six years; James S. Carpenter, sixteen years; G.W. Brown, J.F. Treichler, each two years; Wm. Housel, J.G. Koehler, O.M. Robins, L.M. Thompson, J. McKibben, John T. Carpenter (whose latest term was 1880), G.L. Keegan, D.W. Bland, A.B. Sherman, each one year. The membership is forty. The present officers are: Dr. John T. Carpenter, Pottsville, president; Dr. F.D. Emach, Frackville, Vice-president; Dr. A.S. Chrisman, Pottsville, recording secretary; Dr. S.C. Spaulding, Shenandoah, corresponding secretary; and Dr. I.J. Birch, Port Carbon, treasurer.
MINERS' HOSPITAL

The want of an institution of this kind has long been recognized, and in 1873 steps were taken to raise funds for its establishment. A gift enterprise was inaugurated and several thousand dollars were raised, all of which was lost by the failure of the bank in which it was deposited.

The Anthracite Hospital Association was chartered in 1874. It had its origin among the workingmen. Liberal subscriptions were made, but nothing beyond that was accomplished.

June 11th, 1879, an act was passed authorizing the erection of a hospital, appropriating $60,000 for the purpose and providing for the appointment of six commissioners to locate it and superintend its erection. The act provides that injured persons shall in all cases have preference over paying patients. The commissioners appointed by the governor were D.A. Beckley, of Columbia county; John D. Morgan and Thomas F. Kerns, of Schuylkill; Jacob R. Eby, of Dauphin; William Lilly, of Carbon; and William James, of Northumberland.

These commissioners determined upon Fountain Springs, about a mile from Ashland, as the location; and the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company donated the ground.

The hospital is now in process of erection, under the superintendence of H. Alricks, Jr., architect. It is to be of stone, the main administration building in the Queen Anne style, two stories in height, with pavilion wards one story high. It will have a front of 188 feet and a depth of 190 feet, and will be capable of accommodating 75 patients. When completed it will be turned over by the commissioners to nine trustees, to be appointed by the governor.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY FEMALE BIBLE SOCIETY

At a meeting held pursuant to notice on the 16th of February, 1852, an association was organized under the name of the "Female Bible Society of Pottsville and vicinity, auxiliary to the Pennsylvania Bible Society." The object of the association, as stated in the constitution, was "to distribute the Bible without note or comment in the county of Schuylkill, and aid the Pennsylvania Bible Society with its surplus funds. On the 7th of September, 1852, the name was changed to the Schuylkill County Female Bible Society."

The following have served as presidents of the society, in the order named: Rev. Mr. Cooly, Mrs. Dr. Housel, Mrs. A. Russell and Mrs. Pollock, who has been president during many years.

During the early years of the society many local organizations auxiliary to this were established in different parts of the county, and they did efficient work. Since its organization the society has maintained an uninterrupted existence, and its records show that but few of its regular monthly meetings have been collected and expanded in the benevolent work of the society. Colporteurs have been from time to time employed to thoroughly explore the county and supply copies of the Bible to those who would receive it, and thousands of copies have been thus distributed. Not only has this work been prosecuted among the miners and operatives at the mills and manufactories, but the poor in remote parts of the county have been sought out and supplied. One of these agents, S.S. Kennedy, says of his canvass of that part of the Catawissa valley lying in this county:

"This valley was once a vast pine forest, which has but recently fallen before the woodman's axe; but the lumbering business has nearly ceased, and many of the people are now giving their attention to agriculture. The streams once abounded with saw-mills, which have nearly all been burnt down or swept away by the flood. Many of the old tenement houses about the mill dams are still occupied by very poor people, who still linger where they formerly found employment. The old roads which led to these obscure places lie through the mountain gorges and deep ravines, and are obstructed by rocks and stumps and corduroy logs. With much difficulty and with great danger to my horse and vehicle I jolted slowly along these mountain passes, searching for these poor families, many of whom were destitute of the Bible.

"When they asked me why I thus sought them out in such a wilderness, and gave them the Bible, I answered: 'I am sent by persons who care for your souls. What you regard as a great charity is but a light burden to the benevolent men and women of Pottsville, who gladly pay for the Bibles which I give you.' The donors of these sacred gifts will never tread the rough roads over which they were conveyed, and will never see the faces nor hear the glad exclamations of the needy persons who received them; But the Omniscient eye which watches all our efforts will place the credit of each good deed to the account of the proper person."

The Bibles distributed were mostly in the English, German and Welsh languages, according to the nationalities of the recipients.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

The Schuylkill County Agricultural Society was organized at a meeting of farmers in Orwigsburg, February 22nd, 1851. Hon. Jacob Hammer was chosen president, Edward Kearns and B.W. Hughes vice-presidents, J.S. Keller secretary, and Henry Hoy treasurer. A charter, which had been drawn up by J.S. Keller, was adopted, and Hon. Jacob Hammer was appointed to procure its enactment by the Legislature.

The first fair of the society was held at James Lessig's Hotel, in North Manheim, about three miles from Orwigsburg, on the Center turnpike. It was quite successful. In the summer of 1854 three-fourths of an acre of ground in Orwigsburg was purchased from Daniel Boyer and fitted up for a fair ground. Changes by sale and purchase have since been made to meet the growing requirements of the society, and the present capacious, convenient, and tasteful grounds, including an area of eighteen acres, have been developed.

The records of the society for a number of years are lost, and a connected history of its doings cannot be given. Its annual fairs have been regularly held, the exhibitions have been creditable, and it is believed that

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much good has been accomplished through their instrumentality; but financially they have not been as successful as they might have been had railroad facilities been greater.

Among the later presidents may be named J.T. Shoener, J.C. Beck, J.S. Keller, Reuben Bregey, and H.H. Brownmiller.

The Agricultural and Industrial Association of the Catawissa valley was organized in November, 1870, with the following officers: William Grant, president; Jonathan Wetherington, vice-president; Israel Applegate, secretary, and Joseph Stauffer, treasurer. $2,000 of the stock in this society has been taken, and it has a good prospect of success. The present directors are J.M. Litman, O.W. Chisington, G.R. Goodman, D.M. Stauffer, G.S. Hughes, Lemuel Deeble, Franklin Lindermuth, D.D. Krieger, P.M. Basson, P.J. Ferguson, and Samuel Dresher.

In 1856 a society for the promotion of agriculture, horticulture, and mechanics was organized at Schuylkill Haven, with John J. Paxon as president and J.S. Keller secretary. During several years the society was prosperous, and its annual exhibitions were well sustained; but financial embarrassments ultimately compelled it to suspend operations.

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA POULTRY ASSOCIATION
By E.F.C. Davis, Secretary

This association was organized at Tamaqua, July 28th, 1874, by the adoption of a constitution and a code of bylaws and the choice of the following officers: President, John Hendricks; vice-president, O.H. Moore, Charles Shoener, E.S. Wheatley, Thomas Job, Daniel Shepp, Richard Rahn, Edward Griffiths, H.A. Weldy, B.O. Witman, Edward Scher; secretary, Thomas D. Boone; treasurer, E.J. Fry.

The first exhibition, held in Tamaqua, December 15th to 18th, 1874, was quite a success, and did much toward encouraging an interest throughout the county in the breeding, improvement and managing of throughbred poultry.

A fine exhibition was held in Mountain City Hall, Pottsville, in January, 1878, and a still larger one in January, 1879; and in January, 1880, one of the largest and most creditable poultry shows ever organized in the middle states was held in Mountain City Hall. At this show there were about 500 entries, including some from New York, New Jersey and Maryland. Not less than four thousand persons visited the hall during the show, and cash premiums to the amount of $600 were paid, being awarded by the veteran A.P.A. Judge Henry S. Ball, of Shrewsbury, Amass., the total expenses amounting to something over $1,000.

The association has become one of the popular institutions of Schuylkill county, and has nearly 200 members, including some of the most prominent professional and business men of the county.

At the annual meeting held January 10th, 1880, the following officers were elected: President, William Fox; treasurer, A.K. Whitner; secretary, E.F.C. Davis; executive committee, William Fox, Richard Rahn, A.K. Whitner, Charles M. Lewis, Samuel Auman, Charles H. Wottjen, E.F.C. Davis; also twenty vice-presidents, nearly all citizens of Schuylkill county.

CHAPTER XIV
LABOR TROUBLES
THE CRIMES AND SUPPRESSION OF THE MOLLIE MAGUIRES

During the last half century the question of capital and labor, and the just relation which they should sustain to each other, has engrossed the attention of political economists in this country with constantly increasing interest. The limits and scope of this work will not permit a discussion of this question here, but it is proper to make a brief allusion to certain changes which have transpired in this region, and to certain other changes which have kept pace with them, if they have not sustained to each other the relation of effect to cause.

Fifty years since, public sentiment here was so strongly opposed to everything that bore any resemblance to a monopoly that capitalists sought in vain to obtain chartered privileges which could come in competition with individual industry and enterprise. Gradually, however, the people yielded their opposition, till the present condition of things has come to exist among capitalists; and along with this has come the growth of labor associations, the members of which have sought, by concert of action, to protect themselves against what they deemed the exactions of combined monopolists. That lawlessness, and even crime, should be the result is no matter of surprise.

The first recorded strike (then termed a turnout) in this county was inaugurated July 9th, 1842. About 1,500 men mostly miners, refused to work. They were joined by many idle and vicious men, and they forcibly prevented others, who were disposed to do so, from pursuing their labor. Some riots ensued, but the authorities acted promptly, order was restored, and work resumed in two or three weeks.

It is noteworthy that one of the colliers, who was approached by a committee with an offer of mediation, declined to hold any communication with them; and "wisely told them that when he wanted guardians to take charge of his business he would get the court to appoint them."
ORIGIN OF THE MOLLIE MAGUIRES

The ruffianism which prevailed here during many years under the name of Mollie Maguireism was transplanted her from Ireland; but it never could have acquired the fearful character which it came to possess here had it not found a condition of things favorable to its development. One historian speaks as follows of the Irish, who constitute the larger portion of the population in the miners' villages and "patches" of the coal regions:

"Coming here fresh from the contract with the landlord and the land agent in Ireland, with no surrounding influence to teach them their error, they transfer a prejudice which has grown with their growth and strengthened with their strength to the coal operators and the boss, from whom direction they work. Taught from infancy to believe that as against them capital is never used except as an instrument of oppression, under the influence sometimes of real wrongs, but more frequently under a mistaken belief of an encroachment upon their rights, a spirit of resistance is aroused, which wicked and designing wretches have so used and controlled as to render the undetected commission of horrid crimes not only easy but to a certain extent sympathized with."

He might have added that the constantly increasing centralization of capital here does not tend to diminish the prejudices which they imbibed in their native land.

At about the commencement of the present century the Ribbon Society was organized in some of the counties in Ireland, among the tenantry, for the maintenance of what they looked upon as rights, against what they regarded as the oppressions of their landlords. In carrying out the objects of their organization they were guilty of many crimes, which rendered them a terror in some localities. About the year 1843 the Mollie Maguires were organized as auxiliaries to the Ribbonmen; or, perhaps, some of the more ferocious and desperate of the order took that name. It is said by some that the name adopted was that of a woman who manifested extraordinary ferocity in resisting the order took that name. It is said by some that the name adopted was that of a woman who manifested extraordinary ferocity in resisting the order took that name. It is said by some that the name adopted was that of a woman who manifested extraordinary ferocity in resisting
"grippers," "keepers" or "drivers," as agents of the landlords were termed. With such ferocity did they resist the legal officers who went among them, and such terror did they consequentially inspire, that it came to be almost impossible to induce an officer to undertake the service of a process.

It is not believed that any connection existed between the Ribbonmen and Mollie Maguires in Ireland and the Mollies in this country. It is true that their methods of committing crime and of warning their intended victims were the same, or nearly so. The practices which the immigrants had learned among the tenantry of Ireland in their resistance to the agents of the hated foreign landlords were adopted here with only such changes as changed circumstances seemed to require. By reason of the less repressive character of the laws here, and the political influence which the Mollies were able to wield their crimes in this country came to be far more frequent and atrocious than they had been in Ireland, and here they sought by inspiring terror to control in their own interest the policy of their employers. In extenuation of their crimes in Ireland it may be said that they were, or that they believed themselves to be, the victims of oppression; and that the law not only failed to protect them, but that it was the instrument by which they were oppressed. Here, however, no extenuation of their crimes can be found. Dewees says of them:

"The Mollie Maguire of the coal region comes into existence without cause or pretense of a cause in the pastor present history of this country. Standing the equal before the law of any man or set of men in the land, his rights guarded and even his prejudices respected, he becomes with fiendish malice and in cold blood an incendiary and assassin; a curse to the land that has welcomed him with open arms, and a blot, a stain and a disgrace upon the character of his countrymen and the name of the land of his nativity."

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

In this country no association was ever organized under the name Mollie Maguire. The Ancient Order of Hibernians, a benevolent and highly respectable association, which had a large membership in United States, in Canada and Great Britain, and was in Pennsylvania as well as some other States incorporated by law, came to be controlled in the coal region by the desperate outlaws who constituted what were termed Mollie Maguires here, and who stamped their character on the order in the coal regions.

It does not appear that there was in the constitution of this order anything criminal, but the evidence is too strong to admit of a reasonable doubt that the divisions of the order throughout the United States were assessed to raise funds for defending the criminal here. Charitable people seek to excuse this action of the national delegates, and to believe that the members of the order elsewhere had no sympathy with the acts of these outlaws. To such it must be a source of regret that the order elsewhere has not repudiated and denounced those who so deeply disgraced them here. It has been truly said that no other organization in the United States would have failed to denounce such action on the part of its members in any locality or region.

As early as 1848 it was known that an element of lawlessness was in this region, and even at that time it assumed the name by which it was afterward distinguished. Warnings in coarse, vulgar terms, illustrated with rude sketches of coffins, pistols, etc., and threatening vengeance, were occasionally received by those who had desired to intimidate them. These notices frequently bore the signature "One if Mollie's Children"; a fact which shows that within five years of the adoption of the name in Ireland it had been brought to this region. About the year 1854 vague rumors were heard of the existence of a laborers' organization, called in some portions of the anthracite region "Black Spots," and in others "Buck Shots," but these attracted only slight and transient attention.

About the year 1862, or soon after the breaking out of the rebellion, the suddenly increased demand for coal brought a correspondingly increased demand for laborers on the mines here, and this at a time when thousands were absent in the army. In answer to this demand came a large influx of foreigners, among whom might be found the worst elements of a floating population. It soon became evident that a lawless organization existed here, and when, in 1862, an enrollment for the purpose of a draft was ordered, its formidable and dangerous character was made evident. Assaults, arson and murders were committed, and the officers of the law were powerless to apprehend or punish the perpetrators. Coal operators were warned at the peril of their lives, not to work. Murders and incendiaryism became more frequent and bold; open riots, of the character of which no attempt at concealment was made, occurred; and terror was inspired throughout the mining region. Opposition to enrollments and drafts on the part of the lawless foreigners that had come hither was correspondingly increased demand for laborers on the mines here, and this at a time when thousands were absent in the army. In answer to this demand came a large influx of foreigners, among whom might be found the worst elements of a floating population. It soon became evident that a lawless organization existed here, and when, in 1862, an enrollment for the purpose of a draft was ordered, its formidable and dangerous character was made evident. Assaults, arson and murders were committed, and the officers of the law were powerless to apprehend or punish the perpetrators. Coal operators were warned at the peril of their lives, not to work. Murders and incendiaryism became more frequent and bold; open riots, of the character of which no attempt at concealment was made, occurred; and terror was inspired throughout the mining region. Opposition to enrollments and drafts on the part of the lawless foreigners that had come hither was

CRIMES OF THE MOLLIE MAGUIRES

Although the limits of this article will not permit a detail of the crimes which were committed, a few of the outrages that were perpetrated during the first years of the Mollies' career may be mentioned.

On the fifth of May, 1862, the miners at Heckscherville struck and stopped the pumps in the mines. The sheriff, after some delay, assisted by a posse, started them; but the posse was soon overpowered and they were again
stopped. He then telegraphed for assistance and 200 troops were sent from Philadelphia, and order for the time was restored.

In October some riotous demonstrations took place in Cass township. These were then believed to be instigated by rebel sympa-thizers who adroitly influenced those who feared the enrollment and the draft.

A riot occurred at the Phoenix colliery on the 13th of December, 1862, in which several men were severely beaten and some shots fired, without fatally injuring any one. This and the riots in Cass township were among the first open demonstrations of the Mollies. Outrages continued in the township of Cass, and in February, 1863, a mob there attempted to dictate concerning the sale of a colliery. They resorted to violence, but the sight of a pistol in the hands of a determined man induced them to desist. Through the years 1863-65 outrages and murders continued and increased in frequency. In August, 1865, a mine superintendent in Foster township was murdered as he was going toward his colliery after breakfast. His assassins, three in number, walked away and no trace of them was ever obtained. In April, 1866, an attempt to murder in open day was made in Mahanoy township. The would-be murderer was shot and his confederate arrested; and though both were strangers bail was at once furnished. A few days afterward five armed men appeared, exhumed the body of the assassin and took it away. On the 10th of January, 1866, an atrocious murder was committed within two miles of Pottsville, on a much traveled highway leading to Minersville, about 7 in the evening.

The money and other valuables on the person of the murdered man-Mr. Dunne, a mine superintendent-were untouched, and revenge was supposed to be the motive for the act. The assassins, five in number, walked away and were not apprehended.

At first revenge appeared to be the principal emotive which prompted the outrages that were committed, but after a time robber-ies came to be frequent. Doubtless some of these were committed by those who had no connection with the Mollie Maguires; but it was known that many of the robbers were shielded and protected by the order. In February, 1867, the office of the Boston Run colliery was entered in open day by four men and $4,500 taken, with which the robbers made off.

According to the Miners' Journal of March 30th, 1867, fourteen murders were committed in Schuylkill county in 1863, fourteen in 1864, twelve in 1865, five in 1866, and five up to March 30th, 1867.

From this time till the close of the year 1867 occasional outrages and several murders were committed; but during the years 1868-71 there was no murder that attracted attention to the Mollie Maguires. A sense of greater security began to be felt, and the recollection of past horrors became in a measure faint. It is believed by some that this temporary suspension of crime was caused by the narrow escape of some of their members from conviction in a neighboring county. This feeling if security was interrupted in December, 1871, by a bold and atrocious murder in Carbon county, and the fiendish spirit which had slumbered for a time awoke. The number of murders committed in this county from that time till the power of the Mollies was broken cannot now be easily ascertained, nor can the cases of riot, arson and deadly assault.

CONDITION OF THE MINING REGION

It will be remembered that during many years a gradual concentration of capital had been going on, that individual interests had become merged in those of large companies, and that transportation lines throughout the anthracite coal region had made successful efforts to acquire control of the mining interest and the coal trade. In Schuylkill county this trade came to be controlled by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, of which Franklin B. Gowen was president. Under the title of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company it came to own very large tracts of the choicest mineral lands in the county, and, by the absorption of the Schuylkill navigation and most of the railroad lines in the county, to control the transportation of all freight as well as the production of coal. It was therefore a matter of vital importance to this company to check the growth and break the power of an organization that jeopardized the interests of a region that was thus controlled by it. Mr. Gowen saw this, and sought by every means in his power the accomplishment of this object. The law was powerless for the punishment or prevention of crime that was committed in open day; for the criminals were protected by  an conductor, the Pinkerton agency. To the conductor he said:

"What we want, and what everybody wants, is to get within this apparently impenetrable ring; to turn to the light hidden aside of this dark and cruel body; to probe to its core this festering sore upon the body politic, which is rapidly gnawing into the vitals and sapping the life of the community. Crime must be punished in the mountains of Pennsylvania as it is in the agricultural counties and in all well regulated countries. We want to work our mines in peace, to run our passenger

and freight trains without fear of the sudden loss of life and property through the malicious acts of the Mollie Maguires; we want people to sleep unthreatened, unmolested in their beds, undisturbed by horrid dreams of midnight prowlers and cowardly assassins. We want the laboring men, of whatever creeds or nationalities, protected in their right to work to secure sustenance for their wives and little ones unawed by outside influence. We want the miner to go forth cheerfully to the slope or the shaft, for labor in the breast or in the gangway, wherever it may seem to him for the best, void of the fear in his heart, when he parts from his wife at the cottage gate in the morning, that it may be their last farewell on earth.
Mr. McParlan assumed the name of James McKenna and the character of a miner, and entered on his work late in October, 1873. Says Martin:

Thus described.

and that all required support should be rendered the detective. Mr. Pinkerton selected for the work a man named James McParlan—An Irishman—whom he thus described.

"Of medium height, a slim but wiry figure, well knit together; a clear hazel eye; hair of an auburn color and bordering upon the style denominated as sandy; a forehead high, full, and well rounded forward; florid complexion, regular features, with beard and moustache a little darker than his hair, there was no mistaking McParlan's place of nativity, even had not his slight accent betrayed his Celtic origin. He was, in fact, a fine specimen of the better class of immigrants in this country. He was passably educated, had beheld and brushed against the people of a considerable portion of the new world during the short time he had been in it, and earned a reputation for honesty, a peculiar tact, and shrewdness, skill, and perseverance in performing his numerous and difficult duties, and worked himself into the position of a firm favorite with those of my employes intimately associated with him."

Mr. McParlan assumed the name of James McKenna and the character of a miner, and entered on his work late in October, 1873. Says Martin:

"He was ordered to enter the haunts of the Mollie Maguires, mingle among them, join their order, become possessed of their secrets, collect evidence which would secure the arrest and conviction of the perpetrators of past murders, and give such warning as would enable the authorities to prevent the commission of new crimes. In short, he was to undermine the foundations of the Mollie Maguire structure so successfully, yet so secretly, that it would be an easy matter for the authorities to break up the order and punish its members guilty of crime."

He first came into the county at Port Clinton; then visited Auburn, Pine Grove, Schuylkill Haven, Tremont, Mahanoy City, New Town, Swatara, Middle Creek, Rausch's Creek, Donaldson, Tower City and other places, making investigations which convinced him that the existence of the order of Mollie Maguires was a reality, and also that "if every member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians was not a Mollie Maguire, every Mollie Maguire was a member of the Hibernian order." After visiting Philadelphia he returned, and for a time made his headquarters at Pottsville, where he became very popular as a good-hearted, roystering, reckless devil. He "literally sung, danced, fought and drunk himself into popularity with the rough men among whom he mingled." He here made the acquaintance of Pat Dormer, a Mollie and one of the county commissioners. He succeeded in passing himself on Dormer as a member of the roystering, reckless devil. He "literally sung, danced, fought and drunk himself into popularity with the rough men among whom he mingled." He here

Maguire was a member of the Hibernian order."

The ceremony of initiation was simple, consisting of an explanation of the principles of the order; in which it may be observed there was nothing objectionable, and an obligation of secrecy, mutual friendship, and obedience to the rules of the order and to superior officers "in everything lawful and not otherwise." This was followed by instruction in the secret work, or "goods," which consisted of signs of recognition, toasts for the same purpose, passwords, and night words.

**McPARLAN'S CAREER AS A MOLLIE**

McParlan thus became what he had before professed to be, a full fledged Mollie Maguire. He found that there was no such distinct order in America as the Mollie Maguires, but that in the coal regions vicious men had taken possession of the Ancient Order of Hibernians for the accomplishment of their fiendish purposes. This society was chartered by the Legislature, and in its written constitution not only was nothing reprehensible to be found, but, on the contrary, it inculcated pure principles of benevolence and morality. So thoroughly had the Mollies taken possession of the Ancient Order of Hibernians for the accomplishment of their fiendish purposes. This was assented to, and the initiation again. This was assented to, and the initiation took place April 14th, 1874.

The society has an existence in Great Britain as well as America, the whole being under the control of what is known as the "Board of Erin," selected from members in England, Ireland and Scotland; and from whom, every three months, and signs and passwords are obtained.

The national officers of the United States, with headquarters at New York, consists of national delegate, national secretary, national treasurer and president of the board of the city and county of New York. These officers are selected by the state officers. The county officers consist of county delegate, county treasurer, and county secretary. These officers are elected at county conventions consisting of officers of the divisions.

The officers of the several divisions consist of division master or body master, secretary and treasurer. These officers are elected by the members of the divisions respectively.
"The requirement for membership is that the applicant be an Irishman, or the son of an Irishman, professing the Roman Catholic faith."

It is not believed that the order generally had the bad character which it assumed here; but why the crimes of its members in the coal regions were not promptly repudiated elsewhere, and why money was raised for the defense of these criminals by assessments on the divisions through the United States, is an unexplained mystery. There are some things which tend to fasten suspicion on the order generally. As Dewees says:

Their "pass words and toasts imply a general habit of drinking, quarreling and suspicious night journeyings. From no quarter does there appear evidence of any acts of benevolence accomplished in pursuance of the avowed object of their organization."

The method of accomplishing the wicked designs of the Mollie Maguires which McParlan found practiced while he continued among them, cannot be better described than in the language of Martin:

"Among the Mollie Maguires there is a thoroughly arranged system for the commission of crimes. A member having made complaint of certain parties who have offended him, or who are considered dangerous to the order, the matter is referred to the body master or a meeting of the division, or to a meeting of the body masters of all the divisions and other leading men of the order, called by the county delegate. The body master or the meeting decides whether any action shall be taken in the premises, and what shall be the nature of the punishment. In case punishment is decided upon application is made either to the county delegate or to the body master of another division for men to commit the outrage, the men furnished being always unknown to the victim or victims. A solemn promise is given that the favor will be returned by the division needing the service, whenever called upon by the other. The appoints the men or they are selected by lot. A member refusing to obey the orders of his body master on such an occasion is expelled from the order. The men, having been selected, are dispatched to the headquarters of the division needing them, and are placed upon the track of their victims as soon as possible. They are required either to kill or brutally beat the persons pointed out to them, or to burn certain houses or mining structures. The person committing the crime is in nine cases out of ten a stranger to his victim, and is actuated by no personal ill will to him. He simply obeys the orders of his society, and murders or burns in cold blood and with a deliberation that is appalling. Murder is the most common form of punishment with the Mollies. 'Dead men tell no tales' is the principle of the order. It is enough for a man to incure the dislike of an influential member of the order to forfeit his life. The murder is generally committed in some lonely place, and with all the aggravated features of assassination. Though the conduct of the murderers is in the highest degree cowardly they are regarded as heroes by the Mollies, and large rewards have been paid by the society for the killing of obnoxious individuals. Should a member commit a murder or a robbery on his own account the act is endorsed by the society, and its whole influence in used to screen and protect the criminal. When a member is arrested for a crime the others are assessed in a certain sum for the purpose of raising money to employ counsel to defend him. The next step is to find witnesses enough to establish an alibi. Perjury in such a case being counted a virtue by the Mollies, the witnesses are always forthcoming. Evidence of any kind that is wanted can be promptly furnished by the order."

Space will not permit a detailed account of McParlan's career among the Mollies, or of the crimes committed by them during the time he was among them. The latter constitute one of the blackest pages of criminal history in this county. The former exhibits a remarkable degree of industry, perseverance, and determination on his part, in the midst of surroundings that would appall a man of ordinary courage; and affords a narrative of thrilling adventure rivaling in interest the creations of the romancer's fancy. Of the morality of the course which McParlan pursued every one must judge for himself. From the time when he entered on it he acted a lie, and in his intercourse with the Mollies his words were little besides lies. If the Jesuitical maxim "the end justifies the means" is ever applicable, it certainly was in his case but possibly those who hold to the immutability of principle may find much in his career to censure. He assumed the character of one of the worst of Mollies, acquired their confidence and was looked on by them as one of their most devoted, reckless and desperate men. He was thus enabled to come into possession of their most profound secrets, and by his daily reports to his superiors he gave such warnings of intended crimes that, in some cases at least, their commission was prevented. What was known as the coal and iron police had been organized, and a trusted member of the Pinkerton agency was made a captain in it, and through him warnings were often given.

THE LONG STRIKE

What was known as the "long strike" was inaugurated in December, 1874, and continued till June, 1875. In this contest the influence of the Mollies was potent, and fear of them prevented an earlier return to work. The "labor union," under the direction of which the strike had been commenced and continued, was finally compelled to succumb, and its defeat was overwhelming.

During the early part of the strike outrages by the Mollies were comparatively infrequent; but in February and March, 1875, when the success of the strike began to look doubtful they became very frequent and desperate in their character. Finally, when the end of the strike came, and the power of the labor union was completely broken and paralyzed, the Mollies became more desperate and defiant than ever, and their most fearful reign of lawlessness and crime commenced. From that time till the close of the year 1875 the reign of terror in the coal regions was at its height. Outside of the large towns and borough the feeling of insecurity was such that many dared not walk abroad after nightfall, and even their houses did not always afford protection; they were broken into and the object of displeasure ruthlessly beaten or murdered. If a mine boss had discharged a Mollie, refused him work, or incurred his displeasure in
any way, his death might be demanded and strangers brought from a distant division to assassinate him; and even if he had in his employ
some person or persons who were obnoxious to the Mollies a note of warning with sketches of a coffin and revolver would be received by
him. The project was even conceived of attacking Mahanoy City in force, and shooting down in open day those who were obnoxious to
the members of the order. The details which McParlan was able to learn of the plans and execution of several murders during this time exceed
in cold bloodedness and atrocity anything of the kind which has been recorded elsewhere in the country.

POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF THE MOLLIE MAGUIRES

In the future time the question will naturally arise, why, with the evidences that there were of the existence of such an organization
in their midst, the people did not rally for their own safety; and, if the supremacy of the law could not be asserted, adopt such means as have
been successfully resorted to elsewhere for protection against outlaws.

It must be remembered that in this country the elective franchise has hardly a limit, and experience has shown that partisan
politicians will, in their greed for power and patronage, caress and court the favor of any party or organization no matter how reprehensible,
if by so doing they can secure the triumph of their party. The Ancient Order of Hibernians, which as has been seen, was controlled
by the bad men known as Mollie Maguires, was sufficiently strong here to hold the balance of power between opposing political parties.
Both these parties therefore sought by every means to secure the support of the members of this order; and the result was that Mollie
Maguires became the incumbents of township offices in the mining regions, and also of county offices in some cases. They even boasted
of their ability to control in their own interest political parties in the state and nation. During the political canvass in 1876 it came to be
known that the Mollie vote had been purchased in this county by the Republican party, and that large sums of money had been paid to the
Mollie leaders. Doubtless many supposed this to be an arrangement with influential Irishmen by which the Irish vote was to be controlled.

In August, 1875, two of the commissioners and an ex-commissioner of Schuylkill county had been convicted of misappropriation of
county funds to their own use, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment. One of these was a Mollie, and the others were said to favor the
order. It was charged, and was afterward testified to by one of the parties to the arrangement, that not only was money furnished, but that
it was understood that in case Governor Hartranft was re-elected these men, with another who had been convicted of a murderous assault,
would be pardoned. This was denied with apparent indignation, but he was re-elected and the men were pardoned.

ERECTION OF A CRIMINAL COURT

In the State of Pennsylvania the judiciary is elective. A early as 1867 difficulty had been experienced not only in apprehending
Mollie Maguire criminals, but of convicting them even of minor offenses after apprehension. For commenting on the "lax administration
of justice" the editor of a prominent journal in the county had been three times arrested for libel. Under these circumstances it was thought
that the administration of justice would be facilitated by the erection of a criminal court district, which should include this county.

In the spring of 1867, in compliance with the earnest appeal of a committee of fifty citizens of this county, who visited Harrisburg
for that purpose, the Legislature enacted a law establishing a criminal court in the counties of Dauphin, Lebanon and Schuylkill, and
Governor Geary appointed Colonel David B. Green, of Pottsville, judge of this court. A special police law and an act providing for jury
commissioners were also enacted. The passage of these laws was violently opposed, and after their passage the presiding the presiding
judge and some of the county officers sought to impede their execution and ignored the jurisdiction of the criminal court. Certain attor-
neys, too, seemed desirous of winning an unenviable distinction by their opposition to the law, and the question of its constitutionality was
brought before the Supreme Court, where it was fully sustained. At the election in the autumn of 1867 Judge Green was chosen to preside
over this court, and though opposition to it continued to be manifested by the presiding judge and some of the county officials, this
opposition grew constantly feebler, till about 1870 or 1871 it had become quite impotent; and from that time to the adoption of the new
constitution in 1874 this court exercised exclusive jurisdiction in criminal matters, and the county enjoyed a degree of quiet it had not seen
for some years previously.

By the adoption of the new constitution this court was abolished and Judge Green was transferred to the Court of Common Pleas.

It is proper to say that those who opposed and sought to obstruct the execution of this law were probably not aware of the
formidable character of the organization the political influence of which they thus endeavored to secure. It was a source of regret,
however, that political ambition led people to favor influential criminals, and that the condition of things here rendered it necessary to
include two other counties in the criminal district in order to secure the election of an impartial judge.

POSITION OF THE PRESS

It is noteworthy that while some of the journals published in the county, either through fear of losing patronage or by reason of
their partisan character, or for some other unexplained reason, were exceedingly cautious in their comments on the doings of the Mollies,
the Shenandoah Herald, conducted by Thomas Foster, was bold and outspoken in its denunciation of them and their crimes, though it was
published in the very heart and center of their power. The Herald fearlessly advocated the adoption of prompt and effective measures
against them by vigilance committees, in order to give
the people that protection which the law failed to afford. He thus incurred the enmity of these lawless men, and threats against him were freely uttered. On the third of September, 1875, he received through the post-office the following notice, prefaced with a sketch of death's head and cross bones, and ending with a rude picture of a shot gun:

"Mr. Edtore wie wil give ye 24 hurse to go to the devil out this ye ------R we wil send ye After gomer James and Mr ------and Som More Big Bug with ye

"P. Molley."

"We aint done shooting yet."

He published the notice, and informed them that the one sided character of the shooting was at an end. The firm stand taken, and the fearlessness displayed by the editor of the Herald and a few others, not only taught the Mollies to respect and fear their opposition but inspired them with courage, and made Shenandoah the center in the coal regions of opposition to the Mollies, who were notified that tenfold retaliation would be inflicted on them. The night of October 9th, 1875, is remembered as one of terror in Shenandoah. A turbulent and violent spirit seemed to pervade the town, and a conflict between the Mollies and their foes seemed imminent, but though there was some shooting and other violence no general riot occurred.

BEGINNING OF THE END

On the morning of September 3d, 1875, a murder was committed at Storm Hill, in Carbon county, and the murderers were arrested near Tamaqua, and were taken thence to Mauch Chunk by the sheriff of Carbon county. An excited crowd of some fifteen hundred men accompanied these prisoners, guarded by officers, to the depot; and, to quote the language of Deweese:

"That no riot did occur is a flattering commentary upon the deep respect for law and order which characterizes the masses of the residents of the coal region. Only two days before the present tragedy Thomas Sanger and William Uren had been brutally murdered, and the assassins had escaped. Two weeks before, Squire Gwyther had been shot down on the public streets of Girardville, because he had dared to issue a warrant against a Mollie, and the murderer was still at large. Two weeks before, on the same day, in the presence of a large number of people, Gomer James had been openly shot at a picnic, and yet no one could tell who committed the act. Within two months policeman Yost, an official of their own town, had been shot while in the discharge of his duties, and the deed seemed cloaked in mystery. The last of a series of brutal outrages had just been committed, and the assassins, fresh from the scene of blood, had fallen into their power."

The investigations of McParlan, however, and the information he had furnished, gave the prosecutors confidence by assuring them that they were in possession of the guilty parties, and enabling them to defeat every attempt to show an alibi. His communications were made through his superiors in the Pinkerton Agency, and the prosecuting officers did not know who was the detective that furnished the information. The condition of things in the coal region was never more critical than while these men were lying in jail in Mauch Chunk awaiting their trial. The feeling of hostility to the Mollies daily grew stronger, and their desperation became more intense. In December, 1875, a secret vigilance committee, as it was supposed, killed Charles O'Donnell, a Mollie and a suspected murderer, at Wiggan's Patch, near Mahanoy City. This murder of one of their men, committed after their own manner, carried consternation among them and rendered them more desperate. In January, 1876, at conventions held for the purpose in this county, an assessment was made on each member for the purpose of arming the order with rifles; but arrests which were made about that time prevented the contemplated hostile organization. Such was the state of feeling at that time that a slight circumstance might have inaugurated open warfare.

Through McParlan it was known that other murders were contemplated, but the commission of these was deferred till after the trial of the prisoners at Mauch Chunk. Certain victims were marked for assassination after the acquittal of these prisoners, which was confidently expected. Had they been acquitted probably vigilance committees would have taken the matter in hand, and all the horrors of complete anarchy would have been the result.

FIRST CONVICTION AND EVENTS SUCCEEDING IT

On the 18th of January, 1876, Michael Doyle, one of the murderers of Jones, was put on trial at Mauch Chunk, and by means of information recently furnished by McParlan, who was present at the trial in his assumed character of a Mollie, the chain of evidence on the part of the prosecution was so strong and complete that the defense did not venture to introduce the witnesses that were present to prove an alibi, and the accused was, on the 1st of February, found guilty. In the course of this trial circumstances transpired which induced James Kerrigan, another of the prisoners, to become what among the ignorant Irish has always been considered most despicable, an "informer, and the revelations which he made, confirmed as they were by McParlan, gave the civil authorities confidence that they should be able to bring many other murderers to justice, and break up the organization which had hitherto given these assassins impunity.

Soon after the conviction of Doyle, six others were arrested and lodged in jail at Pottsville, charged with the murder of Yost at Tamaqua; and a few days later two others, charged with the murder of Sanger and Uren at Raven's Run. It had become known that information
had been given by James Kerrigan, but the arrest of the murderers of Sanger and Uren, and some things which transpired during the trial of Doyle at Mauch Chunk, led to the suspicion on the part of the Mollies that information had been derived from another source, and that the details of their doings had been made known by some one within the order. Suspicion fell on McParlan, and was communicated to the Mollie leaders by Catholic priests, although the order had been publicly denounced by them. The result of this suspicion was that his death was determined on by the Mollies, and the men who were to kill him were selected; but by assuming a bold and defiant demeanor in the face of his ap-pointed assassins, and stoutly protesting his innocence, he escaped assassination. The narrative of his adventures at thistime, and his hairbreadth escapes with his life, reads more likeromance than reality; and the courage and coolness that he dis-played are almost incredible. After an interview at Mahanoy Plane with Father Connor, the priest who had denounced him, in which he partially convinced him that he was innocent, he becamessatisfied that his mission as a detective among the Mollie Maguires was at an end, and disappeared.

James McKenna the Mollie was no more seen in this region, but the work of James McParlan the detective began to bring forth its fruits. On the 27th of March, 1876, Edward Kelly was put on his trial at Mauch Chunk for the murder of John T. Jones, and on the 6th of April a verdict of guilty was rendered. He was convicted without the evidence of Kerrigan or McParlan; and, as in the case of Doyle, no attempt was made to prove an alibi by witnesses suborned for the purpose.

When it came to be generally known among the Mollies that Kerrigan had given information to the authorities, their indignation was very great, and this feeling was shared by the better class of Irish who had no sympathy with the criminals, for almost every Irishman considers the crime of being an informer one of the blackest in the criminal category; so strong is the prejudice which he acquired in his native country.

A fruitless effort was made to effect the release of the Mollies arrested for the murder of Yost, under a writ of habeas corpus. The hearing was private, and Kerrigan was for the first time introduced as a witness.

### IMPORTANT TRIALS AT POTTSVILLE-McPARLAN AS A WITNESS

On the 4th of May (CDL), 1876 these men were arraigned at Pottsville for this murder, and elected to be tried together. Their names were James Carroll, James Roaritty, James Boyle, Hugh McGeehan and Thomas Duffy. Ample and elaborate preparations had been made for this trial on both sides. The Mollies had, as usual, suborned their witnesses to prove the alibis and felt sure of their ability to thus break down the testimony of Kerrigan, which they thought was the main reliance of the prosecution. Without their knowledge, however, the prosecution had determined to bring McParlan on the witness stand; and thus, on both sides, the utmost confidence was felt as to the result. That the jury might not be influenced by sympathy or fear care was taken to exclude from it, as far as possible, Catholics, and those who resided in isolated or unprotected localities, where the work of the assassins might be done with comparative impunity. It was known, too, that vigilance committees had been formed and that summary vengeance would be taken in case of lawlessness on the part of the Mollies in future; and this knowledge tended to strengthen the backbones of the jurors. No case had ever before been tried in this county of equal importance with this, and none had ever elicited so deep an interest; for it was felt that upon the result depended not only the financial prosperity of the region, but the personal safety of the inhabitants.

Judge Pershing presided, with Judges Green and Walker and Associates Judges Kline and Seitsinger, constituting a full bench. In his opening District Attorney Kaercher announced the fact that the detective, James McParlan, who had only been known to the Mollies as Jim McKenna, would be brought on the witness stand. This was a complete surprise, not only to the Mollies, but to the public, which had not hitherto known of his existence. This feeling of surprise deepened into one of wonder and amazement when he was placed on the stand, and with perfect coolness and deliberation told in detail the story of his career among the Mollies. When he told of being suspected as a detective and related his interviews with his intended assassins, his escapes, etc., judges, jury, counsel and audience listened with breathless attention; and so completely spellbound were all by his recital of things the existence of which had not been thought possible that at anytime the falling of a pin might be heard in the densely crowded audience. Much of this narrative which was not relevant was objected to by the counsel for the defendants, because of the intense interest which they evidently felt. He was on the stand during four days, and the most searching cross-examination failed to discover a flaw in his testimony. No conclusion was reached at this trial, by reason of the sudden illness and subsequent death of one of the jurors.

Early during this trial arrests and commitments were made of John Kehoe, high constable of Girardville and county delegate of the Ancient Order of Hibernians; Michael Lawler, of Shenandoah; Frank O’Neil, of St. Clair; Patrick Butler, of Lost Creek; Patrick Dolan, sen., of Big Mine Run; Michael O’Brien and Frank McHugh, of Mahanoy; and Christopher Donnelly, of Mount Laffee.

Martin says:

“During the trial of the Yost murderers it became known to the Mollies for the first time that those who planned and urged on the murder were liable to the same punishment as those who committed the act. They were terrified and incredulous. ‘Then it was proposed to assassinate all who were actively engaged in the prosecution of the Mollies, but this was abandoned as too hazardous.’

### CONVICTION AND IMPRISONMENT OF THE CRIMINAL

Alexander Campbell was convicted at Mauch Chunk
on the 1st of July of the murder of John P. Jones, though he did not fire any of the fatal shots. On the 12th of the same month Thomas Munley was found guilty at Pottsville of the murder of Sanger at Raven's Run; and on the 22nd Carroll, Roarity, McGeehan and Boyle were, after their second trail, convicted on the murder of Yost. On the 21st of September in the same year Thomas Duffy, who had demanded a separate trail, was also convicted of the murder of Yost. At about the same time many others were convicted of different crimes, and on the 16th of October received the following sentences, as stated by Martin:

"Thomas Donahue, accessory after the fact to the assault and battery on William M. Thomas, was sentences to two year's imprisonment at labor.
"Edward Monaghan, accessory before the fact to assault and battery on William M. Thomas, to seven years' imprisonment at labor.
"Barney Boye, perjury, three years at labor.
"Kate Boye, perjury, two years and six months at labor.
"Bridget Hyland, perjury, two years and six months labor.
"Thomas Duffy, perjury, two years and six months at labor.
"John, Kehoe, John Morris, Dennis F. Canning, Christopher Donnelly, John Gibbons and Michael O'Brien, convicted of complicity in assault and battery with intent to kill William M. Thomas, were respectively sentenced to seven years' imprisonment at hard labor.
"John Kehoe, John Morris, Dennis F. Canning, Patrick Dolan, sr., Michael O'Brien, Christopher Donnelly and Frank O'Neill, convicted of conspiracy to kill Jesse and William Major, were sentenced as follows: John Kehoe, seven years; Dennis F. Canning, seven years; Patrick Dolan, sr., one year; Christopher Donnelly, five years; Michael O'Brien, five years. The two last named, together with Frank O'Neill, were sentenced to two years respectively for aiding Thomas Hurley to escape."

The counsel for the men condemned to death made every effort to save them from their fate, without avail, and on the 21st of June, 1877, James Boyle, Hugh McGeehan, James Carroll, James Roarity, Thomas Duffy and Thomas Munley were hanged; the first for the murder of Yost, and the last for the murder of Thomas Sanger. Not a word of penitence for their crimes was uttered. They only expressed their forgiveness for those who had been instrumental in procuring their conviction.

On the same day four convicted Mollie Maguire murderers were executed at Mauch Chunk.
In November, 1877, Dennis Donnelly was convicted of the murder of Sanger, and he was executed June 11th, 1878.
Martin Bergen, who had been convicted of the murder of Patrick H. Burns, was hanged on the 16th of January, 1879.

John (commonly known as "Jack") Kehoe, who had been sentenced to fourteen years in the penitentiary, was tried for the murder of J.W.L. Langdon, and found guilty on the 18th of January, 1877. Strenuous but unavailing efforts were made by his counsel to save him from the extreme penalty of the law. Three death warrants were issued, and finally, after every resource had been exhausted in his behalf, he was executed on the 18th of December, 1878. Probably no one was more deeply steeped in guilt than he. He was not only an influential man among his countrymen, and a prominent politician, but an acknowledged leader among the Mollies; and it is safe to say that all the crimes the commission of which he incited will never be known.

By the conviction and execution of these criminals the supremacy of the law was asserted, and the lawless organization, which had acquired such power as to threaten the prosperity of the region and render life insecure, was effectually suppressed; and people were permitted to breathe free again.

The history of this country does not record another instance in which, by the ordinary processes of law, so great, so widespread and so dangerous an evil has been destroyed—so malignant a social cancer safely extirpated; and the people of Schuylkill county have just ground for a laudable pride in the fact that their administrators of justice, by their prudence, skill, and energy, accomplished this great work.

CHAPTER XV

THE MILITIA OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY
PARTICIPATION IN THE MEXICAN WAR

The militia of the State of Pennsylvania, which was established in early times, was reorganized under an act of Assembly passed in 1822. Under this law an enrollment was made of all citizens between the ages of twenty-one and forty-five liable to military duty, who were required to appear for drill at certain times and places under a penalty of fifty cents. Of course, except to keep up an enrollment for emergencies that might arise, this system was of no account, and for that purpose it was found during the late civil war to amount to very little.

In 1864 an act was passed regulating the organization of the militia and dividing the state into twenty military divisions in which an enrollment was required; but in addition to this a system of volunteer companies, regiments, etc., was established. These volunteers were required to appear in uniform for drill and exercise, and were supplied with arms and accoutrements by the state, and constituted what was termed the volunteer militia. Under that organization Schuylkill was a part of the fourth division. The expenses of this organization were borne largely by the volunteers themselves, and this was found to be so burdensome to them that by subsequent acts of Assembly provision was made for the payment to the companies by the state of sums sufficient to meet a portion of their expenses. By an act passed in 1870 the name of "National Guard of Pennsylvania" was given
to this volunteer militia, and by an act of Assembly in 1874 ten divisions of the National Guard were constituted and Schuylkill county was included in the fourth division. Each of the divisions was under the command of a major-general, and the divisions were divided into brigades according to the discretion of their commanding generals.

In 1878, by an act of Assembly, these divisions were abolished, and the state was constituted a single division with five brigades. Under this law Schuylkill county became a part of the territory of the 3d brigade.

The National Guard of this county consists of parts of two regiments and one unattached company. The last is known as the Ashland Dragoons, Captain O.H. Barnhardt. It was organized July 8th, 1874. Of the 7th regiment six companies are included in this county. Lieutenant Colonel W.F. Huntzinger, of this regiment, and Major P.J. Monaghan, quarter-master B. Bryson McCool and Assistant Surgeon Charles T. Palmer are residents of this county. The companies in Schuylkill county are commanded as follows; Company A, Captain William G. Burwell; Company C, Captain John F. Shoener; Company F, Captain Samuel R. Russel; Company G, Captain John M. Wehteril; Company H, Captain George W. Johnson; Company I, Captain Patrick H. Dolan.

Of the three companies of the 8th regiment in this county Company F is commanded by Captain Theodore F. Hoffan; Company H, Captain John W. Barr; Company B, Captain Wallace Guss.

Brigade officers residing in this county are: General, J..K. Sigfried; Inspector, Major William S. Moorhead; Quartermaster, Major E.J. Phillips; Aid-de-camp, Captain Clay W. Evans.

In June, 1875, all the militia of the county were called out to suppress riots at Mahanoy City and Shenandoah, the 8th under command of Colonel T.S. Gobin, the 7th commanded by Colonel A. Caldwell, the whole under command of General Sigfried. The troops remained on duty at these points, patrolling the region for the period of twenty days.

During the great strike of 1877 the entire military force of the county was again called on, and promptly responded with the exception of two companies of the 8th and the Ashland Dragoons, the circumstances surrounding which rendered concentration in season impracticable. The 7th; under Colonel Caldwell, and the 8th, under Colonel Gobin, were ordered to Harrisburg, where they arrived on the 22nd of July, and were at once assigned to duty at the arsenal, which they guarded till the 25th, when the 8th marched to Rockville, Dauphin and Marysville to guard the railroad bridges at those points.

On the 31st the 7th, with General Sigfried, who had been in command at Harrisburg, proceeded by rail to the vicinity of Pittsburgh and went into camp, followed two days later by the 8th. They remained at that camp till the 10th of August, but they were not called on to suppress riotous demonstrations, for the disorderly elements had previously expended their force. While encamped the soldiers in these regiments were placed by order of General Sigfried under strict military discipline, and greatly improved in drill and all soldierly qualities.

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY OF POTTsville

This company was organized in 1840 by Captain James Nagle, and its members at that time were all boys, under 20 years of age. The uniform was simple, made of blue drilling, and the company was known as "The Pottsville Blues." In 1842 the company changed their name to Washington Artillery, and were supplied by the State with arms.

In the latter part of the year 1846 the governor of Pennsylvania issued a proclamation, calling for one regiment of volunteers to serve in Mexico, during the war. This company offered their services and were accepted. The company numbered only about 30, but recruits from Minersville, St. Clair and Schuylkill Haven soon brought it to the requisite strength.

Headquarters were established at the old town Hall. The citizens of Pottsville took a lively interest in the welfare of the men. They presented every member of the company with a revolver, and the officers were presented with swords.

On the 5th of December, 1844, the company received marching orders, and left in the cars for Philadelphia, accompanied by a committee of citizens, Col. John C. Lessig, Samuel Huntzinger, and others. They soon left for Harrisburg, where the men were transferred to freight boats on the canal, and after considerable suffering from the inclemency of the weather arrived at Pittsburgh, where they were mustered into the service of the United States to serve during the war. The company was designed as Company B 1st regiment Pennsylvania volunteers. Francis M. Wynkoop, who accompanied the company as a private, was elected colonel of the regiment. Lieutenant Fernsler returned from Pittsburgh sick, and Sergeant Felsnagle was elected to fill the vacancy. The officers of the company as mustered into the service were Captain James Nagle, 1st Lieutenant Simon Nagle and 2nd Lieutenants F.B. Kaercher and Jacob Felsnagle. The company arrived at New Orleans on a steamboat, the latter part of December, 1846, and went into camp on the old battle ground, seven miles below the city. On the 8th of January, 1847, the company and regiment joined in a grand military parade in the city of New Orleans, to commemorate a day dear to the people of that city and the country. On the 16th of February they embarked with two other companies of the regiment, on board of a transport, crossing the bar on the southwest pass on the 18th, and in due time arriving at the island of Lobos. This was the first transport that arrived at the point selected for the concentration of the troops for the line of operation against Vera Cruz, and the Washington artillery was the first company of troops that disembarked at Lobos. The 1st and 2nd Pennsylvania, New York, and other regiments encamped on the island.

General Scott, commander-in-chief, having arrived, the troops re-embarked, and the fleet set sail for Vera Cruz,
where they arrived on the 5th of March. The companies, provided with three days rations, were transferred to the ships of war. On the 9th a landing was effected at a point about three miles below the city. Worth's division was first landed. Patterson's volunteer division, to which this company was attached, was next landed. A line was formed and the men lay down with their arms. On the 10th and 11th the investment of the city was completed. During the 10th the company received while marching through the chapparal, the first infantry fire (having previously been favored with salutes from the Mexican batteries); a halt was ordered, the fire was promptly returned, and the Mexicans were put to flight. On the 26th the firing ceased; the Mexicans having agreed to surrender both the city and the castle.

On the 9th of April the division to which the company was attached commenced its march toward the City of Mexico. They were joined near Cerro Gordo by General Scott, and on the 16th and 17th considerable skirmishing took place in endeavoring to get favorable positions, and in opening new roads to turn the enemy's left, and to gain possession of an eminence opposite Cerro Gordo Heights. At the battle of Cerro Gordo, which took place on the 18th, the company was under the command of Lieutenants Nagle and Kaercher, Captain Nagle acting as major.

After this engagement the company, with its brigade, went to Jalapa and thence to Castle Perote, where, with some other companies, it was, during some time, engaged in dispersing guerillas and maintaining communication between Pueblo and the National Bridge. Early in October they moved to Pueblo to relieve the garrison there. An action took place not far from there, and the enemy fell back on Matamoras.

At Pueblo the companies of the regiment were united, and proceeded with the command of General Lane to the City of Mexico, and encamped at San Angel till the expiration of the armistice.

In June, 1847, Lieutenant F.B. Kaercher and Sergeants Farnham and Shadman were sent home on recruiting service. At the National Bridge the party with which they were attacked by guerillas, and a sharp action ensued. On the 10th of July Lieutenant Kaercher and his associates reached Pottsville, opened a recruiting office, and enlisted a number of recruits, who were sent to Baltimore. January 26th he sailed from Baltimore with 60 recruits, and after a voyage of 26 days arrived at Vera Cruz, where he rejoined the company and regiment, which had been sent to Vera Cruz on guard duty. The regiment shortly afterward returned to the City of Mexico and took up its quarters at San Angel, where it remained till peace was declared.

Colonel F.M. Wynkoop, who left Pottsville as a private in the company, commanded the brigade at San Angel. He was highly complimented by General Scott for capturing General Valencia.

Returning with the army, the company landed at New Orleans, came up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Pittsburgh, and thence to Philadelphia, where they were mustered out of the service. On their return to Pottsville they were received with all the honors that their grateful friends could bestow on them. The streets were decorated with arches, flags were displayed, addresses of welcome were made, and the people vied with each other in doing honor to the returning veterans.

The following is a list of the members of this company from Schuylkill county.


Killed-Private Levi Bright, Private John Douty.


CHAPTER XVI

ORIGIN AND EARLY INCIDENTS OF THE CIVIL WAR

PATRIOTIC SPIRIT IN SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

The limits and scope of this work will not permit even an enumeration of all the events that led to the civil war. It is quite proper, however, that a brief mention should be made of some of the more important and immediate antecedents of the contest, in which many of the citizens of this county bore a conspicuous and honorable part, and in which many laid down their lives.

The doctrine which has by some been termed a grand political heresy-that of State sovereignty or, as it was improperly termed at the south, State rights-was what led to the civil war. By this is meant the right of a State to set aside any act of Congress which may be deemed unconstitutional by the State authorities. This doctrine was distinctly set forth in the famous Kentucky resolutions of 1798, and was for a long time accepted by many, perhaps a majority, in all parts of the country. It involves not the right of nullification alone, but that of secession.
South Carolina in 1832 was dissatisfied with the protective tariff which Congress established, and adopted an ordinance of
nullification and secession. A compromize was effected, some concessions to her prejudices were made and she repealed her ordinance.

The question of the introduction of slavery into Kansas arose, and the people of the northern States evinced a determination to
prevent it, in which they were successful. In 1856 threats of secession were freely uttered in case of the success of the Republican party,
which in 1855 had been formed on the issue of slavery extension. In 1860 Abraham Lincoln was elected President, and this was regarded
by southern statesmen as the finishing stroke against the extension of their institution, and they proceeded to execute their threats. South
Carolina took the lead in this, followed by Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Virginia, Florida and Louisiana, all of which before the end of
November issued calls for State conventions to consider the question of secession. In this they were followed after a time by Tennessee,
Texas, Arkansas and North Carolina, all of which adopted ordinances of secession.

South Carolina adopted the ordinance on the first day of December, 1860. Three days later Governor Pickens issued his proclama-
tion, declaring it to be a "separate sovereign, free and independent State, having a right to levy war, conclude peace, negotiate treaties,"

John B. Floyd, of Virginia, was at that time Secretary of War. He had caused 70,000 stand of arms to be placed in the arsenal at
Charleston, and had put that arsenal in the care of the governor of South Carolina; and thus when the State seceded it was able to possess
itself of these arms, and it was also found that the northern arsenals generally had been depleted and the arms sent south. Many of the ships
of the navy had been sent to distant seas, and the government was left without efficient resources with which to repress a sudden uprising.

The senators from South Carolina were the first to resign their seats, followed by others, and by members of the cabinet and of
the House of Representatives. Texas, the last of the seven States which united in forming the "Southern Confederacy," adopted the ordinance
of secession February 1st, 1861. On the 4th of the same month the delegates that had been appointed by the conventions for that purpose
met at Montgomery, Ala., to form a government. They adopted the constitution of the United States, with some additions and alterations,
as the constitution of the Confederate States, and chose for provisional President and Vice-President Jefferson Davis and Alexander H.
Stephens.

When South Carolina passed the ordinance of secession in December, 1860, Fort Moultrie, in Charleston harbor, was garrisoned
by sixty effective men in command of Major Anderson. The fort was not secure against attack, and Major Anderson was denied reinforce-
ments. Accordingly on the night of December 20th he removed his force to Fort Sumter, which had been quietly prepared for his
occupation. He had been instructed by the President "not to take up without necessity any position which could be construed into a hostile
attitude, but to hold possession of the forts, and if attacked defend himself." This evacuation of Fort Moultrie therefore surprized the
occupation. He had been instructed by the President "not to take up without necessity any position which could be construed into a hostile
attitudes, but to hold possession of the forts, and if attacked defend himself." This evacuation of Fort Moultrie therefore surprized the
President and aroused the indignation of the South Carolinians, who thought they had a pledge from the President to prevent such removal.
He was induced to take this step because he entertained just apprehensions of the occupation of Fort Sumter by the South Carolina troops,
and an attack on his small force in the nearly defenseless fort where he was, in which case it would have been impossible for him to hold
out a day.

The three commissioners that had been appointed by the South Carolina Convention "to treat with the United States" repaired to
Washington, and in obedience to their instructions demanded that Major Anderson should be ordered back to Fort Moultrie, and in case
of refusal, that the forts in Charleston harbor should be unconditionally evacuated. About this time the government offices, forts, etc., were
possessed by the state troops, who were supplied with arms and ammunition from the arsenal.

An attempt was made by the government to revictual and reinforce Fort Sumter, and for that purpose the steamer "Star of the
West" was sent in January, 1861, with two hundred men, provisions, ammunition, etc. She was fired on from Morris Island, was struck by
several shot and compelled to return without landing her troops and cargo.

April 12th, 1861, at 4 a.m., the bombardment of Fort Sumter was commenced from the batteries of Fort Moultrie, Sullivan's
Island and elsewhere. The rebel forces were under the command of General Beauregard, who demanded the surrender of the fort. Major
Anderson replied that he would only surrender when his supplies were exhausted. The cannonading was kept up with spirit on both sides.
The result was the surrender of the fort on the 13th, and on the 14th Major Anderson and his command left on the steamer "Isabel for New
York.

After the attack on Fort Sumter it was feared that the Confederate troops would march at once on Washington, and all the
available forces were so disposed as to afford the best protection to the capital possible with the meagre number of troops available.
Measures were immediately taken to raise troops in several States, and thousands of volunteers at once offered their services. President
Lincoln promptly issued his proclamation and call for 75,000 troops for three months, and stated that they would first be used to "repos-
se the forts, places and property which had been seized from the Union." The proclamation also called a special session of Congress for the
next 4th of July, to do whatever might be deemed necessary for the public safety. Another proclamation, declaring a blockage, was
soon issued.

To the call for volunteers the people of the loyal States responded with the utmost alacrity. Only two days after Governor Andrew,
of Massachusetts, issued orders calling for troops, two regiments were on their way to Washing-
ton. In every city and almost every village in the loyal north meetings were held, large sums of money were pledged for the support of the families of volunteers, regiments were raised and sent forward, and a degree of patriotic feeling was aroused the existence of which had by some been doubted.

On the 29th of April the President called for 40,000 volunteers to serve three years, and 25,000 regulars for five years’ service. In his message to Congress, which convened in special session in July, he recommended the passage of a law authorizing the raising of 400,000 men and placing $400,000,000 at the disposal of the government, in order to make this contest a short and decisive one. During the nine days of the session acts were passed to legalize the past action of the President, to authorize the calling out of 500,000 volunteers, to appropriate some $266,000,000 for the prosecution of the war, and to confiscate property used for insurrectionary purposes.

At the breaking out of the war hardly any one anticipated a struggle of beyond two or three months; but instead of the short, decisive war that was at first anticipated, the contest was prolonged through four years, with an expenditure of life and treasure unparalleled in the history of similar wars. During this time the union forces experienced alternate successes and reverses till the decisive triumphs of Grant and Sheridan, the resistless march of Sherman to the sea, and the complete exhaustion of the enemy’s resources, brought the consummation for which the friends of the Union had so long labored and prayed. The tension at which the feelings of the friends of humanity had been held during four years was relaxed, and the world breathed free again.

In this county, as in all parts of the country, the departure of the first companies of volunteers was an occasion of peculiar interest. It was the first time in the history of the country that the national existence had been threatened, and the patriotic feelings of every loyal citizen were roused into intense activity. It was the first general call which had been made on the present generation for volunteers to serve in the field, and, of course, the first occasion on which the people had been called to bid adieu to fathers, sons or brothers, who took their lives in their hands for the defense of their country. They experienced a higher pride in the patriotism of their kindred and friends, and a more poignant grief at parting than they felt on similar occasions afterward; for the acuteness of these feelings was, to some extent, worn away by frequent exercise, and after the first departure less of idle curiosity was felt.

The brave volunteers of Schuylkill county who left the comforts of their homes, their social and domestic pleasures, and who severed for the time the ties which linked them to their families and friends, to rally for the defense of the institutions under which they had been permitted to enjoy these comforts, pleasures and affections; to face the stern realities of grim-visaged war, to endure the hardships and privations of the field, to inhale the pestilential emanations from southern swamps, to languish in sickness and pain on pallets, "with no hand of kindred to smooth their lone pillow," and too often to find solitary graves where neither mother nor sister, wife nor children could come to "drop affection's tear," deserve a more extended history than the limits of this work will permit. They constituted parts of organizations the balance of which came from other regions, and their histories are inseparable connected with those of these organizations.

On the receipt of the intelligence that the national flag had been fired on the people in Schuylkill county at once forgot party distinctions, and came to be actuated by the feeling that the government must at all hazards be sustained.

On Monday, April 15th, at noon, the proclamation of the President was received. The requisition for troops came on Tuesday, the 16th, and on Wednesday, the 17th, two days from the time of receiving the proclamation, two companies, the Washington Artillerists and the National Light Infantry—numbering some two hundred and fifty men—were marching for Harrisburg and Washington. New companies were at once formed in various parts of the county, and their lists were rapidly filled. Such was the patriotic ardor aroused that men whose heads were white with age and scarcely adolescent youths presented themselves, and so great was their anxiety to serve their country that they regarded their rejection as a hardship.

On the evening of the 16th a meeting convened at the courthouse in Pottsville, at which resolutions were adopted and five trustees—Andrew Russel, Thomas H. Walker, S.N. Palmer, Levi Huber and Benjamin Haywood were appointed to take charge of subscriptions and funds for the aid of the families of volunteers. During the meeting subscriptions to the amount of $5,200 were received, and within four days this amount was increased to $6,915, from 77 contributors. Similar meetings were held in other parts of the county, and within a week a total of $24,286 was subscribed.

Of this fund Burd Patterson & Son subscribed $1,000, William H. Johns $250, Christopher Loeser, James S. Kirk and Gideon Bast each $200, and each of the following $100:


Many others contributed smaller sums, according to their ability.

By the 24th of April 22 companies, aggregating 1860, men, had left the county for the seat of war. Of these 1,600 had reached Washington on the evening of the seventh day after the issue of the President’s proclamation. At a meeting on the 25th a draft was adopted of a law authorizing and requiring the county commissioners to levy a tax of two and a half mills on the dollar, according to the valuation of the property in the county, to constitute a fund for the benefit of families of volunteers who required assistance. Under a resolution at this meeting a committee of three in each township and borough was appointed to report the families of volunteers requiring aid. Meetings were held in all parts of the county, and everywhere prompt measures were adopted to sustain the government in its hour of peril. A number of the patriotic women of the county organized a “Nurse’s Corps” and tendered their services to the government through the Secretary of War.

The patriotic spirit which the ladies of this county thus early manifested did not forsake them, but throughout the war they labored in their sphere for the comfort of those who had left their homes and gone forth to face the stern realities of “grim-visaged war,” in the defense of their country and its institutions. Many a soldier, as he languished in a distant hospital, far from wife, mother, sisters and friends, has had occasion to bless his unknown benefactress who sent from among the mountains in Schuylkill county some article for his comfort, or some delicacy which the government was not able to furnish. Ladies’ aid societies were organized in different parts of the county, auxiliary to a central society at Pottsville through which the contributions of these societies were forwarded to hospitals or to recent battle fields; and by this system the patriotic benevolence of these ladies was made available for the objects of it more fully than could have been done had each acted independently of the other.

Truth compels the admission that though, in the first wave of patriotism that swept over the county, as well as the entire north, no sympathy with the enemies of the country was discernable, yet as time wore on a small party of skulking sympathizers with those enemies was found to exist here. That such a feeling should exist among the comparatively ignorant was not a matter of surprise; but that an educated and somewhat influential professional man could be found to foster and encourage disloyal sentiments among these was a cause of deep regret and chagrin among the better class of citizens in the county.

On the evening of April 17th five Pennsylvania companies, including two from Schuylkill county, mentioned above, had reported at Harrisburg. As they passed through Baltimore the next day they were insulted and assaulted by the mob which the day after attacked the 6th Massachusetts. They reached Washington at 7 p.m. of the 18th, being the first to reach the city in response to the call of the 15th, for which promptness they were subsequently voted the thanks of the House of Representatives. They were quartered in the capitol, on the Potomac front of which they immediately commenced the construction of temporary defenses. During the period of their enlistment they were engaged in various duties in and about Washington. They became a part of the 25th regiment, of which Lieutenant H.L. Cake, of the National Light Infantry, was made colonel, and Captain John B. Selheimer, of the Logan Guards, lieutenant-colonel. An evidence of the good quality of the soldiers composing these companies is found in the fact that of one of them more than half afterward became commissioned officers, of every rank from lieutenant to brigadier-general.

The muster rolls of the companies as they reached Harrisburg were as follows:

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY


CHAPTER XVII
COMPANIES FROM SCHUYLKILL COUNTY THAT SAW COMPARATIVELY LITTLE SERVICE

Immediately following the departure of the first two companies from this county were others that rushed to the rendezvous at Harrisburg. These companies returned after a campaign of two weeks. Some of them were in line of battle, but none was actually engaged.

The following are the muster rolls of the companies as they left.

COLUMBIAN INFANTRY, OF GLEN CARBON


MINERSVILLE ARTILLERISTS


SCOTT ARTILLERY, OF SCHUYLKILL HAVEN


RINGGOLD RIFLES, OF MINERSVILLE


SIXTH REGIMENT

Schuykill county was represented in this regiment by the Port Clinton Artillery, Company B; the Marion Rifles, Company C, recruited at Port Carbon; the Nagle Guards, of Pottsville, Company D; The Ashland Rifles, Company E; the Washington Yagers, of Pottsville, Company F; the Lewellyn Rifles, Company G; and the Tower Guards, of Pottsville, Company H.

The regiment was assigned to General Thomas's brigade and made a part of General Patterson's division, with which it crossed the Potomac in a demonstration on Harper's Ferry. It was engaged in one of two skirmishes, and was mustered out on the expiration of its three months' term.

The men from this county were:

PORT CLINTON ARTILLERY


MARION RIFLES, OR PORT CARBON


NAGLE GUARDS, OF POTTSVILLE


Privates.-George Aurand, George Ayrgood, William

ASHLAND RIFLES


WASHINGTON YAGERS, OF POTTSVILLE.


LEWELLYN RIFLES


TOWER GUARDS, OF POTTSVILLE.


NINHTH REGIMENT

In this regiment the Wetherill Rifles of St. Clair (Company H) and the Keystone Rifles of Port Carton (Company K) represented Schuylkill county. The regiment was stationed for a very brief period a short distance
from Wilmington, Del., after which it became a part of Miles's brigade and participated in a forward movement toward Winchester. It was never under fire and suffered no loss by death or desertion. The rolls of the Schuylkill county companies were as follows:

WETHERILL RIFLES, OF ST. CLAIR


KEYSTONE RIFLES, OF PORT CARBON


TENTH REGIMENT

The Scott Rifles, of Tamaqua (Company G), and the Washington Light Infantry, of Pine Grove, were attached to this regiment. It participated in the demonstration on Winchester but it engaged in no severe service. It was mustered out of the service July 31st, 1861. The men in these companies were as follows:

SCOTT RIFLES, OF TAMAUQA

Officers.-Captain, William B. Lebo; first lieutenant, S.B. Lutz; second, William DePue.


WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY, OF PINEGROVE


FOURTEENTH REGIMENT

Company B, called the Lafayette Rifles, alone represented Schuylkill county in this regiment. During its brief term of service it several times went in search of the enemy, but failed to encounter him. At the expiration of the term it was discharged, but many of the officers and men re-enlisted. The roll of Company B as follows:
LAFAYETTE RIFLES, OF ST. CLAIR


SIXTEENTH REGIMENT

In this regiment the German Light Infantry, Company B, of Tamaqua; the Jackson Guards, Company D, also of Tamaqua; the Wynkoop Artillery, Company E, of Silver Creek; the Union Guards, Company I, of Pottsville; and the Schuylkill Guards, of Minersville, represented Schuylkill county. Like many of the three months troops, its severest duty was marching. it was not under fire. The following are the rolls:

GERMAN LIGHT INFANTRY OF TAMAQUA


JACKSON GUARDS, OF TAMAQUA


WYNKOOP ARTILLERY, OF SILVER CREEK


UNION GUARDS, OF POTTSVILLE


SCHUYLKILL GUARDS, OF MINERSVILLE


TWENTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT P.V.M.

When in June, 1863, Pennsylvania was a second time invaded, the citizens of Schuylkill county as well as other portions of the State at once took measures to meet the emergency. A mass meeting was held, and companies were raised and sent forward to Harrisburg. It is said that 700 men left the county within 24 hours. Of thirteen employees of the Miners‘ Journal office ten volunteered, and the other reluctantly remained to prevent the suspension of the paper. On their arrival at Harrisburg these volunteers were organized into the 27th P.V.M. of which companies A,B,C,E,G, and I, were from this county. Three-A,B and C-were from Pottsville; E from Tamaqua, G from Ashland and I from Frailey township.

It moved to Columbia on the 24th and as it guarded the bridge across the Susquehanna there it was on Sunday, the 28th, attacked by a largely superior force of the rebels, who were prevented from crossing, and thus the Pennsylvania Railroad as well as other roads and bridges saved from destruction. In this action the regiment suffered no loss. Three deaths from disease occurred during its short term of service.

TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT

This regiment, in which were some forty men from Schuylkill county, was raised under authority of Governor Curtin by Colonel (afterward General) Geary, who was subsequently governor of the State. It was uniformed and equipped at his expense, and under his command and that of the able officers who succeeded him it achieved a brilliant record. Space will not permit a detailed account of the career of this regiment, in which the few men from this county bore an honorable part. It served through the term for which it was mustered, and many of its veterans re-enlisted and served to the end of the war.

The following represented Schuylkill county in this regiment:


THIRTY-NINTH REGIMENT P.V.M.

Nearly all the men in this regiment were from Schuylkill county. They went into the service for the purpose of repelling the invaders who came into Pennsylvania the second time. In July, 1863, they left Harrisburg for Carlisle, and thence went to Shippensburg, from which place they marched to Chambersburg and to Green Castle. The invaders had been to these places and retired before the arrival of this regiment. Had opportunity presented, the men of this regiment would have done battle valiantly in defense of their State.

FORTIETH REGIMENT--ELEVENTH RESERVES

This was a three-years regiment in which Schuylkill county was represented by about thirty men. It was organized on the 1st of July, 1861, and on the 30th was mustered into the service of the United States at Washington. In September it had a slight skirmish with the rebels across the Potomac while doing picket duty, and in December it went into winter quarters near Lewinsville. In June, 1862, the regiment went to the Chickahomminy, and at the battle of Gaine's Mill was fiercely engaged, losing forty-six killed and one hundred wounded. The regiment was captured here and sent to Richmond, whence it returned in August.

It was in the second Bull Run campaign, in the Maryland campaign following, and those of Fredricksburg and Gettysburg, in all of which it was warmly engaged. Its last service was in the Wilderness, where it was engaged and under fire during several days. Immediately after the battle of Bethesda Church it returned to this State and was mustered out.

The following were from Schuylkill:

CHAPTER XVIII

A REGIMENT OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY MEN
THE FORTY-EIGHTH PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS

In response to the call of the President in 1861 for one hundred thousand men Governor Curtin authorized Colonel James Nagle, of Pottsville, to raise a regiment. Colonel N. determined that it should be composed wholly of Schuylkill county men, and in the work of recruiting he associated with him Joseph A. Gilmour, James Wren, Henry Pleasants, Joseph H. Hoskins, Daniel Nagle, Daniel B. Kauffman, John R. Porter, H.A.M. Filbert, William Winlack and Philip Nagle. About the middle of August recruiting commenced, and the regiment was ready to go forward by the 20th of September. A few of the men had seen service in the three months campaign. Company A was recruited in Port Clinton and Tamaqua; Companies B,C,D,G, and H in Pottsville; Company E in Silver Creek and New Philadelphia; Company F in Minersville; Company I in Middleport and Schuylkill Valley, and Company K in Schuylkill Haven and Cressona. James Nagle was commissioned colonel, David A. Smith lieutenant-colonel, Joshua K. Sigfried major, and John D. Bertolette adjutant.

The regiment was presented by Governor Curtin with a stand of colors in behalf of the State, and another from John T. Werner, of Pottsville. The last bore the inscription, "In the cause of the Union we know no such word as fail."

On the 24th of September the regiment went forward to Fortress Monroe, where it arrived on the 26th, and at once military discipline and drill commenced.

On the 11th of November it sailed for Hatteras Island, N.C., where it arrived on the 12th. During its stay here it was thoroughly drilled and disciplined. While here Colonel Smith resigned, and Major Sigfried was promoted to fill the vacancy, and Captain Daniel Nagle was made major.

March 12th six companies went to Newbern, and though they were not in the battle at that place they did important service by escorting and carrying ammunition. On the 8th of July the regiment arrived at Fortress Monroe, and during its stay of nearly a month Major Nagle resigned and Captain Kauffman was promoted to fill the vacancy. On the 4th of August the regiment arrived at Fredericksburg. On the 12th it moved up the Rappahannock and joined the army of General Pope at Culpepper on the 14th; thence it went, via Cedar Mountain, Stevensburg, White Sulphur Springs, Warrenton and Manassas Junction, to Bull Run, where at the second battle it was first engaged. It acquitted itself with great honor there and sustained a loss in killed, wounded and missing of one hundred and fifty-two. It was again engaged at Chantilly, with but a slight loss.

From the field of Chantilly it went to Alexandria, and thence on the Maryland campaign, marching through Washington, Leesboro, Brookville, Haymarket, Kemptown and Frederick City to South mountain, where on the 14th of September, 1862, it was engaged, suffering a loss of eleven wounded and one missing. Here Colonel Nagle received his commission as brigadier-general, and soon afterward Lieutenant-Colonel Sigfried was made colonel, Captain Henry Pleasants lieutenant-colonel and Captain James Wren major. After the battle of Antietam the regiment went into camp at Pleasant Valley, near Harper's Ferry. Thence it moved on the 27th of October, crossed into Virginia at Berlin and marched by the way of Lovettsville, Bloomfield, Upperville, Piedmont and Orleans; crossed the Rappahannock and on the 10th of November skirmished with Stuart's cavalry near Amissville. It encamped at Falmouth on the 19th, and on the 11th of December made preparation for the battle of Fredericksburg, in which it was engaged on the 13th and in which, by its coolness under a murderous fire, it won the highest commendations.

In February, 1863, the regiment with its corps was detached from the army of the Potomac, and late in march it was ordered west. It arrived in Lexington about the first of April, and remained in the city during the summer, engaged in provost duty. On the 10th of September it was ordered to East Tennessee and on the 28th it arrived at Knoxville via Nicholasville, Crab Orchard, Cumberland Gap and Tazewell. On the 4th of October it moved by rail to Bull's Gap, and on the 5th it marched to Lick creek. Thence it went to Blue Springs, Ky., and participated in the battle at that place; returned by rail and marched to Knoxville, where it arrived on the 15th. It remained in camp at Lenoir, on the East Tennessee Railroad, about a month, and on leaving became engaged in a sharp action, which lasted all day, near Campbell's station, in which it lost one killed, one wounded, one prisoner and one missing. On the 17th it retired within the defenses of Knoxville, and was engaged in resisting the siege till it was raised on the 5th of December. Two days later it went into camp at Pleasant Valley, where most of the men re-enlisted and received a veteran furlough, to date from January 13th, 1864; they returned to Pottsville, where they arrived February 3d. At the expiration of its furlough the regiment went to Virginia with its corps (the 9th), and was reviewed by the President as it passed through Washington. It encamped at Bristoe's station March 29th, and on the 6th and 7th of May took part in the battle of the Wilderness. It was again engaged at Spottsylvania, where it bravely resisted a desperate attempt to drive back the Union line and lost heavily. Up to the close of this battle its losses since its return to Virginia had amounted to one hundred and eighty-seven. From the 25th to the 31st of May it was engaged in skirmishing in the vicinity of Tolopotomy, and during this time Major Gilmour, Lieutenant Samuel Laubenstine and William H. Hume were killed by sharpshooters. On the 3d of June it was engaged
in the battle of Cold Harbor, where it lost seventy-five killed and wounded. On the following day it gallantly repulsed, without loss, an
impetuous charge on the position which it held. It resumed its march, crossed the Chickahominy and James, and arrived in front of
Petersburg on the 16th; and before daylight on the next day the 48th and the 36th Massachusetts crossed a marsh, drove in the enemy's line,
captured four pieces of artillery, fifteen hundred stand of arms and six hundred prisoners. The position thus secured was not repossessed
by the enemy. Lieutenant Colonel Henry Pleasant, as early as the 21st of June, conceived the project of excavating a mine from this point and
by an explosion destroying a fort near to them and opening the enemy's lines. His plan was laid before his superiors and approved by
them, and on the 25th the work was commenced.

Space will not permit a detail of the excavation, charging and explosion of this mine. The work was done by the men of the 48th,
and with such secrecy was it carried on that many of those in the immediate vicinity were for a long time ignorant of the fact that it was in
progress. Difficulties were encountered that would have been considered by many insuperable under the circumstances, but they were
overcome by the skill and perseverance of Colonel Pleasant and the indomitable energy of the men of the regiment. On the 30th of July
the mine was exploded, opening a crater 200 feet long, 50 feet wide and 25 feet deep, completely destroying the fort under which was
excavated. The fruits of all this labor and skill were lost by the fatal action of a general officer.

The regiment was only engaged in picket duty for some time after the explosion of the mine. On the 30th of September it
participated in the battle of Poplar Spring Church, where it maintained its accustomed coolness, though its lines were three times broken
by frightened Union troops. It lost in the action two killed, seven wounded and forty-four prisoners. It was again slightly engaged on the
27th of October. During the month of October Colonel Sigfried and Major Bosbushly were mustered out on the expiration of their terms of
service. Lieutenant-Colonel Pleasant was made colonel, Captain George W. Gowen lieutenant-colonel, and Captain Isaac F. Brannen
major. When, in December, Colonel Pleasant was mustered out Lieutenant-Colonel Gowen was promoted to the colonelcy, and Major
Brannen was made lieutenant-colonel.

In the early part of December, in conjunction with other troops, the 48th occupied Fort Sedgwick, otherwise known as Fort Hell.
Here it was almost daily shelled. On the 2nd of April it left this fort and moved to the assault on Fort Mahone, where the gallant Colonel
Gowen was killed. On his death the regiment wavered, but it was rallied by Lieutenant-Colonel Brannen and the works were carried and
held. In this action the regiment lost ten killed, fifty-six wounded and twenty-four missing. After the death of Colonel Gowen Lieutenant-Colonel
Brannen became colonel, Captain Jones lieutenant-colonel and quartermaster Wagner major.

On the 3d of April the 48th with the rest of the line occupied Petersburg. It was afterward engaged in guard duty, and remained
at the front till the surrender of Johnston, after which it was mustered out and returned to Pottsville, where it arrived July 20th, 1865.

The following are the rolls:

FIELD AND STAFF OFFICERS


BAND


COMPANY A


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits:

Officers.-Captain, James Wren. First lieutenant, Ulysses A. Bast; second, John L. Wood

Private John Rorety, Samuel Weiser, John Patrick Cummings, Edward Daniels, William J. Daubert, Henry Dersh, John Dougherty, William Dudley, William Degan, Henry Earley, John Eppinger, William Clark, Charles H. Miller, Oliver C. Hatch.


Re-enlisted veterans and volunteers, 1864:


COMPANY B

Re-enlisted veterans and volunteers, 1864:


Private John Rorety, Samuel Weiser, John Patrick Cummings, Edward Daniels, William J. Daubert, Henry Dersh, John Dougherty, William Dudley, William Degan, Henry Earley, John Eppinger, William Clark, Charles H. Miller, Oliver C. Hatch.


Re-enlisted veterans and volunteers, 1864:


COMPANY C

Re-enlisted veterans and volunteers, 1864:


COMPANY D


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits, 1864:


COMPANY F


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits, 1864:


Privates.-Henry Aufman, Frank Boyer, Daniel Boyer, Joshua Boyer, Daniel D. Barnett, Robert Beverage, Michael Brennan, Michael Bohannan, James Brown, John Brennen, Patrick Brennan, James Conners, Lindsey H.


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits, 1864:


COMPANY G


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits, 1864:

Officers.-Captain, Oliver C Bosbyshell. First lieu-

COMPANY H


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits, 1864:


COMPANY I


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits, 1864:


COMPANY K


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits, 1864:


CASUALTIES IN THE FORTY-EIGHTH
IN THE BATTLES OF BULL RUN (SECOND) AND CHANTILLY


**SOUTH MOUNTAIN**


**Missing** - Martin Foley, Co. G.

**ANTIETAM**

**Killed** - William Cullen, Co. E; Lewis A. Focht, Co. I; Daniel Moser, Co. K; Alexander Prince, Co. B; Alva F. Jeffries, Co. D; John Broadbent, Co. F; Charles Timmons, Co. G; George Dentzer, Co. K.


**FREDERICKSBURG**

**Killed** - Henry Williamson, Co. D; Reuben Robinson; James Williams, Co. A; Michael Devine, Co. B; John Williams, Co. B; William Hill, Co. B; Thomas Kinney, Co. D.


**Missing** - George Ayrgood, Co. A.

**SEIZE OF KNOXVILLE AND NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1863**


**Missing** - George A. Livingston, Co. A; Daniel Root, Co. B; Robert McElrath, Co. C; James Brennen, Co. C; Isaac Arndt, Co. I; J.R. Sherman, Co. K.

**WILDERNESS AND SPOTTSYLVANIA, MAY 6th TO 15TH, 1864**


**Missing** - George C. Seibert, Co. C; Edward H. Ebert, John D. Weikel, Co. D; William Gutshall, Co. E; George Kramer, Co. F; Harrison Bright, Michael Scott, Lewis Aundel, James Wentzel, Co. H; W.B. Beyerle, B. McArdel, W.B. Shearer, Co. I.

### FROM THE 15th TO THE 31st OF MAY, 1864

**Killed** - Patrick Doolin, Henry McCann, Co. F; Samuel B. Laubeinestein, Charles Norrigran, Co. N.


### FROM MAY 31st TO JUNE 4th, 1864


### ASSAULT AT PETERSBURG, JUNE 17th, 1864


**Missing** - A. Wren, Co. B; Jacob Wigner, Co. B; Mike Lavelle, William Auchenback, Co. F.

### ON THE 18th OF JUNE, 1864


### CHARGE AT PETERSBURG, APRIL 2nd, 1865

**Killed** - George W. Gowen; John Homer, Co. B; Daniel D. Barnet, Co. E; David McGloir, Co. F; James Ring, William Donnelly, George Uhl, Co. H.; Albert Mack, Albert Zimmerman, Wesley Boyer, Co. I.


MORTUARY RECORD

Killed.-Colonel George W. Goulm died of wounds.

COMPANY A


COMPANY B


COMPANY C

Killed or Died of Wounds.-William Lavanison, John Whitaker, John Weiser, Barney Getler, Daniel Brown, Abraham A. Acker, Michael Mahan.


COMPANY D


COMPANY E


COMPANY F


Died of Disease.-William Breteron, Charles Triesch, Daniel Fenstemaker, J. Evans, Jacob Wagner, Elijah DeFrehm, William Fulton, Frank Queeny, Peter Litchfield.

COMPANY G


Died of Disease.-Philip L. Drehl, Henry Burnish, Edward McCabe, Charles Clark, Charles Hesser.

COMPANY H


COMPANY I


Company K


Died of Disease.-Patrick Handley, Peter Boyer, Peter Burke, George F. Maines.

CHAPTER XIX

RECORDS AND ROLLS

OF THE FIFTIETH AND FIFTY-SECOND REGIMENTS

Companies A and C of the 50th regiment were recruited in Schuylkill county. Its organization took place September 25th, 1861, with B.C. Christ, of this county, colonel; and on the 2nd day of October it went to Washington, and thence on the 9th to Annapolis. On the 19th it sailed on transports for the Carolinas. On the night of November 1st a gale was encountered off Cape Hatteras, in which one of the vessels was only saved from loss by the efforts of the soldiers, after the masts had been cut away, everything thrown overboard, and she had been abandoned by the crew.

The regiment first encamped near Hilton Head, but on the 6th of December it went to Beaufort, where on the night after its arrival it had its first fight with the rebels whom it drove from the island. On the 1st of January 1862, it was engaged in force for the first time at the battle of Coosaw, where a rebel fort was destroyed.

In the demonstration on Charleston, in May, 1862, Colonel Christ, with his regiment and some other troops, went to Pocotaligo to burn the railroad bridge there. The only access to the place was over a narrow causeway, through a marsh, and a bridge from which the plank had been removed. Captain Parker of this regiment volunteered to lead his men across on the "stringers" of the bridge, which he did, though the feat cost him his life, for "he fell pierced by three bullets while cheering his men on the perilous passage." although the bridge was not burned, a large force was drawn from Charleston, against which General Hunter was then operating.

In July the regiment was ordered to Fortress Monroe, and thence to the support of General Pope in Virginia. It was engaged two days at the second Bull Run battle, and lost heavily, but it drove the enemy in every encounter. The regiment with its brigade was severely shelled near Centerville, and was sharply engaged at the battle of Chantilly. It was again engaged at South Mountain September 14th, and at Antietam on the 17th. At Fredericksburg it was not actively engaged, though it witnessed the battle.

After General Burnside was superseded in Virginia, the 50th went west and took part in the siege of Vicksburg, and after the fall of that place was with General Sherman in his campaign to Jackson. In the action at that place Lieutenant-Colonel Brenholtz, in command of the 50th, was killed.

On the 10th of August the 50th returned to Kentucky and thence to Knoxville. Its force was then reduced to eighty men, nearly all of whom were suffering from malarial disease. The rest were in hospitals. In October it was sent with its corps to repel an invasion of East Tennessee. It was in action, but its loss was not great. Soon after its return it went to aid in checking the advance of Longstreet from Chattanooga, but was compelled to fall back. It was engaged at Campbell's station, where the enemy was held in check for a time. On the 29th of November it assisted in the defense of Saunders, and skirmished with the rear of the enemy after the siege was raised, camping at Blaine's cross-roads. At this place almost the entire regiment, on the 1st of January, 1864, re-enlisted and was ordered to Nicholasville, a distance of 200 miles, which it accomplished in ten days.

The sufferings of the men on this march were almost incredible. On their arrival they received their veteran furlough.

On the 20th of March they went to Annapolis, where their numbers were recruited, and on the 5th of May reached the field at the Wilderness, where they were engaged, losing seventeen killed and fifty-three wounded and missing. They were again engaged at Spottsylvania court-house, where they charged with their brigade and carried the heights, with a loss in killed, wounded and missing of 120 men. They were again engaged on the 12th, and daily for some days afterward. For more than a month from the 21st of June the regiment was engaged in picket duty before Petersburg. It was ordered to the mine on the 29th of July to support the assaulting troops, but with them was forced back. On the 19th of August it went to the Weldon Railroad, where it was attacked and lost some in killed and wounded. It was actively engaged at the front till the month of October, when 147 recruits were received and it went into camp for two weeks for drill. During the month of November it went into winter quarters, where it remained till the next spring. It was engaged in the operations of the army early in April, 1865, and was among the first regiments that reached Petersburg on its fall. It participated in the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the national monument at Gettysburg, and in due time was mustered out of the service.

The muster rolls of the Fiftieth contained the following names from Schuylkill county.

REGIMENTAL OFFICERS


COMPANY A

Officers.-Captain, J.B. Brandt. First lieutenant, Samuel R. Schwenk; second, Edward F. Wiest. Ser-


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits:


COMPANY B

George Hiney, William Hiney.

COMPANY C


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits:


Recruits under the call of July, 1864:


Under the call of December 19th, 1864:


**CASUALTIES IN THE FIFTIETH**

In the battles of Bull Run (second) and Chantilly:

**Company C.-Killed:** George W. Kinley and Edward Haemer. **Wounded:** D. Berket, Jonas Kremer, George Simpson, Peter Powell, Samuel Hoffman, Garret Garrigan, Benjamin Knarr, Dennis Mellery, John Martin, George Schwenk. Missing: Jacob Getler, Charles Knarr, Franklin Wise, Edward Marl, Henry M. Diebler.


In the battles of South Mountain and Antietam:

**Company C. - Killed:** Richard Fahl, Daniel McGlenn. **Wounded:** Augustus Berger, Jeremiah Helms, Jonathan Bannar, Samuel Agley, John Graif, William Patten, Franklin Fenstermacher, Jacob Hahn.

**Company A. - Killed:** E. Warner. **Wounded:** S. Schwalm, William Biller.

At Campbell's Station and Knoxville.

**Killed:** Emanuel Faust, Co. A.

**Wounded:** Henry Dieble, James Birnie, Co. A; M. McKeon, Co. D; A. Gift, Co. E; Wm. Cole, Co. I; H. Geehler, Co. H.

In the battles of the Wilderness, and subsequent engagements up to June 6th, 1874: [transcriber's note: 1874 is in error. The Civil War was over in 1865.]


**Mortuary Record**


**Died of Disease:** David G. Alpach, Nathaniel Stutzman, Robert McClelland, D. Towney.

**Company C.-Killed or died of wounds:** William H. Hill, Michael Riley, Evan J. Warner, Sam Martz, Dan Evert, Jacob Benedict, Thomas Lloyd, Franklin Sharer, John Reed, Emanuel Eckert, Albert Bertolet, James Golles, Jeremiah Helms.

**Died of disease:** Lucian Schwartz.

**FIFTY-SECOND REGIMENT**

About fifty citizens of Schuylkill county were members of this regiment, which was organized in October, 1861. The present chief magistrate of the State was the lieutenant colonel of this regiment at its organization. It spend the winter of 1861-62 in camp at Washington, perfecting itself in drill and discipline. On the 28th of March, 1862, it left camp and went by transport to Newport News. It was one of the first regiments to enter Yorktown after its evacuation by the rebels.

It went forward with the army and was engaged at Fair Oaks and Seven Pines. During the remaining operations on the Chickahominy it was constantly on active duty, and did efficient service. During the latter part of the summer and the autumn of 1862, the 52nd occupied the fortifications of Yorktown, and drilled as heavy artillery.

In December the regiment went south, and in the latter part of January, 1863, went to Port Royal. Thence in April it moved up the North Edisto, but after some perils at sea it landed at Beaufort. July 9th, with other troops, it went up Stone river to make a diversion in favor of General Gilmore, who was preparing for the bombardment of Morris Island. Thence after some skirmishing it went to Folly Island, and was engaged in the long siege of Fort Wagner.

In December a large portion of the regiment re-enlisted and received their furlough. After its return it was for some time engaged in skirmishing among the sea islands. In June, 1864, the 52nd took an active part in the attack on Fort Johnson, in which one hundred and twenty-five were made prisoners. The assault was well executed, but failed for want of support.

During the summer and autumn of 1864 the 52nd did duty on Morris Island as heavy artillery. In the following winter it acted as boat infantry in picketing Charleston harbor.

In February, 1865, a detachment from this regiment entered the deserted Fort Sumter and city of Charleston.

The men from Schuykill county in this regiment were: Wesley Cummings, John Fairfield, Joseph Reed, Charles O'Harra, John Brennan, Edward W. Collahan, Henry C. Niese, James Donevan, Abraham Butts, David Jeremiah, Joseph Dale, Joseph Shivelhood, Thomas Thomas, James

CHAPTER XX
THE FIFTY-THIRD, FIFTY-FIFTH AND FIFTY-SIXTH PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENTS

The 53d was one of the regiments that sprang to arms for the defense of the State on its second invasion, in 1863. Companies C, F, H and I were from this county. The regiment was stationed at Reading during its term of service.

FIFTY-FIFTH REGIMENT

In the summer and autumn of 1861 this regiment, of which Company E was from this county, was recruited. Among the field officers the county was represented by Frank T. Bennet. It was sent to Port Royal, S.C., in December, and did guard duty there till February, 1862. Thence it went to Edisto Island, where the scattered companies were often attacked. In autumn it went on an expedition to destroy the Savannah Railroad, and was engaged at Pocataligo bridge, losing twenty-nine killed and wounded. Among the killed was Captain H.C. Bennet, of this county. It was then stationed at Beaufort, doing picket duty for a year. January 1st, 1864, a majority of the men re-enlisted, received their furlough and returned recruited to the maximum strength. It went to Virginia in April, and during the remainder of its service it was engaged in operations in the vicinity of Richmond and Petersburg. It was many times in action and suffered severe losses. It was mustered out at Petersburg, August 30th, 1965.

Company B contained John Layman and Frank Kemmerer; Company C William Wagner, and Company F James Fowler.

COMPANY E

The muster roll of this company as it left Schuylkill county is as follows: Officers.—Captain, Horace C. Bennett. First lieutenant, George H. Hill; second, John Slotterback. Sergeants-Winfield Bensaman, George Slotterback, Henry C. Bensaman, George Parry, Henry E. Snyder. Corporals—John McClay, James Miller, Michael Murray, Miles Rourke, Charles Fritchley, John Deitrich, William Challenger, Daniel Chester. Drummer, George Allen.


Re-enlisted veterans and recruits:
Captain, George H. Hill. Corporal, William Fowler.

CASUALTIES OF THE 55TH

From the 6th to the 16th of May, 1864, inclusive:


May 20th:
Killed: John Welsh. Wounded: Frederick Reed and Thos. Sharpe.
Missing in Action: John S. Bannan, Rosewald and Stephens.

June 3d:
Missing: Patrick Delaney, Wm. Williamson.

September 29th:
George Ganehow, Hiram Matthews, Edmund Fisher, Co. H; Matthew Garland, Co. I; Cornelius Mock, F.H. Luther, Co. K.

**Wounded and Missing:** John O'Neill, Co. I; A. Flanigan, Harry E. Eisebise, Co. G; Paul Mock, Co. I; Rufus Mitchell, Co. C; Sylvanus B. Summerville, Co. D; Stephen Walker, Solomon Fetterman, Co. F; John Lane, Harry Sharts, Co. G; Alfred Ruggles, Charles Bisin, Edwin Hughes, Co. I.


**MORTUARY RECORD**

Company E. **-Killed or Died of Wounds:** Horace C. Bennett, George Stone, Peter Ritz, Michael McNamara, Theodore Weiser, John Welsh, Edward Lewis, John Padden (accidentally).

**Died of Disease:** William Fowler, Lewis Lewis, John S. Bannan, George S. Yinnell, John Jones, Co. B; Cirter Rogers, Co. C.

**FIFTY-SIXTH REGIMENT**

This regiment was organized in the autumn of 1861. Company K was recruited in part in Schuylkill county. In March, 1862, it went forward to Washington and entered on duty in Virginia. It shared the fortunes of the army in that State during the summer and was in the Maryland campaign in the autumn. It was also in the campaigns of Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, at which last place it had the honor of opening the battle. It was with the army in Virginia during the subsequent operations of 1863. In the following March a portion of the men re-enlisted and received their furlough. They returned in April, 1864, and soon engaged in the Wilderness campaign. The regiment was engaged in the subsequent operations around Petersburg and participated in the final campaign. Its reputation as a regiment was hardly surpassed by that of any other in the service.

Company C included Michael Haley, Company D John Delaney, Company E Dennis Adams and Thomas Row, and Company K the following:


**CASUALTIES**


In the engagement on the Weldon Railroad, August 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st:

**Killed**-Hugh McFadden, Co. B; Michael Harley, Co. D; John G. Lebo, Co. I; Isaiah Wilber, Co. K.


**MORTUARY RECORD**


**CHAPTER XXI**

**THE SIXTIETH AND SIXTY-FIFTH REGIMENTS THIRD AND FIFTH CAVALRY**

During the spring and summer of 1861 this regiment, at first known as Young's Light Kentucky Cavalry, was recruited. It was subjected to severe discipline and drill under Colonel W.W. Averill, a graduate of West Point, with the result of making it one of the most efficient regiments in the service.

It passed its first winter at Camp March, three miles from Chain Ridge. In the spring of 1862 it advanced with McClellan, and after capturing the Quaker guns in the works at Manassas, went forward with the army toward Richmond, and was actively engaged in scouting and skirmishing, with occasionally a severe engagement. It participated in the campaign through Maryland in the autumn of 1862, and was engaged at Antietam. After this battle it was continually on the move, and when the enemy advanced into Virginia, late in October, it was employed skirmishing in advance. During the winter of 1862-63 the regiment was engaged in the ordinary duty of cavalry-picketing and scouting.

In March the 3d was engaged in the cavalry fight at Kelly's Ford, and in April it was in the cavalry advance of Hooker's army before the battle of Chancellorsville. About this time the cavalry arm of the service assumed an importance it had not at first possessed, and the 3d, with other cavalry regiments, was engaged in important service. This was especially the case in the operations previous to and at the battle of Gettysburg, as well as in
the pursuit after that battle. From this time to the close of the war so numerous were the engagements in which the 3d participated that space will not permit even a mention of them. the regiment was constantly active, and was engaged in most of the cavalry campaigns that have become historic, and in many actions remarkable valor and efficiency were displayed.

When the time for re-enlistment came the 3d was suffering greater hardships and privations than at any other time during its term of service, and but few were found willing to enter on another three years of such service. A portion of the command was organized into what was known as the veteran battalion, and as time wore on this "slowly drifter out of the service as the terms of enlistment of the men expired." The remnant of the battalion was mustered out in August, 1865.

Among recruits to Company C were James E. Roan and James Gallagher, and to Company A, Adam Frank and Richard Morgan.

COMPANY I


Recruits under the call of October 17, 1863:
John Bourk, Patrick J. Dohahoe, John Duffy, James Donahoe, Daniel Green, James F. Keating, James Keating, Thomas Lean.


SIXTY-FIFTH REGIMENT-FIFTH CAVALRY

The Cameron Dragoons, as this regiment was at first called, were recruited among the first of the three years regiments. Authority to raise this regiment was first granted by the nation? al government, and it was for a time thought to be a United States organization.

It went to Washington in August, 1861, and at once engaged in the kind of duty for which cavalry is best adapted-picketing, scouting and raiding.

In 1862 it went to the Peninsula, and thence in the autumn to North Carolina.

In January, 1864, it returned to Yorktown, about half the men having previously re-enlisted and taken their veteran furlough. In the spring it entered on the campaign around Petersburg, and from the middle of May till the last of September it was con? stantly in action.

About the first of October it crossed to the north side of the James and joined the army of General Butler, where it wa s on active service, and but few were found willing to enter on another three years of such service. A portion of the command was organized into what was known as the veteran battalion, and as time wore on this "slowly drifter out of the service as the terms of enlistment of the men expired." The remnant of the battalion was mustered out in August, 1865.

Among recruits to Company C were James E. Roan and James Gallagher, and to Company A, Adam Frank and Richard Morgan.

COMPANY I


Recruits under the call of October 17, 1863:
John Bourk, Patrick J. Dohahoe, John Duffy, James Donahoe, Daniel Green, James F. Keating, James Keating, Thomas Lean.


The following were from this county:

Under the call of October 17th, 1863, John Drumhel-
CHAPTER XXII

REPRESENTATIONS FROM SCHUYLKILL IN THE 67TH, 70TH, 75TH AND 76TH REGIMENTS

Although authority to recruit the 67th regiment was given by the Secretary of War in July, 1861, its organization was not completed till the spring of 1862. Company K was recruited in Schuylkill county. It went early in April, 1862, to Annapolis, where it remained, engaged in guard and provost duty, till February, 1863, when it went to Harper's Ferry and soon afterward to Winchester, where most of the men were surrounded, captured and sent to Libby Prison, then to Belle Isle, where they were paroled. The small portion which escaped was reorganized, stationed for a time on Maryland Heights, whence it marched to Washington, then to Frederick City, where it joined the army of the Potomac in July, 1863. In the fall and winter of that year it was with the third corps. The paroled prisoners returned in October, and the regiment went into winter quarters at Brandy Station. During the winter a large number of men re-enlisted and were furloughed. On their return in April, 1864, the regiment was sent to Belle Plain, thence to Fredericksburg and soon afterward to White House, where a battle took place. The regiment soon afterward joined its brigade in front of Petersburg.

On the 6th of July the regiment left for Baltimore by transports, and thence went to New market, Md.; then back to Baltimore, and so during the balance of the summer it was marching and countermarching through Maryland and northern Virginia. In September, 1864, it was engaged in guard and provost duty, till February, 1863, when it went to Harper's Ferry and soon afterward to Winchester, where most of the men were surrounded, captured and sent to Libby Prison, then to Belle Isle, where they were paroled. The small portion which escaped was reorganized, stationed for a time on Maryland Heights, whence it marched to Washington, then to Frederick City, where it joined the army of the Potomac in July, 1863. In the fall and winter of that year it was with the third corps. The paroled prisoners returned in October, and the regiment went into winter quarters at Brandy Station. During the winter a large number of men re-enlisted and were furloughed. On their return in April, 1864, the regiment was sent to Belle Plain, thence to Fredericksburg and soon afterward to White House, where a battle took place. The regiment soon afterward joined its brigade in front of Petersburg.

The men named below enlisted from Schuylkill county in Company K:


Other members of the regiment from Schuylkill county were:

William Welsh, John Higgins, Hugh Collins and William Johnson, Co. A; Jacob L. Glass, Co. H.

Under the call of October 17th, 1863, for three hundred thousand, the following joined the regiment: Sergeant, Benjamin F. Bartlet, Corporals Daniel Christian and Samuel Shoener, Co. K, and Privates Thomas Campbell, John Dallas, Co. B; George Albertson, Benj. Christian, Benj. B. Davis, Martin Langton, Franklin A. Schoener, Wm. Schmela, Co. R.

In the autumn of 1864 George Rice, of Company A, was killed; and Charles Ewing, Edward Hause, Burd Vliet, Patrick McDermott, John Bauman and S. Haynes were wounded.
SEVENTIETH REGIMENT--SIXTH CAVALRY

This regiment was recruited mostly in Philadelphia and Reading. Schuylkill county was represented in it by between fifty and sixty men. It was mustered into the service for three years in December, 1861. It was at first armed with the Austrian lance, and afterward with carbines. Most of its service was in Virginia and Maryland, and like other cavalry regiments its companies and squadrons were much separated for scouting and patrolling. It was mustered out in August, 1865, at Louisville, Ky., having previously been consolidated with other regiments.

From this county the following private soldiers went to make up the 70th:


Recruits in 1863:

Thomas Aubrey, James F. Hager, Samuel Mace, Henry Schultz.

Under the call of December 19th, 1864, the following recruits enlisted:


SEVENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT

More than thirty men from Schuylkill county were in this regiment, which was composed mainly of Germans from Philadelphia. It entered on its service in September, 1861, and served to the close of the war: most of the time in Virginia, but toward the close of its term it was in the southwest.

Schuylkill county was represented in this regiment by the following:


SEVENTY-SIXTH REGIMENT KEYSTONE ZOUAVES

This regiment, which included between thirty and forty men from this county, was organized in November, 1861, and it continued in the service till the close of the war. It first went to South Carolina, where it was in active service till May, 1864, when it was ordered to Virginia, where it continued till near the end of hostilities. It participated in the operations against Fort Fisher, and in all its service it had an honorable record.

The following, in several companies, represented Schuylkill county in this regiment: Jeremiah Kremer, Francis Kremer, Joseph Knittle, John Guyer, John Nolen, William Kantner, Jacob Burger, Charles Benseman, Patrick Adams, Frank Umbenhauer, William Umbenhauer, Francis Doonen.

Also the following in Company K:


CHAPTER XXIII

THE 81ST REGIMENT-THE 80TH AND 89TH (7TH AND 8TH CAVALRY)

The organization of the 81st regiment was effected in the autumn of 1861. In the spring of 1862 it entered on active duty, and participated in the campaigns of the Peninsula, Maryland and Fredericksburg in that year, Gettysburgh (sic) and the valley of Virginia in 1863, in the Wilderness campaign and in the operations in the vicinity of Petersburg in 1864 and 1865. In June of 1865 it was mustered out.

The roll of men from Schuylkill county was as follows:


EIGHTIETH REGIMENT

Of this regiment companies A and F were recruited in Schuylkill county, and other companies contained some men from this county. It was recruited and organized in the autumn of 1861, and in December of that year it went to the department of the Cumberland, then under the command of General Buell. At Nashville the three commands were separated, and all engaged in scouting through eastern and middle Tennessee, in the discharge.
of which duty they were engaged in many sharp skirmishes and some severe fights.

In the autumn of 1862 the cavalry of the department was reorganized on the accession of General Rosecrans to the command, and the 7th was made a part of the first brigade of cavalry, under Colonel Mintz. Picket, outpost and foraging duty continued until the advance on Murfreesboro, in December of that year.

In January, 1863, the regiment, with its brigade, was engaged in two sharp skirmishes at Rover and one at Unionville. These were vigorously followed by active scouting and skirmishing. In the action at Shelbyville the 7th made a brilliant charge in the face of a rebel battery, which it captured. In July and August the regiment went on an expedition in pursuit of Wheeler's cavalry, and was on the march during eighteen consecutive days and nights, with scarcely any rest.

A large portion of the regiment re-enlisted in 1864 and received a veteran furlough. After its return, with ranks recruited, it was actively engaged in the memorable campaign of the following summer, and the march across the gulf States that succeeded that campaign, and during these it was engaged in efficient service. April 28th, 1865, it arrived at Macon, Ga., where it remained until the following August, when it was mustered out of the service.

Of the field and staff officers of the regiment, the following belonged to Schuylkill county:

The muster rolls are as follows:

**COMPANY A**


**COMPANY F**


**COMPANY F**


**Transcriber's note: Please note the officers listings of the two Companies F. There seems to be a duplication of a few of them.

**COMPANY G**


**COMPANY I**


**COMPANY L**


**OTHER MEMBERS**


**RE-ENLISTED VETERANS AND RECRUITS**


Company C.-Private William Boden.


**CASUALTIES**

From December 26th, 1862, to January 5th, 1863:

**Killed:** James Gillespie, Co. A; Henry Fry, Co. I.

**Wounded:** William Madden, Co. A; Michael Fildean, Co. F; Samuel Bramer, John Partridge, Co. I. **Prisoners and Missing:** John T. Hazzard, Co. L; Corporal Carle, Joseph Shaw, Emanuel Kahlis, John Koch, Co. A; William Zehner, Abraham Berger, Josiah H. Anderson, Thomas Jones, John Wightman, John Fitzgerald, Samuel Trump, Co. F; Cornelius Link, Co. E; David Lewis, Abraham Hummel, William Montgomery, Co. I.

From April 28th to May 31st, 1864, inclusive:


August 19th, 1864:

**Killed:** David L. Davis, Co. A. **Wounded:**Charles M. Kantner, Co. K; Alonzo E. Kline, Co. A; Orvin P. Keehove, Co. I. **Wounded and Missing:**David P. Reese, Co. A; George M. Boyer, Co. F; Francis Weigley, William Robinson, Peter Mulcachey, Co. A; Levi Seibert, Co. I.

**MORTUARY RECORD**

Killed or Died of Wounds.-Robert McCormick, Co. F; Nicholas Wynkoop, Co. F; Francis L. Reed, Co. L;

Died of Disease.-Samuel Dunlap, Joseph Jones, Amos Poff, Joseph Zimmerman, George M. Bower, Co. F; Alonzo Martz, Co. I; George Rhan, George Anspach, Co. A; John T. Hazzard, Co. L.

EIGHTY-NINTH REGIMENT--EIGHTH CAVALRY

This regiment, in which Schuylkill county was represented by between forty and fifty men, was organized in July, 1861. It was intended as a rifle regiment, but was changed to cavalry. It went to Washington in the autumn of 1861, and in the spring of 1862 it took the field, and was actively engaged in cavalry service during the war, mostly in Virginia. It was severely engaged in several actions, and at Chancellorsville made one of the most gallant charges in the war. It lost heavily in many of the actions in which it participated. It was in the final campaign of the war, and was mustered out of the service at Richmond in August, 1865.

The following from this county were in the 89th; all privates but the first named:

CHAPTER XXIV

HISTORIES OF THE NINETY-THIRD AND NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENTS

The 93d regiment was organized in September, 1861. The next summer it was in the Peninsular campaign, and in that which had its culmination at Fredericksburg. It was at Chancellorsville at the opening of the campaign of 1863, and at Gettysburg and in the pursuit which followed the battle. In February, 1864, a large number of the men re-enlisted, and the regiment returned in time for the Wilderness. Then it engaged in the operations before Petersburg. Then it went with Sheridan in his Shenandoah valley campaign, thence went to Philadelphia to do duty during the Presidential election, and returned to the lines in front of Petersburg.

It was mustered out in June, 1865.

The following from Schuylkill county went out with this regiment:

Under the call of October 17th, 1863, the following enlisted:
Lieutenant William H. Riland, Jacob Fox (wounded in 1864), William F. Barton, John Eastwood, Christian Sechrist.

Under the call of December 19th, 1864, the following joined Company F as privates:

NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT

The nucleus of this regiment was the National Light Infantry of Pottsville, which was the first military company to offer its services to the government on the outbreak of the rebellion. The history of this company in the three months' service is given elsewhere.

In August, 1861, Colonel Henry L. Cake was authorized to raise a regiment for three years, and at once established a camp near Pottsville. The organization of the regiment was completed and the state colors presented by Governor Curtin on the 6th of November, and on the 8th it went to Washington. It soon afterward crossed the Potomac and on the 27th of December went into winter quarters on the Loudon and Hampshire Railroad. Drill and picket duty, with one movement toward Manassas, till April 4th, 1862, when it started on the march toward Fredericksburg, but halted at Catlett's station till the 12th. Thence with its division it proceeded to the Peninsula, where it was first engaged at West Point on the 7th of May. After this engagement it was employed in picket and fatigue duty along the Chickahominy till the commencement of the seven-days battles on the 26th of June, in which it participated and in the course of which it made a bold and brilliant charge, which probably saved a portion of the army from disaster. After these battles it was employed in picket and fatigue duty till the evacuation of the Peninsula.

August 16th it embarked on transports at Newport News, and arrived at Alexandria on the 24th. Thence it went forward to Bull Run, after which it participated in the Maryland campaign. In the fight at Crampton's Gap the 96th made a brilliant and determined charge, dislodging the enemy's line from behind a stone wall and putting it to flight. In this charge it lost twenty killed.
and eighty-five wounded, out of less than four hundred that went into the battle.

It was again engaged at Antietam, where, although it did effective service, it lost only two killed. After this battle it returned with the army to Virginia, and participated in the movements which culminated in the battle of Fredericksburg. although it was under a severe fire of shot and shell at this battle it was not actively engaged.

During the winter of 1862-63 it was engaged in fatigue and provost duty, except during the time of the "mud march," in which it participated.

At the battle of Chancellorsville the regiment did some severe fighting and achieved some brilliant exploits. Its loss was sixteen killed, fifty-seven wounded and twenty missing. From this time till the 13th of June the regiment was engaged in marching and counter-marching, skirmishing and picketing. At that date it started on the memorable Gettysburg campaign, and up to the time of the battle it was almost constantly on the move. Although weary and lame the men of the regiment took their position and held it till the close of the battle. They then engaged in the pursuit of the retreating rebel army, which they continued till it escaped into Virginia. This service is remembered by the men as on of great severity and intense suffering. They were frequently engaged in skirmishing with the rear of the enemy and lost several wounded.

The regiment went to New Baltimore in the latter part of July, and was engaged in scout and picket duty till the middle of September, when it went to Warrenton and was with General Meade in his Rapidan campaign till the 20th of October. In November it went to Rappahannock Station and supported other troops in the battle at that place, and had one man severely and several slightly wounded.

During the winter of 1863-4 it remained in camp on the Rappahannock, with the exception of one reconnaissance and one expedition to Mine Run.

May 4th, 1864, (CDL) it left its quarters, crossed the Rapidan and entered on the Wilderness campaign, and during five days it was skirmishing almost constantly. It participated in the charge of May 10th by a portion of the sixth corps.

It was engaged at cold Harbor, and took part in the siege of Petersburg and the raid on the Weldon Railroad. It returned to Washington, went in pursuit of Early, participated in the Shenandoah Valley campaign, and at the expiration of its term of service, September 22nd, 1864, it was mustered out.

The muster roll of the regiment, with additions made by recruiting, is as follows:

### REGIMENTAL OFFICERS


### BAND


### COMPANY A


### COMPANY B


Privates.-William Adcock, Joseph Aich, Charles Bast, John Bonawitz, ----Breitigan, Samuel Bell, Franklin Bridegum, Joseph Bower, John Berdana, Martin Brannan, Peter Brenner, Jacob Bonawitz, Jacob Bast

COMPANY C


COMPANY D


COMPANY E


COMPANY F


COMPANY G


COMPANY H


COMPANY I


COMPANY K


A number of the veterans of this regiment re-enlisted, and it received recruits to some extent, but not enough to enable the regiment to retain its organization at the expiration of its term of service in August, 1864. At that period the members of the regiment were mustered out of service, with the exception of the following re-enlisted veterans and recruits. Their organization was called "Ninety-sixth Battalion, P.V.,” and was temporarily attached to the 95th regiment. There were two companies-E and L-as follows:

RECRUITS AND RE-ENLISTMENTS, COMPANY E


RECRUITS AND RE-ENLISTMENTS, COMPANY L


OTHER RECRUITS

In addition to the above are the following names of men of Schuylkill county who enlisted in the regiment in the spring of 1864:


CASUALTIES

In the battles of South Mountain and Antietam:


In the battle of Chancellorsville:

**Killed**.-Evans Thomas, Co. E; Michael Mackey, Co. I; William Madara, Co. C; James Schofield, Co. D; D. Hartling, Co. H; Joseph Fessler, Co. B; Michael Connenry, Thomas Purcell, Co. F; Martin Kelly, Peter Fries, William Kloss, Joseph T. Holderman, John Coffield, Co. H; John Farrell, Co. K.


From the 5th to the 16th of May, 1864:


In other engagements:

**Killed**.-Frank Embenhower, Co. B; Jacob Wagner, Co. E.


**MORTUARY RECORD**


**COMPANY C**


**COMPANY D**


**COMPANY E**


**COMPANY F**


**COMPANY G**


**COMPANY H**


**COMPANY I**


**COMPANY K**


## CHAPTER XXV


Some seventy-five men from Shuylkill county were in the 99th regiment, the organization of which was completed in February, 1862. At first it was engaged in garrison duty; then it joined the Army of the Potomac. It was engaged at Groveton, and not again till at the battle of Fredericksburg. In the spring of 1864 a large number of the men re-enlisted, and on its return the regiment met the enemy at the Wilderness. Then followed its service before Petersburg, which lasted till the close of the war.


### ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH REGIMENT

This regiment, which was formed in the summer and autumn of 1861, received a company from Shuylkill county in January, 1864, while it was engaged in the siege of Charleston, and soon afterward participated in an unsuccessful attack upon that city. It returned to Hilton Head and thence went to Florida, and after a month to Alexandria, Va. On the expiration of its term of enlistment the veterans and recruits were organized into a battalion, which continued in the service till the termination of the war.

Three men from Shuylkill county went out with this regiment, viz.: Jonathan Kennedy, Moses Nunemacher and Benjamin Miller.

The following is a copy of the muster roll of a company that was recruited under the call of July 18, 1864, in Shuylkill county, by Captain J.W. Kantner, of Tamaqua, for the One Hundred and Fourth regiment:


Privates:-William Alberton, James Bachart, Joseph Becker, Gideon Billman, Francis Bream, Daniel Bobst, John Bowman, Michael M. Bachart, Samuel Baker, William Cook, Charles Campbell, Hugh Callahan, Peter

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH REGIMENT

This regiment, which was organized in the spring of 1862, had in it about forty men from Schuylkill county. During its term of service it was on duty in Shenandoah valley, in the Rappahannock and Rapidan campaigns, at the second battle of Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and the campaign in the valley of Virginia. In the spring of 1864 nearly the entire regiment re-enlisted, and on their return from their furlough engaged in the campaign in front of Petersburg, where they continued in active service till the close of the war. The regiment was discharged in July, 1865.

The following from Schuylkill county were in this regiment:


108TH REGIMENT—ELEVENTH CAVALRY

During August and September, 1861, this regiment was raised, and early in 1865 about forty men from this county were assigned to it after its veterans had re-enlisted. In the spring it was attached to General Sheridan's army, and shared the fortunes and victories of that command till the close of the war.

It was engaged at Five Forks and at Appomattox Court-house. It lost in this brief campaign three officers killed and twentysix enlisted men killed and wounded. "It captured, took possession of and delivered to the proper officers one hundred and ten field pieces, forty-one mortars, six heavy guns, one hundred and twenty carriages and caissons, seven forges and a large quantity of ammunition and other stores." It was mustered out of the service august 13th, 1865.

Companies A and M in this regiment included the following from this county:


ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH REGIMENT

This was organized in June and July, 1862. Company F of this regiment was recruited in Schuylkill county in the spring of 1864. During its term of service the company participated in the following engagements, according to Walace: Wilderness, May 5th and 6th, 1864; Todd Tavern, Po River, Spottsylvania (two actions), Gaines's farm, Tolopotomy Creek, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Williams's Farm, Deep Bottom, Ream's Station, Hatcher's Run, two raids of two days each, and Dabney Mill.

The following is the muster roll of Company F, as it stood in March, 1865:


In addition to the foregoing there were from Schuylkill county in this regiment Alexander McCabe, Edward O'Brien, Daniel Drey, Isaac Herrig, William Dory, John Miller, Charles Rafferty, and others, whose names could not be learned.

The casualties in Company F were:

Killed in Action.-Adam Wagner, James White, Lewis Heinbach, Joshua Evely.


In Company G the following casualties may be noted:


Missing.-George Wildermuth, Adam Beachner, Peter Snyder, Wm. Hunback.

THIRTEENTH CAVALRY-IRISH DRAGOONS

In this regiment (117th) were about seventy men from Schuylkill county. It was organized in August, 1862. In September it entered on guard and picket duty at Point of Rocks, and in the spring of 1863 at Winchester. In June it was engaged in the skirmish which opened the battle of Winchester, in which action it participated. It was in the action at Culpepper in October, 1863, and lost many prisoners. It was much occupied with scout and picket duty, and at Hawes's Shop, May 28th, was hotly engaged. In June the regiment joined the army in front of Petersburg, and was often in action. About the middle of February, 1865, it was ordered to Wilmington, N.C., and after a short rest it opened communication with General Sherman, who was then crossing the Carolinas. It was afterward in an action with Hampton's cavalry, which was beaten, and it was engaged in suppressing guerillas that infested the country near Fayetteville. It was discharged in July, 1865.

Schuylkill county was represented in this regiment by the following:


ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH

Company K of this regiment was recruited in part in Schuylkill county. During its term of service the regiment was engaged in two battles-Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville-in the former of which twelve of the men from this county were wounded. Except these battles its principal service was guard and picket duty.

The roll of the men from this county includes Elijah Fisher, of Company C, and the following members of Company K:


The casualties at the battle of Fredericksburg were as follows:


CHAPTER XXVI

HISTORY OF THE 129TH REGIMENT, THE 137TH AND 151ST REGIMENTS

The 129th regiment was organized August 15th, 1862, for the term of nine months, and on the following day it went to Washington. It entered at once on guard and fatigue duty. It moved to the field of Antietam too late to participate in that battle. After six weeks spent in drill and picket duty the regiment moved forward, and in December reached the battle field of Fredericksburg, where it was severely engaged and lost in killed and wounded one hundred and thirty men.
The regiment went on the "mud march" in January, 1863, and filled whee winter with drills, reviews and picket duty. At the battle of Chancellorsville it was again engaged, and lost in killed, wounded and missing forty-four. Of the conduct of this regiment in the battle General Tyler said in his official report: "The One Hundred and Twenty-ninth was on our left, and no man ever saw cooler work on field drill than was done by this regiment. Their firing was grand-by rank, by company and by wing in perfect order."

On the expiration of its term of service the regiment was mustered out.

The following are the rolls of men and officers from this county:

**REGIMENTAL OFFICERS**


**COMPANY A**


**COMPANY B**


**COMPANY E**


COMPANY G


COMPANY H


CASUALTIES

At the battle of Fredericksburg:


At the battle of Chancellorsville:

Killed.-James Brennan, Co. A; Thomas Probers, Co. B; John Holman, Co. C; John R. Jones, Co. C; David Zimmerman, Co. E.


Missing.-Frederick Weldon, Co. C; William Spanser, Co. A; Richard Jones, Co. B; Joseph Donegan, Co. E; Samuel Ash, Co. H; Reuben Fluck, Co. C.
MORTUARY RECORD


ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SEVENTH

Twenty-seven men of Company K in this regiment were from Schuylkill county. The regiment was organized in August, 1862, for the term of nine months, and soon went forward to Washington. It was under fire at Crampton's Gap, in South Mountain, at Fredericksburg and at Chancellorsville, but was never actively engaged. At the expiration of its term of service it was discharged.

The men from this county in Company K were the following:


ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIRST REGIMENT

A large portion of Company I of this regiment was recruited in Schuylkill county. It was a nine months' regiment. It went to Washington in November, 1862, and at once entered on the duty of patrolling a region infested with guerrillas and inhabited by traitors. Here it necessarily acquired a discipline that served it in many trying hours. During its term of service the men experienced greater hardships than fell to the lot of many others.

At the battle of Gettysburg the regiment fought desperately and exhibited a coolness and courage rarely equaled. It lost in this fight two officers and sixty-six men killed, twelve officers and one hundred and eighty-seven men wounded, and one hundred missing. The conduct of the regiment in this battle was very highly commended.

The men from this county in Company I were the following:


CHAPTER XXVII

LATER REGIMENTS -- 16TH AND 17TH CAVALRY

173D, 184TH, 194TH, 210TH AND 214TH INFANTRY

Under the call of December, 1864, for three hundred thousand men, eighty-four were recruited in Schuylkill county for the 161st regiment (16th cavalry), and assigned chiefly to Companies A and B. These men joined the regiment while it was in winter quarters near Hancock's Station. In the following spring the regiment was engaged at Hatcher's Run, Dinwiddie County-house, Five Forks, Amelia Springs, Sailor's Creek and Farmville. After the surrender of Lee it went to North Carolina to the support of Sherman; then it was sent to Lynchburg, where it remained till the close of its term of service.

Schuylkill county had the following representatives in this regiment:

COMPANY A


COMPANY B

162ND REGIMENT--SEVENTEENTH CAVALRY

Of this regiment Company H, consisting of 93 men (subsequently reinforced by sixty-one more), was recruited in Schuylkill county. The regiment reached Washington late in November, 1862, and was soon ordered to the front. It was engaged in the ordinary duty of cavalry till the battle of Chancellorsville, where it did important service and was highly complimented for its coolness. It was again engaged at Gettysburg, and in the campaign following it was very active. Space will not permit of even a catalogue of the actions in which this gallant regiment was engaged and of the other important services which it rendered. A detachment was with General Kilpatrick in his raid on Richmond, and the regiment participated in the brilliant campaigns of Sheridan, and a history of its doings would necessitate almost a history of those campaigns. Everywhere it did efficient service and its losses were heavy.

The following is the muster roll of:

COMPANY H


Under the call of July 18th, 1864, the following enlisted in Company H:


Under the call of July 18th, 1864, the following enlisted in Company F:


CASUALTIES

in Company H in the summer of 1860:

Killed.-Emanuel Moyer, Philip Troy, Joel Koons. Wounded.-William Rupert, Thomas Hock (left behind in a rebel hospital, George W. Bankers, Elias E. Reed.

Subsequently, in northern Virginia:


173D REGIMENT--DRAFTED MILITIA

About one-fourth of Company F in this regiment was recruited in this county. It was organized in May, 1864; at once joined the Army of the Potomac, and the next day was in the battle of Tolopotomy Creek. Immediately following this it was in the battle of Cold Harbor; then engaged in several successive assaults on the enemy's works, in which it lost heavily—indeed, its losses in killed, wounded and prisoners amounted to 350 out of 500 that first went into action at Tolopotomy. the remnant of the men were engaged at Deep Bottom, and lost twenty-seven killed and wounded ot of ninety-seven engaged. It afterward received three new companies, and thus reinforced was several times engaged. It also suffered many losses while at work in the trenches near the enemy's lines. Sixty-seven members of this regiment died in the prison at Andersonville, some at Salisbury and Florence, and many wounded prisoners in Petersberg.

Company F in this regiment bore on its rolls the names of the following from Schuylkill county:

Of this regiment, which recruited for one hundred days, Companies A and F were raised in Schuylkill county. The regiment was organized July 22nd, 1864, and moved to Baltimore the same day. During its term of service it was engaged only in guard, provost and escort duty.

This regiment included from Schuylkill county Colonel James Nagle, Major O.D. Jenkins, Adjutant John H. Schall and the following:

**COMPANY C**


**COMPANY H**


**TWO HUNDRED AND TENTH REGIMENT**

Schuylkill county furnished nearly all the men in Company E of this regiment. Soon after the organization, in the autumn of 1864, it joined the Army of the Potomac before Petersburg and entered at once on the stern realities of war. From this time to the close of the contest it was frequently engaged, and always displayed a stubborn bravery that would have done honor to veterans.

The following from this county were borne on the rolls of this regiment, besides F.W. Garber, first sergeant of Company H:

**COMPANY E**


**TWO HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH**

This, which was known as the Eighth Union League, was organized in March, 1865, for one year. Company A included three and Company C thirty-four men from Schuylkill county. During its term of service it was only engaged in guard, provost and garrison duty.

The representatives in this regiment from Schuylkill county were:

Patrick Fox, Martin Hulihan and Edward Kehoe, of Co. A, and the following in

**COMPANY C**

CHAPTER XXVIII

SCHULYKILL MEN IN OTHER THAN SCHULYKILL REGIMENTS
CASUALTIES AMONG THE SAME

The following were the volunteers from Schuylkill county who served in other Pennsylvania regiments.

Rehrer, John H. Smith, Patrick Smith, John Truner, John Weiser, Isaac Zimmerman, George M. Zimmerman, Joseph Zerby.

In the 23d.-Reuben Dewald, John H. Griffith, Abraham Horn, Benjamin Jenkins.
26th.-James Goldsmith, Christian Shane. 27th.-James Gallagher. 29th.-Andrew Haas, Patrick Hallahan, John Marley.
30th.-Thomas Martin.
33rd.-David Stabler.
39th.-George Schwenk, George Bretz. 41st.-Martin Pike. 42nd.-David Williams.
44th.-Thomas Norton, George Adams, Thomas Horn, Sergeant Jackson Pott, Sergeant James Smith, James Allison, Alonzo Bird, Jacob F. Kinney.
45th.-William D. Lyons, Thomas McCabe.
46th.-Gaven McCullough, Patrick Donovan, Cornelius Neischwinder, Patrick Mullen, Nicholas Curren, William Brosius, George Brosius, Augustus Snyder, William Darmody, John Fox, Ephraim F. Kripe.
47th.-George Kilmer, Michael Burnshire, George R. Hebler, Henry Lefend, Augustus Upman.
49th.-Sergeant Jacob Strausser.
51st.-John Welsh.
57th.-Christian Wier, John Stack, Edward Merene.
58th.-James Holton, James Owens, Corporal Bennett Cobley, Michael Sweeny.
59th.-Thomas Moore, Alexander Clark, Francis P. Waters.
72nd.-Charles Raudenbush, William Place, Joseph H. Wythes.
79th.-Patrick J. Gallagher, John Thomas, Augustus Tucker. 82nd.-Thomas T. Morgan. 83d.-Adam Mort, Dr. Thompson.
95th.-Peter Campbell, David Sands, John Embenhower, Ephraim Moyer, Peter Breen, Henry Clemens, Franklin Eckert, Edward Purcell, William T. Wolff, Dennis Brennan, Stephen Brennan, Patrick Lawler, Lawrence Ryan.
97th.-Corporal William McCantly, Charles O'Hara.
100th.-Dr. Palm. 101st.-Jenkins Wilner, Joseph Blunt, Lieutenant George L. Brown, Sergeant John Perry, Joel Strausser, John Fritz, Henry Berkman, Richard Morris, Joseph
Tomlinson, Jacob Deiter, Jacob Went, Adam Wingenfield, Jacob Weiss, Valentine H. Groff, Dick Morris, John Perry, Joseph Tomlinson.


110th.-Assistant surgeon P.R. Palm, Thomas Wiggan, Joseph Blunt.


114th.-Theophilus Heycock, John Morgan.


119th.-Adam Delong.


128th.-Assistant Surgeon Theodore C. Helwig, Jeremiah Smith, John Seiders.

130th.-Sergeant John W. Alexander, James Alexander.


141st.-Sergeant D.W. Scott. 142nd.-Bernard McNaller.

147th.-Jacob Riddle.

150th.-Abraham Everhard.


192nd.-Daniel Boice, Lloyd Cox, Thomas Hopkins, Frank Jones, John C. Jones, Richard Jones, Charles Kunkel, Abiaathar Powell, Joseph Snyder, Moses Stoff.

198th.-Daniel M. Everhard.


208th.-Charles Heagery.

213th.-Matthew McAtee, John Bear, Isaac Miller, William Schriver.

215th.-Charles J. Hendricks, Matthew L. Johnson.

IN REGIMENTS OF NUMBERS NOT KNOWN


IN THE FIRST ARMY CORPS


INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATIONS


IN REGIMENTS IN OTHER STATES

IN THE REGULAR ARMY


Sherman's Battery.-Thomas Lavell.

First United States Cavalry.-Christ Bloomfield, Samuel Cover, Patrick Gilmore, Francis Leman, Henry Miller.

Fifth Cavalry.-Captain Edward T. Leib, John H. Wilson, Charles Weaver.


Third Infantry.-Lieutenant Joseph A. McCool.

Fourth United States Infantry.-Michael Howard, James B. Hawk.

Fifth Infantry.-Arthur Donly, Dennis Delaney, Francis Williams, David Morgan, Van Buren Weike, William Weike, C. Arerline.


Twelfth Infantry.-Sergeant William L. White, Richard Coogan, Thomas Manuel.


Eighth Infantry.-Colonel Henry B. Carrington, Lieutenant Lewis T. Snyder, Valentine Henry Leib, John Ebert.
Regiments not Ascertained.-Captain Henry Baird, Captain Edward Hartz, Matthias Frantz.


Medical Cadet.-George Saylor.


In Secret Service.-Samuel Byerly.


MORTUARY RECORD

of Schuylkill county men in various regiments. Killed or died of wounds or disease:


Mortuary record in the nine months' service:


End of Civil War History
TOWNSHIP AND BOROUGH HISTORIES

BARRY TOWNSHIP

The settlements in this township, then a part of lower Mahantongo, date back to about 1808, and of the original settlers the names of John Garivy, who settled where William Hoch now lives; John Baily, on the Daniel Smith farm, and the Yarnall family, who came from New Jersey, and settled the place still owned by one of its descendants, Miss Lydia Yarnall, are among the most prominent. In 1815 the families of Charles Marwine, of Philadelphia, and John Clauntz, John Heter and a man named Shupert, from Berks county, settled in the township and took up farms. Dr. George Long also settled here, and was the first and for many years the only resident physician.

Three thousand acres of land in the township were owned by Joseph Reed at the time of its first settlement, and were sold by him to John S. Heister in 1812, the deed bearing November 5th of that year. It was divided by him into tracts of three hundred acres, and sold to settlers. The tract now contains some twenty farms, and comprises the lands lying between the farms of Elias Kessler and Seth Geer, extending north to the top of Mahantongo mountain, and south to Little Mount.

The first log house was built by John Clauntz, and the first crops were raised by Issac Yarnall. The earliest traveled road was one running from Reading to Sunbury through Taylorsville, and the first bridge was built near where Calvin Reed now lives. The only cut stone dwelling on the township was erected by Israel Reed, in 1848 near the east end of the town, and is now occupied by his sons.

I.D. Rupp, in his history of Schuylkill county, says that in 1840 Barry contained two stores, one forge, three grist-mills, twenty-three saw-mills; population in 1830, 443; in 1840, 639; in 1850, 689; in 1860,943; 1870, 950; 1880, 1,587.

Pioneer Industries And Schools

A grist-mill was erected in 1810 where the Isaac Reed mill now stands. Another, which is now owned by C. M. Milliman, was built some twenty years later on Deep creek, and in the west part of the township Daniel Klinger built a mill in 1940. The first saw-mill was built by George Kessler, on Deep creek, about the year 1815.

A small tannery was erected at an early day on the banks of the Mahanoy creek, near the John Rice place, by a man named Johnson.

The opening of a foundry by John R. Fisher, who carried on in it the manufacture of coffee mills until 1869, when it was destroyed by fire.

The first merchant of Barry was Amos Yarnall, whose log store, opened about the year 1820, was located on the old Yarnall farm. The pioneer hotel, kept by Jesse Yarnall, was built of logs, and opened in 1810. It is still standing and is the residence of Calvin Reed.

In 1820 the people built a log school-house opposite the site of St. John's church, and hired William Bolich to teach a school in Barry, still living in the township, are Charles Marwine and Charles M. Billman.

The free school system was adopted in 1847, and in 1880 there were six districts in the township.

Post Villages And Hotels

Taylorsville.-The first post-office established was that of Barry, at the little hamlet of Taylorsville,of which Frank Dengler was commissioned postmaster. It was kept in the building now occupied as a residence by his widow. The village at which it is located comprised in 1880, the Taylorsville hotel, owned and kept by C.M. Billman, a blacksmith shop, and eight of ten houses.

The Taylorsville Cornet Band was organized August 18th, 1880, with sixteen members, and the following persons elected to office: George P. Bolich, president; J.G. Starr, treasure; A.L. Schneider, secretary; Gideon Welkel, leader; A.M. Derr, assistant leader. The entire expense of equipping the band-some $300-was born by its members, who comprise the best and most reliable of the young men of Taylorsville.

Weishample was named after J. F. Weishampel, an
Railroad, in the summer of 1880, and it is known as Barry Station. Wayside Inns.-G. M. Hornberger keeps a popular hotel, known as the Buckhorn Mountain House, on the Pottsville road in the south eastern part of the township, and about one mile west of his place, on the same road, the McKown House, kept by James McKown, extends a welcome to hungry or thirsty wayfarer. Barry Station.—A railroad station was established at Bolich's switch, on the Shamokin branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, in the summer of 1880, and it is known as Barry Station.

Civil Government

The township was erected from Norwegian and Schuylkill in 1821, and the first election was held at the house now occupied by Frank Bolich as a shoe shop. The first justices elected were John A. Otto and Elijah Yarnall. The following persons have held the office from that date to 1880: John A. Otto and Elijah Yarnall, from 1845 to 1850; Israel Reed and William Hoch, from 1850, the former until his death in 1876, when he was succeeded by Charles M. Billman, and the latter continuously until 1880. The township officers for 1880 were: C. W. Kramer, town clerk; William G. Kehler, treasurer; George A. Sly, assessor; William Hoch, Michael Snyder and Ephraim Yarnall, auditors; Gideon Weikel constable.

Franklin Colliery No. 2

This colliery is located on lands of Riegel, Fortenbaugh & Brentzel, and operated by S. S. Bickel. A tunnel is driven north one hundred and two yards to the Lykens Valley vein, with east and west gangways; west gangway worked out, east gangway driven nine hundred yards and working four a breast. The men and boys employed number about 40, with one fifty horse power engine. The ventilation is by natural means. Tobias Bickel is the superintendent.

Churches

The Church of God.—The denomination of which this body is a representative deserves a passing mention as a body of Christians originating in the State, and in a great measure comprised within its limits. Its founder was Rev. John Winebrener, of Harrisburg, who in the year 1830 formulated a creed, based on the Holy Scriptures. The creed expresses a positive in three perpetual ordinances—baptism, by immersion; feet-washing, as taught by Christ's example and non-conformity with the world are especially enjoyed.

In this belief a little body of Christians gather in 1842 at what is now Weishample, and were organized into a church by Elder Thomas Strahm. John Ghist was chosen elder, and in 1855 the chapel, or Bethel, as it is called, was built at a cost of $1,000. The church numbered in 1880 thirty-two members, with John Ghist and John Kessler as elders, and William Kessler and William Frimayer as deacons. It has a flourishing Sunday-school of 113 officers and members, with John Ghist and John Kessler as elders, and William Kessler and William Frimayer as deacons. It has a flourishing Sunday-school of 113 officers and members, with Michael Wolfgang superintendent. The pastor in charge is Rev. J. Hay, of Mahantongo circuit. A burial ground is connected with the Bethel.

United Brethren in Christ.—In 1862 a mission of this church was established at Barry, and Rev. L. W. Cranmer was assigned to it by the East Pennsylvania Conference. In 1863 this circuit, then comprising Valley View and Huxley township, was attached to the Lykens circuit and supplied by Rev. Messrs, David Moyer and Jacob Runk. In 1864 the place of Pastor Moyer was filled by Rev. H. E. Hackman. In 1865 Rev. John Lowery succeeded Pastor Runk, and in the following year these appointments were detached from the Lykens circuit, and again called Germantown mission, the name first given to them. Rev. F. List was assigned to the work of pastor. From 1867 to 1870 Rev. J. Shoop ministered to the circuit, in 1871 Rev. William Dessinger, and from 1872 to 1874 Rev. J. M. Mark. During the two years following Rev. H. E. Hackman again filled the pastorate, followed by Rev. S. Noll in 1876, and Rev. L. Fleisher in 1877. In 1878 the mission was converted into a circuit, now called Valley View; and from that time to 1880, inclusive, Rev. J. Shoop has had charge of it.

The church building, which was built in 1855 in Barry, is located about midway between Mabel and Weishample, on the main road. The earlier and most active members of the church were Jacob Klinger, Daniel Kessler, Daniel Klinger, Simon Licht and Jeremiah Klinger. The Sunday-school, which was organized in 1866, has a good library and is well managed.

Union Church at Berry.—In 1816 several citizens built a school-house near the site of what is now known as the Union church, and this was for some years used for religious services. The first minister who preached there was George Eyster, who organized a church composed of the following persons: Peter Ziegenfus, Jacob Ziegenfus, Peter Zerbey, John Kimmel, Charles Marwine, George Kessler, John Deitrich, George St. Clair, Michael Bolich, Henry Bolich, John Yarnall, Jesse Yarnall, Gideon Mirkel and Michael Madeary. Pastor Eyster ministered to the church ten years and was succeeded.
by Rev. Isaac Steely, who was of the Reformed church, his predecessor having been a Lutheran. Mr. Steely served for fifteen years, and during the last five years of his work he was assisted by Rev. John Schultz. From 1843 for ten years Rev. John Felty was the pastor. In 1850 the church building was erected on the south side of the road to Ashland. From 1853 to 1863 Rev. Mr. Bergner was its pastor, and under his ministry the membership was increased. Pastor Bergner was a Lutheran, and noted for his fine musical ability. Rev. Daniel Sanner succeeded him and preached here five years, proving a popular and successful pastor. Rev. John Webber was pastor from 1868 to 1873, and was succeeded by Rev. Henry Weicksel, the present Lutheran pastor. Father Weicksel is an elderly man, loved and revered by his people. In 1879 Rev. Mr. Baum, of Pottsville, a Reformed minister, commenced holding services here, and he now preaches monthly.

The first superintendent of the Sunday-school was Robert Neal. In 1880 the school was in good condition, superintended by an able an energetic young man, C. W. Kramer, whose efforts have quickened its pulses, and during his management a new organ has been purchased, which adds much to the interest of the exercises.

BLYTHE TOWNSHIP

Blythe township was set off from Schuylkill in 1846. The central portion is traversed by the valley of the Schuylkill. The northern and southern portions are broken and mountainous. The most notable tributary to the Schuylkill in this township is Silver creek, which rises near the northern border and has its confluence with the river as New Philadelphia. Near the head of this stream is the Silver creek reservoir, constructed as a feeder to the Schuylkill canal. Blythe is bounded by Ryan, Schuylkill, Walker, West Brunswick, North Manheim, East Norwegian and New Castle. It was named in honor of Judge Blythe.

COAL

The central portion of the township, east and west, is in the coal belt of the first coal field of the Schuylkill district, and formerly mining was prosecuted within its boundaries very extensively, and it was a stage of business and speculative activity, where many fortunes have been made and lost. Almost immeasurable deposits of anthracite underlie the surface of the township, but at such a depth that it cannot be mined successfully in competition with coal obtained more cheaply nearer the surface in other sections. When the era of deep mining arrives, Blythe will again be the scene if great activity in coal production.

The presence of coal in the territory now known as Blythe was known at a very early day, and it would be impossible to state when or by whom the first opening was made in the township with a view to bringing it to light. Coal was taken out in small quantities, in various localities, by the early residents of the township but the lack of a market prevented any considerable traffic in it for many years. The first notable coal operation in Blythe was on the Mammoth vein at Silver Creek. An early operator was S. Chadwick, some time after 1840. Before 1850 the colliery passed into the hands of Benjamin Haywood, and previous to 1860 into the possession of Beattey & Garrettson. Later an eastern company operated it, under the management of a Mr. Starr, three or four years. The successors of this company were the Welsh Company, as they were known, residents of Minersville. The last operator was a Mr. Boyce, of Baltimore, and the mine was under the superintendency of John Harper, of Pottsville. This colliery is on land formerly belonging to the Valley Furnace Company, but now the property of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. It was operated until a few years ago. The first operator on the Ledger vein, or the Valley Furnace Company's lands, was Henry Gueitterman, who built a large breaker, and did a successful business until he sold his lease to the eastern company before mentioned. The colliery is now idle. After passing through the hands of several operators the opening to the Mammoth vein in Blythe fell into the possession of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, who worked it until 1860, when they leased it to John J. Dovey, who, after a few years, sold out to a New York company. Later it was operated by Marcus Heilner. George Bright, of Pottsville, was next operator. He was succeeded by Murray, Winlack & Randall, who operated it about three years. Since 1869 it has been lying idle.

A man named McNeil opened the Primrose vein. Rev. James Neil sunk a slope in 1849, and the first wagon load of coal was hoisted from it by Richard Winlack in the fall of 1850. Later Mr. Neil took Benjamin Milnes into partnership in the enterprise, which was abandoned in about eight years. As early as 1852 or 1853 a man named Dodson had an opening in the small red ash vein overlying the Seven-foot. It has been long abandoned.
In the early days of active coal mining in the township the name of Caleb Parker was well known, and it is remembered by nearly every old inhabitant. He began operations on the Primrose vein, on the second dip, at Valley Furnace, a little to the left of the turnpike, above the old furnace site. He had a dam made on Silver creek and propelled his machinery by water power. This opening was on the Glentworth tract, owned then by Bast & Thompson. Capwell & Dovey became operators there. Enoch McGinness was a later operator. Maize, Miller & Co. operated this colliery during the war, and were succeeded by A. Focht & Co., from whose hands the colliery reverted to the land owners. Under the direction of Gideon Bast, William Harmon, superintendent, made underground borings which proved the Mammoth vein to possess a good quality of coal. Bast & Thompson sold the property to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, who operated the colliery for some time. It has been dismantled and abandoned.

On the Valley Furnace Company's tract, about a mile southeast of New Philadelphia, Kastenbaugh, Miller, Hine, & Bansler made an opening about 1870, and after work it unprofitably a few years abandoned it. Between New Philadelphia and Combola an opening was made, before 1850, by George Rickett, which was afterwards worked by J.O. Rhoades. A man named Zehner, from Lancaster, Pa., operated here a while, and finally abandoned the colliery, which was on lands now owned by the Alliance Coal Company.

The mine has been reopened and supplied with good machinery, and is now being successfully worked by this company, under the management of General Superintendent John B. Church, and Inside Superintendent William McQuail. It is known as Palmer vein, and yielded 11,447 tons of coal in 1876; 17,240 tons in 1877; 27,361 in 1878; and 17,066 in 1879.

At a place called "the Five Mile Board" an opening was made on a red-ash vein, by Lawrence Hannon, at an early date, but little coal was taken out. There were many early openings about Middleport, in small veins, but little coal was mined there. North of Middleport about a mile a man named Thompson opened on several red-ash veins, and worked them to a considerable extent until they became unprofitable. Louis Lorenz has lately sunk a slope to one of these veins, which is down to a depth of about 150 yards below water level. A new breaker and machinery have been erected, and the opening is now being operated successfully. A little less than 2,000 tons of coal were mined here in 1879. This colliery is called the Middleport, and is on land owned by Franklin B. Gowen.

About a mile north of the Middleport colliery is an abandoned opening on the Mammoth vein. This is east from Silver creek about a mile and a half. It was early operated by several successive operators. Rogers, Sinnockson & Co. operated it many years under the superintendency of Francis Daniels. About 1860 it passed into the possession of the Kaskawillian Coal Company. The vein took fire, and after several futile attempts to extinguish it the colliery was dismantled and abandoned. The property is now owned by the coal company. About a mile east from Kaskawillian, as this locality is called, an opening was made on the Wood and Abbott property by a Mr. Whitfield, who drove two long tunnels, one cutting the red-ash, and one the Mammoth vein. He did a small business for a time, and abandoned the opening prior to 1855.

In 1862, Murray, Winlack & Randall sunk a slope on the Primrose vein to the depth of one hundred yards, and began to excavate a tunnel at the bottom of the slope to cut the white-ash vein, but before reaching this they were obliged to abandon it, on account of depression in the price of coal, which rendered the enterprise unprofitable. The working was abandoned in 1865, and the property is now owned by Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. About a mile east of Middleport Pliny Fisk opened a colliery, which drew its product from Skidmore vein, and worked it success fully and profitably for a time, in consequence of its yielding an excellent quality of anthracite. Some time between 1860 and 1865 he sold out to Henry Gueitterman, who abandoned the colliery about twelve years ago, after working it with considerable success. It has since been idle.

On the Da Costa tract, between Gueitterman's opening and Middleport, S. Chadwick sunk a slope to the Big Gate vein. During the following winter water froze in the pipes, bursting them and causing the abandonment of the enterprise. About a half a mile north of Gueitterman's opening, on the Robb & Winebrenner tract, one of the Huntzingers sunk a dry slope to the water level, hoisting his coal to the breaker. About 1862 or 1863 this working passed into the hands of Issac May, who sold out to Jesse Foster, who began to sink a slope on the Clarkson vein, but abandoned the enterprise before it was finished. The breaker was burned, and the mine has since been idle. A quarter of a mile south of this colliery, and on the southern dip of the same vein, Samuel Sillyman sunk a slope and mined there successfully for some years. Previous to 1860 the breaker and the engine house burned, and the mine has since been idle. A small quantity of coal is being mined at the Hiawatha colliery, near middleport, by S. Kentbaugh.

**SETTLEMENT AND EARLY MATTERS**

The names, location and the date of the settlement of the pioneers in Blythe are unknowns. The earliest inhabitants of the township were farmers, and it was not until about the time of the opening of the Schuylkill canal that there were many families living in the valley between the present eastern and western borders of the township. With the opening of the canal coal mining began to be active, and the interest increased in importance with the construction of the Schuylkill Valley Railroad, and became more and more important year by year, until it is decadence on account of the exhaustion of the anthracite deposits near the surface, and the depression in the coal trade generally. During the active period of coal mining.
in the Schuylkill district Blythe was the scene of much bustle and enterprise. The first township election was ordered "to be held at the public house of M. Balliett, in Middleport." Mails, in that portion of the Schuylkill township which is now Blythe, were somewhat irregular until 1830. Early in August that year arrangements were made with a Mr. Reeside to carry a daily mail between Pottsville and Tuscarora, via Middleport. From Tuscarora it was carried, tri-weekly, to Mauch Chunk. the first post-office in the township had been established at Middleport early in the previous May, with Jacob Huntzinger as postmaster.

THE VALLEY FURNACE

The earliest manufacturing enterprise in the vicinity was the Valley Furnace, near Silver Creek, just north of New Philadelphia, and at that point centered the small laboring population of the township. The furnace was built as early as 1804 or 1805, states Abraham Pott, by Rev. F.W. Geisenheimer & Co. Mr. Geisenheimer was a New Yorker, and a man of much scientific knowledge. Of course the furnace was a primitive affair in the beginning; but under the direction of Mr. Geisenheimer, it was improved from year to year, and it is said to have been, during the whole period of its existence, abreast with if not in advance of the times. Previous to 1836 many experiments had been made in the manufacture of iron with coal as heating agent. They had been uniformly unsuccessful. In that year Mr. Geisenheimer made, at the Valley Furnace, with the assistance of Abraham Pott, an effort so triumphant as to enable him to obtain the iron separate from the cinder. The result of this experiment, says a writer, was such as to "place the name of Mr. Geisenheimer high upon the list of those who have enlarged the power of man over materials around him." It is stated that Mr. Geisenheimer made the first anthracite iron with the coal blast, and that the more efficient hot blast was introduced from England at a later date. During the summer of 1836. Governor Ritner visited the Valley Furnace and was much gratified with what he saw of the successful new process in iron manufacture. The old furnace had been substantially rebuilt in 1835 and 1836. The blast failed at first, but a second one was successful. A few years later Geisenheimer & Co. leased the furnace to other parties, who were in time succeeded by other lessees, until operations ceased entirely on account of the furnace becoming inefficient, and the establishment of similar enterprises on a larger scale in close proximity.

MIDDLEPORT BOROUGH

Adam Stahl is said to have been the first settler at Middleport. Members of his family were prominent landowners there for many years. In 1821 Jacob Stahl sold the burying-ground to the Lutheran and the Presbyterian congregations, which were represented in the transactions by John Settzer and Andrew D. Long.

In 1828 Jacob Huntzinger bought a tract of land, including that portion of Middleport north of the Schuylkill Valley Railroad. Soon a man named Rausch became Huntzinger's partner. Prior to 1830 the land was laid out in village lots, which were offered for sale. The balance of the territory within the borough limits, and lying south of the railroad, was included in the Da Costa tract.

Jacob Huntzinger was the pioneer business man in the borough. He opened a store there in the spring or summer of 1829. The second store was that of Ferguson & Jones, established in the later part of May, 1830. In March, 1830, there were only two dwellings in the settlement. Evidence of the success of Mr. Huntzinger's enterprise is apparent in the fact that June 1st following the number of dwellings had increased to eight. One of these was a tavern which had been opened about a year, and was kept by George Kershner. A grist-mill, a saw-mill, and a blacksmith's shop were in operation. The railroad, and the state roads from Pottsville to Mauch Chunk and from Orwigsburg north, passing through the village, made it prominent on lines of local travel, and the activity in the coal trade in the valley after the completions of the railroad brought with it a steady and healthy growth to Middleport. In 1845 the population of the miners, and mechanics, and there were then three stores and two taverns.

The first meeting of the borough council of Middleport was held May 2nd, 1859. The first burgess was Charles Bensinger, and Francis W. Bechtel was the first borough clerk. Joseph Eustace, and John C. Feedtrappe were the first councilmen.

The succeeding burgesses have been Joseph Miller, George Medlar, David B. Shafer, George Hinly, Thomas Jennings, William Wall, William Herman, Richard Winlack, William Basler, and C. Frank Horn, the present incumbent.
The population of the borough in 1880 was about 230. There are two stores, those of William Basler and Mary A. Miller, and two taverns. Eli T. Miller's stream saw-mill was built about 1870.

**CHURCH HISTORY**

The date of the first preaching in Blythe cannot be obtained. The Lutheran and the Presbyterian denominations held meetings early in Middleport, and in 1821 we find them purchasing land of Jacob Stahl, as has been stated. A small church was built on a portion of the lot. The balance was devoted to burial purposes. In 1852 the Presbyterian built a stone church. Later, the congregation becoming financially weak, an interest in the property was sold to the Lutherans. Services are held irregularly, seldom oftener than once in four weeks, and mostly in the German language.

Methodist services have been held in the vicinity from time to time with more or less frequency for many years. A class of this denomination worships in a former furniture store.

**I.O.O.F.**

Middleport Lodge No. 474, I.O. of O.F. was instituted October 1st, 1852, with the following officers; E.K. Webber, N.G. Henry Meyer, V.G.; M. Dormetzer, S.; Charles Bensinger, T. The present officers (1881) are: William Murry, N.G.; William Miller, V.G.; J.F. Hiney, S.; Louis Lorenz, T.

**NEW PHILADELPHIA BOROUGH**

Shadrach Lord was the first settler here. New Philadelphia was incorporated in 1868. Charles Tanner was burgess in 1868 and 1869. James O'Hare in 1870; P.J. Kelly in 1871; John Haggarty in 1872 and 1873; Michael Whalen in 1874 and 1875; W. H. McQuail in 1876 and 1877; L. Ennis in 1878, 1879 and 1880.

In 1841 there were only two houses inside the present borough limits. One of these was built by Andrew Bubb, the other by Nathan Barlow. Barlow was an early justice of the peace in Blythe, serving twenty years. His successor, John Haggarty, the present incumbent, has served eighteen years.

The principal business men of New Philadelphia have been Edmund Ellis, Michael Rooney, Wesley Dodson and Nathan Barlow. Prominent resident coal operators were Samuel Potts and Conner & Rhoads. The Alliance Coal Company has been doing a large business more recently.

The local business is now done by Michael Rooney and John E. Egan, merchants; John P. Feeley, tea and spice merchant; Charles Tanner, liveryman; William McQuail, superintendent for the Alliance Coal Company; and Mrs. James Ennis, dealer in boots and shoes. The postmaster is Michael Egan. The population in 1870 was 558; in 1880, 360.

Cumbola, near the west border, is a small village of the township, which grew up during the days of coal mining in that locality.

**CHURCHES**

The first church at New Philadelphia was the Lutheran church, built in 1852. Rev. Mr. Glenn, who resided at Tamaqua, was the first pastor. The congregation was weak, as were other denominations in the place, and for a time this building served all who chose to worship in it.

Early Methodist preaching was irregular. The first salaried Methodist preacher here was Rev. John Jones. Rev. James Neil, the first operator at Neil's hill, and Thomas & Niles, two other operators, assumed the chief burden of the preacher's salary for a time. Later the local class was attached to the Port Carbon charge. The number of Methodists having greatly increased, in 1855 those in the valley east and west from New Philadelphia were constituted a separate church. Services at Middleport, Big Vein, and Tucker's Hill. The membership was from fifty to sixty, and the services were attended by two hundred and fifty to three hundred.

The first primitive Methodist preacher who held meetings in New Philadelphia was William Donaldson, who used to preach in Squire Barlow's stone tavern. Later preachers, supplied from the Tamaqua conference, were Revs. Buttenrik and Spurr. At Tucker Hill, under the encouragement of John J. Dovey, a primitive Methodist church was organized by the Greene and Beach families and others.

In November, 1867, the Catholics in the Schuylkill valley growing so numerous, it was deemed advisable by the authorities of the Diocese of Philadelphia to erect a new parish at New Philadelphia. A temporary building was procured, and a pastor, Rev. John A. Loughran, was appointed. He was succeeded in time by Revs. M.L. Reynolds, D.I. McDermott, S. O'Brien, J.J. O'Reilly and P.V. O'Brien, the present pastor. Owing to the dullness of the times, and many of the works in the valley being abandoned, the congregation were unable to erect a church. They improved and renovated the old structure to such an extent that it served them as a place of worship. December 10th, 1880, the old building took fire and was destroyed. On the same site it is intended to speedily erect an elegant and commodious church.
This township was formed out of a portion of Norwegian, in 1836. A portion of it was included in Frailey at the organization of that township in 1847. Its area was further reduced by the organization of Cass from its territory in 1848, and a portion became part of Reilly; and much of it is included in the first coal field of the Schuylkill district. The township is four and three eights miles long, by three and three-fourths miles wide, and contains 10,500 acres. The surface in the north is undulating and hilly, but most of it is arable and moderately well cultivated. The southern part is mountainous, the Sharp and Second mountains running through it east and west, the summit of the latter forming the boundary. The township is drained by several creeks, the west branch of Schuylkill being the principal one. Indian run, a fine trout stream, flows between the mountain, and affords ample water power to run a power-mill built on its banks. The Muddy branch is a stream flowing through the northwest portion of the township.

EARLY SETTLERS

Settlement was begun in Branch prior to 1750. Philip and George Clauser located on the Muddy branch, and the Adams family, Andrew Steitzel and a man named Fox were their neighbors.

On the site of Llewellyn Jacob Hime is claimed to have been the first settler. He was engaged in farming and lumbering. The date at which he erected his primitive saw-mill there cannot now be ascertained. Abraham and Jacob Faust located on the site of the village at an early day, their coming having been not long after the beginning of improvements by Jacob Hime. Mark Britton located a mill southeast of Llewellyn, and was the first in his neighborhood. His cabin was near the west branch. A family of Biddles settled between Britton's clearing and the Sunbury road. The first settler near the northern border of the township, where Phoenix Center has since grown into prominence, was Thomas Reed. His family was quite numerous and a number of his descendants were later well known in the neighborhood. Other comparatively early settlers in the township were George Hafer, Peter Starr, Johannan Cockill, John and Jacob Weaver, and John and Peter Zerbey.

EARLY MATTERS OF INTEREST

When settlement began evidences were found here and there of the previous occupation of the township by Indians. At a comparatively late period it was common to find arrow heads while ploughing. The first log house of any pretensions in the township was built at Llewellyn by Abraham Faust. It was a two-story structure. The first framed building was erected in 1830 by Willing, Shober and Bunting. It is now owned by Thomas M. Cockill, and occupied by G.W. Sponsler as a boot and shoe store. Messrs Smith & Howell built the first frame store house in 1830, and opened a general store. The stock of goods was made up of about everything in demand in a country neighborhood, and whisky, brandy, gin, rum, and other liquors were sold by the gallon and drink. The first and only brick dwelling house in the township was erected by John Rodgers, in 1861. Dr. Leonard was the first resident physician, and came in 1849. Drs. Witheral, A.M. Robins, J.B. Brandt, and W.F. Schropp have practiced in the township longer or shorter periods since. The first hotel was built in 1832, on the site where Cornelius Colman is now domiciled. The tavern keepers were Johannan Cockill, Isaac Eisenhower, and Henry Bressler. Jacob Hime kept a tavern in 1836.

FIRST TOWNSHIP ELECTION-OFFICERS

The first township election was held at the public house of Jacob Hime, in 1837. Two supervisors were chosen. They were Jacob Hime and John Moon. The first justices of the peace were Thomas B. Abbott and Samuel Harlman. Abbott served twenty years. Then the township was without a magistrate many years. Johannan Cockill served two years. Henry Reed and Hiram Chance each served five years. Jacob F. Hime was elected to the office in 1857, and has served continuously since. The first township road passed through the southern part of Llewellyn, crossing the creek at a point a hundred yards below Coleman's Hotel. For some time there was no bridge, and a fordway was in use. The township now contains twenty-one miles of public road.

Business Interests

Farming and lumbering early gave employment to the few scattering inhabitants within the present township limits, and it was not until after the beginning of the development of the coal interests that population increased with any degree of rapidity. The population of the old township of Norwegian, which embraced Branch and a large territory besides not now included in Norwegian, was so small previous to 1825 that there were not in the whole township children enough to make up a district school, and in 1828 there were only 421 taxable inhabitants. Under the influence of the coal mining interests the population of the whole Pottsville field grew rapidly. In 1842 the population of Branch, which then included Cass and portions of Frailey and Reilly, had so increased that there were in the township 1,058 taxable inhabitants. In 1849, when Branch comprised its present area and a portion of Reilly, it had 600 taxable inhabitants.

As in other sections of what is now known as the first coal fields of the Schuylkill district, the presence of coal within the present limits of Branch township was early.
known. On William Scull's map of the "Province of Pennsylvania," published in 1770, and claimed to be the earliest authority for the existence of coal anywhere in the vicinity of Pottsville, coal is designated at three points commencing about two miles west of that borough and extending in a southwesterly direction for about four miles. A glance at a map of the territory will show that some of the outcroppings discovered by the surveyor must have been within the borders of Branch township as now bounded.

The first mining enterprise of any prominence if Branch was started in 1831, on the Salem river, on a tract of land half a mile south of Llewellyn, by Samuel Brook and John Miller. Five years later, not having succeeded as well as had been anticipated, Brook sold his interest to Mr. Heilner. There was considerable dispute at the time about the lease of the land owners to the operators, which resulted in a suspension that continued dispute at the time about the lease of the land owners to the operators, which resulted in a suspension that continued two years. The difficulty was satisfactorily adjusted in time, and work was resumed. Fritz & Seltzer operated on the same vein several years. They sunk a slope and put up a small breaker with a capacity of twenty-five cars a day. Their successors were Tyson & Co., who worked the colliery seven years. Then Tyson & Kendrick leased it two years. Finally Jones & Focht purchased it, and a year later the breaker was destroyed by fire, and never rebuilt. Martin Cunningham and Daniel Hoch, jr., have small breakers on the tract, and are operating on a limited scale.

West Wood colliery was opened in 1840, by Miller & Spencer, who sunk the first slope in the county. They worked the colliery fifteen years and sold out to Fogarty & Co.

Robert Leeler worked the Gate vein on the Dundas tract, near the present site of the Black Mine colliery, operated by H.A. Moodie & Co. two years. Messrs. Hill & Betting then became the possessors of the colliery mining and shipping coal many years. John Clausen developed his coal land and began shipping coal in 1842. Folden Wonn shipped coal from the same vein in 1852.

Phoenix Park colliery was opened in 1838 by the Offerman Coal Company, on the Peach mountain and the north dip of the Diamond veins, but not long afterwards mining operations were suspended. Stockman & Stephens were shippers for several years. Charles Miller worked the colliery and built a breaker in 1845, which was burned in 1849, and has never been rebuilt. The land is now owned by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

The first powder mill in the township was built by Mr. Allison, at Indian run. He manufactured several years and finally leased the mill to Captain William C. Wren. It exploded early in April, 1868, killing Albert Leopold and William Kreider, who were employed there.

John Rodgers began the manufacture of bricks in the edge of Llewellyn in 1846. He was succeeded by Henry Trautman and Joseph Miller in 1856. Later Joseph Kauffman carried on the business extensively and successfully several years.

VILLAGES-CEMETERIES

There are several small villages in the township. They are known as Llewellyn, Dowdentown, West Wood, and Phoenix Park. Llewellyn is the largest and best known. It is a brisk village, situated two miles south west of Minersville, on the west branch of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, on the main road leading from Pottsville to Millersville, Dauphin county. It was named in honor of a coal miner and it contains 400 inhabitants. Its population in 1870 is said to have been 500. Much of the early history of this village if given elsewhere. In January, 1851, it contained 82 houses, 3 taverns, 2 stores, and 1 public school with an average attendance of 90 to 100. The population was 419. Thomas M. Cockill, general merchant, Lewis Zimmerman, grocer, D.H. Wilcox, John Sinsel and Cornelius Coleman, hotel keepers, Peter Doerr, boot and shoe maker, Peter Sinsel, cobbler, and John Hicks, blacksmith, are well-known business men of the present day. The population of the township in 1880 was 1,000.

There are two cemeteries in the township. One is attached to the Reformed and Lutheran church. It was laid out in 1819 and deeded by Lewis Reese, of Reading, to J.F. Faust and Jacob Hime, trustees for the respective congregations. It is known as Clausen's cemetery. The other is attached to the Methodist Episcopal church, but the ground was donated upon such conditions that any person, a resident of the township at the time of death, is entitled to burial therein. It is known as Llewellyn cemetery.

EDUCATIONAL

Early schools were held in private rooms, furnished for the purpose by liberally disposed settlers. After a few years log houses were built for school purposes, and these, with their furniture, harmonize, with the pioneer life of the builders. The course of instruction given in German, comprised reading, writing, the elements of arithmetic, psalm sing and exercises from the catechism. The pioneer teacher was Philip Delcamp, who first taught in the old log church. It was, for a time, customary for parents to pay fifty cents monthly tuition for each child. John Clark and Henry Miller were teachers as early as 1833. The first public school was
held in a room in a private dwelling built, and owned and occupied by Abraham Faust, in 1834. Edmund Holt a horse farrier, taught ten years. The first public school house was built in 1839, and was used exclusively for school purposes until 1857. During that year a brick school-house was built on Bunting street, in Llewellyn, against the strenuous opposition of many residents of Branch, outside of the village, who remonstrated against being subjected to taxation for the erection of an expensive school-house which could accommodate only the scholars residing at Llewellyn and vicinity. A lengthy remonstrance, signed by 254 persons, was presented to the board of directors. The first teachers in this building were D.J. Evans and Miss M.J. Watson. The present teachers (1881) are E.G. Faust and Miss Jennie Garland.

The present board of directors is made up as follows; Thomas B. Thomas, president; D.H. Wilcox, Secretary; Peter Doerr, treasurer; Michael Connolly, Jacob Myer and Michael Bonchart.

SOCIETIES

Several secret societies have been organized in Branch and held their sessions in Llewellyn, where in 1845 a hall was erected for their use. The principal stockholders in the Llewellyn Hall Association are H.F. Heine, J.F. Faust, Ezra Cockill, George Gable, William Zimmerman, and William Hoch.

Freeman Council, No. 68, Order United America Mechanics was organized in 1848, with J.F. Heine, Ezra Cockill, Jonas Kauffman, Jacob Barnhart, Hiram D. Chance, Damond Schropp, William Hoch, William Berkheiser, Charles Doner, and S.K. Sherman as charter members, and disbanded in 1858.

Line Council, No. 121, Order United American Mechanics was organized in Minersville in 1869, was removed to Llewellyn in 1872 and resigned its charter in 1880. The charter members were Moses Weiser, H.J. Alspach, J.Z. Starr, Washington Loeser, J.Q. Geiger, Henry Heisler, Charles Berger, Lewis Garrison, Jacob Heller, and Nathan Herb.

Llewellyn Council, No. 142, Junior Order United American Mechanics was instituted in October, 1871. The charter members were T.C. Cockill, E.L. Cockill, J.B. Heine, J. Allen Heine, Abram Start, F.P. Boyer, Jonathan Ernst and Theodore Harris.

Post No. 59, Grand Army of the Republic was organized in 1857 and disbanded in 1870. Among the charter members were J.B. Brandt, H.J. Alspach, Hiram Chance, Henry Brodt, Thomas B. Thomas, Louis Zimmerman, A.T. Trautman and William Straw.

CHURCH HISTORY

German Reformed and Lutheran.-The first church building in Branch was a log structure, erected by the united congregations of the German Reformed and Lutheran denominations, in 1819, on eight acres and one hundred and thirty-eight perches of land donated by Lewis Reese. The organization of each denomination reserved the right to provide its own ministers. The first Reformed pastor was Rev. Frederick C. Kroll, who dedicated the church. He was succeeded by Rev. Messrs Schultz and Steahle. Rev. George Minnich was the first Lutheran pastor. He was succeeded, on his removal to Berks county, by his son, Rev. William G. Munich. At times one or the other denomination was without a pastor; sometimes both were unprovided. But either attended the services of the other. In 1806 a brick church, known as Clauser's church, was built a hundred yards north of the little old log house. The building committee consisted of Philip Gihres, P.A. Clauser, J.G. Faust, Henry Zimmerman, J.F. Hine and Joseph Zerby. J.F. Hine was contractor and one of the trustees. In January 1857, the congregations began worshipping (sic) in the new building, which has since been occupied by them on alternate Sundays. Rev. Jacob Kline was the first Reformed pastor who officiated in the new church. His successors have been Revs. J.B. Parner, Samuel Miller, Dechaub, Stein, Schultz, Baum, and Christian, the present pastor. The first Lutheran pastor who held services in the brick church was Rev. Daniel Sanner, the present pastor of the Lutheran congregation.

Methodist Episcopal.- The Methodist Episcopal church was built in 1839, on a lot of one acre and thirty perches of ground in the northern part of Llewellyn, donated to the trustees, Henry Bressler, Johannan Cockill and William Delcamp, by Messrs. Willing, Shober & Bunting. Revs. Elliott, Arthur, and Heston, from the Minersville circuit, filled the pulpit about three years. For about twenty years thereafter the congregation had no regular pastor. Revs. Richard Morley, -----Kaines and ----Arnold have been later pastors. The church is now connected with the Minersville charge.

United Brethren.-The United Brethren church is situated near the Methodist church. It was built in 1850 by Ezra Cockill, contractor and builder, for a school-house, and was used as such until 1857, when, through the liberality of John Schultz and others, it became the property of the above named congregation. The first pastor was Rev. ----Lowery. He was succeeded by Rev. Messrs. Uhler, Fritz, Kramer and others. The church is now without a pastor.

Sunday Schools.-The first Sunday-school in Branch was organized, at Llewellyn in 1840, by Mr. R.C. Hill, then general superintendent of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, who came from Cressona, on his car, accompanied by a minister and assistants. In 1843 the Welsh opened a Sunday-school, which continued successfully nearly ten years. At present there are Sunday-schools connected with each of the before mentioned churches.
MINERSVILLE BOROUGH

In a brief sketch by Charles W. Taylor, it is said:

"Minersville was founded in 1830 by Titus Bennet, who laid out the town in that year on parts of two tracts of land. One of these was patented to Titus Bennet on the 7th of December, 1830, and enrolled in patent book 'H,' vol. 28, page 567. The other was patented to Lawrence Lewis and Robert M. Lewis on the 20th of July, 1829, and recorded in patent book 'H,' vol. 26, page 493.

The borough of Minersville was incorporated on the 1st of April, 1831, and the act was approved by Governor George Wolf. The original limits of the borough were the following boundaries: 'Beginning at a spruce tree on the corner of lands of Bennet and Walton, adjoining lands of Wetherill and others; from thence south 60E west, 131 perches, to a white oak stump; thence north 30E west, 63 perches; thence north 51E west, 127 perches; thence north 66E east, 128 perches; thence north 60E east, to a point on the division line of lands belonging to Bennet, Walton, and John White; and thence, by said line, to the place of beginning.'

"Minersville was so named because of the fact that a large portion of the inhabitants were engaged in coal mining."

In the Miners' Journal of December, 1830, it is said:

"A little more than a twelvemonth ago the present site of town dwelt in all the loveliness of uncultivated nature, since which its aspect has undergone a wonderful change in improvements and population. Along the margin of the stream the West Branch railroad extends, and terminates at Schuylkill Haven (distance seven and one-half miles from Minersville), affording an easy and expeditious mode of transportation. The principal street bears the name of Sunbury, on which are situated all the stores and public buildings. It was formerly the old Sunbury road, communicating with the rich valleys in the direction of the Susquehanna. The northern portion of the village is of firm dry soil, gradually rising and affording a southern exposure, of favorable character for private dwellings. Seven large houses have already been erected during the present season on this spot by Messrs. Bennet and Gilmore, together with a number of small buildings in the same quarter. Last spring there were but six dwellings in all, since which there has been an increase of forty-nine substantial houses. The place contains six taverns, in any one of which are to be found respectable accommodations; eight stores, well supplied with every article for country consumption; six blacksmiths' shops, one saddlery, one bakery, two tailors' shops and two butchers'-all seeming to be in a thriving way. The population is estimated to be 500."

Since the incorporation of the borough it has been twice enlarged, and its corporate limits include about double its original area. The first settler here was Thomas Reed, who came in March, 1793, built a saw-mill in the west branch if the Schuylkill, just below the mouth is Wolf creek, and a log house near it. This, it is believed, was the first residence in the place. He soon after ward built a tavern on the south side of what was then the Sunbury road, now Sunbury street, on the present site of the church of St. Vincent de Paul. At about the same time he erected a distillery for converting his surplus coarse grain into spirits. This was a log building, and it stood on a portion of the site of a brick house nearly opposite the Catholic parsonage. A portion of the timber of this distillery has been used in the construction of an outbuilding in the rear of this house. Besides the tavern and log house no other residences are known to have been built in Minersville till the latter part of 1828.

The hotel was long known as the "Half-Way House" between Reading and Sunbury. It also had the local name of the "Red House." Mr. Reed kept this hotel till his death in 1814. It is remembered that during the war of 1812 a body of troops were coming from Northumberland over the Sunbury road, and a boy, mistaking them for Indians, ran in his fright and reported what he thought he had seen to Mr. Reed, who sent away his family and secreted himself, rifle in hand, to await the coming of the savages. His alarm was of course dissipated on learning that they were American soldiers.

The first child born in Minersville was Susanna, daughter of Thomas Reed, December 18th, 1793. The first resident of this place was Jacob Reed, to Rebecca Bittle, January 13th, 1813.

The first death was that of Thomas Reed, in 1814. He was buried in the cemetery at the rear of his hotel. A body had previously been buried there-that of the man who carried the mail, on foot, between Reading and Sunbury. He was found murdered at what is now called Primrose, about a mile and a half above Minersville. His body was guarded by his large dog, and after it was, with some difficulty, taken away and buried, this dog sniffed a short time at the grave, then ran away and went to Sunbury. The appearance of the man's dog alarmed his friends for his safety, and they came and learned the facts of the case, but the murderers were never apprehended. Robbery was supposed to be their motive.

The first cemetery was in the rear of the old red tavern, adjoining the present cemetery of the church of St. Vincent de Paul. The ground was donated by Thomas Reed.

The other cemeteries are St. Mary's, in the northwest part of the borough; the German Lutheran and German Reformed, southeast from the borough on the road to Llewellyn; the Welsh Baptist, on Spencer street; the Congregational, near St. Mary's; and that of St. Vincent de Paul in the rear of the church.

Peter Dilman resided in the log house near the saw-mill after Mr. Reed removed to the red tavern. He was the sawyer in the mill. The lumber that was manufactured in this region at that early period was manufactured in this region at that early period was rafted down the Schuylkill and found a market at Reading and the places below it. Lumbering was the principal business.
of the few settlers here. When the Mine Hill Railroad was built, and an outlet was thus given to the mineral wealth of this region, the influx of settlers was very rapid. Among the first settlers in 1829 was Joseph Dobbins, a carpenter, who built some of the earliest houses here. The first blacksmith was George Dengler, whose shop was a board shanty near where the tavern of Mr. Mock, on Sunbury street, now stands. He also boarded railroad hands in a newly built house near his shop.

The first store was established in 1830 by John Swaine and his partner, a Mr. Duncan, on the north side of Sunbury street, near Third. Drs. Robbins and Steinberger were the first physicians. In 1830 or 1831 Francis Finselbach established a brewery on the south side of Sunbury street, between First and Second streets. Among the people who came in 1829 and 1830 were Samuel Rickert, Daniel R. Bennet, N. Baker, B. McLenathan, Joseph Mills Jacob Bruner, Samuel McBride and others, whose names cannot be recalled. As before stated, the growth of the place was very rapid after 1829.

Thomas Reed was early appointed a justice of the peace. It is said that on the re-election of Governor Snyder, Jacob Reed, his son, was also appointed, as a reward for having cast his first vote for Mr. Snyder, in opposition to the wishes of his father. The son was a magistrate here during many years, and had his office in the log house which has been mentioned as the first residence erected in the place.

The first election for borough officers was held at the house of David Buckwatler May 1st, 1831, and resulted in the choice of the following officers: Samuel Rickert, Chief burgess; John Provost, John Patrick, Dr Anthony Steinberger, John L. Swaine, Daniel R. Bennet, John B. Hahn and Daniel Buckwalter, councilmen. Daniel R. Bennet was elected the first president of the council. John Bruner the first borough treasurer; Thomas J. Harman town clerk, and Milligan G. Gable high constable.

The burgesses elected since have been: Danile R. Bennet, 1832; Jacob Bruner, 1834; John F.G. Kumsius, 1838; Blair McClanagan, 1839, 1843; Samuel Kauffman, 1842; John Trayer, 1844, 1847, 1864, 1872; David F. Jones, 1845; Evan Evans, 1849, 1859; Thomas A. Williams, 1857; Moses Weiser, 1860; John Oerther, 1861; Joseph Thirlwell, 1863; William Matthews, 1865; Philip Jones, 1866; E.M. Heilner, 1867, 1869; John J. Rees, 1868; Joseph Morgan, 1870; Joseph Levan, 1876; Frederick Friend, 1877; Levi King, 1880.

Minersville has ten hotels, thirteen dry goods and grocery stores, a drug and hardware store, three drug stores, five green grocers, two book and stationery stores, six shoe stores, six milliners, four clothieries, two jewelers, six liquor stores, three tobacco stores, three furniture stores, a foundry and machine shop, a shoe factory, seven meat markets, two stove and tin shops, six barbers three wheelwright and blacksmith shops, two lumber yards, two breweries, a screw factory, and a soap factory.

A public hall was finished in 1876 in a block on the corner of Sunbury and Third streets, by Kear Brother. This hall is 85 by 50, and it has a stage 35 by 50, with ample scenery. The seating capacity of the hall is 700.

MINERSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In or about 1837 the first public schools were taught in Minersville by Chester Stratton and his sister Eunice. These schools were opened in a framed building on South street, which was purchased in 1842 by the English Baptists. It is said that a Mr. Tomlins also taught a school about the same time, in a building still standing on the northeast corner of Fifth and Sunbury streets and occupied by Lemuel D. Jones. Minersville, thought incorporated as a borough April 1st, 1831, was at this time included in the school district consisting of Cass and Branch townships. March 7th, 1843, Minersville became a separate school district (sic), and in September of the following year 119 pupils were admitted into the schools. The number enrolled during the term immediately preceding the division was 277. These schools were taught by Chester Stratton, Benjamin C. Christ, Miss Elizabeth A. Christ and Miss E.W. Tomlins. Dr. William N. Robins was at this time and for a number of years afterward secretary of the school board. Subsequently Mary Stratton, Rachel Morris, Arthur Connelly, Heman Hall, Jonathan J. Dickerson, Eber Dickerson, Amos Y. Thomas, a Mr. Butler, Levi King and several others were, previous to 1853, employed as teachers.

In September, 1853, Jonathan K. Krewson, of Bucks county, became principal of the schools, which were then, for the first time, graded. Mr. Krewson having been elected superintendent of the public schools of Schuylkill county, J.W. Danenhower, M.D., the present incumbent, was in September, 1854, appointed to take charge of the schools as principal teacher and superintendent. The several appointments then made were as follows: High school, J.W. Danenhower teacher; grammar school, Levi King; secondary school No. 1, Ellen Parks; secondary school No. 2, Lucy Greenwood; primary school No. 1, Sarah Davis; primary school No. 2 Maggie P. Sorber. Miss Sorber taught at Minersville twenty-eight years, resigning June 30th, 1880. The high school numbered at this time about 40, and the members of the school board were Anthony S. McKee, president; William N. Robins, secretary; Chester Stratton, William Sterner, John H. Detwiler and Abraham Trout.

During the term of 1854-55, a third primary school was opened and a Miss Connelly and Matilda Schenk taught that term. A two-story stone school-house containing two rooms on a floor was built in 1839, on Twin street. Schools were also opened in the basements of the Welsh Baptist and Welsh Congregational churches.

The large three-story brick school-house on Third street was completed and occupied in September, 1856. It accommodated six schools, including grammar school.
No. 2, then just opened with Juliet Robins as teacher. The next term (1857-58) an "ungraded school", taught by Levi King, was opened for the accommodation of boys who could attend school for a short time only. This school has been continued in the winter season to the present time.

In 1868 another large and commodious brick school-house was occupied; and at the same time "secondary school No. 3" (now Grammar) was started, Eliza A. Sutton teacher. The remaining rooms of this building were first occupied in 1880. Object lessons and language lessons are given in the primary schools, and drawing is taught in all the schools.

Other branches were gradually added to the curriculum thus embraced mathematics in general, with mental arithmetic and book-keeping; the natural sciences, German and a full course of English.

We find the following note in the school register, dated June 30th, 1870: "Since the grade was first established, in 1853-54, there have been connected with the Minersville High School 348 pupils, of whom 157 were males and 191 were females. Of this number about 40 obtained the county or State certificate and taught school; 65 became clerks, book-keepers or merchants; and 9 are professional men."

The greatest number of admissions to all the borough schools (1,141) occurred in the term of 1864-65; and the least (792) in the term of 1878-79.

The first district institute was held September 18th, 1869, and it continues its meetings on alternate Saturdays.

We append the names of the directors and teachers connected with the Minersville public schools since 1854:

**Presidents of the School Boards.** B.C. Christ, George Spencer, Louis C. Dougherty, Jacob S. Lawrence, John Sterner, Joseph C. Gartley, Solomon A. Philips.

**Secretaries.** Dr. William N. Robins, John Witzeman, Dr. Oscar M. Robins, David A. Jones.

**Other Members.** Joseph Bowen, Thomas Jones, Chester Stratton, John H. Detwiler, Frederick Roehrig, James H. Richards, Jacob Maurer, John D. Jones, John R. Jones, Dr. U.B. Howell, John Shellenberger, John Mohan, Jacob Osman, Engelhard Hummel, William Lloyd, James Evans, Dr. Theodore Helwig, Frank C. Lawrence, Henry Hammer, Mark Hodges.


**THE PRESS IN MINERSVILLE**

The Schuylkill Republican was established in December, 1872, by Charles D. Elliot and John A. Beck, both of whom had been connected with the "Miners' Journal". It entered at once on a prosperous career, and assumed an influential position as a Republican organ.

In November, 1874, Mr. Beck retired from the firm, and the paper was conducted by Mr. Elliot till September, 1879, when J.H. Zerby, the present editor and proprietor, purchased the establishment. Mr. Zerby had been connected with the Republican in different capacities from its commencements, and he feels a just pride in the fact that he became an editor at the age of twenty-one.

**LEADING BUSINESS INSTITUTIONS**

The First National Bank of Minersville was incorporated in 1863, under the national banking system, with a capital of $50,000.

The first directors were Richard Kear, Samuel Kauffman, Jacob Wist, Jacob S. Lawrence, John Witzeman, John Mohan and John Wadlinger.

The presidents of this bank have been, in succession, Richard Kear, Jacob S. Lawrence, William Kear, and Jacob Lawrence, the present president.

The first cashier was Samuel Kauffman, who was succeeded by the present cashier, Robert F. Potter.

The banking house, which is owned by the bank, is on the corner of Sunbury and North Third streets.

The Minersville Iron Works was founded in 1838 by William De Haven. It was at first a blacksmith shop and a car shop. A foundry, machine shop and boiler works were soon added; and the shops were enlarged as the increase of business required till they reached their present dimensions. Mr. De Haven conducted the business till his death, and in 1864 the present firm, Gastler & Fox, purchased the works, and the business has since been conducted by this firm. At first the business was limited to machinery for collieries; but it has been much expanded and made to embrace a very wide range. The works have a capacity for a business of $200,000 per annum.

The Minersville Water Company was incorporated by an act of Assembly passed April 30th, 1855. Under this act the company was organized in 1856, with William Sterner president.

Water was introduced in the borough in 1861. It was brought from Big run or Dyer's run on Broad mountain, four miles north from the borough, in pipes which pass through Mine Hill Gap. The dam from which the pipes are supplied is 470 feet higher than the lowest point in the borough, giving a pressure sufficient to throw an inch and a quarter stream to a height of 120 feet, of course obviating all necessity for fire engines.

Pipes are laid through all the principal streets of the borough, which is supplied with water of a purity not excelled. The engineer under whom the work was laid out was Samuel Lewis.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The fire department, of which Jacob S. Lawrence has long been the head, consists of three hose companies and a hook and ladder company.
Mountain Hose Company was organized August 15th, 1864, with 31 members. John Hehr was the first president, Jacob S. Lawrence vice-president, H.C. Taylor secretary, and R.R. Levan treasurer. The company is fully equipped with hose-cart and hose. Its house is in Mountaineer Hall, corner of Third and Sunbury streets. The present number of members is 27. George F. Dando is president, Myer Hexter vice-president, and C.H. Roehrig secretary.

Good Will Hose Company was incorporated September 2nd, 1867, with Matthew Beddow president, John Mohan vice-president, F.C. Bender secretary, and John Wadlinger treasurer. The company is fully equipped and has three full sets of uniforms. J.W. Loeser is president and A.W. Sterner secretary.

Independent Hose Company was organized in 1869, with 35 members and the following officers: John Mohan, president, W.J. McElroy, vice-president, H.I. Mohan, secretary, Wm. Matthews, treasurer. The company furnished their own hose carriage and uniforms. The present number of members is 25. The officers are: T. Mohan, president, Matthias Feenen, vice-president, W.J. McElroy, secretary. The company's house is on Sunbury street, above Fifth.

Rescue Hook and Ladder Company was organized October 11th, 1871, with 26 members. John Matthews was president, John Robbins vice president, John N. Fisher secretary, John Deitrich treasurer, and John N. Fisher foreman. The company were furnished with apparatus by the borough, and furnished their own uniforms. Their house is on the corner of Third street and the railroad. The present number of members is 34. The officers are: Richard D. Mainwaring president, Joseph Dando vice-president, John N. Fisher secretary, Ivor D. Jones assistant secretary and treasurer.

SECRET AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES

Social Lodge, No. 56, I.O.O.F. was the instituted in 1837, with the following officers: Charles H. Fitch, N.G.; Jacob F. Thumm, V.G.; John Bruner, S.; Charles Warn, Asst. S.; John Thurlwell, T. It has maintained an uninterrupted and a prosperous existence since its institution.

The present number of members is 140. The officers are: John L. Williams, N.G.; Alexander Scott, V.G.; John T. Parry, S.; John W. Jones, Asst. S., and Cyrus Moore, T.

Anthracite Lodge, No. 136, I.O.O.F. was instituted November 20th, 1846. The charter members were: John P. Harris, N.G.; B.C. Christ, V.G.; William H. Cherrington, S.; E.P. Burkert, Asst. S.; Augustus Witman, T.

It has always prospered, and now holds, by its trustees, $1,882 of stock in Odd Fellow's Hall. The present number of members is 77. The present officers are: Thomas Tovey, N.G.; Daniel Roberts, V.G.; S.A. Phillips, S.; Thomas Morgan, Asst. S.; Abraham Hexter, T.; Abraham Hexter, William L. Killinger and Ivor D. Jones, trustees.

Minersville Lodge, No. 222, F.&A.M. was instituted December 2nd, 1846. The charter members were: William M. Robbins, W.M.; Samuel Gumpert, S.W.; S.C. Foster, J.W. Lewis, secretary; J.F.G. Kumsius and Samuel Heilner, deacons; Moritz Heilner, Tyler.

The present number of members is 90. The present officers are: William T. Beach, W.M.; Samuel Taylor, S.W.; Jacob Faust, J.W.; J.F.G. Kumsius, secretary; Cyrus Moore, treasurer. The lodge meets at Odd Fellows' Hall on the Tuesday next preceding each full moon.

Schuylkill Chapter, No. 46, P.O.S. of A. was reinstated at Pottsville, July 19th, 1847, with the following officers: B. Potts, H.P.; D.N. Robbins, K.; S. Gumpert, S.; John C. Loessig, treasurer; and J.F.G. Kumsius, secretary. Its place of meeting was at Pottsville till 1849, then till 1852 alternately at that place and Minersville, and since that year it has met regularly at Minersville, and since that year it has met regularly on Thursday at or before each full moon.


The German Benevolent Society was organized August 10th, 1853, for mutual aid in sickness. The charter members were Englehard Hummel, Frank Reifer, Michael Weierich, Christian Weber, Peter Burkhard, Friederich Molly, Daniel Young, Philip Flarres, Anthony Panley, Jacob Kerfer and Theodore Ludes.

The first officers were: Englehard Hummel, president; Michael Weierich, secretary; Frank Reifer, treasurer. The society meets on the first Wednesday in each month at Pauley's Hall. The present officers are: Balthasar Hummel, president; Christian Weber, secretary, and Michael Pauley, Treasurer.


The first principal officers were: H.C. Taylor, P.P.; John S. DeSilva, P.; N.V. Moore, V.T. The camp continued its work till the outbreak of the Rebellion, when all its members who were eligible enlisted in the army, leaving scarcely a quorum behind. Several years after the close of the war the camp suspended, but it was soon rechartered, and now it has a membership of 125.

The present officers are: A. Roehrig, P.P.; George Merkel, P., and Meyer Hexter, V.P. The trustees are R.R. Levan, George Merkel and A. Roehrig.

Steuben Lodge, No. 112, A.D.O.H. was instituted May 7th, 1861. The first officers were Conrad Seltzer, Louis Pfeilsticker, George Oerther, Paul Neugart, Henry
Oerther and John Oerther. The other members were Louis Freund, David Neiser, Henry Steffee, Henry Buech, Daniel Holpp, Valentine Gerlach, Frederick Abendroth, -----Abraham, Andreas Heckman, Michael Clenems, John Kern, Daniel Young, Henry George and William Halbaur.

The present officers are Frederick Zimmerman, Jacob Orf, August Orf and Michael Ferg.

There were two lodges, one of the U.D.O.H. and one of the A.D.O.H. Their principles were the same, and in 1870 they united. The lodge meets at Felsburg's Hall on the first and third Monday in each month.

Captain George J. Lawrence Post G.A.R., No. 17, was instituted December 17th, 1866, with 24 charter members, of whom C.M. Brumm was P.C.


The Frugal Saving Fund and Building Association of Minersville was organized in 1872, with John Miller president, Charles R. Taylor secretary and F.C. Lawrence treasurer. The eleventh series of shares is now being issued. The present total number is 381. The present officers are: A.J. Crawford, president; Albert Roehrig, secretary, and James Murray, treasurer.

Flower of Charity Lodge, No. 24, Cambro-American Order of True Ivorites is a branch of a Welsh benevolent association established at Wrexham, North Wales, in 1836. It was named in honor of Ivor Llewellyn, more generally known among the Welsh people as “Ifor Gaeł”, a charitable Welsh gentleman, Lord of Maesley and Wenaltt. The society has flourished greatly, and it has thousands of members both in Great Britain and America.

The first lodge of this order in America was established a few years since at St. Clair in this county.

November 15th, 1873, Flower of Charity Lodge was instituted at Minersville, with the following charter members: John D. Evans, Stephen Lewis, Watkin Price. David J. Harris, Job R. Jones, John L. Anwyt, David T. Lloyd, John W. Davis, Morgan Howard, Edmond Edmonds, Thomas R. Jones and William T. Davis.

The first chief officers were: David J. Harris, President; John D. Evans, vice-president; Job R. Jones, secretary; Mark Hodges, treasurer. The present officers are: Thomas R. Jones, president; John D. Evans, vice-president; Joseph Turner, secretary; Mark Hodges, treasurer. The lodge meets on the first and third Saturdays of each month in O'Malley's Hall.

This society is not only beneficial in its character, but it has also a literary feature. One of its objects is to maintain the Welsh language pure and intact; and to that end its business is done entirely in that tongue. To further the objects for which this lodge was established (benevolence and maintenance of Welsh literature), an Eisteddfod was held under its auspices in 1876 and another in 1878. These added to the treasury of the lodge $180.

This society continues in a flourishing condition and does its share to ameliorate that distress which would cover the land but for the opportune aid of benevolent associations.

**MINERSVILLE CHURCH HISTORIES**

**Horeb Welsh Baptist Church** was first organized in 1831, and during two years William Owen preached occasionally to the small congregation in a rented room, but the society was not prosperous.

It was reorganized in 1834 with 14 constituent members. Rev. William Morgans and Rev. Theophilus Jones officiated at its reorganization, and the former, who was the pastor of a church at Pottsville, preached to the congregation during several years. He was succeeded by a resident pastor, Rev. John P. Harris, who remained in charge during 17 years. He was followed by Revs. John Spencer James, John Roberts, Owen Griffiths, and John B. Jones, the last regular pastor. There were other brief pastorates that are not remembered.

The first house of worship was a small wooden structure, built in 1835 and 1836, on the corner of Church and Spencer streets. In 1847 the present church building was erected on the same corner. It is of wood, 40 by 50, with a basement and gallery. The present membership is about 65.

The Sunday-school of this church was organized in 1837. The superintendent have been changed nearly every year. The number of scholars has ranged from 50 to 300. The school has a large library.

The First Congregational Church of Minersville (Welsh) was organized in 1836. The first church edifice (12 by 14 feet) was on the corner of North and Second streets. It was consecrated April 1st, 1834. The second stood on a portion of the site of the present building. It was 30 feet square and its cost was $700. It was consecrated December 25th, 1840.

The present house of worship stands on the south side of Sunbury street, between Third and Fourth. It is a brick structure, 38 by 55, and it was erected at an expense of $4,000. It was dedicated February 9th, 1848. The pastors and the terms of their pastorates have been: Revs. E.B. Evans, 8 years; R.R. Williams, 18; J.E. Jones, M. Watkins, and D.T. Davis, 4 years each.

Sunday-schools have been maintained from the beginning. The present number of scholars is about 120.

**Methodist Episcopal Churches**. Minersville was made a regular preaching appointment, in connection with Pottsville Methodist Episcopal Church, during the pastorate of Rev. H.G. King, 183435. He first preached in McPherson's (afterwards Trout's) store, now occupied...
by J.K. Burns as a drug store, Second and Sunbury streets.

In 1836 Rev. James B. Ayars, who was established at Pottsville, formed the first class as the result if a camp-meeting held on the site of the Gate Vein colliery. This class was held in the house of Joseph Dobbins, Father of Rev. J.B. Dobbins, now of the Philadelphia Conference; the latter was a member of this class.

In 1837, during the pastorate of Rev. Thomas Sovereign, a neat frame church was built on the site of the present one. It was dedicated on the last Sabbath of November, Rev. James W. Dandy preaching in the morning; Rev. John Jones, a local preacher, preached in Welsh in the afternoon; Rev. Thomas Sovereign preached at night.

In 1838 Minersville M. E. Church was connected with Orwigsburg Mission and served by Rev. James Flannery. In 1839 it was associated again with Pottsville charge, Rev. William Cooper and Rev. William H. Elliot being the preachers. In 1840 Rev. J.B. Hagany and Rev. J. W. Arthur were in charge.

In 1841 Minersville M. E. Church was made a separate charge, Rev. L.K. Berridge being the pastor. In 1842 Rev. James Aspril was the minister, and in 1843 Rev. William Campbell, who enlarged the church building. In 1844 this society united with Pottsville under Rev. R.W. Thomas and David Titus.

In 1846 Minersville M.E. Church became a separate station again, Rev. Newton Heston being pastor. The pastors since have been:

1847, 1848, Joseph H. Wythes; 1849, 1850, Rev. P. Hallowell; 1851, 1852, Rev. J.B. McCullough (who built the present church); 1853, 1854, Rev. J.E. Meredith; 1855, 1856, Rev. J. Humphries; 1857, 1858, Rev. R.M. Greenbank; 1859, Rev. B.F. Price; 1860, 1861, Rev. J.F. Meredith; 1862, 1863, Rev. J.H. Turner; 1864, 1865, Rev. Joseph Aspril; 1866-1868 Rev. Noble Frame, during whose pastorate the church building was thoroughly repaired, reseated and frescoed; 1869, 1870, Rev. J.M. Dalrymple; 1871, 1872, Rev. G.G. Rakestraw; 1873, 1874, Rev. George Heacock; 1875, 1876, Rev. J.M. Hinson; 1877, 1878, Rev. G.D. Carrow; 1879, 1880, Rev. H.H. Bodine.

The last name, who is now serving the church, furnished this historical sketch of his church.

The first year the church was made a separate charge (1841) the membership numbered 85; the present membership is 275.

The Sunday-school was started in 1830 by Peter Stroup, but no regular Sunday-school society was organized until 1838. James Russel was president; Thomas Bayley was vice-president; S.G. Dobbins, treasurer and J.B. Dobbins, secretary. From July 3d, 1838, J.B. Dobbins, was superintendent until 1841, when he entered the Methodist ministry. His successors as superintendent have been Samuel G. Dobbins, William Oldknow.


From 1847 to 1855 the number of scholars varied from 137 to 160; the present membership is about 300.

In 1854 the infant school was organized by Mrs. Lucy A. Strenbeck and numbered 30 scholars. She was superintendent until 1871; then Mrs. Heilner, her daughter, until 1878, and since then Miss Lizzie Christ, Miss Mary Kissinger, and in 1880 Mrs. Heilner again. The class now numbers about 100.

October 28th, 1859, the school held its first anniversary, when addresses were by Rev. B.F. Price, the pastor of the church, and Benjamin Haywood.

In July, 1871, the Berean Lesson Leaves were introduced.

The present officers are: William Mapstone, superintendent; George Tovey, assistant superintendent; Miss Lizzie Christ, female superintendent; Calvin Phillips, secretary; William Richards, assistant secretary; Matthew Deal, librarian; G.W. Heckman, treasurer.

The missionary money contributed by the school since 1853 amounts to $3,074.

The "First English Baptist Church of Minersville" was organized May 14th, 1840. Its constituent members were George Lewis, Aaron Kelly and James Rowe and their wives, Thomas Williams, Edmund Holt, Susanna Vaughn, Eliza Bacon, and Hannah Spencer.

In a rented house on the northeast corner of Second and North streets, which had formerly been occupied by the Welsh Baptist and the Welsh Congregational churches, this church held its first meetings.

Here a Sunday-school was organized, with George Lewis as superintendent. In 1842 the church bought a small framed school-house on South street, in which for several years it met for worship. This was subsequently sold in order to secure an eligible lot on the northwest corner of Third and South streets. Upon this lot was erected in 1865 the present framed church building, 30 by 40 feet. Before it was built preaching services and Sunday-school had some time been held in the Odd Fellows' Hall on Sunbury street. The superintendent of the school was J.W. Danenhower. It has often numbered more than 100 pupils.

From the organization of the church till the spring of 1841, Rev. G.M. Spratt was pastor; then Rev. A.B. Wright six months; Rev. A.M. Tyler till April, 1873; Rev. J.R. Morris from April 1st, 1844, till Dec. 18th, 1847; Rev. John R. Ross from July to November, 1848; Rev. John M. Lyons from December 31st, 1851, till October 25th, 1852; J.H. Brittain from July 31st, 1862, till August 30th, 1863; Rev. A.B. Pendleton from November 8th, 1863, till April 1st, 1864; Rev. Theophilus Jones from September 11th, 1864, till January 1st, 1866; Rev. A.J. Hastings from August 12th, 1866, till September 3rd, 1867; Rev. D.T. Davis from September 21st, 1873, till July 25th, 1875.
Although this church has had repeated accessions to its membership, it has rarely for any length of time been entirely self-sustaining, owing mainly, perhaps, to the removal of many of its members to distant places.

During the ten years from 1852 to 1862, when the church was pastorless, Revs. J.H. Castle and R.H. Austin, both of Pottsville, frequently supplied the pulpit. From September 19th, 1869, to April 29th, 1872, Rev. A.H. Sembower, in connection with his pastorate of the Pottsville Baptist Church, supplied this church. For several years past, Rev. A. Myers, of Pottsville, has with much acceptance supplied the pulpit a part of the time and has rendered some pastoral services.

Since 1871 Dr. J.W. Danenhower has frequently officiated as a supply; and in this service he has been greatly assisted by Professor H.H. Spayd, who became a licentiate of the parish in 1878.

**Emmanuel's Church (Reformed)** was organized in 1840. Among the first members were Messrs. A. Goufer, M. Merklen, and one Weaver.

The pastors of this congregation and the years of their pastorates, as nearly as can be learned, have been: Revs. ----First, 184—: C.Y. Hoofmeir, 1847; Jacob Kline, 1857; J.B. Poerner, 1865; C.A. Rittenhaus, 1868; F. Dechant, 1871; J.A. Schultz, 1874, and D.M. Christman, 1880.

The congregation worshiped in the Lutheran church building till 1867, when their present house of worship was erected. It stands on the corner of Church and Centre streets. It is of brick, 36 by 54. The building committee were G. Wagner, W. Dernburgh and G. Gable. A Sunday-school is maintained by this congregation.

**St. Vincent de Paul Church.** The Roman Catholic parish of St. Vincent de Paul was established in January, 1846, with Rev. Hugh P. Fitzsimmons, then assistant at St. Patrick's church, Pottsville, as the first pastor. Father Fitzsimmons, upon assuming charge of the parish, erected a small frame building, 20 by 30 feet, in the cemetery lot, where he celebrated mass for his flock. On April 21st, 1846, digging for the foundation walls of a new church 50 by 100 feet, was commenced, and the cornerstone of the building was laid the following August by Bishop Newman, of Philadelphia, in the presence of a large number of the clergy and about three thousand people from the surrounding districts. A sermon was preached by Rev. Father McElhone, from Philadelphia. The church building was under roof the following Christmas, and the first mass celebrated therein by the pastor.

This new parish of St. Vincent de Paul in those days covered an area of about 240 miles; extending in a westerly direction 30 miles, and 8 miles from north to south; having a Catholic population of 7,000 souls. The church was only partially finished under the pastoral charge of Father Fitzsimmons. August 12th, 1884, Rev. Michael Malone was appointed pastor of this church, who finished the interior of the building, and in August, 1860, adorned it exteriorly by building a tower at its southern extremity at cost of $700. In December, 1861, he placed therein the present very handsome bell, weighing 1,086 pounds and costing $403.

In 1852 Rev. Father Malone built a very handsome brick pastoral residence, 40 by 60 feet, two and a half stories high, adjoining the church, at a cost of about $4,000. Father Malone very often attended sick calls at a distance of 40 miles from the church. He died April 16th, 1877, having been pastor of this church for 28 years and 8 months. His remains lie in a vault in front of the church, on Sunbury street.

The pastors who succeeded him are: Revs. James McGeveran, P.J. Egan (deceased), John Scanlan and the present pastor, Matthew P. O'Brien, appointed by Archbishop Wood, of Philadelphia, October 27th, 1879. He is now engaged in making improvements and additions to the church by frescoing the walls and ceiling, painting the pews, erecting three altars (the main altar to be marble), and building a sacristy 16 by 18 feet.

The present Catholic population of the parish is about 2,200 souls.

**St. Paul's Church (P.E.)** was incorporated in 1845. The corporators were George Spencer, Robert, William, Andrew, Thomas and George Patten (brothers), John and George Scott, Henry Ellis, Frederick Longabach, John Wightman, William Best, William N. Robbins, S. Heilner and Joseph Wightman.

The church edifice was built in 1849. It stands on North Second street, and the site was donated by Joseph Jeanes. It is a wooden building 40 by 50.

By reasons of inaccessibility of the records a complete list of the rectors cannot be given. The following are remembered: Revs. Marmaduke Hirst, Robert B. Peet, Harrison Bylesby, William Wright, ---Pastorius, A.E. Fortat, George B. Allen, J. Thompson Carpenter, Luther Wolcott, F.W. Winslow. The present pastor (sic) is John W. Koons.

**German Lutheran Church.** One of the first Protestant organizations in Minersville was the "German Evangelical Lutheran Zion's Congregation." The date of its organization is not known. The first officers mentioned were Philip Merkle, Joseph Reber, Carl Koller, Jacob Farne, S. Heilner, Heinrich Henig and Jacob F. Thumm.

The first place of worship was a school-house, but on the 21st of June, 1849, the cornerstone of the present church building was laid, on the corner of Lewis and Fourth streets. This house was afterward remodeled and improved.

The first pastor was Rev. William G. Menning, whose pastorate terminated about 1859. He was succeeded by Daniel Sanner, and he in 1871 by Rev. G. F. Guensch, the present pastor.

The membership is more than 300. The present church council consists of W. Baker, Engle Scanner, Jonas Laubenstein, Michael Ferg, William Neudhard, Adolph
Kuhns and Peter Drummeler. The Sunday-school numbers about 160 scholars and 28 teachers. John Heilner is the superintendent.

**English Lutheran Church**. This congregation was organized in 1851. Daniel Hock and Isaac Straub were the first elders; Levi Dietrich and Joseph Weaver the first deacons.

The congregation first worshiped in a small Baptist church on South street; thence removed to Odd Fellows' Hall, on the south east corner of Sunbury and Second streets, being, supplied with preaching by Rev. Daniel Steck of Pottsville. During that time the present church was erected, and in the autumn of 1853 it was dedicated. It is a wooden, 40 by 60, on the corner of Third and Church streets.

The following are the names of the pastors who have served the congregation: Revs. J.K. Kast, Jacob Steck, E.A. Auld, H.C. Shindle, Charles Fickinger, R. Wiser, J.B. Anthony, A.M. Warner, and the present pastor, I.P. Neff.

**St. Mary's Church of Mount Carmel (German Catholic)** was built about 1855, on Second street in the north part of the borough. It is a brick building, 50 by 66.

From the baptismal record it appears that Rev. Matthew Joseph Meurer was the pastor till 1859. Then the church was a mission, attended by several priests from Pottsville, till 1866, when Rev. Anthony Schwarze, the present pastor, took charge.

According to an estimate from the number of baptisms it appears that the number of souls in the church at first was about 720. At present there are fifty families.

**Zoar Baptist Church (Welsh)**. This church was organized in 1874, with R. M. Richardson pastor and fifty constituent members. The same year the present church edifice was built, on North street a short distance from Fourth. It is a wooden house, 36 by 60. Mr. Richardson continued in charge till 1877, since which there has been no regular pastor.

A Sunday-school was organized in 1874 with William Kendrick superintendent, and about 90 scholars. The superintendents have since been many times charged, William M. Evans holds the position at present. The number of scholars is 60. The library has about 150 volumes.
was born on the 9th of June, 1838, at the southeast corner of Centre and Minersville streets, Pottsville, Pa., and is the son of George and Salome Brumm, both of whom were of German birth. In 1841 his family moved to Minersville, then a large and thriving town, and he has resided there ever since excepting about a year at Philadelphia. Charles received a good common school education in the schools of his home, but, with the exception of a year spent at Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, was unable to obtain a higher education. His mother died when he was fourteen and his father when he was twenty years of age, but already at the age of seventeen he went out into the world to struggle for himself. He learned the trade of watch making, spending two years therein, and then two years longer as a journeyman at that trade. He possessed a remarkable mechanical mind, as was shown in later life by the invention of a meat cutter, for which he had letters patent granted, also a brick and mortar elevator, a railroad snow shovle, and a self-starting car-brake, each of which inventions involved several combinations of mechanical movement; and, as is believed by a number of master mechanic's, they are based upon the proper principles for accomplishing the intended work. However, being fond of disputation and naturally a good talker, he was led to enter his name as a student in the law office of Hon. Howell Fisher, a highly successful practitioner of the law, then residing in Minersville. With Mr. Fisher Charles studied for nearly two years, until the first gun was fired on Fort Sumter, and President Lincoln made his first call for volunteers for a three month's service. Mr. Brumm closed his Blackstone, shouldered his musket and marched off with the first company of soldiers, to leave Minersville, a few days after the President's call. He was soon after elected lieutenant of his company, in which position he served until the expiration of his term of service, when he immediately re-enlisted for three years in Company K, 76th regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers. He was shortly afterward detailed assistant quartermaster and served in that capacity on the staffs of Generals Barlow and Pennypacker, tenth army corps, until the end of his term.

After the war he was engaged in the drug business two years, but in the winter of 1866 and 1867 he resumed the study of the law in the office of Judge Edward Owen Parry. In the meantime much disorder existed in Schuylkill county and he was sent to Harrisburg by a number of leading citizens to obtain if possible the passage of a law creating a special police force; a new criminal court, having special jurisdiction in Schuylkill county, and the present jury commissioner law, it being believed by them that this would lead to the suppression of the then prevailing violence and disorder. Largely through his efforts these laws were enacted. Shortly afterward he sought admission to the bar of his home county, but was unexpectedly met with refusal, not on the ground of incompetence nor want of good character, but because it was alleged that in the effort to have enacted the before-mentioned laws he had spread reports derogatory to the judge of the old court. For two years and a half he was refused admission upon this pretext, but finally, on the 7th of March, 1870, he was admitted to practice at home the profession for which he was so well adapted, and to which he had already been admitted in Lebanon and Dauphin counties.

Mr. Brumm has always taken an active part in politics, being an uncompromising anti-slavery, anti-free trace, anti-monopoly and anti-rebel advocate. As a Republican he has stumped his county and his State, powerfully denouncing the free trade and State rights doctrines of the Democratic party. In 1871 he was a candidate for district attorney, but was defeated by Hon. James B. Reilly, the Democratic candidate, Schuylkill county being at that time being overwhelmingly Democratic. Mr. Brumm was very early attracted to the study of national finances, and long before the organization of the Greenback party he had espoused the doctrines which have since become distinctive of that party. He made numerous efforts in the Republican party of his county and State to induce them to adopt those principles, but failing in that he joined hands with others having the same faith and aided in the formation of the National Greenback-Labor party. He voted for Peter Cooper for President in 1876, and since then has been uniring in his efforts to spread the faith in the financial and economical doctrines to which he is attached. In 1878 he was nominated for Congress by his party in Schuylkill county, and ran against his old preceptor, Hon. John W. Ryon, the Democratic candidate, the latter being elected by a plurality of 192 votes. In 1880 he was again nominated for Congress by his party, and being endorsed by the Republicans he was elected over Mr. Ryon by an overwhelmingly majority. Mr. Brumm had always been an eloquent advocate of the rights of the oppressed, whether oppressed by the slaveholder, by the monopolist or the social aristocrat. He has believed in the equal rights of all men to work out their own personal and social prosperity without special restriction from law, custom, cast or prejudice, although as positively opposed to the demoralizing and destroying tendencies of so-called Communism. He strongly urges the necessity of governmental control of great corporate influence and believes that the immense power wielded by the corporations of our country must be restrained by the all-powerful hand of the nation.
A line art drawing of

Dr. WILLIAM T. BEACH was in this position on this page in the original book.

It is listed as PAGE 174 in the Table of Contents.

The text of the page is below the dividing line.

Dr. WILLIAM T. BEACH

This gentleman, the leading practitioner in Minersville, was born in Monmouthshire, Wales, December 2nd, 1839. His parents were George and Mary (Thomas) Beach, and with them he came to America in 1840 and located at Haverstraw, N.Y., soon removing to Phoenixville, Pa., where his father opened a boot and shoe shop. In 1848 they removed to Pottsville, where for two years Mr. Beach was book-keeper in what has since come to be known as Atkins furnace; then the family removed to Minersville, where Mr. Beach went back to his trade of boot and shoemaker, doing a successful business till 1873, when with his wife he removed to Hyde Park, a portion of the city of Scranton, Pa., where he died February 19th, 1879, and where his widow still lives. Dr. Beach was educated in the common schools, and began to study medicine with Dr. Brown, of Port Carbon, in September, 1858. He attended his first course of lectures at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in the winter of 1860-61; was a medical cadet in the United States service for a year, at Hampton Hospital, Va., and on board the side-wheel steamer Daniel Webster, plying between Annapolis and City Point, and graduated in the spring of 1863 and began practice in the fall of that same year at Shenandoah city, Schuylkill county. In April, 1865, he removed to Minersville, where he has since been engaged successfully in the practice of his profession. Dr. Beach was two years secretary of the Schuylkill County Medical Society. He is a member of Anthracite Lodge, No. 136, I.O.O.F., Minersville Lodge, No. 222, A.Y.M., Schuylkill Chapter, No. 159, R.A.M., and Constantine Commandery, No. 41. Though not an active politician he is a staunch Republican from principle. He was married in 1872 to Sophia Matthews, of Minersville.

JACOB S. LAWRENCE

The subject of this sketch was born in Milton, Northumberland county, Pa., July 13th, 1826. His parents were George and Esther Lawrence. Andrew Straub, his mother's father, was the proprietor of a very large tract of land embracing Milton, which town he laid out. At the age of fourteen Mr. Lawrence removed to Minersville with his father's family. His father was a prominent early business man in Minersville, where he built a steam flouring mill. About 1846 he sold his property there and returned to Northumberland county, where he located on a farm about five miles from Milton.

Mr. Lawrence remained in Minersville and learned the moulder's trade in the foundry of DeHaven & Brother. Later he entered the drug and hardware store of James B. Falls and familiarized himself with the details of those branches of trade. April 1st, 1850, he opened a drug and hardware store in the building now occupied by his brother, Franklin C. Lawrence, as a dry goods store. January 1st, 1857, he removed to the store now occupied by Lawrence & Brown. From 1854 to the spring of 1861 his brother George was his partner. His nephew, George L. Brown, became a member of the firm of Lawrence & Brown in 1865.

January 1st, 1848, Mr. Lawrence was married to Mary Ellis, of Minersville, who died August 31st, 1880. They had eight children, of whom three daughters are living. Mr. Lawrence has always been prominent in all measures tending to advance the interest of the place. He was president of the Minersville Coal and Iron Company about two years, has for many years been president of the First National Bank of Minersville, and is president of the Minersville Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Since the organization of the Republican party he has always been an active worker in its ranks, but has never sought nor accepted office. During the Rebellion he was thirteen days in the service of his country, commanding a hastily formed company of his neighbors, in 1862, with the 17th Pennsylvania militia, in Maryland.

In 1868 Jacob S. and Franklin C. Lawrence, Michael Merkel and Philip Mongold, under the firm name of Lawrence, Merkel & Co., secured a lease of some valuable coal lands at Frackville, or Mahanoy Plane, and opened the Lawrence colliery. In two or three years Matthew Beddow succeeded Mr. Mongold, the style of the firm remaining as before. The Lawrence colliery is one of the firstclass collieries of Schuylkill county.
Frank G. Kear is a son of William Kear, now retired, and for many years engaged in mining. The latter and his wife, Elizabeth (Gregg) Kear, were both natives of South Wales and came to America about 1828. Richard, Kear, brother of William and uncle of Frank G., was born in Wales, also, and was for a long time a prominent and successful coal operator, residing at Minersville, where he died. Frank G. Kear was born in Minersville March 10th, 1854. He attended the high school at Minersville, and in 1869 entered Dickinson Seminary at Williamsport, Pa., where he remained three years, afterward, for a time, studying architecture and civil engineering at the Polytechnic Institute, at the corner of 8th and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia. In 1879 the firm of F.G. Kear & Co., proprietors of the American Brewery, at the corner of 3d and Laurel streets, Minersville, was organized and a brewing business established, which was conducted about a year. October 24th, 1878, Mr. Kear married Miss Kate Henich, of Minersville, whose father, Henry Henich, was a well known mason, and whose grandfather served as an officer in the American army during the Mexican war.
Michael Merkel, now about fifty-eight years old, was born at Cressona, Schuylkill county, Pa. His father was Philip Merkel, a native of Berks county, Pa., who removed to the site of Cressona at an early date and owned a large tract of land which embraced the present borough. Between 1835 and 1839 he removed to Minersville, where he lived until his death. He had several sons and several daughters.

Early in life Michael Merkel was a driver on the old horse railway to Schuylkill Haven and was afterward a stationary engineer in the employ of Richard Kear, at the Wolf Creed mines, a number of years. For two or three years during the war Mr. Merkel, Adam Cunfire, Daniel Hock, Thomas Jones and Frederick Vunderheider operated the mines upon the lands of the Forest Improvement Company.

In 1868, under the firm name of Lawrence, Merkel & Co., Jacob S. and Franklin C. Lawrence, Michael Merkel and Philip Mangold, leased some lands rich in coal deposits, at Mahanoy Plane, or Frackville, and opened the well known Lawrence colliery, a prominent enterprise (sic) in the Schuylkill coal region. Two or three years later the interest of Mr. Mangold became vested in Matthew Beddow.

Thus it will be seen that Mr. Merkel has been from his youth familiar with coal operations. By energy, industry and integrity he has made his way in the world in a manner that stamps him as one of the notable self-made men of Schuylkill county. As a citizen of Minersville Mr. Merkel has ever been identified with all movements looking to the advancement of the best interests of the borough, and he is regarded as a good neighbor and a useful man in the community. His connection with the Lawrence colliery, aside from his interest as a member of the firm, is important, as he holds the responsible position of general outside manager.

Mr. Merkel married a Miss Bender, now deceased. His present wife was Miss Margaret Heilner. His home is one of the pleasantest and most attractive in Minersville.
BUTLER TOWNSHIP

Butler was formerly part of Barry and was generally designated in local parlance among the older settlements of the county as "above the mountain."

The coal developments of the lower Schuylkill region soon, however, drew attention to this, and lands that had been entered under Revolutionary warrants were thrown on the market as coal land. The principal tracts lying between the Mahanoy and Little Mahanoy creeds, which now contain the borough of Ashland and Girardville, and the township of Butler, were patented to the Probsts, Prestons, Kunckles, and William Parker; and the earliest business enterprise conducted was lumbering.

Crossing the territory from southeast to northwest ran the old "Centre turnpike," and along it, as early as 1810, stood an occasional hostelry, where "accommodation for man and beast" was cheerfully and cheaply proffered, even if of a primitive character. At that date the sole representative of that class of inns was the "Seitzinger Tavern" at Fountain Spring, so called from an excellent spring gushing from one of its hills.

This hotel was built by George Seitzinger, in 1810, the next of its class, also of logs, was built by Jacob Rodenburger, at what is now Ashland, in 1820.

The earliest settlers were the Seitzinger, Fausts and Rodenburgers; and their connection with the locality dates back to about 1801, although Nicholas Seitzinger is believed to have made a clearing at Fountain Springs as early as 1795.

The first death in the township was that of a young man named Seitzinger, who was drowned in a mill pond; and his grave was the first in the "Seitzinger burying ground."

The first saw-mill was built on the Mahanoy, at what was then called Mount Hope, in 1830.

The first school-house was built at Fountain Springs, where the Miners' hospital now stands, about 1830.

The pioneer preachers were Jacob Miller and an Englishman, named Buoy.

In 1848 the township of Butler was erected. Its first town election was held at Fountain Springs and resulted in the choice of R. Carr Wilson school director, J.L. Cleaver justice and Elisha Pedrick town clerk. The township is now divided into five voting districts, known as East, Northeast, West, North and South Butler.

In the early days of Butler game was abundant, and the only trouble taken by the Seitzingers to secure a plentiful supply of venison was to capture and tame a young doe, and when fresh meat was wanted send her out to decoy others within rifle range. Beasts of prey also abounded, and the settlers soon became accustomed to the howling of the gray wolf, often beneath their cabin windows.

The population of the township in 1850 was 400; in 1860, 1,467; in 1870, 5,905, and in 1880, 4,678, Girardville having been taken from it.

The village of Ashland became a borough in 1857, and that of Girardville in 1872. The township now contains the pretty villages of Gordon, Locust Dale, Big Mine Run, Holmesville, Rappahannock, Connors, Fountain Springs, and Rocktown; of which Locust Dale, Big Mine Run, Holmesville, Rappahannock, Connors, and Rocktown are mining villages, and all but Fountain Springs and Rocktown are railway stations. Gordon is an important railway village at the foot of the Gordon planes, on the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad.

EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS

The public schools of Butler numbered in 1880 twenty-five, kept in fifteen buildings. Several of these schools were graded. The number of teachers employed was twenty-seven, of whom fifteen were males, earning an average monthly salary of $59.17, and twelve females, with an average salary of $24.91 per month. The number of children in attendance was 1,836. the officers for 1880 and their places of residence were: B.F. Triebly, president, South Butler; Owen Cownry, treasurer, North Butler; D.D. Phillips, secretary, South Butler; Charles G. Shoemaker, South Butler, John Duffey, North Butler; Richard Flynn, North Butler.

Since 1870 nine schools have been established. The bonded debt of the district is $6,600. The valuation of property in the township in 1880 was $1,185,673.

The condition of the buildings is in general good; and the graded school buildings at Locust Dale and Gordon are handsome structures, creditable to the district and the villages in which they are located.

GORDON

A time-worn chart exists, indorsed "Draft of three tracts of land, the property of David and James McKnight." The earliest warranty date is March 24th, 1788, the land being patented August 19th, 1795, to John Kunckle; and the adjoining tract westward bears a warrant date of 1792, April 16th, and was patented to the same party August 19th, 1796. Of the seventeen tracts
shown on the "draft" seven are patented to members of the Kunckle family, and it was the remnant of these lands that come into the possession of the McKnights of Reading, whose descendants founded the village of Gordon, named by them after Judge Gordon of Reading, to whom they gave a lot, which was conveyed by him to Mrs. J.F. Lewis, by the first deed ever recorded covering a real estate sale in that place. The lot is on the corner of Main and McKnight streets, and is occupied by the store and dwelling of John F. Lewis.

The building of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad and the staking out of the planes was the first influence that attracted immigration to Gordon. In 1846 William Stevenson built a steam saw-mill at a point below the site of the village, known on the old maps as Mount Hope, and also built a new road now forming the principal street of the village. Andrew Wilson put up a hotel to board the workmen at the mills, and soon afterward Jonathan Faust started a store, which was supplied by one kept by a man named Johnson, about a year later.

The erection of the planes was a slow job, interrupted for some time by the financial embarrassments of the company; but in 1855 they were completed, and from that date until the present time Gordon has grown steadily in population and influence. It contained, in 1880, the repair shops and round-house of the railway company, two hotels, a good school building, two general stores, one church edifice, several groceries, and about 870 inhabitants. The Gordon planes, the mechanical wonder of the vicinity, life from 1,500 to 2,000 cars of coal daily over the mountain; and form an outlet for an extensive field which, without this mechanical assistance to the ordinary railroad, would be unable to mine coal with any profit.

In 1880 a small monthly paper, called The Ivy Leaf, was established by the Rev. H.N. Minnigh, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church. The editorial and mechanical work is all done by him, and any profit derived from it is devoted to the benefit of his church.

CHURCHES IN GORDON

Gordon Methodist Episcopal Church.-The first Methodist preaching at Gordon was in the year 1857, by Rev. J.A. DeMoyer, who was stationed on what was then Catawissa circuit of the Baltimore Conference. In the year 1859 a society was organized, worshipping in a schoolhouse in the outskirts of the village. The various preachers of Ashland, Girardville, etc., supplied the congregation from time to time, among whom were Revs. Kester, Stevens, Cathers, Bickerton, McKee, Mullen, McWilliams, Shields, Trigellis and Drake.

In 1860 a union church was erected and deeded to the Presbyterians, but was finally purchased for the Methodist church December 2nd, 1872. Rev. J.T. Satchell was sent to the charge. He was succeeded by Rev. Josiah Bawden in 1874, and he by the Rev. James Sampson in 1876. In that year the church, being involved in debt, was sold and purchased by the Lutheran denomination; the society thus being compelled to seek a shelter elsewhere. The hall of the new school building was secured and comfortably furnished for the purpose.

In 1878 the society was made a part of the Helfenstein and Gordon circuit, with Rev. N.B. Smith in charge. The present preacher is Rev. H.N. Minnigh, and the church is prosperous. C.C. Reick is superintendent of the Sunday-school.

English Evangelical Lutheran Church of Gordon.-This church was organized by Rev. O.D.S. Marclay, September 3rd, 1876, with 33 members. The following were the officers elected at the time of its organization: Elders, Thomas Rasbridge and W.H. Anthony; Deacons, George F. Rick, Charles F. Hoffman, Joseph L. Harper, Edward G. Ebling and Frederick Rice. Rev. O.D.S. Marclay was elected its first pastor.

A union Sabbath-school had been organized April 2nd, 1876, with 68 scholars and 7 teachers. W.H. Anthony was elected its first superintendent, which position he still holds.

May 29th, 1877, the congregation purchased of R.C. Wilson for $600 a church that had been erected by the Presbyterians. This was refitted and furnished at an expense of over $1,000, and it was rededicated in July, 1878, free from debt. A bell was purchased in 1989 at a cost of $160, and an organ in 1880 for $250.

Mr. Marclay was succeeded as pastor May 16th 1878, by Rev. D.E. Rupley, and he, November 1st, 1879, by Rev. J.H. Weber, the present pastor.

The present membership is 64; and although not four years old the church holds property in value not less that $2,500, free from all incumbrances (sic). Its Sabbath-school has 21 teachers and officers and 163 scholars.

LOCUST DALE

This village has a population of about one thousand. George C. Potts & Co. erected the first buildings and in 1857 opened the colliery still called by the name of its projector, commencing the shipment of coal in 1858. J.L. Beadle became the manager of the colliery, and was active in forwarding the growth of the new settlement. The first store was opened by A.S. Moorhead & Co., of Pottsville, in 1859, and it is still in operation under another name. The next merchant was Mrs. Mary Young. The first hotel was built by Jacob Brisel in 1850, and it is now kept by Christian Schneider. In the following year Joseph Hepler erect-ed a hotel, which is now owned by William Dunkelberger; and since that date two other places of "entertainment for man and beast" have been built, which are in operation.

The first school-house was built in 1859, on the site of the present building, and John Wagner was the first teacher. The growth of the population demanding increased facilities and a larger school building, the present handsome structure was built in 1877. W.W. Heffner, of Ashland, a justice of the peace and a teacher of extensive experience, is in charge of the school, with Bernard Kelly as assistant.

In 1862 John Dennison & Co. opened a new colliery, the Keystone, which is still in operation.
The merchants of the place in 1880 were William Herbert, Mrs. Mary Young and E.B. Moorhead.

J.L. Beadle and William Rearsbeck of this place were the inventors of the ventilating fan for coal mines, first adopted by the Potts collieries in 1860, and now in general use; and Frederick Granzow, the intelligent foreman of the Keystone mines, is the originator of a new dumping process, in operation at his colliery.

**FOUNTAIN SPRINGS**

This place, where was located the earliest post-office in the township, was settled as early as 1801 by the Seitzinger family, representatives of which still reside there. In 1854 the postoffice was removed to Ashland. The principal institution of the present is the new State Miners’ Hospital, spoken of on page 96.

Fountain Springs contained in 1880 two neat looking hotels, and about one hundred inhabitants, and maintained a union Sunday-school, with a membership of fifty, and a library of 200 volumes.

Here, too, is Seitzinger’s cemetery, where many of the Protestant population of Ashland and vicinity bury their dead.

**BIG MINE RUN**

is the site of the Bast and Taylor collieries, and its existence as a village dates from the erection of tenant houses for the workmen at those collieries, in 1854.

The Mahanoy City branch of the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the Mahanoy and Shamokin branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad have flag stations here.

**HOLMESVILLE**

near the site of deserted collieries, is inhabited by some of the employees (sic) at Potts colliery, and has a hotel and store.

**ROCKTOWN**

Big Mine Run Colliery was opened in 1854 by Bast & Pierson, and operated by them until 1868, when it was purchased by Taylor & Lindsay, who operated it until 1872, when they sold to Jeremiah Taylor & Co., who have owned and operated it to the present time. The colliery has been, and still continues to be, one of the most successful in the anthracite region. The breaker has a capacity of 1,000 tons, and an average production of 750 tons daily. The vein worked is the Buck Mountain. Three hundred and fifty-six men and boys are employed, and four steam engines of 135 horse power. The firm own twenty-six tenement houses. The coal shipped from this mine is valued highly by manufacturers and other competent judges. The workings consist of four drift levels, with four main and two slant gangways, and forty-four breasts, working in fifteen feet of coal.

Big Mine Run was opened by Bast & Pierson, in 1835, and the first shipment was made in that year. About the year 1860 Emanuel Bast purchased the interest of his father, and some ten years later sold to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, the present owners. There are two slopes sunk; one, two hundred and seventy yards, the other, two hundred and ninetythree, on the south dip of Mammoth vein. A tunnel is driven south from the bottom of one of them two hundred and seventy years. Drainage is effected by an eight hundred horse power engine, running a twenty-four inch Cornish pump. The total horse power of engines employed at the colliery is over eleven hundred. One hundred and seventytwo men and boys are employed inside, and one hundred and thirty-two outside. The total annual production is about 90,000 tons. Two steam fans are used for ventilating, but despite the utmost care a large quantity of fire-damp is generated in the mine.

Preston Colliery No. 1 was opened by the Preston Improvement Company, on their lands in the northeastern part of Butler township, in the year 1862, and was worked by them and others until 1878, when the machinery was removed from the breaker at Colliery No. 2. In 1872 it became the property of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

Preston Colliery No. 2, located near Number 1, was opened in 1864 by the same company, who commenced shipping coal in 1865, and after operating it for several years sold to W.J. Moody & Co., who continued in possession until 1872, when the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company became its owners. The breaker has a capacity of five hundred tons daily. The average shipment is three hundred and fifty tons. One hundred and two men and boys are employed inside, and one hundred and fifty-three outside. The workings consist of a slope two hundred and six yards deep, at an angle of 55E on the south dip of the Mammoth vein, with east and west gangways. The east gangway is driven about one hundred and fifty years, with five breasts; the west, fifteen hundred yards, working seven breasts in twenty-five feet of coal. One hundred and forty-three yards west of the slope, a tunnel is driven north ninety-seven yards, cutting the Skidmore vein, with east and west gangways. The east gangway extends two hundred and sixty-four yards with fourteen breasts; the west is driven a greater distance, with forty-four breasts open. At a point three hundred and twenty-three yards west of the slope another tunnel, driven south a distance of forty-one yards, intercepts the Primrose in eleven feet of coal, and has gangways driven one hundred and forty yards each, with nine breasts open. The steam engines in use are one pair of hoisting engines of 120 horse power, one breaker of 40, one 25, driving a fifteen foot fan, and two pump engines of 10 and 50 horse power respectively. There are twenty-five tenement houses on the premises.

Preston No. 3, located south of the borough of Girard-
ville, was also the property of the Preston Improvement Company, and, with the other collieries, fell into the hands of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. It has two slopes, one a hundred and forty yards, the other one hundred and seventeen yards deep; one used exclusively for drainage, men and material; the other for hoisting coal. They have east and west gangways, extending in all over one thousand yards. At a point some five hundred and thirteen yards west of the slope a tunnel is driven south a distance of seventy-nine yards to the south dip of the vein, and it has a gangway east on the vein, seven hundred and ninety-two yards. The tunnel is continued south from the last named gangways, a distance of two hundred and twenty-seven yards, cutting the Hunter vein, and having gangways in that vein eight hundred yards.

One hundred and twelve men and boys inside, and one hundred and thirteen outside, constitute the working force. Two powerful steam fans furnish ventilation, and drainage is effected by means of an eight hundred horse power engine, driving a twenty-four inch Cornish pump with a stroke of ten feet. The capacity of the breaker is 500 tons, and the average shipment 350 tons daily. Thomas D. Pedlow is the outside foreman.

Girard Colliery.-This, one of the collieries of the Girard estate, was opened in the year 1864. It has since been leased and operated by the Philadelphia Coal and Iron Company. This colliery is situated half a mile east of the borough of Girardville. The life, which is now being worked, and the first below water level, was opened in 1872; and has four gangways in the Mammoth vein, two on the north and two on the south side of the basin. The coal from this colliery reaches market over the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. About 300 men and boys are annually employed in the colliery. William P. Daniels is the outside foreman, and William Waters inside foreman.

Connor and Hammond Collieries.-These collieries are situated one and one-half miles northeast of the borough of Girardville, and are leased by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. They were opened in June, 1862, by Messrs. Connor and Patterson, Colonel Connor being the pioneer coal operator of the Mahanoy region. In 1863 the company opened the colliery, and the first below water level, was opened in 1872; and has four gangways in the Mammoth vein, two on the north and two on the south side of the basin. The coal from this colliery reaches market over the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. About 300 men and boys are annually employed in the colliery. William P. Daniels is the outside foreman, and William Waters inside foreman.

The Potts Colliery, located at Locust Dale, is just over the line in Columbia county, but is closely identified with the interests of the Schuylkill coal field. It was opened by George C. Potts & Co., in 1857, and it is now the property of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. Two slopes are here sunk in the south dip of the Mammoth vein, to a depth of three hundred and two yards; one used for hoisting, the other for pumping. Another slope—the Wadleigh, mentioned elsewhere—is being extended to from an additional outlet in case of emergency. The two deep slopes have east and west gangways driven to a total distance of four thousand two hundred and seventy yards. Three hundred and three men and boys are employed, and 80,000 tons of coal were shipped in 1879. This colliery evolves large quantities of fire damp, but the mine superintendent of the district, in his official report, compliments mine foreman Morgan Davis on the intelligent manner with which it is controlled. A sixteen-foot fan furnishes ventilation, a five hundred horse power pump drains the Locust Dale portion, and a sixty horse power pump the Wadleigh slope. The total horse power of the six engines used in the colliery is 845. There are 7,758 yards of mine track. William Raudenbush, the outside foreman, is one of the oldest and best known in the coal regions.

The Keystone Colliery at Locust Dale was opened in the year 1862, by John Dennison & Co., and has since become the property of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, by whom it is operated. The workings consist of two slopes; one 173 yards deep, the other 153 yards, at an angle of 52E on the north dip of the Mammoth vein, in coal about twenty-five feet thick, with east gangway driven 1,497 yards, and west gangway 1,483 yards. The mine is ventilated by a sixty horse power engine driving an eighteen-foot fan. Fire damp is generated in large quantities, but is neutralized by the careful and intelligent management of Mr. Edward Samuels, the inside foreman. The number of men and boys employed is 214. Seven steam engines of 970 horse power furnish drainage and do the hoisting and breaking.

This colliery seems to be fortunate in its selection of foremen, as the dumping apparatus in use is the invention of Fred. Granzow, the outside foreman, whose experience and quick perception of the wants of the colliery make him a valuable manager.
ASHLAND BOROUGH

The almost unbroken wilderness that, in 1820, was the site of Jacob Rodenberger's old log hotel, remained a tangled wilderness long after the southern part of the county had become the scene of busy industry; and the traveler on the Catawissa stage who, in crossing Locust Mountain in 1848, expressed the opinion that a man who could be induced to purchase such land must be a fool, but echoed the prevalent sentiment of the friends of Burd S. Patterson, a prominent citizen of the county, who, with a faith untouched by the raillery of others, had for years predicted that some day an important mining town would cover the slope of that mountain, and had taken steps that, in 1845, induced John P. Brock, of Philadelphia, and James Hart to join him in the purchase of two large tracts of land in the vicinity; one of four hundred acres, from the Bank of Pennsylvania, at a uniform price of $30 per acre, and the same area from Judge Gordon of Reading, an $11 an acre. To these united tracts they gave the name of the Ashland Estate, and took an opportunity to test the character of their purchase by sending in the fall of 1846 an experienced miner, named Patrick Devine, with a force of men, to develop the coal veins crossing the tract. During the following year the village site was surveyed by Samuel Lewis, and named Ashland, after Henry Clay's famous Kentucke genius; and the proprietors expended large amounts in clearing lands, laying out streets, building substantial tenement houses for their workmen, and inducing immigration. One of their acts was to donate to Jacob Larish two lots of land in consideration of his erecting and occupying a convenient and commodious hotel; and by this act of liberality the Ashland House, which Mr. Larish kept until his death, was erected in 1846.

For the next three years the progress of the new village was slow, owing to the delays in the operations of the Mine Hill Railway Company, that had surveyed an extension to this place, on which work was resumed in 1851, at which time a renewed impetus was given to immigration; and in 1852, when Colonel J.J. Connors, of Pottsville, leased a portion of the tract for mining purposes, he found that an enterprising dealer, Jonathan Faust, had opened a small store. In the following year Mr. Connors opened a gangway at Locust Run, and built the brick store on the corner of Centre and Third streets, which was the first brick structure erected in the village, and was built from bricks made on the site of the foundry of Jacob Fisher. The establishment of another store was even then considered a hazardous venture, and its proprietor had often to answer the question—“Where do you expect to find your customer?”

In 1853 Bancroft, Lewis & Co. opened a colliery near the iron works and built breakers, and the work connected with the two new collieries drew large numbers to the place; and when, in 1857, the citizens, deeming that they had outgrown the guardianship of Butler township, applied for a borough charter, the village contained about five hundred buildings, and three thousand five hundred people. To the personal exertions of John P. Brock, Burd Patterson and James Hart, and to Dr Pancoast, and Samuel Grant, who afterward purchased Mr. Patterson's interest in the estate, as well as to the indefatigable energy and public spirit of Colonel Connor, much of the credit for this great advance was due.

In 1834 Colonel Connor, who had associated with him Thomas Patten's, a brother of the proprietor, anticipated the completion of the Gordon planes by drawing a quantity of coal with wagons to the foot of the first plane, loading a car, and drawing it over the planes by mules, and from there forwarding it to John Tucker, president of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, as a present. This was the first coal sent to market from Ashland, and the first shipped over that railroad. The date of the shipment was September, 1854. The first coal forwarded direct from a colliery by rail was sent by Bancroft, Lewis & Co., who for that reason named their breaker “The Pioneer.” Of the early businesse-men of Ashland, William and James Cleaver, William H. Bright, Emanuel Bast, Joshua Weimer, and Nicholas Graeber are still residents, and actively engaged in business pursuits. The only one of them that can claim both a continuous residence and an uninterrupted business career in one line of trade is Nicholas Graeber, who operated a clothing store opposite the Mahanoy House in 1855, and who is still engaged in the business.

Until 1853, the nearest post-office was at Fountain Springs, but in that year the Ashland office was established, and Dr. D.J. McKibbon became its postmaster. Mails were received daily from Pottsville and Sunbury by stage and over the Mine Hill Railway.

The first church erected was a small framed building, built by the Methodist society in 1855; and the next was the brick church known as St Joseph's build by the English-speaking Catholics.

The first school building, erected in 1854, is still standing on Centre street, and used as a store house; and here, for several years, the religious services of some of the church organizations were held.

The oldest framed buildings in the village are the old store of Faust, now A. Bancroft's, and the Ashland House, on the corner of Centre and Third streets. Opposite the last named house is the first brick building built in the village, the old Connor & Patterson store; and on the southwest corner of Centre and Seventh streets is the Repplier House, which was the second brick structure erected. It was built in 1855 by Judge Rahn, and was known for years as the Mahanoy House. In the rear of this building stood the old Rodenberger tavern, and near it ran the stage road between Pottsville and Catawissa.
The petition for a borough charter was filed and granted February 13th, 1857. The first charter election, held that month, resulted in the choice of James J. Connor as chief burgess; and a council composed of E.V. Thomason, John Orth, Charles Connor, Lawrence Hannon, and William Thomas.

The following have filled the office of chief burgess: James J. Connor, elected in 1857; Jacob Reed, 1858; George Rahn, 1859, 1860; James B. Wilson, 1861; Charles Lins, 1862; William H. Gallagher, 1863; Levi C. Leib, 1864, 1865, 1866; Nicholas Graeber, 1867; Daniel Obenhouse, 1868; John Muenker, 1869; Samuel McGee, 1870, 1871; James R. Cleaver, 1872; James G. Gensel, 1873, 1874; James B. Wilson, 1875, 1876; H. Trautman, 1877; W.S. Russel, 1878, 1879; Thomas Glenwright, 1880.

The borough officers for 1880 were: Thomas Glenwright, chief burgess; B.F. Kaster, John Lazarus, Michael Garner, F. Blaseus, Joseph G. Smith, Englebert Schmicker, councilmen; Frank Rentz, town clerk; Nicholas Blotch, Conrad Kessler, and Fred. Krapp, police department; Charles Beckley, chief of police, with two lieutenants and forty men, having their headquarters at the station-house.

PUBLIC WORKS

The borough council in June, 1876, ordered a special election, on the question of increasing the indebtedness of the borough, to an amount not exceeding seven per cent., for the purpose of erecting water works. This election was held July 15th, and resulted in favor of the measure. July 27th, the council appointed as commissioners, D. Schneider, William Christian, Thomas Glenwright and Michael Garner on behalf, of the council, and J.B. Price, H. Trautman and M. Fannon, on behalf of the people, to construct works, subject to the approval of the council. Afterward Watkin Powell was added on behalf of the council and Emanuel Bast for the citizens. Frank Rentz was elected secretary of the commission, and he has been identified with the department from that time to the present. The source of supply selected was the Little Mahanoy creek, at a point some four miles distant from the borough, and ten acres of land were purchased at a cost of $4,500. The work was commenced September 1st, 1876, under Mr. Kassona's surveys.

The dam is three hundred and forty-five feet above Centre and Third streets. The water is brought to the borough in twelvemains and distributed through six-inch pipes. Bonds to the amount of $60,000, at six per cent. interest, were issued by the department, $36,000 of which have been redeemed. Up to 1880 the cost of construction and extension was $63,000. Rents are charged to parties using the water. The interest and principal of the bonded indebtedness are paid by direct taxation. The department is managed by a committee of three members of the borough council, elected in May of each year; and they control the operations of the superintendent, who is elected by the council.

The most important public work performed by the borough has been done since 1867, in which year the station house, Fifth and Chestnut streets, was erected at a cost of $2,300. It is a twostory stone building, fitted up for council room, police court and jail. In 1868 the engine house, now occupied by the Washington Fire Company, on Tenth and Chestnut streets, was built at a cost of $600, and a purchase of fire apparatus made amounting to $500. The macadamizing of Centre street, completed during that year, involved an expenditure of $38,000. Since that date the purchase of hose amounting to $2,650, and the erection of water works, have raised the aggregate indebtedness of the borough to $87,400 on an assessed valuation of $1,457,403 in 1880.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

This department was organized in 1867, and the company known as the Washington Fire Company was formed and was assisted by the borough council in purchasing a truck and hose. The American Hose Company was furnished its outfit by the borough, with the exception of about $130 raised by the friends of the company. The value of fire extinguishing apparatus is about $2,750.
The hydrant pressure renders the use of engines unnecessary. In most instances fires are readily controlled by the hose companies. J. Frederick Buck was the fire marshall in 1880.

American Hose Company, No.1, of Ashland, was organized January 2nd, 1878. the first officers were: L.C. Leib, president; David T. Evans, vice-president; William A. Kinsel, secretary; H.F. Voshage, assistant secretary; Frederick Holder, treasurer; Charles T. Lyons, foreman; Joseph Robbins, assistant foreman; trustees--Frederick J. Miller, Joseph Parry and Levi Baddolph. Foreman Lyons served until 1880, when J.D. Mcconnell was elected; the other officers for the year being: President, L.C. Leib; vice-president, John Frazier; secretary, Thomas Rich; assistant secretary, D.G. Stover; treasurer, George H. Helfrich; trustees--Joseph Parry, Frederick J. Miller and F. Tretter; assistant foreman, Caleb Williams. A good hose carriage was purchased in February, 1878, with 500 feet of hose. The carriage room and parlors of the company are on Ninth and Middle streets. In the fall of 1880 a new carriage was built by J.G. Smith at the Enterprise Carriage Works in this place, and 400 feet of hose added. In August, 1879, the company organized a silver cornet band of sixteen pieces; and a nucleus for a library was formed. The company is now about sixty strong.

The Washington Fire Company was organized, as before stated, in 1867, as a hook and ladder company, and after various vicissitudes was reorganized, after the erection of the water-works, as a hose company. The original books of the company have been lost or destroyed, and the data furnished are too imperfect to give even an outline of the early history of the organization. Its foreman in 1880 was David Llewelyn, jr. A library has been started, and in 1880 a new hose carriage was built at the Enterprise shops.

THE PRESS OF ASHLAND

In 1857 the Mining Gazetteer was founded by J.H. McElwain, who, as his card in its first number stated, was a civil and mining engineer. Its able editorials and the superior character of its miscellaneous matter made it one of the best country papers in the State at that or any other date. After four months Mr. McElwain was succeeded by J.H. Hennessy, who continued to manage the paper until 1860. Politically it drifted into the Democratic ranks, in which it continued under the management of Mr. Hennessey's successor, Dr. Yocum. In 1863 it suspended.

The Constitutional Advocate was started in 1864 by Newhall & McGinly, and purchased in 1866 by J. Irwin Steele, an experienced journalist, who has since published it under the name of the Ashland Advocate, and increased its size to an eight-column folio. Mr. Steele is a prominent Democrat, and his journal is perhaps the most active and aggressive organ of that party in this part of the county. Since Mr. Steele became editor he has twice been a representative in the Legislature. The Advocate is issued weekly and its subscription price is $2 per year. The office and press-rooms are in Odd Fellows' Temple on Seventh street.

The Ashland Record, an advertising sheet-issued weekly-was started by H.S. Bonan, and has been successively published by C.H. Hartman & Co., and F.F. Barron, the present owner. It is a six-column folio, published weekly, with a gratuitous circulation of 1,100 copies.

MILITARY

The Ashland Dragoons were recruited in 1873, and on September 13th of that year were mustered into the State service. The force consisted of Captain L.H. Yocum, First Lieutenant George Yeomans, Second Lieutenant F.E. Bensinger, and forty non-commissioned officers and privates. During the ensuing year, Captain Yocum having resigned, First Lieutenant Yeomans was promoted to the captaincy, and H.M. Clayton chosen first lieutenant. After their term of service expired, in 1878, the company re-enlisted and increased their minimum complement to fifty rank and file, with Yeomans as captain, Clayton as first lieutenant, and C.H. Barnard as second lieutenant. In May, 1879, Captain Yeomans was promoted to be brigade surgeon, First Lieutenant Clayton resigned, and C.H. Barnard was chosen captain, J.M. Kauffman first lieutenant, and Levi Batdorf second Lieutenant.

The dragoons attended the encampment of State troops at Camp Meade, Philadelphia, in August, 1880.

BUSINESS CORPORATIONS

The Citizens' National Bank.-This institution was organized and charted in June, 1875, and opened its doors on June 6th of that year with a capital of $60,000. The first directors were J.H. Hoover, William D. Heaton, J.M. Glick, A.B. Sherman, John B. Price, William Landefelt, William Burmeister, O.B. Millard and J.M. Freck. Its first officers were: J.H. Hoover, president; George H. Helfrich, cashier. In April, 1880, the bank was removed to the building formerly occupied by the First National Bank. Mr. J.H. Hoover was president until January, 1878, when William D. Heaton was elected to that position, and Mr. Hoover was made vice-president. Mr. Helfrich has served as cashier since the opening of the bank. The surplus shown by the bank in 1880 was $4,000.

Suspended Banks.-The unfortunate ventures in the banking line that are still in process of liquidation are: the Ashland Banking company, F. Rentz assignee, which after a showy existence of five years failed through the defalcation of its cashier and the bankruptcy of Jay Cooke and & Co., its metropolitan correspondent; the Ashland Savings Bank, known as the "Irish Bank," of which George H. Helfrich is the receiver, which was organized in 1867 and closed its doors in 1875; and the First National Bank of Ashland, now in liquidation, in the hands of an agent of the United States treasury department, the losses in which will fall entirely on the stockholders.

The Miners and Laborers' Saving Fund Association.-This was organized under the general law of 1859, in 1873, with an authorized capital of $500,000. The fol-
The Ashland Gas Light Company was charter July 10th, 1874. The requirements of the charter, calling for a paid up capital of $25,000, being complied with, nine directors and the following officers were elected: E.P. Burkert, president; Peter E. Buck, vice-president; Frank Rentz, secretary and superintendent.

From 1875 to 1876 Peter E. Buck was president and Nicholas Graeber treasurer. In 1876 Lewis A. Riley became a director, and was elected president; and in 1879 E.P. Burkert succeeded Adam Walkner as vice-president. Frank Rentz has been secretary and superintendent from the first. The officers for 1880 were: L.A. Riley, president; E.P. Burkert, vice-president; Nicholas Graeber, treasurer; Frank Rentz, secretary and superintendent.

MILLS AND MANUFACTORIES

Ashland Iron Works.-The iron working interests of this borough were coexistent with the coal development of the district. L.P. Garner & Bro. came from Pottsville in 1853, and erected shops east of the tunnel colliery, where they made steam engines, boilers and mine machinery until 1862, when they removed to new shops, built by them on the Centre turnpike. In 1864 the firm dissolved, and a new firm, known as J. & M. Garner, succeeded to the business. In 1875 their shops were destroyed by fire, and the firm removed their business to a building that had been occupied for the same purpose by Garner & Christian, who had retired from business. This building was the nucleus of the present extensive works. Since that date the proprietors have erected five
new buildings, materially enlarged the main structure, and added new and improved machinery. In 1880 Michael Garner retired, leaving Joseph W. Garner the sole proprietor. Steam engines, boilers, mining and other heavy machinery are manufactured, and the establishment enjoys a wide reputation for trustworthy work. The shops have employed as many as sixty men when working to full capacity. Mr. Garner is a Schuylkill county man, born at Pottsville in 1834, and his works are a creditable specimen of the results of skill and industry.

Ashland Steam Flouring Mill.-Erected in 1863, by Reuben Lins, this mill is one of the oldest of Ashland's establishments. It was operated by Lins & Egolf until 1866, then purchased by Lessig & LaVan. In 1867 Mr. LaVan's interest was purchased by his partner, who conducted the business until his death, in 1874, after which time it was leased by different parties until March, 1880, when it was purchased of Mrs. Lessig's heirs by Jacob Lessig and A. Himmelright.

Screen Works.-This factory was established by George H. Helfrich, and afterward purchased by Alt. L. Laubenstein, formerly of Minersville, who is doing an extensive business in breaker and other screens, flexible shutters and woven metal work. The shop is located on Third street and employs six men.

Ashland Planing Mills.-This concern was erected 1876 by William H. Bright, the present proprietor. This mill manufactures and fits up builders' materials, and forms a valuable adjunct to Mr. Bright's extensive lumber business. It is situated on the Catawissa road, in the rear of the lumber yards, and employs several men.

The Ashland Boiler Shops, Phillips & Davis proprietors, are located on Walnut street, and doing a fairly remunerative business in making and repairing cylindrical boilers, smoke stacks and elevators, employing from four to eight men.

R.H. Phillips, the senior partner, was born at Port Carbon, and he is the son of a Welsh miner. He has resided in Ashland since 1865, and established this business in 1876. He is a blacksmith.

D.S. Davis, his partner, is a son of David Davis, and was born on shipboard. His father settled in Minersville, but has lived in Ashland since 1858.

COLLIERIES OF ASHLAND

Although the site of former extensive operations, and still the emporium of trade for a considerable colliery district, there is at present no shipping done from collieries within the limits of the borough, and the following brief outline covers the workings in and near the corporate limits of Ashland.

The Tunnel Colliery was opened by Repplier & Moody in 1856, and in 1871 sold to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, who have extended the workings and introduced some of the best and most costly mine machinery in the Schuylkill district. Two slopes have been sunk on the "Seven-foot vein," and a depth of 990 feet, at an angle of 67 degrees, attained. Gangways have been driven 2,200 yards. The capacity of the breaker is 600 tons; average daily production 400 tons. The colliery has not been producing since 1879, but a shaft is being sunk to another vein. The number of men and boys employed when shipping is 300. Daniel Jones and George Davis are the foremen.

The Wadleigh Slope was the scene of Colonel J.J. Connor's first successful mining venture in Ashland, he having commenced work here in 1852. After passing through other hands the building were destroyed by fire about 1868, and the mine was allowed to fill with water. In 1876 the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, having become owners, pumped out the water, and in 1879 put in a force of men to drive a gangway through to the working of the Potts colliery, for the purpose of making this an additional outlet for that mine. Martin A. Cain and William Price are the foremen in charge of the work. This slope is just north of the borough limits.

A small colliery called the Vaughan, in the south end of the borough, is worked to some extent for retail purposes, by means of two drift levels on the "crop" of the old Pioneer workings, "robbing," as it is called, or taking coal from the pillars of the old mine. It reported in 1879 1,532 tons mined, and when at work employed about twenty men and boys, and two small steam engines.

SOCIETIES AND LODGES

Ashland Lodge, No. 294, F. & A.M. was instituted March 12th, 1855, when the following officers were elected: David J. Lewis, W.M.; R. Carr Wilson, S.S.; J.H. Yocum, M.D., J.W.; J.J. Connor, treasurer; D.J. McKibben, secretary.


The lodge meets on the second Thursday of each month at the rooms in Odd Fellows' Temple.

Griscom Chapter No. 219, R.A.M. was constituted July 23d, 1868. Its first officers were: Thomas B. Bancroft, M.E.H.P.; George H. Helfrich, king; James L. Cleaver, scribe; W. Riefsnyder, treasurer; J.H. Yocum, secretary. The successive H.P's of the chapter since that time have been G.H. Helfrich, H.M. Darling, H. Holbert, J. Fred Miller, William H. Anthony, Levi C. Leib, Albert J. Wagner, C.W. Hartman, D.A. Shiffert and P.C. Hoover.

Locust Mountain Lodge, No. 538, I.O.O.F. was instituted December 15th, 1857, with the following officers: John C. Garner, N.F.; A.L. Gee, V.G.; George H. Helfrich, secretary; James R. Cleaver, treasurer. Its officers in 1880 were: N.G., William E. Jones.; V.G., W. Heffner; secretary, George H. Helfrich; treasurer, J. H. Hoover.
This lodge has paid for aid to sick members $3,181.75, and for assistance in buying the dead $1,446.77, and it owns available cash assets of $6,200, besides about $12,000 of the common stock of the Odd Fellows' Temple Association, which though valuable is not immediately available.

Shekinah Encampment, No. 134, was instituted in March, 1865, with the following officers: George H. Helfrich, C.P; J.H. Hoover, S.W.; Washington Reifsnyder, scribe; James Dowden, treasurer. Past C.P. George H. Helfrich of this encampment has served as D.D. Grand Patriarch of the Schuylkill District.

The officers of the last term of 1880 were: C.P.P., K. Brosius; S.W., J.B. Price; J.W., Louis Prince; scribe, George H. Helfrich; treasurer, J.H. Hoover. The available assets are $1,000.

The Odd Fellows' Temple.-In 1865 the members of the Odd Fellows' order, feeling the need of a suitable hall for lodge purposes, inaugurated a movement that culminated in chartering the Odd Fellows' Temple Association. The stock of the association was liberally subscribed of by Odd Fellows and Free Masons, which latter were to be recognized by the reservation of halls for their use, as by citizens in general. In June, 1866, work was commenced on the corner of Centre and Seventh streets, and in April, 1867, a handsome brick structure 75 by 83 feet was completed. The ground floor is divided into two fine stores, fronting on Centre street, and a large room now used as a publishing house. The second floor is devoted to an opera house, seating 1,500 persons, and the lodge rooms of the two orders. The cost was about $47,000. As originally constructed the building had an ornamental facade and cornice, which, with a portion of the roof, was carried away by a high wind, and replaced by a plain finished hip roof, terminating in an observatory. In 1880 about $3,000 was expended in remodeling the opera house—until that time known as "Odd Fellows' Hall"—and putting in scenery and galleries.

Schiller Lodge, No. 53, D.O.H.-This organization was chartered in August, 1857, with the following charter members: A. Voshage, Matthias Brown, Louis Biltz, Peter Yoest, Ernest Orth, Henry Hochst, Theodore Snyder, John Ort, Charles Mumbacher, William Mader and Fred Hoge. Its first officers were: A. Voshage, O.B.; E. Ort, U.B.; Charles Mumbacher, secretary; Louis Biltz, treasurer. The officers for 1880 were: E.X., William Fleming; O.B., William Zeplier; U.B., Fred Granzow; treasurer, John Schwantler; secretary, Fred Krapp; assistant secretary, William Lange. The assets of the lodge in 1880 were $1,237.66; membership, 83.

Ashland Camp, No. 84 Patriotic Order of Junior Sons of America was instituted August 10th, 1867, with fourteen charter members. On the 1st of January, 1870, it was rechartered in the Patriotick Sons of America of America, with most of the old charter members, and many new ones. The White Degree council was first named Losch Council, in honor of Hon. Samuel Losch, but in 1878 the name was changed to Penn. The presidents of the camp have been I.N.S. Phillips, R.H. Scott, L. Prosser, L.N. Reifsnyder, J.A. Garner, C.W. Hartman, W.H. Egbert, C.T. Russell, T.F. Barron, J.J. Reiser, D.G. Stover, Louis Schneider, T.J. Bevan, R.B. Clayton, W.D. Creasey, J.D. McConnell, Thomas Rich, J.H. Pollard, Geo. W. Gearheart, H.J. Perry, John Yost and R. Bevan.

The officers for the last term of 1880 were: President, R. Bevan; vice-president, J.J. Clarkson; master of ceremonies, H.W. Knabb; recording secretary, George W. Gearheart; financial secretary, H.J. Perry; treasurer, A. L. Laubenstein. The camp meets on Tuesday evening at Cleaver's Hall. Its condition is good. It is conducted as a co-operative mutual benefit association, and weekly benefits are paid to distressed members, and funds contributed toward defraying funeral expenses. While meeting all such claims promptly it has a surplus fund of about $2,000.

Hooker Post, No. 41, G.A.R. was established March 4th, 1867, with eleven charter members. The name of Hooker Post was adopted in January, 1870, and, on receipt of a letter stating that fact, General Joseph Hooker forwarded to the post an imperial portrait of himself, and a characteristic letter acknowledging the compliment. In 1879 and 1880 camp fires were held, which were largely attended and pecuniarily successful. The post officers for 1880 were: Commander, Captain James Callary; senior vice, Thomas Mills; junior vice, Edward Ebert; chaplain, Joseph Morris; surgeon, I.B. Jones; quartermaster, John C. Garner; quartermastersergeant, James Wythe. Meetings are held in Cleaver's Hall, Friday evenings.


The officers for 1880 were: E.C., Daniel Shiffert; general, W.H. Anthony; C.G., Charles W. Hartman; treasurer, Peter E. Buck; recorder, George H. Helfrich.

Lincoln Temple of Honor and Temperance, No. 41.-This temple was organized July 24th, 1867, with fifteen charter members. The following officers were elected and installed for the first term: W.C.T., George N. Dowden; W.V.T., Daniel Heil; W.R., A.B. White; W.F.R., Samuel Clarkson; treasurer, John T. Davis; W.D.N., Thomas James; W.S., Henry Hadesty; W.G., John Jones.


Lily of the Valley Social Circle, No. 44, of the Temple of Honor and Temperance was instituted October 20th, 1868. Its officers in 1880 were: Sister presiding, Kate Lloyd; brother presiding, W.H. Klock; sister vice, Jennie Lloyd; brother vice, John Klock; sister recorder, Alice Murray; brother recorder, William Raubenbush; brother financial recorder, Thomas Soby; sister treasurer, Elizabeth Price; sister guard, Anna Vaughan; brother sentinel, James Price.

Anthracite Lodge, No. 610, Lof G.T. was organized August 10th, 1878, with twenty-four charter members. The officers for the first term were: W.C.T., George W. Garrett; W.V.T., Helen F. Kanter; chaplain, Rev. James Robinson; secretary, W.S. Thirlwell; financial secretary, William Morgan; treasurer, Lin. Garner. The successive presiding officers have been Charles E. Steel, R.B. Clayton and A.L. Laubenstein. The officers for 1880 were: W.C.T., W.S. Thirlwell; W.V.T., Ella Brenzel; chaplain, Rev. James Robinson; secretary, B.W. Payne; financial secretary, Charles E. Steel; treasurer, William Morgan. The lodge meets every Wednesday evening in J.R. Cleaver's hall, Ashland.

ECCLESIASTICAL

Methodist Episcopal Church.-In 1853 the preachers of Catawissa circuit, J.W. Elliot and F.M. Slusser, had appointments at Ashland. May 24th of the same year a class was formed here, with William Davis as leader, and sixteen members. The place of meeting was what is now known as the stone school-house. Following are the names of the early preachers, with the time of service of each: 1853, J.W. Elliot, F.M. Slusser; 1854, R.W. Black, F.M. Slusser; 1855, Joseph Y. Rothrock, M.L. Drum; 1856, Joseph Y. Rothrock, I.W. Stout; 1857, John A. DeMoyer, Henry S. Mendenhall; 1858, John A. Moyer, P.B. Ruch.

In 1859 the membership of the church had increased to ninety-six, and a church edifice had been built; and the members desired that Ashland be made a station, which was accordingly done. Rev. Samuel W. Sears was appointed to the charge for the years 1859 and 1860, and his successors as follows: 1861, 1862, Aaron M. Kester; 1863, 1864, William M. Showalter; 1865, 1866, Benjamin F. Stevens; 1867-69, Abraham M. Creighton; 1870-72, Asbury W. Guyer; 1873-75, William A. Houck; 1876, 1877, Alexander M. Barnitz; 1878, 1879, William G. Ferguson; 1880, John A. DeMoyer, the present pastor.

In 1855, during the pastorate of J.Y. Rothrock and M.L. Drum, the society erected a neat framed church edifice, one story high, on the corner of Ninth and Brock streets, and it was dedicated in October, 1856, by Rev. Thomas Bowman, now a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church. The cost of the building, $1,500, was fully provided for on the day of dedication.

In June, 1863, the trustees sold the church on the hill to the Evangelical Association, and bought two lots on the northeast corner of Centre and Eleventh streets, where they erected a new building. It is a brick structure, two stories high, 65 feet deep and 40 feet wide. The corner stone was laid in the summer of 1863, by Rev. M.P. Crosthwaite, and the basement was dedicated by Bishop Levi Scott in January, 1864. The audience room was completed in the autumn of 1865, and dedicated by Rev Aquilla A. Reese, of Baltimore, and others. The cost of lot and building was $8,000. The present membership numbers two hundred and sixty. Of the sixteen original members ten are still living, although but two of them are residing here.

In 1853 the first Sunday-school was organized, as a union school, by Methodists, Presbyterians and Lutherans, meeting in the stone school-house before mentioned. Abel G. Swift was the first superintendent; he was assisted by Jeremiah Logan and wife, William Davis, Eliza Davis and Jacob G. Gensel as teachers, with about forty scholars. In 1857 it was changed to a purely Methodist school, and Samuel Camp was appointed superintendent. The Methodist Episcopal school numbered one hundred and twenty-five officers, teachers and scholars. The school, organized as above stated, continues to the present time, and in 1880 numbered thirty officers and teachers and three hundred and fifty scholars. The present superintendent, Charles H Barnard, became a scholar in the school in 1855, was appointed a teacher at fourteen years of age, was elected superintendent when nineteen, served about two years, then became a teacher again, and for the last nine years has been superintendent.

In 1866 a belfry and tower were added to the church and a bell, weighing one thousand pounds, was put in position. In 1873 the seats in the audience room were remodeled, the room was frescoed, the whole church inside and out painted, a carpet put down, the basement papered, a new organ procured, and a parsonage, costing $3,500, built. It is of brick, twenty-five feet wide, forty-eight deep, two stories high, with slate roof. A neat iron fence was put around the church and parsonage, and a substantial brick pavement was laid on Eleventh street; all costing $6,000. The society was incorporated in 1879. In July, 1880, the members of the Sunday-school took upon themselves the work of remodeling the basement, in which they met, at a cost of $185, which amount was all subscribed before or on the day of reopening, Sunday, August 1st.

Welsh Congregational Church.-This society was organized in 1844, and for some time held meetings in the old Market street school-house. Rev. John Edwards was its first pastor, and he remained about seven years. In 1856 a church building was erected on Spruce street, near Ninth street, at a cost of $2,000.

The Sunday-school was organized in 1855, with seventy scholars, and John James became its first superintendent.
It now numbers fifty scholars: William Price is superintendent.

The successive pastors of this church have been as follows: Thomas Reese, whose term of service commenced about the year 1860; Rev William B. Williams, a young graduate of Yale, who succeeded him in 1869, and on his resignation was followed by Rev. J.W. Pugh, in 1871; Rev. R. Williams, who succeeded Mr. Pugh in the same year, and remained until 1876, since which time the pulpit has remained vacant.

**Welsh Baptist Church.** This society was organized in 1855 by Rev. B.W. Thomas, who became the first pastor. The early members had been connected with the church at Minersville. Until 1857 the congregation worshiped in the old school-house. In that year a church building was erected on the corner of Twelfth and Market streets, at a cost of $3,000. After a pastorate of about seven years Mr. Thomas resigned, and was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Thomas for a short time. A vacancy of some years was occasionally varied by a few weeks or months' services. Rev. B.W. James was the next stated pastor, followed by Rev. L.M. Roberts, whose term of service expired in January, 1880, when he returned to Wales. The pulpit is now vacant.

The first Sunday-school was organized in 1855, with David Vaughan as superintendent, and thirty scholars. The number of scholars in 1880 was seventy, and Thomas M. Davis is superintendent.

**Memorial Church of St. John.** This Episcopal parish was organized November 25th, 1855, and services were first held in the basement of the Mahanoy (now Replier) Hotel. The first service was conducted by Rev. William Byllesby, rector of Minersville church, and was held December 10th, 1855. Rev. J.M. Bartlett soon afterward became the first rector. A church building was begun at the time. It is of stone, in the Gothic order, with a seating capacity of 400, and, with the rectory and school buildings, cost $5,000; it occupies a commanding and central position on ten enclosed lots. The rectors of this church have been besides the first named, Revs. Rowland Hill Brown, Otho Fryer, J.P. Frigett, Daniel Washburn, who served for ten years, and the present pastor, C.E.D. Griffith, elected in 1879.

**The Presbyterian Church of Ashland.** This church was organized in 1856, by Rev. J.B. Spottwood, its first pastor. Meetings were held for some time in the Walnut street schoolhouse, and March 15th, 1857, Rev. J.D. Weller, of Bloomsburg, under the authority of the presbytery of Northumberland, effectuated a formal organization, and an arrangement was made for the use of the Methodist church edifice for a time.

The first Sunday-school has about one hundred members. H.M. Clayson is superintendent.

**Zion German Reformed Church.** The first organization of this church was effected by Rev. R. Duenger in 1856, with a congregation of fifteen families. They worshiped in a school building on the corner of Tenth and Walnut streets. Rev. Mr. Duenger was elected pastor in 1856, and he has served the church until the present time.

In September, 1859, the Welsh Congregational church was engaged as a place of worship, and at the same time three lots were purchased on which to erect a building. The house, built during the succeeding year, is a substantial brick building, located on the corner of Ninth and Walnut streets, and is capable of seating two hundred and fifty persons. It has latterly undergone a thorough transformation. Rev. R.C. Bryson was settled as pastor in September, 1859, and was followed successively by Revs. W.E. Honeyman, M. Hartzel and J.L. Jenkins. The present pastor, Rev. James Robinson, was ordained and installed pastor May 4th (CDL), 1875.

The Sunday-school has about one hundred members. H.M. Clayson is superintendent.

**Welsh Congregational Church.** The first organization of this church was effected by Rev. R. Duenger in 1856, with a congregation of fifteen families. They worshiped in a school building on the corner of Tenth and Walnut streets. Rev. Mr. Duenger was elected pastor in 1856, and he has served the church until the present time.

In July, 1857, the corner stone of a church building was laid, and it was completed and dedicated in September, 1858. It is a frame structure, 30 by 40 feet, with a stone basement, located on the corner of Eleventh and Market streets. It is valued at $3,000. The membership of the church if 280.

The first Sunday-school was opened in 1859, with August Voshage as superintendent until 1865, Peter Heinze from that date until 1872, and Engel Horn from 1872 to the present time. The number of pupils in 1880 was 150; volumes in the library, 300.

**St. Mauritius Church and School.** One of the most prominent and striking buildings in Ashland is the stone church of the German Catholic, standing on a commodious eminence. It is 44 by 110 feet in size, with a basement, and in its cut stone steeple are the town clock and two large bells. This building was commenced in 1857 by Rev. J. M. Meurer, who occasionally visited those of his creed and country in this place, and said mass for them in a hall belonging to one of the members until the church was ready for use. The resident priest was Rev. J. Frisch. After a pastorate extending from March, 1858, to October 1861, he was removed by Bishop Wood to St. Joseph's Church at Easton, Pa. Rev. J.B. Bach was the next pastor. He had charge of the congregation until December, 1867, and was a zealous and successful pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. J.F. Pape, and he, one year later, by Father Meurer, the pioneer pastor. The congregation founded by his efforts had grown to about 300 families and 1,300 souls. Father Meurer's successor was Rev. F.W. Longinus. He introduced the School Sisters of St. Francis. The present pastor is Rev. Anthony Nathe. He is engaged in building a new school, for which a lot has been purchased by F.B. Gowen, of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company.

**St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church.** The society of English-speaking Catholics worshiping in this church was organized and ministered to by Rev. Joseph O'Keefe, of Pottsville, and later by his coadjutor, Rev. Thomas Lindon, under whose ministry a church building was erected, in which mass was first celebrated on St. Pat-
ricker's day, 1857, by Father Lindon. In September of that year Rev. Michael Sheridan became the pastor of the church, the building being at that time a mere shell and the society heavily in debt. Through his efforts the indebtedness was liquidated, the church finished and furnished, and in 1863 an addition built. The church building and parsonage are on Chestnut street. The parish, which originally included Centralia, Mt. Carmel, Girardville, and the planes, has been curtailed by the erection of other charges within its limits, and now only includes Ashland and Gordon. The membership of the church has fluctuated considerable, and at the time of writing this sketch it was principally made up of Irish immigrants from Connaught.

Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church (German).-Rev. Jacob Weber, who was born in Wurtemburg, came to America in 1849, and arrived in Mahantongo, in this county in January, 1857, as a missionary. June 14th of that year he preached his first sermon in Ashland, and four days later organized the above named congregation, with 125 members. The meetings were held in the stone school-house until 1860, when a small church was built on the corner of Fourteenth and Market streets, in which building the congregation worshiped until 1869, when it was removed, and the present large and commodious edifice was erected. The corner stone of this building was laid October 10th, 1869, in the presence of Revs. Robert Weiser, of Mahanoy City; Henterlinter, of Pottsville, Grossman, and the pastor of Ashland. The consecration took place May 29th, 1870. Rev. Messrs. Wedekind, of New York, and Sanner, of Tremont, officiating. Rev. J.J. Weber still retains the pastorate. The church membership in 1880 was 350. The Sunday-school, organized in 1860, with a membership of eight, now numbers two hundred and twenty-five. William Burmeister was the first superintendent, and filled the office until 1878, when F.E. Heinkerze, the present efficient superintendent, was elected.

English Evangelical Lutheran Church.—In April, 1858, Rev. W.L. Heisler, then a divinity student, was sent by the Lebanon Conference of the East Pennsylvania Synod to Ashland, with a view to organizing an English Lutheran church. He gathered a few families, and preached to them until the 16th of June, 1858, when he organized the English Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ashland, with fourteen members, and became its first pastor. A Sunday-school had been previously organized, with five teachers and fifteen scholars. Abel G. Swift was its first superintendent. At first the congregation worshiped in a framed schoolhouse, on the corner of Fourth and Walnut streets. They built a church edifice in 1859, and dedicated it November 6th of that year. In 1869 a basement was fitted up for the Sunday-school, and in the summer of 1871 a parsonage was built at a cost of about $4,000. The value of the property belonging to the church is estimated at $60,000. It is free from debt.

Rev. Mr. Heisler, who resigned the pastorate in 1861, was followed by Rev. F.A. Barnitz in 1862; Rev. J.R. Sikes, 1864; Rev. S. Curtis, 1868; Rev. J.A. Hackenberg, 1871; Rev. O.D.S. Marley, 1875; Rev. D.E. Rupley, 1878; Rev. J.H. Weber, the present pastor, 1879.

The church is prosperous. It has an active membership of 133, and a Sunday-school of 182, including teachers and officers. The superintendent of the Sunday-school of T.F. Barron, and Mrs. Joshua Weimer, is superintendent of the infant department.

Rev. J.H. Weber, the present pastor, was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego county, N.Y., August 17th, 1844, and was educated at Hartwick Seminary, graduating in the class of 1869. He was licensed to preach December 23rd, 1868. He was for two years secretary of the Franklin Synod, and for one term on the examining committee of Hartwick Seminary.

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Peter E. Buck, wholesale and retail dealer in hardware, iron, steel, and miners' supplies, is perhaps the most widely known of the merchants of Ashland. Opening a store here in 1862, he has built up an extensive business, and the handsome block known by his name is filled from basement to attic with one of the best assorted stocks to be found in the county.

A line drawing of Dr. DAVID J. MC KIBBIN is in this position on this page Original text follows the line break.

Dr. David J. McKibbin, the subject of the present sketch, is one of the oldest residents of the Mahanoy coal region, having removed thither from Port Carbon in March, 1853. A few scattered houses and dense forests marked the valley in which now dwells fifty to sixty thousand souls, and which furnishes the great bulk of the coal from Schuylkill county. He was born in Philadelphia, October 15th, 1824; was at an early age sent to the Moravian boarding school at Lititz, Pa., but on the death of his mother he returned home, and continued his studies under the Rev. Sam. W. Crawford, and subsequently at the University of Pennsylvania and in the office of Dr. George Fox, one of the surgeons of Wills' and Pennsylvania Hospitals. He graduated at the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1846. During his student life he was appointed an assistant at the Eastern Penitentiary, under Drs. Edward Hartshorne and R.G. Given, gaining thereby an experience which ever after proved most profitable. After graduating he located in Williams town, N.J., thence he removed in 1848, to Middleport in the Schuylkill valley, subsequently to Port Carbon, and later to Ashland.

In 1849 he was elected a member of the Schuylkill county Medical Society, which he has frequently represented in the State Society. With the exception of Dr. George W. Brown, of Port Carbon, Dr. McKibbin is the oldest surviving member of the county society as then constituted.

At the outbreak of the Rebellion he left his horse and vehicle on the street to aid in escorting the "Ashland Light Infantry," John E. Wynkoop, captain, to Harrisburg, where the "boys" were duly installed in Camp Curtin, and on the recommendation of Mr. Burd Patterson, of Pottsville, he was commissioned by Governor Andrew Curtin surgeon of the 6th Pennsylvania volunteers, colonel James S. Nangle commanding, with which regiment he served in the Shenandoah Valley, under General Patterson, being in the brigade commanded by Brigadier-General George S. Thomas. At the expiration of three months' service he was mustered out, and in August, 1861, was commissioned surgeon of the 50th Pennsylvania volunteers, B.C. Christ colonel. While the regiment lay at Annapolis, Md., awaiting embarkation, he appeared before the army board at Washington, D.C., Surgeon McLaren, U.S.A., presiding, and passing a successful examination, returned to Annapolis in time to join the expeditionary corps for Port Royal Harbor, S.C., where he remained on duty as regimental surgeon until February, 1862. Thenceforward to the close of the war he was assigned to and performed various kinds of duties pertaining to army surgeons, from that of an acting medical director of a department, down to that of marching and field service. The Doctor nearly

A line drawing of GEORGE H. WREN is in this position on this page. There is no more original text on this page.
GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH

The earliest efforts at development of this part of Butler, then Barry township, were made by the distinguished philanthropist after whom the place is named. Stephen Girard, of Philadelphia, having become the possessor of large tracts of coal land in this part of Schuylkill county, sent agents in 1832 to develop them and foster the building of a railroad from Danville to Pottsville. Although a portion of the road was completed, the effort to develop the mines proved unremunerative, and the death of the founder put a stop to the extensive works he had projected. Confident of the brilliant future of this part of his property, he made it a prominent part of the bequest left to the city of his adoption for the support of Girard College. The principal use to which the lands were put prior to 1862 was the clearing and sale of the fine pine timber that shaded the valley of the Mahanoy, three mills having been built by Mr. Girard's agents in the vicinity, which were operated under leases so long as lumbering remained profitable. In 1841 John Hower, now the eldest resident of the place, became the lessee, and he did much to develop the interests of the place, which at that time contained but few inhabitants.

In 1862, the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Railroad and the completion of the Gordon planes having attracted the attention of operators, coal lands on the Preston tract were leased to the Heaton and Colonel J.J. Connor, of Ashland, and in that year the first coal was mined and shipped, the first car load being sent by Colonel Connor as a present to the mayor of Philadelphia, who acknowledged the receipt in a letter of thanks, which stated that he had divided the coal between the two soldiers' restaurants in the city.

Further developments followed rapidly, and from a hamlet of about one hundred inhabitants in 1862 grew a thriving borough, which had a population of three thousand in 1875, and a coal trade for that year of more than nine hundred thousand tons.

The first buildings erected in the village were the real estate office and hotel building, in 1832, the first of which now constitutes a stable building, and the latter a part of the Girard House.

The Presbyterians and Methodists in that part of Butler township occasionally held meetings as early as 1841 in the old office, and in private dwellings; and an occasional term of school was held in the same way, there being at that time not more than ten or twelve children of school age living near enough to attend.

The successful opening of not less that ten collieries within a few miles of the place made a market that quick-witted business men were not slow in grasping; and, although fifteen years ago Parker street was a wild country road, cut through the underbrush, it boasted in 1880 as fine a grade and as handsome rows of business blocks as can be found in many an older town.

To this prosperity John Hower, E.C. Wagner, William Gwyther, Dr. A.B. Sherman, Louis Blass and E.J. Becker contributed largely. Mr. Wagner, as the agent of the estate, by his liberal and prudent management made his trust a valuable one to his principals, and incidentally, to the people of the place. In 1872 the inhabitants petitioned for a borough government.

MOLLIE MAGUIRE LAWLESSNESS

Like many of its sister boroughs, Girardville was the scene of misrule and outrage during the year 1875, when the Mollie Maguires, under the leadership of the notorious Jack Kehoe, had a "division" in the place, which formed a center of attraction for lawless men, and actually became strong enough to secure the election of Kehoe to the position of high constable of the borough. The influence of this man, who kept a drinking saloon dignified by the name of the Hibernian House, was dangerous in the extreme; and in the mad warfare of these miscreants on the mine foremen and their friends they stopped short of nothing, and in one instance imbrued their hands in the blood of a civil magistrate. On the 18th of June, in the year mentioned, the first pay day after a long suspension brought a large number of miners and laborers, many of whom were under the influence of liquor. A party, headed by a man named Hoary, who brandished a pistol and called loudly for some one to shoot, entered Jacob Wendel's hotel, and struck and molested a number of inoffensive persons. Thomas Gwyther, a justice of the peace and an esteemed citizen, was sitting in the room, and was applied to by one of the victims of the gang for a warrant; for issuing which he was fired on and killed while standing on the street near his residence. The assassin, whose name was William Love, escaped; and through the ingenuity of the high constable Kehoe, who arrested a brother of the murderer, who he knew could prove an alibi, search for the real criminal was delayed until he could leave the country, and he has never been apprehended. The friends of law and order were greatly aided by the influence of Father Bridgeman, who sternly cursed the members of the order and brought all the influence of the
Catholic church—no feeble weapon to bear to destroy the organization in Girardville.

THE PRESS

The Girardville Gazette was founded in 1878, and its first number was issued March 17th of that year, by T.F. Hoffman, who continued it until August 1st, 1980, when John A. Gilger took charge of it. In February, 1879, he discontinued the subscription price, which had been one dollar a year, and issued it as an advertising sheet distributed gratuitously. In August, 1880, Mr. Gilger disposed of his interest to the firm of Smith & Arnold, who have renewed the practice of charging a regular subscription price of one dollar per annum. It is a six-column folio, issued weekly and well filled with local news.

The only other journalistic venture in the place was undertaken by Smith & Stephens, who issued twenty-five numbers of a paper called the Girardville Herald, a four-column folio, in 1873.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Girardville school board was organized May 17th, 1872, by the election of Thomas Connor president, Henry Schafstedt secretary, and E.C. Wagner treasurer. The first directors were Thomas Connor, E.C. Wagner, Henry Schafstedt, George Rogers, Patrick Follard, and Ephraim Goldin.

At that time there were two school buildings in the borough, one of wood, accommodating three schools, the other of brick, with two schools. In 1876 the board erected the elegant and capacious high school building, a fine brick structure, on a lot adjoining the old brick house. It cost $12,000. The expense of erection was defrayed by the issue of bonds. The total value of school property is $16,000. Nine schools are sustained, with the same number of teachers, and an aggregate attendance of five hundred and forty-six scholars.

The directors for 1880 were: president, John Johnson; secretary, F.D. Butler; treasurer, George Strong; and William Higgins, Joseph Fetzer and John G. Scott.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

The borough of Girardville was incorporated June 4th, 1872, being taken from Butler township. The first election was held at the house of Mr. Blass, and resulted in the choice of the following officers: Joseph Swansborough, chief burgess; James Brennan, William Daly, Louis Wehl, Thomas Rodgers and John Griffith, councilmen; Thomas J. Lewis, clerk. The chief burgesses since have been: Joseph Swansborough, 1873 1874; Daniel Eister, 1875, 1876; Jonathan Davis, 1877, 1878; Joseph D. Davis, 1879. The officers for 1880 were: Chief burgess, Joseph D. Davis; councilmen-Thomas, Bracey, Thomas D. Davis, Michael Cook, Louis Blass and Robert Green; town clerk, J.H. Prichard.

A lock-up and council room was built in 1872, at a cost of about $1,600. At a special election held at the house of Louis Blass, August 9th, 1879, the question of raising a loan and erecting water works was submitted to the popular vote, and decided in the affirmative; and the council took steps toward securing a suitable water supply.

MILITARY

Girardville Light Infantry, Company I 7th Regiment N.G. Pa., was organized July 24th, 1872, and mustered in for five years' service. Its officers were: Captain, P.H. Monaghan; first lieutenant, P.H. Dolan; second lieutenant, W.P. King. There were fifty-seven men.

The company was called out during the labor riots of 1875, June 3d, and at Shenandoah relieved Captain Linden's police force, who had been on duty sixty consecutive hours. The company was stationed at that point until itself relieved, fifteen days later, by the 8th regiment, under Colonel Gobin.

During the Centennial exhibition, in 1876, the company was quartered at the Atlas House in Philadelphia for ten days; and on the 22nd day of July, 1877, when within two days of the expiration of their term of enlistment, they were called to Harrisburg to assist in quelling the railroad riots. They responded promptly with full ranks, and were highly complimented by General Latta, the commander in chief. While there they re-enlisted in a body, and were sent to Pittsburgh, and relieved on the 4th of August. The company also attended General George G. Meade Encampment at Fairmount Park in August, 1880.

The officers for 1880 were: Captain, P.H. Dolan, who was promoted to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Captain Monaghan to be major of the 7th regiment; first lieutenant, James Bone; second lieutenant, John Fell. The company meets for drill at the armory, on Richard and Railroad streets, every Tuesday evening; and for business the fourth Tuesday of each month.

The Girardville Greys were organized July 21st, 1876. The first officers were: Captain, T.F. Hoffman; first lieutenant, George Nattrass; second lieutenant, Henry Davis, who still retained that rank in 1880. The company musters sixty rank and file. During the riots of 1877 they were stationed at Pittsburgh and Rocktown until the end of the riots. They attended Meade Encampment in 1880.

GIRARDVILLE MAMMOTH SAVING FUND ASSOCIATION

This institution was chartered in May, 1873. Among its founders were Louis Blass, Joseph M. Glick, Henry Haas, Dennis Kirke; secretary, P.J. Birmingham; treasurer, Henry Haas.

At the close of the fiscal year ending April, 1880, the net assets were $61,047.94. The officers for 1880 were: President, C. Eberley; secretary, P.J. Birmingham; treasurer, Joseph M. Glick.

SECRET SOCIETIES OF GIRARDSVILLE

Washington Camp Patriotic Order of Sons of America was instituted December 27th, 1869. The charter officers:


Aqua Lodge, No 736, I.O. of O.F. was instituted on the 7th of November, 1870. The following persons were installed as the first officers of the lodge: Thomas Sanger, N.G.; John Wedemare, V.G.; H.B. Johnson, R.S.; Daniel Billman, assistant recording-secretary; J.F. Price, treasurer; trustees, George Tiverton, Louis Blass, and J.M. Glick.

The lodge is in a flourishing condition, and numbers one hundred and three members. Two members of this lodge, Thomas Sanger and Thomas Gwyther, were murdered by Mollie Maguires. Its meetings are held at the lodge rooms in Haas Hall, Parker street, on Tuesday evening of each week.

The officers in the last term of 1880 were: Adam Sala, N.G.; William J. Yeo, V.G.; H.B. Johnson, R.S.; Nicholas Blass, assistant secretary; Christopher Eberley, treasurer; E.C. Wagner, Louis Blass and William Clark, trustees.

The lodge owns a cemetery lot of several acres just outside of the borough limits, where its members and their families are entitled to interment. Upon the death of a member $60 is allowed for burial expenses, and half that amount on the decease of a member's wife. The assets of the lodge amount to $2,400.

Jennings Post, 121, G.A.R. was instituted in 1879, with John M. Jenkins as post commander, Louis Biltz adjutant, and J.M. Glick quarter-master. The last two still serve. It meets on Thursday evening of each week at Haas Hall, and it was composed in 1880 of thirty-eight members, with William G. Gwyther as post commander.

Girardsville Division, No. 35, Sons of Temperance was instituted April 12th, 1879. Its first officers were: W.P., W.P. Daniel; W.A., Miss M.M. Kluse; R.S., T.L. Evans; A.R.S., Dr. A. Burt; F.S., E.D. Gregory; treasurer, William Stein. The following persons have filled the office of W.P.: W.P. Daniel, two terms; B.S. Evans, John Kerby and O.G. Johnson.

The officers for the last term of 1880 were: W.P., O.G. Johnson; W.A., Miss E. Smith; R.S., T.L. Evans; A.R.S., W.P. Daniel; treasurer, L. Stephens; F.S., B.S. Evans.

CHURCHES OF GIRARDVILLE

M.E. Church.-As is not unfrequently the case, a Sunday-school was the nursery of the Protestant churches of this borough. One was organized in 1862, with D.T. Hendricks as its superintendent. Its meetings were in what was known as "the White school-house." The people who gathered there occasionally addressed by clergymen of the Primitive and Episcopal Methodist denominations, until the year 1864; at which date the members of the congregation most favorable to the Primitive creed organized and built a church for themselves. Rev. Robert Weightman, a local preacher of great zeal, was perhaps the most prominent of the missionary preachers to this flock. The preachers of the Baltimore Conference continued to labor here until 1867, when Hon. Jay Cooke, then a member of the Preston Coal Company, built a church edifice for the use of the employes of that company, and succeeded in securing the services of Rev. D.D. Hudson as a missionary.

During the following year a change in conference boundaries placed the church in the territory of the Philadelphia Conference. Mr. Hudson remained pastor until 1870, when he was succeeded by Rev. Andrew Cather, who was followed during the ensuing year by Rev. J. Brickerton. Under the pastorate of the last named gentleman the trustees obtained a charter from the county court and Mr. Cooke completed his favors to the church by dedicating the building which he had erected, deeding it to the "M.E. Church of the United States of America."

1872 David McKee was appointed to the charge; in 1873, Eli Pickersgill; 1874, and 1875, D.M. Gordon; 1876, D.H. Shields; 1877, A.L. Urban; 1878 and 1879, Josiah Bawden; and in 1880 George A. Wolfe, the present pastor.

In 1874 a new building, farther up town, was commenced, which was completed and dedicated in 1877.

The society now numbers about one hundred members, with a Sunday-school of two hundred scholars. Elijah Gregory is the superintendent.

Primitive Methodist Church.-The preliminary meeting for the purpose of organizing this church was held at the residence of Edward T. Davis, on the 3d of May, 1864. There were present Joseph Wells, James Stonier, Thomas B. Marsh, Josiah Bougey, George Strong, William G. Gwyther, Edward T. Davis and D. Wastenholm. A board of trustees was elected, and steps were immediately taken toward the erection of a new building, the corner stone of which was laid with the usual ceremonies August 7th, 1864. Revs. Charles Spurr, George Parker and George Bell officiating. This building, a framed structure, 35 by 45 feet, situated on the north-east corner of Parker and Richard streets, was dedicated November 19th, 1865; Rev. J.K. Helmbold and Dr. F. Cowen taking charge of the exercises. The cost of the new church was $3,000. Here the congregation worshiped until February 2nd, 1872, when the house was destroyed by an accidental fire. A new building, of brick, 40 by 60 feet, was immediately commenced on the old site, and finished during the following year, at a cost of $8,000. It was dedicated October 19th, 1873, by Rev. T. Penrose, of England, and W.D. Thomas, of Mahanoy City. During its first years the church was served by the pastors of other stations; the first resident minister, Rev. Richard
Povey, entering on his duties July 3d, 1866. The following list comprises the pastors here since Mr. Povey's removal, with the date at which each assumed the pastorate: Richard Turner, July, 1869; Joseph Bickerton, July, 1870; W.B. Bache, July, 1871; Thomas Bache, January 1872; Joseph W. Reed, July, 1872; W.B. Bache, April, 1874; H.G. Russell, April, 1875; George Parker, November 1876; Samuel Evans, April, 1879; Thomas Bateman, April, 1880. The last named is the present pastor.

A convenient parsonage was built in 1875, at a cost of $1,500. The Sunday-school was organized May 14th, 1865, with Edward T. Davis as its superintendent. A juvenile department has since been added. The total attendance in 1880 was 180, besides teachers and officers.

**Baptist**. This organization was the outgrowth of a Sunday-school, which held its first meeting in the primary school building, July 12th, 1875. It numbered eleven teachers and thirty-six scholars, and consisted of members of Baptist families. The principal workers of the school were William Waters and George Howells, of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, and Jonathan Harvey. Rev. William Warlow, then pastor of the church at St. Clair, made this field a mission branch of his church during that year. On the 9th of March, 1876, a council met, composed of members of adjacent churches; and William Waters and wife, Mary Blass, Lizzie Lewis, George Howells, Jonathan Harvey and wife, Daniel Morris and Thomas Richards, presenting letters from neighboring churches, together with David Evans and wife, of Ashland; Rev. W. Warlow, of the English church at St. Clair; Eliza Phillips, of the Welsh church at the same place, and Jane Frick and Elizabeth Purcell, who were received by baptism, were recognized as the Baptist church of Girardville. At the request of the new church the council recognized Rev. W. Warlow as its pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. M. Brown, at the expiration of whose term of service the General Association of Pennsylvania sent Rev. Samuel Goodshall to preach for this church, and also to supply mission stations at Shenandoah and Frackville.

The present pastor is Rev. D.T. Davis, who accepted the charge in December, 1878. He is a native of England, and a graduate of two English colleges.

Services were held in the school-house until December 25th, 1880, when the congregation took possession of a church edifice, which was then formally dedicated. The new building occupies a lot on A street near the Lehigh Valley Railroad depot, 60 feet wide by 100 deep, which was the gift of the Girard estate. The edifice is a wooden structure 34 by 48 feet, built by Price & Hall at a cost of $22,000. The furnishing and a cabinet organ cost $400 more, and the entire expense was provided for on the day of dedication. The present membership is sixty-two, with William Waters, George Howells, Jonathan Harvey and John Evans as deacons. The Sunday-school, under the care of Deacon George Howells, has an average attendance of one hundred.

**St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church** was organized on the 10th of August, 1870. Its first pastor was Rev. Joseph Bridgman. For two years the congregation worshiped in a temporary chapel, erected on a lot in the rear of the present building. The corner stone of the new church was laid October 21st, 1872. The building was completed in 1876, and, on account of failure to pay the contractor, was advertised for sale by the sheriff on a mechanic's lien, and was bid in by the contractor for $12,000. Meantime Rev. Daniel O'Connor was appointed pastor in January, 1877, and, finding the church in a dangerous state, refused to pay the amount claimed as due on it. Thus the building passed out of the hands of the church, and it is believed this is the only instance in this country of a Catholic church building having been alienated from the congregation by sheriff's sale. The building remained in the hands of the contractor until May, 1879, when it was purchased by the congregation for $6,700. Father O'Connor commenced at once to make the building safe, and it was consecrated by Archbishop Wood on the 19th of October, 1879, in the presence of a crowd of fully 15,000 people—one of the largest gatherings ever held in the county—Catholic societies being present from nearly every town in the county, and making it an event long to be remembered by the friends of St. Joseph's parish.

The building is of wood, on a cut-stone basement. It is located on the northwest corner of Richard and Parker streets. On an adjoining lot is the priest's house, a handsome Frenchroofed structure.

St. Joseph's Total Abstinence Society, connected with the church, has a membership of two hundred, and there is also a sodality of one hundred and twenty young men, and a Sunday-school of four hundred members.
CASS TOWNSHIP

This township is located a little west of the center of Schuylkill county geographically, and is bound by Butler, New Castle, Norwegian, Minersville, Branch, Reilly and Foster. It was formed from Branch, in 1848. In 1855 a portion was set off to form part of Foster, and in 1857 another portion was included in Reilly, then formed. The number of taxable inhabitants in the territory now comprised in Branch, Cass and part of Reilly townships was in 1842, 1,058. The number of taxable inhabitants in Cass in 1849, as then bounded, was 799. The population of Cass in 1880 was 3,061. The township is divided into two election precincts, known respectively as North and South Cass. The surface of the township is rough and uneven, Sharp and Broad mountains encroaching much on its territory, and much of it is yet unredeemed from the forest.

EARLY SETTLEMENT-OLD MILLS

Many years elapsed between the date of the first settlement within the present limits of Cass and a time when the township had more than a very meagre and very scattering population. Mr. Alspach, who located on the top of Primrose hill, between Minersville and Forestville, is stated to have been the first settler in the township. Mr. Crouse built the primitive cabin, half a mile south of Alspach's clearing. The date of their coming is uncertain, but it is supposed to have been an early one. In 1830, when coal operations began to attract business men to the southern part of the present township, the only residents between Forestville and Minersville were Abraham Hoch, a quarter of a mile north of Primrose; Peter Yokam, at Primrose, and Jacob Kantner, on the old Crouse farm. At Forestville were an old house and an old mill, both of which had been long abandoned. The oldest present residents in the locality cannot state when or by whom they were built, or how long they had been idle. It is probable that the mill played its part in the earliest improvements in that section, and went into disuse in consequence of the later sparse population and consequent small demand for lumber. Prior to 1840 this establishment often received unimportant repairs at the hands of the few residents, and any man who wished to manufacture a little lumber used it at will. About 1840 it was repaired and partially rebuilt by Robert Patton, who used it five or six years. It was subsequently torn down. There were also early settlers in Heckscher's valley, but patient inquiry of the oldest present residents of the township has failed to elicit any information concerning them. It is not known that any of the descendants of any of them are living in the township. As farming began to give place to mining, a half century ago, the land passed into the possession of new comers, and the original owners went to other sections. At Coal Castle there was, when coal mining began, an old saw-mill which was used to some extent afterward, and later repaired and run by Lewis C. Dougherty. Residents there about 1830 were Michael Sands, Abraham Steeper and Frank and James Daniels. There was at Heckscherville another old mill, which was repaired by George and William Payne, and operated for some time in manufacturing lumber used in improvements about their collieries. It was long since torn down.

INDIAN OCCUPANCY-PIONEER LIFE

In the southern portion of the township when the land began to be cultivated, farmers found from time to time arrow heads, spear heads, stone hatchers and other relics of the aboriginal occupants of the soil, and though it does not appear that they any considerable Indian village was ever located within the present township limits, there is proof that the savages at least frequented the section; but historical incidents connected with the Indian period are not as plenty in the history of the northern portion of the county as in that of the southern townships.

Very few of the old houses built by the pioneers of the township were standing when the influx of settlers began. One or two of the first domiciles in the southern part are remembered by the oldest residents of the section as primitive in all respects.

The life of the pioneers in Cass was as arduous and as uninviting as it is apt to be anywhere. There were no local conditions to render it more than usually easy and uneventful. The county was rugged and heavily timbered, and until the era of development, was valued somewhat lightly for its productive qualities and its timber, for which the market was early very poor and later none too good. The animals common to the American forests were numerous, and while some of them, with the fish that abounded in the streams, afforded easy subsistence to the pioneers, other, notably the bear and the wolf, often made their presence disagreeably manifest.

It is said that so frequent were the incursions of the bear and wolf on the scattered pigs styes and sheep folds of the district now including Cass, that the residents for miles around were necessitated to combine in
periodical hunts, which served the double purpose of rid ing the neighborhood of the pests in a measure, and securing rewards offered for their extermination. Tradition has it that the excitement of one of these early hunts centered in Wolf valley, and that a num ber of animals were slain there, and on the environing hillsides; but in account of the long time which has elapsed since, and the scarcity of definite information concerning the pioneer period of the history of the township, no authentic in detail can be given of the affair.

**COAL OPERATIONS**

The energies of the former residents of the township were principally directed to the work of clearing and cultivating the land. Of this industrial period the old saw-mills and a few scattering farms were the landmarks when coal development brought people in comparatively large numbers to the hitherto thinly populated section.

The early residents had made openings here and there, and taken out small quantities of coal from time to time for their own use or to supply such meagre demand as was then afforded.

The first opening made for regular and systematic mining in Cass township was made on the Black Heath vein, about 1831. It was a tunnel, driven for Isaac Stauffer by Abraham Hoch. The colliery was soon leased by John Womer, who worked it two or three years, hauling its production over the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad to Schuylkill Haven. Messrs. Heilner & Bast were the next operators there, and at other new openings until 1853. Later A. M. Wood operated there for the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. The Black Valley slope, which had been put down by M. Heilner, was operated by Thomas Schollenburger until 1854 or 1855. The Diamond Coal Company were the next operators. Since 1871 the colliery has been idle.

In 1831 or 1832 Jacob Serrill excavated a tunnel which became known as the Black Heath tunnel, about a quarter of a mile up the creek from the Black Valley slope. Dr. Steinberg was the next operator there. He was succeeded by Jacob Serrill, who in turn gave place to Mr. Heilner, who operated the colliery from 1842 to 1852. Richard Heckscher & Co. were his successors. They erected a breaker on the top of the mountain, to which the coal was carried from the mine over a "selfacting plane." The New York and Schuylkill Coal Company operated the colliery from 1865 to 1868, when it was abandoned. At a later date the breaker was burned.

Wann & Reese Davis made a drift to the Big Whiteash vein about 1842. In 1843 the colliery was sold to Gideon Bast, who put down a slope, greatly enlarging the producing capacity of the colliery. Here was soon erected the first successful breaker ever in use in the county, two unsuccessful attempts having previously been made at the mines of Charles Potts, with less effective machinery. Mr. Bast operated here until about 1850, when he sold the colliery to L. Audenreid, who worked it until 1869, when he abandoned it. The second breaker in the county was also erected in Cass, in 1844-45, at the colliery on the Kantner vein, previously mentioned. The above were the principal mining operations on Wolf creek. A number of small enterprises were carried on from time to time. On the Primrose vein Richard Reckert made an opening, which was afterward worked by the Cornish Company during many years. They were succeeded by Prior & Jenkins. Henry Harper was the next operator. He put down a slope and built a breaker previous to 1850. The colliery has been long abandoned.

At Forestville the Diamond colliery was opened, about 1840, by William Hoch, who sold out to Johannan Cockill before he had shipped any coal. Cockill worked it five years, and it was then abandoned. Goodman Dolbin put down a slope in 1863 or 1864, and operated till 1869, when he sold out to John Wadlinger. A man named Whittaker began operating in 1873, and continued until the breaker burned in 1875 or 1876. Between 1845 and 1850 there were a number of small workings in the outcroppings by Dolbin & Rodgers, Robert Patton & Thomas Lloyd, and William Britton & Bristin.

The Forestville colliery was opened in 1841, by Salathiel Harris, who worked the Black Heath vein, by means of drifts above water level, until 1844, producing about a hundred tons daily. In 1844 Thomas Petherick took charge of the colliery as agent for the Forest Improvement Company. He continued to ship the coal as it came from the mine until 1848, when he built a breaker with a capacity of 100 tons daily. In 1852 Richard Heckscher & Co. began to work the colliery, and in 1857 they erected the present breaker, which has a capacity of 300 tons per day. The slope was sunk in 1854 a distance of 130 yards, to the Black Heath vein, working 1,400 yards east and 600 yards west. In 1859 it became necessary to sink 150 yards, working the same vein 1,400 yards east and 250 yards, working the same vein 1,400 yards east and 250 yards west, the average thickness being 6 feet.

In 1866 the New York and Schuylkill Coal Company was formed, and operated the colliery until 1868, when it passed into the possession of the Manhattan Coal Company, and was leased to Daniel Hoch & Co., who operated it until 1878, giving employment to 280 men and boys. The machinery of this colliery is propelled by 5 engines with a capacity of 160 horse power. Ventilation is produced by a 16-feet fan.
At Coal Castle Michael Sando put down a drift to the Mammoth vein, about 1832, and mined coal on a small scale about ten years. Lewis C. Dougherty put down a drift on the Daniels vein about 1833, and for some years mined about 20,000 tons per annum. His successor was John McGinness, who had seven years of equally large business, until, about forty years ago, the mine took fire at a later date McGinness put down a slope which opened upon the same vein below the fire, and worked it for a time. Salathiel Harris also operated at Coal Castle.

At Heckscherville William and George Payne opened on the Mammoth, Jugular and Church veins by drift and tunnel. They were soon succeeded by the Forest Improvement Company, who operated there fifteen or twenty years, sinking slopes, putting in heavy machinery and doing a successful business. The land was sold to the Manhattan Coal Company, and by that corporation to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

The Thomaston colliery was opened in 1858 by Heckscher & Co., and operated by them until 1866. The first breaker was built the year the shaft was sunk, and had a capacity of three hundred tons per day. The shaft was 90 yards deep, the Diamond, Crosby, and New veins. From 1866 to 1873 this colliery was worked by the Manhattan Coal Company. In 1870 the present workings were begun, the old ones having been exhausted. The breaker was built by the Forest Improvement Company. The first coal was shipped from the new colliery in 1872, when the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company purchased the property, which they have since operated. The total capacity of the breaker is 500 tons per day; the average production 400 tons. The machinery of the colliery is propelled by seven engines, the total horse power of which is nine hundred and thirty; 225 men and boys are employed outside, and 135 inside. In 1876, 65,996 tons of coal were produced; in 1877, 81,543; in 1878, 77,429; in 1879, 123,078.

At Meckesburg, on land owned by George Meckey, he tunnelled to the Mammoth vein, and put a drift down to the Jugular. This colliery has since been leased by General Wynkoop and others, but its production has never been large.

Phoenix Park colliery No. 2 was opened by John C. Offerman in 1839, and a drift was worked above the water level till 1842, when Charles Miller, of Philadelphia, and Daniel Still, of Pottsville, assumed control of the colliery, and operated it until 1865. George Frill operated it until 1866. His successors were Johnson & Dovey, who, in 1869, were succeeded by Z. Byer, and he, a year later, by Daniel Hoch & Co., until 1872, when the colliery passed to the ownership of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. The breaker was built by Miller & Stall, and it has a capacity of 250 tons per day. The average daily shipment has been 185 tons. 108 men and boys are employed inside, and 52 outside. The motive power for the machinery is furnished by 8 steam engines with an aggregate of 225 horse-power. Ventilation is produced by a 15-feet fan. The openings are to the Primrose vein. The first slope extends 160 yards from the surface, at an angle of 30 degrees, working the vein 150 yards east. The second slope is 227 yards from the foot of the first, descending at an angle of 27 degrees. The breaker is located 50 yards from the top of the slope. The average thickness of the coal is 11 feet. The colliery produced 25,956 tons of coal in 1878, and 13,612 in 1879.

Phoenix Park colliery No. 3 has been owned by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company for some years, and operated by it since 1877. It was opened, and the breaker built, in 1873 by Lloyd & Glover, and worked by them till 1875, when Mr. Lloyd became the sole operator. He was succeeded by the corporation mentioned. The first coal was shipped from this colliery in 1874. The depth of the first slope was 187 yards, on an angle of 26 degrees, working Big Diamond vein 1,004 yards east and 1,080 yards west. In 1878 the present slope was finished 120 yards from the easy and 500 yards west. The average thickness of the vein is 6 feet. The number of employes inside is 108; outside 60. Only 5 lives have been lost at this colliery since it was opened. The capacity of the breaker is 250 tons per day. The average daily production is 200 tons. The colliery has 5 engines, with a total of 125 horse power; 22,557 tons were produced in 1876; 22,427 in 1877; 11,018 in 1878; 10,305 in 1879.

Educational

Primrose school-house, still in use, was erected previous to the formation of Cass township. In early times abandoned company houses and engine purposes and they continued in use till the present stone structures were built. The first school house was erected at Heckscherville. It has since been enlarged, and it now accommodates 150 pupils.

The first board of directors consisted of Andrew Patton, William Cook (still living) John Kennedy, Robert Patton, Peter Fitzpatrick and John Delaney. The first meeting of the board were held at the house of Abraham Hoch. They have since met at various places. Their present place of meeting is McDonald's Hotel, Heckscherville.

During many years the average school terms amounted to ten months in the year, and the monthly salary of teachers was $28. In 1855 it came to be $35; in 1860, $40, and during the war of 1861-65, it rose to the maximum of $60.

James Knowles was the first teacher in the township, teaching at Primrose. A Mr. Thomas taught at Woodside, in a company house; Michael Connolly at Jonestown, in an engine-house; Mr. Holt in Heckscherville, in a building now occupied for religious services. James Perso taught the first lessons in the present Heckscherville school-room. Master McGuire (still living) began his education labors as early as 1850, first teaching in
Woodside and subsequently in nearly every school in this township. Terence Cook, in 1855, taught in the "Old Log Cabin," at Black
Valley, and a Mr. Gressang wielded the birch in the present frame building in that vicinity. The educated but eccentric Mr. Boland was
among the earlier teachers, and it was he who "taught by day and studied the stars by night." The following teachers also taught previous
to 1865; Martin Finley, Michael O'Brien, Mr. Mulhall, Thomas Fogarty, Charles McGee, Michael Goody, William Mealey, Robert Patton,

Among the teachers since 1865 were the Messrs. Clark, Kelly, Butler brothers, Madden, Toole, Brennan, Dormer, Cavanaugh,
Hughes, McAvoy and Brophy. Miss Maggie Kelly was the first female principle employed, and she was quite successful. Messrs. McGuire
and Boland were educated in Dublin, and the former taught in that city twelve years previous to his thirty years experience in this
township; making a total of forty-two years. Mr. Boland was probably the most versatile and profound scholar who ever taught in town.

Library societies sprang up in Forestville and Jonestown, and semi-monthly township institutes were held from 1856 to 1870.
The financial management of the school system of the township has not been satisfactory. A large debt exists, and "school orders"
have been sold at a discount of from 10 to 30 per cent. Efforts are being made to reduce or extinguish the debt.

There are twelve school-rooms in the district and twelve principals are employed; supervised by a township superintendent. The
number of children of school age is 1,250; but the average attendance is only 650. The cost of teaching the school is about 98 cents per
pupil.

By reason of the good attainments and training of the teachers the school system of Cass is leading the rising generation in the
direction of good citizenship and cultivated manhood.

VILLAGES

The mining operations in various portions of Cass township have caused the growth of settlements and villages, which have
become known as Meckesburg, Heckscherville, Coal Castle, Forestville, Woodside, Jonestown, Thomaston, Sheafers Hill, Mine Hill
Gap and Delaware Village. All of these settlements and villages have been small, comparatively speaking, and none of them are now as
well populated as they once were. The most important of the above-named points are Forestville and Heckscherville. Both of these
villages were built up under the auspices of the Forest Improvement Company. This corporation opened stores and carried on a general
business in the township for a number of years. Later a store was kept open at Forestville by the New York and Schuylkill Coal Company
till 1868. Goodman Dolbin had a store there for a few years subsequent to 1845 or 1846. Joseph Patton was a merchant there from 1873 to
1876. John Dolbin, John Reilly and James O'Donnell are the present merchants. J. O'Donnell and Thomas Conner are the present merchants
at Heckscherville.

CHURCH HISTORY

The Methodist Church of Heckscherville was built in 1853, by subscription, William Payne having been the principal contributor. Among the early members of the organization were William Payne, George Brown, Josiah Jenkins and Abraham Ayers. The first preacher was Rev. Mr. Banks. There have been no regular meetings held since 1873 and there are few Methodists now living in the neighborhood.

St. Keiran's Catholic Church, located at Heckscherville, was erected in 1858, 1859 and 1861, and officiated until his death, in
1875. His successor, Rev. Matthew O'Brien, came in 1875, and remained until 1877. Rev. Martin Welsh was pastor from 1877 to 1879,
and was succeeded by the present incumbent, Rev. P. McSwiggan. The attendance upon the services is large. The value of the church
property is about $20,000.

St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Church at Forestville is a stone building which will seat about 150 persons. The corner
stone was laid in 1856, and the building was completed in 1857. The bell was hung in 1858. Charles A. Hecksher and family were the
special patrons of the chapel. About 1870 and 1871 Mrs. Arthur B. De Sauls, daughter of Charles A. Hecksher (still interested in church
work there), thoroughly renovated the building; refurnishing it very tastefully with new carpets, new chancel furniture, new books for the
chancel. A large window of stained glass, a memorial to her father, was among the improvements. The chapel was consecrated by Bishop
William Bacon Stevens. It has always been associated with St. Paul's Church, Minersville, and has depended upon its rectors for services.
There have been a number of interruptions to church services, but the Sunday-school has been maintained without interruption from the
beginning, first under the superintendency of Edward Noble, and for the last eleven years under that of James Nesbit. Rev. Harrison
Byllesby was rector at the time of the building of the chapel. The present (1881) rector is Edward J. Koons, of Pottsville.
EAST BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP

East Brunswick is a farming and manufacturing township, located in the southeast part of the county. It is bounded on the north by Walker, on the east by West Penn and on the west by West Brunswick. Its southern border is the southern limit of Schuylkill county. The surface of the township is uneven and it is watered by the Little Schuylkill river and some small tributary streams, the chief of which is Koenig's creek. The township was formed from Brunswick in 1834.

Though the Indian had no village or trading point in East Brunswick, and never committed any massacres within the borders of the present township, the early settlers were often greatly annoyed by straggling savages, who came from a settlement on the Susquehanna river. A pioneer named Sherman once shot an Indian on the bank of the Little Schuylkill, near where New Ringgold now is. He was buried near the scene of his death.

Daniel, Jacob and Frederick Bensinger, Ulrich Heiser, Daniel Swebb, Daniel Koenig, Christopher Boyer, George Buchert, John Bolick, Abraham Seltzer, Christian Koch, Bernhard Kepner, Andrew Benkes, and John Kenear were the first settlers in the township. The Bensingers, Philip Schwartz and John Kenear erected the first log cabins. The first brick house in the township was built by Daniel Kerschner.

The first mail was carried on horseback from Orwigsburg through East Brunswick township to Lehighton, once a week each way. The only postmaster in the township for some years was John Yost, son of Judge Yost. There are now three post-offices in the township, two of which received a daily mail.

The Catawissa road was the first laid out through East Brunswick. It extended from a point about two miles above Port Clinton, via McKeansburg, Tuscarora and Mahanoy City, and thence via the Catawissa valley to the Susquehanna, and was the outlet by which the lumber of all the valleys through which it passed was taken to market. At that time lumbering and hunting contributed largely to the support of the residents of East Brunswick. Deer and small game were plenty.

An early and well remembered tavern in East Brunswick was that of Mr. Kepner, on the Catawissa road, a mile north of McKeansburg. Mr. Kepner died about sixty years ago at an advanced age. There are now four public houses in the township besides the two at New Ringgold.

Andrew Burkes, Bernhard Kepner, Philip Swartz, Henry Lutz and Frederick Bensinger, from the territory now comprised in East Brunswick, served in the war for independence. Daniel Yost, Issac Moser, George Speas, Jacob Heisler and Jacob Waltz were participants in the last war with Great Britain. The first soldier from East Brunswick in the late war was Jacob Dreibelbeis, who went to Potts ville and enlisted.

SCHOOLS EARLY TEACHERS AND PHYSICIANS

In 1835 the first attempt was made in East and West Brunswick to adopt the common school system, by creating an independent school district out of a portion of East Brunswick and calling it McKeansburg. The first attempt to elect directors friendly to the system failed on account of its opponents being largely in the majority; but at the annual election the wisdom of the school men was aptly illustrated by their action to secure by stratagem what they had previously lost by being in the minority. The prevailing idea among many was that the existing schools, which were simply what are now termed "pay schools," -a misnomer-and the new system, which they called "free schools," was a different thing. The anti-school men being thus confounded by the terms "common" and "free," the advocates took advantage of their ignorance by inveigling a well known citizen who was strongly opposed to the system into writing the ballots for the opposing voters, a majority of whom could not write. Thus this man, by writing the ballots "common schools," undesignedly secured, by only one dissenting vote, the introduction of the system, which otherwise might have been delayed for a considerable time. In 1849 two independent districts were formed. They were called South Brunswick and Center districts. Other sections were formed into independent school districts as soon as a majority of voters favored the measure.

The first school-house in the township, in which the scholars were taught in English, was erected at McKeansburg. One of the most noted teachers there was Joseph Silver, who was teaching there about 1828. Charles Focht, of McKeansburg, was one of his pupils. Mr. Silver afterwards became a correspondent of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, and now resides in California. There are now nine public schools in the township.

The first resident physician was Dr. Daniel Foltz, who resided at McKeansburg. He died about 1830. His successor was Dr. Jacob F. Treichler, who lived
until about two years ago. He was succeeded by Dr. Stopp.

GRIST-MILLS--MANUFACTURES

The first grist-mill built on the Little Schuylkill and so far as is known, in the township, was erected about a mile below New Ringgold, many years since. About 1820 or 1825 Daniel Weaver bought it, and ran it many years successfully. In dry seasons farmers came many miles to Weaver's mill. There are three others smallgrist-mills in the township, on small streams, erected before the recollection of any living man.

In 1812 Daniel Focht and Daniel Graeff built a forge on the Little Schuylkill for the manufacture of hammered bar iron, refined with charcoal, and shaped by hammer driven by water power. A good quality of iron was made, but the process was slow. This business was carried on by Daniel Focht about twenty-five years. In 1867 Francis W. Hughes, Gideon Bast, and Abraham Focht erected a large forge at the same place for the manufacture of blooms direct from the ore, under a patent granted to James Jameson. The process did not give complete satisfaction, and a few years later the forge was converted into a steel factory. This establishment was operated for several years at intervals, but is now idle. It is now the property of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

In 1829 Messrs. Mayers & Frego erected a charcoal forge on the Little Schuylkill. It was named the Susannah forge, in honor of Mrs. Mayer. The manufacture of hammer bar iron was carried on successfully by this firm for two years. In 1839 the property was sold to Messrs. Klein & Jones, who made bar iron and blooms for some years, when Daniel Bertollett purchased an interest in the works and converted the forge into a rolling-mill. In 1845 John Rausch bought the establishment, and continued the business till 1850, when the dam and several houses were swept away by the well remembered freshet of that year. The establishment was never repaired.

In 1830 Jones & Keim purchased a large tract of land in East Brunswick, on the line of the Little Schuylkill Railroad, and built a large charcoal forge on the Little Schuylkill river at Hecla, where they manufactured hammered charcoal iron till the works were damaged by the freshet above referred to. They have never since been put in order, and have gone to decay. In 1851 Matthias Richards, of Reading, purchased the property for its timber, of which there were 2,4000 acres. Lewis Audenreid built a small charcoal forge for the manufacture of bar iron, on Cold Run, about a mile above Hecla. This establishment was known as Mount Vernon forge. Business was carried on there many years, but the forge has for some time been in a dilapidated and useless condition. William Audenreid erected a tannery near McKeansburg about 1830. It was operated successively by him, by Mr. Ertz and Mr. VanRead from Berks county and by Benjamin Matz. It long since went to decay.

VILLAGES

McKeansburg was for many years the most prominent village in the section, and named in honor of Governor McKean of Pennsylvania. The land there was originally owned by Solomon Whitstone, Baltzer Bock and others. The village was laid out in lots in 1803. Under the influence of the early business enterprises in that section of the county, and aided by its location on the Catawissa road, it attained to fair size and importance. It was a market for much of the lumber from Schuylkill, Rush, Mahanoy and the Catawissa valley, which was hauled by teams to McKeansburg, and thence rafted down the river to Reading, Pottstown and Philadelphia. When the village was at its best it contained three taverns and three stores, all of which did a thriving business. There was little manufacturing interest developed there. The village now contains two stores and two taverns, doing a small business. The elections of the township have always been held at McKeansburg. Lewis Audenried, later so prominently identified with the coal interests, was at one time a resident and a business man of McKeansburg. The present population of the village does not exceed 150.

Hecla was surveyed into lots, about 1851, by Matthias Richards. It contains twelve dwellings and one tavern. The population is about 60.

Drehersville and Rausch's Station are railway stations merely, and are not entitled to the name of villages. At Drehersville there is a post-office for the convenience of the residents of the southwestern part of the township and southeastern West Brunswick.

CHURCH HISTORY

The first log church in East Brunswick township, one mile from McKeansburg, and half a mile from New Ringgold, was built over one hundred years ago, as a union church, by the Lutheran and Dutch Reformed congregations. The congregation consisted of the first settlers. Rev. Mr. Shaffer was one of the preachers. In 1828 the congregation having increased, a new church, also a log structure, was built. It was called Freiden's Church, and the Rev. Mr. Zulich, uncle of Thomas Zulich, superintendent of the Schuylkill Canal, preached in that church and the new one built in 1875, about fifty years. In 1875 it became necessary to build a new church, as the old one gave signs of falling down, and the same congregations built a two-story church, the basement of stone, the second story frame, which, like its predecessors, is called Freiden's or (in English) Peacock Church.

In 1828 the Lutheran and Dutch Reformed congregations in McKeansburg built a log church, which is still in pretty good condition. Revs. Erb and Leise preach for the congregation.

The first Sabbath-school in the township was started as a union Sunday-school in 1853, in a school-house now belonging to the borough of New Ringgold. There are now three Sunday-schools in the borough and one in New Ringgold.
NEW RINGGOLD BOROUGH

New Ringgold was named in honor of Major Ringgold, the first officer who fell in the Mexican war. The town plat comprised 503 acres, originally owned by Daniel Focht. Later it was owned by Messrs. E. & E. Hammer, Jacob Huntzinger, and Henry Koch. In 1863 it became the property of Hon. F.W. Hughes, who, in 1867, had the entire tract resurveyed, streets laid out, and an entire town plat made.

February 22nd, 1877, a petition for the incorporation of the village as a borough was presented to the court. The decree for the incorporation was granted September 24th, 1877, and the court appointed H.B. Koch to give notice of a special election to be held at the public house of Joseph Marburger, October 20th, 1877, for the purpose of electing officers to serve until the first Monday in the following April.

The result of the election was as follows: Paul Bock, chief burgess; Joseph Marburger, John F. Ruser, B.F. Sollday, Daniel Becker, Jonas D. Frederics, and Henry Reed, town council; Daniel Leiser, W.H. Miller, Frank Weiss, Joel Marshall, Aaron Focht, and Frank Moyer, school directors; H.B. Koch, constable; J. Lyn, judge of election; Benjamin Yost, inspector of election, and D.A. Foltz, assessor. The first meeting of the borough council was held in the parlor of the Union Hotel, October 23rd, 1877. B.F. Sollday was president; John F. Ruser, first secretary of the council.

The first public house in New Ringgold was kept by Charles Focht, in a small frame building erected at a comparatively early date, and now occupied by David Becker. It was regarded as a great convenience by the teamsters hauling coal over the Little Schuylkill Railroad by horse power. It was known among that class of patrons as the "Half Way House." In 1848 Jacob H. Lutz and Philip Moyer built the first two houses, and in 1849 Charles Focht and Israel Stamm built two more, one of which is Mr. Focht's present residence. During the last-mentioned year George Dreibelbeis erected at large stone hotel, of which he was proprietor twenty-one years. After its completion the "Half Way House" was abandoned.

BUSINESS HISTORY

In 1850 Daniel & Abraham Long erected a tannery and a large dwelling house connected therewith. For some years they did a good business, which grew unprofitable at last, and was abandoned. Up to the date mentioned the land about New Ringgold had not been cleared. The principal business had been furnishing the railroad company with cord-wood, railway ties and lumber. The post-office was established in 1851, with Abraham Focht as postmaster. There was little progress during the following decade. In 1862 John F. Ruser, then and since agent at New Ringgold for the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, began to sell railroad tickets there. In 1867 Messrs. Gideon Bast, F.W. Hughes and Abraham Focht began the erection of the forge, mentioned in the history of East Brunswick township, for the purpose of making blooms direct from the ore by the unsatisfactory Jameson process. Except during the subsequent brief career of this establishment as a steel mill, manufacturing enterprise at New Ringgold was dormant until 1872, when Messrs. E.S. Sillyman, Jacob Huntzinger and Emanuel Bast, under the title of the Ringgold Iron and Coal Company, began the erection of a blast furnace, which was completed and blown in during September, 1874. It continued in blast nearly three years. July 14th, 1879, the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, purchased the property, and on the 13th of the following October David Longnecker, as lessee, took possession. He started the blast November 4th following, but the furnace became idle again at the end of seven months. December 17th, 1880, Messrs. W.M. Kauffman & Co. became the lessees. The furnace in now (January, 1881) undergoing extensive repairs, and when completed, will be one of the most efficient in the region.

SOCIETIES

Camp 100 Patriotic Order Junior Sons of America was instituted in America Hall August 24th, 1868. The charter members were William F. Long, John F. Ruser, W.H. Gerhart, H.E. Arms, M.P. Bock, David Vetter, Joel Marshall, C.R. Roch, Seth Dennis, N.R. Brobst, D.H. Cook, W.F. Teter and Paul Bock. The first officers were: M.P. Bock, P.P.: W.F. Long, P.: John F. Ruser, V.P.; H.E. Arms, S.; Paul Bock, T.; W.J. Koch, F.S.; A.D. Yost, M. of P. and C.A. May 27th, 1870, the name and title of the order was changed to Patriotic Order Sons of America, and the camp was recharted.
East Brunswick Lodge, No. 802, I.O.O.F. was organized in Union Hall June 14th, 1872, with John E. Eckert as N.G.; John Fecker, V.G.; John F. Ruser, S.; F.H. Hesser, Asst. S.; and Israel Stamm, T.

PRESENT INTERESTS

The principal street in New Ringgold is known as Hughes avenue, in honor of Hon. F.W. Hughes, of Pottsville. The borough has a population of 280. It contains three stores, two hotels, forty dwellings, a black-smith and wheelwright shop, a church edifice and a one-story school-house, and is a station on the Little Schuylkill branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. The church was built in 1858, and it is used by all denominations.
EAST NORWEGIAN TOWNSHIP

East Norwegian township was taken from Norwegian in 1811. The first settlers—Peter Newschwander, John Hughes, Philip Delcamp, John and Conrad Heim, Solomon, Jacob, Peter and George Reep—all located near Mill creek, contemporary with Boechtel at St. Clair. The earlier villages were Conquenac and Mill Creek. These villages are collections of miners’ homes. There was once a grist-mill in operation here. Some years since Martin Dormer was running a brewery here. He now calls it the Atlantic Hotel.

There are four school-houses in the township. The one at Mt. Hope is rented from the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. The sum appropriated for school purposes for 1880 was $2,200.

MINING OPERATIONS

Mining is the absorbing interest in the township. Sillyman & Evans opened a drift on the Mammoth in 1831, at Crow Hollow. Kirk & Baun, from St. Clair, had four drifts open here, using a breaker and shipping 400 tons per day. They were followed in 1864 by Mr. Gross, who ceased operations in 1869.

Pine Forest Shaft.-Thomas Maguire commenced sinking Pine Forest shaft May 5th, 1864, for George Snyder by contract, but abandoned the undertaking on account of trouble from water. Snyder himself then pushed the work forward, hiring workmen by the day, and completing the task in November, 1866. The size of the shaft is 12 by 20 feet. The depth is 362 feet where it reaches the "Seven-feet" vein. The Primrose crops out at the top of the shaft. The Holmes vein is cut 100 feet from the surface and the "Four-feet" at a depth of 270 feet.

A tunnel is driven from the main gangway in the "Seven-feet" thirty feet north, to the Mammoth vein; thence north again 270 feet, cutting the Skidmore, which is found 5 feet thick. This shaft is a continuation of the old Pine Forest colliery. The original firm, Milnes, Haywood & Snyder, first started mining about 1840, by operating some drifts in the south part of the township, on Mill creek, starting this colliery in 1845. In 1872 Snyder sold his interest to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, the present operators and owners of the land and coal. The machinery was all manufactured at Snyder's machine works. The operators are using one 500 horse power Cornish bull pumping engine, working four 20 inch pumps, 10 feet stroke; two double sets of air compressors; four cylinders, aggregating 80 horse power; a double pair of slope engines, 95 horse power each; a breaker and a dirt plane engine, each 30 horse power; and a 25 horse power engine turn-a 15 feet fan. In 1871 they shipped 120,000 tons of coal. In 1880 they were shipping 6,000 tons per month and employing over 200 men and boys. Thomas Maguire, the first inside foreman, died in 1877, when his son, John Maguire, became the foreman. John Morrison has been outside foreman since the shaft was started.

In 1870 work in the colliery was suspended for three months, and the time occupied in taking out the water which had burst in from the old workings. Previous to 1877 there was considerable gas, which trouble is now obviated by a better system of ventilation. There are fifty tenement houses in connection with the colliery, the average rent of which is $300 per month.

PALO ALTO BOROUGH

Up to 1874 the site of Palo Alto was covered with timber, and the undergrowth of laurel was so thick that passage through it was very difficult.

A log house stood near where the bridge crosses the Schuylkill, and a board shanty had been built for a blacksmith's shop in which to sharpen tools for driving a tunnel to the coal veins in Sharp mountain.

The ground which the borough of Palo Alto includes was owned by Benjamin Richards, formerly of Philadelphia, and William H. Warder, also of Philadelphia. The borough extends along the base of Sharp mountain, on the south side of the Schuylkill river, about two miles; and is bounded on the north by the boroughs of Pottsville and Port Carbon. It was laid out by John G. Hewes, in the fall and winter of 1844 and 1845. The portion of the borough that is laid out in streets and lots has a width of about one hundred feet. A strip from the river to a line two hundred feet south from the railroad was reserved for railroad, navigation and manufacturing purposes.

At the time Palo Alto was laid out the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad and the Schuylkill navigation had their northern terminus here. The population of the town increased steadily with the increase of tonnage on the railroad and navigation, till the abandonment of the latter, when many of the boatmen who resided here removed to other points. The population consists almost exclusively of laboring people, miners and employes on the railroad and in the manufactories and shops which have sprung up here.
In 1854-55, William Harris built an extensive rolling-mill here for the manufacture of railroad iron. It stands between the railroad and the river, just above the bridge. Another was built on the opposite side of the railroad in 1863, by Benjamin Haywood, who had become the owners of the first. The two constitute what are known as the Palo Alto Rolling Mill. The manufacture of railroad iron is the exclusive business of this mill. About a mile west from the rolling-mill stand the round-house and repair shops of the Mount Carbon and Port Carbon railroad, now leased by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. Aside from these mills and shops no manufactories or large industries are in existence here.

The borough was incorporated in 1854. The place was named at about the time of the battle of Palo Alto, in Mexico, and an additional reason for giving it the name was the fact that very high timber grew on the mountain above it.

The first officers elected in the borough were: Waters S. Chillson, burgess; Allen Enison, William Bensinger, David Riley, John Griner, William M. Stellwagon and Jacob Lime, councilman; William M. Stellwagon, clerk. The following have since been elected to the office of burgess: John Andreson, 1856; James McIntire, 1859, 1875; Cornelius Haggerty, 1859, 1868; John Carr, 1867; P.D. Barnett, 1870; P.J. McIntire, 1871; John Morrissey, 1872; E.B. Moyer, 1877; James Goldsmith, 1878; Simon Ritzel, 1879; John W. Becker, 1880.

A post-office was established here in 1870, with William Bensinger postmaster. It was discontinued in 1873 and a free delivery from Pottsville established.

The borough has been supplied with water since 1856 by the Pottsville Water Company.

**CHAPEL, SUNDAY SCHOOL AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

There is no church organization in the borough. In 1866 a Methodist Episcopal chapel was erected on Union street, between Savory and Cadberry streets. It is a framed building, 24 by 40, and cost $1,300. The lot was donated from the estate of Benjamin W. Richards. The trustees at the time of its erection were Walters S. Chillson, William M. Stellwagon, Jacob Rudy, William Bensinger and James Oren. Occasional preaching is had in this chapel, which is within the limits of the Part Carbon charge.

A union Sunday-school was organized in Palo Alto about the year 1853, with Charles Dengler superintendent. After the erection under the M.E. denomination, and Waters S. Chillson became superintendent. He was succeeded by James Oren, Mr. Bausman, William M. Stellwagon and H. S. Kirk, the present superintendent. Of these Mr. Stellwagon served twenty-one consecutive years. The present number of scholars is 110. Officers and teachers 15. The library has about 300 volumes.

Previous to the incorporation of the borough a school-house, which built by the township, stood in the extreme eastern part of the town. Soon after it became a borough another was built in the western part of the place. These were stone buildings, with two plainly furnished school rooms in each. In 1878 a new school building was erected near the center of the borough. It is a brick structure 53 by 64, two stories in height, with two school rooms on each floor, furnished in modern improved style. The building is warmed by steam, and supplied with from a spring and reservoir on the mountain side, which are utilized for this purpose. The total cost of the building site, and furniture was $11,000. A graded school is kept in this building, and the two others are used for primary schools. The principal is Bernard O'Hare. The school term is ten months, and the average number of pupils 300.

**PORT CARBON BOROUGH**

The borough of Port Carbon was incorporated in April, 1852. The first borough election was held June 7th, 1852. Ross Bull was chosen burgess; T.H. Wintersteen, John E. Woolsen, Milton Boon, Daniel Knittle, Philip Steinbach, Obadiah Reed, Joseph Snyder, John Illingworth and Jacob Lime councilmen, and Henry Schissler town clerk. Ross Bull has ever since held office of burgess, except in 1856, when Henry Guiterman was chosen.

The borough is supplied with water from the pipes of Pottsville Water Company, by a recent arrangement with that company. Port Carbon has now 5 dry goods and grocery store, 2 groceries, 3 shoe stores, 2 furniture stores, 1 green grocery, 2 milliner shops, 1 gents' furnishing store, 1 hardware store, 1 drug store, 1 tin shop, 2 hotels, 1 boarding house and 6 confectionery shops.

The exact time when the first building were erected within the limits of the present borough of Port Carbon is not known. A sugar camp was there in the spring of 1811. Previous to 1810, and probably about the year 1800, one Stitzel built a saw-mill on Mill creek, in Lawton's addition, and near this mill, on the site of the present residence of Henry Hevenor, a log house with a basement. In 1821 John Pott, the founder of Pottsville, and father of Abraham Pott, built a saw-mill on the Rhodes addition, near where the scales of the Schuylkill Valley Railroad now are. Near this mill a rude log
house — the residence of the sawyer — was erected. This was the second dwelling in the place. In 1826 Abraham Pott, who had purchased from his father 630 acres of land here, erected the third dwelling in the borough; a framed house, still standing on Washington street, Rhodes's Addition, and occupied by Mrs. Berry. In the same year he built five tenant houses, all of which are still in existence. He also built in that year a saw-mill on Mill creek, near the centre of Port Carbon proper, and near this mill a house of squared logs, two stories in height, and a large framed barn. The location of these buildings was between Pike and Jackson streets. The house was burned some twenty years since. The barn is still standing, having been converted into a dwelling.

Port Carbon proper was first laid out in lots along the river by Abraham Pott, and was by him named Middleport. In 1828 he sold a tract embracing these lots to Jacob W. Seitzinger and William Wetherill, who named the place Port Carbon, because it was the shipping port of large quantities of coal on the Schuylkill navigation.

In 1821 Thomas S. Ridgway and Clayton Earl purchased from John Pott an acre of ground in Schuylkill river for a landing, or place to load coal on boats, when the navigation should be completed. In his sale to Seitzinger, and Wetherill Abraham Pott reserved an acre adjoining this for the same purpose. As early as 1830 these were laid out in small building lots, except a narrow river front, and soon covered with buildings. The locality has ever since been known as "Acretown."

Lawtonville, or Lawton's addition, which embraces the northwestern part of the borough, took its name from William Lawton, of New York, who laid out village lots on land belonging to himself, William Wallace, and George W. Bright, in 1829.

Irish town, the northeastern part of the borough, was laid out in 1829 by Abraham Pott on his own land. The lots into which it was divided were large, and about 100 in number. The locality took its name from the nationality of the settlers in it. Many of the descendants of the original purchasers of these lots are still living in them.

Rhodes's addition, which forms the eastern part of the borough, was also laid out in 1829, by Daniel J. Rhodes, on land owned by himself and Joseph H. Newbold.

The southern part of the borough is bounded in part by the Schuylkill river, and extends as far as the Palo Alto rolling mill. It was known as the Salem property. It was so named from a colliery which was opened on it in 1830 by Abraham Pott, and by him called the Salem colliery. In the original warrant which was taken out by Sarah Thomas it was designated the Mayfield tract.

The addition known as Mechanicsville was laid out in 1836 by John and Robert Young, on land belonging to them. It embraces the western part of the borough, and lies south from the public park. It took its name from the fact that it was settled mostly by mechanics, such as masons, carpenters, etc.

Philip Faust is believed to have been the first resident of what is now this borough. He was the sawyer in the mill that stood on Mill creek in Lawton's addition. He was succeeded in the house and mill by George Hilbert, who resided there when the elder Mr. Pott built the second house in the borough, as before stated, in 1821. In this house John Wommer first resided. In 1820 William, brother of Abraham Pott, took up his residence in the house built by the latter, and in 1827 Abraham became a resident. He has continued to reside here since, except during an interval of four years between 1846 and 1850.

Mr. Pott came to Pottsville with his father from near Reading in 1810. In 1826 he commenced here, and till within a few years he has been in active business here, principally mining. He may by truly termed the father of the place. Active benevolence and an unselfish public spirit have always been his distinguishing characteristics. Mention is elsewhere made of the improvements which were the results of his practical ingenuity. In addition to these it may here be stated that he was the first to produce anthracite iron, which he did at Black furnace in New Philadelphia in 1836. He still resides here, at the age of eighty-one, and to his retentive memory much of this early history of the place is due.

Among the prominent and active early residents of the place may be named Joseph Allison, William Dicus, John G. Hewes, Dr. Palmer, Abraham Hevenor, who was at one time a member of the Legislature; Thomas Sillyman, Joseph Richardson and others. Many who carried on business here for many years were residents of Pottsville.

William Harris was the pioneer blacksmith. He worked in the shop of A. Pott, near the center if Rhodes's addition, in 1826. Barney Taylor was the first carpenter. He came about 1829, and opened the first hotel during the same year in a building on the northeast corner of Pike and Coal streets. The first store was kept by Samuel Christman in 1827, in a warehouse in Acretown. The building has been remodeled and it is now used as a hotel. Dr. William Hansel was the first resident physician.

The first children born in Port Carbon were Leah Hilbert, afterwards Mrs. Hess, and Elizabeth Pott, subsequently Mrs. Eshleman. The earliest marriages were those of Stephen Hauser to Elizabeth Robbins, and Ira Lake to Mrs. Fanny Pott. The first death was that of a boatman whose name is not remembered.

The Salem Colliery was the only one of any extent ever carried on within the limits of the borough. It was first opened as a drift by Abraham Pott in 1829, and by him worked during several years. In 1833, or thereabout, John G. Hewes sunk a slope to the same vein, and it was worked till about 1849.

The Schuylkill navigation was completed to Port Carbon in 1828, and from that time till its abandonment this was the shipping point for all the coal mined near this place and in the mines on the railroads leading to it.

Railroad communication between this borough and Philadelphia was established in 1845 by way of Mount...
MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT

In 1830 Abraham Pott erected a steam saw-mill in Black valley, near the northeastern part of the borough. This was the first steam engine that was set up north from Reading. In this mill Mr. Pott instituted a series of experiments for the utilization of anthracite coal for generation of steam. After two failures he succeeded perfectly with the grate which he devised. This grate had almost exactly the form of the grates now universally used for that purpose. "Honor to whom honor is due!" This honor is certainly due to him.

A brick yard was started by Mr. Pott in 1831, near to where the manufacture of brick is now carried on. From the same bed of clay bricks have been made every year since. Where the first excavations for clay were made the ground is now under cultivation.

In 1832 Benjamin Grove, who then carried on an extensive blacksmith's shop, put up an engine of about six horse power to propel lathes for turning car axles. This engine was afterward removed to Pottsville.

In 1838 Conrad Straub and Lawrence F. Whitney erected the first grist-mill, just east from the bridge over the Schuylkill. The building still stands, but it is not in use.

In 1839 T.H. Wintersteen erected a foundry and machine shop a short distance south from the grist-mill. This building still stands, between the rolling-mill and furnace, but it is about to be demolished.

In 1842 Alfred Brook erected a foundry and machine shop, which was burned, and rebuilt in 1863 by Allison and Bannan. It is now operated by Robert Allison, in the manufacture of air compressing and mining machinery, which is sent to all parts of the world.

In 1860 Charles Baber established a planing-mill and manufactory of sash, blinds and doors a short distance west from the Schuylkill Valley Railroad scales. The same business has been carried on there till within two years.

In 1865 Zaccur P. Boyer built the rolling-mill, and to this subsequently added a furnace. About three years since the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company became the owners of this property, and business is conducted there by Atkins & Brother.

The first iron bridge in the borough was built across Mill creek, on Coal street, about 1863. Since that time iron bridges have replaced all the old wooden structures.

CHURCHES OF PORT CARBON

"The First Presbyterian Church and Congregation of Port Carbon" was organized by the election of a board of trustees and the adoption of a constitution of the 7th of August, 1833. The trustees were William Bosbyshell, Jesse Turner, Henry Porter, Abraham Heebner, E.S. Warner, George Hadesty, L. Whitney, James Laing and Nathaniel Davis.

The church was organized April 2nd, 1844, with Henry Porter and wife, Dr. J.J. Foster, Mrs. Caroline Foster, Miss Ruth T. Foster, Mrs. Clarissa Haight (wife of the pastor) and her daughters Ann Maria, Martha and Clarissa, Jesse Turner, Hugh McCrackin, Jane Falls, William Bosbyshell, and Elizabeth Whitney as constituent members. E.S. Warne, Henry Porter and J.J. Foster were chosen elders, and Rev. Sylvanus Haight was received as first pastor.

The Sacrament was first administered on the 20th of April, 1834, and the first persons baptized were three children of Lebbeus and Eliza Whitney, and a child of J.J. and Caroline Foster, baptized on the 18th of May, 1834.

The pastors since Mr. Haight have been, in the succession of their pastorates, Rev. Messrs. Sellers, Dr. Robert McCartee, Andrew Jardine, Garret Van Artsdalen, George Printz, D. Wilson Bonnell, H. David Town, Wardlaw, A.M. Lowry, S.A. Davenport, and S. Bell-the present pastor. Mr. Lowry was pastor twenty-one years. A church edifice was erected in 1833 and 1834, and dedicated on the 16th of March in the latter year. It stands on Grand street, and between First and Second streets. It is a stone building (though covered with clapboards), 40 by 56, with lecture room in the basement and a gallery in the audience room. It has only had ordinary repairs. The first church bell in the Schuylkill valley was placed in the belfry of this church in 1835. It was broken in 1844.

The Presbyterian cemetery was established in 1833.

The Lutheran Church of Port Carbon was organized in 1840, by the Rev. William Minneg. The members at its organization were Abraham Pott, Adam Hartsog, Morris Seligman, William Krehner, Jacob Bretz, Louis Heilner, Henry Guiterman, Philip Hoover, Jacob Krebs, L.F. Whitney, Solomon Seligman, Francis Grove, George Goodman and fifty others.

In 1829 the first school-house in Port Carbon was built by Abraham Pott, on the lot now occupied by the Lutheran church and cemetery, and in this school-house meetings were held from the time of its erection till the Lutheran church was built on the same lot. This church building was erected in 1852, by the Lutheran and German Reformed societies-the latter having been organized soon after the former. It was a wooden structure, 30 by 40 feet, with a gallery and a stone basement, and its cost was about $1,500. It has had only ordinary repairs since its erection. It was owned jointly by the Lutheran and German Reformed societies till 1874, when the former purchased the interest of the latter.

The first pastor was Rev. Mr. Schultz. The names of subsequent pastors cannot be learned.

The first Sunday-school in Port Carbon was organized soon after the erection of the school-house. It was not at first the school of any society, for none existed here; but it was supported by all. The present Lutheran Sunday-school is regarded as the continuation of this school, however. It was supported by the Lutheran and German Reformed societies as long as the latter maintained its
organization. The names of some of the early superintendents are lost. The following are remembered: Philip Hoover, John Wentz, Charles Zurwick, Henry Krebs, the present superintendent. The present number of scholars is about 150. The library consists of 1,425 volumes.

The first cemetery in the borough was the yard of the first school-house, now the Lutheran church yard, established in 1830. It was enlarged to its present size in 1846.

**The Reformed Church of Port Carbon** was organized in the year 1840, by Rev. David Hassinger, who was the first pastor. It consisted at the time of its organization of twenty-five or more members. Of these Isaiah Aregood, Philip Paul, John Bretz, Samuel Bretz, Jeremiah Bretz and Simpson Vomer are remembered.

Previous to the organization of a church all Christians in Port Carbon worshiped together in a school-house spoken of in the history of the Lutheran church. The church edifice that was afterward built on the same lot was jointly owned by both societies till about 1874, as elsewhere stated.

Among the clergymen that have been pastors of this church since Rev. Mr. Hassinger are remembered: Rev. Messrs. Graeff, John M. Clemens, John Guntenbine, and J. P. Stein.

**St. Stephen's Church** (Catholic) was organized about the year 1840, and until 1847 it was a mission church and was supplied from St. Patrick's Church at Pottsville. In 1847 Rev. Daniel Magoirien became local pastor, and he continued in that relation till 1877, when he was succeeded by Rev. J.C. McEnroe, the present pastor.

The church edifice was erected about 1840, and it has undergone no material alteration since. It is a stone building, 46 by 120. It was built mostly by voluntary contribution of labor and material by the members of the congregation. At the time of its organization the parish included New Philadelphia, which has since become separate parish. Probably the congregation at first numbered 2,500; it now numbers about 1,100.

**The First M.E. Church of Port Carbon** was organized in April, 1844, with Rev. J.C. Thomas as pastor. Among the members at the time of its organization Tobias H. Wintersteen and wife, G.W. Wintersteen, Ross Bull and wife, David Oliver and wife, William Berger and wife, Joseph Burnham and wife, Joseph Bier and wife, John Headley and wife, Daniel Oliver and wife, James Bury and wife, Robert Jackson and wife, Joseph Thomas and wife, Johnson Fellam and wife, William Sims, John Sims, Jacob Adams and wife, Absalom Ishman, David J. Myers and wife, Ephraim Allen and wife, Dorothy Werteelee and John Thomas.

The first class, which was organized in 1835 or 1836, met in a house belonging to Miss Delilah Wintersteen. Subsequently the place of meeting was a stone house still standing on Market street, where the Methodists were supplied at various intervals by the pastor and local preachers from Pottsville.

The first church edifice was erected in 1845, and dedicated in January, 1846, Dr. Durbin preaching the dedicatory sermon. It was stone structure, about 40 by 50, with a basement and end gallery, and its cost was about $5,000. This was taken down and the present building erected on the same site-corner of Pike and Washington streets—in 1869. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Danshiell. It is a brick structure, 44 by 47, with basement and end gallery, and cost about $10,000. The clergymen who have served this church, and the years of the commencement of their pastorates, are as follows: John C. Thomas, 1846; George D. Bowen, 1847; Henry Gilroy, 1849; J.H. McCarter, 1851; J.H. Wythes, 1853; J.W. Arthur, 1854; J.F. Meredith, 1856; J.J. Jones, 1858; J.H. Turner, 1860; C. Walters, 1862; William McCombs, 1864; Allen Johns, 1866; Jerome Lindermuth, 1867; N. Frame, 1869; William S. Pugh, 1872; W.H. Fryes, 1874; Joseph Biggerston, 1875; E.L. Martin, 1877; A. Howard, the present pastor, 1880.

The Sunday-school was first organized in 1844, with David Oliver as superintendent and about 75 pupils. Ross Bull, T.H. Wintersteen, William Berger, G.W. Wintersteen, Rev. E.L. Martin and John Ramsey have been superintendents. The present superintendent is J.A. Beir. The present number of pupils is about 175; officers and teachers 40. It has a library of about 450 volumes.

**The Evangelical Church of Port Carbon** was organized by Rev. John Neitz in 1848. Previous to that time a class existed, and Philip Dreher was the class leader. Occasional meetings were held in private houses, where preaching was had by transient or local preachers.

Among the members of the church at its organization were Philip Dreher, John Medlar, Obadiah Reed, Philip May, Philip Hoover and Daniel Knittle and their wives. Mrs. ---Seligman, William Moyer, and wife, Mrs. Mary Grimson, John Schimpf and wife, Catherine Kalbach, Sarah Windermuth and Catherine Windermuth.

The first place of worship was in a house on Coal street, and in a room fitted up for meetings of Odd Fellows and Sons of Temperance. The church edifice was erected in 1869 on the corner of Washington and First streets. It is a wooden building, 35 by 45, with a basement.

Rev. Messrs. Bast, Reinel, J. Gross and Shell, were pastors between 1848 and 1860, but the dates of their pastorates cannot be learned. Later pastors began their services as follows: Joshua Fry, 1860; L. Snyder, 1866; C. Harman, 1862; G. Marquardt, 1864; E.Ely, 1866; ----Bryfoole, 1868; Frederick Krecher, 1870; D.S. Stauffer, 1872; William Black, 1874; J.R. Workman, 1875; D.A. Medlar, 1877; Frederick Krecher, 1878; J.R. Hensyl, the present pastor, 1879. The present number of members is 51.

The Sunday-school was organized in 1849, with about 70 scholars. He was followed in succession by Daniel Paul, Levi Paul, Peter Hain and Charles Warnkessel, the present superintendent. The present number of
pupils is 250. Officers and teachers 22; volumes in library 250.

SCHOOLS

The first school-house was built by Abraham Pott, in 1829, on the corner of Coal street and Rock alley. The first school in the borough was taught in this house by Christopher Young. Many who were pupils in this school still reside here.

This building was used as a school-house till the acceptance of the school law in 1835. A larger and more commodious school-house was erected on the corner of Washington and First streets in 1838, and in this the public school was kept till the erection of the present school building. The old public school building was of stone, two stories in height. It is now converted into a public hall.

The present public school building was erected in 1870, at a cost of $17,000. It is a brick structure, about 60 by 70, three stories in height, with a tower in which are a bell and a town clock. There are two school rooms on each floor, and a directors' room in the third story. The principals since the erection of the new building have been G. Wells, till 1877, and J.H. Major since. The average number of pupils is about 500. The curriculum of study embraces all the common and many of the higher branches.

LODGES AND ASSOCIATIONS

A lodge of the United Order of Odd Fellows early existed here, became extinct, was revived and again died out.

A division of the Sons of Temperance was instituted in 1846, and became extinct in 1877. It accomplished much good.

A lodge of Good Templars, too, was instituted, but after a time ceased to exist.

A council of the United Order of American Mechanics existed at one time, but it became extinct.

Schuylkill Lodge, No. 27, I.O.O.F. was instituted at Port Carbon June 1st, 1830, with the following officers: Isaac Holden, N.G.; Abraham Pott, V.G.; Edward H. Hancock, secretary; James H. Holden, assistant secretary; John C. Flanagan, treasurer. The lodge maintained its existence till June 11th, 1844, when it surrendered its charter.

The charter was restored, and the lodge reopened September 14th, 1846, with the following officers: P.G. Joseph Snyder, N.G.; P.G. Daniel Hileges, V.G.; P.G. Lewis Heilner, secretary; N. Strause, assistant secretary; S. Seligman, treasurer. It has maintained an uninterrupted existence since that time. So great has been the number of presiding officers that a list of them here is not practicable. The present officers are: Jesse Newlin, N.G.; P.G. John Simpson, V.G.; P.G. C.D. Lurwick, secretary; P.G. William Krebs, assistant secretary; P.G. Robert Allison, treasurer.

The lodge met in several places successively in different parts of the borough till 1872, when, on the formation of the Citizens' Hall Association, it, in connection with the Knights of Phythias and Sons of Temperance, acquired, through trustees, an interest in the Citizens' Hall, in which it has met since March, 1873.

The meetings are held each Friday evening. The present number of members is fifty. Of the very early members Daniel Hileges, who was a P.G. at the time the charter was restored, is a member at the present time. The lodge is not only without indebtedness, but its assets amount to more than $2,100.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 43, Knights of Phythias was instituted under a charter granted February 11th, 1868, with thirteen charter members. The first officers were: Jacob Wentz, V.P.; Isaiah Cartwright, W.C.; William H. Fry, V.P.; William D. Dreher, R.S.; William B. Kane, F.S.; Jeremiah Seitzinger, W.B.; E. Templin, G.; Banks Rowe, I.S.; A. Morgan, A.S.


Allison Post, No. 144, G.A.R., named in honor of the three Allison brothers of Port Carbon, who were killed at White Oak Church, was instituted in October, 1879, with thirty-eight charter members.


The Citizens' Hall Association was organized as a joint stock company in 1872, with a capital of $600, of which not all was subscribed. The company purchased from G.W. Wintersteen the stone school-house that stood at the corner of Washington and First streets. This they took down, to the basement, and erected thereon an enlarged wooden structure, which they fitted up, the first story for janitor's residence, dining-room for entertainments, offices for committees, etc. The second story is fitted up as an audience room, with stage and gallery, for lectures, exhibitions, etc., and the upper story is arranged for the meeting of societies. The total cost of this building was about $8,000. It is the only public hall in the borough.

Savings Fund and Building Associations. The originator of these is said to be Edward Noble. The first, termed the Port Carbon Savings Fund, was organized in May, 1867, with Robert Allison president and Jesse Newlin secretary. These gentlemen continued in office during the existence of the organization, a period of nine
years and six months. Mr. J. Medler was treasurer till June, 1871, when H. R. Heebner was chosen in his place.

The Franklin Savings Fund and Building Association was incorporated in June, 1872. Nine series of stock, including 2,220 shares, have been issued. The officers are: Robert Allison, president; F. B. Berkheiser, secretary; G. W. Heebner, treasurer and receiver, and sixteen directors. It is still in successful operation.

ST. CLAIR BOROUGH

St. Clair was incorporated April 6th, 1850. The first borough election was held on the 9th of May following. The first officers were: Jacob Metz, president; Charles Lawton, chief burgess; Jacob Metz, John R. Williams and Jacob Frantz, town council; John Seitzinger, justice of the peace; Joel Metz, high constable; Lott Evans, town clerk; Benjamin S. Jackson, assessor; Henry Krebs and Daniel Slobig, assistant assessors; Daniel Frack, John W. Lawton and Joseph Denning, auditors; William Smith, John W. Lawton, John W. Williams, John Sandford, William Stoker and William Montelius, school directors.

St. Clair is situated on Mill creek, near the centre of the first or southern anthracite coal field. Its first settlers was Michael Boechtel, who came here near the beginning of the present century, and located on the farm now by Samuel Arnaut. He was followed by John Malone, a lumber dealer, the Nichols family and others.

The first industrial beginnings were a cider-mill on the Nichols farm and two saw-mills, one built, very early, just back of the M.E. church, another, later, near John's breaker.

In 1831 Carey, Lee & Hart, who had bought the Nichols farm, which then comprised the whole of the St. Clair tract, laid out the first street of the new village, which was named from the Christian name of its former owner, St. Clair Nichols. The new village contained but eight houses. None of these remain. Banks of culm from Hickory colliery now cover the sites of most of them. One very small house, called the saw-mill house, stood just east from R. Boone's store, and one just in the rear of the old brick building on the southeast corner of Second and Hancock streets.

The Mill Creek Railroad was built from Port Carbon to this place some time in the year 1829. John Heald, now residing here, worked for Superintendent Benjamin Milnes, preparing the road-bed on New Year's day of that year. The cars were drawn on wooden rails, by horses. The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company built their Mill Creek branch to St. Clair and New Castle in 1845. A public road to Port Carbon was opened about 1837, by Barton Evans. Another road to the old turnpike, making connection with Pottsville, had been opened by Boechtel or Malone.

In 1829, John Burgett came to St. Clair and erected a tent in which to shelter and board workmen on the Girard tunnel. Soon after erecting this tent he built a small framed tavern called "The Cross Keys," one block below the depot. His daughter Charlotte Burgett was the first child born in the borough.

Daniel Frack, now of Frackville, came about 1831, and built a tavern on the next lot south, at the corner of Hancock and Third streets. The third tavern was built by Jacob Metz, in 1844, and is now kept by H.H. Marshall. The hotel now kept by John Taggert was commenced soon afterward.

In 1831 St. Clair Nichols set apart a lot for a graveyard. Anthony Irwin, now residing here, helped to fence it, and was grave-digger during several years. The land was afterward deeded, by Carey, Lee & Hart, to the borough, and was set apart for a borough cemetery.

Work on the St. Clair furnace was commenced by Burd S. Patterson in 1842, and suspended in 1844. It was finished and put in blast in 1864. James Lannigan bought it and operated successfully until 1873, when he failed by reason of unfortunate speculations. The furnace, which is now idle, is the property of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

Private schools were commenced here as early as 1834. Among those who sustained them were the Evans, Nichols, Burgett and French families. Of the teachers in these schools Nancy March, who taught where Mr. Koch resides, opposite the Creek schoolhouse, Sarah Runk, Sarah McNair, Richard Greenly, Ralph Branch, a Miss Boyle and Mr. McCamant are remembered. The first free school was taught in 1838 or 1839 by Benjamin Jackson, who came from Catawissa. He taught in the old school-house that stood in the borough cemetery. This building was erected for religious meetings. Jackson was followed by John Colburn, Isaac Breach, James Stoker, Esther Evans, Washington H. Lawrence, Benjamin French and William Porter.

In the year 1848 a Mrs. Shippen taught in a house which stood on the site of Joseph Townsend's store. P.D. Barnett, contemporary with Porter, taught the first school in the Creek schoolhouse in the following year. Theodore Thompson was an assistant during 1850, and the next year succeeded Barnett as principal, and continued in that capacity during fourteen years.

The St. Clair post-office was established in 1845. The mail was at first carried by stage to and from Pottsville. The following are the names of the postmasters, in the order of their service: Jacob Metz, Jonathan Johnson, Thomas Irvin, Martin Dormer, James Kelly, James Brown, Edward Richardson, Mrs. M.A. Richardson,
COAL HISTORY

The veins of coal in the north part of the borough have been nearly exhausted; but rich mines are believed to be in the southern portion and its vicinity.

Previous to 1830 very little coal had been mined, and no shipments made. John Offerman and a Mr. Whetrorff had opened a drift on crop of the Mammoth vein in 1828. The place took the name High Germany, from the nationality of its operators. On the completion of the Mill Creek railroad, regular coal openings were made and shipments commenced. The following is a brief history of the different veins in their order from the surface, and the principal collieries operated in them. The operators leased the mines from the land owners, Carey, Lee & Hart.

The Orchard vein overlies the others within the borough limits. It was first operated by John Pinkerton & Co., who in 1830 opened a drift in an apple orchard near the farm house now owned by Samuel Arnaut, whence the named "Orchard vein." This drift was the first regular coal opening at St. Clair; and from it the first shipments were made. John Holmes, with others, sunk a slope in the west part of the borough. The vein there is about four feet thick. A drift was also opened on this vein in the east part of the borough, about 1866, but it was abandoned on account of the thinness of the vein there.

The Primrose vein was opened by several water level drifts in 1830, near the present site of the railroad depot, by Pinkerton & Co. These drifts were worked by different parties until 1843, when Alfred Lawton became the operator in this vein. He was followed by Frank Parvin, who sunk a slope and mined considerable coal, but he encountered a dirt fault, and abandoned the working. The eland owners, wishing the vein not to lose its reputation, continued work for a time, but finally abandoned it.

Griffith Jones, superintendent for the Peach Orchard Coal Company, operated a slope in the east part of the borough from 1866 to 1870. This vein, in some places, was twelve feet thick. Jones, while operating here, tunnelled north to the Holmes vein, and afterward south to the Orchard vein.

The Holmes vein received its name from its discoverer, John Holmes, a native of Dublin, Ireland. This vein was not discovered as soon as the Mammoth vein, but it is the next vein below the Primrose. Mr. Holmes came here in 1841, and commenced proving veins both for himself and William Montelius. About 1846 he, while operating with others on the Orchard vein, sunk a shaft and struck the vein which afterward bore his name. He also opened a drift on the vein in the east part of the borough. Mr. Holmes superintended for George W. McGinnis on his slope and shaft. After McGinnis sold his colliery, he returned to his former work of prospecting. In 1872 Adam Jackson reopened the drift in the east part of the borough, and at a cost of $900 built a breaker, with a 10 horse power engine and a daily capacity of 40 tons. The coal is a good quality of red-ash. The drift has been operated since 1878, by Joseph Atkinson, who employs nine men and ships 300 tons per month. It is called the St. Clair colliery. In 1870, David Vipen opened a drift a short distance south of Jackson on the south dip of this vein. In 1876 Thomas Bedford and Thomas Burke leased the coal of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, and at a cost of $1,000, built a breaker with a capacity of 40 tons per day, using an 8 horse engine. Burke bought Bedford's interest in 1878, and then drove a new tunnel of 70 yards, doing the whole work with his own hands. He has since driven three gangways, aggregating 200 yards, and six breasts. The coal has been in part faulty, but he has now reached good coal.

The Mammoth vein was discovered in 1830, by Isaac Beck, late payngteller in the Miner's Bank, Pottsville, while washing his hands in the creek where its bed curved around close to the base of the West hill. He took out a quantity of coal, but made no regular opening. In 1835 John Pinkerton leased the coal and drove a gangway, about 900 yards west, and opened both drifts and a slope. Pinkerton mined a large quality of coal; shipping as much as 100,000 tons a year. He, like others, worked the "Fourfeet," and "Seven-feet" veins, while operating on the Mammoth. He also drove a tunnel north 60 yards, and found the Skidmore vein only 14 inches thick. He drove a gangway 100 yards with no good result. He then continued his tunnel north to the Buck Mountain vein, which he found from 7 to 10 inches thick. He again tunnelled to the Skidmore from the Mammoth, at a point 700 yards west from the first tunnel, with no satisfactory result. About 1831 Samuel Sillyman and E. Evans opened a drift on the Mammoth vein at Crow Hollow, now Pine Forest, and came to High Germany in 1837 and opened a drift. In 1845 Benjamin Milnes, Benjamin Haywood, and George Snyder sunk a new slope at High Germany, and called it Pine Forest. They went farther up the hill, and in 1848 and 1849 sunk Mt. Hope slope. This firm dissolved in 1853, Snyder continuing, and Milnes buying out Pinkerton. Milnes, with his son William, continued the old drifts and slope, and sunk a lower level slope, and named it Hickory colliery. They sold to the Boston Consolidated Coal Company about 1864. B. Milnes also opened a part of the Johns basin, west of the creek, which was sold to Chillis and afterward abandoned.

In 1843 Alfred Lawton leased the coal on the St. Clair tract and commenced the St. Clair shaft. Lawton failed and was followed by others until 1853, when Enoch W. McGinnis leased the coal and finished sinking the shaft. This shaft is 10 1/2 by 18 feet, and cut the Primrose at a depth of 122 feet, and the Mammoth at 438 feet. The shaft is 740 yards south of the crop. While McGinnis was sinking the shaft he sunk a slope on the crop of the Mammoth, 650 feet west of the old Pine Forest slope.
This slope was started to supply coal for the engines while sinking the shaft; but was continued afterward, so that it became connected with the gangways from the shaft.

James S. Kirk and John E. Baum purchased McGinnis's interest in 1857. Griffith Jones was superintendent for the land-owners, who took charge in 1862. In 1864 they leased to the St. Clair Coal Company. John C. Northall took the colliery in 1866. He soon took Kendrick and Deyo as partners, and afterwards withdrew. It is said that they shipped as much as 1,000 tons per day. In 1871 the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company purchased the land and commenced operations. In 1873 they were shipping about 500 tons per day. There have been three breakers at this shaft, two of which were burned. A 500-horse power pumping engine and 80-horse hoisting engine are in use at this colliery. William Mathews is foreman. They expected to resume mining at this shaft some time in the future.

John's Eagle colliery includes a detached basin of coal, which was discovered by George Wagner, who took from the land owners, Wetherill & Seitzinger, a three years' prospect lease, bearing date 1845. He opened a drift on the "Seven-Feet," and sunk a shaft on the Mammoth vein. At the expiration of this lease William H. and Thomas Johns procured a twenty years' lease. This firm was dissolved in 1853, William H. Johns continuing until the expiration of the lease, when George W. Johns and brother, sons of William H. Johns took a fifteen year lease.

In 1876 this colliery produced about 10,000 tons of coal per month, and furnished employment to three hundred men and boys. Two mine locomotives, a 90-horse pumping, a 50-horse foisting, a 50-horse breaker and a 30-horse slope engine were in use. There have been three breakers at the colliery. The first was built by William H. and Thomas Johns in 1849. This was worn out, and William H. Johns built a second, the largest in the region, in 1857. It has broken 138,000 tons of coal in year. It was burned in May, 1878, and the present one was erected.

The Seven-feet, Mammoth and Skidmore veins are worked. Below these are the Buck Mountain and two Lykens Valley veins.

This has always been one of the most successfully managed collieries in the region, producing in net profit to its fortunate operators several million dollars.

**IMPROVEMENTS-BUSINESS CONCERNS**

The waters of Mill creek, the banks of which are now faced by stone walls, connected by three iron and six wooden bridges, once abounded with shad and other fish. On the sides of the stream was a dense forest, which has disappeared. The streets are regularly laid out at right angles with each other. The walks are paved; many with white gravel from Silver creek. The buildings stand very closely together, and nearly every one is on the line of the street. The dwellings though plain are tasteful. The present population is 3,159.

Pinkerton & Hudson at early day commenced the erection of the brick store now standing on the corner of Second and Hancock streets.

The place is well supplied with dry goods stores and groceries, fancy stores, stove, tin and hardware store, shoe stores, drug stores, a book store, etc. It has also a lumber yard and an extensive machine shop and brass foundry, as well as numerous shops for the supply of the ordinary wants of the people.

The Miners' Supply Company is engaged in the manufacture of squibs, etc., for the use of miners in firing their blasts. The idea was suggested by Jesse Beadle to S.H. Daddow, more than ten years since. The inventions were perfected, and patents obtained, and a manufactory has sprung up here which gives employment to a large number of the inhabitants of St. Clair, and adds greatly to the prosperity of the place.

**SCHOOLS**

St. Clair has three school buildings, all of which are required to accommodate the pupils in attendance on the schools, the total number of which is 900, the average being about 700. The oldest building in use at present, known as the Creek building, was erected about 35 years ago, and is situated in First street, between Carroll and Hancock. It contains four rooms, each with a capacity for 50 pupils. The building is in a very good condition, having been recently renovated. The old, or upper brick building was erected in 1861. It contains four rooms, which will seat 250 pupils. There is a fine play-ground, 200 feet square, connected with the building. The lower, or new brick building, on Mill street, between Railroad and Patterson, was built eight years ago. It has four rooms, which are well fitted with modern conveniences, and which have a capacity for 320 pupils. On the top is a tower, in which is the town clock.

It has a fine playground of the same dimensions as that of the upper brick house.

Eleven teachers are employed in these schools, which are divided into six grades: one high school, one grammar school, two secondary, two sub-secondary, two primary, and three sub-primary. Mr. Richard Brown, teacher of the high school, has for ten years had supervision of all the schools, subject to the board of education. They are in an excellent condition, and stand high in the county. "How well," and not "how much," is the motto which the teachers of St. Clair adopt.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

St. Clair is supplied with water by the Pottsville Water Company from a reservoir several miles north of the borough, elevated so that no engines are required to throw streams to the necessary height.

Hope Hose Company, No. 1, was first organized in 1867, with D.J. Rice as president; and reorganized in 1880. It has a charter and about 20 members. Thomas Baker is president; John Baker, secretary; P.D. Conry, treasurer. Their rooms are in the borough building. Columbia Hose Company, No. 2, was organized in 1868.
Its officers are: Llewellyn Jones, president; James Jones, recording secretary; Charles Short, financial secretary; William Baldwin, treasurer. It is a beneficial society. Its rooms are on St. Nicholas street.

LODGES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Mineral Lodge, No. 285, I.O.O.F. was chartered November 22nd, 1847, and organized April 1st, 1848. The original members were John Batten, Philip Lewis, Anthony Mowry, Jacob Metz, William Phillips, William Renner, John Seitzinger, Daniel Shaffer, William Walker and William Williams. The officers for the first term were: William Walker, N.G.; Jacob Metz, V.G.; John Seitzinger, secretary; Anthony Mowry, assistant secretary; William Phillips, treasurer. The lodge meets each Wednesday evening, in the hall on the corner of Second and Hancock streets. The present membership is 126. The present officers are: George Phillips, N.G.; James Rodgers, V.G.; D.W. Lewis, secretary; Samuel Evans, assistant secretary; Adam Kline, treasurer; D.W. Lewis, David Tucker and Joseph Urch, trustees.

September 27th, 1865, the lodge purchased of John Holmes four acres of land for a cemetery. It was chartered July 12th, 1866, under the name of the Odd Fellows' Cemetery Association of the Borough of St. Clair. The cemetery was dedicated October 1st, 1867. An addition of three acres was subsequently made.

Authracite Lodge, No. 285, F. & A.M. was instituted April 13th, 1854. Its charter members were William Milnes, Charles Lawton, Theodore Thorne, William J. Uhler, Jonathan Johnson, John L. Geiger, William Littleales and George Stahl. The first officers were: William Miles, W.M.; Charles Lawton, S.W.; Theodore Thorne, J.W.; William J. Uhler, secretary; Jonathan Johnson, treasurer. The lodge has a membership of 92. Its officers in 1880 were: Edward Herbert, W.M.; Thomas A. Nicholas, S.W.; David Tucker, J.W.; William J. Burwell, secretary, and Jonathan P. Bowen, treasurer. It meets Tuesday evening before each full moon, in the hall at the corner of Hancock and Second streets.

Union Cornet Band has 19 instruments. It was organized in 1862, reorganized in 1871 and chartered in 1873. The charter members were Jacob Schoppe, Asher Hains, August Leoper, August Schlotman, William H. Badge, Jacob Post and Joseph Wise. The present officers are: Thomas Gammil, president; August Schlotman, secretary; Asher Hains, treasurer; William H. Badge, leader. The band meets Tuesdays and Saturdays at Evan's Hall, Second street.

Ivorites.-Bee Lodge, No. 1 was instituted at the house of William P. Williams March 14th, 1863. It is a beneficiary and literary society. The first officers were: Thomas Jones, president; Thomas M. Jones, vice-president; John Watkins, secretary. The present officers are: Lewis W. Evans, president; Charles Evans, vice-president; Shem Richards, secretary; William D. Jenkins and William Reese, stewards; William Thomas, leader. The treasury now contains $3,000. The number of members is 101. This is the oldest lodge in America under the names of Ivorites. All the accounts are kept and the business transacted in the Welsh language.

John Ennis Post, No. 47, G.A.R. was organized March 27th, 1867. The charter members were William G. Burwell, Thomas A. Nichols, Joseph H. Dennings, Charles L. Roorbach, Thomas Ray, Samuel Winn, Henry A. Buechly, Clay W. Evans, D.J. Price, F.W. Richardson, John Krebs, B.T. Seligman, James W. Hughes, Charles Larany and Samuel Holmes. The first officers were: Joseph H. Dennings, post commander; William G. Burwell, senior vice-commander; Samuel Winn, junior vice-commander; Thomas A. Nichols, F.W. Richardson, quartermaster; Charles L. Roorbach, surgeon; Charles Larany, chaplain; John Krebs, officer of the day; D.J. Price, officer of the guard. The present officers are: John W. Ray, commander; J.B. Bowen, senior vice-commander; John Davis, junior vice-commander; Jonah Davis, junior vice commander; Samuel Winn, adjutant; H. H. Marshall, quarter-master; George Reese, surgeon; Richard Brown, Chaplain; L.T. Brewer, officer of the day; David Evans, officer of the guard.

The St. Clair Saving Fund and Building Association was organized September 16th, 1867, with 1,4000 shares. The monthly receipts, to the year 1878 averaged $1,300. There are now only 12 shares. W. McCarthy is secretary, and D.W. Lewis treasurer.

Lincoln Lodge, No. 92, K. of P. was instituted July 17th, 1868. The first officers were: Lewis H. Koch, P.C.; Thomas A. Nichols, C.C.; H.M. McElwain, V.C.; M.K. Short, K. of R. and S.; B.F. Seligman, M. of F.; H.B. Davis, M. of E.; Thomas Spittle, M. at A.; James W. Shoener, I.G.; John S. Snyder, O.G. The lodge has been very successful. Since its organization it has distributed $8,772 for the sick, funeral expenses, and the relief of its needy members. Its officers are: R.P. Wictomb, P.C.; Reuben Price, C.C.; Thomas Bramby, jr., V.C.; J. Wesley Morrison, prelate; ---M. at A.; Seth Orme, K. of R. and S.; David Tucker, M. of E.; George W. Heinback, M. of F.; Richard Cox, I.G.; John Dodds, O.G. The present membership is 140.

The Union Saving Fund and Building Association was organized June 16th, 1869, with 2,2000 shares, and has issued six series of stock. The monthly receipts of this society to the year 1878 averaged $2,250. The shares are now nearly all withdrawn. Joseph Townsend is president; W.J. McCarthy secretary, and Charles Short treasurer. The object of these associations is that their members may obtain interest on their money, or obtain loans for building, or paying mortgages, which may be paid in small monthly installments.

St. Michael's Benevolent Society, No. 206 of the I.C.B.U., was organized April 14th, 1870. The charter members were organized Patrick Melia, M.J. Duffy, Michael Sullivan, James Sullivan and Thomas McKeon. The first officers were: Peter F. Kelly, president; Dennis Leahy, 1st vice-president; M.J. Duffy, 2nd vice-president; J.M. McCarthy, secretary; John Hanly, assistant secretary; Patrick Conry, treasurer. The present officers are: Daniel ...
Duffy, president; J.C. Leary, 1st vice-president; Morris Boland, 2nd vice-president; M.J. Duffy, secretary; Michael Sullivan, assistant secretary; Dennis Leahy, treasurer; Peter Corcoran and John McCullough, stewards; P.H. Gallagher, messenger. The society meets on the third Thursday in every month, at 7 p.m., in the basement of the Irish Catholic church. Its membership is large and increasing; the finances are in good condition. The pastor is always honorary president of the society.

Branch No. 19 Emerald Benevolent Association of Pennsylvania was organized in 1872. The president was Robert McGann, the secretary Thomas Mulroy, the treasurer W.J. McCarthy.

The benefits paid by this society since its organization, amounting to $5,000, have all gone for charities, principally to members and their families.

Schuykillil Tribe of the Improved Order of Red Men, No. 202, was instituted May 19th, 1873. The first chiefs were: Prophet, John Chadderton; sachem, Seth Orme; senior sagamore, Thomas Lamb; junior sagamore, John Lee; chief of records, John Heap; keeper of wampum, John Wylam; guard of the forest, Hugh Thomas. The tribe has distributed in charities $1,760.50. The present chiefs are: P., Matthew Dodds; S., William Moore; Sen. S., James Hughes; C. of R., John Mason; K. of W., Seth Orme; G. of W., George W. Heinbach; G. of F., Edwin Evans. The tribe numbers 67, and meets in Jarvis Hall.

Monument Association.-The people of St. Clair were among the first to agitate the subject of a monument to the memory of those who died for their country in the civil war. A society was formed under the name of The St. Clair Monumental Association, and a committee was appointed to raise the necessary funds. The monument was procured at a cost of $2,600. It was erected in the Odd Fellows' cemetery, and dedicated on Thanksgiving day, 1874. The association disbanded April 3rd, 1876, and turned over the amount of funds on hand, $536.71, to the G.A.R., in the care of which the monument was placed.

**CHURCHES**

**Primitive Methodist.**-This church celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its organization in 1881. Its first meetings were held in the old school-house in the borough cemetery. It was the first church organization in the town. Of the original members only John Heald and Mary Fox are living. The first pastors were William Sanders, B. Webber, T. Burroughs, C. Spurr, and T. Foster. Mr. Foster retired from the ministry December 20th, 1845. Rev. Hugh Bourne, founder of Primitive Methodism, who was on a visit to this country, was appointed to fill the vacancy. Next came William Smith and A. Miller. During Mr. Miller's pastorate, in 1847, the first church building was erected, on the site of the present one, corner of Hancock and Mill streets. It was a framed building, cost about $2,000. In 1859 Rev. T. Butterwick became pastor. Revs. E. Crompton and George Parker succeeded him. The parsonage was purchased in 1864 at a cost of $700. Rev. C. Spurr was the next pastor. In 1868 Rev. S. Horwell came, and during his pastorate the church was improved, at a cost of $1,400. It was reopened in 1869 by Rev. Dr. Smythe. The next pastors were F. Grey, H.G. Russell, and J.W. Reed. During Mr. Reed's pastorate the present building was erected at a cost of $7,500; the old one having become unfit for use in consequence of the caving of old coal workings under it. The corner stone was laid with masonic ceremonies September 12th, 1876. In 1869 Rev. J.H. Acornly, the present pastor, was appointed. The trustees are J. Wylam, J. Morgan, W. Jarvis, G.W. Lookingbill, J. McGuirel, William Yeo, G. Phillips, J. Hesslop and G. Jones. The Sunday-school was organized about 1847. The first superintendent was Charles Coop. The average attendance is 150. Pilot Orme is now superintendent.

**Welsh Congregational Church.**-This church was built about 1840. Its deacons were William Price, David Richards and David T. Richards and David T. Richards. Its first minister was Rev. Evan Evans. Rev. John Jones, Lott Jenkins, Dan Thomas and E.B. Lewis were pastors later. The church has numbered more than 100 members and the Sunday-school over 150 scholars. The church is now supplied monthly and has about twenty members, but no school. It is free from debt.

**Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church.**-This church was organized in 1842. In November, 1846, a lot was purchased and a building erected. The first pastor was Rev. Robert Williams, also pastor at Pottsville, Danville and Minersville. The next pastor was Rev. John Adams. Rev. E.J. Hughes came in 1858, and the church edifice was rebuilt in 1860. From this time until 1868 the church was very prosperous; then immigration ceased; many left the place and the children joined the English congregations, so that now it has but few members. The present superintendent of the Sunday-school is David C. Powell.

**Welsh Baptist.**-In 1846 a few Welsh Baptists, who were members of a church in Pottsville, held prayer meetings in private houses in Wadesville and in St. Clair. Revs. R. Edwards and W. Morgans, of Pottsville, were the first preachers. About 1847 or 1848 they bought a carpenter shop and fitted it for a house of worship. In 1853 they purchased a lot and erected a new building, on First street, which they now occupy, free from debt. The church was organized in 1877, having hitherto remained a branch of the Pottsville church. Among the first members were Mr. and Mrs. John R. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Jones, Mr. and Mrs. William Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. John Morgan, Mrs. Mary Thomas, Mrs. Maria Evans, Mrs. David Lewis, Mrs. James, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Jane Thomas. The first pastor was Rev. W. Morgans, of Pottsville, who officiated until his death in 1876. His successor was Rev. T.P. Morgan. In December, 1878, Rev. D.S. Thomas, the present pastor, was called. Seven members of his church have become ministers-John W. James, Edward Jenkins, Benjamin Nicholas, Jonathan J. Nicholas, A.M. Spencer, W.D. Thomas and William G. Watkins.

The Sunday-school, established early in the history of
the church, has numbered 100 members. Shem Richards is superintendent. Both the Welsh and English languages are used in the school.

**Methodist Episcopal.** This church was organized in 1848, and at first connected with the Port Carbon church, Rev. G.D. Bowen pastor. In 1849 the St. Clair society was transferred to the Pottsville church, Revs. H. Colclazer, G.D. Carrow and J.L. Taft pastors. In the spring of 1855 the St. Clair church became an independent charge, Rev. S.W. Kentz the first pastor. The succeed-pastors were Revs. J. Carlile, H.H. Bodine, S.L. Gracey, S.N. Chew, W. Smith, J.J. Jones, G.T. Barr, S.G. Hare, J.Y. Ashton, R. Owen, G. Oram, David McKee, E.H. Hoffman and A.L. Urban.

Among the names of the first members are Johns, VanHorn, Haines, Morrison, Arnold, Crawshaw, Slobig, Bradbury, Ford, Turner, Watkins, Jones, Ferribee, Price, Hoffman and Winn. Services were at first held in the old school-house in the cemetery. In 1849 a church was built, and dedicated by Rev. G.D. Bowen. The present edifice was erected in 1868, during the pastorate of J.Y. Ashton. The present pastor, Rev. John Dyson, was appointed in 1880.

The Sunday-school was organized in the old school building, with Mr. Thomas Johns as superintendent. The school, of which E. Herbert is now superintendent, numbers three hundred pupils.

**Episcopal Church.** The first services of the Church of the Holy Apostles were held in a hall by Rev. F.A. Starkey, in 1847. In 1848 a vestry was organized and a charter granted to Joseph G. Lawton, J. Foster, R.H. Coryell, M.D., and others. The first rector was J.B. Colhoun, followed by Rev. G.L. Neide. A Sunday-school was organized early and maintained largely by the efforts of Mr. Lawton.

Rev. Azariah Prior and the rector of Trinity church, Pottsville, D. Washburn, subsequently put forth efforts to establish a church here, and laid the corner stone of the church building, at the corner of Hancock and Nichols streets, October 8th, 1854. Rev. Mr. Prior was followed by Revs. W.R. Carroll, and W.H.D. Hatton, who, September 15th, 1858, had the church consecrated. Then followed successively Revs. A.J. Faust, G. B. Allen, W.V. Feltwell, G.B. Allen a second time, and T. Burrows, who built the rectory; Revs. Edmund Christian, C.B. Mee, S. McElwee and H.P. Chapman, the present rector, who took charge November 19th, 1876. The church building has been recently repaired and improved. Mr. Joseph Foster is the only one of the first vestry, who is still here.

**St. Bonifacius German Catholic Church** was built in 1852. The first pastor was Rev. Mr. Repis. His successors were Revs. Hamm, Sommer, Werner and Schedle. In 1865 Rev. F. Depmann became pastor. He is now a member of the Order of St. Francis and known by the name Father Bonifacius. In 1869 Rev. Bernard Dornhege became pastor. The new school-house is a remembrancer of his zeal and devotion to the cause. His successor, in 1872, was Rev. Mr. Frende. Rev. Mr. Schlebbe, the present pastor, took charge in 1879. Since 1872 the number of families in the society has decreased, leaving 70, or 300 pupils.

A society called the St. Joseph's Beneficiary Society is connected with this church.

**St. John's German Reformed, and Lutheran Churches.** The German Reformed Congregational society was organized in 1853 by Rev. Mr. Gatenbein. Jacob Farne was elected and ordained elder, and Herman Wolf deacon. Rev. I.D. Graeff succeeded him. During his pastorate the society joined with the Evangelical Lutheran congregation in the erection of a building to be used by the two societies. The house was dedicated October 21st, 1855. The cost of the lot and building was a little more than $2,000. In 1856 the German Reformed society called Rev. J.D. Graeff. He was followed by Revs. Samuel Miller, William Rupps, John Clemens and Albert Stauffer, who resigned in 1876, since which they have been occasionally supplied. The society contained 110 members in 1863. The Sunday, which was organized with the society, has about 50 members, with John Super superintendent. The Lutheran society sold their rights, and withdrew May 6th, 1873, and reorganized with 20 members under the name Evangelical Lutheran Zion congregation; and November 2nd of the same year dedicated their new building on Nicholas street, which, with the lot, cost $2,200. Their first pastor was G.A. Hinterleitner, succeeded by John Nicum. The present pastor is W.H. Kuntz, of Schuylkill Haven.

**St. Mary's Church of the Immaculate Mother of God (Irish Roman Catholic)** was built in 1864. The pastor was Rev. James Brehony, who also erected the parochial residence, at a cost of $6,000. The laying of the corner stone and the consecration of the church were performed by Rev. James F. Wood, D.D. It is situated at the corner of Mill and Hancock streets, and it cost $18,000. The parishes, and contained about 3,000 souls. The services were at first held in St. Clair Hall. Rev. Mr. Brehony's successors were Revs. Philip McEuroe, Michael McEuroe and Michael J. Gately, the present pastor, who took charge May 28th, 1878. The present number of souls does not exceed 1,000.

**English Baptist.** This church was a branch of the Pottsville Baptist church. The first meeting was held in the Creek schoolhouse February 16th, 1871. The original members were John Beadle, Robert Humphreys, James Britton, Caroline Britton, Daniel T. Griffith, Miss Mary Williams, Mrs. Llewellyn, John R. Williams, Mrs. Ann Griffith, James Kelly, James Powell and Mrs. Hester Thomas. The first officers were: John Beadle, deacon; James Powell and Daniel Griffith, secretaries. The first pastor, A.H. Sembower, was at the same time pastor in Pottsville. The succeeding pastors were D.T. Davis, William Warlow, J.W. Plannett and A. Myers, the present pastor, who entered on his duties February 1st, 1880. The building was dedicated December 31st, 1880. It is a framed building, standing on the corner of First and Carroll streets. Its cost was $3,902.39. The present of-
ficers are: John Beadle, James Beadle, James Britton and Griffith Smith, deacons; David Griffith and Daniel T. Griffith, secretaries. The church has always had a Sunday-school. John Beadle was the first superintend-ent. It now numbers 163 pupils, with George Happog superintendent.

ROBERT ALLISON

Joseph Allison was one of the well-known early miners of Schuylkill county. He was born in Westmoreland county, England, and, at Middleton, Teesdale, Durham county, married a lady born at that place during the year of his own nativity. In 1829 he came to America, where his wife and three children joined him in 1830. The family located that year in Schuylkill county, where they have resided since, except during three years passed in Northumberland county. They removed to St. Clair in 1847, where they still live. The descendants of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Allison (children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren) number more than one hundred.

Robert Allison, son of Joseph Allison, was born in Middleton, Teesdale, Durham county, England, December 25th, 1827, and came to this country with his mother and other members of his family in 1830, joining his father, who had come the previous year. He received a limited education in such schools as were in vogue in Schuylkill county during his youth, working in and about the mines in the summer and attending school in the winter, between the ages of twelve and sixteen and a half years. At the latter age he entered the machine-shops of Messrs. Haywood & Snyder, in Pottsville, as an apprentice to the general machinists’ trade. Completing his apprenticeship, he was employed at journeywork about two years and then accepted the position of foreman in the shop of Tobias Wintersteen, at Port Carbon, and served in such capacity for Wintersteen and others until 1864, when, in partnership with Mr. F.B. Barman, of Pottsville, he began business at the Franklin Iron Works, at Port Carbon. In 1878 he purchased Mr. Barman’s interest in the establishment, and has since been sole proprietor.

Under Mr. Allison’s personal supervision the Franklin Iron Works have attained a wide-spread reputation and a remarkable degree of success through the special machinery invented and patented by Mr. Allison, the cataract steam pump, the hydraulic feed for diamond drilling machinery and improvements on percussion rock with his improvements in air-compressing engines, have given Mr. Allison and his work a reputation throughout the world. Machinery has been made at the Franklin Iron Works and shipped to all parts of the United States, and to Australia, New Zealand, South America and Europe.

Mr. Allison, though of foreign nativity, is a thorough American in all that the name implies. Politically he has been a Republican since the organization of that party. As a citizen he has the respect of the people among whom he resides. His influence and means have ever been employed to advance the best public interests.

EAST UNION TOWNSHIP

This township was formed from Union in 1867. The first settlers of any note came into the township about the year 1802, and among them may be mentioned Thomas Gootschall, who settled on what is now a part of Torbert; his brother, William Gootschall, who settled on the place where John Lorah now lives, and John Maurer on the Nelson Brandon place. Henry Gilbert, who purchased the Thomas Gootschall place in 1811, and who is the oldest pioneer of the region now living, resided in 1880, at North Union, at the advanced age of ninety-two years, and in the full enjoyment of his mental faculties.

The population of East Union in 1870 was 614, and in 1880, 591.

BRANDONVILLE

This is a post village and station on the Catawissa Valley Railroad. It was laid out in 1864 by Nelson Brandon, who owned the land on which it is located. He built a hotel and store and sold them. The post-office was established, with Rudolph Breisch postmaster, in 1868. Mrs. B.F. Clayberger was postmistress in 1880.

The village contains three hotels, one public hall, two stores, a blacksmith shop and twenty-five dwellings. B.F. Clayberger is the proprietor of the hall and one of the merchants; the other store is kept by Samuel Cope.

The M.E. church of Brandonville was organized in 1879. Preaching had occasionally been furnished by clergymen from the surrounding towns, and since the organization services have been held with some regularity.

The union Sunday-school was started in 1876, with seventy members. Its first superintendent was a Mr. Medlar. It received a charter from the courts in June, 1880, and numbered at that time one hundred and fifty-five members, with D.R. Kauffman as superintendent.

TORBERT

Torbert is a pleasant hamlet, portions of which were formerly named Girard Manor and Valencia. It is doubtless as well and favorably known from being the residence of Hon. William L. Torbert as from any other cause. The estate of Hon. William L. Torbert covers about seven thousand acres, comprising the eastern terminus of the Catawissa valley, along which it extends about eight miles from the summit of Mahanyo mountain westward. Near the eastern boundary of these lands a copious spring of water, possessing superior mineral qualities, forms a stream which almost imme-

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diately is divided into two branches, one of which flows west, down the north slope of the mountain, into the Catawissa; the other, east to the Schuylkill. The Catawissa, a fine stream, has its course through the estate for several miles, and grist-mills, saw-mills and other manufactories, standing at intervals on its shores, are propelled by its water power, which is good. Torbert's Glenn, a wild, romantic and attractive pleasure resort, is visited during the summer and autumn by large numbers of people from various localities.

Throughout the entire property, but more especially in those sections adapted to the production of grass, fruit and grain, large never failing springs abound, and the brooks, of which they are the sources, are abundantly supplied with trout, bass, sunfish, whitefish, and Susquehanna salmon. The soil under cultivation is excellent, producing crops of grass, fruit and grain of superior quality and abundant in quantity. The not far distant mining towns in the coal region contain a dense population of non-producing consumers of everything in the way of provisions, and afford the best of market facilities to the estate, while the large number of horses and mules used in and about the collieries cause a demand for hay and feed of various kinds, which can be advantageously supplied by the producers being enabled to furnish these necessaries and be exempt from the heavy freight tariffs at which they are brought from western Pennsylvania, New York and other distant sections. These advantages, together with the fertility of the land, most of which is newly cleared, combine to place the local agricultural interests of the future in the foremost rank of successful enterprises in this part of the State. The adjoining properties on the north, south and east are in the anthracite coal measures, and are owned by the city of Philadelphia, the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company, Hon. William L. Torbert and the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company.

Torbert is proverbial for the good health of its citizens and the attractiveness of its surrounding scenery. It is noted for the generous welcome extended to strangers who tarry there for longer or shorter periods. Senator Torbert's homestead lands are in one body, located in Schuylkill, Carbon and Luzerne counties (a portion in each), Hazleton, Audenried, Delano, Tamaqua, Mahanyo City, Shenandoah and other prominent towns being distant from four to eight miles, while Ashland and Pottsville lie only about sixteen miles away. A part of this pleasant hamlet was formerly owned by the famous philanthropist, Stephen Girard, from whom its former name was derived. It came into the possession of his heirs, and in 1854 John A. Girard, John Fabricus Girard, and their sister, Stephanie (Girard) DeLentilhac, made a

They came from France, brought mechanics with them and erected buildings and mills. They opened a store in 1856, and conducted a somewhat extensive lumber business, but, owing to their lack of inclination to mix with the people of the adjacent country, and their extreme dislike for the Pennsylvania Dutch patois, the commercial language of the locality, they made few friends, and in 1864 disposed of the entire property to William L. Torbert, of Philadelphia.

One of the manor houses was erected by John A. Girard. It is tastefully built in the French Gothic style, covered, in the usual European manner, with a profusion of grape vines, and finely shaded by handsome trees. Colonel Wynkoop built the Valencia manor house, he being at the time United States marshal for the eastern district of Pennsylvania. Besides these there are nineteen tenant houses, occupied by the workmen's families, and six farm houses with the usual outbuildings.

A fine brick school-house was erected in 1880, and it adds materially to the good appearance of the place. The religious advantages are good.
The healthfulness of the locality is attested by the marked physical improvement of invalids who sojourn there temporarily. Torbert has convenient railways communication, the journey to New York and Philadelphia being made in four of five hours without change of cars, and to Williamsport, Baltimore and Washington in from four to eight hours, via the Philadelphia and Reading, the Lehigh Valley, the Central of New Jersey and the Pennsylvania railroads.

Senator Torbert has charge of the Railway station, Telegraph and Express offices. The Post-Office was established in 1865, with Mrs. Hester Torbert in charge.

Hon. William L. Torbert was born in Philadelphia, Pa., October 24th, 1828, and was reared and educated in his native city, where he was prominent in the Masonic order, and in the Washington Greys, a military company. James Torbert, Esq., his father, was born at Spring Mill, Montgomery county, Pa., February 19th, 1798, and passed his youth in Chester county, Pa., where his parents, brothers and sisters remained during life, and where their descendants are most of them engaged in farming.

On Christmas day, 1827, he married Margaret A. Loag, of Chester county, Pa., at the old Brandywine Manor meeting-house. During the following year they removed to Philadelphia, where they lived until 1868, when they took up their residence in the Girard mansion, near the residence of Hon. William L. Torbert, their son. Mr. Torbert died there October 16th, 1880, at the age of eighty-two, and was buried in Laurel hill cemetery, Philadelphia. His widow, Margaret A. Torbert, eighty-one years old, survives him, and is living at the homestead with her Miss Mary. Their children were:

Hon. William L. Torbert; Mrs. Louisa. Torbert, Mary J. Torbert; Emma J. Torbert, Anna Eliza Torbert; John Torbert; Caroline; James Torbert, jr.

Victoria Hester Torbert

Emma J. is the wife of Charles Tete, Esq., of Spring Hill, Delaware county, Pa., an extensive land owner in Schuylkill county.

Ellie F. is the wife of Frank A. Smith, Esq., of West Philadelphia, Pa.

Hon. William L. Torbert was married, in 1850, to Miss Hester Blatchford, also a resident of Philadelphia. Their children are:

Mary C. Torbert; A. Caroline Torbert; James Franklin Torbert; Susan L. Torbert, Ida V. Torbet; William Stephen Torbert, Elizabeth F. Torbert

Miss Ida V. married Mr. M. MacMillan, attorney, of Ann Arbor, Mich., September 9th, 1880.

Miss Lizzie F. married Charles E. Timman, of Shenandoah, Pa., December 9th, 1880.

James Franklin married Miss Sallie R. Burnett, of Spring Mill, Montgomery county, Pa., December 25th, 1880.

Mrs. Torbert's parents were Stephen and Mary J. Blatchford, residents of Philadelphia, Pa., where their remains now lie in Woodland cemetery. The former died in November, 1865, at the age of seventy-one; the latter April 11th, at the age of eighty-one.

From 1860 to 1865, Hon. William L. Torbert was located in Baltimore county, Md. Reference has been made to the purchase of the Girard mansion property in 1864. Mr. Torbert subsequently bought Valentine and other additions to the original, being extensively interested in lumbering in Schuylkill, Columbia, Luzerne and Centre counties, and having about two thousand acres of land

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under cultivation in the Catawissa valley surrounding his residence. Senator Torbert is the most liberal employer of agricultural labor in Schuylkill county.

Those of his employees having families are comfortably located upon the estate, enjoying common privileges, each family free from expense of any kind a dwelling with fruit and fuel and ground enough for garden purposes. The liberal policy which governs Mr. Torbert in his relations with his large number of employees is so well appreciated by them that probably no set of laborers anywhere regard their employer more highly than they do Mr. Torbert. His work is pushed forward month after month without jar of cessation, and he finds not only profit but happiness in endeavoring by all proper means to better the condition of his employees and their families. Always active in mercantile pursuits and public duties, Mr. Torbert has been at the same time a successful business man and a hard worker for the public weal. Though never a seeker for official preferment, he has been repeatedly called to positions of trust and responsibility by the voters of his township, county and district. The fidelity and earnestness which have characterized his administrations of public affairs marked him for steady advancement until the confidence of the people in his ability and integrity was manifested by his election the State Senate by a large majority in 1876, and as an independent member for 1877 and 1878, his fellow townsman of East Union indicating that he was not "without honor" at home by casting for him the unanimous and solid vote of the township, which aggregated more than any previous vote, even during closely contested elections when every vote was supposed to have exercised his right of suffrage.

In all good work for the advancement of the causes of enlightenment and improvement, Senator Torbert has ever been qualified to lead and has been relied upon as a leader, but he has nevertheless, ever put his own shoulder manfully to the wheel, considering no necessary duty, however small, too insignificant for him to perform. It is this sturdy and stirring industry, coupled with an ever careful attention to details, that has made him one of the most successful men in this region. It is his regard for the rights of those dependent on him that has endeared him to those whose action he so ably directs. He is one of those helpful men through whose efforts the wheel of progress is made to move on, crushing obstructions and smoothing the pathway of general advancement.

ELDRIDGE TOWNSHIP

Eldred was formed in 1848, from the old township of Upper Mahantongo. In this, as in other townships in Mahantongo valley, local developments were slow, and the scattered inhabitants were for many years content to look to adjacent neighborhoods for social and educational advantages.

The first settlers within the present township limits were Casper Hepler, who settled the place now owned by Simon Helper; Jacob Reinart, an old Revolution-ary soldier, on the A.F. Geist place; Peter Kluck, where D.S. Dunkelberger lives; Samuel Dreschler, on the Isaac Hein farm, and John Bescher on the place now occupied by Samuel Wolf. These settlements were made between the years 1805 and 1808.

John Bescher built the log house. The earliest road through the township was the mail road to Klingerstown. Casper Hepler was the first to die in the new settlement and his remains were buried in a graveyard opened at that time near the present residence of S.H. Rothesman. The first school-house was built of logs, on the Helper place, and the first school was taught by a man named Besler. Caspar Helper kept the first hotel, and the earliest known mill was erected by Peter Kluck on Little Mahantongo creek, where Daniel Dunkelberger now resides. Of other earlier settlers Jacob Maurer and Peter Yoder were perhaps the best known. The farms settled by these two men now owned by the Maurer family.

HELLENSTEIN

The Schuylkill basin touches this town to an extent that seems to render the prospects of mining favorable, and in 1868 Judge William L. Helfenstein, of Pottsville, the owner of a tract of coal lands, induced the firm of Bittle, Gilerman & Robison to open a colliery at the point now known as Helfenstein. The first coal was shipped from here in 1870, over the Reading Railroad. The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company purchased the interests of Judge Helfenstein in 1872, and continued to operate the mines until 1877, when work in them was suspended. During the management of this latter company the daily products of the colliery was two hundred and fifty tons.

The only settlements of this place prior to the opening of the colliery were made by John Kluck and William Bickel; the former of whom built in 1830 the hotel that, up to 1877, was the best known house in the township. J.E. Fertig opened the Union House in 1868 and, in the same year, Joel Kohler established the first general store, which is now kept by John Purcell.

The opening of the colliery led to an immediate and large increase of population, and to the local improvements necessary to meet their wants the liberality of Judge Helfenstein largely contributed. The suspension of coal mining has had a depressing effect on local interests, and caused the removal of a large number of those who were dependent upon this industry.

Helfenstein comprises one hotel, kept by Jacob E.
Fertig; one store, by John Pursell, doing a good business; one blacksmith shop, one church building, belonging to the M.E. denomination; and about a dozen dwellings.

PITMAN

contains a post-office and store kept by a man named Hass, an Odd Fellows' hall, shoe and cigar shops, one blacksmith shop, a church building, belonging to the Weinbrennarians, and thirteen dwelling houses. The settlement was formerly as Zimmermanstown, after an early settler. Its present title was given to it when the post-office was established.

STATISTICS

The township contained in 1860 943 inhabitants; in 1879, 968; and in 1880, 1,159. In 1870 its agricultural statistics showed 6,879 acres of improved land, farms and farming implements valued at $403,750; live stock to the value of $56,614, and farm products valued at $145,300.

The schools districts in 1880 were five in number; buildings five, condition poor.

The township officers for 1880 were: Supervisor, John D. Hepler, Jesse Geist, Simon Helper; town clerk George H. Neisenger; auditors, Augusts Weizel, Lewis Bensinger, B.H. Hass; treasurer, Frank Kehler; justices, E.H. Wetzel, M. Keefer.

MANUFACTURES

A tannery was built on the Samuel Kehler place in 1850, by George Kehler and Philip Hass.

D.Y. Hass started a small machine shop in 1860, four years later built the present works, and in 1868 added a foundry. He manufactures agricultural machinery, steam castings, etc. In 1879 he built the first steam engine ever constructed in the Mahantongo valley. It is rated at six horse power and was built for J. F. Geist's tannery.

The tannery of J.F. Geist was built by him in 1852, and enlarged in 1879. It is doing a lucrative business, using only oak bark.

The Henry Umholtz grist-mill was by a man named Yoder, from whom Mr. Umholtz purchased it in 1869.

CHURCHES

M.E. Church.-Occasional services were held by preachers of this denomination at Helfenstein as early as 1869, but it was not until April 12th, 1874, that a society was regularly organized with sixteen members-Thomas Dawson, Edmund Samuel, Mary Ann Samuel, Edmund W. Samuel, Margaret Werfield, Jane Werfield, William Werfield, Maria Werfield, Edward Grubb, Matilda Grubb, William Andrews, Maria Patton, Charles Patton, Louiza Shaeffer, Josephine Shaeffer and Lizzie Samuel. Its pastors have been K.B. Fortner, G. V. Savidge, J. N. Moorehead, N. B. Smith and H. N. Minnigh.

The church edifice by Hon. William L. Helfenstein, and intended as a union church; but, this denomination being the only one taking a decided interest in the place, he donated it to this church on the 25th of March, 1879. It is a framed building 32 by 45 feet in size and is valued at $1,500.

The first Sunday-school was organized May 16th, 1869 with William Brittle as superintendent, and 48 pupils. It was kept open a few months in each year until 1873, when it was reorganized, and D. W. Frieze superintendent, and 34 scholars. The school numbered in 1880 eight teachers and one hundred and twelve scholars, with Thomas Dawson superintendent.

The church of God in Eldred township was organized in 1847, with eight members: Isaac Hass and wife, John Helper and wife, George Hepler and wife, William Klinger, and a man named Traub. Iassc Hass was elected elder, and William Klinger deacon. The first baptism was in the mill pond of Elias Hepler, in the year 1845, Rev. Mr. Hoffman officiating. Elder Snavely was the first preacher of the denomination holding service in the township. The first Bethel was built in 1855, at a cost of $1,000, and it is still in use. The second was built at Zimmermanstown, now Pitman, in 1875, costing $1,200. The church numbers eighty members, with John D. Hepler and Emanuel Ganem as elders, and D. S. Smith and William Rodaberger deacons.

There are two flourishing Sunday-schools, with an aggregate of 150 scholars and 37 officers and teachers. Benjamin Hass and Ephraim Neiswinder are superintendents. Rev. Israel Hay is the pastor, and resides at Valley View.

FOSTER TOWNSHIP

This township was formed from portions of Butler, Berry, and Cass early in 1855. The first township election was held at the house of Mr. Heilner, in Monterey, the settlement known now as Mount Pleasant. The township lies in the mountains region between the two coal fields and is very sparsely settled. The southern portion is in the southern coal field, and a somewhat extensive business in mining has been carried on at Mount Pleasant, Glen Carbon and near points. Foster is bounded by Barry, Butler, Cass, Reilly and Hegins. There are only two schools in the township.

Who first lived within the present township limits is unknown. In 1831 widow Levan kept a tavern in an old log house on the site of Mount Pleasant. This village grew up under the impetus given to the neighborhood by coal operations in the vicinity by John Graham and
others. The buildings are mostly plain stone structures, and many of them are unoccupied. There is no church or post-office there. The principal merchant is Carr Phillips. The traveling public are more than amply provided for at Mount Pleasant by two taverns. For a time prior to 1871, when the mail was carried from Minersville through Mount Pleasant to Sunbury, there was a post-office there.

Glen Carbon, in the southeast corner of the township, is a railway station and post village. It is a small settlement which grew up in consequence of coal operations there. Like Mount Pleasant it is built mostly of stone. Messrs. Crowe & Scott are leading business men and well-known merchants.

COAL MINING

Many of the early workings in the township have been abandoned. The colliery at Mount Pleasant was some years since vacated, and purchased by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

The Rohersville colliery was opened by Mr. Rohers, of Philadelphia. He was succeeded by his sons William and James B. Rohers, who sunk a slope and built a breaker. They operated the colliery about three years, and were succeeded by Joseph F. Taylor, who worked the mine seven years. His successors were Wells & Detwiler. Later a Boston company operated the colliery, which has for some time been abandoned. East of Rohersville, on the Reed tract, Mr. Taylor, above mentioned, worked a small colliery for a time.

John Stanton opened on the Mammoth vein at Glen Carbon, with drifts. He did a successful business for a time, and was succeeded by William and Thomas Verver, who built a breaker and operated ten years, mining 20,000 to 30,000 tons annually. Lucas & Denning leased the colliery and worked it five years, producing fully 50,000 tons annually. A son of William Richardson, owner of the land, succeeded them. Business soon suspended at this colliery, which was idle until it passed into the hands of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. This colliery, known as the Richardson colliery, produced 8,301 tons in 1876; 62,238 in 1877; 75,353 in 1878, and 111,229 in 1879.

The Glendower colliery was opened by Thomas Schollenberger, and subsequently sold to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. In 1876, 24,479 tons were produced; in 1877, 58,497; in 1878, 56,450; in 1879, 50,698. A very small business was done at the Anchor colliery by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company in 1876 and 1877.

Some years ago Joseph F. Taylor sunk a slope on the south dip of the Mammoth vein, and built a breaker and a saw-mill to supply the colliery with lumber. He mined about 25,000 tons per annum and was succeeded by Thomas Atwood. The Forest Improvement Company were later operators. The present owners are the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

FRAILEY TOWNSHIP

This township was named in honor of the late Associate Judge Charles Frailey, and was formed in 1847 from Branch, Barry, Porter and Lower Mahantongo. It is bounded on the north by Hegins and Berry, on the east by Reilly, on the south by Tremont, and on the west by Porter and Hegins. Its length from east to west is about six miles, and its breadth about three miles. Through the northern part of this township from east to west extends what is known as the Broad mountain, which contains all the principal coal veins known in the Broad mountain range.

SETTLEMENT

The first settler of this township was probably a colored man, known as Black Charley, who erected a log hut near Good Spring creek, about two and a half miles west of the site of Donaldson, and lived there a sort of hermit life. What became of him is not certainly known.

About the year 1842 or 1843 the Swatara Railroad Company extended its road from what is now known as Lorberry Junction, through Tremont, to the mines at what is now Donaldson.

During the construction of the railroad, the mines in and around Donaldson in this township were opened. Of the lessees or operators who worked these mines, the firm of Colt, Gaskins & Lomison were among the first. For the better accommodation of their workmen, this firm commenced building a stone boardinghouse; but before its completion the original plan was charged and a larger building was erected. This house since the day of its completion has been occupied as a hotel and is known as the Franklin House. It was the first Hotel built in the township, and since its completion, with the exception of two years, it has been kept by David Lomison.

Of the early settlers of this township it may by said that Major William Colt, Captain Samuel Gaskins, David Lomison, and Mahlon McClooughan, from Danville, Montour county, or its vicinity, and Adam Etien and Jacob Crone, from Dauphin county, were most prominent. The earlier marriages were those of David Lomison and Miss Caroline Youngman, Mahlon McCloughan and Miss Elizabeth Tobias, and Jacob Crone and Miss
Catharine Dinger. Of these Mrs. Elizabeth Umholtz, late widow of Mahlon McCloughan, and Jacob Crone and his wife are the only ones living. William McCloughan, son of Mahlon and Elizabeth McCloughan, was the first boy born in this township. Among the other early births were those of James M. and John L. Gaskins, twin sons of the late Captain Samuel and Elizabeth Gaskins; and John L. Gaskins, a resident of Donaldson and a talented school teacher.

COAL HISTORY

Among the other and earlier coal operators were: Henry Heil, Mr. Gardner, Clark & McCormick, Wertz & Strimpfler, Snyder & Bar, and a few others. The first openings of these mines were all by drift or tunnel on the water level. The first breaker was built by the firm of Colt, Gaskins & Lomison, and was driven by water power. The first openings, being so near the surface, were soon worked out and abandoned. Of the early operators it is believed there is now (1881) no one living. About 1850, Messrs. John and Rodger Horton leased the Mammoth vein, sunk a slope thereon, and erected what was then thought a large coal breaker, and for several years this firm carried on quite an extensive business in the mining and shipping of coal. Later these same veins were operated in succession by Griffith T. Jones & Co., Etien & Lomison, and Owen, Eckel & Colket. They are now owned and worked by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

Marcus G. and Percival Heilner leased the veins at Middle Creek about 1848 and erected a large breaker, but not being successful in their business the colliery soon passed into other hands, and was subsequently worked by C. Garretson. It is now owned, but not at present operated, by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. About 1874 this company sunk a shaft at Middle Creek, made very extensive openings, and erected anew and substantial breaker; but the coal not proving satisfactory, the colliery is idle.

About 1855 Henry Heil leased and for many years worked the veins at Upper Rausch creek. His coal, excellent in quality, was known in the market as the East Franklin coal. The colliery, still known as the East Franklin colliery, is owned and operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. In 1863 the Messrs. Eckert & co. opened a colliery about two miles of Donaldson, but owing to the ill health of the managing partner, Mr. Jonathan Eckert, it was sold to Lucas Jones & Co., who worked it a year ad sold it to Nulling, Lewis & co., who after several years, sold their lease to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, who at once dismantled and abandoned the colliery.

The Colket Colliery at Donaldson has a large hoisting power, immense pumping engines, working from eighteen-inch pumps a 30-horse power breaker engine and several smaller engines used to drive fans for ventilation. When this colliery is in full operation about 130 men and boys are employed inside and 70 outside. The producing capacity is about 300 tons daily. The colliery is owned and operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

The East Franklin Colliery, owned and operated by the same company, is located at Strongsville. Its hoisting capacity is 100 and its pumping capacity 220-horse power. Several smaller engines are used to drive ventilating fans, and a large one to propel two air-compressers for inside hoisting. When worked to its full capacity this colliery employs about 120 men and boys inside, and 80 outside. The coal at this colliery is of a superior quality and highly prized for domestic use, for which it is perhaps excelled only by the famous Lykens Valley coal. The daily production is about 200 tons.

PUBLIC ROADS

In 1845 the road from Donaldson over the Broad mountain to Pine Valley was surveyed by Kimber Cleaver. The road connects with the Lykens Valley or Gratztown road at the house of William A. Stutzman. It is one of the principal roads over which the surplus production and traffic of the northern and western townships have gone to market in the coal region.

About the same time the road leading eastward from Donaldson via Middle Creek, and connecting with the road leading from Tremont to Pottsville at New Town, was made. In all probability the short piece of road leading from Donaldson to Tremont, a distance of only one mile, was the first road over which teams passed in coming into Fraily. Later the State road was made from Donaldson to the old Reading and Sunbury road. Over this road the greater part of the traffic from Lykens Valley passes. Branching off from the State road about two miles and a half west of Donaldson is the Williams Valley road. The road leading from Donaldson to Strongsville branches off from the State road in Donaldson and connects with the old Reading and Sunbury road at the BroadMountain Tavern, in Porter.

EDUCATIONAL

The first school was kept in a shanty or stable about two hundred feet south of where now stands the Franklin House, and was taught by Moses R. Young, who afterwards became one of the associate judges of Franklin county. The lower and upper Donaldson school-houses, erected in 1850, were the first in the township. Both are well built of rough stone, two stories high, and accommodate two schools each. Among the best known teachers of these schools have Hon. Decius H. Wilcox, Prof. A. J. Werntz, Josiah Leinaweaver, Hon. S. C. Kirk, I. L. Gaskins and John D. Williams, the present teacher of the Donaldson high school. Later three more school-houses were built in the township, at Strongville, Middle Creek, and Eckertville.

There are seven school in the township. The number of children of the school age is about 400. The average number attending school is about 250.
The first store was erected by the firm of Colt, Gaskins & Lomison. It was a commodious two-story stone building. The firm generally carried a heavy stock of assorted goods. The building is now occupied as a store by Opie & Long. John Harry erected a two-story stone building, forty feet square, which was occupied by Thomas J. Tobias as a store and dwelling.

The Franklin House, the first hotel built in this township, and kept about thirty-five years by the late Daniel Lomison, is now kept by James Opie. Soon after the Franklin House was built, David, Michael & Nathaniel Bressler erected a large frame house in upper Donaldson, which since its erection has been kept successively by different occupants. It is now (1881) owned and occupied by William F. Trautman, the inventor and maker of the famous scriptural clock.

PHYSICIANS-MAILS

Dr. Cameron, a nephew of Simon Cameron, formerly United States Senator, was the first resident physician of this township. In a year or two after the doctor had made this place his home, his wife died, and he soon after left for other fields of labor. Succeeding physicians have been Drs. Alfred Jones, John W. Donges and Joseph W. Bird.

Daniel Lomison was the first postmaster in Frailey. At his death, about two years ago, T.J. Tobias was appointed postmaster, and he has since served. In 1846 L.M. Gager drove the first stage from Pottsville to Donaldson, via Minersville, Llewellyn and Tremont, establishing the route which is still kept open, a daily mail being carried over it.

The post route westward from Donaldson is to Gratz, via Heginsville, Valley and Sacramento. In the earlier times of this route the mails were carried on horseback about twice a week; and Michael Brechbill (then a boy about fourteen years of age), a son of the late Michael Brechbill, for many years a justice of the peace in Donaldson, was the rider. At present the mail is carried three times a week by stage.

VILLAGES

Donaldson is the only village of importance. It was so named in honor of William Donaldson, one of the associate justices of Columbia county, who was the owner of the land when the original part of the town was built. The village is situated nearly in the center of Frailey east and west, at the foot of the Broad mountain, and about half a mile from the southern boundary line of the township.

As already stated, the Franklin House, erected in 1842 or 1843, was the first building in the village. Other structures soon appeared. Judge Donaldson was the land-owner. The first settlers (lessees and contractors), seeing that the mines promised to yield coal in large quantities, believed that here was the proper place to locate a town, and prevailed upon the judge to survey and sell village lots, which Judge Donaldson offered to purchasers at low figures and on very easy terms. The Swatara Company, owning the land east of what is now Harrison street, laid out lots and made an addition to the town. Lots for a time were readily sold, and buildings sprang up rapidly. The town contains two churches, two school-houses, a large foundry and machine shop, three hotels, four general stores, a confectionery establishment, three boot and shoe stores, a furniture store and manufactory, and several small shops. The population in 1880 was 1,000.

About two and one half miles southwest from Donaldson is Strongville, a mining village in which only about half the houses are now occupied. It has stone school-house, in which religious meetings were formerly held.

Eckertville, two miles west from Donaldson, was once a lively little mining village, but now only a few families reside there.

MILITARY

In 1849 or 1850 the "Donaldson Rifle Company" was formed, with Adam Etien as captain. At the outbreak of the Rebellion the members of the company joined with the Llewellyn Rifles, and, with Hiram Chance as captain, offered their services to the governor and were accepted. Their history is elsewhere related.

At the second invasion of Pennsylvania Captain Etien, with a company of fifty-four men, nearly all from this township, went to Harrisburg and offered their services to the governor. They were accepted and sworn into the United States service as Company I, 27th regiment Pennsylvania volunteer militia, to serve during the emergency. June 24th the regiment moved from Harrisburg to Columbia. On the 28th it was attacked by the enemy, and Company I did efficient service.

The following list contains the names of those who from 1861 to the close of the war enlisted from this township in the regular army, as members of different companies, attached to different regiments: Samuel Gaskins, James N. Gaskins, Nathan Dinger, Peter Greger, John Brinnen, Thomas Wilson, Emanuel E. Reedy, Daniel Wehry, Frank Wehry, Solomon C. Wehry, Bertram Trefsger, Anthony Trefsger, William C. Ward, Richard Fotheringill, Jacob Lehman, William Cooper, Doctor A. Jones, George Wilson, James Wilson, Edward Lawler, John Farrell, George Farrell, Patrick Fogerty, James Fogerty, Owen Brinnen, Martin Kelly, Philip Manly, John Manly, John Donly, Michael Cleary, John Cleary, William Angus, Patrick Quinn, John McIlhenny, William Madden, Elijah Horn, Charles Burk, Henry Achternacht, Alexander Thompson, Edward Purcel, William Ryan, Thomas Harrit, John Lawler, Joseph Kenady, John House, Charles Taylor, John Coffield, Thomas Wood, Patrick Fell, Bony Fell, James C. Wilson, John J. Tobias, Lewis Hummel, Calvin Wright,
William Smith, Thomas Angus, James Warr, Joseph Warr, Thomas Grant and James F. Dent.

Posterity may look with pride over the above lists of brave men who were ready in the hour of need to respond to their country's call. Deservedly has it been said of this township: "Little Frailey always filled her quota."

**CHURCHES**

Rev. T.A. Ferhly, a Methodist, was the first who preached in the township. The first meetings were held in a warehouse, located about a hundred yards south of the Franklin House, in Donaldson. Rev. D. Cook, a Presbyterian preacher, for some years was a resident here, and preached to the people of that denomination. There were others of different denomination. There were others of different denominations who visited the people as traveling preachers, and who held services in private houses, and sometimes in the hotel or the old warehouse. Mr. Lomison, many times, when the preacher came along shut up the bar and, taking the benches into the dining room, turned that part of his hotel into a church.

In 1848 the German Reformed and Lutheran denominations joined and commenced building a church, but it was not finished until about 1850 or 1851. Rev. Rudolph Duenger was the first preacher who served the members of the German Reformed congregation, and Rev. E.S. Henry was the first and for many years the only one who preached for the Lutherans. At present (1881) Rev. Daniel Sanner, of Tremont, is the officiating Lutheran clergyman, and for several years past Rev. Mr. Metzger has served the German Reformed branch of the church.

In 1874 the members of the Church of God erected a church building. Rev. Mr. Smith was their first pastor, and Rev. Mr. Hay is in charge at the present time.

**SUNDAY-SCHOOLS**

The first Sunday-school in Frailey was early organized in Donaldson, with Moses R. Young as its superintendent. Mr. Jacob Crone for many years afterward served the school in that capacity. This was a union school and was not connected with any church as such. With successive superintendents and officers, it has continued to the present time (1881). The late Samuel Gaskins was for a long time its staunchest friend and most earnest helper. The present membership is about 75. Reverend David Shop is the superintendent.

Soon after the upper Donaldson school-house was built (about 1850), the citizens of the upper town organized a Sunday-school. This school has also ever been a union Sunday-school. Mr. Charles Long is at present superintendent and the membership is about 70.

The members of the Church of God have a Sunday-school connected with their church. It has a membership of about 65 and George W. Tobias is its superintendent.

**ODD FELLOWS**

July 3rd, 1850, Donaldson Lodge, No. 382, was organized under a charter granted October 1st, 1849. Peter O'Bressler, Peter Greger, sr., David Lomison, B.E. Reedy, Christian Lye, Samuel Gaskins, and Jacob L. Hassinger were the charter members. The present membership is about 100.

May 18th, 1868, the Grand Encampment of Pennsylavnia granted a charter to Adam Etien, B.E. Reedy, John W. Donges, John Werfield, J.L. Gaskins, William H. Moore, Henry Graver, Peter O'Bressler, and William H. Ward, by authority of which Concord Encampment I.O.O.F. was not long afterwards organized.

**HEGINS TOWNSHIP**

Hegins township was originally taken wholly from Lower Mahantongo, but after the establishment of Foster township a portion of it (which had been a part of Barry) was attached to Hegins, and confirmed by the court January 30th, 1858.

The earliest settlement that can be traced was that of a half-breed Indian named Hager, who had a cabin on what is now the farm of Valentine Savage, in or about the year 1757. He removed to the Wyoming valley after the massacre, and his place was taken up by a German named Boyner. George Klinger, who was appointed a justice of the peace in 1800, is believed to have been the next to come. Mr. Klinger served as a magistrate for forty years. John Kuntzelman, who settled in 1804 on the Emanuel Dunkelberger farm; James Osman, his nearest neighbor, whose cabin stood near the site of the Dunkelberger grist-mill; Benjamin Bassoer, who took up the Joel Reed farm; Peter Dingler, on the Dingler homestead; Christian Stutzman, where William A. Stutzman now lives; Jacob Haberacker, on the Aaron Otto place; Michael Kessler, at the point known as Kessler's Mill; George Dedrich, where A.B. Kessler, now lives; Christian Krueger, on the Charles Gable place, and Peter Bizler, John Dietrich and Jacob Heberling were the best known of the pioneers of Hegins. The progress of the new settlements was slow, and its people were for many years dependent on their neighbors for local improvements, and often for the means of livelihood.

A grist-mill was built by James Osman in 1801 on the site of the Dunkelberger mill; and in 1808 Peter Kones put up a saw-mill on Pine creek, where Peter Stutzman's mill now stands. In 1814 another saw-mill was built, by
Peter Stutzman, on the place now owned by William Stutzman, in the east end of the township.

The first hotel was kept by Joseph Osman, a son of James Osman, where John Conrad now keeps a hotel. It was opened in 1827, and accommodated farmers and teamsters—the latter class usually bringing their own provisions with them and sleeping on the floor. To those who patronized the culinary and bar department the following rates were charged: meals, twenty-five cents; whiskey, three cents a glass; cigars, four for one cent. It is hardly supposable that, with the limited travel of those days, mine host Osman became more than moderately wealthy at those moderate rates, even by combining with his duties the emoluments of the post-office of Lower Mahantongo, which was established in 1827, and to the charge of which he was commissioned.

The war of 1812 awakened the patriotism of this frontier settlement, and Peter Bressler, Jonathan Bressler, Peter Dinger, George Dinger, George Dedrich, John Schoup, and John Kessler took up arms to drive the British invaders from our soil.

Peter Stutzman put up the first framed building, which stood until it was destroyed by fire, in 1860, when a brick house was erected in its place.

A log church was built in 1871, and an itinerant preacher, the Rev. Nicholas Hemping, was the first to hold services in it. The old building was taken down in 1874 to make room for the brick structure known as the Friedens Church.

It is interesting to note that in some respects public improvements were slow of adoption, while in others commendable enterprise was shown. For instance, although a church was built as early as 1817, it was not until fourteen years later, 1831, that the first bridge was built over Deep creek, near the Dunkelberger place, and not until 1857 that a school was established in a log house near the brick church at Heginsville, with Valentine Savage as its first teacher.

A tannery was built by Andrew Shael, about the year 1845, on the site of which E.G. Ressler built, in 1874, and carried on the tanning of slaughter hides up to 1878, when he suspended operations.

The population of Hegins in 1860 was 1,102; in 1870, 1,154; in 1880, 1,462.

### POST VILLAGES AND MAIL ROUTES

Heginsville assumed its present name in 1850, when the postoffice here was established. It contains one hotel—the Heginsville House—kept by J.F.H. Long; a general store also by Mr. Long, and another, built in August, 1880, by John Reed; two churches, a schoolhouse, an Odd Fellow's lodge, two blacksmith and repair shops, and about one hundred inhabitants. The village takes its name from the township, which in turn derived it from Judge Hegins, who was on the bench at the time the township was chartered. The postmaster is J.F.H. Long, who has been in charge since its opening. Mails are received, via the Kutztown and Tremont stage line, three times a week.

Valley View was formerly known as "Osmantown," in honor of Joseph Osman, the pioneer hotel keeper. The post-office established here in 1827 under the name of Lower Mahantongo was subsequently changed to the present name—a relief to letter writers as well as more euphonious and expressive. The Farmers' Hotel, kept by John F. Conrad, is the successor of the old log tavern kept by Osman in 1827. There are two stores, one kept by R. B. Dunkelberger, who purchased the interest of Jacob Updegrave in 1878, the latter having opened the first store kept here in 1852; and one by George Greeber, who succeeded Nathan Bressler. The valley View Hotel is kept by Elias Dilfield, who opened it in 1879. Two churches, the Winebrenarian and United Brethren, a wagon shop, a tin store and about forty dwellings go to make up the village.

Fountain post-office was established in 1872, with William A. Stutzman, the present incumbent, in charge. The little hamlet to which the office gives its name is situated in the extreme eastern part of the township, on the Tremont and Kutztown road, and besides the post-office building, which was used by Mr. Stutzman as a hotel from 1863 until 1877, there is here a church, owned by the Lutheran denomination. Mr. Kutzman opened a hotel here as early as 1850.

Rausch Gap.—A small colliery known as Rausch Gap is located about two miles south of Valley View, on lands of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, and operated by William H. Yohe. It has a level drift in the south dip of the Skidmore vein, and is mined for local market only.

### CHURCHES OF HEGINS

**The Church of God** was organized by Rev. John Hepler August 14th, 1856. Daniel Laudenslager was elected elder, and Jacob Krone deacon. The church numbered in 1880 about thirty members, with David Laudenslager and Jacob Shrop as elders, and Samuel Bohner and Joseph Wagner deacons. It has a promising Sunday school of 75 scholars, with 19 officers and teachers. C.I. Laudenslager is its superintendent. The Bethel was built in 1856, in a lot about one mile east of town, and in 1871 was moved into Valley View. It is valued at $1,500. Rev. J. Hay is the pastor.

**The United Brethren Church,** formerly a branch of Lykens circuit, was organized into a class in 1863. The building at Valley View was erected in 1862. The members most prominent in the church at that date were John Haldeman, John Haldeman, jr., Peter Hereing and Daniel Roessler. The Sunday-school was organized in 1863, with Dr. J.H. Shope as superintendent.

**Friedens Reformed and Lutheran Church.** This church is the outgrowth of an organization of members belonging to the Reformed Church in America. It was first
organized by Rev. William Reily in the year 1801. The place of worship was an old log school-house in deep Creek valley. Mr. Reily continued to preach at this place to a few members until 1816 or 1817, when this congregation and their Lutheran brethren agreed to build a union church. The site chosen for the new church building was Pine valley, about one and a half miles southwest from the place where the church was originally organized. The church edifice was built of logs, 40 by 55 feet, in the usual style: the pews so arranged as to form a cross in front of the altar and pulpit. The building committee were Messrs. Michael Artz, Philip Artz, Michael Bressler, and Wilhelm Otto.

The first pastor of the Reformed denomination was Rev. Henry Felix, who was called in 1818. He was followed in succession by Rev. Hartman G. Kneble, in 1820; Rev. John Hontz. 1827; Rev. Benjamin Boyer, 1830; Rev. Isaac Stiehle, 1831; Rev. Rudolph Duenger, 1837; Rev. Henry S. Bassler (supply), 1854: Rev. Jarde Fitzerzinger, 1855; Rev. Henry Bassler, 1870; and Rev. B.S. Metzger, the present pastor, 1877.

In 1874 a new church edifice was erected, of brick, 45 by 65 feet, with a basement, and a steeple sixty feet in height. The corner stone was laid in August, 1874, and the house was dedicated on Christmas of the same year. The building committee were Michael B. Bressler, Solomon B. Otto, David S. Artz, and Nathan D. Yoder. The building cost about $8,500.

The congregation numbers about two hundred, nearly equally divided between the Reformed and Lutheran denominations. The Sunday-school of this congregation was organized thirty years since, and it now numbers, of officers, teachers and scholars, 150.

**Christ's Reformed and Lutheran Church.**-This congregation was organized August 2nd, 1873, with about sixty members. The officers were: William A. Stutzman, president; August Dinger, Peter Stutzman and Isaac Shadel were appointed building committee. The building, which is a neat wooden structure, 34 by 44 feet, stands at the eastern end of Pine valley. The corner stone was laid May 24th, 1874, and it was dedicated November 22nd of the same year.

The Reformed pastors of this congregation have been Revs. Henry S. Bassler and B.S. Metzger. The Lutheran pastor since the organization has been Rev. D. Sanner. The church has about 90 members and the Sunday-school about 115.

**ODD FELLOWS**

Heginsville Lodge, No 726, I.O.O.F.-This lodge was instituted September 22nd, 1870, S.C. Schrope, E.G. Roessler, John Reed, Isaac G. Shadel, William B. Otto, Edward Bressler, Joel S. Dinger, Solomon G. Bressler, Jonathan B. Stutzman, N.M. Bressler, Joel G. Roessler, N.B. Otto, N.S. Bressler and John Stutzman being the charter members. The first officers were: Solomon G. Bressler, N.G.; Joel S. Dinger, V.G.; Joel G. Roessler, secretary; Edward Bressler, assistant secretary; N.B. Otto, treasurer. The presiding officers have been Joel S. Dinger, Edward Bressler, Joel G. Roessler, N.D. Yoder, W.B. Otto, Harrison Wagner, M.P. Stutzman, Augustus Dinger, John Roessler, Elias Kessler, J.F.H. Long, Elias Dilfield, Ben. Yoder, C.I. Laudenslager, H.W. Bressler, Joel A. Dinger, Harrison Wagner, B.S. Metzger, and M.G. Bressler. The present officers are: N.G., M.G. Bressler; B.G., E.M. Dunkelberger; secretary, N.D. Yoder; assistant secretary, Elias Otto; treasurer, S.C. Schrope. The present membership is 49. The lodge meets every Friday evening in its own hall, which was erected in 1871 at an expense of $3,000. P.G.N.D. Yoder of this lodge has served two terms as D.D.G.M. The lodge is prosperous.

Ellsworth Lodge, No. 568, I.O.O.F. was organized May 24th, 1861. The charter members were Daniel Bohner, Solomon Anterline, Daniel Schucker, Henry Reedy, William Schwalm, George F. Wiest, George W. Moyer, Jacob D. Artz, John Stein and Jacob Umholtz. The first officers were: Daniel Bohner, N.G.; Henry Reedy, V.G.; George F. Wiest, S.; John Stein, A.S.; Jacob Umholtz, treasurer. The present officers are: William Schwalm, N.G.; Edward Osman, V.G.; William Lego, S; Jacob D. Artz, A.S.; Charles W. Tobias, treasurer. The lodge meets every Wednesday evening at Valley View.

**HUBLEY TOWNSHIP**

This township, erected from Lower Mahantongo in 1853, has very little pioneer history that is not contemporaneous with that of her sister towns. The earliest settlement here was made in 1804 by Michael Beigert, who made a clearing on the place where Jacob Artz now resides. Following closely came Philip and Michael Artz, and in the same neighborhood John and George Dietrich settled the farms now occupied by Paul Dietrich and William Stoney; Daniel Bixler, settling where Jonas Miller now lives; John and Henry Stoney, who settled the Stoney homestead and the Charles Tobias farm. John Haldemann and John Schmitz were Hubley's pioneers.

Michael Beigert built the first log house, and for some years that style of architecture might be considered as the prevailing one. The first orchard was planted by
John Haldemann. The first saw-mill was built by John Stoney, on Deep creek, near the old homestead, about the year 1820; the first grist-mill having been built some two years earlier by Conrad Coil, where the Shortman mill now stands.

The first public thoroughfare in the town was the stage road from Reading to Klingerstown. The old Indian trail running through this county into Northumberland passed through this township near the Pottsville road.

John Coil taught a private school at an early day in a log house near the Sacramento Hotel. The township includes four school districts, each supplied with a building and teachers.

Abraham Hoffa build the first hotel and the first store within the town limits. The tanning of leather was at one time an industry of some importance. John Stein in 1848 erected a tannery on the place now owned by Frederick Schwalm. Hiram Kimmel built his present works in 1866, and he is still operating them, using oak bark principally, and tanning upper leather.

The residents of Hubley who participated in the war of 1812 were George Harner, John Kawl and David Maurer.

The post-office of Sacramento was established in 1877, and kept in the building where Daniel Artz now trades.

The population in 1860 was 538; in 1870, 547; in 1880, 747.

**UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST**

This denomination has two appointments in Hubley. One is at Sacramento, where a church edifice was built in 1873, among the members being William Artz, John Kone, Jonas Miller, Cornelius Meyer and Cornelius Herner. The Sunday-school connected with this church was organized in 1874. Its superintendents have been A. Runkel, William Artz, S. Licht, C. Herner, F. Warfield and C. Moyer. The other appointment, which is at Schwalm’s Church, in the west end of the township, was organized as a class in 1875 by George H.E. Hackman, the pastor at that time.

These appointments belong to the Valley View circuit, which comprises classes in Hegins, Eldred and Hubley. Its pastors have been Revs. L.W. Cranmer, Davis Moyer, Jabob Runk, J. Shoop, William Dissinger, S. Noll and L. Fleisher. Rev. J. Shoop was in charge in 1880.

**KLEIN TOWNSHIP**

Up to 1873 Klein formed part of rush township. It received its name in honor of Jacob Klein, who was then associate judge of the courts of Schuylkill county.

Nearly the entire population is engaged in coal industry. Coal forms the sole wealth of the township. The deposits are the Honey Brook basin and the Silver Brook basin. This township contains within its limits the highest land in this section of the State. A large part of the township is more than 2,000 feet above the level of the sea.

**EARLY SETTLEMENTS**

The pioneer settlers of this township were principally of German extraction. The first settler was a man named John Stackhouse, at a place now known as the “green fields,” situated at the foot of the Spring mountain, on the south side, at a distance of about forty rods from the main road between Tamaqua and Hazleton. Two large apple trees and the ruins of an over mark the place where his log house once stood. It was built in 1815 or 1816. After his death, which occurred in January, 1846, it was occupied by Jet Scheiner, Weaver and others, who may be considered as being among the early settlers.

In 1841 or 1842 a German named John Simmers settled where the Tresckow railroad crosses the main road leading from Tamaqua to Hazleton. His house was partly of logs and partly framed, and he occupied it about four years. A German named Henry Betzenberger then occupied it until it burned down in 1852. The old well dug by Simmers at the side of the road, now used by the public, shows where the building stood. The third house was built in 1849, and stands near the road leading from Summit to Hazleton, in the little mountain village of Silver Brook. It is a framed building, and it was first occupied by Herman Miller. It is now occupied by the wide of Henry Betzenberger, in possession of which family it has been since July, 1854. These were the only houses built in the township previous to the discovery of coal at Honey Brook in 1853.

The only clearing in the township is a small field of about two acres in extent, called the “green fields.” It was cleared by John Stackhouse more than sixty years ago, and he raised potatoes and green vegetables there. In 1856 and afterward Henry Betzenberger grew oats in this field-the only grain ever raised in this township.

The first marriages of this township were those of Casper Brell in 1854, and John R. Sewell in 1859. Mrs. Sewell, now a widow, resides at Silver Brook. Henry Brell, son of Casper Brell, George Betzenberger and Ellen Betzenberger were the first children born. In 1839 or 1840 occurred the death of Mrs. Stackhouse. John Simmers died about 1845, and John Stackhouse in 1846. John Stackhouse and wife were buried at Beaver Meadow, and John Simmers at Tamaqua. There is no graveyard within the limits of the township.
The oldest road is the main road leading from Tamaqua to Hazleton. It has been in existence more than a hundred years, and in early times it formed the main route of travel between Pottsville and Wilkes-Barre. Express teams, merchant teams, stage lines, and especially the many lumber teams conveying lumber from the valleys of the Susquehanna to Tamaqua, Hamburg, and other towns, tended to make this road a great highway. In 1855 it was turnpiked by Roland Jones, of Tamaqua. It was discontinued as a turnpike in 1857, and has since remained a township road. It was upon this road that the first stage line ran through this township, in 1841 or 1842. It was owned by David Moyer, of Tamaqua. It carried the United States mail between Tamaqua and Hazleton and Beaver Meadow. Edward Everett was the first stage driver. In 1844 or 1845, this line was purchased by Peters & Co., of Philadelphia, who extended it to Wilkes-Barre and carried the mail between that place and Pottsville. This line was known as the mail line. another line, known as the opposition line, owned by Adams & Co., ran over this road at the same time. both these lines were discontinued in 1854. The second road was opened between Summit and silver Brook. another road, connecting Honey Brook with the main road, was opened about the same time. In 1854 John Schieffly and Stephen Jones opened a stage line between Summit and Wilkes-Barre and carried the mail between those places. This road has ever since been a mail route. the mail is at present carried by Thomas Casselberry, of Hazleton, who runs a stage line between that place and Summit.

EARLY TAVERNS

The first tavern was kept by John Stackhouse more than fifty years ago. The accommodations were exceedingly poor. Teamsters and travelers were obliged to sleep on the floor on blankets, there being no sleeping apartments. For many years this was the only house between Beaver Meadow and Lindnersville, and was a general stopping place for all travelers. It had a large amount of custom, and had stable capacity for ten or twelve horses. After the death of John Stackhouse, this stand was kept open for several years by Jet Scheiner. The other early taverns were those kept by John Simmers in 1841, Henry Betzenberger in 1845, and Jacob Gardner at Summit in 1854. All these stands had much custom. The accommodations at Summit and Betzenberger’s were good. They were licensed taverns, and had stable room for ten or twelve horses each. the Summit Hotel is at present kept by Edward Cope. The other three have long been closed. Within the last seven years there have been four taverns opened at Silver Brook and vicinity. Their keepers are Patrick Carlin, Patrick Lafferty, James McBrarity and James Mullin.

RAILROADS

The Catawissa Railroad was completed on the fourth of July, 1854. A branch about two miles in length was built from Summit to the Silver Brook colliery in 1865. The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company leased this road in 1873, and it now forms the Williamsport branch of that road. The Quakake Railroad, intending to intersect the Catawissa Railroad near Summit Station, in 1839 graded an inclined plane about half a mile in length at a place called Switchback, nearly two miles east of Summit. Before the track was laid the project was abandoned. The Beaver Meadow Railroad was constructed to the mines at Honey Brook in 1855-6. All the coal mined in the Honey Brook basin previous to 1869 was transported over this road. The Tresckow Railroad was completed in 1869. Nearly all the coal mined in the Honey Brook basin goes over this road.

SCHOOLS

The public school at Honey Brook was opened November 1st, 1858. It was held in a building rented of J.B.McCreary, situated at a short distance east of the town. The school was first taught by Charles Betzenberger, for $25 per month. His successors up to 1865 were Abel Hotlicher, J.S. Longacre, James F. Hagerty and Mrs. Langdon, at salaries ranging from $20 to $35 per month. Mrs. Langdon was the wife of W.F.S. Langdon, dockage boss at colliery No. 1, who was murdered by the Mollies in 1860. jack Kehoe was the alleged murderer. Mrs. Langdon taught Honey Brook several years. This school was known as school No.6, being the sixth public school opened in rush township. The members of the school board in 1858 were: Henry Hauck, president; Isaac A. Blew, secretary; jacobi Faust, Henry Betzenberger,Aaron Boughner and Daniel Kester. In November, 1865, a school building, containing two school-rooms, was erected in the eastern part of the town at a cost of $1,225. David Mulhall and Mrs. Langdon were the first who taught in this building, where the schools were held for nine years, when a new one, costing $2,700, was erected near the center of the town. it has three rooms, in which three teachers are employed. The second school was opened at Silver Brook in November, 1865. It was known as school No. 9 of Rush, and was first taught by W.B. Stauffer at a salary of $40 per month. it was afterwards taught by Richard Morris, Thomas M. Frause, Mary Murrin and others. In 1880 a new building, costing the township $1,115, was built. the school numbers about 75 pupils, and is taught by W.E. Malony.

SUMMIT STATION

Summit Station received its name from its situation at the highest point on the Catawissa Railroad, 1,547 feet above the sea level. It is built upon the tract of Messrs. Stauffer and Lindner. a store was kept at this place by John Anderson, civil engineer for the Catawissa Railroad Company, to supply those employed in grading.
the Catawissa Railroad and constructing the tunnel at Summit from 1835 to 1838, when it was closed. This was the first store kept in the
township. In 1854 Jacob Gardner built the Summit Hotel. This was a very important stand in its early days. Previous to the completion of
the Quakake Railroad, connecting with the Beaver Meadow and Hazleton roads, Summit was one of the most important points of travel on
the Catawissa Railroad. Large quantities of freight were daily shipped at this station for Hazleton and vicinity. A large quantity of freight
and coal transported over the Catawissa Railroad is weighed at this station. It contains the only post-office and store in the township. The
post-masters were A. Henrahan and Abraham Focht. The store was built by H.H. Roth, of Philadelphia, in 1879, and has quite a large
trade. The most prominent and influential residents are Abraham Focht and Frank Kentner. the former is the present land owner, and in
1879 built an addition to the village of a number of houses.

SILVER BROOK

Silver Brook is built upon the tracts of G. Medler and others. The house of Mrs. Betzenberger was the only building there in
1864. It contained a company's store from then until 1871. The engine house and scale yards of the Tresckow Railroad are at this place. A
large school-house was built in 1880. All the building there, except those belonging to the Tresckow Railroad, were owned by the
operators of the Silver Brook colliery, and are now supposed to belong to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. They are fast
decaying. One of these dwelling houses is a tavern stand kept by J. McBrarity. This place contained previous to 1877 a lodge of the
Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Silver Brook Colliery.-This colliery is upon the tracts of A. Grove and others, afterward the estates of Messrs. Dilworth and Mitchell, and consists of a slope and shaft. The sinking of these and the building of the breaker were begun by Alexander Gray & Co. in
1864, and completed in 1865. In 1865 or 1866 A. Gray sold his interests to S.P. Longstreet, of Wilkes-Barre. This colliery was then known
as that of Hosie & Longstreet. It was under the management of Longstreet, and was well conducted. It shipped from 50 to 60 cars of coal
day, and was in operation till November, 1871, when S.P. Longstreet ordered the workings of the colliery to be discontinued. Nothing
has since been removed from the place. The breaker is in a dilapidated condition, and the engines and boilers are nearly ruined. The mines
have become filled with water, which now flows out at the top of the shaft. Within the mine are an excellent pump-engine and large
quantities of pipe and iron. There still remain in this basin large quantities of coal. Only the south pitch of the veins has been worked. The
north pitch, extending into the tracts of Messrs. Kelvey and Adders, remains unworked. There has been a dispute as to the ownership of
this colliery since the time it ceased operations. It is now controlled and guarded by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company.

HONEY BROOK

Honey Brook is on the tracts of V. Lewis and J. Kunkle. The first buildings were erected in 1853, by J.B. McCready & Company, lessees of the Honey Brook coal basin. The town is the property of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company. All the collieries in the vicinity of Honey Brook are owned by this company. The only public building is a large school-house, built in 1874. The only shops are
those connected with the different collieries. All the inhabitants are engaged in the collieries at Honey Brook and vicinity. Collieries Nos.
1 and 5 are situated at Honey Brook; colliery No. 4 at Audenried, a small portion of which village is in Klein.

Honey Brook Collieries.-The Honey Brook coal basin, which extends from Carbon county into Schuylkill, and unites with the
Beaver Meadow basin, was opened in 1854 by J.B. McCready & Company, lessees of the Honey Brook basin. There are six collieries in this
basin in the vicinity of Honey Brook and Audenried, of which Nos. 1, 4 and 5 are in Klein township. They are upon the tracts of J.
Kunkle, C. Kunkle and V. Lewis. These mines are extensively worked, and form the eastern limits of the coal works in Schuylkill county.
All these collieries consist of slopes, the excavations of which, upon examination, have been found to extend into the adjacent counties.
Colliery No. 1, or the Honey Brook colliery, was opened in 1854. The first coal was shipped in 1856 over the Beaver Meadow Railroad.
Colliery No. 2 was opened on the same base as colliery No. 1, in 1860.

These collieries were superintended by Messrs. Meyers and Mumper. J.B. McCready & Co., lessees, consolidated with the land
owners in 1862, and formed the corporation known as the Honey Brook Coal Company, with Meyers and Mumper as superintendents. In
1865 A. Fellows became superintendent of both collieries, and held the position till 1867. From 1867 to 1871, during which time collieries
Nos. 3 and 4 were opened, all the works of the Honey Brook Coal Company were superintended by William Hopkins. Colliery No. 3 is
situated in Carbon county. In 1870 colliery No. 2 was abandoned and No. 4 was opened in its stead the same year. The coal mined at this
colliery was shipped over the Tresckow Railroad. The breaker is situated within 50 feet of the Carbon county line. It requires 1,140 foot
of rope to reach to the foot of the slope. Colliery No 5 was sunk in 1872 and is situated at the western end of the basin.

The first coal was shipped in May 1873. The Honey Brook Coal Company in 1873 and was merged in a corporation known as the
Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company with E.B. Leisenring as superintendent. This company in 1877 went into the hands of a receiver.
Since then all the collieries have been worked by contract by E.B. Leisenring. There are at present mined at these colliers from 1,000 to
1,500 tons of coal daily.
MAHANOY TOWNSHIP

The territory from which the old township of Mahanoy was formed was, until 1849, a part of Rush township, one of the original townships of Schuylkill county, and until 1811 a part of the great county of Northampton. At the latter date no general settlement had been made, and only here and there was an isolated log house, where hospitality was dispensed to the solitary horseman, who, on his way from Reading or Easton to the older settlements of Columbia county, traversed the bridle paths of the wild mountain region, or sought pleasure and profit in the chase.

Rush township was originally bounded on the northwest by Union township, northeast by Carbon county, south by West Penn township, and southwest by Schuylkill township. In 1820 this territory contained only 253 inhabitants; in 1830, 359; in 1840, 370. It now contains four townships and five boroughs, inhabited by about 35,000 people.

The erection of the township of Mahanoy was rendered possible by the completion of the Mill Creek Railroad and the Mahanoy Plane, with the consequent opening of collieries and influx of population in the western portion of the old township.

The earliest known settler in the township was a German named Reisch, who built a log cabin on the site of the large brick hotel known as the Mansion House, in Mahanoy City, about 1791. The family of Henry Ketner was one of the first to settle in the township. Within the next ten years the families of Henry Stauffer, Samuel May, John Eisenboth, Daniel Brobst and Erastus Williams came into the vicinity. Of these families H.H. Stauffer, justice of the peace in Mahanoy City, was in 1880 the only representative residing in the limits of the old town, and to him, whose residence dates back to 1829, the historian is indebted for many of the details of this sketch.

The first saw-mill in the township was built about 1820, by John Eisenboth, on what is known as Eisenboth's run, a small tributary of the Mahanoy creek, near Mahanoy City; and was operated on a small scale for many years. The occupation of the people was shingle making, chopping, farming and hunting. The Catawissa turnpike was the avenue of travel.

The population of the township in 1860 was 573; in 1870 9,400, and in 1880, after West Mahanoy and Mahanoy City had been taken from it, 4,451.

ST. NICHOLAS

This place includes the St. Nicholas, Wiggan's and Suffolk patches, as they were formerly called. It was settled in 1861, at which date Cake & Guise commenced mining operations here. While engaged in erecting the breaker Mr. Guise was killed by an accident. H.L. Cake, the surviving partner, named the place and colliery St. Nicholas, and the post-office, established in 1863, and kept by B.F. Smith, was given the same name. In 1864 Mr. Cake disposed of the colliery to a party of capitalists and operators, incorporated as the St. Nicholas Coal Company. Some of its prominent members were George Ormrod, C.F. Shoener, John Donneston and W.F. Donneston. This company operated the colliery until February, 1880, when the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company succeeded it.

The first store in St. Nicholas was kept by Smith & Krebs, and opened about 1861. It is now kept by James Delong.

The Union Church was built in 1874 by the united efforts of all who were interested in having Protestant services held in the place. Among its prominent supporters were Major Phillips, James Delong, Benjamin Jones and John A. Donneston. It is a neat framed structure and meets the wants of all classes of believers. Services are held by Primitive Methodist, Evangelical, Presbyterian, Lutheran and Reformed clergymen from the adjacent boroughs.

St. Nicholas Colliery.-This colliery was opened in 1861, and it is now the property of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. Its breaker was built in 1861; has a capacity of five hundred tons daily, and its average annual shipments have been about 80,000 tons. Three hundred men and boys are employed. The slope is sunk to a depth of 720 feet below water level and workings opened in the Buck Mountain, two splits of the Mammoth, and, to some extent, in the Primrose. J.A. Donneston was superintendent under the St. Nicholas Coal Company nearly sixteen years.

St. Nicholas Division, No. 26, S. of T.-This division was instituted April 8th, 1879, with Richard Koons, John DeSilva, B.R. Jones, F.J. Smith, Thomas Metz, George Shafer, Charles Drum, William Jones, William Trevethyn, E.C. Koons and Owen Brown as charter members. At the first meeting Richard Koons was elected W.P., George Shafer secretary, and John DeSilva treasurer. Since that time the following members have passed the chair: George Shafer, John J. Reed, F.J. Smith, Thomas Metz and John DeSilva.

The officers in position November 1st, 1880, were: W.P., E.C. Koons; W.A., Rachel Jones; R.S., John A. Trevethyn; F.S., Alexander McHale; T., Richard Koons; chaplain, W.C. Emory; cond. W.M. Gibson; assistant cond., Alice Gibson; I.S., Emma Koon; O.S., George Case.

There are about sixty members. Meetings are held at Suffolk school-house Tuesday evenings.

St. Nicholas Silver Cornet Bank was organized November 5th, 1878, with twenty members, and employed Jacob Brittz, of Mahanoy City, as teacher. Within a few weeks after organization J.C. Neuland was chosen lead-
er, and he still holds the position. Its officers in 1880 were: John J. Reed, president; Thomas Metz, secretary; Enoch Decker, treasurer; J.C. Neuland, leader. It is well equipped and a credit to the place.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The first public school was taught in 1859. From data kindly furnished by the superintendent of schools, M.J. Murphy, the following summary of the condition of the schools in 1880 is gleaned.

There were at that time in the township fourteen school buildings; one at Hill’s, with one school, containing fifty-four scholars; one at Bowman’s, with two schools, containing in all one hundred and fourteen scholars; one at Suffolk, with two schools, and ninety-four scholars; one at Myersville, with one school, and thirty scholars; two at Yatesville, with three schools and one hundred and twenty-four scholars; one at Wiggan’s, with two schools and seventy scholars; one at Grantville, two schools and seventh scholars; one at New Boston, two schools and fifty scholars; one at Boston Run, with two schools and sixty-four scholars; one at St. Nicholas, with two schools and seventy-four scholars; one at Cole’s, two schools and sixty-four scholars; one at Ellangowan, two schools and one hundred and three scholars; in all twenty-three schools and 913 scholars. The highest salary paid to teachers was $55 per month; the lowest $30. Thirteen male and ten female teachers were employed, of whom the greater number received their education in the public schools of the county, and seven held permanent certificates. The total monthly pay-roll for teachers’ wages amounted to $985.

COLLIERIES

North Mahanoy Colliery.-The first development here was made by Samuel and E.S. Sillyman as the firm of Samuel Sillyman & Son, and this was the first colliery opened at Mahanoy City. The first shipment of coal was made in 1861. The colliery continued in the hands of the Sillymans until 1869, when E.S. Sillyman sold it to Hill, Harris & Rumble, and in 1872 it became the property of the Philadelphia Coal and Iron Company, the present owners. The original breaker was destroyed by fire in 1869, and the present one built by Hill, Harrison & Rumble. It has a capacity of four hundred and fifty tons daily, and about the same average production. The workings consist of a slope about two hundred and twenty-five yards deep, with gangways driven west about one and one-half miles. Half a mile west of the foot of the slope is another, driven one hundred yards.

Schuylkill Colliery was opened in 1863 by Abraham Focht, who commenced shipping coal in the spring of the following year. In 1865 the works were sold to the firm of Focht, Whitaker & Co., who operated the colliery until 1877, when it passed into the hands of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, who are the present operators. The coal mined previous to 1870 was taken from the Five-feet and Seven-feet veins, above water level; but in that year a shaft fifty-seven feet deep was sunk to the Buck Mountain vein, from the foot of which a slope 366 feet in depth, with four gangways, has been driven. The vein now worked has an average depth of about fourteen feet, with a "dip" west of about six degrees. The capacity of the breaker is about five hundred tons daily, and the average production is nearly up to its capacity. Two hundred men and boys are employed. The power is supplied by four engines, with a total of 200 horse power.

The Primrose Colliery was first opened in 1861, by Steele & Patterson, who operated it until 1866, when Caleb Kneavles purchased it, and he still operates it.

The original slope was 125 yards, with a pitch of 40 degrees. The distance of the farthest heading from its foot is 900 yards. The veins worked are the Primrose, Mammoth and Skidmore. A slope was commenced in 1879, and it has been driven to the middle split of the Mammoth vein, and a tunnel to the Skidmore. Engines with a capacity of 310 horse power are in use. The present breaker was built in 1871, and has a capacity of 350 tons daily. The average daily product is fully up to its capacity. The total number of men and boys employed is 150. James Wynn is superintendent; William Wynn, outside foreman; William B. Harris, inside foreman; Frank Reed, shipper.

The Tunnel Ridge Colliery was opened in 1863, by George W. Cole, who built a breaker and commenced shipping coal in December. It was operated by him until 1879, when the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company bought it. The capacity of the breaker is nine hundred tons daily. The average production is about seven hundred tons. Six engines, aggregating 270 horse power, are in use, and 300 men and boys are employed. The depth of the slope is one hundred and sixty-six yards, and gangways have been driven fifteen hundred yards each way, east and west, from its foot. The veins worked are the Mammoth and Buck Mountain. John L. Shipman is the outside foreman.

Glendon Colliery was opened in 1860, by Abraham Potts, who built a small breaker in 1862, and in 1863 sold it to Alfred Lawton, who built the present breaker two years later. Lawton sold it to James B. Boylan, who operated it until 1876, when the Delano land Company took possession of it and leased it to its present operators, J.C. Hayden & Co., which firm is composed of J.C. Hayden of Janesville, Pa., and Francis Robinson of New York. The capacity of the breaker is seven hundred tons daily, and the average production five hundred tons. The power is supplied by four engines, aggregating one hundred and eighty-five horse power. The veins worked are the Seven-feet, Buck Mountain and Skidmore. The slope is sunk one hundred and fifty-five yards, and gangways are driven two thousand yards from its foot. The total number of men and boys employed is ninety-five outside and one hundred and fifty inside. There are nine tenement houses on the property.

The New Boston Coal Mining Company opened a drift and commenced operating in 1864. They erected the breaker, from which the first shipments were made in
1865, and continued operations until 1871. They were succeeded by the Broad Mountain and Lehigh Company, who operated until 1873, when a reorganization was affected under the name of the Middle Lehigh Company, who remained the owners until 1878, when the personal property and lease was purchased by Joseph Hitch, who still controls the colliery. The breaker has a capacity of 950 tons daily, and employs 425 men and boys. The depth of the slope sunk is 375 feet, with a pitch south of 22 degrees. The distance from the foot of the slope to the extreme eastern heading is one and three-fourths miles, and to the extremity of the western headings 1,500 feet. The vein worked is the Buck Mountain, with an average depth of fifteen feet. The company have also driven a tunnel one hundred feet south from the bottom of the slope to the Skidmore vein, on which a distance of 2,700 feet east has been worked. The engines used are two at the fans, of 20 horse power; one pair of hoisting engines, of 180 horse power; one pair of pump engines, of 530 horse power (capacity of pumps 1,200 gallons per minute), one pair of small pump engines of 45 horse power (capacity of pumps 300 gallons per minute), and one breaker engine of 45 horse power. Morgan W. Price is the present superintendent, John Goyne outside foreman, and Michael Murphy and Henry Kanute inside foremen.

The Coply Colliery was opened by the Bowmans at an early day and is one of the oldest workings in the town. It was purchased in 1879 by L.F. Lentz. David Bowman became superintendent, J.L. Bowman assistant and outside foreman, William Davidson inside foreman. The colliery was formerly known as Lentz, Bowman & Co.’s. The number of men and boys employed outside is eighty, and inside one hundred and forty. Thirty-five miles are worked. The average production is 250 tons daily. The capacity of the breaker is 1,000 tons. One pair of 60 horse power hoisting engines, one 80 horse power breaker engine, one dirt and plane engine, of 15 horse power, and two 12 horse power fan engines supply the power. The shaft is one hundred and sixty feet in depth. The workings extend half a mile east and the same distance west. The original workings were six drifts, now worked out. The colliery is still working one drift on the Seven-feet vein. The shaft is sunk on Buck Mountain vein, which here averages ten feet in depth. The number of tenement houses is fifteen. The colliery is free from fire damp.

West Lehigh Colliery.-This mine was opened in 1863 by a man named Shoemaker, from Philadelphia, and is usually known among the residents of Mahanoy as the Shoemaker colliery. He built a breaker with a capacity of 200 tons daily, and commenced shipping coal in 1864. In 1870 he sold to Bedford & Co. The original workings were in a drift on the "Seven-feet" vein. The new firm sunk a slope two hundred and fifteen years, with a pitch of 45 degrees, on the Buck Mountain vein. In 1874 Fisher Hazard became the owner, and built a new slope, capable of turning out six hundred tons daily. This structure is on the main line of the Lehigh Valley road, north of the old one, which stood on the line of the Mahanoy City branch of that road, and which, when stripped of its machinery and valuable timbers, was destroyed by fire, as the best way of disposing of it. The average daily production is four hundred tons. Ninety-five men and boys are employed inside and eighty-five outside. The extreme headings are five-eighths of a mile east and three-eighths west from the foot of the slope. Thirty-two breasts are being worked, the average thickness of the vein being ten feet. Four engines, with an aggregate of one hundred and forty horse power, and two steam-pumps of one hundred and thirty horse power are in use. Twenty-four tenement houses are connected with the colliery.

Bear Run Colliery was opened in 1863, by George F. Wiggan and C.H.R. Treibles, who built a small breaker during that years, and erected the present one in 1871. It has a capacity of four hundred and fifty tons daily, and the average out-put is about three hundred. The original slope was one hundred yards deep, and from it was worked the top split of the Mammoth and the Seven-feet veins. This slope is not worked, but is in a condition to reopen at any time when the condition of trade will warrant. The present slope was sunk two hundred and twenty-five yards, with a pitch of 45 degrees, and workings extend west three-fourths of a mile, and east seven hundred yards, on the Mammoth vein. There are in use at this colliery one pair of hoisting engines of 120 horse power, one breaker engine of 20, one fan of 15, and three pumps of 150 each. The total number of men and boys employed outside is one hundred and twenty-five; inside, one hundred. The average thickness of the vein now worked is sixteen feet.

The Suffolk Colliery was first opened in 1863 by Pliny Fisk, and in February, 1864 sold by him to the Suffolk Coal Company, which built, during that year, the present breaker to take the place of a small one built by Fisk. The capacity of this breaker is 750 tons daily, and the average production 600 tons. One hundred and twenty men and boys are employed outside, and the same number inside. The slope is driven 193 yards, at a pitch of 20 degrees, and seven gangways are being worked in the Primrose and orchard veins. The power used is furnished by one hoisting engine of sixty horse power, one breaker engine of fifty, one fan of forty, one shop fan engine of eighteen, one pump-used for washing-of forty, and one tank pump engine of eight, with one mine locomotive of twenty, besides a slope pump of one hundred and fifty. The head of the slope is about eighty yards east of the breaker.

Ellangowen Colliery.-The name by which this colliery was first known was Maple Dale, or more commonly Lanigan's colliery, it having been opened by James Lanigan, the ordinal owner and operator. Mr. Lanigan sold his interest to a Mr. Star, of Boston; he sold to John C. Scott & Sons, of Philadelphia, and the name was changed to Glenville. Subsequently it was purchased by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company and named Ellangowen colliery. Under the control of this company, who are the present owners and operators, it
has become one of the best equipped and most productive collieries in the anthracite coal region. It has one of the best constructed
breakers, with the latest improvements in hoisting machinery, and it is producing an average of twelve hundred tons of coal daily ready for
market, which is its full capacity. This colliery requires the labor of two hundred and fifty men and boys inside to keep it in successful
operation. It has two hoisting engines for the shaft, of ninety horse power each, and two engines for the slope, of thirty horse power each,
besides breaker and fan engines. It has tow fans to regulate ventilation, of twenty-two and sixteen feet diameter respectively. The veins
worked are the Primrose, about ten feet in thickness, and the Mammoth, in three splits, each from twelve to sixteen feet in thickness. There
are about one hundred tenant houses belonging to this colliery, and occupied by employees.

Knickerbocker Colliery.-This colliery was opened in 1864 by M.P. Fowler and Henry Huhn, and they made their first shipment
of coal November 23d of the same year, having already expended $75,000 in its opening and partial development. In March, 1865, they
sold the colliery to the Knickerbocker Coal Company, of which Isaac I. Hayes, of Arctic expedition fame, was president. The contract
being unfulfilled the colliery was sold January 1st, 1873, to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. Two hundred and
twenty-five thousand dollars had been spent in developing and running the colliery to the time of the last sale. Under the management of
the present owners and their able foremen the average daily production is about 450 tons, the full capacity being 500. The colliery gives
employment to 150 men and boys outside, and 180 inside. It has seven engines, with an average of forty horse power each, and one six-inch
double-acting Griscom pump of six feet stroke. There are thirty-two double tenant houses, in which the employees reside. The slope
is sunk on the south dip of the Primrose vein and the tunnel south to the north dip. The Mammoth vein is being worked, both top and
bottom splits, which are here divided by about fifty yards of rock.

Boston Run Colliery was opened in 1862, by Focht & Althouse, which firm was afterward changed to Althouse & Brother by the
retirement of Mr. Focht. It is owned and operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. The workings consist of a
slope 235 yards deep, with a pitch of 35 degrees, and gangways on the Mammoth vein. The breaker has a capacity of six hundred and fifty
tons, and about three hundred and fifty tons are shipped daily. A saw-mill and car and blacksmith shops are on the premises. One pair of
sixty horse hoisting engines, one fifty horse breaker, one forty horse fan, a twenty horse engine at the saw-mill, and a five horse at the
blacksmith shop furnish the power. Eighty-eight men and boys are employed inside and ninety-five outside. Thirty-six tenement houses
are on the property. The colliery has been carefully managed and but five lives have been lost since its opening. John Skeath is the inside
foreman and J.W. Madenforth the outside foreman.

MURDERS

In 1796 a log tavern was built, by an old hunter named Reisch, on the spot where now stands the Mansion House of Mahanoy
City. August 10th, 1797, two travelers spent the night together at this lonely hostelry; one a Jew peddler named Faulhoffer, the other a
hunter from New Jersey, named Bailey. The latter on the following morning preceded the peddler to a place known as West House run, lay
in ambush for him and shot him through the heart. He then robbed his saddlebags of the gold and silver they contained, carried the bags,
still laden with a quantity of copper coins, to a point some distance from the scene of the murder, buried them and disappeared. Passers by
buried the unfortunate peddler. A small mound marks the spot, which was pointed out for many years afterwards. Bailey was afterwards
traced to New Jersey, arrested, and captured, and was executed January 6th, 1798. August 6th, 1880, a party of five boys playing in a field
near Lawton's Patch picked up a large number of old copper coins, some of them bearing a date two hundred years ago. The report of the
discovery spread rapidly, hundreds repaired to the place to search for hidden treasure, and intense excitement pretiled until the story of
Faulhoffer's murder was remembered, and the place where the coin was unearthed was found to correspond with the story of the buried
saddlebags, which could never be found, although they were searched for at the time.

Another cowardly murder was that of Jefferson F. Yohe, a farmer's boy, living in Columbia county, and aged about sixteen years.
On the 27th of May, 1870, he was shot and robbed at a point near the old colliery on the Ringtown road. Several arrests were made, but no
one was ever convicted of the crime.

About three o'clock in the morning of Friday, December 10th, 1875, a party of masked men visited the house of Charles McAllister
at Wiggan's Patch and broke in the back door. McAllister went into the cellar, which was separated from the adjoining house by a board
partition only, and, removing a board, went into the other house and escaped by the back door. Mrs. McAllister went toward the kitchen
door, and, meeting the ruffians, was shot dead, and left in the doorway where she fell. The murderers then went up stairs, and, finding
Charles O'Donnell, a brother of Mrs. McAllister, took him out and shot him; following him as he attempted to escape, to a point some fifty
yards from the house, where he fell, riddled with bullets. James McAllister was also seized, and a rope put around his neck; but he
managed to get loose from it and escape. James Blair, a boarder in the house, was seized, but on giving his name was released and warned
to leave. So rapidly had these outrages been accomplished that when the neighbors, awakened by the firing, reached the spot, the perpe-
trators were not to be found. They have never been discovered.
This borough is the center of a colliery district, the aggregate annual pay roll of which has during some years exceeded $2,000,000. Settled in 1859, it is still in its infancy; yet it bears marks of improvement that would do credit to many an older borough. The population in 1870 was 5,533 and in 1880 6,892.

The petition for a borough charter was approved by the grand jury of Schuylkill county September 11th, 1863, and an order of the Court of Common Pleas, dated December 16th of that year, confirmed the charter. The first charter election was held Tuesday, February 23d, 1864. The first chief burgess elected was John Eichman, and the office has since been filled as follows: 1865, 1866, 1875, 1876, 1878, John Eichman; 1867, Jonas Hein; 1868, 1870, William F. Jones; 1869, John T. Quinn; 1871, 1873, Emanuel Boyer; 1872, Frank Wenrich; 1874, George Major, who was assassinated by the Mollie Maguires during his term of office, the term being completed by John Eichman; 1877, James Matthias, who absconded during his term and left a vacancy, which was filled by the appointment of James Watkins. In 1878 the candidates were Watkins, the acting chief burgess, and John Jones, the last of whom received the certificate of election. Mr. Watkins contest on the ground that Jones, being an election officer, was ineligible. Jones was unseated and Watkins died, leaving a vacancy, which was filled by the election of John Eichman. In 1879 the office was filled by Ryce J. Griffiths, and in 1880 by John Weber. The other executive officers for 1880 were: President, Joseph Hughes; secretary, Eli S. Reinhold; treasurer, John Eichman; solicitor, T.H.B. Lyon; chief of police, John Leitenburger; chairman of fire and water committee, William Muldowney.

The first subdivision into election districts was made March 23d, 1865, when by a special act of the Legislature the borough was divided into two wards. The latest division of the borough, into five wards, was made in 1875. The borough council consists of three members from each ward. The real estate owned by the borough includes one good sized two-story frame building on Mahanoy street, which serves the varied purposes of council hall, engine house, fire companies' parlors, and jail. It was built in 1869, and it is valued at $4,000. A small framed structure on Main street, at the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad crossing, was erected in 1878 for the use of the chief burgess. It is valued at $200.

All of the principal streets have been raised from five to fifteen feet above their old level and macadamized, and the bonded indebtedness of $33,100 reported at the commencement of the fiscal year of 1880 is due to these improvements, which were indispensable, not only to the comfort but the health of the people.

The Mahanoy City post-office was established in 1839. John Lindemuth was the first postmaster, succeeded by C.C. Hagenbusch, David Philips, E.L. Severn, and the latter's widow, Mrs. Mary Severn. The office is on south Main street. Mails are received several times a day from New York and Philadelphia by way of the Lehigh Valley and Reading railways. The office pays a salary of about $1,700 yearly. The clerks employed are ladies.

SKETCHES OF THE BURGESSES

John Eichman, the first chief burgess, elected in 1864 and six times thereafter, is a native of Germany, and was born in 1817. He came to America in 1847, and to Mahanoy City in 1863. He married Barbara Hoppe in Germany, and has two children. In 1879 he was elected borough treasurer, and he has filled the office since that date. Since 1867 he has been superintendent and collector for the Mahanoy City Water Company.

Jonas Hein, elected in 1867, was born near Hamburg, Berks county, in 1822. He opened the first meat market in the place in company with Frank Wenrich; and since 1863 he has been in the butchering business on his own account. Mr. Hein served in the emergency service in the war for the Union. He married Miss Mary Harper, of Hamburg, and has one daughter. He has been an active, public spirited man and an efficient officer. He is a member of the Odd Fellows, a Knight of Pythias, and an American Mechanic. His daughter married Tobias Gearhart, of this place.

William F. Jones, elected in 1878, is a native of South Wales, and for many years worked as a miner in Wales, Australia, California and this county, assisting to open the first drifts in the township. In 1862 he opened a store that is still in operation, on Mahanoy street, conducted by his eldest son, who succeeded his father in the spring of 1880.

John T. Quinn, elected in 1879, is a native of Pottsville, born November 1st, 1838. He was married in June, 1863, to Margeretta Kennedy, of Salem, N.J. He has resided in Mahanoy City since 1864, coming here from Port Carbon, where he had lived since 1839. Mr. Quinn is a butcher, and carries on quite an extensive business.

Emanuel Boyer, elected in 1871, is also a native of the county, having been born in Schuylkill township in 1829. On reaching manhood he removed to Middleport, and opened a tailor shop. He married at Tuscara, in 1859, Elizabeth Horne, of Union township, and removed to Tuscara, where he was employed at the store of Joseph Adlers. In 1853 he was offered the agency of the Little Schuylkill Company at this point, and removed here, settling in a building owned by the company-the solitary tavern that for many years had been the forerunner of Mahanoy City. Mr. Boyer is regarded as the pioneer of the place. He has held several offices of trust in the old township, and his term as burgess was marked by a contest between the council and himself, in which he maintained the interests of the taxpayers in the courts.
and contributed materially to a more economical administration. He has had twelve children, but four of whom are living.

Frank Wenrich, elected in 1872, was born at Myerstown, Lebanon county, Pa., August 18th, 1837. He opened a meat market at Tuscarora in 1860, and in 1862 came to Mahanoy City in partnership with Jonas Hein; since 1865 he has been in business on Center street for himself. He married Kate Bobb, of Shafertown, Lebanon county, in 1864, and has had eight children; only two of whom are living. Besides his term as burgess, he has been a councilman three years. He was president of the council in 1879, and has been first lieutenant of the Silliman Guards since 1875. He served in the Pottsville First Defenders in the war for the Union. He incurred the enmity of the Mollie Maguires and was arrested and tried for complicity in the Wiggan's Patch riot, on which occasion a strong effort was made to convict him by suborned testimony; but he was triumphantly vindicated.

George Major, elected in 1874, will be remembered in all coming time as a faithful, efficient executive, who was ruthlessly murdered by the emissary of a mob, while in the discharge of his duty. Mr. Major was a Welshman, who, with his brothers, had excited the fear and enmity of the Mollies, and the question of his death, it was afterward learned, had been a matter of discussion in their bodies before the occurrence of the event. He was elected as the representative of the combined interests of those opposed to the reign of terror which was paralyzing the industries of the place; and his death, if not the result of a concealed conspiracy, accorded well with the general course of the hated "Ancients" whenever they failed to frighten a public officer into submission or drive him out of office.

Ryce J. Griffiths, elected in 1879, was born in Wales, and came to America with his father, Evan J. Griffiths, when he was an infant. Mr. Griffiths was a carpenter until he lost both legs, and since then he has been in the insurance business. He was elected justice of the peace in 1878. He married, at this place, Eliza Davis, also a native of Wales.

John Weber, chief burgess for 1880, was born in Bavaria in 1831, and came to America in 1853, settling in St. Clair, at which place he married a Miss Schnorr, by whom he has eight children. Mr. Weber came to Mahanoy City, and for years has represented the brewery firm of D.G. Yuengling & Co. in this vicinity.

**MAGISTRATES OF MAHANOY CITY**

H.H. Stauffer, who may be called the senior justice of the peace in Mahanoy, has been connected with the interest of Mahanoy township since 1824; his father settling here in 1808. He married in 1848, Christiana Reichers, of Union township, who died September 12th, 1849. In 1853 he married Catharine T. Krieger, a native of Rush, and he has eleven children living. Mr. Stauffer was interested in the organization of this township, and for years was actively identified with its affairs. He served on the constabulary of Pottsville and St. Clair; was for several years a member of the coal and iron police, and is serving his third term as a magistrate in Mahanaoy City. William Encke was born in Prussia, in 1837, and came to America in 1868. He served as an officer in the Prussian army in the Schleswic k Holstein and confederated province wars, and was a lieutenant in 1867. He settled in Albany county, N.Y., and in 1870 came to this place. He married Susan Cornelius, of this place. He is a sign painter and was elected a magistrate in 1875. He is a member of the Silliman Guards, a Knight of Pythias, and an Ancient Druid.

Alexander May, born in St. Clair, Schuylkill county, came to Mahanoy city in 1862, and for several years worked as clerk in a store, and in the mines. He is now a fireman in the employ of Lentz, Bowman & Co. He married, at Cumbola, in 1871, Charlotte Davis. He is a member of the Silliman Guards and an Odd Fellow. He was elected a justice of the peace in 1870.

Augustus Weber was born in Baltimore, in 1838, and in 1864 came to this place. He worked for some years as a carpenter and builder. He served as a private in company C 9th Pennsylvania Reserves and was elected justice in 1876. He is a member of the Silliman Guards. He married Esther Wilk, of Mahanoy City, by whom he has two children. He is a mine carpenter at the Webster colliery.

Patrick McCarthy was born in county Waterford, Ireland, in 1847, and came to Mahanoy in 1860, where he married Mary Ann Murphy in 1875. He is a member of the board of education. He has served as councilman, and was elected justice in 1869. He has worked as a miner all his life.

Andrew Comrey, general insurance agent, is one of the leading citizens of the place, and an able and successful editor. He has occupied various positions of honorable trust and he is connected with many of the local enterprises. He has served as justice for several years. George W. Wythe, insurance agent and notary public for the First National Bank, was born in Minersville, in December, 1843, and came to Mahanoy City in 1865, as clerk in a store. He is a justice of the peace, elected in 1878. He married Emma R. Fay, of Pottsville, in 1867.

**FIRE COMPANIES**

Humane Fire Company, No. 1, was organized June 18th,1868, with 24 members. Fred. L. Spiegel was president; W.R. Yost secretary, and P. Hermony treasurer. At a special meeting held November 12th, 1868, M.M. Ketner was elected president in place of Spiegel, and he served until January, 1880, when he resigned, owing to his having been appointed warden of the county prison at Pottsville. At a meeting of the company May 20th, 1880, Mr. Ketner was presented with a handsome gold headed cane as a testimonial of the esteem in which he was held by the members of the Humane. The officers for 1880 were: President, Patrick McInert-
vice-president, Patrick McCarthy; secretary, M.L. Murphy; treasurer, Philip McGuire. The "Humanes" have leased a piece of ground containing about five acres, known as "Smith's Farm," in the immediate vicinity of the town, which will be improved for a pleasure park and parade ground. The last financial statement of the company showed total assets of $1,258. The apparatus of the company was furnished by, and belongs to, the borough.

The Citizens' Fire Company, No. 2, was organized in February, 1870, and received a charter the same year. The first officers were: E.S. Silliman, president; Lucian Troutman, secretary; M.L. Thompson, treasurer. John F. Shoener was chosen foreman, and served until 1874, when at a meeting of the company, which up to that time had been largely made up of business and professional men, who found the duties of the position too burdensome, a resolution was adopted authorizing M.M. Bowman, who had been from the inception of the fire department one of its ablest supporters, to recruit twenty young and active men, of good standing in the place, for membership. At a subsequent meeting twenty-one candidates were reported by Mr. Bowman, and a reorganization was effected. George Major, then chief burgess of the borough, was elected foreman.

On the evening of October 30th, 1874, an alarm of fire was sounded, and the companies were called out. While at the fire a quarrel arose between William Major, a brother of the foreman, and an Irishman named Sullivan, connected with the Humane Company, during which Major was fatally shot. In the excitement that followed the murderer escaped. An Irishman named Dan Dougherty was arrested, tried and acquitted; and it was not until some years later, from the disclosures made by some of the "Mollies," it was learned that the real murderer was a man named McCann, who had disappeared and has never been apprehended.

George Giger was elected in the place of Major, and served until 1878. John Jones was foreman in 1879, and Esau Reese in 1880. The first hose carriage of the company was procured from the Good Intent Company, of Pottsville, by whom, many years before, it had been purchased of the old Fame Company of Philadelphia. It is believed to be the oldest carriage in use in the State, and is still in good condition and occupying a post of honor in the department building. In 1875 a steam fire engine of the Silsby pattern was procured, at a cost of $5,500, of which the sum the borough council contributed two-fifths, the balance being paid by the company. A new hose carriage was added in 1870. The company has about 1,600 feet of good leather hose, a good reading room, and an engine admirable well kept and manned. The company in 1880 mustered forty men, with the following officers: John H. Dunn, president; M.M. Bowman, secretary; W.H. Heidenrich, treasurer; Robert Silliman, treasurer; John M. Conyngham secretary.

The number of school buildings at that time was three, accommodating sixteen schools. The board has since erected a handsome building on Centre street, at an expense of about $15,000, and has largely added to and improved the Spruce street building. The total number of buildings in 1880 was three, accommodating nineteen schools, with an equal number of teachers. The high school affords all of the practical features of an academic education. The total value of property owned by the department is $60,000. T.W. Spurr was president in 1880, and A.W. Brown secretary.

THE PRESS

The founding of the first newspaper in Mahanoy City was due to supposed party exigencies. In the summer of 1865, a time when party spirit ran very high, it was rumored that a Democratic newspaper was in contemplation. Alarmed at this prospect, some prominent local politicians of the opposite party united in a movement that inaugurated the Mahanoy City Gazette, which made its first appearance on Saturday, November 11th, 1865, under the editorial management of Dr. George B.H. Swayze, who was one of its founders. Associated with him as owners of the young Republican organ were David Philips, Frank Carter, E.S. Silliman, Charles M. Hill, Yost & Reagan, and one or two others; each of whom contributed the sum of $100 towards the working capital. Previous to this date a Tamaqua establishment had put in here a small job printing office. The publication of the Gazette, while in the hands of Messrs. Swayze & Philips, was marked by a display of literary talent on the part of the editor which made the paper a valuable organ for its party; but the large medical practice of Dr. Swayze and the mercantile interests of his partner interfered with their politico-literary venture to such an extent that they disposed of the material, etc., to William

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The first meeting of the school board of the new borough was held in June, 1864. The board was composed of John M. Barry, W.H. Heidenrich, Valentine Benner, John Tobin and David Phillips. At this meeting John M. Barry was elected president, David Phillips treasurer and John M. Conyngham secretary.

The number of school buildings at that time was three, accommodating sixteen schools. The board has since erected a handsome building on Centre street, at an expense of about $15,000, and has largely added to and improved the Spruce street building. The total number of buildings in 1880 was three, accommodating nineteen schools, with an equal number of teachers. The high school affords all of the practical features of an academic education. The total value of property owned by the department is $60,000. T.W. Spurr was president in 1880, and A.W. Brown secretary.

HOTELS

The Mansion House is the property of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. It occupies the site on which a wayside tavern had stood since 1809. Mr. Charles F. King is the proprietor.

The Merchants' Hotel stands on West Centre street. It is owned and kept by F. Keyser.

The Eagle Hotel is on North Main street. Harrison Derrick is its owner, and Charles P. Derrick its manager.

The Exchange Hotel, at 16 East Centre street, is kept by Patrick H. Ryon, an old miner who lost his eyesight by a premature blast in 1860. At this house the first borough election of Mahanoy City was held.
Ramsey and Charles Dunkelberger, two practical printers, who continued to publish the Gazette, dropping from its title the word "City." From the time of this change, in 1866, until the present, it has been owned successively by Ramsey & Dunkelberger, Ramsey & Spencer, William Ramsey, Lyon & Comrey, Andrew Comrey, and Reinhold & Sollenberger. Under Mr. Ramsey, who united his fortunes with those of the paper for the longest time, there was issued more than a year a small advertising sheet for gratuitous distribution, called the Wednesday Gazette. During the proprietorship of Lyon & Comrey the name of the paper was changed to The Mahanoy Tribune, and the wife of the senior partner, Mrs. Jane Lyon, occupied the responsible position of editor. The present editors and proprietors, Reinhold & Sollenberger, are gentlemen of marked talents and well known throughout the State. The Tribune is an eight-column folio, published weekly.

When Ramsey & Spencer dissolved partnership (July 14th, 1871) the latter established a job printing office in the town, and issued a small advertising sheet, named The Mahanoy Local, for free distribution. He started the Mahanoy Valley Record on Thursday, November 2nd, 1871. A year later he sold the business to John Parker, formerly of the Anthracite Monitor. The paper, which had been Republican, in 1877 became an advocate of the principles on which the National Greenback Labor party is, in the main, based. The publication was changed, September 15th, 1877, to a tri-weekly, issued Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday of each week, at one cent per copy. This change resulted in a largely increased circulation, the name of the paper being Parker’s TriWeekly Record. John Parker, the editor and proprietor was elected State senator for the 30th district in 1878.

SILLIMAN GUARDS

This company (Company C 7th P.S.G.) was mustered in November 13th, 1875, and the following officers were elected: Captain, John F. Shoener; 1st lieutenant, Frank Wenrich; 2nd lieutenant, S.S. Hoppes. The rank and file number sixty-three men. The company purchased their own equipments, at a total cost to themselves and their friends of about $3,000, to which fund E.S. Silliman, president of the First National Bank, was a liberal contributor. During the strike and riots of 1877 the Guards were called out, and served at Harrisburg and Pittsburgh from July 26th to August 10th. As conservators of law and order the company has been eminently a success, proving a standing menace to the lawless element, the course of which in the city and vicinity made its organization a necessity, while the prudent management of its officers has prevented collisions that, under less cautious leadership, might have been of frequent occurrence and disastrous results.

The Guards have twice attended State encampments; once during the Centennial Exposition, and again at Camp Meade, in 1880. They have a fine armory in the City Hall block, on South Main street.

REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS OF THE GUARDS

Captain John A. Shoener was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, in 1834, and in 1855 settled in Tremont, where he was engaged in business for several years. On the 25th of April, 1861, he enlisted in the 14th Pennsylvania volunteers, and was given the rank of first lieutenant of Company B. At close of its term of service he re-enlisted as second lieutenant of Company D 55th Pennsylvania volunteers, and was promoted to the first lieutenant of his company. After a long and arduous campaign he was mustered out on account of disability, and settled in Mahanoy City, carrying on the business of an architect and builder. He married at Tremont, in this county, October 3d, 1856, Mary Fraley, of Millersburg, Pa. On the organization of the Silliman Guards he was elected to its command; and, in his long career as its commanding officer, has amply justified the confidence placed in him.

First Lieutenant Frank Wenrich, who if referred to among the chief burgesses of Mahanoy City, has also proved an efficient officer.

Second Lieutenant Solomon S. Hoppes is a native of Schuylkill county, born in West Penn township in September, 1846. He served in the 34th Pennsylvania reserves during the rebel invasion of Pennsylvania, and re-enlisted in Company A 202d Pennsylvania volunteers, as a private. He was in the engagement at Salem Hill. He was discharged August 3d, 1865, and afterward volunteered for three months additional service. He was commissioned to his present rank at the organization of the Guards. August 13th, 1874, he married Katie E. Stitzer, of this place. Since 1876 he has been a grocer. Before that he was a book-keeper at the Excelsior mills for four years.

First Sergeant William Y. Weber has been with the Guards since their organization; enlisting as a corporal, and by various stages, being promoted to his present position. Sergeant Weber is a tinsmith. He is a native of Schuylkill Haven, and married Emma A. Medlar, of Mahanoy City.

Sergeant William F. Richardson was born in St. Clair, Schuylkill county, May 24th, 1856, and in 1861 came to Mahanoy City with his father, Isaac W. Richardson, who was a miner. He was on the original roll of the Silliman Guards, and was promoted to his present rank. Sergeant Richardson married Hannah Lewis, of this place, July 29th, 1878.

Corporal George N. Steach was born at Womelsdorf, Berks county, Pa., in 1837, and married Anna Rhine, of North Heidelberg, Pa. In 1864, he came to this city. He is an original member of the Guards. He is a brickmaker, but for several years has been employed in the grocery house of J.N. Kutz in Mahanoy City.

H. Fermier was born in Bavaria, in 1849, and came to America with his parents in 1851, settling in Philadelphia. He came to Mahanoy City in 1867 and worked as clerk in various stores. He married Agnes Sheipe, of this place. He has been with the Guards since the organization of the company.
Corporal William Short was born in Monmouthshire, Wales; coming to America in 1848, when a child. His family settled in Philadelphia, where his father pursued the business of shoemaking. He came to Mahanoy City in 1872, and married Maggie Bolton, of St. Clair, Pa. He has been with the Guards since 1876.

Bussiness associations

First National Bank.-This institution was organized September 27th, 1864, with a paid up capital of $50,000, and commenced business December 13th, 1864. The first directors were Abraham Focht, Henry Meyer, Edward S. Silliman, Frank Carter, William Reagan, David Phillips and Edward Boyd. The first president was Abraham Focht, and William L. Yoder has always been the cashier. Nicholas Ballat was elected president July 17th, 1867, succeeded by Edward S. Silliman, August 8th, 1867. The present capital is $80,000; surplus, $22,000. The bank building, Masonic Hall, and cashier's dwelling are all in one building, which cost $10,500.

The Fidelity Building and Loan Association of Mahanoy City was incorporated October 29th, 1874. The following were the first officials: President, A.W. Brown; vice-president, William B. Wagner; secretary, T.H.B. Lyon; solicitor, J.Y. Sollenberger; treasurer, E.S. Silliman; directors-A.W. Brown, William B. Wagner, William Watkins, William L. Yoder, James K. Watkins, A.J. Luburg, John F. Shoener, Charles Boner and John Parker. The auditor's exhibit for the year ending October 19th, 1880, showed total assets of $95,708.69, of which $10,142 was in real estate at cost value (which yielded during the year a net income of 11 per cent.), with liabilities to shareholders of $70,986.72. The total number of shares outstanding was: 1st series, 718; 2nd series, 175; 3d series, 354. The values of these were respectively $118.46, $27.91 and $13.46.

Scheurman's Building, Loan and Saving Fund Association was organized in October, 1874, with Carl Scheurman as president, David Bowman treasurer and William Encke secretary. This institution is supported mainly by the German-American citizens of Mahanoy. The statement of auditors for the year ending September 30th, 1880, shows net assets of $28,215.90, of which $7000 is in real estate; and liabilities of $2,939.70, or a surplus to stockholders of $25,276.11. The whole number of shares at that date was two hundred and thirty-one, with a present value of $109.42 each.

The officers for 1880 were: David Bowman, president; G.F. Dipper, treasurer; William Encke, secretary; W.H.B. Lyon and Andrew Comrey, auditors.

Other Saving Funds.-The Mahanoy City and William Tell Building and Loan Associations were in liquidation in 1880, their shares having matured. The Weber is still in operation, but up to the time of going to press the data asked for a sketch of it had not been furnished.

Mahanoy City Gas Company.-This corporation was organized February 21st, 1874. Its first directors were E.S. Silliman, W.F. Smith, George H. Troutman, E.K. Weber and J.C. Knapp. The first officers were: W.F. Smith, president; George H. Troutman, secretary; William L. Yoder, treasurer. The authorized capital of the company is $30,000, of which $18,000 is paid up. The works were completed and the gas turned on October 1st, 1874, about two miles of pipes having been laid. The gas is made from naphtha, and the company's buildings are located at Second and Railroad streets. In 1875 E.F. Smith succeeded W.F. Smith as president; in 1876 E.S. Silliman was elected, and he has since held the office. Mr. Troutman was secretary until 1878, when Andrew Comrey was elected, who is the present secretary. Mr. Yoder is still treasurer. The directors for 1880 were E.S. Silliman, W.L. Yoder, E.F. Smith, H.K. smith and A. Comrey. The works have cost $20,000. Andrew Comrey is the is the superintendent.

Mahanoy City Water Company.-The great need of this borough for years was a trustworthy supply of good water. The product of wells and springs was tainted with sulphur to a great extent, and liable to contamination by surface water in floods, and to stagnation in time of drought (sic). The organization of the Mahanoy City Water Company was the necessary outgrowth of this want. A charter authorizing the issue of stock to the amount of $75,000 was procured in 1864, and under it E.S. Silliman was elected president, and Frank Carter secretary. John Eichman was appointed collector and superintendent. A tract of land about two miles north from the borough, containing a fine mountain spring flowing from the red shale, was leased from the Girard estate. A reservoir was made which has furnished a never-failing supply of water, from which the company supplies the adjacent collieries, the fire department, mills and private consumers. President Silliman and Superintendent Eichman have retained those positions until the present time. About two miles of mains and three miles of distributing pipes have been laid, and in 1880 a new dam (the third) was erected.

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THE GRANT IRON WORKS

is in this position in the original book. In the Table of Contents it is listed at page 233.

Original text continues below the dividing line.

THE GRANT IRON WORKS

These works, located just south of the borough limits, were erected in 1865, by Thomas Wren, of Pottsville. In 1866 they were purchased by Ralph R. Lee and George H. Wren, who operated them under the firm name of Lee & Wren until 1876, when Mr. Lee retired, since which time they have been conducted by George H. Wren. The buildings consist of the machine shop, 135 feet long, 35
wide and 50 feet high; the erecting shop, 70 feet long by 35 feet wide; the smith shop, 60 feet long, 30 wide and 16 inch, and an office 32 by 17 feet.

The works are supplied with costly machinery and a valuable assortment of patterns, and are capable of turning out a large amount of first class work. The firm at one time employed some sixty hands, but since the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company became owners of most of the collieries in the vicinity the demand for their work has decreased. They manufacture steam engines and pumps, rolling mill, furnace and mining machinery.

COLLIERIES

Mahanoy City Colliery.-The drift here was opened and a breaker built in 1863, and the first coal was shipped in the spring of 1864, by Hill & Harris, who operated the colliery until 1873, and then sold to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. The veins worked are the Primrose and Mammoth. The depth of the first slope is 180 yards, with gangways running a mile and a half west from the bottom of the slope. About half a mile from the bottom of this slope another has been sunk to the depth of 100 yards. The power and ventilation are supplied by nine powerful engines and two air compressors. About 90 men and boys are employed outside, and 100 inside. The breaker has a capacity of 500 tons, and about 400 tons are produced daily.

Harris, Sparr & Co.'s Colliery, opened in 1878, commenced shipping during the following year. The capacity of the breaker, operated by one small engine, is fifty tons daily. The number of men and boys employed is twenty-five. The vein worked is the Skidmore. A drift has been worked about two hundred yards.

Reynolds, Roberts & Co.'s Colliery was opened by R. Phillips & Co. in 1872, and operated by them until 1877, when it was sold to its present owners. It capacity is one hundred tons daily. It works fifty men and boys, in heading extending 1,400 yards from the slope. There are four engines in use, aggregating 48 horse power. The works are at the head of Fifth streets, Mahanoy City.

The Webster Colliery was opened by John Holland, in 1874, and the first shipment of coal was made in December of that year. The capacity of the breaker is 100 tons daily, and the power is furnished by one engine. Mr. Holland sold the colliery to King, Tyler & Co., and during their administration occurred the riot of 1875, which was caused by an attempt of a mob to close the works. E. Baldwin purchased the interest of the last named operators in 1879, and he is the present owner. The workings consist of a tunnel of about forty yards in the Buck Mountain vein, which is there about 10 or 12 feet in thickness. The colliery, which is known by the local name of the Penitentiary, supplies some of the best coal sold in Mahanoy City, and is shipping up to its full capacity to other points.

The Elmwood Colliery was opened at a point opposite the Grant Iron Works, in 1871, by R.R. Lee & G.H. Wren. They erected a breaker and machinery at a cost of $85,000, and operated it until 1874, when it was sold to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, the present owners. The slope has a depth of one hundred and twenty yards on the Primrose, Mammoth and Sevenfeet veins. The capacity of the breaker is 500 tons daily, and the average shipment about 300 tons. Fifty men and boys are employed inside, and seventy-five outside.

SOCIETIES AND LODGES

Mahanoy City Lodge, No. 94, D.O.H. was organized June 28th, 1863, with the following officers: P.C., Daniel Becker; Com., Valentine Bender; V.C., William Krause; secretary, Adam Wild (deceased); treasurer, John C. Knapp. The other charter members were Adam Gobbert, William Schwitzer, Frederick Becker, Joseph Short, George Gref, Bernhard Bunk, George Shining and Charles Kai ter. The officers in 1880 were: C., Adam Stehling; secretary, Frederick Becker. The lodge has a beneficiary fund from which have been paid sick benefits and death claims since the date of organization.

General Grant Lodge, No. 575, I.O.O.F. was instituted June 18th, 1864, with twelve charter members. The first officers were as follows: N.G., A. Cathers; V.G., C. Bartholemew; secretary, John R. Porter; assistant secretary, Townsend Hines; treasurer, G.F. Brendle. The officers for 1880 were: N.G., Thomas Woolcock; V.G., Charles King; secretary, William L. Ballantine; assistant secretary, John H. Williams; treasurer, Solomon Faust. The lodge had in 1880 one hundred and sixty-six members, and was growing in numbers and financial strength. It is one of the most successful lodges in the county. Its payments for benevolent purposes have been, it is claimed, greater than those of any other on Schuylkill county; and equaled by but few in the State.


St. Patrick's B.A.-This society was organized in March, 1866, with twenty-four charter members. The first officers were: President, M. M. Ketner; secretary,
CHURCH HISTORY

First Presbyterian Church.-During the summer of 1860 there was occasional preaching in the old Spruce street school-house by Rev. Messrs. Colt, Bryson and Thompson, and in 1861 regular appointments were made here. This was the first organized effort by any Protestant denomination here.

October 14th of the same year a Congregational meeting was held at the house of Dr. L.M. Thompson, and Dr. Thompson, Frank Carter, David Stewart, Edward F. Smith and Dr. Turner were chosen trustees to select a site for a church. Building began April 29th, 1862, and on Thursday, September 18th, the building was dedicated by Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, then of Philadelphia, now of Brooklyn. The church was a long, low, one-storied Protestant denomination here.

The membership is thirty-two.

The Citizens’ Silver Cornet Band, organized in April, 1968, won the interest and confidence of the people of Mahanoy City by its excellent musical attainments, and by the gentlemanly demeanor and good social standing of its members. Its first leader was Jacob Britz, who was succeeded by William Smith, and he in turn by Henry Ferg, Stephen Gorman, John Harlan, E.N. Reed, and Louis Selkraft. Since January, 1880, Mr. Britz has been leader. The band has a pleasant music and reading room on South Main street, over Knapp’s market, and leading citizens of the borough. In 1880 it obtained a complete and elegant new uniform which, with the fine instruments and well-balanced musical qualities of the band, make it the leading one in upper Schuylkill county. For the past five years the citizens' has been a popular band with the 7th regiment National Guards, and has furnished the music for their receptions and parades.

Pamphylia Lodge, No. 719, I.O. of G.T., was instituted June 14th, 1869. Among its charter members were Charles Bensinger, Sallie E. Bensinger, John Bensinger, Rev. J.S. J. McConnell, G.H. Laury, James Matthews, George Dennis, O.C. Tiffany, Hattie Cowley and some thirty others. Its first officers were: W.C.T., J.S. J. McConnell; W.V.T., Sallie Bensinger; W.S., George H. Laury; W.M., James Matthews; Chap., S.L. Panglace. The lodge has met regularly since its organization at Bensinger's Hall, No. 30 Center street, on Friday evenings; and has initiated some five hundred persons. Its membership in October, 1880, was sixty-seven, and its officers were: W.C.T., W.D. Reynolds; W.V.T., Ella Holland; W.S., H.H. Dobson; W.F.S., William Shoener; W.T., C. Bensinger; W.M., Bessie Seligman; W. Chap., Sara Parker; W.I.G., Daniel Gouge; W.O.G., John Moyer.

Rhenonia Lodge, No. 414, K. of P. was instituted November 26th, 1873, with a large list of charter members, from whom were elected the following officers for the first term; P.C., Simon Trier; C.C., Frederick Becker; V.C., Jacob Myers; P., Adam Stehling; secretary, Charles Hartung; treasurer, G.F. Dippert; F.S., Dr. Philip Weber; V., William Spehl; I.G., Jacob Mahle; O.G., William Encke. The past presiding officers are Henry Lochman, Henry Hagelgans, G. Mayer, Charles Perry, J. Leibenberger and George Graff. The officers for 1880 were: C.C., Louis Kehlman; secretary, F. Becker; V.C., Henry Goppert; P., Henry Lochman; W., Jacob Becker; I.G., Hartman Becker; O.G., Henry Hollgalgus; treasurer, G.F. Dippert; F. Sec., Ferdinand Petrey. The exercises are in German.

Emerald Beneficial Association, Branch 39, was organized January 25th, 1874, with twenty-two charter members. The first officers were: President, M.J. Murphy; vice-president, Daniel Gill; secretary, John J. Hughes; treasurer, Patrick Dillion; marshal, John T. Quinn. The present officers are: President, M.J. Murphy, who has served every year since organization; vice-president, James McCabe; secretary, A.J. Connor; treasurer, Patrick Dillion; librarian, John Kelley; messenger, Patrick Stamford. The organization, which is literary as well as beneficial, has a large and valuable library.

Mahanoy City Council, No. 162, Royal Arcanum.-This organization is a mutual beneficiary brotherhood, giving moral and material aid to its members, and those dependent on them. It pays sick benefits, and life insurance of $3,000 for full rate members, or $1,500 for half rate members.

This council was instituted September 10th, 1878, with eleven charter members. Its officers in 1880 were: Regent, M.W. Price; vice-regent, R.B. Platt; orator, Thomas W. Duncan; past regent, O.C. Lewis; secretary, Frank Myers; collector, J.J. Dilcher; treasurer, Phaon Hermony; guide, E.C. Price; warden, W.H. Habblett; sentry, Samuel Platt; chaplain, Joseph A. Schoffstall; medical examiner, P. Hermony, M.D.

A Young Men's Christian Association was formed in October, 1876. For nearly two years it held regular meetings, and maintained a fine reading room, which however, was abandoned in 1878, at which time the society suspended operations.

Other Organizations.-There are several societies of German origin, of but slight importance, the secretaries of which failed to furnish any data; also a band, which did not respond to the historian's request for information.

E.D. Cronin; treasurer, Miles Roach. The following officers have served the association: Presidents-M.J. Murphy and Richard Gill; secretaries-John A. Diven, Owen Dunn and Edmund Barrett; treasurers-Patrick Dillon, John Quinn, D. McNamara and Patrick Dillon. The membership is thirty-two.

Seven Post, 110. G.A.R.-This post was named after Captain E.L. Severn, one of its most prominent members, and a popular officer. The imperfect data furnished the historian did not contain any list of charter members, or any account of the organization. The post numbered in 1880 thirty-five members, with the following officers: P.C., J.L. Bricker; S.V.C., E.J. Phillips; J.V.C., Lewis Delong; adjutant, G.M. Miller; quarter-master, J.S. De Silva; surgeon, G.M. Miller; chaplain, J.F. Shoener; officer of day, John Cameron; officer of guard, John Eletts; sergeant-major, James Connor.
framed structure, very unpretending. For a short time Rev. William Thompson preached every week.

On June 23rd, 1862, mainly by the efforts of Mrs. Dr. Thompson, the first Sunday-school was organized. For some time she was superintendent and teacher. Mr. Manck was the next superintendent. Mrs. Thompson by her personal efforts secured the necessary outfit for the school, and was rewarded by seeing it largely attended.

December 8th, 1864, Rev. F.F. Kolb was elected stated supply, and he filled the pulpit nine months, when he was succeeded by Rev. W.H. Dinsmore, under whose charge the church membership was increased. At the session of the presbytery at this place September 22nd, 1869, Rev. A.M. Woods was installed as pastor, and during his residence he has become popular and influential. By his efforts all debts on the church and parsonage were extinguished, the church was remodeled, and made what it now is, perhaps the most tasteful structure of its character in the borough. Among the improvements was a convenient Sunday-school room. The cost of the church property, including parsonage, was $11,500.

The elders in 1880 were E.F. Smith and E.K. Weber. The trustees were E.F. Smith, Dr. G.F. Brendle, A.W. Brown, C.F. Batesman, Joseph Porter, A.C. Lewis and Samuel Parmley.

The Sunday-school is superintended by Rev. A.M. Woods, with Joseph Porter as assistant. It numbers one hundred and seventyone scholars, teachers and offices, and has a library of more than six hundred volumes.

The present pastor, Rev. A.M. Woods, was born in Lewistown, Pa., in 1831. He graduated at Princeton College in 1850, and in the theological department in 1858. He taught several years during the time of his preparation for the ministry. He was ordained at Hartsville, Bucks county, in 1859.

The Church of Faith, P.E.-The earliest attainable data of Episcopal services in Mahanoy City are furnished by Rev. D. Washburne, in a letter to Hon. John Parker, of Parker’s Record, in which he relates that in company with Judge Helfenstein he drove from Pottsville, one Easter Sunday afternoon, and stopped at an unfinished hotel, walking from there to a school-house, lantern in hand, where the first services were held. It is believed to have been early in the spring of 1860, and from that time services were few and far between until the Rev. Henry Styles Getz commenced services, September 2nd, 1864, at the same time preaching at Hazleton; holding services at each place only on alternate Sundays.

On the 18th of August, 1864, a parish was regularly organized under the title of the Church of Faith, and the following persons were chosen wardens and vestrymen: F.M. Nicholas and Henry Jackson, wardens; Charles M. Hill, jr., Charles Cowley, James Morgan, Thomas G. Westcott, Wesley Hammer, Philip Conrad and John R. Cunningham, vestrymen. The same day Rev. H.S. Gerz was elected rector of the parish. Tuesday, November 29th, the corner stone for a church was laid, William Bacon Stevens, D.D., assistant bishop of the diocese; Rev. William Wilson, of Tamaqua, and the rector assisting. The church was formally opened August 2nd, 1865, the Schuylkill and Lehigh convocation, then in session at Tamaqua, attending in a body and assisting in the ceremonies.

The Sunday-school was organized Sunday, August 13th, 1865, with twenty-eight scholars. Wesley Hammer was its first superintendent.

On Thursday, August 29th, 1866, the church was dedicated, Bishop Thomas Vail, of Kansas, presiding; assisted by Rev. Messrs. Elsegood, Potter, Pecke, Bowers, Adams, Allen, Shinn and Getz; the sermon being preached by Bishop Vail.

On the 1st of May, 1867, the rector, have resigned his charge at Hazleton, took sole charge of this church. During the next two years he established a mission at Delano, and added Calvery Church of Tamaqua to his charge, resigning his pastorate May 21st, 1869. At a vestry meeting held January 13th, 1870, Rev. Joseph W. Murphy was elected rector, and during his term of service here he established mission services in Shenandoah. After a pleasant sojourn of five years Rector Murphy resigned May 31st, 1875. Rev. Charles J. Hendley, B.D., then filled the pulpit for a few months, after which it remained vacant until December 17th, 1876, when Rev. C.J. Kilgour, of Catoctin, Md., the present rector, was called.

The church buildings are of wood, the main audience room seating two hundred. The rectory, in the same enclosure, was built in 1868, and the total value of the property is $11,000, on which there is no indebtedness.

The Sunday-school numbered in 1880 eighty scholars and teachers. Its officers were: C.J. Kilgour, superintendent; John Dunn, assistant superintendent; Charles P. Derrick, secretary; J.D. Jones, treasurer.

The church wardens for 1880 were George C. Cook and John Holland, ----Carter, Wesley Hammer, John Dunn, George C. Crook, Charles P. Derrick, Charles P. Derrick, Charles H. Lewis and George Gilgour.

The Guild of the Church of Faith was organized, as an aid to the general work of the church, on the 2nd of December, 1877. Henry Jackson was elected president, John Hodges secretary, and John Holland treasurer. At the election of 1880 officers were chosen as follows: George C. Crook, president; Thomas Holland, vice-president; George W. Seltzer, secretary; John Pott, treasurer. The guild has purchased an organ, attended to and defrayed the expenses of janitor's service, superintended and paid for repairs, visited the sick, and looked after the local charities of the church.

Methodist Episcopal Church-In 1862 Rev. Mr. Kessler, of Ashland, came here, preached and formed a small class. The class held meetings at private houses, and in 1863 Rev. H. Cleveland, of Tamaqua, received instructions to preach occasionally at Mahanoy City. In the same year two lots and $1,000 were donated toward a church erection fund, and the society took immediate steps toward building a church, but the builders used
poor materials and the succeeding winter damaged the walls so much that they were rebuilt.

In March, 1864, Rev. H.H. Davis was sent as the first pastor, and held his first service in the house of a man named Myers, at the corner of Centre and Catawissa streets. Subsequent meetings were held at private houses and at the Spruce street school-house, until June 5th of that year, when the place of meeting was made Yost & Reagon's lumber yard, where the English Lutheran church now stands. During a heavy gale October 28th, 1864, the gable end of the new church was blown down. On the 26th of April, 1865, the first work was done on the foundation of the present edifice, and on the 17th of December it was dedicated, though not fully completed. The dedication was participated in by Revs. J.B. McCullagh, J. Aspril and H.H. Davis. During the exercises a communion service from friends in Pottsville was presented.

Rev. H.H. Davis was pastor from 1864 to 1867; Rev. Samuel H. Reisner from 1867 to 1869; Rev. J.S.J. McConnel from 1868 to 1870, and during his pastorate the church was completed. Rev. Thomas Montgomery from 1872 to 1874; Rev. N.D. McCornas from 1874 to 1876; Rev. J. Wesley Harkins from 1876 to 1879; and Rev. G. Oram, the present pastor, was appointed in 1879.

The Sunday-school was organized in December, 1865. William L. Yoder was superintendent, was elected. The number of scholars and teachers in 1880 was 306.

**St. Paul's Reformed Church.** During the year 1862 the few members of this denomination in Mahanoy were gladdened by the arrival of a considerable number of "like faith and practice" from Tamaqua, who called on their former pastor, Rev. L.K. Derr, of Tamaqua, to preach to them. He held his first service in the old Spruce street school-house, preaching to scarce a score of listeners. He visited the place frequently, and it was not long ere the old "goat stable" was too small for the audience that gathered to listen to his eloquent sermons; and an arrangement was made with the Presbyterians for the use of their building. On the 17th of January, 1863, an organization was effected by the election of a consistory.

In August, 1864, the congregation decided to build a church. A lot was donated by the land company, and on the 18th of September of that year the corner stone was laid. Rev. D.W. Wolff preached a few months. In the spring of 1965 the basement of the new building was opened for service. The on the 17th of September the church was dedicated.

Rev. L.K. Derr, of Tamaqua, became pastor. His first sermon as such was delivered in January, 1866, and his term of service closed in December, 1869; the church membership having grown from sixty in 1866 to two hundred and twenty-five in 1869. On Christmas morning, 1869, the present pastor, Rev. H.A. Keyser, preached his first sermon here. The membership of the church has increased until it stands at the head of the Protestant churches of Mahanoy City. In 1880 it was 500.

The church property has been increased in value under Mr. Keyser's administration to $8,000. A fine pipe organ has been purchased at a cost of $1,650.

The Sunday-school numbers 450 scholars and teachers, and has library of 800 volumes. The pastor is the superintendent. Rev. Henry A. Keyser was born near Allentown, Pa., in 1844; educated at Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio; graduated in September, 1869; was ordained in May, 1870, at Pottsville, by the Lebanon classis. He married Isabella Newcomet, of Croskill Mills, Pa., in 1866. She died at her home at Crosskill, November 23rd, 1871, aged 21 years, leaving one child.

**Welsh Congregational Church.** This organization held its first meeting in Mahanoy City in a private house in Mahanoy street, June 3rd, 1863. The "nucleus" of the church was there represented by three Welsh families-those of Rees P. Williams, John Morgan and William Richards. The next Sabbath, at the Spruce street school-house, a Sabbath-school was organized. In September of the same year the first sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Price. December 20th, 1863, the church was duly organized, with a membership of 111. Rev John E. Jones, then of Minersville, and Rev. Mr. Price officiated.

In the spring of 1864 the society commenced building a church on a double lot donated by Richard Kear, on Minersville. By autumn the church was completed and services were held in it. Mr. Price was not a regularly ordained minister, but a working man, who willingly lent his talents to pulpit work, and he is kindly remembered by his old congregation. March 6th, 1865, Rev. R.D. Thomas, of New York, became pastor here. He raised a debt of $800 and labored acceptably four years. It was during his pastorate, in the year 1869, that the Eisteddfod was organized here, and his church choir made one of the competing choirs. In various competitions, four at this place and one each at Ashland, Shenandoah, Tamaqua and Minersville, this choir won the highest prize, and at the contest in Shenandoah all of the prizes offered, amounting to $200.

After the resignation of Mr. Thomas the pulpit remained vacant for eighteen months. Rev. D.F. Jones assumed the pastoral charge in October, 1870. In April, 1875, Rev. Lot Lake became pastor. While he was in charge the church edifice was renovated and improved, at an expense of about $2,000. Mr. Lake resigned in 1877, and another vacancy of rather more than a year occurred before the church secured, some time in 1878, the services of Rev. R. J. Matthews, of Bevier, Mo., who is the present pastor. During Mr. Matthews's pastorate eighteen new members have been received, making the total number in 1880 one hundred and seventy-five. The Sunday-school numbers one hundred and thirty.

Rev. R.J. Matthews is a native of Glamorganshire, Wales. He came to America in 1863, was educated at Western Reserve and Andover Theological Seminary, ordained in Fair Haven and at Bevier, Mo., where he married, in 1877.
St. Canicus Church, situated at the northwest corner of Pine and Catawissa streets, was dedicated by Bishop Wood, of Philadelphia, in July, 1863. Previous to that time, services were held in a temporary church building, on the opposite corner to that on which the church now stands. The Rev. Daniel Kelly, at that time pastor of St. Jerome's Church, Tamaqua, of which parish Mahanoy City then formed a part, died in the early part of 1873, and Bishop (now Archbishop) Wood sent the Rev. Michael McAvoy to organize a parish in Mahanoy City and district. An idea of the extent of Father McAvoy's labors may be formed in giving the boundaries of the parish, which extended down Mahanoy valley to Gilberton, including it and also Shenandoah, and all the mining villages lying between those places and Mahanoy City. Add to this the fact that the population of the parish was mainly composed of miners, who were, for the most part, depending in their labor for their support. As soon as he arrived, Father McAvoy commenced erecting a church, capable of accommodating his people, which he finished in three years. About this time a small church was erected in Shenandoah, where Father McAvoy held services once a month. These labors, together with the work of collecting monies for the payment of building and other expenses incurred in organizing the parish, undermined his health, and made it advisable for him to take a short trip to Europe, which he did in 1867. During his absence Father Bodin had charge of the parish. In 1870 Father McAvoy returned from Europe, and remained in charge of this parish until January, 1871, when he was removed to Coatesville. He died at St. Teresa's Church, Philadelphia, on the 6th of September, 1875, at the age of 46 years.

Rev. Charles A. McFadden took charge of St. Canicus Church January 11th, 1871. A few months after his arrival here he decided to remodel and strengthen the church edifice. Luke Farrell was the architect engaged in the improvement. He soon remedied all the evils by raising the roof, inserting eight pillars, and then running bolts across the church, thus drawing the walls, which were sprung, into their original position. Father McFadden then had a tower and spire erected in front of the church and three entrances made instead of one. A bell was hung, weighing twenty-six hundred pounds, and bearing the following inscription: "Gloria in Excelsis-Church of St. Canicus-Pius IX., Pope-Rt. Rev. J.F. Wood, D.D., Bishop-Rev. C.A. McFadden, pastor-1874." Internally the church was made by all odds the finest in Schuylkill county. The frescoing was done with exquisite taste by Mr. Seiling, of Reading. Statues are painted upon the wall representing Saints Peter, Paul, John, Andrew, Matthew, Philip, Thomas, Luke, James the Greater, James the Less, Thaddeus, Bartholomew, Cecelia and Patrick. Within the sanctuary are three altars, the main altar and the two side alters of the blessed Virgin and St. Joseph. Above the main altar is a painting representing the Trinity, and to the right and left of it are four relief paintings of the evangelists-Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; together with their characteristic emblems. Besides the above great work, Father McFadden cleared off many claims against the church. Enough has been said to show the go-ahead spirit of Father McFadden, and it is but necessary to add that he is a genial, kind-hearted pastor, popular with people of every denomination. He was removed in March, 1875, to Schuylkill Haven, where he now resides.

His successor was the Rev. Michael A. Ryan, the present pastor, who took charge of the parish in March, 1875. During the time Father Ryan has been here he has made several improvements on the church property, and also paid off several claims against the church. He was born in Schuylkill county, educated at St. Charles Seminary, and invested with holy orders May 9th, 1867, when he was assigned to the pastorate of St. Patrick's Church in Philadelphia, where he remained for eight years, or until sent by Bishop Wood to this important field.

St. Fidelius German Catholic Church.-A number of German Catholics in 1864 determined to have religious service, and Fathers Deppman, of St. Clair, and Grunther, of Philadelphia, made this a missionary station, holding services once in four weeks. Father Deppman may be said to be the father of St. Fidelius. The corner stone of the church building was laid by Father Grunther in September, 1866, and the work was pushed on rapidly, so that within its walls on Christmas day, 1866, the first solemn high mass was celebrated. At the first meeting, in 1864, the membership was 59; in 1865 it had increased to 504. Bishop Wood sent the late Father Buening to take charge in April, 1868. At this time the parish extended down Mahanoy valley and to the northwest, including Shenandoah. During Father Buening's pastorate a confirmation took place, when 150 were confirmed by Bishop Wood. The handsome brick parsonage adjoining the church was erected by Father Buening. He died June 13th, 1872. Father Maus, just from Germany, took the place of the deceased pastor. By his labors the interior of the church was metamorphosed by the erection of a new and beautiful altar and the procuring of a fine collection of paintings, and on Easter day, 1878, the large pipe organ pealed forth its first notes, in the solemn service of the day. In 1874 the parish school was organized, and a school-house erected in the rear of the church. There are now 170 scholars, with three sisters in charge, who reside in a house adjoining the parsonage, also the property of the church. In 1876 Father Herman Dietrich, a native of Prussia, educated at Munster, Westphalia, who came to America in 1871, and has officiated at Breesport and Allentown, was sent to the parish. Since his arrival the church has been frescoed and otherwise improved. The parish contains about one hundred and fifty families, or eight hundred souls. The cost of the church property has been about $21,000. The buildings are on Mahanoy avenue, east of Main street.

American Primitive Methodist.-The first sermon in behalf of the Primitive Methodist denomination of this
city was preached by Rev. Charles Spurr in the Presbyterian church, March 3rd, 1864. Rev. George Parker afterward held services in the place. Rev. E. Crompton was afterward stationed here a year, holding services in the old Spruce street schoolhouse. He secured from Dundas, Troutman & Biddles the gift of some lots for church purposes. John and Charles Beach, John Greener, James Howard, James Abberly, James Trickey, Thomas Lewis, John Pritchard and Edward Crompton were elected trustees. Mr. Crompton was succeeded by Rev. R.N. Stephenson. The laying of the corner stone of the new church took place on the 5th of August, 1866. After a year Mr. Stephenson was succeeded here by Rev. George Parker, who continued in charge for two years. During this time the church was built. For four years after Mr. Parker's removal Rev. Charles Spurr was the pastor. Rev. R.C.H. Carrerall was appointed pastor in 1868 and served a year; then Rev. R. Fothenberg two years. Rev. E. Humphries succeeded Mr. Fothenberg, and during his term the church edifice was enlarged and improved, and a memorial stone laid August 4th, 1876, when an appropriate discourse was preached by Rev. George Lamb, of London, England. Rev. M. Harvey succeeded Mr. Humphries and labored here one year, when he was succeeded by Rev. C. Spurr, the present pastor.

The Sabbath-school was established about 1868, and numbered at the last return about 100 scholars.

**Welsh Baptist Church** - This church originated with Thomas Richards, Lewis Richards, Thomas Gittens, and John Davis, from Summit Hill. The first service, a prayer meeting, was held in February, 1865, in the Spruce street school-house, and a Sunda school was organized about the same time. At first services were held at intervals by clergyman from other places. In March, 1865, a lot was donated by the Delano Land Company. During the summer the corner stone of a church was laid by the Rev. Mr. Morgan, of Pottsville, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Morton, of Summit Hill. At this time the minister was Rev. Benjamin Nicholas. In 1868 Rev. Theophilus Jones took charge of the pulpit, and during his ministry the membership was materially increased.

After the close of Mr. Jones's pastorate the pulpit remained vacant for a long time, and the church declined in membership and strength. Occasional services were held by Rev. Thomas, of Ashland, Rev. David Evans, of Shenandoah, and the local preachers Willard and Capper. In August, 1871, Rev. W.D. Thomas took charge of the parish, and found the church in a deplorable condition. He has increased its membership, and built up a fine Sunday-school. One of the pastors of this church, Rev. T. Jones, was an adjudicator at the Eisteddfod held in this borough, and he is now the oldest member, in point of continuance in the body, in the East Pennsylvania Association. He resides in Wilkes-Barre.

Rev. W.D. Thomas, the present pastor, was born in Merthyr Tydvil, Wales, June 17th, 1842; when fourteen years old became a member of the church, and at the age of twenty-two was licensed to preach. A few months later he came to America, and settled at St. Claire, where friends had preceded him, and commenced laboring in the mines. He declined the pastorate at Shenandoah, and studied three years at Lewisburg University. He then accepted a call to this church, and has since filled its pulpit acceptably, having been ordained to the full work of the ministry at a meeting of the association held here in September, 1871.

**English Baptist Church** - March 17th, 1867, a meeting was held at the residence of David Phillips to discuss the subject of organizing a Baptist church. This meeting was called through his efforts of Rev. J. Hastings, at that time missionary to the Minersville Baptist church; and at it were convened David Phillips, Sallie E. Phillips, Abner E. Phillips, Adaline Phillips and Abel Davis. An election for church officers resulted in the choice of David Phillips for deacon, Abner E. Phillips clerk, and Abel Davis treasurer. After holding missionary services for a year, Rev. Mr. Hastings retired from the field, and for the next two years few public services were held, though prayer and church business meetings were maintained. Students from Lewisburg occasionally visited the place, holding meetings in the Welsh Baptist church on Sunday afternoons. In September, 1870, having received a pledge of assistance from the Centre Association, the church extended a call to Rev. B.B. Henshey, of Williamsport, and during his pastorate a small edifice was erected in Pine street. Mr. Henshey resigned July 1st, 1873, and during the following year the church was without a pastor. On Sunday, December 17th, 1873, the church was dedicated. In 1874 Rev. R.C.H. Catterall became pastor, and the church made large accessions to its membership. In 1875 he was succeeded by Rev. Alfred Wells, who served until 1876.

The church edifice was sold for debt in 1878 to the National Greenback Labor party, who converted it into a club room, and the members of the old church have formed new associations.

**Christ's Church** - This German Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized on the 20th of March, 1867, by Rev. D. Sanner, of Tremont. Only about twenty families were included. These were a remnant of the once strong congregation organized in 1863 by Rev. Mr. Geiss, who served them under the old regime for several years, and was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Burkhalter. Dissensions arising between the American and German members, the society was broken up, and one large portion formed the St. John's Lutheran Church. Some went to the Reformed Church, while others connected themselves with other organizations. A church building erected in 1864 was sold by the sheriff in 1967, and after a number of disagreeable circumstances was purchased of John C. Knapp by the present corporation.

In the spring of 1868 Rev. M. Schimpf, of Pottsville, was called to the pastorate. The circumstances were depressing, including a small congregation, a heavy debt, and a church building never fully completed, now in a badly dilapidated condition. In the summer of 1865 the church was completely renovated, and it was rededicated.
September 23rd of that year. Within one year the membership had increased to sixty families, and the church had begun to assume a more hopeful condition.

On the last Sunday of November, 1878, Rev. E.H. Pohle succeeded Mr. Schimpf.

The Sunday-school superintendent is G.F. Reifseg. The school numbers 160 members.

The total value of church property is about $10,000. The membership in 1880 was 94 families, with 342 communicants.

**Evangelical Church** - To Pennsylvanians this denomination has a special interest, for it was conceived in the State, and has here the strongholds of its power and influence. The first effort made toward forming an Evangelical society in this city was in the years 1859 and 1860, when Rev. Joseph Gross visited the place and held occasional meetings, which were continued by Rev. Isaiah Knerr and Rev. Joshua Frey during the next two years. In March, 1863, Revs. C. Ginerich and D. Lentz were stationed on the Ashland circuit, which included Mahanoy City as a regular appointment, and they held services here once in four weeks. They organized a class of about a dozen members, with David Faust as leader and Mr. Kestler as exhorter. The influx of population brought with it other members and the class was also increased by conversions. During the time spoken of the meetings were held in the old Spruce street school-house, or, as it was derisively styled, the "goat stable."

In the spring of 1864 a church lot on the corner of Catawissa and Spruce streets, was deeded to the society gratuitously. In February, 1865, although the building was yet unfinished, Rev. D. Lentz preached in it for the first time. The class was constituted a mission under the charge of Rev. R. Deisher, and under his ministry the church was finished, its debt canceled, and the membership largely increased. At the end of his second year Mr. Deisher retired, and Rev. D.C. Kemble took his place. During his residence here Pastor Kemble fell sick with small pox and his place in the pulpit was supplied by Messrs. Werner and Hock, local preachers. In 1868 the aid of the Missionary Society was withdrawn, and within three years the church became a liberal contributor to the support of its foster parent. Rev. J.C. Hornberger was the successor of Mr. Kemble, and was followed by Rev. B.J. Smoyer. In 1871, under Mr. Smoyer's pastorate, the church was enlarged and remodeled, and a parsonage built, at a cost of about $4,400. In the winter of 1872 W.K. Wieand was appointed pastor, and in 1874 Rev. A.M. Stirk. The latter preached two years, then Rev. S. L. Wiest three years, and Rev. S. Theodore Leopold was next sent to the charge. Since his arrival the Sunday-school has been furnished with a new library and book case, the church repaired and painted, and spirituality in the church given a decided impetus. The membership is 195. The church property is valued at $7,000.

Rev. S.T. Leopold was born in Allentown, Pa., in 1851; educated at Kutztown Normal School; ordained as deacon by the East Penn Conference at Schuylkill Haven in 1876, and an elder at Reading in 1878. He married at Weissport, Pa., in 1872, Miss Emma Horne. He preached at Hellertown, Triverton and Mahanotongo before coming here.

The Sunday-school was organized May 20th, 1865. Godfrey Laury was superintendent eight years. The school was union in name and character, and instruction was given in English and German. The school had 175 teachers and scholars in 1880, and library of 755 volumes.

**St. John's English Lutheran Church** - The English and German Lutheran churches of this city formed one society up to 1867. In that year this church was formed, taking with it the pastor of the old organization and fifty-two members. The neat church edifice in East Mahanoy avenue, seating four hundred persons, and costing some $7,000, was the result of the movement.

Rev. I.C. Burkhalter was pastor until March, 1869. Rev. R. Weiser took charge of the parish September 10th of that year, and resigned after a year's service. Rev. D. Beckner was pastor from February, 1871, until May, 1875; and Rev. J.M. Steck four years and a half. In March, 1880, Rev. J. W. Lake assumed the pastorate.

The value of the church, which was remodeled and enlarged by the addition of a handsome brick front during the pastorate of Rev. J.M. Steck, is $8,000, including the parsonage in the rear. The trustees are Adam K. Smith, Charles Bensinger and G.W. Stetzer. The church council consists of Elders Daniel Holdeman and David Bowman and Deacons David Klein and Charles Shoener.

The Sunday-school was organized in 1867. Its first superintendent was H.K. Smith. Its officers for 1880 were: Superintendent, A.K. Smith; assistant superintendent, W.H. Behny; secretary, A.B. Wagner; treasurer, G.W. Stitizer. The number of its members is two hundred and forty-six, and its library contains four hundred volumes. The membership of the church in 1880 was $94 families, with 342 communicants.

**MOLLIE MAGUIRISM IN MAHANOY CITY**

The period comprising twelve years following the organization of the borough was one of turmoil and lawlessness among the miners and laborers, many of whom had been driven from other localities by the fear of punishment for misdeeds. With an imperfect police force, the law-abiding people found themselves obliged to be on their guard, and in many cases to foster a part of the turbulent element as a means with which to control the other portion.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, which under the control of the Mollie Maguires played so bloody a drama in the coal regions, found a foothold here at an early date, and its members were believed to have participated in some of the earlier acts of that terrible period; but it was not until after 1872 that it became well-known and was not until after 1872 that it became well-known and aggressive as a local institution. To a former member of the organization, who withdrew in disgust and horror before its overthrow, the historian is indebted for that part.
of the following outline of its history here which has not been published before. Actuated by a love for riot and bloodshed, the order was perhaps as prominently known by its quarrels between its members as by its attacks on others; and it was owing to a fight between two members, named Dugan and Burke, that a rival society, known as the Ironclads, or “Sheet iron boys,” was formed by the latter, and for years maintained a kind of clan organization which led to many an encounter between the opposing forces. Dreading the mysterious order whose bloody hand alone could be seen, many of the law-abiding citizens, and, at times, the local authorities, sympathized with the “Ironclads,” whose emotive at least was known and appreciated, and as a result many a personal grudge was paid off, and an occasional act of sheer malice or wanton cruelty perpetrated on persons who were in no way connected with the Mollies. Later, a body of Welsh and English roughs known as The Modocs,” led these melees, but they were so far prejudiced against the nationality of the Ironclads that they preferred to stand aloof from them and fight them as well as their opponents. Possessing as strong an influence at “court” as the Ancient Order did at one time, its members were generally prompt to obtain the arrest of any one concerned in or suspected of any attack on their persons or property; while so accustomed had their opponents become to the notorious alibis with which the Mollies had defeated justice for years, that they preferred to trust their own arms to defend themselves, and in that way laid the foundation for a series of vendettas, the account of which reads more like a chapter from the history of the Dark Ages than a recital of events occurring in a civilized community, within the last quarter of a century.

A series of atrocious murders led to the terrible tragedy at Wiggan's Patch, when, taking the law into their thirst for vengeance, and spared neither age nor sex. The final arrest of the Mollie Maguire leaders, and the firm attitude that was taken, after the Wiggan’s Patch affair, in favor of law and order by the authorities, backed by the coal and iron police, caused the gradual weeding out of the bad element by immigration; and within the four years prior to 1880 the borough has settled down to a state of quiet obedience to the laws that renders the recital of the events of the preceding decade almost incredible to one whose personal knowledge of the place and people has been gained since 1876.

The Mollie Maguires attained their greatest strength at this point in 1875, during the long strike, when there were two bodies in the city and one at Trenton Patch, the membership of which, including members of the order not regularly members of these bodies but accredited from others, was about one hundred. The general rendezvous at that time was on East Center street, at the and decided upon the death of Bully Bill Thomas and Major brothers. It was at this meeting that McParlan, the detective, took a quiet, unsuspected part, and to his timely warning is probably due the fact that the Majors escaped the fate of their brother. These attempted outrages, foiled as they were by the warning of McParlan and the recovery of Thomas from his wounds, were the last with which the Mollies of this city were directly identified. During the year mentioned they became aggressive enough to insist on joining the Irish parade on St. Patrick's day; and, being refused the countenance of the other civic societies, turned out in a separate body, reinforced by delegations from various points.

Among the most prominent members here were the two Jack McDonalds, one of whom was afterward killed by an accident in the mines; Mike O’Brien, one Duffie, and a part of the time Jack Kehoe, who then resided here. The arrest of O’Brien and McHugh, in May 6th, 1876, on a charge of conspiracy in the Thomas and Major cases, was the death blow to the organization; and, while a few of the noisy leaders took an early opportunity to remove where they would by beyond the risk of an investigation, the rank and file of the members quietly shunned the old haunts, including the saloons of Clark and Mrs. Costello, which had been their rallying points, and settled down into peaceable, law-abiding citizens. The practical effect of their work here was to discourage individual operators, and force them to sell their collieries to one of the two carrying companies, whose possession of these important mines gave them the very supremacy which the miners and laborers most feared.

The along suspension in 1875 found in and about this place a body of men with minds prejudiced by the exaggerated statements of labor advocates, as they were termed, whose attitude was threatening to the collieries and to the general interest of the place. At the commencement of the strike some of the private operators obtained other men and continued to mine. On learning this, a body so strikers from Hazleton visited the place, marched to the collieries and demand that they be closed. During their march one of the leaders was arrested by the burgess, and imprisoned in the lock-up. On learning the facts a party gathered from Shenandoah and the adjacent colliery settlements and demanded of the burgess that the prisoner be released, which demand the burgess complied with. They then visited the colliery of King, Tyler & Co., and ordered the men to quit work. The sheriff of the county, who was in town, hastened to the place and ordered the strikers to retire, and, as they refused to do so, commenced reading the riot act, when he was knocked down by one of the party. A warm encounter ensued, in which shots were freely exchanged and one of the policemen wounded. The sheriff and police were roughly handled, and retired. This and similar acts decided the authorities to quarter troops here until the close of the strike, which was done. The display of an imposing military force had a prompt effect in putting a stop to the threats of violence by which operators and miners had been deterred from work.
NEW CASTLE TOWNSHIP

This township was organized in 1847. The surface is little cultivated and mostly covered with underbrush.

The first settlers were Jacob Yoh, John Boyer and Nicho Allen. Yoh settled on the turnpike at the end of the road leading west from Wadesville. Boyer located nearly north from Yoh, on the road leading from Wadesville, across the turnpike, to Mount Laffee. His dwelling is still standing. Allen settled at the Big spring, on the summit of Broad mountain. His residence was known as "Black cabin." Later there was a tavern erected here. These settlers came about the year 1800. William Yoh, son of Jacob Yoh and son-in-law of John Boyer, built the first tavern in the township, about 1810. It was burned in 1830. B. Gallagher's tavern, near Yoh's, mentioned by the Pottsville Advocate in 1831, is yet standing. Rapid settling began about 1830. The population in 1850 was 2,140; 1860, 2,814; 1880, 1,540.

Flowery Field school-house, the first in the township, was built on the turnpike in 1828, by John Burger. Jonathan Shaffer, of St. Clair, then a boy of sixteen, with his father, helped to hew the lumber for this house. It was 20 by 25 feet, and was furnished with slab seats. Mr. White is the first teacher mentioned. Lewis Rees taught in 1830.

A short distance, on the turnpike, a cemetery had been commenced previous to building the school-house. Among the early burials there were those of Messrs. William Yoh and John Boyer, and their wives. There is no other public cemetery in the township. The Irish and German Catholics each have a cemetery near the east line of the township. The first was established in 1857.

There are six school-houses in the township. The upper New Castle school-house was built of stone, with a tin roof and a belfry, in 1873. The lower New Castle building, which is of wood, was built in 1878. It is a wooden building, with two departments, and is surrounded by a grove of trees. The one at Wadesville, built in 1879, is of wood and has a belfry. The house at Greenberry was refitted in 1879. All are furnished with modern desks and folding seats. All these schools are well conducted.

WADESVILLE

Wadesville, a mining village in the southeast part of New Castle township, was laid out about 1830, by Lewis Ellmaker, and named in honor of Captain John Wade, a coal operator. The place has been developed by the numerous collieries worked in and around it. George Phillips was probably the first who mined coal in the vicinity, commencing previous to 1828. In 1829 a Mr. Keverly commenced driving a tunnel on the Flowery Field tract, northwest from Wadesville, and Mr. Boas finished it, cutting the Orchard vein. In 1835 Blakesly and Ashley worked this colliery for Asa Packer, the lessee, shipping 35 tons per day. Henry Saylor operated here in 1855. It was known as the Flowery Field colliery. John Denning & Bro’s., sons of Joseph Denning, are now using the old Monitor colliery breaker, and working the Holmes vein. They ship large quantities of coal.

In 1828 Thomas Ritchway opened a drift on the Orchard vein, in the hill west from the creek. George Mason, who operated on this vein in 1856, west of Flowery Field colliery, found it from 4 1/2 to 5 feet thick, and shipped more than 18,000 tons per year. The vein on the east bank of the creek was operated by Christopher Frantz.

Wadesville shaft was formerly known as the Hickory shaft; its workings being a continuation of the old Hickory water level and slopes. Excavations were commenced June 30th, 1864. When a depth of 666 feet was reached, the upper split of the Mammoth vein was struck, early in the year 1867. In May, 1871, the mine was found to be on fire, and in June it became necessary to turn in water and drown it. The property was sold September 25th, 1876, by the sheriff to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. May 9th, 1877, an explosion of gas occurred, which resulted in the death of six men. In January, 1878, the authorities became convinced that the mine was again on fire, in the old workings, by reason of an explosion which had occurred. After laboring in vain until February 10th, it was decided to again drown it. Water was turned in from Mill creek February 14th, and left to run during eighteen days, when it had reached a height of 368 feet in the shaft. The mine was then emptied and the first coal was shipped October 21st. It has been operated successfully since. About 500 men and boys are employed. Eight engines are used at this colliery; one runs the breaker, one hoists on the plane, one runs a saw-mill and machinery in the carpenter's and blacksmith shops, and one carries the fan, each of 30 horse power; two 250 horse en-
gines hoist water from the shaft, two 125 horse hoist coal. The capacity of the breaker is about 700 tons per day. The present daily production is more than 500 tons.

### CHURCHES AT WADESVILLE

**Primitives Methodist**-On the 29th of April, 1855, a class was formed consisting of Rev. James George, a local preacher, Charles Latham, Samuel Westwood, John Martin and George Gordon. Mr. George was chosen leader. Services were held in the public school building. The members were accepted by the Primitive Methodist church, and were attached to the St. Claire circuit. A church building was erected in 1871. It is of stone, 30 by 40 feet, situated on the Fl owery Field tract, and its cost was about $2,000. It was dedicated December 29th, 1872; Revs. Benjamin Haywood, Francis Gray and Joseph W. Reed officiating. Mr. Haywood applied his sermon by shipping a $50 bill into the collection. The membership has at times numbered 40.

The Sunday-school was established with the church, Rev. James George being its first superintendent. The number of scholars has increased from 30 to 120. It has a good library.

On the 31st of June, 1868, there was organized, in connection with the school, a society known as the Primitive Methodist Sabbath School Temperance Roll of Honor and Burial Society. It was founded by Rev. James George. In 1876 fifteen other churches had organized similar societies.

**M.E. Church**-This church was organized as a branch of the M.E. church of St. Claire, in October, 1867. Among the original members were John Botham, George Miles, John and Betsy Webb. Their church building which cost $2,000, was dedicated in January, 1868. Rev. S.G. Hare was the first pastor. This church is frequently supplied by local preachers.

The Sunday-school was organized in 1865, two years before the organization of the church. The superintendent is Henry Shafer. The average attendance is about 90 scholars.

### MT. LAFFEE

Mt. Laffee is a mining village of between 300 and 400 inhabitants. Tobey Hire, Robert Bradley, Mrs. Joyce and Mrs. Peck were among the early settlers. There were five buildings here in 1840. The old stone school-house, now occupied as a residence, was built in 1846. The first teachers were James Butler, his brother, Benjamin S. Jackson and William Porter.

Beechwood Colliery.-William Mann and Thomas C. Williams opened this colliery, then called East Mt. Laffee, by driving a tunnel where the breaker now stands. A large quality of coal was shipped from this tunnel. They commenced the present slope August 5th, 1874. John L. Beadle was foreman and his uncle, William Beadle, superintendent. In 1850 they were shipping from 80 to 100 car loads per day. The firm failed in 1853. Their successors were Miller & Patterson, James Turner and Hugh Stephenson. Frank Gowan, builder of the store, took the colliery in 1856. David P. Brown & Co. followed. They had five openings. A shaft sunk by them was abandoned on account of water.

The company failed, and was succeeded by Morris Robinson and by Potts and J.K. Sigfried in 1866. Potts withdrew and Sigfried changed the name to Beechwood colliery. The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, the present operators, bought the land and coal in 1874. They are shipping two hundred tons per day. They use five engines of from thirty to one hundred horse power. They work the Seven-feet and Mammoth veins. The slope is on the south dip, and its length is now 280 yards, at an inclination of 45. The capacity of the breaker is 500 tons per day.

### NEW CASTLE VILLAGE

New Castle or Broad Mountain post-office was laid out in 1830 by Lewis Ellmaker. At first this village expected to become what Pottsville is now the great center of the mining region. Almost as soon as the place was started six large taverns sprung up. John Spohn built the first store. George Reifsnyder, afterward postmaster, and Peter Kline were then magistrates. The first school-house stood on Mohawk street. A Mr. Butler was early a teacher.

In 1853 a building, 28 by 38 feet, was erected for church services. It was at first used by the Lutherans, but was afterward bought by the M.E. church of Minersville. It was burned a few years since. Meetings are occasionally held in the upper school-house by people of different denominations.

The first tavern was built of stone, by John Kanter and Peter Kline. It has been taken down on account of caving of mines. The second, built in 1831, is now a dwelling. Daniel Lindenmuth, the builder, abandoning his projects, bought the building commenced by Henry Rhein and Barney Taylor for a store, enlarged it, and opened the third in 1832. It is now J. Brady's residence.

The fourth was built of stone, in 1833, by John Spohn. It is now the property of E. Phillips, and is occupied as a dwelling. The fifth, a wooden structure on the north side of the street, was built by Kline & Kantner, and kept by Kline. It was burned. The last was built of stone, by Jacob Kline, and it is now occupied as a dwelling.

East Pine Knot Colliery.-John C. Offerman opened this colliery, by a drift, in 1830. It was at first known as the Greenberry mines. Robert Adams commenced operations here in 1848. He made many improvements, and gave it the present name. This colliery has produced over 100,000 tons per year. A few years since, the mine took fire, and, with the West Pine Knot mine, was drowned out. It is located in the New Castle basin. William C. Littlehale's mines were between this and New Castle.

The Reppiler Colliery was first opened on a drift west from the railroad station, by the Nealy brothers. Joseph Lawton commenced operations here soon after 1840, and named it the Mammoth colliery, from the vein worked.
In 1846 he erected an engine breaker, and started a slope engine. He shipped about 250 tons per day. Lawton failed in 1850, and the colliery was purchased by George Reppiler, who sunk a slope in the west dip, at the east end of basin, on the Pott and Bannan tract. He sunk another slope on the Gettle and Wagner tract, on the north dip of the vein. The average daily production 18631865 was 600 tons; the capacity of breaker 750 tons. D.H. & John L. Geiger, and F.R. Morgan were partners in 1862-67, having previously been employes.

Ellsworth Colliery-This colliery is at New Castle village. Its present owner, John R. Davis, of Cass township, opened it by a slope on the Mammoth vein in 1873. Twenty men and 12 boys are employed, and two engines of 45 and 120 horse power are used. The first breaker was burned. The daily capacity of the present breaker is 100 tons, and its average production is 75 tons. The mine is in the abandoned Reppiler workings. It has produced 250,000 tons, and it may afford 500,000 tons more. The Broad mountain post-office is kept here.

ST. CLAIR POWDER MILLS

This enterprise was started in 1840, by Track and Seltzer, who built a mill in St. Clair. Several explosions occurred, and in 1860 John L. Geiger and Lewis Koch, then proprietors, moved the works to the east part of this township. The daily product was then 80 kegs, Emanuel Morgan is the present proprietor, with John Clayton as superintendent. The present production is 60 kegs per day.

NORTH MANHEIM TOWNSHIP

North Manheim was taken from Manheim township in 1845. The early settlers of this township were Germans, or their descendants who had crossed the Blue mountain subsequent to the French and Indian war, and settled in the Schuylkill valley and along the little streams running east and west that emptied into the main river. They were a hard working and robust race, and have left their impress upon the natives of the soil, who still dwell upon or near the homesteads of their ancestors. During the Rebellion great numbers of young men enlisted in the Union army and served faithfully to its close. No other township can show a better record than this in that great struggle for the national integrity.

The original occupants of the soil were greatly disturbed by predatory Indians, and several were massacred by them in their raids upon defenseless settlers; but the close of the Revolution brought peace and security. Of those who took part in the war of 1812 none are left.

Of those who first settled this township and became permanent owners of the land John Diebert owned and occupied a farm in the Centre turnpike, near Orwigsburg, and his children lived upon the same land after his death. He was a native of the county and left numerous descendants, many of whom still reside in various parts of Schuylkill county. Jacob Krebs was another old settler whose farm was on the turnpike leading to Orwigsburg. He left many descendants in the county. Jacob Minnich, Daniel Shappell and Michael Bolich were among the first settlers of the valley south of the Second mountain and east of the Schuylkill. Henry Hollebush is also numbered among those who cleared the lands in the Orwigsburg valley. Michael Kosh lived in the valley, on the turnpike, not far from where the almshouse is now located, and Henry Strouch lived on the Wesner tavern property. The Wagners, Reeds, Rebers and other pioneers have left many descendants, who have proved worthy sons and daughters of an industrious and persevering race of citizens. On the west side of the Schuylkill the Kostners, Bergers and Decherts were early settlers and occupied farms in Long Run valley. The largest land owner in the western parts of the township was Valentine Trace, now called Dress by all the descendants living in this county. He was reputed to be a person of great personal strength, and of courage equal to any emergency. Like many other such men he was supposed to have had encounters with the savages in early life, and acquired the name of "Indian fighter"; but he probably was as quiet as most of his neighbors and equally guiltless of shedding the blood of any human being, though clothed in the dusky hide of the stealthy, murderous Indian.

Another of the large land owners of this township was Martin Dreibelbies, whose estate extended from the almshouse property across both branches of the Schuylkill and included all the territory as far north as Beck's, and nearly all the West Branch valley south of that point, amounting in all to over 1,200 acres. He appears to have been a liberal minded man for that day, and contributed to the few public objects that engaged the attention of the sparse settlement. After the opening of the old Sunbury road, from the ahead of navigation on the Schuylkill to Fort Augusta on the Susquehanna at Northumberland, in 1770, many residents of Berks came up from the Blue mountain and found homes in this valley.

But previously to that date a few had ventured to engage in lumbering, and had built saw-mills for cutting up the timber that grew along the river bottoms. Among these was Ellis Hughes, who had a saw-mill on the river not far from the five locks of the navigation company. The Colonial Records mention this mill as the starting
point for the survey of the road to Fort Augusta; they also mention Ellis Hughes's house as being one of the points on the line of survey, about half a mile above the mill. No other house or resident is named, and he was probably the first to locate in that vicinity. We have no knowledge of his character or history, but from his enterprising spirit the presumption is that he was a man of courage and equal to all the emergencies of frontier life. The Hugheses of the farming districts are probably descendants of this man, though the records of the family have not been well preserved.

In the same neighborhood has been a farm known to a late day as the "Minnich property." This was doubtless the settlement of Conrad Minnich, who is spoken of in the Colonial Records in locating the place of the murder of John Neyman and his three children in August, 1780. They "lived at a saw-mill on the road from Reading to Shamokin, three miles above Conrad Minnich's, and thirty-three from Reading." Neyman must have lived where Pottsville is now situated, and his murder by the five Indians who "had been at Yarnal's the day before" caused the wildest excitement in the valley below, and wagons were sent up from the lower settlements to move them away. These people probably returned to their abandoned homes when the excitement died out, and then they remained undisturbed during their lives. Many of this name are found in various parts of the county, and probably they are descendants of this Conrad Minnich.

There are but two church edifices in the township; one is at Landingville, three miles below Schuylkill Haven, and belongs to the United Brethren. It was erected in 1869 and the society has been in a prosperous condition ever since. The other edifice was finished in 1877 and is near Spring Garden, a part of the borough of Schuylkill Haven. It replaced a wooden structure built in 1826 and called the Jerusalem Church of the German Lutheran and Reformed denominations. The tract on which the building and old cemetery are located contains three acres and eighty perches. It was part of the estate of Daniel Dreibelbis, and was sold by the sheriff December 27th, 1819, to Edward W. Hoskins, Louisa Hoskins, his wife, sold the property to Jacob Krebs, trustee of the United German Lutheran and Presbyterian societies, for one "silver dollar," August 1st, 1822. From the heirs of Michael Emerich these societies obtained eight acres. The consideration named is three dollars, and other charitable reasons moving thereto." The cemetery was in use as early as 1794. The congregation which built the church of 1826 worshiped (sic) for many years in an old log school-house, erected upon the lot, and persons are still living who were taught in it from seventy to seventy-five years ago. It stood in what is now known as the "old cemetery." The present edifice is a handsome structure of brick, with modern conveniences, and stands behind and a little east of the site of the old one, which was torn down and removed when the new one was completed. The selection of the present site was the cause of much ill feeling in the congregation, and result in divisions and litigations which time only can harmonize.

The Granger co-operative store building was the residence of Martin Dreibelbis, one of the first settlers in the valley. It is a log building, very strongly built and having double plank doors, with heavy wrought iron hinges fastened the whole width of them for greater security. It was called the "block-house," and the first settlers who dwelt in cabins in the valley fled to it for protection whenever an alarm if Indian incursions was made. There is no date to show when it was constructed, but it was no doubt erected on the old road leading from Ellis Hughes's sawmill toward Reading, before the survey of the "old Sunbury" or "Fort Augusta" road in 1770.

The former business centers of North Manheim have been incorporated into boroughs. A portion of Orwigsburg and all of Cressona, Mt. Carbon and Schuylkill Haven boroughs belonged to this township. Landingville is the only village in its territorial boundary which possesses any interest, and it is too recent in growth to have a history.

The county almshouses and hospitals, with their numerous outbuildings and offices, together with the large, highly cultivated farm, are located in this township, and embrace over six hundred of its population. As a class they add, as may well be supposed, but very little to the productive industries of the township. They can and do exercise the privilege of the elective franchise, the same as those favored by wealth and station; and present the curious anomaly of men going to the polls and voting the money of other people into their pockets after having squandered their own. The management of the poor in this establishment has been distinguished for great liberality and kindness, and while many important improvements could be made it compares favorably with all other institutions of the kind in the State.

The Laffin & Rand powder mills, on the west branch of the Schuylkill, one and one-quarter miles north of Cressona turn out a large amount of mining powder, for use in the adjoining districts, and have a capacity of about three hundred kegs a day. There are two flour-mills in the township, both of which were erected at a very early date. One is on the Center turnpike, between Schuylkill Haven and Orwigsburg, and is known as "Boyer's Mill." It is used as a grist-mill, and does work mostly for the farmers in the vicinity. George Heebner once owned the property, and since then it has passed through several hands to the present owner. Beck's mill is situated on the west branch of the Schuylkill, three-quarters of a mile north of Cressona, and does quite a large business in merchant flour and country grists. Both of these mills date back to the period of original permanent settlements, and have gone through the various vicissitudes incident to the progress of the settlements. They are run by water power, which sometimes fails. A few saw-mills are scattered here and there in the township, but the growing scarcity of timber renders them of little accounts in the industries of the people. Near Beck's mill is a small establishment for making fertilizers to supply the adja-
cent farming districts, and above the powder-mill is a factory of the blocks and pulleys used upon the inclined planes of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad. Many of the early saw-mills and grist-mills on the Schuylkill river were suffered to fall into decay, and finally to be swept away by spring and fall freshets. The valuable portion of the timber in the township has long since been cut away and used upon the railroads, and among the miners for props and colliery structures, and little use is found for saw-mills at the present time.

In April, 1876, Mountain Grange, No. 506, was organized in the western part of the township for the mutual improvement and protection of farmers. This society is small, but active, and has a co-operative store in Spring Garden, where all kinds of farmers' supplies can be obtained at prices and upon conditions said to be greatly to their advantage. A much larger grange than the one just mentioned has been established in the lower part of the township, with its place of meeting at Landingville. This is called Manheim Grange, No. 286; it exercises an important influence upon agriculture in that section, and has served to localize considerable trade at that point, although it has no co-operative store. The little village has two country stores. There is also a carriage factory there, which, in addition to farm wagons and carriages, turn out some very fine work for the general market. The agriculture interests of this township are the most important. Nowhere else can a better market be found for farm produce than is presented by the villages and mining population of the coal region. The reliable market for their products enables the farmers and gardeners to use fertilizers of all kinds extensively, to enrich their lands and adapt them to the growth of such productions as find the readiest sale. The railroads and canal running through this township furnish excellent facilities for transportation of fertilizers and products of the eland. The horses and market wagons have been greatly improved in appearance, and the method of preparing products for sale is very different from what it was formerly. The farm buildings and surrounding are neat and substantial. The products are greatly improved in quality, as the selection of seed is annually becoming more careful.

The public schools are kept open during the legal term of five months only. Great advances have been made in them during the last few years. Neat school buildings are being erected, and furnished with patent seats and desks and other modern conveniences. There are four-teen schools in the township, having an average attendance of thirty-five to forty pupils.

The population of North Manheim was in 1850, 3,006; in 1860, 5,196; in 1871, 2,420, and in 1880, 2,802, an increase in the last decade of 382, nearly sixteen per cent.

CRESSONA BOROUGH

Cressona is an outgrowth of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, and like all the other towns in the coal region is comparatively a modern borough; but the events which led to its incorporation and subsequent growth to its present proportions date back for nearly half a century. Before the construction of the Mine Hill road the valley in which the town is situated, and the hill sides, were covered with heavy timber or thick undergrowth, with here and there cleared fields which yielded a scanty return for the toils of the husbandman. There were no school-houses, churches, or burial places; they who passed away were laid to rest among their kindred in other towns. Of all the original settlers none are buried here excepting a portion of one family by the name of Fite.

The developments of the anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania required the construction of railroads and canals to move the products of the mines to distant markets. Among the earliest of these important works was the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad. It was chartered in 1828 and completed in 1831. From the time of the completion of the road to 1847 the power used was horses and mules; these, with the small cars used in hauling the coal, were generally owned by the operators, and consequently the centers of movement were at the respective collieries; hence during this period there were no inducements for building up any other place. In 1847, however, the teams and small cars were withdrawn and a steam engines substituted. This was the beginning of a new era in the history of the railroad and the West Branch valley. The center of movement was now transferred from the mines to this place. The erection of engine-houses, shops, and stores for materials became necessary.

The large farm upon which the principal part of the town has been built since was owned by Thomas Sillyman, and as the company did not feel themselves authorized to hold any large tract of land, it was purchased by John C. Cresson, the president of the road, and the land necessary for the uses of the company transferred to them, whereon the buildings for the use of the motive power of the road, scales, repair shops, offices, etc., were erected. A portion of the farm was laid out in town lots, fifty by two hundred feet, and sold to employees of the road on such terms as enabled them to erect dwellings for themselves. A thriving little town soon grew to such proportions as to require a name, and it was called West Haven. At this time the inhabitants were few, but in a few years
the population increased to several hundred, which rendered further changes necessary to secure the welfare of the people. The elections for this portion of North Manheim township were held at the Almshouse tavern, which made it very inconvenient for the men working on the road and in the shops, and teams had to be employed to take the train hands, as they came in, to vote, which was expensive and often resulted in the loss of votes.

The educational advantages accorded to West Haven by the directors of North Manheim township were not such as were satisfactory to the citizens who had children to educate, and various plans were suggested and discussed to remedy the defects of the school system. In all these matters the officers of the road took a deep interest. In view of the probable importance of the place in the future and the great need of local government, the principal resident officers, among whom was R.A. Wilder, resident engineer and superintendent of the road, suggested the incorporation of the town into a borough, with an independent election and school district; also changing the name from West Haven to Cressona, in honor of John C. Cresson, owner of the land upon which the town was erected and president of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, who was greatly interested in the employees of the company, and offered every inducement to them to become owners of homes in the vicinity of the works where they were employed.

At the June session of the court in 1856 a charter was granted for the borough of Cressona. The charter is dated February 2nd, 1857. Judge Higgin was the presiding judge. The first election was held in the public school-house, now W.L. Grey's store, February 29th, 1857. The officers elected were: William A. Hannum, chief burgess; council-R.A. Wilder, Benjamin Hosler, F.M. Nichols, Frank Kantner, E. Bradefield and Henry Merkle; high constable, William Styers; auditors-William Newell, F.B. Drehr, Ruben Laubenstine; assessor, Daniel Bartoletesen; secretary, D.H. Albright. The first school directors were Peter Haas, J.J. Upchurch, J. Kantner, Robert Towns, N.G. Hammeken and William Styers. At a meeting in May following the election the directors decided to sell the old school-house and build a new one upon a more improved plan. The first movement under the new state of things was to improve the system of public education. A large brick building containing four rooms replaced the small buildings furnished by the directors of the township. As the population increased a two-story addition, containing two large rooms was erected. About the same time a new school building was constructed in that part of the town now constituting the north ward. The best teachers were selected by the board of directors to take charge of the education of the young in these colleges of the people." From the foundation of the borough liberal appropriations have been granted by the citizens to keep their public schools up to an efficient standard.

As the business of the company increased they enlarged their shops, and the number of mechanics and laboring men in and about these works was largely increased, as was also the complement of train hands on the road. The increase of employes created a demand for dwellings, and the number of houses rapidly increased. Several stores and hotels were added, and a market established for nearly every thing produced in the adjacent farming district. Monthly payments were always promptly made by the company, and money circulated freely among all classes, creating an unusual degree of prosperity in the whole community.

The Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad Company proposed to extend its line to the Lehigh river, connecting with the Lehigh Valley Railroad, and $250,000 had already been expended upon it when the Mine Hill road was leased by the Reading Railroad Company and the new work stopped. This event has in the main proved disastrous to Cressona; the brilliant prospects of rapid growth by being the center of a line of railroad through one of the most valuable districts of the anthracite coal regions were suddenly destroyed. Up to the time of the lease the town grew rapidly, until it had a population of about 1,600. Much of the work formerly done here has been removed to Reading, and the number of mechanics in the various shops reduced. The population shown by the census of 1880 was 1,341; in 1870 it was 1,507, and in 1860 826.

About fifteen years ago the borough was enlarged by annexing that portion lying between the west branch and the Reading Railroad, and on the west side by adding to it what is commonly called Lordstown; thus increasing the population and bringing within its limits the flouring and grist mills of Isaac Strouch and James C. Butz. In the vicinity of Butz's mill once stood a furnace and forge, owned and operated by John Potts, but it has long since fallen into decay and no traces of it are left.

The record of Cressona in the civil war is not surpassed by that of any other place. The promptness with which the call for three years men was met exhibited a patriotism not less commendable than that of the sires of '76. All that could be spared went, some never to return. Those that remained at home contributed a portion of their earnings monthly to a fund for the support of the families of soldiers who needed aid.

**CHURCHES**

There are several religious denominations in Cressona, which are regularly organized and have places of worship, but the changes incident to the transfer of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad to the Philadelphia and Reading Company have detracted greatly from their prosperous condition, and some of them entirely lost their membership and have been absorbed into other societies.

**Evangelical Church.** Previously to 1852 there was no regular church organization of any kind in the place. Members of the different denominations held class-meetings together in private houses. In 1852 the Evangelical members took steps to organize a church. They authorized Eli Sheriff and Henry Reed to obtain subscriptions and buy a lot. A lot was bought of George
Laid on the 5th of June, 1870, by Cressona Lodge, No. 426, A.Y.M., assisted by delegations from Pottsville, Schuylkill Haven and Orwigsburg. The officiating clergymen were Rev. Solomon Neitz and Rev. H.A. Neitz, pastors.

In November, 1870, the church was dedicated, Rev. S. Neitz, Rev. H.A. Neitz and Rev. M.F. Maize officiating. This is the finest church building in town. On the first floor are two class rooms and an elegantly furnished Sunday school room. The second floor is used for church services, and will seat about 500 people. The membership at this time is over two hundred.

The Sunday-school was organized December 5th, 1852 by electing the following officers: A.B. Long, superintendent; Andrew Mortimer, assistant superintendent; Jacob Kanter, president; F.B. Huntziger, secretary; Josiah Rodenbach, librarian; Henry Rudy, treasurer. December 12th, 1852, the school opened, with fifty scholars. The succeeding superintendents were: A. Mortimer, 1853; F.B. Huntzinger, 1854; Andrew Keefer, 1855, 1856; W.A. Hammer, 1857-62; Rev. E.B. Miller, 1863; C.W. Dengler, 1864; Dr. F. Krecker, 1869; and since 1870 George E. Hoffman. The average attendance is 225.

In 1859 application was for a charter, and the church regularly organized under an act of incorporation. The first trustees were W.L. Gray, J.J. Upchurch Henry Merkle, E. Fargo, R. Wright, M. Hoffman, J. Duncan, James Mains and Henry Sortman. Rev. Jerome Lindemuth was pastor from 1856 to 1858; Rev. William Smith, his successor, resigned because of failing health, and Dr. W.W. Wythes filled the unexpired term.

The trustees bought the church lot from John C. Cresson for one-half its estimated valuation, receiving the deed January 7th, 1860. Rev. Mr. Cleavland succeeded Dr. Wythes, and during his term the building was erected in the corner of Ash and Second streets. The building is of stone, 50 feet long and 40 feet wide, with an auditorium above. E. Wilkes Thomas has been superintendent of the Sunday-school a number of years. The average attendance of scholars is about fifty.

This church was for many years the most flourishing in Cressona, but it lost nearly all its members by removals, and of late years it has been struggling hard to keep up an organization. The present pastor, Rev. Joseph Gregg, is infusing new life into the church, and the congregation is in a more prosperous condition than it has been for some time.

**Grace Church.** On the 14th of December, 1857, application was made to the court of Schuylkill county by a number of citizens for a charter for "Grace Church of Cressona," subject to the Protestant Episcopal church of Pennsylvania. On the 8th of March following the charter was granted.

The first vestrymen were Rugus A. Wilder, John R. Wilson, Henry Leonard, Henry Lewis, F.M. Nichols, Charles M. Hill, W.J. Coulter, Robert Irwin and William Newell. The Rev. A. Prior, of Pottsville, was active in procuring the charter and promoting the church organization, but the church building was erected under the charge of Rev. George A. Latimer, who had taken the place of Mr. Prior as rector of St. James's Church, of Schuylkill Haven. The church edifice is a substantial stone structure ona lot given by John C. Cresson. The building was finished and paid for by November, 1859, and during the same month it was dedicated by Bishop Bowman, of the Pennsylvania diocese.

For a long time the church was well supported, but from the cause heretofore named in connection with the railroad lease it dwindled in numbers and services ceased. Subsequently trustees were appointed to take charge of the property, and they leased it to the Reformed congregation, which occupies it at present with a large membership.

**United Brethren.** Members of the United Brethren denomination in 1873 leased a room in Odd Fellows' Hall, and organized a German and an English class, numbering about 40 members, with Mr. Hemperly leader of the English, and George Hower of the German class. The minister in charge was Rev. J.F. Smith, who was succeeded in 1874 by Rev. Mr. Bowman. In 1875 Rev. Mr. Gambler preached, but owing to the great depression in business many of the prominent members left to better their fortunes elsewhere, and no regular meetings were held until 1877; Rev. W.H. Uhler then received the appointment and reorganized the class, with David Dreis-
sen., leader of the class. Rev. W.H. Cranmer was in charge from the spring of 1879 to July, 1880, when he resigned and Rev. Mr. Shendel and Rev. R. Arndt received the appointment.

The Sunday-school was organized in 1873, with Mr. Hemperly as superintendent. The succeeding superintendents were A.S. Riland, Gotlieb Wagner, M.J. Thomas, J.N. Riland and Charles Dengler. The school averages about 50.

The Lutheran and Reformed Denominations had no place of worship in Cressona before 1876. Some attended "Jerusalem" church, near Schuylkill Haven; some St. John's, in Schuylkill Haven; and others St. Peter's, in Wayne township.

February 1st, 1876, the Lutheran and Reformed denominations leased Grace church, belonging to the Episcopalians. The ministers serving during the year were Rev. W.H. Koons, Lutheran, and Jacob Kline, Reformed. At the same time a Sunday-school was organized, with L.R. Keefer superintendent.

January 1st, 1877, the Lutheran congregation withdrew and the Reformed congregation leased the church. The ministers in charge were Rev. Jacob Kline and Rev. J.O. Johnson until June 1st, 1887; since then Rev. J.P. Stine has been pastor.

The Reformed Sunday-school was organized January 1st, 1877 with George Morgan as superintendent. He resigned June 10th, 1878, and D.H. Albright, being assistant superintendent, became superintendent. On January 1st, 1880.

SECRET SOCIETIES

Previous to 1870 the secret societies of Cressona met in a room in the house now occupied by Mrs. M.J. Thomas and in a room in Louis Shaeffer's house, known as Thomas's and Shaeffer's Halls. When the new addition to the school building was erected Cressona Lodge A.Y.M. leased the second floor (then not needed for school purposes) from the school board, and fitted it up handsomely as a lodge room. This room was leased to other societies and was used for this purpose until August, 1880, when the school board proposed to use the room for school purposes.

Herdon Lodge, No. 550, I.O.O.F. is the oldest secret society in Cressona. It was organized November 16th; 1858.

Its charter members and first officers were: M.J. Thomas; William A. Hammer, secretary; Robert R. Young, Elias Bartolet, Richard Wilson; H.W. Hollman, treasurer; Bartholomew Bracefield; John Gren, V.G.; John Wagner, Henry Cronimiller, Daniel Holland, Owen Mowry; Emanuel Bracefield, N.G.; Frederick Beck, Samuel Lear, H.D. Jones; H.G. Dentzer, assistant secretary; George Hudson.

The present officers are: Amos Bartolet, N.G.; Moses Shappell, V.G.; John W. Smith, secretary; Charles Hudson, assistant secretary; Samuel Hower, treasurer.

This lodge was organized in Hammer's Hall, a small room now used by George E. Hoffman as a warehouse. From this place it moved into Shaeffer's Hall on October 1st, 1865. In 1871 it bought the old Evangelical church building on Front street, and made out of it a two-story building. The first floor is used for a lecture room and public entertainments, and the second floor for the meetings of the societies. Into this building, now known as Odd Fellows' Hall, the lodge moved April 1st, 1872.

Washington Camp, No. 73, P.O.S. of A. was instituted October 18th, 1866, and was the first camp chartered by the State camp. The charter members and first officers were: F.A. Stitzer, V.P.; W.H. Hughes, R.S.; Henry Lord; W.G. Losch, I.G.; W.T. Reed, A.R. secretary; W.T. Bracefield, P.; E.P. Payne; S.C. Wilson, O.G.; F.R. Kantner, M. of F. & C.; W.H. Kuebler. L. S.; Henry Helnright, P.P.; F.A. Eveland, C.; and D.H. Stitzer. The first treasurer was J.C. Eveland.


Washington Camp, No. 129, P.O.S. of A. has about 70 members in good standing, including some of the leading citizens of the town. It was instituted July 4th, 1878, with 17 charter members. The first officers were: P.P., E.W. Freehafer; P., Amos Bartolet; W.P., Samuel Hower; M. of F. and C., David McKinney; R.S., Richard Bartolet; A.R.S., Charles Geary; F.S., John W. Hagner; T., Charles H. Merkle; Cond., Benjamin Bartolet; I.G., William Reifsnyder; O.B., C.W. S. Merkle; Chap., D.F. Mertz; R. Sent., Josiah Fessler; L. Sent., William Brininger. The first trustees were C.W.S. Merkle, D.F. Mertz and Amos Bartolet. The successive presiding officers have been Samuel Hower, David McKinney and J.C. Berger.

The present officers of the camp are the following: P.P., J.C. Berger; P., Milton Dress; E.P., D.W. Starr; M. of F. and C., William F. Brininger; R.S., Amos Bartolet; A.R.S., Albert Berger; F.S., A.J. Reed; T., George Heffner; Cond., C.H. Merkle; I.T., William Reifsnyder; O.G., George Fry; R. Sent., Robert Jones; L. Sent., Adam Dechert; Chap., J.L. Hoffman.

The present trustees are William Reifsnyder, J.W. Hagner and Samuel Hower.

Since the third meeting of camp in July last, white degree meetings are held quarterly, and always immediately after camp closes in the red.

The first adjutant was Samuel Hower; W.M., W.L. Gray. After the charter had been secured, Samuel Hower, who afterward kept up the post through his own efforts, was the first recruit. From 1871 to 1879 he was acting post commander, and, although no regular organization was kept up and no regular meetings were held, he with several of his comrades contributed funds sufficient to pay the State tax and keep the post in good standing. He attended to the decoration ceremonies on Decoration day, securing flowers, speakers, music, & c. In the fall of 1879, through his efforts, the post was recruited, and on December 30th, 1879, the following officers were elected: P.C., John W. Smith; S.V.C., J.R. Thomas; J.V.C., Peter Riland; Adj.t., Samuel Hower; Q.M., Henry Merkle. The post holds its meetings monthly in Odd Fellow’ Hall.

Miami Tribe, No. 82, Improved Order of Red Men was organized February 4th, 1868. Its charter members numbered 31. The first officers were: Sachem, M.J. Thomas; S. Sagamore, Charles J. Christian; J. Sagamore, C.V.B. Deibert; C. of records, F.A. Weiser; K. of wampum, A.N. Mortimer.


The officers at this time are: Sachem, Daniel Grim; S. Sagamore, A.N. Morimer; J. Sagamore, R. Laubenstine; C. or records, J.W. Smith; K. of wampum, R.H. Smith.

Cressona Lodge, No. 426, A.Y.M. was instituted November 5th, 1868, in Thomas’s Hall. The charter members and first officers were: Henry Hazel, W.M.; Samuel Lear; Luther R. Keefer, S.W.; John Gray; Anthony Proud, J.W.; Jacob Major; W.P. Bishop, secretary; M.J. Thomas; John Green, treasurer; J.B. Hoffman, Frank Simon, Robert Irwin, sr., William Smith, Philip Wagner, W.H. Bines, W.S. Peel, Elias Bartolet, J.H. Thompson, William Swint, George E. Juebler, W.D. Darcas, Lucian Miller, and Aaron Miller.

The successive presiding officers were L.R. Keefer, Albert J. Reed, Lewis Zuber, William Beck, John A. Springer, Dr. Daniel Dechert, and George E. Kuebler.

The officers at present are: John Gray, W.M.; William J. Beck, S.W.; Charles H. Merkle, J.W.; John W. Smith, secretary; L.R. Keefer, treasurer.

On April 1st, 1870, they left Thomas’s Hall, and occupied the room leased from the school board until August 16th, 1880, when they went into Odd Fellows’ Hall, where they now hold their meetings on Thursday at or before full moon.

**MOUNT CARBON BOROUGH**

Among the earliest residents of Mount Carbon are remembered Lewis Murphy and Joseph Porter, who lived in small log houses which have long since disappeared. In 1818 Nicho Allen resided here, and was engaged in lumbering. He carried on the early saw-mill in what is now the borough. His first house stood near the site of the present depot, but his subsequent residence was a house in the ravine through which runs the road to Cressona. This ravine was then known by the suggestive name of Rum Hollow. Many amusing anecdotes are told, by the few survivors who knew them, of Nicho and his wife, "aunty," as she was called. He remained here till the death of his wife; then removed to Pottsville, and afterward to Lake Champlain, where he was drowned.

In 1828 there were here six dwelling houses, one store, the collector's office and a large two-story stone warehouse, which was built in 1824, and was owned and occupied by Gaius Moore. The store was conducted by Joseph White and Benjamin Combs. This firm dealt largely in produce, which was brought in wagons from Lebanon, Dauphin, Union and Northumberland counties and sent by them to Philadelphia. They also supplied the miners of the Delaware Coal Company with goods. In 1829 this firm built a large stone warehouse, two stories in height above a basement, immediately opposite the present Mansion House. In the same year John White erected the Mansion House and a row of stone building on Center turnpike and the street called Rum Hollow. During the same year a number of framed buildings were commenced, several of which still stand in the ravine spoken of. At that time all the commerce from the region on the Susquehanna, to which the Center turnpike gave an outlet, was carried on through that turnpike and the Schuylkill navigation; and Mount Carbon, as the head of that navigation, was a point of considerable importance. On the completion of the Union canal much of this commerce was diverted from this route, and these warehouses gradually fell into disuse, and they have disappeared. Mount Carbon continued to be an important point for the shipment of coal till the navigation was extended to the mouth of Mill creek and the Mine Hill Railroad was constructed.

Four docks were built while it was the head of navigation. It was the terminus of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad during several years, and passengers and freight for Pottsville were taken by teams to the latter place. It has changed but little since Pottsville was made the terminus of this road and the navigation above
Schuylkill Haven was abandoned. The docks have been filled and the locks are going to decay.

In 1864 a rolling-mill was built below Mount Carbon by a company of gentleman in New York and Pottsville. Ten tenant houses were also erected by the company. The mill has been burned.

Mount Carbon was incorporated in 1864, but many of the officers that have been chosen have not acted. Its organization as a school and an election district is maintained; but beyond this its citizens scarcely avail themselves of their corporate privileges. The population in 1870 was 364.

**SCHUYLKILL HAVEN BOROUGH**

The first settler here was Martin Drebelbis. He came from Berks county, below the Blue mountains, before the commencement of the Revolution, and built a saw-mill and grist-mill on the spot where the boat yard now is. Mr. Drebelbis was the owner of all the ground which the borough includes. The first residence in the borough was a log house in which he lived, just below his mills and on the opposite side of Main street. This house is still standing. It has been covered with boards, and it is in a tolerable state of preservation, though the storms of more than a century have beat against it. He built several tenant houses for his workmen, of whom he employed many. He resided in a room in the mill and in this house till 1799, when he removed to a large house which he had built at East Schuylkill Haven, which is still standing in a good condition. It was built of hewn logs, but it is covered and painted so that its true character is scarcely suspected at a short distance. He died in this house the same year, at the age of 48. By his will the land where Schuylkill Haven proper now is was left to his son Jacob, while East Schuylkill Haven was given to another son, Daniel.

About 1811 Jacob Drebelbis laid out the town of Schuylkill Haven and commenced the sale of lots, which were at first sold at cheap rates and slowly. East Schuylkill Haven, which is now included in the borough, was laid out in 1832. The farm which Daniel Drebelbis inherited became the property of Mr. Baber, and was by him sold to Dr. Kugler, of Philadelphia, for $16,000. Dr. K., in 1832, laid a portion of it out in village lots, and that part of the borough has been known as Kugler's Addition.

Henry Mertz, Abraham Heber, John Hughes, Andrew Wilaner, William Kiehner, Dr. Samuel Shannon, Michael Frehafer and John Rudy, the last still living, at the age of eighty-six, are remembered as early settlers here; but none of these came earlier than 1817, the year when the construction of the Schuylkill navigation was commenced. Between 1814 and 1816 Daniel Drebelbis built a saw-mill and an oil-mill at East Schuylkill Haven. These were taken down by the Schuylkill Navigation Company between 1825 and 1830. The grist-mill and saw-mill of Jacob were purchased by this company, and were by them razed at about the same time. These were the only mills propellled by water ever erected here.

Rebecca Dreibelbis, daughter of Martin and Catherine, was the first child born here, in 1775. She died in 1825, having never married. Mary Magdalin Dreibelbis was the second child born here, in 1778. She became the wife of John Reed and the mother of Jeremiah Reed, who is now living, at the age of eighty, and from his memory these facts concerning the early history of the place are drawn.

The first marriage was that of Mary M. Dreibelbis and John Reed, in 1795, by Rev. Henry Decker. Mrs. Reed died in Ohio in 1841.

As before stated Martin Dreibelbis died here in 1799, and was buried in purposes, where the "old white church" stood, and where a brick church now stands, just outside of the northeastern limits of the borough.

Henry Mertz was the first blacksmith. His first shop was at east Schuylkill Haven, but he afterwards worked in a shop about a square above Washington Hotel, on Main street. He was known as an excellent workman, and people came long distances to avail themselves of his skill in making mill irons.

John Rudy was the first shoemaker. His first shop was a part of his house, was about one-fourth of a mile northeasterly from the present site of the railroad depot. His shop was afterward on Main street.

The first tavern was kept by Michael Frehafer, near where the bridges across the Schuylkill now is. The first store of any consequence was kept by James Levan, just above Washington Hotel, in the same building now occupied by Daniel Saylor. Edward Huntzinger established a store soon after Mr. Levan. The first resident physician was Dr. Samuel Shannon.

The first school-house in the vicinity was on the lot before spoken of as having been donated for church, school, and burial purposes. It was a log building, sufficiently large for religious meetings, which were held in it. A school in this house in 1806 is remembered by Mr. Reed. He and his brother Samuel, now in Ohio, are the only surviving scholars. It was taught in the German language by John Roeder, a one-armed man. He was succeeded by Roland McCurty, and he by a German who often amused his scholars by playing the violin for them. The first school within the limits of the borough was established much later.

A tannery was established about 1830 by Andrew
Washington Hall, one of the leading hotels of Schuylkill Haven, was originally built by a Mr. Hughes, probably in 1831. James B. Levan purchased the property of Mr. Hughes, and added two stories, and in 1857 Philip Koons purchased the hotel, having charge of it until his death in 1858, when his wife came in possession, and John W. Koons, the oldest son, became manager, in which position he remained eight years. In 1858 improvements were made. The old fashioned roof, cornices and gable end were changed for something more modern. The present proprietor, Charles Gold, has rented the hotel of Mrs. Koons for several years. The upper story is occupied by the masonic and Odd Fellow's lodges. In 1858, 1859 and 1860 important political conventions were held in the building.

Schuylkill Haven has been an important point for the shipment of coal since the completion of the West Branch or Mine Hill railroad, which has its terminus here, and which has connections with the system of railroads that ramify through the coal regions. Since the abandonment of that portion of the Schuylkill navigation above it it has been the point of shipment for all the coal tonnage that passed over that navigation. An extensive system of docks early came into existence here. These have been much changed by reason of casualties by floods, and exigencies to which changes in railroad management have given rise.

It has, since the completion of the Schuylkill navigation, been a point where boat building has been extensively carried on.

It was said of this place by a correspondent in the Miners' Journal in June, 1830: "Schuylkill Haven is the name of a town that has been laid out, but, like Swataraville, a view of the plot is scarcely interrupted by a house." Its subsequent growth and prosperity have resulted wholly from its situation at the point of shipment for the coal which has been brought over the Mine Hill Railroad. The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad has given it direct communication with Philadelphia since 1842. In 1840 its population was 988, in 1846, 1,640; in 1870, 2,940; and in 1880, 3,167. The increase of its population has kept even pace with the development of the coal trade. Aside from boat building no permanently successful industry has arisen here.

The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad repair shops in the borough were started in 1842, with a small shop in which John Worts, the present foreman of the shops, was the only workman. The present shops were erected in 1842. The number of men employed is 140. These shops are at the junction of the Mine Hill and Reading Railroads. The repair shop of the Schuylkill Navigation Company stands near these, and is of course conducted by the Philadelphia and Reading Company.

The rolling-mill now in operation here was established in 1870, by the Direct Iron Company, of Schuylkill Haven. It was an unsuccessful attempt to produce iron directly from the ore. In 1872 it was converted into a rolling-mill, and in 1873 was enlarged to its present capacity and a chain manufactory added to it. In 1874 it became the property of Bast & Weissinger, and in 1875 work was suspended. Work was resumed in the rolling-mill in the spring of 1880 by Weissinger, Kaercher & Rahn, the present owners.

In 1874 the Schuylkill Haven Map, a weekly journal, was established by Messrs. Wunder & Bowman. It was published in a brick building which is still standing, on Dock street. It was neutral in politics. Its publication was continued under the same proprietors till 1849, when it was discontinued.

In 1874 the Schuylkill Haven Monitor, another weekly journal, was started by Colonel Fries. It was also a neutral paper. Its publication ceased in 1876.

There are in Schuylkill Haven twelve hotels, nine dry goods and grocery stores, five shoe stores, two clothing stores, one furniture store, twelve hardware stores, two drug stores, three milliners, one jeweler, four barber shops, four shoe shops, one tin shop, twelve blacksmith shops, four carriage shops, four carpenter shops, eleven cabinet shops, three butchers, one harness shop, one attorney, six physicians, two news dealers, one stationer and four insurance agents.

CORPORATE HISTORY

The borough of Schuylkill Haven was incorporated by an act of Assembly May 23rd, 1840. The first election under the charter was held on the second Tuesday in July of that year, and resulted in the election of Daniel Saylor burgess, and John Rudy, Mark Mellon, James M. Saylor, Michael Frehafer and George Rickert, councilmen. The following citizens have since been chosen burgess: John Heebner, 1843; Henry Saylor, 1844; Frederick Haas, 1846; Samuel Beard, 1847; Charles Kantner, 1848; Michael Bowman, 1849; Henry Saylor, 1850; Daniel Saylor, 1851; Samuel Guss, 1852; Daniel H. Stager, 1853; N.J. Hardenstine, 1854; P.R. Palm, 1855; B.F. Ketner, 1856; Henry Saylor, 1859; John Frehafer, 1860; John Hummel, 1861; John Doherty, 1862; William M. Randal, 1863; William Gensemere, 1864; Henry B. Hesser, 1865; John Frehafer, 1866; T.C. Zulich, 1867; Joseph C. Kerkslager, 1868; Henry Byerly, 1869; Charles Wilaur, 1870; Pliny Porter, 1871; John G. Koehler, 1872; Thomas Geir, 1873; H.H. Coxe, 1874; A.W. Kerkslager, 1875; Winfield Hendricks, 1876, 1878; E.W. Frehafer, 1877, 1879.

In 1859 the borough was divided into the north, east, south, and west wards.

CEMETERIES

The early interments of people who died here were made on the burial ground of the union church, just north from the borough, familiarly known as the "old white church." Afterward burials were made in the Episcopal church yard and in that of the Evangelical church.

In 1852 the Union Cemetery Association of Schuylkill Haven was incorporated by the court, with Gideon Bast president, Charles Dengler secretary, and John D. Dei-
SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL-HOUSES

In 1836 there was one school-house in Schuylkill Haven, a small brick structure that stood on the site of the present principal school building. In this house John H. Guertler taught during many years. This was a "pay school," and continued such till 1838, when the school law was accepted. After its incorporation the borough was divided into three sub-districts with a school in each. The present school-house on High street was built in 1850. It was a commodious brick building three stories in height. On the ground floor were four school rooms, on the second two, and in the third story one. The remainder of the third story was fitted up for meetings of societies. The cost of this building was then $13,000. In 1878 the house was remodeled, the third story was taken off and two wings were built. There are now six rooms in the first story and five in the second. The present value of the building is $14,500. A graded school has been kept in this building since its erection during ten months in the year. Eleven teachers, two gentlemen and nine ladies, have been employed in this school, at an average salary of $76 per month for male and $28 for female teachers. The average attendance has been 750.

In the north ward a primary school has long been maintained. This school was first taught in one of the three school-houses spoken of, then in the basement of the Catholic church till 1873, when a framed school-house was built on Dock street at a cost of $2,500.

The first board of directors consisted of Charles Dengler, Joseph M. Saylor, Lewis C. Dougherty, Jacob Deibert, Firman Bordell, and Benjamin De Long. The first teacher in the graded school was John H. Guertler, who, as before stated, had long been a teacher here: then in succession the principal teachers were Thomas Griffith, Daniel State, John Doyle, W.B. Bensinger, Jacob Kaercher, Pliny Porter, W. I. Good, William Hubbard, Daniel H. Stager, J.L. Mitting, F.I. Jewell, Henry M. Bush, William A. Field, George B. Allen, Francis W. Bechtel, J.G. Wineberger, H.M. Hannah, J.H. Helm, J.G. Krichbaum, E.W. Huyck, B.F. Knerr, and George W. Weiss, the present principal. Of these George B. Allen is an Episcopal clergyman, Messrs. Bechtel and Hannah are members of the bar, and Mr. Knerr is a distinguished teacher in Minnesota. Mr. Stager is an old and useful citizen and is now president of the board of school directors. Arrangements are made by the school board for furnishing text books at wholesale prices, with the addition of a small commission, regulated by the board.

CHURCH HISTORIES

Evangelical Church.-The church of the Evangelical Association in Schuylkill Haven was organized in 1830. Rev. J.M. Saylor and his brother Daniel were the only members at the time of its organization. Both are still living. In 1835 the first trustee meeting was held, at which it was determined to erect a house of worship. This determination was carried into effect, and in 1836 the house was dedicated. It was a stone on the site of the present church on St. Peter's street. At the time of dedicating this church the membership had increased to sixty. A Sunday-school was organized the same year, with Daniel Saylor as superintendent. Worship was continued in this church till 1856, when the increase of the congregation had come to required a larger and more commodious house and the present edifice, which is termed St. Peter's Church, was erected. It is of brick, 42 by 70, with a basement and gallery, and its cost was $8,000.

By reason of the loss of the church records it is not practicable to give a list of the many pastors that have served this church.

In 1873 Trinity Church branched from this congregation to organize a church in which the services should be conducted wholly in the English language. In St. Peter's the German is used in a portion of the services. The present number of members is two hundred and twenty-one.

The Sunday-school was continued under the superintendent of Mr. Saylor for more than twenty years. He was followed by F.G. Boos, and he by Harry Saucer, the present superintendent. The school numbers two hundred and fifty scholars.

St. James Protestant Episcopal Church was charted July 4th, 1839. Among the charter members were Robert C. Hill, Lebbeus Chapman, William B. Potts, Winfield S. Chapman, John Hudson, Alexander A. Clarkson, John Guertler, Absalom Reifsnyder, John Stanton, Richard Stanton, Gideon Bast and Charles M. Hill.

A church was consecrated in the spring of 1814, built of rough native stone. William Richardson presented the lot. The corner stone was laid in 1839.

Robert C. Hill was the first Sunday-school superintendent; services were held in Moses Reed's tailoring establishment on Canal street.

The first minister was Rev. Mr. Buell, succeeded in 1842 by Rev. George C. Drake, who remained about ten years.

The church building was thoroughly improved in 1876 by the addition of stained glass windows and new chancel furniture, papering and painting inside and painting on the outside. This was the first English church in Schuylkill Haven.

United Brethren in Christ.-In 1846 the first mission-
ary of the United Brethren in Schuylkill county came to Schuylkill Haven and preached in a school-house. In that year a class was formed, of which Messrs. Hewes, Shoener, Fisher and Fremont were members.

In 1847 a house of worship, a framed building, was erected in the corner of Market and St. John streets. In 1861 the present brick edifice on Main street was erected.

Up to 1869 the charge was a part of a circuit, but in that year it was continued a separate charge since.

The clergy in charge and the years of their appointment have been: Revs. John A. Sands, 1847; Simon Noll, 1848; George Smith, 1849; Jacob Rupp, 1852; Simon Noll, 1853; Simon Zimmerman, 1855; David Hoffman, 1855; Christian Jeffrey, 1857; H. W. Landis, 1858; D. M. Kauffman, 1860; A. F. Yeager, 1864; J. G. Fritz, 1865; J. B. Dougherty, 1867; J. R. Meredith, 1869; J. P. Smith, 1871; John Smith, 1874; Peter Bowman, 1875; Joseph C. Mussma, 1877; C. S. Meiley, 1878; J. D. Killian, the present pastor, 1879.

In 1848 John Freeman first organized the Sunday-school, with but a few scholars. The present superintendent is Charles Shappell. The number of scholars is 135, and of teachers and officers 20.

**St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Church.**—In 1847 priests from Pottsville began to visit Schuylkill Haven regularly. At that time, and during several years thereafter, mass was celebrated in the house of Patrick White, and afterward the school-house and lot was purchased and services were held there.

In 1863 the present church on Dock street, the old Lutheran church, was purchased from the school board and refitted. In 1865 the first resident pastor, Rev. James Mackin, was appointed, succeeded soon afterward by Revs. Mullen, McManus, and another Mackin. Rev. Philip McEnroe came in 1868, and he was succeeded in 1875 by Rev. Charles McFadden, the present pastor.

**St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church** is centrally located on Dock street, below Main. It is a substantial brick structure, containing an auditorium with about 500 sittings and also large and well furnished Sunday-school rooms.

Adjoining the church is a beautiful and commodious parsonage, the two forming one of the most complete and desirable church properties of the county. The total value of the lots and improvements is probably $15,000.

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The original members had perhaps nearly all belonged to what was then called the "white church," situated in the turnpike near the almshouse. On account of the inconvenience of the location and insufficient accommodation the members living in town organized themselves into a new congregation, which together with the German Reformed congregation erected St. Paul’s church (now St. Ambrose Roman Catholic). The church was completed little English preaching in the Lutheran church, but now Rev. D. Steck, of Pottsville, held stated English service in St. Paul’s church with the approval of the regular pastor, William G. Menning. No permanent organization was effected, though about a score of persons considered themselves the English Lutheran Church of Schuylkill Haven. Around that nucleus has gathered the present St. Matthew’s congregation.

The first pastor was Rev. E. Huber, who took charge October 17th, 1858. The original members numbered twenty-nine. Of these Andrew Keefer "more than any other man was the father of the English movement."

On the 20th of June, 1859, a lot was purchased, and soon after the erection of St. Matthew’s church began. The corner stone was laid on the 7th of August in the same year, and the church was dedicated in January, 1860. Mr. Huber’s ministry ended in December, 1860. Rev. P. Willard was pastor from April, 1861, to March, 1864, and Rev. G. P. Weaver from August, 1864, to April, 1866. During Rev. A. Yeiser’s ministry, of about ten years from the last date, the membership of the church was more than doubled, and the edifice renovated and greatly enlarged at an expense of $3,000. Mr. Yeiser died, lamented by the entire community, on the 29th of February, 1876. For several months before and after that sad event the congregation was supplied by Rev. J. B. Anthony. During July and August of the same year Rev. F. W. Staley preached as a supply.

The fifth and present regular pastor is Rev. J. A. Singmaster, who took charge on the 1st of September, 1876. The most notable event in his ministry thus far is the erection of a parsonage, conceded to be one of the finest and best arranged residences of its kind to be found outside of the cities.

The membership of the church is about 200, and of the Sunday-school 250. Both are in a flourishing condition. The first superintendent of the Sunday-school was Andrew Keefer, who held the office until his death, in 1876. Since then the pastor, assisted by Isaac Parson, has conducted the school. Its library numbers 600 volumes.

**St. John’s Reformed Church.**—St. John’s congregation began holding services in the banking room of Mr. Voute’s building on Main street, January 26th, 1862. The Sunday-school was organized on February 2nd following. Rev. David M. Wolff was the first pastor. The room was consecrated by Rev. H. Harbaugh, D.D., and Rev. George Wolff in January. In this room worship was held for half a year or more, when the congregation purchased the M.E. church, and made extensive repairs in it, and it became the home of the flock. Messrs. D. Small, M. Bassler, B. Reibasmen, N. Palsgrave, J. L. Coho, C. Dengler, Jacob Miller and W. H. Levan were active in the enterprise, besides a number of devoted women.

Mr. Wolff labored here two years and nine months. The congregation numbered when he left seventy-five members.

Rev. J. P. Stein became his successor in October, 1864. The church continued to grow rapidly. Mr. Stein added upward of 85 to the church by confirmation, and others by certificate. During his pastorate a parsonage was purchased and paid for, and an infant Sunday-school
room built on the rear of the church. In the spring of 1871 he removed to Pottsville.

Rev. J.O. Johnson was unanimously elected his successor, and entered upon his duties June 1st, 1818. The old parsonage was sold and a larger one purchased. So rapidly did the congregation increased that it became necessary to build the present large and elegant church on Main, 1875, and on the Christmas following the first service was held in the new house. The church cost about $15,000, and was paid for in full.

The membership has constantly increased, but there have also been many losers by removal. The number of members at present is two hundred and thirty-five, and there are about twenty scholars in the Sunday-school. About $1,300 is raised per year for local and benevolent purposes.

In the autumn of 1879 the congregation, purchased a new pipe organ. Rev. J.O. Johnson has entered upon the tenth year of his ministry in this congregation, with every prospect of future prosperity.

**Trinity Church of the Evangelical Association** was organized March 15th, 1873. Its constituent members, thirty-eight in number, had withdrawn from St. Peter's Church of the Evangelical Association for the purpose of organizing a church in which the services should be conducted in the English language.

The church and Sunday-school were organized and the first meetings were held in Metamora Hall, on Main street. The first pastor was Rev. C.H. Egge, who also served the church three years. He was followed by the present incumbent of the position, Rev. J.G. Sands, who has labored here about a year and a half.

The church edifice was built in 1873 and 1874, and dedicated May 17th in the latter year. It is a framed building, 36 by 60 feet, in Dock street. It and the parsonage, which adjoins it, are valued at $7,000.

Rev. James Bowman was the first superintendent of the Sunday-school connected with this charge. This school was organized March 22nd, 1873, with 57 scholars. It now numbers about 100.

**LODGES**

Carroll Lodge, No. 120, I.O.O.F. was organized August 14th, 1845. The first officers were: Henry Saylor, N.G., Charles Huntzinger, V.G., Mark Melton, S., S.R. Dickerson, A.S., John J. Koehler, T.

The lodge met at several places till the erection of the school-house on High street. Its meetings were then held in the upper story of this house, then in Washington Hall, and afterwards in Metamora Hall, the present place of meeting. The lodge has accumulated a fund of $1,300. The present number of members is 47. The present officers are: W.R. Leader, N.G.; Joseph Maberry, V.G.; C.V.B. Delbert, S.; John Byerly, Asst. S., and Pliny Porter, T. The trustees are Henry Boyer, Jacob S. Schaubacher and D.S. Byerly.

Metamora Council, No. 66, O.U.A.M. was instituted in 1847, with 71 charter members. The first officers were: Franklin Feger, C.; William Anman, V.C.; Jacob Miller, R.S.; Philip Kauffman, A.R.S.; Charles Coburn, F.S.; John Rader, F.; Joseph Frecht, Ex.; William Kercher, I.P.; N. Klechner, O.P.

The first place of meeting was Temperance Hall, on Main street, now Haurigan Hall. Then meetings were held in the school-house on High street, and since 1870 in Metamora Hall, which was built and is now owned by this council. This hall, which stands on Main street, is a brick building, 70 by 32, three stories in height. The first story is fitted up and used as a store. The second is a public hall, and the third is the place of meeting of this and other societies. It was built for the council by Sterner Brothers. Its cost was $13,720.

This council is incorporated. The career of the council has been one of uniform prosperity. Its present membership is 95. The present officers are: E.M. Moyer, C.; Enoch Binkley, V.C.; W.F. Stitzer, R.S.; Jeremiah Laudenbacher, A.R.S.; Emanuel Maberry, F.S.; Pliny Porter, T.; W.R. Leader, In.; W.H.H. Mayer, Ex.; Englebert Geiger, I.P.; D.S. Fisher, O.P. The trustees are J.H. Sterner, W.R. Leader and Joseph Maberry.

Theodore Koener Lodge, No. 41, D.O.H. was instituted February 26th, 1853. The charter members were: August Hammer, past president; John Goos, president; William Geiger, vice-president; Nicholas Baumann, treasurer; Heinrich Ulmer, secretary; and John Betz.

During two years the lodge met in a hall at Spring Garden. It then purchased from the Sons of Temperance their hall on Main street, which was rechristened Haurigari Hall. It has a value of about $2,000. In addition to this real estate, the lodge has a fund of about $1,000.

The present officers are: Isaac Miller, past president; John Yost, president; Nicholas Goos, vice-president; E.B. Reed, treasurer; John Schumaker, secretary. The trustees are Nicholas Goos, John Yost, and John Goos. The present membership is 48.

Page Lodge, No. 270, Free and Accepted Masons was constituted and instituted June 7th, 1853, all the charter members being former members of No. 138, Orwigsburg, the oldest lodge in the county. The first officers of the were: W.M., Charles Saylor; S.W., John C. Stanton; J.W.; David H. Baker; secretary, S.R. Dickson; treasurer, Henry Hesser. Of the old charter members none remain but Henry Hesser, John L. Coho, and Kennedy Robinson, M.D. From this lodge Cressona Lodge (No. 426) was formed. The present officers of Page lodge are: W.M., Jeremiah Kline; S.W., Charles B. Palsgrave; J.W., Hugh R. Wilson; secretary, James K. Helms; treasures, Jeremiah Sterner.

The past masters have been as follows: Henry Hesser, William A. Field, John B. Keefer, Dr. O.L. Saylor, F.D. Sterner, Albert Robinson, Charles Laudenbacher, Henry C. Voute, Edwin Robinson and William B. Rudy.
Washington Camp, No. 47, Patriotic Order of Sons of American was organized October 17th, 1857, with Charles P. and Alfred M. Saylor, Sylvester Kantner, Ulysses A. Bast, John W. Coho, Theodore W. Saylor, Robert Roan, Edwin Robinson, John G. Dengler, J. Albert Saylor, John G. Kaufman and George F. Koons as charter members. Kantner and Robinson are yet in good standing order. On the 7th of May, 1858, James K. Helms, now past national, and past State president of order, was received into 47, and he has continued an active member of the camp ever since. To him is principally due the existence of the camp to-day, and he is known throughout the order as "the war-horse." The order is purely patriotic, and in connection therewith has a beneficial feature. On the 29th of April, 1861, Camp 47 suspended for an indefinite period, to enable its members to volunteer in defense of their flag. Every member on the rolls of the camp volunteered, and on the 28th of December, 1865, the first meeting was held after the suspension. During this time the property of the camp was held by one of the members, W. Theodore Stitzer, and the old treasurer, S. H. Kantner, held the money, which he promptly paid over after a lapse of ever four years. Camp 47 now numbers 115 members, and has a well furnished room and over $4,000 in its treasury. The principal officers are: President, A.W. Felix; vice-president, Dr. I.D. Wiltout; M. of F. and C., George F. Dengler; secretary, M.F. Pflueger; treasurer, Robert Jones.

Jere. Helms Post, No. 26, Grand Army of the Republic was organized on the 8th of February, 1867, and is now one of the oldest posts in the department of Pennsylvania. The charter members were the following old soldiers: Captains Charles E. Brown, James K. Helms and Daniel F. Burkert; Lieutenants S.A. Losch, John Murphy and A.P. Parrett; George Schewnk, S.C. Stouch, James M. Saylor, Henry Hill, John B. Martz and Amos Homan. The first commander was Captain Helms, and the principal officers of the post now are: Commander, Jeremiah F. Bast; S.V.C., J.S. Deibert; J.V.C., A.P. Garrett; adjutant, James K. Helms; quartermaster, E. W. Frehafer; surgeon, Dr. O.P. Piper; chaplain, Rev. L.B. Beckler. This post was named after the drummer boy of Company C, 50 Pennsylvania volunteers, who was fatally wounded at Antietam, Md., September 17th, 1862, he volunteering to take a musket in the ranks. The post has expended over $2,000 for charity since its foundation, and has bought a large soldiers' lot in the main cemetery of the borough, and surrounded it with a neat iron railing at a cost of $640. It has sent over fifty soldiers to the home at Dayton, Ohio, from the county almshouse, and at present numbers one hundred and sixteen members.

Webster Council, No. 23, J.O.U.A.M. was organized November 16th, with 27 charter members. It has now (August, 1880) 100 members. The first officers were: Jacob S. Genguich, C.; George I. Wurts, V.C.; George W. Reibseman, R. S.; Daniel Deibert, A.R.S.; Frank Meck, F.S.; Charles K. Bowen, F.; and Robert Sterner, D.S. Barr and Frank Reed, trustees.

As will be seen from the number of this council the order is of comparatively recent origin, but it has had a very prosperous career.

The present officers of this council are: E.L. Deitzer, C.; Frank Kantner, V.C.; G.I. Worts, R.S.; J.E. Raber and George D. Maus, trustees; George I. Wurts, W.R. Leader, S.J. Deibert and John P. Schwarts have been deputy State councillors.

Mountain Lodge, No. 84, K. of P. was instituted June 11th, 1868. Its officers were: F.W. Snyder, P.; Charles J. Christian, C.C.; C.V.B. Deibert, V.C.; John M. Frehafer, K. of R. & S.; Lewis L. Huntzinger, M. of E.; Robert Sterner, M. of F.; Charles B. Palsgrave, M. at A. It met first in the third story of the school-house, and afterward in Metamora Hall, it present place of meeting. The lodge has assets to the amount of $2,200. The present membership is 108.


The Workmen's Saving Fund and Building Association of Schuylkill Haven was organized January 8th, 1873, with the following officers: Dr. B.F. Shannon, president; William Gensemere, vice-president; James K. Helms, secretary; William B. Rudy, treasurer; C.N. Brumm, solicitor. Six series of shares have been issued, and 300 of these shares remain standing; $130,000 have been received and paid out by this association. The present officers are: D.H. Stager, president; George S. Melot, vice-president; M.F. Pflueger, secretary; William B. Rudy, treasurer.

Schuylkill Haven Castle, No. 66, A.O. Knight of the Mystic Chain was instituted in 1873, with 50 charter members. The first officers were: Jonathan Billig, chaplain; Jeremiah F. Bast, S.K.C.; Daniel Kromis, S.K.V.C.; William Rittenhouse, S.K.F.L.; E.W. Frehafer, R.S.; George Hoofmeister, A.R.S.; George J. Jones, F.S.; and Issac Berger, T. The first place of meeting was Metamora Hall. The castle now holds its meetings at Haurigari Hall each Thursday evening.

Dr. Samuel H. Shannon, who died at Schuylkill Haven, January 17th, 1879, was born at Shannonville, Montgomery county, Pa., April 27th, 1814, of ancestry on both sides identified with the early history of the county. His father, Robert Shannon, a farmer and merchant of that place and a thoroughgoing business man, was a grandson of Robert Shannon, one of the five commissioners appointed by the State authorities to fix upon a site for the seat of justice and organize the county of Montgomery, in 1784. Their judicious selection and the handsome borough which has grown from it are an enduring memorial of the family, which in all its generations has been one of the most respectable. Robert Shannon, the father of our subject, died in 1844, at the age of 59, honored and respected. The mother of Samuel H., Elizabeth Porter, was from Revolutionary stock, her father being a brother of General Andrew Porter. Mrs. Shannon was a most estimable woman, possessing strong traits of character. She died in 1865, at the advanced age of 80.

Samuel H. Shannon in early life (in common with his elder brother Charles P., who with his sister Mary L. still resides in the ancient family homestead) served a useful apprenticeship on his father's farm at the rugged work so necessary to the development of a healthful and many physique. After obtaining the education available in the best schools of the locality and a limited training under private instructors he entered Jefferson Medical College, graduating with honor in 1836. The same year he located at Schuylkill Haven. As remarked by one of the county papers in a notice of his death, "Dr. Shannon never occupied any important public position, as he cared nothing for political honors. In 1856, during the Congressional campaign, he was offered the Democratic nomination, but peremptorily declined it." He loved his profession, and he had a warm, tender, generous sympathy for the afflicted in every condition of life, while his medical skill was always recognized. It is thought his valuable life was shortened by devotion to the duties of his profession and by turning out in inclement weather to treat a critical case several miles away from his office, at a time when he himself rather needed a doctor's care. Dr. Shannon was one of the most modest, genial and unassuming of men, and, although wealthy, was no respecter of the distinctions that mere money confers, believing that "a man's a man for a' that." He was affable and courteous to all and made friends wherever he went. His hospitable mansion was always the home of the non-resident visiting ministers of his church. His contributions to religious and benevolent purposes were unostentatious and much more liberal than his intimate friends imagined. His many benefactions to the poor were known only to them and to "the Father who seeth in secret." He was physician at the county almshouse for several years, when he resigned in favor of his brother, Dr. B.F. Shannon. He was also for many years a valued director of the Miners' National Bank. He was the owner of several farms, the management of which, with other real estate and his financial operations, together with his numerous professional calls, kept him, as he delighted to be, always busy. While advancing in years he did not feel old-his firm, elastic step and clear, unclouded mind betokening a much younger man-unti a few short months before his death.

Early in his professional life he married Esther Mannon, a most devoted helpmeet to her husband. With her family she now occupies the comfortable home he projected, the site having been selected and the title secured some time before his death. The fruit of this union was four daughters: Jane E., who died in infancy; Mary K., Elizabeth T. and Harriet E.; who seem to have largely inherited their father's capacity for business, having managed their large estates with rare tact and judgment.

Dr. F.F. Shannon was born in Shannonville, Montgomery county, Pa., February 9th, 1829, and was the youngest in a family of nine children of Robert and Elizabeth (Porter) Shannon. His greatgrandfather emigrated from Ireland with his family and settled in Pennsylvania, giving name to the town in Montgomery county where he settled. The old homestead has been held in the family for four generations and is now (1881) owned and occupied by Charles P. Shannon, the eldest child of the family. The doctor's father was one of the most extensive farmers in that portion of the State. Both father and mother died and are buried in Shannonville.

Dr. Shannon passed his boyhood at home, receiving his primary education in the district school of his native town. At the age of twelve he entered the Westchester Academy, in Chester county, where he remained four years. He then entered the Pennsylvania College at Philadelphia, where he took a four years' course in medicine, receiving his diploma from that institution April 7th, 1849.

Immediately after his graduation he located at Schuylkill Haven, where he entered upon the practice of his profession. From the first he took high rank as a practitioner, and built up a reputation as a successful physician and surgeon second to none in that locality. He responded to all calls, serving the rich and poor alike. In his death the latter class lost a friend indeed. For more than twenty years he was the attending physician at the almshouse hospital of Schuylkill county, and its inmates always found him not only a good physician but a sympathizing friend. He was steadfastly devoted to his profession and was an indefatigable worker. His territory extended over an area of miles through the farming districts. In spring and fall he was accustomed to travel for many miles on horseback, often riding thirty or forty miles a day for weeks at a time. This professional life at all seasons, in sunshine and storm, day and

BIOGRAPHICAL

SAMUEL H. SHANNON, M.D.

Benjamin Franklin Shannon, M.D.

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night, with loss of sleep, irregular meals and annoyances known only to the faculty, will certainly make inroads on the health of the most robust. The first decided effect upon the health of Dr. Shannon, who possessed a remarkable physique, became evident in the spring of 1876, and from this time forward his health varied, never recovering sufficiently to answer fully the demands made for his professional services. Each successive attack was more severe, while the recuperation was more protracted. His disease was one of the neuroses-congestion of the medulla, followed by gradual tissue change, until the scene of suffering was closed in death on the 8th days of August, 1878.

Dr. Shannon was married twice. His first wife was Sally, daughter of Mark and Sarah Reed. She died in 1853. October 3d, 1867, he married Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Gideon and Mary Bast, who was born in Minersville, September 10th, 1833, and who survives him.

The doctor was a member of the Schuylkill County Medical Society. He was a member of the German Reformed church of Schuylkill Haven, and to the substantial aid rendered by him is very largely due the handsome edifice belonging to that society. In politics he was identified with the Democratic party. He was a great reader, and after devoting the entire day to his patients would often carry his reading far into the night. His reading not only embraced the latest medical works, but took in a wide range of subjects. In society he was agreeable and entertaining; and, indeed, in all the relations of life it may be truly be said of him he filled well his part.

A line drawing of

OLIVER PERRY PIPER

was in this position in the original book. In the Table of Contents it was listed on the same page number.

Original text follows beneath the divider.

O. P. PIPER, M.D.

Oliver Perry Piper, M.D., was born near Milton, Northumberland county, April 18th, 1848, and about 1875 came to Schuylkill Haven, where he has since been recognized as one of the leading physicians. He married Annie Eskleman, of Ashland. Dr. Piper holds a diploma from Princeton (sic) College, N.J., dated in 1868, and he is also a graduate of the Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, of the class of 1872. He is a grandson of Dr. T. Piper, who commenced the practice of medicine of Pottsville about the year 1810, and who also served in the war of 1812.

GIDEON BAST

Gideon Bast was for many years one of the most prominent merchants and coal operators in the county. He was born in Berks county, Pa., April 1st, 1801. His father was John Bast. His mother was Mary Elizabeth Pender. The latter died when he was very young, the former when he was about twelve years old, leaving quite a property, which was lost by unfortunate management before Gideon was old enough to legally claim his share. He passed the years of his boyhood in hard work on the farm, and enjoyed only the most meager educational advantages. When he was not more than fifteen his natural bent for trade developed itself so strongly that he embarked in mercantile life as a peddler, carrying his stock in trade in a pack on his shoulder over the hills and through the valleys of Berks and Schuylkill counties. He was affable, energetic and honest; consequently he was successful. In time he traveled by wagon, extended his operations over a larger territory, carried a more extensive line of goods, and reaped greater pecuniary rewards for his enterprise. Having accumulated some little capital, at the age of twenty-five he opened a general store at Hartford, Berks county, having his brother-in-law, Samuel Heilner, as a partner. Here they traded about eight years, at the expiration of which they removed to Minersville, Schuylkill county, where they engaged in trade, and became well known as coal operators. In 1835 Messrs. Bast and Heilner dissolved partnership, and Mr. Bast removed to Schuylkill Haven, where he opened a store in a building now (1881) occupied by George Kauffman; at the same time engaging in mining operations at Wolf Creek, in partnership with Lewis Audenreid, and at Ashland with David Pierson. He disposed of his coal interests about 1838, and ceased to trade in 1845, or thereabouts. The elegant homestead of the Bast family, a view of which appears on another page, was erected in 1878, to replace an old structure which long stood on the same ground. He died March 10th, 1880, deeply regretted by a wide circle of friends and social and business acquaintances (sic). He was noted for his affability and hospitality, and his house was ever a home in the truest sense of the word.
Samuel Alfred Losch, the son of George and Eliza Losch, was born at Uniontown, Dauphin county, Pa., December 19th, 1842. His father died when the subject of this sketch was but six years old. Business reverses sustained by the husband and father left the family in reduced circumstances, and at the early age of ten years S.A. Losch commenced in earnest the battle of life. At that time he obtained employment on a farm to do the chores, but as this was not remunerative, and his mother's necessities required aid, when he was eleven years old he started life on the towpath, and followed this pursuit until the outbreak of the Rebellion. During this period the only opportunity, that he had for education was during the winter months, when the canals were closed.

When the civil war began Mr. Losch joined Company C 50th regiment Pennsylvania volunteers as a private. The annals of the war glisten with the recital of the deeds of valor performed by this regiment during the Rebellion. History does not show that any troops suffered or endured more than the heroic half-hundred of Pennsylvania. Through the mutations of war it was their lot never to know the meaning of winter quarters, and they served successively in South Carolina, under General J.J. Stevens; in the army of the Potomac, under Generals McClellan, Pope, and Burnside; under General Grant at Vicksburg and Jackson, and formed part of the besieged at the memorable siege of Knoxville, finally joining Grant in the Potomac army, and participating in the gigantic contests that culminated in the surrender at Appomattox. Throughout these campaigns S.A. Losch proved himself a gallant soldier, and for distinguished bravery was promoted from time to time as vacancies occurred, until at the close of the war he was first lieutenant of his company. He declined higher offers of promotion in another command, preferring to remain with comrades whose courage and fidelity had been proved amid hours of disaster, danger, and victory.

After the war was over, through the kind offices of the superintendent of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, he obtained a position on that road. Several positions of trust and responsibility were filled by him, and deserved promotion was awarded. Upon the election of General John F. Hartranft as governor, in 1872, in recognition of his earnest services during the campaign S.A. Losch was given an important clerkship in the office of Hon. M.S. Quay, secretary of State. In 1874 he was elected to the State Legislature after a bitter and personal fight. During his term as a member he succeeded in obtaining needed legislation for his constituents, although the house was largely Democratic. In 1876 he declined renomination, but sought the nomination for State senator. He failed to secure the office by reason of his positive opposition to the corporate power and dominant ring then existing in the Republican party. From this time on a bitter war was waged by the young Republicans of Schuylkill county, of whom he was a prominent leader. After many fierce contests they were successful, and much credit was awarded to Mr. Losch for his able management of the party he led. In 1876 Colonel M.S. Quay, secretary of the commonwealth, offered to Mr. Losch a clerkship in his office, which he accepted and still holds. In 1879 he was married to Miss Fidelia Sumers, of Zanesville, Ohio, daughter of Henry J. Sumers, a prominent merchant of that city. Mr. Losch was chosen in 1880 as a delegate to the national convention of the Republican party, held at Chicago, and was one of the famous 306 delegates who voted for 36 ballots in favor of General U.S. Grant.

After the close of the war Governor John W. Geary reorganized the National Guard of Pennsylvania, and called into the service of S.A. Losch. He commissioned him to serve on the staff of Major-General J.K. Sigfried, with the rank of major. After serving his term of five years he was again commissioned with the same rank by Governor John F. Hartranft.
George W. Weiss, who has been for four years principal of the Schuylkill Haven High School, and also borough superintendent of schools, and is now county superintendent, has been for eleven years a resident of Schuylkill county, but is a native of Milford township, Bucks, county, Pa., where he was born January 25th, 1844. Professor Weiss may justly claim to be a "self-made man." He lost his father when he was sixteen years old. He worked on the farm and in a mill and taught during the winter months, beginning to teach when only seventeen years of age. He attended Freeland Seminary twenty weeks in 1865, and in the autumn of 1866 entered the State normal school at Millersville, Pa. Here he graduated in July, 1870, receiving a diploma. At both these institutions he paid his own expenses. Immediately after graduating he was offered the principalship of Port Carbon schools, which position he filled acceptable for seven years. He then resigned and accepted a similar but more remunerative position at Schuylkill Haven, which he held for four years. Since 1870 he has been giving instruction during the summer seasons in six local normal schools, which were largely attended by teachers of the county. Before coming to Schuylkill county Mr. Weiss taught seven years in ungraded schools in Berks county, and a year at the soldiers' orphan school at Quakertown, in that county. Thus he has had twenty years' experience in teaching. He became for the first time a candidate for the county superintendence of schools in the spring of 1881, when, at the election held May 3d, he was elected by a majority of 58 over Jesse Newlin, then holding the office. His official term began in June following. He has also been chairman of the committee on permanent cerificated for eight years.

Professor Weiss married Miss Harriet Henderson, of Port Carbon.

CHARLES A. MECK

Charles A. Meck, an enterprising merchant, real estate owner and lumberman of Schuylkill Haven, was born in Heidelberg, Berks county, Pa., June 16th, 1831. His parents were Benjamin and Elizabeth (Ruth) Meck, and were well-to-do farmers. Up to the age of fifteen Mr. Meck remained at home, working on the farm and enjoying unimportant advantages for acquisition of an education. Then he embarked upon a long and successful mercantile career, as an assistant in the store of Mr. J.B. Myers, in Bethel township, Berks county. A year later he entered the service of Mr. Peter B. Lutz, of Fryerstown, Berks county, where he remained until 1850, when he removed to Schuylkill Haven, and engaged as a salesman in the store of B.F. Kitner. A year later he was admitted to a partnership in the business, which became entirely his by purchase in 1860. In 1862 he removed to his present locations, where he has since conducted a large and very successful business. He has also speculated in timber land and farms very extensively. At present (1881) his real estate includes twenty-eight different tracts of timber and farm lands. Dealing extensively in such commodities as found a ready market from time to time, from the demand existing for them in the various improvements of the section, he has handled large quantities of tanbark, railroad ties and similar merchandise, The lumber firm of C.A. Meck & Co., of which he is the leading partner, is composed of Charles A. Meck, Millard F. Nagle and Edward B. Peal, and is largely interested in manufacturing lumber, having had two sawmills in operation for several years past.

All of the credit which is due one who, from boyhood, fights unaided the battle of life and wins the victory, is directly attributable to Mr. Meck. With one steady purpose in view, he has pushed forward unintermittingly and unalteringly, and, aided by honesty, perseverance, a clear head and friendly ways, has been so successful as to stand in the front rank of the self-made men of the Schuylkill coal region, where fortunes have been made as quickly and ventured and lost as recklessly by unthinking men as in any part of the world. From principle Mr. Meck is a Republican, but never has sought or accepted official preferment. He was married December 12th, 1852, to Priscilla Hartman, of Bethel, Berks county, Pa. They have had seven children-four sons and three daughters-six of whom are living.
NORTH UNION TOWNSHIP

In what is now North Union the earliest known settler was Conrad Faust, who, in 1806, settled on the farm now owned by Henry Gootschall. Some three years later Albertus Miller settled where Frederick Hatter now lives. This township was erected from Union in 1867. The first town election was held at Zion's Grove in that year.

But few incidents of an exciting character have been traced in the history of the township. Perhaps the most thrilling and terrible of these occurred during the years of its incorporation, when, late in the afternoon of a day in February, six unknown men stopped at the house of Henry Rapp and demanded money. Mrs. Rapp ran to the house of a neighbor named Henry Johnson, who returned with her to find Rapp struggling with the robbers, and to be himself shot dead. After wounding Rapp the misconants fled, deserting one of their party, who was also wounded, in the flight, in a wood some distance, where he died, and where his bones were discovered the next summer. The brutality of the act, the desertion of their fellow criminal, and the sad fate of Johnson, all mark the tragic act as one of the most terrible of the many unpunished crimes that have made this county a veritable Aceldama.

The only post-office in the township was named Zion's Grove, after Zion's church, which stands about a mile northwest of the little hamlet to which it gave its name. The first settler here was Jacob Breisch, who built a house and opened a store in 1830. The post-office was established in 1868, and the first postmaster was Theodore VanDuzen. The place contained in 1880 a store, kept by Thomas J. Davis, the present postmaster; a grist-mill, a blacksmith shop, a church, erected by the Evangelical denomination in 1879, and eight dwelling houses. The population of North Union in 1870 was 666, and in 1880 847.

NORWEGIAN TOWNSHIP

This is one of the nine original townships of Schuylkill county, formed in 1811. But it is only a comparatively small remnant of the Norwegian township of that date, when its boundaries included all of Foster, Branch and Cass, and portions of Butler, Barry, Reilly, New Castle and East Norwegian townships, and the several boroughs within its former limits. Its surface is broken and rugged, and is richly underlaid with coal.

The first settlements in Norwegian, as a present bounded, were made on the road between Pottsville and Minersville, states Mr. Abraham Pott, a son of John Pott, sen., an old gentleman who is probably better informed as to the pioneer history of Schuylkill county than any other person within its borders. A man named Bright was the pioneer on the York farm. His house was of the type familiar to all dwellers in new sections, and was, with the hospitality proverbial of the pioneer days, opened for the accommodation of wayfarers over the road, though it seems Bright was a non-resident, and the house was kept and much of the primitive farming done by a tenant. The date at which this land was taken up cannot now be ascertained, but that it was early is evident from the fact that Jacob Yohe settled later about a mile east of Minersville, between 1780 and 1790. On the turnpike the first settler was John Boyer. About the same time came William Yohe, who was married to Boyer's daughter. The turnpike was passable about 1810 or 1811, and Boyer and Yohe built near the northern border of Norwegian, or just over the line in New Castle township, a tavern, which was burned about twenty-two years later. Only about a year before, however, they had erected a more modern building, about half a mile south of the old stand and on the opposite side of the turnpike. This was, for a time, kept by another son-in-law of Boyer. Subsequently it often changed hands, and became a well known landmark, familiar to travelers between Pottsville and New Castle.

The first settlers in Norwegian, as in other new sections, were for a time busily employed in clearing and getting their land under cultivation. Their labor, their dangers, their hardships and their daily experiences were such as fall to the lot of the pioneer everywhere. That the struggle for victory over nature during the first few years was a severe one may well be imagined. Work was hard, conveniences were few and the crops were light. Subsequently, as improvements were made, in which the
early and primitive saw-mills played their part, the homes of the pioneers became more comfortable, and the borders of their clearings were gradually extended. Little thought was for years given to the vast deposits of coal underlying this section.

The settlement of the township was slow, and there was no considerable population for many years after it began. Previous to 1825 there were not children enough in the then township of Norwegian to from a respectable school. The next three years saw such an increase of population that the township had 421 taxable inhabitants, scattered over its large area, now embracing several townships and boroughs. This increase was due to the possibilities of the coal trade which Norwegian evidenced upon the completion of the Schuylkill canal to Mount Carbon.

The population of the township at census dates during the last half century has been as follows: 1830, 3,849; 1840, 3,924; 1850, 2,642; 1860, 3,071; 1870, 1,390; 1880, 942.

SCHOOLS

Barry was taken from Norwegian in 1822, and Pottsville was soon incorporated as a borough. The smallness of the number of school children in the remainder of the township in 1825 is mentioned above. The influx, about this time, of miners and speculators to the township prepared the way for the acceptance of the common school system without much opposition, as the new comers were persons of considerable intelligence, and appreciated the advantages of general education. In 1829 Abraham Pott had built, at his own expense, the first and only school-house in the township prior to the acceptance of the new school system, to the advocacy of which he contributed much time and money. There are four schools in Norwegian as at present bounded, in which from 250 to 275 scholars are instructed during about ten months of the year.

COAL OPERATIONS

An account of coal operations within the present limits of Norwegian township would be replete with interest, could it be given fully as to names and dates. At this remote period from the time of their beginning such an account cannot be written. Such facts as it has been possible to obtain are here presented.

Among the earliest operators in Norwegian were John and James Lyons. They had a drift on the Salem vein, and had been operating on the York farm several years previous to 1816, hauling their coal with teams, selling it here and there. They were thus employed till about 1820. John Bailey began early at Centerville, and operated till about 1830. He had a shaft and hoisted his coal with a windlass. Bailey, Samuel Huntzinger and others had early openings at Crow Hollow. On the west side of the turnpike, near Bailey's Centerville opening, and a little south of that point, Thomas Sillyman put down a slope a few years later than the above mentioned beginning, and operated some years, hoisting his coal by horse power. Nicholas Kantner worked an opening at Peach Mountain, on the Spohn vein, for other parties, a year or two. The Youngs, Robert and John, began operating in 1827 or 1828, just within the present borders of Pottsville, by a drift on the Salem vein, and did an increasing business for some years. Not far away Abraham Pott and Burd Patterson opened on the same vein as early as 1828, and began shipping coal. Mann & Williams opened a small drift on the Gate vein, within the present limits of Pottsville, about 1830, and during the summer months shipped about two tons per day. North of Mann & Williams's drift there was another drift, from which Spencer, Jones & Milnes were shipping about 50 tons per day. George H. Potts operated at the northwestern end of Pottsville, partly in Norwegian township, by drift, and later by slope, between 1832 and 1840. Between Pottsville and Minersville a tunnel was driven in the mountain, as early as 1825, by the New York coal company, which operated there several years, hauling much coal to the canal at Mount Carbon. After the completion of the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, the Peacock colliery was operated for some time successfully. About 1830 Samuel J. Potts and Dr. Gideon J. Palmer sunk a drift on the Spohn vein, a little east of the center of the township, and about a mile above the Fishback rolling mill, and operated there several years. About 1834 or 1835 Samuel Sillyman and Daniel Nice began to work some of the old openings at Crow Hollow. Nice withdrew from the enterprise and Sillyman continued until about 1850. He was succeeded by Kirk & Baum, who operated five of six years. William Mellon, who later operated for the North American Coal Company, was at one time operating on his own account.

From 1829 to 1836 the North American Coal Company and the Delaware Coal Company were extensive operators in the township and elsewhere, the former working the Lewis and Spohn veins, the latter the Peach Mountain and diamond veins. The Delaware Coal Company had two drifts, one of which was near the site of the Pottsville colliery, from which was shipped about 150 tons of coal per day. William & Thomas Johns, afterward proprietors of the famous Eagle colliery at St. Clair, began their career as coal operators by opening a drift at Oak Hill, in Norwegian, in 1832. Lawton drift, south of Oak Hill, produced about 25 tons per day. Edward Pugh & Titus opened a drift at Oak Hill, a little to the north of the Johns' opening. The East Delaware Coal Company sunk a shaft 1,500 feet north of the Pottsville colliery shaft, which was abandoned about 1845. The size of this shaft was 8 by 12 feet and it was sunk 300 feet. It is stated that the rock, the entire depth, was divided into two sections by a perpendicular division extending east and west across the shaft, and that the north section, four feet wide, was slate; the south section, eight feet wide, hard rock. It is by some claimed, by some doubted and by some denied that, upon taking out the slate section a few feet below the level of the rock section, the miners found the surface of the rock so smooth
that by the light of their lamps they could see their faces plainly reflected upon it.

For a number of years prior to the beginning of the extensive operations of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, no heavy operations were carried on in Norwegian; and small individual workings were prosecuted in old openings here and there.

Pottsville colliery is situated in the Second coal basin in Norwegian township, about two miles from Pottsville and one mile from St. Clair, in the vicinity of the place originally called East Mine by the Delaware Coal Company, in consequence of this being the eastern site of their workings. The sinking of the shaft was commenced in the spring of 1872 by the Mammoth Vein Coal and Iron Company, who are the proprietors of the land. The depth of this shaft (the deepest coal shaft in the United States) is 1,597 feet. It cuts the following veins of coal on their south dip: Little Tracy, Big Tracy, Little Clinton, Big Clinton, Little Diamond, Big Diamond, Little Orchard, Big Orchard, and the Primrose, which lies at the bottom of the shaft. The size of this shaft is 11 by 15 feet. It is divided into two departments, each 7 by 11 feet, and is called the East shaft. A test hole was bored, which cut the Mammoth vein 448 feet below the level of the Primrose. A second shaft was sunk 700 feet west of the first to the same depth, cutting the same veins on the same dip. Its size is 11 by 23 feet, divided into three departments, each 7 by 11 feet. There are two gangways connecting these two shafts; one 1,149 feet below the surface, driven on the Big Tracy vein; the other at the bottom of the shaft, driven on the Primrose vein. A horizontal tunnel has been driven to the north, across the layers of rock and coal, from each of the gangways at a point equally distant from the two shafts. But one of the three departments of the west shaft is used, and that for the upcast of the air course; the two hoisting departments of this shaft are idle. The machinery and every thing about the shaft is of the best and most substantial quality, except the breaker, which is only temporary, and has a capacity of but 400 tons a day. There are seven engines at the colliery. The two hoisting engines for turning the drum, in their well appointed and substantial brick engine-house, are of the finest make, and 500 horse power each. These engines have the power to life two cars with five tons of coal each from the bottom of the shaft (1,600 feet), and lower two more in a half minute. A 200 horse power Cornish bull pumping engine pumps the water through a sloped passage from the gangway on the Big Diamond vein. No pump is needed for the Primrose vein, as the bottom of the colliery is comparatively dry, and the temperature is higher than at points above. There are two breaking engines, one fan engine at the west shaft, and one plane engine, each of which is 20 horse power. At the time of writing only the two veins upon which the gangways were driven were worked. There were employed outside 112 men and about 150 inside; 28,589 tons of coal were produced at this colliery in 1876; 48,500 tons in 1877; 2,574 tons in 1878, and 27,781 tons in 1879. It was expected that this colliery, when fully developed, would be very extensive in its operations. Later observations may show more developments.

The upper tunnel, driven from the Big Diamond vein, is 1,727 8 10 feet in length. It was driven a long distance before striking the veins of coal, but at last it cut the Primrose and all succeeding underlying veins on their south dip. This is not the entire length of the tunnel, but was the distance to the point reached at the time the data embodied in this article were given, which point was between the Seven-feet and Mammoth veins.

The lower tunnel, a little over 1,400 feet in length, drawn from the Primrose vein, cuts, first, at a short distance, the Holmes vein on its south dip, and, a little farther on, the same vein again on its north dip. Following north it cuts the Primrose on its north dip, and crossing a basin, again cuts the Primrose on its north dip, and crossing a basin, again cuts the Primrose and all underlying veins on their south dip. The coal of the Primrose and other overlying veins was found to be of good quality; also that of the underlying veins in the upper tunnel. In the lower tunnel, those below the Primrose were found to be faulty, being near the basins. The colliery is operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

POTTSVILLE BOROUGH

When this century dawned the valley where now stands the capital of Schuylkill county, and the metropolis of the southern and middle coal fields, was an unused waste in an uninhabited and almost unknown portion of old Berks beyond the mountains. Surrounded by a district illly adapted to agriculture, and covered with a timber growth promising no rich harvest for the woodman's axe, the families of Lewis Reese and John began in the spring of 1800 to form the nucleus around which, in less than two decades, were to cluster the essential elements of a prosperous city. An humble hut, tenantless and decaying, told these settlers of 1800 where an illfated family, ye ars before, had found their log fortifications unfit to shield them from the savage beast, and red men still more beastly savage. Tradition says-and tradition tells the truth quite as often as though it were called history that in this log hut, which stood in Mauch Chunk street, the Neiman family were murdered. Tradition, which is never too prolix, here falls sadly short of its duty, and fails to assign the reason
for the apparently unjust slaughter. Mr. Neiman came to their hunting grounds, and choosing, instead of some fertile portions of the valley, a veritable mud hole, in which he appeared intent on obtaining a sustenance by the arts of agriculture, they thought him crazy, and killed him as a man unsafe to be at large, even among Indians. Lewis Reese was joint owner with Isaac Thomas and Lew Morris in a tract of land upon a part of which Pottsville now stands, and John Reed was one of their employees who came to assist, with other workmen, in digging a race and building a dam preparatory to the erection of a furnace and forge. About this time, and prior to 1803, several log houses were erected in the vicinity of the furnace for the use of the workmen. One of these, occupied by Mr. Reed's family, was two stories high and superior to the others, as Mr. Reed was regarded as the superintendent of the works. This house stood on a rough woods road, now Mauch Chunk street, on the west bank of the Schuylkill about forty rods, above the furnace, and in that house Jeremiah Reed was born, December 19th, 1800. It has been understood by three generations that he was the first white child born within the district which has since formed the borough of Pottsville. Both his parents were from within five miles of this place, and had passed their lives as residents of this county. Thus the younger Reed had ample opportunity to learn from his relatives the early history of the neighborhood. To his patient recital the historian is indebted for valuable data relative to that history.

ORIGINAL TRACTS AND ADDITIONS

The present boundaries of the borough of Pottsville include three original tracts of land, which in the respective patents are called Pomona, Stephens Green, and Coal Pit; parts of three other tracts, which are called in the patents Pine Grove, Honor and Norway; and parts of two others, on of which was surveyed on a warrant to Michael Bright, dated October 20th, 1794, and the other (called the Minnich and Zoll tract) on warrants to Conrad Minnich and Jacob Zoll, dated July 10th, 1792, and September 5th, 1794.

On the 29th of July, 1751, a warrant was granted to Edmund Physick, of the county of Philadelphia, reciting that he had requested that the proprietaries "would grant to take up two hundred acres of land, including a large spruce swamp, about four or six miles from James Boone's land, on Schuylkill, county of Lancaster;" and directing the surveyor general to survey the lands. Under this warrant a survey was made November 2nd, 1762, of a tract of land containing 206 1/2 acres, with the customary allowance of six per cent, for roads, and which in the return of survey is described as "situate in Berks, formerly Lancaster county, over the Blue mountains."

On February 12th, 1788, a patent was granted by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania for this tract of land, by the name of "Pomona," to Arthur St. Clair, William Morris, Luke Morris, and Samuel Potts, who, by sundry conveyances, succeeded to the right of Edmund Physick, the warrantee. On February 14th, 1788, a patent was granted by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Arthur St. Clair, William Morris, Luke Morris, and Samuel Potts, for a tract of land called "Norway," "situated on the backside of Tuscarora mountain, Berks county;" describing it by metes and bounds, and as containing 337 acres and 131 perches and allowance, and reciting it to be the tract that was surveyed in pursuance of application No. 1,516, entered May 21st, 1766, by Ellis Hughes, whose right had become vested in the persons to whom the patent was granted.

On February 13th, 1788, a patent was granted by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Samuel Potts for a tract of land called "Coal Pit," "situated on the east of Schuylkill, at the north side of Tuscarora mountain, in Brunswigh township, Berks county;" describing it by metes and bounds, as containing seventy-three acres and allowance, and reciting that it was surveyed on a warrant granted to Samuel Potts, dated July 13th, 1751.

On February 13th, 1788, a patent was granted to Arthur St. Clair, William Morris, Luke Morris and Samuel Potts for a tract of land called "Pine Grove," on the Tuscarora mountain, in Brunswick township, Berks county, containing 283 acres and allowance, and referred to as the tract that was surveyed in pursuance of an application, No. 1,520, entered May 21st, 1756, by John Melchior, whose right had become vested by sundry conveyances in the patentees.

On February 11th, 1788, a patent was granted to Samuel Potts for a tract of land called "Honor," described as situate on a branch of the Norwegian creek, over the Second mountain, in Brunswick, Berks county, containing 141 acres and allowance, being "the tract of land which was surveyed in pursuance of a warrant granted to the said Samuel Potts, dated August 4th, 1787."

The whole of the Physick or Pomona tract, Coal Pit tract, part of the Pine Grove tract, and a small part of Norway, by sundry conveyances became vested, in the year 1808, in John Pott, who in 1816 or 1817 laid out, on part of the Pomona tract, the original plot of Pottsville.

The original town plot included only the lots on each side of Center street, between Union and Race streets, and the lots on each side of Mahantongo street to Sixth or Courtland street. Some time afterward John Pott laid out additional lots, which included the lots on the west side of Second street as now laid out, between Norwegian street on the north side of Center street, two hundred and eight feet north of Laurel street, and on the south side of Market street between Second street and a point about one hundred feet west of Fifth street.

Several years after laying out this town plot John Pott sold to Jacob Alter a part of the Pine Grove tract, on which he laid out Coal street north of Norwegian street, and the lots on the eastern and western side of Coal street, and which is known as Alter's Addition. John Pott sold to his son Benjamin a part of the Pomona or Physick tract, lying between the south line of the original town plot and the Stephens Green tract, on which Ben-
jamin laid out a plan of lots that was known as Ben. Pott’s Addition. John Pott also sold to Jonathan Wynn a part of the Physick tract and of Norway on the east side of Centre street, on which lots were laid out and it was known as Wynn’s Addition. John Pott died intestate October 23d, 1877, and after his death proceedings were commenced by his heirs, in the Orphans’ Court of Schuylkill county, for a partition of his real estate. The real estate was divided by the proceedings in the Orphans’ Court into purparts, and a valuation placed upon each purpart. Purpart No. 4 included that part of the Pomona or Physick tract not included within the town plot of Pottsville, containing 101 acres and 113 perches, now valued at $7,763; and on July 28th, 1829, was adjudged to Abraham Pott, one of the sons of the decedent. Abraham Pott conveyed one undivided half of these premises to Burd Patterson. On this part of the Pomona tract that part of the borough of Pottsville known as Pott & Patterson’s Addition was laid out, by Pott & Patterson, in the latter part of the year 1829.

Purpart No. 2 included part of the Pine Grove tract, lying east of Norwegian street, and contained 68 acres and 70 perches. This purpart was adjudged to William Pott, one of the sons of the decedent. The title to this purpart, by sundry conveyances, became vested in Charles Loeber, as trustee, and on it was laid out, in the latter part of the year 1829, that part of the town plot of the borough known as Rhode’s Addition, or the eastern addition to Pottsville.

Purpart No. 1 included the dwelling house of John Pott and the furnace, forge and Coal Pit tract, and part of Pine Grove; and contained 72 1/2 acres, valued at $23,287, and was adjudged to Benjamin Pott, a son of the decedent. The land included in this purpart became, by sundry conveyances, vested in Mr. Buckly and others, who, in 1830, laid out a town plot which was known as Buckley’s Addition, and afterward as the Greenwood Addition; and, from the fact that there was an orchard upon it, it was sometimes called “The Orchard.” Adjoining the Pomona tract on the south is the tract of land called “Stephens Green,” for which, on February 24th, 1792, a patent was granted to Stephen Parchall, describing it as in Manheim township, Berks county, and as containing 52 acres and allowance. This tract, by sundry conveyances, became vested in Israel W. Morris. A town plot was laid out on part of this tract by his son Henry Morris in the year 1829, and it is known as Morris’s Addition.

By sundry conveyances the greater part of the Norway tract and part of the tract of land called Honor became vested in Samuel Kepner, who on January 20th, 1816, conveyed the same to the Schuylkill Navigation Company. This land was afterward known as the Navigation tract. The title to the Navigation tract, by sundry conveyances, became vested in Abigail McKnight, as trustee for the Bank of Kepner, who on January 20th, 1816, conveyed the same to the Schuylkill Navigation Company. This tract, by sundry conveyances, became vested in Abigail McKnight, as trustee for the Bank of Kepner, who on January 20th, 1816, conveyed the same to the Schuylkill Navigation Company.

The title to the tract of land surveyed on the warrant of Michael Bright, adjoining the Physick or Pomona tract, on the west, in the year 1830, became vested in Joseph Wood and others, who laid out on it that part of the town plot of Pottsville known as Wood’s Addition. Before Wood’s Addition was laid out this land was known as the Eyre tract.

Part of the Minnich and Zoll tract, adjoining Morris’s Addition on the south, in the year 1830 became vested in N. Thomon, who laid out a plan of lots called Thomon’s Addition.

A copy of the original town plot of Pottsville, and addition thereto by John Pott, and of drafts of the purparts with which his real estate was divided can be found in “Orphans court Docket No. 7, page 275, A seg.” in the office of the clerk of the Orphans’ Court of Schuylkill county. The original town plot and the addition made to it by John Pott in his life time, and the several additions above mentioned, excepting the Norwegian Addition, are laid down in Fisher’s Plan of Pottsville, published in the year 1831.

**EARLY EXPLORATIONS-COAL**

About 1,800 acres of these lands were owned or controlled by Samuel and Thomas Potts, of Pottstown, and they associated with themselves General Arthur St. Clair, Jesse Potts, Samuel Baird, Thomas Rutter, and Thomas Maybury as a company to explore and develop the property. Of the character and extent of their labors very little is known, but the landmarks they left when they abandoned the experiment and dissolved the company, about 1798, indicated that a saw-mill on Norwegian creek and a few rafts down the river were the limit of the enterprise. It was while these lumbermen were here that the first anthracite was found, says a local tradition; but the efforts to burn it were not successful, and the explorers were persuaded that it was only a kind of rock, and so all notice of it was lost until John Pott, sen., was erecting the Greenwood furnace and forge in 1807, when another and more satisfactory experiment was made with the “black rock” as a fuel. This discovery was followed three years later by the opening of a vein of anthracite nine feet thick, while the same Mr. Pott was sinking the foundations for Orchard grist-mill. To these fortuitous circumstances, which unexpectedly attended the business operations of the first ten years of this century, the importance—and it may as well be written the existence—of Pottsville is due.

The coal development having been made the subject of a previous chapter no further mention of it need be made here; but these early accidents are of local importance as determining where first should commence the
great industry which secures, now and for years to come, the wealth and importance of Schuylkill county.

FIRST PERMANENT SETTLERS

The operations of John Pott, sen., were carried on at Pottsville prior to 1810 by John Pott, jr., and Daniel Focht, as his superintendents. They found here the Reed house, previously mentioned; a log house occupied by one Alsphach, where Charles Baber's residence now is one occupied by Anthony Schutt, on Lawton Hill; Thomas Swoyer's house, which stood where the livery stable on Union street now is; Nathan Taylor's house, on the present site of the Philadelphia and Reading freight depot, and the old Neiman house or what remained of it.

The reader is not familiar with all, or nearly all, the family names at Pottsville prior to 1809. The Pott furnace was completed in 1808, and the proprietor fitted up the Alsphach house as a residence for himself and family, and in 1810 he came here to reside. His family record included these names: Maria, his wife, and their children, John, jr., Magdalina, Benjamin, James, Abraham, Mary, Catherine, William, and Jacob. This family constituted no small accession to the population of the place, which, by this time, included the families of several workmen who were attracted here by the prospects of profitable labor in the furnace.

The Alsphach house, originally built of logs, was sided and painted, and was made the home of three generations of this old family. Here was born Benjamin Pott's daughter Hannah, the first white girl in the settlement.

EARLY BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS

There was very little need of merchants in Pottsville as it was in 1824, when the place contained less than a dozen houses, but before June, 1831, the number of houses had increased to over five hundred, and within that period several commercial enterprises were undertaken. A few quotations from notices in a very rare copy of the Miners' Journal will show some facts worth recording. The old paper is No. 24, vol. III., and bears date September 8th, 1827.

"New Store adjoining Morris's Tavern. - The subscribers beg leave to inform the public that they continue business in the store occupied by Sillyman, Fister & Co. Just received: a general assortment of dry goods, groceries, hardware, glass and queen's ware, &c, which they will sell for cash or country produce. Thomas Sillyman. Samuel Sillyman."

"New store-Dry Goods and Groceries. At the former stand of John C. Offerman, in the town of Pottsville. Daniel Stall." This was a two story-framed house on the present site of R.R. Morris's elegant brick block.

"Pottsville Hardware Store.- The subscriber has received an assortment of knives, anvils, forks, nails, razors, files, plane irons, shears, locks, chisels, &c, which he will dispose of at Philadelphia prices. Samuel J. Potts."

Mr. Potts came to Pottsville in December previous. His store, which was on the site of the Safe Deposit bank, was the first hardware store in the place. Fairchild Hodgeson and Charles Clemens were also early merchants in this line.

"John C. Offerman informs the public that he continues the commission and transportation business at his storehouse at Mount Carbon, having sold his retail store at Pottsville. also that he runs a line of covered boats to Philadelphia." Freight was $4.37 1/2 to $5.00 per ton.

"William Locker has taken the large dwelling house of Mr. Alter, opposite Miller & Rex's store, where he intends to keep a genteel boarding house."

The old York store stood for years where Charles M. Atkins's residence is. It was a company store in connection with the coal company operating at the York farm.

Neil and Patrick Crosby kept a primitive store in a log building near the present Bright & Co.'s, hardware store.

MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATION

In 1827, by reason of the increase of population, a more convenient system of local government was found desirable, and the subject of incorporating a borough was earnestly discussed. The inhabitants of Pottsville wished to have the town as then bounded incorporated into a borough and given the original name of the town, in honor of one of its oldest and most prominent families; but their Mount Carbon neighbors wished to have their town included in the borough. They also insisted on dropping the name the town had always borne, and styling the new borough Mount Carbon, in allusion to its local resources. Much ill-feeling was engendered by this discussion, but the borough line was finally settled to exclude Mount Carbon, and this town was incorporated by act of the General Assembly opposed by Governor Andrew J. Shulze, on the 19th of February, 1828. The corporate name given by the act was "the burgess and inhabitants of the town of Pottsville, in the county of Schuylkill." The first borough election was held at the house of John Weaver, on Monday, May 7th, 1828, when Francis B. Nichols was elected chief burgess; John Pott, assistant burgess; Daniel Hill, high constable; Samuel Rex, clerk; and Jacob Kline, John Strouch, Benjamin Thurston, David Phillips and Samuel Brooks, councilmen. The first meeting of the council was at the house of George Shoemaker, May 9th, 1828. The Assembly of 1831 put a little more of that soul of wit called brevity into the name.

The principal borough officers have been as follows: Chief Burgesses.-George Shoemaker, 1829; F.B. Nichols, 1830-32; John C. Ernst, 1833; Jacob Seitzinger, 1834; John P. Shinkle, 1835, 1836; Benjamin Coome, 1837; Jacob Reed, 1838-40; Daniel Klapp, 1841; John M. Crossland, 1842; William F. Dean, 1843; Andrew Mortimer, 1844; Charles W. Clemens, 1845; Jacob Reed, 1846, 1847; B.T. Taylor, 1848, 1849; John C. Lessig, 1850; Jacob Reed, 1851; Jacob Kline, 1852; Jacob Reed, 1853; Nicholas Fox, 1854; George Jennings, 1855; Nicholas Fox, 1856; Daniel B. Christ, 1857-59; Samuel Chrisman, 1860, 1861; Daniel B. Christ, 1862; M.B.
Bell, 1863-68; Daniel Christian, Sen., 1869-72; N. Fox, 1873; William M. McAdams, 1874; M.B. Bell, 1875-80; Joseph Derr, 1881

Solicitors.-Christopher Loeser, 1828; Thomas Morris, 1829; Edward Owen Parry, 1830, 1831, 1836-41, 1843-48, 1856-68; David Candor, 1832; William F. Dean, 1833-35; F.W. Hughes, 1842; James H. Campbell, 1849; Benjamin W. Cummings, 1850-54; Robert M. Palmer, 1855; B. Bryson McCool, 1869-81.


Town Clerks.-Samuel Rex, 1828; Samuel J. Potts, 1829; Robert Woodside, 1830; David Candor, 1831; William F. Dean, 1832; Jacob Eyer, 1833, 1834; William F. Dean, 1835; Edward Owen Parry, 1836-41; Francis W. Hughes, 1842; Isaac Beck, 1843-45; Samuel Hartz, 1846-48; John H. Downing, 1849-51; James A. McBarron, 1852, 1853; Samuel Hartz, 1854-58; William L. Whitney, 1859; resigned in June and was succeeded by A.R. Whitner, who was reelected 17 years; Daniel L. Krebs, 1875-81.

Census returns for fifty years show the steady growth of the borough in population. They are as follows: 1830, 2,464; 1840, 4,337; 1850, 7,575; 1860, 9,444; 1870, 12,384; 1880, 13,246.

HOTELS

The first hotel at Pottsville was erected in 1818, by George Dengler, and was known as the "White Horse Tavern." The sign-a-figure said to represent a while horse-was executed in a high style of native art; and, although it was often mistaken by vulgar people for a white hog, it remained in its place while landlords, and loungers, and even the house itself, changed beyond recognition.

Pennsylvania Hall, which was the first first class hotel in Pottsville, was opened in 1831 by George Shoemaker. The following persons have officiated as landlords: Richard Bishop, J. Haughwout, E.F. Brockman, John Weaver, Jacob Peters, William P. Johnson, Herman Baird, Daniel B. Christ, F.B. Kaercher and William Whitney. Since 1872 William M. Reed has been the proprietor. During the war it became known as the Union Hotel, being the headquarters of the Union League.

The Buckwalter tavern was built in 1828, by Jacob Buckwalter, and it is now a part of the Northwestern, which is kept by Cyrus Sheets. After the death of Mr. Buckwalter it was sold to Samuel Sillyman, who built the four-story brick addition which is now the main part of the hotel. Daniel Hill, William Stannard, William Glassmire, Levi Pearhart, Jerry Seigler, and A.K. Helms are remembered by those who have frequented this house.

The old Pottsville House, which stood where D.L. Esterley's hardware store is, was a hotel in 1830. Crosby Brothers built it in 1827, and Mrs. Old kept it as a boarding house for three years. George W. Slater was the last landlord in it.

The Exchange Hotel, now kept by Samuel Parrett, was built about 1830, by Jacob Seitzinger, and was then called the National. Joseph Weaver, from Orwigsburg, kept it for several years, and at that time it was the stage headquarters, and known as the Exchange. During the war it became known as the Union Hotel, being the headquarters of the Union League.

The Mortimer House was built for a residence in 1823, and in 1825 converted into a hotel by Peter and Jacob Seitzinger. It soon passed into the hands of William Mortimer, sen., and was owned in his family until 1875, when it was sold for $40,000, and razed to make room for the Mountain City Bank building.

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The Northeastern was built for a bakery, in 1830, by John Fellnagle, and in 1836 it came into possession of the present landlord, Captain Peter Woll.

The Rising Sun was on the site of Leonard's Hotel until the fire of 1873. John Leonard bought it in 1864, and in 1870 leased it to John Reber, who called it the Farmers' and Drovers Hotel.

The Trapper was built by Nathan J. Mills in 1829, and was burned in 1850. The Lamb was an early hotel in North Centre street, abandoned in 1861.

The American House was built in 1845 by Jacob Geiss. Colonel John C. Lessig, William M. Reed and Colonel C.F. Jackson were among the lessees of this house.

Bernard Glunz's old house is the oldest framed building on Market street. It was used for a tavern by a Mr. Mills, and the cellar for a school.

There was then an old stone house belonging to York farm. These two were the only houses above Tenth street until after 1840. The Eagle Hotel was another of those that sprang into existence as if by magic in the speculating period between 1828 and 1833. It was at first a two-story framed house.

The Moyer House, on the southwest corner of Market and Centre streets, was built in 1828-30 by Daniel Moyer.

The Press of Pottsville

For more than half a century Pottsville has been well supplied with local papers, but the large and well equipped printing establishments of to-day bear very little resemblance to the dingy corner wherein was hatched that winged messenger of intelligence which flew out, to find its first alighting place among the English-reading people of Pottsville, on the morning of the 31st of March, 1825. That effort of George Taylor to inform the people of the events of the week, by the use of coarse brown paper and
an old Ramage press, although more of a success than the newspaper talk of Messrs. White, Ridgeway and others during two or three preceding years, was far behind the journalistic feats of the present day.

This printing office stood on the present site of the First Presbyterian church, but the tenure of its standing was rendered precarious by Mr. Taylor's defense of the rights of corporations. He found out one morning that frail props had taken the place of the wall on the lower side of his building, and arrangements were quite complete for capsizing the concern. The offenders had only refrained from "pieing" the whole establishment on reflecting that the building also contained the post-office, and that they might be incurring especial hazard.

Mr. Taylor disappeared from the field of local journalism about that time, and in October, 1827, a Mr. Bradford appeared as editor. Sergeant Hall soon succeeded him, and in April, 1829, the office passed under the management of the man who was to make it for years the leading paper of the anthracite region.

Benjamin Bannan found the Journal in a very precarious state of existence, and in the hands of the sheriff. He bought the establishment at private sale for $800, and to its list of 250 subscribers he sent his first paper on the 29th of April, 1829. Devoting his personal attention to the compilation of coal statistics, he very soon gave the paper a right to its name—the Miners' Journal and Schuylkill Coal and Navigation Register. The position of the Journal as an advocate of a protective tariff made it a very acceptable exponent of the interests of the producers in the coal and iron fields, while the statistical tables, fresh and complete, make it authority in two continents.

While Mr. Bannan was a vigorous writer on the various public questions that arose, it was well for the interest of the editorial columns that he associated with him such writers as James S. Wallace, Benjamin W. Cummings, George Stouch, E. Bowen, Christopher Little, A.M., and F.B. Wallace. James S. Wallace, who had been engaged on the Louisville Courier-Journal, was a natural humorist, and brought to the paper much of the George D. Prentice style of wit.

From the 10th of January to October 20th, 1838, the Journal was issued semi-weekly.

For a few years after and including 1842 the business was nominally out of Mr. Bannan's hands, by reason of financial embarrassments, but he continued to edit and publish the paper as agent for the proprietors. His business course has been quite largely followed by the publishers in Pottsville, for a number of them have received the degree of A.G.T., while it is noticeable that the sheriff has been connected ex officio with several of the numerous newspaper herafter mentioned.

Appearing again in 1848 as proprietor, Mr. Bannan materially improved the paper and added to its formidable title "and Pottsville Advertiser." Politically, the Journal was Whig until party revolution made the opportunity for it to become the leading Republican paper of the county. On the 1st of July, 1866, the late Colonel H. Ramsey purchased a half interest with Mr. Bannan. This element in the business management threw new life into the concern, and Mr. Ramsey at once undertook to secure for the place a daily paper, something Mr. Bannan had advocated, and even advertised, thirty years before, but never ventured to undertake. The effort was successful, and on the evening of September 1st, 1869, the Daily Miners' Journal, a bright, newsy sheet, 20x80, made its first bow to an appreciative public.

Early in 1873 Colonel Ramsey purchased the remaining half of the business, but Mr. Bannan continued to contribute articles until shortly before his death, July 31st, 1875. W.R. Cole became business manager for Mr. Ramsey in November, 1873, and continued in that capacity until after Mr. Ramsey's death, June 1st, 1876.

The Journal, together with the Miners' Journal building, which Mr. Ramsey had erected at a cost of $55,000, became the property of P.W. Sheafer and Frank Carter, who organized the Miners' Journal Publishing Company May 14, 1877. Before the close of the year Mr. Sheafer sold his two-thirds interest in the Miners' Journal Publishing Company to J.C. Bright, who soon sold it to W.R. Cole, the present editor.

Since the Daily Journal was established Charles D. Elliott, F.B. Wallace, Philip Lindsley, Walter Rose and Thomas B. Fielders have been connected with the paper editorially, the news department is ably edited by Henry C. Sheafer, a clear and concise writer, and the local columns are judiciously managed and well filled by Frank C. Donnelly, who had been local editor since 1879.

The death of Mr. Bannan terminated the Journal's uninterrupted ascendency as a leading authority on coal matters, and not until Mr. Cole gave his undivided attention to this department did the paper regain its place as standard authority in matters of coal development and kindred industries.

Schuylkill county, being the daughter of "old Berks," contained at the time of its formation, and yet contains, a population largely composed of people of German descent, who preserve the language of the fatherland. No doubt actualized by this fact, the late Benjamin Bannan of the Miners' Journal, commenced the publication of a $1.00 German newspaper in Pottsville, in January, 1832. It was called the Schuylkill County Bauer, and, as the name Bauer (farmer) indicates, was devoted chiefly to agricultural interests. Orwigsburg being yet the county seat the political organs were published there.

The Stimme des Volks (voice of the people), founded in 1828, was the official organ of the Democratic party, while the Demokratische Freiheits Presse (Democratic Liberty Press) advocated the principles of the Whig party. The proprietor of the latter, John I. Werner, in the year 1837, removed his printing office to Pottsville, whose growing importance as well as the attachment of a majority of its inhabitants to the principles of the Whig party attracted him there. The Bauer had discontinued, and thus Mr. Werner as the publisher of a German paper had the Pottsville field to himself for several years. Being elected sheriff of the county in 1846, he
disposed of his printing establishment in the following year to John P. Bertram.

That year the publication of the Pottsville Adler was begun by C.G. Guenther, who in 1850 sold it to Lorenz Brentano, a political refugee from the old country, who changed the name to the Leuchtturm (Lighthouse). Not finding the encouragement he probably expected, Mr. Brentano sold his paper in the following year to George P. Lippe, a practical printer, who again changed its name to Schuylkill Demokrat, and made it a Democratic organ. The county seat had in the meantime been removed to Pottsville, and the proprietor of the other German Democratic newspaper, the Stimme des Volks, published at Orwigsburg, not finding its publication profitable after the removal of the county seat, sold it in 1854 to Mr. Lippe, who published both papers under the titles of Schuylkill Demokrat and Stimme des Volks.

About this time the Whig party passed out of existence. The proprietor of its German organ in Pottsville, Mr. Bertram, therefore gladly embraced an opportunity to sell out in the summer of 1855. The negotiations were made by a number of Democrats, who were dissatisfied with the political course pursued by the proprietor of the Schuylkill Demokrat. The purchase of the Demokratische Freiheits Presse was effected, and the first number of the new paper, called the Jefferson Demokrat, appeared on August 9th, 1855; it was published by three Philadelphia gentlemen, Gross, Kretschmar, and Rumberg, who disposed of their interests in January, 1856, to Hendler & Schrader. The new proprietors soon acquired a large circulation, and the publisher of the Schuylkill Demokrat, finding that he could no longer successfully compete with his rivals, sold his newspaper establishment to them on March 12th, 1864. Hendler & Schrader bought the English Democratic newspaper the Pottsville Standard, on April 1st, 1869. H.J. Hendler, who had been elected treasurer in the fall of 1863, and served as acting treasurer for several of his successors, retired from the business on April 1st, 1873. The remaining partner, J. William Schrader, disposed of the English newspaper to F.A. Burr, has since successfully conducted the publication of the Jefferson Demokrat alone.

It is an historical fact that when the Whig party became disintegrated it was succeeded by the Know Nothing party, which subsequently gave place to the Republican party. The latter party at once saw the necessity of having a German organ in Pottsville, and in September, 1855, the first number of the Amerikanische Republikaner (American Republican) was issued from the Miners' Journal office, nominally by an employe of the Journal, named Heisler. Some months later the new newspaper was transferred to John P. Bertram and A.E. Snyder, who announced that their paper would be independent in politics, but it soon went over to the Republican camp. The partnership continued until 1864, when Mr. Bertram, having received an appointment as internal revenue assessor, retired. In the following year Mr. Snyder took another partner, Casper Liebner, who remained a member of the firm of Snyder & Liebner until 1873, when Mr. Bertram bought him out, but Mr. Snyder conducted the newspaper till his death, which occurred on March 10th, 1880.

The Pottsville Volksbatt, an independent Democratic newspaper, was started by August Knecht in July, 1871, but suspended publication in May, 1873. Two years later Mr. Knecht assumed editorial charge of the Amerikanische Republikaner and since the death of Mr. Snyder has continued its publication, being a practical printer as well as a careful writer.

In 1844 the Welsh Baptist society of Pottsville established the Seren Orllewinol (Western Star), a dollar monthly magazine, with Rev. J.G. Harris as editor. It was published from the Journal office. In 1867 Richard Edwards published it from No. 9 Market street, and in the following year it was sold to Rev. A.J. Morton, of Scranton.

The second experiment at English journalism in Pottsville was in 1830, when Hart & McKinsey undertook for two or three years the publication of a Whig paper called the Pottsville Advocate. The Pottsville Emporium and Democratic Press was the first English Democratic paper printed in SSTs county. Its establishment was not wholly an individual enterprise, for the managers of that party saw the necessity of a publication to oppose the vigorous policy of Mr. Bannan's Whig paper. John S. Ingraham, as editor and nominal proprietor, issued the first number of the Emporium in May, 1838. During the following year Judge Strange N. Palmer purchased it, and it was published by him and his son, Robert M., until some time in 1854, when it was united with the Mining Record. Its last editor, the late Hon. Robert M. Palmer, who had editorial control during the last ten years of its career, was speaker of the Pennsylvania Senate in 1860 and 1861, was subsequently appointed by President Lincoln minister to Equador and died on his return voyage.

The Anthracite Gazette and Schuylkill county Advocate was the first formidable Whig rival of the Journal. Its weekly publication was begun May 4th, (CDL), 1844, by Francis M. Wynkoop and Frank B. Kaercher, in Lippincott & Taylor's building, corner of Centre and Mahantongo streets.

Politically allied with the Whig party, it earnestly advocated the election of Henry Clay in 1844. The Mexican war took both proprietors from Pottsville, and September 6th, 1845, Mr. Wynkoop, having previously purchased his partner's interest, sold the whole to Alfonso McDonald, who removed the office to North Centre street, opposite the town hall, and engaged John K. Clement as writing editor. The paper during their management became an advocate of native Americanism, and in the first issue in 1847 John M. Crossland appeared as proprietor, J.W. Brewer as editor and publisher. Their management was a failure, both editorially and financially, and in April, 1847, Evan O. Jackson bought the remains of the concern and removed to Market street. Democratic funds gave some new life to the paper, but after one campaign it collapsed, and the material was bought by R.M. Palmer, of the Emporium.
The Mining Register and Schuylkill County Democrat was established January 12th, 1850, by Charles M. Hall. It was edited by P.S. Dewald, a former foreman on the Emporium, and published from the old Daniel Phillips building in North Centre street. During its first year Garret L. Vleit became a partner with Mr. Hall and succeeded Mr. Dewald as editor. In 1854 the Emporium above mentioned was united with it, and the name made a sub-title to the Register. After one year Henry L. Cake bought the business, changed the title to Mining Record, and removed the office to Coal street, where the Pottsville House now stands. J.A. McCool was associate editor on this paper during the most of Mr. Cake's ownership, and made the paper very successful as a local and general newspaper. August 14th, 1858, the office was burned, and the paper was afterward issued temporarily from a private house in East Norwegian street. In 1861 Henry R. Edmonds became the proprietor, and the following year it was discontinued. Its attaches had enlisted until there was only one compositor left to edit and print the last issue.

In 1854, about the time the Record and Emporium became unreliable as a Democratic organ, Hon. William L. Dewart furnished capital to establish the Pottsville Gazette. It was printed in the second story of A. Grogan's store on Centre street, and edited by Abram Deyo. It was issued weekly through two political campaigns, then semi-weekly for about a year and a half, when the editor, suddenly turning his attention from journalism to matrimony, eloped, and the paper stopped. The Gazette was devoted during its short life to the interests of Mr. Dewart, its founder, the Democratic candidate for Congress, while its contemporary the Register and Emporium supported Joseph W. Cake, an independent candidate. An effort was made by John C. Nevill, backed by Democratic funds, to revive the paper in the fall of 1856, but it was too dead, and after running as a campaign sheet for a short time the material was sold to Henry L. Acker.

The Democratic Standard was founded by Henry L. Acker in 1857. It was a weekly of moderate pretensions, and its name indicated its party affiliations. The first number was issued August 9th from the old Gazette office in East Market street. Subsequently it was an aspirant for political honors, but in 1862, after failing to secure the nomination to Congress, he abandoned his political hopes in Pottsville and sold his paper to a Mr. Barclay, who moved the office to the corner of Mahantongo and Centre streets, the old Anthracite Gazette office. Mr. Barclay's sons, Cyrus N. and N. Clark, now editors of the Altoona Sun, soon succeeded their father, and in the spring of 1865 removed the office to the old armory building on Norwegian street.

They employed J. Warren Conard, now editor of the Reading Daily Eagle, as principal writer for three years; admitted J.E. Eicholtz as partner, enlarged the paper, and changed the name to Pottsville Standard. This dropping of the party name from the title of the sheet aroused the suspicions and alienated the support of some staunch Democrats, who had not yet forgotten the course of a former paper professing to be a party exponent. In April, 1869, Hendler & Schrader, then publishing the Jefferson Demokrat, bought the Standard, retaining C.N. Barclay as local editor for a few months. This firm dissolved early in 1873, and Frank A. Burr became a partner with Mr. Schrader in April. Mr. Burr was an able writer, but his ideas of business management did not please his German partner, and in two months a dissolution and division took place.

In February, 1873, William P. Furey, a former employe of Hendler & Schrader, began the publication of the Evening Transcript, a daily paper of some merit, but it never reached a paying basis, and in the following May was bought by Frank A. Burr, who continued the publication of the Standard as a weekly after the dissolution above referred to. Mr. Burr changed the name of Mr. Furey's daily to the Daily Standard, and published it as a daily edition of the Pottsville Standard. At this time began the famous career of the Daily Standard. It was enlarged to eight pages and a corps of writers employed sufficient to produce a metropolitan daily. Several such persons as Audubon Davis, George Lawson, and Charles Crutchfield were on the editorial staff. Fourteen cases of compositors were given employment, and the reading public might easily have inferred that the New York Herald had come to Pottsville in disguise. Every department of the paper, except the temperance column, was ably conducted; but there was not sufficient demand for such a paper to support it. The concern became involved with Yuengling & Son and others who had furnished the sinews of editorial warfare, and after absorbing the Schuylkill Free Press, a daily established by F.B. Wallace & Charles Schubert, its publication was suspended, and that of the Weekly Standard also.

As a literary venture it was a brilliant affair, and Pottsville never need hope to see its like again; but it was a failure financially, and that is the test by which the most of man's endeavors stand or fall.

Some months after the death of the Standard several gentlemen combined under the firm name of The Standard Publishing Company, for the purpose of resurrecting the Weekly Standard. Henry J. Hendler was made business manager and William Kennedy editor. They succeeded in reviving at least the name of the paper that had passed away, and on the first Saturday in August, 1874, published the first number of the new series of the Pottsville Standard. Since that time the paper has been regularly issued as a Democratic weekly, and under the able editorship of Mr. Kennedy has secured a circulation and standing which seem to assure for it a long life.

The Chronicle Publishing Company was organized in the spring of 1875, and on the 17th of April the first number of the Evening Chronicle appeared, as a one cent daily, edited by Solomon Foster, jr. It was the design
of Mr. Foster, who was the dominant element in the company, to give the Democratic party in the county a daily organ, and furnish Pottsville with an evening paper. The Chronicle company soon disappeared, and as early as 1876 Mr. Foster appeared as sole proprietor and editor; and June 11th, 1877, the business was purchased by the Standard Publishing Company. About this time Channing Shumway succeeded Mr. Hendler as business manager, and Solomon Foster, jr., came into the firm as editor in charge of the Evening chronicle, which the company has since continued to publish as its founder originally intended. In editing the daily Mr. Foster, who is an energetic writer himself, is ably assisted by George F. Helms, local editor, who keeps the paper reliable as a daily chronicler of all that is desirable.

The officers of the Standard Publishing Company are: Thomas F. Kerns, president; C. Shumway, treasurer; and A.W. Schalck, secretary.

On the 23d of December 1872, Charles F. Garrett and Charles Spencer began the publication of the Pottsville Evening Advertiser. It was designed primarily as an advertising sheet, but before the completion of its first year the publishers began to insert more of local and general news. Some time in August, 1873, Mr. Spencer having retired, the sheet was issued as a penny daily. There was nothing particularly brilliant in its career, and its soul, if it had any, went up in the gunpowder smoke of the fourth of July, 1874.

The Legal Chronicle was published by Solomon Foster, jr., a member of the Schuylkill county bar, as editor and proprietor from January 11th, 1873, to December 25th, 1875. It was designed originally as the official court organ of the county.

The Legal Record, the present court paper, is edited by Arthur J. Pilgrim. It was begun in January, 1879, by Mr. Pilgrim, assisted by Mr. Heilner.

The Workingman was a periodical devoted to the interest of the Miners and Laborers' Benevolent Association. It first appeared in 1873, and during its brief existence John Siney and C. Benjamin Johnson were connected with its publication.

In April, 1874, John Boland, a gentleman prominently identified with the Emerald Benevolent Association, began the publication of the Emerald Vindicator, a monthly quarto devoted to the advancement of that fraternity in the United States and Canada. The following year it was doubled in size, and it has since been issued as a folio.

The Sunday-school Helper, a monthly magazine published by the Sunday-school Association, was in some sense the exponent of the Schuylkill county association. It was ably edited by Charles M. Wells. In this magazine they published the National Berean Sunday-school Lessons. These were edited for this work by Rev. A.H. Semboyer, of Reading, for a time, and then by Rev. George A. Peltz, of Newark, N.J. the first number of this magazine was issued in January, 1872; the last in April, 1875.

MANUFACTURING INTERESTS BREWERIES

In the year 1829, when American brewing was a business in its infancy, the late D.P. Yuengling established the Eagle Brewery at Pottsville. He was an enterprising gentleman, of good business ability, and he established a reputation throughout the State for the uniform excellence of all goods which he put on the market. In 1832 his buildings were entirely destroyed and were then rebuilt in substantial manner, as they now stand, on Mahantongo street, although they have been enlarged at various times since.

The present managing proprietor, Frederick G. Yuengling, was admitted by his father as a copartner in 1873, when the firm name, D.G. Yuengling & Son, was adopted.

At his death of the senior Mr. Yuengling, in September, 1877, his widow, by the provisions of his will, succeeded to his interest in the business, and the firm name remains the same. The present capacity of production is about 175 barrels per day of porter, ales, brown stout and lager; and the actual production is fully half of the whole amount manufactured in this Congressional district. The Eagle Brewery has been the training school for several of the most successful men who are now in the business. The well known Mr. Betz, of Philadelphia, D.G. Yuengling jr., and Henry C. Clausen of New York, each acquired their practical knowledge in the Eagle Brewery at Pottsville.

The Orchard Brewery was first operated by A.S. Moore, about 1830. George Lauer became the owner five years later, and following him was Frederick Lauer, who sold it to Henry B. Lauer & Co. It is now leased by Lorenz Schmidt.

The Market Street Brewery.-In 1865 Charles Rettig and John Leibner started a small brewery on the Port Carbon road, near the eastern boundary of the borough. Three years later the business required more room, and demanded a better location. Accordingly they erected the Market street brewery at Nos. 818, 820 and 822 Market street, and occupied it before the close of 1868. Mr. Leibner continued in the firm until 1878, since which time Mr. Rettig has been sole proprietor. The business employs eight men. The annual product is about two thousand barrels of lager beer, ale and porter.

COLLIERY IRON WORKS, GEORGE W. SNYDER PROPRIETOR

These works were established by the present proprietor and the late B. Haywood in the year 1835, for the manufacture of mining machinery in the then comparatively new anthracite coal region, and they may be said to be the parent of nearly all similar establishments in this part of the State of Pennsylvania. The changes in the character of the machinery needed for mining purposes are well illustrated by a comparison between the older and newer drawings and patterns to be seen here, furnishing an interesting record, typical of the growth of the coal trade.

Beginning with single engines of about 20 horse power
then deemed adequate to raise the coal and pump the water from a mine of full capacity, one is now shown double winding engines, varying from 200 to 300 horse power, capable of raising coal at the rate of 1,000 tons per day from a single mine. In the pumping machinery too, the same remarkable contrast is presented. The buildings cover one entire block and portions of two additional blocks, and the equipment is adequate for the construction and handling of the heaviest work.

In the years 1838 and 1839 Mr. Snyder built the blowing machinery for the Pioneer furnace, where the experience of mining pig iron with anthracite coal was first made a commercial success. In the years 1844 and 1845 he constructed the machinery for the Monitor Iron Works at Danville, Pa., where it is claimed the first T rails made in the United States were manufactured.

In 1852 the works were enlarged to the present capacity, embracing foundry and machine shop, smith and boiler shops, pattern and car shops.

THE PIONEER FURNACES

Near the spot where the old furnace and forge were erected in 1807 William Lyman, in 1839, manufactured the first pig iron by the use of anthracite fuel. His blast furnace was purchased, in 1853, by Atkins Brothers, and rebuilt and enlarged. They built their second furnace in 1865, and still another in 1872. The business is now giving employment to 250 men, and by the annual consumption of 50,000 tons of anthracite and 85,000 tons of limestone, reduces 70,000 tons of ore to pig iron.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY STEAM SOAP AND CANDLE WORKS

This industry, which was established in 1844, by Charles F. Kopitzsch, has come to be an important and profitable manufacturing business. The famous brand of "Ocean Soap" is made here; and a score of others, each favorable known in the trade, together with his various brands of wax, sperm and adamantine candles, have made the name of this enterprising German known as widely as that of any manufacturer in Schuylkill county. The present factory buildings were erected in 1878.

THE ORCHARD IRON WORKS

In 1848 Joseph Derr established this business at the corner of Norwegian and George streets, and in 1851 the present proprietor became his partner. The partnership continued until 1864, when Joseph Derr retired and built the foundry which is occupied by the Adams Brass Works, at corner of Norwegian and Coal streets. While Joseph's venture proved disastrous after eleven years' trial, his brother, who remained in the stove business, conducted it safely and successfully through the perilous panic that closed nearly every similar manufactory in the country. Since becoming the sole owner Mr. Derr has enlarged the capacity and size of the works, and is now making twenty different patterns of common stoves. On this corner, now occupied by these works, was once a morocco tannery, carried on by Elias Derr and William Brick. As early as 1836 there was a small foundry on what is now also a part of Mr. Derr's grounds. In 1853 the Derr Brothers made the first portable double-heater ever known, and several were successfully used in Pottsville and Philadelphia. The ones sent to Philadelphia evidently led to the appearance of the celebrated Vulcan heater, patented in 1855.

SIMON DERR'S STOVE WORKS

In 1848 Joseph Noble and James Noble started in the steam boiler business October 10th, 1852, in the old foundry on the island, which they rented of Mr. Andrew Russell. In 1854 they built the boiler shop on Railroad street, opposite the freight depot. In 1857 John T. Noble and James Noble dissolved partnership. James Noble went to Rome, Ga., and John T. Noble kept the boiler works on Railroad street. The business done in the shop averaged about $25,000 per annum.

SPARKS, PARKER & CO

Jabez Sparks, formerly superintendent of the Wren Iron Works, bought land of the Greenwood estate in 1855, and in company with his brother, John Sparks, and Edward Greathead, began the boiler works on Coal Street, manufacturing boilers, smokestacks, ventilating stacks and mine fans. A few workingmen with but little capital soon built up this business to $100,000 per annum. Mr. Greathead was killed in 1857, and John Sparks retired in 1860. five years afterward Mr. Sparks took into the partnership his son William and his son-in-law, Hiram Parker. The firm then carried on business under the name of Parker, Sparks & Co., Mr. Jabez Sparks being a silent partner. In 1879 the land was sold to the Philadelphia and Reading Company for $42,000, and the business was afterward removed to the Joseph Derr property, corner of Coal and Norwegian streets.

HARDWARE HOUSE OF L.C. THOMPSON

The wholesale and retail hardware house of Mr. L.C. Thompson, at the corner of Center and Market streets, Pottsville, an illustration of which is given, was established by Messrs. Stichter & Thompson in 1856. Ten years later, Mr. Thompson became the sole proprietor, and as such carried on the business for several years, until his brother, Heber S. Thompson, became associated with him and the firm was known as L.C. Thompson & Co.
Later Heber S. Thompson retired from the business, which has since been conducted by L.C. Thompson. During a period of a quarter of a century this business has been successfully carried on at the same place with-

out interruption, and during that time Mr. L.C. Thompson has been either a sole or partial owner and the active manager. It is one of the most extensive of its kind in the coal regions and is widely and favorable known.

THE PENNSYLVANIA DIAMOND DRILL COMPANY

The diamond drill was introduced into this county about 1863 by the inventor, Rudolph Leschot, of Paris, France. In 1869 the Pennsylvania Diamond Drill Company was organized, under the management of Samuel E.


Griscom. The company at once turned its attention to prospecting mineral lands, the drill being especially adapted to that purpose, as by its use a "ore" or cylindrical section of the material bored could be obtained and inspected, affording exact information as to the nature, thickness and depth of coal, iron and other mineral deposits. Experience soon demonstrated that, while the diamond drill was far superior to any other drill for the purpose, it was yet quite imperfect, and after many experiences and a heavy expenditure of means the company have succeeded in improving the various parts, until they now have the satisfaction of obtaining as many feet of "core" as they do of "boring" either in soft or hard rock. In boring for bituminous coal, which is especially liable to crumble, they are able to give a foot of "core" for a foot of "boring." All of the essential features of the machinery are protected by letters patent, to the number of thirteen. The drills in their improved condition are excellent artesian well borers, boring them perfectly round and straight, admitting a larger pump in proportion to the size of the hole than by any other means of boring; and the wells being straight the pumps and rods work to better advantage and with less wear than in crooked wells, the drills being so constructed that they pierce in an absolutely straight line, even in passing from hard to soft rock, or vice versa.

The Diamond Drill Company have bored tens of thousands of feet of prospecting holes and thousands of feet of blasting holes for driving tunnels and sinking shafts, by new "long-hole" process, which consists of boring the desired number of blast-holes at once to their full depth or to the depth of 200 or 300 feet, filling them up with sand and extracting the sand to the depth desired to place the explosive charge, and firing all the holes simultaneously by electricity. By this process half the time usually required in sinking shafts is saved. The two deep shafts sunk near Pottsville by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company were sunk by this process, and with such rapidity that during some months they were put down 100 feet. A short time after the organization of the company a small shop was rented, which was then as large as was demanded by the business. As orders increased facilities were added from time to time. The exhibition of this company at the
Centennial Exposition, in 1876, was so creditable that it resulted in the receipt of orders for drills from abroad, the first of which came from Australia. The foreign demand for the diamond drill has since then so greatly increased that they are in use throughout Australia, South America and Europe, everywhere giving unbounded satisfaction in prospecting for gold, silver, copper, lead, iron ore and coal.

Some of the principal improvements made by this company are in the mode of extracting the core from the hole and insure its extraction in considerable sections, enabling the proprietor to easily note the character of the various strata through which the drill penetrates. The first application of diamonds to the miner's art and practical rock drilling was made in 1863 by Professor Rudolph Leschot, of Paris, France, the inventor of the diamond drill. There are two kinds of black diamonds used in pointing drills, known as "carbons" and "borts;" the former resembling in shape small irregular pieces of gravel. The latter is the real diamond, which from its imperfections is unfit for jewelry. The stones are brought principally for American use from Brazil; some have been brought from Siberia and some, more recently, from South Africa. The part played by the diamond drill in testing supposed mineral deposits and in other important enterprises can scarcely be over-estimated, but it can scarcely be realized except to those practically acquainted with mining with and without it.

FISHBACK AND JALAPA

The borough of Pottsville, as it now is, is the aggregation of several communities, some of which still retain their local names. The north ward (Fishback) and the seventh ward (Jalapa) are examples.

Fishback occupies one of the five conterminous valleys in which the borough is situated. Its name, in the vernacular of the Teutons, alluded to the West Norwegian creek, which drains this valley, and was evidently applied to it before the sulphur water from the mines above had made the stream quite tenantless.

The Pottsville rolling mills are located here. These mills were built in 1853, by John Burnish & Co., and came into possession of Atkins Bros. in 1865. The producing capacity is 35,000 tons of rolled iron per annum. Car rails, beams, channels and angles, used in architectural and bridge work, are principally manufactured. The business employs 750 men.

The principal business at Jalapa is the Pottsville Pork and Beef Packing House. The buildings occupied by this business, on Railroad street, were commenced by this business, on Railroad street, were commenced in 1873, by Jacob Ulmer and David Neuser. The building covered a space 190 by 60 feet, consisting of an ice-house and storage room 70 by 30 feet, four stories high. There are also a slaughter house, 120 by 20 feet, two stories, with capacity for killing 75 hogs daily; three smoke-houses 12 by 12, 35 feet high; and engine, chopping machine and boiler room, 25 by 15 feet. April 9th, 1874, Mr. Ulmer bought Mr. Neuser's interest in the business, and completed the building on the 8th of June, 1874. Two months later Mr. Louis Stoffregen became partner with Mr. Ulmer. This partnership continued until August 25th, 1875. Since then Mr. Ulmer, as sole proprietor, has made constant improvements to a constantly increasing business. In the spring of 1878 he purchased an adjoining lot of 190 by 30 feet, on which he built an ice-house 70 by 30 feet, with double cellars of that size, so that he now has storage rooms for 500,000 pounds of meat. The following spring the slaughter house, cutting rooms and chill rooms were enlarged to furnish conveniences for killing 250 hogs per day. From the cutting room there are three schutes running to the sausage rooms and ice cellar. the engine furnishes steam for use and to run the chopper, the elevator, and the fan which supplies the air currents to the killing rooms. The floors are all inclines planes, that of the killing room being of stone.

The data furnished show that they are killing annually 8,000 hogs, 400 beeves and 800 small stock. Beside this they buy large shipments of case meats and of lard. This business, with a capital of $100,000 invested, has an annual trade of over $200,000.

Here at Jalapa are also the stock and drove yards. Years ago-the exact date is not ascertained-there was a drove yard established here by William Stein. It was kept to accommodate drovers and dealers, whose stock was temporarily kept by Mr. Stein until they could sell. In 1869 Conrad Seltzer began business as a dealer in live stock, at what is now known as the Pottsgrove Yards. In 1887 his son William Seltzer purchased this property, enlarged the yards and built sheds, so that now he can handle one hundred head of cattle at a time. There are one and a half acres of land in the yards, and the sheds are arranged with feed and water in each. There are also arrangements in the yard for caring for sheep and hogs. This branch of the business is under the control of A.W. Seltzer.

At the corner of Coal and Nicholas streets the Schuylkill County Stock Yard is located. This yard was established in 1862. The partners in this firm are Louis Stoffregen, L.W. Weissinger and David Neuser, trading as Stoffregen & Co. In 1875 the partnership was dissolved, since which time L.W. Weissinger has been dealing exclusively in horses and cattle his yard being known as the Pottsville Stock Yard. He has done a business of from $10,000 to $12,000 per month. The small-stock part of the business has been carried on, since the dissolution of the of the partnership, by William Neuser at the Schuylkill County Stock Yards.

BANKS AND BANKERS

The Miners' Bank.-The development of wealth and population during a few years, including 1826, gave occasion for the formation of the first bank at Pottsville in 1828. In February of that year the Legislature passed an act incorporating a bank to be located at Pottsville, and creating a commission consisting of Levi Ellmaker and Robert Easp, of Philadelphia; Edward B. Hubley and Jacob Seitzinger, of Reading; Benjamin Pott,
Francis B. Nichols, and Charles A. Bradford, of Schuylkill county; Joseph Paxton, David Cleaver, General Daniel Montgomery and William Donaldson, of Columbia county, to carry the act into effect.

On the 29th of September following the charter was issued to the Miners' Bank, authorizing it to business, with $200,000 capital, until January 1st, 1840. Francis B. Nichols was the first president, and Daniel J. Rhodes cashier. Business was carried on in the building now occupied by Felix Strouse's jewelry store in Centre street until 1831, when the present substantial bank building was erected. On the 25th of February of that year Mr. Nichols resigned, and on March 4th John Shippen was appointed to the vacancy. The Legislature extended the charter from time to time, and on the 18th of April 1856, authorized an increase of capital to $500,000. The bank was converted into a national banking association on the 30th of December, 1864, as No. 649, with a paid up capital of half a million, and a circulation of $360,000.

Up to this time the cashiers in order of succession had been Daniel J Rhodes, J. Craven, Joseph Thomas and Charles Loeser. Mr. Loeser died in 1869, and on July 13th Frederick Patterson was appointed. The vacancy occurring by his retirement February 1st, 1870, was filled by the appointment of William L. Whitney, the present cashier. The present board of directors are William Fox, George Rosengarten, John L. Pott, George W. Heebner, Jesse Turner, John Shippen, John W. Webber, Charles A. Meck and James Muir.

The election of January 13th, 1880, placed Mr. Shippen for the fiftieth years as head of this institution, and continued Mr. Whitney as cashier. In December 1880, A.K. Whitner, for several years the paying teller, was succeeded by John P. Stine. The clerical force of the bank also included Samuel S. Shippen, bookkeeper, Frank Whitney, Charles I. Loeser and Reuben Jones, clerks.

The Pennsylvania National Bank is one of the soundest banking institutions of the State. It was declared open by the United States comptroller of the currency on the 18th day of September, 1866, as bank number 1,863, with a capital of $100,000. Jacob Huntzinger was the first president, and Charles H. Dengler cashier. The president resigned November 5th, 1867, and his son, J. Albert Huntzinger, was chosen to the vacancy. In October, 1869, the president and cashier both tendered resignations, and Mr. Dengler was elected president, and Wallace P Ryon cashier. On the 14th of January, 1873, R.F. Lee, the present head of the institution, was elected president, which position he has since filled, and Joseph F. Dengler was appointed cashier. July 10th, 1875, the capital was doubled, and on February 11th of the following years Joseph F. Dengler's connection with the bank terminated, and Daniel L. Krebs has since held the appointment of cashier. The other officers are D.H. Seibert, teller, and Frank Roseberry, clerk. The present board of directors are Thomas A. Reilly, Walter S. Sheafet, John W. Roseberry, R.F. Lee, John Hock, Jesse Drumheller, M. Bright, William E. Boyer and Robert Allison. The present surplus of the bank is $18,333.

The Government National was chartered as the Government Bank of Pottsville, under the laws of this State, on the 25th of February, 1863, with a capital of $50,000. The present officers, William F. Huntzinger, president, and H.H. Huntzinger, cashier, were first elected in March, 1863, when business was commenced in the building then occupied by the Miners' Trust Company. The next year the bank was moved to the Esterly building, corner of Centre and Mahantongo streets. The capital was increased June 27th, 1864, to $200,000, and on the 15th of the following May the institution was converted into a national bank. The capital was again increased in April, 1872, to half a million, and it has since been decreased to $10,000. Since April 1st, 1874, business has been carried on in the substantial building erected by LeFever Womelsdorf, South Centre street.

Mechanics' Safe Deposit Bank.-In 1852 the Pottsville Life Insurance and Trust Company was incorporated, with insurance and Trust Company was incorporated, with insurance privileges; $20,000 were paid in, which was one-fifth the authorized capital. The officers were, and they still are, Nathan Evans, president; B.F. Taylor, secretary and treasurer. In 1873, by order of court, the name was changed to 'The Mechanics Safe Deposit Bank.'
Miners’ Trust Company Bank.—In 1850 a charter was granted to John Henry Adams and Jacob Huntzinger, and their successors, to do business at Schuylkill Haven, with a capital of $100,000, as a mutual life and healthy insurance company. A supplement to the charter, February 17th, 1854, changed the name to The Miners’ Life Insurance and Trust Company of Pottsville, where business was first begun in that year. The marvelous career of this institution was foreshadowed by the business of the year 1854, when, with a paid up capital of $12,500, the average deposits exceeded a hundred thousand dollars. A second amendment to the charter, May 24th, 1871, changed the name to The Miners’ Trust company Bank. Payments were suspended August 4th, 1876, and the deed to the assignees was signed September 14th. No man’s business career in Schuylkill county ever exerted an influence greater than that of Jacob Huntzinger, who was practically the head of this concern from the first. The manifest at the date of closing showed $1,322,228.54 due the depositors; bills payable, $133,000; contingent fund, $40,000. The assets, appraised at only $200,000, were found practically worth much less. Beginning with the year 1855 the following figures show the per cent. of annual cash dividends paid to the owners of this marvelous bank stock; 10, 20, 24, -, 6, 10, 12, 6, 5, 13 1/2, 25, 25, 7, 18, 100, 30, 30, 40, 30, 16, 5, and on July 1st, 1876, a semi-annual dividend of 4 per cent.

The Pottsville Bank did business at Lyceum Hall block, Market street, from March 4th, 1872, to April, 1873, when it removed to the Seitz building, in Centre street, and suspended. Henry Saylor, Charles H. Woltjen and William Garrett were its officers.

The National Bank of Pennsylvania was chartered on the 25th of May, 1864, as a State bank, with a capital of $200,000. Its career was a brief one, and its business was closed during the latter part of 1866. November 26th of that year its board of trustees passed a resolution that the Miners’ Trust Company redeem its circulation, as it had been a bank of issue. Jacob Huntzinger was its president, and Charles H. Dengler cashier.

The Farmers’ Bank of Schuylkill County was incorporated by an act of April 14th, 1845, and commenced business at Schuylkill Haven two years later. In 1851 it was removed to Pottsville, and transacted business for a time in the building now the residence of Judge Walker, in Mahantongo street. Judge George Rahn was the first president, and was followed in succession by A. Reifsnyder, Henry Saylor and Joseph W. Cake. An act of Assembly in 1870 provided for the closing of the affairs of this bank, and George R. Kaercher was appointed receiver.

The Mountain City Bank was chartered April 8th, 1870, and began business with $100,000 capital, which was twenty per cent, of the authorized stock. Its officers were: John W. Roseberry, president; John Davison, vice-president; Charles H. Dengler, secretary and treasurer. They built an addition to the Seitz building, in Centre street, and occupied it until 1875, when their elegant bank building, valued at $100,000, was erected on the former site of the Mortimer House. The career of this institution was a brief one. The magnificent building is one of the attractions of the business portion of the place.

The Merchants’ Exchange Bank is another of the defunct institutions that once flourished in Pottsville. It was chartered in March 1873, and commenced business with a capital of $62,000.

The German Banking Company, with a stock capital of $100,000, went into operation in Marcy, 1872, at No. 5 Market street. Francis Altstatt was its first president, and during its existence Jacob Ulmer was vice-president, James W. Nagle and John P. Bertram treasurers.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

Among the numerous institutions which have contributed largely to the popularity of the plan is the Pottsville Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Pennsylvania. In June, 1869, a number of enterprising and energetic citizens, believing in the feasibility of the plan, determined to organize this company, on the mutual insurance principle, and the following named gentlemen applied to the Court of Common Pleas for a charter, viz.: Frederick Haeseler, Francis Altstatt, A.J. Reith, John P. Bertram, J. Ackerman, George Melot, B. Glunz, D.B. Seidel, William Huntzinger, Daniel Saylor, Levi Huber and D.G. Yuengling.

A charter was duly granted by the court, and a full organization of the company was immediately effected, with the following officers: President, Francis Altstatt; vice-president, William Huntzinger; secretary, Frederick Haeseler; treasurer, D.B. Seidel. directors: J.P. Bertram, A.J. Reith, Levi Huber, C.T. Bowen, Daniel Saylor, Joseph Ackerman, G.S. Melot, J.A. Swalm.

The first risk was taken and a policy issued on July 15th, 1868, since which time the company has successfully maintained itself and established a reputation throughout the State as a reliable and trustworthy institution. According to its last annual statement its assets have increased to $350,197.39, and the losses paid during its existence have amounted to many thousands of dollars. The company is doing business throughout the State, and policies are now in force to the amount of $2,321,015.46.

THE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

The depression of business in Pottsville during the few years including and following the year 1867 gave rise to an especial demand for the organization of some medium of action for a people proverbial for their charity, at a time when unusual demands were likely to be made upon them. Accordingly, during the summer of 1867, measures were adopted which, on the 11th of October of that year, resulting in the permanent organization of the Benevolent Association of Pottsville.

A constitution was framed, under which any person might become a member of the association by contributing one dollar to the general fund and subscribing the constitution, the preamble of which recited the duty to be binding upon all persons to aid in alleviating and pre-
vent the misfortunes and sufferings of their fellow citizens. Many noble men and women were identified with the initial steps of this organization. They recognized the untiring efforts of a few of the most earnest workers in electing the following gentlemen as their first board of officers: William L. Whitney, president; Rev. Emanuel Oppenheim, vice-president; Henry C. Russel, treasurer; John W. Bickel, corresponding secretary; Oliver C. Bosbyshell, recording secretary; Milton Boone, John Heebner, John M. Miller, John P. Bertram, and Henry Gressang, managers.

By the continual re-election of President Whitney the society claimed for ten years the aid of one who from the very first especially devoted his energies and influence to the association, and who by common consent is regarded as its founder. The members of the association believed that the various contributions improperly made, too often without inquiry into the habits and circumstances of the recipients, would, if distributed systematically and with prudence, be sufficient to relieve the necessities of all the worthy poor within the borough, and that the association could ultimately defeat the mendacious tricks of the street beggars and the professional tramps, while ministering to those who might be found deserving of their charities.

The plan of operation was to divide the borough into ten districts, each of which was placed under the supervision of one of the ten members of the executive board. With each of these supervisors were associated a number of male and female members are district visitors, so that all cases of application for aid could be easily investigated.

The by-laws provided that the relief committee should have control of the purchase and distribution of clothing and supplies, and enter in a book an account of such purchase and distributions, the names and residences of the parties relieved, the kind and amount of relief granted, and report to the board at each stated meeting.

Some of the reports of the district supervisors during the first years of the association showed that the experienced mendicant had impositions always ready to practice upon them; but, as relief was always rendered in kind instead of cash, the funds of the society were not perverted to the furtherance of intemperance, and this was a desirable change from the old system of indiscriminate giving. One of these reports, made by that benevolent rabbi Rev. Emanuel Oppenheim, contained these words: "What made this undertaking such a grand success are the broad principles of charity we have built on. We supported without distinction of religion, race or color."

The association's principal sources of revenue are the voluntary donations of private individuals, but churches, corporations, lodges, and societies are frequently among the liberal contributors. It was understood from the first that no personal solicitation would be made for the support of the association, but that in place of the importunate solicitations of begging committees the revenues, whatever they might be, should arise from the charitable inclinations of the people who might choose to sustain it.

The first year's work was in most respects brilliantly successful. The first report of the executive board says: "The experience of the year has convinced the board that the voluntary plan is the proper one; and they feel confident that their fellow citizens will continue a liberal support, and that they will not require to be urged to the performance of a duty of charity and benevolence."

On the 16th of May, 1870, a petition was presented to the court, asking that the association be granted the powers and immunities of a body corporate. Accordingly, by a decree made on the 10th of the following month, the constitution of the association became the charter of the corporation.

Thirteen years of the workings of the association have demonstrated its utility, and it is now more firmly rooted than ever before in the affections of this benevolent people, who sustain it with pride as one of their creditable institutions. Several changes have been made in the board of managers, but they have had but two presidents: Milton Boone succeeded Mr. Whitney in 1877. The present officers are: Milton Boone, president; Rev. B.F. Patterson, John C. Harper, vice-president; Charles H. Woltjen, treasurer; General J.K. Sigfried, corresponding secretary; George W. Kennedy, recording secretary; John A.M. Passmore, Dr. Charles T. Palmer, Andrew B. Cochran, George chambers and Michael Bright, managers.

For six years this benevolent association developed and extended its broad charities under the plan first adopted; but there was one field of operations in which it was powerless. It was found that many of the fittest objects of charity were the children of dissolute parents, whom to aid in their wanton idleness and vice would be to abuse the benevolence of the public, and yet to leave the innocent children to grow up in the very schools of vice was an abuse of the public confidence; for it had been believed that the association would ultimately find a remedy for this state of affairs.

During the two years preceding the 24th of May, 1872, this defect in the plan was under considerations, and on that day a committee was appointed to consider the possibility of establishing, under the auspices of the association, a "home" where these cases could be properly provided for. This committee, of which John A.M. Passmore was chairman, reported progress from time to time until March 7th, 1873, when a plan was approved, and on the 4th of the following month the constitution was adopted and a board of managers elected for "The Benevolent Association's Home for Children." This board of managers consisted of twenty-one members of the association, twelve gentlemen and nine ladies, who were elected for one, two, or three years. The officers of this board were those who had been most earnest encouragers of this beautiful charity. John A.M. Passmore, who was especially identified with this enterprise, was very properly placed at the head of this home as president, with Hon. Solomon Foster, vice-president;
Emma St.C. Whitney, corresponding secretary; James W. Nagle, recording secretary; Henry C. Russel, treasurer, ex officio.

The home was formally opened on the 24th of May, 1873, in a rented building, pleasantly situated in Agricultural park. This was formerly a park and the building was originally the Park Hotel. The house and grounds are now owned by seven individuals. Six of these owners annually donate the use of their interest to the home, leaving but one-seventh of the rent to be paid by the association. Mrs. Albertine Bigelow, the first matron, served until 1880, and most faithfully did she discharge her duties. Dr. F.W. Boyer was attending physician for three years and was then succeeded by John T. Carpenter.

By the rules adopted, children between the ages of four and twelve years, free from any incurable or contagious disease, are admitted without distinction of creed, race or color. Since the opening of the home the number of children cared for has averaged annually about thirty. The fact that children are indented from the home has become known in other parts of the State, and the inmates are thus, as far as possible, secured good permanent homes, free from their early associations. During the seven years of its existence the home has received donations in cash averaging $2,151 per annum, besides the various contributions of materials.

From its organization there have been connected with the home both a day-school and a Sabbath-school. The efforts of the matron to maintain an interesting Sabbath-school have been seconded by earnest workers outside of the institution, and very efficient help has been rendered by Miss Sarah Loeser, William L. Whitney, and John A.M. Passmore. Mr. Passmore was president of the home until 1877; P.W. Sheafer succeeded him until 1879, when John Phillips was elected.

The present board of officers are: William L. Whitney, president; Milton Boone, vice-president; Charles H. Woltjen, treasurer; Mr. M.F. Parry, corresponding secretary; General J.K. Sigfried, recording secretary; J. Lineaweaver, solicitor; Mrs. Maria Sands, matron; J.T. Carpenter, M.D., physician; P.K. Filbert, dentist; Daniel Downey, barber.


**LODGES AND SOCIETIES**

**ODD FELLOWS**

Miners' Lodge, No. 20, was instituted December 14th, 1829, by William L. Brown, of Philadelphia, the charter members being George Dedrick, John Espey, Andrew, Sheridan, Joseph W. Gordon, and George W. Duncan. On the same evening the following persons were initiated: Samuel S. Wallace, John Miller, Jacob Buckwalter, and Frank Vanhorn; after which the following officers were installed: N.G., John Espey; V.G., George W. Duncan; Sec., James S. Wallace; Treas., Jacob Buckwalter. George Dedrick was appointed D.D.G.M. for the region. Three meeting nights a week had to be appointed, so great was the desire of persons to become initiated.

Samuel J. Potts, who is now the sitting past grand, and has just passed the chairs for the second time, is the oldest living member of the lodge. He was admitted by card January 25th, 1830, and was the district deputy grand master some fifteen consecutive years.

March 15th, 1830, the first by-laws were adopted. May 24th, 1830, the first public procession of Odd Fellows took place in this region, and was participated in by the members of Schuylkill and Miners' lodges. August 18th, 1832, the first degree lodge was instituted by the union of Hayden, Schuylkill and Miners' lodges.

In 1837 the lodge authorized the trustees to subscribe $1,000 toward the stock of the Town Hall Association, which amount was lost upon the failure of the association.

April 22nd, 1851, the first purchase of the grounds now known as the Odd Fellows' Cemetery was made by this lodge. Additional plots have been added from time to time until now it comprises some fourteen acres. A permanent fund is being established from a portion of the proceeds of sales of lots, to protect and provide for the further maintenance of the grounds. The lodge has invested some $15,000 in this cemetery. June 3d, 1862, the lodge donated and set apart eight lots as a free burial place for soldiers, and up to the present time these lots contain 36 graves.

March 19th, 1876, Miners' Lodge lost all its paraphernalia and furniture by the burning of the old town hall. No insurance. April 1st, 1876, Miners', Lily of the Valley, Girard and Hayden lodges and Franklin Encampment effected lease on Lydeum Hall for the term of five years. Here all Odd Fellows' meetings are held.

At the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the institution of the lodge, on the evening of January 6th, 1880, Past Grand Sire James B. Nicholson, in company with D.G.M. Alfred R. Potter, of the grand lodge of the State, was present and assisted to initiate a class of twenty-three candidates, comprising some of the best young men of the town.

Miners' Lodge No. 20 is the oldest beneficial order in Schuylkill county, and is rightly termed the mother of Odd Fellowship in this region. Since its institution some 850 candidates have passed through its portals, and from a membership composed mostly of miners at its institution, there are but three living members at present who are known to have followed that occupation. The receipts from dues and cemeteries have been over $40,000. Funeral and weekly benefits have been paid amounting to $15,000. The present membership is 106.

The present officers are: N.G., Frank R. Pershing;

Hayden Lodge, No. 44, was chartered in 1832, and the early meetings were held in a private house in Centre street. Their next place of meeting was in the town hall, which was occupied by this lodge when it was burned in 1876. At that time the property of the lodge, including the records and charter, was burned. John G. Conrad, Stephen S. Taylor, John P. Bertram, John G. Brown, Henry Gressang, Francis Barth, and Simon Strouse were among the early members and prominent officers of this lodge. The present officers are: Louis Stoffregen, N.G.; George Bader, V.G.; John P. Bertram, secretary, and Frederick Jeffler, treasurer.

Girard Lodge, No. 53, was instituted December 10th, 1832, with Phillip Hoffa N.G.; Almond Phillips, V.G.; Henry Mathers, Secretary; H.G. Stambuch, treasurer; Jacob Olewine, recording secretary. The present officers are: C.C. Hay, N.G.; John P. Stine, jr., V.G.; Abram McNeal, secretary; William M. Zerbey, treasurer; Frank Esterly, assistant secretary.

Lily of the Valley Lodge, No. 281, dates from November 8th, 1847. Its charter officers were: Thomas Foster, N.G.; Henry A. Achternacht, V.G.; Joseph P. Smith, secretary; Jacob D. Rice, treasurer; J.S. Elliott, assistant recording secretary. The officers for 1880 in the same order are: J.W. White, William H. Stodd, John Bolich, Daniel L. Kreba and William Bearstler.

Franklin Encampment, No.4, was instituted at Pottsville January 24th, 1834. The charter officers were: Chief Patriarch, Stephen Taylor; senior warden, Benjamin T. Taylor; junior warden, Charles H. Richards; high priest, Charles F. Mann; scribe, A.L. Williams; treasurer, Strange N. Palmer.

MASONIC

For several years prior to 1876 Schuylkill county constituted the fifth of the twenty-seven masonic districts of Pennsylvania, but in that year the district was enlarged to include Columbia county. The Grand Lodge of the State if represented in this district by D.D.G.M. Christopher Little, of Pottsville.

Pulaski Lodge, No. 216, A.Y.M. was the second masonic lodge organized in Schuylkill county. It was chartered June 6th, 1831, and on July 9th William B. Potts, acting as R.W.G.M., instituted the lodge and installed Joseph E. Sorber, W.M.; Strange N. Palmer, S.W.; and Samuel Huntzinger, J.W. This ceremony was performed in the old stone dwelling house of David Phillips, on Centre street. After a few years the lodge met for a short time in the attic of the Exchange Hotel, but when the town hall was built, in 1841, a room in it was prepared for a lodge room.

Thus far there had been an increase of only five in the membership of the lodge, and the destitute condition of the treasury rendered special subscriptions necessary. The prosperity that has marked the later years of this lodge dates from 1853, when a committee consisting of lodge dates from 1853, when a committee consisting of C. Little, John Hughes, William L. Whitney and Heister Clymer, as representatives of the younger element of the lodge, made a full investigation of the crooked accounts of the lodge, and established a basis for future operations.

On St. John's day, 1859, the lodge held its first session in Bright's building, Centre street. The lodge paid $1,060 for ten years use of these rooms, and expended about three times as much to fit and furnish them. These rooms well served the purposes of the craft, but when the Pennsylvania National Bank building was erected, in 1872, a very desirable hall was offered at $500 per annum, and upon those terms a lease was taken for fifty years. This hall was fitted up and furnished at an expense of $6,000, making it not only the most suitable but one of the best furnished lodge rooms in the State.


The officers for 181 are: Robert A Reidk W.M.; George W. Eiler, S.W.; Robert S. Chrisman, J.W. Milton Boone, treasurer; Charles M. Lewis, Jr., secretary.

The royal arch chapters of Schuylkill county formerly composed the 18th district of Pennsylvania, but the county is now a part of the 6th district, under the jurisdiction of the G.H.R.A. Chapter of Pennsylvania. The district includes Columbia, Montour and Northumberland counties. Abraham K. Whitney, of Pottsville, is the deputy grand high priest of this district.

Mountain City Chapter, No. 196, R.A.M.-On the 29th of March, 1860, this chapter was instituted, with nine charter members, of whom Daniel Washburn was M.E.H.P.; Washington Reifsnyder, king; William Milnes, jr., scribe; C. Little, secretary; Lawrence F. Whitney, treasurer. The successive high priests for twenty years were: William Milnes, jr., Rev. Samuel F. Colt, H.C. Russel, Jacob Greenwald, C. Little, Michael F. Maize, Rev. Emanuel Oppenheim, John P. Bertram,

Constantine Comandery, No.91, K.T. was instituted May 24th, 1871, with twenty-seven charter members. The first officers were: Walter S. Sheafer, E.C.; Jacob T. Emhardt, Gen.; David H. Seibert, Capt. Gen.; Henry B. Davis, treasurer; Charles H. Woltjen, recorder. Eminent commanders have been elected as follows: Jacob Emhardt, David H. Seibert, Charles H. Woltjen, James G. Lowrey, A.K. Whitener, Charles H. Dengler, William Beck, F.D. Sterner. The official posts were as follows in April, 1880: Levi Huber, E.C.; Samuel Hower, Gen.; J.J. Cake, Capt. Gen.; D.H. Seibert, treasurer; J.G. Lowrey, recorder.

Gowen Post, No.22, Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Pennsylvania, was organized on the 22nd day of January, A.D., 1867, with Jacob G. Frick, Oliver C. Bosbyshell, J.K. Rorer, William Auman, Samuel R. Russell, Joshua K. Sigfried, Clem W. Evans, Frank R. Leib, Charles W. Schnerr, E.F. Bodey, Zaccer P. Boyer and William H.H. Werner as charter members.

The first officers of the post were: P.C., Oliver C. Bosbyshell; S.V.C., E.F. Bodey; I.V.C., William J. Hinkle; adjutant, Charles H. Hazzard; quartermaster, J. Albert Huntzinger; chaplain, J.K. Sigfried; O.D., Charles W. Schnerr; O.G., William H.H. Werner.


The officers for the year 1880 were: P.C., Richard Rahn; S.V.C., William F. Gressang; J.V.C., J.C. Staehle; adjutant, August Knecht; quartermaster, Reuben Jones; O.D., Frederick M. Wade; O.G., George W. Koch; sergeant-major, Abraham Kuhn; quartermaster-sergeant, Samuel Faust; captain, A.W. Schalck; I.S., Henry Matthews; O.S., James Lafferty.

The post meets every Thursday evening at Hoffman's building, on North Centre street, between market and Norwegian streets. The post has adopted both the beneficial and non-beneficial features, and has a post fund and a relief fund. The post fund is used for the sole purpose of assisting needy and destitute soldiers and the widows and orphans of deceased soldiers, and since the organization of the post there has been more than thirty thousand dollars expended from the relief fund for that purpose.

**KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS**

Knights of Pythias, Henry Clay Lodge. This lodge was organized in Pottsville, as No. 44, February 19th, 1868, being the first lodge of this order in the county. The charter members and first officers were: Henry M. Chambers, Joseph Spencer, Godfrey Leonard, John F. Finney, John Crane, Charles H. Parker, Daniel Libe, George W. Stillwagon, and Aaron Billington. During the first three months of this lodge's existence the membership increased to over three hundred. Lodges of this order are now located in nearly every borough in this county.

**CATHOLIC SOCIETIES**

Young Men's Hibernian.-This is the oldest Catholic organization in Schuylkill county, having been incorporated in 1853. It holds its meetings regularly on the first Saturday night in each month, at the Emerald Vindicator office. It pays a regular weekly benefit, and a similar amount on the death of a member. The officers are: President, John P. Powers; secretary, John Boland; treasurer, Patrick McCormick. The panic interfered considerable with many of the Catholic societies, but at present they are recuperating under the prosperous times.

St. Patrick's Beneficial Society.-This society was organized in March, 1869, initiating a large number of members for the first year. Its first officers were: President, James B. Reilly; secretary, John Boland; treasurer, William J. Sigfried. The meetings were held in the basement of the church the first Sunday in each month. It numbered over one hundred and twenty-five members, but during the panic gradually reduced down to fifty. Assets about $400. Present officers: President, John Boland; secretary, William J. Sigfried.

Emerald Beneficial Association.-The Emerald Beneficial was organized in the basement of St. Patrick's Church, on Sunday, May 12th, 1872, initiating sixty-nine members at the first meeting. It took its number as Father Walsh Branch, No. 13, E.B.A., of Pottsville, Pa. Its first president was Hon. James B. Reilly, secretary John A. Sullivan, treasurer Joseph Dolan. At every meeting a large number of members were elected, until two hundred and sixty-five members made it the largest society of its kind in the United States. One of its first acts was to expend over $400 in fitting up the basement of the church for its meeting room. On another occasion $400 was given to the pastor of the church, the proceeds of a pic-nic in conjunction with the other societies of the church. It has relieved many cases of distress only known to the stewards and a few of its members. The State convention was held in Pottsville, January 13th-15th, 1880, at which forty representatives were present, representing over ten thousand members, located in every part of the State. The present officers are: president, John Boland; secretary, P.B. Moore; treasurer, Martin Devlin.

The Emerald Band is a musical organization of twenty members, an offspring of the Emerald Society. Their instruments cost about $400.

**THE POTTVILLE CORNET BAND**

was organized from the remnants of Jones's Cornet
Band on the 19th of September, 1879, with Joseph Skeen president; B. Bryson McCook, treasurer; Adolph H. Kopp, secretary; J.I. Alexander, musical director. The band consisted of thirty members, supplied with instruments valued at $1,800. They have rented and fitted up a neat room in Seitz’s building, Centre street, for their band meetings. The only changes in officers since the organization were the election of William H. Lindermuth president, and Louis Weston secretary.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The fire department of Pottsville is under the direction of B.B. McCool, chief engineer, and his four assistants. The department includes the following companies:

Humane Hose and Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 1, was instituted September 4th, 1833, as the Pottsville Fire Company. Eleven years later it was incorporated, and in 1859 the name was changed to Humane Hose Company. The charter was again amended to the present title in 1866, when the company was furnished by the citizens of Pottsville, at a cost of $8,500, with the first steam engine in the borough.

American Hose, No. 2, was organized in 1865, and ten years afterward was made an engine company by the purchase of a No.4 engine. Its membership is about 250. It succeeded the Rough and Ready.

Good Intent was organized October 5th, 1846, and incorporated in 1860.

Phoenix Fire Engine and Benevolent Company, No.3, is the successor of the old Schuylkill Hydraulic Company. The latter was the first fire organization in the borough, and its hand engine and two-wheeled hose truck were landed here with great ceremony. Flags were flung to the breeze, cannon and orators fired blank cartridges, and the day was made memorable.

The Atkins Steam Fire Engine Company was organized at Fishback, and consists principally of the employees at the Pottsville Rolling Mills. On motion of B. Bryson McCool the court granted a charter to this company in December, 1873. The officers elected were: William Brazier, president; L.W. Sharpless, treasurer; Charles E. Beck, secretary. The membership now numbers seventy, uniformed and equipped. The officers are the same at the organization, excepting that Lloyd Martz is now president.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

TRINITY PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The spiritual and temporal aspects of the parish are evidenced in its working efficiency. There are four Sunday-schools, with an aggregate of over 800 scholars. The seating capacity of the church and the chapel of St. John's, Fishback, the chapel at Mechanicsville, chapel at Mount Carbon, and chapel of the Resurrection-all chapels of Trinity church—is 1,600. The congregations are large and growing, and the number of communicants added since the present rector's rectorship commenced is over 300. The parish is now more thoroughly worked than ever before by the rector and his two assistants, the Rev. Edward J. Koons and the Rev. Charles H. Kidder.
The first building erected in Pottsville exclusively for religious meetings was the Roman Catholic church on the corner of Mahantongo and Fourth streets, on a lot donated by John Pott. It was a small framed building, and was built in 1828, at a cost of about $1,000. The first pastor, Rev. J. Fitzpatrick, was succeeded in 1830 by Rev. Edward McCarty, who, during a pastorate of three years, was instrumental in enlarging and otherwise improving this building. From November, 1833, until May, 1839, Rev. Arthur Wainwright, D.D., was the pastor. During this time the main structure of the present cathedral was erected. The corner stone was laid Sunday, September 24th, 1837, and then gradually the walls of the new building arose around the old one, in which religious service was held until the old one must needs be demolished, in order to complete the new one, which was dedicated by Bishop Kendrick on the 29th of September, 1838. Father Wainwright only lived until the following May, and at his death was buried with most impressive services beneath the altar of the new church. Rev. J. Miller, the next pastor, was soon followed by Rev. Edward Maginnis, who was instrumental in the erection of the Orphans' Asylum on Mahanoy and eleventh streets. In 1845 the church was again enlarged and improved. during the pastorate of Rev. Joseph O'Keefe, who was appointed in 1852, the parsonage was built on Fourth street, opposite the church. Rev. Nicholas J. Walsh subsequently served the church for eleven years, and was successful in clearing the church from debt, and in purchasing a new cemetery. In addition to those already mentioned as pastors of the church are found the following names: Rev. ----Balf, D.D., Rev. Patrick Donahue, Rev. Henry Fitzsimmons, Rev. Robert Cantwell, Rev. Jeremiah O'Donohoe, Rev. ----Nugent, Rev. Richard O'Connor, and Rev. Richard McElroy, the immediate predecessor of the present pastor, Rev. A.J. Gallagher, who is assisted by Rev. W.A. Duffy.

FIRST M.E. CHURCH

Methodism in Pottsville dates from 1828, when a class was formed, which met at private houses and occasionally at the old log school-school in Centre street. This class consisted of Jonathan Wynn, William Milnes, David Myers, William B. Lewis, Andrew Mortimore, William Harris and their wives, and George Lieb. In April following Rev. William Hunter Bull was stationed here by the Philadelphia Conference, and during the year he increased the membership to 67.

Among the early members were the late Benjamin Heywood, Thomas Sparks, and Jonathan Wynn, who were local preachers, and Abram Owen, Robert Gray, Mrs. John Offerman, and Mrs. Jane Buehler, a colored woman, who died on the 11th of April, 1881, aged 111 years, 8 months and 10 days.

In October, 1830, the first church building was dedicated. It was a substantial stone structure 40 by 60 feet. the present M.D. church on Second street is but an enlargement of that building. It was enlarged in 1864-5 at a cost of $14,000, after an unsuccessful attempt had been made to erect a new church on Market street.

The growth of this society for over half a century has been almost uninterrupted, and it is now one of the strong congregations in the borough.

Rev. Dr. Dobbies, of Philadelphia, furnished the following list of pastors of this church, with the dates of appointment:

- William Hunter Bull, 1829; Joseph McCool, 1830; Pharaoh A. Ogden, 1832; Henry C. King, 1834; James B. Ayres, 1836; Thomas Sovereign, 1837; William Cooper, 1838; William Cooper and William H. Elliott, 1839; J.B. Hagany and John W. Arthur, 1840; William Barnes, 1841; Richard W. Thomas, 1843; James Neal, 1845; J.B. Hagany, 1847; R. Gerny, 1849; William H. Elliott, 1850; Henry Colelager, 1851; G.D. Carrow, 1852; J.L. Taft, 1853; T.S. Thomas, 1854; William L. Gray, 1856; H.E. Gilroy, 1858; J.W. McCaskey, 1860; C.I. Thompson, 1862; J.B. McCullough, 1864; J.S. Cook, 1866; Franklin Moore, 1867; Jacob Dickerson, 1869; John J. Pearce, 1871; Samuel Barnes, 1874; J.B. Dobbins, D.D., 1877; S.N. Chew, 1880.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The first movement for the establishment of a Presbyterian church in Pottsville was made in the autumn of 1831.

The home mission work of the Presbyterian church was then very largely carried on under the auspices of the American Home Missionary Society, in New York, of which Rev. Absalom Peters, D.D., was then secretary. Application was accordingly made to the society for aid in the maintenance of Presbyterian worship in Pottsville, and certain churches in Philadelphia having asked that a portion of their annual contributions to the society be appropriated to this object, Rev. Sylvanus Haight was sent as a missionary in March, 1832, and immediately commenced preaching in a private house on Centre street, near Norwegian.

The church was organized, with sixteen members, on the 13th of July in the same year, by Rev. E.S. Ely, D.D., and Rev. James Patterson, a committee of the 2nd Presbytery of Philadelphia, and at the same time a church building which had been erected on the corner of Third of Market streets was dedicated.

The first elders of the church were Erwin Safford, John C. Ernse, Elisha Warne, and Alexander Graham. The original members, in addition to these elders and their wives, were Jesse Turner, Lewis Waters, Mrs. Sophia Chichester, Mrs. Mary Neligh, Mrs. Margaret Thomas, Mrs. Mary Wilde, Miss Abigail Parrish, and Miss Elizabeth Ernst.

Rev. S. Haight resigned his position in March 1834. He was followed by Rev. J. Addison Mines, who left early in 1835 and succeeded by Rev. Joseph McCool, who commenced his labors in June, 1835, and was installed as pastor in the autumn of 1836.

On the 25th of August, 1838, the corner stone of a new church building was laid at the corner of Third and Mahantongo streets. It was completed and occupied in 1842.
During the pastorate of Mr. McCool the second Presbyterian Church of Pottsville was organized in connection with the Presbytery of Luzerne (O.S.), the First church being in connection with the third Presbytery of Philadelphia (N.S.).

Mr. Warne resigned the eldership in 1837, Mr. Ernst in 1842, and Mrs. Graham removed in the same year, Mr. Safford having been transferred to another church in 1834.

J.C. Oliver and Thomas Pollock became elders in 1843, the former resigning in 1848 and the latter leaving in 1850. Solomon Foster and Hiram Parker were elected, ordained and installed elders in October, 1851, and (February, 1881) are both still active in the duties of the office.

Mr. McCool resigned the charge January 17th, 1864, and he is still a resident of Pottsville.

He was succeeded by the Rev. Isaac Riley, who was installed November 30th, 1864, and continued pastor until the autumn of 1867. He was subsequently settled in Newark, N.J., and in New York city, and afterward was pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian church in Buffalo, N.Y., where he died, greatly lamented, in October, 1878.

At the close of Mr. Riley's pastorate, Rev. A.P. DeVevue being then pastor of the Second church, an effort was made to unite the two churches. A plan of union was matured and carried into effect, the two churches, on their own application and with the consent of their respective presbyteries, being constituted into a single church by the third presbytery of Philadelphia. They worshipped for some months in the building of the First church, Mr. DeVevue for a time acting as their supply.

A large portion of the members of the Second church, however, after a few months, withdrew.

During the continuance of the union Mr. Stephen Harris and Mr. T.L. Godfrey were elected elders, and during the same period, in October, 1868, Rev. J.W. Schenck, a member of the Central Presbytery of Philadelphia, who had previously been pastor of the First Reformed Dutch Church in Philadelphia, was elected and installed pastor. During his pastorate the reunion between the old and new school assemblies of the Presbyterian Church was effected, and, as the result of this union, the First church of Pottsville became connected with the Presbytery of Lehigh, which includes all the Presbyterian churches in the counties of Monroe, Northampton, Lehigh, Carbon, Berks, Schuylkill, and the portion of Luzerne south of the Wilkes-Barre mountain.

Mr. Schenck resigned the charge in September, 1872, and was subsequently settled as pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church at Claverack, N.Y.

Rev. Jacob Belville, D.D., of Mauch Chunk, was then called, and was installed May 1st, 1873.

Before the commencement of this pastorate Simon Derr and Heber S. Thompson were elected elders, and subsequently Joseph S. Harris and George W. Beck, who with Solomon Foster and Hiram Parker now compose the eldership.

In the spring of 1874 plans were matured for the erection of a new church building, which had been for some years in contemplation. Elder Stephen Harris was very prominent in this movement, but just as the plans were maturing he was removed by death, being run over by a railroad car and instantly killed on the 10th of March, 1874. He was born in Chester county, Pa., in 1834, and united with this church in December, 1860. He was distinguished as a civil and mining engineer, and was a man of singular purity, integrity, elevation and strength of character, of cultivated mind and deep piety. The large window in the north end of the new church was erected to his memory by the Sabbathschool, of which he was superintendent at the time of his death.

The trustees under whose direction the building was erected were Joseph S. Harris, D.A. Smith, L.C. Thompson, George Chambers and John Phillips. They were aided by active committees, and a most wise and efficient treasurer, Simon Derr.

The building is of native gray sandstone, dressed, and trimmed with Pennsylvania brown stone and Ohio freestone. The lower story contains a parlor, a pastor's study, a lecture and Sabbath school-room, infant school-room and library. The main audience room will accommodate about 700 persons. The cost of the whole, with furniture, including a large and superior organ, was nearly $51,000. The lower story was first occupied on the 23d of April, 1876. The whole was completed and dedicated free from debt, February 8th, 1880.

The number of members is 295. The Sabbath-school numbers about 200, and the infant school 150.

WELSH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

In 1831 this church was organized, and in the following year it erected a suitable church building on Minersville street. In 1851 this building was rebuilt as it now stands. Rev. A.B. Evans was pastor for the first ten years. Rev. William Jones then served until 1845; Rev. Charles Edwards, 1849; Rev. Roderic Williams, 1850; Revs. Morgan Morgan and Edward R. Lewis until 1872; Rev. John W. Pugh, 1874.

GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN TRINITY CHURCH

Years before a regular Lutheran congregation was organized the members of this church were visited, from time to time, by the ministers living in Berks and Schuylkill counties and served with the Word and Sacrament according to the confession and rule of the Lutheran church. Rev. G.F.I. Jaeger was among the early ministers who came from Reading. In the year 1834 a regular congregation was constituted by calling Rev. W. Mennig and adopting a constitution. He accepted the call and began his work on the 29th of June. After three years the congregation resolved to build a small framed church, in connection with the German Reformed members of this place, on the same lot on which now stands the present church. The corner stone was laid with the usual ceremonies on the 18th of June, 1837, and on the 8th and 9th of October in the same year it was dedicated
by several ministers of the two denominations, under the name Emanuel's Church. All the Lutherans of Pottsville worshipped together until the year 1842, when Rev. D. Steck organized an English congregation from a part of Rev. Mr. Mennig's people. Afterward the church building came into the hands of the Lutherans alone, who held service therein until 1864. Another separation occurred in 1848 from the Emanuel church, and a new congregation was organized, which was served for a short time by Dr. C.F. Manz. The more conservative part elected, in 1851, Rev. F. Walz, who remodeled the congregation named Zion's by introducing a good constitution. The public services were held at that time in the small framed church in First street, between Market and Mahantongo streets. Rev. Mr. Walz left Pottsville, in 1859, after laboring here twenty-five years. Rev. W. Lampe was then elected as pastor, but resigned after three years' work, following another call from Williamsport. Rev. W. Hoppe became his successor, but his administration lasted only one year. At this time the two congregations felt more and more the propriety of uniting themselves in one. An election took place on the 17th of July, 1864, for this purpose, and by an almost unanimous vote the reunion of the long separated congregation was declared. The new title of the united church has been since that time Evangelical Lutheran Church. In the fall of 1865 Mr. Ehrhart resigned. In the spring of 1866 Rev. G.A. Hinterleitner, the present pastor accepted a call, and entered soon afterward on the pastorate of this congregation. When it was found that the old framed building was too small for the public services, it was resolved to erect a large and commodious house of worship on the same place. In 1867 the work was commenced, and on Christmas the congregation occupied the basement of the new church. A few months afterward the work was finished, and the dedication took place on the 26th of April, 1868. The church is of brick, 87 by 45 feet, and it has a capacity to seat 700 persons. Its cost was $23,000. It has a tower 130 feet high, with three large bells. The present number of members is about 400; of scholars in the Sunday-school, 300.

**BETHEL AFRICAN M.E. CHURCH**

The A.M.E. church was organized about 1834, when Revs. Charles Beal and Joseph Jackson preached here. Burd Patterson encouraged the church by donations of land and money, and in 1868 they erected a church building.

Their present substantial stone church on Laurel street, near Mount Hope, was built in 1868.

**WELSH BAPTIST CHURCH**

This church came into existence in 1834 or 1835, and erected a small church building in Second street. Rev. William Owens was an early pastor, and was succeeded by Rev. William Morgan, under whose pastoral charge a new house of worship was erected, about 1839.

**FIRST REFORMED CHURCH**

The Reformed denomination, of Swiss origin, has two congregations in Pottsville. One of them is known as the First Reformed Church, in which the services are conducted mainly in the German language; the other as Trinity Reformed Church, in which the services are conducted exclusively in the English tongue.

The origin dates back to 1836, when this was a preaching point, supplied by Rev. Daniel Hassinger, who served several neighboring congregations. At this period the members did not exceed twenty. Those who were then most active were Francis C. Kuentzler, Benjamin Sterner, Abraham Sterner, George Fisher and Philip Womelsdorf.

In 1837 this small band united with the members of the Lutheran denomination in the erection of a small framed church in third street, on the site of the present Lutheran church. The building when completed cost $2,000 and seated 250 persons. The structure of this building was in accordance with an ancient style of architecture, with an elevated pulpit at the side, and the altar in the center of the audience chamber.

The name of Rev. D. Haessing stands identified with this congregation up to 1847.

In his later career he manifested a spirit of insubordination, on account of which, and the unbecoming acts of his ministry, he was deposed by the Classis of Lebanon.

The congregation also found itself involved in financial embarrassment, and its continued existence became extremely precarious.

In the records of the classis a petition from the members stands recorded, asking it to take under its care the interest of this congregation. Under the auspices of the board of domestic missions, which appropriated $100, Rev. J.A. Reubelt served this church from November 1st, 1848, until 1850, when he became a missionary in the west. Rev. J.W. Hoffmeier, then located at Orwigsburg, was commissioned to attend to the interests of the church until a regular minister could be secured.

In 1852 Rev. John Gantenbein, who was received July 16th by Lebanon Classis from the theological institute of Basle, Germany, became pastor of this and several neighboring congregations. He continued until September 25th, 1854, when he was dismissed by the classis to take charge of a Reformed congregation in Baltimore.

In May, 1855, Rev. I.E. Graeff became the pastor of this congregations, which then numbered seventy-five. A Sunday-school was organized at this time, with a constitution and by-laws that afterwards the groundwork for the Sunday-school that continued through the fluctuating condition of the congregation. The friction of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations worshiping
in the same building made both parties restless. After considerable negotiation the Reformed congregation disposed of its interest in the church property for the sum of $950, and rented a small church in Second street.

In 1857 Rev. I.E. Graeff resigned, and in 1858 Rev. Samuel Miller became pastor. A new constitution was adopted, the congregation was better organized and measures were taken for the erection of a new church.

The site on market street, above eighth, was secured, and a brick church, 36 by 60, was erected. The corner stone was laid on the 17th of July of the same year. The church was completed in 1860, at a cost of $4,500, including the price of the lot. The debt was reduced to about $700.

In 1863 Rev. S. Miller resigned the pastorate and the place was filled in the following year by Rev. R.J. Bucher, D.D., who was installed December 25th, 1864, by Rev. C.H. Leinbach and J.P. Stein and resigned in February, 1868. The congregation, then numbering 130, prospered under his care until, on account of the preference given to the English language, the German portion became much dissatisfied.

On account of the difficulties in securing a man that could preach in both languages, and satisfy both parties, petitions were sent to Lebanon Classis, which convened in May, 1868, in Mahanoy City, requesting that the congregation be divided on the basis of language. This request was granted and a committee appointed to duly install the officers of both consistories. The English portion was to leave the old congregation for the consideration of $2,000 for their interest in the property, secured by mortgage, while the old organization was to be continued as a German congregation.

Rev. Samuel Miller was selected pastor of the German congregation, still known as the First Reformed church, immediately after the separation, and served until December 25th, 1872. Rev. Gottold Neff was then pastor until August 12th, 1873.

Rev. Rudolph Kuntz, a native of Switzerland, educated at Basle, and a student of the theological seminary of Bloomfield, New Jersey, became the next pastor of the congregation, and continued in office until September, 1875.

In March, 1876, Rev. Christian Baum took charge of the congregation, which under his pastorate is still in a flourishing condition.

### UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

It was John M. Crossland's idea to have a Universalist or independent church in Pottsville, and, accordingly, in 1838, he erected at his own expense the building now used by the Primitive Methodists in Second street. Revs. Gallagher and Brush preached here before the building was sold to Daniel Leib.

### ST. JOHN BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

In 1839 there were but few Germans professing the Catholic faith residing in what is now known as Pottsville. During that year Father Steinbach, missionary from Reading, Pa., visited the few German Catholics and held services for them in St. Patrick's church. The whole congregation then consisted of the following male members: John Ruch, M. Ruch, Lorenz Fischer, George and Francis Altstatt, James Sellgrath, John Gressang, Ignatius Gartner, Henry Ackermann, John Ackermann, Blasius Hasenauer, Adam Reith, Francis Reith, Peter Schmidt, John Lecher, Ferdinand Bodefield, Peter Wohl and a few others.

In the year 1840 they bought two lots on the northeast corner of Fourth street and Church alley, on which to erect a church. The cornerstone for the new edifice was laid by Father Steinbach, whose pastoral relations with the church ceased in the year 1842, when Rev. Joseph B. Burg was sent in December by the Rt. Rev. P. Kenrick, bishop of Philadelphia, to take charge of the rapidly growing congregation. Father Burg died in January, 1849, after a successful ministry of nearly seven years. He was succeeded by Rev. Peter Carbon, who remained until July, 1850. Under his supervision a parochial school was built at a cost of nearly nine hundred dollars.

The Rev. Daniel Oberholzer was called to the pastorate. Under him two cemeteries were bought—one on Ninth street, and the other in the borough of Yorkville. He remained until May, 1856, and after the close of his ministry the church was for one year without a resident pastor. The deficiency was at length supplied by receiving Father Wegmeyer on the 22nd of May, 1857. He was succeeded by Rev. Francis Neufeld December 14th, 1858, who remained four years. By him a new bell for the church was procured. The Rev. Francis Joseph Wachter took the pastoral charge in December, 1862. In 1866 the congregation had become so large that arrangements were made for building a large church for its accommodation. Four lots were bought on the corner of Tenth and Mahantongo streets, for $10,000.

The cornerstone for the new edifice was laid by the Right Rev. John Shanahan, Bishop of Harrisburg. But Father Wachter did not see the work which he had commenced finished, as he was succeeded by Rev. B.A. Baumeister, who worked very hard to get the new church under roof. After the close of a very successful ministry, the Rev. H.A. Depmann took charge of the congregation in August, 1872. He finished the new and costly church so far as it now stands. The church is 160 feet deep, 60 feet wide, and has accommodations for almost 1,000 persons. Its cost has been so far more than $80,000. It is supplied with a valuable pipe organ built by Max Oestreich. While the new church was in course of construction the services were held in the old church on Church alley. The new edifice was dedicated December 1st, 1872, by the Most Rev. J.F. Wood, archbishop of Philadelphia. In January, 1872, Father Depmann entered the Franciscan order, and the Rev. Francis W. Longinus took charge of the now very large congregation, counting more than 2,000 souls. He entered on his duties February 7th, 1878, and he is pastor at the present time. His assistant is the Rev. Bernard Korves.
PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH

A congregation composed largely of miners organized this church in 1840, and built a small church edifice in the northern part of the borough. Rev. Charles Spurr was pastor in 1849. The congregation was weakened by removals until, in 1852, their building was sold. The present church, a new organization dating form 1873, now occupies a rented house of worship on Second street. The pastor in 1880 was Rev. Thomas Bateman.

SECOND M.E. CHURCH

This church was organized in 1845, with forty-eight members, previously connected with the First M.E. church. A house of worship was erected at the corner of Market and fifth streets and was dedicated August 9th, 1846. In 1857 this church was reunited to the parent church.

During the period of its existence the following clergymen were pastors of the Second church:


THE BAPTIST CHURCH

In 1846 Robert C. Green, Paul Moody, James Ward, Robert Crozier, Eunice Moody, Mary Reilly, Mary Evans, Lydia Thomas, Mary Gill, James Oriel, Charles Beal, Miss W.M. Allen and Ann Thomas met in a hall on the present site of R.R. Morris's elegant block in Centre street, and organized the first Baptist church in Pottsville. The next year Andrew Levering became their pastor, and remained until 1853. During the last year of his successful pastorate the brick church at the corner of Mahantongo and Seventh streets was erected. His successor, J. Harvard Castle, was in turn succeeded by R.H. Austin, who resigned in 1868. The next four years included the pastorate of A.J. Hay and A.H. Sembower. The next clergymen, Manning F. Decker, died after a short service of six months, and after the pulpit had been vacant for a time James A. Matz had the pastoral charge until 1874. The supply of preaching was irregular for the next two years, when Rev. A. Myers, the last pastor, came, who labored until 1878.

ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

This church was organized on the 16th of May, 1847, by eleven members from the German church, among whom were Washington L. Heisler, George Beyerley, J.D. Rice, Daniel Heil, Samuel Burr, Amelia Auman, and others. The first pastor was Rev. Daniel Steck, D.D., who served the congregation till 1858. Under his ministry the present church building was erected, of somewhat less length than it has at present. He was succeeded by Rev. W. H. Luckenback, who resigned in 1860, and was followed by Rev. S.A. Holman, who left in 1861 for a chaplaincy in the Union army. Rev. S.M. Koons, who left in 1866 as a missionary for the west succeeded Mr. Holman. Rev. Uriel Graves was the next pastor, till 1869, and during his term of service the building was enlarged. Rev. Daniel Steck returned and remained until 1871, and was succeeded by Rev. J.Q. McAtee, who filled the pulpit till 1878, when the present pastor, Rev. John McCron. D.D., a profound scholar, of mature years, took the congregation in charge.

The church is a brick structure 80 by 50 feet, with a tower in front. It is capable of seating 500. The lecture-room is admirably arranged for service and Sunday-school purposes. The parsonage, a handsome brick structure, was built five years ago, at a cost of $5,000. The Sunday-school numbers 450 teachers, officers and scholars, and owns a library of 600 volumes. The number of communicants in the church is 140.

ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

This church, generally remembered as the Scotch church, was organized with 29 members on the 18th of January, 1851; although as early as May, 1843, Rev. D.T. Carnahan preached to the Scotch people in Pottsville, from the pulpit of the First Presbyterian church. The Big Spring Presbytery subsequently sent Revs. R. Gracey, James Greer and John Sturgeon to this missionary field, and in 1849 Mr. Carnahan was called to preach for one year, and became settled pastor in October, 1851.

Meetings were at first held in Thompsons Hall, corner of Market and Second streets. In the spring of 1851 a building was completed and dedicated on a lot in Market street donated by the late Samuel Thompson, who, with J.G. Cochran, Joel B. McCamant, Thomas Wren, William Pollock, James G. Turner, David Beveridge, John Aikman, Thomas Fender and Henry Lomsdon, was the founder of this church. Mr. Carnahan's last sermon here was preached September 19th, 1852, and in the following February Rev. John Werner was settled as pastor. During the pastorate of his successor, Rev. William H. Prestley, the society became reduced in numbers, and in 1858 he resigned and the building was rented to the Second Presbyterian society.

At the time of Samuel Thompson's death, March, 1851, no deed of the church lot had been executed, and being a methodical man he had kept a record of his donations or loans to the society, among to some $2,700, and his administrators regarded the record as a book account. A great amount of hatred was engendered by these facts, and several very good people accused his administrators of perverting his charitable intentions. These very good people were so fully convinced that wrong was intended, that in 1880 they had all forgotten what the following court record of September 10th, 1858, shows:

Administrators of Samuel Thompson's Estate vs. The Associate Presbyterian Church of Pottsville.-It is agreed between the parties to the above stated suit that the demand of the plaintiff be settled, compromised and adjusted as follows:-The plaintiff shall cause the deed * * * * to be duly delivered, and in case defendants ever sell the church property, of if it permanently ceases to be occupied as an Associate Reformed Presbyterian church, the sum of $2,708.82, without interest, shall be
paid the plaintiff from the proceeds of said sale, but this sum shall not be demandable while the property remains unsold. During any period while this church shall be rented to any other denomination or person six per cent. per annum shall be paid to plaintiff upon said claim of $2,708.82.

It thus appears that, in fact, the whole difference was compromised upon the theory that all of Mr. Thompson's aid was to be a free gift in order to maintain the church, and the cash advanced should only be returned without interest when the society ceased to exist to use it. The edifice, still standing, is owned by the Trinity Reformed society, and generally known as the Thompson Memorial church.

EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION

This church was organized during the winter of 1835 and 1836, and in 1839 it built a small house of worship on Callowhill street, which was rebuilt in 1849 at a cost of $3,500. This building was sold in 1875 to the Jewish congregation, and the present brick structure erected on the site. The first pastor was Rev. Charles Hesser. Among his successors were Revs. Francis Hoffman, S.S. Chubb, Isaiah E. Knerr, Daniel A. Medler and the present pastor.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Presbytery of Luzerne, hearing at their spring meeting in 1857 that there was no Old School organization at Pottsville, and that there were a goodly number of persons there holding to that particular faith, appointed Rev. Jacob D. Mitchell to visit the town and preach for three months to those who might choose to hear him. The result of his short stay was a determination to organize a church, and a convocation was called to meet in the building of the Second Associate Reformed Presbyterian church, where this memorial was adopted and sent. To the Presbytery of Luzerne: The undersigned, being deeply impressed with the importance of church organization in the borough of Pottsville, earnestly and respectfully request that a committee be appointed by your body to visit this place, and, if they deem it expedient, to organize a church under the name of the Second Presbyterian Church of Pottsville. To this petition thirty-two names were appended, many of them prominent citizens of the borough.

The Presbytery of Luzerne met at Port Carbon in September of that year, and the petition was presented by Rev. J.D. Mitchell. Agreeably with the petition Revs. John Dorrance, A. Lowrey, and elder Jesse Turner visited Pottsville as such committee, and on the 18th of September, 1857, by direction of the presbytery, organized the proposed church with twenty-six members, and certified the election of Thomas M. Russel, Henry Strauch and T.A. Godfrey as its ruling elders.

Securing the use of the Thompson church building in Market street, semi-monthly meetings were held until March 1st, 1858, when Rev. Samuel Fisher Colt entered upon his pastorate. He was installed in July following, and with the ruling elders previously elected constituted the first regular session of the church.

The society was chartered by the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill county in June, 1859, and in September, 1862, purchased the building, formerly the Second Methodist church, corner of Market and Fifth streets, refitted and furnished it for occupancy in October following.

In November, 1864, Rev. Mr. Colt was succeeded by Rev. Dr. William S. Plumer, of precious memory, who resigned in January, 1867, to enter the theological seminary at Columbia, S.C. Rev. Prentiss DeVeve was elected in March and installed in June of the same year.

During 1867 a disastrous attempt was made to unite the two Presbyterian churches, and accordingly the real estate owned by the Second church was sold to the borough of Pottsville. The attempted union, from a variety of circumstances, did not succeed; and the Second church withdrew from any connection with the First, and organized again as a separate congregation. Securing the use of their old building, they called to be their pastor the Rev. Dr. George W. Smiley, of Philadelphia, a gentleman and scholar of pronounced ability, who entered upon his services early in 1870, and was successful not only in repurchasing their church property, but in having the building enlarged, remodeled and beautified, at an additional cost of about $15,000, and reopened for services in February, 1871. Dr. Smiley was installed by a committee of the presbytery July 20th, 1870, and he is still faithfully serving this people. although the growth of this church has been slow during the period of general depression in the coal fields, yet it is to-day on a surer and more substantial basis, both spiritually and financially, than ever before.

The present session consists of Rev. Dr. Smiley, pastor; Hon. Cyrus L. Pershing, Henry Strauch, Frank Carter, John Heebner and Thomas M. Russel, elders.

CONGREGATION OBED ZEDEK

In October, 1856, the Jewish residents of Pottsville saw fit to organize themselves into a congregation. They therefore called a meeting and applied for a charter, which was granted. The first officers were Emanuel Strouse, president, and Jacob Shloss, vice-president. This congregation held religious service in rented buildings until 1875, when they purchased the Evangelical Association building, removed it to Callowhill street between Third and Fourth, and from it fitted up the beautiful temple which they now occupy. The rabbis of this society have been: Rev. Isaac Strouse and Rev. N. Schlesinger, each serving three years; Rev. Emanuel Oppenheim nearly fifteen years, until his death, and the present minister, Rev. Charles Austrian.

Connected with this congregation is a Hebrew Sabbath and German school, taught by the minister, also two beneficial societies—the union lodges of the Independent Order B’nai B’rith, and Mountain City Lodge Free Sons of Israel. This congregation has also a beautiful cemetery in the outskirts of the borough.
TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH

This is the English congregation which resulted from the division of the Reformed church in 1868. Its first officers—Elders John Stine, George K. Hoffman, Daniel Hoffman, and N. Wetze, and Deacons O.J. Aregood, Moses S. Stein, Edward A. Schartel, and Isaac Hummel—were inducted into office June 9th, and held their first meeting on the 15th, to take steps for securing a suitable place for public worship.

The Associate Reformed Presbyterian property on Market street, above Third, was purchased for $5,200. This was neatly repaired, and the young church prospered under the ministry of Rev. J.A. Hoffheins, who commenced his pastorate in October, 1868, and served two years. He tendered his resignation to take charge of a church in Allegheny City, and was followed in March, 1871, by Rev. J.P. Stein, of Schuylkill Haven, who has labored with energy and self-denial up to the present time.

During the years of financial embarrassment this congregation has been able to sustain itself without missionary aid from the church abroad.

The membership, which originally included only those formerly members of the First Reformed Church, has increased to about 150.

The Sunday-school, under the efficient superintendence of Elder George K. Hoffman, has 140 members. Their annual collections amount to about $200.

The present members of the consistory are: Elders—John Stine, O.J. Aregood, George K. Hoffman, and Reuben Jones; deacons—David R. Koenig, John Saylor, H.R. Snyder, and C. Lessig.

EDUCATIONAL INTEREST OF POTTSVILLE

The elaborate public school system, of which Pottsville is to-day so justly proud, has been gradually evolved from some very crude beginnings three-quarters of a century ago.

The earliest date of a school at Pottsville which can be fixed with any degree of certainty is 1811; when the people at Pottsville, Brown's Farm, Flowery Fields, Bull's Head, and Minersville met and chose a place northeast of the shoe factory, near the present residence of Colonel B.N. Hyde, as a location for a log church.

The now venerable Abraham Pott, who was a pupil in the first school ever taught north of Sharp mountain, says that in this building, then known as the Repp church, and later as the Dutch church, the first school in this county was taught, in the German language.

But little is known of the school or teacher, except that the first teacher was an old soldier, who had served in the German cavalry, and was expert in fencing with the ferule.

About 1827 Silas Hough commenced to teach in the old log house, and he continued to teach private school for a period of over thirty years. He will long be remembered by the older schoolboys, as a good teacher, but (as they say) a severe disciplinarian. John Porter taught a private school until 1836, when he was elected as one of the first teachers in the public schools. In 1831 he moved his school to the stone house near where Pennsylvania Hall now stands, and then on Court-house hill, at his own residence. In 1835 he went to Paris, where he spent a year, and on his return taught with great success in the Philadelphia high school. He died in 1844.

April 22nd, 1832, Miss Lee opened a sewing and knitting school, at the west end of Norwegian street, opposite Burd Patterson's. May 5th, 1832, Miss Maria Haight, daughter of the Presbyterian clergyman then stationed here, opened a school opposite the Episcopal church. This school was in operation for three or four years, and met with success.

THE POTTSVILLE INSTITUTE

For twenty years, dating from 1832, this institution offered excellent educational facilities to the children at Pottsville. In September of that year Sylvanus Haight and John C. Offerman, as trustees, announced that A.A. Wood, a graduate of Amherst College, had engaged to open this school on the 24th inst. in the old Arcade building, corner of Centre and Norwegian streets.

The course of instruction included common English, higher mathematics, the natural sciences, higher English, French, Latin, Greek and Hebrew. Special classes were formed in the other branches, and a course of lectures was added on school-keeping. This was the first
normal school in Pennsylvania. The course occupied, besides the primary department, two years of four terms each. Tuition was fixed at $4.50 to $6.00 per quarter. In 1833 a new brick building, 35 by 40 feet, was erected in Norwegian street, for the Pottsville Institute, by John C. Offerman. In September, 1834, Thomas Hervey succeed Professor Wood for one year as principal, and John M. Scribner, A.B., continued as assistant. C. Holtzer next had charge of the school for three years. From October, 1838, until April, 1833, Charles W. Pitman, a graduate of Dickinson College, conducted the institute with very marked success. His successor, James A. Inness, was principal until September, 1845, when David Sanderson had the situation for one year. The year 1847 found the school so large that three assistant teachers were needed. The principal, Elias Schneider, had charge of mathematics and the ancient languages. Monsieur F. Perrin, a graduate of one of the principal gymnasias of Berne, Switzerland, had the French and German classes. W.P. Koutz, of Marshall College, had charge of the department of natural science, history and elocution, and E. Sagendorf taught the English branches. The school building at this time was the old Quaker meeting-house on Sharp mountain, but within the following year a building, 50 by 60 feet, was erected near this, for the school. It was built by a number of the citizens, at a cost of about $5,000. Here, for the first time, the school was called the Pottsville Academy. H. Russel now lives in the building.

The following corps of teachers shows the flourishing condition of the academy in 1849: Elias Schneider, A. B., principal, and teacher of ancient languages; Daniel Kirkwood, teacher of mathematics; Christopher Little, A.M., teacher of modern science; Charles C. Schmid, teacher of history and geography; Rev. Lewis Angele, teacher of modern languages; Theodore Irish, teacher of penmanship. Professor Kirkwood had, at that time, gained some fame as an astronomer and has since become well known. In 1851 Mr. Schneider was elected superintendent of the public schools of Pottsville, and Daniel Kirkwood took charge of the academy. In August of that year Mr. Kirkwood resigned to fill the chair of mathematics and astronomy in Delaware College, and Professor Agnele became principal. He was succeeded in September 1853 by A.P. Spiney, whose administration of less than two years marks the close of the history of the academy. About this time the public schools were raised to the grade of a high school, and several prosperous private schools were in progress. Thus it is found that the institution which was started under Mr. Wood, in 1832, had a run of twenty-two years, and during all this time had at its head first-class teachers. This school was kept up latterly by pupils from the public schools, which, in those days, were not unfrequently called the schools for the poor.

OTHER PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Although the Institute and Academy had been popular and useful, yet a large number of other schools flourished during the same period.

In September, 1833, John Phillips, from Chester county, opened a boarding school at the corner of Centre and Mahantongo streets. The next April Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Wade opened an English and classical school in Mr. York's residence, Centre street. Both of these schools were ephemeral.

St. Ann's school was established in 1837, by three sisters of charity. It was a branch of the institution at Emmetsburg, Md. All English branches were taught, and next year, the school being in a flourishing condition, French, Greek and Latin were added to the course of study. Primary schools of this character are still in operation.

In 1837 a school, numbering twenty-five pupils, was conducted under the name of Pottsville Female Seminary, by Miss Clark. In 1838 Mrs. Shippen, Mrs. Wynkoop and Mrs. Utley each established a similar school, and all were well patronized. In December of that year C.M. Peale started an evening school on Market square, and fitted up a room on the corner of Centre and Mahantongo streets, where he gave lectures on chemistry.

In 1842 Miss Clement's seminary was numbered among the private schools, and a school was opened by Miss E. Kent in the old stone school-house, in Market and Centre streets.

In April, 1843, Miss Marcia M. Allen opened a female seminary in Mr. Wolff's building on Market street, corner of Third. After occupying the Universalist church, the basement of the First Presbyterian church, and a building on Centre street for short periods, the school located for twenty years in the Thompson building on Market street.

Miss Allen kept her school up until 1871, a period of twenty-eight years. During this time children's children were educated by her. The school was of a high grade, and furnished to the girls what the Pottsville Institute did to the boys. All the young ladies of the borough, during a period of over a quarter of a century, finished their education in Miss Allen's school, and will hand her name down to future generations as a first-class teacher. Miss Allen brought with her four other graduates of the same institution from which she came. Miss Caroline B. Whipple, who, for a time, was teacher of painting, drawing, Spanish and Italian, in Miss Allen's school; Miss P.L. Young, who taught private school, both in Pottsville and St. Clair; Miss Maria G. Ayer (afterwards Mrs. Hill), who taught private school from 1851 to 1854, and is still teaching a private school of primary grade. Miss F.A. Ayer, now Mrs. Hammeken, first taught both private and then public schools, and in 1865 started a private school again, for girls, of a high grade, in Thompson's building, so long occupied by Miss Allen. Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Hammeken have now joined their schools, are teaching together.

In 1845 Miss Mary McCool started a private school, which was in a prosperous condition until 1851. The school was in the basement of the Presbyterian church. In 1849 Miss Annette Strauch started a school in what is now Dr. Halberstadt's office, on Market street. She
moved from there to what is now the Second Presbyterian Church; from there to the Good Intent engine house, thence to Callowhill street, in the lecture room of the Evangelical Methodist church. She taught for twenty-four years, and never was out of school, except for one week, through sickness.

In the fall of 1849 the Rev. A. Pryor came here and opened a seminary for young ladies on Second street, between Market and Norwegian streets. In April, 1850, he removed the seminary to his dwelling in Market square, where he employed two assistants. The school succeeded beyond the expectation of its friends and patrons, and was quite remunerative to the principal.

Young ladies' Seminary was instituted in 1870, by Rev. George W. Smiley, D.D., and was in prosperous condition for about four years. For some time he had connected with his seminary a "kindergarten" school, which was very popular.

The Business College was established by Professor A.H. Hinman in 1874. It is a thorough school, conducted on actual business principles, and patronized by the best people. It educates both sexes in bookkeeping, commercial mathematics and penmanship. The college is now under the able management of Professor H.C. Clark, and is enjoying a fair degree of prosperity.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

In January, 1839, the Pottsville Lyceum was organized, with Rev. Arthur Wainswright as president and James S. Wallace as secretary; Alfred A. Miller, Samuel Lewis, Jacob Sheafe, Benjamin F. Pomeroy and Edward Owen Parry were the directors. This society gave twenty-four entertainments during that year. All the lectures were on scientific subjects-most of them given by citizens of Pottsville, but a few by distinguished lecturers from abroad.

During the same year a German lyceum was started, with the following officers: David G. Yuengling, president; William T. Epting, vice-president; Dr. Brundner, secretary; John T. Stites, treasurer.

October 5th, 1839, an account is given of a Philomathic society, having for its object debates, discussions and lectures. Its meetings were held in the academy on West Norwegian street; afterward in Mr. Peal's rooms, at the corner of Centre and Mahantongo streets.

These societies and others of like character were kept up during the winter season until the fall of 1847, when a society was formed called the Pottsville Literary Senate, there were two members representing each State, for two years it was successful and furnished valuable entertainment to the citizens.

In October, 1849, there was established a society named the "Pottsville Literary Society," which during its existence of four years secured the delivery to the public, entirely free of cost to those outside the society, of ninety-one lectures, about one hundred readings and the same number of public debates. The literary meetings were held on Wednesday night of each week during the season, and were attended by large numbers of the best people of all classes.

POTTSVILLE SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION

On the 10th of October, 1854, several scientific gentlemen, among whom were Doctors James S. Carpenter, J.H. Wythes, and A. Heger, and Messrs. Samuel Lewis, P.W. Sheafer, and C. Little, met at the office of P.W. Sheafer for the purpose of founding a scientific institution as a center of communication for the scientific men of the county, and for the advancement of science. The effort proved successful, and the association had a prosperous and profitable career of about ten years. A large and well selected cabinet of minerals was collected, and also a library of more than 700 bound volumes on scientific subjects, and a large collection of valuable pamphlets. The library was placed in charge of the Pottsville Athenaeum and the mineral cabinet was presented to Lafayette College.

THE POTTSVILLE ATHENAEUM

On the 29th of January, 1877, Rev. A. Prior, P.W. Sheafer, George Chambers, Charles H. Woltjen and Josiah Lineaweaver met in the office of P.W. Sheafer to consider the feasibility of organizing a literary association. Agreeing that such an institution was desirable a meeting was held for the election of officers, and Rev. A. Prior was chosen president, P.W. Sheafer vice-president, George Chambers recording secretary, Rev. B.F. Patterson corresponding secretary, and Charles J. Woltjen treasurer. These officers, with the managers, Heber S. Thompson, Edward D. Smith, Edward E. Swallow and Walter S. Church, constituted the first executive board. This association was incorporated as the Pottsville Athenaeum, under the act of April 29th, 1874, for the purpose of the establishment and maintenance of a library, and the promotion of literature and science; and was formally opened on the 5th of April, 1877, in three rooms which were secured in the Journal building for that purpose. The charter, which is perpetual, was approved by Judge Walker, September 24th, 1877. It provides that the capital stock of the corporation shall be $5,000, divided into 1,000 shares at $5 per share. This is the principal source of revenue to the institution. Provision is also made for the sale of family tickets at $5 per annum, to adults $2 per years, and tickets to stockholders, and teachers and pupils of the borough schools at $1 per annum.

The constitution adopted provides that the Athenaeum be composed of five departments: A public library, a reading room, departments for literary and musical entertainments, and a debating club.
The library, which at the first report contained 1,300 volumes, is open daily (holidays and Sundays excepted), from eight o'clock a.m. until nine and a half p.m. The reading room has from the time of its organization been well supplied with daily and weekly newspapers, and the standard monthly magazines. The literary department has proved signally successful. Simultaneous with the organization a course of lectures was inaugurated, which has greatly augmented the public interest; many lecturers have kindly donated their services to the Athenaeum.

The musical entertainments, under the supervision of Mrs. J.E. Graeff, have been a source of much pleasure. The debating club, the organization of which was completed October 30th, 1877, has proved a very interesting department. Its first officers were: Howell Fisher, president; Josiah Lineaweaver, vice-president; John A. Sullivan, secretary and treasurer. Each year proves more fully the value of this institution, with its pleasing entertainments and valuable opportunities for information. The number of visitors during the last fiscal year was 2,727. The number of bound volumes issued was 505; of periodicals 1,1013. The number of bound volumes owned by the society is 1,537; of unbound, 286; pamphlets, 199; besides 16 regular issues of magazines, newspapers reports, &c.

At the last election of officers, May 1st, 1880, the entire board of 1879 were re-elected; Walter S. Church, jr., Esq., president; J. Lineaweaver, Esq., vice-president; George W. Kennedy, Esq., treasurer; Rev. J.P. Stein, recording secretary; colonel B.N. Hyde, corresponding secretary and librarian.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Early in 1834 the General Assembly of the Commonwealth enacted the public school law, and Pottsville was one of the first places to adopt the system by conforming to the provisions of the act. An election for school directors was held September 19th, 1834, at the house of George Strouse. Enos Chichester, Benjamin Spayd, Joseph George, Joseph Lyon, Joseph Thomas, and F.B. Nichols were duly elected. The first meeting of the board was held at the house of George Strouse, Friday evening, September 26th, 1834, at which meeting Joseph Thomas was chosen president, and Joseph Lyon secretary of the board.

At this date Pottsville had about five hundred resident taxable inhabitants. There were 473 children between the ages of four and ten years; 261 between the ages of ten and fifteen, and 93 between the ages of fifteen and twenty, making in all 827 children of school age.

It was resolved "that the people of the school district of the borough of Pottsville raise, for the year 1835, the sum of $1,700, in addition to the $300 due from the State." At a regular meeting of the board December 15th, 1834, the committee on salaries reported the following as adequate compensation for teachers; Principal of the highest grade, $500; first assistant, $325; second assistant, 4300; principal female teacher, $250; assistant, $200. four days later the school board bought for school furniture, of John Phillips (late private school teacher), one pine table, five desks and ten benches—all for the sum of five dollars. It was agreed by the citizens, June 15th, 1835, to assess on the property of the borough $1,850 in addition to the $150 due from the State. About this time Elijah Hammer, commissioners' clerk, gives notice to the teachers of the four districts that he will pay no more money for "educating the poor," after January 1st, 1835.

March 4th, 1836, the first teachers were elected; Andrew W. Middlemiss, from Reading, was employed as principal teacher, at $700 per annum; also, Sarah A Middlemiss, his wife, at a salary of $400, both to begin to teach on the 1st day of April next. These teachers drew their salaries at the end of the first month, and disappear from the records. April 8th David Duncan was employed, at a salary of $320 per annum. Friday, May 13th, 1836, Sophia Utley was elected, at a salary of $200 per annum; also, Mary Whipple, at the same salary.

May 20th, 1836, it was resolved that the schools shall be designated as follows; Second story of Friends' meeting-house, on Sharp mountain, school No. 1; the lower story of the same, No. 2; corner of Mahantongo and Centre streets, No. 3; the old log house, No. 4; Strouse's house, No. 5.

A negro school was kept from May 10th, 1843, to June, 1877. It began with thirty-one pupils, and J.S. Surls as its teacher, at $12 per month.

February 25th, 1839, the Bible was required to be read in all the public schools, and the committee ordered to procure a suitable tub or bucket, soap, and towel for each of the schools, in order to promote cleanliness. In May, 1840, Edward Owen Parry was employed to institute suit against the commissioners, for the recovery of $400 tax collected in 1835-06; and notice was given to the town council to give a satisfactory account of the money they hold belonging to the schools.

January 20th, 1841, a committee reported that they had seen the trustees of the old burial ground, and obtained permission to build a school-house adjoining the old log school-house and the watch-house. At this time a stone house was built, where Centre street grammar school now stands. June 5th, 1842, the school board bought for $1,200 the building in West Norwegian street built for the Pottsville Institute.

May 10th, 1845, a vote for the public schools, on Monday, at the polls, stood 442 for, and 78 against. In 1851 Elias Schneider was elected the first superintendent of the Pottsville public schools, and on the 1st of April that year the boys occupied Sharp mountain school-house for the first time. The same month a monthly district institute was held for the first time.

A high school was opened January 15th, 1853. The first principal was Elisha Gotchell. September 24th, Josiah P. Sherman, from Maine, was elected principal of school No. 1, and also to assist in the high school; March
11th, 1854, Mr. Sherman was elected principal of the high school. February 24th, 1855, Mr. Sherman was elected superintendent of the schools, a position which he held until his resignation, April, 1867. J.B. Phillips was then elected principal, and taught from February 24th, 1855, until May 25th, 1859, when he resigned. Jackson Graves taught until November 7th, 1860; Joseph E. Jackson until March 6th, 1865; and B.F. Patterson until April 1st, 1867, when he was elected superintendent, to succeed Mr. Sherman. J.J. Cake was elected principal of the high school, and taught as such until February 10th, 1868, when the high school was reorganized.

May 9th, 1838, the visiting committee reported that school No. 1, taught by John Porter, had 36 pupils; No. 2, taught by James Dixon, 53 pupils; No. 3, Morgan Lewis, 37 pupils; No. 4, Miss Porter, 42 pupils; No. 5, Mrs. John Porter, 34 pupils; No. 6, Mary Whipple, 56 pupils. Total 258 pupils.

During the war, and for two or three years after, when work was plenty and wages high, many of the larger pupils left the school. In consequence the high school ran down to a grade but little higher than a grammar school. The reorganization of the school was referred to a committee consisting of Peter W. Sheafer, William B. Wells, Christopher Little, John W. Roseberry and David A. Smith. February 12th, 1868, the new high school opened in the old academy in West Norwegian street, with fourteen pupils, taken from the first class of the old high school. J.J. Cake has since continued to teach the remaining pupils as the grammar school.

The following gentlemen have served as principals of the new high school; S.R. Thompson, who resigned June 1st, 1868; N.P. Kinsley, who resigned June 30th, 1877; John E. Shull, the present principal. The high school now numbers over 100 pupils, and it is what it was designed to be—a first class high school.

All the public schools of the borough are under the superintendence of Rev. B.F. Patterson.

The school board for the year 1880-81 is composed of the following gentlemen:

William Thompson, John C. Harper and William Fox, of the middle ward; W.F. Scheerer, Henry Matten and C.T. Palmer, of the northwest ward; John A. Nash, James Aikman, William Brazier, of the north ward; D. Neuser, C. Hock, D. Deasy, of the seventh ward; Hiram Parker, Jr., F.S. Haeseler, G.W. Kennedy, of the northeast ward; Levi Huber, Charles H. Woltjen, S.H. Kaercher, of the southeast ward; John A.M. Passmore, H.S. Thompson, William H. Shuman, of the south ward.

The officers of the board are: Levi Huber, president; S.H. Kaercher, secretary; David H. Seibert, treasurer; Emily J. McCool, librarian.

The teachers in 1880 numbered 47, and the average of pupils was 1,878, there being 2,158 enrolled.

CLAY MONUMENT

Soon after the death of Henry Clay, which occurred in June, 1852, the project was conceived of erecting, at the county seat of this county, a monument to his memory. Measures were at once adopted for carrying this project into effect, and on the 26th of July in the same year—the day of the funeral obsequies in Pottsville of the great statesman—the corner stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies, in the presence of a large concourse of people. The usual documents of a general and local character were deposited in the stone.

The building committee consisted of Samuel Sillyman, E. Yardley and F. Hewson. To the chairman of this committee, Mr. Sillyman, more than to any other person, is due the success of this undertaking. It is proper here to state, that in recognition of the public services as well as private virtues of this gentleman, his fellow-citizens presented him with a presented him with a magnificent service of silver, on which was engraved the following inscription:

"Presented by the citizens of the borough of Pottsville to their esteemed townsman Samuel Sillyman, a tribute of their regard for his valuable public services in the erection of the Pottsville court-house, gas works, Clay monument, and water works. May 1st, 1855."

The total cost of the monument was between $7,000 and $8,000. John Bannan presented the ground. The statue, which is of iron, was moulded and cast by Robert Wood.
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES—POTTSVILLE

BENJAMIN BANNAN

The following sketch of the life of the late Benjamin Bannan is essentially the same as that published in the "Biographical Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania." A few additions and alterations were necessary on account of Mr. Bannan's having died since the article was originally written.

Benjamin Bannan, journalist and political economist, was born in Union township, Berks county, Pa., April 22nd, 1807, and died July 29, 1875.

His father was a farmer and teacher, occupied in agricultural pursuits during the spring, summer and fall, and teaching in the winter. He died when his son was but eight years old. Benjamin went to school only about two years all together during the next seven years; for at that time schools were open only for three or four months, during cold weather. It was at Unionville that he was inspired with the idea of becoming a printer and editor, from reading the Village Record, to which the teacher subscribed. Having learned the utmost that was taught in the schools of that day, at the age of fifteen he was indentured to learn the printing business in the office of the Berks and Schuylkill Journal, of which George Getz was proprietor, where he remained six years. During his term of service the same industry and honesty of purpose and action which characterized his whole life won the regard of his preceptor, who asked him to become his partner and associate in the business. Meanwhile, at the close of his apprenticeship, he had repaired to Philadelphia where he worked in several printing offices, finally being engaged in the establishment of Lawrence Johnson, the celebrated type founder, where he added the art of stereotyping to his already thorough knowledge of printing. After a visit to Reading, where he received the offer already noted, he thought it advisable to decline it and directed his steps to Pottsville. On his arrival there he found the office of the Miners' Journal in the hands of the sheriff; and, believing that this was a fair opportunity and a field for future operations, concluded to purchase it. Almost all his ready funds were invested in this enterprise, and the subscription list numbered but 250. This took place in April, 1829, and he was connected with this one paper nearly forty-four years.

On July 1st, 1866, he disposed of a one-half interest in the establishment, and wishing to retire from business in January, 1873, sold the other moiety; nevertheless his attachment to the Journal was so great that he continued writing for the paper and attending to the coal statistics, as when he was sole owner. The number of subscribers had increased to over 4,000, and its weekly circulation was only exceeded by that of three other political journals in the State, outside of the large cities. Mr. Bannan's first vote was cast for John Quincy Adams for President, in 1828, and he voted at every succeeding presidential election as long as he lived, and always in opposition to the Democracy. Indeed, during his whole life he never voted for a Democrat when there was a contest between the political parties. He was always a firm and undeviating supporter of protection to American industry, and proposed and organized the first tariff league, in 1840, for Mr. Clay, and afterward visited Secretary Chase, recalled the circular and compared it with the bill Secretary Chase had prepared, and the latter was found to be in perfect accordance with Mr. Bannan's plan of 1857, except in a few unimportant particulars and one important feature, which was not incorporated in the bill--the introduction of an expanding limit. This was not done as it was impossible to foresee what the exigencies of the country might demand. The idea of having an issue of currency in proportion to the wealth of the country and expanding it in that basis seems to have been original with him. It was submitted to the late Stephen Colwell, of Philadelphia, who was also a writer on currency, and who had collected all the works written on currency and money, in all languages, from all countries, numbering more than 700 volumes and pamphlets, and in none of them had he observed the expression of a similar idea. As a thinker and writer on important public matters Mr. Bannan belonged to an advanced school, and earned for himself an honored and respected name; and wherever he was known, either at home or abroad, his opinions and advice were solicited and made use of. As a practical reformer he was farseeing and liberal, and was ever among the foremost in proposing and carrying out ideas and projects tending to
the improvement and advancement of his fellow men, particularly of the laboring classes. As a writer on matters pertaining to the coal trade, his experience of over two score years in the anthracite region fitted him with special and peculiar qualifications. As a coal statistician he was the foremost in the country.

The trade had grown up with himself and in reality it had almost become second nature to him; particularly on account of the use he made of the opportunities that fell in his way in the matter of statistics. On coal his figures and tables are made use of in every publication of any importance in this country and abroad. We have in mind at this time two large works in which he is not only quoted, but highly complimented, and his tabular statements given are conclusive.

As a high test of the value of the statistics he has collected in the coal trade, we need only refer to the fact that the Bureau of Statistics at Washington on several occasions honored him by asking him to furnish them with information on this important subject.

The great work which he undertook to publish and which he had prepared for publication principally by Samuel H. Daddow, mining engineer, he only furnishing the statistics and outlines for the same, is entitled "Coal, Iron and Oil." It was the most expensive single volume issued by any publisher during the Rebellion, reflects great credit upon him and has elicited from the London Mining Journal the statement that no single volume ever published in England affords so much information on the subjects treated of in that publication.

Influenced by the peculiar circumstances of the time, Mr. Bannan, about seven years ago, published a monograph on "Our national Currency and how to Improve it," which takes the ground as originally suggested in his first circular of 1857, of adopting an expanding limit to its issue, keeping the paper issue unconvertible into coin on demand hereafter, but allowing a proportion of it to be received in payment of duties; the legal tenders of the government to be received in payment of taxes and debts due to the government; the issue of national bank notes to be apportioned to the several banks in proportion to their wealth; the fractional currency to be canceled and a debased silver coinage substituted which would, therefore, always remain at home; this was done in England nearly fifty years ago, and as a consequence England has always retained her silver. These features may strike the average reader as being somewhat novel and startling at first, but Mr. Bannan discussed his propositions so clearly and forcibly that by many it is believed they will be received with more favor as they are studied and comprehended by impartial and unbiased minds. Mr. Bannan was a worker all his life; it was only when he could no longer hold the pen that he at last suffered it to drop from his fingers. In losing him the country lost a man whom it cannot soon replace, and whose merits will always be acknowledged.

SAMUEL GRISCOM

Andrew Griscom, according to a tradition of the family, came from Wales; another tradition says from Wales or Scotland; still another, from England. As there is no trace of the Welsh language having been spoken in the family, it has not been deemed probable that it is of Welsh origin, even if at some remote date it was located there. The name, however, is not found among either old or modern lists of English names. A member of the family was told that at one time there was a Lord Griscom in Scotland, another that there were Griscoms in Liverpool, England. "Leeds's almanac," printed by William Bradford, in New York, in 1694, says, "It is now eleven years since Andrew Griscom built the first brick house in Philadelphia." In "Watson's Annals of Philadelphia," it is stated that "on Second street, the south-west corner of Lodge alley (now Bank street), stood D. Griscom's house, of antiquated construction, called in an old almanac (Leeds's) the first house of brick erected in Philadelphia." Andrew Griscom, the builder of this house, was a member of the first grand jury of Pennsylvania, empanneled (sic) December 27th, 1683. Tobias Griscom was the only son of Andrew known to have any descendants living at the present time. He was a land speculator, and moved from Philadelphia to Burlington, New Jersey. His sons were: Samuel, a master carpenter, of Philadelphia; William, a saddler, of Hadonfield, New Jersey; and Andrew, farmer and blacksmith, of Stowe Creek, New Jersey. Only the descendants of Andrew are known to bear the family name, those of William being all dead. Samuel had sixteen children, and it has been found impossible to ascertain the names of all of them. His daughters have numerous descendants, one of whom (Betsey Claypole) made the first flag authorized by the Congress of the United States. Her last husband was a lineal descendant of Oliver Cromwell, a fact which adds another element of historical interest in this connection. Andrew Griscom, of Stowe Creek, New Jersey, was noted for his great strength and agility, and was a celebrated hunter in his day.

Samuel Griscom was born about three miles north of Salem, Salem county, New Jersey, February 4th, 1787, and was a greatgrandson of Andrew and Sarah (Dole) Griscom. His wife (Ann Powell) was born in the same county, September 23rd, 1788. In after years he became prominent in the history of internal improvements in Pennsylvania, then in their infancy, and was long and conspicuously identified with the Schuykill canal, which provided the earliest means of transportation from Schuykill county to southern markets, for the vast quantities of coal which had until its day been practically unavailable. His father was a farmer, and as a farmer's boy Samuel passed the first few years of his life. Afterward he learned the bricklayer's trade, and, removing to Philadelphia, was for some years employed very extensively in erecting block of brick houses in that city. About 1822 he purchased a farm of three hundred acres in Chester county, and, removing there, was engaged two years in cultivating and improving it. Successful as his early training rendered him as a farmer, his natural bent for mechanics again led him to Philadelphia, where he leased, embanked and reclaimed a large tract of land at "Point No-Point," a locality on the Delaware, about three miles north of Philadelphia; so named on account of the fact that what from a distance appeared to be a conspicuous point of land projecting into the river was really, when viewed at shorter range, only a swampy and useless piece of ground, which until then, no one had attempted to render available.

At this time portions of Schuylkill canal had been for some years in operation, with only moderate success on account of frequent breaks and consequent impassability at various points. Casting about for a man of good judgment, executive ability and a knowledge of the construction of divers devices to strengthen the banks of the canal, the managers probably had their attention directed to the enterprise just mentioned, which had been prosecuted with such judgment and success that it was apparent that Mr. Griscom was the man they sought. His services were engaged, and he removed to
canal, and in 1843 succeeded his brother Powell Griscom, as assistant superintendent. In 1848 he removed to Pottsville, where he had held to the simple, unquestioning faith and lived the honest, godly life of their sect.

Management of the canal had been characterized by remarkable economy, and it is not probable that there were many men who could have accomplished as much as he did and at so small an expenditure of means. In the fall of 1849 his widow removed to Reading, where she arrived away and bade fair to retain the bulk of it. In this emergency it was dreamed necessary by the managers of the canal to send to Pottsville some energetic business man in whom the coal men could have unbounded confidence, to prevail upon them to withdraw their patronage from the railroad and again bestow it on the canal, which now afforded much better facilities than it had ever done before. The man of all men to successfully undertake this difficult task, it was believed, was Mr. Griscom; and to Pottsville he was induced to remove, and during the early part of 1848 he labored there earnestly and with such persuasiveness as to be to a considerable degree successful. But the burden of cares and responsibilities that had for years rested on his shoulders, and the ceaseless work in which he had been so long engaged, were proving too much for his physical constitution, which demanded rest long before his active mind and strong will so far relented as to counsel a season of quiet. During the summer he went to Philadelphia to attend to some of the interests of the Schuylkill navigation, and while there his health gave out entirely and he was obliged to return to his home in Pottsville. This was his first and final relinquishment of business cares; his life work was done and his life itself was nearly worn out. April 19th, 1849, he died, deeply regretted by people of all classes. He had been a man of tireless energy; of an iron will; of almost exhaustless resources; a man who regarded no obstacle too great to surmount in the prosecution of any enterprise with which he had been identified; who planned wisely and executed unhesitatingly. He had been respectful and considerate in his association with his co-workers and always just and generous toward those who were placed under his supervision. His integrity was never called in question. In reply to a letter of inquiry concerning him, the cashier of the Farmers' Bank of Reading wrote as follows: "His word is as good as his bond and his bond is as good as gold!" His management of the canal had been characterized by remarkable economy, and it is not probable that there were many men who could have accomplished as much as he did and at so small an expenditure of means. In the fall of 1849 his widow removed to Reading, where she died January 8th, 1860. Both Mr. and Mrs. Griscom, as have been the family for generations, were members of the Society of Friends, and held to the simple, unquestioning faith and lived the honest, godly life of their sect.

Sahuel E. Griscom

Samuel E. Griscom, son of Samuel and Ann (Powell) Griscom, was born December 6th, 1817, in a house built and then owned by his father and yet standing on Sixth street, near Wood, Philadelphia, a locality then at the limit of the city in that direction. At the age of twelve he was placed in the family of an uncle, a nice farmer, in Salem county, New Jersey, where he remained three years, working on the farm during the spring, summer and autumn, and attending school during the winter. Young as he was, before leaving there he did a man's work at everything except mowing and cradling. At fifteen he returned to the home of his parents, which was at the time in Reading, Pa., where he tarried a year, going thence to Clermont Academy, about three miles north of Philadelphia, then under the management of his cousin Samuel S. Griscom, in which he was a diligent student until he reached the age of nineteen, when he assumed the dignity and responsibility of the position of assistant teacher in the institution. After two years spent thus, with the confinement which was inseparable from his duties as preceptor, together with over-exertion in study when not engaged in school, Mr. Griscom found his health considerably impaired, and was obliged to seek employment which would necessitate his being much out of doors. He surveyed several thousand acres of wild land owned by his father and General George D. Keim. Later he aided his father in his duties as superintendent of the Schuylkill canal, and in 1843 succeeded his brother Powell Griscom, as assistant superintendent. In 1848 he removed to Pottsville, where he had been appointed collector of tolls. The following year the collectors' offices at Pottsville and Schuylkill Haven were consolidated, and Mr. Griscom was placed in charge, with headquarters at Schuylkill Haven. Again close confinement to indoor business proved detrimental to his health, and in the spring of 1850 he resigned the position and undertook the management of his father's estate, a duty to which he had been assigned by his father just previous to his death. Between Llewellyn and Minersville was a large tract of timber owned jointly by his father's estate and the Farmers' Bank of Reading, familiarly known as the May and Lightfoot Tract. On this property he built a saw-mill, in which was placed it is probable, the first circular saw used in any mill east of the Alleghanies (hundreds of them are now in use in the coal regions of Pennsylvania), and cut the timber on the
In the 27th regiment Pennsylvania militia, Colonel J.G. Frick. He served as a delegate to a number of State conventions, and was in 1868 after the first battle of Bull Run, when he resigned and returned to Pottsville to resume the practice of his profession.

And had a keen sense of humor. He was forcible as a speaker, and sometimes rose to eloquence; was a good debater, ready in argument, and as a political speaker and as a lawyer. He was possessed of a fine flow of language and good perceptive faculties, understood human nature.

A delegate at large from the State of Pennsylvania to the Chicago convention, where he supported General Grant for the President.

Mr. Griscom representing during the entire period of litigation the interests of both his father's estate and the Farmers' Bank of Reading. Bringing his lumbering enterprise to a successful termination, he was for about a year afterward interested with others in a similar one at White Haven, Luzerne county, where the company owned a mill on the Lehigh.

In 1863 the firm of Samuel E. Griscom & Co. was organized. The members were Samuel E. Griscom, E. G. Brooke, of Birdsboro, Pa., and Seyfert, McManus & Co. (now known as the Reading Iron Works), of Reading, Pa. Its purpose was to mine coal in the Schuylkill region for use in manufacturing iron at Reading and Birdsboro. The responsibility of selecting a suitable locality for mining purposes devolved upon Mr. Griscom, who effectuated arrangements by which leases were secured in 1864, of lands two miles southwest of Shenandoah City. Extensive operations were set on foot by the firm, and it was due largely to Mr. Griscom's management that they in time assumed such gigantic proportions as to entitle William Penn colliery to a place among the leading collieries of the anthracite coal region. At the close of 1872 Mr. Griscom exchanged his interest in this enterprise for a onethird interest in the Pennsylvania Diamond Drill Company of Pottsville (in which all of the persons above mentioned were interested), of which extensive business he has since been manager. In the summer of 1876 he went to California in the interest of the company, and while there was induced by a gentleman who had done the company, through him, a valuable service to undertake the sale of the stock of the Bloomer Ditch and Grand Mining Company. In 1878 he became interested in selling the stock of another gold mining company, located in Georgia. During the following year he bought a tract of land there and began a mining enterprise, which has been actively prosecuted to the present time. In another and very profitable Georgia gold mine Mr. Griscom owns a one-tenth interest. In 1873 he identified himself with an enterprise having for its object the manufacture and sale of diamond mill-stone dressing machinery, originally invented by Daniel Larer, of Pottsville, who was for a time his partner. The business is now carried on quite successfully by Griscom & Co., under the management of Walter Griscom, a nephew of the senior member of the firm.

Mr. Griscom's life thus far has been a busy and a useful one. His administration of the affairs of important enterprises has resulted so favorably in every instance as to mark him as one of the most successful business men of the State. Like his forefathers, he is a member of the Society if Friends, and is remarkable for the simplicity of his manners and the directness and frankness which characterize his transactions of a business nature.

Politically he was in early life an advocate of Whig principles. Since the organization of the Republican party he has, from a deep conviction as to the mission of that party, been identified with it.

Mr. Bartholomew was born at Brookville, Jefferson county, Pa. He was the third son of Benjamin Bartholomew, of Philadelphia, who, like our subject, was a lawyer, and member of the State Legislature in 1846, representing the district of which Jefferson county was a part, and was afterward district attorney of Schuylkill county, to which he removed with his family. Mr. Bartholomew received a liberal education, mainly at the Pottsville Academy, then under the charge of Elias Snyder, well known throughout eastern Pennsylvania. The celebrated Daniel Kirkwood was at that time one of the professors. As a boy after leaving school Mr. Bartholomew engaged in active business for a short time, but under the advice of friends and following the bent of his own inclination he commenced the study of law in the office of his father, and was admitted to the practice of his chosen profession in the several courts of Schuylkill county in the year 1857. By force of circumstances and education he connected himself with the Republican party in its inception, and very soon after his admission to the bar, by ability and inclination he occupied a prominent position in county politics. He was an aspirant for the office of district attorney in 1859, but failed to secure the nomination of his party. In 1860 he was nominated and elected a member of the lower branch of the Legislature, and served on the committee of judiciary (general), and also ways and means during the critical juncture in the nation's history, when South Carolina and sister States passed ordinances of secession. In 1861 he received the commission of aide-de-camp to Brigadier-General Wynkoop from Governor Curtin, and in pursuance of his appointment served in that position at York, Pa., and Cokesville, Md. His commission was annulled by the War department served in that nature by State authority. He was then appointed by the Secretary of War, General Caneron, to the permanent and responsible position of his private secretary, and served in that capacity until some time after the first battle of Bull Run, when he resigned and returned to Pottsville to resume the practice of his profession.

In September, 1862, he was at the battle of Antietam, and in 1863, when the State was invaded by the Confederate army, he served in the 27th regiment Pennsylvania militia, Colonel J.G. Frick. He served as a delegate to a number of State conventions, and was in 1868 a delegate at large from the State of Pennsylvania to the Chicago convention, where he supported General Grant for the Presidential nomination. In 1872 he was elected one of the members at large of the convention to amend the constitution of Pennsylvania, in which convention he was on the judiciary committee, and also chairman of the committee on schedules. He was well known throughout the State as a political speaker and as a lawyer. He was possessed of a fine flow of language and good perceptive faculties, understood human nature and had a keen sense of humor. He was forcible as a speaker, and sometimes rose to eloquence; was a good debater, ready in argument, and quick at repartee. The esteem and admiration in which he was held by his fellow townsmsen were evidence in the fall of 1879, upon the occasion of his return from a trip of a few months to Europe. His fellow citizens, of all shades of politics, united in giving him a public reception, which amounted to an ovation.

He died suddenly on the 22nd of August, 1880, of heart disease, at Atlantic City, N. J.
John W. Ryon, of Pottsville, was born at Elkland, Tioga county, Pa., March 4th, 1825. He was educated at Millville Academy, Orleans county, N.Y., and Wellsboro Academy, Wellsboro, Tioga county, Pa. He studied law under Hon. John C. Knox, at Wellsboro, Pa., until Judge Knox was elected to the lower house of the Pennsylvania legislature, when he studied under Hon. James Lowrey, and was admitted to the Tioga county bar in December, 1846.

His father, John Ryon, was born on the first day of January, 1787, in Hanover township, Luzerne county, a short distance from Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and remained there until he was fourteen years old, when his father moved to Newtown, near Elmira, N.Y. At that day Elmira was far west. There were no public roads, and young John had the task of driving the cattle from Hanover to Newtown. In making this trip it was necessary frequently cross the Susquehanna river, and as there were no bridges he often had to swim across. Remaining at Newtown until 1811, John Ryon moved to Elkland, Tioga county, Pa., about twenty-four miles from Newtown, where he went to farming. He was one of the pioneers of that beautiful valley, which is now one of the finest and wealthiest agricultural districts in Pennsylvania. Being an active business man he was called upon by the people to serve them in public positions. He was elected to several terms in the lower house of the Pennsylvania Legislature, served four years in the State Senate, was superintendent of canals of Pennsylvania four years (under him was constructed a portion of the West Branch Canal), and was associate judge in Tioga county fifteen years. During the long period of public trusts his official integrity was never doubted or questioned.

John W. Ryon, after his admission to the bar, settled in Lawrenceville, Tioga county, and commenced the practice of his profession. This he pursued with untiring zeal and industry, and he soon exhibited a force and power as a lawyer which showed that he had not mistaken his calling. In 1850 he was nominated by the Democratic party as a candidate for district attorney and was elected by a large vote. He served the term with eminent satisfaction to the people, and was re-elected by the same party in 1853 to the same office, by an increased majority. This was a valuable school for so young a man, for the bar of Tioga county in that day had some of the ablest lawyers in Pennsylvania, and the custom then prevailed of eminent counsel traveling the circuit, and distinguished lawyers living in other parts of the State were accustomed to come to Tioga county. Among them were Judge Williston, Judge Elwell, Judge John W. Maynard, Judge Mercur, now of our Supreme Court, Johnson of Warren, and others. Judge John N. Conyngham was president judge for a portion of the time, after him Judge Williston, later Judge R.G. White, all among the ablest of the old Pennsylvania judges. Having not only this experience in the criminal court, but a long practice in the civil side of the court, and associating with the ablest of the profession and having the benefit of their riper experience, gave Mr. Ryon an opportunity to improve and grow in the profession. At that period Tioga county produced immense quantities of lumber, and the mining of bituminous coal was carried on quite largely. These gave rise to important litigations, involving large amounts, and the best legal talent was employed. There was also a great deal of ejectment litigation, and this branch of the law occupied his attention and enlisted his enthusiasm; he would frequently go into the woods with the surveyors and examine the lines of the lands in the suit, which gave him great advantage upon the trial and also valuable experience which few lawyers have. His practice became large, his experience ripened and his reputation grew. He was called into adjoining counties, and had in the later years of his experience in Tioga county a large practice in Potter, McKean and Cameron counties. This extended practice kept him from the comforts of home a large portion of the time, and he could not get rid of it as long as he remained in that county; and, having grown weary of it, he decided to come to Pottsville, where his practice would permit him to enjoy his home comforts.

John W. Ryon was an active Union man, and at the breaking out of the war in 1861 took an active part in raising troops. He assisted in the raising of Company A of the famous Bucktail regiment, and accompanied it to Harrisburg. General Cameron, then Secretary of War, refused to receive any more troops. This company, with others, was encamped at Harrisburg, with no prospect of employment, and the project of organizing a reserve corps of 15,000 troops for Pennsylvania was originated. Mr. Ryon took an active part in procuring the passage of a bill through the Pennsylvania legislature for that purpose, the corps was raised as a State organization, and Governor Curtin appointed Mr. Ryon paymaster of the corps, with the rank of major; he held that position until this corps was mustered into the United States service and fully paid off, which was in November, 1861. This corps reached Washington in time to save the capital after the national defeat at the first battle of Bull Run. This famous corps needs no fulsome praise; its history is written in blood, and its deeds of gallantry and fortitude are attested by the great battle fields of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Very few survived the war, and most of them are scarred an maimed.

Mr. Ryon came to Pottsville in January, 1863, and resumed the practice of the law. His experience and qualifications placed him among the leaders of the bar;
he has been on one side of almost every important case tried in that court. In 1878 he was nominated for Congress by the Democratic party of Schuylkill county, comprising the 13th district. After an exciting canvass against the Republican and Greenback Labor candidates he was elected by a small majority, the communistic doctrines of the last named party finding specially favorable conditions among the mining population. To these new dogmas Mr. Ryon refused to assent, but stood upon the true principle that labor is best protected when the laboring man is free to make his own contracts; that all the laws which interfere with this right are hostile to the laboring man; that the wages of labor should be fully protected, and that the proprietors of mines, manufactories, etc., should be required to secure their employees against damages; that capital and labor have a common interest; that capital should pay fair wages for an honest day's work, and wages should be paid in honest money; that paper money not redeemable in gold or silver is not money.

In Congress Mr. Ryon was regarded as one of the ablest lawyers in that body. In the State his reputation stands very high and he is regarded as one of the ablest, ripest, and most thorough lawyers at the Pennsylvania bar.

A line drawing of

Hon. ROBERT M. PALMER

is in this place in the original book. It is listed on PAGE 298 in the Table of Contents.

The following biographical sketch of the late Hon. Robert M. Palmer is, with a few necessary alterations, the same that appeared in the "Biographical Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania":

Robert M. Palmer was born in Mount Holly, N.J., in 1820. He was a son of the late Judge Strange N. Palmer, who, having settled in Pottsville, Pa., in 1829, was during thirty-six years a resident of that place; and a grandson of Hon. Nathan Palmer (a lineal descendant of Miles Standish), who, born in Plainfield, Conn., in early manhood removed to Pennsylvania and served in the Senate of his adopted State three years, having been chosen thereto by his constituents of Luzerne and Northumberland counties, as holding the views and political faith of Thomas Jefferson. He also had been previously commissioned by Governor McKean, whose election he had warmly seconded, as prothonotary of Luzerne county. Robert was but nine years of age when his father removed to Pottsville, and inherited the same tastes as his parent and grandfather, both of whom had been connected with the typographical and editorial fraternity. He served successfully in various positions in the printing office and finally reached the editorial chair of the Emporium. While so occupied he studied law, and in 1845 was admitted to practice. In his political faith he was a firm supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and so continued until 1854. In 1850 he was elected district attorney of Schuylkill county, for the period of three years, and from that time took a high position as a lawyer, and stood, at a later date, in the front rank of his profession in the commonwealth. In 1854 he allied himself to the "People's Party," which occupied the pro-slavery dogma of the modern Democracy. In 1856 he was a member of the Union State Central Committee and chairman pro tem. of the committee to arrange the electoral ticket. In 1858 he was elected to the State Senate from Schuylkill county, and during his term, and mainly through his exertions, that county received more local legislation of a reformatory character than any other in the State outside of Philadelphia, amounting to an annual saving of $50,000 to the people in taxes. He was elected speaker of the Senate during his last year of service, and filled the chair with distinguished ability. A half century before, his grandfather had occupied the same position. In the spring of 1861 he was appointed by President Lincoln minister to the Argentine Confederation, and sailed for that country in May of the same year. His health was not good during his residence there, and in less than a year he resolved to go home, his physicians trusting that the sea air might be of benefit to him. He died April 26th, 1862, on the thirteenth day out, and on the following day his remains were committed to the deep. He left a widow and six children, four of whom are living. His second son in the order of birth, but the eldest now living, Dr. Charles T. Palmer, a well-known oculist and aurist, after serving two years as resident physician of Mills Ophthalmic Hospital, Philadelphia, returned to Pottsville, and in 1871 was elected coroner of Schuylkill county, which position he filled with much credit to himself and the entire satisfaction of the people at large.

BENJAMIN SPAYD

Benjamin Spayd (whose great-grandfather was Christian Spayd, a settler in Hummelstown, Dauphin county, Pa., in 1727) came to Schuylkill county in 1815, and settling in Port Carbon in that year engaged in the business of coal mining. He removed to Pottsville in 1830, and in March of that year was commissioned a magistrate, "to hold office so long as he behaves himself well." He was elected in 1841 for five years. His office and residence was on Norwegian street, below Center street, where his son, William H. Spayd (now a resident of Philadelphia), was born in 1833. Benjamin Spayd died in 1843, and was buried in the old graveyard of the Lutheran church, at the lower end of Pine Grove.
Dr. Charles Herman Haeseler was born March 30th, 1830, at Nordheim, in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany. When he was three years of age his parents emigrated to this country, and after short residences in various other parts of Pennsylvania, located themselves in Pottsville, where his father, the late Dr. Charles Haeseler, who was a graduate of the University of Goettingen, engaged in the practice of medicine, and, in conjunction with Dr. B. Becker, was the first who introduced the new system of homoeopathy in this part of the State.

The subject of this sketch likewise studied medicine, and after graduating in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in the city of New York, pursued the practice of his profession in that city five years, after which he removed, in 1857, to Pottsville, where he established a large and lucrative practice and an influential reputation as a physician. During the Civil War he twice entered the service of his country with the militia, and for the third time during the emergency after the Gettysburg battle, when he served as assistant surgeon in the 20th Pennsylvania cavalry, a six months regiment. At the expiration of his term of service he was presented with a sword in recognition of his successful management of an epidemic of diphtheria (sic), which broke out in the regiment.

In 1871, having been elected to the chair of Pathology and Practice of Medicine, by the faculty of the Hahnemann College, of Philadelphia, he removed to that city in order to perform the functions thus devolving upon him; but his private professional business soon attained such proportions that he could not attend adequately thereto and at the same time do justice to his duties as a professor in the college. He therefore resigned the latter position and devoted himself exclusively to the former.

In 1877, his healthy being greatly impaired, he left Philadelphia and again took up his residence in Pottsville, where he hoped by a semi-retirement, he left Philadelphia and again took up his residence in Pottsville, where he hoped by a semi-retirement from active business to recover his lost healthy, in which he has now measurable succeeded.

The doctor has also occupied himself at intervals, amid his professional duties, with literary pursuits, having contributed largely to the medical and other periodicals of the country. Of the year 1867 he spent the greater part in Europe, where he visited the hospitals and medical institutions of nearly all the great cities, such as London, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Heidelberg, Rome, etc. After his return to America he published an account of his travels abroad in a book entitled "Across the Atlantic," issued by the Petersons of Philadelphia.
Judge JACOB KLINE

Jacob Kline was born in Berks county, Pa., October 18th, 1798. He came to Pottsville, when young, and lived there up to the time of his death. He held the office of justice of the peace for a number of years, and was an associate judge of Schuylkill county fifteen years, taking an active part in politics, espousing the Democratic cause. He died Friday, Marcy 26th, 1880, of paralysis, at the age of eighty-two, and was buried in the Odd Fellows' Cemetery, Pottsville. He was married twice, his second wife, who survives him, having been Miss Maria Lewis, of Orwigsburg and elsewhere, and during her career as such, taught many men who afterward became well known in the county and in the west. She is now past three-score and ten years, and is honored and respected by a wide circle of acquaintances and relations, who hope she may long be spared to them.
Cyrus L. Pershing, president judge of the 21st judicial district of Pennsylvania, was born in Westmoreland county, Pa. When he was five years of age the family residence was changed to Johnstown, Pa., where his father died in 1836. Thrown upon his own resources, the subject of this sketch, by means of money earned in teaching school and clerking in offices connected with the State canal and railroad, paid his own way at Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, of which institution he is a graduate. After leaving college he entered as a student at law, the office of Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, in Somerset, Pa., where he was admitted to the bar, shortly after which time he commenced the practice of the law at his home, in Cambria county, Pa.

In September, 1856, Mr. Pershing was nominated as the Democratic candidate for Congress in the district composed of the counties of Somerset, Cambria, Blair and Huntington. The district was Republican by a clear majority of 2,500, and had carried in 1854 by over 5,000 majority. After an energetic canvass in the limited time between the nomination and the election in October Mr. Pershing was defeated by only 284 majority. In 1858 he was again nominated for Congress and defeated. The dissensions growing out of the Kansas slavery excitement that year brought disaster to the Democratic ticket. State and Congressional.

In 1861 Mr. Pershing was elected to represent Cambria county in the Legislature of the State, and was reelected in 1862, 1863, 1864 and 1865. During the whole period of his service he was a member of the ways and means, judiciary and other important committees, general and special. At the session of 1863 he was chairman of the committee on federal relations, and in 1864 was the nominee of the Democrats for speaker of the House. Mr. Pershing also represented his Congressional district in the Union national convention, which met in Philadelphia in August, 1866, of which General Dix was elected president, and where, for the first time after the war, the leading men of both sections confronted each other in a deliberative assembly. In 1868 he was placed on the Democrats electoral ticket in the Presidential contest of that year.

In 1869 Hon. Asa Packer and Mr. Pershing were placed in nomination as the Democratic candidates for governor and judge of the supreme court respectively. By the vote as counted both were defeated by small majorities.

In 1872 Mr. Pershing was nominated for president judge of the judicial district composed of the county of Schuylkill, by the conventions of the Labor Reformers and Republicans. He also received a large vote for the same office in the Democratic convention. His election which followed, necessitated his removal from Johnstown, in the western part of the State, to Pottsville, where he has since resided.

On the 10th of September, 1875, Judge Pershing was nominated for governor by the Democratic State convention, which met at Erie. Governor Hartranft was reelected in consequence of the large majority which his party commanded in the city of Philadelphia. The State, outside of the city, gave Judge Pershing a handsome majority.

Judge Pershing still presides over the courts of Schuylkill county. During the time he has occupied a seat in the bench, particularly in the years 1876 and 1877, the usual monotony of judicial life has been varied by a number of trials of Mollie Maguire conspirators, which excited great interest throughout the county.

JUDGE DAVID B. GREEN

David B. Green was born in Reading, Berks county, Pa., December 22nd, 1831. His parents were John and Catharine (Bright) Green. After attending the schools of his native town he entered Yale College, from which he graduated in 1852. Returning to Reading he read law in the office of John S. Richards, Esq., and was and was admitted to the bar in January, 1855. In the following April he removed to Pottsville, where he began the practice of his profession and met with much success.

In 1862 he was appointed adjutant of the 129th regiment Pennsylvania volunteers, attached to the 5th army corps. He served nine months and was with the regiment at the second Bull Run battle, at the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, and in other minor engagements. In the summer of 1863, during the invasion of Pennsylvania by the rebel forces, at the organization of the "emergency" regiments Mr. Green was appointed lieutenant-colonel of the 27th Pennsylvania regiment, with which he served until mustered out of service in August following.

Resuming the practice of his profession in Pottsville, in 1865 he formed a law partnership with the late Hon. Lin Bartholomew, which was amicably dissolved in 1866. In 1867, upon the passage of the law creating a new criminal court for the counties of Schuylkill, Dauphin and Lebanon, he was, without solicitation on his part, appointed by Governor John W. Geary president judge of the court. In the fall of the same year, having received the nomination of the Republican party for the same office, he was elected for a term of ten years. Owing to bitter opposition it was some time before the court could go into effective operation, which was not effected until the Supreme Court had affirmed the constitutionality of the law creating it, when the entire criminal business of the county of Schuylkill came before the court and was dispatched there from 1870 to 1874; then the new constitution of the State abolished the court and Judge Green was transferred, under its operation, to the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill county, as a law judge, for the remainder of his term, which expired in January, 1878.

Receiving the nomination of the Republican party for the office of assistant law judge of Schuylkill county he was defeated by Hon. O.P. Bechtel, and has since then been engaged in the practice of his profession. As a lawyer Judge Green stands high among those who have been prominent at the bar of Schuylkill county. As a judge his administration was marked by careful, painstaking consideration of such questions as were submitted to his decision, and his bitterest political opponents have never charged him with even unwitting perversion of justice. As a citizen he is honored and respected, and has ever been foremost among the active promoters of the best interests of Pottsville. December 8th, 1870, he married Kate, daughter of L.P. Brooke, then of Lynchburg, Va., previously and now of Pottsville.

HON. THOMAS H. WALKER

Thomas H. Walker was born June 15th, 1823, in Winsor, Lancaster county, Pa. His parents were Lewis and Sarah Y. (Hubley) Walker. He was a student in Pennsylvania and La Fayette colleges, and later a civil engineer and a member of the engineer corps employed on the North Branch canal. In the spring of 1844 he came to Pottsville and entered as a student the law office of Horace Smith, Esq. In January, 1847, he was admitted to practice at the Luzerne county bar and soon opened
an office, and has since enjoyed a successful career as an attorney. He was married May 18th, 1854, to Susan E. Schollenberger. In 1856
he was elected district attorney of Schuylkill county. He was a presidential elector in 1860 and in 1868. In 1866 he received the nomination
in the Democratic convention of Schuylkill county for the office of representative in the national Congress, but withdrew in favor of Dr.
Cyrus D. Gloninger, of Lebanon county. In 1871 he was elected additional law judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill county
for a term of ten years. In May, 1878, he was appointed by the governor of Pennsylvania one of the delegates to the international prison
congress, which convened at Stockholm Sweden, August 20th following, and while abroad visited all of the principal prisons of Europe,
including those at London, Dublin, Edinburgh, Paris, Berlin, Vienna and Geneva, closely studying the systems upon which they were
managed. Politically Judge Walker has been a lifelong Democrat and an active and influential worker for the success of that party, making
speeches in all parts of the county and elsewhere and attending State conventions frequently as a senatorial and representative delegate.
His career has been one of honest endeavor which has reaped its legitimate reward. Left an orphan at an early age, he was thrown upon his
own resources and has made his way in the world unaided by friends, except such as he has won among those with whom he has been
associated in social, professional and political life.

HON. O. P. BECHTEL

John Bechtel, father of Judge O. P. Bechtel, was born near Doylestown, Bucks county, Pa., October 6th, 1798. For many years he lived
in Berks county, where for a long time he kept the "Half Way House" between Reading and Kulztown. During an extended period he
was a mail contractor and stage proprietor, carrying passengers and mails between Easton and Harrisburg via Allentown and Reading, and
from Reading to Pottsville. At a later period he was for ten or eleven years a resident of Northumberland county, where he owned the
"Warrior Run" farm, and kept the "stone tavern" which stood upon it, a few miles from Watsontown. From Northumberland county he
removed to Pottsville in 1847 and thence to Middleport in 1851. At Middleport he was postmaster during the administration of Presidents
Pierce, Buchanan and Johnson. The first three or four years of his residence in Middleport were passed in tavern keeping, which he
abandoned never to resume again. Politically he was a Democrat and as such was well known in Schuylkill county. He was married twice,
his second wife having been Eliza S. Beiber, mother of Judge O.P. Bechtel. This lady, a native of Berks county, in 1808 died at Middleport
in June, 1880, her husband having died in the latter part of December, 1872.

O.P. Bechtel was born on his father's farm, in Northumberland county, Pa., June 31st, 1842. He attended the common schools, principally at Middleport, and in his eighteenth year began teaching school in Wayne township, Schuylkill county, and later taught in West Brunswick township. Two years later he was for a portion of a year a student at the Allentown Seminary, and in September, 1861, he began
teaching in the Arcadian Institute at Orwigsburg, also reciting in several branches to the principal. In the fall of 1862 he went to Mahanoy City and assumed charge of the leading school there, conducting it until April, 1864, when he entered the service of the Preston Coal and Improvement Company, at Girardville, as book-keeper and paymaster, in which position he remained until March 20th, 1865, when he became a student in the law office of Messrs. Hughes & Dewees, at Pottsville, having been three years previously registered as a student in the office of his brother, James B. Bechtel, of Reading, Pa. April 12th, 1866, he passed an examination for admission to the bar very creditably, and May 10th following was formally admitted to practice. Opening an office on Center street, Pottsville, without delay, he
soon had a remunerative practice. He was tendered by his fellow citizens the nomination for the office of district attorney, but declined the same, preferring to preserve his independence as an attorney in private practice to accepting the emoluments arising from that position. In 1873 he was by a combination of circumstances constrained to become the Democratic nominee for the office of State senator from the tenth district and was elected over three opposing candidates with a majority of nearly fifteen hundred and an excess of nearly one hundred votes over the combined ballot for his opponents. He served with signal credit three years, often doing duty as a member of important committees, among them those on "constitutional reform," "railroads," and "judiciary general," and was offered a re-nomination, which he declined on account of the pressure of his accumulating professional duties. In August, 1877, the Democratic convention gave him a unanimous nomination for the office of judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was elected by a majority of between sixteen and eighteen hundred and was sworn in January, 1978. His career as a judge has more that met the most ardent expectations of his numerous personal and political friends, and when he retires from the bench it will be with be with honor. September 15th, 1868, he married Mary Elizabeth Epting, of Pottsville. On her mother's side this lady is of the Myer family, long well known in Pennsylvania, of which her grandfather, Philip Myer, and her great-grandfather, John Myer, both held the office of attorney-general. Mr Bechtel occupies a high social position and as a citizen is much respected by all classed. He is known as a faithful servant of the people rather than as a politician.

ROBERT E. DIFFENDERFER

Robert E. Diffenderfer, of Pottsville, was born in Lewisburg, Union county, June 7th, 1849. He graduated from the Lewisburg normal school, and for a while afterward attended the Lewisburg University. He began to practice dentistry with Dr. R.E. Burlan, of Lewisburg, September 30th, 1867. He removed to Pottsville September 30th, 1872, where he has since practiced his profession. He was secretary of the Pennsylvania Dental Society in 1876, and was the first president of the Pennsylvania Central Dental Association. He has served two terms as a member of the Pottsville borough council, and was a candidate on the Greenback Labor reform ticker for the office of coroner Schuylkill county. He has long been an earnest advocate of the issue of money by the government, and from his youth up, has been strenuously opposed to monopolies of all kinds. April 17th, 1872, he married Miss Kate R., daughter of G. W. Proctor, of Lewisburg. As a dentist Dr. Diffenderfer is one of the most skillful; as a citizen he is respected by all, and in his business, political and social relations he has won many and earnest friends.
HON. WILLIAM DONALDSON

The subject of this sketch is a living example of the force of intellect when combined with great firmness and true courage. William Donaldson was born in the town of Danville, Pa., July 28th, 1799, and is therefore now in his 82nd year. His grandfather, William Donaldson, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, throughout its entire period. His father, John Donaldson, died early leaving him, at the age of seven years, with his widowed mother and several sisters, to struggle for support. They met with success, however, and in addition William acquired a fair English education. He learned the mercantile business with the venerable Matthew Newkirk, of Philadelphia, now deceased, and soon afterward started in that vocation in his native town. There he operated extensively in the purchase and sale of grain and other products of the country, which were then sent to market in arks, on the Susquehanna river. These transactions made him favorably known to all the leading merchants and dealers in that valley as far south as Baltimore.

In 1829 he married a daughter of John Cowden, Esq., a merchant of Northumberland, Pa. Their family consists of a son and three daughters.

Mr. Donaldson became in 1837, the principal owner of a very large body of coal lands in the western part of Schuylkill county, at that time comparatively a wilderness; and, almost unaided, conceived the project of developing this portion of the anthracite coal fields. Its accomplishment by the construction of a railroad and the erection of colliery improvements necessarily involved the outlay of a very large amount of capital, and years of time and personal attention. Nothing daunted, this work was undertaken. The Donaldson Improvement and Railroad Company was organized with the same president. Soon the railroad was finished which connected his and vast bodies of other coal lands with the Mine Hill Railroad and Union Canal, and numerous extensive and costly collieries were erected on the land. The town of Donaldson also was laid out on the property. It now consists of machine shops, hotels, churches and houses, sufficient to accommodate a population of several thousand inhabitants. The borough of Tremont, a mile south, and of equal population and similar industries, was also the direct result of these improvements. Thus a wilderness was converted into a productive territory under his leadership. He remained in the control of the Swatara Railroad Company until 1863, when were merged in Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company.

During this time he participated in one of the most important legal contests affecting land titles that ever took place in Pennsylvania. Its final termination in favor of Judge Donaldson well illustrates his great energy and intellectual strength. The title to all his coal lands was involved in this suit. It is the great case of Grant vs. Levan, as reported in 4th Pennsylvania State Reports, beginning on page 393. It embodies a ruling by the Supreme Court of that State which, although probably right according to mere technical legal logic, was shown through the efforts of Judge Donaldson to be a theory that the facts disproved. There were ten distinct legal propositions passed upon and determined in the case. These were mainly decided in his favor; but one, then seeming the most vital of all, was point blank against him. Certain deed polls from Robert Martin to Robert Morris (the great financier of the Revolution) were not and had never been in the possession of the parties to the litigation. The opposing side claimed under Robert Martin, and the Donaldson title was under Robert Morris. The only evidence of conveyance by Martin to Morris was the endorsement in a connected draft of these lands. It was found in the possession of the representatives of Martin, after his decease and reads.

"These lands sold to Robert Morris, Esq., of Philadelphia. Deed polls to him, purchase money pd. me. "Robert Martin."
"The over measure to be cast up and accounted for."

The Supreme Court decided that as this paper had not been delivered it had no greater effect than a verbal admission, and therefore "under the circumstances the statute of frauds was a bar." The results of this decision, altogether unexpected, spread consternation among many who had acquired interests in these lands, and others indirectly affected by this seeming defeat of the Donaldson claim. Judge Donaldson, however, was positive that the endorsement on the draft meant more than the Supreme Court thus said. Believing that the deed polls had been in existence he thought that, so far from being a "mere" verbal admission of a verbal sale, and therefore affected by the statute of frauds, the draft was in truth and fact a written declaration and admission by the grantor of formal written conveyances under seal, executed and delivered. Acting upon his convictions he determined that these deed polls should be discovered. This, as the result showed, involved years of search, and in the traveling expenses of himself from "Maine to Georgia," and the pay of assistants, many thousands of dollars were expended. His faith in his own conclusions and his determination therefore to find these papers never forsook him. Robert Morris had owned millions of acres of land in most of the then States of the Union. The papers of deceased lawyers and agents who had once represented Robert Morris or those claiming under him, in every State, were disinterred to find the lost deeds. Not a clue was thus obtained. At last it was discovered that Robert Morris had a son living, a sea captain, commanding a vessel in the New York and East India trade. This information was received one Saturday. That same day Captain Morris arrived in New York, and was visited at his hotel early the next morning. On being interrogated the captain remembered that many years before, when in Philadelphia, his mother had complained to him of the burden of many boxes and barrels containing quantities of his father's old papers. Believing them of no value she did not wish to preserve them. The captain, to relieve her, took them to New York city and placed them in an old storehouse. No time was lost in making search among these papers, and the same morning, Sunday, there in a bundle, still bound together, were found the long lost documents. They were the ten deed polls for the ten tracts of land, the surveys of which were connected in the before mentioned draft, and which tracts were 4,500 acres of anthracite coal lands, worth over a million of dollars. The papers were delivered for a large consideration, and their genuineness was easily established. The other parties to the controversy thereupon withdrew from the contest, seeing that the decision of the Supreme Court was effectually reversed.

While at Danville he was appointed an associate judge for Columbia county by Governor David R. Porter, entirely without solicitation on his part or that of mere personal friends. This appointment was confirmed by the Senate unanimously.

In politics for many years he was a Democrat of the "old school," but never sought office. He and the late
Joshua K. Sigfried was born in Orwigburg, then the seat of justice of Schuylkill county, July 4th, 1832. His father, Jonas Sigfried, was a native of Pennsylvania and a wheelwright by trade. He died about 1840. His mother, who previous to her marriage was Miss Susan Krater, was a native of Schuylkill county. She died at Orwigburg in 1863. General Sigfried attended school between the ages of six and ten years, and then embarked on the sea of business life as store boy in the employ of Messrs. Lyon & Rishel, at Port Clinton, where he remained five years. At the expiration of this time, realizing the need of more schooling than he had been enabled to obtain, he entered the old Pottsville academy as a student. It was only a year, however, before he found it necessary to again find employment and resume the laborious task of making his way in the world. Going to Lykens, Dauphin county, he entered the store of William H. Hetherington, who gave him two years after disposal of the business to Lewis Helnir, with whom young Sigfried remained a year or thereabouts. Then he was in the flour and feed trade at Port Carbon a year and an half, when he abandoned the mercantile career he had entered upon and engaged for year with Bacon, Price & Co., as a shipper of coal. The next year he passed as bookkeeper for Tobias H. Wintersteen, the Port Carbon machinist. Then until the outbreak of the Rebellion he was engaged in shipping coal for Sillyman & Myers, Samuel Sillyman and George H. Potts & Co., at Port Carbon, and for Lewis Audenreid & Co., at Schuylkill Haven.

General Sigfried early formed a taste for military life. In April, 1857, he attached himself to the old Marion rifle company as a private. In the following October he was promoted to the first lieutenant of the company, and April 20th, 1860, he was appointed major of the 3rd regiment, attached to the 1st brigade of the 6th division of Pennsylvania militia. When treason raised her black flag over our land General Sigfried was among the very first to consecrate his influence, his time, his best energies and his life itself to his county. The following interesting account of his patriotic and gallant military career during the late war is extracted from Wallace's "Memorial of the Patriotism of Schuylkill County in the American Slaveholders' Rebellion."

On Wednesday, September 19th, 1879, the crowning social event of this long and eventful life occurred. It was nothing less than the celebration, by himself and wife, of the 50th anniversary of their marriage. Socially the golden wedding was a brilliant success; for, in addition to all the elite of Pottsville, the entire county was represented, and many friends and relatives came from distant points, particularly, Harrisburg, Reading, Danville, Trenton, N.J., and Elmina, N.Y., where the family has large connections. The celebration was given for the form of a reception, and the guests vied with the children and grandchildren of the happy couple in offering hearty congratulations, sincere good wishes and tokens of esteem and friendship. Still the pleasantness had a tinge of pathos, for among all the throng there were only two—Mrs. Maria D. Colt, of Danville, and Mrs. S.J. Tuthill, of Elmina, N.Y.,—who had witnessed the original wedding. Since then the judge's only sister, Mrs. Colt, has died. This leaves him and his wife the last living members of their respective families. And so, literally alone together, they tread in peace and prosperity the well known paths which have been made by many years of quiet endeavor to do faithfully that which is honorable and right.
U. S. Senate, Washington,  
General J. K. Sigfried.  
My dear General:  

I learned that a "History of Schuylkill County, Pa." is about to be published, and I would be glad to have a copy of it. For I am sure it will contain honorable mention of our gallant soldiers who served with me during the late war for the suppression of the Rebellion. You, my dear general, will be prominently mentioned if the compilers of the work know as much of your skill, gallantry, and unselfish co-operation as I do. I shall never forget the disinterested patriotism which actuated you when you were asked by me to take command of the 1st brigade of the 4th division of the 9th corps. It was composed of colored troops, and I naturally wanted to give it my best officers for brigade commanders. I well remembered the desire you had to remain with your old command, and with what reluctance you yielded to my desire and order. I wanted you with the 4th division because you were one of my best officers, and commanded my entire confidence and esteem. Please have a copy of the work, when it comes out, sent to me at Bristol, R. I.

With kind regards to your family, I remain, my dear general,  
Faithfully your friend, A. E. Burnside.

At the explosion of the mine at Petersburg Colonel Sigfried, with his brigade, participated in the charge on the enemy's works. Subsequently he was brevetted brigadier-general by President Lincoln for his gallantry in this action. He continued in command of the brigade until mustered out of service, October 2d, 1864, by reason of the expiration of his term of service. During his career in the army General Sigfried won the highest encomiums from his superior officers for the fidelity, prudence and ability with which he discharged the duties devolving upon him. Without his knowledge, they recommended him for promotion from colonel to brigadier, for meritorious conduct in the field.

October 1st, 1870, General Sigfried was appointed major-general of the 6th division National Guards of Pennsylvania, in which capacity he served until the fall of 1878, doing good service as commander of troops in subduing the riots which prevailed in various parts of the States during that period. October 22d, 1878, when the officers were reduced to one major-general and five brigadiers, he was commissioned brigadier-general of the 3rd brigade, and is yet serving in that position. His whole administration during his connection with the National Guard of Pennsylvania has been so efficient and successful as to win for him the commendation of men and officers under his command and the superior authorities to which he is answerable for the performance of his responsible duties. Since the close of the war the general has been most of the time prominently identified with various mining enterprises. In December, 1865, he assumed the management of the Wolf Creek Diamond Coal Company's collieries near Minersville. In 1868 he formed a copartnership with George C. Potts and reared and operated the Mount Lafayette colliery. Later Mr. Potts disposed of his interest in the business to Messrs. Powell & Wigton, of Philadelphia, and General Sigfried managed the enterprise until he sold his interest to the same parties, in 1872. From that time until in 1874 he owned a one-third interest in the Tunnel colliery, at Ashland, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company owning the remaining two-thirds. During the year last mentioned the corporation became, by purchase, the sole owners of the colliery.

General Sigfried served a term in the Port Carbon school board and another in the town council before the war, and after the war on full term (three years) and a portion of a term in the Portsville school board as its president. From the very inception of the Republican party General Sigfried has been an ardent advocate of its principles and an active worker for its success. In 1874 he was nominated for the office of State senator, but was defeated by the Democratic nominee, Judge O. P. Bechtel. In 1875 he was appointed boiler inspector for the district comprising the counties of Schuylkill, Columbia and Northumberland, and reappointed in 1878 and 1881. He was chosen chairman of the Republican county commit-

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tee in 1880 and is the present incumbent of that position (1881). General Sigfried's life has been a busy and a useful one and the results of his exertion cannot but encourage others who are struggling against difficulties which threaten to be insurmountable. His advancement is due almost entirely to his own energy and personal worth, for he may be said to have made his way unaided from childhood. Among the many self-made men of the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania General Sigfried takes a prominent position. His career marks him as a man of enterprise, perseverance and ability. Whether in civil, political or military life he has been successful and is one of notable Pennsylvanians of his generation.

March 10th, 1851, he married a lady of Scotch extraction, Miss Elizabeth P. Sim, a native and then a resident of Port Carbon. Their children have been seven in number: Maggie, David B., Ida S., Corona P., W. Elmer, J. Reno, and Carrie. The first and last born have died.

GEORGE H. POTTS

Half a century before the beginning of the Revolutionary War was John Potts, great-grandfather of the subject of this memoir, lived at Sandy Run, about ten miles from Philadelphia, in the neighborhood of Chestnut Hill. The family had then been nearly sixty years in America, having emigrated from England under the auspices of William Penn, in 1668. Thomas Potts, the youngest son of John and grandfather of George H. Potts, about 1750, married Elizabeth Lukens, a daughter of William Lukens, whose estate adjoined that of his father at Sandy Run. The Lukens family was one of the most notable of the early Pennsylvania families, and was of Holland descent. Joseph and John Lukens were brothers-in-law of Thomas Potts. The first mentioned was a life-long resident on the Lukens estate, at Sandy Run, a man of wealth, held in high esteem for many good qualities. The later studied civil engineering, and in later years served on the county board of trade and the town meeting of Philadelphia. The second was a man of military character, and served in the Revolutionary War.

Hugh H. Potts, father of George H. Potts, was born at the Chelsea Iron Works, on his father's estate, in New Jersey, in 1777, an extensive and successful iron manufacturing enterprise. To an almost immeasurable degree he had the confidence of all who knew him. He was trusted as a man of honor and unyielding fidelity; he was admired as a man of unwearying enterprise and brilliant talents. He is distinguished as having been a member of the Continental Congress, which convened in Philadelphia in 1775 to petition the King to redress the grievances which had long been suffered by the colonists. He was in all essential respects a patriot, he had at heart the cause of the struggling colonies, and deprecated as deeply as any of his liberty loving contemporaries the severity with which they were oppressed; but he was a consistent adherent to the religious principles of the Society of Friends, and finding it impossible to regard the Declaration of Independence as anything short of a practical declaration of war he refused to affix his signature to that historical document, not wishing to co-operate in an act which would precipitate bloodshed and rapine upon the colonies.

His widow, Elizabeth Lukens Potts, married Doctor John Rockhill, of Pittstown, Hunterdon county, N. J., where her descendants by both her marriages resided continuously until ten years since, when Hon. Frederick A. Potts, son of George H. Potts, and late a candidate for the office of governor of the State of New Jersey, purchased the old homestead, where he has since lived. A remarkable circumstance in the history of the Potts and Rockhill families is that members of them have intermarried for five generations, during which they have lived on the same estate.

Hugh H. Potts, father of George H. Potts, was born at the Chelsea Iron Works, on his father's estate, in New Jersey, in 1777, and, having a natural proclivity for a military career, became an officer in the first United States army raised under the newly organized government and served as such for many years. In 1800, at Carlisle, Pa., he married Elizabeth, daughter of Captain John Hughes, of Revolutionary memory; a distinguished officer who participated in every engagement from that at Three Rivers, Canada, to the surrender of Cornwallis, at Yorktown, during nearly all of which eventful period he was in the companionship of General Washington. Captain Hughes recruited a company at Carlisle, which was attached to the 10th Pennsylvania regiment, and entered the service as its captain, but was soon promoted to the officer of paymaster-general, a position which the history of those times would indicate a depended more on the possession of ample means and a patriotic willingness to disburse them as occasion required, for the relief of the ill paid and often suffering soldiers, than the mere desire and ability to transact its simple routine duties in consideration of the salary, which under more favorable circumstances might have been a desideratum to one less generous and more self-seeking. Captain Hugh H. Potts his son-in-law, subsequently resigned his commission and purchased an estate on the Delaware river, in Bucks county, where he resided until the death of his wife, in 1813. Near the close of the war of 1812-14 he was reappointed to a captaincy in the United States army service, but just as he was about to join the company and the post for duty peace was declared. He died in 1842.

George H. Potts, the subject of this biographical article, was born in 1811, on his father's estate on the Delaware. Left an orphan by the death of his mother in 1813, he found a home in Pittstown, Hunterdon county, N. J., in the family of his father's sister, Mrs. Judge Rockhill. He early gave evidence of the possession of that innate enterprise which has since placed him prominently among the most successful business men of the United States, and at fifteen, an age when most youths are thinking only of boyish amusement, we find him an assistant in an extensive mercantile house in Philadelphia, receiving a practical business training. Here he remained three years, laying the foundation of a busy, useful, and in many respects remarkable career. With the advantages of good birth and fine social connection, he was yet not wealthy, and his position as a self-made man was only the better assured by the opportunities for early training and education which he had enjoyed.

In 1829 he removed to Pottsville, Pa., and at once engaged in mining operations. At that time everything connected with the anthracite coal interest was in a very primitive condition. Practical mining as it is now known was yet to be introduced. What coal was mined was
brought to the surface only in limited quantities and by the hardest physical exertion. Its preparation for market was equally crude in its processes. The facilities for conveying it to the sea-bound cities were of the most primitive description. Only 44,000 tons of anthracite was mined in 1828. The aggregate in 1879 was 26,000,000 tons and it will reach nearly 30,000,000 tons in 1881. In the remarkable series of improvements which have made such a stupendous growth possible Mr. Potts has been a pioneer. From 1829 until to-day he has been continuously interested in the production of coal, and he enjoys the distinction of being the oldest miner of anthracite in the United States in view of the number of consecutive years he has been engaged in the business. From 1834 to 1845 he was the most extensive individual coal operator in the union. He erected the first engine for mining purposes in Pennsylvania. It was built by Messers. Haywood & Snyder, at their establishment in Pottsville, and is yet in use. He was the first to use plates of iron for breaking coal, and erected the second breaker ever put in operation. He built the first boat which was employed to convey coal to the city of New York direct from the Schuylkill river, and he was the first to use the improved method of conveying it by water transportation of a later date. He was one of ten men who subscribed $300 each to be used in experiments in making anthracite iron, which were crowned with success. The history of these experiments, which were so important in the development of the leading interests of the country, are given elsewhere in this volume. In 1836 he surveyed the first railroad from Pottsville to New York.

After a residence of twenty-four years in Pottsville, in 1853, Mr. Potts removed to New York, as the local representative of the extensive coal and iron firm of Lewis Audenried & Co., with which he has associated himself, and of which he became the senior member. While occupying this position his excellent judgment, business qualifications and executive ability placed the firm at the head of the coal and iron trade of the United States and won the frentir admiration and applause of those with whom he came in contact. By the death of Lewis Audenried, in 1873, the firm was dissolved, Mr. Potts retiring and his son, Hon. Frederick A. Potts, who has since continued the business with remarkable success, becoming sole proprietor.

The regret manifested on all sides at Mr. Potts's retirement from active business life in 1873, will not soon be forgotten, as it was felt that the loss of such a man to the coal and iron industries of America could not be readily replaced. Without fortune, won by a life of unremunerated industry, Mr. Potts determined to pass his remaining years in ease and quiet, and so great was the pressure brought to bear upon him to induce him to accept the vacant presidency of the National Park Bank of New York, of which he had been one of the organizers, and had long been a director, that he finally consented to assume its duties and responsibilities. His election in September, 1879, to the position of president of one of the wealthiest and most prominent banking corporations in the union was welcomed with unsounded satisfaction by stockholders and customers, and was the subject of much favorable comment by the press of New York and the other great financial centers of the country. That the public confidence in Mr. Pott's financial abilities had not been misplaced is indicated by his successful management of the affairs of the bank, whose, stock, from par in 1879, has advanced to 1.60 and whose surplus has been increased from $200,000 to $1,000,000. Mr. Potts is in every way fitted to creditably occupy his recognized high position in the financial and social circles of New York.

In person he is above medium height and of striking personal appearance; his years rest lightly upon him. He has that combination of admirable qualities which have marked successful and popular men in all ages of the world-dignity, courtesy, shrewdness and decision. His geniality and generosity have won him innumerable friends. His strict, undeviating integrity has been remarked during his entire business career. Among the early friends of Mr. Potts in Pottsville, Pa., the following incident illustrative of his unyielding probity is current. It is related here in the hope that it may serve as an example to others in their days of disastrous business failures: In 1848 by the failure of a gentleman in Philadelphia, with whom Mr. Potts was connected in business, he lost $104,000. He was forced to call his creditors together, and settle with them at fifty cents on the dollar, and was obliged to borrow the money to enable him to do even this. Sixteen years later he paid these compromised claims, amounting to over one hundred thousand dollars, although he had been legally exonerated when he made the compromise, compelling his old creditors to accept interest on the balances, in spite of the fact that they repeatedly refused it and used their utmost powers of persuasion in attempts to convince him that he ought not to pay it. In 1832 he married the eldest daughter of George M. Cummings, of Pottsville, who bore him seven children. In 1863 he was again married, to a daughter of Judge Gideon Hard, of Albion, Orleans county, N. Y., who has represented his district in the State Assembly and in the National Congress, and has long been prominent in judicial and political circles. By his present wife Mr. Potts has had three children, and all of his children by both marriages are living. The family home is in New York city, but they have and elegant summer residence near Somerville, N.J., which, from its admirable location on a gentle eminence, commands most enchanting views in every direction.

LEWIS AUDENRIED

William Audenried, eldest son of Lewis Audenried, emigrant from Switzerland in 1789, was born at Kutztown, Berks county, Pa., March 14th, 1793, and when a mere boy removed with his father's family to what is now known as East Schuylkill county. The spot where Pottsville now stands was then known as the "Pine Swamp," so that the subject of this notice may, with much propriety, be termed one of the pioneers in the great work which has in comparatively so short a period elevated Schuylkill county from a condition at once rude, uncultivated and humble to its present proud and high position. Endowed by nature with a strong mind and extraordinary energy of character he was, in 1816 (about the time of the death of his father) appointed by Governor Simon Snyder a justice of the peace in the district numbered one, composed of the township of Brunswick, including the borough of Orwigsburg, Schuylkill county, which commission he held until 1821, when he was commissioned by Governor Heisler as lieutenant-colonel of the 30th regiment infantry of the Pennsylvania militia, 2nd brigade, 6th division. In 1822 he was elected to the State Legislature from Schuylkill county, and re-elected in 1823. In 1824 he was elected to the Senate of the State of Pennsylvania for a term of four years. While a member of the lower house he introduced "a resolution for the calling of a convention to amend the constitution of the State," in order that the people might elect their own justices and other officers, which resolution passed the House by a very large majority, and many years afterward resulted in an amendment to the constitution, changing the custom of appointing to that of electing justices and certain other officers. While a member of the State Senate, in 1827, he offered a bill entitled "An Act to provide a fund in support of a general system of education in Pennsylvania." For this he received the encomium of the press throughout the State, and also the thanks of many private individuals; though his bill, subjected to a severe trial before the Legislature while he persistently pressed it against an opposing majority of the members, was not enacted until 1834. This earnest and able advocacy, while a member of the Legislature, of a system of general education by common schools, which should be accessible alike to the poor and the rich, won for him an enduring reputation as a liberal minded philanthropist and a sound Republican statesman. He was also the projector or advocate of many among the most important public improvements in Schuylkill county, while his warning voice was uniformly raised against the incorporation of coal and other companies for purposes within the range of individual enterprise. In 1832 he was a candidate for Congress, but was defeated by the strength of party clique. He was extensively engaged from 1817 to 1842, in the business of buying and selling real estate, and in farming and lumbering, having mills on both the Schuylkill and Little Schuylkill rivers, furnishing employment to many people, but, as a result of the panic of 1837, he succumbed to the times in 1842. In that year he removed to Cumberland county, Pa., where he continued to reside on a farm till the time of his death, December 2nd, 1850, which, in the language of the Public Ledger, closed a life the principal portion of which had been devoted to objects of public usefulness and advantage. The press of the State very generally noticed the decease of Mr. Audenried as that of a man who had been a valuable citizen. The following editorial from the Philadelphia Ledger of December 9th, 1850, indicates the high appreciation in which he was held: "Death of one of the pioneers of Schuylkill county.

The death of William Audenried, Esq., on the 2nd inst., at Hampden farm, Cumberland county, closed the earthly career of one who was distinguished formerly as one of our most active, enterprising and public spirited citizens. Mr. Audenried was born in Berks county, having removed from that county in 1800. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1822, and continued to represent the district of Berks and Schuylkill till 1828. He early took a deep interest in popular education, and fostered and promoted the common school system, which was so much opposed especially in the first named county. He was an advocate for all those political reforms which have recently been adopted, such as the election by the people of justices of the peace, prothonotaries and judges of the courts. He was also the projector of nearly all the improvements in Schuylkill county which have resulted so largely in developing the mineral resources of the interior of the State and contributed so much to the public benefit. In 1842 he removed to Cumberland county, where he continued to reside until his death, a few days ago, in his fifth-seventy year, which closed a life the principal portion of which has been devoted to objects of public usefulness and advantages."

LEWIS AUDENRIED

Lewis Audenried, third son of Lewis Audenried, emigrant from Switzerland in 1799, at Maiden Creek, Berks county, Pa. His education was commenced in the German and subsequently in the English language, under private tutors, on the completion of which he entered into mercantile business at McKeanus, Schuylkill county, Pa. In 1829 he erected an iron forge, but being so much in advance of the iron age of this continent failed. At a later time, through his success as miner and shipper
of coal, he fully recovered, and paid his old indebtedness in full, with interest. From 1834 to 1839 he was prothonotary of Schuylkill county, and aided in editing a German paper at Orwigsburg, the county seat. In 1842 he removed to Philadelphia, and embarked regularly in the coal trade. His father had sent coal in a wagon to Philadelphia as early as 1814, whilst he at a later date handled, for many years, over half a million of tons per annum. He was among the very first, if not the first, to ship coal from Port Richmond, having had a ripe experience of the trade whilst engaged in it in Schuylkill county. He was a most valuable ally to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad in their early struggles to build up a coal tonnage. He was the occupant of the first pier finished at Port Richmond, and during his continuance in the trade occupied various piers at different times, doing at one time the largest business form that point. In 1874 he formed a copartnership for shipping coal under the style and name of Newell, Sturtevant & Co. In 1850 he visited Europe, as also in 1852, after the dissolution of above copartnership. In 1853, after one of these trips, he established the house of Lewis Audenried & Co., coal and iron merchants, the senior partner of which he remained until his decease. In 1855 he became largely interested in the Honey Brook lands, on which now stands the town of Audenried. In 1856 he established, and placed in successful operation, the house of Audenried, Remington & Langdon, coal merchants at Elmina, N.Y., for supplying the northwestern and lake trade, but from this firm he soon afterward retired. In 1857 he successfully financed his extensive business through the memorable panic of that year, and in 1858 for a fifth time visited Europe for recreation and recuperation. He manifested great zeal and interest in behalf of the Republican party, and upon the breaking out of the war the late Rebellion contributed largely and freely of his private means for its suppression. In 1866 he made a sixth and final visit to Europe for the benefit of his health, and upon his return till his death devoted his attention more particularly to his private business. For many years he was a director in the Bank of North America, besides being a prominent member of many of the institutions of Philadelphia. He was far-seeing, of an indomitable will, but kindly hearted. He has done much for his relatives, as well as contributing to public and private charities, the last of which was his donation of one hundred thousand dollars for hospital purposes. Ever active and zealous, careful of time, and to the last following closely the generalities of his business affairs, he forgot not to put his house in order before resignedly passing away to the better land, on the early morning of September 17th, 1873.

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A line drawing of HON. SOLOMON FOSTER: is in this position in the original book. In the TABLE OF CONTENTS it appears on this same page number. Original text follows the divider line.

Hon. Solomon Foster was born at Ipswich, Essex county, Mass., July 22nd, 1790. His parents were Daniel and Mehitable Foster, with whom, at an early age, he removed to Rowley, in his native county. When in his seventeenth year he went to Newburyport, Mass., and apprenticed himself to learn the shoemakers' trade. In 1815 he located in Haverhill, and engaged in business for himself, remaining there three years and removing, in 1818, to Reading, Pa., where he opened a shoe-shop. Taking up his residence in Philadelphia in 1836, he was there engaged in the manufacture of whips about eight years. In 1830 he became a landowner in Pottsville, and in company with his brother established a boot and shoe business there, which the latter managed. In 1846, he removed to Pottsville, and was successfully engaged in this business until his retirement, a few years ago. While a resident of Reading, Mr. Foster held several important offices in the militia, of which he was for some time major. In 1848 he was appointed one of the associated judges of Schuylkill county, to fill a vacancy then existing, and when his term of service expired he was elected for a subsequent term. He was prominent in the movement which resulted in the removal of the seat of justice of Schuylkill county from Orwigsburg to Pottsville, and acted as treasurer of the fund for building the court-house at Pottsville.

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A line drawing of EDWARD OWEN PARRY: is in this position in the original book. In the TABLE OF CONTENTS it appears on this same page number. Original text follows the divider line.

Edward Owen Parry, attorney at law, was born in Portsmouth, N.H., on the 3d of April, 1807. He is the eldest son of Edward Parry, who emigrated to this country from his birthplace, Anglesea, North Wales, in the latter part of the last century. Through his mother, a daughter of the Hon. Benaiah Collins, of Danvers, Mass., he claims descent from the early Pilgrim fathers of New England. Edward Parry the elder was a well known and highly respected merchant of New England for a number of years, but failing in business during the financial crash of 1817 he moved to Baltimore. From Baltimore, in 1821, he moved to New York, and from there, in 1822, to Philadelphia.

Edward Owen Parry was educated at the best schools of Portsmouth, N.H., at St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, and in the grammar school attached to the University of Pennsylvania. His father desired him to study law; but, wishing to earn his own living, he went to sea for one year, before the mast, in the hope and expectation of receiving the appointment of midshipman in the navy. Failing in this he yielded to his father's continued wish and studied law in the office of Henry Chester, in Philadelphia. He was admitted to the bar in February, 1829, and in August, 1829, moved to Pottsville, where he has lived ever since, in the practice of his profession, highly respected and universally esteemed. In 1830 he was appointed solicitor for the borough, which position he has filled, except for short intervals, until within a short time, when he declined a re-election. He drew up the borough charter in 1831, most of the ordinances for the government of the borough were passed at his instance, and he has been identified in a marked degree with all borough improvements. In July, 1831, he married a daughter of the late Judge Witman, of Reading. Since 1833 he has been a vestryman of Trinity church (Episcopal), and since 1838 he has represented that church in the diocesan convention, in which body he has always occupied a very prominent position. He is now and has been for a number of years a member of the Schuylkill county bar. After the death of Judge Hegin, in 1862, he received the appointment of president judge of this district. He has been mentioned prominently in connection with the nomination for judge of the Supreme Court. Without solicitation on his part most of the leading members of the coal trade in Schuylkill county and in Philadelphia united in recommending him as judge of the Circuit Court of the United States. Governor Curtin, without Judge Parry's knowledge, was on the point of recommending him for the appointment of brigadier-general, but refrained by reason, as he expressed it, of the great service he was rendering at home. He was an earnest supporter of the war policy of the administration during the Rebellion, and has been a member of the Republican party since its organization. Both his sons, as well as his son-in-law, were in the regular army. He is at present in full practice of his profession, and has earned reputation in the argument of a large number of important cases before the Supreme Court; he also acts as counsel for the Schuylkill and Columbia county portion of the Girard estate, a position of importance and dignity. He is a Christian gentleman, of ripe and extensive legal learning and of high literary attainments. He came to the county without means or friends and at once took a high position, a position which he has sustained and improved.

**Major J.M. WETHERILL**

The following sketch of the life of Major Wetherill is copied form the "Biographical Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania," with slight necessary alterations:

"Lieutenant-Colonel John Macomb Wetherill, soldier, was born in Philadelphia, February 11th, 1828. He is the son of Dr. William and Isabella (Macomb) Wetherill. His great-grandfather, Samuel Wetherill, was a member of the Society of Friends; but when the Revolutionary war opened discarded the peculiar tenets of that society in regard to non-resistance and took up arms on behalf of the patriotic cause, deeming it proper in certain cases to act in defense of the right. He was the founder of the sect of the Free Quakers (sometimes called "fighting Quakers"); and, aided by others, erected the meeting-house at the southwest corner of Fifth and Arch street, Philadelphia, now occupied by the Apprentices' Library and to the building fund of which both Washington and Lafayette contributed. John Macomb received a liberal education at the University of Pennsylvania. At the age of eighteen he removed to Pottsville, Pa., where he engaged in the business of managing coal lands and mines in Schuylkill county; the family being the owners of a large number of tracts in this section, he was selected to look after their interests; it was probably the most important property in the county. When he first arrived there it was entirely undeveloped; the theories of mining coal were crude and the principles of practical mining had not been applied or even discovered. The undulating character of the veins and the basins which they formed was not known. While these lands were under his management the theories which had been broached respecting them were practically proved and applied. In their investigation he was prominent and indefatigable. Much credit is, therefore, due to him for the successful and grand results since obtained. He was always enterprising and courageous in making experiments, costing much time, labor and free expenditure of means.

He has always taken an active part in politics, and holds Democratic principles. In 1857 he was the can-
didate of his party for State senator in his district, but, owing to a division in its ranks, he was defeated by Robert M. Palmer. Since he attained his majority he has always been connected with the militia; entering a volunteer company as private, and being elected successively as major, lieutenant-colonel, and colonel. He now holds the office of major in the National Guard of Pennsylvania. At the outbreak of the Rebellion he immediately joined the army upon the first call made by the President for volunteers. On the 19th of April, 1861, he was mustered into the service as aid-de-camp and acting assistant adjutant-general, with the rank of captain, and was attached to Keim's division of Patterson's command. This was a three months' service, at the expiration of which he entered the 82nd regiment Pennsylvania infantry as major, serving three years and one month; seeing much active service during its entire connection with the Army of the Potomac, his regiment forming a part of the sixth army corps. A short time previous to the battle of Gettysburg (June 14th, 1863) he received promotion to the rank of lieutenant-colonel for his very gallant and meritorious services. He served in the battles of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oak, the seven days fight before Richmond, Malvern, Chantilly, Antietam, Williamsport, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Rapahannock Station, Mine Run, cold Harbor, Petersburg and Fort Stevens, and was in the campaign on the Shenandoah under Sheridan. His courage and general course during the war obtained for him the high opinion of his superior officers, especially at the battle of Cold Harbor, where Colonel Bassett was wounded and the command of the regiment devolved upon him. He was mustered out of the service September 16th, 1864, at the expiration of his term, having done his duty bravely and nobly, and shown himself a fearless soldier and a gallant officer. On his return home he resumed the management of his estates, which were sold to the Reading Railroad Company in 1871, though he continued to superintend them until July 1st, 1873. He was chosen a delegate to the constitutional convention held in Philadelphi in 1872 and 1873, and gave a good account of his stewardship. In that body he served as a member of the committee on manufactures, mining and commerce. He proved himself to be a very useful member in shaping legislation for the benefit of the coal interest. He has ever been a useful, honorable and consistent member of his party; seeking no remuneration, but laboring in its ranks from conscientious and patriotic motives, never having held any public office save in the instance already referred to. His distinguished patriotism in the cause of his country and his efforts for the advancement of his party stamp him as a man of generous and unselfish impulses.

BENJAMIN HAYWOOD

Benjamin Haywood, manufacturer, was born in Southwell, near Nottingham, England, November 9th, 1804, and died July 9th, 1878.

His father and grandfather had both been manufacturers of hardware, and at the age of twelve he was apprenticed to a blacksmith, with whom he served his time. When twenty-four he emigrated to the United States, landing at New York in 1829. Not succeeding in finding work, he went to Philadelphia, and thence, on foot, to Reading, where he was advised to try his fortune in Pottsville. After working there for a short time as a journeyman, he contrived to commence business in a small way on his own account. The system of mining coal below the water level being introduced about this time, his keen foresight showed him the future mechanical needs of Pottsville, and he went to Philadelphia in 1833, where he purchased a steam engine and some other machinery for his shop. This engine was put up by George W. Snyder, and was the first employed in Schuylkill county. In 1835 his sound judgment led to his formation of the well known firm of Haywood & Snyder, Pottsville (his small machine shop being removed from Port Carbon for that purpose), established for building steam engines and mining and other machinery. In 1845 the firm erected an extensive machine shop and foundry at Danville, Pa. At that place and in Pottsville they constructed the machinery for the Montour Iron Company, the Phoenix Iron Company, for Peter Cooper, at Trenton, N.J., and for Bevan, Humphries & Co., of Allentown, Pa. They made the first set of rolls for the manufacture of T rails in the United States, and constructed, in 1845, the first apparatus for sawing hot iron. Aside from this business they were heavily engaged in coal mining operations, as Milnes, Haywood & Co. The main burden of this business fell on the subject of this sketch, who in 1850 disposed of all his different interests and went to California, but was at first unsuccessful. He had shipped a large number of frame houses to San Francisco, but they proved unsaleable and did not realize the cost of freight. With customary energy he engaged in the lumber business, erecting for that purpose a steam engine and saw-mill near Sonora—the first put up in California outside of San Francisco. He was again unfortunate and returned to San Francisco without means. Borrowing a little money from one of his apprentice boys he started as a blacksmith; subsequently adding the making of iron shutters, fire-proof doors and bank vaults. In this he was highly successful, and while there had many offers of positions of trust and responsibility, but declined them all. He became intimate with General William T. Sherman and Governor Geary, of Pennsylvania, remaining a firm friend of the latter until his death. He organized the Mechanics' Institute of San Francisco—now the most flourishing one on the Pacific coast—and was its president till his departure.

After an absence of five years he decided to settle in Pottsville, and disposed of his business in the West at a handsome profit. His return to his old field of action was greeted by a perfect ovation; the old workmen of Haywood and Snyder met him at the depot, and escorted him into the town in triumphal procession. He then purchased an interest in the Palo Alto rollingmill, at that time a small concern. It was first carried on by the firm of Haywood & Snyder, (his small machine shop being removed from Port Carbon for that purpose), established for building steam engines and mining and other machinery. In 1845 the firm erected an extensive machine shop and foundry at Danville, Pa. At that place and in Pottsville they constructed the machinery for the Montour Iron Company, the Phoenix Iron Company, for Peter Cooper, at Trenton, N.J., and for Bevan, Humphries & Co., of Allentown, Pa. They made the first set of rolls for the manufacture of T rails in the United States, and constructed, in 1845, the first apparatus for sawing hot iron. Aside from this business they were heavily engaged in coal mining operations, as Milnes, Haywood & Co. The main burden of this business fell on the subject of this sketch, who in 1850 disposed of all his different interests and went to California, but was at first unsuccessful. He had shipped a large number of frame houses to San Francisco, but they proved unsaleable and did not realize the cost of freight. With customary energy he engaged in the lumber business, erecting for that purpose a steam engine and saw-mill near Sonora—the first put up in California outside of San Francisco. He was again unfortunate and returned to San Francisco without means. Borrowing a little money from one of his apprentice boys he started as a blacksmith; subsequently adding the making of iron shutters, fire-proof doors and bank vaults. In this he was highly successful, and while there had many offers of positions of trust and responsibility, but declined them all. He became intimate with General William T. Sherman and Governor Geary, of Pennsylvania, remaining a firm friend of the latter until his death. He organized the Mechanics' Institute of San Francisco—now the most flourishing one on the Pacific coast—and was its president till his departure.

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1862, he superintended the erection of the works of the Allentown Rolling-Mill Company, and was its president for some years. He also built, in 1865, the Lochiel Iron Works at Harrisburg, by express desire of Simon Cameron. He was a man of almost universal powers and attainments; possessed of a large brain, a firm, determined will, unusual activity and energy, an extensive knowledge of men and things, and he seemed to perform his work of all kinds by a species of intuition and was certainly one of the most extraordinary men in the State. He was active in politics (though uniformly declining office) and was early a member of the old Whig or Home Industry party, but later joined the Republicans. He was one of the commissioners for organizing the Union Pacific Railroad, with Colonel Thomas A. Scott and J. Edgar Thompson. His sound judgment and clear insight of the merits of a case having long pointed him out as a leader in his party, and one whose opinion it was well to obtain before deciding upon any important measure, he was frequently summoned to Washington to aid with his counsel on critical occasions, when serious matters concerning the politico-industrial interests and welfare of the country were at stake; and was intimate with most of the eminent statesmen of the day, including some of our Presidents. He belonged to the Methodist church and was long an accredited minister of that body. In 1829 there was no church in Pottsville; but with others he labored whenever he had opportunity and sowed some of the first religious seeds in the town. An ardent advocate of temperance, he was ever ready, by word or purse, to advance the cause. His mind being stored with correct information on most subjects, he was competent at a moment’s notice to preach an impressive sermon, deliver a powerful temperance lecture, or make a telling stump speech. He was a kind friend to the colored people; a generous benefactor to the working man and the poor. During the war he was selected by Governor Curtin to visit the Pennsylvania troops and look to their comforts. and by authority reclothed many regiments, one of them being the Fourth Pennsylvania volunteers, of which Governor Hartranft was colonel. He was also chairman of the investigating committee in the Girard clothing troubles, resulting in the complete vindication of A.G. Curtin. He was an entirely self-made man-the architect of his own fortune-and, though his early education was much neglected, had a wide knowledge of books and was well read on most subjects. His most congenial studies were the Bible and the poets, of whom Shakspeare was his favorite.

In 1830 he was married to a daughter of Daniel Rhein—the first friend he found in this country, and a fine specimen of an honorable, godly man—who died at the age of ninety. His domestic relations were peculiarly happy, and his marriage was somewhat tinged by romance—it being by his wife’s father’s direction that he settled in Pottsville. He had five children by this union—two sons and three daughters—of whom two daughters only are living. One of them is married to Hugh W. Adams, a patriotic and active Union officer, who served under General Grant at Vicksburg, gaining an honorable military record. He is now engaged in the wholesale dry goods business at Lexington, Kentucky, and in high commercial standing. The other is the wife of Thomas F. Wright, a successful iron and blast furnace proprietor in New York State, and a worthy and excellent gentleman.

Much of the above sketch was drawn from the pages of the “Biographical Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania.”

Charles F. Kopitzsch was born in Neustadt-on-the-Osia, Saxony Weimar, Germany, April 5th, 1820. His parents were John Michael and Johanna Kopitzsch. In 1842 he came to America for the first time, and he has since twice visited his native country, having crossed the ocean five times. April 5th, 1845, he was married, and he has been the father of twelve children, six of whom are living. In 1843 Mr. Kopitzsch came to Pottsville, and bought of William F. Redlick a small soap and candle factory on Callowhill street, near Railroad, and engaged somewhat extensively in the manufacture of candles. In 1848 this establishment was burned and Mr. Kopitzsch bought of Jacob Kohler a livery stable on race street, between Second and Third streets, which soon gave way to a soap factory, where he greatly increased his business. In 1873 his factory was destroyed by fire, but he immediately bought all of the surrounding lots and built the large three-story brick building which he has since occupied. It has a frontage of 75 feet on Third street, and extends 150 feet back to an alley, and contains all of the latest improvements in soap-making, including three large soap kettles, two of which have a capacity of 35,000 pounds and the third a capacity of 20,000 pounds, together with several smaller kettles for manufacturing toilet and cold-made soaps; Hersy Brothers’ steam-power and Dapp’s soap presses, with steam-power soap pump, crutching machines, etc., and a steam-power printing press for printing labels and wrappers. The old factory was repaired and fitted up as a store-room and warehouse, and on other lots Mr. Kopitzsch erected three large brick dwelling houses. The capacity of the works is about 2,500,000 pounds annually, and they give employment to fifteen hands. The factory is arranged with great convenience, and is heated by steam, rendering all parts of it comfortable in the coldest weather.

Among the several kinds of soap manufactured may be mentioned the following brands: “Ocean,” “Miners’ Favorite,” “New Wrinkle,” “White Extra Family,” “Monarch,” “Economical,” “Powdered Borax,” “Castle,” and “Variegated.” These and other less prominent brands embrace all kinds of laundry, family, scrubbing and toilet soaps. Always an energetic and active business man, Mr. Kopitzsch has spared neither pains nor expense in producing the best and most stylish of soaps. He has studied closely the wants of the miners and iron workers in perfecting soaps which answer their purposes and yet be so cheap as to be saleable at a price that will not seem exorbitant to them, in which he has succeeded better than any other manufacturer. As a citizen he is prominent and respected. In all local improvements he has aided with his means and influence, and his business is creditable alike to himself and the place where it is located.

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CHARLES F. KOPITZSCH

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The name of Wren has long been prominently identified with the coal, iron and manufacturing history of the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania. The subject of this sketch was born in Glasgow, Scotland, June 10th, 1823. His parents were William and Jane (Macbreth) Wren. When Thomas was a mere boy the family removed to Nova Scotia, where his father died. Soon afterward his mother and her children emigrated to Pennsylvania and located at Pottsville, where Thomas entered the machine shops of Messrs. Haywood & Snyder and served an apprenticeship of four years and eight months to the moulder’s trade. When he had mastered his trade, in partnership with his brothers John Y. and James Wren he carried on business about two years in the Eagle foundry, then on the site of the freight depot of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. In 1850 Thomas Wren & Brothers built and opened the Washington Iron Works in Pottsville, where in 1851 they constructed the machinery for the Alto Alto rolling-mill of Lee, Bright & Co., in the meantime having turned out various kinds of mining machinery which found a market among the proprietors of collieries in all directions. After a time John Y. Wren withdrew from the firm and the business was conducted by Thomas and James Wren until the firm was dissolved in 1864, by mutual consent, and Thomas removed to Mahanoy City and built the Grant iron Works, with the proprietorship and management of which he has since been identified. In 1854 Mr. Wren engaged with others in coal operations, in which he has since been most of the time extensively interested. He is now operating on Sharp mountain. Always enterprising, he has during life been an active business man; as a citizen he has every used his means and influence for the promotion of the public good. He has been officially connected with several banking institutions in the coal regions. Except during two years passed in Mahanoy City and two in Wilkes-Barre, where he was the leading member of the firm of Thomas Wren & Co., coal operators, he has since coming to Pennsylvania lived in Pottsville. His residence is at No. 600 East Norwegian street.
JACOB ULMER

Jacob Ulmer, one of the best known and enterprising business men of Pottsville, was born in Wurttemburg, Germany, November 24th, 1826. His parents were John and Agnes (Rebmann) Ulmer. At the age of thirteen years and four months he was apprenticed for two years to learn the butchers' trade, after completing which he worked for several years at his trade in a number of cities in Europe. When he had attained to the age of twenty-four he came to the United States and began business for himself as a butcher in Bridgeport, Conn., where he remained until, in 1852, he removed to Philadelphia. In the early part of 1854 he was engaged in helping to finish the first railroad into Atlantic City. In the summer he took up his residence in Pottsville, where he arrived July 2nd. He worked for a few months in the shops of John Reiger and George Gwinner, and in March, 1855, opened a market on North Center street. In the following September he located on Second street, and April 1st, 1857, removed to Center street, two doors from his present market. A year later he bought the property where his market is located. Almost from the first Mr. Ulmer has been very successful. In less than two months after he began business, in 1855, he had so increased his sales that it was necessary for him to employ two butchers to assist him. By the exertion of energy and business sagacity he was steadily extended his operations until his enterprise is probably the largest of its class in Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia. In 1873 he began building his packing-house at the corner of Front and Railroad streets. During portions of the years 1874 and 1875 Mr. Ulmer had as a partner Mr. Louis Stoffregen, who, not fancying the business, withdrew from it. The annual business done by Mr. Ulmer amounts to from $250,000 to $300,000, and in his works about twenty men find constant employment. Mr. Ulmer has five children. Three of his sons are engaged in assisting him in the management of his immense and constantly increasing business. As a citizen Mr. Ulmer has always been active in promoting the best interests of the community in which he has so long lived.

L.W. WEISSINGER

L.W. Weissinger, a prominent cattle and stock dealer of central Pennsylvania, residing at Pottsville, was born in Wurtenburg, Germany, April 29th, 1837. His parents were Casper and Catherine (Seigel) Weissinger. He came to America in the fall of 1853, and located in Reading, Pa., where he labored two weeks on the canal at eighty-one cents a day. He soon directed his steps to Schuylkill county, arriving on Thanksgiving day the same years in Minersville, where he was employed four months, at $5 per month, in the butchering establishment of Conrad Seltzer. His next field of labor was in the meat market of John Moser, of Pottsville, where he was employed about two years; later he working in Lewis Stoffregen's market for three months. Up to this time he had never received more than $10 to $14 per month for his services. Leaving Stoffregen's employ, he hired out to Jacob Roth, a well remembered Schuylkill Haven butcher, for whom he worked fifteen months, ending in March, 1857. April 1st, following, in partnership with Mr. Keifer, Mr. Weissinger opened a market in Schuylkill Haven. The firm of Keifer & Weissinger was dissolved a year and seven months later. November 1st, 1859, Mr. Weissinger established a market, of which he was the sole proprietor and which he managed successfully until 1865, when he ceased to butcher and began to deal heavily in cattle. This business he had engaged in on a small scale a few years before, and it has since assumed such proportions as to place it foremost among similar enterprises.
in the State. At times Mr. Weissinger has handled as much as $10,000 to $15,000 worth of cattle per week. His stockyards in Pottsville are large and conveniently arranged and have been fitted up at considerable expense. During the period from 1859 to 1865, while engaged in butchering in Schuylkill Haven, Mr. Weissinger invested heavily in the stock of the Schuylkill Haven Direct Iron Company. In 1873, in partnership with the late Gideon Bast, he rented the works, improved them and carried on the business till 1874, when he purchased the entire property, enlarged the mill and conducted the establishment with J.A. Medlar as a partner in the business only for one year, at the end of which Medlar retired and Mr. Weissinger was sole owner and manager until January, 1880, when he sold a two-thirds interest to Messrs. George R. Kaercher and C.F. Rahn. In 1869 Mr. Weissinger purchased his farms, upon one of which he resides, just at the outskirts of Pottsville borough, and which are the finest in the vicinity. He was married August 26th, 1858, to Rebecca Moyer, of Schuylkill Haven, who has borne him twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, all of whom are living. He takes no active interest in politics, but is a believer in the principles of the Democratic party. In the central and southern portions of the State there have been few more notable examples of what a man may accomplish unaided except by his own industry, integrity and perseverance.

A line drawing of
FRANCIS WADE HUGHES

is to be hoped that years of usefulness are still before him.

Francis Wade Hughes, attorney at law, was born August 20th, 1817, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, Pa. His father, John Hughes, was one of the principal men of his neighborhood, regarded in his day as a man of wealth; was a gentleman farmer, leasing the greater portion of his estate to tenants. The family had settled upon the same estate before the time of William Penn, and in colonial and revolutionary days had held prominent positions of honor and trust. His mother, Hannah Hughes, was the eldest child of Benjamin Bartholomew, who was of French Huguenot stock, and had served through the entire revolutionary was as captain of a cavalry company.

Mr. Hughes in his early childhood gave evidence of the remarkable ability which has rendered him so successful at the bar. He combined great industry with great mental activity and physical strength. With the natural fondness of a boy for outdoor sports and exercise he manifested an aptitude for study which an intelligent father observed and encouraged. Rev. David Kirkpatrick, of Milton Academy, at that time deservedly enjoyed the reputation of being one of the best teachers in the State. To his instruction young Hughes was confided. Among his schoolfellows were many who have since risen to eminence. At this Academy he acquired a good classical as well as mathematical education.

As a lawyer he studied broad and substantially the foundation for future success. In the fall of 1834 he commenced the study of the law with the late George W. Farquhar, in Pottsville. The following winter he entered the office of John B. Wallace of Philadelphia, and had there as fellow law students John W. and Horace B. Wallace, sons of his preceptor, together with the late William Parker Foulke, Esq. It is very seldom that four able young men are found in an office, and it is still more seldom that as able, earnest and untiring a teacher could be enlisted. All being possessed of ambition, industry and ability, under able guidance a broad practical knowledge of the law was acquired. A knowledge of pleasing gained at that time Mr. Hughes has often in the trial of causes since displayed to the wonder and astonishment of Court and bar.

After the death of Mr. Wallace, which occurred in the latter part of 1836, he entered the law school at Carlisle, then under the direction of Hon. John Reed, the president judge of that judicial district. Here he met a number of his old schoolmates at the Milton Academy, among them Andrew G. Curtin, since famous as the war governor of Pennsylvania. The same avidity for learning displayed by Mr. Hughes in the offices of George W. Farquhar and John B. Wallace, Esqs., he manifested at the law school, and by his fellow students, who are still living, the recollection is still fresh of the extent of his learning, the facility with which it was acquired, and the brilliancy and clearness of its expression. He was admitted as an attorney in August, 1837, and immediately commenced, in Pottsville, the practice of his chosen profession. His practice, which from its commencement has been lucrative, has been extremely varied, his business important as a class, and his suits in all of the Courts, and he has tried, probably, more causes than any other man in the State of Pennsylvania. He seems familiar with and at home in all branches of the profession. He was, in 1839, appointed deputy attorney-general by Hon. Ovid F. Johnson, then attorney-general. He resigned this office three several (-) times; was subsequently re-appointed and held it altogether for eleven years. His knowledge of criminal law is consequently thorough, but his practice, mainly, has been in the civil courts. He ranks among the first of the few great land lawyers of the country; is a fine equity practitioner; understands, in all it branches, patent as well as commercial law. He has few equals as a nisi prius lawyer in the country. He prepares a case rapidly but with great skill and accuracy; examines and cross-examines a witness with rare ability; argues with force, law and fact, to Court and jury, and in the general management of his case is unexcelled. Although naturally impulsive he holds himself under complete control during the trial of a cause, rarely loses his temper-never his balance. His extended reputation has perhaps been gained in the argument of cases in the Superior Courts on appeal. As a lawyer and a gentleman he is universally respected by bench and bar. But whilst Mr. Hughes has had and is still having a wonderfully busy

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life as an active practitioner at the bar, he has always taken an active interest in politics as well as in subjects pertaining to the general public welfare. In 1843, but twenty-six years of age, he was elected to the State Senate by the Democratic party, by the largest majority ever given in the county of Schuylkill, there being in that county only one hundred and forty-nine votes cast against him. He resigned his office as Senator in 1844 and returned to the practice of the law. While in the Senate he formed close friendly relations with the Hon. William Bigler, who, when elected governor of Pennsylvania in the fall of 1851 appointed him Secretary of the commonwealth. In March, 1853, he was appointed attorney-general of the State, which office he filled until the early part of the year 1855. Whilst holding that office he took great interest in the organization of an enlightened common school system, which with slight and comparatively immaterial modifications is still maintained, and he was the author of the act of 1854. Whilst attorney-general he co-operated efficiently with Governor Bigler in the more effective collection of the revenues of the State, and in the refunding of the State debt at a lower rate of interest.

Although deeply interested in politics, his tastes and business cares have prevented him from holding many political offices. He was one of the Presidential electors in 1856, and has been a delegate to many county, State and national conventions, over many of which he has presided. In politics as in law he has been recognized as a power, brilliant, frequently irresistible. He is, however, a politician of the old school: believes in the power of organization and regards parties as representatives of principle, not as mere machines for personal advancement.

In February, 1861, he was a member of the State convention at Harrisburg, known as the Peace Convention, and was a prominent member of the committee on resolutions. When the war broke out his support of the Union was prompt, energetic and valuable. He aided in fitting out one of the first five companies that reached Washington. He maintained, with voice and pen, the legal right of the government to put down rebellion with force of arms. He aided in the raising of regiments, and one regiment was familiarly known as his regiment. But he was a Democrat; was chairman of the Democratic State Committee in 1862, and in the unreasoning political zeal of the times was denounced by his political opponents. Efforts were made by them to have him arrested, which would probably have been successful had it not been that Hon. Edwin. M. Stanton, then Secretary of War, was his personal friend. Secretary Stanton telegraphed him that there should be no order for his arrest without first granting him a hearing. As there were no charges affecting his loyalty to the government, except such as were manifestly founded in malice, no order was ever issued.

Eminent as Mr. Hughes has been as lawyer and politician his operations as a business man have been extensive. He has originated and aided in many enterprises; in the purchase and improvement of lands; in the opening and working of coal and iron mines; in the establishment of iron works and other factories. He is essentially a man of enterprise, and his county and his State have been enriched through his efforts. He embarked in a scheme for the reclamation of marsh lands about Long Island and Staten Island. In this he lost many thousands of dollars. Whether he will re-embark in that enterprise is only known to himself.

What Mr. Hughes has been in the past he still is. As an elderly man he is still handsome in face and form, with a fine presence. Eminent as a lawyer, disinterested and earnest as a politician, and he has all the energy and earnestness of youth in matters of business. He has been blessed with a good constitution, and it is to be hoped that years of usefulness are still before him.

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B. Reilly, a prominent contractor and at one time an associate judge of the Court of common Pleas of Schuylkill county, was born in Cavan, Ireland, February 14th, 1814. His father, with his family, emigrated to Canada in 1822, and in 1823 removed to Lebanon county, Pa. In 1841 Mr. Reilly came to Schuylkill county, as a contractor in building the main line of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, and since that time has been a resident of the county. Taking an interest in the old militia he was an officer of a military company in Pottsville, in 1844, and, in 1846, was appointed an aid to Governor Shunk, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. In 1851 he was elected a representative in the State Legislature, and in 1856 associate judge of the Court of Common Pleas, a position which he filled until 1861, when he was elected to represent his district in the State Senate, serving during that eventful period, 1861-64. The governor appointed him a mustering officer in 1863, and in 1864 he was commissioned to receive the soldiers’ votes. In 1872 he was the Democratic candidate for Congress in the district composed of Schuylkill and Lebanon counties, but was defeated by the coalition of Republican and “U.B.A.” tickets. Judge Reilly is one of the oldest railroad contractors in the country and the only living one of those who built the main line of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. He contracted for portions of the old Lehigh railroad to WilkesBarre, the Catawissa railroad, the Pennsylvania railroad, the Sunbury and Erie Railway, the Schuylkill Valley railroad, the Northern Central railroad, and the Lebanon Valley railroad, and has been identified with most prominent public improvements during the past forty years. Though now retired from the active management of such enterprises, which has long been confided to the more youthful energy of his son, Thomas A. Reilly, Judge Reilly is still financially interested in and aids them by the advice which only one of his long and varied experience could give. When he shall have passed away he will be remembered as one prominent in the advancement of the leading busi-

ness interests of the country at large, and the most important railways of the State will always be monuments commemorating his enterprise and executive ability. Politically he has been a life-long democrat, always active, always honest. In private life he is greatly respected. His career has been a successful one, and such rewards as he has won are but the legitimate fruits of well directed effort.

J. Frank Werner, a man perhaps as well known in all portions of Schuylkill county as any other resident, is a son of John T. Werner, and was born in Pottsville, June 7th, 1844, and received his education in the public schools of his native borough.

In April 1861, when he was not yet seventeen years old, Mr. Werner enlisted in Captain Tower's company of volunteers, then formed in Pottsville, but was rejected at Harrisburg on account of his not having yet attained to the military age. On the 16th of the following September, still considerable younger than the prescribed age, he joined Company D of the 48th Pennsylvania volunteers, which at the organization of the ninth army corps was made a portion of it, and served until mustered out of service with the company July 17th, 1865; participating in the campaigns in North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee with such credit as to be promoted to the second lieutenancy of his company, September 5th, 1864, and to the captaincy on the 16th of the following November.

After his return from the south he taught school one term and then was for some time employed as a salesman in a store in Pottsville. December 14th, 1867, he was appointed one of the deputies of Sheriff George C. Wynkoop, and also served in the same capacity during the succeeding terms of sheriffs Charles W. and James I. Pitman. In November, 1874, he was elected sheriff of Schuylkill county, and served until January, 1878. It is probably that no sheriff in the United States ever had a more typing term than Mr. Werner did during that time, when the Schuylkill coal region was agitated by the long strike of 1875, the Molly Maguire difficulties of 1875 and 1876, the great riots of 1877 and the far-reaching ill effects of the failure of the Huntzinger Bank, by which Mr. Werner, as the custodian of certain funds belonging to the county, was a loser to the amount of about $30,000, which he is devoting the best years of his life to repaying. Since the expiration of his incumbency of the office of sheriff, except during three years, Mr. Werner has held the position of deputy to his to his successors; and from his long experience in the duties devolving upon the sheriff, and his familiarity with the numerous perplexing details of the office routine (extending through a period of more than ten years) he is undoubtedly better fitted for the work in which he is engaged than any other man in the county, and has come to be regarded as ready authority upon any question which to another might involve a laborious search through many books and papers long laid away.

April 8th, 1868, he married Mary L. Larer, of Pottsville. They have two children, a son and a daughter. Politically Mr. Werner has always been a steadfast Republican and a hard worker for the principles of that party. Socially he is a pleasant and entertaining companion, with a wide acquaintance and many friends; his honor is unimpeached and his integrity undoubted. As an official he has always served satisfactorily to people of all parties.
Conrad Seltzer, long and widely known as an extensive dealer in cattle, was born in Marbury, Kurhessen, Germany, September 17th, 1818, and with a portion of his father’s family came to America in 1835. Locating at Pottsville they built and occupied a small log house at Fishbach. In 1844 Mr. Seltzer engaged in butchering, his market being located opposite the Exchange Hotel. In 1848 he removed to Minersville, where he followed the same business till 1858. During the latter year he removed to the “Bull’s Head” farm, where he engaged in cattle dealing and remained until 1870, when he retired from business and was succeeded by his sons, William H. and A.W. Seltzer, the former engaging largely in trade in cattle, the latter in sheep and swine. Mr. Seltzer was married December 19th, 1839, to Dorotha E Roehrig.

YORKVILLE BOROUGH

This borough joins Pottsville on the west. It includes the York farm tract and a portion of the Wood estate. It has a length from east to west of one and one half miles, and an average width of a mile. It derived its name from the York farm, which was so called because it once belonged to the New York and Schuylkill Coal Company.

It was laid out as a town in 1844, for Carey, Lea & Blanchard, Abraham Hart, and the Miners’ Bank of Pottsville, by Samuel Lewis, C.E. The first lot sold in this town was to Edward O’Connor, in 1847. All the available lots in the borough have been sold, and a thrifty people-mostly Germans-are now the residents of the place, nearly all owning the lots on which they reside. The population was 553 in 1875, and 656 in 1880.

Yorkville was incorporated March 8th, 1865. The first borough election was held July 22nd, 1865. The records have been kept in the German language, in accordance with a resolution adopted at this election. The first officers were: John S. Schenck, burgess; Andreas Deuter, George Bildhauser, Ignaz Gartner, John Yestadt and Michael Buehler, councilmen; Charles Schuler, clerk.

The school in the borough is taught in the English language. William G. Sigfried was the teacher 18 consecutive years and until 1879.

Cemetery No. 2 of St. John’s (Catholic) church is located in this borough.

There are three mines in the borough. York Farm mine was opened in 1850 by Job Rich, who, with his sons, has ever since operated it. It is a slope to the Tunnel vein. The average daily production of the mine has been six tons. It is now a retail mine.

Another slope was opened in 1865 by the present operators, John Fitzpatrick & Brother. This has no machinery, the coal being taken out in cars by mules.

A drift was opened in 1879 by Bildheiser & Wachtber, who are the present operators. The coal is taken from this also in mule cars.

Railway Park is within the limits of Yorkville borough. It is a pleasant pic-nic ground, on the People’s railway, and is a place of frequent resort for pleasure parties.

PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP

The first surveys of land in this township were in the case of warrants granted to Hon. John and William Penn, proprietaries. The tracts surveyed were contiguous and extended across the southern part of the township into the township of Washington, and included the site of Pine Grove borough.

The first settlers probably came between 1750 and 1760. They were Germans and came mostly from Berks county, and located near the base of the Blue mountain in the south part of the township. They were at first disturbed by the Indians, and a block house or fort was built on the mountain for a refuge in times of danger.

Among the families who are known to have become residents of the township previous to the Revolution were those of Schnoke, Hetrick, Swope, Schaeffer, Bressler, Boyer, Zimmerman, Fetty and Stine. Some of these families forsook their new homes for a time during the Revolutionary war, to return after the restoration of peace.

Among those who were living here soon after the Revolution, some of whom had undoubtedly settled several years previous, were families named Minnich, Gebert and Beuchler; and the families of Augst Brossius, John Weiss, Henry Souder, Jacob Haberling, John Haberling, Valentine Haberline, Jacob Smythe, Adam Kalbach, George Pressler, John Adams, George Berger, Baltzer Houpt and Baltzer Smith. Frederick Schnoke was one of the first settlers. He came here from Berks county and built a cabin in the southeast part of the town, and lived there till fear of the Indians drove him away. After an absence of seven years he returned and found his cabin tenanted by saplings that had rooted in
the earth floor and grown through the bark roof. He became a permanent resident and the place is now owned by his great-grandson.

A man named Gistwite settled in the west part of the town, near Mifflin, about 1756. While at work on his log cabin he was murdered by Indians.

George Fetty settled near Mifflin as early as 1770. His descendants are numerous in the township and some of them reside on the land which he first located.

John Stine settled about two miles west from the borough near 1760. His descendants are numerous in the township and the original homestead is still in the family.

Bernhart Zimmerman settled in the southeast part of the township and many of his descendants reside in the township. John Moyer came in 1790; Isaac Harvey about 1830, and Michael Wenrick still earlier. The names of many of the pioneers are irretrievably lost.

The population of the township in 1830 was 1,601; 1840, 1,297; 1850, 1,967; 1860, 2,817; 1870, 2,274; 1880, 2,327.

**MANUFACTURERS AND TRADE**

Lumbering was the main business in this region from 1780 till a comparatively recent time. Of course many saw-mills have been built and permitted to go to decay. It is believed that Baltzer Smith built the first one about 1780, on a branch of the Swatara, about one mile south of Pine Grove borough. Very little lumbering has been done since 1850.

A rude grist-mill was built about 1782 on Swope's creek, at the south end of Brookside farm. This was patronized by people 30 miles away. Another was soon built by John Schaeffer on Swatara creek near Mifflin, and soon afterward another on the present site of Z. Baldorf's mill, near North Pine Grove, by a man named Uhler.

A distillery was built about 1790 at North Pine Grove by a Mr. Swalm, who was scalded to death while working in it. About 1800 another was built by Peter Leher on a farm now owned by John Feltz. Baltzar Hautz, John Zimmerman and Jacob Stine also erected and operated distilleries.

A tavern, known as the Red tavern, was opened as early as 1790 at North Pine Grove, by John and Solomon Albright, who were early settlers there. They were succeeded by Henry W. Conrad and he by Henry Zimmerman. It became a dwelling and about 1858 it was burned. The Albrights also kept a store in a part of the building. Frederick Rudi kept a tavern in a log building which stood on the Brookside farm, near the present bridge, as early as 1785. He was succeeded by a Mr. Woods, who converted it into a store and it was afterward burned.

A forge was built by Daniel Rondebach about two miles east of Pine Grove borough, and in 1844 it was converted into the Stanhope furnace by Adam Brown. It continued in blast till about 1875, since which it has been idle. Swatara forge was started as a furnace in 1830, by George N. Eckert and Simon Guilford. It was afterward converted into a forge and it is continued as such. It is owned by the estate of George N. Eckert.

**VILLAGES**

Mifflin consists of a hotel, a store, a church and half a dozen dwellings. A hotel has been kept here many years. Hans C. Christesen opened the first store here in 1868, and he was instrumental in the establishment of the post-office here about 1873. Daniel B. Kochenberger was the first postmaster, but was soon succeeded by H.C. Christesen, who held the office until his death, in 1878, since which time Mrs. Louisa Christesen has served as postmistress.

Elwood is a post-office and flag station on the S. and S. branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. The place contains a store and six or eight dwellings.

North Pine Grove, although not included within the borough limits of Pine Grove, is nevertheless a continuation of the northern suburbs of the village. A hotel and small store are kept there, and the locality is made the polling place for the township.

**CHURCHES**

**Jacob's Lutheran Church** is located about two miles west of Pine Grove on the railroad leading to Lebanon. The congregation was organized in 1780, and the same year a church building of hewed logs was erected. It was the first church established in this part of Schuylkill county. The house was used as a place of worship till 1833, when a new one was built of hewed logs and weather-boarded. It was dedicated May 19th of that year. The building committee of the second church were John Stein and George Stein. The deacons at that time were John Spancake and George Zimmerman; elders, Jacob Stein, Jacob Lehman, John Neu, and Adam Spancake; trustee, George Stein.

The present officers are: Elders, Samuel Bowen, John Adams, Isaac Buechler and Cyrus Feltz; deacons, Ezra Feltz and Oliver Mease; trustee, Daniel Anspach. The number of communicants is one hundred and seventy. The church property, which included a parsonage and a chapel at Ellwood, is unencumbered and has a value of about $10,000. There are no records of this church of an earlier date than 1799, but it is known that the pastors since its organization have been: Revs. William Kurtz, from 1780 to 1798; Andrew Schultz, from 1798 to 1802; John Knoke from 1802 to 1811; George Mennig, 1811 to 1833; William Mennig, from 1833 to 1839; A.B. Gockelen, from 1839 to 1845; Benjamin Stadtler, from 1845 to 1849; E. Briedenbach, from 1849 to 1852; Elias S. Henry, from 1852 to the present time.

**The Church of God**, of Mifflin.-In the spring of 1870 Elder Israel Hay, of Lebanon county, a preacher from the Church of God of the United States and a member of the East Pennsylvania Eldership, commenced preach-
ing regularly at Mifflin, and continued until March, 1871, when he began a protracted meeting, the result of which was the conversation of many and the organization of the Church of God on April 16th, 1871, with 46 constituent members.

The first officers of the church were: Elders-John Strubhar and Samuel White; deacons-George H. Wagner and Samuel Heiser; treasurer, G.H. Wagner; secretary, E.E. Thompson; trustees-E.E. Thompson, George H. Wagner, Samuel White. In 1872 the society erected a stone church edifice, the chapel or lower story of which was completed and dedicated November 17th, 1872. The main audience room has not yet been completed.

Mr. Hay served as pastor until November, 1876, followed by Simon Stonecypher for one year, since which Elder Samuel Smith has preached. The present membership is about 40.

A Sunday-school was organized January 3d, 1873, with G.H. Wagner as superintendent. The school then numbered about forty. The present number is about 200.

PINE GROVE BOROUGH

This borough is situated on the Swatara creek, in the eastern part of Pine Grove township, and contains five churches, four hotels, two grist-mills, six general stores, one drug, two clothing and two shoe stores, two tanneries, a furniture factory, a printing office and a proportionate number of shops. Its population in 1880 was 956.

The place was first named Swallowtown, or Schwallum Schtettle. Afterward it came to be known as Barrstown, or Bear Schtettle. Its present name is from a grove of pines which has disappeared.


BEGINNING OF SETTLEMENT AND BUSINESS

Jacob Gunkel, the first settler at Pine Grove, was for several years the only resident within the present borough limits. He located on the site of the American Eagle Hotel in 1771. Here he laid claim to a large tract of land, which he subsequently purchased from John and Richard Penn, and which included the site of the present borough. He kept a house of entertainment for travelers and teamsters passing over the route of the old Indian trail, and in 1795 opened a store in a part of his house, which he kept till 1810, when he removed to a farm one mile south from the borough, where in 1813 he died. A German Reformed church had been erected (of logs) on his land in 1782, and a parochial school kept there at times.

Pine Grove forge was erected about 1810, by Tobias Rickel, near where Filbert & Brothers' flouring mill now stands, and a few small tenement houses were built near it. In 1819 the property was purchased by Peter Filbert, who erected an edge-tool factory, known as the "Tilthammer forge." Mr. Filbert operated both for a few years; then sold them, and in 1828 they were abandoned.

Michael Fritz came in 1810. He was a tanner. He was a substitute for Jonathan Seidel in the war of 1812. John Barr, a tavern keeper, came in 1814. He had served as a captain in the war of 1812. George Barr, his eldest son, was a tanner, but for 15 years he was a butcher, than a coal operator. He still lives here. Jacob Barr, another son, is also a resident. Paul, another son of John, was first a tanner, and afterwards a merchant and a lumberman. He was postmaster during 24 years. Michael Huber came to Pine Grove in 1812. He was a miller in the Batdorf mill. His son Jacob, a lifelong resident, was a carpenter and joiner, and his wife, a daughter of John Barr, survives him. Jacob Christ came in 1814. He was a teacher. Samuel Hain was a tanner here during ten years from 1822. William Graeff came to Pine Grove in 1825, and for thirty years was a merchant. From 1836 till his death in 1873 he was also a coal operator.

The first tannery was established in 1810, by Jonathan Gerde., and by him conducted till 1824, when it was sold to Samuel Hain, and subsequently to Levi Miller, who still carries on the business.

Samuel Guss built the Schuylkill county tannery here in 1830. He was succeeded by John Bechtel & Son, who enlarged the works in 1856, and in 1863 sold to Daniel and John Gensemer, the present proprietors.

About 1810 Philip Gerdel came and built a large grist-mill on Swatara creek, near where Charles Fegley's mill now stands. It had several subsequent owners, among whom were Daniel Rendebach, Conrad Raber, Peter Eckert, Levi Miller and Enoch More.

Charles Fegley purchased it, and in 1858 built a larger one in place of it. This was swept away by a flood in June, 1862, and the present mill soon afterward built on its site.

The steam flouring and grist-mill of Filbert & Brother was built by the present proprietors in 1865.
A foundry was built about 1845 by John Derby. It was burnt about 1852. Another was erected and used till 1871. The building remains.

Primitive stores were kept by Jacob Dietzler, John and Solomon Albright, and a man named Woods.

The store now occupied by F.E. Stees & Brother was built by William Graeff about 1825. He continued in business there till 1858, and was succeeded by his son, John E. Graeff, and William Farrer. Kauffman & Uhlman, Strimphler & Hoch, Caleb Wheeler, Paul Brand and Paul Barr, jr., were merchants here previous to 1833. Among those of a more recent date were Kitzmiller, Stees & Co., Strimphler & Shoemaker, Greenwald & George, George F. Mars, Peter C. Molly, Francis Hoover, George F. Kurtz. The principal representatives of this branch of business at present are Miller, Filbert & Co., F.E. Stees & Brother, Gensemer & Sherman, C.F. Molly & Co., and A.G. Paine. Paul Barr opened the first drug store about 1842, and was succeeded by his son, T.A. Barr, in 1872, who still continues the business.

After Jacob Gunter, John Brown opened a primitive hotel, just north of the borough line, about 1780. It was known as the "Red Tavern." Frederick Reed, in 1785, had a tavern near the south borough line.

On the site of the Gunter stand John Barr erected and opened a hotel in 1815, since which time it has not ceased to be kept. George P. Fester had been proprietor since 1874. Henry D. Conrad, in 1827, and Peter Filbert, in 1828, established hotels. Both are now dwellings. Pine Grove Hotel was built in 1830 by Peter Filbert. His son, Samuel P., is the present proprietor. Among other landlords here have been William Lutz, Captain Reinhart, Philip Koons, Daniel McQuade, John Snyder, William Zimmerman, John Sager, Kennedy Robinson, William Lurch, Christian Ley and Fred G. Wernitz.

Reading was the post town for this place till 1819, when a post-office was established here with John Barr as postmaster. Subsequent postmasters have been James C. Oliver, Paul Barr, George F. Mars, Dr. John Kitzmiller, Philip Koons, Henry Hain, A.G. Manwiler and Dr. J.O. Dreher.

The first mail route through Pine Grove was from Georgetown to Womensdorf, over which a weekly mail was carried on horseback by John Schope and afterward by George Bingeman. Afterward a route was established from Harrisburg to Pottsville, and in 1830 a daily line of stage coaches traversed this route.

The first resident physician in Pine Grove was Dr. Jacob Christ. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. He was succeeded by his son Dr. Levi M. Christ. Both died in 1876. Dr. William Smith came in 1829, Dr. Armstrong in 1834, Dr. Augustine Holmes about 1835 and Dr. Kitzmiller in 1836. Dr. Kitzmiller was accidentally killed in 1864.

The Schuylkill County Herald was established in 1878 under the name of the Pine Grove Herald, by the present proprietor, Alfred Gilbert. Its name was changed early in 1879.

INCORPORATION-OFFICERS

Pine Grove was incorporated May 7th, 1832. It then contained 300 inhabitants. The first borough election was held at the house of Henry W. Conrad, April 26th, 1839.

The following have been chosen to the office of chief burgess: John Barr, 1839, 1840; Jacob Ditzler, 1841, 1842; Peter Filbert, 1843; George Shucker, 1844, 1845, 1853; Owen Drine, 1846, 1859, 1870, 1871, 1879; Daniel Werntz, 1847; Lewis Reeser, 1848; Jacob Barr, 1849; Samuel Fox, 1850, 1851, 1854-58, 1863-69; Frederick Snyder, 1852; Benjamin Eckler, 1860; Charles Duel, 1861; Jacob Fry, jr., 1862; U.R. Tracy, 1872, 1873; John W. Barr, 1874; John F. Zimmerman, 1875; Levi Smeltzer, 1876; John Huber, jr., 1877, 1880; Penrose Barto, 1878. The following have served as town clerks: Samuel Guss, 1839-45; John A. Bechtel, 1846; K. Robinson, 1847; Lewis Reeser, 1848-51; Henry Werntz, 1852; Levi Huber, 1853-57; Edward T. Filbert, from 1858 to the present time.

SCHOOLS

Tradition says a school was taught here by a German in 1779. The parochial school in connection with Gunkel's church has been spoken of. As late as 1820 the German language was taught exclusively in the school. Of the many German teachers only the names of Mr. ---Freedland and David Christ are remembered. The first exclusively English schools were taught about 1825 by David Gorman and ----Kellogg, a Quaker.

The first school-house, a framed building, was erected in 1830 on Mill street, in the western part of the borough. Among others Rev. F.W. Conrad, D.D., and Hon. James L. Nutting taught in this building.

The present school building, erected in 1857, is a threestory brick structure, the upper story of which is owned by the masonic lodge. In this excellent schools have been taught. The principals have been Valentine Jones, Edward Jones, J.H. Werntz, Rev. Mr. Koons, ---Matthews, R.S. Unger, J.H. Rossler, D.C. Henning, S.A. Will and George W. Channell. The latter has taught continuously since 1871.

ORGANIZATIONS

Washington Camp, No. 49, Patriotic Order Sons of America was organized May 28th, 1858, with fourteen charter members, composed entirely of young men between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one. J. Leonard was chosen the first president. The organization prospered until the breaking out of the civil war in 1861, when most of its members joined the Union army, and this camp was suspended. On April 10th, 1866, it was reorganized, and in August of the same year the word "Junior," which it at first bore, was stricken from the name and the age of admission extended to fifty years. It now numbers over 100 members.

Pine Grove Lodge, No. 148, I.O.O.F. was instituted January 28th, 1846. The charter members were J.S.
Pine Grove Lodge, No. 211, I.O.O.F. was instituted June 19th, 1871. There were eight charter members. The first officers were: Reuben Barto, C.P.; Ezra J. Haak, H.P.; F.F. Barels, S.W.; A.W. Zimmerman, J.W.; J.H. Leonhart, scribe; John Huff, treasurer. This lodge has had a steady and healthy growth, and it now numbers about 125 members.

Pine Grove Encampment, No. 211, I.O.O.F. was instituted June 19th, 1871. There were eight charter members. The first officers were: H.H. Bar, W.M.; J.A. Sweigard, S.W.; William Claydon, J.W.; E.J. Haak, secretary; R.H. Stees, treasurer. The masters have been H.H. Bar, J.A. Sweigard, H.A. Richards, H.W. Tracy, George Miller, J.G. Dreher, S.J. Seyfert, John Hewett. The lodge owns its hall, and is in a prosperous condition.

Wolf Post, No. 203, G.A.R. was mustered March 8th, 1870, with twelve charter members. The first officers were: Peter A. Filbert, C.C.; F.J. Diehl, senior V.C.; A.M. Rank, junior V.C.; R. Barto, adjutant; George F. Kurtz, Qr.M.; L.M. Christ, sergeant; J.F. Bonewitz, chaplain; William Harvey, sergeant major; Hiram Schram, O.D.; R. Bartels, O.G.; William Snyder, Qr.S. Owing to the removal of some of its members and the financial panic of 1875 the post was obliged to disband, but was reorganized July 1st, 1880, with about fifteen members.

Pleasant Valley Grange, No. 685, P. of H. was organized with thirteen original members. The first officers were: Daniel Sheidy, master; Charles Jones, overseer; L.E. Hummel, secretary; George Zuby, treasurer. The names of the succeeding masters are Edward Hummel and M.R. Hughes. The grange meetings were held at Pleasant Valley until June, 1876, since which they have been held in Odd Fellows' Hall, Pine Grove borough. The present membership is about fifty-five. In May, 1878, a grange store was opened at Pine Grove, under the auspices of this order. It has done a successful business.

Pine Grove Light Infantry.-This military company was organized January 9th, 1877, with 46 men rank and file. The first commissioned officers were: George W. Channell, captain; John W. Barr, 1st lieutenant; John P. Earnest, 2d lieutenant. The services of the company during the riots of 1877 are elsewhere spoken of.

The present commissioned officers are: John Barr, captain; John P. Earnest, 1st lieutenant; J.R. Lehman, 2d lieutenant.

**CHURCHES**

**St. Peter's Lutheran and Reformed Church.**-Near the place where St. Peter's church now stands originally a German Reformed church was erected about the time this region was settled. It was probably organized and the church erected about 1782. The first minister was Rev. Mr. Gaensel. Rev. Henry Deckert was the pastor about 1797, and Rev. Benjamin Boyer a number of years. The old church was built of hewn logs, and was used as a house of worship until 1816, when it was taken apart, floated down the Swatara river, and put up again as a dwelling house near Jonestown, Lebanon county, where it still remains.

In March, 1815, it was resolved to build a new union church for the Lutheran and Reformed congregations. The Lutherns elected Rev. George Mennig their pastor; Sebastian Spancake and John Bonawitz elders, Jonathan Seidel and John Zimmerman deacons. The officers of the Reformed congregation at this time were: Belthazzar Hautz and John Heberling, elders; Michael Huber and Michael Heberling, deacons.

On Whit-Monday, 1816, the corner stone of the new church was laid. The building committee were Michael Heberling, John Barr, Michael Huber, and Sebastin Spancake. The master mechanics were Bernard Henry, carpenter, and Henry Webber, mason. October 19th, 1817, the building was dedicated. It was built of stone, and had galleries on three sides. It was used in this form until 1870, when a basement was added at a cost of about $2,000. The congregation worshipping in this church is free from debt.

The members of the Lutheran congregation in St. Peter's, at the time of its organization, in 1816, were: John Barr, John Zimmerman, John Zimmerman, jr., Peter Zimmerman, Jonathan Seidel, John Bonawitz and wife, John Bonawitz, jr., John Zerbe and wife, Adam Lengel and wife, Susan Schnock, Catharine Hetzell, Susanna Schnock, Catherine Behr, Maria Beuchler, Elisabeth Buchler, Anna M. Minnig, Maria Berger, Maria Yarnell, Elizabeth Plantz, Regina Huber, Elizabeth Conrad, Christiana Hautz, Catharine Griebbaum, George Barr, and Fanny Christ.

No record has been kept of the Reformed congregation. Rev. John Gring was pastor for over thirty years, from 1826. Revs. Julius Kurtz, R. Appel, Reily, Graeff, and Heister have been pastors successively. The first pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran congregation, organized in 1816, was Rev. George Minnig, who served until the year 1833. From that time until 1855, the terms of the pastors' services are not recorded, but the following ministers served: Revs. J.F. Haesbert, M. Harpel, William G. Minnig, A. Gockelen, J.M. Dietzler, B. Fruehe and Julius Ehrhart. In the early part of 1855 Rev. Elias S. Henry was elected pastor of the Lutheran St. Peter's congregations, and he has served it up to this time, 26 years. There are 165 Lutheran communicants. The present elders are Simon Spancake and Absalom Gottschall; deacons, Levi Zimmerman and James Clemens; trustees, Benjamin Greenawalt, Aaron Huber and Adam Zimmerman. St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church was organized April 27th, 1845, by the adoption of a constitution and the election of Dr. John Kitzmiller and Henry Wile deacons. the following were constituent members: Dr. John Kitzmiller and wife Leah, Henry Wile and wife, Eliza, George Cressman and wife Mary, John Barr, sr.,
George Barr and wife Catherine, Victor L. Conrad, Sarah A. Conrad, Mary Conrad, Peter Filbert and wife Elizabeth, Antonetta Derby, William Graeff and wife Elizabeth, Anna Graeff, Mary Snyder, George R. Cressman, Adam Cressman, Henry Cressman, Catherine Cressman, Hannah Cressman, Sarah Cressman, Elijah Stees, Elizabeth Stimpfler, Anna Stimpfler, Mary Brandt, Dorcas Stackpole, William Eckert and wife Rebecca.

Rev. B. Sadler became pastor in 1845, Rev. E. Breidenbach in 1849, and Rev. Elias S. Henry, the present pastor, in 1852.

Of the original communicants only about a dozen are living and less than half that number are in connection with the church.

The present membership is one hundred and fifty.

In the constitution of the church no preference is given to the German or English language; and at present about five English sermons are preached to every two in the German tongue.

Services were at first held in the school-house, but early in 1845 Peter Filbert, John Kitzmiller, Augustin Helms, Frederic G. Werntz and Victor L. Conrad were appointed a building committee, and on the 21st of September of the same year the corner stone of the present church was laid. It was dedicated in December, 1846. It is of stone, 38 by 56 feet. It has recently been refurnished at considerable expense. The congregation owns also a comfortable and commodious parsonage.

The Sunday-school of this church was founded in 1836. The first superintendent was Frederick W. Conrad. Of the original members only William Farrier, the present librarian, and Miss Esther Conrad, the superintendent of the infant department, remain in the school. The superintendents have been Messrs. Conrad, Miller, Wharton, V.L. Conrad, John E. Graeff, James T. Kendall, George W. Channell and Benjamin Rose. It has three hundred scholars, divided into two departments, and twenty-five officers and teachers. It has two organs and a library of sixteen hundred volumes.

St. Paul's Evangelical Church.-In 1841 Rev. Francis Hoffman preached in the school house in Pine Grove for a time. In autumn of the same year a class of 40 was formed, with Mr. Levi Miller, sen., as leader, and Paul Barr as exhorter. This was the nucleus of the present Evangelical church, the constituent members of which were Levi Miller, John D. Rehrer, Paul Barr, Mrs. Levi Miller, Mrs. Mary Rehrer, Mrs. Paul Barr, Henry Schropp, Michael Heckler, Jacob Barr and wife, George Mars, Henry Wife, George Herman and wife, William Gorgas and wife, Jacob Rehrer, Henry Spancake, Solomon Manbeck and wife, John Huber, sen., and wife, George Heimback and wife, John Barr, Abbey Barr, Elias Thompson, Israel Thompson, George Fisher, Daniel Copenhaver, Susan Umperhacker, Isaac Huber, Henry Schropp and wife, John Huber and Julia Huber. Services were continued regularly in the school-house until 1842, when a large room in the private residence of Paul Barr was fitted up and used.

The first church building was erected and dedicated in 1843. The lot on which it stood-on Mill street-was donated by Levi Miller. The present church edifice is of brick, 40 by 60 feet, two stories in height. It was dedicated in 1864.


The congregation had at one time over 100 members in its communion, but quite a number emigrated and many died. Two parties have seceded and founded other churches. This is the mother congregation of several churches in this town. Its membership at present is 109, and divided into two classes, one English and the other German. John D. Reher is leader of the latter class and J.J. Krimmel exhorter. D.A. Medlar, the present pastor, is leader of the English class, and Charles F. Molly exhorter. The present trustees are Daniel Gensemer, J.J. Krimmel, Penrose Barto, Charles F. Molly and F.W. Reber.

Rev. J.O. Lehr preached the first English sermon in 1864, on Sunday evening. English services were continued from that time every two weeks until the Rev. Thomas Bowman, now a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church, was stationed there, who preached in English every Sunday evening. From that time to the present the services have been German in the morning and English in the evening. The congregation owns two organs, using one in the church service and the other in Sunday-school.

A Sunday-school connected with this church was organized April 13th, 1851, with about 30 scholars. Levi Miller was the first superintendent. The present number of pupils, teachers and officers is 240, and of volumes in the library 1,350.

Methodist Episcopal Church.-The Methodist Episcopal church of Pine Grove is the result of the spontaneous movement on the part of a number of persons who desired more English preaching than the established churches of the place afforded, and who appealed to this denomination as meeting their theological views and spiritual wants.

In February, 1876, these persons invited Rev. Theodore Stevens, then pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church of Lebanon, to preach for them, and at his suggestion Rev. Curtis F. Turner, presiding elder of Susquehanna district of the Philadelphia Conference, was requested to visit the place and inaugurate the steps leading to the organization of a Methodist church. Under his direction application was made to Bishop Gilbert Haven, presiding over the Philadelphia Conference, for recognition and the appointment of a pastor. On the 6th of April, 1876, Rev. W.J. Mills was appointed to the charge, and immediately entered upon his duties.
St. Peter's Lutheran and Reformed church was used. Here, on the 20th of April, the pastor completed the organization by receiving into fellowship 66 persons, many of whom had been members of other churches.

A valuable property on the corner of Tulpehocken and Mill streets was donated by Levi Miller, sen., and on this site a brick church in the gothic style of architecture, 70 by 40 feet, was erected. The lower story was dedicated December 17th, 1876, by Bishop Simpson. In the following spring the entire structure was completed, and the auditorium was dedicated on the 27th of May, 1877, also by Bishop Simpson.

A parsonage was built in the rear of the church edifice, fronting on Mill street. The entire church property is worth about $25,00, and is free from debt. Rev. T.M. Jackson became pastor in March, 1879. The church has 64 members and 14 probationers. The Sunday-school has about 200 members, and owns a library of about 650 volumes.

The United Brethren Church in Christ was organized in 1847 by Rev. J.A. Sand. Rev. Christian Kreider had preached here some time previous to the organization of the church. The following were the original members: Paul Barr and wife, Jacob Barr and wife, John Huber and wife, Henry Spancake and wife, Henry Shrop and wife, Jacob Bucher and wife, Lewis Hackman and wife, Peter Gamble and wife, William Lutz and wife and Frederick Spoorman. Paul Barr was appointed the first class leader. Meetings were first held in a portion of Paul Barr's house. The society built a church in 1847 on land donated by William Eckert. It is of wood, 35 by 42 feet, and cost about $2,000. The church was completed and dedicated in the fall of 1847. The building committee were Paul Barr, Jacob Barr, Frederick Spoorman and Henry Spancake.

The following have been the pastors of this church: J.A. Sand, Simon Noll, Lewis Cramer, George Smith, Jacob Rupp, David Hoffman, John Lowery, Jacob Deurkson, James G. Fritz, Lewis Fleisher, J.G. Clair, Samuel Etter, J. Binkley, Henry Hackman, James Shoop, Philip Shaeffer, William Uhler, J.F. Smith, ----Cranmer. The pulpit is at present supplied by Rev. Messrs. Shindler and Arnt. The number of members is about 40.

A Sunday-school was organized in 1847. S. Hikes was the superintendent over twenty two years. The school is kept up during the entire year, and numbers about 50 scholars.

**BIOGRAPHICAL**

**COLONEL JAMES L. NUTTING**

James L. Nutting was born in Cumberland county, Maine, June 12th, 1818. He was, therefore, 62 years and eight days old at the time of his death, which occurred June 20th, 1880. He was one of four sons of a sturdy New England farmer, and in his early youth followed farming until, by diligent application and a perseverance that never acknowledged failure, in connection with his arduous duties on the farm, he prepared himself to enter college at the age of twenty. In this preparation he had but meager assistance, as country districts in those days did not afford the advantages of a preparation for college. But with a thirst for knowledge, industrious and economical habits already well formed in him, and a strong will, he was able to surmount all difficulties, and entered Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, in 1838.

The same industrious habits that he had acquired in boyhood characterized him there. He was known among his fellow students as an honest, hard-working student, intent on acquiring an education, taking more delight in the pursuit of knowledge than engaging in the many freaks that belong to college classes. He was always regarded by his classmates as one competent and ready to give counsel, and in the weightier matters of college classes the advice and counsel of student Nutting were always sought. He graduated with honors at the age of twenty-four. His expenses at college were mainly met by his savings from teaching during the winter, when there was but little to do on the farm. This occupation he entered upon at sixteen.

After graduating Mr. Nutting turned his attention to the study of law, and entered the law office of Howard & Shepley, Portland, Maine. After completing his course of study here, and finding his savings entirely exhausted (sic), he betook himself again to the profession of teaching, for which he had a liking and possessed many eminent qualifications. He now turned his face toward the State of his adoption, and landed in Womelsdorf, Berks county, and at once opened the academy there, which had been for some time closed for the want of patronage. Under the supervision of Mr. Nutting it was fast becoming a popular institution of that town, but he had not determined to settle there, and at the intimation of Mr. Burns, now of Minersville, and a literary gentleman of some note, that he might find a fuller appreciation of his talents in Pine Grove, he removed to that place April 1st, 1847. He entered at once upon his profession here, teaching a private school upon a number of the public spirited citizens guaranteeing him a fixed salary until the public schools opened in the fall, when there was but little to do on the farm. This occupation he entered upon at sixteen.

Many active business men received their education under the charge of Mr. Nutting, and owe much of their success in life to the thorough training they received, and to the persevering and industrious habits that he taught by example as well as precept. He continued in charge of the school in Pine Grove for five years. He subsequently moved to New Berlin, this State, where he reopened an academy; but the profession failing to remunerate him sufficiently he was forced, like many others, to abandon it for the more remunerative pursuits of business life, and returned to Pine Grove, which he had already decided to make his future home.

In 1857, in partnership with John F. Derby, he became interested in the Pine Grove iron works, which they operated till 1864, when Mr. Nutting sold out, and entered
the coal firm of Borda, Kellar & Nutting. He subsequently became joint owner with William J. Lewis of the Eckert colliery, which they continued to operate till 1872, when he sold out his interest in the coal business, and retired almost to private life, with a competency as a reward for his industry and perseverance. During the time he was engaged in the iron business he not only attended to the business management of the firm, but it is said none of his employees worked harder than himself. No honest labor was too lowly for him to lay his hands to.

In 1872 he purchased the Brookside farm, to which he gave his personal supervision till the time of his death.

In 1876 he was nominated by acclamation as the unanimous choice of the Republicans of Schuylkill county for Congress, and was generally believed to have been honestly elected, although the certificate of election was given to his opponent, as having a majority of 81 votes on the returns. This election Mr. Nutting vigorously but vainly contested, being convinced that he had a majority of the votes cast. Subsequent to that date Mr. Nutting took little active part in politics, though an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party. His popularity with the masses was evidenced in the ballot, he having overcome a Democratic majority of 1,777 votes cast for the Presidential nominee, Samuel J. Tilden.

In the exceedingly active and partisan campaign no word of reproach could be brought against his public or private life. His most bitter opponents were forced to admit that his honor was irreproachable. The Standard, the Democratic organ of the county, was prompt to admit that his honor and honesty were untarnished, and that Mr. Nutting was a genial and clever gentleman, and like Mr. Hayes, there could not be much said against him.

During all his business and political life he never relaxed his interest in the cause of education, and was found as regular in attendance at the county institute, and as actively interested in the discussion of educational topics, as any of the teachers in the county. He was a member of the board of education of Pine Grove until his death.

Mr. Nutting believed that man was the architect of his own fortune; that he was his own best friend or worst enemy. While there was, probably, less selfishness in his character than belongs to the average of mankind, he believed thoroughly in the inherent qualities of one’s self, and that in them lay the future prospects and usefulness in life, rather than in borrowed advantages that circumstances might throw around one. In the development of better traits of character; in directing the energies and forming correct habits in the young, he was especially interested, and was always ready to extend the helping hand, or give the needed counsel to the furtherance of these ends. With the profligate habits, the desire for ease or some light and genteel employment, in which hands and clothes need not be soiled, that seem to characterize too many of the young of the present day, he had but little sympathy. He believed that these were not the means to develop the stronger traits of character that might be lying dormant within; that to develop the symmetrical statue from the unhewn ashlar required harder knocks from the hands and chisel of time. He was truly a self-made man, and his life an example of what persevering industry, honesty of purpose, and correct habits may attain to.

Though not a member of any church, no professing Christian or church member was found more regularly at the sanctuary than he, or more ready to give to the support of the gospel, and to whatever else advanced the interests of the church and the cause of Christ. His religion was in practice rather than in profession, and many a barrel of flour and bundle of dry goods found their way into the houses of the poor, while from his farm went many bags of potatoes and other produce to the deserving, without their being able to tell whence they came. He was always on the alert to find some one struggling to help himself, and was ever ready to extend the helping hand. He was greatly interested in the work of Sunday schools, and gave liberally toward their support. Most of the churches of Pine Grove, in their happy freedom from debt, own much to the liberality and perseverance of Mr. Nutting, for he not only gave liberally himself, but incited and persuaded others to do so. He was at one time elected treasurer of the German Reformed church, and in the building of the new Methodist Episcopal church was a member of the board of trustees. He had but little regard for the knotty points in theology, and troubled himself but little in regard to how many angels could stand on the point of a cambric needle. In the doctrinal points that too often divide churches and alienate them in sympathy he took but little interest, but in the broad principles of Christianity he was a firm believer; and there can be no doubt that he passed from earth in full sympathy with and an unwavering faith in the principles of Christianity. He died of apoplexy, suddenly and painlessly, supported in the arms of his daughter, Annie G. In church government he inclined the congregationalist form; for in that church, of which his parents were members, he received his early religious training. October 15th, 1851, he married Barbara Ann, daughter of William and Elizabeth Graeff, who died March 8th, 1877. To them were born three children, a little girl who died in infancy, February 22nd, 1854; Willie, who died March 26th, 1857, aged 4 years and 7 months; and Annie, who survives him. Of his father’s family his mother still survives him, living at the old homestead, Otisville, Maine, at the advanced age of 87. A sister, Mrs. Eastman, lives at Casco, Maine; and of two brothers, both his juniors, Albert lives with his aged mother at the homestead, and Lyman Nutting is the wellknown iron manufacturer of Lebanon, Pa., and is also well and favorably known in this county, having been engaged in the coal business of this county, and is still a member of the firm of Miller, Graeff & Co.
HENRY W. CONRAD

This prominent citizen of Schuylkill county was born in Worcester township, Montgomery county, Pa., on the 8th of February, 1789. He received a good education in the schools of that time, and learned mathematics and surveying in Norristown. In 1810 he was married to Elizabeth Hendale, of his native county, and soon after removed to Pine Grove, Schuylkill county. During the war of 1812-14 he was captain of a company of soldiers from the county, called out for the defense of Baltimore against the British troops, and he received a major's commission at the end of the war. In 1821 he was appointed prothonotary of Schuylkill county, by Governor Joseph Hister, and removed to Orwigsburg. He filled this office for three years, and in 1824 returned to Pine Grove, where he served as justice of the peace and deputy county surveyor for many years. He was widely known and popularly called Squire Conrad in the community. In 1837-39 he served as representative of the county for two sessions in the State Legislature, under the administrations of Governors George Wolf and Joseph Ritner. He was a strong advocate of the system of free schools, which was adopted by the State about that time. He was an active supporter of General Jackson, and a decided opponent of the United States bank. He also opposed the re-election of Governor Wolf for a third term, and in 1837 united with others of the Democratic party in nominating Hon. Henry A. Muhlenberg as a third candidate, which resulted in the election of Joseph Ritner, the candidate of the Whigs.

He took an active part in all public improvements, and in the opening and development of the anthracite coal trade. He was at one time part owner of some of the most valuable coal lands of that region, which have since been developed and become worth millions of dollars.

During the last few years of his life his health was much impaired, and he died at Pine Grove on the 14th of May, 1841. The death of his widow occurred on the 12th of January 1852. The remains of both repose in the cemetery of St. John's Lutheran Church at Pine Grove.

He was the father of eleven children, three of whom died quite young. Two sons survive--Rev. Frederick W. Conrad, D.D., editor, and Professor Victor L. Conrad, Ph.D., associate editor of the Lutheran Observer, Philadelphia, where both reside. Of the daughters, Miss Esther Conrad has made teaching her life profession, and resides at Pine Grove. Sarah A. Conrad was married to Rev. E.S. Henry, September 12th, 1853, and died August 12th, 1869. Charlotte E. Conrad became the wife of William Forrer on June 16th, 1846, and died May 25th, 1853. Frances Valeria Conrad was married to Rev. Richard P. Thomas in 1855, and resides in Springfield, Ohio.

Henry W. Conrad, the subject of this sketch, was a man of strong intellect and striking traits of character. He possessed a wide range of information and had extraordinary powers of conversation. He could interest and adapt himself to all classes of persons, from the most illiterate to the most highly cultured. His social address and his personal magnetism were so marked that all who made his acquaintance soon felt that they were in the presence of a natural leader among men.

VICTOR L. CONRAD, PH.D.,

was born at Pine Grove, on the 7th of October, 1824. During his early youth he attended the school of the village, and subsequently studied at an academy in Waynesboro, Pa., during several winters. In 1841 he was appointed collector of tolls on the Union Canal and Railroad, at Pine Grove, having succeeded Dr. F.W. Conrad, his brother, in that office. He entered Pennsylvania College in 1844, and graduated there in 1848. He subsequently pursued a theological course in the seminary at Gettysburg, and was licensed to preach in 1851 by the Synod of East Pennsylvania.

In 1853 he removed to Springfield, Ohio, to assume the editorship of The Evangelical Lutheran, a new church paper just started there. In 1854 he was married to Miss H.D. Bartlett, daughter of the late Jonathan Bartlett, of Maine. In consequence of inadequate patronage the new paper was discontinued, and in 1856 Prof. Conrad removed to Pittsburgh, Pa., where he had been chosen principal of the ninth ward public school. In the following year he removed to Dayton, Ohio, where he took charge of Cooper Seminary for young ladies, which he conducted until the war of the Rebellion broke out, in 1861. In 1862 he removed to New York city, and was engaged in business there until 1867, when he was elected professor of natural sciences in Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, and removed to that place. In 1870 he resigned his professorship and removed to Philadelphia, where he has been engaged as associate editor of the Lutheran Observer until the present time.

F.W. CONRAD, D.D.,

was born at Pine Grove, January 3d, 1816. After a common school education, he entered Mount Airy college, Germantown, in 1828, and prosecuted his studies there for three years. In 1834, at the age of 18, he was appointed collector of tolls on the Union Canal and Railroad at Pine Grove, and continued in this official position until 1841. He attended a course of catechetical instruction by Rev. Marcus Harpel in 1836, which resulted in her conversion and union with the Lutheran church in that year. This wrought an entire change in his character and plans for life, and he resolved to devote himself to the ministry. In the fall of 1837 he entered the theological seminary at Gettysburg, Pa., and prosecuted the theological course of that institution for two years, and was admitted to the ministry and licensed to preach by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania at Allentown in 1839. In the meantime he had been preaching in English and German at Pine Grove and vicinity for several years.
through which many persons were converted and the moral and religious character of the entire community was changed. In 1841 he was
married to Miss Rebecca Filbert, daughter of Peter Filbert, of Pine Grove, and accepted a call to the pastorate of the Lutheran churches at
Waynesboro, Franklin county, Pa., and vicinity; and served that charge for three years, during which extensive revivals of religion took
place under his ministrations. In 1844 he was called to the pastorate of the Lutheran church at Hagerstown, Md., where he continued over
six years, when he was elected professor of modern languages in Wittenberg college, and of homiletics in the theological department of
that institution, at Springfield, Ohio, and removed there in 1850. Here he remained five years, and in 1855 he became pastor of the First
Lutheran church at Dayton, Ohio, to which he ministered for nearly seven years, during which time the present large and handsome church
difice of that congregation was erected. In 1862 he accepted the pastorate of old Trinity church at Lancaster, Pa., and in 1864 was called
to the Lutheran church at Chambersburg. While pastor of this church the town was burned by the rebel troops, under General McCausland,
and his house, though not burned, was pillaged by the invaders.

While at Lancaster he became joint owner and editor of the Lutheran Observer, and on the removal of that paper from Baltimore
to Philadelphia he resigned his church at Chambersburg, removed to Philadelphia in 1866, and became editor-in-chief of the Observer, in
which position he has continued to the present time. For about six years after his removal to Philadelphia he served as pastor of Messiah
Lutheran Church, during which time its present edifice at the corner of Sixteenth and Jefferson streets was partly built.

Dr. Conrad has led a most active life, and been prominent in all the general enterprises and work of the Lutheran Church in this
country, in connection with the General Synod. During his early ministry extensive revivals of religion occurred under his ministrations at
different places; and his efforts to promote the establishment and endowment of literary and theological institutions have been highly
successful. For many years his services have been in great demand at the dedication of new Lutheran churches in various parts of the
country, and he has thus officiated in hundreds of instances, with marked success in securing large contributions from the people to free
their churches from debt. He has also delivered many educational and patriotic addresses on special occasions in various places, and he is
still actively engaged in promoting the general work of the church in all its departments.

**DR. JOHN KITZMILLER**

This highly esteemed citizen of Pine Grove was born near Myerstown, Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, on the 14th day of March,
1815. He was the son of Emanuel and Catharine Kitzmiller. In his youth he received a respectable education, and in his early manhood he
entered upon the study of medicine in the office of his uncle, Dr. Augustine Holmes, at Myerstown. About the year 1835 he removed with
his preceptor to Pine Grove, and begin the practice of medicine there. In a few years after, however, he relinquished his profession, and
engaged in the mercantile and coal business, with Mr. Reuben H. Stees as partner, under the name of Kitzmiller & Stees. This firm
continued for about twenty years, when Mr. Levi Miller became a partner, and a few years later the firm was consolidated with that of
Graeff & Nutting, under the name of Kitzmiller, Graeff & Co., in which he continued as senior partner up to the time of his sudden death,
in 1864.

In February, 1839, he was married to Miss Leah Filbert, eldest daughter of Peter Filbert, Esq., a lady of most lovely Christian
character, who died in June, 1862. Their only daughter, Miss Mary Ida Kitzmiller, in 1872 became the wife of Professor Edward S.
Breidenbaugh, of Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, where she now resides.

The manner of Dr. Kitzmiller's death was peculiarly painful and distressing. He was accustomed to visit the collieries of the firm
almost every day. In August, 1864, he drove in a buggy as usual to their mine at Rausch Creek, where he left his horse and walked from
there over to the Lorberry colliery. On his return he found his horse had become greatly excited and alarmed by the noise of the coal
breakers. He therefore led him for some distance before he ventured to enter the buggy and drive him. Soon after he had mounted,
however, the horse became unmanageable and ran rapidly along the road. The buggy struck a rock and he was thrown out upon a front
wheel, where his foot was caught between the wheel and the shaft, and, thus fastened, he was dragged under the vehicle at full speed for
a mile and a half. When the horse was finally stopped his mangled body was extricated, but life was extinct.

Dr. Kitzmiller was so universally esteemed and beloved by all classes of people that his sudden and tragic death spread a gloom
of profound sorrow over the community, and multitudes from all over the entire region came to mourn at his obsequies. All felt that in him
they had lost a true personal friend and brother.

As a citizen Dr. Kitzmiller was deeply interested and active in many movements to improve the town, to develop the resources of
the region, and to advance the educational and religious interests of the community. During the late war he contributed largely of his means
to equip out volunteer soldiers and to support their families. He was a special friend of the poor and relieved the wants of many, and none
who needed assistance ever applied to him in vain. He was a member and officer of St. John's Lutheran Church, and one of its original
founders. He was a devoted Christian, and all the graces of the highest Christian character were strikingly illustrated in his life and
conduct. Indeed, his entire character was so eminently marked by strict integrity in all business transactions and relations, and by such
uniform kindness, benevolence and charity that his memory is cherished by all who knew him as that of one of the noblest and best of men.
PETER FILBERT

This prominent citizen of Pine Grove was born at Bernville, Berks county, Pa., in 1794. His ancestors were Germans, and originally came from Wittemberg, in Saxony. His father, Samuel Filbert, died when Peter was an infant six months old, and at an early age he became the ward of Francis Umbenhauer. When a boy he had only the advantage of three months’ instruction in an English school, and was employed by his uncle Philip Filbert in a store and hotel in Bernville. In 1810 he bound himself to Jacob Filbert as an apprentice to learn the carpenter’s trade, and served in this capacity for three years and a half. In 1814 he enlisted among the troops called out for the defence of Baltimore against the British army, and marched under Captain Smith to Springfield camp, near that city, and after the retreat of the British troops was honorable discharged from service.

Afterwards he worked at his trade for several years, and in 1818 was married to Elizabeth Stoudt, of Berks county, who still (1881) survives him, at the age of 84 years. In 1820 he removed to Pine Grove and took charge of the Pine Grove forge, which was then the only improvement about the place, excepting a few scattered houses. In 1829 the Union canal was located near the forge, which was then abandoned, and from 1829 to 1831 he was engaged in erecting building and making other improvements in the village. Among the houses then built by him are the Hilbert homestead-Hazel Hall-the Pine Grove Hotel and the late residence of the Graeff family, of which he was the architect and owner. For a number of years he kept the Pine Grove Hotel, which he built, and took an active part in the improvement of the town. He was a member of the first town council, and aided largely in opening and improving the streets. He took a deep interest in public schools, and was treasurer of the school board for many years.

In 1836 he engaged in partnership with Benjamin Hale, of Harrisburg, in running a line of coaches between Harrisburg, in running a line of coaches between Harrisburg and Pottsville. In 1840 he rented his hotel, removed to his family residence, and engaged in farming and in the manufacture of brick and lumber. He was a man of superior judgment and great prudence and forethought, and, although he became one of the largest individual land owners of the county, he sustained himself amid all the financial reverses of the times.

He took an active part in political affairs, and was an influential member of the Whig party. In the Presidential election of 1840 he was chosen a member of the electoral college of Pennsylvania and cast his vote in favor of the successful candidates, General William Henry Harrison for President, and John Tyler for Vice-President of the United States. After the dissolution of the Whig party he united with the Republican party, and at the breaking out of the Rebellion of the South he gave freely of his means and influence for its suppression and the maintenance of the Union. His two youngest sons—Major Peter H. Hilbert (sic) and William H. Hilbert (sic)—responded to the first call of President Lincoln for troops, and served in the Union army during the war.

Mr. Filbert was the father of ten children, six of whom still survive. His daughters Leah and Rebecca were educated in the Moravian school at Litz, Pa., and the former became the wife of Dr. John Kitzmiller, and the latter of Rev. Dr. F.W. Conrad, of Philadelphia, editor of the Lutheran Observer. Four of his sons—Samuel P., Edward T., Peter H. and William H. Filbert—reside at Pine Grove, and John A. Filbert, another son, resides near Schuylkill Haven at the present time.

In early life, at Bernville, Mr. Filbert was confirmed by Rev. Mr. Riemensnyder as a member of the Lutheran Church, and from his removal to Pine Grove in 1820 he was a member and officer of St. Peter's German Reformed and Lutheran Church at that place until 1845. He then withdrew and united with others in the organization of St. John's Lutheran Church in the village, and it was largely through his influence and means that the present church edifice of that congregation was erected upon one of his lots. He was chairman of the building committee, a member of the church council and a regular communicant until the date of his death, which occurred on the 14th of February, 1864, at the age of 69 years and eight months.

Personally Mr. Filbert was a man of highly social disposition, and he enjoyed the esteem and attachment of many warm personal friends. He had a genial spirit and pleasant humor which rendered him exceedingly companionable to his intimate friends, who often enjoyed his droll remarks, spiced as they were with genuine pleasantry and wit. He was at the same time a man of sound judgment and remarkable sagacity, a sincere friend and wise counsellor, and always gave his influence in favor of the right in all public and private affairs.
PORTER TOWNSHIP

This township, named after Governor David Porter, is situated in the extreme western portion of Schuylkill county. It was taken from Lower Mahantongo township in 1840. A portion was set off to form part of Frailey seven years later. The population in 1850 was 305; 1860, 360; 1870, 1,167; 1880, 2,628.

Williams Valley, one of the most picturesque in Pennsylvania, famed for the beauty of its scenery, derives its name from two men, father and son, Daniel and Ennier Williams, who as early as 1774 took up two tracts of land in their own names, and a number of others in the names of Cline, Scull, Mifflin, Cox and Lengel. It is reported that Ennier William, the son, lived a few years in the valley during the Revolution, but the tradition cannot be positively verified. He was, on his mother's side, of Indian blood, she having been a daughter of Kushwa, chief of the Kushwa tribe, a branch of the Delawares.

Daniel Williams, the father, was noted for his stature, standing, as is related, six feet four inches in height, with broad shoulders and a deep chest, and having remarkable long arms and large hands. Traditions of this man are numerous and all of them agree that physically and mentally he was extraordinary.

Peters Mountain, a singular formation, divides the township into two valleys, Williams and another known as Clark's, starting just opposite the old Seeley house, and extending to the Susquehanna. This in olden times was a great deer hunting ground, and sportsmen came from long distances annually to hunt there.

A large portion of the lands in this township not taken up by the Williamses was the property of James Wilson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and a judge of the Supreme Court of the United States. Wilson never occupied these lands, and about 1796 all his land was sold, and one John Lewis Barde, an iron monger of Birdsboro, Berks county, became the owner. Barde was subsequently sold out by the sheriff of Berks county (Schuylkill county being then a part of Berks county), under judgment, and all the coal and timber lands which were originally Wilson's became vested in Samuel A. Munson and Helen E.M. Williams, of Utica, N.Y., who in February, 1872, conveyed them to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, which now owns and operates them.

Stony Garden is a stretch of considerable length of small stones, conglomerate, which seem to have been washed down from the mountain. It is a very singular freak of nature and must be seen to be appreciated.

In 1803 one Daniel Green, of Reading, Pa., wandering into this boundless expanse of timber located on the top of Broad mountain, and built the first house, a log one, which afterward became known as the Keffer tavern stand. In 1805, becoming disgusted with his venture, Green sold out to one Christian Bartsche, who the next year sold to Joseph Keffer. Keffer continued in possession until about 1830, when he removed to Milton, Pa.

The Keffer tavern, being situated on the road running from Tulpehocken, in Berks county, to Sunbury, in Northumberland county, became a landmark known of all men. It was the rendezvous of teamsters, cattle drovers, and country produce dealers generally. During the war of 1812, or rather what was then called the Baltimore war, it was the hiding place of drafted men. The saw-mill at the back of the tavern was their retreat.

The Keffer tavern, after Joseph Keffer left it, was occupied continuously as a tavern until 1880, when it was destroyed by fire. Among those who resided there were Daniel Harvey, Francis Sporetzer, Nicholas Bretzius, William Hall, Jacob Ernst, Charles Feather, Samuel Kimmel, Jacob Kenemel, John Brown, Edward F. Wiest, William Hechler and Emanuel Jenkin, who resided there at the time of the fire.

The saw-mill still stands, but is in a dilapidated condition.

Where Jonathan Mactimer now resides, in Tower City, one Jonathan Neidlinger built a house, afterward used for church purposes, and cleared a small piece of land. South and a little west of the Seeley log house there was erected a saw-mill, about the year 1837, now totally destroyed; and directly west, on the same (Wiconisco) creek, a large stone grist-mill was erected, which stands to-day, known as Thompson's; it is operated by David Underkoffer, and owned by Mrs. Jesse Grim.

On the site of the residence of Henry Row, about 1842, there was erected a house and barn of considerable dimensions, and the first post-office and store were located there, and known until 1869 as Bearmont post-office and store, when the office was abandoned as such, and Joliet, on top of the mountain, Johnstown post-office, and Tower City post-office took its place. Daniel and Elias Schucker were the owners of this property and also of a large farm of about 360 acres lying farther up the valley. They sold out to George Reiner, Jacob Kohler, and Henry and M.C. Row.

After the formation of the township, and subsequently to the triennial assessment of 1841, the following named persons were the ruling characters of the township, and

In 1829 George Werner took up a tract of land of 340 acres, or thereabouts, near the northern boundary line of Porter, and lived there for several years. He had a brother Christopher, of Stoffle, as he was called, who died about 1869 in Fox's valley, a short distance west of uncle Abraham Ernst's. Stoffle Werner was a character in his way—jovial, hardy, ready for hard work or play, fond of children and a "hale fellow well met" generally, he roamed through the country roundabouts. Williams valley was his especial delight, and he related to the writer on once occasion an incident which he thought much of. While hunting on Peters mountain, in 1843, in company with John I. Seeley, they came to the "big deer lick." It was very cold, and Stoffle suggested to Seeley the propriety of building a fire at which to warm while they were watching the lick; Seeley, after taking a pull at the bottle, started in search of wood. He had hardly gone fifty yards when a large buck came down the pate evidently chased by some other hunters or worried by dogs. Stoffle on the spur of the moment grasped his rifle, aimed and the buck, shot him through the neck, and lodged the bullet in Seeley's thigh. Seeley was lame from that time till his death, and the deer that was shot through the neck never put in an appearance.

Shortly after the Seeleys came into Williams valley, there was a man living on Stony mountain called the "Pirate." The Pirate was a man of huge dimensions, and with a bear which would vie with that of Rip Van Winkle. He claimed to have been sent by Thomas O'Brien of Reading, to take possession in the name of Chamberlin, O'Brien & Co., and built a little hut on the side of the mountain, which afterwards was occupied by Isaac Sponsler.

The first brick building in the township was a dwelling erected in 1870 by John B. Mattis, an enterprising tanner, who also built a steam tannery, which is the only one in the township and is at present in operation (1881).

The merchants of Porter are as follows: A.B. Evans (2 stores), William Elliott, C.W. Sherman & Co. (2 stores), Esaias Brown, Isaac M. Evans, Miller & Son, all doing a general country merchant business; Mrs. M.F. Graves, millinery; Samuel S. Shultz, hardware; Peter Grakelow, confectionary.

The following public houses are kept by the persons named: Tower City House, H.K. Updegrave; Union House, Daniel E. Kaufman; the Joliet House, E. Jenkin; Henry Tallman's, Benjamin Charlesworth's, Henry Cosgrove's, N.C. Nelson's, Henry Maus's and Samuel Knight's.

Up to 1870 there was no regular physician in the township. Practitioners since then have been Drs. E.F. Phillips, S. DeVeny, A.M. Miller, R.B. Wilson, A.O. Miller and J.K. Haak.

J. Wallace McCool is a practicing attorney.

The churches now in use were all erected within the last twenty years. But one of them—the Methodist—has a regularly located pastor, Rev. William Powick.

The others are the Evangelical, Lutheran and United Brethren in Christ, supplied from time to time by different neighboring preachers.

There are two brick and framed school-houses, now under the charge of six young men and two ladies, viz: F.P. Henry, J.B. Weidler, J.B. Moyer, Isaac Kimble, J. Nelson Stuck, Philip Updegrave and Misses Sophy Brodt and Emily Lehman.

The oldest school-house was a log building, which was destroyed by boys. The school directors for 1881 are: H.K. Updegrave, W.M. Porter, Adam Hand, Henry Follman, William A. Grakelow and John Stoup. The school district is out of debt and the present buildings are good and substantial.

**EARLY COAL HISTORY**

Between the years 1820 and 1830 the coal fever, so called, broke out in the anthracite region, and its influence was strongly felt in the Porter district. Dr. Benjamin Becker and Joseph W. Cake, two well-known citizens of Pennsylvania, embarked in the enterprise. Coal lands were booming, and as high as $100 per acre was paid for land (on paper), which was supposed to be a bonanza in coal. The sequel made manifest the fact that all that glitters is neither gold nor coal.

During the coal excitement Oramel Barrett, editor of the Patriot, of Harrisburg, Ovid F. Johnston, John Sneveling, Charles N. Snyder and a number of others became interested in the lands in Porter now owned by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and iron Company.

Ebenezer Seeley and his son John T., of New York, took up their residence in the valley and built the log house on the bank of Wiconisco creek, now immediately opposite the Tower City house, and for a long time occupied by Levi Fehler. The Seeleys came with the avowed intention of opening up the coal region. With indomitable courage, but a slim purse, they started what is now known as the "Red Shale tunnel." The project was one which, if carried out, would have been a success, but the "the plans of men and mice gang aft aglee." To-day Seeley's tunnel bank stands as a monument of an inglorious attempt.

With the rush of early settlers came a man who, amongst all, was one to behold. Wendall Houtz, the elder, on horseback visited this region and upon view determined to settle. He was noted as the strong man of the mountain, and many interesting anecdotes of his prowess could be related. His descendants, John Wendell, and Jonathan, John's son, have held prominent positions in the township.

John Hand, the father of the later men in the name, held high position as a father of the valley. John Hand was a man of very little education; but, with good strong common sense, he fully appreciated the fact that education was the greatest desideratum of all. To enhance this idea he gave for the benefit of the township about eight acres of land for church and school purposes,
which to-day is worth ten fold what it would be under any other circumstances. Upon this land was erected a log church, which in early days was used also as a school-house. This log building, having become useless, was torn down about 1878 by a parcel of boys.

The Seeley tunnel was intended to be driven through Big Lick mountain to Rausch Gap, where William H. Yohe now resides, in Hegin township. It was driven for upwards of eighty yards and then abandoned. It is within the bounds of the present village of Tower City.

The Harrisburg parties had obtained a charter in the name of "The Williams Valley Railroad and Mining Company," subsequently changed to "Schuylkill and Dauphin Improvement company." Owing to the fact that the original warrants located in this region had been covered by later warrants and surveys in other names, the company became involved in litigation which finally ruined it. The location of its railroad (a very desirable one) was from the tunnel south-westwardly down Clark's valley to the Susquehanna. The fact that the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company has already taken out several millions of tons of coal in the immediate vicinity shows clearly that these pioneers had a good and clear idea of what they were about.

TOWER CITY

Tower City was laid out in June, 1868, by and upon the lands of C. Tower, then of Pottsville, now of Philadelphia; Johnstown in 1869, by and upon lands of John Dietrich; Reiner City in 1869, by and upon lands of George Reiner; Sheridan in 1870, by and upon lands of Alexander Thompson. Ostermanville, named in honor of H.J. Osterman, of Tremont, who superintended the coal operations of Henry and William J. Schmorle, who claimed the land, was surveyed in 1864.

There are two burying grounds in Porter, the older of which is at Johnstown, the other at Tower City.

The following local organizations of secret societies hold regular meetings at Tower City:

Washington Camp, No. 54, Patriotic Sons of American; a lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; a lodge of Knights of Pythias; William Thompson Post Grand Army of the Republic. Sketches of them in detail have not been furnished for this work.

RAHN TOWNSHIP

Rahn township was formed out of West Penn in 1860. It is a coal township, though some timber tracts are still within it, and in the Owl Creek valley a few farms indicate an attempt at agriculture. The population was 1,227 in 1870, and 2,131 in 1880.

Berkhard Moser was the original settler. Together with one Houser he took up a track of 2,000 acres, which was partially brought under cultivation. The first discovery of coal was made where Greenwood slope is now located.

Greenwood breaker property was opened successfully about 1838, and up to 1860 the output was nominal. Charles F. Shoener and William T. Carter became the owners in the latter year, and Mr. Shoener, purchasing the entire concern, made extensive improvements, costing $1,000,000, which returned him during the year fifty thousand dollars a month, and sold in 1866 for $500,000. In the days of its greatest prosperity 700 men and boys were employed, and 100 cars of coal a day shipped to market. The breakers were burned down in 1874 by the Mollie Maguires and have never been rebuilt. Their partial ruins are standing today.

Number eight tunnel, at Coal Dale, was commenced in 1846, and coal was struck in 1849. The first contractors were Creedam, Peckham and Steele. The next contractor was Cortright. Since 1868 the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre coal and Navigation Company have had charge. Four hundred men and boys are employed.

Number ten tunnel was started in April, 1861, and today is one of the most profitable worked of all the company's collieries. There are employed some 500 men and boys. A new breaker, built during the winter of 1880 and 1881, will greatly increase the shipments, and be the first breaker in the Panther Creek valley from which coal was sent direct to market. This colliery is on the Mammoth vein, which is here an average of sixty feet in thickness, and its tracks under ground are ten miles in length.

The Dry Hollow breaker, or number eleven, very near number ten, was opened in 1875.

COAL DALE

Coal Dale is a scattered village, almost exclusively of framed buildings. The first dwelling houses were erected in 1846 and were composed of six blocks, two in each, standing were number eight culm banks now are, and known as Bugtown. Houses were erected in 1848 at old Coal Dale, twelve double blocks on the Summit Hill road. New Wales, or New Coal Dale, began to receive attention in 1868 or 1869. The blocks on the line of Schuylkill and Carbon counties were put up in 1870.

The Evangelical church was organized and its chapel completed in 1869. It is connected with the Barnesville circuit.
The Welsh Congregational church of Coal Dale was organized November 20th, 1871, with thirty members. Its pastor from that time to the present has been Rev. David E. Hughes. The neat framed church was built in 1876, and dedicated in January, 1877. The present membership of the church is 50. The Sunday-school was organized about 1860, the first superintendent being Rev. Mr. Hughes.

Coal Dale was created a post village in 1871, with Charles F. Goslie as postmaster, D.E. Hughes taking the place one year later and holding it ever since. Mr. Hughes is a useful man in his community, serving the people as a justice of the peace, postmaster, storekeeper and preacher. Few men wield a better influence than he does among his countrymen.

GEARYTOWN

Gearytown was first brought to notice in 1866. A dwelling was erected in October of that year, and occupied by Richard Boyd. The town was named in honor of the then Governor, John W. Geary. The Bull Run houses were put up by the company in 1864. Shortly after the mines began working the population rapidly increased, and many blocks of houses were built, all by the company.

The Primitive Methodist church, Rev. E Davis pastor, was organized and St. John's chapel built in 1877, when Rev. Daniel Savage was the pastor. It is a modest framed edifice at the valley and summit cross roads, costing some $700.

EDUCATIONAL AND OTHER INTERESTS

The school interests of Rahn are carefully looked after by a board of directors annually elected. There are five schoolhouses, nine schools and nine teachers.

In Coal Dale and vicinity, Bull Run, Gearytown, Centreville, Spring Tunnel and Dry Hollow there are about 255 dwelling houses, 380 in the whole township, and about 370 families. Over 100 dwelling houses have been built since 1869.

The merchants in Coal Dale are W.S. Hobart & Co., (company store), Thomas downs, E.G. Zern, and T.E. Powell. Since 1873 the Central Railroad of New Jersey has run regular passenger trains east and west each day, and the old stage line is abandoned.

The Mollie Maguires ran riot for many years through the Coal Dale end of the district, and in common with other sections for a time the law had no force; but the rightful state of things returned in 1875, with the check brought to bear upon the organization of murderers, and peace and order are now the rule, and not the exception.

TAMAQUA BOROUGH

In 1799 Berkhard Moser, of Northampton county-now Lehigh-a German, to better his condition and provide for the wants of a growing family, left his home and directed his steps to this narrow valley of Tamaqua, and settled at the junction of Panther creek and Little Schuylkill river. In September of the same year he built a saw-mill, the first building of any kind in the borough, and in 1801 a log house, which stands today at the base of Dutch hill, and is occupied by the Naphf family. He was accompanied by his son Jacob, born in 1790 and still living, and by John Kershner, a daughter of whom, Mrs. B.F. Heilner, resides on Dutch hill, near the original settlement.

Mr. Moser was an industrious man, clearing the forest around his mill and laying out a farm, never dreaming that beneath his fields lay the great seams of coal, the mining of which was in future years to open employment to tens of thousands. February 15th, 1822, Mrs. Moser died. This was the first death of an adult person in the place. In April of the same year John Kershner passed away. The first business relied upon to support the infant town was agriculture, which, with the manufacture of lumber, was the principal industry for twenty year. For this purpose the elevated sloping land east of the borough, as well as that upon the immediate north, was chosen by Moser.

In 1817 anthracite coal was discovered by Berkhard Moser and his son Jacob. For a number of years the quantity mined, consumed and marketed was very inconsiderable; first sales being made to blacksmiths, and some was taken over the Blue mountains in sacks and sole at seven to twelve cents per bushel. Sales increased until in 1832, when the record first begins, they amounted to 14,000 tons.

Greenwood was the spot of the first discovery, and the last coal mined at Tamaqua was there, in 1874, when the extensive breakers were burned and the mines ruined, at a loss of $1,500,000. Up to 1874 Tamaqua alone had given to the markets 23,000 tons.

Mrs. Barbara Whetstone, who died January 12th, 1879, was a daughter of Berkhard and Catharine Moser, born July 22nd, 1796, in Lynn, Lehigh county. She was married to John Whetstone, December 25th, 1820, in the old log hut, where she lived one year, and where now her niece resides. Hers was the first marriage in the place. The first birth was that of Mary Kershner, in 1808. She was a sister of Mr. Heilner.

For the space of twenty-five years from the first settle-
ment in 1799 but few dwellings were erected. The town was laid out from parts of West Penn and Schuylkill townships in 1829, at which time the population was about 150. The design was to name it Tuscarora, but some enterprising person arose too early in the morning for the pioneers and gave that Indian name to the village four miles west. As the waters of the Tamaqua, rechristened Wabash, the west branch of the Little Schuylkill, passed through the tract, it was decided to name the infant with the name of the creek, Tamaqua, which is Indian for running water.

In 1832 the town was incorporated. The population was 300, and rapidly increasing. July 26th, 1833, the first borough officers, having been then recently elected, were formally organized as follows: John Franklin, chief burgess; David Hunter, president of council; Charles D. Cox, William Caldwell, William George, John N. Speece, and Lewis Audenreid, councilmen.

Improvements were rapid in 1846-47. New or Hunter street was laid out, many miners' houses were built, two large brick stores were erected by J. and R. Carter and James Taggart. There was a large influx of enterprising men. The business interests in 1846 were represented as follows: Merchants, 7; agents, 4; blacksmiths, 5; cabinet-makers, 2; butchers, 3; hucksters, 2; miners, 65; hotel-keepers, 5; carpenters, 12; tailors, 2; shoemakers, 4; boarding-house keepers, 6; clerks, 4; laborers, 44; physicians, 5; watchmakers, 1; tinsmiths, 1.

The principal coal operators at that time were J. and R. Carter, Heaton & Carter, Harlan & Henderson, R. Radcliffe & Co., William Donaldson, and James Taggart. In 1862 there were Charles F. Shoener, J. Donaldson & Co., H. Dintinger, George W. Cole; later, E.J. Fry, George Wiggan, Henry L. Cake, Gideon Whetstone, Richard Winlack, William T. Carter. The colliers operated in the vicinity were known as the East Lehigh, the Greenwood, the Alaska, the Newkirk, the East-East, the Buckville, the Reedsdale.

Under the act of 1851, a petition was presented December 7th, 1851, praying for a charter; which was granted by the court March 22nd, 1852.

Concerning the formation of the new borough government the records are singularly silent. John A. Smith was the chief burgess in 1852, followed by Michael Beard. There are no records of the councilmen. From 1865 to 1879 Herman B. Graeff was clerk of the council; the present incumbent is Samuel Beard.

The borough government, January, 1881, is composed as follows: William Priser, chief burgess; Robert C. Sleath, high constable; H.A. Weldy, Edward F. Shindel, Daniel Shepp, John Horn, Thomas D. Boone, Charles Steigerwald, councilmen; George Kneiss, supervisor. In 1840 the population was 464; in 1850, 3,080; in 1860, 4,919; in 1870, 5,960; and in 1880, 5,751. This decrease is owing chiefly to the idleness of all the coal works since 1874.

In September, 1832, the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, claiming a parcel of land in that part of the town near the hotel of John Zehner, now the Washington House, Pine street, which rightfully belonged to the Kershner family, employed a company of men to erect a log house upon it and place a tenant there, so that they might obtain the benefit of possession. They did it in twelve hours, but high constable Bannan came along at the close of the job, armed with both warrant and rifle, and marched the party off to Orwigsburg.

The whole matter was amicable settled, however.

Up to the time of the erection and laying out of the towns, in 1829, but little had been attempted at improvement, either in the intellectual or moral condition of the people. Rev. Mr. Schellhart lived with John Kershner and taught his and other children. Early in 1830 a school-house was erected upon the lot now occupied by the residence of Mrs. H.L. McGuigan, Broad and Nescopeck streets. That house was afterward called the "little school-house," being some 18 by 20 feet in size, although it served for many years as a school-house, an election place and for religious worship and public meetings generally. The stratagem by which the vote of the district including Tamaqua was, in 1834, carried for free schools is spoken of on page 93. Early teachers were John Sims, who received $35 a month, Miss Rhoda Dodson, Miss Van Dusen and Miss McCaffy. The present directors are Lucian H. Allen, C.B. Dreher, A.H. Glassmire, Philip Stein, Philip A. Krebs and E.S. Soliday. R.L. Ditchburn, borough superintendent, has been connected thirty years with the schools. Professor E.A. Ehrhart is principal of the high school.

Tamaqua schools number 16, kept in three buildings valued at $40,000. The scholars attending number 1,351; the school term is nine months; cost per capita to educate scholars 42 cents; the average salary to male teachers is $65; to female teachers, $25.07. The school tax levied in 1880 was rated at 6 mills; the total receipts paid were $35,047.85; the expenditures, $32,481.70.

In 1849 William J. Harlan awakened the public mind to the desirability of having a system of water supply. At an expense of $23,000 Tamaqua constructed her first water works. On municipal improvements alone the borough has expended $850,000 to 1881, fully $150,000 of which has been upon the water supply. The Rabbit run and springs furnish the reservoir, located two miles from the town, at the farm of Henry Enterline, in the New England district of Walker township, and the capacity is 15,000 gallons. The water supply is under the direction of the council.

JOURNALISM

The newspaper history of Tamaqua covers a period of thirty-two years, and centers nearly in the office of the Tamaqua courier. The Tamaqua legion was started in July, 1849, by J.M. and D.C. Reinhart, the name being altered in 1855 to the Tamaqua Gazette. In January, 1857, the name was again altered, to the Tamaqua Anthracite Gazette. The paper suspended publication two months in 1861, and was then sold to R.N Leyburn, who changed the name to the Anthracite Journal. Captain Leyburn joined the army a year later, and Fry &
Jones assumed proprietorship until his return. The paper was then sold to the Monitor Publishing Company.

Albert Leyburn published the Saturday Courier until it was sold to Eveland & Shiffert, in 1872. It was afterward published by Eveland & Harris until 1873, when Eveland, Harris & Richards took charge, and the paper was renamed the Tamaqua Courier. A.S.R. Richards withdrew from the firm in 1875, and the remaining partners purchased the material of the Anthracity Monitor, a Labor Reform journal, started in March, 1871, and which at one time had an immense circulation and influence. They thus acquired the title to the old Legion and to all the honors of the first and only printing establishment Tamaqua ever had. March 15th, 1878, Harris & Zeller took charge, Daniel M. Eveland retiring.

At one time (1875, 1876) Tamaqua had two daily papers, the Item, published by Levi Huppert, and the Courier, published by Eveland & Harris; but they hardly started before they died. March 2nd, 1881, the partnership in the Courier office existing between Harris & Zeller was dissolved, the interest being purchased by Robert Harris, William H. Zeller retiring.

### THE GREAT FLOOD OF 1850

A gentle rain began Sunday evening, September 1st, 1850, and at daylight a freshet commenced which brought death and destruction on every side. At Newkirk the trestles of the tracks running into the mines were filled in with earth and a great dam was thus formed. This gave way, and the pent up waters rushed down the valley, meeting those of the swollen Schuylkill, and bringing a perfect deluge upon the borough. The generally accepted theory is that the flood was caused by a great waterspout which burst over the valleys. In the gorge on Burning mountain, a tree sixty feet up the side marks the height of the sudden flood.

The water extended from Beard's Hotel to the mountains. Everything on the flats was swept away. Dwellings, foundries and workshops were taken away by the waters. A double framed house, in which twenty-two persons had taken shelter, was torn asunder and all were drowned. The Rev. Mr. Oberfield was caught by the waters while in the act of rescuing a child and was drowned. It is said 62 persons in all were lost. Not a track of the Little Schuylkill Railroad remained. Tamaqua was without communication with the outside world for six days. A wagon load of provisions hurried on from Philadelphia by George Wiggan and Robert Ratcliffe saved many from starvation. September 2nd and 3rd were sorrowful days to the desolated town. Everybody turned out to exhume and carry in the dead from down the river. One procession brought in eleven at one time. Many households mourned; the town was in deep gloom. Death claimed a victim in every other home it seemed, and the mourners truly went about the streets. There been later floods—in 1862 and 1869—but the one of 1850 surpassed them altogether.

### THE POST-OFFICE IMBROGLIO

In 1830 Tamaqua post-office was established near the present residence of Rowland Jones, with H.B. Ward as postmaster. In connection with this Isaac Hinkley performed the duties of mail carrier as well as stage driver, running a hack from summit Hill and back, connecting there with the cars on the Switchback Railroad for Mauch Chunk.

About this time a sharp contest arose between the inhabitants of Dutch hill and the west end of town. The grand object was to secure the center of the town. Burd Patterson and his party actually procured, by some means, the establishment of a second post-office; so that Tamaqua in 1832 had two distinct post-offices, established by the government.

Abraham Rex was postmaster number 2, but the office did not long survive.

At this date George W. Baum made an effort to draw the center of the town around his residence, calling the place Wittenberg, but it failed. The Little Schuylkill Railroad Company endeavored in 1827 to build the town upon the beautiful level running out from Dutch hill, and they had erected the first stone building, intended for a hotel, now occupied by Rev. I.E. Graeff and Bodo Whitman, and Market and Union streets were laid out. The center of business and extension remained in the valley, however.

### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Many years expired before Tamaqua established its present well equipped fire department. The first attempt resulted in a single hose carriage in 1852, housed in a barn. A house was built a year later and stood near the Pines bridge until 1879, when it was removed. This was the beginning of Perseverance Hose and Steam fire Engine Company, No. 1, which numbered in its old list of membership the leading citizens of Tamaqua of twenty-five years ago. B.T. Hughes was president of this company twenty-eight years. In 1879 the town council caused to be erected the present admirable edifice, built of pressed brick with sandstone trimmings, two stories in height, with a mansard roof. The first and only steam fire engine in town was bought in 1875. The Perseverance company entered their new home in October, 1879, connected with their organization is the Matthew Newkirk library, of some 1,500 books, and their parlor is classed as among the best furnished in the county. Their property at present consists of one steamer, two hose carriages and 1,500 feet of gum hose, valued at $6,500. The membership of the company is 35. The president is David Morgans; the secretary, William H. Zeller; the treasurer, J.G. Schod; the engineer, Joshua Morgans.

American Hose Company, No. 1, housed in a frame building at Mauch Chunk and Pine streets, was reorganized January 17th, 1878, upon the remains of the old Reliance Hook and Ladder Company, which was in existence from 1860 to that time. The present members (all young, active men) number 28. The property consists of equipments, one carriage and 1,000 feet of hose. The president is Hon. William C. Felthoff; the secretary, F.R. Krell.
COAL INTERESTS AND MANUFACTURES

Though distinctively at one time a mining town, Tamaqua to-day enjoys the reputation of being quite a manufacturing center, being one of the few towns in Pennsylvania located in the coal regions that have almost completely turned from the pursuit of mining into that of manufactures. The restrictive policy of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company causes the mines to be idle. Shortly after the lease of the Little Schuylkill Company lands in 1869, and about 1874, mining almost entirely ceased in this section. Two of the largest breakers (the Buckville and the Greenwood) were burned to the ground by the Mollie Maguires, and were never rebuilt. There was no prospect of safety to property in those days (1869-1875) were the company to rebuild, and when the leading outlaws and murderers were brought to the bar of justice, and thence to the gallows, it was too late to retrieve the lost industry. The period of severe business prostration had swept like a whirlwind over the country, and no venture was safe. Then, too, a coal combination of the leading producing companies had been formed and, the production being limited to an exact quota, collieries that were in operation were closed and none were built. Largely for these reasons the coal fields at Tamaqua-classed as the most valuable of all the possessions of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company-cased to be worked ten years ago (1871) and the capital of the town drifted into other industrial investments.

West Lehigh Breaker.-This breaker is an old property on the New England road, at the southern borough line, and has been worked since 1845. It is the only breaker standing of all the many that ten and fifteen years since dotted the country at and around Tamaqua. The Donaldsons, Burlack & Whetstone, and the Philadelphia and Reading coal and Iron Company successively operated it, and after standing idle for years it was leased in July, 1878, to Wood & Pearce, old and practical miners. The number of men and boys employed outside is 36; inside, 26. The capacity of the breaker is 800 tons per week, and 100 tons per day is the present output.

East Lehigh Breaker.-This breaker stands at the end of the vein in Sharp mountain, now worked by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, and on its present site a slope had been sunk and a mammoth breaker put in operation about 1850. Its passing away is a sample of Mollie Maguire means of vengeance, for the property was destroyed by them about twelve years ago. A penitentiary breaker was built there by Samuel Randall in 1876, and operated by him until the spring of 1880, when Mitchel & Symons leased the property, enlarged and improved the breaker and trebled the capacity. Their trade is largely local; the production is about 400 tons weekly, and twenty-five men find employment.

The Allen Machine Shops.-These shops are possibly the largest operated by a single firm in Pennsylvania, and rank among the most complete of their kind in the country. they comprise a foundry, pattern shop, boiler and machine departments, the whole embraced in a building of white stone occupying a square, situated along Railroad avenue and Foundry street.

The first building was erected in 1846 by John K. Smith, and in 1847 a copartnership was formed by Hudson, Smith & Taylor. Taylor soon after left the firm, Hudson withdrew not long afterward, and Smith was sole proprietor until about 1853 or 1854, when John and Richard Carter and Lucian H. Allen bought him out, and operated under the firm name of Carter & Allen. In 1865 Charles F. Shoener was taken into the firm. By the latter's failure in October, 1878, the interest of the Carters ceased, and by settlement the new firm became Shoener & Allen. C.F. Shoener failed again in June, 1880, and William T. Carter taking his interest, the firm became Carter, Allen & Co. The shops were destroyed by fire in 1872 (the work of an incendiary), at a loss of $100,000, and were rebuilt in the spring of 1873 by William Gettinger, contractor. These works make every manner of mining machinery, engines, boilers, cotton presses, and so on. Four hundred men can find employment when there are orders which demand running on full time.

Robinson's Foundry.-This establishment is situated on East Broad street, beyond Pine. Originally the foundry was located at Tamaqua, by Bright & Co., in 1859. In 1863 Robinson & Co. became owners by purchase, and removed the business to Tamaqua, building on ground now occupied by the east ward school-house. The present buildings were erected and occupied in 1869. The principal manufactures are stoves, castings and iron railings; 25 men are employed.

Greenwood Rolling-Mill was first built and operated in 1865, by Robert Ratcliffe. It is located on Railroad street at Elm. Cotton ties for the southern market are manufactured. The business of the establishment has seen some severe periods of prostration-in 1877, part of 1878 and since July, 1880. In the spring of 1877, the Greenwood Rolling-Mill Company took charge of the members being L.H. Allen, Wallace Guss, H.S. Godshall, E.J. Fry and Charles F. Shoener, the latter taking nineteen and onehalf twentieths of the stock, within a fraction of the whole.

Tamaqua Shoe Factory.-The first manufacture of goods for the market by the Tamaqua Shoe Company was made about 1874, in a building at Broad and Center streets, where an immense trade was worked up. The headquarters becoming too small, books were opened for the subscription of stock in the latter part of 1875, and the present commodious three-story brick building in East Tamaqua, on the Lansford road, was built in 1876 at a cost of $12,000. The company was considerable crippled by the peculations of the first superintendent. The factory was closed shortly after getting into the new building, though operations in a small way were carried on by Oram & Jones in 1879-80. Those most interested

The chief engineer of the fire department is Frederic Beliner; the assistant chief engineer, Harry Myers.
in the erection of the building and work of manufacture were Daniel Shepp, W.B. Bensinger, H.A. Spiese, Michael Beard, Philip A. Krebs, J.J. Kauffman and others.

Philadelphia and Reading Shops.-These shops were built by the Little Schuylkill Railroad company, about 1848, when the round house near by was enlarged to shelter twenty-one locomotives. Repairs to engines are the principal work done here, and some coal and freight car work is also done. The number of employees is 90; 10 are employed at the round house.

Other Industries.-The Shepp & Horich mill on Railroad street below Broad was built in 1854; Behler's on Railroad street near Elm, in 1865; Kershner's mill is located on Central and Cedar streets. All have an excellent trade.

Waters foundry was the iron works of John Ollis, in May, 1846. In 1847 it passed into the hands of Hudson & Waters. It is now managed by H. Water's Sons, and employs twelve to twenty hands. Engines and castings are manufactured.

The first brewery was established in 1850, by George Goeldner, who put up buildings for that purpose on Broad street, immediately back of the present National House. Five years later he sold out to Joseph Adam, the second brewer, and an early settler. Joseph Halfner, Joseph Adam and Lawrence Koenig now have breweries and enjoy a local trade. Conrad Boschoff's planing-mill and furniture factory is a three-story brick building on Rowe street, built in 1865. William Boyer's lumber-mill is on East Broad beyond Pine. The Tamaqua Hosiery Company (limited) was organized in December, 1880. F. Krell and brother, L.F. Fritsch, John Hartman and P.C. Keilman have cigar factories. Freudenberger's tannery on West Broad, at Green street, was established by one Webb in 1850. He was succeeded by H. Enterline in 1857. The establishment is now idle, and the large brick building in which its business had been carried on is going to decay. John Becker and Joseph H. Wood have wheelright shops on East Broad, and on Cedar streets, respectively. George L. Boyd's screen factory was established in 1867.

**BANKS**

The First National Bank of Tamaqua was incorporated in 1865, and surrendered its charter as a State banking institution. It was originally organized as the Anthracite Bank in 1850. The amount of capital stock paid in is $150,000, two-thirds of which is owned by William T. Carter, of Philadelphia. This bank suspended payment October 14th, 1878, and resumed just a month later. This embarrassment occurred in consequence of the failure of Charles F. Shoener, whose interest passed into the hands of William T. Carter. The bank has always been a paying institution. James W. Abbot was cashier from 1852 until 1880. E.J. Fay is president; Thomas T. Carter cashier.

The Tamaqua Banking and Trust Company begun business in 1865. The president is Daniel Shepp; the secretary and cashier, Henry A. Kauffman.

**HOTELS**

The first tavern in Tamaqua was kept in Berkhard Moser's house, by the wide of John Kershner, and her son-in-law, Isaac Bennett. The date is uncertain, but is was opened about 1807.

In 1827 the Little Schuylkill Company, thinking to draw the center of population to Dutch hill, built the first stone building and hotel in Tamaqua. The house was converted into a dwelling thirty years afterward and it is now occupied by Rev. S.E. Graeff.

In 1832 James Taggart, one of the pioneers in that valley, came to Tamaqua, and engaged in 1836 in keeping hotel at the old established stand of Mr. Michael Beard, who took possession there in 1846.

Between 1845 and 1847 the United States Hotel was built by the Little Schuylkill Company, and was first kept by Joseph Haughwout. In 1850 the Washington House, on Pine street, was built, and the American and Mansion on Centre street at a later period.

**LITERARY SOCIETIES AND LYCEUMS**

In 1853 Tamaqua had a public library, and debating clubs discussed the momentous questions of the day in the first town hall or school-house as early as 1845. About 1856 the Tamaqua Lyceum was organized, and held weekly sessions for a long period in the south ward school building. To this lyceum Matthew Newkirk, of Philadelphia, made a gift of 1,500 books, which passed into the hands of the Perseverance fire company when the society disbanded. No records of the first organization remain. The principal citizens were members.

November 26th, 1876, James W. Abbot, B.C. Meeker, William H. Gable, Thomas Cole, Morgan J. Williams, Charles F. Lowry, George W. Ford, Daniel F. Bower, Lucius A. Gibbs, George Bensinger and William Philips, formed the Presbyterian Social and Literary Institute, which still flourished, though many members have removed to other fields, with Joseph B. Grigg as president and Miss Kate Beard as secretary.

**cemeteries**

The first graveyard was laid out in 1831, on Dutch hill. The Catholic and Methodist buying grounds were laid out about 1837. Zion's cemetery was opened in 1876. The Odd Fellows' cemetery, the most attractive "city of the dead" in Tamaqua, is located at the upper end of Broad street. It is in charge of trustees appointed by Harmony Lodge of Odd Fellows, and it was first opened in 1865. There are thirty acres enclosed, and the various lots are in many instances beautifully laid out.

**Fires**

Among numerous fires of greater or less extent which have visited the place from time to time, the following were remarkable for the damage they wrought:

On the night of January 25th, 1857, a fire broke out in the store of Brock & Son on Broad street, and de-
stroyed twelve houses on that street, which were occupied as stores and dwellings.

Friday morning, May 31st, 1872, a fire began in Daniel Dean's wheelwright shop, which spread and destroyed an entire block of building, rendering eighteen families homeless. The fire caused a loss of $75,000. The firemen were prevented from doing efficient service by a lack of hose.

MILITARY

Tamaqua made great contributions to the armies in the late war, notably in the 129th regiment Pennsylvania volunteers. The National Zouaves, a crack organization, existed in 1866 and 1867, making their first parade December 25th. The officers were: Captain, R.L. Leyburn.; 1st lieutenant, Thomas D. Boon; 2nd lieutenant, C.F. Garrett; A.M.S., Joseph Coulter; 1st sergeant, A.H. Tiley.

"B" Company of the National Guard of Pennsylvania was mustered in in August, 1875. The officers are: Captain, Wallace Guss; 1st lieutenant, John M. Hughes; 2nd lieutenant, George Priser; 1st sergeant, Edward Ash.

In 1870 the soldiers' monument, a beautiful marble column fifty feet high, surmounted by an eagle with outspread wings, in Odd Fellow cemetery, was erected by Doubleday Post, at a cost of $9,000.

MISCELLANEOUS

The first wagon-maker was Isaac Haldeman, whose shop stood on Pine street, in 1848.

The first lawyer who located in Tamaqua was John Hendricks, who began practice in 1849.

The first flour and feed store was opened by Bartlett & Taylor, in the old Oats house, next to Shepp's four-mill. The building was erected for the purpose in 1849. In 1851 the business was sold to H.F. Stidfole, who continued in it for eighteen years. He is now a prosperous merchant on West Broad street.

In 1852 Heilner & Morganroth's powder-mill, near Tamaqua, exploded, injuring Reuben Stamm, and killing Reuben Strunk, throwing him a hundred feet.

A temporary town hall, 40 by 100 feet was erected in 1868, at a cost of $4,500.

In 1855 the first regular theatrical performance was given in the borough. Seitzinger's hall has been since 1869 the only place of amusement.

SECRET SOCIETIES

Harmony Lodge, No. 86, I.O.O.F. had its charter granted October 16, 1843, and the lodge has grown with the town. The charter officers were: Joseph J. Elsegood, N.G.; James H. Kelly, V.G.; John Franklin, S.; David Myers, assistant secretary; Jacob Bell, treasurer; William Hodgkins, Philip Dortmester, Conrad Iland, and B.L. Fetherolf, who have been identified with this lodge as active members for thirty years. Harmony Lodge meets in Odd Fellows' Hall, which, with its cemetery and other property in the borough, is its own property, and has over 150 active members. The present (1881) noble grand is Charles M. Greene; V.G., Jehoida Morgans; secretary, William Barton.

Scott Encampment of Patriarchs, No. 132, was chartered February 17th, 1862. A dispensation to organize was granted to John L. Regan, Daniel Dean, James M. Hadesty, B.L. Fetherolf, Conrad Iland, Philip Dortmester, and William Hodgkins.

Ringgold Lodge (German) I.O.O.F. was organized in 1871.

Tamaqua Lodge, No. 238, F & A.M. was organized June 4th, 1849. The charter members were D.G. Goodwin, Henry Kepner, George D. Bowen, Benjamin Heilner, John S. Boyer, Samuel Beard, Charles Bennett, Peter Aurand, A.J. Orr, John Kolb, Richard Carter, Bernard McLean, Joseph Haughawout and Jacob Smithers.

Other branches of the masonic order are Tamaqua Chapter, No. 117, R.A.M.; Ivanhoe Commandary, No. 31, K.T.; Knapp Council, No. 17, R.S.E.& S.M.

Washington Camp No. 57 Patriotic Order Sons of America was chartered July 1st, 1859, and surrendered its charter when all the members joined the army during the late war. The camp was rechartered February 12th, 1870, with the following membership: A.M. Herrold, H.N. Shindle, J.H. Seitzinger, A.C. Bond, William Hittle, John A. Hirsch, Daniel M. Eveland, Richard Kirkpatrick, Henry Seitzinger, William A. Lebo, Zachary C. Ratcliffe, John Friese, T.J. Swartz, Philip Stein, E.A. Boyer, G.W. Rose, George Kepner, George C. Eveland, G.W. Hadesty, Robert Ratcliffe, George Kershner, F.M. Stidham, John H. Stidfole, George Grieff and C.E. Bailey.

Humboldt Lodge of Harugari was organized in 1865.


Order United American Mechanics.-A lodge of this order was organized in 1868.

Jones, Gottlieb Henry, Samuel Faust, C.F.M. Miller, Fred Eli, Charles Blew, John Shifferstein, Robert Bechtel, Henry N. Shindel and William S. Allebach. The soldiers' monument in the circle in Odd Fellows' cemetery is part of the work of this organization.


Tamaqua Circle, No. 52, Brotherhood of the Union was organized August 25th, 1871, and reorganized after the labor troubles of 1877. The lodge again suspended in June, 1880, but is now in operation again. The charter members were J.F. Woomer, E.A. Jones, John Beard, J.B. Lindnemuth, J.H. Erdman, Jacob Kaercher, J.V. Matthews, David A. Shiffert, William Little and C. Ben Johnson.

Railroaders' Brotherhood, No. 2, was organized June 20th, 1874. The charter members were Phaon P. Hass, Charles B. Cook, Andrew Frank, Elias B. Whetstone, Daniel Kleckner, Henry Wise, William Boyer, John Shifferstein, Christ Walters, Gottleib Scheidle, Charles Rinkler and Amos Neifert.


CHURCH HISTORY

The first gospel sermon in Tamaqua was preached in 1810 by Rev. John a. Schellhart, a minister of the German Lutheran church, who, in connection with Rev. William Schaeffer and Rev. Theophilus Sillick, supplied the few inhabitants with occasional preaching for many years. Rev. Joseph Chattels, of the Philadelphia annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, began to hold stated services in 1830, and Rev. George Minner, of the German Lutheran church, inaugurated regular services in 1853 in east Tamaqua. About this year (it is placed by some three years earlier) Rev. Richard Webster made regular trips from Mauch Chunk and founded the First Presbyterian in 1830, and Rev. George Minner, of the German Lutheran church, inaugurated regular services in 1853.

Many years. Rev. Joseph Chattels, of the Philadelphia annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, began to hold stated services in 1853, and for a number of years was thought quite an acquisition. In 1845 it passed into the hands of the Methodist Episcopal society, by whom it was torn down to make room for the present Methodist church. The same year the German Lutherans erected on Dutch hill an edifice, which was turned down in 1814 to make room for the brick church.

The Pioneer Sunday-school.-June 21st, 1831, a meeting was held in the new school-house to organize the Tamaqua Sabbathschool. The officers elected were: George W. Baum, president; Edward Smith, vice-president; Albert H. Deuel, secretary; John N. Speece, treasurer; John Franklin, John Hetherington, Stephen Dodson, managers. June 26th, 1831, the school was formally and fully organized, with the following teachers: G.W. Baum, Stephen Dodson, John Hix, John Franklin, John N. Speece, Mrs. Maria H. Hunter, Mary Dodson and Parmelia Rhodes; $11.74 was raised upon that occasion for the support of the school, and the number of scholars present was 35. There now fourteen Sunday-schools and 1,739 scholars in the borough.

Primitive Methodist Tabernacle.-The history of the Primitive Methodist Church of Tamaqua dates back as far as 1830. William Donaldson, an old and well-known coal operator, opened his house for religious worship, and, being a local preacher, conducted the services. The cause grew with the population of the then embryo village. The old union church on Broad street was used until the society, increased in numbers and influence, decided to build a church of its own. The site was obtained, free, from the Little Schuylkill Company, and a neat, substantial and commodious structure of stone erected, which was dedicated by Rev. Hugh Bourne, the venerable founder of Primitive Methodism, on the last Sabbath of 1846. The trustees were William Donaldson, president; R. Nattrass, secretary; R. Ratcliffe, treasurer; Charles Vaughan, Thomas Booth, William Wood and Thomas Williams. A charter of incorporation was obtained in April, 1849. For many years the charge was a part of the Pottsville circuit, but became independent and self-sustaining in 1849. The following ministers have served successively: Benjamin Webber, Charles Spurr, Thomas Foster, William Smith, Alexander Miller, Joseph Fawcett, George Parker, Joseph Robinson, Daniel Savage and Elijah Humphries. During the pastorate of Rev. Daniel Savage the old church was taken down and a new one erected upon the site. It is of stone and brick, 44 by 70 feet, and cost $10,000, requiring $3,000 more to complete it. Rev. Joseph Odell preached the dedicatory sermon, the last Sabbath of 1876, just thirty years from the dedication of the first building.

The Sabbath-school was organized November 13th, 1842. The present officers are: G.W. Wilford, superintendent; D.C. Baron, assistant; C.M. Greene, secretary; W.J. Booth, treasurer. It numbers 35 teachers, 250 scholars, and owns an acre of ground at "New England." The church has prospered under the present
J.S. Marquardt came in 1865, and by a wise ministry healed the breach.

St. John's Lutheran Church.-All early records of this church were burned. In 1835 the first Lutheran church, a frame building, was erected on Dutch hill, and the present edifice in 1855. Rev. Mr. George was the first pastor. He was followed by the Rev. Peter Oberfield, who was drowned in the flood of 1850. Rev. M. Boyer came in 1872, followed by Rev. F.T. Hennicke, in 1877, and in 1881 by Rev. H. Theodore Dueming. In 1876 the chapel at Mauch Chunk and Bridge streets was erected. The history of St. John's Lutheran is that of the Reformed side also. Many years this union church has exercised a power for much good in the community, and to-day the membership is greater than that of any other Protestant church.

St. Jerome's Roman Catholic Church.-In 1836 the Catholic of Tamaqua, at one time strong and powerful, built a church on the hill where their cemetery now stands. It was a plain framed structure, and was removed in 1855, the congregation locating their new edifice, a large stone building, 48 by 75 feet, with a tower, on West Broad and Green streets. Rev. Father M.A. Walsh, now vicar-general of Pennsylvania, superintended the erection. The edifice will seat 900 people and there is a parsonage attached. The parish takes in Coal Dale and Tuscarora, and is in a highly flourishing condition. Rev. Joseph Bridgeman is the present father in charge. The value of the property is $20,000.

St. John's Reformed Church.-St. John's Church (Reformed and Lutheran), on Dutch hill, was founded in 1835. A small framed building was erected at that time, which stood until the summer of 1854, when the erection of the present brick building was begun. The new church was dedicated in 1855. Rev. ----George was the first Lutheran pastor. In 1846 he left and was succeeded by Rev. Peter Oberfield, who was drowned in the great freshet of 1850. During Mr. Oberfield's pastorate Rev. William A. Helfrich, of the Reformed church, from Lehigh county, served as a supply for a few years. After his withdrawal Rev. Robert VanCourt became resident pastor, and from that time (1855) both congregations had pastors residing in the place. St. John's appears to be the oldest Protestant church organization in Tamaqua. A number of the other congregations in the place have organized in the church on Dutch hill. The remaining organizations have still a joint membership of more than 500. The present pastor, Rev. I.E. Graeff, commenced his labors in October, 1878, succeeding Rev. Mr. Schwartz.

First Methodist Episcopal Church.-Concerning the early organization of this church the records are silent. The congregation worshipped in the old union church, and afterward purchased a framed building which stood on the present location, and which was 20 by 40 feet in size. In 1852 the contract was awarded to Isaiah Wells to erect the present edifice, 43 by 75 feet, and it has stood without alteration since. The church became a separate charge the same year. The present pastor is Rev. John F. Meredith, brother to the Rev. Mr. Meredith who was stationed over the charge in 1852. The trustees are A.H. Glassmire, George Shoemaker, Jacob Kaucher, H.K. Aurand, J.M. Hadesty, Jesse Springer and C.F. Lloyd.

The Sunday-school has 250 members. The superintendent is Jackson L. Seiders. The church building is free from debt, and there is a membership of 150. The church and parsonage are estimated to be worth $13,000.

Evangelical Church.-The first preaching in Tamaqua by ministers of the Evangelical Association was in 1848, by Rev. G.T. Haines, at the house of Mr. Wiltermuth. An organization of an association was not accomplished until 1851, by Rev. Andrew Ziegenspuss, at the house of Philip Geissinger, the first members being Emanuel Reich and his wife Mary, Philip and Kate Geissinger, Frederick Young and wife, Joseph Strauss and wife, Samuel Schloyer and wife, David Fehr and wife. Rev. Samuel Gaumer came in 1852, the church being then connected with Schuylkill circuit, and in 1854 an effort was made at the annual conference, in Pottsville; to have a missionary stationed here, but it failed. In 1855, however, Rev. J. Eckert was sent as a missionary, who negotiated with the Presbyterians for their old church edifice on Broad street, and removed it at his own expense to Rowe street. Here the congregation worshipped until 1856, when a chapel was built on Spruce street. The Tamaqua mission was put on Schuylkill circuit that year, and in 1857 Rev. Ephraim Ely took charge, succeeding Rev. R. Deisher. Catawissa class was annexed in 1858. Rev William Bachman was appointed in 1860. Under his administration the congregation purchased the property of the Baptists on Pine street, where the present edifice now stands.

The mission became a station in 1861, when Rev. Simon Reinohl took charge of the work and organized the first Sunday-school. Rev. Anastasius Boetzel was appointed in 1863, In the following year grave charges were made and sustained against Boetzel, and part of the membership siding with him a branch church was started in the old Spruce street chapel, but went out of existence the same year. Rev. J.S. Marquardt came in 1865, and by a wise ministry healed the breach.

The corner stone of the present capacious frame building was laid out that year "with masonic ceremony, which created some irritation and difference of opinion." The new church was dedicated and occupied the same year. Rev. J. Kutz came in 1866. Grave charges were made against him, sustained and found true, and a committee declared him to suffer of spasmodic aberration of the mind. His misdemeanors were very damaging to the church. In 1867 Rev. J.O. Lehr, by good management, saved the church from the sheriff’s hammer and cleared
it partly from grievous debt. The English language was introduced into the services by Rev. W.K. Wiand, in 1868, but the congregation were not yet ready for the change. Rev. Seneca Breyfogel came in 1870 and served three years acceptably. The annual Conference was held in Tamaqua in 1873, and this church became a distinct charge-Coal Dale Barnesville, and Rush being taken from it and forming Barnesville circuit. Rev. J.C. Bliem became pastor and one hundred and five were added to the church by the great revival of this year. He was followed by I.K. Knerr in 1875, B.J. Smoyer in 1876, and Charles H. Egge in 1877, all men of power and ability, under whose ministry the church has grown and prospered. The present membership is 283; that of the Sunday-school is 247. The church is valued at $8,000 and it will seat 500 persons.

Welsh Congregational Church. -The Welsh church in Tamaqua was built in 1851, and is a very plain, modest edifice on Welsh hill, above Rowe street. The congregation was organized in 1848, with a membership of 36. Rev. Thomas Jones, the first rector, was in charge four years and was succeeded by Rev. J.M. Thomas, who preached statedly some ten months, and was succeeded by Rev. William Thomas, who resigned toward the close of 1855.

The Sunday-school was organized in 1847, with 60 scholars. Rev. David E. Hughes is the present pastor, having been called in 1875. The church, a framed building, is valued, with the other property, at $1,200.

Calvary Episcopal Church. -The history of this parish dates from April 30th, 1848. That day the services of the Episcopal church were first held in Tamaqua. In the morning Right Rev. Bishop Alonzo Potter consecrated Zion church in Tuscarora, and in coming to Tamaqua in the afternoon his carriage was broken and his leg badly injured. Revs. William Auddard, of Philadelphia, and Peter Russel, of Mauch Chunk, in company with the bishop, conducted the services in the evening, Rev. Mr. Auddard preaching in the Primitive Methodist, and Rev. Mr. Russel in the Presbyterian place of worship, which were offered for the purpose. The parish was organized March 27th, 1849. The first Sunday in April ensuing the first stated services were held in the "town hall," Rev. A. Beatty, rector, reading the service, and Rev. Thomas A. Starkey, of Pottsville, preaching the sermon.

At the same time a Sunday-school was organized of 80 members and 15 teachers. Regular services were held, subscriptions were opened for building a church, and a "ladies' sewing circle" was organized. A lot of ground was obtained from the Little Schuylkill Railroad Company, and the vestry decided, in view of the amount raised, to begin the work. Thursday afternoon, June 26th, 1851, the corner stone was laid by Rt. Rev. Bishop Potter, there being present Rev. Peter Russel, of Mauch Chunk; Rev. William C. Cooley, of Pottsville; Rev. Azariah Prior, of Schuylkill Haven, and the rector. The church was opened to public worship Good Friday, April 9th, 1852, the rector, who had just recovered from a three months' illness, preaching the sermon. The first administration of holy communion was given May 1st, 1852. The edifice was consecrated by Bishop Potter, Sunday, June 19th, 1853; Rev. Samuel Hazlehurst, Rev. Peter Russel, Rev. Aaron Christman (ordained in this church, July 11th, 1852,) and the rector, assisted in the services.

March 18th, 1854, Rev. Joseph A. Stone, a presbytery of the diocese, entered upon his duties as rector of the parish, Rev. Mr. Beatty having resigned June 26th, 1853. An organ was purchased in September, 1858, and gas introduced into the building in December of the same year, at a cost of $80. Mr. Stone resigned his charge March 4th, 1860. Revs. H. Baldy, William Wilson, J.L. Murphy and H.S. Getz followed until 1869, and the parish was without a rector until October 1st, 1871, when Rev. Chandler Hare became pastor. He also took charge of St. Philip's church, Summit Hill. He resigned the parish February 1st, 1878. Rev. W.J. Miller followed as rector, in November, 1878, and resigned in November, 1880. He was succeeded by the present rector, the Rev. William B. Burke.

Calvary Church is 46 by 34 feet, built of stone, with a square tower and a bell. The audience room will seat 240 persons. The property is valued at $5,000. the Sunday-school meets in the basement.

First Presbyterian Church. -As a chartered organization the Presbyterian church of Tamaqua dates from May 18th, 1851. In the summer of 1837 a union church was built, to which Presbyterians contributed, but in which the Methodist Episcopal and Primitive Methodist churches held services. The first Presbyterian service was held Sabbath evening December 24th, 1837, by Rev. Richard Webster, a pioneer missionary through this section. In 1838 the church at Summit Hill and Tamaqua was organized by the Presbytery of Newton, New Jersey. Port Clinton was also part of the same church, Rev. Richard Webster preaching there in 1839, receiving in that year Mr. and Mrs. George Wiggan, of the Presbyterian church in Philadelphia. Mr. Wiggan, honored in years and good deeds, has been ruling elder of this church forty-two years. Rev. Dr. Schenck labored in this field in 18423 and in 1845 the Luzerne Presbytery arranged to give a monthly supply. In 1846 the presbytery appointed Revs. Webster, Harned and Moore, with three elders, to organize an independent church at Tamaqua, and, after three attempts, it was accomplished in May, 1846. Mr. Webster with Mr. Edgar, of summit Hill, met the Presbyterians of Tamaqua in Mr. Heaton's parlor, now Mr. Beard's, when the church was organized with ten members-George Wiggan and Susannah, his wife; Mrs Sarah Heaton, Miss Ely McNeill, Mrs. M.H. Hunter, form the Summit Hill church; William Laird and Ann, his wife, from the Free church, Scotland; Sidney Arms, Mrs. Mary Heaton, wife of R.A. Heaton, from the Methodist Episcopal church, Tamaqua; and John Hendricks and Ely Josephine, his wife, from the Eleventh church, Philadelphia. Mr. Wiggan and Mr. Laird were elected elders and installed by Rev. W.W. Bonnel, of Port Carbon, July 26th, 1846.
Rev. B.F. Bittinger became first pastor, in 1847, at a salary of $300. Rev. Charles Glenn began his pastorate, in January, 1852, and during it the present handsome stone edifice on West Broad street was built. Messrs. Newkirk & Buck, of Philadelphia, gave $6,000-the whole cost being $8,500. At the same time a double cottage was erected back of the church as a parsonage, but those instructed to secure the deed neglected it, and Mr. Glenn was greatly surprised one fine morning when presented with a bill for $150, for rent due the company that had purchased the lands of Newkirk & Buck. Rev. Mr. Glenn resigned August 17, 1856, and in January, 1857, Rev. J.H. Callen began his labors, continuing to April, 1859. He was succeeded by Rev. William Thompson in February, 1860. During his pastorate the church at Mahanoy City was organized, 1863, and for some time he preached to both charges. In July, 1868, Rev. Benjamin C. Meeker succeeded Mr. Thompson, who closed his eight years' pastorate. In 1876-77 the church was remodeled and refurnished. Elder George Wiggan contributing $1,500. The church to-day is in a flourishing condition. The Literary Institute has been in operation five years, and is considered a town institution. The membership at this time (January, 1881) is 87; of the Sunday-school, is 150. The value of the church property is $20,000. The church seats 600.

Zion's English Evangelical Lutheran Church.—This church started as a colony from St. John's Lutheran Church, Dutch hill, the first meeting taking place in Seitzinger's hall, January 27th, 1876, attended by 48 persons. The organization of the Sabbath-school occurred December 5th, 1875, with 80 scholars.

The present handsome frame edifice was built in 1876, largely by Mr. John Zehner, and its cost, with its furniture, was $5,500. The presentable pastor, Rev. William H. Laubenstein, entered upon his duties October 1st, 1877.

The Sunday-school superintendents have been John Zehner, Charles Steigerwalt, Henry A. Kauffman, William A. Snyder, John Whetstone, Henry A. Kauffman and John Sembback. The present church membership is 205. The Sunday-school numbers 250.

Trinity Reformed Church.—The Trinity Reformed congregation of Tamaqua was organized by the authority of the Lebanon Classis, August 19th, 1877, and the corner stone of the present frame building at Washington and Jefferson streets was laid September 2nd, 1867. While the church was being erected the congregation held their services in the Welsh church. No regular pastor was called until September 19th, 1868, when the Rev. I.E. Graeff was elected. His pastorate continued until March 13th, 1873, and during it 62 were baptized, 24 confirmed, 28 persons received by certificate and profession, and 28 funerals attended. December 21st, 1873, Rev. J.H. Hartman received and accepted a call. He labored until February 1st, 1880, and during that time baptized 210 children, confirmed 34, received by certificate 46, and officiated at 86 funerals. January 18th, 1880, Rev. John J. Fisher, the present pastor, took charge, and was ordained February 5th, and during the years he has received 12 by confirmation, 10 by certificate, and officiated at 4 funerals.

The congregation originally consisted of 53 members, and the first consistory was as follows: Elders-Peter Hartman and Matthias Haldeman; deacons-August Wetterau, L.F. Fritsch, Jacob Eisenacher and George Eckhardt.

HENRY A. WELDY

The subject of this sketch was born in the city of Reading, Berks county, Pa., September 19th, 1831, and was the youngest child of John and Margaret Weldy. On his father's side he is of Swiss and on his mother's of French-Huguenot descent. His grandfather, John Weldy, as also his father, was born in Reading. The former, born in 1768, married in 1797 and died in 1853. He was a carpenter by trade. H.A. Weldy's father was engaged in the hardware trade in Reading from the age of thirteen until his death, which occurred in 1877. The mother of our subject died in 1835. He had one sister, Catharine, born in 1827, who died in 1829, and one brother, Joseph, who was born in 1829, and died in 1833.

Having received a good common school education Mr. Weldy, at the age of seventeen, was indentured for four years, with D. & H. Rhein, to learn the cabinet maker's trade. At the termination of his apprenticeship, not fancying the cabinet making business, he took up pattern making, and was employed in that business from 1853 to 1862 in the shops of the Little Schuylkill Railroad Company at Tamaqua. He then became employed as clerk in the office of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company's shops in Tamaqua, in which position he remained until 1864. In March of that year, in company with C.F. Shindel, he bought of H. Huhn, a small powder-mill, situated on the Little Schuylkill, and under the firm name of H.A. Weldy & Co. They commenced the manufacture of blasting powder. In 1865 E.F. Shindel was taken in as a partner, and under the same firm name the business was carried on until April, 1871. At that time the company met with a serious loss in the blowing up of one of their mills. This accident led to a change in the firm. Lamont and Henry Dupost purchased the Messrs. Shindel's interest, Mr. Weldy retaining his. The business, many times enlarged, has ever since been carried on under the old firm name of H.A. Weldy & Co. From the commencement to the present time Mr. Weldy has had the sole management of the business, and the success which has followed the enterprise, from small beginnings until it has become one of the largest establishments of its kind in the country, sufficiently attests his ability as a manager and as a business man.

In politics Mr. Weldy is a Republican, and he is an active worker in his party. For the last four years he has been a member of the council of the borough of Tamaqua.

November 19th, 1854, he married Annie, daughter of George and Kate Lambert, of Sinking Spring, Berks county, Pa. Four children—Charles H., Kate G., John E. and Clarence S.—are the issue of this marriage. Charles H. married Henrietta, daughter of James and Amy Smithham. They have one child, a daughter.
Edwin Schlicher was born in Upper Hanover township, Montgomery county, Pa., January 5th, 1844. He was the third child in a family of eleven children of George and Sarah (Geisler) Schlicher. He is in the fifth generation from Stoefel Schlicher, who emigrated from Germany and settled in Montgomery county. The line of descent is as follows: Stoefel, Henry, John, George, Edwin.

Henry, Edwin's great-grandfather, served in the war of the Revolution. The ancestors of our subject generally followed farming. His father and one sister are dead. His mother, four brothers and five sisters are living, all in Montgomery county.

Edwin spent his boyhood at home upon the farm. His opportunities for education were extremely limited; indeed he is wholly self-taught, as he never went to school a day in his life. At the age of nineteen he was apprenticed for two years with Heigner & Brother, of Hereford township, Berks county, Pa., to learn the miller's trade. After serving his time as an apprentice he was employed for two years in the flouring mill of H. & J. Gable, of Pottstown, Pa.

He came to Tamaqua January 9th, 1866, and was employed as foreman in the flouring mill of D. Shepp & Co., where he remained until January 1st, 1879. He then began dealing in flour and grain on his own account, and he is still engaged in that business.

In the fall of 1880 he was elected on the Democratic ticket to the lower house of the State Legislature for a term of two years. He holds positions in that body on the committees of Elections, Public Buildings and Public Grounds. He is a member of the Reformed church of Tamaqua.

Mr. Schlicher married December 25th, 1866 Sallie, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Reader) Smith. She was born in North Coventry, Chester county, Pa., in 1843. They have six children, viz.: Mary E., Sarah Effie, Emma E., George M., Kate O. and Charles.

Benjamin Heilner, for two terms (ten years) associate judge of the Schuylkill county bench, constituted in himself a rare example of that class of adopted citizens of which this country has good reason to feel proud.

He was born in Memelsdorf, Kingdom of Bavaria, Germany, October 17th, 1806. Having received a good education in the schools of his native place he, at the age of sixteen, emigrated to America, to accept a clerkship in the store of his cousin, Samuel Heilner, then residing at Rockland, Berks county, Pa. After the lapse of two he proceeded to Weissport, Lehigh county, Pa., where he kept a store on his own account for eighteen months. In 1827 he left Weissport and locate permanently at Tamaqua, where he at once built himself a habitation in which he established what is known as a country store. He soon afterward married Elizabeth, a daughter of John and Mary Agatha Kerschner, who were the first settlers of Tamaqua. Mrs. Heilner's sister, Mary Magdalene, was the first white child born in the place, and Mrs. Heilner herself was born there April 8th, 1812. The log house in which they lived still exists in a state of tolerable preservation.

Mr. Heilner continued a successful mercantile business until 1851. In 1833 he entered into partnership with S. Morgenroth, in the manufacture of blasting powder, and they continued in that business, under the firm name of Heilner & Morgenroth, for about twenty years, the works being situated at Owl Creek, about two miles from Tamaqua. The mill was destroyed in 1853 by an explosion, whereby two men lost their lives, and Mr. Heilner was so deeply affected by the accident that he determined no longer to be engaged in a business fraught with such dangerous possibilities. In 1843 he became interested in the mining of anthracite coal, an industry which at that time was just emerging from its infancy and was yet far away from the gigantic proportions it has since attained. In this he associated himself with Robert Radcliff, operating the mine since known as the High Mines, in the borough of Tamaqua. Soon after this he became interested with Henry Guitermann in other mining operations at Silver Creek, and subsequently at Coal Hill. In all these various pursuits he was crowned with reasonable success, and secured thereby an independent competency.

Being elected in 1861 to the office of associate judge he disposed of his mining and other business interests and devoted himself exclusively to the conscientious fulfillment of his official duties as a judge of the Schuylkill County Court.

He was post-master of Tamaqua under the administrations of Presidents Van Buren and Polk. He was president of the first school board of Tamaqua, and a director of that board continuously until a few years before his death; being ever an earnest friend of the public school system and neglecting no effort to promote its usefulness and efficiency. His children are especially hopeful that he may be well remembered in connection with his untiring devotion to the cause of public education.
Judge and Mrs. Heilner were blessed with ten children, namely: Louise, Isaac Newton, Zillah, Thomas J., Ada, Mary, Caroline, Lewis C., (since a graduate of the Naval Academy at Annapolis and now lieutenant in the United States navy), Benjamin F. and Lizzie May.

January 2nd, 1872, Mr. Heilner had an operation performed upon himself for the removal of a tumor, which, though apparently successful at first was soon followed by inflammation of a malignant character, terminating fatally on the 23rd of May following. It was an irreparable loss to the grief-stricken family when thus passed away from their midst the kindest of husbands and best of fathers; for, which he ever commanded, and deservedly so, the highest regard of all who knew him, yet it was in his own family where his sterling qualities and true nobility of soul were best understood and appreciated.

Judge Heilner was by nature a scholar; a great reader always, and most happily endowed with the faculty of remembering what he read. His knowledge of history was most extensive, so that he was regarded by all who knew him as reliable authority to settle points in dispute therein. In business as well as in his social and domestic relations he was scrupulously accurate and methodical. The good judgment and sound sense which he ever exercised in the conduct of his daily enterprises were most conspicuously exhibited in his official capacity as judge. It has been repeatedly averred to the writer of this sketch, by the most eminent members of the Schuylkill county bar, that at no time was their bench graced by a more dignified, more thoroughly just, yet eminently obliging judge. He was especially rigorous and indefatigable in the fulfillment at Orphans Court of testators' wishes-endeavoring always to straighten out matters of legacy in the shortest way, and with the least expense to those concerned.

The history of a life like that of Benjamin Heilner should awaken the most noble aspirations in all young men; for it illustrates most admirably what a stout heart may achieve when moved by honest purposes and persevering industry.

WILLIAM DONALDSON

Among the many instances of men of foreign birth who, having followed mining as an occupation in their native country, naturally settled in the mining regions of Schuylkill county, and who, by industry and native force of character, have acquired fortunes and built up for themselves a reputation which has left its impress upon the communities in which they lived, William Donaldson is a marked example. He was born in Middleton, county of Durham, England, December 13th, 1803. His father, John Donaldson, was a lead miner in that county, and was killed in the mines there. He had two brothers and two sisters, all deceased, except one sister, who lives in England.

Early in life William became a miner, and followed that occupation while in England. His opportunities for education were very limited. He married, January 10th, 1828, Maria F. Redfearn. She was born in Allston, England, October 23d, 1807. Her father, Teesdale Redfearn, was a miner in the lead mines in Allston, County of Cumberland, England. He emigrated and settled with his family at Tamaqua, where he worked in the coal mines, and eventually he and a son were killed while so employed.

In July, 1830, William Donaldson, with his wife and child, took passage on an emigrant ship for America. The voyage was a boisterous one, and occupied thirteen weeks. He landed at Philadelphia on a Sabbath morning. Taking a short stroll up Market street of that city, he soon found himself in the country. The first man he met was the Rev. Mr. Sutherland, an Episcopal clergyman, whom he had known in England. On the Monday following he took a canal boat for Pottsville, and after a week's journey arrived at his destination. He was employed as a miner, at $3 per week, until the fall of the same year, then at Nesquehoning, and in the early part of 1831 moved to Tamaqua, and lived in a house on the grounds now occupied by Carter & Allen's machine shops. For a number of years he was inside superintendent of the Little Schuylkill Company's mines. He then engaged in mining on his own account, at Sharp Mountain, where he built a small colliery, capacity about fifty tons per day. The breaker was what was called a "coffee-mill" breaker, and was run by horse power. He afterward leased a breaker erected by the Little Schuylkill Company near the same place, which he worked until it was burned down in 1854. Prior to this he had contracted with the same company to sink a shaft 360 feet in depth, and after the breaker was completed he took a lease of this colliery, which he continued to run until his death, which was occasioned by an explosion of fire damp in this mine. His son, John Donaldson, was with him at the time of the explosion, and was severely burned, but escaped with his life. Lingering eight days after the accident, he died on the 20th of July, 1859.

At the time of his death Mr. Donaldson was president of the Anthracite Bank of Tamaqua. He was the founder and principal supporter of the Primitive Methodist church of Tamaqua. He always took great interest in Sunday-school work, and was for many years superintendent of the Sunday-school of his own church. All public and benevolent enterprises found in him an earnest and efficient friend. In his habits he was strictly temperate, abstaining from all use of tobacco and ardent spirits. In society he was genial and companionable; but it was within the limits of his own family circle that his excellent qualities shone brightest and were best appreciated.

His widow survives him, living at the old homestead in Tamaqua. Nine children were the issue of this worthy couple, viz.:

John, born in England, November 3d, 1828; died May 26th, 1834, in Tamaqua.
Elizabeth, born October 27th, 1830, at Five Points, Schuylkill county.
Margaret, born August 8th, 1832, at Tamaqua.
John, born November 24th, 1834, at Tamaqua.
Hannah, born December 14th, 1836, at Tamaqua; died at Tamaqua, October 6th, 1862.
William F., born December 24th, 1838, at Tamaqua.
Mary A., born August 1st, 1841, at Tamaqua; died there September 15th, 1850.
Samuel T., born March 10th, 1844, at Tamaqua; died in Philadelphia, April 19th, 1879.
Maria J., born April 3d, 1847, at Tamaqua.
Mr. Shepp was born in the city of Reading, Berks county, Pa., March 26th, 1830, being the fifth of the seven children of Daniel and Elizabeth (Zachrias) Shepp.

Conrad Shepp, his grandfather, emigrated from Germany and settled in the township of Alsace,-afterward Muhlenburg,-in that portion of it now included in the city of Reading. He married there a Miss Klohs, and they had six children, a son and five daughters. coming to this country without means, he worked at day wages until he had accumulated sufficient money to buy one ox, his employer becoming his security for a second one, and he drove the two to Philadelphia and thus laid the foundation for his subsequent successful career as a drover. He eventually purchased a farm of 100 acres, which under his management became one of the most productive in the region. Here he raised his family. He died in the year 1840. His wife died a number of years before him.

Daniel Shepp, Conrad’s only son, and father of the subject of our sketch, was born February 16th, 1802. He was brought up a farmer and drover. After the death of his father he came into possession of the home farm. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Zachrias. She was born September 30th, 1800. Their children were Susannah, Elizabeth, Samuel, Rebecca, Daniel and John. The daughters are now (1881) deceased; the sons are all living. Daniel Shepp, sen., died march 15th, 1880. His wife survives him and is living at the homestead.

Daniel Shepp, his son, passed his childhood at home, receiving his education in the district school of his native town, supplemented by six month's attendance at Unionville Academy in Chester county. In February, 1851, in company with twenty others from Reading and vicinity, he started for California via Panama. He engaged in gold mining while there, and after an absence of seventeen months, during which time he had saved over and above expenses $5,000, he reached home in August, 1852. November 1st of that year he became bookkeeper for W.H. Chiner Co., at Mount Laurel furnace, where he remained sixteen months. In March, 1854, he came to Tamaqua, and in company with A.W. Kauffman and Daniel Baum built the stone flouring mill, known as the Tamaqua Steam Mills. Under the firm name of Daniel Shepp & Co. the business was carried on for two years. In 1856 Adam Aulthouse, his brother-in-law, purchased Kauffman & Baum's interest, and under the firm name of Shepp & Aulthouse the business was conducted up to January, 1861. At that time Henry F. Stidfole purchased Aulhouse's interest, and for six years the mill was run in the name of Shepp and Stidfole. In 1867 Joseph B. Hursh purchased Stidfole's interest, since which time the business has been conducted under the old firm name of D. Shepp & Co. During all of this period, except when Mr. Stidfole was a partner, Mr. Shepp has been the sole manager of the business. On the first day of March, 1869, in company with Conrad Graeber and John Kempel, he purchased the lease of the Locust Gap colliery from John W. Draper, and he has retained his interest in the property to the present time. Both his milling and coal interests have been successful.

For twenty-four years Mr. Shepp has been a member of the town council of the borough of Tamaqua. This fact alone sufficiently attests the estimation in which he is held by the citizens of Tamaqua. During that time he has also been a member of the special police to the borough. His efforts as an officer of the borough to ferret out and bring to trial the murderers of Benjamin F. Yost, his brother-in-law, made him especially obnoxious to the Molly Maguires, and he was "marked" for one of their victims. The subsequent arrest, trial, conviction and execution of many of the leaders of that organization undoubtedly saved his life. The outlaws succeeded, however, in burning his coal breaker, by which his company incurred a loss of $25,000.

In politics Mr. Shepp has been identified with the Democratic party. During the war of the Rebellion he was a war democrat, and voted for President Lincoln for a second term, on the principle suggested by the latter, that "it is not well to swap horses when crossing the stream."

He has been for many years a member of the German Reformed church, and is an active member and a liberal supporter of that church in Tamaqua. He is a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows, and Knights of Pythias fraternities, and of Doubleday Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

October 14th, 1857, Mr. Shepp married Mary Isabella, daughter of Joshua and Susanna Boyer. Mrs. Shepp was born in McKeansburg July 26th, 1839. They have had children as follows: Kate Olive, Mary Rebecca, William Henry, Annie Louisa, Edward Milo, Rosa Bella, Daniel Franklin, Bessie Fidellas, and an infant; all are living except Kate Olive and Bessie.
George Wiggan, born in London, May 21st, 1800, was married August 6th, 1826, at St. George’s church, Hanover Square, to Susannah, daughter of Samuel Draper, Hertford, Herts, England. Five children were born to them, viz.: two sons and three daughters; the latter died in England and one son in Philadelphia; the remaining eldest son, George F. Wiggan, now resides in Germantown.

George Wiggan remembers seeing, when a child, the funeral of Lord Nelson; and was present when Sir Francis Burdett, escorted by the King's Life guards, was taken to the Tower of London. Prior to leaving England he had visited nearly all the prisons and hospitals in London for benevolent purposes. He was locked up at one time in Newgate for two hours with a number of criminals, all double ironed. The Bible was chained to the desk. He was on a committee of St. Clement’s parish to visit the homes of misery and wretchedness about Drury Lane and Wylde street, and assisted in relieving their temporal wants.

On the 19th of October, 1834, Mr. Wiggan, with his wife and his son (aged six years), set sail from London in the good ship Samson, Captain Chadwick. They arrived at New York November 25th, 1834, and put up at a boarding house near Pearl street. The first night the father had to sit up most of the time and keep the rats from devouring the child with a stick. The next years occurred the great fire which destroyed millions of these pests.

Having located his family in Philadelphia Mr. Wiggan went to Washington to deliver letters and documents to B.F. Butler, attorney-general of the United States, General Jackson being President. He went by boat from Philadelphia to Baltimore, and thence by stage over a corduroy road, arriving at Washington at 11 p.m. There was no room for him at any of the hotels, so he walked the street from the White House to the Capitol back and forth nearly all night. At daybreak he went for breakfast to a hotel, where he had been refused the night before, and on talking with the landlord found that the latter had a brother in London who was a very intimate friend of Mrs. Wiggan. The landlord gave the traveler the best room in the house as long as he remained in Washington. After delivering his despatches (sic) Mr. Wiggan was introduced to the President, General Jackson, who sat down with him by his hickory fire, and they had a long talk, Mr. Wiggan being promised that if he would stay a position should be found for him. He preferred
Philadelphia however, and was engaged by Edward Biddle, then president of the Little Schuylkill Navigation Railroad and Coal Company, to attend to their coal yard on Spruce street; afterward he was appointed their shipping agent on the Pine street wharf.

Having united with the temperance society of Philadelphia, he took an active part in promoting its cause. He was secretary for three of the societies, and treasurer for one, and was appointed one of the marshals of the first temperance parade in Philadelphia; Rev. S. Tyng, Rev. John Chambers, and Father Hunt were the orators of the day, and held forth at the Chinese museum in 10th street. January 11th, 1840, Mr. Wiggan was appointed a delegate to the first temperance convention, held at Harrisburg. In 1836 the temperance people petitioned the council to have dippers chained to the pumps of Philadelphia for the use of the citizens, which was done. In 1838 Mr. Wiggan was introduced to John B. Gough, who made his first appearance as an advocate of the temperance cause in a little church on 8th street, Philadelphia.

In March, 1840, Mr. Wiggan became the Little Schuylkill Company's agent at Port Clinton. He instituted the first Sabbath school there, and was elected and ordained an elder of the Presbyterian church for Tamaqua and Summit Hill churches, connected with the Presbytery of Luzerne. He had been commissioned by the Presbytery of Luzerne and the Presbytery of Lehigh eight times, to represent those Presbyteries in the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, the sessions being held as follows: Baltimore, May, 1848; Charleston, S.C., 1852; Lexington, Ky., 1857; Rochester, N.Y., 1860; Cincinnati, O., 1867; New York City, 1869; Pittsburgh, Pa., November, 1869; Baltimore, 1873.

In 1847 he removed from Port Clinton to Tamaqua, and went into coal mining, establishing the firm of Wiggan & Son. In 1854 he was elected chief burgess of the borough of Tamaqua. In 1856 he was the nominee of the Republican party for associate judge for the Court of Schuylkill county. He has been a director of the First National Bank since its organization in 1853. In 1866 he was appointed treasurer of the Tamaqua school district, and in 1873 treasurer of the Mahanoy City Water Company, both of which positions he now holds. For several years connected with Benjamin Bannan and others, he took an active part in furthering the erection of a miner's hospital for this county, which is now being erected at Ashland.
REILLY TOWNSHIP

This township was so named in honor of Bernard Reilly, late one of the associate judges of this county. It was formed out of the southwestern part of Branch, and was laid out in 1856. It was surveyed by Samuel Fisher. Its present boundaries are: on the north Foster and Cass, on the east Branch, on the south Wayne and Washington, and on the west Frailey. From north to south it extends about four and a half miles, and from east to west about four miles, and contains about eighteen square miles. Through this township all the coal veins known in the Mine hill and Broad mountain extend. For agricultural purposes neither the soil nor the surface is generally well adapted. There are, however, some portions of the township where the ground is free from stones and otherwise tillable. No doubt the first settlers were attracted by the appearance of these spots, and located thereon and began clearing with the intention of farming for a livelihood. Outside of the small patches used by the miners and workingmen as gardens, in and around the colliery villages, there is now within the limits of the township very little land under cultivation, the former clearings being abandoned, and some of them overgrown with scrubby pitch pines. The population of the township in 1860 was 2,900; in 1870, 1,890; and in 1880, 1,452.

Jacob Fox, his wife, two sons and two daughters, were the first settlers of this township. They came from near Womelsdorf, Berks county, in 1790, and located about half a miles south of the site of Branch Dale. Their first improvement was the erection of a one-story log house. They cleared the Fox farm. The country westward from Fox's residence is called Fox valley.

George Werner, father of Christopher Werner, who died about 1850, was a Revolutionary soldier. Peter Starr served in the war of 1812.

At the time Jacob Fox settled here deer and other game were plenty, and meat could be easily obtained. Shingle timber was plenty, and flour and groceries were procured by shaving out a load of shingles, hauling them often as far as Reading, and exchanging them for such articles as were needed in the family. There was no mill within many miles, and the first settlers used to boil their wheat and eat it with milk. In 1803 Peter Starr, a young man, a tailor, and a former acquaintance of the family of Jacob Fox, joined them; and, in 1894, was married to Elizabeth, the eldest daughter, and commenced housekeeping in Fox's small log house. This was the first marriage in the township. Starr settled not far from his father-in-law's house, and there erected a hewed log house, and in course of time cleared about forty acres of land. In 1804 his wife gave birth to a girl baby, who was named Elizabeth in honor of her mother. This was the first birth in the township.

It is said that in 1811 John Bretzius, with his family (consisting of his wife, a son and several daughters) and accompanied by some neighbors, came from Blue mountain valley in Wayne, with several loads of household goods and some boards, via Pine Grove and the mountain tavern to Fox valley, where at Black Horse they unloaded the goods under two large oak trees, make a tent or shelter of some linen cloth, laid down a floor of rouge boards and had a regular old fashioned country dance the night of their arrival. Bretzius, with the assistance of some of his friends, built a one-and-a-half story log house, and for many years kept a tavern there, which was the first in the township. Mr. Bretzius was succeeded as "landlord" by Philip Cares; Cares by Daniel Tobias, who built the Black Horse Hotel, which he kept many years, and was succeeded by Beneville Witner, Abraham Evans, Thomas Evans and John Graves. At present the house is occupied as a dwelling.

About 1846 the first mail was carried through this township by L.M. Gager, who drove a stage between Pottsville and Tremont. In 1848 Swatara post-office was opened, with Daniel Tobias as postmaster.

VILLAGES AND TOWNS

The beginning of the village of Branch Dale, Muddy Branch or Weaverstown, as it has been variously called, dates about 1836, with the opening of the mines by Martin Weaver. It is not a regularly laid out town; most of the houses first erected were mere log shanties. The village received its name from being located on the banks of the extreme western tributary of the Schuylkill. The
present limits of Branch Dale embrace the village formerly known as New Mines. In the latter place there are a number of good houses. The two places together have considerable population. In 1875 there was a Methodist church erected here.

Ezra Cockill was the builder, and Rev. Richard Kaines was the first preacher. The congregation numbers about 50. The village of Branch Dale contains a post-office, one church, two public schools, three stores, three hotels and several saloons and small shops. Scott & Crow are the leading merchants. Robert Wier keeps a hotel and store. In connection with a hotel Mr. Conly also keeps a store.

Swatara Village is about two miles west of Branch Dale on Swatara creek, a short distance south of Swatara Falls. A visit to these falls is never a matter for regret. The water here rushes over an almost perpendicular precipice eighty feet high, and when the stream is swollen the roaring waters is heard a mile. Swatara village contains a Methodist church, built in 1868, a public school-house, a hotel, kept by Alexander Griffith, and a store, kept by Jonah Williams. It is a mining village and contains not half the population it did ten or fifteen years ago. A short distance west of Swatara is a small settlement known as Tuckerville. The post-office for Swatara is kept there. Mr. James Coffy is the post-master.

New town is situated about three miles east of Tremont and about one mile southwest from Swatara. It is on the lands of George Patterson. The lots were surveyed by Allen Fisher. The original land grant of this town was by patent to Michael Kunkel bearing date 1703. It contains two hotels, a large double public school-house, two small stores, and several smaller shops. The hotels are kept by John Aller and Conrad Ossman. It connection with his hotel, Ossman keeps a small store. The first house built in this place was erected by John P. Bettinger and was intended for a store house. It is now the hotel of John Allen. Soon after the commencement of the town the two Zerbey brothers, Martin and Henry, erected a large three-story house for a hotel, which is at present occupied as a private dwelling.

**PUBLIC ROADS**

The date of the first road located in and passing through this township is not known. The first road leading into Fox's valley connected with the Reading and Sunbury road at the house of Emanuel Jenkins (late Keffer's tavern) and passed between Tremont and Donaldson, and through the township to Pottsville. This road was never surveyed. It was first used as a log and shingle road, and was extended as necessity required. The next road, known as the Pottsville road, from Pine Valley in Hegins township, extended over the Broad mountain at Sherman's tavern, and passed through this township. It was never surveyed. Simply located by jury, with but little alteration, it is used as originally located, intersecting the Tremont road at Newtown. Another road was made from Tuckerville to Clauser's mill in Branch about 1841. It passes through Swatara, Branch Dale, and Muddy Branch.

**COLLIERIES**

About 1836 at "Weaverstown" (now a part of Branch Dale), Martin Weaver opened the first colliery in this township. Like many of the past openings, his were on water level, and the producing facilities were not on as large a scale as those of colliers worked at the present day. Mr. Weaver however operated his colliery for many years, employing a large number of men and boys, and shipping a great quantity of coal. The colliery is now abandoned and dismantled.

Some time after the opening of the Weaverstown colliery the Forest Improvement Company opened a colliery about a mile west of it on the Otto tract, known as the "New Mines." John Spencer also opened and for some time operated a colliery here. It is said that the Spencers erected all, or nearly all, the stone houses belonging to these mines, and owing to the number of such houses the place was very frequently called "the stone houses." The colliery is at present known as the "Otto." These colliers were successively worked by different operators, one of whom was Thomas Shollenberger. Under his management the colliery became one of the largest and most productive in the county. It is owned and operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron company, and from its producing capacity, and for the superior quality of its coal, is noted as one of the best in the county. Its combined steam power is about 700 horse-power, and when in full working order its shipments amount to about 1,250 tons per day. About 250 men and boys are employed inside, and 150 outside.

About 1850 the late Samuel Fisher or Howell Fisher opened and for some time afterward operated the Swatara colliery, about two miles west of the Otto. Later the colliery was successively operated by Messrs. Brown & White, Mr. Hewit and Major J. Claude White. It is at present operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. Formerly this colliery produced about 150 cars per day, and employed a large number of men and boys. Its present capacity is about 50 cars per day, and employs about 100 men and boys inside and outside. About 1850 also John B. McCreary opened a small colliery at Swatara. This colliery was afterward worked by James Gilfillan, but, owing to the inferiority of its coal, it was abandoned.

About 1856, Allen Fisher opened a small colliery in Sharp Mountain, which is abandoned. There were several other small collieries opened at various times, but, not proving remunerative, they were soon abandoned.

**SCHOOLS**

The first day school in this township was kept in a spring house on the farm of William Gebert, by Peter Haupt, a German. The German language only was taught. The only surviving pupils are a daughter of Mr. Gebert, married to J.S. Zerbey, and Jacob Zerbey, both residing in Ohio. The first public school was held in a
small house belonging to Philip Cares, about seventy-five yards east of the Cross Keys hotel. This school was opened about 1841 or 1842.

Among the successive teachers of this school may be mentioned James Love, Isaac Betz, Nathaniel Bressler, Henry S. Strong and Peter O. Bressler. There are still a number surviving of the early attendants at this school. The first school-house in the township was built about 1852, on the south side of the public road and about one hundred and fifty yards west of the Black Horse Hotel. Philip Cook was the first teacher in this building, and during the term of 1852 Mr. Cook, assisted by Abraham H. Tobias, organized the first Sunday-school, Mr. Cook acting as superintendent.

RUSH TOWNSHIP

This is one of the original nine townships of this county, and dates from 1811, when the county was separated from Berks. In area, when first organized, was much greater than at present; as from it have been taken, in whole or in part, Mahanoy, in 1849; Rahrn, in 1860; Ryan, in 1868; and Klein, in 1873. The population in 1830 was 359; 1840, 370; 1850, 670; 1860, 1,076; 1870, 2,291; 1880, 1,522.

In this township the Little ssss river has its source. The Indian name of the stream was Tamaqua, and the borough of Tamaqua perpetuates the name.

The pioneer settlers of Rush came from Berks county, and were all of German origin, and for many years they spoke only the German language. The oldest raod in the township is the Tamaqua and Hazleton road; and along that road are some of the oldest clearings. Thomas Lindner came to Rush in 1800, and prior to 1811 built the house opposite the stone tavern on the old raod. John Faust settled in the township in 1806, three miles southwest of Barnesville. Abram L. Boughner located near the same place in 1815. Jacob Neifert and Andrew Gottschall were early pioneers and cleared the first land in the neighborhood of Tamanend. John Feller at an early date in located in the township and built the house where Charles Blew now lives, near Barnesville. These were the earliest settlers of whom we have any authentic information. The first attempts to develop the region were made by capitalists, who paid a certain part of the settlers' expenses, and after they began to thrive sold them small farms; hence there was not that fixedness of habitation among the pioneers that we should expect under the homestead law. Gross & Wissimer erected a grist and two saw-mills, about 1812, near Mintzer's station, where dupont & Weldy's upper powder mill now stands. The first tenant was William Major, and the mill was known as Major's mill. This was the first mill in the region.

HOMETOWN

Of villages Hometown is the oldest, and tradition says that here was a favorite resort of the Indians. This place was founded by Messrs. Duncan of Philadelphia, in 1829. It was thought to possess superior advantages, as it is surrounded by good farming land, in the vicinity of abundant limestone. Jacob Faust kept the hotel, built by the proprietors, taking possession in 1831. The first licensed tavern was kept by John Kaup, where William kaup now lives. Before the days of rapid transit by rail these taverns on the old road were places of considerable importance to teamsters and travelers; even now traces of their better days remain. Hometown remains a small hamlet.

BARNESVILLE

This village owes its origin to the building of the Little ssss Railroad, which was completed in 1854. Prior to the opening of this road quite a number of farms were cleared in the valley between Barnesville and Quakake Junction. The first hotel was built by Jacob Faust and opened in 1854. The first store was kept by David and Michael Bender. About 1860 Edward Yarnold had a store and steam saw-mill in the village. The place has never materially prospered, and contains at present a church, hotel, store, public school and the usual number of shops necessary for its two hundred inhabitants. Here lives Jacob H. Faust, the patriarch of the township considerable past three score and ten, yet hale and hearty.

TAMANEND

This name is of Indian derivation. There is a tradition among the old residents that about the time of the Wyoming massacre a noted Indian chief, Taman by name, an ally of the British and tories, was foremost in the war upon the defenseless frontier. Afterward, when the avengers of the frontier butcheries made war upon the savages, Taman was brought to bay at Hawk's curve, near the site of the village. Here he was captured and immediately hanged; hence the name, Taman's end, or Tamanend. This village is at the junction of the Little ssss and Catawissa Railroads. In 1870 the Central Railroad of New Jersey connected with the other roads at this point. The place was begun in 1853. A hotel, a store, a post-office and the necessary number of dwellings for the railway employes form the town.
QUAKAKE JUNCTION

The hotel at Quakake is said to be the oldest house in that part of the township. It was built on a farm, quite a distance from where it now stands, and was moved to its present position years ago. This hotel, a union depot and the homes of the railway employees make up Quakake. The public school building for Tamanend and Quakake is about a quarter of a mile southeast of the junction.

DELANO

The youngest but the most important of the villages in the township is Delano. The repair shops of the Mahanoy division of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, located here in 1866, were the starting point of the village. All the lands in and around the town are owned by the Delano Land Company, and are leased by the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company. All the houses are built by the company. The shops and engine-houses have been enlarged from time to time, as business on the division demanded. The Mahanoy division is under the supervision of James J. and A.P. Blakeslee, the latter of whom resides in the village.

John Campbell, as master mechanic here, is the successor of A. Mitchell. Building and repairing engines, repairing and repainting passenger cars are the industry of the place. About two hundred men are employed.

A temperance hotel, a large store, a public hall, a public school building and the shops and dwellings of the employees form the town. In the hall religious services are held each Sabbath. The Episcopal, Lutheran and Presbyterian ministers from Mahanoy City supply the pulpit. A flourishing union Sunday-school is in operation, the nucleus of which was the Sunday-school organized by David Fletcher in the old school-house. A public library and reading room is sustained by the citizens, and is liberally aided by the company.

POWDER MILLS

About the opening of the civil war the manufacture of gunpowder was quite an industry. A mill, known as Ginther's mill, near the Stone tavern, is still standing, but has been abandoned for several years. The mills of Dupont & Weldy, at Mintzer's station, are yet in operation, and constitute the only manufacturing interest in the township. In 1868 the powder mill of David Beveridge exploded; in 1871 H.H. Weldy's mill exploded and one man was injured. In 1874 an explosion here killed John Crouse and Isaac Mumme. In 1879 this mill (now known as Dupont & Weldy's) again exploded, killing James Neifert and two little girls who chanced to be playing near.

EDUCATIONAL

The first school in the township was opened in 1810, through the exertions of John Faust. It was held in an old log house a mile or more from the present town of Barnesville, and was taught by Francis Keenly, a Prussian. The instruction was entirely in German. Probably the first attempt to teach English was made by Richard Heath, a bachelor from New Jersey, who came to the region about 1820. At any rate Heath was the first man in the section able to transact business in English. His attempt at teaching was made about 1822, in his own house, but failing to receive adequate support he abandoned the effort. Jacob Faust, a son of John Faust, in after years, prior to the establishment of the free school system, built and furnished two school-houses, one near and one in Barnesville. He insisted upon having English as well as German taught, and finally employed an Englishman to teach, but as he failed to give satisfaction he was succeeded by Miss Mary Blew. These early schools were primitive affairs, small houses, furnished with one large table, around which the pupils sat on benches without backs. The small scholars sat on benches against the wall. Class teaching was unknown, each pupil being taught individually.

The people of rush did not embrace the free school system until it was forced upon them. On June 13th, 1853, the court appointed William Kaup, Jonas Richard, Thomas VanHorn, W.J. Thomas, Eli Neifert and Eli Faust directors. They organized on the 25th of the month, electing William Kaup president, and Jonas Richards secretary. William Mintzer was chosen treasurer, and William Thomas collector, and a tax of eight mills was levied. In the present limits of the district no schools were opened until 1855, when three were put in operation; one near Hometown, one near the Stone tavern, and one near the old union church. Messrs. Jackson, Shindle and Werntz were the respective teachers. The schools were kept open for three months—the minimum term—and the salaries were $25 and $30 per month. In 1858 Jacob H. Faust built and furnished a school-house at Barnesville, which he presented to the township for ten years, and in that year a school was opened there with H.S. Strong as teacher.

In 1871 the school at Quakake Junction was opened, and in 1865 the school at Delano, which completes the number now in operation.

Some slight changes have been made in location as new, modern houses took the place of the old huts formerly used, but each school has been in continuous operation since the time it was organized. All the houses now are of modern construction, and with one exception furnished with patent desks. At Delano a large two story, three-room building has been erected and two schools are in operation, making seven in the district. The schools are kept open an average term of eight months. The salaries range from $40 to $50 per month. The people are proud of their schools, and sustain them willingly. At an early day they saw the wisdom of acquiring a mastery of the English tongue. As a consequence very little German is spoken. Almost the entire population can read, write and speak English. In a few years the last trace of German will disappear, and this desirable change has been wrought mainly by the wisdom, the foresight and energy of the school directors, who have in many instances refused to employ teachers who
could speak German, so that the pupils would be compelled to speak English.

**RAILROADS**

The Catawissa and Little Schuylkill railroads were both completed through here about 1854. In 1864 the Mahanoy division of the Lehigh Valley Railroad was completed. This road was completed as far as the site of Delano in 1862. The Nesquehoning Valley road was completed in 1870. This road is a branch of the Central of New Jersey. It was begun years before, but was abandoned for a season. It connects with roads leased and operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company at Tamanend. About a mile from the Stone tavern this road crosses a narrow gorge, through which flows a considerable brook, and across this chasm is the High Bridge, an immense wooden trestle one hundred and fifty-seven feet above the bed of the creek. These roads have not only furnished the people of Rush an outlet for their products, bon on them as employes many of the young men find steady and lucrative employment. They have done more to improve the condition of the people than all other agencies combined.

**CHURCHES**

**Union Church.**-The oldest church, and for many years the only one in the township, is the Union church, situated in the valley about two miles from Tamanend. The Lutheran and Reformed societies built the old White church in 1831. It is a rough cast building, and makes no pretensions to architectural display. The interior is arranged so as to seat the greatest number possible. On three sides are galleries supported by pillars. The pulpit is an immense goblet-shaped affair, and raises the pastor about midway between the upper and lower hearers. It is surmounted by a sounding board, which our forefathers considered so essential an adjunct to the sacred desk. Rev. David Kroll was the first Lutheran pastor, and was largely instrumental in establishing the church. Mr. Kroll had preached in houses about the township since 1820. Rev. Messrs. Solomon and Schimpf have both served the Lutheran part of the congregation. Among the German Reformed pastors may be mentioned Rev. Messrs. Hausinger, Schellhammer and Keiser. The present pastors are Rev. William H. Laubenstine, Lutheran, and Rev. Mr. Fisher, Reformed, both of whom reside in Tamaqua. The church was built and it has been maintained by the farmers of the valley. The membership is not large, and hence they have never been able to maintain a pastor of their own. The church is attached to the Tamaqua pastorates. Service are conducted in the English and German languages. Attached to the church propert is the old grave yard, where the pioneers of the region have been laid to rest.

**The Evangelical Association.**-In Barnesville the members of the Evangelical Association built a neat framed church in 1872. The congregation, though then small, has been constantly growing, and though not strong enough to maintain a separate pastor, has service regularly, being attached to the Tamaqua circuit. Before the building of the church, preaching was conducted in any convenient building, as the nucleus of this church edifice. Since the completion of the church the regular pastors have been: Rev. Messrs. Kempfer, two years; Breifogle, one year; Krecle, one year; Delabar, one year; Smoyer, one year; Egge, one year; and Zimmerman, the present pastor. Attached to this congregation, and under its supervision, is a thriving Sunday-school. Edward McCase was the first superintendent, and was largely instrumental in establishing it. The present efficient superintendent is James H. Reigle. The school has about 60 pupils, taught by nine teachers. This church has done, and is doing, in connection with its school a vast amount of good.

**SONS OF AMERICA**


JOHN CAMPBELL

was born in Elizabethtown, Dauphin county, Pa., September 18th, 1832, the fourth of the eight children of Brooks and Christiana (Zecher) Campbell. His great-grandfather, Brooks Campbell, emigrated from Scotland with his family and settled in Lancaster, Lancaster county, Pa.

His father, named after the immigrant, was born in Lancaster, in March, 1796, and was the eldest child in his father’s family. In the early part of his life he was a farmer. During his last fourteen years he was a foreman for Samuel Spencer, a heavy contractor of public works. He died in March, 1844. His widow is living at Pittston, Luzerne county, Pa., with her youngest son, C.K. Campbell. The children of this worthy couple were as follows: Charles, Brook, Emanuel W., John, Elizabeth, Dyrous K., Mary and Samuel; all are living except the last.

John Campbell was educated in the schools of Lancaster. In 1847 the family moved to Mauch Chunk, and for two years he was employed as a laborer on the public works. At the age of 18 he commenced to learn the machinists’ trade of Bradley and Butler of Mauch Chunk, and he remained with them four years. In 1853 he began railroading as a fireman on the Beaver Meadow Railroad. After about five months he became engineer, and for the next fourteen years was employed in that capacity on the Beaver Meadow, Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company’s, and Lehigh Valley Railroads.

In 1857 he took charge of the shops of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company at White Haven, and upon their removal to Ashley he continued in charge, as master mechanic, of the general repair shops of the Lehigh and Mahanoy division of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, situated at Delano, which responsible position he still holds.

Mr. Campbell is a Republican in politics. He is a member of Coalville Masonic Lodge, No. 474, at Ashley, Luzerne county; also of the Odd Fellows’ lodge at White Haven.

He married, November 14th, 1859, Theresa Smith, who was born in Germany, December 23rd, 1839. Mrs. Campbell came to America from Germany when but fifteen years of age, leaving home and fatherland unaccompanied by any member of her family. Three children are the issue of this marriage, viz.; Edwin O., born November 11th, 1860; Mary Elizabeth, born March 19th, 1862; and William S., born July 19th, 1864.

As a thorough and efficient officer Mr. Campbell has always enjoyed in the largest measure the full confidence of the companies by which he has been employed, and as a citizen is deservedly held in the highest esteem.
RYAN TOWNSHIP

This township is of irregular outline, and lies in the east part of the county, between the upper and lower Schuylkill coal fields. It was formed from Rush and Mahanoy townships in 1868, and named in honor of Judge Ryan of Pottsville.

The first settlers within the present limits of Ryan were the Dreshes and Heasings, about 1784. During that year David Dresh erected the first log house, on the Klingman farm, on the road from Reading to Catawissa. Here he planted the first orchard in the township. A man named Stauffer, from Berks county, moved to this farm in 1811, succeeding Dresh. A Mr. Feller lived early on the Charles Blew farm. John Faust, George Focht, and a man named Kregler were also early comers. Others, now well known, came later.

Rev. Messrs. Schellhart and Kroll were the pioneer preachers in the township. They held primitive meetings in a log house owned by David Dresh. Isaac A. Blem organized the first Sundayschool in Locust Valley.

David Dresh kept the pioneer tavern of the township, in a log house on the Catawissa road. The first regular hotel was built about 1820, on the opposite side of the road from the Valley House, by Timothy Lewis. The Valley House was built by a man named Kearn about 1842. William Weaver, the present proprietor, bought it in 1868.

Isaac A. Blew built the first public school-house, in 1854. The first teacher was Henry S. Strong, now a resident of Donaldson, Schuylkill county. A church building was erected by the Lutheran and Reformed denomination in 1848. The builders were Levi F. Blew, John Schlier and ----Faust. The first pastor of this union congregation was Rev. David Hasinger. Charles Faust was the first child baptized into the church (1848).

SHUYLKILL AND WALKER TOWNSHIPS

Schuylkill was one of the original townships of the county, organized in 1811. The division lines and territories of the original townships of Schuylkill and Rush were changed and confirmed August 1st, 1821.

A movement looking to a division was made successfully in 1878, and Walker township was formed from the southern section. In 1834 Tamaqua belonged to Schuylkill township. Blythe was taken from it in 1846, Mahanoy in part in 1849, and in part Butler, New Castle and East Norwegian.

The first settlement in the two townships was made in the Lewistown valley (now in Walker), about 1802. The settlers were Germans and New Englanders, and the well cultivated farms in that section attest their thrift and energy. The experiences of the pioneers were similar to those of early residents in other portions of the county. The population was 600 in 1870, and 1,629 in 1880.

PATTERSON

Patterson is probably the oldest town in Schuylkill township, though Tuscarora claims the honor. It is on the Schuylkill Valley Railroad, eight miles east of Pottsville. In January, 1846, it contained a large hotel and one store. In two years' time the population increased to 169. In 1852 a new school-house was erected; the old school house was sold to the German Catholics, and services were held in it every two weeks up to 1878, when a majority of the residents emigrated into the Mahanoy valley. A small Irish Catholic church was erected in 1843, supplied by Father Fitzsimmons, from Pottsville. This was the only charge of that denomination in the valley.

The Major and Sillyman collieries were worked for many years, until 1871, when the output had become no longer profitable. The Patterson of 1881 is a straggling town, of many unoccupied, broken down houses, and of about 70 population. Mr. Jacob Heitz, a resident of thirty years' standing, looks after the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company's property.

TUSCARORA

In 1846 Tuscarora was the terminus of the Schuylkill Valley Railroad. There were seventeen houses, two taverns, one store, and a population of 139. The place did not grow for several years on account of the bad condition of the railroad. May 20th, 1830, the post-office was established, with Mr. Donaldson as postmaster. In 1852 dwellings became in great demand, and the place flourished largely. J. and R. Carter sunk a new slope, and Patterson & Sillyman, Pottsville operators, were working the mines on the Kentucky banks. These mines were worked up to 1875, when they passed to the proprietorship.
of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, and became part of the tract of the Alliance Coal Company (Cooper, Hewitt, Havemyer & Co.), of New York. Surveys were made in 1879 with the intention or reopening a building breakers, but nothing came of them.

The Primitive Methodists opened their church for service November 15th, 1853. The building was purchased of Charles F. Shoener, then of Tamaqua, for $500. The amount was made up by the following persons: John J. Dovey, $275; John and F.W. Donaldson, $100; C.F. Shoener, $50; Robert Ratcliffe, $50; Charles Mills, $25. It had not been in use for several years, and $116.46 was contributed toward repairs. The building is of wood, and it has been closed for several years.

About 1855 the Reformed church was organized, and a stone building, with a steeple, erected at a cost of $3,000. This was done to accommodate the many city visitors who stopped at the great Tuscarora House during the summer. The hotel was at one time a well known institution; but it is now boarded up, and the church doors are rarely opened.

St. Gabriel's church was opened in 1877, and is in connection with the St. Jerome's charge, Tamaqua.

NEWKIRK

Newkirk, a coal village, was laid out in October, 1852, and two rows of stone dwelling houses erected. In 1854 a stone church and school-house in one building was put up at the turnpike bridge, and Presbyterian services were held.

The coal mines were opened in 1852 by Newkirk & Buck; then Fry & Shepp operated them from 1870 to 1875, when the breakers were burned. A large new breaker is located here, but it has not been operated since 1877. The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company are the owners.

REEVESDALE

Reevesdale, a thriving coal town in 1870, has every house but one boarded up to-day. In fact, but few people find work in Schuylkill, owing to the entire closing up of the coal mines.

LEWISTOWN

Lewistown is a post village, containing ten dwellings, one store, an Evangelical church, built in 1866, and a union Lutheran and Reformed church, an old-fashioned stone edifice, built about 1834. Revs. J.N.S. Erb and H. Liesse are the pastors.

POPULATION-SCHOOLS

In 1828 Schuylkill township, which then included Walker and other territory, had 93 taxable inhabitants; in 1833, 188; in 1835, 175; in 1849, 368; in 1880, about 109. The property valuation in 1833 was $72,489; the amount of taxes levied was $587.25. In 1880 the taxation of Schuylkill aggregated $1,467.56; that of Walker $1,361.46.

The public schools in both townships are ably managed. Schuylkill continued under the old regime until 1837, when a board of directors favorable to general education was secured. They at once opened six schools. Previously, three "pay schools," two in log houses built for the purpose and one in a rented room, were the only accommodations. Fifty cents a month was demanded from each pupil by the schoolmaster for his services. Nathan Barlow kept one of these latter schools in Lewistown for twenty years in the center of a rich farming district.

SOUTH MANHEIM TOWNSHIP

This township was formed by a division of Manheim township in 1845, and it is the central township on the southern border of the county. Several censuses have determined its population as follow: 1850, 773; 1860, 1,078; 1870, 929; 1880, 960.

Matthew Hein, grandfather of George Hein, who lives on his well-improved farm a mile or so below Landingville, was the first settler in the vicinity, locating very early on the farm mentioned, which is known as Daniel Hein's farm. Another early settler in the township, of whom people now living have knowledge, was Adam Smith. He located and lived on the place now known as Wert's farm, near the Blue mountain.

A few other pioneers settled in this neighborhood, but neither their names nor the dates and circumstances of their settlement are now known.

The few scattering inhabitants of this part of the county during the period from 1755 to 1763 were greatly alarmed on account of numerous depredations and murders committed by Indians. The greater part of them fled to the southern part of the then county of Berks, which included Schuylkill. In October, 1755, the Indians were traversing the region of the Schuylkill and killing isolated settlers under circumstances of much cruelty.

The first saw mill in the present township was erected by a man named Werner, on a small stream known as Riffee creek, in 1777. The property there is now owned by William Zuber.
The pioneer grist-mill was Kershner's mill, built near Auburn about a century ago. It was remodeled many years since, and it is now known as Fisher's mill.

The primitive furnace, long a landmark in south Manheim, was erected at an early but now uncertain date, by John Pott, one of the family of pioneers in iron-making. His father, Wilhelm Pot, came to American in 1734.

In 1877 the old furnace, after having undergone repeated repairs of more or less importance, was destroyed by fire. A new establishment of this description was erected at Jefferson station, in the south part of the township. It is owned by John G. Kauffman & Brother, and affords employment, when in operation, to about 50 men.

EDUCATIONAL

Manheim, having Pottsville and Norwegian on one side and Orwigsburg on the other, with their strong example in favor of the public school law, could not long resist the silent but potent influence of their successful common schools, which were securing to every child, at a comparatively trifling expense, educational advantages, which previously only a few had enjoyed. Thus assailed, front and rear, the opposition had so imperceptibly melted away that in the spring of 1838 the system was accepted by a large majority, and in the following November eight schools were put into operation for a term of four months. South Manheim at the time of the division (1845) had five public schools. It now has five, including two in the borough of Auburn.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

of South Manheim is a stone structure with a seating capacity of 1,000 and is the third erected. In 1878 it was remodeled and nicely frescoed, painted and carpeted. The society was organized about 112 years ago. It is a union church, Evangelical Lutheran and German Reformed, having a membership of about 300 of each denomination.

The names of early preachers cannot be recalled. Among those who have officiated for the German Reformed people since 1820 the following are well remembered: Rev. Mr. Moyer served about forty years, and was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Moyer served about forty years, and was succeeded by Rev. Jacob Klein, the present pastor, who has been connected with the church twenty-seven years. Lutheran ministers who have been in charge from time to time have been Revs. George Mennig, A.T. Geissenheimer, J. Airhart, John Eberman, C.F. Warner, ---Jacobi, G.W. Scheider and Matthew Yeager. Rev. W.H. Kuntz has been in charge since 1874, having confirmed 115 members.

The Sunday-school is a union school, and is kept open only during the summer. In 1880 it numbered 94 scholars. Who the first superintendent was no one knows. The school has no library. the last superintendent in 1880 was David Staler, who is also a public school teacher.

AUBURN BOROUGH

This pleasant borough contains four stores, two hotels, two boar yards, and a grist-mill. It has two resident physicians, and a population of about 740.

About eighteen years after the opening of the Schuylkill Canal, a boatman named Samuel K. Moyer built a house at the locality then known as "the Scotchman's lock," now within the limits of Auburn. This was the first domicile there. Soon he opened a store, where he sold dry goods and groceries to the near residents of the territory known as South Manheim and West Brunswick. At this time there were only about half a dozen houses within a circle of half a mile from the center of the present borough.

This business beginning was made prior to 1840, at a time when the Philadelphia and Pottsville branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad was in progress of construction. This line was completed in 1842, when a station was established at "the Scotchman's lock," and the name of the place was changed to Auburn. Under the influence of the local railway interest the village began to grow steadily and somewhat rapidly. The boat building interest, later, had its effect in bringing it into prominence. The post-office was established in 1846, with Isaac Hoffmmeister as postmaster. In 1854 the Susquehanna and Schuylkill Railroad was completed, with its eastern terminus at Auburn, and in 1857 the borough was duly incorporated, and its government organized according to law.

The first regular school in the village was opened about 1845, in the basement of the Bethel meeting house, which had been fitted up as the early school room. The first school-house proper was built in 1857. The present commodious school building, which accommodates three schools, was erected in 1869. The maximum school term of Auburn is eight and one-half months.

Auburn Lodge, No. 543, Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized in 1858. The following are the names of the charter members: Gideon L. Edling, Jaren Wilson, George Worcester, Jacob Kreamer, Benjamin Kreamer, Jacob Runkle, Daniel Koch, Jonas Fredici and Daniel F. Moyer. Jacob Runkle was the first noble grand; Jaren Wilson the first vice-grand. The present
officers (1881) are: Jackson Kreamer, N.G.; Charles Kreamer, V.G.; Adam Barrel, Secretary; Charles E. Quail, treasurer.

In 1845 a Bethel meeting house was built by a then recently perfected religious organization, called the Church of God. For ten years or more Auburn was the locality of evangelical efforts, spasmodically made, it is said, by the denomination mentioned, and the Evangelical Lutheran and German Reformed adherents. The two latter churches were organized in due time and in 1859 erected a union church, which they have since jointly occupied.

A Sunday-school was organized in 1859, with 45 pupils and a library of 100 volumes. Mr. Hoffmeister was the first superintendent. The school numbers at present more 90 members.

The first burgess, elected in 1857, was Augustus Schultz. Jacob Kamer, A.R. Moyer, Daniel Moyer, Garrett Wilson, Daniel Kochand George Worcester were the first councilmen. The present (1881) burgess is C.E. Quail. The councilmen are James Rausch, William Mengel, Bennewell Long, Reuben Hains, S.K. Moyer and Adam Barrel.

TREMONT TOWNSHIP

Tremont, lying in the west end of Schuylkill county, was formed in 1847, from Pine Grove township. It derives its name from the French words tres (three) and mont (mountain). It is bounded on the west by Dauphin county, and is about twelve miles long and 3 1/2 miles in breadth. The surface is broken into mountain spurs and ravines, making it one of the most romantic sections in the county. There is very little arable land, the late census enumerator reporting only one farm. The mountains are covered with pine timber and laurel bushes.

Some of the best veins of anthracite coal in the region are found in Tremont; the coal mined within its borders commands an extra price, being superior for domestic purposes.

From the number of arrow-heads found in this vicinity it is concluded that it formed a favorite Indian hunting ground.

Settlement began in 1816 or 1817 by Henry Zimmerman. The Hipples, Pinckertons, Clarks and Mellons were among the first settlers. Mr. Mellon was the first hotel keeper. There is not now a licensed hotel or saloon in the township, and no liquor is sold. Dr. Speck was the first physician. The first minister of the gospel who resided here was Rev. T.A. Fernsby. He built the Methodist Episcopal church in 1847. The first resident attorney was C.D. Hipple, under whom Colonel Pinckerton studied. Among the early justices were Esquires Wolff and Bechtel.

The first road in the township was the old Sunbury road, which ran from Reading to Sunbury, passing through Lorberry and Joliet. It was constructed in the latter part of the last century. Joseph Bunderstein is believed to have been the first white man buried in the township; his remains lie in the Methodist Episcopal cemetery.

The organization of Tremont school district dates back to the formation of the township in 1847. The first board of school directors was organized in February, 1848. Levi Pinckerton was chosen president, Dr. Frederick Speck secretary and John Barndt treasurer. The other members of the board were T.H. Godfrey, Thomas Baily and Henry Eckle. The first teachers employed were E.H. Kent, Mr. Bennet and Samuel Warren. The present school directors are D.A. Workman, C. Schreffler, John Cowley, William Murphy, John Baddorff and Henry Culbert. The present teachers are George Gage, Israel Faust, Yoder, Hisbchman and C.D. Arters; salary $60 per month and term ten months.

The population of the township was in 1850, 1,191; in 1860, 1,944; in 1870, after the erection of Tremont borough, 754; in 1880, 1,001, a majority of whom are Pennsylvania Dutch. There are few persons in the district that cannot speak either German or Dutch, even the children of Welsh and Irish parentage speaking the language of the majority as fluently as their mother tongue.

COLLIERIES

Kalmia is one of the prettiest little coal towns in the anthracite regions. Good judges have pronounced the scenery here the finest in Pennsylvania.

Kalmia Colliery was opened in 1869, by John Phillips and William H. Sheafer, the firm being known as Phillips & Sheafer. Thomas H. Phillips has been superintendent ever since the opening of the colliery. He is a civil engineer and a graduate of the Polytechnic school. Captain Alexander B. Frazer is inside foreman and Edward Humphreys outside foreman. There are employed on the outside 40 men and boys, and 168 men and boys inside. There are 5 engines (110 horse power), 2 mine locomotives and 21 mules. There are 30 dwelling houses, with a population of about 200, and one large company store.

The big and little Lykens Valley veins are worked by this colliery, and the coal is a superior article and commands a good price and ready sale. The capacity of the breaker is 150,000 tons per year; present production 85 cars per day, or 10,000 tons per month. Owing to "faults" encountered lately the shipment is somewhat
curtailed at present, but the operators expect to soon run it up to the old figure, 125 per day. This colliery was opened by a water-level tunnel started in red shale and driven under its measures. The vein was struck at 176 yards. The gangways of this colliery are the longest in Schuylkill county. It is five miles from the face of the east to that of the west gangway under ground.

Lincoln Colliery, near the center of Tremont township, was opened in 1869, by Levi Miller & Co. Lincoln village has a population of not quite 200, a majority of whom are Pennsylvania Dutch. There is a public school, open ten months in the years, and on Sunday religious services are held, the Rev. A.J. Amthor officiating. D.J. Lewis has been for a number of years outside superintendent for the colliery. The inside foreman is T.J. Davis, a man competent in every way to fill his position. There are employed at this colliery, inside 260 men and 12 boys, and outside 57 men and 100 boys. There are 9 engines (410 horse power), 4 steam pumps, and 25 company houses. The Lykens Valley veins are worked here, and the coal mined is of a superior quality: it is used principally for domestic purposes, and commands from 25 to 50 cents a ton more than that mined in the neighborhood of Pottsville. The capacity of the breaker is about 300,000 tons a year, say 1,000 tons or 200 cars per day.

Lower Rausch Creek Colliery was opened in 1858, by Miller, Graeff & Co. The village of the same name has a population of about 250, mostly Pennsylvania Dutch. The people at the colliery enjoy about all the advantages that any similar number of people do anywhere in the coal regions. They have a public school open ten months in the year; on Sunday the building is opened for Sunday-schools and other religious exercises. The outside or general superintendent at the colliery is D.J. Lewis, the same man who superintends at the Lincoln colliery. Mr. Lewis is a native of the township, and has always been connected with the collieries of this region in some capacity. He is a man eminently qualified to fill this position, and no collieries in the coal region are more successful than those under his management. The inside foreman, Isaac Price, a native of Wales, came to this county when young, worked in the mines in Dauphin county for some time, and who was employed about two years ago to superintend the inside working of this colliery. The outside foreman is Edward C. Neale, a native of the township; has been employed about the mines for a number of years, and is considered to-day one of the best outside foremen in the county. They are employed inside 150 men and 17 boys; outside, 49 men and 69 boys. There are 40 company houses, 8 engines (410 horse power), 3 large steam pumps and 4 18-inch pole pumps. The capacity of the breaker is 140 cars (700 tons) per day, or about 225,000 tons per year. The present shipment is 500 tons per day, the same veins are worked here as at Lincoln, furnishing coal of the same excellent quality. The men employed at this and Lincoln colliery have not missed their regular pay day for a number of years, and are a happy and contented people. The slope at the Rausch Creek colliery is about 1,800 yards long, or perhaps the longest slope in the county. On account of the depth of this mine there is some carburetted hydrogen gas in it, and serious accidents have occurred; but of late the mine owners have had an improved ventilating fan erected, and no very serious accidents have happened since. William Morgan was fatally burned by an explosion in September, 1880.

The Lorberry Colliery was opened about 1835, by Oliver & Stees, and furnished the first mining of any importance in the township. It has been exhausted for a number of years; but the present village of Lorberry contains about 200 inhabitants, who find employment at Lincoln and Rausch Creek collieries. They have a public school, open ten months in the year, and the building is also used for Sunday-school and religious exercises.

Lorberry Junction, in the extreme eastern part of the township, is a flourishing little village. There are small coal workings here, owned by Frank & Son. About a year ago an accident occurred, by which three men lost their lives.

**TREMONT BOROUGH**

No buildings of any consequence were erected at Tremont until 1844. In 1848 the first post-office was established, with John B. Zeibach postmaster. The borough was incorporated in 1866. In the immediate neighborhood extensive mining interests are located, which require the use of steam engines, mining pumps, coal breakers, and various kinds of complicated machinery. These wants are fully provided for by the extensive establishments of Adam Ferg, proprietor of the Donaldson Iron Works, and Calvin Brower, proprietor of the Tremont Iron Foundry and Machine Shops. These establishments are under the management of thoroughly reliable and practical gentlemen.

Tremont is well provided with stores of different kinds, and has excellent hotel accommodations. The place supports two newspapers, the Tremont News, edited and published by U.G. Badtdorf, and the West Schuylkill Press, Hon. S.C. Kirk editor and proprietor. Mr. Kirk is a member of the present Legislature. The population of Tremont according to the late census is 1,873.
There are six churches in the borough; one Methodist Episcopal, one German and one English Lutheran, one Evangelical, one Roman Catholic, and one German Reformed.

There are six schools in the borough, all held in one building. The building is large and commodious, built of brick, at a cost of about $15,000.

The present teachers are: High school, William M. Leaman; grammar school, T.B. Williams; No. 3, Mr. Miller; No.4, Miss E. Kupp; No.5, Miss C. Gage; No.6, Miss Glanding. The board of directors consists of Messrs. Stoffler, Koser, Badtdorff, Huntzinger, Fulmer, and Beadle.

**LODGES AND SOCIETIES**

Tremont Lodge, No. 245, I.O.O.F. was organized in May, 1847. The first officers were: Samuel Wagonseller, N.G.; T.A. Godfrey, V.G.; John P. Bause, secretary; David W. Dunbach, assistant secretary; Thomas P. Parvin, treasurer. The present officers are: George Auchenbach, N.G.; Lewis Heil, V.G.; George Beadle, secretary; A.C. Miller, assistant secretary; D.B. Althouse, treasurer. The society meets every Friday evening. There are 111 members in good standing. The society owns a large hall, which has recently been renovated and newly furnished.

Tremont Union Encampment of Patriarchs, No. 167, meets in the same hall on the first and third Tuesday evenings in each month. It was organized in May, 1868. The present officers are: Valentine Linn, H.R.; Harry Crooks, C.P.; J. Haerter, S.W.; G. Derr, J.W.; G. Tracey, scribe; George Krise, treasurer.

Swatara Lodge, No. 267, F. and A.M. was organized January 24th, 1853. The charter members were: T.A. Godfrey, W.M.; J.B. McCreary, S.W.; John Barndt, J.W.; William Bickle, treasurer; Aaron Eckle, secretary; Washington Bigler, brother of ex-Governor Bigler, S.D.; Fred. Westheimer, J.D.

The present officers are: James W. Ziebach, W.M.; G.D. Anderson, S.W.; Calvin W. Brower, J.W.; Daniel B. Althouse, treasurer; Lewis Heil, secretary; Isaac D. Lehman, Joseph Enzensperger and Thomas H. Phillips, trustees.

The communications of the lodge are held on Monday evening on or before each full moon, in Odd Fellows' Hall.


Harugari Lodge No. 29 was organized in April, 1851. It convenes on the first and third Wednesdays in each month. The following were the charter members: C. Kopp, Philip Kopp, Martin Kopp, Daniel Kopp, Jacob Laur, sen., Jacob Laur, jr., George Laur, Christian Sapper, John Worm, Christ. Laur, Frederick Boltz, Zachariah Badtdorf. The first officers were: Martin Kopp, O.B.; C. Kopp, U.B.; Jacob Laur, jr., first secretary; C. Laur, second secretary; D. Kopp, treasurer. The present officers are: M. Marine, O.B.; G. Peaser, U.B.; Peter Enters, first secretary; Frederick Sinsmidiger, second secretary; A. Wentz, treasurer. The lodge meets in Odd Fellows' Hall.

The Tremont H.R.A. Chapter meets on Monday evening after each full moon in Odd Fellows' Hall. The present officers are: Benjamine Kauffman, M.E.H.P.; Jonathan Reinoehl, king; George D. Anderson, scribe; D.B. Althouse, treasurer; L.W. Heil, secretary.

Tremont Lodge, No. 128, K.P. meets in Union Hall on Monday evening of each week. It was organized in February, 1869. The following are the officers: P.C., Josiah Brown; C.C., John Pumph; V.C., George Zimmerman; P., Samuel C. Kirk; M. of E. & H., S.C. Crooks; M. of F. G., M. Beadle; K. of R. & S., Dominie Moyer.

Williams Post, No. 136, G.A.R. was organized June 10th, 1868. It meets on each Saturday evening in Odd Fellows' Hall. The officers at present are: W.V. Leaman, P.C.; John Seifert, S.V.C.; F.C. Schumbacher, J.V.C.; Isaac E. Marks, chaplain; Anthony Fisher, surgeon; Jacob R. Haerter, Q.M.; John Marks, adjutant; Gabriel Derr, officer of the day; Daniel Maul, officer of the guard; Abram Lehr, W.M.S.; C.F. Ochner, S.M.; John Lehr, J.S.; A.M. Shuey, O.S.; Lieutenant Williams, John Clary, Christ. Beidle, Frederick Boltz, Christ. Laur, Frank Lehman, Joseph Watts, Conrad Bortelle, Manus Conrad, and several others from Tremont, lost their lives in the civil war.

**FIRE ORGANIZATION**

In August, 1878, a fire occurred in the eastern part of the town, among the stores and business places. At that time the town had no fire department, and it was not extinguished until it had destroyed about half a square. The loss was estimated at $100,000. The citizens then awoke to the importance of organizing a fire company. The borough fathers purchased a fine Silsby fire engine, at a cost of nearly $4,000, and erected a suitable building to keep it in, and a hall room for the company to meet in. The whole cost of building and engine was $7,000; and to-day there is not a town in the county that has a better engine building. The company's room is fitted up with the best of $4,000, and erected a suitable building to keep it in, and a hall room for the company to meet in. The whole cost of building and engine was $7,000; and to-day there is not a town in the county that has a better engine building. The company's room is fitted up with the best of modern furniture, and the floor is covered with Brussels carpet.

**PROMINENT CITIZENS**

The Hon. Benjamin Kauffman, a member of the State legislature of 1872, is a resident of the town, and has during his whole life been prominently identified with the business interests of this county. He was born in Llewellyn, a little post town 8 miles east of Tremont. He was at one time part owner of the Brookside colliery, one of the largest in the coal region.
D.B. Althouse, once county commissioner, and forty years a resident of this town, was born in Berks county. He did, perhaps, as much as any other citizen of this place to develop the coal interest of the west end of the county, and was at one time engaged in the mining of anthracite coal. He is now a retired gentleman.

Joseph Enzensperger, a native of Germany, was one of the pioneers of this town. He is now engaged in the hotel business. Some fifteen years ago he was burned out by a fire that laid waste a part of the town, but on the site of the old building he erected a substantial three-story brick structure.

The Hon. S.C. Kirk, a member of the present Legislature, was born in Perry county in this State, but has resided in Tremont nearly all his life. He commenced as a public school teacher, and for a number of years taught the West End Normal school. He is now editor of the West Schuylkill Press.

Zach. Badtdorff, one of the pioneers of this town, is the owner of perhaps more property in the town than any other single individual, and has done much to develop the interest of the place.

The late Henry Heil perhaps did more to make Tremont what it is than any other single individual in it. He was a coal operator, and for a number of years owned what is now known as East Franklin. He had amassed quite a large fortune during the war, and had he retired then would have done so with $1,000,000; but, like many others, he remained in the business too long, and, unfortunately for himself and the whole community, he lost the greater part of his estate. His name will long be remembered by the people of Tremont, especially the poor people, for he was liberal to a fault.

Eugene Bechtel, a native of Lancaster county, and an early resident of this place, has been prominently identified with the business interests not only of this town but the west end of the county.

Esquires Beadle and Ziebach are among the prominent young scriveners and justices in the borough of Tremont.

Adam Ferg, a native of Germany, has long lived in Tremont, and has been prominently identified with the business interests of the community, and by his enterprise and thrift has placed himself in comfortable circumstances.

The Lehman, Marks, Imschweiler, Savage, Streicher, Murphy, Glanding, Brower, Core and Baily families have long been engaged in business in this place, and have contributed not a little to the prosperity of the borough.

There are three physicians located in the town, Drs. Koser, Lehr and Rutgers.

There are three lawyers who have officers here; their names are Setzer, Moyer and Mortimer, and each of these has quite a lucrative practice.

The present borough councilmen are Edward Dechant, Samuel Freeman, John Hand, John Imschweiler, William Leininger and Frederick Beiser. Jacob Haerter is the chief burgess, and John Umanitz high constable.

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UNION TOWNSHIP

In what is now Union township Frederick Labenberg is believed to have been the first settler. He built a log house and cleared a piece of land during the first years of the present century, and in 1810 disposed of it to Benjamin Trexler. Daniel Lindermuth cleared the farm where George D. Lindermuth now resides. John Eisenhauer settled on the farm now owned by D.M. Nesbitt, and John Fruhr settled where John Hazeltine now resides. The above named settlements were contemporaneous with Trexler's.

There are traces of Indian occupancy, and the early settlers claimed that a deserted encampment was found near the Philip Derr place.

Henry Gilbert, to whom the historian is indebted for many of these facts, was present at the first court held in this county, in 1811, his father being one of the jurors drawn in the first grand inquest.

The first grain was raised by Labenberg, and the first log house built by him. The first traveled road was the old turnpike from Reading to Catawissa, and the first town meeting for the township of Rush was held at what is now Brandonville, at the house of John Bidler in October, 1811.

The building first used for church purposes was the old Thomas Gootschall house, built as early as 1810.

Andrew Foster was the first physician of Union, and he died in 1863. The first merchant was John Everett, who had a small grocery near Enoch Monbeck's place about 1820. John Fertig and a man named Wentz were also pioneer merchants.

Daniel Butler was the first magistrate, and his successor was the merchant John Everett; the third justice appointed by the governor being Jacob Zimmerman, in 1825, who served until his death in 1845.

Thomas Beddler was elected justice in 1840; Peter Horn in 1846; John A. Kehler in 1850; P.M. Barrow in 1856; David Davis in 1861; D.L. Stauffer (Still an incumbent) in 1864, and James K. Rice in 1874.

The first orchard in the old town is believed to have been planted by a man named Crawford, who settled on
the Boyd Dresher farm about 1811. The pioneer, Fred Labenberg, was also the first innkeeper, and the first merchant, Everett, is also reported to have kept open doors to the traveling public.

Mails were first carried here by Thomas Thomas, once a week. Old John Eisenhauer kept the first post-office, at the place now owned by D.M. Nesbitt. It was then known as "Catawissa Valley."

A mad wolf was shot on the farm of Thomas Lorah in 1835, after having fatally bitten a number of cattle, hogs and dogs.

The territory now comprising North and East Union townships was, until 1818, a part of Rush township; and at that time was erected into the township of Union, together with a tract set off from Columbia and Luzerne counties, which now comprises the greater portion of North Union. Union township had 487 inhabitants in 1830, 904 in 1840, 1,064 in 1850, 1849 in 1860, 1110 in 1870 and 1,290 in 1880.

CEMETERIES

The earliest burying-ground was in connection with the Union church, and the first person interred in it was Jacob Eisenhauer, who died May 9th, 1815, aged two years, eleven months and twenty-six days. The first adult to whose memory a stone is erected was Daniel Kolb, who died January 5th, 1818. In this cemetery are stones erected to the memory of the following soldiers of 1812: Jacob Laudig, died July 17th, 1863, aged 77 years; Benjamin Sautzer, died November 29th, 1863, aged 71 years; William Dombuch, died October 5th, 1847, aged 69 years; Charles Bitting and Frederick Labenberg. The oldest person whose death is recorded on the burial tablets of this country church yard was Barnard Eisenhuth, aged one hundred and eleven years.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The first school-house was built about 1820. It was a log building, standing near where the Union church now stands, and its first teacher was a man named Sahm. The first election of school directors under the new law was in 1852. But the opposition succeeded in choosing men opposed to any change. This farce was annually repeated, until, in 1859, an appeal to the courts caused the appointment of William M. Davis, Jacob Seltzer, D.M. Stauffer, Dr. Andrew Foster, Henry VanDuzen, and Samuel M. Miller (the last of whom resigned and was replaced by Michael M. Kestler), with instructions to exhaust all the resources of the law in its fulfillment, if necessary. The struggle by which the stolid Dutchmen had the blessing of free schools thrust upon them is narrated on page 94. An interest was finally awakened, which resulted in the erection of as fine a series of brick buildings as can be found in any rural township in the county, and the establishment of a central high school that affords more extended educational advantages than are usually found in agricultural township.

The village contained in 1880 about sixty dwellings, three hotels, three general stores, five shoe shops, four wood working shops, two smithies, a tannery built in 1860 by P.M. Barrow, and a school house. It supports one physician, two clergymen, one file cutter, one tinsmith and one saddler. The only post-office in Union prior to 1845 was removed here after a migratory experience of some years, and was replaced by Michael M. Kestler, with instructions to exhaust all the resources of the law in its fulfillment, if necessary. The struggle by which the stolid Dutchmen had the blessing of free schools thrust upon them is narrated on page 94. An interest was finally awakened, which resulted in the erection of as fine a series of brick buildings as can be found in any rural township in the county, and the establishment of a central high school that affords more extended educational advantages than are usually found in agricultural township.

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RINTOWN

The land on which this village is located was owned by Benjamin Nehf in 1838, and at that time there were four houses in the place—one nearly opposite the Mansion House, built by Jesse Hart in 1828; one where the Exchange Hotel now stands, built by Abraham Fry in 1830; one on the site of P.M. Barrow's residence, built by Peter Laudig in 1833. Mr. Nehf laid out a town site, and interested himself in building up a village. In 1843 Daniel Goho opened a hotel in the Jesse Hart house, and two years later the Exchange Hotel was built by Samuel Rupert, and known as the "Rising Sun Hotel."

The village takes its name from a thieving act which occurred in the locality in 1831 and caused an enemy of Mr. Nehf to speak sneeringly of the place as Ringtown. That title has still clung to it despite the efforts of its founders, and, having long since lost its significance, it is now acquiesced in by all.

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The grounds of the Catawissa Valley Agricultural Society are located here, the enterprise having been largely local in its inception. The buildings were erected in 1871 at a cost of $4,890, and fairs are held there annually.

The Ringtown high school building cost $2,400, and in it two schools are taught.

The pastors of this church have been Rev. Messrs. Knoll, H. Knoebel, and Isaac Schellhammer, from 1840 to 1872, and Edward D. Miller since 1874, under whose care the church membership has been doubled, and two new churches have been established; one at East Union, St. John's church, numbering forty-five members, and one in North Union, of about the same numerical
strength, known as Emanuel's, and, in common with the Lutherans, occupying Zion's church building. The mother church is located at Ringtown, and numbers about one hundred and fifty members.

The Sunday-school work has been conducted in union with the Lutherans. The first school in Union was organized at the old log church in 1850. In 1854 another school, of which D.M. Stauffer was superintendent, was formed at a school-house in the southwestern part of the township. In 1873 a division occurred in the old school, and a union school was formed at Ringtown, still in operation, with E.K. Stauffer as superintendent. The older branch of the school was removed in 1876 to St. Paul's church, and it is still known as the Lutheran school, though equally under the care of this church.

**Evangelical Lutheran Church** - So closely has this church been identified with its neighbor, the Reformed church, that its business history is practically the same. Originating about the same time (1822), it is now a joint owner in St. Paul's and Zion's church buildings. The pastors have been Rev. Messrs. Boch, Benninger, Weiksel, Kleine, German, and the present incumbent, Rev. W.H. Geiger, who commenced his labors in 1880. The membership is two hundred and twenty-five. The Zion's Grove church, in North Union, is an offshoot from this, and under the same pastor's care. The Sunday-school history of the church has already been written with that of the Reformed denomination.

**The Evangelical Church** was organized in 1870, with fourteen members. During that year a church edifice was erected on lands owned by C.H. Hines, its cost being about $3,000. The first pastor was Rev. James Sautez, who was succeeded by Revs. T. Harper, D.S. Stauffer, a. Dilabar, E.K. Miller, and the present pastor, Rev. J.M. Rinker. The church numbered in 1880 some seventy members. The first Sabbath-school superintendent was C.H. Hines. The present one is Nathan Seltzer. The school has a library of 300 volumes.

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**UPPER MAHANTONGO TOWNSHIP**

Upper Mahantongo's first settlers were a German named Alexander Klinger and his four sons, who settled in 1780 at what has since been known as Klingerstown. Jacob Baum, Robert Clark, Seamon Shuman, Andrew Osman, and Gideon Williams (a Welshman) were other pioneers in different sections of the town. Peter Klock, who settled the Daniel Dungelberger place, is reported to have come into the neighborhood about 1775.

The first grave-yard was opened on the John Schrob farm.

The first school-house was built in 1805, and a school taught by a man named Hein.

George Maurer kept the first store in Klingerstown, about 1811.

John Reed built the first hotel in 1803, and sold it in 1804 to Jacob Wiest, by whom it was kept for many years. The next hotel was built by Jacob Stenner in 1812, and it is now standing and owned by John Wiest.

It was not until 1840 that a practicing physician, named John Piffer, settled in Klingerstown.

The post-office in this place was established in 1850, and mails delivered once a week by way of Reading and Sunbury. The old post road ran near the present road to Sunbury, and was abandoned when the latter was built. The war with Great Britain in 1812 sent the recruiting sergeant to this quiet hamlet, and of the townspeople Sebastian Zimmerman, Jacob Wolfgang, John Kline, Abraham Zimmerman, Solomon Zimmerman, Henry Klock, George Geist, Henry Maurer and Adam Slobig enlisted, serving about four months at York, Pa., and Baltimore, Md.

Klingerstown contains at present two hotels, one store, blacksmith shop, school-house, and five or six dwelling-houses.

In 1830 the township contained 1,151 inhabitants; in 1840, 1,291; 1850, 1,656; 1860, 786; 1870, 761. The decrease was due to the reduction of its area by the erection of other townships from it.

**SCHOOLS**

The conservatism of its people make Upper Mahantongo the last township in the county, and one of the last in the State, to accept the provisions of the present school laws, and not until the year 1865 were the educational interests of the town placed under its operations. Well adapted for grazing and the culture of roots and fruits, the township needs only the infusion of the fresh young blood, quickened by contact with its fellows, that is rapidly replacing the ultra caution and suspicion of its older inhabitants, to speedily bring it into the front ranks of the farm towns of the Schuylkill region.

There was in 1880 but one church organization in town. This, known as Schwalm's church, has an edifice near the center of the township.

Schwalm Union Church was organized in 1820, its meetings being held in the old log school-house near where the church now stands. Among its first members were John, Henry and George Maurer, Jacob Dressler, Jacob Bechtel, George Estman, Jacob Stagg, Neitling, Thomas and George Henninger, Peter Jacob Luckney, Henry Knorr, Adam Herb, George and Peter Schleyer,
In 1856 this township was formed from Pine Grove and Wayne. The southern part of the township was first settled by Germans, and the present population is almost wholly of German descent, speaking the language and retaining the habits of their fathers. The first settlers suffered from Indian depredations, and in some instances they were induced through fear to abandon their homes.

 Among the settlers who came previous to 1790 were Philip Zerbe, who is said to have been the first to locate; Tebbich, Nicholas Shuck, Adam Kalbach, George Kremer, Peter Kremer, Peter Weaver, Peter Paffenberger, Nicholas Paffenberger, Christina Betz, Peter Hetzel, Henry Oppel, Michael Bressler, Paul Lengel, Gebhart, Stephen Diehl, Samuel Owen, Boyer, Casper Bretzius, John Adam Brown; Jonathan Kerschner, Platt, Wagner, Bilger, and Worner. A man named Jacoby, with his family, also located at a very early date, but he was soon afterward attacked by Indians, and beheaded, while chopping wood at the door of his house.

 Peter Hetzel located near Salem church about 1770. He taught the first school (German) in the township. His son Peter was the first carpenter here. Casper Bretzius built the first grist-mill on the Little Swatara creek. After his death his son Michael continued to operate the first mill until the beginning of the present century; then carried on another upon the same site until his death, many years later. He also built and operated a carding machine and cloth-dressing establishment—the first in the township—about 1824. It was located on his own farm, about three fourths of a mile northeast of the grist-mill. His son, Michael Bretzius, jr., located at the carding machines, which he operated several years. John Adam Brown built a grist-mill in the southeastern part of the township about 1790. One is still in operation on the same site, and is owned by a descendant of the first builder. A man name Boyer built a tannery near Rock Station about 1790, which he operated a few years, when the business was abandoned.

 John William Kremer is said to have put up the first sawmill, though several were built at an early date.

 John Batdorff was the first blacksmith; he opened a shop near Rock Station about 1800. This township had 1,233 inhabitants in 1860, 1,313 in 1870 and 1,354 in 1880.

 **HAMLETS**

 Rock is a post-office and station on the S. and S. branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, where are located a small store and a grist-mill. This place was formerly known as White Horse, taking its name from a tavern here. In 1868 a post-office was established here, with Jerome Riland as postmaster.

 DeTurkville, formerly called Silliman, situated northwest from the geographical center of the township, contains a store, a wagon shop, a blacksmith shop, and five or six families.

 The first tavern in the township was kept near this place by Solomon Christ about 1827. A public house is still kept here, and is known as the "Red Lion."

 **CHURCH HISTORY**

 Salem's Lutheran and Reformed church.—In 1780 there were a number of Lutheran families settled in this part of the country. They built a school-house about a hundred years ago, on a tract of land containing fifty-five acres, obtained as a gift from the government. This building was to serve also as a place of worship. For the first few years they had no minister, and no organized congregation. Peter Hetzel, a school teacher, read sermons to them regularly. In 1783 Rev. William Kurtz, who resided in Tulpehocken, began to preach in the school-house. He organized the congregation and began to administer the sacraments. This newly organized congregation and the Jacob's, two miles west of Pine Grove were served together by the same minister. Communions were held alternately in Jacob's church, and in this school-school. Mr. Kurtz served the congregation until he died, in 1799.

 In the autumn of 1795 the congregation began build-
ing a new church, which was dedicated on the 25th of May, 1797. The building committee consisted of John Lengel, Peter Hetzel, and Adam Kreigbaum. The deacons were Christopher Bernhard and Casper Lengel. The new church was named Salem’s Lutheran church. It was built of logs and weatherboarded; it had galleries on two sides.

In July, 1799, Rev. Andrew Schurtz became the pastor of the church. He remained until July, 1802. In September of the same year he was followed by Rev. John Knoeske, who found the congregation to number thirty-eight communicant members. The deacons were Adam Gebert and Nicholas Scheterle; elders, John Lengel and Henry Appel. Rev. George Mennig succeeded Mr. Knoeske in 1811. He remained until 1833, and then his son, Rev. William G. Mennig, was pastor until 1839. From that year until 1856 the pastors were Revs. A.B. Gockelen, J.T. Haesbert, Benjamin Sadtler and Julius Evhart. Since May, 1865, Rev. Elias S. Henry has been pastor.

There are one hundred and seventy-five members in good standing in Salem’s Lutheran congregation, and as many children and young people who are members of the church by baptisms, but are as yet unconfirmed. The present Lutheran church officers are: Deacons, Levi Rhein and John C. Minnich; elders, H.L. Zimmerman and J.W. Kemmerling; trustee, David Fidler.

Privilege was granted by the Lutherans to the Reformed members to hold regular services in the church, and twenty-six years later equal right and ownership in all the property. The Reformed had as pastors during this time Revs. John Gring, Julius Kurtz, C. Mutchler and Eli Theister.

The building that was dedicated in 1797 is still standing and has been used as a house of worship for eight-four years; but it was found highly necessary to build a new church, and in 1880 an edifice was begun, the corner stone of which was laid, with appropriate exercises, September 26th, 1880. The building committee are David Fidler, D.B. Seidel, John Henning and Joseph Fichert.

Zion’s Evangelical Church.-Traveling ministers of this denomination first began to hold regular meetings in this township in the year 1831, using the residence of John Manbeck, sen., as a meeting place. Among these early itinerent preachers were Rev. Messrs. King, Staver, Bishop Seybert, George Miller, Walker, Thomas Focht, Henry Fisher, Daniel Berger, Charles Hesser, Charles Schuen, Solomon Neitz, J.P. Leib, Francis Hoffman, Thomas Buck, J.M. Saylor and G.T. Haines. No regular organization of this persuasion was formed until the autumn of 1858, when, as the result of a religious revival conducted by Rev. Lewis Snyder, and held at the house of William Shoener, a class was organized consisting of fourteen members, of which William Shoener was chosen leader and Frank Reber exhorter. This organization has since been regularly supplied with preaching from the Pine Grove Association, and now numbers 68 members. In 1862 the society built a framed church edifice, which was dedicated by Revs. F. Hoffman and J.P. Leib. A Sunday-school was organized the same year, with F.W. Reber as superintendent.

The following ministers have served Zion's Church since the organization of the class: Lewis Snyer, ----Litzenburger, Jacob Adams, Francis Hoffman, J.O. Lehr, Thomas Bowman, C.S. Haman, J.C. Hamberger, A.M. Stirk, W.K. Wieand, S.S. Chubb, J.M. Oplinger and D.A. Medlar, the present pastor.

WAYNE TOWNSHIP

Wayne was formed from Manheim and Pine Grove townships, in 1827. In 1856 a portion was set off to form a part of Washington. The population of the township in 1830 was 1,436; in 1840, 1,619; in 1850, 1,968; in 1860, after a portion had been set off to Washington, 1,415; in 1870, 1,546; and in 1880, 1,630.

Nothing very definite can be ascertained as to Indian occupation of Wayne previous to the beginning of white settlement. On the farm of Michael Fritz various implements and weapons of Indian make have been found, and other evidences have been discovered pointing to the probability that at an early period there was an Indian fort there. At some distance from this place, but on the same farm, it is believed a permanent Indian dwelling once stood. Four of five hundred yards northwest from the “old mill property,” in a field now under cultivation, are several graves supposed to be those of a family who were massacred by the Indians.

The date of the early settlement of Wayne is not known. The first settlers in the Panther valley part of the township were Messrs. Lari, Berger, Schol and Schwartz.

In Schnickle Creek valley, and in the direction of Long Run valley, the first settlers were George Miller, ----Kearcher, John Apple and John Gombey.

A Mr. Summer was the original owner and settler on a large tract of land embracing the site of Friedensburg.

In the central and southern parts of the township the first settlers were Henry Gebhart, Hostle Boyer, John Hummel, Henry Schnep, Henry Kemmerling, Jacob Miller, Michael Webber, Benhart Rhine and Leonard Schnep.
The pioneers in Long run valley were George Shiffer, Henry Weaver and J. Wommer.
In the northern, central and eastern parts of the township the following persons were land-owners at the dates given, but not settlers: John Dundore, in 1750; Daniel Hartoon in 1750, and William Davis in 1792. G. Weitner owned 300 acres in the western part in 1750.

Peter Kutz, Anthony Roeder and Frederick Shaffer, from the territory now embraced in Wayne, served in the struggle for independence.
In the war of 1812 John Sterner, Jacob Minich, Daniel Sterner, Philip Staller, Andrew Achey, Henry Fidler, Conrad Roeder, Casper Roeder and Michael Fritz saw service.

The oldest post route through the township was over the road through Friedensburg. It is supposed Jacob Minich was the earliest postmaster in the township. Charles Krecke was appointed postmaster in 1862, and held the office till his death, in 1872. His widow succeeded him, and is the present postmistress at Friedensburg. At Summit Station, on the railroad, in the south part of the township, a post-office has for some time been established, with D.R. Ney as postmaster.

Jacob Minich is said to have been the first justice of the peace in Wayne. The next was Charles Springer. The present magistrates are John W. Heffner, sen., and Henry S. Kremer. Both have been for some years in office.

May 10th, 1769, title to this property was given to one John Graft, by one Rehrer, of Tulpehocken township, Berks county. It became vested in Conrad Roeder, who emigrated to America from Germany some time prior to the Revolutionary war, and settled somewhere in Berks county. After the war he removed to the mill property. When the mill was originally built is not now known. It was first seen by old residents of Wayne as a log structure. It was rebuilt about 1849, and enlarged in 1872 by Daniel Roeder, a grandson of Conrad. It is now owned and operated by Elias Roeder, a great-grandson of the old German emigrant, in whose family the property has remained continuously since its purchase by him, early in the history of the township.

At a comparatively early date there was a tannery on the farm of William Fidler and Daniel Yeich, in Long Run valley. A few years ago it was torn down, the foundation was removed, and the spot where it had stood was graded level with the surrounding ground for cultivation.

The Friedensburg tannery was built by Martin Price. It has since been owned successively by Jacob Eagler, Webber, Sylvius Thier and Michael Fritz, the present proprietor. The latter enlarged it some years ago, and for a time did quite a flourishing business. It is in good condition, but is lying idle.

The first tavern opened in Wayne was the Blue Mountain House, by Dexter Snyder. During the political campaign of 1800, a Jefferson liberty pole was raised in front of the Blue Mountain tavern, and the adherents of the cause of John Adams, Jefferson's opponent, gave out that on a certain day they would cut it down. When the time arrived the Jeffersonians shouldered their guns and repaired to the place, arriving just in time to see sixteen of their foes surrounding the pole, some of them provided with axes. The sudden appearance of an armed force of considerable numbers surprised and intimidated them, and when they were told not to proceed with their self-appointed task they made no show of resistance of authority, and attempted to peaceable leave the scene of their discomfiture. But this quiet acquiescence did not satisfy the Jeffersonians; and, bringing the influence of their arms and superior numbers to bear on their already chap-fallen opponents, they compelled them to march three times around the pole, and give three cheers for it each time, before they permitted them to go away.

The second public house in the township was the Long Run Valley house, opened in 1801 by Henry S. Kremer, who is said to have kept the first store in Wayne, in the same building.

The number of hotels in the township in 1881 is five. They are those of Messrs. Hummel and Schropp, at Friedensburg, that of Abraham Roeder, at Summit Station, the Black Horse tavern, kept by Henry Brown, and the old Blue Mountain House.

The oldest public roads in the township are the State road, from Schuylkill Haven to Pine Grove, the Panther Valley road, and the Blue Mountain road.

The first grave-yard opened in the township was that connected with St. John's church. There are now six burial places; one connected with each of the five churches, and a small one on the farm of Isaac Luckenbil, where Mr. Ernst and his parents are buried.

The first fine brick building in Wayne was erected at Long Run by Charles Springer, sen., about twenty years ago.

Joseph Wommer, in Long Run valley, brought the first mowing machine to the township.

The earliest resident physicians were Doctors Medlar and Davis.

Rev. Messrs. Dechert and Stowey were the pioneer preachers, and they were well known and respected by almost every early resident of the township.

FRIEDENSBURG

As has been stated, a Mr. Summer was the original purchaser of the site of this village. The first house erected there is now owned by Charles Hummel.

Friedensburg was once a candidate for the distinction of being the county seat, but the stronger claims of Orwigsburg, or the acuteness of those who presented them, prevailed.

The village now consists of fifteen house, and has 71 inhabitants. Its most prominent men are Messrs. Fritz, Hummel, Fessler, Krecke, Dietrich, Unger, Shappell and Dr. Moyer. Its business places are a tannery, a store, a shoe store and shop, a harness shop, and a wagon and blacksmith shop. There are two hotels, kept by Charles Hummel and William Shropp. During the winter months they are much frequented by sleighing-parties from va-
rious parts of the county. The English Protestant church is situated just north of the village. The place was visited by a somewhat destructive fire in 1877.

SUMMIT STATION

The tract of land on which the village of Summit Station has grown was granted to Egidions Moyer, December 6th, 1774, by the proprietaries of the province of Pennsylvania. It has been deeded six or seven times in coming into the possession of the present owners. The original tract composed some 200 acres.

The first house in the village was built by the original purchasers, in 1774 or 1775. It has since been rebuilt, and is now a tavern stand, owned by Abraham Roeder.

Isaac Hummel built the second house, and opened in it the first tavern in the place, also using it as a tailor shop. It has been remodeled and enlarged, and is now a three-story building. It is not now kept open as a public house. The third floor is used as a lodge room.

The post-office was established about 1854 or 1855, when Ruser & Riland opened a store in the building now occupied by Messrs. Ney & Kremer.

The village has a population of 81, and contains the usual variety of shops. It derives its chief importance from the fact that it is the only railway station in the township.

SCHOOLS

In 1829 Christian Meyer, a young teacher just from Strasburg, Germany, opened the first school in Wayne, in a private house. A few years later a few others were opened, and school houses built. Mr. Meyer taught forty-one years, in private and public schools, and then became a farmer. Many of his former pupils are living. Other early teachers were Messrs. Miller, Grater, Clay and Grover. The early school-houses were in Snyder valley, and at the place locally known as "Reedsville," from the fact that a number of families of the name of Reed lived in the neighborhood.

The date of the first school in Friedensburg is not remembered. Charles Krecker was an early teacher there. The present school-house in that village was erected in 1871, at a cost of $400.

The citizens of Wayne voluntarily accepted the common school system in 1841. There are now twelve schools in the township. They were being taught in the winter of 1880-81 by Miles Staller, William Hellner, Irwin Fessler, Jared S. Brown, Francis Reber, Lewis J. Brown, D.T. Schlappeich, W.H. Kremer, Jerry Hoffman, Joel Ney, W.B. Staller and F.A. Brown.

LODGES

Farmers' Lodge, No. 649, I.O.O.F was chartered November 17th, 1868, and instituted December 12th following.

The first officers were: J.H. Lenhard, N.G.; H. Trumbo, V.G.; E. Roeder, secretary; J.G. Kern, assistant secretary; Anthony Roeder, treasurer.

The present (1881) officers are: Frank Brown, N.G.; J.J. Moyer, V.G.; F.P. Schoreigerb, secretary; J.B. Ludwig, assistant secretary; Jonathan Bressler, treasurer.

The largest membership to which the lodge ever attained was 65; the present membership is 38. The number of charter members was 20.

Washington Camp No. 145 P.O. S. of A. was organized with 17 charter members. The present membership is 15.

The first officers were: D.R. Ney, D.; W.W. Brown, V.P.; A. Reed, M.F. and C.; J.B. Kremer, secretary; Joel Ney, financial secretary; John Steinback, treasurer.

The officers in February, 1881, were: F.A. Brown, president; H.N. Boyer, vice-president; D.R. Ney, secretary; J.S. Brown, financial secretary; Elias Roeder, treasurer.

There is a lodge of the Jr. O.U.A.M. most of the members of which are residents of Wayne.

All of the societies above referred to hold their meetings in a large room, fitted up for their occupancy, in the third story of the Hummel tavern building.

The membership of neither of these organizations is as large as it was a few years ago. The diminution in numbers is due chiefly to the recent financial depression.

RELIGIOUS HISTORY

St. John's Lutheran and Reformed Church, located three-quarters of a mile west of Friedensburg, is owned jointly by the Evangelical Lutheran and Reformed congregations. The erection of the building which preceded it was begun in 1796, and it was dedicated the fifth Sunday after Easter, 1797, Revs. Henry Hertzel and Emanuel Schultz being present. The present edifice was built in 1868, and is valued at $4,000.

The original church organization was effected in 1796. The present membership is about 200. The Sunday-school was organized May 13th, 1852. John Mullin was the first superintendent; the present is Mr. Brownmiller. The membership is 50.

The following Reformed ministers have served the church: Revs. John Kobrecht, William Ingold, Philip Meyer (37 years), Henry Wagner, J.P. Stein (5 years), C.H. Mutchler, I.E. Graeff, Eli E. Heister (6 years), Brocadus S. Metzger.

The Evangelical Lutheran preachers have been Revs. Andrew Schultz, Daniel Schaefer, John Knoske, George Mennig, William Mennig, Frederick Conrad, August Joekel, Nathan Jaeger (4 years), T. Brustenbach (2 years), Elias S. Henry, A. Roeller (3 years), Joel Grimm, ----Hoppe, G.F. Woerner, Robert Jacoby, W.H. Kuntz.

The Reedville Church, the original Evangelical church in this neighborhood, was built in 1845, at a cost of about 4800. The present edifice was erected in 1875, the corner stone having been May 6th of that year. The church property is valued at $3.300. The organ was purchased in 1878.

The original members of the church were John (sen.), George, Peter John (jr.), David and Daniel Reed, Jacob and John Wommer, Samuel Machmer, and John
Clay, and their wives, and some other members of some of their families, to the number of about 30.

The first Sunday-school was organized in 1846, and was attended by 40 or 50 scholars. The first superintendent of the more recent organization was Osman Airgood. The present superintendent is John H. Reed. The school has a membership of 36, and there are 150 volumes in the library.

The church has been served by the following pastors: Revs. C. Moyer, J. Lieb, L. Snider, J. Shell, C.S. Harman, E. Basht (each 2 years), F. Krecker (6 years), J.Q. Lehr, W. Yost, E. Miller, H.A. Neitz, L.S. Worman, D.A. Medlar, W. Shoemaker, T.R. Reitz (each 2 years).

St Peter's Reformed church.-The earliest meeting to consider the advisability of organizing this church was held on the spot where the house of worship now stands, as early as 1847. The society purchased 72 acres of land a mile west of Cressona, in Wayne township, on which they erected a church in 1852 and 1853. It was dedicated May 15th, the latter year. The following have been the pastors of the church: Revs. Jacob Kline, J.P. Stein, C.H. Mutchler, ----Johnson, Eli E. Heister and Bloeadus S. Metztger, the present pastor.

The first Sunday-school superintendent was Dr. Benjamin Baker. The present one if Mr. Hontzberger.

English Protestant Union Church (Friedensburg).-At a meeting held at the house of George Witman, in Friedensburg, March 15th, 1859, for the purpose of discussing measures for the erection of a church edifice, the following persons were present; William Lerch, sen., D.D. Reed, A.S. Riland, S.B. Riland, Michael Fritz, George Witman and Charles Krecker. Michael Fritz was chosen president of the meeting. William Lerch, A.S. Riland and D.K. Reed were appointed a committee to purchase a lot for a church and cemetery and draft a constitution and by-laws for a proposed organization, which was soon afterward effected. The corner stone of the church was laid a little later and before the close of the year the building was completed and dedicated.

The church is owned jointly by the local societies of United Brethren in Christ and the Evangelical church. The original members of the church of United Brethren were A.S. and Annie Riland, Thomas Morgan and wife, Martin Miller and wife, Mary and Elizabeth Miller, Anetta Luckenbill, and Magdelina Fessler. The constituent members of the Evangelical society were Charles and Abraham Krecker, Samuel B. Riland and Jacob Wommer and wife.


The Friedensburg union Sunday-school was organized in 1859. A.S. Riland has been the superintendent from the first. At the invitation of this school and the churches with which it is connected, July 1st, 1880, the centennial anniversary of the Sunday-schools of Wayne township was celebrated in the union church. The present (February, 1881) membership of the school is 74. It is provided with an organ, and a library of 500 volumes. During the summer the membership is much larger.

DeBinder's Church.-In Summit Station valley there is a small congregation known by this name. The present pastor is Rev. F.W. Berkheiser.

A Sunday-school has been in continuous existence at Summit Station about twenty-five years. At present the superintendent is D.R. Ney. The scholars number 130.

The united Sunday-school, held in school-house No. 5, has been in progress since 1850. John W. Heffner, sen., was the first superintendent; Jared S. Brown is the present one. The total membership is 121.

WEST BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP

Brunswick was one of the original townships of Schuylkill county, formed when it was set off from Berks county in 1811. In 1834 it was divided into East Brunswick and West Brunswick. The population has ranged as follows: 1840, 1,593; 1580, 1,693; 1860, 1,567; 1870, 1,163; 1880, 1,358.

INDIAN DEPREDATIONS

Tradition has it that at the junction of the little creek which flows around Orwigsburg with the Schuylkill, was once an Indian town of importance, on or near Sculp hill, which is pierced by the Schuylkill canal at the locality known as "the tunnel," or "the narrows." During the French and Indian war the few scattering inhabitants contiguous to the Blue mountains and the present boundary of Berks county were occasionally alarmed on account of murders committed by Indians marauding through that section. The following account of massacres by these savages will be interesting not only for the incidents which it contains, but also as indicating the location of pioneer families along the Blue mountain.

In West Brunswick township, early in February, 1756,
the Indians perpetrated several cruel and barbarous murders. On the 14th of that month a band of Indians went to the house of Frederick Reichersdorfer, shot two of his children, set his house on fire, and burned all of his grain and live stock. Then proceeding to the house of Jacob Gerhart they slew one man, two women and six children. Two children escaped their notice by hiding under a bed. One of them was burned with the house; the other escaped and managed to join some white settlers about a mile away.

When the intelligence of this massacre had reached Maxatany, Berks county, many of the inhabitants of that township repaired to the scene of death and rapine to ascertain what damage had been done. While on their way they received accounts of other murders. "When," says Jacob LeVan in a letter to Mr. Seely, dated February 15th, 1756, "I had got ready to go with my neighbors from Maxatany to see what damage was done, three men that had seen the shocking affair came and told me that eleven were killed, eight of them burnt, and the other three found dead in the fire. An old man was scalped; the two others, little girls, were not scalped."

"On the 25th of March following," says the Pennsylvania Gazette of April, 1756, "ten wagons went up from Maxatany to this township (then New Albany), to bring down a family with their effects. As they were returning, about three miles below a Mr. George Zeisloff’s, they were fired upon by a number of Indians from both sides of the road, upon which the wagoners left their wagons and ran into the woods. The enemy killed George Zeisloff and wife, a lad of twenty, a boy of twelve, and a girl of fourteen, four of whom they scalped. A boy was stabbed in three places, but his wounds were thought not to be mortal. Three horses were killed and five taken away by the Indians."

Some time in November, 1756, the Indians appeared again in the territory now included in West Brunswick and carried off the wife and three children of Adam Burns. The youngest child was only four weeks old. Later the Indians murdered one Adam Trump. They took Trump’s wife and son (nineteen years of age) prisoners. Soon, however, the woman made her escape, though it is said she was so closely pursued by one of the Indians, of whom there were seven, that she received a severe wound in the neck from a tomahawk which he threw after her as she fled.

Subsequently the remaining settlers built a fort, which afforded them more or less protection from their red foes. This structure stood on the farm now (1881) owned by Lewis Marberger, about a mile and a half from Auburn borough.

Paul Heins was an early settler who, it is said, was never molested by the Indians, who are said to have borne him the utmost good will in consequence of the kindness and hospitality with which he ever treated them. The story goes that it was his custom to set a dish of bread and milk before every Indian visitor to his cabin, and that none of them ever offered to touch the arms which hung conspicuously on the walls of his forest domicile.

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

The first settlements having been made in the agricultural parts of the county, its educational history commences there. Brunswick was the first township to consider the education of its children, and the last to adopt the public school systems. The early residents evidently had little conception of the advantages a well disciplined mind gives its possessor, in making him capable of thinking and acting for himself. They merely wished their children to be able to read their Bible, study their catechism, and keep their accounts. To this end only they established schools. These schools were held at first in private rooms. As the settlers multiplied in number log houses were erected for school purposes. These first school-houses were built at an average cost, in money, not exceeding twenty dollars. The branches taught were simply rudimentary, and much of the instruction was in German. The only institution within the whole township that furnished a higher grade of instruction was the Orwigsburg Academy, established in 1813. This academy was purely a county institution, as the charter creating it provided for the election of eight trustees, two to be elected annually. It was in its meridian glory from 1836 to 1850, when it was accounted one of the first academies in the State in point of literary ability and character. During this period its pupils were prepared for the second classes in leading colleges; but at the latter date commenced its decline, and it soon sank into oblivion. After being used a few years for common school purposes the building was demolished, and the bricks, & c., removed to serve a less important purpose.

The Arcadian Institute.-After the demise of the Orwigsburg Academy Prof. W.J. Burnside opened a seminary for young ladies and gentlemen, under the name of the Arcadian Institute, in the old court-house and county offices. The first session opened April 10th, 1834, with 35 students. The course of study embraced all the branches of an English education, ancient and modern languages, and music. In 1855 Elias Schneider, A.M., succeeded Mr. Burnside as principal, and he in turn was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Fries. These gentlemen were all professional teachers, but their praiseworthy endeavors to build up an institution second to none of the same character in the State were not properly encouraged, and after struggling bravely for a time the institute terminated its existence in 1864. The building has since been converted into a shoe factory.

The Public School System.-It appears that the first meeting called to consider the provisions of the school law of 1834 convened in the court-house at Orwigsburg, November 4th of that year. It was a joint meeting of the county commissioners and delegates from the several districts of the county. At this meeting the conditions of the law were accepted by Orwigsburg and three other districts, while the rest rejected it by action of their delegates.

Orwigsburg, being then the county town, accepted the
system with scarcely any opposition. Two schools were opened, employing a male and a female teacher. An old log house and a one-room stone house, built for the occasion, furnished school room accommodations for all classes and grades outside of the academy, until the old jail was fitted up for school purposes. Since 1865 the schools, three in number, have been graded, and have been inculcating ideas within their massive walls as valuable as any developed in more pretentious buildings.

In 1775 a school was opened at the "Red Church." The first attempt to elect directors friendly to the school systems in 1835 failed, on account of its opponents being largely in the majority. West Brunswick was the last to yield to the system, and only acquiesced when compelled by order of the court. The annual school term has never exceeded five months.

ZION'S (THE "RED") CHURCH

Zion's Church, in which both the Evangelical Lutheran and German Reformed congregations worship, is on the Centre turnpike, about a mile east of Orwigsburg. By the year 1755 a considerable number of German Lutheran families had settled in Brunswick township, designated at that time as "the land beyond the Blue mountain." At this time they commenced to agitate the subject of organizing a congregation on the basis of the principles they had learned and practiced in their fatherland. In this undertaking they were greatly encouraged and aided by Rev. Daniel Schumaker, at that time laboring as a missionary in the counties Lehigh and Berks, who occasionally visited them, sometimes crossing the mountain on foot, to preach to them, baptize their children, and instruct and confirm their sons and daughters. His self-denying labors among them commenced as early as 1755 and continued to 1782.

In 1765 the settlers began the erection of a house of worship, and completed it in 1770.

The congregation was regularly organized in 1765, under the name of "Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Brunswick township, Pa." The church building was dedicated on the first Sunday in Advent in 1770, by Rev. Daniel Schumaker, who preached from Psalms xxvii.4.

The men most prominent in this work were Peter Schmelgert, Peter Weyman, Jacob Schaeffer, Michael Geibert, Gottfried Beyer, Paul Heim, Philip Pausman, Christian Schaber, Casper Prag and George Hunsinger. The original membership was about one hundred. The congregation was scattered over a large territory, as this was the only church north of the Blue mountain.

The ministers who served this congregation as supplies after Rev. Daniel Schumaker were Revs. Frederick D. Miller, 1782, 1783; Abraham Deschler, 1783-88; Daniel Lehman, 1789-91, and John Frederick Obenhausen, 1792-1803.

The membership having considerable increased after the erection of the first church, it was decided, in 1799, to erect a new house of worship, larger and more commodious than the old one, which was a log house. The corner stone of the new building was laid October 14th, that year, by Rev. J.F. Oberhausen. On the 29th and 30th of May, 1803, it was dedicated by Revs. Daniel Lehman, J.F. Oberhausen and David Schaeffer.

In 1833 the congregation sold half of their interest in the house to the Reformed church, and since that time the church has been the property of the two congregations jointly.

In 1803 the united congregations, which had been until then supplied along with four others, decided to constitute a charge. This charge called as its pastor Rev. John Knoske, who served it from 1803 to 1811. Then Rev. George Mennig was pastor to 1833, and his son, Rev. William G. Mennig, to 1845. The following ministers followed Mr. Mennig: Nathan Yeager, 1845-51; G.W. Scheide, 1852; Julius Ehrhardt, 1853-64; J. Leonberger, 1865-69; G.F. Woerner, 1870; D.K. Kepner, 1871, 1872. The present incumbent, Rev. I.N.S. Erb, commenced his labors in 1873.

The most flourishing period of this church on the Lutheran side was during George Mennig's ministration' the number of communicants being at one time 270. The present Lutheran membership is about 125. For a number of years, up to the time of public schools, a parochial school was connected with the church.

In the summer of 1750 Peter Weyman purchased from the sons of William Penn all of that large tract of land extending from the confluence of the two branches of the Schuylkill river to within a mile of the present limits of Orwigsburg, with the exception of a few smaller tracts, one of which was bought by Peter Schmelgert, who became very prominent in the history of Zion's church. Peter Weyman disposed of the greater portion of his large tract to John Schnider, of Berks county, who sold it to George Ege, from the same section, a man largely interested in furnaces and forges. Other Germans followed, so that in 1755 quite a number of families had settled in Brunswick township, including the tract on what is known as Sculp hill, which did not originally belong to the Weyman tract, the first settlers on the hill having been Paul Heim and Michael Miller. It was at this time that these German settlers, nearly all of whom were Lutherans, feeling the want of something to unite them into a closer community and fellowship of sympathy in their trials, organized themselves into a congregation, and publicly held religious services.

From the following statement, taken from their church record, in which they recounted their troubles, it appears that they were actually driven from their homes between the years 1760 and 1765.

"Inasmuch as we felt ourselves in duty bound to erect a church, after having suffered great calamities from the wild and heathenish people, the so-called Indians, but afterward by the grace of God succeeded in again restoring peace and quiet to live in our former homes, we, therefore resolved to build a new church, which was completed in the year 1770."

This first church erected was commenced in 1765, and, as mention, completed in 1770, the slowness of its progress showing that most of these settlers were in destitute
circumstances, as indeed is also known from other sources. The first church building was a small, incommodious structure, built of roughly hewed logs, and only intended to meet the temporary wants of the people. The church which was begun in 1799 and completed in 1803 is yet standing, and is at present occupied by both the Lutheran and Reformed congregations, who worship in it alternately.

The above interesting facts show that, one hundred and thirty-eight years ago, not only was so much territory taken possession of in this county by a brave and noble-minded people, but that a community was here established with which have since been associated lofty principles which have aided not a little to form the sturdy, honest character of the successive generations of residents in the township.

**ORWIGSBURG BOROUGH**

Orwigsburg was laid out in town lots by Peter Orwig in 1796, and named in his honor. In 1811 the town commenced to attract emigrants from Berks county. The county of Schuylkill was formed March 1st that year, and Orwigsburg became the county seat; therefore Reading, in Berks county, sent her surplus population to the seat of justice of the new county. In 1813 an act of incorporation was granted, making this the oldest borough in the county. From this time Orwigsburg attracted attention as a growing and progressive town. Between 1809 and 1829 the larger part of the village was built. It consists of about 200 dwellings, some of which are three-story brick buildings, convenient and handsome.

There are several church in the borough (the Lutheran, German Reformed and Evangelical), four stores and three hotels.

As early as 1747, George Gottfried Orwig, with his wife Glora, had emigrated from Germany and taken up their residence at Sculp Hill. Their children were four, in number: George, Peter, Henry and a daughter. The latter went west. About 1773 George married Mary Gilbert, and located at the place since known as Albright's Mills, where, prior to 1790, he built a house and a mill on Pine creek. His son Isaac, about 1809, married a daughter of Conrad Yeager. Peter Orwig was the founder of Orwigsburg.

In 1830 the population of Orwigsburg was 773; in 1840, 779; 1850, 909; 1860, 828; 1870, 728; 1880, 792. A part of the increase between 1840 and 1850 was due to the extension of the borough limits.

Orwigsburg in 1845 contained 163 houses, 4 of which were fine three-story brick stores and dwellings. The court-house had recently been enlarged. It and the other county buildings were substantial brick structures. There was a brick academy, a brick Lutheran church with a cupola, and a stone German Reformed church with a cupola, two Methodist churches (one brick and one framed), and two school-houses. There was one printing office, from which was issued the Stimme des Volks-a German newspaper. This paper is said to have been established very early. Since its suspension, in 1858, its place has been filled by the Orwigsburg Times, edited by George F. Stahlen.

**SOCIETY HISTORY**

Schuylkill Lodge, No. 138, F.& A.M. was organized June 17th, 1813. The charter members were Theophilus Hughes, W.M., Robert Scott, S.W., and William Nice, J.W. The number of presiding officers elected from the above date to 1881 has been 55.

The present officers are: John T. Shoener, W.M; H.S. Albright, S.W., and Charles H. Haeseler, J.W. The lodge first held its regular meetings in Graeff's Hotel, now used for the postoffice; afterward in the court-house. When the latter building was leased for manufacturing purposes the lodge rented the hall of the I.O.O. of F., where the meetings are now held. The present membership is 54.

Grace Lodge, No. 157, I.O.O.F. was organized March 19th, 1846. The charter members were Andrew B. Baum, N.G.; J.C. Rahn, V.G.; W.F. Tyson, Sec.; Michael Seltzer, Ass't Sec., and Christian Berger, Treas. The present officers are: George H. Yager, N.G.; Daniel Samuel, V.G.; Samuel H. Madden, Sec.; Henry Day, Ass't Sec., and Charles N. Body, Treas. The membership is 31. This society first met in a brick house standing opposite the old jail. Three years after organization it removed to a house now owned and occupied by Frederick wilt. Meetings are now held in Odd Fellows' Hall building, owned by the lodge.

Washington Camp Patriotic Order Sons of America was organized in February, 1868. The following are the names of the present officers: P.P., William Mattern; Pres., Samuel Draher; W.P., G.A. Raher; M. of F. and C., G.W. Werner; C., Wesley Koch. Early meetings were held in the court-house; at present the camp meets in Odd Fellow's Hall.

**BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURE**

The Orwigsburg Shoe Manufacturing Company was organized in 1873, with the following officers: President, Solomon O. Moyer; vice-president, Charles H. Dengler, (Pottsville); secretary, John T. Shoener; treasurer, Thomas Hoy.
When the company began operations their limited amount of machinery was propelled by foot power. An eight horse power engine is now required to carry on their extensive manufacturing operations. The company turns out 5,000 to 6,000 pairs of boots and shoes per annum, and gives employment to from 90 to 100 hands.

The present officers of the company are: Solomon R. Moyer, president; George F. Kimmel, vice-president; Charles H. Haeseler, secretary; and John C. Beck, treasurer. James Ecroyd, of Muncy, Lycoming county, William C. Klimert, of Philadelphia, and Thomas Wren, of Pottsville, are directors.

The firm of Bickley & Anthony was formed in 1878, and shortly afterward Mr. Anthony withdrew from the partnership. Mr. Bickley was the sole proprietor of the enterprise till May, 1880, when Messrs. John T. Shoener and Lewis Kimmel became his partners. After a few months Mr. Kimmel withdrew from the firm on account of ill healthy, selling his interest to John Bickley. Mr. George H. Bickley, the senior partner, is the practical manager of the business. Mr. Shoener has charge of the finances of the concern. From 20 to 30 hands are employed and 60 to 70 pairs of women's, misses' and children's fine sewed shoes are manufactured daily.

The firm of Albright & Brown began business January 1st, 1880, and manufacture a special line of children's and infants' black and colored shoes, turning out from their factory 100 pairs per diem. When running to the capacity of their factory the firm employs 25 hands.

These industries are the only ones of importance in the borough, which has the usual variety of small mechanics' shops, and they form the leading business interest of the place. The old court-house has been utilized by one of the firms mentioned, and now does service as a factory building.

CHURCH HISTORY

The Methodist Church of Orwigsburg was organized in 1824 with a membership of 25, of whom the following are remembered: John Hammer, Benjamin Sterner, Joseph Zoll, Christopher Wagner and R. Rickert.

The first church edifice was built in 1826. It was of stone and a story and a half high, located at the western end of Independence street, where now is the cemetery of the same church. Before the erection of a house of worship meetings were held in private houses, on several occasions in a hotel, in a schoolhouse, and generally at a later date in the court-house. The first ministers were Revs. John Seibert, John Breidenstein and D. Focht. Revs. S. G. Rhoads, Isaac Hess, John Schell, Daniel Berger, Haman, R. Yeager, J.O. Lehr, D.Z. Kemble, S.B. Brown, Thomas Harper, A. Dilabar, G.W. Gross and F. Kecker, among others, have served the church since. The present pastor is Rev. J.R. Gentzel.

The first Sunday-school was organized October 4th, 1838. The first superintendent was Jacob Schnerr; Charles Haeseler was secretary and Samuel Leffler treasurer.

The building of the present church was begun in 1839. It was first occupied in 1840. The present membership is 80.

St. John's Reformed Church. The first records of the St. John's Reformed church as a regular organized Christian body, date back to 1831. Prior to that date the Reformed and Lutheran people worshipped in the red church, about a mile and a half below Orwigsburg, on the Pottsville and Reading turnpike. August 28th, 1831, the Reformed and Lutheran people of Orwigsburg and vicinity jointly organized and laid the corner stone of the present building; soon after erected and dedicated as St. John's Reformed and Evangelical Lutheran Church of Orwigsburg.

Revs. F.H. Groll, Jacob William Deichert and the local pastors, Revs. Jacob Mennig and Philip Moyer were present. The building committee consisted of Messrs. George Body, John Schall, Abraham Augsttatt and Isaac Orwig. The constitution, laws and regulations of the church bear the approval of George Wolf, governor, and G.M. Dallas, attorney-general of Pennsylvania. In 1844 the Lutheran congregation withdrew and organized an independent church.

The Lutheran ministers who served in the church while in joint relation were Revs. Mennig, Harpel, Stahlin, Yeager, Peixote and Geissenheimer.

The Reformed pastors since 1844 have been Revs. Philip Moyer, ---Hassinger, John Adam Rubelt, Henry Wagner, D.B. Albright, C.H. Rittenhouse and Henry Leisse, the present pastor. Under his administration the church, which in its appearance had given sufficient indications of time, was remodeled and rededicated. The present membership is 150.

The Sunday-school connected with this church or congregation has had for its superintendents since its organization Dr. A.D. Baum, William M. Bickel, William H. Schall, Christian Berger, James Thompson and Samuel H. Madden, the present superintendent. St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized as an exclusively Lutheran church, January 20th, 1844, from St. John's church. The corner-stone of St. Paul's church was laid June 30th, 1844, and the church was consecrated in the fall of the same year.

The officers of the church at that time were: Elders, Philip Wernert and Daniel Hummel, sen.; deacons, Frederick Freed and John Clouse.

The following persons constituted the building committee: Jacob Deibert, Frederick Freed, Henry Shoemaker and Peter Hummel. The dedicatory services were conducted by the Rev. Jacob Miller and W.G. Menning, A.B. Gockelen, J.A. Reubelt and A.T. Geissenheimer.

Rev. Augustus T. Geissenheimer was the first to serve the congregation, his pastorate extending from 1840 (including his services in St. John's) to December 31st, 1844. The ministers who subsequently served this congregation up to the time when the present incumbent took charge were: Nathan Yeager, 1845-51; George Schaeide, 1852; A. Ritter, 1853, 1854; Joel Grim, 1855-60; William Hoppe, 1861-63; John H. Eberman, 1864,
1865; J.F. Wicklein, 1866-71. Rev. I.N.S. Erb, the present pastor, entered upon his duties January 1st, 1873.

The original church membership was about 100; that of the Sunday-school was about the same. The first superintendent was F. Lauderbrum, jr. The present church membership is 150, and the Sunday-school has a membership of 225. The services are conducted alternately in the English and German languages.

In the summer of 1874 the church of this congregation was remodeled and renovated at an expense of $1,000, and was rededicated November 22nd following.

PORT CLINTON BOROUGH

Lenhard Rishel was granted the land in and around Port Clinton by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, January 30th, 1816. The village was laid out in 1829. Part of the land was sold by Mr. Rishel to the railroad company May 8th, 1829. The first engine, which was manufactured in England, came over the road to Port Clinton in 1832. The borough was incorporated in 1850. Its limits were extended in 1855. As now bounded, it is one mile square.

The first burgess was Richard Perry.

The first councilmen of Port Clinton were Samuel Boyer, Daniel Eveland, William Province, John Bond and Joseph Perry. The first meeting of the council was held May 13th, 1850.

Port Clinton has for years been quite a thriving place. The leading business has been the shipment of coal from the mines in the vicinity of Tamaqua, brought over the Little Schuylkill Railroad, a distance of twenty miles. The coal schutes and the Schuylkill canal, which passes through the borough, have added much to its activity and prosperity, giving employment to many of its citizens. A forge was erected here about 1855, by George Ege. After a number of years' activity it was converted into a rolling-mill by Calvin B. Bertollette, from Reading, Berks county. Later it passed to the ownership of Robert Inness, of Pottsville, and was managed by him with varying success for eight years, when it was purchased by Mr. McDonald and others at sheriff's sale. This establishment is operated by steam and water power, and at times as many as 100 men have been employed.

During the freshet of 1850 the place was much damaged. Twenty-one houses were swept away, and the railroad bridge was carried off. Thirteen persons were drowned. A grist-mill, which had been erected near the present site of the borough in 1800, by whom is not known, was swept away by this flood.

Port Clinton contains about eighty good and many small dwellings, three stores, two hotels and two churches, with the usual number and variety of small mechanics' shops.

The population of the borough in 1860 was 586; in 1870, 578; in 1880, 686.

There are three schools in the borough, in which three teachers instruct about 150 pupils seven months during the years, at an average cost of eighty-eight cents per month each.

CHURCHES

The following sketch of the church and Sunday-school interests of Port Clinton was contributed by the venerable George Wiggan, a resident of Tamaqua, but long prominently identified with the leading interest of Port Clinton:

"The writer and his wife were members of the late Dr. Boardman's church, Philadelphia. I was appointed by the Little Schuylkill Navigation Railroad and coal company as superintendent to oversee the shipping of coal at Port Clinton, succeeding Arthur McGonnigle, and, with my family, I arrived there March 24th, 1840.

"It was a dark spot for Christian work. The Sabbath was openly violated by loading and unloading boats, and the working class was demoralized. There was no church. Religious services were held but once a month, and there was no Sabbath-school, and never had been one. The preaching generally was by a Lutheran minister, but sometimes a Methodist brother would pass that way and hold a meeting. That good missionary apostle, Richard Webster, of Mauch Chunk, of the Presbytery of Luzerne came later, once a month or oftener, and preached in the school-house situated on a hill west of the town. To get to it we had to pass over the bridge that spans the Little Schuylkill river, carry a light in our lanterns, and hold the candle for the minister while he read the Bible. My wife and I thought we had a duty to perform. Seeing the state of things we concluded to begin at the beginning-that is, with the children. One Sunday Morning in April my wife collected four or five little ones in my office, where she taught them the first rudiments of the Christian religion. After this the members increased every Sunday, so much so that we had to hold our little school for Sabbath instruction in the little school-house on the hill. Having enlisted a number of gentlemen and ladies connected with the town and its surroundings in our work, we organized a Sabbath-school in due form June 2nd, 1840, under the name of the Port Clinton Union Sabbath-school, with
Rev. J.Y. Ashton as superintendent and Major Isaac Myers and Mrs. George Wiggan as manager. The following were teachers: George Wiggan, William Beltz, Mrs. Ellen Bond, Mrs. Elizabeth Provins, Miss Rosana Kepner, Miss Salome Ayers, Miss Catharine Schall, Miss Emily Walker, Miss Rebecca Roseberry.

In 1841 he was elected superintendent. Soon after organizing we had a small donated to us by the Sabbath-school of Rev. Mr. Boardman’s church. In the first year we gathered in 72 children. Jane Bond, afterwards Mrs. Province, was the first young person converted belonging to the school.

“Rev. J.Y. Ashton, now chaplain to the Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia, was the first Methodist minister who preached regularly in the neighborhood, serving at both Tamaqua and Port Clinton. Later came Rev. W.E. Schenck, Presbyterian (now secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, Philadelphia), who preached for us several months. Rev. M. Yeager, a Lutheran minister, and Rev. Dr. Richards, of the German Reformed church, Reading, preached occasionally. In 1846 the Methodist Episcopal church began to build a stone house of worship at the north end of the town, on the Centre turnpike. It was finished and dedicated December 13th the same year. Rev. James Neal, of Philadelphia, preached the sermon. Rev. John Shields was pastor.

“The enlargement and improvement of the union Sabbath-school house took place in 1849, under the care of three trustees representing the following denominations: Lutherans, Samuel Boyer; German Reformed, Major Isaac Myers; Presbyterian, George Wiggan. The house was burned April 15th, 1867, and the lot was sold by the sheriff to Samuel Boyer. The church has never been rebuilt.

“June 24th, 1860, a Presbyterian church was organized by a committee of the Presbytery of Luzerne, consisting of Rev. S.F. Colt, Rev. A.N. Lowry, and ruling elders S.N. Russell and Jesse Turner, with the following members: Joseph Clark, Margaret Clark, William Clark, Margaret Clark, James McClain, Catherine McClain, Oliver McClain, William D. Martin,----Martin, Dr. George W. Nice, John S. Rick, Henry Kinsel, ----Kinsel, Barbara Frank. The ruling elders were Joseph Clark and John S. Rick; the pastor was Rev. F.F. Kolb, who left in January, 1865. He has had no successor.

“A large brick church was begun in 1868 by the Lutheran and German Reformed people, at a cost of $3,096. It was never finished. Jacob Weiklein was the Lutheran pastor and Augustus Herman the German Reformed pastor. There are 100 scholars in the Sabbath-school.

“It is a noticeable fact that out of 65 boys who attended the Port Clinton union Sabbath-school, organized in 1840, 32, when their county was in danger, volunteered their services for its defense, many of them serving with distinction, some of them in various offices from general down to sergeant; and most of them at this day, with many of the girls, are working in the church and Sabbath-school in various places in the east and west.”

WEST MAHANOY TOWNSHIP

This township, erected in 1874 from Mahanoy, contained in 1880 a population of 4,418; all, or nearly all, engaged in mining. Within its bounds are the villages of Lost Creek, Colorado, William Penn, Rappahhock and Raven Run. It has railway stations and post-offices at Lost Creek, Colorado, Shaft and Raven Run. Lost Creek post-office was established in 1871, with George Miller as postmaster.

COLLIERS OF WEST MAHANOY

The Cuyler Colliery, at Raven Run, was opened in 1865 by Heaton & Co., who had formerly operated at Girardville. A breaker with a capacity of about three hundred tons daily was built, and afterward enlarged to about five hundred tons. The workings consist of a drift extending about one and a half miles on the Buck Mountain vein, and, at a distance of about eleven hundred feet from the opening, a slope, driven to another drift on the same vein. About sixty breasts are open. Three stationary and three locomotive engines furnish the motive power and about four hundred and fifty men and boys are employed. The coal is marketed by way of the Lehigh Valley road, and the veins operated are in the Girard Trust lands. The firm who opened the colliery are its present owners; but the member of the firm who was applied to for information refused to furnish it, and the about outline is the best that could be obtained from the outside sources to which the writer was compelled to apple, and can only be regarded as approximately correct.

Girard Mammoth Colliery, at Raven Run, located on the lands granted to the trust of the city of Philadelphia for charitable uses by Stephen Girard, was opened in 1865 by John Johnson, John Donnellson, George Ormrod and others, and operated by them until December, 1879, when the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company became its owners. George Ormrod was the superintendent from 1865 to 1877, when Simon Stein, formerly district superintendent of the Minersville district, purchased an interest in the colliery and became the super-
intendant, acting as such until the sale of to the present owners. Jonathan Gedding was outside foreman until 1877, when Charles J. Stein, the present foreman, succeeded him. The inside foremen have been George Wentzel, Richard Johnson, William More, Edward Davis, Thomas Tempest and William Palmer, who is now acting in that capacity.

The slope is 365 yards deep and 1,000 yards from the breaker. A mine locomotive is used for drawing coal out through the water level drifts, and it is then hoisted up a plane by a forty horse power engine and dumped in the breaker, which is propelled by an engine of the same power. The dirt plane engine is similar in size, as is also that attached to the 8-inch pump. The fan is drive by one of one-half the rated power of the others mentioned, and a small engine of five horse power drives a blower in the blacksmith's shop. The capacity of the breaker is six hundred tons, and the production about four hundred daily. The veins worked are the Skidmore and Mammoth; the latter not being worked in 1880. The company own forty-two blocks of double tenement houses in connection with the colliery.

PHILADELPHIA COAL COMPANY'S COLLIERIES

Colorado Colliery, No.1.-This colliery is on the north side of the Bear ridge, in the James Paschall, Samuel Scott, and part of the John Brady tracts of the Girard estate, belonging to the city of Philadelphia. The breaker and other outside improvements are about a mile and a quarter east of Girardville, on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. The mines were opened in 1863, by George W. Huntzinger and Jeremiah Seitzinger, by the driving of a tunnel into the Mammoth vein. The mine was worked successfully by this company until 1865, when it was leased to the Philadelphia Coal Company. A slope of 90 yards in length, on a dip of 66 degrees, was sunk from the water level gangway, and from this slope level the present mining is being done. In 1874 the Lehigh Valley Coal Company purchased a controlling interest in the lease, and continued the operation of the colliery under the old name of the Philadelphia Coal Company. The Mammoth vein is the seam worked. The Seven-feet vein has been worked for a short distance, but has been abandoned. The coal is prepared in a large double breaker, which has a daily capacity of 150 cars. The colliery has an average annual shipment of over eighty-three thousand tons of coal for the past fifteen years.

Shenandoah Colliery, No.2.-This colliery is on the south side of Locust Mountain, in Shenandoah valley, about two miles and a half east from Girardville, and about the same distance west of Shenandoah, on the Joseph Paschall, John Brady and Nathan Beach tracts, on the Girard estate of the city of Philadelphia. The mine was first opened in 1863, by George W. Huntzinger, and Colonel Frank B. Kaercher, and was worked by them until 1866, when Colonel Kaercher's share was purchased by Colonel Henry L. Cake, and the mine was then operated under the name of the Girard Coal Company. In 1868 this colliery passed into the hands of the Philadelphia Coal Company. In 1874 the Lehigh Valley Coal Company purchased a controlling interest in the lease of the colliery, and continued the mining under the old name of the Philadelphia Coal Company. The Mammoth vein is the only seam worked at present. The Buck Mountain vein was opened at water level, but mining has been discontinued in it. The coal is hoisted through a slope 225 yards long, on an average dip of 39 degrees; 150 years east of this slope there is another, which runs 200 yards below the present working level, on an average dip of 40 degrees; and through this slope the coal from the lower lifts will be hoisted to the surface. The breaker is a double one, with a daily capacity of 125 cars. The breaker is on both the Lehigh Valley and Philadelphia and Reading Railroads.

Lehigh Colliery, No.3.-This colliery, with its improvements, is on the south side of Locust mountain, about a mile west of Shenandoah, on lands belonging to the Girard estate, owned by the city of Philadelphia. In 1865 William Williams put a drift into the coal of the Mammoth vein, and worked it until 1870, when he sold his interests to the Philadelphia Coal Company. This company put down a slope and built a new breaker. In 1874 the control of this colliery, with that of Nos. 1 and 2, passed into the hands of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, and the operations were continued under the old name of the Philadelphia Coal Company. The capacity of the breaker is 125 cars per day, and all the coal goes to market over the Lehigh Valley Railroad. James Robbins is inside and William Thickens outside foreman.

Packer Colliery, No.4.-This colliery, with its improvements, is about a mile and a half west of Shenandoah. The coal is worked by means of a slope 265 yards deep. The first level of Shenandoah colliery, No.2, is cut by this slope, and besides this level there are two others—the counter gangways and the main. The colliery was opened in 1875 by the Philadelphia Coal Company, and is now worked by the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, under the name of the Philadelphia Coal Company. The breaker, which is a large double one, is on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, and has a daily capacity of 225 to 250 cars. The large shipments of 1879, averaging for days in succession a thousand tons, and aggregating for the year 248,381 tons, give some idea of the capacity of this colliery. The Mammoth vein was the only seam worked until 1880, when a tunnel was driven to the Primrose, opening that vein and the Holmes. A new inside slope has just been driven to the basin, and the coal from the lower lifts will be worked through this slope.

WILLIAM TELL

This thriving colliery village owes its origin and prosperity to the enterprise of the gentlemen forming the William Penn Coal Company, whose extensive works, second in size in the county, are located here. It contains a hundred dwelling houses owned by the company, and twenty-five others located on the company's land.
and owned by its employees. Besides, there are the office and store buildings of the company, and a neat union church, 40 by 60 feet, in which services are regularly held, and which accommodates a Sunday-school of one hundred and fifty members. A post-office named Shaft was established in 1880, and the village is furnished with a never failing supply of pure water by the company's pipes from Lost creek.

A line drawing of

WILLIAM PENN COLLIERY

is in this position in the original book. In the TABLE OF CONTENTS it is listed on this page. Original contents follow the divider line.

William Penn Colliery.-Early in 1864 Seyfert McManus & Co., of Reading, and George Brooke, of Birdsboro, Pa., two of the largest iron manufacturing firms in the Schuylkill valley, and Samuel E. Griscom, an experienced and well known business man of Pottsville, associated themselves as the mining firm of Samuel E. Griscom & Co. Mr. Griscom's partners were to furnish the means and he the necessary business capacity and executive ability. The new firm leased from Jacob Hoffman, of Reading, about five hundred acres on the Orchard, Primrose, Holmes, Mammoth and Buck Mountain veins, with the right of mining and of cutting timber for the necessary structures. The land was also claimed by the city of Philadelphia as a part of the Girard estate, and as such leased by the city to Lee, Grant & Patterson. The region was then covered with a dense forest, tenanted by panthers, bears and deer. The rival lessees both beginning operations on the tract, the Griscom party one night barricaded the mouths of the gangways begun by their opponents, and the latter were denied an injunction restraining Griscom & Co. Negotiations followed, which resulted in Lee & Co. assigning their lease to Griscom & Co. for a valuable consideration.

A gangway on the Mammoth vein was started, and a blacksmith shop and a boarding house for employes were built. In 1865 the gangways on the Holmes and Mammoth veins were pushed forward, houses were built, a saw-mill was in operation in April, and a monkey breaker in August. For the rest of that year coal was shipped at the average rate of sixteen card a day. Clearings were made and roads were opened on the premises and out to the Shenandoah and Pottsville road.

Jacob Shelly, who planned and superintended the erection of breakers, was appointed superintendent of the colliery in the fall of 1865. Like other superintendents he was continually in danger of being murdered by the Mollie Maguires. Early in 1865 some striking "loaders" were discharged and substitutes hired. Thereupon the miners and bosses were anonymously threatened with death. Lawrence McAvoy, inside boss, dared not refuse work to a bad class of applicants, and was allowed to resign his position in order to end his responsibility and save his life.

The large breaker was completed in April, 1866, and was among the largest in the county, its construction required over a million feet of timber and lumber. Its storage capacity was about 1,560 tons, and its shipping capacity one hundred and fifty cars a day. Additional dwellings were also built.

In 1866 the supply of coal above water level proved inadequate, and it became necessary to obtain a longer lease and one permitting mining below water level. On the completion of the large breaker Henry A. Hunter and Horace Griscom, of Reading, were appointed sales agents for Philadelphia and the line of the Reading Railroad; and Wannemacher & Co. agents for sales by the cargo for eastern markets. Mr. Griscom took the greatest pains to have his product well prepared, and it commanded the best prices. Shipments during 1866 and 1867 averaged about sixtythree cars a day.

A Sunday-school was established among the employees in 1866, with the aid of S.E. Griscom; and a general store was started in 1867, by Theodore H. Bechtel and Chalkley Griscom, the latter a brother of the senior partner.

A fifteen-years lease of the property was obtained, the original lease having been for only five years. The sinking of a vertical shaft was begun in November, 1868. In the preceding February was formed the Mahanoy and Locust Mountain Coal Associatin, in which Mr. Griscom represented William Penn colliery. He proposed and was chairman of the committee which effected the organization of the anthracity Board of Trade, Mr. Griscom becoming its vice-president. On the passage of the eight-hour law in 1868, the managers of the William Penn announced that the weekly wages of their employes would be paid for ten hours' labor each day except Saturday, when eight hours would be the time. Excited mobs, clamoring for ten hours' pay for eight hours' work, thereupon stopped operations at the colliery on the 6th of July, and work was not resumed till August 25th. The eight-hour law was not complied with. Mr. Griscom, always desirous of adjusting equitably any grievances of his employes, on several occasions attended by invitation meetings of the Workingmen's Benevolent Association.

By October, 1869, the shaft had reached its full depth, having pierced the bottom slate of the Mammoth vein at a depth of 256 feet and opened the way to 3,000 tons of prepared coal. An electric battery on the surface was used to fire blasts during the excavations-among the first used in the county. A section of the shaft measured 24 feet by 13, and it was divided into three equal parts, two for hoisting ways and one for air and pump way. It was supplied with two seventy horse hoisting engines, capable of hoisting a car of coal per
1874, 146,402; 1875, 106,636; 1876, 118,268; 1877, 164,496; 1878, 120,344; 1879, 178,318; 1880, 173,000.

In February, 1872, Mr. Griscom sold his interest to his partners, but consented to remain in the management through that year, when William H. Lewis, of Pottsville, was, on Mr. Griscom's recommendation, appointed his successor.

The colliery, on the relinquishment of its management by Mr. Griscom, was in a position to take its place in the first rank among the collieries of the county. The substantial basis that was to enable it to take and keep this position lay in the five principal coal veins which this property contains, which a careful estimate shows are capable of yielding as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Veins</th>
<th>Length of Run (yards)</th>
<th>Basin to Outcrop (yards)</th>
<th>Thickness (yards)</th>
<th>Total Coal (cubic yards)</th>
<th>Estimated Product (Tons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orchard</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>1 2/3</td>
<td>1,104,165</td>
<td>552,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primrose</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2,385,000</td>
<td>1,192,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holmes</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>2 2/3</td>
<td>2,826,666</td>
<td>1,413,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammoth</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17,225,000</td>
<td>8,612,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buck Mtn</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6,360,000</td>
<td>3,180,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 14,949,000

Upon this foundation proportionate improvements had been erected. They consisted of a shaft on the Mammoth vein, with a "lift" capable of yielding 3,000,000 tons of prepared coal, provided with machinery with a hoisting capacity of about six hundred mine cars per day, and with gangways, schutes, headings, &c., already driven, opening up sufficient ground to yield about 163,000 tons prepared coal; with a breaker with a capacity for properly preparing for market one hundred and fifty railroad cars (750 tons) per day; a small or monkey breaker, with a capacity of about fifty cars (150 tons) per day; a saw-mill capable of cutting 150 M per month; seventy miners' dwellings, stables, offices, drift cars and a full equipment of all requisite tools. The yearly tonnage of the colliery up to this time has been as follows: 1865, 9,085 tons; 1866, 59,917; 1867, 65,448; 1868, 28,295; 1869, 27,002; 1870, 35,363; 1871, 53,558; 1872, 85,602; 1873, 141,116; 1874, 146,402; 1875, 106,636; 1876, 118,268; 1877, 164,496; 1878, 120,344; 1879, 178,318; 1880, 173,000.

SCHOOLS OF WEST MAHANOY

Educational interests have not been forgotten or neglected, and there is not a mining "patcy" in the township, large enough to support one, without a well conducted public school. The whole number of building is eight, including the high school at Lost Creek, and they contain, with the latter, seventeen schools and the same number of teachers. The whole number of scholars in attendance is 1,060. The Lost Creek high school building was erected in 1880, and it is a handsome, convenient building, costing, furnished, about $5,000, and accommodating three schools with seating capacity for 225 scholars. It is an ornament to the place and a credit to the township.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES

The Church of St. Mary Magdalen was organized on the 24th of December, 1879 at Lost Creek. The congregation worshipped in a public hall until Christmas, 1880. Father Walsh is the present pastor. The church edifice, erected in 1880, is a frame building, 102 by 42 feet, in the Gothic style, and it was paid for when finished.

The Lost Creek Union Sunday-School Association was chartered by the court of Schuylkill county September 4th, 1876. The first officers were: President, Capt. L.S. Hay; secretary, A.D. Brown; treasurer, J.W. Bedford. The object of this association was to erect a building for the promotion of the "Protestant Christian religion." Ground was broken for this purpose May 10th, 1876. A neat chapel was erected, with seating capacity for 225 persons, at a cost of $1,500, and opened for religious meetings Sunday September 17th, 1876. The present officers are: President, J.W. Bedford; secretary, J.R. Porter; treasurer, A.D. Brown.

Lost Creek Union Sunday-School was organized March 26th, 1876, by Rev. Stephen Torrey, of Honesdale, Pa., with 40 members. The first officers were: Superintendent, A.H. Bromley; treasurer, Mrs. J.W. Bedford; secretary, Miss Emma Miller. Average attendance in 1876, 82; 1877, 87; 1878, 90; 1879, 163. The present officers are: Superintendent, A.H. Bromley; treasurer, Mrs. J.W. Bedford; secretary, T.W. Taylor.

SECRET SOCIETIES

Lost Creek Band of Hope No. 1 organized June 12th, 1880, with thirty-six members. The first president was Mary Markle, and vice-president J. Alonzo Metz. The president in 1880 was Hannah Price; vice-president, J.A. Metz. Total membership in September, 1880, 88.

THE DEATH OF SANGER AND UREN

Thomas Sanger and Thomas Uren were friends and respectable young men who had been for several years in the employ of the Cuyler colliery, the former as mine boss. On the morning of the 1st of September, 1875, they left Sanger's residence, at which Uren boarded, bidding Mrs. Sanger a playful farewell at the garden gate, and started for the colliery. As they approached the breaker five strangers confronted them and fired a volley, at which both fell wounded. The villain whose bullet had stricken Sanger walked up to him, turned his bleeding body over and coolly sent another ball into it. Robert Heaton, one of the colliery owners, hearing the firing, rushed from his breakfast table and pursued the assassins, emptying the chambers of his revolver without effect, the murderers returning his fire. A crowd of the workmen had gathered, and so boldly had the miscreants' work been done that had Mr. Heaton's efforts been seconded with any promptness or courage they might all have been captured; but the crowd seem paralyzed by the audacity of the attack, and no pursuit was commenced until too late to effect its purpose. The wounded men were taken to the house of a neighbor and the best surgical assistance secured; but the work had been too well done, and both expired soon after. Sanger had, like all the other bosses, been warned to leave the country by the "coffin letters" of the Mollie Maguires; but, regarding them as mere bravado, had remained quietly at work, and, excepting the causeless malice of that band of ruffians, had no enemies. His unfortunate acquaintance, Uren, whose death was due simply to his being in company with the boss, was also a quiet, inoffensive workman. Some of the murderers were recognized to such an extent that they were suspected; and one of them, Charles O'Donnell, met a bloody death at the Wiggan's Patch affair soon after, at the hands of unknown assailants. The whole affair, it seemed, was, even before its occurrence, under the surveillance of the detective McParlan who was unable to give a warning in time to prevent the crime, but who gave evidence that identified and convicted two of the criminals, Charles McAllister and Thomas Munley, who were arrested February 10th, 1876, and subsequently convicted and executed.

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A line drawing of

DAVID PERCY BROWN

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Original text follows the divider line.

Colonel David Percy Brown, superintendent for the Philadelphia Coal Company, has been a resident of Lost Creek since 1875. He was born in Shillbottle, Northumberland, England, February 14th, 1825, and is a son of David W. Brown and Elizabeth Percy both natives of that place.

David W. Brown, who had been at school, was at the age of fourteen years sent into the mines by the death of his father, who was suffocated by choke damp. He continued to work as a miner until August, 1829, when, with his wife and three children, he came to America, landing in Boston October 16th, 1829. Thence he came to Pottsville by vessel and canal boat and settled at Oak Hill, where he resided until his death, April 5th, 1846.

The subject of this sketch was taught to read and write by his parents, as there were no schools nearer his home than at Pottsville, four miles distant. He went into the mines when about eight years old, worked about
the colliery as a boy for six years, at the age of fourteen became a miner, and four years later was made a foreman. In 1846, owing to his father's death, he became his executor, and, with his brother William, sunk a shaft to the Primrose vein, one of the first perpendicular shafts ever put down in the State. After conducting some extensive developments he removed to Pottsville in 1851, and resided there up to the date of his removal to his present residence. During that and the following year he opened the Brown & White colliery at Swatara, in which he retained an interest until 1860. In the year 1855 he became a part owner in the Mount Pleasant colliery, which proved an unfortunate venture and led to complications that caused the sacrifice of the large property which he had accumulated, and reduced him from the position of one of the heaviest operators in the county to that of a manager of the Swatara mines.

Immediately after President Lincoln's first call for volunteers in 1861 he joined the Tower Guards, of Pottsville, and on the 17th of April left with the company for Harrisburg. There the Guards were formed into two companies and mustered into the 6th Pennsylvania volunteers. Mr. Brown receiving from Governor Curtin as first lieutenant of company D.

On the expiration of his term of service in April, 1862, an arrangement with the creditors of his old firm was effected, and one of the old collieries was purchased and operated until 1865. It was known as the Price Wetherill Colliery, and yielded largely, at profitable rates. This fortunate venture relieved Brown & Co. of their financial embarrassments, and as the old mine became nearly exhausted the machinery and renewed lease were sold to a Boston company which operated under the name of the Norwegian Coal Company. In 1866 Colonel Brown sailed for Glasgow, and spent a season in England and Wales, visiting the principal mining districts, and on his return accepting the position of superintendent and manager of the collieries of the Philadelphia Coal Company, which he still occupies. Colonel Brown is actively identified with the best interests of the community in which he has made his home, and is in every sense a representative man of the wide-awake, enterprising locality which this work describes.
The discovery and mining of coal north of Broad mountain attracted and necessarily caused the settlement of a large population at the immediate base of operations. At Frackville the coal product of the valley is collected and hoisted over the plane to the mountain top by costly and powerful machinery, about 10,000 tons passing in that way daily over the weighmaster's scales at Frackville. The population in 1880 was 1,727.

Daniel Frack, one of the original settlers here, settled in St. Clair in 1833, and engaged in the hotel business, accumulating a considerable property during his residence there. While the coal developments of the Mahanoy valley were yet in their infancy, and the business prospects of the locality were, to men of less sanguine temperament, too uncertain to warrant investments, Mr. Frack, with that keen foresight that marks the successful pioneer, purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty-six acres at what was then called Girard Place, and removed his family to his new possessions in 1852, opening a hotel. In 1861 he laid off a part of his land in town lots, which were rapidly disposed of and added largely to the development of the village.

Samuel Haupt, a native of Columbia county and one of the pioneers of Pottsville, having settled there in 1825, purchased in 1854 a farm at this point, and subsequently laid off a part of it into a town plot with broad avenues, and it went by the name of the "Mountain city property," now constituting a very desirable portion of the borough. Prior to its purchase by Mr. Haupt the Mountain City estate was owned by James C. Stephens. The five-acre park that forms one of the chief attractions of the place was projected by Samuel Haupt's son D.P. Haupt, a prominent business man. The borough comprises 366 acres, and was surveyed by John Haupt, formerly of the engineering department of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, now a merchant in the place, whose store is the oldest business house in the village.

The borough government was established by a charter granted April 10th, 1876, and on May 25th of that year the first charter election was held, resulting in the choice of D.P. Haupt as chief burgess, and Henry Parton, A. Bone, Reuben Wagner, Robert McNealy, William E. Deisher and H.C. Wagner as councilmen. H. Widenhold was the first town clerk. the borough officers for 1880 were: Chief burgess, P. Zimmerman; coucilmen, John O'Hallen, James Madeira, James Cowan, Lewis Behmer, James Blackwell and W.R. Nice.

The first school-house was erected in 1862, on a lot donated by Mr. Haupt. The schools, four in number, are now kept in a fine building, creditable to the public spirit of this enterprising little borough.

Good water, pure air and fine scenery are among the attractions to settlers at Frackville, while the low price of lands, moderate, taxation and the liberality of the land owners, form valuable inducements to immigration; and the wisdom of this policy has been proven by the rapid growth of the population in the last decade. The railway terminating here is a popular line for travelers who wish to make a "short cut" between the county seat and any point north of the mountain, as it connects, by a line of stages established and operated by D.P. Haupt, with the railways at Mahanoy Plane and Shenandoah, the former station being only a mile distant.

CHURCHES

Trinity Church of the Evangelical Association was organized in the spring of 1874, with six members-William Y. Antrim, Mary A. Antrim, John Kaley, Matilda Kaley, Valeria Moll, and Sophia Buck. The first preacher was Rev. George W. Lawry, who was followed by Rev. Jacob N. Metzgar and he in turn succeeded by Rev. Leidy N. Worman, the present pastor.

The church building was erected by the Methodist Episcopal church, but owing to financial embarrassment fell into the sheriff's hands, and was purchased in an unfinished state by Rev. Thomas Bowman, presiding elder of the Pottsville district, for $1,400. A board of trustees, consisting of Revs. T. Bowman, A.M. Steick, and G.M. Lawry, was appointed, which also served as a building committee. The building was completed and dedicated in 1874. It is a neat and commodious edifice, occupying a commanding position, and at present valued at $2,000.

About two weeks after the dedication of the church a Sundayschool of about eighty members was organized, with the pastor, Rev. George Lawry, as superintendent. The school now numbers over two hundred members. The church, still under the care of the Missionary Society of the East Penn Conference, numbered in 1880 one hundred and twenty-seven members, and is in a healthy condition.

Rev. Leidy N. Worman is a native of Bucks county, where he was born August 24th, 1830. After working as a farmer until about twenty-eight years of age he fitted himself for a public school teacher, graduation at the Bucks County Normal School, and teaching for seven years. Called to the work of gospel ministry, he entered on a course of theological study, and in 1866 was ordained. In 1876 he visited continental Europe and the Holy Land, and he has made his researches there the
subject of lectures that are doing much to excite an interest in the missionary work of his church. He married Sarah L. Shutt, of Schuylkill county.

Methodist Episcopal Church. -During the year 1872 Rev. A.L. Urban organized a class at Frackville consisting of ten members, with E.B. Gray as leader. A lot was secured and a church building erected, but owing to financial embarrassment it was sold to the Evangelical Society. No further attempts were made until 1880, when Rev. W.W. Wisegarver, of Mahanoy Plane, revived the meetings of the class, and on the 27th of June opened a Sundayschool, of which Frederick Weeks, of Gilberton, was elected superintendent. Its sessions are held in Haughton's Hall. Services are held in the same building semi-weekly. The church consists of C.L. Chillson, class leader; Mary M. Chillson, William James, Elizabeth James, Elizabeth Bainbridge, Elizabeth Gunning, Mark L. Gunning, Elvira L. Myers, Francis Eckersley, and Richard Morgan. Steps are being taken toward the erection of a church edifice.

GILBERTON BOROUGH

This borough was formed from a part of West Mahanoy lying north of the Broad mountain and in the valley of the Mahanoy creek, and was chartered in 1873. The first borough election was held march 1st of that year. The officers elected were: E.S. Seaman, chief burgess; Joseph Byers, John Hilihan, John Shandy, John Brennan and William Ryan, councilmen. The chief burgesses since have been Daniel Becker, 1875; and George Burchill, the present burgess, 1879. The first school directors were: J.H. Olhausen, president; Jeremiah O'Connor, secretary; William Agin, P. McLaughlin and Joseph Zimmerman.

The borough is divided into three wards, known as the east, middle and west wards. The assessed valuation in the borough in 1880 was $545,725. The population in 1880 was 3,173.

MAHANOY PLANE

This, the principal village in the borough, was named from the inclined plane that, running to the top of Broad mountain, connects the Mill Creek railway with the Mahanoy and Shamokin branch of the Philadelphia and Reading road. The building of the roads drew here a few of their employees, and in 1859 a schoolhouse was built by the township of Mahanoy. Immediately following the completion of the plane, in 1861, the collieries of the adjoining country drew the attention of speculators and operators to this vicinity, and in 1865 the abandoned tunnel which was driven by Stephen Girard in 1833 was taken possession of, and Bear Ridge collieries were established. Meanwhile coal shipments over the plane had commenced, railroad repair shops and engine house had been erected, and the plane made the headquarters of a division of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. The hotel known as the Union House was built in 1863, at which time the place contained about two hundred in habitants. William Edwards was the first merchant, and his store was located near the coal schutes. The Shenandoah branch railroad was built during the same year, and the offices of the resident engineer and superintendent of the railroad. From 1865 the growth of the place was rapid, three large collieries having been opened, and the transfer of coal up the mountain to Frackville became an important industry. In 1880 the place had grown to a prosperous village of 1,000 inhabitants, with a number of fine stores, three hotels, two churches and an intelligent and orderly population. During the time of the labor troubles a "body" of Mollie Maguires was located here, and the usual measures adopted to cripple the operators and employers.

A building and loan association was attempted some years since, but it is now in the hands of a receiver. A fine public school is located here, in a convenient building, which was erected in 1874, at a cost of about $5,000.

The high school building at Mahanoy Plane was erected in 1874 and 1875. During 1879 a new school-house was built at Gilberton. The number of school-houses in 1880 was three, with five schools.

SINKS

One of the most exciting incidents in the history of the village occurred a few years since, when the houses and furniture of two families named Wynn and Jambries were engulfed entire by a sink in the workings of the Lawrence colliery. The families had only time to leave them and escape to surer foundation when a shower of stones and dust filled the air; and where, five minutes before, two pleasant homes, representing the savings of their owners' lives, had stood, was only a vast depression, filling with water from the surface. Occasional sinks as early as 1868 had warned the people of what might be expected, but it was believed that these building were not in danger. From that time to the present these sinks have been frequent, and property owners are protecting themselves by procuring injunctions against mine operators, which compel them to purchase the buildings or improvements if they desire to continue working.

INDUSTRIES

The principal employing interest here, aside from the
colliery companies, is the railway, and the writer is indebted to George Rahn, clerk for the resident engineer of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, for the following information: The number of men employed on Mahanoy Plane, shops and road, is two hundred; and on roadway department, seventy-five. The resident engineers and superintendents at this point have been George B. Roberts, Charles E. Byers, T. Guilford Smith, L.B. Paxson, Joseph Byers, J.H. Olhausen, the present superintendent, and J.E. Umstead, the present engineer.

The first postmaster here was J.H. Olhausen. P.P.D. Kirlin has been postmaster since 1873.

The Merchants' Hotel was erected in 1876, and it is kept by James R. Deegan. Mr. E.L. Seaman keeps the Valley House. Maurer & Co. are merchants, and P.P.D. Kirlin is a druggist.

**MAIZEVILLE**

Maizeville was named after one of the founders of the Stanton colliery, but is known among the profane of the valley as "the Flour Barrel," from the fact that one of its earliest buildings had that useful article for a chimney. It is a neat street of substantial looking buildings, occupied principally by miner's families, several hotels, and one or two small stores. It is a flag station on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, and the center of the middle ward of Gilberton borough.

**GILBERTON**

Gilberton, a neat and thriving village of well built houses, owes its origin to the establishment here of the Gilberton and Draper collieries. It constitutes the east ward of the borough, and contained in 1880 several hotels, a store and post-office, a fine public school building, and a small Methodist Episcopal chapel.

**CHURCHES OF GILBERTON BOROUGH**

**M.E. Church of Mahanoy Plane.**-previous to 1868 there had been an English and Welsh union Sabbath-school organized, in which both languages were used. It met regularly in a room over the store of N. Lytte. There were also occasional services held in private houses by Rev. John A. Dixon, of the Central Pennsylvania Conference, then stationed at Centralia, Pa. In the Spring of 1868 the old school-house which stood din the rear of the present church building was secured, and a Sabbath-school was organized, under the superintendency of Charles Hammer, a Methodist from Shamokin. About the same time two local preachers from Gilberton, John Murray and Jacob Pillinger, were engaged to preach alternately here. In the summer of 1869 Rev. John A. Borland, of Harrisburg, was appointed to preach as a supply. In March, 1870, the societies of Gilberton and Mahanoy Plane were made a circuit, with Rev. Thomas Harrison pastor.

The pastors and their terms of service have been: John A. Borland, six months; Thomas Harrison, 1870, 1871; A.L. Urban, 1872; J.W. Bradley, 1873, 1874; H.T. Quigg, 1875, 1876; George W. North, 1877; C. Hudson, 1878; J.W. Bradley, 1879; W.W. Wisegarver, 1880.

The first class was organized by Rev. Thomas Harrison, May 15th, 1870. The following persons at that time composed the society: William and Harriet Cope, Harriet Davidson, Annie Edwards, Mary L. Irish, Susanna Smith and Tillie J. Thickens. Charles Hammer was the first leader of the society, and William Cope the first class leader and Sunday-school superintendent.

During the 1873 a framed building was erected on lands of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, and called a union church. The cost was about $1,800. It has never been dedicated, and it is subject to removal at sixty days notice, and its location is in many respects not desirable. This society has been the only one to occupy it regularly. The Sunday-school now numbers over one hundred members, and the church twenty-five, with a congregation of about one hundred persons.

**St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church at Mahanoy Plane.**-This church, a substantial edifice, was erected in 1874, by the efforts of Rev. Daniel O'Connor, who had succeeded in organizing a society here. He was called to Girardville in 1877, and Rev. Father Laughran was sent to this field. Under his labors the edifice has been completed, debts paid, and the cause of the church greatly strengthened.

**Gilberton M.E. Church.**-Previous to the organization of a class the various denominations in Gilberton held union services and Sabbath-school. The change from union to denominational services was made early in the summer of 1865. The place of meeting was in one of the company's houses, south of the stone house of Jay Williams, which was recently torn down and removed. Rev H.H. Davis, then pastor of the Mahanoy City church, was the first Methodist itinerant that preached regularly at Gilberton, and he organized the society. Rev. John A. Borland was the supply here as well as at Mahanoy Plant in 1869, and Rev. Thomas Harrison the first pastor. A church building which had been commenced was completed during Mr. Harrison's pastorate, which covered a period of two years. During this time Mahanoy Plane was added to the charge. In 1872 these places were separated, and Rev. Eli Pickersgill was the pastor at Gilberton for a year, succeeded by Revs. J.W. Knapp, Richard Morley and John Raymond, each one year, and they by Rev. H.H. Davis, the founder of the church. In 1877 Rev. J. Rasterfield, of Shenandoah, preached. Rev. Stephen Thomoff, a native of Bulgaria, was pastor in 1878, when Gilberton was again joined to Mahanoy Plane. The circuit was served until the conference of 1879 by Rev. Cornelius Hudson, succeeded by J.W. Bradley, and in March, 1880, by the present incumbent, Rev. W. Wisegarver.

The first class leader was David Lewis, who, with the following persons, formed the society: Jacob and Hannah Pillenger, Samuel and Anna Bryant, John Murray, Caleb Harrington, Edward and Ann Griffith, Hannah Singleton, Selina Googe, Ambrose Bowen and wife, John Partridge, Joseph H. Hoskins, William Hemenway and

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Henry Jones. John Murray was the first Sunday-school superintendent. The school at that time numbered seventy scholars, and now it numbers more than one hundred.

There are fifty members and thirteen probationers in the church. The church was dedicated during the summer of 1870. It cost about $2,500, and repairs and refurnishing a few years later cost $500 more. The church is on the main street and is a neat and comfortable building. It is on ground leased from P.W. Sheaffer, of Pottsville.

MINING INTERESTS

Bear Ridge Collieries.-The Bear Ridge collieries, Nos. 1 and 2, near Mahanoy Plane, are owned by Myers, McCreary & Co. No. 1 was opened in 1865 by Morris, Robinson & Co., who controlled it until 1870, when they disposed of it to the Bear Ridge Coal Company, who had charge until 1879, when they sold to the present owners. No. 2 was opened in 1874 by the Bear Ridge Coal Company. Previous to the opening by this company the tunnel had been driven by Stephen Girard 122 yards, and nothing more was done until 1873, when the Bear Ridge Coal Company drove it 80 yards farther, and struck the Mammoth vein, which is still worked. There are employed at No. 1, on the outside 33 men and 65 boys; on the inside 75 men and 5 boys. At No. 2 there are employed on the outside 33 men and 65 boys; on the inside 75 men and 5 boys. At No. 2 there are employed on the outside 25 men and boys; on the inside 85 men and 6 boys. Connected with No. 1 colliery are seven engines, varying in strength from 30 to 150 horse power; and connected with No. 2 six engines, varying from 30 to 40 horse power. Besides these there is one 6-ton locomotive engine connected with the works. They have also sixty tenement houses. At present they are working the Mammoth vein. The average daily production is from 800 to 1,000 tons. The coal from these mines is worked to such a quality that about two-thirds of it is sold in Philadelphia, or along the line before it reaches there, and one-third is shipped across mountains, at Mahanoy Plane. The breaker, with a capacity of 750 tons daily, was built when the slope was opened. The average daily shipments of coal are five hundred tons. The hoisting engines are two in number, of 90 horse power each; the breaker engine 50, and four pump engines have each a capacity of 150 horse power. Ventilation is produced by natural means. Two quite serious accidents have occurred here; one in which two miners, while taking down timbers, were killed by the truck running off the carriage, and one in which inside foreman Edward R. Brickens, and Captain John Williams, a miner, were fatally burned by an explosion of fire damp. There are thirty-eight blocks of double tenement houses on the property.

Stanton Colliery.-This colliery, located near Maizeville, was opened in 1870, by Miller, Hoch & Co., who have continuously operated it until the present time. Eighty men and 40 boys are employed on the outside, and 50 men and 12 boys on the inside. Connected with the works are 4 engines of 90 horse power, one of 40, one of 20, and one of 12. They are working the Mammoth vein. The breaker has a capacity of 120 cars daily. The average daily production is 80 cars. The coal of this mine is hard white ash. The product is principally sold in the city and on the line of the railroad for domestic use. There are two slopes connected with the colliery, which are sunk to the depth of 750 feet on the second lift.

Lawrence Colliery was opened in 1868 by Lawrence, Merkle & Co., of Minersville. It is on the north slope of the Broad mountain, at Mahanoy Plane. The breaker, with a capacity of 750 tons daily, was built when the slope was opened. The average shipments of coal are five hundred tons per day. The workings extend one and one fourth miles from the foot of a slope three hundred and thirty yards deep. One hundred and seventy-eight men and boys are employed outside, and one hundred and forty-eight inside. The vein worked is the Mammoth. Ten stem engines, with an aggregate of six hundred and ninety-seven horse power, are in use, and there are five tenement houses owned by the firm. Lawrence, Merkle & Co. have operated the colliery since its establishment.

The Draper Colliery.-The works now known by this name were opened in 1863, by a man named Smith, who worked a drift for some time, and disposed of his interest to the Mammoth Vein Consolidated Coal Company, who sunk the first slope in 1869, to a depth of 400 feet. Soon afterward this corporation was reorganized as the Hickory Coal Company, with J.W. Draper as president, and the colliery took his name. The present breaker, with a capacity of 600 tons daily, was built by this company, which continued to operate until its failure, in 1876, when it passed into the hands of trustees, and has since become the property of Oliver Ditson and H.L. Williams, the present operators. The present workings extend to a vertical depth of 668 feet on the Mammoth and Primrose veins. The number of men and boys employed is 209, of which 40 are miners, 165 laborers, and 4 clerks and bosses. The number of engines is 11, with an aggregate of 641 horse power. The company has 86 tenement houses.

The Gilberton Colliery was opened by Kendrick & Tyson, in 1862, and a small breaker was built, from which coal was shipped in 1863. In the spring of 1864 the Gilberton Coal Company was organized, with James Sturgis as president. The company succeeded Kendrick & Tyson, continued to operate the colliery until its failure, when it was taken in charge by trustees, and in March, 1879, became the property of its present owners-the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. At this time the colliery is not producing, the vein being exhausted; but tunnels are being driven to new veins, and ere long it will again become a productive property. When at work the colliery employs two hundred men and boys. The new breaker, built by the Gilberton company in 1872, has a capacity of six hundred tons, and produced an average of four hundred daily. The hoisting engines are two in number, of 90 horse power each; the breaker engine 50, and four pump engines have each a capacity of 150 horse power. Ventilation is produced by natural means. Two quite serious accidents have occurred here; one in which two miners, while taking down timbers, were killed by the truck running off the carriage, and one in which inside foreman Edward R. Brickens, and Captain John Williams, a miner, were fatally burned by an explosion of fire damp. There are thirty-eight blocks of double tenement houses on the property.

The Dutter Colliery was opened for the purpose of working the outcropping coal on the Gilberton lease, by John A. Dutter, in 1878. Mr. Dutter came from Tremont some years before in the employ of Miller, Hoch & Co., at the Stanton colliery. The Dutter breaker is a short distance south of the village of Gilberton.
SHENANDOAH BOROUGH

The borough of Shenandoah, though one of the youngest, is the second in population in Schuylkill county. It owes its existence and prosperity entirely to the development and workings of the coal deposits with which it is immediately surrounded. As late as 1862 its site and vicinity were for the most part a wilderness and a favorite hunting ground; deer, bear, and smaller game being comparatively abundant. Instances are related of choppers who carried their dinner with them to the bush having been robbed of it, bucket and all, by bears within plain sight of the victims.

The site of Shenandoah was originally owned by Peter Kehley, who as early as 1835 built a log house near the present Lehigh Valley depot, and, with his family, was for many years the only resident in the vicinity, gaining a sustenance by hunting and cultivating small patches of ground. Several years previous to 1860 he was induced to transfer his title to the land to parties in Philadelphia for a nominal consideration, but continued to occupy it, at an annual rental of a dollar, until his death, when the family removed to other parts.

In the spring of 1862 the purchasers of Mr. Kehley's land, then or subsequently known as the Philadelphia Land Company, anticipating the speedy opening of coal mines here, had a town surveyed and plotted by P.W. Sheaffer, then acting as civil engineer for that company, who gave to it the name of "Shenandoah City," probably after Shenandoah creek, which runs through the southeastern portion of the present borough.

The following summer the land company built a two-story frame hotel, on the corner of Main and Center streets, which was opened, under the name the United States Hotel, in August, 1862, by Seymour Wright, as manager, with rent free. This was the first frame building put up in Shenandoah, and it is still used for hotel purposes, though having undergone some changes since its first erection. The same year James Hutton built two dwelling houses, and building was also begun at the Shenandoah City colliery.

The opening of that colliery, which was begun in 1862, brought to this place many of the first settlers. Seymour Wright, Jacob O. Roads, James Hutton, Christian Young, John Houzer and perhaps a few others came here in 1862. Seymour Wright was a native of the State of New York, and came here from Columbia county, Pa. He was manager of the United States hotel about three years, station agent as long, and then returned to Columbia county, where he died.

Jacob O. Roads is a native of Berks county. He was the first business man here, and has been prominently identified with the leading business interests of the place from its birth to the present.

Bartholomew Dillmann, Richard Harrington, Jonathan Wasley, Daniel Ellis, Jacob Dimler, Jonathan Ellis and Peter Ward were among the first to settle here in the spring of 1863, most of whom are still residents of the place. From this date the population rapidly increased.

In connection with Shenandoah City colliery a steam saw-mill, blacksmith shop, carpenter shop, &c., were built and operated by Miller, Roads, & Co., which supplied the first necessities of the place in those branches of business. The same firm also brought in the first stock of merchandise, which they sold in the basement of the United States Hotel. They subsequently put up and occupied the first store building, on Main street, below Cherry street. Christian Young built and opened the first eating house and saloon in the fall of 1863, on the site of the Shenandoah Valley House. William C. Kennedy opened the first drug store in 1864, and Dr. W.S. Beach was the first physician to locate here, coming in 1864, followed a year or two later by Dr. George L. Regan.

INCORPORATION AND CIVIL HISTORY

Shenandoah was incorporated as a borough on the 16th of January, 1866, a petition setting forth its boundaries and signed by one hundred freeholders having been presented to the court of Schuylkill county in September previous. At the first election, held in the spring of 1866, the following officers were chosen: Chief burgess, Frederick Wright; council-C.J. Heller (president), Martin Franey, Thomas Egan, Christian Young, and George Quinn; secretary, J.F. Murphy; treasurer, Anthony Devitt; solicitor, Charles D. Hipple; high constable and collector, Michael O'Hara.

The following have served as chief burgess of the borough: Thomas Cassedy, 1867; J.P. Hoffman, 1868; John Tobin, 1869-71; George G. Jacoby, 1872; Michael O'Hara, 1873, 74; J. O'Connor, 1875; William Kimmel, 1876, 1877; M.J. Whalen, 1878; Joseph Boehm, 1879, 1880; Daniel P. Williams, 1881.

In September, 1874, the borough was divided into two election districts, on the line of Main street, and in September, 1875, it was divided into five wards.

The number of votes polled for chief burgess was 162 in 1867; 612 in 1874 and 1,053 in 1879. The population of the borough in 1870 was 2,951, and in June, 1880, 10,061, composed principally of Pennsylvania Dutch, Irish, Welsh, Polander, English and Germans.

COLLIERIES

Shenandoah City Colliery.-This was the first colliery opened in the vicinity of Shenandoah. It is located on the William Jones tract of the Mammoth vein, in the southern part of the borough, and was opened by August C. Miller, of Philadelphia, Michael F. Maize, of Pottsville, and Jacob O. roads, under the firm name of A.C. Miller & Co. The opening of the mine and construc-
tion of the necessary buildings and machinery were under the personal supervision of Jacob O. Roads, who began work in 1862. The breakers and buildings, including forty-seven tenant houses and a large boarding house, were completed in 1863. The first shipment of coal was made in February, 1864, upon the completion of the Shenandoah branch of the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain Railroad to this place. The design of the double breaker was executed by Henry Strauch, architect, and it consumed about 700,000 feet of lumber in its construction, having a capacity of 1,000 tons of coal daily. Jonathan Wesley was superintendent several years. This colliery was operated by A.C. Miller & Co., who employed about 300 men and boys, until the spring of 1878, when, their lease having expired, it passed into the hands of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, the present operators. The present superintendents are Joseph Keim, outside, and Frederick Carl, inside. There are 100 men and boys employed outside and 148 inside. Six engines are now in use, aggregating 266 horse power. The main entrance to the mine is on an angle of 60 degrees. The present daily production is about 300 tons.

Turkey Run Colliery, near the southwest border of Shenandoah, was opened in 1869, by D.B. Haas, William Brenninger and G.W. Johnson, under the firm name of Haas, Brenninger & Co., Mr. Johnson having the general supervision. It was operated by this company until 1879, when it was transferred to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, the present operators. It consists of one horizontal tunnel, 154 years long; the east slope, on an angle of about 10 degrees, and 250 yards long; and the west slope, of 25 degrees, and 150 yards long, opening the Mammoth and Seven-feet veins. There are eight stationary engines, aggregating 380 horse power, and one locomotive now in use. The capacity of the breaker is 674 tons, with an average daily production of 475 tons of coal, employing 380 men and boys. The foremen are William Shaw, outside, and Frederick Reese, inside.

West Shenandoah Colliery consists of two slopes, sunk on the Buck Mountain and Mammoth veins, the old slope extending 250 yards from the opening in three lifts. This colliery was first opened in 1869, by M.F. Maize and W.H. Lewis, under the personal supervision of the latter. It was worked by them until 1878, when it was transferred to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. It has one breaker, with a capacity of about 500 tons, which is now worked to nearly its full capacity. There are 9 engines, equaling 455 horse power. There are about 160 men and boys employed inside, with David Morgan as foreman, and 100 outside, with A.D. Gable as foreman.

Indian Ridge Colliery.-This colliery was opened in 1870, by William Kendrecht & Co., the firm consisting of William Kendrecht, John J. Dovey and David Davis, who operated it until 1873, then sold their interest to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, which still controls it. It consists of a shaft sunk on the Mammoth vein and one breaker, with a capacity of 750 tons. Two engines, of 90 horse power each, are used for hoisting purposes. Two engines, located inside, of 133 horse power each, are used for pumping, and are capable of raising 79,200 gallons of water three hundred feet high per hour. William A. Delcamp is engineer of the pumping engines and J.H. Roxby of the hoisting engines. William Horn is superintendent outside and John Bradigan inside. Some 300 men and boys are employed, and about 540 tons produced daily.

Kehley Run Colliery is situated on the north borough line of Shenandoah, on the south dip of the Mammoth vein. The openings consist of two slopes. The old slope is sunk about 130 yards on an average dip of 38 degrees, and the new or west slope is sunk about 210 yards from the surface. It was first opened in 1864, by Jacob Frill, ----Fisher and J.B. Reber, and has been operated by the Thomas Coal Company since 1867. There are two breakers, with a capacity of 750 tons daily, and eight engines, aggregating 725 horse power. This has been a very successful colliery; it shipped up to January 1st, 1880, 1,047,153 tons of coal.

On July 28th, 1880, Jonathan Wasley, who had served as superintendent of this colliery since 1867, lost his life in this mine by the effects of poisonous gases while attempting to discover the origin of the latter. John Reese and Frederick Willman, who accompanied him, also perished from the same cause. On August 9th following the mine was discovered to be on fire, since which all mining operations have been suspended and various means have been instituted to extinguish the fire, but so far (May, 1881) without success.

Plank Ridge Colliery, on the southeastern limits of Shenandoah, consists of a double cage way shaft, sunk on the Mammoth vein, about 30 yards from which two slopes are sunk. It was opened in 1865, by Richard Lee, William Grant and R.F. Lee, and was under the general supervision of William Grant until April 12th, 1873, when he was killed in the mine by a fall of coal. Walter Gibbs, inside foreman, lost his life at the same time. Soon after the death of Mr. Grant the colliery passed into the hands of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, its present managers. It has one breaker, and seven engines, equaling about 325 horse power. Captain J.H. Hoskins is outside foreman and Adam Leckie inside foreman.

Kohinoor Collier.-This colliery was opened by its present operators, Heckscher & Co., in 1868, and has since been managed by Jacob Glover. The annual report of Mine Inspector Hemingray for 1875, in speaking of this mine, says: "It consists of a first-class shaft, opening the Mammoth vein 140 yards under the surface, in 45 feet of coal and nearly in the center of its basin. The mine is worked in three different lifts of panels, by self-acting planes. In connection with this plan a new slope is nearly sunk to the basin on an angle of 10 degrees dip. This will open another large body of coal, which as a reserve, can be drawn upon as required; so that the colliery has but few if any in the region to excell it in its details of economy."
Cambridge Colliery is a drift on the Primrose vein. It was opened in 1875 by Jones, Banks & Co. In 1880 it was sold to William R. Jones, Benjamin Thomas and Henry Price, who assumed the name of the Cambridge Coal Company. Mr. Jones has had the management of the colliery from the first. It has one eighthorse power engine, gives employment to fifteen men and boys and produces about 40 tons of coal daily, principally for home consumption.

COLUMBIA HOSE AND STEAM FIRE ENGINE COMPANY

A preliminary organization of this company was made at the Lloyd street school-house, July 11th, 1870, at which time temporary officers were elected and the company was named "Columbia Hose Company, No.1." A permanent organization occurred at the borough council rooms on August 1st, 1870, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Jr. J.F. Kern, president; Henry C. Boyer, secretary; J.P. Hoffman, treasurer; Thomas J. Foster, chief director. The borough immediately erected a hose-house, which was occupied by the company November 28th, 1870. The company was uniformed in September, and received its first hose carriage and equipments in December of the same year. This company was legally incorporated, under its present name, July 29th, 1872, and in July, 1873, purchased its first steam fire engine (second hand) for $2,800. In 1874 a two-story brick engine house was built on Jardin street south, which was occupied January 28th, 1875. In December following, an alarm bell, weighing 1,540 pounds and costing $600, was placed in the tower of this building. A new "Button" engine, costing $2,650, was purchased in March, 1878, and christened "Shenandoah," and in January, 1880, the former engine was rebuilt, at a cost of over $1,000.

In the summer of 1878 the company leased four acres of ground from the Girard estate, which it fitted up with dancing floor, booths, etc for picnic purposes, at a cost of over $1,200. This place is known as "Columbia Park," and is an attractive resort in summer and a source of income to the company.

This company now numbers over 70 members and its equipments are equal to any in this part of the State.

SHENANDOAH SCREEN WORKS

The National Hotel, formerly known as the United States Hotel, was built in 1862 by the Philadelphia Land Company, and first kept by Seymour Wright. A few years later the property was purchased by Dr. Freeze, who subsequently sold to one Phillips. In 1874 it was bought by George F. Leitzel, who in 1876 raised it to three stories. Leitzel still owns it. The house has been kept by the following landlords successively: S. Wright, O.P. Hart, D. Rinebolt, M. Bickel, B.K. Yost, and George F. Leitzel. The present manager is Daniel C. Blyler.

The Columbia House, opposite the Reading depot, was erected and opened in 1876, by Morris Morrison, the present proprietor, at a cost of over $5,000. It is one of the best hotels in the town.

The Shenandoah Valley House is centrally located at No. 21 and 23 Main Street. The rear part of this house is one of the first buildings put up in the town. The front part was built in 1876, by Henry J. Neumann, who is still the owner and manager.

The Merchants’ Hotel was erected in 1870, by Lodowick Zimmerman. The Cambrian house, the Kendrick house, and the Globe hotel are among those more recently opened.

BANKS

The Shenandoah Valley Bank was incorporated and commenced business in 1870, with a capital of $50,000. William Grant was elected president and Joel B. McCamant cashier. Upon the death of Mr. Grant, in 1873, Johathan Wasley was chosen president. This bank continued to do business until 1878, when an assignment was made of its assets and its business suspended.

The Miners’ Banking Company.-This company was established in 1875, with a capital of $50,000; C.F. Weber was president, and G.W. Garret cashier. The concern suspended after doing business two or three years.

THE PRESS

The Sunday Morning News, an independent paper published every Sunday morning, was established in September, 1878, by James H. Dietrick and Philip Keck, who ran it in partnership until June, 1880, when Mr. Keck became sole proprietor. It is a nine-column paper, independent in sentiment, and is liberally patronized.

MILITARY

Company H, 8th Regiment, N.G. of Pennsylvania, was organized in Shenandoah and mustered June 22nd, 1876, numbering 90 enlisted men and three commissioned officers. The company was soon after equipped and uniformed, and was present at the general encampment at Philadelphia in August following. The first officers were: Captain, George W. Johnson; first-lieutenant, James G. Roads; second-lieutenant, Joseph Hoskins. This company was called out and served at Pittsburgh during the riots there in July and August, 1877. Early in 1879 the company was reduced to 63 men rank and file in compliance with the new military law of the State. Its present number if 58. On December 25th, 1876, Second Lieutenant Hoskins, was succeeded by John C. Glover. The present commissioned officers are: Captain, George W. Johnson; first lieutenant, Benjamin G. Hess; second lieutenant, Frank Temple; the two latter having
been commissioned December 25th, 1880. The company has been present at all encampments and general inspections since its organization, and according to the adjutant general's reports has a superior record in most respects.

LODGES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Shenandoah Lodge, No. 591, I.O.O.F.-This lodge was instituted by District Deputy George W. Rofsnider, with seventeen charter members, December 17th, 1866, when the following officers were elected: George Depuy, N.G.; Robert Weightman, N.G.; George L. Regan, secretary; George A. Herring, treasurer. The present officers are: Thomas S. Roberts, N.G.; Thomas Lathbean, V.G.; D.J. Williams, secretary; Robert Weightman, treasurer.

This lodge has always maintained a healthy and active existence, and is at present in a very nourishing condition, its assets amounting to nearly $10,000. The lodge numbers 153 members.

Washington Camp, No. 112, Patriotic Order Sons of America was organized at Reagan's Hall, in Shenandoah, May 4th (CDL), 1869, with twelve charter members. The first elective officers were as follows: S.D. Hess, past president; J.S. Farringer, president; J.W. Deitrick, vice-president; J.R. Miller, M. of F. & C.; L.F. Raber, R.S.; Sylvester Yost, assistant secretary; James F. Jacoby, F.S.; George R. Shaeffer, treasurer; Jonathan Yost, Cond.; M.S. Shoemaker, I.G.; Lewis Widdenmoyer, O.G.; Charles M. Wasley, chaplain.

This order is a beneficiary one, and applicants, to be eligible, must be not less than eighteen years of age and native-born Americans. The camp has nearly a hundred members.


Shenandoah Tribe, No. 155, Improved Order of Red Men was instituted October 4th, 1871, with thirty charter members. The principal first officers were: George T. Taylor, sachem; Reese J. Thomas, Sr. S.; John Adams, Jr. S.; C.C. Wagner, chief of records; Thomas H. Taylor, keeper of wampum.


This tribe made rapid progress for a time after its organization until it attained a membership of 232, but the strikes, the unreliable condition of the coal interest, and finally the panic of 1873, reduced its membership to less than 100. It has however, retained an uninter rupted existence and is now prosperous.

Shenandoah Lodge, No. 511, F. and A.M.-This lodge was instituted September 25th, 1872, with twenty-one charter members. The presiding officers since the organization of the lodge have been as follow: William Grant, 1872; Jonathan Wasley, 1873, 1875; J.B. McCamant, 1874; William Krick, 1876; Richard Knight, 1877; Elijah Gregory, 1878; John C. Roxby, 1879, 1880. The lodge has been gradually improving financially and numerically, and now numbers about 70 members. It has a large surplus fund.

Silver Wave Castle, No. 45, Ancient Order of Knights of the Mystic Chain.-This castle was instituted February 10th, 1873, with twenty-three charter members, of whom the following were the first officers: E.N. Harpel, Com.; E.A. Haywood, Vice-Com.; J.C. Doye, T.L.; Jasper Sylem, R.S.; E.N. Levering, A.R.S.; T.M. Greenwood, T.S.; R.R. Greener, treasurer; A. Greenawald, I.G.; Alfred Wells, O.G.; J.S. Williams, C. of S. The succeeding presiding officers have been A.E. Haywood, J.C. Doye, J.C. Glover, A.H. Roads, Henry Horncastle, William Shaw, Jasper Wylem, J.S. Williams, F.F. Brocious, Thomas Keshner, William M. James, John F. James, Daniel Richards, F.P. Brocious, Frank Warreck, J.C. Shaw. The membership is over one hundred.

Plank Ridge Lodge, No. 880, I.O.O.F. was instituted June 10th, 1874, with twenty persons as charter members. The first officers elected were: E.N. Harpel, N.G.; E.D. Beddall, V.G.; Thomas W. Taylor, secretary; Samuel R. Broome, assistant secretary; Jacob Bamberger, treasurer. The following is a list of the presiding officers successfully: E.N. Harpel, E.D. Beddall, S.R. Broome, F.F. Brocious, John Clough, Simon Gregory, Jacob Bamberger, Robert A. Glover, George W. Johnson, William Owens, Frank Temple, E.K. Ramberger, Robert Peel, Thomas Mansell.

This lodge increased rapidly in numbers and wealth, and on January 1st, 1875, it had a membership of 130. Its present membership is about 125. It has a large surplus on hand and is one of the most active and flourishing lodges in the county.

St. Patrick's Catholic Mutual Benefit Association No. 147. This is a branch of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union, and was chartered and organized March 19th, 1870, with fifteen original members. J.J. Franey was elected the first president, and J.A. Tobin first secretary. The society numbers 120 members.

St. Michael's C.M.B.A. (German) is a branch of the German Catholic Central Association. It was duly organized January 14th, 1873. The original members numbered 47, and the following were the first officers: Michael Peter, president; William Graeber, vice-president; Joseph Harman, secretary; Joseph Boch, treasurer; Christ Begrant, doorkeeper. Trustees-William Schmicher, Peter Beltzer, and Michael Valerius.

Anthracity Lodge, No. 1,793, Knights of Honor was instituted in Shenandoah, September 30th, 1879, with forty
original members. Its first officers were: Thomas J. Foster, past director; R.A. Glover, director; J.W. Dietrick, secretary; James G. Hutton, F.S.; Veniah Shoemaker. The presiding officers have been as follows: R.A. Glover, W.H. Shoemaker, August Roads. The present membership is about 50. This branch has 80 members and is making arrangements to build a hall.

St. Kasimer's C.M.B.A. (Polish) was organized, as a branch of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Association, February 14th, 1875, with 24 members. Sylvester Brozis was elected president, and Felix Murawsky secretary. The membership is 65.

National Guards of Warsaw.-This is a legally chartered organization composed entirely of Poles, and was organized in Shenandoah in June, 1876, with fifteen members. The first president was Joseph Janiski, and the first secretary Joseph Konopniski. The present membership is 25.

Washington Benevolent Association.-This chartered beneficiary association was organized October 13th, 1880, with about 20 original members. The first officers were: Philip Wool; president; Nicholas Byrant, vice-president; Joseph Halbe, secretary. The present officers are: P. Wool, president; N. Byrant, vice-president; Christian Schmidt, secretary; Jacob Noll, treasurer.

**ECCLESIASTICAL**

The First Sunday-school.-The first public religious movement in Shenandoah was the organization of a Welsh Sunday-school in the spring of 1864, by T.W. Davis, Jonathan Ellis and others, which was held at the residence of Lancelot Evans, on Main street; T.W. Davis was the superintendent. After a few months it was abandoned, owing to the fewness of interested Welsh residents. It was during the existence of this Sunday-school that the first sermon in Shenandoah was preached, in the Welsh language, by the Rev. Mr. Hughes, a Welsh Calvinist Methodist minister, then of St. Clair.

In the spring of 1865 the second organization of a Sundayschool was effected by the Welsh inhabitants of the place, without regard to the former religious views of its members, prominent among whom were David Bevans, Henry D. Lewis, R. Jones, Benjamin Davis, Jonathan Ellis and T.W. Davis, the latter acting as superintendent. The school was organized at the house of David Bevans, on Main street, but was soon after transferred, with the consent of the school board, to the "Brown schoolhouse," where other religious meetings, with preaching, were occasionally held through this and the following year.

The efforts put forth by the members of this Sunday-school were not without their reward, as they resulted in the organization of the first two churches in Shenandoah.

**Welsh Congregational Church.**-This church was organized July 22nd, 1866, with thirteen male and six female members. Thomas W. Davis, Henry Davis, and Elias Ellis were chosen deacons. This was the first church organization in Shenandoah. For the first nine months of its existence it was served by Henry C. Harris as pastor. The society at once commenced the erection of a framed church, with stone basement, on West street, which was completed at a cost of about $2,250, and occupied in January following. The dedication took place in April, 1867, on which occasion Revs. R.D. Thomas, Thomas Rees, and E.R. Lewis officiated. Mr. Harris was succeeded by Rev. Robert D. Thomas, of Mahanoy city, who remained until July 18th, 1872, when William Jones Thomas, who had been ordained February 18th, 1872, and had been co-pastor with R.D. Thomas from that time until the departure of the latter, accepted the full pastoral charge of the church. He remained until his death, June 22nd, 1875. He was an earnest and diligent minister, and accomplished much good. His successor, the present pastor, Rev. D. Todd Jones, late of Mahanoy city, began his labors January 1st, 1876. The membership of the church is 100. The Sabbath-school numbers 130 scholars.

**First M.E. Church.**-This society had among its earliest members Richard and Alice Knight, George and Dorcas Depuy, Levi J., Emily and Annie Hoffman, Robert and Mary Weightman, Alfred and Ann Calleen, John C. Roxby and Daniel Shappel, who held meetings in the old brown school-house on Lloyd street, under the care of Rev. J. Mullen, then pastor of Mount Carmel M.E. church. In 1867 these, with others, erected a frame church on the southwest corner of Oak and White streets, with a seating capacity of 400, at a cost of $5,000.

In the spring of 1868 this church became a part of the Philadelphia Conference, and received its first regular pastor in the person of Rev. Eli Pickersgill.

In 1871, under the pastorate of Rev. J. Rit Boyle, the church was enlarged and refitted, increasing its seating capacity to 600 and its value to $10,000.

The following have been the pastors: Rev. Eli Pickersgill, 1868, 1869; Rev. J.A. Cooper, 1869, 1870; Rev. J.T. Swindells, 1870, 1871; Rev. J. Rit Boyle, 1871-1874; Rev. N.B. Durell, 1874-76; Rev. J. Pastorfield, 1876-79; Rev. W.P. Howell, 1879-81; Rev. W.L. McDowell, appointed in March, 1881, the present pastor. The church has over 200 members.

In the fall of 1868 the organization of the M.E. Sundayschool proper took place, with Levi J. Hoffman as its superintendent. At that time there were 23 officers and teachers and 114 pupils. The school is now one of the largest Protestant schools in the county, having an average attendance of 460.

**Welsh Baptist Church.**-This church was organized at the Congregational church building in Shenandoah, in 1867, with eight male members, viz., David Bevans, John John, John P. Williams, Jonah Griffiths, William Thomas, Job Samuel and Wirehood Thomas. J.P. Williams was the first deacon, and Rev. B. Nichols the first pastor. Services were held in the Lloyd street school-house until 1871, when the society built a neat and substantial framed church, with basement, on Oak street, which was dedicated in September of the same year. The building, in-
including the furnishing, cost about $4,000. The site of the building was owned by Rev. David Evans, who donated one-half its value to the society. After Mr. Nicholas Rev. D. Evans was pastor two years, and Rev. Joseph T. Jones two years. His successor was Rev. David Jones, the pioneer pastor. The membership is about fifty. The Sunday-school has one hundred and thirty pupils.

**Presbyterian Church.** For some time previous to the organization of a Presbyterian church Shenandoah had been a missionary field and meetings had been held regularly-most of the time in the Lloyd street school-house-by missionaries of this denomination, through whose influence also a meeting-house was erected in 1867 and dedicated January 30th, 1868. On March 17th following the dedication the church was organized, with the following members: James Hutton, Richard Ramage, Mrs. Richard Ramage, Mrs. W. Honeyman, Mrs. William Grant, Mrs. John Cather, Mrs. John A. Lewis, Mrs. Robert Jones, Mrs. Adam Leckie, Mrs. Houseman, Miss Robenia Westwood, Miss Hannah Jones.

Their first pastor was Rev. W.E. Honeyman; he served about a year and a half, and Rev. John C. Clyde about fifteen months. March 4th, 1873, Rev. Frederick F. Kolb, the present pastor, took charge.

The church building, on White and Oak streets, was renovated in 1880, and the church property is now valued at $3,000. The membership is about 70.

The Sunday-school, organized at an early date with James G. Hutton as its first superintendent, now numbers 150 pupils.

**Calvinistic Methodist Church (Welsh).** This church was organized at the West Lloyd street school-house, by Rev. J.L. Jeffrey, in December, 1869, with about twenty constituent members. William P. Jones and Henry Davis were chosen deacons. Edward C. Evans, then a licentiate, preached the first year. In 1870 the society erected a frame church building on West street, which was dedicated in November of that year, Rev. William Roberts, D.D., now of Utica, officiating at its consecration. Rev. R.V. Griffiths became the first regular pastor in 1873, and remained three years. Rev. E.C. Evans, who had finished his theological course and been ordained, returned in 1879 and served as pastor one year. The pulpit is now unsupplied. The membership is sixteen.

**Irish Roman Catholic Church.** In July, 1870, Rev. Henry F. O'Reilly was appointed as pastor to Shenandoah, by Bishop Wood, of Philadelphia. He arrived here on the 31st of the same month, and at once commenced his labors, organizing a church and preparing for the construction of a church building.

The corner stone of the "Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary" was laid by Father O'Reilly, June 7th, 1872, and the first mass was celebrated in the new building on Sunday, December 19th of the same year. It is a substantial and imposing frame structure, 115 by 50 feet in size, of Roman Gothic style, the largest church in the town and one of the largest in the county. The blessing of the church for divine worship was performed by Bishop Wood, now Archbishop of Philadelphia, November 4th, 1873. Father O'Reilly still continued to serve as pastor. The congregation is large and the Sunday-school numbers over 500 scholars.

**German Catholic Church.** "The Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Family," located on Chestnut street, was built about 1870, there being at that time about thirty-five families belonging to that denomination in this vicinity, which formed a part of the Mahanoy City parish. The church was supplied by Fathers Baening and Maus, they alternating between the Shenandoah and Mahanoy City churches, until about 1874, when this became a separate charge, under the pastorate of Father Marus Gruetzer, who remained until February, 1878, and was followed by the present pastor, Rev. Father Dehaur. In 1879 the church building was remodeled and enlarged to accommodate the increasing membership.

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.** This congregation, which at first consisted of only fifteen families, was organized June 5th, 1870, by Rev. M. Schimpf, pastor of the Lutheran church at Mahanoy City. Soon afterward Rev. J. Gruhler, who had been a missionary to the Holy Land for nearly seventeen years, and had then just arrived from Germany, was sent here as a missionary by the synod. On the day of his arrival this congregation bought, at sheriff's sale, a lot 60 by 100 feet, upon which was a cheaply constructed building. This property had formerly been owned by the English Baptist society, then extinct. The building served for church purposes until 1873, when the present framed church, with stone basement, was built upon the same lot. The new church, which is 40 by 60 feet, and cost nearly $6,000, was dedicated January 11th, 1874. The congregation numbers nearly seventy German families, and the Sunday-school has one hundred pupils.

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.** This church was organized in April, 1872, by Rev. Charles Spurr, at Robbins Hall, where the meetings were first held. In 1873 the society commenced the erection of a church on the corner of Jardin and Oak streets, the corner stone of which was laid in August, the masonic fraternity conducting the ceremonies, led by James G. Hardy; Rev. Mr. Hurst, of Pottsville, preached the sermon. The building, which is of wood, with a high basement, was completed at a cost of about $4,000, and dedicated May 17th, 1874, Revs. Federick Bell, of Brooklyn, Charles Miles and R. Fothergill officiating.

Rev. Charles Spurr remained one year. In 1873 the church was run as a mission and supplied by the pastors of the district, since which the following ministers have served: R.C. Catherall, 1874; R. Fothergill, 1875; Charles Miles, 1876; W.H. Yarrow, 1877, 1878; Thomas Phillips, 1879; John B. Tyler, 1880; George Ball, 1881.

The Sunday-school was organized in the spring of 1874, with Alfred Wells as its first superintendent.

**St. Kasimer's Catholic Church (Polish).** The first religious services conducted in the Polish language in this part of the county were commenced in 1872, and held
in the German Catholic church in Shenandoah, by Father Audreas Stupinski. His congregation at that time numbered nearly three hundred Poles, from whom he soon after organized St. Kasimer's church. In 1874 this society erected a large building of rough boards, at a cost of about $400, in which their meeting were there-after held. Father Strupinski remained until 1877 and was followed by the present pastor, Rev. Father Joseph A. Lenarkiewicz, from Philadelphia, through whose instrumentality the church building was soon after comfortably finished inside and outside. It is now valued, with the furniture and ground, at $2,000. The congregation now numbers 600 members, including 120 families and over 200 single young men. The pastor has a parochial school connected with the church, of about twenty-five scholars, who recite to him daily.

**Trinity Reformed** church has always been and still is a mission under the care of the Lebanon Classis. It was organized in 1874, with a small membership. The same year Rev. E.D. Miller was called from Ohio and became its first pastor. Religious services being held in Robbins Hall. In 1875 the congregation, having considerable increased in numbers, built the present brick church on Lloyd street, which was first occupied in February, 1876. It cost nearly $4,000.

Mr. Miller continued his labors, with good results, until 1876, when he was called to another field. In December, 1877, Rev. J.G. Neff accepted the pastorate, which he still holds. During the summer of 1880 Mr. Neff was absent on a European trip and his place was supplied by Rev. J.A. Schultz, of Reading.

The Sunday-school was organized by Rev. E.D. Miller, September 27th, 1874, with 54 members, and was conducted in both the English and German languages. Henry Miller was chosen superintendent of the English portion and Jacob Karbel of the German portion of the school. In the summer of 1880 the school was divided on the basis of language. The two schools now number 250 pupils.

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**WILLIAM GRANT**

William Grant was born at Stevenson, Ayrshire, Scotland, on the 5th of June, 1824, and was killed by a fall of coal in the Plank Ridge colliery April 12th, 1873, in his 49th year. His parents were in indigent circumstances, and had a family of seven children, four boys and three girls, of which the subject of this notice was the eldest. As early as his ninth year William was compelled to contribute his mite toward the support of the family, and at that age worked as piecer in a cotton-mill. He afterward assisted his father in the mines, and when he attained his fourteenth year, his father having become disabled, the entire support of the family devolved upon him. The opportunities for obtaining an education among the poorer classes in Scotland fifty years of age were not even as good as they are now, and consequently William Grant received but a few months' schooling, and whatever knowledge he possessed was picked by odds and ends as chance presented; but, possessed of quick parts and an excellent memory, he rapidly culled information from all he came in contact with, and at the time of his death was not only one of the best informed men in the region in his own particular business, but was also well informed on almost every subject of importance. He was thorough and logical in his reasoning, hardly ever expressing an opinion until after conviction, the result of careful deliberation, and his judgment, by his friends and the public generally, was admitted to be excellent.

In 1847, having waited until his brothers were old enough to support the family, in his twenty-second year Mr. Grant left Scotland for Nova Scotia, and from there, after working at Pictou one winter, came to the United States, arriving in Pottsville with but little money in his pocket and without a single friend or acquaintance in the county. He worked at the old Furnace colliery on his arrival in the county, and afterward for G.H. Potts, at the Black mines, the old York Farm place; and on the unfortunate death of Hugh Stevenson, which will be remembered by many, Mr. Grant succeeded him as inside boss, his intelligence, steadiness and industrious habits having commended him to Mr. Potts as the most suitable man to fill the place. He left Mr. Potts, to superintend for the Dauphin and Susquehanna Company; and although in 1854, under the management of Mrs. Grant, the company made $35,000 on a shipment of 35,000 tons, the concern failed and he returned to work for Mr. Potts, and for six or seven weeks wrought with his brother Lewis as a partner, making the best wages in the work, and proving, as he often laughingly remarked and which the men are inclined to doubt, that a boss can do as good a day's work as a workman. But the acknowledged ability of Mr. Grant forced him again to the front, and before he had been working two months, George W. Snyder, wanting an inside boss at the Pine Forest colliery, on the recommendation of Mr. Potts, employed him.

Mr. Grant went to Mount Hope in 1855, and remained there until 1863, when he came to Shenandoah valley. When he took charge of the Pine Forest colliery it was in a dilapidated condition, the shipments having been run down and the place almost ruined by a squeeze. Under his management the place was put in good condition and the shipments increased from year to year, until it became a leading concern and one of the best paying in the county.

In 1864 the firm of Lee, Grant & Patterson was formed and, under a lease from the city of Philadelphia, an opening was made at Griscom's, the William Penn colliery; but the present owners also had a lease on the property, and a difficulty occurred, which was settled by the purchase of the lease held by Mr. Grant and his partners for a handsome bonus. The next year the Plank Ridge lease was secured and operations commenced, the firm consisting of Richard Lee, Mr. Grand and R.F. Lee, under the firm name of Lee, Grant & Co. This colliery Mr. Grant succeeded in making the most productive operation in the county, and while superintending improvements, to still further increase its productiveness, met his sad death.
At the time of his death he was president of the Shenandoah Valley Bank, the school board, the Catawissa Valley Agricultural Society and the Citizens' Building and Loan Association, and treasurer of the Shenandoah Water and Gas Company. He was also a member of Ivanhoe Commandery of the Knights of Templar; was the first master of Shenandoah Lodge, No. 511, and was greatly interested in the masonic order. He was a charter member of Shenandoah Lodge, No. 591, I.O.O.F., and a member of Tancred Conclave, No. 19, S.P.K.

He was enterprising and public spirited to a fault, and his means were liberally used in aid of every undertaking that promised to improve the borough. He was a large property owner there, and was building one of the finest business blocks intown at the time of his death.

As an employer, at the head of the largest work in the neighborhood, he was exceptionally popular, and Plank Ridge under his management was the steadiest work in the county. Eleven and one-half months per year were generally made, and the business of the borough was consequently greatly assisted. The regularity of the work and the fairness with which the men were treated made it an object to get a job at the place, and no matter how scarce hands were there were always enough and to spare at the Plank Ridge shaft.

Mr. Grant was fond of society, and had many warm friends. He was liberal and charitable, always willing to help those who deserved and needed assistance; and his habit of "looking at all men level," which caused him to be as pleasant and agreeable to the poor and lowly as to the rich and grand, made all love and respect him.

He contributed generously toward religious objects and the support of the church, and was a regular attendant at services. Domestic in his tastes, he was a devoted husband and father, an upon his family his loss fell with especial severity.

WEST PENN TOWNSHIP

West Penn is the largest township in Schuylkill County. It is one of the nine original ones into which Schuylkill county was divided in 1811. Its area has since been somewhat reduced by the erection of contiguous townships. Rahn township was formed entirely from its territory in 1860.

In 1828 West Penn contained 262 taxable inhabitants; in 1833, 324; in 1835, 286; in 1842, 324, and in 1849, 512. The population in 1880 was 2,210.

The first voting place was in the southeastern part, where all of the early officers were elected, and the early township business was transacted. In 1838 the place of elections was changed, as a matter of convenience, to a point nearer the center of the township, now known as West Penn.

The earliest justice of the peace, of whom any record exists, whose jurisdiction extended over the present limits of West Penn township, was one Squire Krum, appointed by the governor in 1794. that he was a resident of the township is evident from the fact that he served as arbiter in the affairs of the residents until 1818, seven years after the erection of Schuylkill county. Christian Halterman was next appointed, and served until 1832, when he was succeeded by Gideon Whetstone and Jonathan Kistler. Since 1840 justices of the peace have been elected. The first chosen by a majority of the voters of the township was Jacob Longacre, that year. C. Friedman was elected in 1860, and was succeeded by R.S. Heintzelman in 1868. The latter, and Jacob S. Longacre, who succeeded Jonathan Kistler in 1879, are the present incumbents of the office.

INDIAN WARFARE

Early in the latter half of the last century the Indians were very troublesome to those who attempted to establish homes in West Penn and elsewhere north of the Blue mountain. At one time these aggressions were so effective as to drive the whites south of the mountain, forcing them to abandon such improvements as they had been enabled to make.

Rendered desperate by this movement, the banished whites determined on having revenge on the red invaders, or "yellow boys," as the Indians were sometimes called; and a squad of men was organized, who set out to cross the mountain for the purpose of attacking and dispersing the savages in their camp on the opposite side. As the little patriot band gained the summit of the mountain the gun of one of their number was accidently discharged. That the report could be heard by the Indians below they could not reasonable have doubted, and nothing ought to have appeared more certain to then than that their foes would, warned of their approach, prepare to give them an undesiriable reception. Whether they were foolhardy or unskilled in Indian warfare it is impossible to determine at a date so remote, but tradition has it that they rashly descended the mountain, and unexpectedly found themselves ambushed by the redskins, each of whom aimed at his man; and before they had fairly realized their desperate strait all of the pioneers were killed except one, who escaped to tell the story of the massacre.

In 1881 a family name Gilbert ventured back north of the mountain, settling in Lizard creek valley. They were soon followed by the Ohl and Steigerwalt families.
and others. These people were for some years obliged to exercise constant vigilance, and take every precaution against exposing themselves to attacks by Indians or incurring the enmity of the latter. While working in their fields, or "patches," as their cultivated ground came to be called, with their ox-teams, these pioneers often found it necessary to keep one or two men on guard, and whenever the Indians visited their cabins, which they frequently did, they were conciliated by a proffer of the best the family could afford in the way of food and hospitality.

That was the sort of life the returning settlers were obliged to lead for several years, but their danger was gradually lessened, during the period of the Revolutionary war, by the influx of settlers, whose increasing numbers gave constantly increasing security.

In various localities in the township it has been related that pioneer residents, now long since dead, found evidences of the former occupancy of the territory by Indians. Small mounds were for years visible in places. At times arrowheads, tomahawks, stone hammers and other weapons and implements of savage life were found. In the southern part of the township were traces of a former Indian village and place of burial.

A story has been handed down to the present residents of the township of the existence, in the early days, of an old Indian who was known as "the white man's friend," who often asserted that the Blue mountain in West Penn was the richest spot in mineral deposits in the world; but he never stated just what kind of precious metal it contained, nor exactly where the miner would be rewarded for his labor, claiming that he and others of his race had each bound himself to keep the secret from all whites.

### SETTLEMENT AND PIONEER LIFE

The exact date of the first settlement by white people within the present borders of West Penn township cannot now be ascertained. It is supposed, however, that Henry Ohl and family, who came about 1760, were the first to locate in that section. They chose a home in the valley of Lizard creek, where good water was accessible. There Mr. Ohl worked "government land," as the territory was called under the Penn ownership, ten or twelve years, when he was enabled to buy it and own it in fee simple. He was a bold man and a good marksman-one well calculated to cope with the perils of border life.

Probably the Steigerwalt family came next. For a couple of days they camped under a large oak tree until they could erect a primitive log cabin. The property on which they located was owned by the family until 1867, when it passed to the ownership of Adam Andrew. The Gilbert family came not long afterward.

The early improvements of these pioneers (all of whom were from Northampton county) were retarded by Indian depredations for a time. During the progress of the Revolution many families from south of the mountain sought homes north of it, and in the rapid accession of settlers thus caused West Penn shared liberally. To trace the settlement of the region since embraced in the township limits would be at once a difficult and a comparatively useless task. Subsequent progress is sufficiently outlined in the pages devoted to the development of various local, agricultural, industrial and religious interests.

The first log huts—for they were little else—were constructed in the simplest manner, the builders having no tools except the axe and the auger. They did not differ materially from the pioneer domiciles of other sections, except that the constant danger of Indian attacks rendered necessary smaller and higher windows than common, thus making it difficult for a foe to either look or shoot through them.

The first grain sown in the township was rye; potatoes and corn were the first crops planted. The early crops were raised on the south sides of the hills, where the soil is slightly gravelly and the sun could do its part in bringing them to maturity. A few trees of the first orchard, planted by the Ohls, are still to be seen. Cows, oxen and swine were early brought from south of the Blue mountain. All of the early farming was done with the aid of cattle. The first settlers brought no horses. Of course subsistence was only to be had by hard and ill requited toil on new ground, but the pioneer was aided in his efforts to live while he improved the land by the presence of game and fish in plentiful supply. Of the former venison was probably the kind most easily to be obtained.

In time sheep were brought into the township, and flax was grown. Thus were supplied materials for clothing, which the women were kept busy much of the time in spinning, weaving and making into wearing apparel.

It was not until 1807 that a story-and-a-half brick house, which is yet standing, was built by a man named Zehner. This must have been conspicuous in the township, among its wooden neighbors, for years. Whether the brick of which it was constructed were home-made or imported has not been stated. It is probably, however, that they were manufactured by Zehner, or some enterprising townsman, as their importation from abroad would have been attended with much trouble and expense.

The early roads were poor and difficult to traverse. They were constructed over the most direct courses, up and down hills, with reference to facility of ascent and descent. In time these defects were remedied, either as the result of experience or at the suggestion of more ingenious new comers. The roads were for years obstructed by stumps and rocks, and all streams were crossed by fordways until 1820, when the first bridge was built.

### TRADE AND MANUFACTURE—LANDLORDS AND DOCTORS

The first merchant in West Penn was Tobias Wehr, who erected and opened a store in Lizard Creek valley as early as 1780, where Jacob Mantz now trades. The second was Jacob Mantz, sen., who began business in 1807, on the Mahoning, at Mantzille, where William
Mantz is located now. Steigerwalt's store, at Lizard creek, was the third. It was opened in 1832. The property is now owned by Adam Andrew. Marids Forerider, a Jew, traded in the township a few years, beginning in 1837. Peter Seiberling began a mercantile enterprise in North Penn in 1842, but did not long continue in business. Samuel Kepner was also for a time a storekeeper.

Tobias Wehr was also the first tavern keeper, opening his house to the public in 1790. This stand is now occupied by Jacob Mantz, jr. Jacob Manta, sen., began tavern keeping in 1807 in Mahoning valley, where William Mantz now keeps open house. Samuel Kepner threw open his house to the public in 1840, at Kepnersville, where a temperance house is now kept. The public house now kept by F.L. Leiby & Co. was opened by Forerider in 1837. The hotel of Peter Seiberling was the next in date of opening. The hotel of David Hill was opened in 1867.

Dr. Dollinger was the first physician who took up his residence in the township. He came in 1830 and was succeeded by Dr. Keiser, who remained until 1841. Dr. Marr came next and remained till 1847. Dr. E. Sollday succeeded him, and was succeeded by Dr. Benjamin Sollday in 1855. Dr. J.L. Kline began practice in the township in 1857 and continued till 1870. Dr. Q.J. and J.H. Kistler are the present local practitioners.

The first grist-mill in West Penn was built on Lizard creek, in 1812, by Michael Ohl. It is now owned by D.H. Kistler. A man named Zehner erected the second, on the Little Schuylkill river, in 1820, and it is now the property of David Zehner. The mill on Lizard creek now owned by John Bolich was built by a man named Langenberger, in 1827. Another mill on Lizard creek was erected in 1830 by one Stisse. The Hopples mill, in Mahanoy valley, was built in 1831. Michael Hopples erected another in 1835.

The tannery now owned by Kistler & Longacre, in Lizard creek valley, was built by Charles Long in 1822, and was afterward for some time the property of David Kistler. The tannery now owned by A. Fridirici was built by Charles Fridirici in 1836. R.F. Leiby, in 1839, built a tannery, which has now disappeared. The establishment of Daniel Kistler was built in 1859.

The machine shop of Snyder & Son was built in 1869, by Elias Snyder, for the manufacture of threshing machines. A foundry was attached. The firm now manufacture chilled plows, and do a large business in the sale of sewing machines.

A cotton and cloth factory, now idle, was put in operation by H.D. Steigerwalt in 1860. In various localities are to be found the usual blacksmith and wagon shops.

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

The earliest schools in West Penn were taught by Germans, in the German language, in private houses, and were supported by the contributions of the neighborhoods in which they were located. Thus the inhabitants of the township were taught, and many families employ the German tongue, to the exclusion of the English, at the present day. The next school board was composed of men of experience and good judgment. D.A. Gerder was president and Jacob S. Longacre secretary. Joseph Osenbach, David Hopples and John Rubrecht were also members. Longacre was the only member of the new board who had been identified with the old one. During the next two

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years all necessary school-houses were built and paid for. The township now furnishes more teachers than are required to teach its schools. The expense of erecting and equipping the fifteen school-houses was $9,400.

CHURCH HISTORY

Zion's Church. - The best known church edifice in the township is that familiarly known as Zion's church, owned in common by the Evangelical Lutheran and Reformed congregations. The original edifice on its site was built of logs, 30 by 40 feet, and a story and a half high, in 1790.

The present structure was erected in 1846. It is a substantial stone building, frescoed within, and it has a large organ and a clock. It cost about $6,000.

The present membership of Zion's church is 952. Rev. Messrs. Miller and Zuling were pastors until 1872, the latter serving fifty-two years. They were of the Reformed faith. The first Evangelical Lutheran preacher who served Zion's church, of whom there is any record, was Rev. E.A. Baur. His successor was the present Lutheran pastor, Rev. W.H. Strause. Rev. Mr. Bartholomew is the present Reformed pastor.

St. John's Church was built in 1838, by the Evangelical Lutherans and adherents of the Reformed faith in the Mahoning valley and contiguous territory, at a cost of $2,700.

The Evangelical Lutheran pastors have been Rev. Messrs. Graeff, Helfrick, A.E. Bauer, 1842-70, and Bartholomew, at present in charge. The present Reformed pastor is Rev. W.H. Strause. His predecessor up to 1877 was Rev. Mr. Isenberg. The membership of this church is 400.

Methodist Churches. - There are in the township several societies of the Methodist church, which have four places of worship. The worship at some of them is irregular, and the classes are some of them not regularly organized.

Sunday-schools. - The first Sunday-school in the township was organized in the Lizard Creek valley, by Mr. Kistler and others, in 1840.

During the summer months sixteen Sunday-schools are taught in the township; the aggregate number of scholars in attendance being 785.

ALFRED FRIDIRICI

This gentleman was born in Lynn township, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, November 25th, 1829, the eldest child of Charles S. and Eve Margaret (Roeder) Fridirici.

His grandfather, Solomon Fridirici, emigrated from Germany when a young man, and settled in the town of Mifflin, Susquehanna county. He married Elizabeth Oswald. The issue of this marriage were three sons and one daughter, viz.: Amos and Jonas, twins, Charles S. and Sally Ann. Jonas is the only child living (1881). Solomon Fridirici was a jeweler by trade.

Charles S., father of Alfred Fridirici, was a tanner, learning his trade in the township of Heidelberg, Lehigh county. After his marriage he moved to Lynn township, where he rented and carried on a tannery for twelve years. In April, 1845, he moved to West Penn township, Schuylkill county, where he purchased a farm and built and carried on a tannery.

His children by his first wife were: Alfred; Thomas Franklin, born February 26th, 1831; Sally Ann, born July 13th, 1833; Mary Ann, born December 19th, 1834; Wallace, born June 30th, 1838; Adaline, born November 1st, 1840; Jannette, born October 26th, 1844. All are living except Thomas Franklin, who died April 1st, 1831, and Sally Ann, who died November 1st, 1855.

Mr. Fridirici's wife died May 1st, 1858, and he married for his second wife, Presida, widow of Solomon Guldner. He died February 25th, 1876. His second wife died April 10th, 1879.

Alfred Fridirici passed his childhood at home in Lynn, receiving only a common school education. After the family had moved to West Penn township, he worked in his father's tannery and on the farm. In 1859 his father failed in business, and, through the assistance of John D. Zehner, he bid in at sheriff's sale the farm and tannery, since which time he has owned and carried them on. In 1878 he became temporarily embarrassed in business, and received from his creditors an extension of time, and he has been enabled to meet his obligations to their full satisfaction.

In politics Mr. Fridirici is a Democrat. He has been town assessor and tax collector.

He has been a member of Zion's Lutheran church in West Penn since 1845; has been its elder and treasurer, and one of its most liberal supporters. He has always commanded, in the highest measure, the respect and esteem of his neighbors, and the ready extension offered him when financially embarrassed fully attests the confidence in which he is held by the business community.

He married Matilda, daughter of Timothy Knepper. Mrs. F. was born in the town of Windsor, Berks county, Pa., April 2nd, 1840. They have had two children: Charles Milton, who was born May 15th, 1860, and died December 17th, 1866; and Ulysses Grant, born December 1st, 1865.
The following historical sketches of important institutions of Shenandoah were received by the publishers too late for insertion in the history of that borough:

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

The first step toward the advancement of education in Shenandoah was the erection of a two-story frame school house on Lloyd street by the Mahanoy township authorities in 1864. This building when completed contained one room on each floor, and two teachers were employed. In 1866 educational affairs were vested in a borough school board. In 1867 the "brown school house" was purchased from the township by the borough school authorities; the two rooms were divided into four and four teachers were employed. In 1868 another change was made in the rooms and five teachers, one male and four females, were secured. In 1869 an additional teacher was employed, and in 1870 a store-room was rented and fitted up for a school-room, and the first working boys' school was organized. In 1871 eight teachers were employed. The over-crowded condition of the schools now rendered it apparent that a new building was necessary to accommodate the pupils; accordingly in 1872 a three-story brick building, having six room, was erected on the corner of West and Center streets. This was the second school building in the borough and was called the high school building, though no room was fitted up with a view to such a department. In 1873 a change of principal occurred and the number of schools was increased to thirteen. Attempts had occasionally been made to grade the schools, but as yet with little success, consequently discipline and instructions were very defective. From the organization of the schools in 1864 until the close of the term in June, 1874, the schools were but poorly managed.

In 1874 the school board elected as a district superintendent, who should spend his whole time in the discharge of the duties of his office, Prof. G.W. Bartch, B.S., then of Danville, Pa. His first business was to grade and organize the schools. The buildings were repaired, and the school rooms were properly fitted up and furnished. Fifteen teachers, including the principal of the high school, J.C. Purcell, were selected, and afterward two more were added to take charge of night schools for the benefit of the working boys. Some of the most essential branches, which had been entirely neglected, were introduced, and the first course of study for all the schools was adopted.

Prof. Bartch was elected borough superintendent on the first Tuesday of May, 1875, and the borough of Shenandoah became an independent school district. Among those who aided, encouraged and unflinchingly supported the superintendent in every effort to improve the schools in those dark days were Jonathan Wasley, Thomas J. Foster, John Cather, Hon. J.B. McCamant, Captain G.W. Johnson, J.H. Mears and William Krick.

In consequence of the rapidly increasing number of pupils another three story brick building was begun on White street in 1874, which was completed and occupied for school purposes the following year, when nineteen teachers were employed for graded schools, one for a mixed school and two for night schools. During this year also the borough was divided into five wards, thus increasing the number of school directors from six to fifteen. The course of study as well as the whole system was carefully revised and many improvements were added. In 1876 twenty competent teachers were selected for the graded schools and one for the mixed school. A local teacher's institute was established, which convened semi-monthly and which has since become permanent by the regulations of the board.

The high school building was erected on Main street, North, during the year 1879. It cost, when completed, including furniture and steam apparatus for heating, but not including grounds, nearly $10,000.

The school system, began here in 1874, has advanced to a high state of excellence. The course of study adopted is practical and comprehensive, and those who complete it are well prepared for business life, or for college, or to enter the senior class at any of the State normal schools in twenty-one weeks (the time prescribed by law) previous to graduation. Gymnastics forms an important branch in every department of the school. The first class to complete the full course graduated in 1879.

G.W. Bartch, M.S., has been superintendent since September, 1874. He is the originator of the present system and course of instruction, and merits the renown
which he has gained throughout the State as an educator.

Prof. Theodore R. Johnson has been principal of the high school since September, 1876. Miss Agnes Buckingham, M.S., is first assistant, and Miss Nora Robbins, M.E., is second assistant of the high school.

The number of teachers employed for the year ending June 1st, 1881, was twenty-eight. The total number of school children within the borough is at present about 2,400. The number enrolled in each department for the year ending June 1st, 1881, were as follows: In the high school, 80; in the grammar department, 323; in the primary department, 1,700.

Captain G.W. Johnson was president of the school board from 1874 until 1880, and was succeeded by John Cather, the present incumbent. The present board of directors consists of John Cather, John G. Davis, William Krick, William Philips, S.G.M. Hollopeter, P.J. Ferguson, Josiah W. Johnson, Jacob Williams, M.P. Fowler, Charles Hooks, G.W. Johnson, Jasper Wylam, John W. McCarty, M.P. Whitaker and J.C. Purcell.

THE MINING HERALD

The Shenandoah Herald was established as a weekly on the 28th of May, 1870, by Thomas J. Foster and Henry C. Boyer. The borough of Shenandoah then contained by 2,500 people, and the paper has been improved and its influence and circulation have increased as the town has grown. On the 21st of August, 1875, a daily edition was issued, which was continued until the 16th of November, 1878. The Evening Herald, which was the title of the daily edition, was commenced at the time when murders and outrages were being committed throughout the region by the "Mollie Maguires." this paper was the first to take a bold and outspoken stand against the murderers and demand their punishment. The Herald continued the fight until the society was exposed and broken up, and those who were guilty among its members either punished or driven from the coal region. The Herald is now published as the Mining Herald, by the Mining Herald Company, limited. It devotes special attention to the sciences as applied to coal mining, to improvements in mine machinery, etc., and it circulates in all sections of the country where coal is mined. The editorial stall consists of Thomas J. Foster, Joseph C. Powell and Herbert W. Gable. Mr. Henry C. Boyer still maintains his connection with the paper, and is president of the company which publishes it.

SECRET SOCIETIES

"Llanerch yr. Ewig," No. 41, District A of the American Order of Ivorites.-This Welsh beneficiary society was organized December 20th, 1875, with thirty or more charter members. The first officers were: president, John T. Thomas; vice-president, Owen Pritchard; past president, John Hughes, of St. Clair Lodge; treasurer, William J. Pritchard; secretary, Edward Thomas; steward, Thomas L. Williams; conductor, John Lewis; guard, Thomas Parry.

The successive presiding officers have been: Isaac Jarvis, Thomas L. Williams, John J. Phillips, Jonathan Rodgers, John H. Evans, Thomas Parry, William H. George, Daniel T. Davis, Edward Thomas and Jonathan Pritchard. The society meets every Friday night at Egan's Hall. This organization is now very prosperous. The business is conducted in the Welsh language, though its membership is not confined exclusively to the Welsh. The weekly contributions are 12 1/2 cents. Sick benefits, $5 per week; funeral benefits for a brother, $100, and for a brother's wife, $50.

Sons of America.-Shenandoah Commandery, No. 14, Master Americans, was organized in Ferguson's Hall, September 29th, 1874, by P.N. President, J.K. Helms, of Schuylkill Haven, with about thirty charter members. The first officers were: Thomas F. Hoffman, commander; J.R. Miller, lieutenant commander; A.A. Greenawald, scribe; J.H. Babb, purser; H.C. Boyer, guard; Charles Fehr, inspector. The successive commanders have been: Charles M. Wasley, John R. Miller, G.W. Barnhart, D.O. Thomas, J.C. Glover, W.H. Simms and Francis Templin. The present membership is about seventy. Present officers: F. Templin, commander; J.G. Thomas, lieutenant-commander; N.W. Heiser, scribe; J.R. Robb, Purser; B.J. Yose, inspector; W. Christian, guard.

EBENEZER CHURCH OF THE EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION

A class of this denomination was organized in Shenandoah in 1870, as a branch of the Mahanoy City church, and was supplied by the minister from the latter place. In the spring of 1873 it was set off as a separate mission and Rev. H.R. Yost was stationed here as pastor. The association at once commenced the erection of a church, on the corner of Oak and West streets, which was completed and occupied the same year. The first trustees were William Snyder, C.W. Dengler, Eli Smith and Gotlieb Gessler. Mr. Yost remained three years, and was followed in succession by Revs. Augustus Gregor, E.J. Miller and J.M. Rinker. The association now numbers about one hundred members.

SHENANDOAH WATER AND GAS COMPANY

This company was incorporated in the spring of 1870, with a capital of $50,000 divided into 5,000 shares. Its first officers were: George A. Herrign, president; George L. Reagan, secretary; M.Aartin Delaney, treasurer. The first directors were William Grant, George G. Jacoby, Joseph Boehn, Orlando P. Hart, James G. Hutton and Jonathan Wasley. George A. Herrign was superintendent until the spring of 1876, and Stephen D. Hess has since served. The town is well supplied with pure spring water brought from Kehley Run and Locust Mountain.

THE SHENANDOAH GAS LIGHT COMPANY

was incorporated June 4th, 1874, with a capital of $25,000, divided into $10 shares. The first officers were: Jonathan Wasley, president; Thomas J. Foster, secretary; Henry Heiser, treasurer. The works were at once constructed, pipes were laid, and the town was first lighted
by gas December 25th, 1874. George A. Herring, the first superintendent, was followed by Henry Heiser in 1876, and he by N.W. Heiser, in 1880. The present (1881) officers are: G.L. Reagan, president; N.W. Heiser, secretary and superintendent; William Kimmell, treasurer. John Bernhart has had charge of the works and repairs from the first.

MALACHI C. WATSON

Malachi C. Watson, son of Michael and Bridget Watson, was born in Pottsville, March 31st, 1845. His parents were natives of Athlone, County Roscommon, Ireland, and emigrated in 1844, first locating in Pottsville. A year or two later the family removed to Valley Furnace, near New Philadelphia, where the father died in 1848, leaving two sons, Malachi and James. The latter, born August 29th, 1846, was killed September 14th, 1861, while attempting to board a moving coal train at Glen Carbon. The mother subsequently married Martin Delaney, now of Shenandoah, and soon after removed to Port Griffith, Luzerne county, but after a short residence there returned to Schuylkill county.

Malachi remained with his mother until nearly eighteen years of age, then engaged with his uncle, Michael Higgins, as a boatman, and during the war was employed in transporting government supplies by boat from Philadelphia to Washington and Alexandria. After following this occupation nearly a year he returned to Schuylkill county, and in February, 1864, came to Shenandoah, then in its infancy, and was for five years engaged in mining. He was married to Ann Monaghan, daughter of Bryan and Margaret Monaghan, of Ashland, September 30th, 1867. In the spring of 1869 he removed to Ashland, and was in trade there six years. In 1872 he purchased a lot on Main street, in Shenandoah, and the same year built his present business block. In the spring of 1875 he returned to Shenandoah, where he still resides, engaged in the wholesale liquor trade and acting as agent for several large brewing establishments. He is also proprietor of one of the finest livery establishments in Schuylkill county, and carries on the saddlery and harness business. In 1876, inspired with a desire to see the birthplace of his parents, he sailed to Ireland, visited to Athlone and many other places in that country and England, and returned the same year. He is a successful business man, prompt and just in all his dealings, kind and charitable in his nature, and genial in his disposition.
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Note: This is an “Everyname Index” which I downloaded with the text files that make up this book. It was transcribed by R. Steffey in January of 1998 - a monumental feat and a large investment of time. Thanks!

It has a separate line for each mention, making it lengthy, but copying and pasting was the only way I could prepare it because of the time involved. It is also not a typical Acrobat index in that the pages referenced are not clickable; you have to go to the referenced page manually. Sorry, but again, it would have been ridiculously time-consuming to redo the whole thing. - P.W.
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