

**NOTES CONCERNING THE FISHER FAMILY**  
**of**  
**Fishing Creek Valley, Newberry and Fairview Townships**  
**York County, Pennsylvania**

**Prepared by**  
**Judge Donald F. Lybarger**  
**Court House,**  
**Cleveland, Ohio**

**1966**

**From**  
**Notes Prepared Originally by his Uncle William Seward Fisher**  
**of**  
**Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1907, and**  
**From Pennsylvania Archives, county histories and other sources.**



DESCENDANTS OF

GOTLIEB FISHER + URSULA HOFFSTODT

C. 1730 - 1792

DAVID FISHER + BARBARA ROOP

1776 - 1826

1778 - 1849

DAVID FISHER, 2nd + MARY MILLER

1803 - 1854

1808 -

WILLIAM MILLER FISHER + ANNA MARIA SHULER

1831 - 1870

1834 - 1902

ALBERT + JENNIE + EDWARD + OSCAR      WILLIAM + MARY EMMA + CURTIS + MARGARET +  
MARY CALLANDER LANDIS BRATTEN LAURA MILLER      FANNIE WILHELM MARTIN THOMAS LILLIE BANKS JESSE LYBARGER

1- EDWIN

1- EDWIN JR.

2- ROBERT

2- ANNA

3- ALBERT EARL

1- ALBERT

4- NORMAN

1- HELEN

2- ROBERT

3- RUTH

4- ESTHER

1- DONALD

2- FLORENCE

(McCLURE)

1- ROBERT

2- WILLIAM

1- SEWARD

2- ETHEL

3- MARY EMMA

(GIFFORD)

1- DOROTHY

(LENTE)

2- RICHARD

3- DONALD

1- WILLIAM

2- MARGARET

1- DONALD

1- CORNELIA

2- VIRGINIA

3- LEE

4- LEONARD

2- MILDRED

(WILDER)

1- JAMES

2- RICHARD



## THE FISHER FAMILY

Among the many families which migrated from the Palatinate early in the eighteenth century was the Fisher family. It is not definitely known who were the parents of Gotlieb Fisher of Newberry township, York County, the one from whom the family traces its descent. However the list of immigrants contained in Strassburger's "Pennsylvania German Pioneers" (1934) contains the names of quite a few Fishers who might have been related to Gotlieb.

Apparently the first one by that name to arrive in Pennsylvania was Jacob Fisher who took the oath of allegiance October 2, 1727. John Michael Fisher, aged 30, arrived on the ship "Joyce" on November 30, 1730. John and Ann Fisher, and a child named Fleny, came on the ship "Samuel" August 16, 1731. Henry and Maria Fisher (both ages 28 years, and their child Kathrana (aged 4) came on the ship "Samuel" August 11, 1732.

John Henry Fisher (aged 38), Anna Lydia (aged 36), William Fisher (aged 26) and three children, Anna Maria (aged 11), Susanna (aged 3), Hans Jacob (aged 2), arrived on the ship "Samuel" August 17, 1733. Joahnn Nicholas Fisher came on the ship "William" October 31, 1737.

These are the names of persons by the name of Fisher who landed at Philadelphia between 1727 and 1737. Numerous other families of the same name came later. No where on the lists does the name Gotlieb Fisher appear. It may be concluded therefore that he was not the original immigrant but was perhaps the son of the Fisher who came first.

The facts concerning the Fisher family have been gathered by William S. Fisher, late of Harrisburg, Pa., and from his notes the following data as to Gotlieb Fisher and his descendants are taken.

The spelling of the name "Fisher" on the early records is "Fischer". However the form generally used for the past hundred years or more has been "Fisher".

#### Gotlieb Fisher

Gotlieb Fisher was born about 1730-40. He first appears upon official records in York County, Pa. where on May 3, 1767 he purchased from John Herr 142 3/4 acres of land in Newberry township, York County, Pa. for the sum of 272 pounds and 8 pence. The mortgage deed in the transaction was cancelled by full payment of the amount due October 30, 1770.

Gotlieb Fisher was a miller by occupation and conducted this business in connection with that of farming.

It is family tradition that during the Revolutionary War Gotlieb Fisher was engaged in hauling food supplies for the use of the army. A search of Pennsylvania archives reveals his record of military service in the York County Militia during the Revolution.

Gotlieb Fisher married Ursula Hoffstodt, a daughter of Peter Hoffstodt, Sr. The date of the marriage is uncertain. It is uncertain where the Hoffstodt family originally lived. However the family of a Peter Hoffstodt is found in Frederick Township, Philadelphia County, Pa. between 1779 and 1783. (Pa. Archives 3rd series, Vol. 14, pages 586, etc.)

The only Hoffstodt name listed in "Pennsylvania German Pioneers" is that of Johann Peter Hoffstatt who came on the ship "Hero" which reached Philadelphia October 27, 1764.

From 1767 to 1783 Gotlieb Fisher and his family lived on the tract of land in Fishing Creek Valley which even today is occupied by one of his descendants. On it either he or his son David erected a large stone house which is still occupied by Fisher descendants. November 12, 1783 Gotlieb purchased 233 acres of land from David Davis.

Gotlieb died in 1792. The date of his wife's death is uncertain, but final settlement of the widow's dowry was made in 1835. They were buried on a small plot devoted to burial purposes a short distance from his dwelling.

The children of Ursula Hoffstodt and Gotlieb Fisher  
were:

- |                         |                              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. David Fischer        | born 1776, - M. Barbara Roop |
| 2. Catherine Fischer    | " 1778(?) " Joseph Fetrow    |
| 3. Barbara Fischer      | " 1780 " Peter Roop          |
| 4. Hester Fischer       | " 1783 " Christopher Kerr    |
| 5. Christina Fischer    | " 1785 " John Roop           |
| 6. Samuel Fischer       | " 1787 " Barbara Sutton      |
| 7. Gotlieb Fischer, Jr. | " 1790 " Abigail Oren        |

Gotlieb Fisher served during the Revolutionary War as a Private in the 7th Class, Second (Captain John Rankin) Company, Second Battalion, York County, Pennsylvania Militia according to a return dated April 11, 1778, and one dated April 17, 1778.<sup>1</sup> He probably remained a member of this unit when (in 1780) it became the Fifth (Captain Thomas Gould) Company, Third Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

The 7th Class, in which Gotlieb Fisher served, rendered the following duties: (1) January 5, 1778 between the Schuylkill and the Delaware; (2) October 13, 1779 ordered to Trenton; (3) December 7, 1781 to February 7, 1782 at Camp Security in York County guarding prisoners of war.<sup>3</sup> Those serving in the class and company above mentioned received "pay due for service in militia".<sup>4</sup>

The published records of the men serving from York County, Pennsylvania during the Revolution are inadequate and incomplete. Much of the above data has been supplied by the Historical Society of York County, York, Pennsylvania, from original manuscripts in its possession.

The name Gotlieb is spelt on the records in a number of different ways, namely as "Gadlove" and "Gotlip". The last name is sometimes spelled "Fischer".

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<sup>1</sup>Blair, 133 Manuscript of the Historical Society of York County-H.J. Young "York County, Pennsylvania, in the American Revolution; a Source Book" Black Series, pp. 202, 476.

<sup>2</sup>Pennsylvania Archives, 3rd series, Vol. VII, p. 82.

<sup>3</sup>Historical Society of York County ms. mentioned in 1 above,

<sup>4</sup>Pennsylvania Archives, 3rd series, Vol. VII, pp. 69-71.

#### David Fisher

David Fisher, son of Ursula Hoffstodt and Gotlieb Fisher, was born in 1776 and died December 14, 1826. His wife Barbara Roop was born in 1778 and died November 4, 1849.

Jacob Roop (3rd), father of Barbara Roop who married David Fisher, was a resident of Swatara Township Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. He was born July 22, 1740 and died March 22, 1826. His wife was Ada Poorman (Daughter of Stephen Poorman who served in the Revolution) (Born March

20, 1754; died January 2, 1834). Jacob Roop was a son of Jacob (2nd) (Born July 21, 1720; died July 30, 1793); and a grandson of Jacob Roop (1st) of Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. (See: Egel's Notes and Queries, Vol. 1, 3rd series).

Among the list of immigrants there are two which bear the name Jacob Roop. One arrived on the ship "Phoenix" September 15, 1749 and the other on the ship "Jacob", October 2, 1749.

Some time prior to the Revolutionary War, Jacob Roop (3rd) settled in what was then Paxton Township, Lancaster County. He is listed on the tax returns of 1772, 1779, and 1782 as owning land there. (See: Pennsylvania Archives, 3rd series, Vol. 17, pp. 317, 570, 737.) This land was later included in Swatara Township of Dauphin County, after the county was created March 4, 1785.

During the Revolutionary War Jacob Roop (3rd) saw service as follows:

(1) 1778 - As a private in Capt. James Collier's Company, 2nd class, 4th Battalion of Lancaster County Militia which was commanded by Col. Robert Etter. Roop's name appears on a roster dated December 26, 1778. (Pa. Ar. 5th Series, Vol. 7, pages 373, 378.)

(2) In 1779 Roop served in the same company which was then commanded by Capt. Henry McKinney. (See return of May 20, 1779, Pa. Ar. 5th series, Vol. 7, page 390.)

The 4th Battalion of Lancaster County Militia was organized March 13, 1776 under Col. James Burd. Capt. Collier's company served "tower duty" at Fort Muncey, Northumberland County, Pa.

(3) In 1782 Roop served in the company of Capt. Samuel Cochran, 6th Company, 10th Battalion Lancaster County Militia. Capt. Cochran was also a resident and land owner of Paxton Township (Pa. Ar. 3rd series, Vol. 17, page 733.) The battalion was under Col. Robert Elder and Major John Gilchrist. (Pa. Ar. 5th series, Vol. 7, pages 995, 1006, 1034, 1040.) During 1782 it was engaged in guarding British prisoners at Lancaster.

On the returns of the first census, taken in 1790, appear the names of Jacob Roop Sr. (2nd) and Jacob Roop Jr. (3rd) as residents of Dauphin County, Pa. (See Heads of Families in 1790, page 90.)

From 1800 to 1825 David Fisher was engaged in the business of wagoning as it was termed in those days. His team was reputed to have been one of the finest on the road. It was his business to haul produce from York County to Philadelphia and Baltimore markets.

The children of Barbara Roop and David Fisher were:

1. Jacob Fisher      b. Nov. 24, 1799, d. Nov. 13, 1876.
2. John Fisher      b. Feb. 20, 1801, d. Feb. 23, 1866.
3. David Fisher      b. Jan. 23, 1803, d. May 19, 1884.
4. Samuel Fisher    b. Sep. 27, 1804, d. Apr. 18, 1891.
5. Nancy Fisher      b. May 3, 1805, d. Dec. 15, 1893.
6. Christian Fisher b.                      1808,                      1808.
7. Mary Fisher      b. Oct. 17, 1809, d. Apr. 9, 1853.
8. Elizabeth Fisher b. Mar. 14, 1811, d. Jan. 19, 1887.
9. Barbara Fisher    b. June 15, 1813, d. Feb. 12, 1836.
10. Abraham Fisher    b. Jan. 24, 1815, d. Dec. 15, 1848.
11. Daniel Fisher     b. Jan. 10, 1817, d. July 27, 1896.

David Fisher (2nd)

David Fisher, son of Barbara Roop and David Fisher was born January 23, 1803 in Fishing Creek Valley and died May 19, 1884. On February 15, 1827 he married Mary Miller who was born April 4, 1808, the daughter of Henry Miller. After his marriage he bought the farm on which the Salem Church was subsequently erected. He was instrumental in the building of this church in 1844 and contributed the land on which it stands. His wife, Mary Miller was accidentally killed by a bull on their farm. On November 28, 1852 David Fisher (2nd) married Mary Neiman who was born January 2, 1811 and died March 21, 1885. All of the children are by his first marriage to Mary Miller. They were:

- |     |                  |                  |                     |
|-----|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1.  | Martin Fisher    | b. Feb. 18, 1829 | m. Leah Spangler    |
| 2.  | Lydia A. Fisher  | b. June 17, 1830 | m. Napolian Keester |
| 3.  | William M Fisher | b. Nov. 8, 1831  | m. Anna M. Shuler   |
| 4.  | Harriet Fisher   | b. Oct. 24, 1833 | d. Nov. 10, 1852    |
| 5.  | David Fisher     | b. May 11, 1836  | m. Angeline Fox     |
| 6.  | Anna Fisher      | b. Feb. 10, 1828 | d. Oct. 10, 1889    |
| 7.  | Matilda Fisher   | b. Jan. 11, 1840 | d. Nov. 25, 1915    |
| 8.  | Barbara Fisher   | b. Oct. 3, 1841  | m. Joseph Willis    |
| 9.  | Susan Fisher     | b. July 26, 1844 | m. Milton Brubaker  |
| 10. | Emma Fisher      | b. Nov. 2, 1845  | m. Morris Hays      |
| 11. | Alexandra Fisher | b. Apr. 7, 1848  | m. Susan Neeley     |

William Miller Fisher

William Miller Fisher, son of David (2nd) and Mary Miller was born November 8, 1831 in Fishing Creek Valley. On October 29, 1854 he married Anna Maria, eldest daughter of Michael Shuler and his wife, Jane Swords. (Michael Shuler was born February 8, 1811 and died April 19, 1893. His wife Jane was born March 8, 1814 and died July 29, 1885. They are buried at Salem Church.)

William Miller Fisher settled at Yocumtown, York County, Pennsylvania where he was known throughout the county for his skillful workmanship as a cabinet maker. During the Civil War he enlisted March 8, 1865 in the 192nd Regiment, Pennsylvania

Volunteer Infantry, Company K. On July 3, 1870 he died of a stroke while conducting Sunday School services in the church at Yocumtown.

Following his death, his widow and children removed to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Anna Shuler Fisher was born November 2, 1834 and died March 4, 1902. Their children were:

- |    |                    |    |                   |
|----|--------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1. | Albert S. Fisher   | m. | Mary Callender    |
| 2. | Jennie S. Fisher   | m. | Landis Bratten    |
| 3. | Edward D. Fisher   | m. | Laura Miller      |
| 4. | Oscar Fisher       | b. | June 1, 1861      |
|    |                    | d. | July 5, 1863      |
| 5. | William S. Fisher  | m. | Fannie M. Wilhelm |
| 6. | Mary E. Fisher     | m. | Martin H. Thomas  |
| 7. | Curtis W. Fisher   | m. | Lillie Banks      |
| 8. | Margaret S. Fisher | m. | Jesse J. Lybarger |





CHILDREN OF WILLIAM MILLER FISHER AND  
ANNA MARIA SHULER

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- I. ALBERT S. FISHER, B. at Yocumtown, Pa., May 7, 1855. D. Feb. 5, 1899. M. Aug. 4, 1886 to Mary Callender. The family resided at Harrisburg, Pa., where Albert was in the plumbing and tinning business with his brother Curtis. Children:
  1. Edwin Leroy; 2. Anna Isabel; 3. Albert Earl; Norman Callender.
- II. JENNIE S. FISHER, B. Jan. 26, 1857. D. April 26, 1932. M. on Nov. 23, 1886 to Landis Bratten, B. Nov. 5, 1855. D. Jan. 16, 1923. who for many years conducted a successful grocery store at 2152 Green St., Harrisburg, Pa., where his daughters Ruth and Esther presently reside. Children: 1. Helen F.; 2. Robert E.; 3. Ruth; 4. Esther.
- III. EDWARD D. FISHER, B. Apr. 14, 1859. D. Jan. 13, 1932. M. Jan. 9, 1883 to Laura Miller, of Wooster, O., who D. July 27, 1901. At the age of eleven years, following his father's death, Edward accompanied his uncle, Napoleon Keister, to Wooster, O., where in the course of time he acquired his own harness and leather goods business. Later he located at Harrisburg, Pa. Children: 1. Donald Warren; 2. Florence May.
- IV. OSCAR S. FISHER, B. June 1, 1861. D. July 5, 1863.
- V. WILLIAM SEWARD FISHER, B. Sept. 5, 1862. D. Aug. 29, 1929, while visiting his birthplace at Yocumtown, Pa. M. On Nov. 23, 1892 to Fannie M. Wilhelm, of York Pa. B. D. Sept. 2, 1953. After his father's death William lived until 1880 with his grandfather, Michael Shuler, then located at Harrisburg, Pa., where he was engaged in the dry goods business. He was an active officer in the Knights of Malta. Children: 1. Seward Wilhelm; 2. Ethel Fahs; 3. Mary Emma.
- VI. MARY EMMA FISHER, B. May 22, 1865. D. 1939. M. Martin H. Thomas, who D. Mar. 14, 1935. She was a graduate of Bloomsburg Normal School and a teacher in the public schools of Harrisburg, Pa. Her husband was Superintendent of Schools at Harrisburg.
- II. CURTIS W. FISHER, B. Aug. 10, 1867. D. 1925. M. Apr. 26, 1893 to Lillie M. Banks, of Highsfire, Pa. For many years Curtis was in a very successful plumbing and tinning business at Harrisburg. He served as President of the Penna. Asso. of Master Plumbers and was an active member of the Masonic fraternity at Harrisburg. Children: 1. William C.; 2. Margaret M.

- VIII. MARGARET SHULER FISHER, B. Oct. 10, 1869. D. Aug. 9, 1959. M. on Jan. 28, 1896 to Jesse James Lybarger, B. Aug. 1, 1865. D. Nov. 6, 1934. Youngest of the family, Margaret (Maggie) lived longer than any Fisher of recent generations. Their home was at Harrisburg, Pa. Her husband was wholesale representative of White Sewing Machine Co., a Mason and an active Democrat in politics. Children: 1. Donald Fisher Lybarger; 2. Mildred Florence Lybarger.

\* \* \* \* \*

The above sketches of my Fisher aunts and uncles and my parents are far too brief to do justice to fine folks and good friends of a lifetime, whom we, their children, have "loved long since and lost awhile." They were all reliable, God-fearing people, respected in the community for their fine character and well-ordered lives. May their descendants be proud of their forebears, honor their memory and profit by their example.

I regret the omission of some dates and data which I have not been able to include. I have slighted no one intentionally. Also please forgive any errors herein. I have had to work under the pressure of time, which, as they say, waits for no man. D. F. L.

LATER GENERATIONSDescendants of our grandfather, William Miller FisherCHILDREN OF ALBERT S. FISHER  
of Harrisburg, Pa.

- I. EDWIN LEROY FISHER, B. Jan. 1. 1887. He resides (1966) at Harrisburg, Pa. M. Romaine Huber, of Mechanicsburg, Pa., Nov. 12, 1914. Children:
1. Edwin L. Fisher, Jr., B. Oct. 15, 1915. M. Errecia T. Kern on July 17, 1935. She was born May 20, 1916. Their children:
    1. John Edwin Fisher, B. Feb. 23, 1937. M. Barbara Ann Miller, Nov. 8, 1958. She was born May 8, 1937. Their son is Robert Keith Fisher, B. May 20, 1960.
    2. Richard K. Fisher, B. April 12, 1938. M. Adela Agosto, Jan. 26, 1956. Richard has been in the U. S. Navy for 10 years in the Pacific area, and is now (1966) at San Diego, Calif. Children: (1) Richard K. Fisher, Jr., Oct. 25, 1956; (2) Douglas Edwin, Jan. 25, 1958; (3) Debra Lynn, Oct. 10, 1960; (4) Jeffrey Allen, July 17, 1962; (5) Cynthia Ann, June 17, 1964.
    3. Patricia Ann Fisher, B. April 13, 1943. M. William C. Cleveland, June 5, 1963. He was born April 17, 1937.
  2. Robert Earl Fisher, B. Feb. 7, 1918. M. Shirley Hilmer, Sept. 13, 1944. She was born Feb. 13, 1925. Children: (1) Andrew H., September 16, 1949; (2) Peter R., June 22, 1951.
- II. ANNA ISABEL FISHER, B. July 21, 1890. Did not marry.
- III. ALBERT EARL FISHER, B. April 6, 1892. He is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and resides at Hackettstown, N.J. M. (1) Ethel Churchill Doel of Pittsburgh, Pa., on July 22, 1892. D. (2) Leila. Child of first wife: Albert Earl, Jr., B. Feb. 29, 1924.
- IV. NORMAN CALLENDER, B. June 10, 1895. D.

CHILDREN OF JENNIE FISHER BRATTEN  
of Harrisburg, Pa.

- I. HELEN F. BRATTEN, B. Sept. 18, 1887.  
D. May 5, 1947, at Harrisburg, Pa.
- II. ROBERT E. BRATTEN, B. Jan. 19, 1889. He was  
educated at Penna. State College, is retired, and  
resides at Highspire, Pa. M. Ruth Etnoyer.
- III. RUTH BRATTEN, B. May 6, 1891. For many years she  
served as a teacher in the public schools of  
Harrisburg, Pa.
- IV. ESTHER BRATTEN, B. Mar. 17, 1893. She and her sister  
Ruth reside in the family home at 2152 Green Street,  
Harrisburg, Pa.

CHILDREN OF EDWARD F. FISHER  
of Wooster, O. and Harrisburg, Pa.

- I. DONALD WARREN FISHER, B. Oct. 12, 1886 at Wooster, O.  
He attained the PHD degree at Harvard University. He  
married twice. There were no children. He is buried  
at Madison, N.J.
- II. FLORENCE MAY FISHER, B. Dec. 5, 1888 at Wooster, Ohio.  
D. Dec. 2, 1956 at Camp Hill, Pa. She attended the  
College of Wooster. On Dec. 30, 1910 she married  
Herbert B. McClure, of Wooster, Ohio. He was B. Sept. 12,  
1889. D. Nov. 24, 1963 at Camp Hill, Pa. He was in  
business for many years as a very successful plumbing and  
heating contractor. Children:
  1. Robert Fisher McClure, B. Aug. 27, 1913. D. Dec. 1944.  
He married Mary Elizabeth Reynolds on March 30, 1934.  
She was B. July 11, 1912. (She married 2nd William  
Edward Schiller on April 7, 1962. He is Chairman of  
the Board and Treasurer of Hershey Chocolate Corp.,  
and on kindred Hershey Boards.)

In World War II Robert F. McClure was an officer in  
the U.S. Air Force in the Philippines and was killed  
while a prisoner of the Japanese. Children:

1. Charlotte Ann McClure, B. Feb. 18, 1935. On  
March 31, 1956 she M. Bill Green Lowrey,

who was B. May 7, 1931. Presently she lives at Albuquerque, N.M. while her husband, a Captain in the U. S. Marine Corps, is on tour of duty in Viet Nam. Children:

- (1) Brion Gray Lowrey, B. Aug. 20, 1958;
- (2) Stephen Fisher Lowrey, B. Nov. 15, 1960;
- (3) Robert McClure Lowrey, B. Jan. 19, 1961.

2. Susan Reynolds McClure

B. Sept. 19, 1940. Presently Susan is unmarried and is enrolled at the University of San Francisco.

2. William Edward McClure, son of Florence Fisher and Herbert B. McClure, B. June 3, 1916. On Nov. 11, 1938, he M. Charlotte I. Shenk, who was B. Sept. 24, 1913. He is a graduate of Gettysburg College and resides at 773 Arlington Rd., Camp Hill, Pa. He is owner of the business started by his father, the H. B. McClure Co., of Harrisburg, Pa. Children:

1. William Edward McClure, Jr.

B. July 18, 1941. M. on July 20, 1963 to Eleanor Knisley, who was B. Aug. 21, 1941. In 1963 he was graduated from Lafayette College with degree B.S. in M.E. Presently he is in the U. S. Army and has been stationed at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska.

2. Alice Shenk McClure, B. July 26, 1944. On July 30, 1966 she married Edgar Dwight Mason III, who was B. Nov. 29, 1943. Both Alice and Edgar were graduated from Gettysburg College in 1966. They live at New Brunswick, N.J. where he is employed by Johnson and Johnson.

3. Robert Fisher McClure, B. Dec. 1, 1954. In school at Camp Hill, Pa.

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM S. FISHER  
of Harrisburg, Pa.

- I. SEWARD WILHELM FISHER, B. May 18, 1894. D. Jan. 12, 1904.
- II. ETHEL FAHS FISHER, B. June 1, 1896. D. Mar. 25, 1962. For many years she was a teacher in the public schools of Harrisburg, Pa.
- III. MARY EMMA FISHER, B. April 11, 1902. On August 16, 1924 she married Hanual H. Gifford, B. Aug. 3, 1902. D. May 21, 1961. Their home was at York, Pa., where Mrs. Gifford still resides at 401 Creston Rd. Their children:
  1. Dorothy Patricia Gifford, B. Oct. 3, 1925. On Aug. 10, 1946 she M. Donald Henry Lentz, B. Feb. 22, 1925. Their children:
    1. Bruce Henry Lentz, B. Sept. 24, 1949
    2. Sharon Ann Lentz, B. Feb. 16, 1951
    3. Scott Brion Lentz, B. Sept. 17, 1958
  2. Richard Hathaway Gifford, B. Mar. 27, 1929. M. Dolores May Faust on Aug. 18, 1950. She was B. Feb. 8, 1932. Children:
    1. Richard Hathaway Faust, Jr., B. Mar. 27, 1952
    2. David Scott Faust, B. Aug. 20, 1957.
  3. Donald Horton Gifford, B. Jan. 2, 1936. M. Jo Ann Estella Johnson on May 19, 1960. She was B. Jan. 4, 1939. Children:
    1. Shelly DeAnn Gifford, B. Mar. 30, 1961.
    2. Tracy LeAnn Gifford, B. Apr. 30, 1963.

CHILDREN OF CURTIS W. FISHER  
of Harrisburg, Pa.

- I. WILLIAM CURTIS FISHER, B. Dec. 2, 1896. M. Gertrude Broecker, of Pittsburgh, Pa. on June 28, 1922. Presently their home is at Muncy Valley, Pa. He was graduated from University of Pennsylvania and was an officer in World War I. For many years their home was at Harrisburg, Pa., where he took an active part in affairs of the Masonic Fraternity, being Potentate of Gembo Temple of the Shrine. He served with distinction in World War II as a Colonel and Staff Officer in the European theater.
- II. MARGARET M. FISHER, B. May 7, 1903. D. August 7, 1912. Margaret is buried on the Fisher-Bratten-Lybarger plot in Paxtang Cemetery, Harrisburg, Pa.

CHILDREN OF MARGARET S. FISHER  
of Harrisburg, Pa.

- I. DONALD FISHER LYBARGER, B. Dec. 19, 1896.  
M. (1) Cornelia Marjorie Hartshorne, Sept. 16, 1924.  
B. Mar. 17, 1903, D. Nov. 4, 1953.  
(2) Helen Baldwin Dean, Aug. 7, 1956.  
B. Sept. 21, 1906. He was graduated from Gettsburg College and Western Reserve University Law School; served in the U. S. Navy in World War I; is a 33 degree Mason, Elder of Lakewood Presbyterian Church and Judge of the Court of Common Pleas at Cleveland, Ohio. Children:
1. Cornelia Marie, B. Sept. 22, 1925, at Cleveland, O.  
M. Dr. Henry C. Neuswanger on June 25, 1949.  
B. Mar. 25, 1922. Dr. Neuswanger is a veterinary doctor in practice at Wray, Colorado. Children:
    1. Debra Ellen, B. Jan. 14, 1951.
    2. Willa Marie, B. Nov. 7, 1953.
    3. Kurt, B. May 29, 1957.
  2. Virginia Dowler, B. May 6, 1928, at Cleveland, O.  
M. James R. Patterson on June 14, 1952.  
B. Aug. 21, 1928. He is a Commander in the U.S. Navy and resides at Canton, O. Children:
    1. Marjorie Esterline, B. Mar. 24, 1953.
    2. Jeanne Frances, B. Nov. 10, 1955.
    3. Robert Lybarger, B. April 24, 1959.
    4. Cornelia Patterson, B. June 16, 1966.
  3. Lee Hartshorne, B. April 25, 1934, at Cleveland, O.  
M. Connie Diller, June 16, 1962. B. Aug. 12, 1936.  
They are in Mission Work of the United Presbyterian Church at Lahore, W. Pakistan. Child
    1. Loren Diller Lybarger, B. Nov. 18, 1964.
  4. Leonard Fisher, B. Sept. 21, 1937, at Cleveland, O.  
M. Sallie Elizabeth Christman, of Lakewood, Ohio.  
on Nov. 21, 1959. B. July 14, 1937. He is an attorney practicing law at Cleveland, O. Children:
    1. Elizabeth Christman, B. Oct. 5, 1962, D. same day.
    2. Allyson Burleigh Lybarger, B. Dec. 30, 1963.
    3. Kyle Fisher Lybarger, B. Oct. 30, 1965.

With the birth of Kyle, three generations of Lybargers bear the Fisher middle name.

II. MILDRED FLORENCE LYBARGER, B. Feb. 16, 1899 at Harrisburg, Pa. M. G. Durand Wilder on Nov. 21, 1922. She is a graduate of the Kindergarten School of Oberlin College, Oberlin, O., and engaged in kindergarten teaching at Reading, Pa. Her home is at Harrisburg, Pa. Children:

1. James Durand Wilder, B. June 9, 1924, at Cleveland, O. M. Vona Galli on July 29, 1950. B. June 25, 1927. He served in World War II and the Korean War and is a Captain in the Navy in Judge Advocate General work, presently at Pearl Harbor. Children:

1. Charles Durand, B. Nov. 21, 1952.
2. Diana, B. Dec. 15, 1954.
3. Judith Ann, B. June 14, 1959.
4. David M. Wilder, B. Jan. 23, 1964.

2. Richard Stanley Wilder, B. Dec. 26, 1925. M. Margaret Mary McMahon, on Nov. 1, 1952. He is a veteran of World War II. Presently he is connected with the State Agriculture Department in Penna. and lives near Mechanicsburg, Pa. Children:

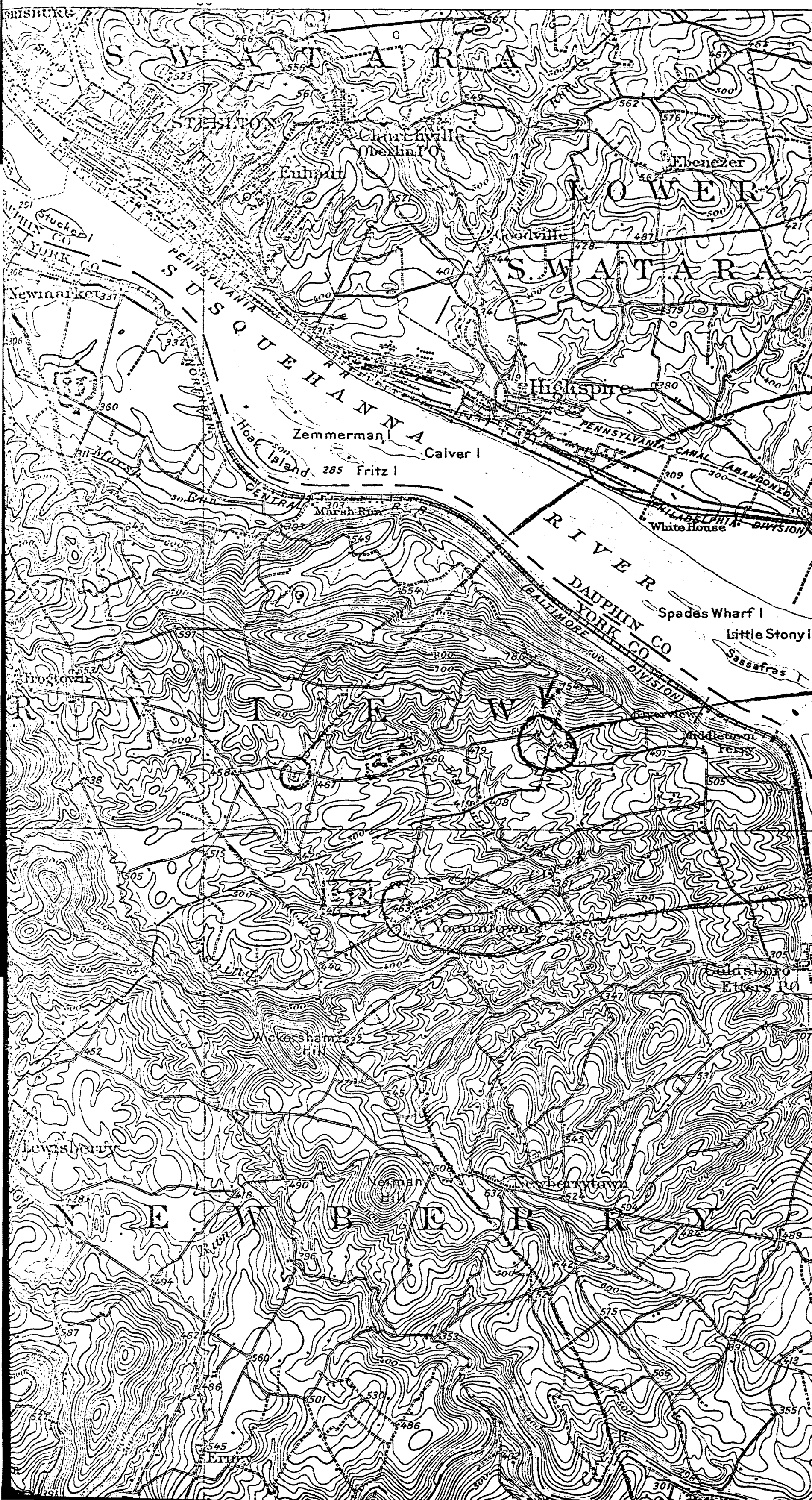
1. Carol Ann, B. Aug. 13, 1953.
2. Margaret Seighman, B. Nov. 11, 1954.
3. Richard Stanley, Jr., B. May 29, 1956.
4. James Spencer, B. Feb. 23, 1958.
5. William Fisher Wilder, B. Dec. 9, 1960.
6. Thomas Durand Wilder, B. June , 1962.
7. Timothy Curtis Wilder, B. Dec. 8, 1964.

FISHER  
ANCESTRAL  
HOME  
TAKE  
 15 Miles  
 U.S. 83  
 FROM  
 HARRISBURG  
 OR YORK,  
 TURN EAST  
 AT STATE  
 ROUTE  
 262

13  
 SALEM  
 CHURCH  
 where many  
 Fishers  
 are buried

Jotlieb  
 Fisher  
 Farm

YOCUMTOWN,  
 home of  
 William M.  
 Fisher,  
 where all  
 of his  
 children  
 were born.



## THE FISHER HOMESTEAD

Situated on the north road that runs through Fishing Creek Valley was the original home site of Gotlieb Fisher and his descendants. It is reached today on Route 282 which runs from the intersection of 83 in an easterly direction towards Goldsboro. Incidentally, Yocumtown is nearby on Route 392 not far from Interstate 83.

In 1907 Dr. Israel H. Betz of York, Pennsylvania wrote for my Uncle William S. Fisher a paper on Memories and Recollections of Fishing Creek Valley from 1857 to 1907. It is found in the back of the manuscript copy of the Fisher genealogy. I quote from it beginning at page A-39:

"The next farm is that first purchased by Gotleib Fisher in 1783. It like the Prowell farm is one of the oldest laid out tracts in the Valley dating back to 1735. Gotleib Fisher found or built a log house, traces of which are still visible today. This farm descended to his son David Fisher in 1796 and later to his grandson Jacob about 1827 and to his son Jeremiah in 1877. Viewed from the gate of the quarry farm entrance aforesaid, the house and buildings appear as though set in the midst of an enchanting garden, in fact a veritable poet's dream. Jacob Fisher was very proud of this farm and was exceedingly anxious it should remain

in the Fisher name. The land was then in a high state of cultivation and Jacob Fisher maintained it so during his lifetime. He had been early in life a teamster to Baltimore for his father. David Fisher erected the present buildings about 1816, after the war with Great Britain. The genealogy of the Fisher family has been very fully tabulated and written by William Seward Fisher a great great grandson of Gotlieb or Godlove Fisher as then spelt. His son David Fisher had a large family, his sons being Jacob, Samuel, David, John, and Daniel and also Abraham, all of whom lived within a few miles from place of birth. The daughters were Nancy, who was married to John Weitzel, Mary, married to John Hursh, Elizabeth, married to Frederick Koch, Barbara, married to Michael McBarren. They have now all passed away except the widow of Daniel who is still living on the homestead where she has lived for the past fifty years. For a woman of her age (87) she is enjoying very good health and her mental facilities are serving her well.

"David Fisher laid off a grave-yard at the lower end of his farm along the highway, in it are three generations buried, Gotlieb Fisher and his wife Ursula, David Fisher and his wife Barbara, who survived him until 1848, Jacob Fisher and his wife Mary who lived on this homestead farm.

"David Fisher also erected the buildings on the farm later owned by George Lichtenberger now owned by John Eichinger who was married to Mahala a daughter of George Lichtenberger. The Fisher and Prowell school house of early days stood to the south of the road at or near the house now occupied by the family of Daniel Fisher. The family of Gotlieb Fisher and certainly the family of David Fisher were all born in the log house before the present stone house was erected. During the occupation by Jacob Fisher a long porch extended along the whole front of the house, the Spring house is still standing. David Fisher was a man of considerable means in that day, he died comparatively early in life attaining but fifty (50) years. His widow survived him many years. The Fishers were an industrious people but did not aspire to positions of trust and honor, they were of Lutheran originally, but later identified with the United Brethren Church, others united with other churches. Daniel Fisher was the youngest of the family, three of his sons entered the Union Army and two were killed. The other sons lived on farms several miles westward. Just when the George Lichtenberger buildings were erected we do not know as no date is found on them, but it must have been between 1816 and 1827. The Fisher and Prowell School house has at present the fourth building,

three of them on the same spot on the highway, the second was a frame building, the third was built of yellow sandstone and the fourth of brick. The first near the Daniel Fisher house was probably built of logs. The school was never very large. It would be interesting to trace the teachers from first to last. We recall Harry Prowell alone, Miss Caldwellader has taught it for a number of years very satisfactorily we believe."

The original graveyard lies perhaps 300 yards east of the Gotlieb Fisher home. A few tombstones are still visible. The schoolhouse above referred to is on the northerly side of the road next to the graveyard but it has now been remodeled and is used as a home.

RECOLLECTIONS AND REMINISCENCES  
OF  
FISHING CREEK VALLEY  
1870 - 1905  
by  
William Seward Fisher

NOTE: My mother's brother who compiled the Fisher genealogy appended to it some observations and reminiscences which are most interesting. It must be remembered that they were written in 1905. He tells of the homes that stood in the Valley in the early days. His description begins in the easterly end and proceeds west toward Salem Church. I have omitted the paragraphs which follow his description of the old burial ground.

Born in the Village of Yocumtown, September 5th, 1862. During infancy I was a very delicate child, stricken with an almost incurable disease and for months my prospects for surviving was not very bright, but thanks to a loving Mother's care and watchfulness that I survived.

The earliest recollection that I recall in my early life, was on a certain occasion when I was a naughty boy, it occurring just after I had adopted my first pair of new pants (and all little boys remember what a proud spirit it creates) for being naughty my Mother chastised me by putting a dress on me. I was heartily ashamed of myself so much in fact, that I crept under the table and cried. I became very penitent and promised Mother to be a better boy afterward. At the age of five (5) years I well remember it was my desire to attend school and often begged with tears in my eyes to go, but Father and Mother thought I was too young, finally they consented to let me go. There was a happy boy at that time.

Father was a cabinet maker and carpenter by trade. The shop was nearby. I spent much of my time with him playing around the shop, for a boy of five (5) years I was real handy with certain tools, It was my hobby to make for the boys at school one foot rulers for which I received in return one cent.

My first teacher was Miss Maggie Barton. We all liked our teacher very much if she did use the ruler on our finger ends for being disobedient at times. At the age of seven (7) years my Father was stricken with apoplexy while discharging his duties as Superintendent of the Sunday School. I was within ten feet of the spot where he fell. For a lad of seven (7) years I was badly frightened, hastily leaving the church without my hat I ran the whole way home and hid in the barn, where I was found later very much agitated over what had happened, yet not old enough to realize it.

The loss of Father was a severe blow to the family, leaving Mother to battle with the world with seven children and none scarcely old enough to care for themselves, except Albert and Jennie.

Our little home was sold as Father died intestate. Grandfather Michael Shuler bought the home, and Mother resided there for several years when in 1876 she and the family (except myself) moved to Harrisburg, Pa.

In 1870 after Father's death I went to live with Grandfather Shuler and remained with him for ten (10) years (1880) when I went to Harrisburg, Pa.

Ever since I have left the Valley (twenty-five (25) years ago) I have been watching the events and noting the many changes. When I pay an occasional visit I can scarcely realize the changes, and the many faces that are missing, especially the older people who have nearly all passed into the great beyond.

It is not my intention in writing these recollections of my boyhood of the Valley to enter into a very lengthy article as I feel my inability to write it correctly, but in my own language I will endeavor to write of Fishing Creek Valley and the people who lived there thirty-five years ago, with these foregone remarks brings me up to my subject. In taking up my subject I shall not go farther east than Silas Prowell's farm. Silas Prowell is one of the few remaining farmers who, is still living and attending to his farm duties although, near seventy (70) years of age. The farm which he owns has a very interesting history. It has been in the Prowell name for over one hundred years, succeeding generations having come into possession of the farm, and today is owned by Mr. Silas Prowell a very bright and intelligent man with whom to converse.

Leaving Silas Prowell's farm we come to the school house, which is a substantial brick building built about ten years ago. Prior to the building of the present school house there stood near the same location a frame building much smaller in proportion than the present one. I am told by Dr. Israel H. Betz of York, Pa., that the dimensions were about 20 x 30 and was built in 1830 and stood in the south east corner of the burying ground known as Fisher's grave yard. The original school house stood on the ridge still farther south east which was built of logs I am told. In this building is where my Grandfather David Fisher and my Great Grandfather David Fisher attended school as they lived in the immediate neighborhood. A few hundred yards farther west we come to the Fisher Homestead, which has been in the Fisher name since November 12, 1783. One hundred and twenty-two years ago.

The original house which stood upon the Fisher homestead was a log house and stood between the present house and barn the foundations of which can be seen today and there is no doubt but that the house was built by David Bailey who first lived there having come into possession of the farm through a warrant bearing date of February 16, 1737, signed by John Penn (brother of William Penn). July 19, 1742 the farm was transferred to James Dillsworth, who lived there until August 4th, 1753 when the farm was again transferred to William Baxter. When on December 28th, 1762 it again exchanged hands this time to David Davis, who resided on the farm until November 12th, 1783, when it passed into the hands of Gotlieb Fischer my Great Grandfather who lived there until the time of his death, which occurred sometime in 1792 ( as per administrator papers on record in York County Court House).

June 29th, 1796 the farm was transferred to David Fischer, eldest son of Gotlieb and Ursula (Hoffstodt) Fischer. During the ten years of his residence at this place, as was the custom in those days he provided a private burying ground upon the farm. This was located at the cross roads within hailing distance of the house where he lived. In this burying ground are buried both Gotlieb and his wife Ursula, his son David and his wife Barbara (Roop) Fischer, Jacob Fisher (son of David Fischer and grandson of Gotlieb Fischer) his wife Mary (Mathias) Fisher. In all three generations are sleeping in this grave-yard. Jacob Fisher being the last one to be buried there in 1876.

In 1814 and 1816 David Fischer built the barn and house respectively, which today is standing as monuments to his memory. The house is a very substantial stone one with massive walls and commodious rooms and a large open Hall running through the entire width of the house.

David Fischer (I) resided on the farm to the time of his death which occurred sometime in 1826. The date on the brown tombstone in the Fisher's grave yard, which is standing today, the inscription on which is in German, states that he was 50 years of age at the time of his death.

In 1827 the farm was transferred to Jacob Fisher, son of David Fischer (I) and grandson of Gotlieb Fischer, who occupied the farm when I lived in the Valley (from 1870 to 1880). Jacob Fisher died in 1876 when the farm was again transferred to his only son Jeremiah the present owner and who today is living on the farm surrounded by a large family. It is hoped that when the farm is again transferred, it will still remain in the Fisher family.

On this farm within a short distance of the barn there is a place at certain times during the year, water oozes from the ground so freely that it forms quite a stream. It is said by the present owner (Jeremiah Fisher) and by others who have interested themselves in the strange phenomena that the flow of the stream is regulated by the rise and fall of the Susquehanna River, which is three miles distant and crossing a mountain. I am also told that when the Susquehanna River is high the stream is very much stronger, while during the summer or dry season when the river is low the stream disappears entirely.

Just across the field from the Fisher homestead lived Daniel Fisher, brother of Jacob Fisher, at this place he resided from 1846 to the time of his death which occurred in 1896. Daniel's widow, Catherine (Waite) Fisher is still living on the homestead with her daughter Rebecca and one Henry Kauffman who makes his home with them.

For a woman of her age (87) she is enjoying remarkable good health and her facilities are serving her well.

Leaving Daniel Fisher's and going a little farther south we come to Peter Hoffstodt's residence, whose wife's maiden name was Barbara Fisher, daughter of Jacob. They were residents at this place up to the time of their death. Going west from Peter Hoffstodt's we come to Charles Yinger, whose wife's maiden name was Nancy Fisher, daughter of Jacob.

On the next farm adjoining Jacob Fisher and Charles Yinger lived George Lichtenberger. Mr. Lichtenberger was an old resident of the Valley and lived at this place for years and died there during the eighties (80's). Mr. John Eichinger his son-in-law purchased the farm. This farm is still owned by Mr. Eichinger and at present is tenanted by Mr. David Gross. This farm including Charles Yinger's and Daniel Fisher also Peter Hoffstodt was owned by David Fischer (I) in 1800.

The adjoining farm to George Lichtenberger was then owned and occupied by Andrew Shenk, who lived there up to the time of his death, after which it was sold to his son-in-law Mr. Parkhill who lives there at the present time (1906).

Just back of Andrew Shenk in the mountain resided Mr. Peter Prowell who was quite an old man at that time. He died upon the place where he had lived for so many years.

Coming from Peter Prowell to the main road, the next adjoining residence was Samuel Fisher (son of David Fischer (I)) at this place they retired to from the farm, which was located on the top of the river mountain several miles farther west. At this place Samuel Fisher, his wife and daughter Mahala resided until Father and Mother were called hence. Mahala still resides here all alone and doing all her routine work about the place. Just across the highway resides David Fisher, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Miller) Fisher. It is impossible for the writer to state with exactness the time David Fisher lived and farmed this tract of land, but can say it has been forty years, if not more. After the death of his wife (Katherine Prowell Fisher) he concluded to discontinue farming, when his son Cornelius moved to the farm and has been farming the place ever since the retirement of his Father. His father makes his home with him and for a man of 73 years is well preserved and is well posted in all the current events of the day. It is very interesting to talk with him about the early days, especially his boyhood days, to him I give much credit in assisting me with the early history and family connection.

The next residence adjoining David Fisher, was Michael Baylor, who was the Justice of the Peace of Fairview township (or commonly called Squire in those days). For years Mr. Baylor resided at this place. He was one of the pioneer school teachers in those days. He lived to an advanced age surrounded by his family, who were Emma, Samuel, George and Robert. The last one mentioned is the only survivor of the family and is living in the neighborhood in which he was born and reared.

After the death of Michael Baylor the homestead was sold to Michael Shuler who owned it to the time of his death, Mr. Henry Winters buying it. A few years later it was destroyed by fire. Mr. Winters rebuilding at once and is occupying it today.

The next residence adjoining Mr. Winters is the private residence of Mr. Michael Shuler. The farm proper was several hundred yards farther west, after a number of years engaged in farming he built the brick house to which he retired from active farming, at this place he lived from the early sixties to the time of his death in 1893. It was at this place that the writer spent ten years of his happiest boyhood days (from seven to seventeen) assisting my Grandfather in raising tobacco and doing other work during the summer. In the winter months I attended the public school at Eichinger's Mill about one mile distant.

At the retirement of Grandfather Shuler from the farm to his private residence, his son John W. Shuler assumed the duties of the farm and lived there for a number of years, after which he removed to a farm in Conawago Township. After that the farm was tenanted for a few years, when his son Harrison who was married to Miss Anna Conley moved to the farm and remained for some time, when he discontinued farming and moved to New Cumberland and was employed with the Penna Stell Co.

Michael Shuler moved to Fishing Creek Valley in 1847 from Lewisbery, during 1852 he built the present farm house. When he moved to the farm they lived in the old log house which stands back of the present one built in 1852.

This farm was considered the best farming land in the Valley, it contained 176 acres of highly cultivated farm land, it was rich in soil and well cared for. At his death the estate was sold. The private residence was sold to Mr. John Snyder, who is still living on the place. The farm was purchased by Robert Baylor who is farming the place. Within a stone throw of the house stood the blacksmith shop where Grandfather carried on the blacksmithing business also where the writer spent many a day in assisting Grandfather in the business, such work as chasing the flies while he would be shoeing the horses and helping to weld wagon tires and making myself generally useful in the business.

The next residence just over the hill at the cross-roads adjoining Grandfather's was where Nancy Fisher Weitzel lived for a generation or more, with her son David so well known to every resident of the Valley at that time, also her grandson Filbert Weitzel, who was one of the "boys of the Valley".

During the long winter evenings it was the custom of the boys to gather at her home and hear Aunt "Granny" (as she was familiarly called by every one) recite the stories of old, especially when she was a girl, how they would do in the twenties and thirties, how they lived and dressed, the manner in which they spent their times for amusement, etc. As a rule there was always a good line up of boys seated back of the old ten-plate stove on a wood box about ten feet long eagerly awaiting, while "Aunt Granny" would be seated on a rocking chair smoking her clay pipe and reciting her past history and relating little episodes and reminiscences which to us boys were very interesting. A few years prior to her death she went to live with her son Henry Weitzel at York, Pa. where she died December 15th, 1893 aged 88 years. A short time after her death the little homestead was sold to Grandfather Shuler who later sold it to Mr. Ira Schell who has since remodeled it to such an extent that one knowing it years ago would scarcely recognize it today.

Within a short distance from Nancy Weitzel's lived David Fisher 2nd a brother of Nancy. Here David Fisher lived from the time of his retirement from the farm. He was surrounded with all the comforts of life. It was the writer's pleasure to make many visits to Grandfather Fisher's home while living with Grandfather Shuler, whose farms joined one another and was just across two fields to walk. It was Grandfather Fisher's custom before partaking of the daily meal to sing a hymn before asking the blessing. He was the founder of Salem Stone Church which stood on his farm and was erected in 1844. He was one of the Trustees of the Church from the time of its erection to his death which occurred May 19th, 1884 aged 81 years. (His early life and history will be elaborated in the genealogy of Gotlieb Fischer and his descendants which will appear in another part of this work.)

Just back of Grandfather Fisher's home there lived John Lichtenberger, Daniel Kautz (son-in-law of John Lichtenberger) George Lichtenberger and Henry Dessenberger. These four men were the pioneers of the Valley having lived in the Valley for years before I lived there. They have long ago passed into the great beyond. The writer was very well acquainted with them if I was but a boy of ten or twelve years of age.

Returning to the main road and passing Nancy Weitzel's place we come to the farm owned by Grandfather Fisher, here it was that he spent the greater part of his life in shoemaking and farming. After he retired to his private home previously mentioned his son Martin assumed the duties of the farm and

resided there for a number of years. At the death of Grandfather Fisher the estate was sold to Mr. Mosey who owned the farm for a few years when he sold it to William Fisher, son of William Fisher son of John Fisher and a brother of my Grandfather David Fisher. The record just given shows with the exception of the few years that Mr. Mosey owned this farm, it has been in the Fisher name since early in the forties.

Only a few rods farther up the road we come to Salem Stone Church which stands as a monument to the memory of David Fisher and a few others who were the means of erecting this Church. It is surrounded by a Cemetery in which all the older residents of the Valley as far back as 1844 are buried. John Weitzel one of the chief promoters of the Church with David Fisher was the first one to be buried in the Cemetery, following up the names of some of the people that are buried in the Cemetery are the Betz's, Prowell's, Fisher's, Shuler's, Baylor's, Lichtenberger's, Dessenberger's, Sweney's, Miller's, Weitzel's, and scores of others whom I do not recall at this time and who were prominent in the history of Fishing Creek Valley twenty to thirty-five years ago. Today one familiar with the history of the Valley can go there and would be difficult to find any trace (with few exceptions) of the above mentioned families, as the older families have all passed away and their children have left for other parts, thus leaving the Valley to other families to inhabit.

It truly makes one feel sad to walk through the sacred spot and see nothing but monuments to remind one of the past, though so short a time. It simply proves how swiftly time is passing by and other loved ones are going hence never to return.

